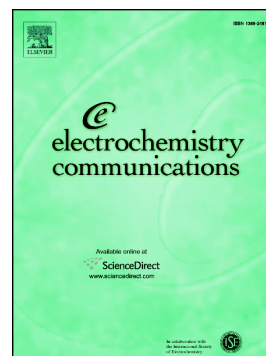


Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S1388-2481(17)30357-0

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.elecom.2017.12.022>

Reference: ELECOM 6118

To appear in: *Electrochemistry Communications*

Received date: 8 November 2017

Revised date: 19 December 2017

Accepted date: 20 December 2017

Please cite this article as: C.F. Zinola , Electrochemical transformation of platinum spheres into nanocubes and nanocubebipyramids. The address for the corresponding author was captured as affiliation for all authors. Please check if appropriate. Elecom(2017), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.elecom.2017.12.022>

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Electrochemical transformation of platinum spheres into nanocubes and nanocubebipyramids

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Abstract

An electrochemical procedure (capping-agent free) to produce nanocrystalline platinum surfaces is developed by applying modulated AC and DC potentials to platinum wires in acid media. Platinum nanospheres grow after a DC potential has been applied for a long period, followed by hydrogen evolution reduction. The nanospheres can be further converted into nanocubes using high-frequency symmetric square wave potentials, or into cubebipyramids by subjecting the resulting spheres and cubes to cathodic hydrogen evolution at potentials between -3.0 and -0.5 V in sulfuric acid. The cubebipyramids exhibit strong catalytic activity towards carbon monoxide oxidation, which can be explained by the formation of $2(111) \times (100)$ stepped planes.

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Keywords: platinum, nanocrystals, catalysis, cubebipyramids, square wave potentials

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