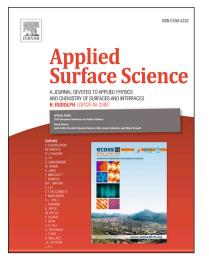
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Full Length Article

Electrochemical and photoelectrochemical properties of the interface between titania nanotubes covered by conducting polymer in aqueous by conducting polymer in aqueous electrolytes - the effect of various geometry and electrolytes concentration

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| PII: | S0169-4332(18)31064-X |
|----------------|--|
| DOI: | https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apsusc.2018.04.104 |
| Reference: | APSUSC 39103 |
| To appear in: | Applied Surface Science |
| Received Date: | 5 March 2018 |
| Revised Date: | 4 April 2018 |
| Accepted Date: | 10 April 2018 |



Please cite this article as: M. Szkoda, K. Trzciński, A. Lisowska-Oleksiak, K. Siuzdak, Electrochemical and photoelectrochemical properties of the interface between titania nanotubes covered by conducting polymer in aqueous by conducting polymer in aqueous electrolytes - the effect of various geometry and electrolytes concentration, *Applied Surface Science* (2018), doi: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apsusc.2018.04.104

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Electrochemical and photoelectrochemical properties of the interface

between titania nanotubes covered by conducting polymer in aqueous

electrolytes - the effect of various geometry and electrolytes

concentration

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Keywords: titania nanotubes, composites, impedance spectroscopy, photocurrent

ABSTRACT

In the present work we show the impact of nanotubes (NTs) geometry of titania utilized as a substrate in organic-inorganic systems acting as a p-n junction on efficient conversion of radiation energy into electrochemical energy. The electrolytic bath composition and electrolysis conditions were controlled in order to obtain TiO₂NTs of various geometry as a result of electrochemical oxidation of titanium foil. The electrode material was characterized using scanning electron microscopy, Raman and UV-vis spectroscopies in order to investigate their morphology, crystallinity and absorbance ability, respectively. According to SEM inspection, the electrolyte bath composition (water content) and duration of electrolysis significantly affects TiO₂NTs morphology, namely the internal diameter and the layer thickness. The TiO₂NTs electrode/electrolyte interface characterized using electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) exhibits varied impedance parameters depending on the outer K_2SO_4 electrolyte concentration (in the range of: 0.01 - 0.2 M) as the electric charge distribution at the interface is concentration dependent. The series of hydrogenated titania substrates were electrochemically modified by the conducting polymer: poly(3,4ethylenedioxytiophene) doped with polystyrene sulphonate (pEDOT:PSS) thin film. The optimal geometry of titania was determined based on the photocurrent density recorded for the composite material (TiO₂NTs/pEDOT:PSS). The most photoactive organic inorganic

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