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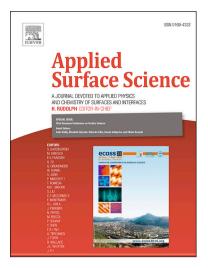
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Zhenbiao Dong, Dongyan Ding, Ting Li, Congqin Ning

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Ni-doped TiO₂ nanotubes photoanode for enhanced photoelectrochemical

water splitting

Zhenbiao Dong^a, Dongyan Ding^{a,*}, Ting Li^a, Congqin Ning^b

^a Institute of Electronic Materials and Technology, School of Materials Science and Engineering, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai 200240, China.

^b State Key Laboratory of High Performance Ceramics and Superfine Microstructure, Shanghai Institute of Ceramics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 200050, China.

ABSTRACT

Photoelectrochemical (PEC) water splitting hydrogen production provides a promising way for sustainable development. In this work, we prepared Ni-doped TiO₂ (Ti–Ni–O) nanotubes through anodizing different Ti-Ni alloys and further annealing them at elevated temperatures, and reported their PEC water splitting performance. It was found that Ni doping could improve light absorption and facilitate separation of photo-excited electron-hole pair. The nanotubes fabricated on Ti-1 wt.% Ni alloy and annealed at 550 °C exhibited better PEC water splitting performance than those on Ti-10 wt.% Ni alloy. The photoconversion efficiency was 0.67%, which was 3.35 times the photoconversion efficiency of undoped TiO₂. It demonstrated that it was feasible to fabricate high-performance Ti–Ni–O nanotubes on Ti-Ni alloys and used as photoanode for improving PEC water splitting.

Keywords: Ti-Ni alloys; Anodization; Ni-doped TiO₂ nanotubes; Photoelectrochemical; Water splitting

^{*} Corresponding Author. Tel: +86 21 34202741.

E-mail address: dyding@sjtu.edu.cn (D. Ding).

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