

ZI-SHENG ZHANG

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EDUCATION

Southern University of Science and Technology (SUSTech) Bachelor of Science, Chemistry (expected)	Sep 2015 - Jun 2018 GPA 3.87/4.00 (Ranking: 1/75)
University of California, Los Angeles Cross-disciplinary Scholar in Science and Technology (CSST)	Jul 2018 - Sep 2018 GPA 4.00/4.00 (Ranking: 1/101)

STANDARD TESTS

GRE General Test	163 V (93%) + 170 Q (96%) + 3.5 AW (41%)	Mar 5th 2017
GRE Chemistry Test	860 (93%)	Oct 28th 2017
TOEFL Test	111 (30 R + 29 L + 25 S + 27 W)	Sep 8th 2018

PUBLICATION

1. **Zhang, Z.**; Jimenez-Izal, E.; Hermans, I.; Alexandrova, A. N. *Dynamic Phase Diagram of Catalytic Surface of Hexagonal Boron Nitride in Conditions of Oxidative Dehydrogenation of Propane*. **2018**, submitted.
2. Wang, Y.; Wang, M.; Jiang, Z.; Wang, Q.; Lucero, M.; Zhang, X.; **Zhang, Z.**; Li, X.; Gu, M.*; Feng, Z.*; Liang, Y.* *Iron Phthalocyanine Precursors to Construct Efficient Single Iron Site Electrocatalysts for Oxygen Reduction Reaction*. **2018**, submitted.
3. Zhong, R.; **Zhang, Z.**; Luo, S.; Zhang, Z. C.; Huang, L.*; Gu, M.* *Comparison of TiO₂ and g-C₃N₄ 2D/2D Nanocomposites from Three Synthesis Protocols for Visible-light Induced Hydrogen Evolution*. **2018**, Catalysis Science & Technology, accepted, DOI: 10.1039/C8CY00965A (Front cover highlight)
4. **Zhang, Z.**; Yang, T.; Qin, P.; Dang, L.* *Nickel Bis(dithiolene) Complexes for Electrocatalytic Hydrogen Evolution: A Computational Study*. **2018**, Journal of Organometallic Chemistry, 864, 143-147.
5. Zhong, R.; **Zhang, Z.(equal contribution)**; Yi, H.; Zeng, L.; Tang, C.; Huang, L.*; Gu, M.* *Covalently Bonded 2D/2D O-g-C₃N₄/TiO₂ Heterojunction for Enhanced Visible-Light Photocatalytic Hydrogen Evolution*. **2018**, Applied Catalysis B: Environmental, 237, 1130-1138.
6. Zhang, X.; Wu, Z.; Zhang, X.; Li, L.; Li, Y.; Xu, H.; Li, X.; Yu, X.; **Zhang, Z.**; Liang, Y.* and Wang, H.* *Highly Selective and Active CO₂ Reduction Electrocatalysts Based on Cobalt Phthalocyanine/carbon Nanotube Hybrid Structures*. **2017**, Nature Communications, 8, 14675.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, UCLA Advisor: Prof. Anastassia Alexandrova	Jun 2018 - Nov 2018 CSST Summer Fellow
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- Applied PSO global optimization combined with DFT calculation to investigate the structure of catalytic boride surface under realistic condition; Established a grand canonical ensemble to study ensemble-averaged surface free energy and Bader charge; Explored structural fluxionality of oxidized boride surface with MD.

Department of Chemistry, SUSTech Advisor: Prof. Jun Li	Sep 2018 - Present Undergraduate Researcher
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- Applied DFT calculation to study the mechanism and key reaction intermediates of CO₂RR to rationally designed highly active and stable NiPc-based electrocatalyst for selective electroreduction of CO₂ to CO.

Department of Material Science and Engineering (MSE), SUSTech Advisor: Prof. Yongye Liang	Jun 2016 - Present Undergraduate Researcher
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- Applied DFT calculation to investigating the reaction mechanism of ORR on molecularly engineered FePc. Constructing a FePc/CNT hybrid via $\pi - \pi$ interactions to enhance electrocatalytic activity and stability.
- Fabricated single-atom catalysts for efficient ORR through pyrolysis of ZIF-8 with metal phthalocyanine being the metal precursor. Funded by the Student's Platform for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Training Program.
- Designed and synthesized bimetallic Cu/Pd nanoparticles supported on oxidized CNT via an adopted co-strong electrostatic adsorption (SEA) method. Selective electroreduction of CO₂ to formic acid was achieved in a wide potential range. Poster presentation at Nature Conference: Materials Electrochemistry (Jan. 2018)
- Synthesized and tested CoPc/CNT hybrid for selective electrocatalytic reduction of CO₂.

Department of Chemistry & Department of MSE, SUSTech

May 2017 - Oct 2018

Advisor: Prof. Limin Huang and Prof. Meng Gu

Undergraduate Researcher

- Designed and synthesized covalent TiO₂/O-g-C₃N₄ 2D/2D heterojunction through N-O-Ti covalent bonding, achieving enhanced visible-light photocatalytic activity comparing to heterojunctions fabricated by other methods. Applied DFT calculation to investigate the bonding at heterojunction interface, and performed thorough characterization of the interface via STEM, HRTEM, XPS, and EELS.

Department of Chemistry, SUSTech

May 2017 - Mar 2018

Advisor: Prof. Li Dang

Undergraduate Researcher

- Applied DFT calculation to study the substituent effects on electrocatalytic HER using nickel bis(dithiolene) complexes. Developed an electrocatalytic activity descriptor based on pK_a of dithiolene ligands. Delivered an oral presentation on ACS publications symposium: Innovation in Energy Conversion (Sept. 2017)

RELATED SKILLS

Experimental: Nanomaterial Synthesis; XRD; TGA; DSC; BET; FL & PL spectroscopy; FT-IR; UV-vis DRS; NMR; SEM; TEM; EDX; GC; HPLC; ICP-MS; Electrochemical & photocatalytic measurements

Programming & Softwares: C, JAVA, Python, MatLab, Shell, L^AT_EX, SolidWorks, AutoCAD, PhotoShop

Quantum Chemistry Programs: Material Studio, Gaussian09 & 16, CALYPSO, VASP, CP2K, ORCA, MECP, VESTA, P4VASP, Multiwfn, GaussView, VMD, ASE, Jmol

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Selected Best Presentations Award in CSST CHEM & MSE division, UCLA	Sep 2018
CSST Scholarship, UCLA	Jul 2018
Outstanding Scientific Research Potential, Shuren College, SUSTech	May 2018
Merit-Based Undergraduate Scholarship, SUSTech	2016, 2017, 2018

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

American Chemistry Society (ACS), SUSTech Student Chapter

May 2018 - Present

Vice President & Co-founder

- Organized regular seminars for ACS student members to learn about latest hot papers and discuss interdisciplinary topics in frontiers of chemistry. Invited influential guest speakers to lead forums and seminars.

Material Research Society (MRS), SUSTech Student Chapter

May 2018 - Present

Academic Department Leader & Co-founder

- Organized regular seminars for MRS student members to learn about latest hot papers and discuss interdisciplinary topics in frontiers of materials.

Student Union of Shuren College, SUSTech

Sep 2015 - Sep 2016

Senior Member and Main Contributor, Academic Department

- Initiated a series of School-wide activities, such as public speaking contests and student-professor meetups.
- Participated in the agenda scheduling, order maintaining and press release.