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Title: Single-entity Electrochemistry Unveils Dynamic Transformation during Tandem Catalysis of Cu₂O and Co₃O₄ for Converting NO₃⁻ to NH₃

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Source: ANGEWANDTE CHEMIE-INTERNATIONAL EDITION

Volume: 62

Issue: 8

DOI: 10.1002/anie.202214830

Early Access Date: JAN 2023

Published Date: 2023 FEB 13

Times Cited in Web of Science Core Collection: 114

Total Times Cited: 122

Usage Count (Last 180 days): 52

Usage Count (Since 2013): 400

Cited Reference Count: 55

Abstract: Electrochemically converting nitrate to ammonia is an essential and sustainable approach to restoring the globally perturbed nitrogen cycle. The rational design of catalysts for the nitrate reduction reaction (NO₃RR) based on a detailed understanding of the reaction mechanism is of high significance. We report a Cu₂O+Co₃O₄ tandem catalyst which enhances the NH₃ production rate by approximate to 2.7-fold compared to Co₃O₄ and approximate to 7.5-fold compared with Cu₂O, respectively, however, most importantly, we precisely place single Cu₂O and Co₃O₄ cube-shaped nanoparticles individually and together on carbon nanoelectrodes provide insight into the mechanism of the tandem catalysis. The structural and phase evolution of the individual Cu₂O+Co₃O₄ nanocubes during NO₃RR is unveiled using identical location transmission electron microscopy. Combining single-entity electrochemistry with precise nano-placement sheds light on the dynamic transformation of single catalyst particles during tandem catalysis in a direct way.

Accession Number: WOS:000916567800001

PubMed ID: 36469860

Language: English

Document Type: Article

Author Keywords: Identical Location Transmission Electron Microscopy; Nanoelectrode; Nitrate Reduction Reaction; Single-Entity Electrochemistry; Tandem Catalysis

KeyWords Plus: NITRATE REDUCTION; AMMONIA-SYNTHESIS; NITROGEN; ELECTROCATALYSIS; NANOPARTICLES; ELECTRODES; DINITROGEN; HYDROXIDE; COPPER

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Publisher: WILEY-V C H VERLAG GMBH

Publisher Address: POSTFACH 101161, 69451 WEINHEIM, GERMANY

Web of Science Index: Science Citation Index Expanded (SCI-EXPANDED)

Web of Science Categories: Chemistry, Multidisciplinary

Research Areas: Chemistry

IDS Number: EZ8M9

ISSN: 1433-7851

eISSN: 1521-3773

29-char Source Abbrev.: ANGEW CHEM INT EDIT

ISO Source Abbrev.: Angew. Chem.-Int. Edit.

Source Item Page Count: 8

Funding:

Funding Agency	Grant Number
European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union	833408
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation)	EXC 2033-390677874-RESOLV
Chinese Scholarship Council (CSC)	
German Federal Ministry of Education and Research BMBF	
Ministry of Culture and Research of Nord Rhine-Westphalia	
Projekt DEAL	
European Research Council (ERC)	833408

The project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program (Grant Agreement CasCat [833408]) and from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) under Germanys Excellence Strategy-EXC 2033-390677874-RESOLV. J. Z. gratefully acknowledges the financial support for his PhD studies from the Chinese Scholarship Council (CSC). This work was supported by the "Center for Solvation Science ZEMOS" funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research BMBF and by the Ministry of Culture and Research of Nord Rhine-Westphalia. The authors are grateful to Martin Trautmann for ICP-MS measurements. Open Access funding enabled and organized by Projekt DEAL.

Open Access: Green Submitted, hybrid

ESI Highly Cited Paper: Y

ESI Hot Paper: N

Output Date: 2026-01-06

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