Supporting Information for:

Tuning Proton Kinetics in $BaCo_{0.4}Fe_{0.4}Zr_{0.2-X}Y_XO_{3-\delta}$ Triple Ionic-Electronic Conductors via Aliovalent Substitution

Jack H. Duffy, ^{a,b} Harry W. Abernathy, ^b Kyle S. Brinkman ^{a,b}

a. Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Clemson University, 515 Calhoun Drive, Clemson, SC 29634, USA. Email: jhduffy@clemson.edu

b. National Energy Technology Laboratory, United States Department of Energy, 3610 Collins Ferry Road, Morgantown, WV 26507, USA.

Pristine BCFZY_X XRD:



Figure S1: Comparison of XRD for pristine BCFZ, BCFZY0.1, and BCFY compositions, showing a general lattice parameter increase with increasing Y concentration.

Hydrogen permeation on bare membranes:

Based on the total conductivity measurements in the same atmosphere as the permeation measurements, a hysteresis occurs in the stabilization of conductivity after switching temperatures in 50°C increments, as shown in Figure S2. At lower temperatures, this hysteresis can take up to three hours, signifying the need for a period of stabilization for the hydrogen permeation membranes before sample measurements are taken. Initial measurements are therefore taken after this three-hour wait at each temperature. Over three different sampling periods at 600°C, the flux remains stable despite switching temperatures over a 50h permeation measurement as shown in Figure S3.



Figure S2: Total conductivity of BCFZY0.1 vs Time in reducing atmosphere, showing hysteresis when switching temperatures.





five sampling points are averaged, with error bars taken from the propagation error of the measurement. Black dotted line serves as a guide to the eyes for the approximate flux at 600°C.



Figure S4: Cross-section SEM images of BCFZY0.1 showing (a) 5h and (b) 24h exposure times in 5% H₂ atmosphere. Small, bright dots indicating Co-rich phase appear after 24h exposure.



Figure S5: Cross-section SEM image of BCFZ with EDX of Cobalt, showing Co-rich phase appear after 50h exposure.



Figure S6: Cross-section SEM image of BCFZY0.1 with EDX of Cobalt, showing Co-rich phase appear after 50h exposure.



Figure S7: XRD for BCFZY0.1 for pristine, 24h-exposed, and 50h-exposed BCFZY0.1. Despite peak-broadening, the perovskite structure remains intact, and no significant change in permeation flux is observed.



Figure S8: XRD for BCFZ for pristine, 24h-exposed, and 50h-exposed BCFZ. Peak splitting begins to show after 24h exposure, followed by peak-broadening at 50h exposure.

Palladium-Coated Membranes:

Deposition Procedure:

Pd was sputtered on each side of the BCFZY_X membranes to achieve an approximately 500nm thickness. The deposition was performed at a target power of 67W from a 2" diameter target in a background pressure of 5 mTorr of Ar, flowing at 20 sccm, lasting about 20 minutes for each side. All samples were placed on a rotating plate during deposition. Following the deposition, the samples were annealed at 800°C for 3h in Ar atmosphere, with a heating rate of 5°C/min and a cooling rate of 2°C/min. Following the anneal, the sidewalls of each BCFZY_X membrane were polished to remove excess palladium which could cause a short and allow protons only to transport through the palladium. This step was taken to ensure that BCFZY_X was the limiting factor to proton transport.



Figure S9: Cross-sectional SEM image of BCFZY0.1 membrane coated with a dense layer of palladium (approximately 500nm thickness), with EDX image confirming the composition of the dense layer.



Figure S10: (a) Comparison of hydrogen flux for Pd-coated membranes. Comparison of estimated proton conductivity comparing bare and Pd-coated membranes for (b) BCFZ, (c) BCFZY0.1, and (d) BCFY.



Figure S11: Cross-section SEM images after 5% H_2 exposure for (a) Pd-coated and (b) bare BCFZY0.1 membranes, both showing Co-rich nanoparticle segregation at grain boundaries.

Oxidation ECR fitting of BCFZY_X compositions:

At high temperatures, BCFZ exhibits the best bulk-level oxygen reduction reaction in purely oxidative environments, which is attributed to the superior diffusivity of BCFZ coupled with a relatively small decrease in surface exchange coefficient; this results in the fastest relaxation. However, the advantage in diffusivity for BCFZ is quickly erased by the poor surface exchange coefficient at lower temperatures, and at 500°C, the relaxation time is more than double that of BCFZY0.1 and BCFY, greatly attributed to its poor k_{chem} . Meanwhile, despite its superior surface exchange coefficient, BCFY is always hindered compared to BCFZY0.1 because of its lower diffusivity, which is always lower by about a factor of two. This results in relaxation times which are about 40% longer at all temperatures. The ECR results suggest that BCFZY0.1 may exhibit the best properties as a cathode material for electrochemical devices in the low-to-intermediate-temperature range, while BCFZ may perform effectively in high-temperature devices. These results are shown in Figures S12 and S13 below:



Figure S12: Fitted relaxation curves for $BCFZY_X$ materials at (a) 700°C, (b) 600°C, and (c) 500°C.



Figure S13: Fitting of (a) k_{O,chem} and (b) D_{O,chem} from ECR measurements for BCFZY_X materials from 500-700°C in dry, oxidizing conditions, switching from 10% to 21% O₂ atmosphere.



Figure S14: Comparison of the activation energy of $D_{O, chem}$ across the BCFZY_X compositions.



Figure S15: Fitting of $k_{O,chem}$ and $D_{O,chem}$ for dry and wet conditions for (a) BCFZY0.1, and (b) BCFY.