

## Investigation of RhFe/C and Rh/C nanoparticles for nitrogen reduction reaction

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### Highlights

The main product of N<sub>2</sub> electroreduction is ammonia;

The potential control allows producing other subproducts like N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>;

Bimetallic material modifies the activity for NRR.

### Abstract

The electroreduction of nitrogen to ammonia under temperature and ambient pressure has gained prominence since it provides an alternative to the reform process, drastically reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions via NH<sub>3</sub> synthesis. The nitrogen reduction reaction (NRR) was investigated using nanoparticles of Rh and RhFe catalysts dispersed in carbon. The polyol technique was utilized to synthesize Rh/C and RhFe/C catalysts with the same mean crystallite size. The reaction products were examined by UV-VIS using indophenol blue for ammonia detection and the *Watt and Chrisp* for hydrazine detection methods. Figure 1 shows the cyclic voltammetry results for the RhFe/C and Rh/C catalysts together with the x-ray diffraction (XRD) data. The XRD results confirmed the size of approximately 3 nm for both catalysts, showing that the polyol synthesis was adequate to obtain nanoparticles of the same size. The metallic alloy exhibits a more significant NRR catalytic activity.

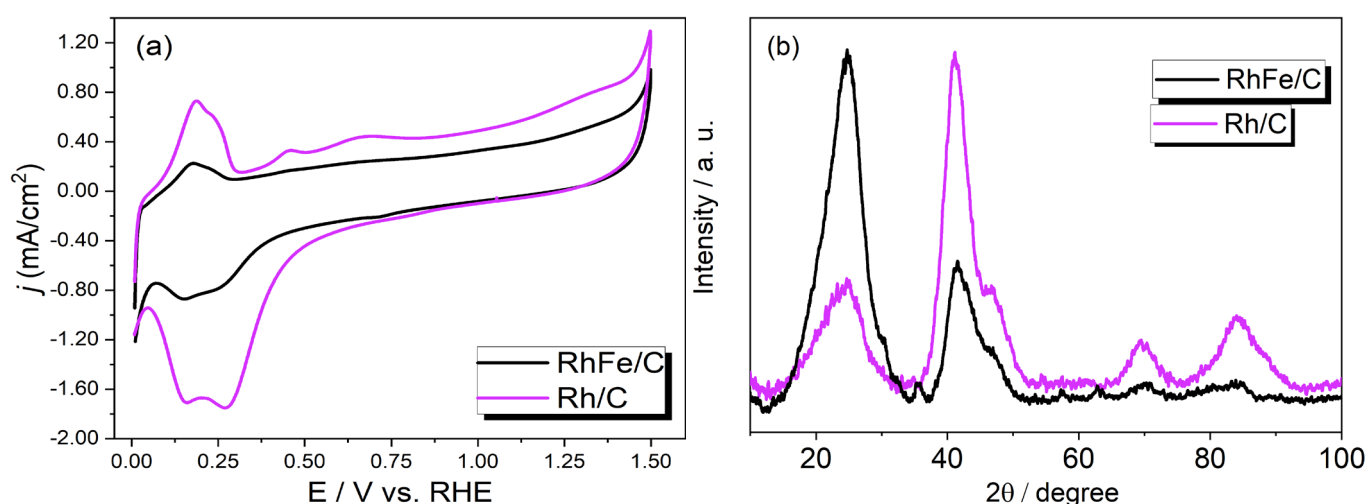


Figure 1. (a) Cyclic voltammetry of the material, (b) DRX analysis.

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