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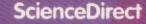
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[For list of contents see pp. v-vii]

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International Journal of Hydrogen Energy 39 (2014) v-vii

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Contents

Regular Articles

Hydrogen Economy

V. BOSCAINO, R. MICELI, G. CAPPONI and G. RICCO GALLUZZO

J. LOU, Z. LIAO, B. JIANG, J. WANG and Y. YANG

Solar Hydrogen

C.G. Almeida, R.B. Araujo, R.G. Yoshimura, A.J.S. Mascarenhas, A. Ferreira da Silva, C.M. Araujo and L.A. Silva

J. LUAN, N. GUO and B. CHEN

J. XING, Y.H. LI, H.B. JIANG, Y. WANG and H.G. YANG

Wind Hydrogen

G. ZHANG and X. WAN

Bio Hydrogen

H. LIU, Q. ZHANG, H. HU, A. LI and H. YAO

L.W. DIANNINGRUM, H. CHOI, Y. KIM, K.-D. JUNG, R.F. SUSANTI, J. KIM and B.-I. SANG

Z. MA, S.-P. ZHANG, D.-Y. XIE and Y.-J. YAN

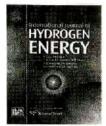
T. NOMURA, A. NAIMEN, S. TOYODA, Y. KURIYAMA, H. TOKUMOTO and Y. KONISHI

P.R. FERREIRA ROSA, S.C. SANTOS and E.L. SILVA

P. BATLLE-VILANOVA, S. PUIG, R. GONZALEZ-OLMOS, A. VILAJELJU-PONS, L. BAÑERAS, M.D. BALAGUER and J. COLPRIM

A. GADHE, S.S. SONAWANE and M.N. VARMA

- 1195 A review of fuel cell based hybrid power supply architectures and algorithms for household appliances
- 1210 Robust optimization of hydrogen network
- 1220 Photocatalytic hydrogen production with visible light over Mo and Cr-doped BiNb(Ta)O₄
- 1228 Hydrogen production with Ga,BiSbO₇, Fe₂BiSbO₇ and Gd₂BiSbO₇ as photocatalysts under visible light irradiation
- 1237 The size and valence state effect of Pt on photocatalytic H₂ evolution over platinized TiO₂ photocatalyst
- 1243 A wind-hydrogen energy storage system model for massive wind energy curtailment
- 1253 Influence of residual moisture on deep dewatered sludge pyrolysis
- 1262 Hydrothermal gasification of pure and crude glycerol in supercritical water: A comparative study
- 1274 A novel integrated process for hydrogen production from biomass
- 1280 Isolation and characterization of a novel hydrogen-producing strain *Clostridium* sp. suitable for immobilization
- 1288 Different ratios of carbon sources in the fermentation of cheese whey and glucose as substrates for hydrogen and ethanol production in continuous reactors
- 1297 Assessment of biotic and abiotic graphite cathodes for hydrogen production in microbial electrolysis cells
- 1306 Kinetic analysis of biohydrogen production from complex dairy wastewater under optimized condition



J. WANG and 1210 Rot

Methanol/Ethanol Hydrogen

J. Hou, Z.-M. LIU, G.-D. LIN and 1315 Novel Ni-ZrO, catalyst doped with Yb,O, for ethanol steam reforming H.-B. ZHANG Catalysts/Electrocatalysts

Y. WANG, Y. ZHAO, J. YIN, M. LIU, Q. DONG and Y. Su

C. LUCARELLI, G. PAVARELLI, C. MOLINARI, S. ALBONETTI, W. MISTA, D. DI DOMENICO and A. VACCARI

A. AL-MUSA, M. AL-SALEH, Z.C. IOAKEIMIDIS, M. OUZOUNIDOU, I.V. YENTEKAKIS, M. KONSOLAKIS and G.E. MARNELLOS

Q. ZHAO, Z. YU, G. HAO, W. YUAN and J. LI

Storage

C.W. JAMES JR., K.S. BRINKMAN, J.R. GRAY, J.A. CORTES-CONCEPCION and D.L. ANTON

B.-H. CHEN

S.H. BARGHI, T.T. TSOTSIS and M. SAIIIMI

Purification/Membranes/Separation

J.A. CALLES, R. SANZ, D. ALIQUE and L. FURONES

A. ARABI SHAMSABADI, A. KARGARI and M. BAHRAM! BABAHEIDARI

PE Fuel Cells

M. OUATTARA-BRIGAUDET, S. BERTHON-FABRY, C. BEAUGER and P. ACHARD

T. CUI, Y.J. CHAO and J.W. VAN ZEE

M. NOORKAMI, J.B. ROBINSON, Q. MEYER, O.A. OBEISUN, E.S. FRAGA, T. REISCH, P.R. SHEARING and D.J.L. BRETT

S. JIA and H. LIU

SO Fuel Cells

F.-Y. YAN, Z.-G. LIU, J.-H. OUYANG and M.-F. YAN

E. PARK, S. TANIGUCHI, T. DAIO, J.-T. CHOU and K. SASAKI

Transportation

X. ZHANG, C. DING and T. ZHANG

- 1325 Synthesis and electrocatalytic alcohol oxidation performance of Pd-Co bimetallic nanoparticles supported on graphene
- 1336 Catalyst deactivation in on-board H, production by fuel dehydrogenation
- 1350 Hydrogen production by iso-octane steam reforming over Cu catalysts supported on rare earth oxides (REOs)
- 1364 Modulated crystalline Ag-C, oxygen-evolving catalysts for electrocatalytic water oxidation
- 1371 Fundamental environmental reactivity testing and analysis of the hydrogen storage material 2LiBH, MgH,
- 1382 Mechanical response of hydrogen-filled single-walled carbon nanotubes under torsion
- 1390 Chemisorption, physisorption and hysteresis during hydrogen storage in carbon nanotubes
- 1398 Thermal stability and effect of typical water gas shift reactant composition on H, permeability through a Pd-YSZ-PSS composite membrane
- 1410 Preparation, characterization and gas permeation properties of PDMS/PEI composite asymmetric membrane for effective separation of hydrogen from H,/CH, mixed gas
- 1420 Correlations between the catalytic layer composition, the relative humidity and the performance for PEMFC carbon aerogel based membrane electrode assemblies
- 1430 Sealing force prediction of elastomeric seal material for PEM fuel cell under temperature cycling
- 1439 Effect of temperature uncertainty on polymer electrolyte fuel cell performance
- 1449 Direct measurement of lateral current density distribution in a PEM fuel cell with a serpentine flow field
- 1457 First-principles calculations of water dissociation on the oxygen-deficient (010) surface of Fergusonite-type LaNbO, crystal
- 1463 Influence of cathode polarization on the chromium deposition near the cathode/electrolyte interface of SOFC
- 1476 A hierarchical model for automotive PEM fuel cell system comprehensive evaluation and comparison

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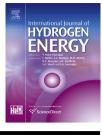
ABSTRACT

A comparative gasification study between pure glycerol and two different kinds of crude glycerol is conducted in supercritical water under various operating parameters to investigate the effect of different compositions in crude glycerol on the gasification behaviors. Among various types of impurities in the crude glycerol, fatty acid methyl esters (FAMEs) exhibit a negative effect on the gas yield and gasification efficiency of crude glycerol in a batch apparatus due to the enhanced tar/char formation. At 650 °C and 5 wt%, gasification in a continuous apparatus exhibits H_2 yields of 26.44 and 35.85 mmol/g feed in 1 min for both types of crude glycerol, which could not be achieved by the batch system even with the reaction time extended up to 120 min. A shorter duration in the non-supercritical state may be the dominant parameter that leads to complete conversion of FAMEs and total gasification of crude glycerol using the continuous system.

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1. Introduction

The huge amount of crude glycerol generated currently makes biodiesel production plants unattractive from an economic point of view, because of the chemical complexity of crude glycerol due to the presence of a large variety of impurities, such as water, soap, traces of methanol, unseparated fatty acid methyl esters (FAMEs), and many other inorganic



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