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43GERSEQ
Ciudad Real 2023

Graphite-encapsulated iron nanoparticles: an evaluation of their use as a catalyst for the production of energy and high value-added products.

Gisele Giovanna Halfeld
Víctor J. Climent Payá
Natalia García Rey



Index

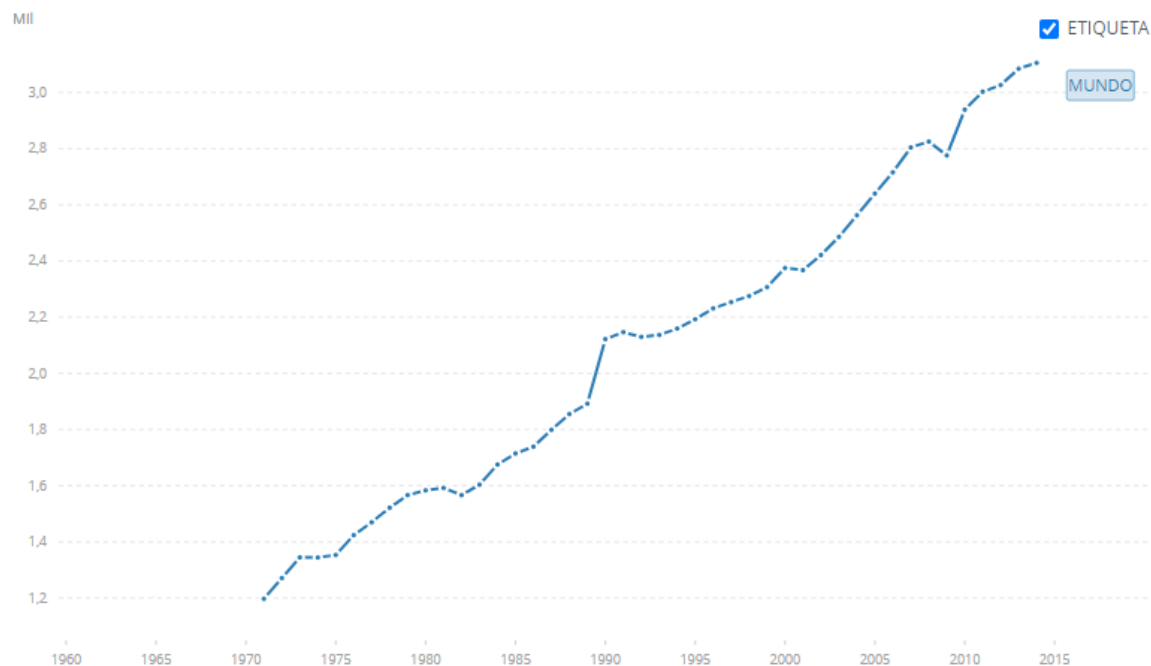


- Introduction
 - Fuel cells
 - Catalysts
 - Zerovalent iron nanoparticles (nZVI)
 - Graphite encapsulated iron nanoparticles
- Goal
- Methodology and hypothesis
- Temporary planning
- Expected impact



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Electrical energy consumption (kWh per capita)



1960 - 2019



Agencia Internacional de la Energía (AIE) (Estadísticas de la AIE © OCDE/AIE, iea.org/stats/index.asp); Estadísticas de energía y balances de países no pertenecientes a la OCDE; Estadísticas de energía de países de la OCDE, y balances de energía de países de la OCDE.

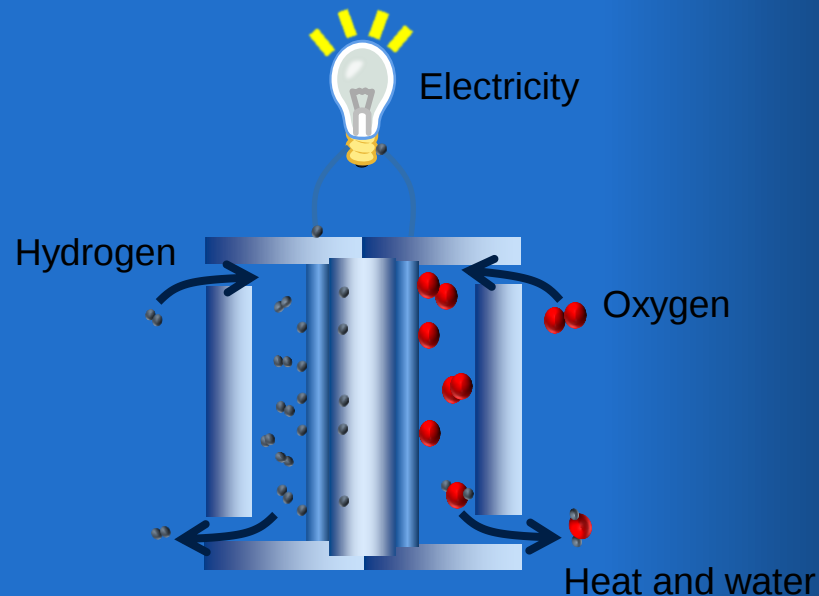
Green H₂ to power the world

Transform chemical energy into electrical energy

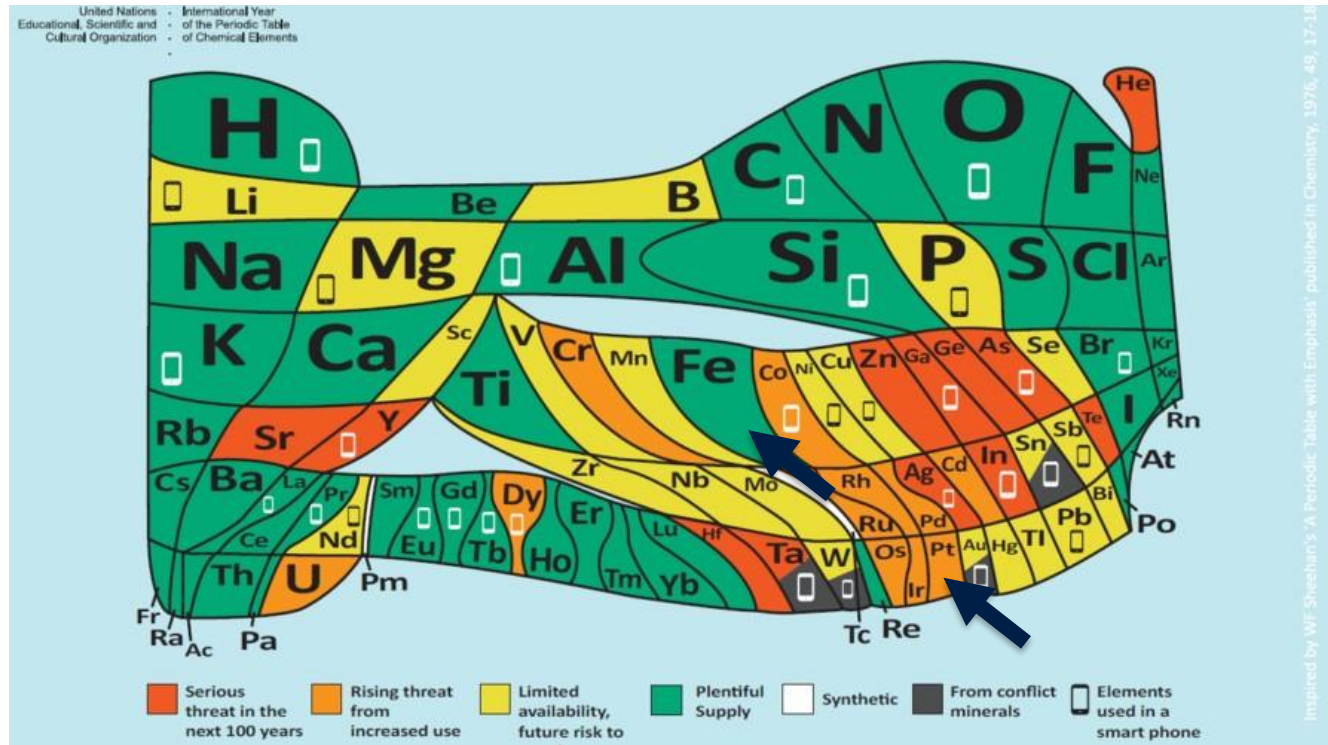
High
efficiency

High cost of
production

Low
environmental
impact



CHANDRAN, Priji; GHOSH, Arpita; RAMAPRABHU, Sundara. High-performance Platinum-free oxygen reduction reaction and hydrogen oxidation reaction catalyst in polymer electrolyte membrane fuel cell. Scientific reports, v. 8, n. 1, p. 3591, 2018.



“If all of the remaining lithospheric stock of platinum were dedicated to operating a fleet of 500 million fuel cell vehicles, the platinum resource in the lithosphere could sustain this fleet for 15 years.”



Iron nanoparticles



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Nano Energy

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/nanoen

One-step conversion from Ni/Fe polyphthalocyanine to N-doped carbon supported **Ni-Fe** nanoparticles for highly efficient water splitting

Zhengping Zhang, Yeshe Qin, Meiling Dou, Jing Ji, Feng Wang*

State Key Laboratory of Chemical Resource Engineering, Beijing Key Laboratory of Electrochemical Process and Technology for Materials, Beijing University of Chemical Technology, Beijing 100029, China



Iron nanoparticles



ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Electrochimica Acta

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/electacta

Carbon-encapsulated nickel-iron nanoparticles supported on nickel foam as a catalyst electrode for urea electrolysis

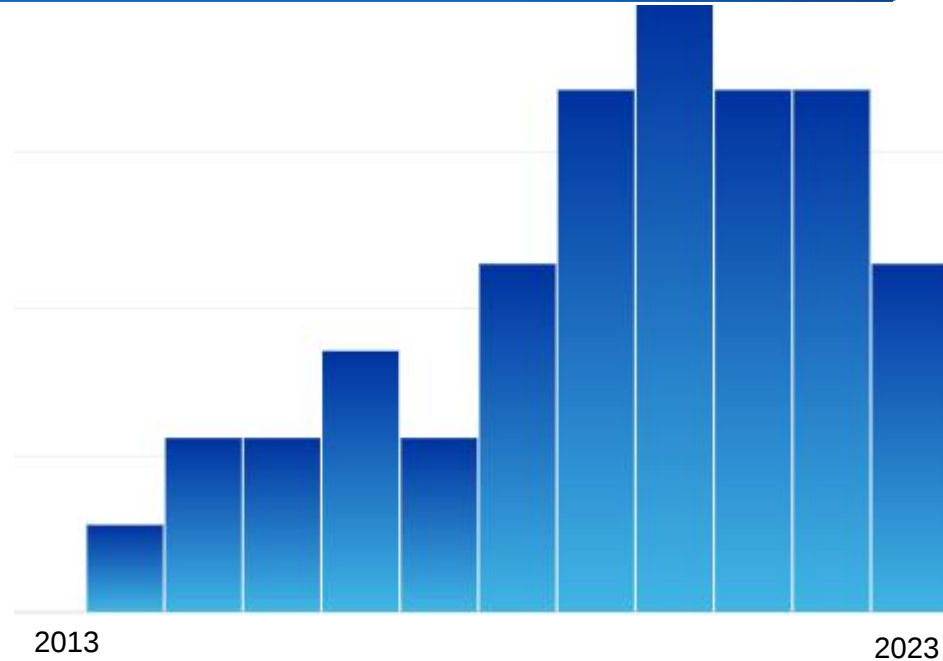
Mao-Sung Wu*, Chi-Yu Jao, Farn-Yih Chuang, Fang-Yi Chen

Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, National Kaohsiung University of Applied Sciences, Kaohsiung 807, Taiwan



Iron nanoparticles

Number of publications on the use of nanoparticles with iron as a catalyst for the evolution of hydrogen: 43





Iron nanoparticles



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Nano Energy

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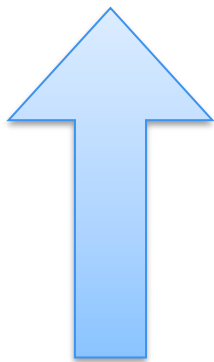
State Key Laboratory of Chemical Resource Engineering, Beijing Key Laboratory of Electrochemical Process and Technology for Materials, Beijing University of Chemical Technology, Beijing 100029, China

TAVAKKOLI, Mohammad et al. Single-shell carbon-encapsulated iron nanoparticles: synthesis and high electrocatalytic activity for hydrogen evolution reaction. *Angewandte Chemie International Edition*, v. 54, n. 15, p. 4535-4538, 2015.

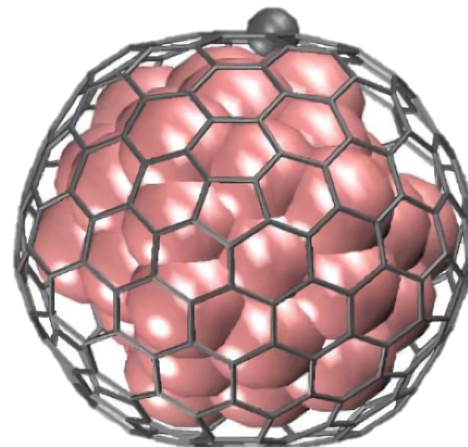
CILPA-KARHU, Geraldine; PAKKANEN, Olli J.; LAASONEN, Kari. Hydrogen evolution reaction on the single-shell carbon-encapsulated iron nanoparticle: a density functional theory insight. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry C*, v. 123, n. 22, p. 13569-13577, 2019.

VARNELL, Jason A. et al. Identification of carbon-encapsulated iron nanoparticles as active species in non-precious metal oxygen reduction catalysts. *Nature communications*, v. 7, n. 1, p. 12582, 2016.

Carbon-encapsulated iron nanoparticles



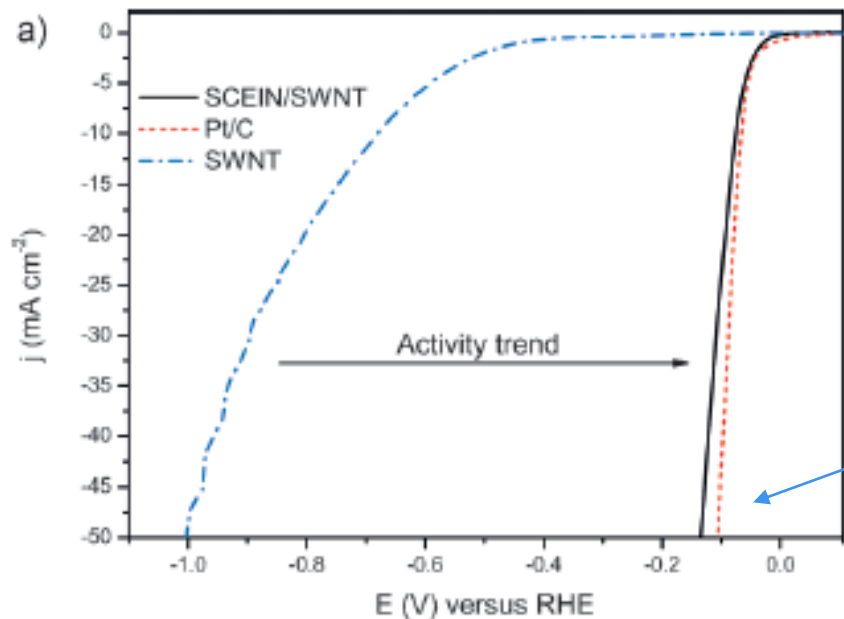
Increase stability of
nZVI





Catalysts

Polarization curve



SCEINs single layer carbon encapsulated iron nanoparticles

Pt/C commercial Pt catalyst (20%)

SWNTs single wall carbon nanotubes

slightly negative voltage to overcome the activation energy

Graphite encapsulated iron nanoparticles



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E4CE

ENGINEERING FOR CIRCULAR ECONOMY



ACS
Sustainable
Chemistry & Engineering

Cite This: *ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng.* 2018, 6, 7995–8002

Research Article

pubs.acs.org/journal/ascecg

Green Synthesis of Thin Shell Carbon-Encapsulated Iron Nanoparticles via Hydrothermal Carbonization

B. Calderon,* F. Smith, I. Aracil, and A. Fullana

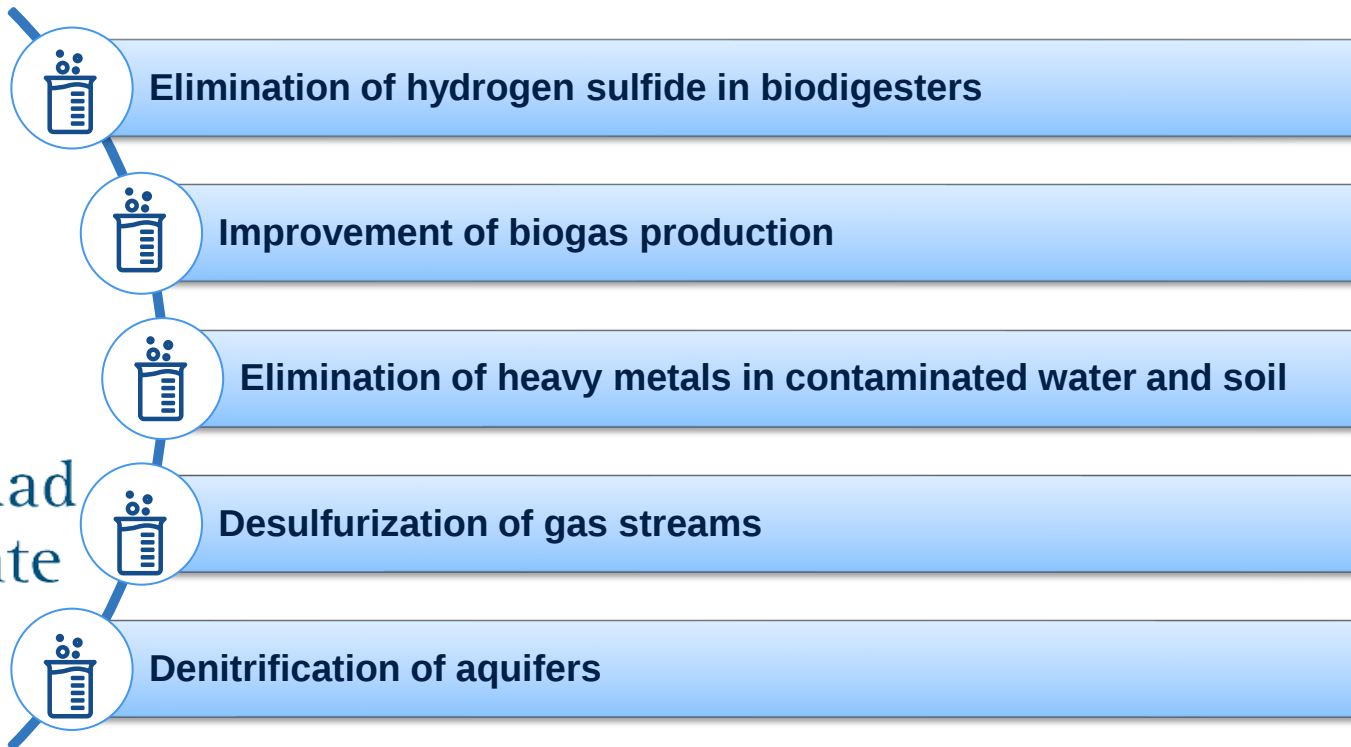
Chemical Engineering Department, University of Alicante, San Vicente del Raspeig Road, s/n 03690 San Vicente del Raspeig, Alicante, Spain

Encapsulation of nZVI within micro or nano carbon spheres through hydrothermal carbonization (HTC)

CALDERON, Blanca et al. Green synthesis of thin shell carbon-encapsulated iron nanoparticles via hydrothermal carbonization. *ACS Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering*, v. 6, n. 6, p. 7995-8002, 2018.



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Synthesis CE-nFe

0.057 mole de
 $\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$
+ 300 mL olive
mill wastewater
(1H)

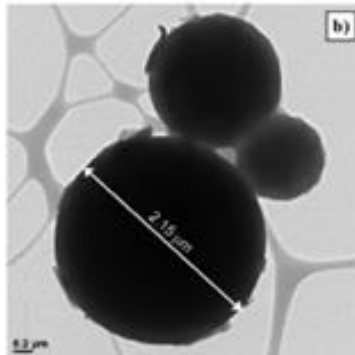
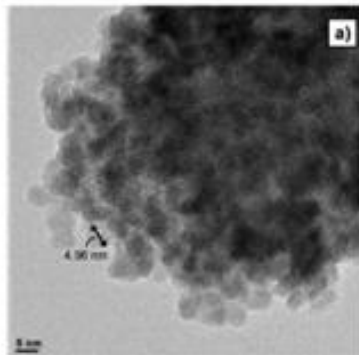
Vacuum filtered
with cellulose
acetate 0,2 μm

Dried at 80 °C
for 12 h

Hydrothermal
reactor at
200°C for 3H

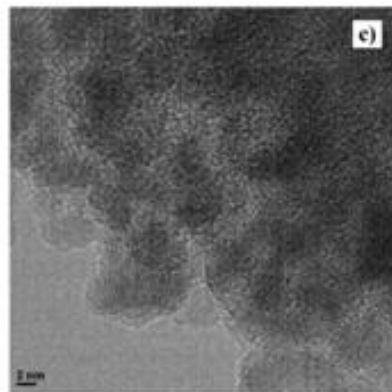
Wash twice with
an ethanol-water
solution 50/50
(v/v).

OMW-
CE-nFe
(5 nm)



G-CE-
nFe 0.2
(μm)

The smaller size and more porous structure of OMW-CE-nFe provide the material with a higher surface area

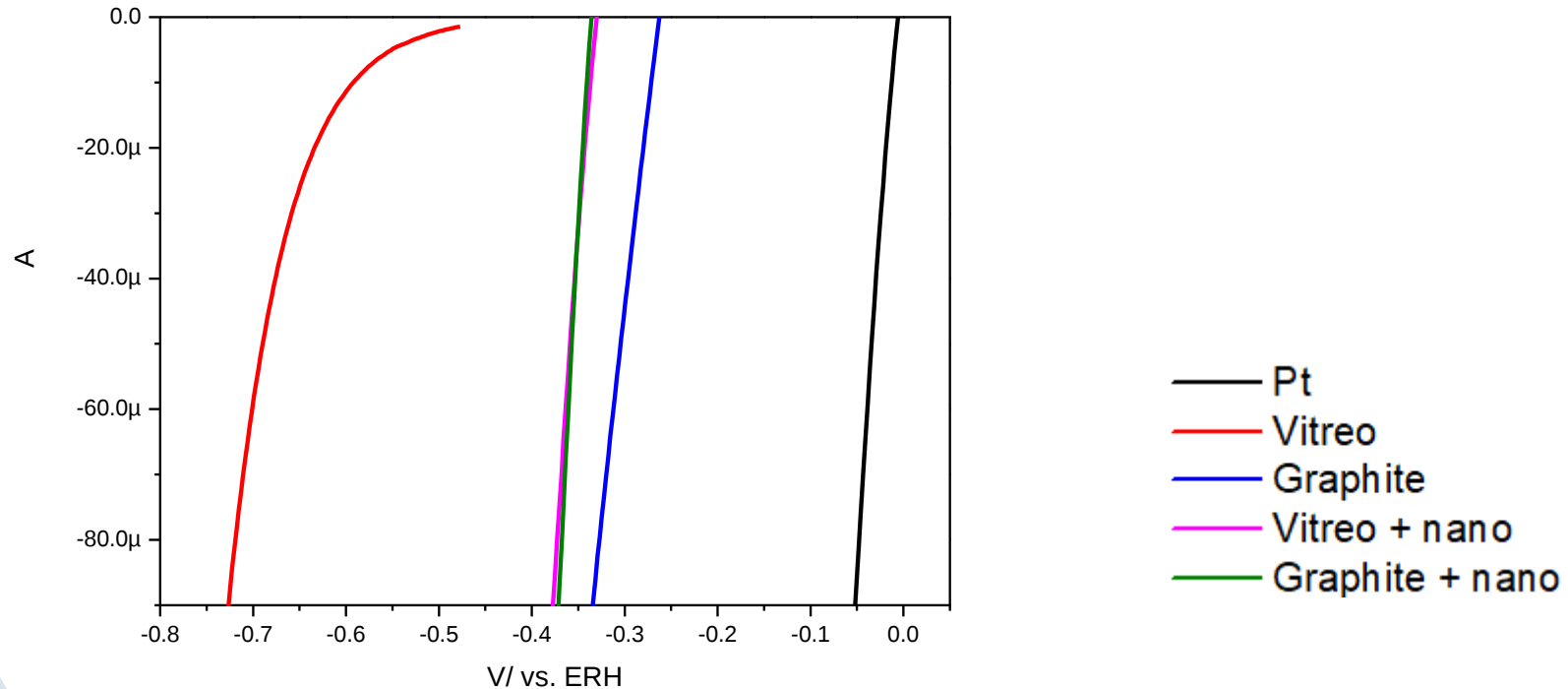


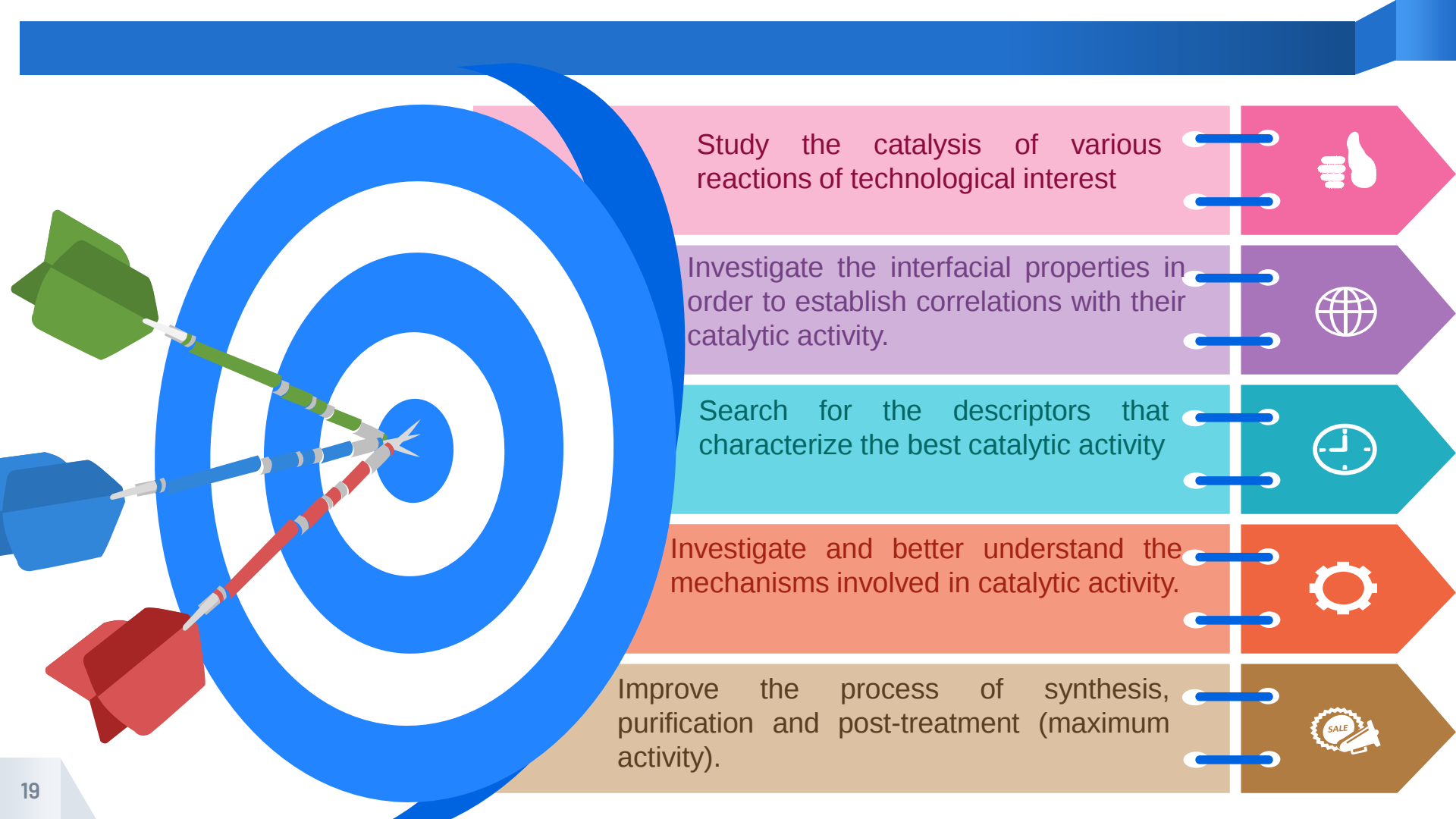
G-CE-nFe consisted of microspheres of diameters of $2.0 \pm 0.7 \mu\text{m}$, OMW-CE-nFe presented a sphere-like nanostructure of sizes of $130 \pm 50 \text{ nm}$

Figure. TEM images of (a) OMW-CE-nFe (b) G-CE-nFe (c) HRTEM image of the nanoparticles shell of OMW-CE-nFe

Goal

Test to evaluate the response of nanoparticles the way we received them.





Study the catalysis of various reactions of technological interest



Investigate the interfacial properties in order to establish correlations with their catalytic activity.



Search for the descriptors that characterize the best catalytic activity



Investigate and better understand the mechanisms involved in catalytic activity.



Improve the process of synthesis, purification and post-treatment (maximum activity).





Methodology

Pre treatment:

Composition of the electrolyte, pH, synthesis, concentration, nanoparticle preparation, centrifugation, magnetic separation, electrophoresis, selective oxidation, oxidation with nitric acid, doped with nitrogen and phosphorus.

Reactivity:

Cyclic voltammetry and chronoamperometry, impedance spectroscopy, laser-induced temperature jump technique,

Physical chemical characterization:

FTIR, Raman, DEMS, XPS, SEM, HRTEM



Temporary planning

Bibliographic search, initial essays with the sample “as it is received”. The methods, the characterization techniques will be optimized.

01



2023

Test with activation methods. Test of hydrogen evolution and oxygen reduction with activated samples.

03



2024



23/24

02

Test different methods of purification. Hydrogen evolution test with the different purified samples.



2025

04

CO₂ reduction and NH₃ oxidation assay. Writing of the thesis.



Expected impact



Alternative to the use
of platinum electrodes



Economical, abundant
and easily scalable.



Sustainable energy model
based on hydrogen



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Thank you!