

Supplementary Materials

Evaluating the Effect of Varying the Metal Precursor in the Colloidal Synthesis of MoSe₂ Nanomaterials and Their Application as Electrodes in the Hydrogen Evolution Reaction

Zakhele Ndala ¹, Ndivhuwo Shumbula ¹, Siyabonga Nkabinde ¹, Tshwarela Kolokoto ¹, Obakeng Nchoe ¹, Poslet Shumbula ², Zikhona N. Tetana ^{1,3,4}, Ella C. Linganiso ^{1,3,4}, Siziwe S. Gqoba ^{1,*} and Nosipho Moloto ^{1,*}

¹ Molecular Sciences Institute, School of Chemistry, University of the Witwatersrand, Private Bag 3, Wits, 2050, South Africa; 491384@students.wits.ac.za (Z.N.); 677753@students.wits.ac.za (N.S.); 564058@students.wits.ac.za (S.N.); 670850@students.wits.ac.za (T.K.); 2291563@students.wits.ac.za (O.N.); Zikhona.Tetana@wits.ac.za (Z.N.T.); Cebisa.Linganiso@wits.ac.za (E.C.L.)

² Department of Chemistry, University of Limpopo Private Bag x1106, Sovenga 0727, South Africa; poslet.shumbula@ul.ac.za

³ DST/NRF Centre of Excellence in Strong Materials, University of the Witwatersrand, Private Bag 3, Wits, 2050, South Africa

⁴ Microscopy and Microanalysis Unit, University of the Witwatersrand, Private Bag 3, Johannesburg, Wits 2050, South Africa

* Correspondence: Siziwe.Gqoba@wits.ac.za (S.S.G.); Nosipho.Moloto@wits.ac.za (N.M.); Tel.: +2711-7176-774/+2711-7176-756 (S.S.G.); Fax: +2711-7176-749 (N.M.)

Supplementary Information

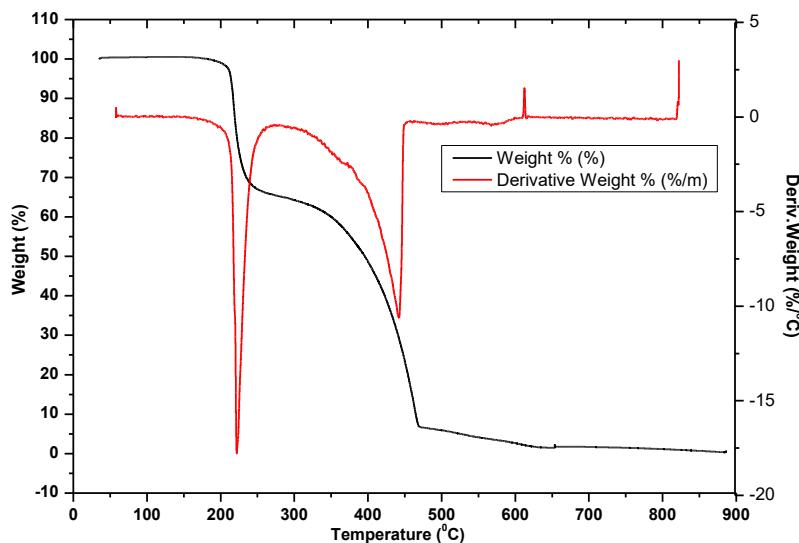


Figure S1. TGA of selenourea showing the decomposition of the compound to H₂Se and the carboamide (C(NH)₂) at ~220 °C.

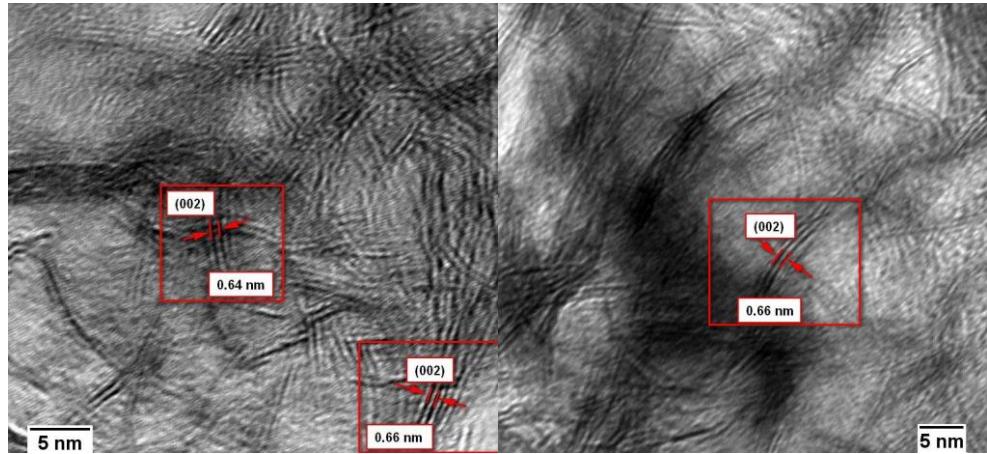


Figure S2. HRTEM images of nanosheets synthesized at 30 min, showing the interlayer spacing of the nanosheets. The d-spacing of the lattice fringes can be used to determine whether the synthesized nanosheets are multi-layer or monolayer nanosheets. The d-spacing of the nanosheets was determined to be ~0.66 nm which is the d-spacing of the (002) lattice plane in multi-layer nanosheets. This confirms that the nanosheets at 30 min are indeed multi-layer.

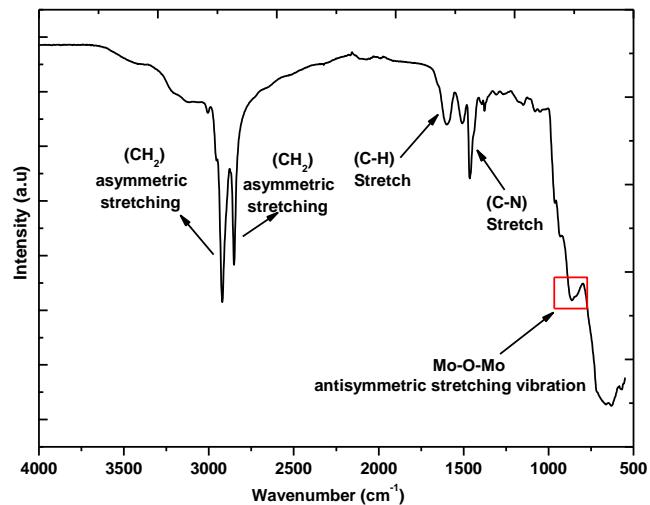


Figure S3. The FTIR spectrum of the product obtained when H_2MoO_4 is heated in oleylamine at 300 °C.

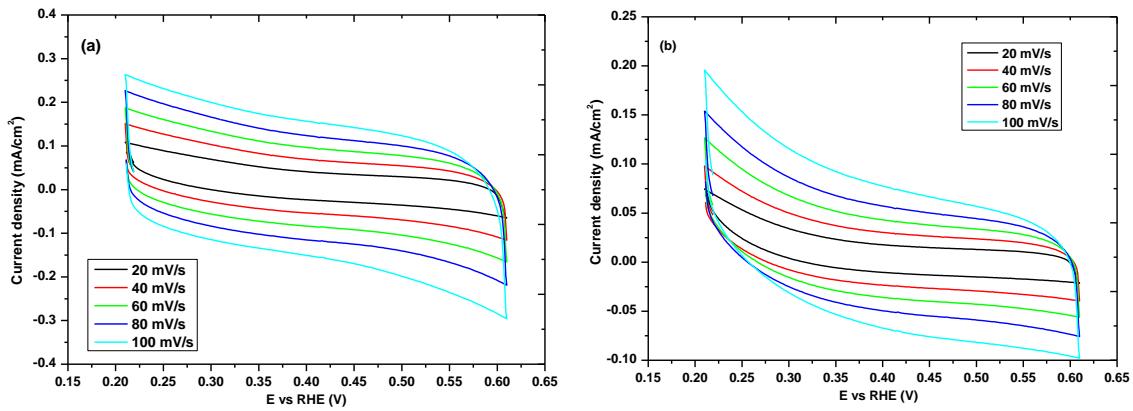


Figure S4. CV curves of (a) MoSe₂-nanosheets and (b) MoSe₂-nanoflowers at scan-rates of 20, 40, 60, 80 and 100 mV/s.

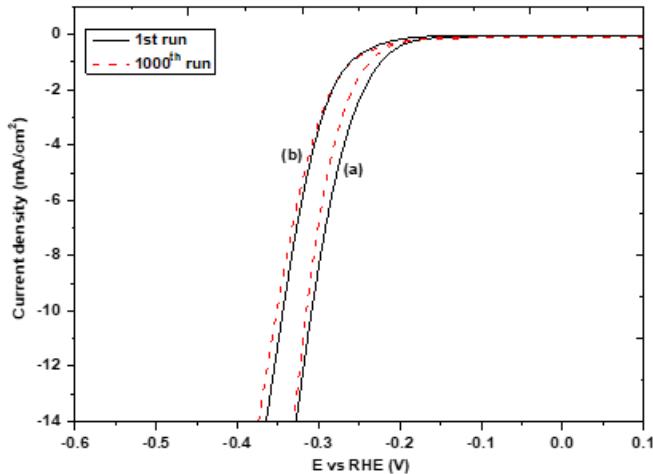


Figure S5. LSV curves of (a) MoSe₂-nanoflowers and (b) MoSe₂-nanosheets before and after a 1000 cycles of LSV.



© 2020 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).