

## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

### Calculation of the layer thickness on the GC-RDE [34]

For the calculation of the approximate layer thickness on the GC-RDE the quantity (m), the density ( $\rho$ ) and the volume (V) of metal, Vulcan XC72R and Nafion Ionomer solution, as well as the area of the GC-RDE ( $A_{GC}$ ) were used. For the different catalysts, the loading ( $\omega$ ) of metal and Vulcan XC72R was also considered.

$$\text{layer thickness} = \frac{\frac{m_{\text{metal}}}{\rho_{\text{metal}}} + \frac{m_{\text{Vulcan XC72R}}}{\rho_{\text{Vulcan XC72R}}} + \frac{m_{\text{Nafion 5 wt.\%}}}{\rho_{\text{Nafion}}}}{A_{GC}}$$

$$m_{\text{metal}} = \frac{m_{\text{catalyst}}}{V_{\text{mixture}}} \cdot V_{\text{catalyst ink}} \cdot \omega_{\text{metal}} (= 0.4 \text{ or } 0.3 \text{ or } 0.2 \text{ or } 0.1)$$

$$m_{\text{Vulcan XC72R}} = \frac{m_{\text{catalyst}}}{V_{\text{mixture}}} \cdot V_{\text{catalyst ink}} \cdot \omega_{\text{Vulcan XC72R}} (= 0.6 \text{ or } 0.7 \text{ or } 0.8 \text{ or } 0.9)$$

$$m_{\text{Nafion 5 wt.\%}} = \frac{\rho_{\text{Nafion 5 wt.\%}} \cdot V_{\text{Nafion 5 wt.\%}} \cdot \frac{5}{100}}{\frac{V_{\text{mixture}}}{V_{\text{catalyst ink}}}}$$

$$m_{\text{catalyst}} = 8.1 \text{ mg for all PdNiBi/C catalysts}$$

$$V_{\text{Nafion 5 wt.\%}} = 13 \mu\text{L Nafion ionomer solution}$$

$$V_{\text{mixture}} = 1.75 \text{ mL 2-propanol} + 0.737 \mu\text{L ultrapure water} + V_{\text{Nafion 5 wt.\%}} = 2.5 \text{ mL}$$

$$V_{\text{catalyst ink}} = 10 \mu\text{L (2 times 5 } \mu\text{L) were applied on GC - RDE}$$

$$A_{\text{GC-RDE}} = \text{Area of the GC - RDE} = 0.196 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$\rho_{\text{metal}} = \text{Density of Pd (12.02 g cm}^{-3}\text{) and Ni (8.91 g cm}^{-3}\text{) and Bi (9.78 g cm}^{-3}\text{)}$$

$$\rho_{\text{Nafion}} = 1.98 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$$

$$\rho_{\text{Nafion 5wt.\%}} = 0.94 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$$

$$\rho_{\text{Vulcan XC72R}} = 0.096 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$$

**Table S1:** Results of the layer-thickness calculation on the GC-RDE.

Catalysts	Layer thickness / $\mu\text{m}$
PdNiBi/C (40/60)	10.5
PdNiBi/C (30/70)	12.2
PdNiBi/C (20/80)	13.9
PdNiBi/C (10/90)	15.6

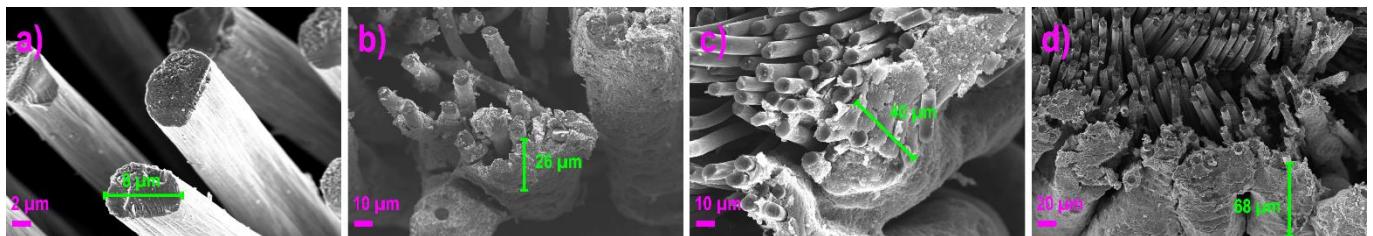
34. Cermenek, B.; Genorio, B.; Winter, T.; Wolf, S.; Connell, J.G.; Roschger, M.; Letofsky-Papst, I.; Kienzl, N.; Bitschnau, B.; Hacker, V. Alkaline Ethanol Oxidation Reaction on Carbon Supported Ternary PdNiBi Nanocatalyst Using Modified Instant Reduction Synthesis Method. *Electrocatalysis* **2020**, *11*, 203–214. 10.1007/s12678-019-00577-8.

**Table S2.** Chemical composition of the PdNiBi/C active-catalyst material determined by ICP-MS (Bi) and AAS (Pd, Ni) in at.%.

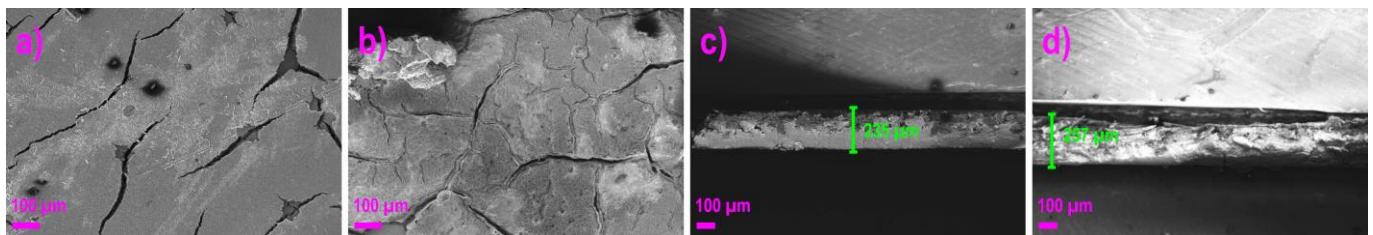
Catalysts	measured			calculated		
	Pd	Ni	Bi	Pd	Ni	Bi
PdNiBi/C (40/60)	84.0	10.0	6.0	85	10	5
PdNiBi/C (30/70)	84.4	10.2	5.4	85	10	5
PdNiBi/C (20/80)	83.3	10.4	6.3	85	10	5
PdNiBi/C (10/90)	84.6	8.9	6.5	85	10	5

**Table S3.** XRD data of the Pd<sub>85</sub>Ni<sub>10</sub>Bi<sub>5</sub>/C catalysts.

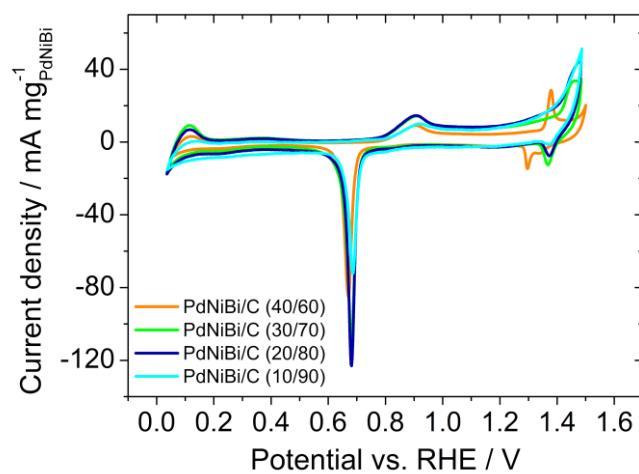
Peak No.	Crystal structure	Miller indices	Peak Pos. (° 2θ)			
			PdNiBi/C (40/60)	PdNiBi/C (30/70)	PdNiBi/C (20/80)	PdNiBi/C (10/90)
1	Graphite(2H)_187640-ICSD	(002)	25.414	25.447	25.513	25.480
2	Pd_64922-ICSD	(111)	39.505	39.703	39.604	39.736
3	Pd_64922-ICSD	(200)	45.841	46.006	45.940	46.237
4	Pd_64922-ICSD	(220)	67.027	66.796	66.664	66.664
Peak No.	FWHM. (° 2θ)				Crystallite size (nm)	
	PdNiBi/C (40/60)	PdNiBi/C (30/70)	PdNiBi/C (20/80)	PdNiBi/C (10/90)	PdNiBi/C (40/60)	PdNiBi/C (30/70)
2	1.914	3.300	3.102	3.102	4.6	2.7
					2.8	2.8



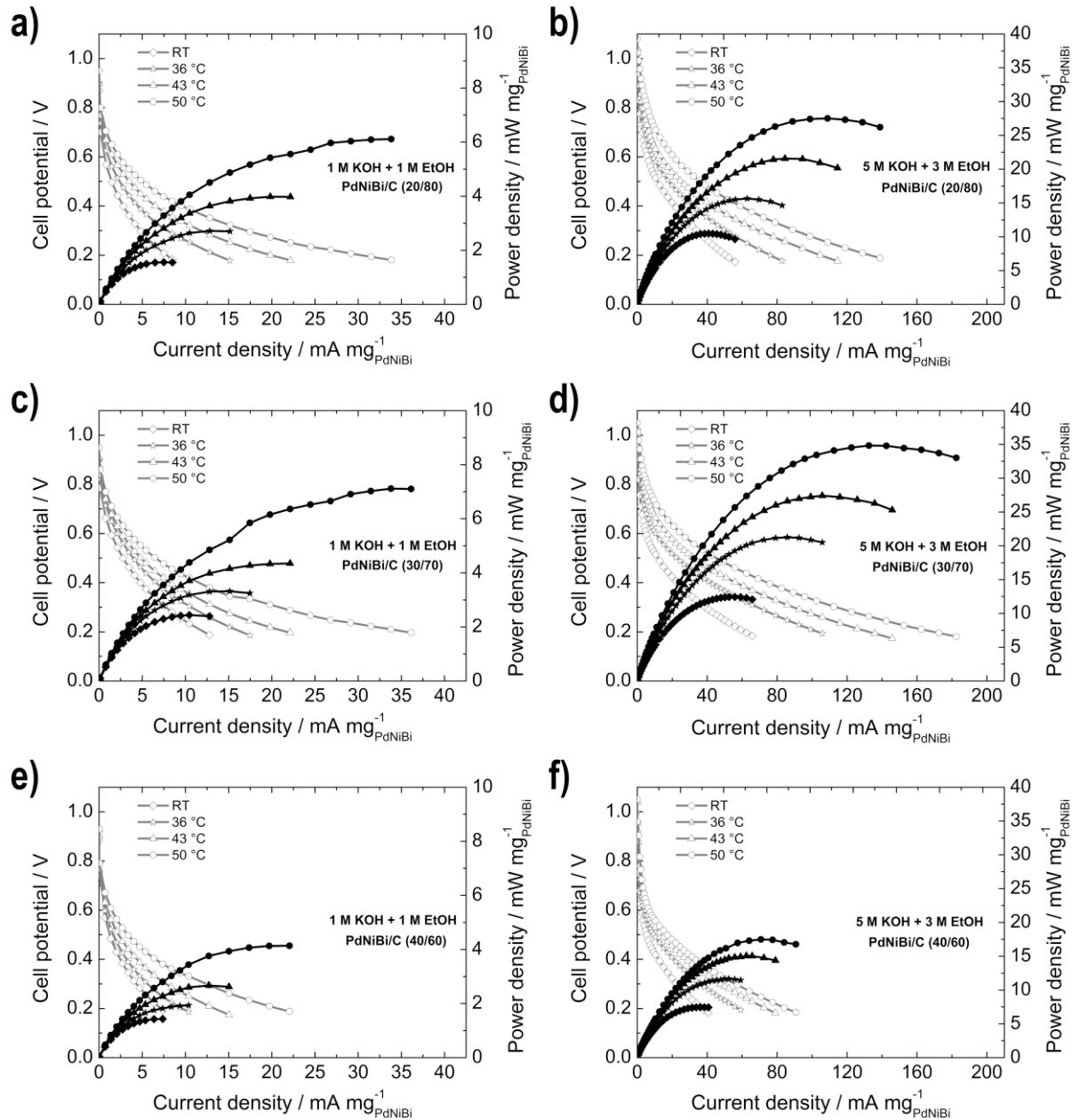
**Figure S1.** SEM images with the dimensioning of the cross section of the different PdNiBi/C electrodes (catalyst on carbon cloth) (a) without catalyst; (b) with PdNiBi/C (40/60); (c) PdNiBi/C (30/70); and (d) PdNiBi/C (20/80).



**Figure S2.** SEM images of the PtRu/C cathode electrodes (a) blank carbon paper; (b) carbon paper with catalyst; (c) cross section of the blank carbon paper; (d) cross section of the carbon paper with catalyst.



**Figure S3.** Electrochemical characterization of the PdNiBi/C catalysts with a scan rate of  $10 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$  at  $30^\circ\text{C}$  in a potential range from  $0.05 \text{ V} - 1.5 \text{ V}$  vs. RHE in  $\text{N}_2$ -purged  $1 \text{ M KOH}$ .



**Figure S4.** Power density (filled symbols) and polarization curves (unfilled symbols) for the single-cell measurements of the different PdNiBi/C electrodes at different temperatures (RT, 36 °C, 43 °C, 50 °C) and different fuel concentrations (a) PdNiBi/C (20/80), 1 M KOH + 1 M EtOH; (b) PdNiBi/C (20/80), 5 M KOH + 3 M EtOH; (c) PdNiBi/C (30/70), 1 M KOH + 1 M EtOH, (d) PdNiBi/C (30/70), 5 M KOH + 3 M EtOH; (e) PdNiBi/C (40/60), 1 M KOH + 1 M EtOH; and (f) PdNiBi/C (40/60), 5 M KOH + 3 M EtOH.