

Supporting Information for

Controlled Thermal Nitridation Resulting in Improved Structural and Photoelectrochemical Properties from Ta₃N₅ Nanotubular Photoanodes

Sherdil Khan^a, Sérgio Ribeiro Teixeira,^a Marcos Jose Leite Santos^{b*}

^aInstituto de Física, UFRGS, Av Bento Gonçalves 9500 PO Box - 15051 91501-970, POA-RS, Brazil. Phone: +55-51-33086498

^bInstituto de Química, UFRGS, Av Bento Gonçalves 9500 PO Box - 15051 91501-970, POA-RS, Brazil. Phone: +55-51-33089625

*E-mail address: mjls@ufrgs.br Tel : + 55 51 3308 9625; + 55 51 3308 9626

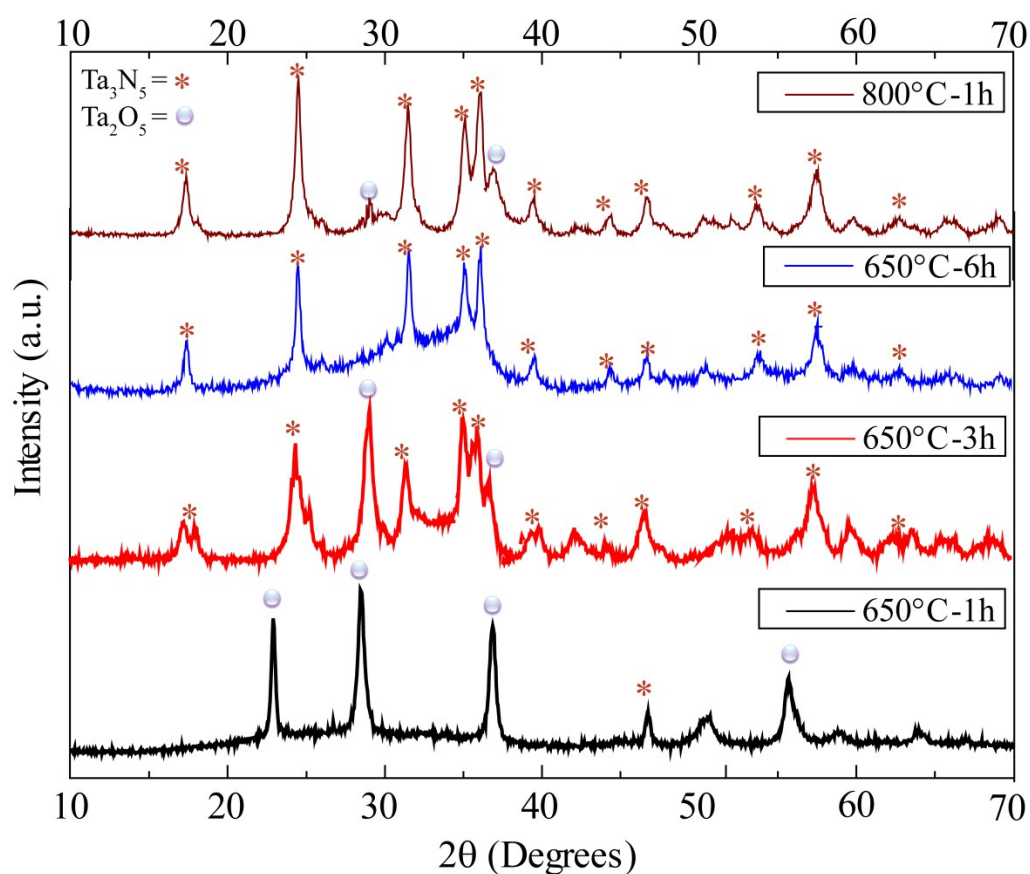


Fig. S1 XRD patterns of the samples prepared at 650°C and 800°C of nitridation.

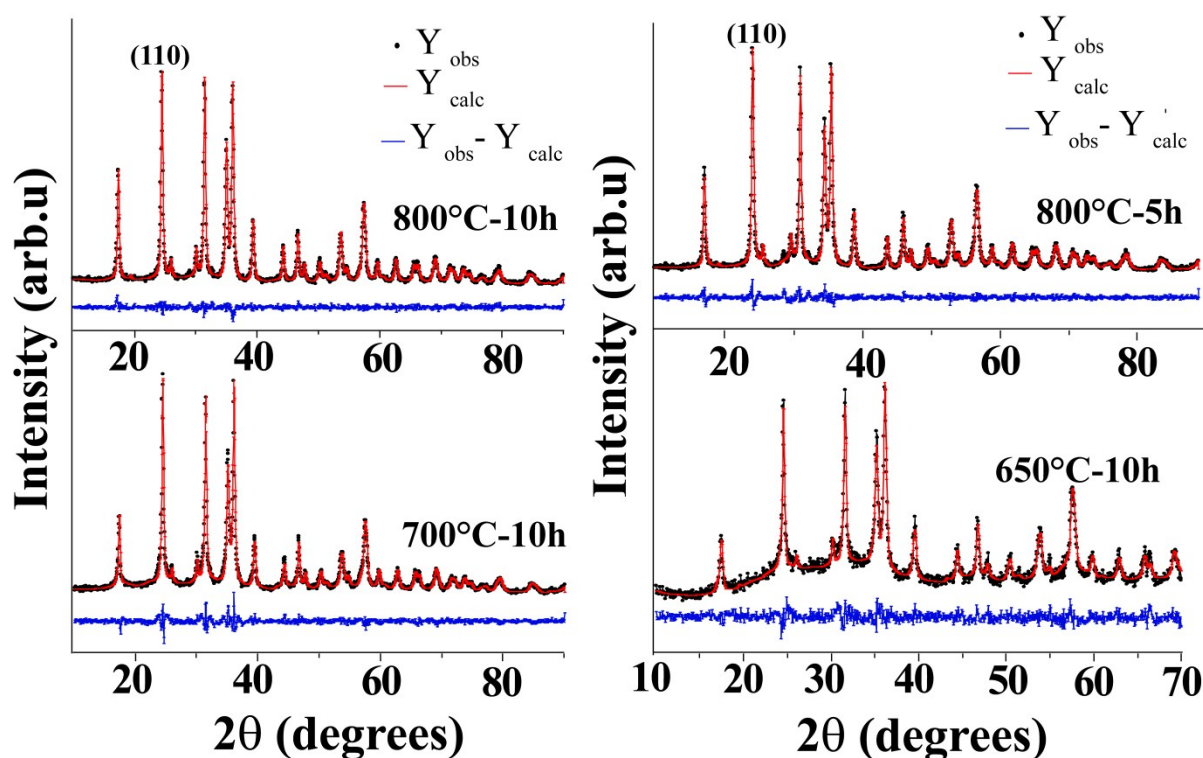


Fig. S2 Rietveld refinement profile for Ta_3N_5 NTs; (•) observed Y_{obs} , (red solid lines) calculated Y_{calc} , (blue solid lines) $Y_{\text{obs}} - Y_{\text{calc}}$ difference of phase.

Table S1 Estimated geometrical dimensions of Ta_3N_5 nanotubes as a function of nitridation temperature and time.*

Sample	Wall thickness/nm*	Diameter/nm*	Length/ μm^\dagger
As-Anodized	34	130	1.60
650°C-10h	34	128	1.58
700°C-10h	33	125	1.52
750°C-10h	32	110	1.40
800°C-2h	33	120	1.50
800°C-3h	30	100	1.40
800°C-5h	28	95	1.35
800°C-10h	28	90	1.20
850°C-3h	28	90	1.25
900°C-3h	25	75	1.10
900°C-10h	-	-	-
1000°C-3h	-	-	-

* Wall thicknesses and Diameters of the NTs were calculated from TEM images taken from different locations.

† Lengths of the NTs were calculated from SEM images.

Table S2 Percentages of vacancies (vac), occupancies (occ), substitutions (sub) in the Wyckoff positions, cell parameters and agreement factors deduced from the Rietveld refinements.

Sample	Ta1 (4c)	Ta2 (8f)	N1 (4c)	N2/O2 (8f)	N3 (8f)	R _{bragg} -factor	R _f -factor	Chi ²	a b c
650°C-10h	97.98 occ	99.89 occ	71.33 occ	0 – occ	99.98 occ	6.19	4.06	1.43	3.88516
	2.02 vac	0.11 vac	28.67 vac	100 subs	0.02 vac				10.16713
									10.24118
700°C-10h	94.60 occ	99.97occ	69.71 occ	37.10 occ	100 occ	3.33	1.94	1.99	3.89520
	5.40 vac	0.03 vac	30.29 vac	62.90 sub	0 – vac				10.19483
									10.26891
800°C-5h	93.87 occ	98.32 occ	94.40 occ	66.01 occ	100 occ	2.70	1.45	1.51	3.89962
	6.128 vac	1.68 vac	5.60 vac	33.99 sub	0 – vac				10.20950
									10.27345
800°C-10h	94.58 occ	98.39 occ	95.03 occ	80.01 occ	100 occ	4.14	2.41	1.37	3.89325
	5.42 vac	1.61 vac	4.97 vac	19.99 sub	0 – vac				10.20868
									10.26509

Table S3 (Photo)electrochemical parameters of Ta₃N₅ NTs obtained under various conditions of temperatures and nitridation times.*

Sample	V _{oc} (dark)V vs Ag/AgCl	V _{oc} (AM 1.5) V vs Ag/AgCl	I _{ph} (0.64V vs RHE) 0 V vs Ag/AgCl	I _{ph} (1.23V vs RHE) 0.6 V vs Ag/AgCl
650°C-10h	0.10	-0.32	70 μA	180 μA
700°C-10h	0.10	-0.32	151 μA	328 μA
750°C-10h	0.11	-0.36	251 μA	710 μA
800°C-1h	0.08	-0.26	107 μA	98 μA
800°C-02h	0.10	-0.34	251 μA	556 μA
800°C-05h	0.10	-0.36	940 μA	2.6 mA
800°C-10h	0.11	-0.33	280 μA	2.4 mA
900°C-10h	0.11	-0.35	1.8 mA	3.9 mA
1000°C-3h	0.10	-0.34	600 μA	2.8 mA

* To calculate I_{ph} the current in dark was subtracted.