

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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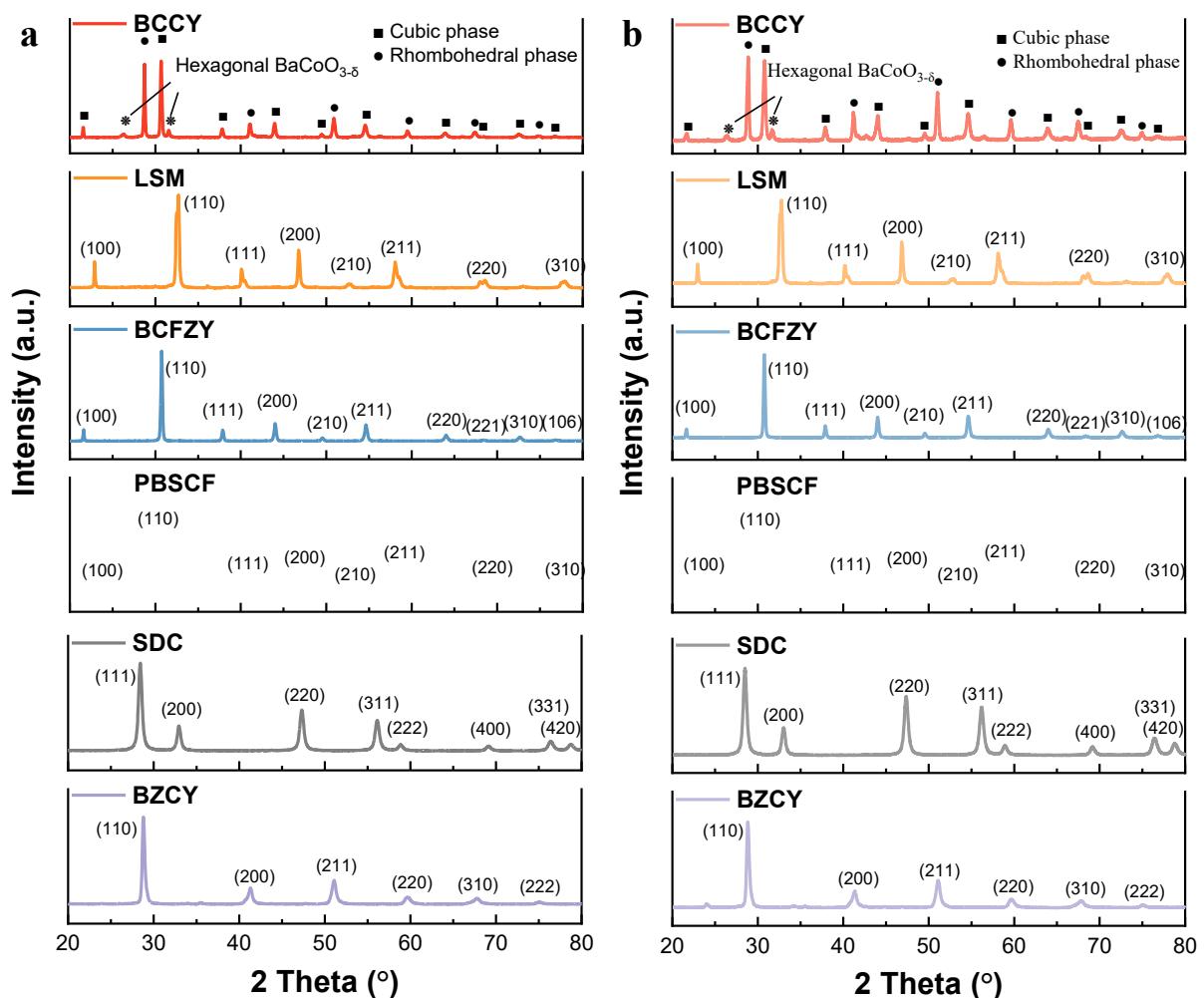


Fig. S1. XRD patterns of (a) the selected electrodes and electrolytes powders, and (b) the powders collected after the 2 h treatment under 600 °C in humified Air (40 vol.%).

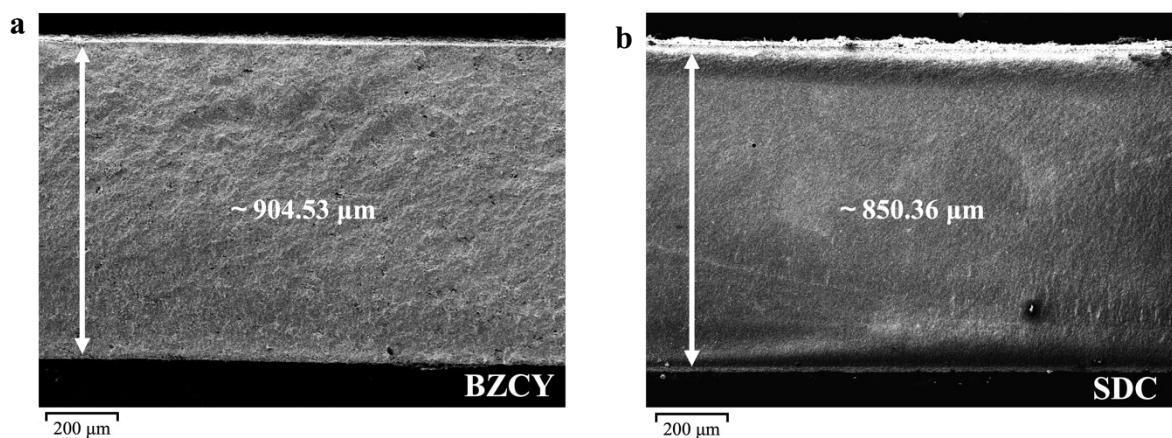


Fig. S2. SEM images of the cross-section area of the typical (a) BZCY electrolyte membrane and (b) SDC electrolyte membrane for symmetrical cells. The electrolyte membranes are densified with the average thickness of 0.90 mm for the same bath of BZCY pellets, and 0.85 mm for the same batch of SDC pellets.

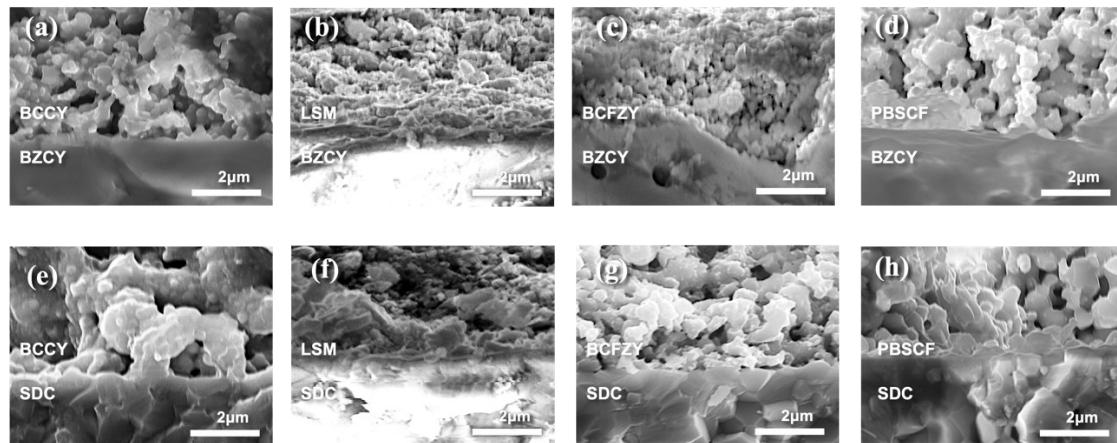


Fig. S3. SEM images of the representatives (a) BCCY-BZCY, (b) LSM-BZCY, (c) BCFZY-BZCY, (d) PBSCF-BZCY, (e) BCCY-SDC, (f) LSM-SDC, (g) BCFZY-SDC, and (h) PBSCF-SDC electrolyte-electrode interfaces of pristine symmetric cells.

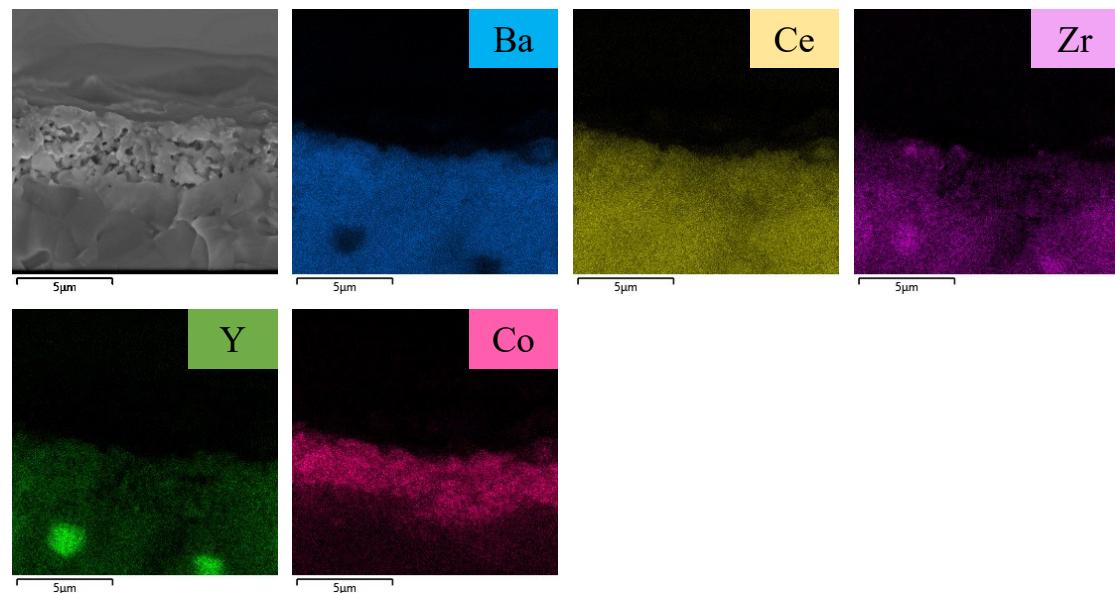


Fig. S4. The EDS mapping images of the interface of BCCY electrode on BZCY

electrolyte after EIS test.

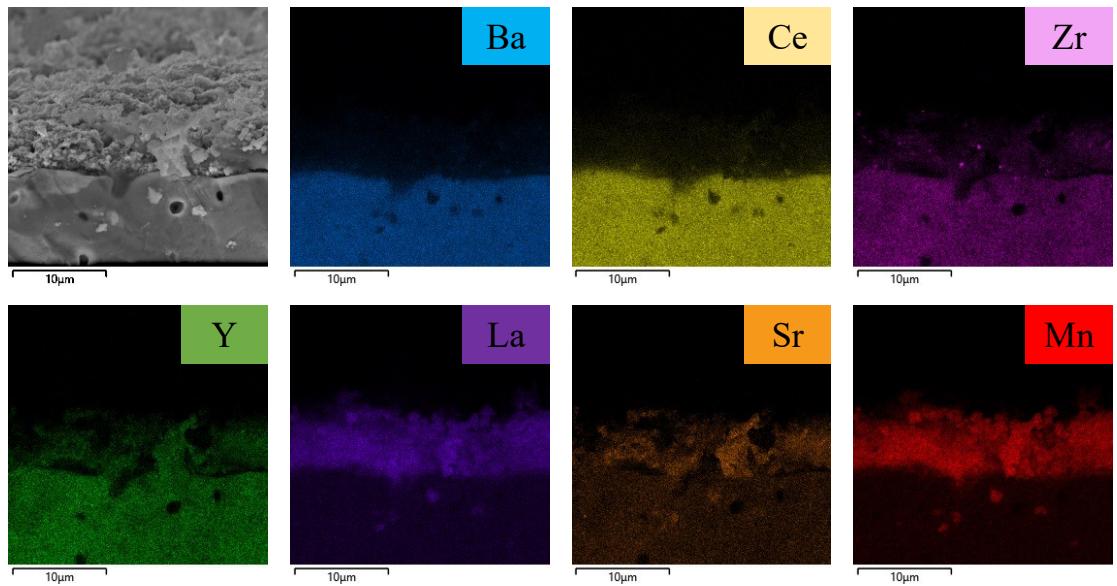


Fig. S5. The EDS mapping images of the interface of LSM electrode on BZCY electrolyte after EIS test.

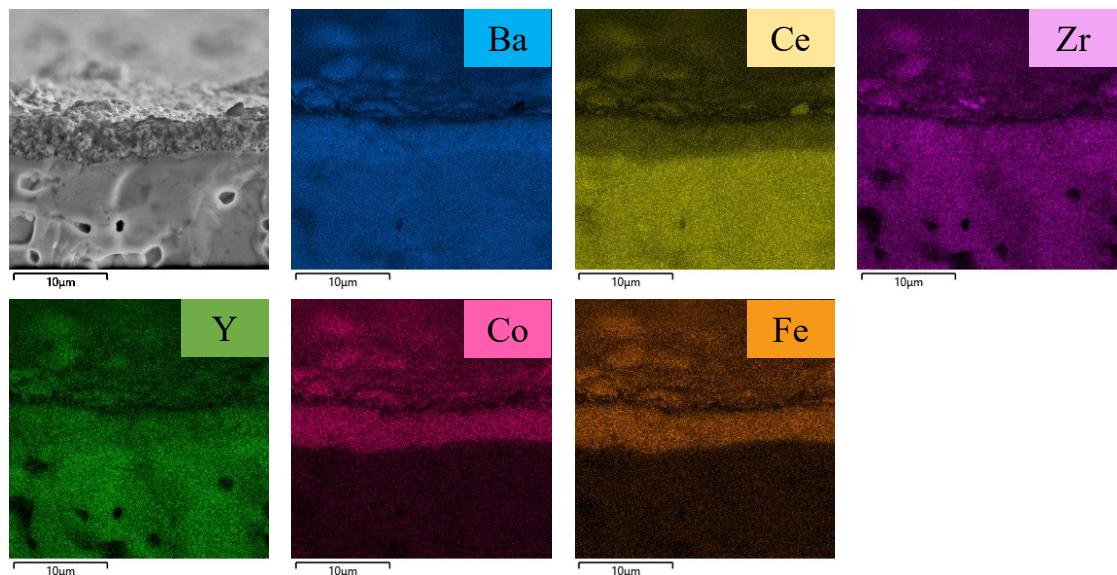


Fig. S6. The EDS mapping images of the interface of BCFZY electrode on BZCY electrolyte after EIS test.

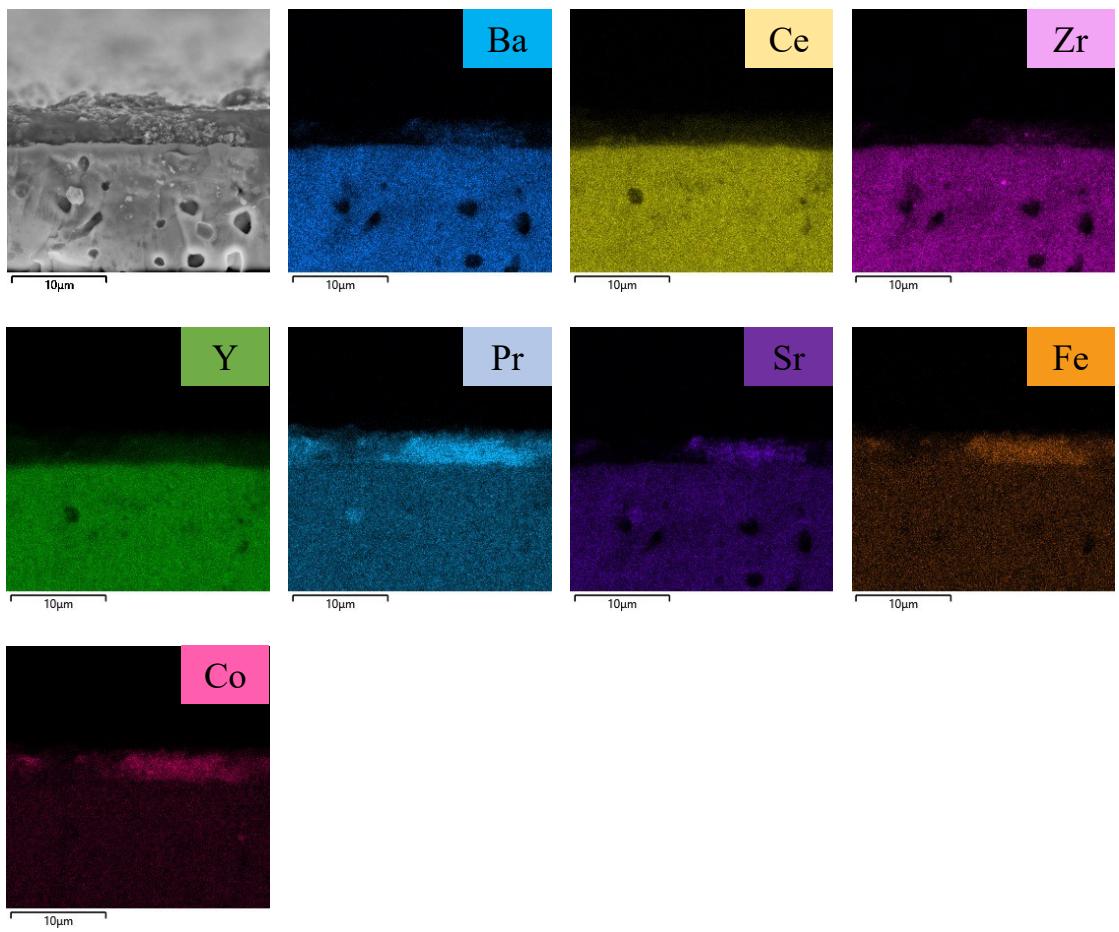


Fig. S7. The EDS mapping images of the interface of PBSCF electrode on BZCY electrolyte after EIS test.

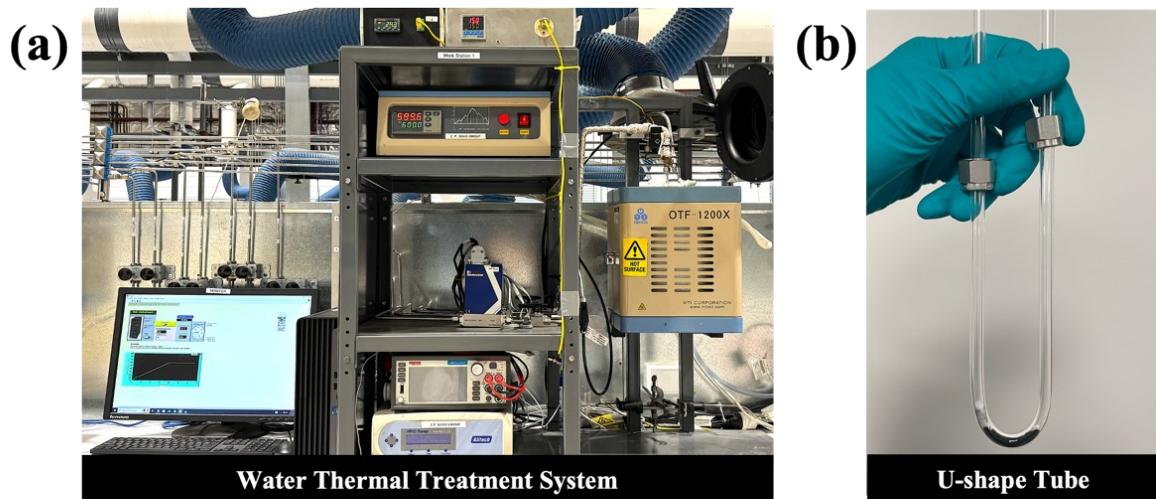


Fig. S8. Devices involved for H<sub>2</sub>O-TPD during the experiment to study water content in the materials.

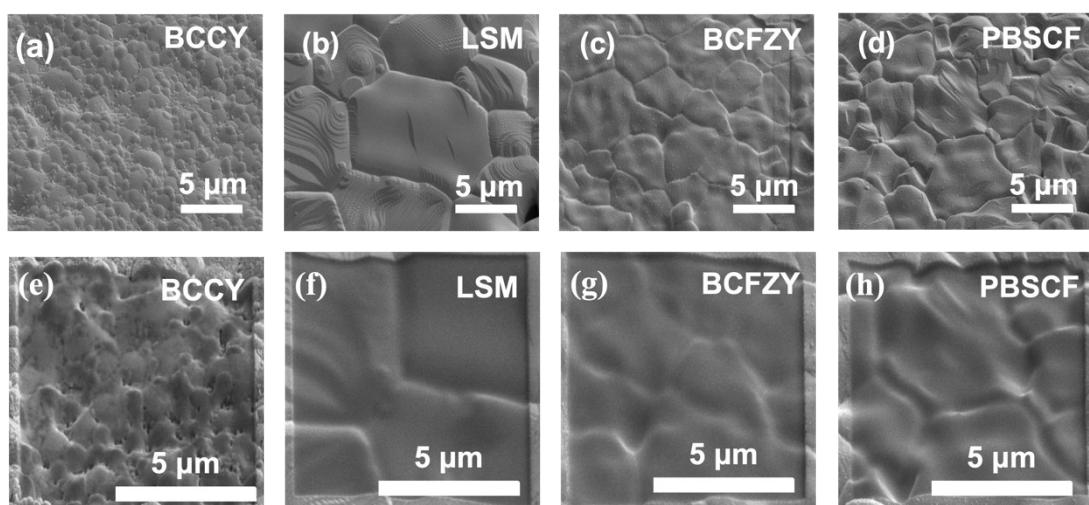


Fig. S9. Surficial SEM images of sintered (a) BCCY, (b) LSM, (c) BCFZY and (d) PBSCF before running the TOF-SIMS sputtering. Surficial SEM images of sintered (e) BCCY, (f) LSM, (g) BCFZY and (h) PBSCF after sputtering.

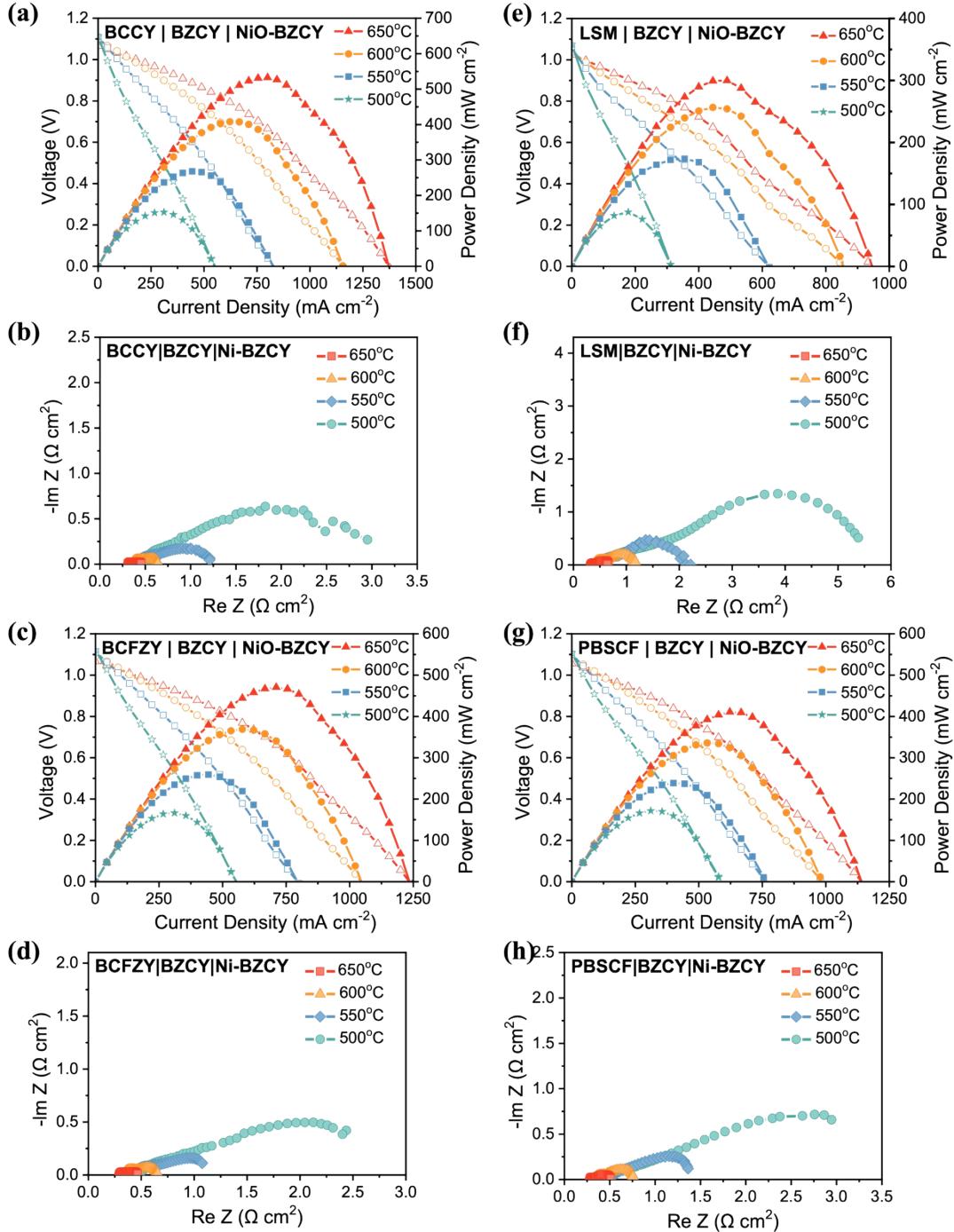


Fig. S10. BCCY|BZCY| Ni-BZCY (a) single cell I-V curve (b) single cell EIS measurement. LSM|BZCY| Ni-BZCY (c) single cell I-V curve (d) single cell EIS measurement. BCFZY|BZCY| Ni-BZCY (e) single cell I-V curve (f) single cell EIS

measurement. PBSCF|BZCY| Ni-BZCY single cell (g) single cell I-V curve (h) single cell EIS measurement.

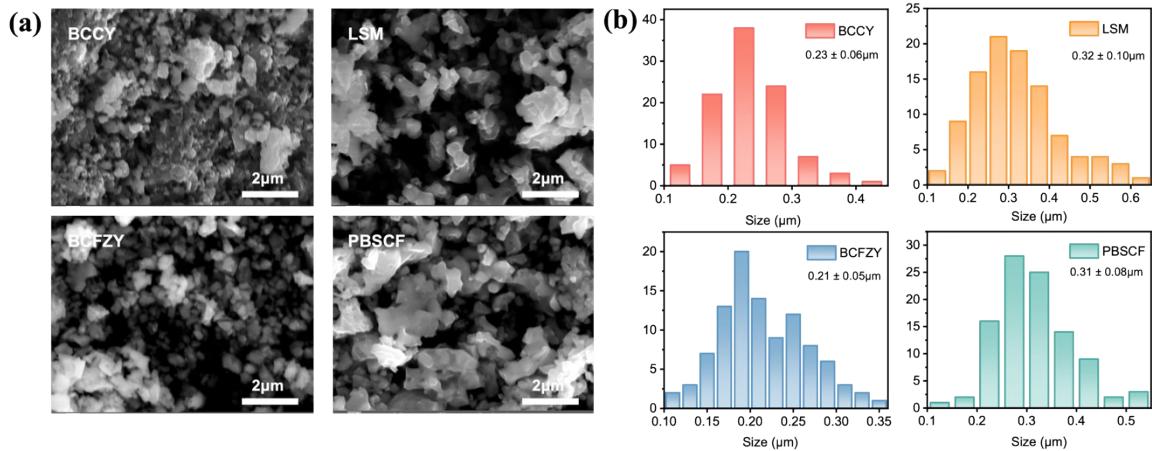


Fig. S11. Electrode particle sizes. (a) The SEM mapping images of the four calcinated electrode powder, (b) The calculated average particle sizes and size distribution of four electrode powders.

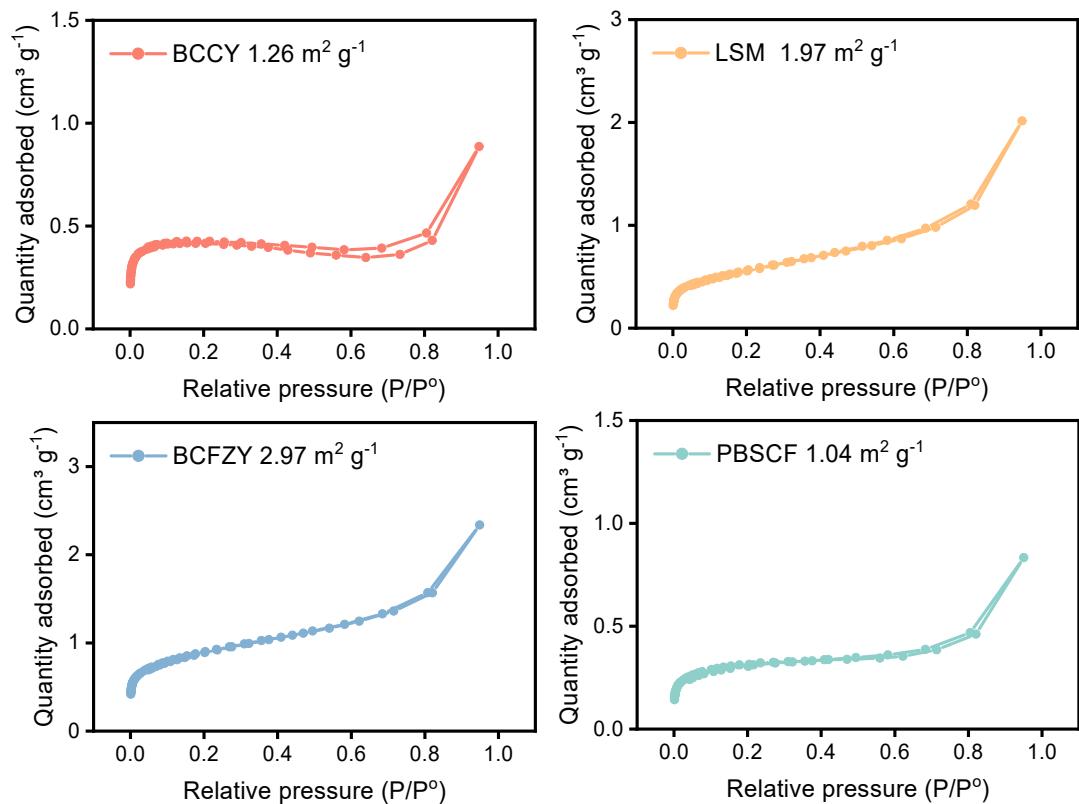


Fig. S12. The nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherms at STP of four electrode powders and corresponding BET surface areas.



Table S1. Comparison of the different electrode ASRs measured based on BZCY/BZCYYb electrolyte symmetric cells in the temperature range of 550 to 650 °C in this work with the estimated values reported in the literature.

| Cathode   | Electrolyte | Atmosphere & humidity         | Temperature (°C) | ASR ( $\Omega \text{ cm}^2$ ) | Ref.      |
|---|-------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| $\text{BaCo}_{0.7}(\text{Ce}_{0.8}\text{Y}_{0.2})_{0.3}\text{O}_{3-\delta}$         | BZCY172     | Air, 3% $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  | 650              | 0.145                         | This work |
|   |             |                               | 600              | 0.325                         |           |
|   |             |                               | 550              | 0.868                         |           |
|   | BZCYYb1711  | Dry Air                       | 650              | 0.17                          | 1         |
|   |             |                               | 600              | 0.51                          |           |
|   |             |                               | 550              | 1.53                          |           |
|   |             | Air, 5% $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  | 650              | 0.06                          |           |
|   |             |                               | 600              | 0.11                          |           |
|   |             |                               | 550              | 0.20                          |           |
| $\text{La}_{0.8}\text{Sr}_{0.2}\text{MnO}_3$  | BZCY172     | Air, 3% $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  | 650              | 2.244                         | This work |
|   |             |                               | 600              | 6.888                         |           |
|   |             |                               | 550              | 20.950                        |           |
|   | BZCY172     | Ambient air                   | 650              | 1.84                          | 2         |
|   |             |                               | 600              | 5.33                          |           |
|   |             |                               | 550              | 16.88                         |           |
| $\text{BaCo}_{0.4}\text{Fe}_{0.4}\text{Zr}_{0.1}\text{Y}_{0.1}\text{O}_{3-\delta}$  | BZCY172     | Air, 3% $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  | 650              | 0.251                         | This work |
|   |             |                               | 600              | 0.480                         |           |
|   |             |                               | 550              | 1.283                         |           |
|   | BZCY172     | Air, 10% $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ | 650              | 0.142                         | 3         |
|   |             |                               | 600              | 0.274                         |           |
|   |             |                               | 550              | 0.693                         |           |
| $\text{PrBa}_{0.5}\text{Sr}_{0.5}\text{Co}_{1.5}\text{Fe}_{0.5}\text{O}_{5+\delta}$ | BZCY172     | Air, 3% $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  | 650              | 0.353                         | This work |
|   |             |                               | 600              | 1.080                         |           |
|   |             |                               | 550              | 3.729                         |           |
|   | BZCYYb1711  | Air, 3% $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  | 650              | 0.35                          | 4         |
|   |             |                               | 600              | 1.04                          |           |
|   |             |                               | 550              | 2.34                          |           |

Table S2. Comparison of the different electrode ASRs measured based on SDC/GDC electrolyte symmetric cells in the temperature range of 550 to 650 °C in this work with the estimated values reported in the literature.

| Cathode   | Electrolyte | Atmosphere & humidity        | Temperature (°C) | ASR ( $\Omega \text{ cm}^2$ ) | Ref.      |
|---|-------------|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| $\text{BaCo}_{0.7}(\text{Ce}_{0.8}\text{Y}_{0.2})_{0.3}\text{O}_{3-\delta}$         | SDC         | Air, 3% $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ | 650              | 0.223                         | This work |
|   |             |                              | 600              | 0.664                         |           |
|   |             |                              | 550              | 1.936                         |           |
|   | SDC         | Ambient air                  | 650              | 0.018                         | 1         |
|   |             |                              | 600              | 0.034                         |           |
|   |             |                              | 550              | 0.076                         |           |
| $\text{La}_{0.8}\text{Sr}_{0.2}\text{MnO}_3$  | SDC         | Air, 3% $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ | 650              | 38.341                        | This work |
|   |             |                              | 600              | 97.561                        |           |
|   |             |                              | 550              | 270.998                       |           |
|   | GDC         | Ambient air                  | 650              | 4.103                         | 5         |
|   |             |                              | 600              | 8.312                         |           |
|   |             |                              | 550              | 15.94                         |           |
| $\text{BaCo}_{0.4}\text{Fe}_{0.4}\text{Zr}_{0.1}\text{Y}_{0.1}\text{O}_{3-\delta}$  | SDC         | Air, 3% $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ | 650              | 0.022                         | This work |
|   |             |                              | 600              | 0.052                         |           |
|   |             |                              | 550              | 0.164                         |           |
|   | GDC         | Ambient air                  | 600              | 0.29                          | 6         |
|   |             |                              | 550              | 0.6                           |           |
|   |             |                              | 500              | 1.24                          |           |
| $\text{PrBa}_{0.5}\text{Sr}_{0.5}\text{Co}_{1.5}\text{Fe}_{0.5}\text{O}_{5+\delta}$ | SDC         | Air, 3% $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ | 650              | 0.034                         | This work |
|   |             |                              | 600              | 0.083                         |           |
|   |             |                              | 550              | 0.222                         |           |
|   | GDC         | Ambient air                  | 650              | 0.058                         | 7         |
|   |             |                              | 600              | 0.104                         |           |
|   |             |                              | 550              | 0.235                         |           |

Table S3. ICP-OES results of the synthesized SDC and BZCY electrolytes.

| Sample | Theoretical atomic ratio                        | Tested atomic ratio                                |
|--------|---|--|
| SDC    | 0.2 : 0.80<br>(Sm : Ce)                         | 0.197 : 0.803<br>(Sm : Ce)                         |
|        | 1.00 : 0.10 : 0.70 : 0.20<br>(Ba : Zr : Ce : Y) | 1.00 : 0.098 : 0.708 : 0.194<br>(Ba : Zr : Ce : Y) |

Table S4. Electrochemical characterization of the representative cells in this work compared with corresponding cells reported in the literatures.

| Single cell configuration |                   |         | Atmosphere   |  | Electrolyte Conductivity (mS cm <sup>-1</sup> ) |          |          |          | Ref          |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---------|--|--|---|----------|----------|----------|--------------|
| Anode                     | Electrolyte       | Cathode | Anode  | Cathode  | 650 (°C)  | 600 (°C) | 550 (°C) | 500 (°C) |              |
| BCCY                      | BZCY172 [~900 µm] | BCCY    | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air             | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air | 42.29   | 33.19    | 25.11    | 18.08    |              |
| BCCY                      | SDC [~850 µm]     | BCCY    | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air             | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air | 58.91   | 37.30    | 21.81    | 11.45    | This work    |
| NiO-BZCY172               | BZCY172 [25 µm]   | BCCY    | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 100 mL min <sup>-1</sup> H <sub>2</sub> | Ambient Air                                      | 8.09  | 7.06     | 5.97     | 4.91     |              |
| NiO-BZCY442               | BZCY442 [16 µm]   | BCCY    | 80 mL min <sup>-1</sup> H <sub>2</sub>                       | Ambient Air                                      | 4.03  | 3.29     | 2.93     | /        |              |
| NiO-BZCY1711              | BZCY1711 [16 µm]  | BCCY    | 80 mL min <sup>-1</sup> H <sub>2</sub>                       | Ambient Air                                      | 10.39   | 8.05     | 6.44     | /        | <sup>1</sup> |
| LSM                       | BZCY172 [~900 µm] | LSM     | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air             | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air | 56.04   | 37.38    | 21.97    | 11.61    |              |
| LSM                       | SDC [~850 µm]     | LSM     | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air             | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air | 36.64   | 28.92    | 22.22    | 15.60    | This work    |
| NiO-BZCY172               | BZCY172 [25 µm]   | LSM     | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 100 mL min <sup>-1</sup> H <sub>2</sub> | Ambient Air                                      | 7.62  | 6.46     | 5.37     | 4.15     |              |
| NiO-BZCY172               | BZCY172 [12.5 µm] | LSM     | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 30 mL min <sup>-1</sup> H <sub>2</sub>  | Ambient Air                                      | 5.06  | 4.07     | 3.06     | /        | <sup>2</sup> |
| BCFZY                     | BZCY172 [~900 µm] | BCFZY   | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air             | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air | 60.24   | 37.79    | 21.64    | 11.18    |              |
| BCFZY                     | SDC [~850 µm]     | BCFZY   | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air             | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air | 41.78   | 32.85    | 25.06    | 17.49    | This work    |
| NiO-BZCY172               | BZCY172 [23 µm]   | BCFZY   | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 100 mL min <sup>-1</sup> H <sub>2</sub> | Ambient Air                                      | 7.92  | 6.84     | 5.85     | 4.74     |              |
| NiO-BZCYb1711             | BZCY1711 [25 µm]  | BCFZY   | Dry 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> H <sub>2</sub>                   | Dry Air, 100 mL min <sup>-1</sup>                | /   | 6.25     | 5.81     | 4.69     | <sup>8</sup> |
| Ni-BZCYbPd                | BZCYbPd [17 µm]   | BCFZY   | Dry 80 mL min <sup>-1</sup> H <sub>2</sub>                   | Ambient Air                                      | 5.31  | 4.72     | 3.86     | /        | <sup>9</sup> |
| PBSCF                     | BZCY172 [~900 µm] | PBSCF   | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air             | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air | 60.33   | 38.01    | 22.16    | 11.72    | This work    |

|                |                                  |       |  |  |       |       |       |                    |
|----------------|----------------------------------|-------|--|--|-------|-------|-------|--------------------|
| PBSCF          | SDC [ $\sim$ 850 $\mu\text{m}$ ] | PBSCF | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air             | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 20 mL min <sup>-1</sup> Air | 39.68 | 30.80 | 23.25 | 16.88              |
| NiO-BZCY172    | BZCY172 [22 $\mu\text{m}$ ]      | PBSCF | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 100 mL min <sup>-1</sup> H <sub>2</sub> | Ambient Air                                      | 7.85  | 6.69  | 5.59  | 4.43               |
| NiO-BZCY1711   | BZCY1711 [7 $\mu\text{m}$ ]      | PBSCF | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 30 mL min <sup>-1</sup> H <sub>2</sub>  | Ambient Air                                      | 5.71  | 5.33  | 4.21  | / <sup>4</sup>     |
| NiO-BZCYYb2611 | BZCYYb2611 [7.6 $\mu\text{m}$ ]  | PBSCF | 3% H <sub>2</sub> O, 150 mL min <sup>-1</sup> H <sub>2</sub> | Dry Air, 200 mL min <sup>-1</sup>                | /     | 4.29  | 3.80  | 2.19 <sup>10</sup> |

Estimated value from EIS plots in reported single cell electrochemical characterization.BZCY172: BaZr<sub>0.1</sub>Ce<sub>0.7</sub>Y<sub>0.2</sub>O<sub>3- $\delta$</sub> ; BZCYYb1711: BaZr<sub>0.1</sub>Ce<sub>0.7</sub>Y<sub>0.1</sub>Yb<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>3- $\delta$</sub> ; BZCYYv4411: BaZr<sub>0.4</sub>Ce<sub>0.4</sub>Y<sub>0.1</sub>Yb<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>3- $\delta$</sub> ; BZCY442: BaZr<sub>0.4</sub>Ce<sub>0.4</sub>Y<sub>0.2</sub>O<sub>3- $\delta$</sub> ; BZCYYb2611: BaZr<sub>0.2</sub>Ce<sub>0.6</sub>Y<sub>0.1</sub>Yb<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>3- $\delta$</sub> .

## Reference

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