Supplementary Materials

Chromium Deposition and Poisoning of Proton Conducting BaZr_{0.1}Ce_{0.7}Y_{0.1}Yb_{0.1}O_{3-δ} Electrolyte of Protonic Ceramic Cells

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Fig. S1 (a) XPS full survey spectra, (b) Cr 2p core levels of BZCYYb1711 electrolyte pellets after exposure in the gaseous Cr species environment and humidified air at 400 and 500 °C for 100 h

Fig. S2 (a) XPS full survey spectra, (b) Cr 2p core levels on the surface of BZCYYb1711 electrolyte pellets under rib of Fe-Cr alloy in humidified air at 400 °C for 20 h. (c)XPS full survey spectra on the surface of BZCYYb1711 electrolyte pellets under channel and rib of Fe-Cr alloy in humidified air at 700 °C for 20 h.

Fig. S3 EDS spectra of BZCYYb1711 surface under (a) channel and (b) rib of Fe-Cr alloy in humidified air at 700 °C for 20 h.





Fig. S4 Typical EIS spectra of BZCYYb1711 before and after being in direct contact with Fe-Cr alloy at humidified air for 50 h and measured at different temperatures.

	Cr ⁶⁺		Cr ³⁺	
500°C (gaseous Cr)	579.2 eV	588.4 eV	586.4 eV	576.7 eV
600°C (gaseous Cr)	579.2 eV	588.4 eV	586.0 eV	577.4 eV
700°C (gaseous Cr)	579.1 eV	588.3 eV	585.9 eV	577.1 eV
700°C Fe-Cr/rib	579.1 eV	588.3 eV	586.4 eV	578.7 eV
700°C Fe-Cr/channel	579.1 eV	588.3 eV	586.5 eV	578.3 eV

Table S1. The binding energy of Cr 2p doublets at humidified air conditions.

Table S2. Relative ratios of Cr with different valence states derived by fitting the XPS corelevel spectra of BZCYYb1711 electrolyte pellets after exposure to the gaseous Cr species and humidified air at 400-700°C for 20 h.

Temperature (°C)	Cr ³⁺ (%)	Cr ⁶⁺ (%)
400	—	—
500	12.5	87.5
600	10.4	89.6
700	8.7	91.3

Table S3. Element ratio of electrolyte surface area exposed to rib and channel of Fe-Cr alloy in humidified air at 700°C for 20 h.

Element	Position			
Element	Channel (At%)	Rib (At%)		
Cr	22.19	44.20		
Ba	41.31	47.71		
Zr	2.61	0.00		
Ce	27.72	7.41		
Y	2.93	0.07		
Yb	3.24	0.61		

Total	100.00	100.00

Table S4. Relative ratios of Cr with different valence states derived by fitting the XPS corelevel spectra of BZCYYb1711 electrolyte pellets under channel and rib of Fe-Cr alloy in humidified air at 700°C for 20 h.

Position	Cr ³⁺ (%)	Cr ⁶⁺ (%)
Channel	10.6	84.7
Rib	8.9	85.8

Table S5. Element ratio of cross-section of BZCYYb1711 electrolyte under rib of Fe-Cr alloy in humidified air at 700°C for 20 h.

Element	_	Region	
Element	(i)	(ii)	(iii)
Cr	48.25	21.63	
Ba	50.17	26.55	49.90
Zr		5.04	4.93
Ce	1.58	35.71	34.49
Y		5.14	5.03
Yb		5.93	5.65
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Equations used to calculate conductivity of electrolyte:

$$R_{total} = R_{bulk} + R_{gb} \tag{1}$$

$$\sigma = \frac{L}{SR_{\text{total}}} \tag{2}$$

where L, S, and R_{total} represent the thickness of electrolyte, area of electrode, and total resistance, respectively.