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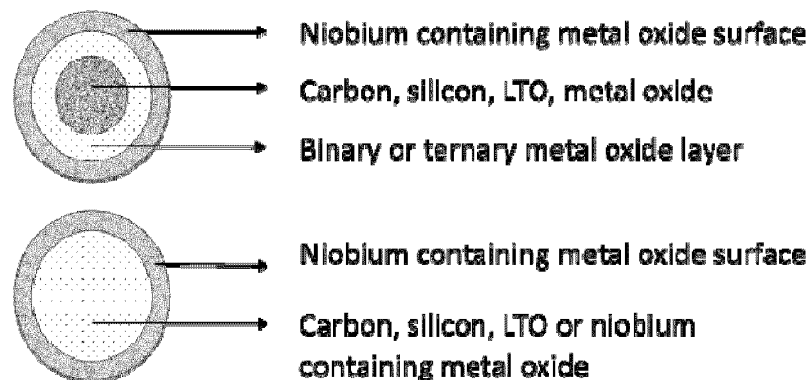


Figure 1

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides an electrode having a surface layer of niobium-containing metal oxide disposed on a secondary active electrode material. The niobium-containing metal oxide may be a Nb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> polymorph, NbO<sub>2</sub> or Nb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, or it may be a mixed metal oxides such as niobium tungsten oxide, titanium niobium oxide or niobium molybdenum oxide. Also provide is an electrochemical cell comprising the electrode, and the use of the cell, for example in a lithium ion battery, at elevated or reduced temperatures.



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