



Adam Nielander

Staff Scientist, SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory

Bio

BIO

My research focuses in the areas electrocatalysis, electrolysis, and solar-driven chemical fuel production. We develop catalysts, instrumentation, methodologies, and device engineering/designs for improved production of chemical fuels (e.g., H₂, NH₃, ethanol) from abundant feedstocks (e.g., H₂O, N₂, CO₂). This work includes in situ and operando studies of catalyst/ionomer interfaces under operating conditions and is underpinned by complementary driving aims to develop next-generation electrochemical technologies and to elucidate the fundamental principles that dictate the performance of sustainably-driven electrochemical processes.

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Stabilization of molybdenum in CMP: Operando insights into distinct inhibitor adsorption pathways** *JOURNAL OF ELECTROANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY*
Choi, S., Lee, D., Kreider, M. E., Nielander, A. C., Stevens, M., Park, D., Hong, I., Park, K., Bae, K., Kim, H., Yoon, B., Kim, S., Jaramillo, et al
2025; 996
- **Controlling Chloride Crossover in Bipolar Membrane Water Electrolysis.** *ACS electrochemistry*
Rochow, M. F., Marin, D. H., Cassady, H. J., Hannagan, R. T., Yan, K., Perryman, J. T., Nielander, A. C., Jaramillo, T. F., Hickner, M. A.
2025; 1 (9): 1812-1820
- **Chemistry of Materials Underpinning Photoelectrochemical Solar Fuel Production** *CHEMICAL REVIEWS*
Schichtl, Z. G., Carvalho, O., Tan, J., Saund, S. S., Ghoshal, D., Wilder, L. M., Gish, M. K., Nielander, A. C., Stevens, M., Greenaway, A. L.
2025
- **CO₂ Oxidative Ethane Dehydrogenation on CeO₂/SiO₂-Supported NiFe₃ Catalysts** *CHEMCATCHEM*
Spurlock, R., Erdem, E., Lee, S., Chen, J., Gallo, A., Nielander, A. C., Jaramillo, T. F.
2025
- **In Situ Neutron Reflectometry Reveals the Interfacial Microenvironment Driving Electrochemical Ammonia Synthesis.** *Journal of the American Chemical Society*
Niemann, V. A., Doucet, M., Benedek, P., Deissler, N. H., Mygind, J. B., Lee, S. W., Rios Amador, I., Willoughby, W. L., Chorkendorff, I., Nielander, A. C., Tarpeh, W. A., Jaramillo, T. F.
2025
- **Temperature-dependent solid electrolyte interphase reactions drive performance in lithium-mediated nitrogen reduction to ammonia** *JOULE*
Benedek, P., Cornejo-Carrillo, Y. E., O'Rafferty, A. H., Niemann, V. A., Lee, S., Mcshane, E. J., Cargnello, M., Niel, A. C., Jaramillo, T. F.
2025; 9 (3)

- **Multimodal In Situ Characterization Uncovers Unexpected Stability of a Cobalt Electrocatalyst for Acidic Sustainable Energy Technologies.** *Journal of the American Chemical Society*
Aleman, A. M., Crago, C. F., Kamat, G. A., Mule, A. S., Avilés Acosta, J. E., Matthews, J. E., Keyes, N., Hannagan, R. T., Nielander, A. C., Stevens, M. B., Jaramillo, T. F.
2025
- **On-line Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry Reveals Material Degradation Dynamics of Au and Cu Catalysts during Electrochemical CO₂ Reduction.** *Journal of the American Chemical Society*
Yan, K., Lee, S. W., Yap, K. M., Mule, A. S., Hannagan, R. T., Matthews, J. E., Kamat, G. A., Lee, D. U., Stevens, M. B., Nielander, A. C., Jaramillo, T. F.
2025
- **Structural Transformation and Degradation of Cu Oxide Nanocatalysts during Electrochemical CO₂ Reduction.** *Journal of the American Chemical Society*
Lee, S. H., Avilés Acosta, J. E., Lee, D., Larson, D. M., Li, H., Chen, J., Lee, J., Erdem, E., Lee, D. U., Blair, S. J., Gallo, A., Zheng, H., Nielander, et al
2025
- **Operando Surface-Enhanced Infrared Spectroscopy Connects Interfacial Dynamics with Reaction Kinetics During Electrochemical CO₂ Reduction on Copper** *ACS CATALYSIS*
Matthews, J. E., Acosta, J., Lee, S., Oh, D., Lin, T. Y., Yap, K. M. K., Chen, J., Jang, J., Lee, D., Nielander, A. C., Jaramillo, T. F.
2024
- **Electrodialysis and nitrate reduction (EDNR) to enable distributed ammonia manufacturing from wastewaters** *ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE*
Guo, J., Liu, M. J., Laguna, C., Miller, D. M., Williams, K. S., Clark, B. D., Munoz, C., Blair, S. J., Nielander, A. C., Jaramillo, T. F., Tarpeh, W. A.
2024
- **CO₂ Conversion to Butene via a Tandem Photovoltaic-Electrochemical/Photothermocatalytic Process: A Co-design Approach to Coupled Microenvironments** *ACS ENERGY LETTERS*
Yap, K. M. K., Aitbekova, A., Salazar, M., Kistler, T. A., Pabon, M., Su, M. P., Watkins, N. B., Lee, S., Agbo, P., Weber, A. Z., Peters, J. C., Agapie, T., Nielander, et al
2024
- **Author Correction: Alkali cation-induced cathodic corrosion in Cu electrocatalysts.** *Nature communications*
Liu, S., Li, Y., Wang, D., Xi, S., Xu, H., Wang, Y., Li, X., Zang, W., Liu, W., Su, M., Yan, K., Nielander, A. C., Wong, et al
2024; 15 (1): 6092
- **Sub-volt conversion of activated biochar and water for H₂ production near equilibrium via biochar-assisted water electrolysis** *CELL REPORTS PHYSICAL SCIENCE*
Kani, N. C., Chauhan, R., Olusegun, S. A., Sharan, I., Katiyar, A., House, D. W., Lee, S., Jairamsingh, A., Bhawnani, R. R., Choi, D., Nielander, A. C., Jaramillo, T. F., Lee, et al
2024; 5 (6)
- **Alkali cation-induced cathodic corrosion in Cu electrocatalysts.** *Nature communications*
Liu, S., Li, Y., Wang, D., Xi, S., Xu, H., Wang, Y., Li, X., Zang, W., Liu, W., Su, M., Yan, K., Nielander, A. C., Wong, et al
2024; 15 (1): 5080
- **Absolute band-edge energies are over-emphasized in the design of photoelectrochemical materials** *NATURE CATALYSIS*
Kaufman, A. J., Nielander, A. C., Meyer, G. J., Maldonado, S., Ardo, S., Boettcher, S. W.
2024; 7 (6): 615-623
- **Modeling diurnal and annual ethylene generation from solar-driven electrochemical CO₂ reduction devices** *ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE*
Yap, K. M. K., Wei, W. J., Pabon, M., King, A. J., Bui, J. C., Wei, L., Lee, S., Weber, A. Z., Bell, A. T., Nielander, A. C., Jaramillo, T. F.
2024
- **Multi-scale physics of bipolar membranes in electrochemical processes** *NATURE CHEMICAL ENGINEERING*
Bui, J. C., Lees, E. W., Marin, D. H., Stovall, T., Chen, L., Kusoglu, A., Nielander, A. C., Jaramillo, T. F., Boettcher, S. W., Bell, A. T., Weber, A. Z.
2024; 1 (1): 45-60

- **Protocol for assembling and operating bipolar membrane water electrolyzers.** *STAR protocols*
Rios Amador, I., Hannagan, R. T., Marin, D. H., Perryman, J. T., Rémy, C., Hubert, M. A., Lindquist, G. A., Chen, L., Stevens, M. B., Boettcher, S. W., Nielander, A. C., Jaramillo, T. F.
2023; 4 (4): 102606
- **Calcium-mediated nitrogen reduction for electrochemical ammonia synthesis.** *Nature materials*
Fu, X., Niemann, V. A., Zhou, Y., Li, S., Zhang, K., Pedersen, J. B., Saccoccio, M., Andersen, S. Z., Enemark-Rasmussen, K., Benedek, P., Xu, A., Deissler, N. H., Mygind, et al
2023
- **Quantifying Influence of the Solid-Electrolyte Interphase in Ammonia Electrosynthesis** *ACS ENERGY LETTERS*
Mcshane, E. J., Niemann, V. A., Benedek, P., Fu, X., Nielander, A. C., Chorkendorff, I., Jaramillo, T. F., Cargnello, M.
2023
- **Development of a versatile electrochemical cell for in situ grazing-incidence X-ray diffraction during non-aqueous electrochemical nitrogen reduction.** *Journal of synchrotron radiation*
Blair, S. J., Nielander, A. C., Stone, K. H., Kreider, M. E., Niemann, V. A., Benedek, P., McShane, E. J., Gallo, A., Jaramillo, T. F.
2023
- **Combined, time-resolved, in situ neutron reflectometry and X-ray diffraction analysis of dynamic SEI formation during electrochemical N-2 reduction** *ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE*
Blair, S. J., Doucet, M., Niemann, V. A., Stone, K. H., Kreider, M. E., Browning, J. F., Halbert, C. E., Wang, H., Benedek, P., McShane, E. J., Nielander, A. C., Gallo, A., Jaramillo, et al
2023
- **A framework for understanding efficient diurnal CO₂ reduction using Si and GaAs photocathodes** *CHEM CATALYSIS*
Yap, K. M. K., Lee, S., Steiner, M. A., Acosta, J., Kang, D., Kim, D., Warren, E. L., Nielander, A. C., Jaramillo, T. F.
2023; 3 (6)
- **Co-designing Electrocatalytic Systems with Separations To Improve the Sustainability of Reactive Nitrogen Management** *ACS CATALYSIS*
Niemann, V. A., Benedek, P., Guo, J., Xu, Y., Blair, S. J., Corson, E. R., Nielander, A. C., Jaramillo, T. F., Tarpeh, W. A.
2023; 13 (9): 6268-6279
- **Hydrogen production with seawater-resilient bipolar membrane electrolyzers** *JOULE*
Marin, D. H., Perryman, J. T., Hubert, M. A., Lindquist, G. A., Chen, L., Aleman, A. M., Kamat, G. A., Niemann, V. A., Stevens, M., Regmi, Y. N., Boettcher, S. W., Nielander, A. C., Jaramillo, et al
2023; 7 (4): 765-781
- **Insights into Active Sites and Mechanisms of Benzyl Alcohol Oxidation on Nickel-Iron Oxyhydroxide Electrodes** *ACS CATALYSIS*
Wei, L., Hossain, M., Boyd, M. J., Aviles-Acosta, J., Kreider, M. E., Nielander, A. C., Stevens, M., Jaramillo, T. F., Bajdich, M., Hahn, C.
2023: 4272-4282
- **Reliable reporting of Faradaic efficiencies for electrocatalysis research.** *Nature communications*
Kempner, P. A., Nielander, A. C.
2023; 14 (1): 1158
- **A Versatile Li_{0.5}FePO₄ Reference Electrode for Nonaqueous Electrochemical Conversion Technologies** *ACS ENERGY LETTERS*
McShane, E. J., Benedek, P., Niemann, V. A., Blair, S. J., Kamat, G. A., Nielander, A. C., Jaramillo, T. F., Cargnello, M.
2022: 230-235
- **Origins of wear-induced tungsten corrosion defects in semiconductor manufacturing during tungsten chemical mechanical polishing** *APPLIED SURFACE SCIENCE*
Choi, S., Kreider, M. E., Nielander, A. C., Stevens, M., Kamat, G., Koo, J., Bae, K., Kim, H., Yoon, I., Yoon, B., Hwang, K., Lee, D., Jaramillo, et al
2022; 598
- **Lithium-Mediated Electrochemical Nitrogen Reduction: Tracking Electrode-Electrolyte Interfaces via Time-Resolved Neutron Reflectometry** *ACS ENERGY LETTERS*
Blair, S. J., Doucet, M., Browning, J. F., Stone, K., Wang, H., Halbert, C., Acosta, J., Zeledon, J., Nielander, A. C., Gallo, A., Jaramillo, T. F.
2022; 7 (6): 1939-1946

- **Characterizing Sustained Solar-to-Hydrogen Electrocatalysis at Low Cell Potentials Enabled by Crude Glycerol Oxidation** *ACS APPLIED ENERGY MATERIALS*
Schichtl, Z. G., Conlin, S. K., Mehrabi, H., Nielander, A. C., Coridan, R. H.
2022; 5 (3): 3863-3875
- **Demonstration of photoreactor platform for on-sun unassisted photoelectrochemical hydrogen generation with tandem III-V photoelectrodes** *CHEM CATALYSIS*
Ben-Naim, M., Aldridge, C. W., Steiner, M. A., Nielander, A. C., Deustch, T. G., Young, J. L., Jaramillo, T. F.
2022; 2 (1): 195-209
- **Engineering Surface Architectures for Improved Durability in III-V Photocathodes.** *ACS applied materials & interfaces*
Ben-Naim, M., Aldridge, C. W., Steiner, M. A., Britto, R. J., Nielander, A. C., King, L. A., Deutsch, T. G., Young, J. L., Jaramillo, T. F.
1800
- **Addressing the Stability Gap in Photoelectrochemistry: Molybdenum Disulfide Protective Catalysts for Tandem III-V Unassisted Solar Water Splitting** *ACS ENERGY LETTERS*
Ben-Naim, M., Britto, R. J., Aldridge, C. W., Mow, R., Steiner, M. A., Nielander, A. C., King, L. A., Friedman, D. J., Deutsch, T. G., Young, J. L., Jaramillo, T. F.
2020; 5 (8): 2631-40
- **A cyclic electrochemical strategy to produce acetylene from CO₂, CH₄, or alternative carbon sources** *SUSTAINABLE ENERGY & FUELS*
McEnaney, J. M., Rohr, B. A., Nielander, A. C., Singh, A. R., King, L. A., Norskov, J. K., Jaramillo, T. F.
2020; 4 (6): 2752-59
- **A Combined Theory-Experiment Analysis of the Surface Species in Lithium-Mediated NH₃ Electrosynthesis** *CHEMELECTROCHEM*
Schwalbe, J. A., Statt, M. J., Chosy, C., Singh, A. R., Rohr, B. A., Nielander, A. C., Andersen, S. Z., McEnaney, J. M., Baker, J. G., Jaramillo, T. F., Norskov, J. K., Cargnello, M.
2020; 7 (7): 1513
- **Electrolyte Engineering for Efficient Electrochemical Nitrate Reduction to Ammonia on a Titanium Electrode** *ACS SUSTAINABLE CHEMISTRY & ENGINEERING*
McEnaney, J. M., Blair, S. J., Nielander, A. C., Schwalbe, J. A., Koshy, D. M., Cargnello, M., Jaramillo, T. F.
2020; 8 (7): 2672-81
- **A Combined Theory-Experiment Analysis of the Surface Species in Lithium-Mediated NH₃ Electrosynthesis** *CHEMELECTROCHEM*
Schwalbe, J. A., Statt, M. J., Chosy, C., Singh, A. R., Rohr, B. A., Nielander, A. C., Andersen, S. Z., McEnaney, J. M., Baker, J. G., Jaramillo, T. F., Norskov, J. K., Cargnello, M.
2020
- **A Spin Coating Method To Deposit Iridium-Based Catalysts onto Silicon for Water Oxidation Photoanodes.** *ACS applied materials & interfaces*
Ben-Naim, M. n., Palm, D. W., Strickler, A. L., Nielander, A. C., Sanchez, J. n., King, L. A., Higgins, D. C., Jaramillo, T. F.
2020
- **Readily Constructed Glass Piston Pump for Gas Recirculation.** *ACS omega*
Nielander, A. C., Blair, S. J., McEnaney, J. M., Schwalbe, J. A., Adams, T. n., Taheri, S. n., Wang, L. n., Yang, S. n., Cargnello, M. n., Jaramillo, T. F.
2020; 5 (27): 16455-59
- **Promoting reliable electrocatalytic N₂ reduction**
Nielander, A., McEnaney, J., Blair, S., Schwalbe, J., Baker, J., Jaramillo, T.
AMER CHEMICAL SOC.2019
- **Electrochemically converting carbon monoxide to liquid fuels by directing selectivity with electrode surface area** *NATURE CATALYSIS*
Wang, L., Nitopi, S., Wong, A. B., Snider, J. L., Nielander, A. C., Morales-Guio, C. G., Orazov, M., Higgins, D. C., Hahn, C., Jaramillo, T. F.
2019; 2 (8): 702-8
- **Electro-Oxidation of Methane on Platinum under Ambient Conditions** *ACS CATALYSIS*
Boyd, M. J., Latimer, A. A., Dickens, C. F., Nielander, A. C., Hahn, C., Norskov, J. K., Higgins, D. C., Jaramillo, T. F.
2019; 9 (8): 7578-87

- **A Versatile Method for Ammonia Detection in a Range of Relevant Electrolytes via Direct Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Techniques** *ACS CATALYSIS*
Nielander, A. C., McEnaney, J. M., Schwalbe, J. A., Baker, J. G., Blair, S. J., Wang, L., Pelton, J. G., Andersen, S. Z., Enemark-Rasmussen, K., Colic, V., Yang, S., Bent, S. F., Cargnello, et al
2019; 9 (7): 5797–5802
- **A rigorous electrochemical ammonia synthesis protocol with quantitative isotope measurements.** *Nature*
Andersen, S. Z., Colic, V., Yang, S., Schwalbe, J. A., Nielander, A. C., McEnaney, J. M., Enemark-Rasmussen, K., Baker, J. G., Singh, A. R., Rohr, B. A., Statt, M. J., Blair, S. J., Mezzavilla, et al
2019
- **Quantitative protocol for the electroreduction of N₂ to NH₃ under ambient conditions**
Stephens, I., Andersen, S., Colic, V., Yang, S., Schwalbe, J., Nielander, A., McEnaney, J., Enemark-Rasmussen, K., Baker, J., Singh, A., Rohr, B., Blair, S., Mezzavilla, et al
AMER CHEMICAL SOC.2019
- **Proton control in electrochemical ammonia synthesis**
Schwalbe, J., Singh, A., Rohr, B., Statt, M., Nielander, A., McEnaney, J., Andersen, S., Colic, V., Yang, S., Chorkendorff, I., Jaramillo, T., Norskov, J., Cargnello, et al
AMER CHEMICAL SOC.2019
- **Nanostructuring Strategies To Increase the Photoelectrochemical Water Splitting Activity of Silicon Photocathodes** *ACS APPLIED NANO MATERIALS*
Hellstern, T. R., Nielander, A. C., Chakthranont, P., King, L. A., Willis, J. J., Xu, S., MacIsaac, C., Hahn, C., Bent, S. F., Prinz, F. B., Jaramillo, T. F.
2019; 2 (1): 6–11
- **Author Correction: A rigorous electrochemical ammonia synthesis protocol with quantitative isotope measurements.** *Nature*
Andersen, S. Z., Čolić, V. n., Yang, S. n., Schwalbe, J. A., Nielander, A. C., McEnaney, J. M., Enemark-Rasmussen, K. n., Baker, J. G., Singh, A. R., Rohr, B. A., Statt, M. J., Blair, S. J., Mezzavilla, et al
2019
- **Electrochemical cycling strategy for selective and sustainable C₂H₂ production from CO₂ or CH₄ at atmospheric pressure using H₂O**
McEnaney, J., Rohr, B., Nielander, A., Singh, A., Norskov, J., Jaramillo, T.
AMER CHEMICAL SOC.2018
- **Exploring electrocatalytic N₂ activation under mild synthetic conditions**
Nielander, A., McEnaney, J., Jaramillo, T.
AMER CHEMICAL SOC.2017
- **Lightly Fluorinated Graphene as a Protective Layer for n-Type Si(111) Photoanodes in Aqueous Electrolytes** *NANO LETTERS*
Nielander, A. C., Thompson, A. C., Roske, C. W., Maslyn, J. A., Hao, Y., Plymale, N. T., Hone, J., Lewis, N. S.
2016; 16 (7): 4082-4086
- **Photoelectrochemical Behavior of n-Type GaAs(100) Electrodes Coated by a Single Layer of Graphene** *JOURNAL OF PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY C*
Yang, F., Nielander, A. C., Grimm, R. L., Lewis, N. S.
2016; 120 (13): 6989-6995
- **Stable Solar-Driven Water Oxidation to O₂(g) by Ni-Oxide-Coated Silicon Photoanodes** *JOURNAL OF PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY LETTERS*
Sun, K., McDowell, M. T., Nielander, A. C., Hu, S., Shaner, M. R., Yang, F., Brunschwig, B. S., Lewis, N. S.
2015; 6 (4): 592-598
- **Interface engineering of the photoelectrochemical performance of Ni-oxide-coated n-Si photoanodes by atomic-layer deposition of ultrathin films of cobalt oxide** *ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE*
Zhou, X., Liu, R., Sun, K., Friedrich, D., McDowell, M. T., Yang, F., Omelchenko, S. T., Saadi, F. H., Nielander, A. C., Yalamanchili, S., Papadantonakis, K. M., Brunschwig, B. S., Lewis, et al
2015; 8 (9): 2644-2649
- **Methods for comparing the performance of energy-conversion systems for use in solar fuels and solar electricity generation** *ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE*
Coridan, R. H., Nielander, A. C., Francis, S. A., McDowell, M. T., Dix, V., Chatman, S. M., Lewis, N. S.

2015; 8 (10): 2886-2901

- **A taxonomy for solar fuels generators** *ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE*
Nielander, A. C., Shaner, M. R., Papadantonakis, K. M., Francis, S. A., Lewis, N. S.
2015; 8 (1): 16-25
- **Photoelectrochemical Behavior of n-Type Si(111) Electrodes Coated With a Single Layer of Graphene** *JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY*
Nielander, A. C., Bierman, M. J., Petrone, N., Strandwitz, N. C., Ardo, S., Yang, F., Hone, J., Lewis, N. S.
2013; 135 (46): 17246-17249
- **Photoelectrochemical Behavior of n-type Si(100) Electrodes Coated with Thin Films of Manganese Oxide Grown by Atomic Layer Deposition** *JOURNAL OF PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY C*
Strandwitz, N. C., Comstock, D. J., Grimm, R. L., Nichols-Nielander, A. C., Elam, J., Lewis, N. S.
2013; 117 (10): 4931-4936
- **Hyperdistorted Tungsten Allyl Complexes and Their Stereoselective Deprotonation to Form Dihapto-Coordinated Dienes** *ORGANOMETALLICS*
Harrison, D. P., Nichols-Nielander, A. C., Zottig, V. E., Strausberg, L., Salomon, R. J., Trindle, C. O., Sabat, M., Gunnoe, T., Iovan, D. A., Myers, W. H., Harman, W.
2011; 30 (9): 2587-2597
- **Epoxidation, Cyclopropanation, and Electrophilic Addition Reactions at the meta Position of Phenol and meta-Cresol** *ORGANOMETALLICS*
Zottig, V. E., Todd, M. A., Nichols-Nielander, A. C., Harrison, D. P., Sabat, M., Myers, W. H., Harman, W.
2010; 29 (21): 4793-4803
- **Tungsten-Promoted Pyridine Ring Scission: The Selective Formation of $\eta(2)$ -Cyanine and $\eta(2)$ -Merocyanine Complexes and Their Derivatives** *ORGANOMETALLICS*
Harrison, D. P., Kosturko, G. W., Ramdeen, V. M., Nichols-Nielander, A. C., Payne, S. J., Sabat, M., Myers, W. H., Harman, W.
2010; 29 (8): 1909-1915
- **Efficient Synthesis of an $\eta(2)$ -Pyridine Complex and a Preliminary Investigation of the Bound Heterocycle's Reactivity** *JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY*
Harrison, D. P., Welch, K. D., Nichols-Nielander, A. C., Sabat, M., Myers, W. H., Harman, W.
2008; 130 (50): 16844+