

Dataset: literature review of ethanol chemiresistors based on pure SnO₂ nanostructures

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This dataset contains a collection of experimental data retrieved from around 160 articles reporting on ethanol chemiresistors based on pure SnO₂. Pure means that they are neither intentionally doped nor intentionally loaded with any catalyst.

The retrieved data are intended to summarize the most common morphological features of the sensing layers, the characteristics of the measurement setup adopted for gas sensing tests and the figures of merit of the gas sensors, namely response intensity and response/recovery times.

The goal is to provide a dataset for benchmarking and/or statistical analysis.

An example of its use can be found in A. Ponzoni, *Sensors* 22 (2022) 6346 <https://doi.org/10.3390/s22176346>. There, this dataset was used to look for statistical correlations that may emerge between the response/recovery times of the devices and the material/setup characteristics.

Another example is reported in A. Ponzoni, *Sensors* 21 (2021) 29 <https://doi.org/10.3390/s21010029>, where a preliminary version of the dataset was used to look for correlations with the response intensities.

Most of source papers were identified through a systematic search for documents classified as 'articles' in the ISI Web of Science Core collection database and published between January 2015 and December 2020. The following searching criterium was applied: 'SnO₂' and 'ethanol' and 'sens*' in the field 'topic'.

The dataset is provided as a tab delimited .txt file (SnO₂-ZenodoDataset.txt). It is a matrix in which the variables are arranged by columns and the sources (articles) are by rows. In case a given data is not available in the source article, 'na' is reported in the related cell.

This readme document explains the definitions of the variables in the dataset and provides full citations of the sources from which the data were obtained.

The dataset consists of 27 columns:

- Columns from 1 to 5 are for the identification of the source papers from which data have been extrapolated;
- Columns from 6 to 27 report the scientific data.

Columns identifying the source paper from which the data were extrapolated (from 1 to 5):

- DOI-link:
Link to the DOI (Digital Objective Identifier) of the source paper from which the data have been retrieved.
- Publisher:
Publisher of the source paper.
- License:
License under which the source paper was published and is available at its own DOI link.
- Year:
Publication year of the source paper.
- Reference:
Reference number, whose full citation is reported in the References list at the end of this document.

Columns reporting scientific data (from 6 to 27).

Preliminary note:

Variables (data) may be either numerical or categorical.

Numerical variables were obtained from numerical data reported in the main text or figures of source papers. Where necessary, the Engauge Digitizer software was used to extract data from figures (Mark Mitchell, Baurzhan Muftakhidinov and Tobias Winchen et al, "Engauge Digitizer Software, Version 12.1" Webpage: <http://markummitchell.github.io/engauge-digitizer>, Last accessed on January 2020).

Categorical variables were extrapolated from the text of the source papers or inferred from their content. Differently from numerical variables, categorical variables may not have a unique value and can depend on the intended analysis or individual preferences. In these cases, the rationale for the decision made is explained below for each specific variable.

- MaterialN – numerical:
Numbered list of materials. This value may differ from the reference number because some papers report on more materials/sensors.
- UNIT – categorical:
Shape of the elementary units (crystallites) composing the sensing film. Shapes have been grouped into three classes:
 - Nanoparticles: crystallites with nearly spherical shape. Due to their rounded shape, these nanostructures have no surface termination corresponding to well-defined crystalline planes;

- Nanowires: crystallites featuring an elongated shape, with lateral surfaces usually identified by well-defined crystalline planes. Nanostructures such as nanorods and nanobelts are also included in this class. Crystals with cubic, octahedral or elongated octahedral morphology show similarities with both nanowires and nanoparticles: they feature a nearly equiaxed shape, typical of the nanoparticles class, as well as faceted surfaces, typical of the nanowires class. For this dataset, the author chose to label these morphologies as nanowires. A discussion about the importance of surface termination that motivated this choice can be found in A. Ponzoni, *Sensors* 22 (2022) 3351, <https://doi.org/10.3390/s22093351>;
- Nanosheets: single crystalline, thin nanostructures extending in two dimensions. Morphologies such as nanoplates, nanolamellae, nanodiscs are also included in this class.

- Diameter(nm) – numerical:

The shortest dimension of crystallites, measured in nm. For nanoparticles and nanowires it corresponds to their diameter, whereas for nanosheets it corresponds to their thickness. It is typically obtained from TEM (Transmission Electron Microscopy) or XRD (X Ray Diffraction) measurements.

- Length(nm) – numerical:

The size of the dimension other than the above Diameter(nm) variable, measured in nm. For nanowires it is the length. For nanoparticles it equals the Diameter(nm) variable due to their spherical shape; while for nanosheets it is the mean of their lateral size. In principle, for this latter shape, two sizes should be considered in addition to the nanosheet thickness. Nonetheless, most papers provide only one of these two (or an average value of the two) and this one is here reported.

- SSA(m²/g) – numerical:

Specific surface area, measured in m²/g. It is usually obtained by means of the BET (Brunauer–Emmett–Teller) method.

- Pore radius1(nm) – numerical:

Main (modal) pore radius, measured in nm. It is usually obtained by means of the BJH (Barrett–Joyner–Halenda) method.

- Pore radius2(nm) – numerical:

Second mode pore radius, measured in nm. This applies only to materials with a clear multimodal porosity; for other materials 'na' is reported in this field.

- Pore radius3(nm) – numerical:

Third mode pore radius, measured in nm. This applies only to materials with a clear trimodal porosity; for other materials 'na' is reported in this field.

- Tsens(degC) – numerical:

Sensor working temperature, expressed in Celsius degrees.

- RH% – numerical:

Relative humidity expressed in the 0-100% scale.

- Tenv(degC) – numerical:

Temperature of the environment where gas-sensing tests are carried out. It is expressed in Celsius degrees.

- GAS – categorical:

Gas (vapor) measured in gas sensing tests. Actually, only ethanol tests are reported in this dataset, so this is a single value variable:

- EtOH: ethanol.

- Conc(ppm) – numerical:

Gas concentration expressed in ppm (parts per million).

- Ggas/Gair – numerical:

Response intensity calculated as the ratio between G_{gas} , i.e. the sensor conductance during gas exposure, and G_{air} , i.e. the sensor conductance baseline measured in the reference air. For those papers that reports the sensor response in other ways, such as for example $(G_{\text{gas}} - G_{\text{air}})/G_{\text{air}}$, values are converted in the $G_{\text{gas}}/G_{\text{air}}$ format.

- TestMethod – categorical:

The type of measurement setup adopted for gas-sensing tests:

- Static: setups that do not use a carrier flow but test devices in static conditions. The target gas is injected inside the test chamber through a device, such as a syringe, which is actuated only at the time of gas injection.
- Dynamic: setups based on mass flow controllers (MFCs) that mix fluxes from certified bottles and control the atmosphere composition inside the test chamber. Even while the atmosphere composition is kept constant, it is continuously refreshed within the chamber through the applied flow.

- ChamberVolume(cc) – numerical:

Volume of the chamber hosting the sensors during gas sensing tests. The volume is measured in centimeters cubes (cc).

- Flow(sccm) – numerical:

Total flow kept during the gas sensing measurements carried out with dynamic setups. Flow is expressed in standard centimeters cubes per minute (sccm). This variable has no meaning for static setups (see MeasurementMethod variable), for which it has been settled as 'na'.

- Heater – categorical:

Method adopted to warm the sensor to its working temperature as reported in the Tsens(degC) variable:

- Furnace: sensors are inserted inside a furnace that warms the whole environment around the sensor device;
- Holder: sensors are heated through a local device that is part of the measurement setup, usually it is integrated in the sensor holder;

- Meander: sensors are based on a flat ceramic substrate and the heater, usually a metallic meander, is pre-deposited over one of its two faces;
 - Coil: sensors are based on a tubular ceramic substrate, a coil-shaped heater is inserted inside the tube.
- %t_{rise} – numerical:
Fractional variation of the sensor response (expressed in %) used to calculate the response time (t_{rise}(s) variable) during the response transient.
 - t_{rise}(s) – numerical:
time required to by the sensor response to reach the ‘%t_{rise}’ fraction of it its final value.
 - %t_{fall} – numerical:
Fractional variation of the sensor response (expressed in %) used to calculate the recovery time (t_{fall}(s) variable) to restore the baseline.
 - t_{fall}(s) – numerical:
time required to by the sensor response to recover the ‘%t_{fall}’ fraction of it its final (baseline) value.

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