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# 丙三醇碳酸酯的电合成研究

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**摘要:**在常温常压下,采用电化学方法,以丙三醇和CO<sub>2</sub>为原料合成了丙三醇碳酸酯,并详细考察了各种条件对该反应的影响规律。择优条件下,目标碳酸酯的产率可达73%,远远高于普通的催化方法。并借助循环伏安曲线研究了反应体系的电化学行为,分析了整个反应的可能历程。

**关键词:**丙三醇;二氧化碳;电合成;有机碳酸酯

**中图分类号:**O646

**文献标识码:**A

CO<sub>2</sub>是最主要的温室气体之一,过去作者课题组曾用电化学方法将其利用转化为许多有用的有机化合物(如有机碳酸酯<sup>[1-3]</sup>、有机氨基酯<sup>[4]</sup>、有机羧酸<sup>[5-10]</sup>等)。尤其在有机碳酸酯的电合成研究中,以一醇与CO<sub>2</sub>反应合成线性碳酸酯<sup>[1,3]</sup>、二醇与CO<sub>2</sub>反应生成环状碳酸酯<sup>[2-3]</sup>。后续研究还尝试以丙三醇和CO<sub>2</sub>原料合成丙三醇碳酸酯。

丙三醇碳酸酯可作质子溶剂、分离二氧化碳与氮气的液体膜<sup>[11]</sup>以及锂电池中的添加剂<sup>[12]</sup>。同时,丙三醇碳酸酯可作为重要的有机合成中间体<sup>[13-16]</sup>合成聚碳酸酯、聚氨基脂。因其无副作用、低毒、保湿,还可用于医药方面和化妆品等。而其原料之一的丙三醇还是生物柴油制备过程的副产物,实现其高效转化,可有效地降低生物柴油的成本。

传统丙三醇碳酸酯的合成主要采用酯交换法。即在催化剂作用下用碳酸乙烯酯(EC)或碳酸丙烯酯(PC)与丙三醇实现酯交换反应<sup>[17]</sup>,该工艺产率高、选择性好,但工艺成本较昂贵、产物分离较难,限制大规模工业生产。近期文献报道了以CO<sub>2</sub>和丙三醇直接合成丙三醇碳酸酯的反应路线。主要以分子筛、离子交换树脂<sup>[18]</sup>和锡配合物<sup>[19-20]</sup>为催化剂,但目前产率仅为35%。鉴于作者以往曾利用CO<sub>2</sub>电合成有机化合物,本文特探索温和条件下由丙三醇和CO<sub>2</sub>电合成丙三醇碳酸酯。

## 1 实验

### 1.1 试剂与仪器

N<sub>2</sub>和CO<sub>2</sub>(99.995%),N,N-二甲基甲酰胺(DMF,分析纯)经4A分子筛(300℃活化4 h)干燥,其它试剂均为分析纯。

CHI600C电化学工作站(上海辰华仪器),HY3002D直流稳压电源,HP6890/5973N GC-MS(美国Agilent),AVANCE500核磁共振波谱仪(德国BRUKER),GC-2014气相色谱仪(日本岛津)。

### 1.2 恒电流电解

一室型电解池中,铜(Cu)阴极石墨(C)阳极与10 mL DMF、0.1 mol·L<sup>-1</sup>四乙基碘化铵(TEAI)和0.1 mol L<sup>-1</sup>丙三醇组成电合成体系。常压通入CO<sub>2</sub>30 min,恒电流5.07 mA·cm<sup>-2</sup>电解电量2.0 F。电解过程持续通CO<sub>2</sub>直至电解结束。电解后加入0.3 g K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>和0.3 mL碘甲烷(MeI)60℃下回流5 h酯化。旋蒸除去溶剂,加入HCl,经乙醚萃取产物。该粗产品经石油醚/乙酸乙酯过柱分离,采用GC-MS,<sup>1</sup>H NMR定性分析和GC定量检测产物。

丙三醇碳酸酯定性数据:

GC-MS(*m/z*, %):119(M<sup>+</sup>, 1),87(34),61(4),44(100),29(35)。

<sup>1</sup>H NMR(500 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO): δ3.65(dd, 1H, *J*=4 Hz), 3.83(dd, 1H, *J*=12 Hz), 4.34(q, 1H, *J*=9 Hz), 4.57(t, 1H, *J*=8 Hz), 4.89-4.91(m, 1H), 5.31(t, 1H, *J*=6 Hz)。

### 1.3 循环伏安

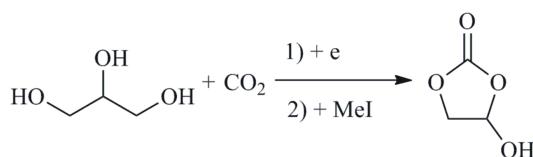
常温常压下,一室型电解池中,由铜、铂丝和

$\text{Ag}/\text{AgI}/0.1 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$  TBAI 电极构成三电极体系, 10 mL DMF、 $0.1 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$  四乙基四氟硼酸铵(TEABF<sub>4</sub>) 和  $0.05 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$  丙三醇溶液, 通入 N<sub>2</sub> 30 min, 而后常压通入 CO<sub>2</sub>, 使用电化学工作站检测循环伏安曲线。

## 2 结果与讨论

### 2.1 丙三醇碳酸酯的电合成

在 DMF 有机溶剂、Cu 阴极、C 阳极系统中, 以 CO<sub>2</sub> 和丙三醇为原料, 恒电流电解、酯化。通过 GC-MS 检测合成的目标产物丙三醇碳酸酯, 其结果列于表 1。化学反应式如下:



据表 1,首先考察了几种常规的金属阴极的目标反应参数(表 1 No. 1~5),丙三醇碳酸酯产率的大小顺序: Cu (50%)> Ag (42%)> Ti (36%)> Ni (34%)> Stainless steel (31%)。其中 Cu 电极效果最佳,这可能是由于 Cu 电极对丙三醇和 CO<sub>2</sub> 的电还原响应较好,可促进发生目标电合成反应。

表 1 CO<sub>2</sub> 和丙三醇电合成丙三醇碳酸酯的参数

Tab. 1 Parameters for electrosynthesis of glycerol carbonate from CO<sub>2</sub> and glycerol<sup>a</sup>

No.	Cathode	Q/F	j/(mA·cm <sup>-2</sup> )	T/°C	Yield/%
1	Cu	2.0	5.07	25	50
2	Stainless steel	2.0	5.07	25	31
3	Ni	2.0	5.07	25	34
4	Ti	2.0	5.07	25	36
5	Ag	2.0	5.07	25	42
6	Cu	0.8	5.07	25	21
7	Cu	1.5	5.07	25	34
8	Cu	2.5	5.07	25	46
9	Cu	3.0	5.07	25	28
10	Cu	2.0	6.72	25	66
11	Cu	2.0	8.37	25	72
12	Cu	2.0	10.01	25	66
13	Cu	2.0	11.49	25	55
14	Cu	2.0	8.37	0	40
15	Cu	2.0	8.37	10	48
16	Cu	2.0	8.37	35	59

a. General conditions: Solvent = DMF,  $C_{\text{glycerol}} = 0.1 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$ ,  $C_{\text{TEAI}} = 0.1 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$ ,  $P_{\text{CO}_2} = 1.01 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$ , C as anode

电化学反应通过电子参与,电量( $Q$ )对反应有很大的影响。考察了 0.8 至 3.0 F 间电量的产率变化(表 1 No. 1 和 6~9)。电量由 0.8 F 逐增至 2.0 F, 丙三醇碳酸酯产率由 21% 逐增至 50%; 电量超过 2.0 F 后丙三醇碳酸酯产率反而下降。电量小,没有足够的电子促进反应;电量过大,过多电子会促使产物的中间体转化为副产物。

在 5.07 至 11.49 mA·cm<sup>-2</sup> 间电流密度( $j$ )的产率(表 1 No. 1 和 10~13)。产率与电流密度呈火山型分布,8.37 mA·cm<sup>-2</sup> 电流密度下丙三醇碳酸酯产率最高(72%)。当电流密度过大,电极电位负移,副反应加速;电流密度过小,电极电位较正,不能有效促进电合成反应。

在 0 °C、10 °C、25 °C、35 °C 下(表 1 No. 11 和 14~16)考察电合成反应。低温有利于提高溶液中反应物 CO<sub>2</sub> 的浓度,而影响物质扩散和电子传递;温度升高可降低反应的活化能及 CO<sub>2</sub> 的浓度。择优上述因素,25 °C 下产率可达 72%。

### 2.2 丙三醇的循环伏安曲线和反应历程

图 1 给出 Cu 电极的丙三醇还原反应。由图 1 可以看出,丙三醇的还原峰电流随扫描速率的增大而升高,且与其平方根成线性关系,说明该电极过程受扩散控制。作者尝试在不搅拌的情况下进行恒电流电解。即使电解过程中不断通入 CO<sub>2</sub>,气泡会扰动反应溶液体系,但是最终的产率仍比搅拌环境下的产率低很多,这与循环伏安曲线的结果吻合。这类由扩散控制(反应物传质过程控制)的反应体系,在进行整体电解的过程中必须借助搅拌、溶液

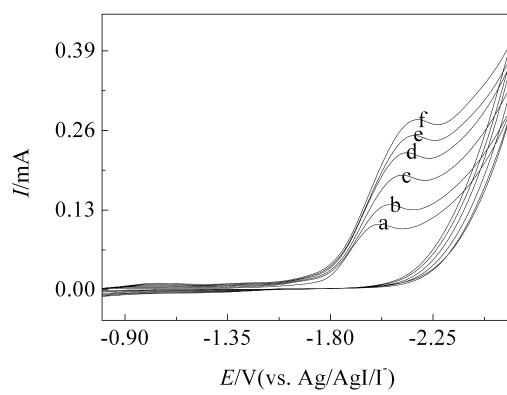


图 1 Cu 电极丙三醇的循环伏安曲线

扫描速率(V·s<sup>-1</sup>): a. 0.05; b. 0.1; c. 0.2; d. 0.3; e. 0.4; f. 0.5  
Fig. 1 Cyclic voltammograms of  $0.05 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$  glycerol recorded at Cu electrode in DMF with various scan rates  
Scan rate(V·s<sup>-1</sup>): a. 0.05; b. 0.1; c. 0.2; d. 0.3; e. 0.4; f. 0.5

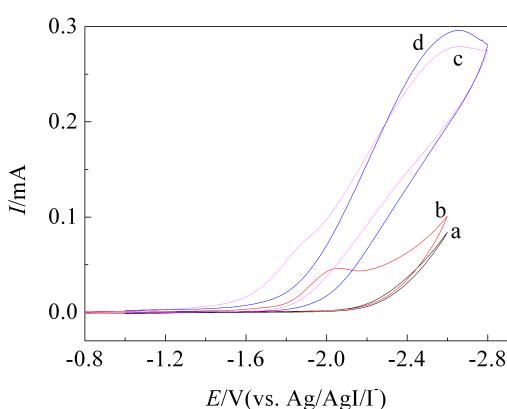


图 2 不同电解液中 Cu 电极的循环伏安曲线

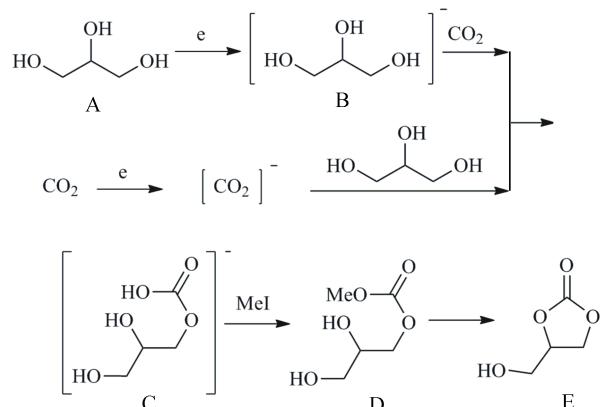
电解液：a. DMF; b. DMF+0.05 mol·L<sup>-1</sup> 丙三醇；  
c. DMF+0.05 mol·L<sup>-1</sup> 丙三醇+CO<sub>2</sub>; d. DMF+CO<sub>2</sub>

Fig. 2 Cyclic voltammograms of glycerol recorded at Cu electrode in different electrolytes

Electrolytes: a. DMF; b. a+0.05mol·L<sup>-1</sup> glycerol;  
c. b+CO<sub>2</sub>; d. a+CO<sub>2</sub> v = 0.1 V·s<sup>-1</sup>, t=25 °C

循环等措施来促进传质,从而提高电解的效率。

图 2a 是 Cu 电极在 DMF 溶剂的 CV 曲线,在扫描范围内曲线无明显的氧化还原峰。加入丙三醇后,在 -2.02 V 处呈现一个明显的还原峰(图 2b),对应于丙三醇的电还原。当该体系饱和 CO<sub>2</sub>(图 2c),其峰电流激增、峰电位正移,说明丙三醇(A)电还原即得中间体(B),可迅速与 CO<sub>2</sub> 反应,形成碳酸酯中间体(C)。在 -2.6 V (vs. Ag/AgI/I) 处出现的新还原峰对应于 CO<sub>2</sub> 本身在 Cu 电极的电还原(图 2d)<sup>[21]</sup>。在电解过程中,作者也检测了恒电流过程中工作电极的电极电位,发现电位基本维持在 -2.4 至 -3.2 V 之间。这也就说明,反应过程还可能发生部分 CO<sub>2</sub> 还原,再与醇形成碳酸酯中间体 C。后续酯化过程生成线性碳酸酯 D, 其又迅速发生分子内酯交换,最终形成环状碳酸酯 E, 化学反应式如下:



### 3 结 论

常温常压以丙三醇和 CO<sub>2</sub> 原料电化学合成丙三醇碳酸酯是一条有效的合成路线。择优条件下,丙三醇碳酸酯的产率可达 72%, 大大高于目前的文献数据<sup>[19-21]</sup>。

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**Abstract:** Glycerol carbonate was obtained from glycerol and carbon dioxide under room temperature and normal pressure by electrochemical method. The effects of synthesis conditions, such as cathode, charge, current density and temperature, on the reaction of glycerol and carbon dioxide have been investigated. The yields of 73% were produced by electrosynthesis of carbonate under the optimized condition, which is much higher than that by common catalysis method. The electrochemical behavior of the reaction system has been studied by cyclic voltammetry, through which the reaction process has been proposed.

**Key words:** glycerol; carbon dioxide; electrosynthesis; organic carbonate