

Journal of Electrochemistry

Volume 19
Issue 5 Special Issue of Environmental
Electrochemistry (II) (Editor: Professor LIN Hai-
bo)

2013-10-28

Continuous Electroextraction and Concentration Technology

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Recommended Citation

Qiong REN, Wen LIAO, Zu-cheng WU. Continuous Electroextraction and Concentration Technology[J].
Journal of Electrochemistry, 2013 , 19(5): 454-459.

DOI: 10.61558/2993-074X.2136

Available at: <https://jelectrochem.xmu.edu.cn/journal/vol19/iss5/9>

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文章编号:1006-3471(2013)05-0454-06

连续电提取浓缩技术

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摘要: 电去离子技术结合了电渗析和离子交换使离子在树脂中瞬时积累、降低体系电阻、电极上水解产生氢离子与氢氧根离子使树脂在线再生, 以去除离子为目的制备纯水和高纯水。这些被去除的离子在浓室中富集, 可发展一种新型浓缩分离提取技术, 现已逐渐应用于微量重金属、稀有金属、营养盐、有机酸碱甚至气体的回收。本文论述了这一连续电提取浓缩技术的原理及应用并探讨发展趋势, 以期引起电化学研究工作者的关注。

关键词: 电渗析; 电去离子; 离子交换法; 连续电提取浓缩

中图分类号: O646

文献标识码: A

电渗析技术(Electrodialysis, ED)和填充床式电渗析或称电去离子技术(Electrodeionization, EDI)是一种电化学分离过程与膜技术的结合。在直流电场的作用下, 使带电离子透过选择性离子交换膜从水溶液和其它不带电组分中部分分离出来^[1], 实现分离与浓缩的连续操作。电化学处理易于自动化控制, 几乎不必添加化学试剂等优点。传统的溶剂提取法不适用于带电组分分离, 且易产生二次污染、消耗大量的能量。

EDI是基于低导电率下制备超纯水而开发的去除水中离子的技术^[2]。借助EDI的优势, 其带电组分在填充树脂中选择性地迁移、富集及浓缩。由于体系的电阻率低, 其电流密度增大, 使能耗降低, 实现了连续运行和树脂在线再生, 已成为微量重金属、稀有金属、营养盐、有机酸碱甚至气体的新型浓缩分离技术。

1 简介

1.1 原理

带电离子型组分在电场作用下的富集表现为3个电化学过程—离子电迁移过程、离子交换和树脂的电化学再生^[3-4]。原理如图1所示:

1) 离子电迁移过程

在外电场作用下, 离子通过离子交换膜选择性迁移, 以 M_nN_m 物质为例: 阳离子 M^{m+} 透过阳离子交换膜向阴极迁移, 阴离子 N^{n-} 透过阴离子交换膜

向阳极方向迁移, 使原水中的物质 M_nN_m 得到去除。



离子*i*在离子交换膜上的迁移通量(N_i , mol·m⁻²·s⁻¹)与其浓度(\bar{C}_i , mol·m⁻³)、化合价(z_i)、电迁移率(\bar{u}_i , m²·s⁻¹·V⁻¹)、电流方向的宽度(x , m)、电势梯度(grad φ , V·m⁻¹)以及重力流动速度(v , m·s⁻¹)的关系可用Nernst-Planck方程表达^[5]:

$$N_i = \bar{D}_i \times (d\bar{C}_i/dx) + z_i \bar{C}_i \bar{u}_i \text{grad}\varphi + v \bar{C}_i \quad (2)$$

据式(2)可计算出在一定条件下离子的迁移通量, 亦即得到迁移进入浓缩室的量。

2) 离子交换过程

与电渗析不同, 连续电提取浓缩装置在淡室内填充离子交换树脂, 进水中的离子与树脂上的H或OH发生交换。

阳离子交换树脂[R]:



阴离子交换树脂[R']:

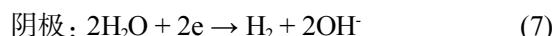
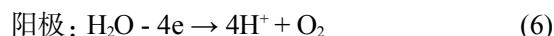
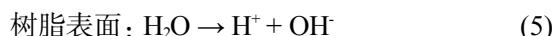


离子在树脂中得到瞬时积累, 较溶液本身浓度高得多, 使树脂的电导率比与之相接触的水的电导率提高2~3个数量级, 大大降低体系的电阻, 也即增大式(2)离子浓度 C_i , 最终获得更高的迁移通量或浓缩量。

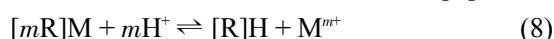
3) 离子交换树脂再生

电场的另一个作用是电极上水解离产生 H^+ 和

OH^- 对吸附离子的树脂再生, 可用下式表示^[6]:



吸附了阳离子 M 的阳离子交换树脂[R]:



吸附了阴离子 N 的阴离子交换树脂[R']:



被再生交换的离子经电迁移进入浓缩室, 树脂交换能力恢复.

2 应 用

近年, 连续电提取浓缩技术在浓缩回收发展迅速, 如重金属离子处理、营养盐及有机物回收, 甚至可浓缩吸收气态物质.

2.1 浓缩低浓度无机盐

结合电渗析与离子交换技术研究中, 人们均将目光集中于去除水中的离子, 即如何获得纯水或高纯水, 直至上世纪末才开始开展回收废水中的重金属研究^[7]. 然而, 金属离子易与水解产生的氢氧根形成氢氧化物沉淀, 致使连续电提取浓缩金属离子时易在膜和树脂上结垢. 这一结果影响出水和系统循环运行, 使金属回收存在一定困难, 较大程度地限制了重金属的回收利用. 为防止结垢, 通常采用

倒极^[8]、加酸或阻垢剂^[9]等操作以维持整个装置的稳定运行. 显然这增加了体系的复杂程度, 效率下降, 成本上升.

针对这一缺陷, 作者实验室^[3, 10-12]将传统的阴阳膜交错排列改为阴膜、阳膜并列排列, 使得浓室中始终保持在酸性条件, 有效地抑制树脂和阴膜表面结垢(如图 2), 无需添加其它设备或试剂. 利用该防结垢装置处理 50 mg·L⁻¹ Ni^{2+} 的原水, 电流密度 2.19 ~ 6.98 mA·cm⁻², 浓室中 Ni^{2+} 浓度可达 1100 ~ 1800 mg·L⁻¹, 单级浓缩度为 22 ~ 36; 同时处理混合电镀漂洗废水, 各重金属离子的去除率大于 99.8%, 经该装置处理后, 几乎实现水完全回用, 浓缩水进入二级连续电提取浓缩装置再浓缩, 达到镍离子回用的目的.

EDI 回收重金属离子有许多成功实例. Johann 等^[13]采用 4 组并列的板式 EDI 装置回收废水中的铜离子, 浓缩液中铜离子浓度可达 40 g·L⁻¹. Semmens 等^[14]用 EDI 技术处理 Cu^{2+} 质量浓度为 10 ~ 50 mg·L⁻¹ 镀铜废水, 也可获得高浓度的浓缩液, 其质量浓度可达 4 g·L⁻¹, 且膜堆对流量和质量浓度的波动有很强的适应性. 此外, 还可回收锌^[15]、镉^[16]、铅^[17]、铬^[6]等离子.

导致水体富营养化的营养盐主要为 N 和 P, 两

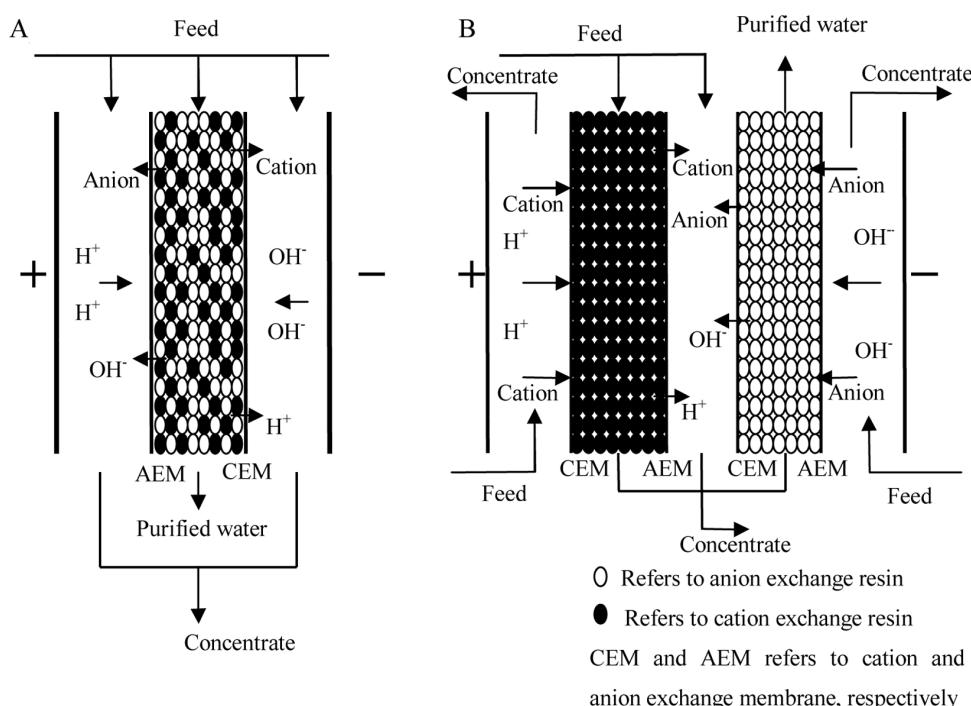


图 1 混床(A)和单床(B)连续电提取浓缩装置单元原理图

Fig. 1 Principles of continuous electroextraction and concentration unit of mixture bed (A) and single bed (B)

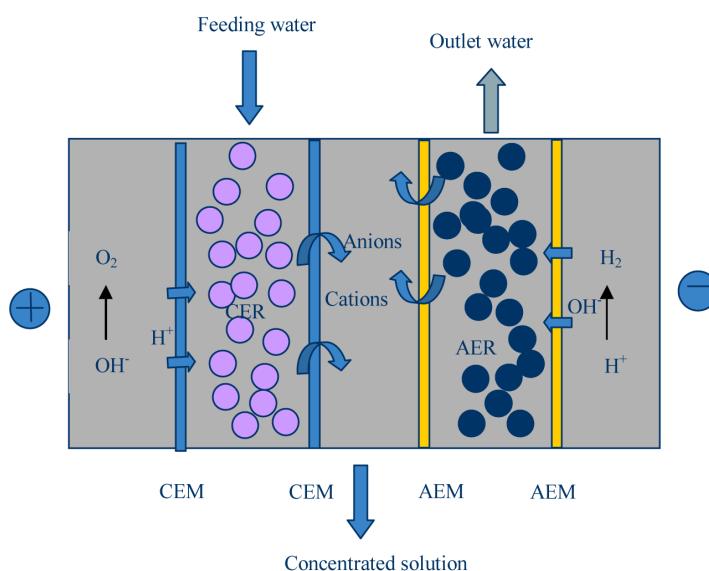


图 2 阳膜-阴膜-阴膜-阳膜排列无结垢装置单元

Fig. 2 Ion exchange membrane arrangement of continuous extraction and concentration unit as Cation-Cation-Anion-Anion

者均视为植物肥料,因此在废水净化的同时将其回收利用,将污染转化为氮肥磷肥,有很高的经济效益。Kheira 等^[18]尝试去除饮用水中硝酸根离子,获得 99% 去除率和硝酸根质量浓度 $80 \sim 100 \text{ mg} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ 浓缩液。不仅硝酸根^[19-20],铵根(NH_4^+)^[21-22]同样可采用 EDI 进行处理和回收。Spiegel 等^[45]用两级 EDI 工艺,使废水中铵离子的浓度从 $200 \text{ mg} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ 降至 $1 \text{ mg} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$,并提出将铵离子回用作肥料厂作为原料的思路。废水中的磷酸根离子也能采用 EDI 工艺进行处理^[23],而其在水中存在形式与酸碱度有关,因此回收过程还应该考虑 pH 值,以免其形成不带电荷的离子,影响浓缩。

2.2 提取有机物

将 EDI 应用于有机物的生产和浓缩有很大的潜力^[24],传统的乳酸提取、纯化和浓缩过程为过滤或离心分离,而后蒸发浓缩,这些方法至少需要 3 个以上步骤,且在浓缩过程中乳酸易发生相变,影响乳酸质量。可采用 EDI 回收的有机物主要包括有机酸、有机碱和蛋白质等(见表 1)。

Widiasa 等^[25]用 EDI 装置将发酵的液体培养基中 50% 乳酸提取出来,只需 1 个步骤就能完成,24 h 保持稳定操作。Boontawan 等^[38]在 Widiasa 的基础上深入改进,250 h 保持稳定操作,实现瞬时产生乳酸瞬时分离,避免乳酸的存在影响液体培养基的发酵,提高产率,最终获得 $185 \text{ g} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ 最高浓度的乳酸。

表 1 能被 ED 或 EDI 回收的有机物

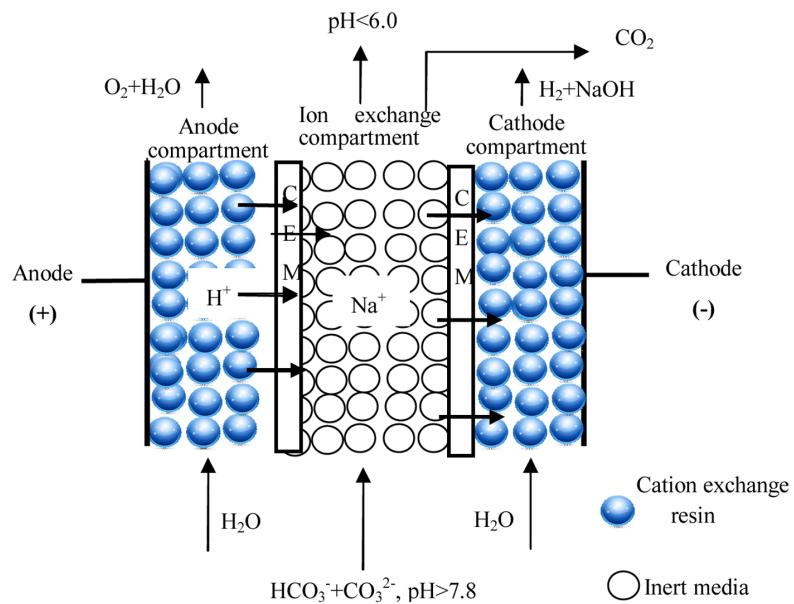
Tab. 1 Recovered organics by ED or EDI process

	Recovered organics	Ref.
Organic acid	Lactic acid	[25]
	Malic acid	[26]
	Butyrid acid	[27]
	Formic acid	[28]
	Acetic acid	[29]
	Propionic acid	[30]
	Gluconic acid	[31]
	Oxalic acid	[32]
Organic alkali	Ornithine	
	Lysine	[33-35]
	Histidine	
Protein	γ -amino butyric acid	[36]
	Enzyme	[37]

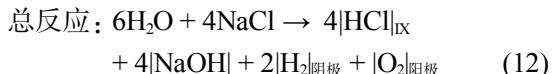
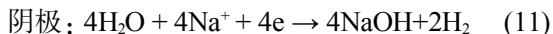
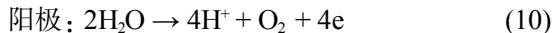
Eliseeva 等用电渗析方法研究了氨基酸回收^[33-35],水解产生 H^+ 和 OH^- 形成平衡,将两极性氨基酸离子转化为单级性阳离子,并采用双极膜电渗析装置将其中的鸟氨酸、赖氨酸、组氨酸等从混合溶液中分离。另外,Habe 等^[36]采用电渗析装置从 $20 \text{ g} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ L-谷氨酸中将 γ -氨基酪酸分离浓缩,浓度可达 $200 \text{ g} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ 。在蛋白质的研究方面,曾报道酶的脱除和浓缩,从发酵液中脱除酶以消除酶对发酵的抑制作用^[37]。

2.3 回收气体

随着 EDI 技术的进一步发展,其应用已从浓

图3 EDI回收水中的CO₂示意图Fig. 3 Recovery of CO₂ from water by EDI process

缩液体逐步扩展至气体回收。例如,Willauer等^[39]尝试用电化学酸化将海水中的CO₂收集再利用,企望降低环境中的CO₂减缓温室效应。CO₂在水中的存在形式与其酸碱性密切相关,海水pH值一般在7.5~8.2,CO₂主要形式HCO₃⁻及CO₃²⁻,当海水通过电化学酸化装置(如图3所示)后,发生如下反应:



在填充了惰性填充物的中间室(Ion Exchange Compartment)将会形成酸性环境(pH<6.0),此时溶液中的HCO₃⁻及CO₃²⁻将会转化为CO₂气体,由该室顶部进行收集。

虽然气体的吸收回用研究较少,气体中的SO₂、HCN、HF、HCl等能够被水溶液吸收,并以上述阴离子的形式存在,因此,电提取浓缩技术应用于气体物质的分离浓缩指日可待。

3 结语

EDI作为一种环保清洁、工艺简单的分离与浓缩技术,在各种分离领域的应用有着很大潜力,其应用领域也不断拓宽,可以预见EDI技术必将获得更广泛的应用。

今后EDI技术的研究可从以下3个方面着手:首先,由回收重金属离子等无机盐离子拓展至

稀有元素(如铂、铱、锇、钌、铑、钯等)的浓缩和回收;其次,有机酸、有机碱等的EDI回收仍处于试验研究阶段,因原料直接通入充满树脂的EDI淡室,树脂极易被污染,且堵塞;最后,水溶性的气体分子的浓缩与回收研究应进一步深入,并将该气体充分利用,例如考虑将回收的CO₂与H₂合成燃料。

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Continuous Electroextraction and Concentration Technology

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Abstract: Electrodeionization process combined electrodialysis with ion exchange provides a method to produce pure water and ultrapure water due to the ions accumulated in the resin instantaneously to reduce the system resistance. Meanwhile, large numbers of hydrogen ions and hydroxyl ions are dissociated by water hydrolysis, thus, the ion exchange resins are *in-situ* regenerated electrochemically. This technology has been utilized to retrieve useful ions which are enriched in the concentrated compartment from a dilute solution. This hybrid process is consequently developed as a new type of extraction and concentration technology and has been gradually employed in the recoveries of heavy metals, rare metals, nutritive salts, organic acids and alkalis, and even gases. This review describes the principle and future trend of this kind of continuous electroextraction and concentration technology, addressing the applications for attracting attention of scientists in the electrochemistry field.

Key words: electrodialysis; electrodeionization; ion exchange method; continuous electroextraction and concentration