

Journal of Electrochemistry

Volume 18
Issue 3 *Special Issue of Electrochemical
Materials and Surface/Interface Study (Editor:
Professor WAN Li-jun)*

2012-06-28

An Overview of Electrode Materials in Microbial Fuel Cells

Su-Qin CI

Na WU

Zhen-Hai WEN

Jing-Hong LI

Recommended Citation

Su-Qin CI, Na WU, Zhen-Hai WEN, Jing-Hong LI. An Overview of Electrode Materials in Microbial Fuel Cells[J]. *Journal of Electrochemistry*, 2012 , 18(3): Article 8.

DOI: 10.61558/2993-074X.2910

Available at: <https://jelectrochem.xmu.edu.cn/journal/vol18/iss3/8>

This Review is brought to you for free and open access by Journal of Electrochemistry. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of Electrochemistry by an authorized editor of Journal of Electrochemistry.

微生物燃料电池电极材料研究进展

次素琴¹, 吴娜¹, 温珍海^{1*}, 李景虹^{2*}

(1. 南昌航空大学 江西省生态诊断修复与污染阻断重点实验室, 江西 南昌 330063;

2. 清华大学 微量分析测试方法与仪器研制北京市重点实验室, 化学系, 北京 100086)

摘要: 微生物燃料电池以微生物为催化剂将化学能直接转化成电能,可用于废水处理并产生电能,是一种极具应用前景的生物电化学技术. 本文综述了近年来微生物燃料电池电极材料的制备、功能修饰及表面构建等研究进展,着重介绍了碳基纳米材料的微结构与成分对微生物燃料电池性能的影响,并分析了微生物燃料电池电极材料现存的主要问题,以期不久的将来微生物燃料电池能付之实用.

关键词: 微生物燃料电池; 阳极; 阴极

中图分类号: TQ425.21

文献标识码: A

微生物燃料电池 (Microbial Fuel Cells, MFCs) 作为一种新兴的废水处理与产电技术,已受到研究者的重视. 图1给出典型MFCs装置的示意图. 附着在阳极端的微生物催化氧化阳极室中的有机物产生电子和质子,电子由外电路传递至阴极,质子则经交换膜到达阴极室,电子、质子和电子接受体(如溶解氧)在阴极反应生成水,电子不断地定向迁移,产生外电流^[1-4].

MFCs输出功率密度的主要影响因素有反应

器构型、接种物来源、底物种类、质子交换膜及电极材料等^[5]. 电极材料作为微生物催化反应界面,其生物相容性、比表面积、导电性及化学稳定性等直接影响微生物在阳极材料上的吸附生长、微生物传递电子能力、电极阻抗及阴极氧还原反应 (Oxygen Reduction Reaction, ORR) 的速率^[6]. 而且,作为反应器的重要组成部分,电极材料的选择也决定了污水处理的成本. 因此,电极材料的设计、制备和选择对优化提升MFCs的性能至关重要^[7]. 本文系统阐述了MFCs电极材料的制备、修饰、性质及应用.

1 阳极材料

微生物燃料电池中阳极材料的微、纳结构以及导电性将影响微生物向电极传递电子的效率. 由于微生物直接附着于阳极表面,其生物相容性对微生物培育、生长尤为重要. 较复杂的MFCs阳极室环境要求阳极材料应有好的稳定性. 总之, MFCs阳极材料应具备低电阻、抗腐蚀性、好的生物相容性、高化学稳定性、大比表面积以及适当的机械强度和韧性^[8-9].

1.1 传统碳材料

碳纸、碳布、石墨棒、石墨纤维刷及活性炭等

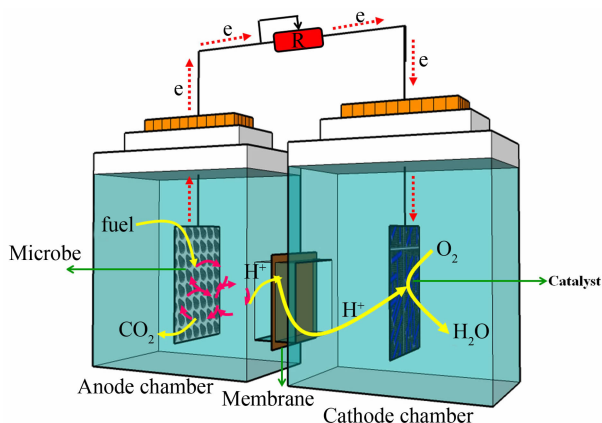


图1 双室微生物燃料电池装置示意图

Fig. 1 Schematic diagram of the dual-chamber MFCs

收稿日期:2011-12-05,修订日期:2012-03-20 * 通讯作者, Tel: (86-791) 83863715, (86-10) 62795290, E-mail: wenzhenhai@yahoo.cn, jhli@mail.tsinghua.edu.cn

高等学校博士点专项基金 (No. 20110002130007), 国家 973 计划项目 (No. 2011CB935704), 国家自然科学基金项目 (No. 20903055), 江西省自然科学基金项目 (No. 2009GZH0085) 和江西省教育厅重点项目 (No. GJJ09019) 资助

碳材料阳极已广泛应用. 这些材料价格低廉、导电性优异且耐蚀性能佳, 微生物在其表面容易附着与生长. 其中, 碳纸较硬脆, 易于连接导线; 碳布孔隙多, 较碳纸柔软. 两者作为平板电极的典型代表, 可通过降低阴阳电极间的距离, 提高 MFCs 的性能. 以碳纸阳极与载铂碳纸阴极构建的葡萄糖燃料空气阴极双室 MFCs, 其最大输出电压为 430 mV, 最大输出功率密度为 $205 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ ^[10]. 而以碳布作阳极, 生活污水为底物构成的单室 MFC 系统, 最大输出功率密度为 $483 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ ^[11].

石墨导电性较好, 以石磨棒和石墨毡作电极的对比研究表明, 比表面积越大产电率也越高. Liu 和 Logan 设计的单室空气阴极 MFCs, 以 8 支石墨棒作阳极, 无防水处理的载铂碳布为阴极, 生活污水为底物, 其最大功率密度为 $26 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$, 这是世界上首例用于废水处理的 MFCs 体系^[12]. 然而石墨棒孔隙度和表面积较低会限制微生物的充分生长. Lovley 等发现用石墨毡代替石墨棒可较大程度改善 MFCs 性能^[13]. 此外, 石墨颗粒也可作为填充式 MFCs 的反应器. Wang 等将其用于单室 MFCs 体系, 最大输出功率可达 $528 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ ^[14]. 石墨刷以石墨纤维为材料制成, 其优点是比表面积高和电阻值低. Logan 等在立方空气阴极 MFCs 中使用石墨刷为阳极, 获得 $2400 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ 的最大输出功率^[15].

无定形碳的活性碳有较大的比表面积, 通常可作为生物膜生长的载体. Zhao 等比较了活性碳布、碳纤维和石墨片阳极连续流的 MFCs 输出率, 证实活性碳布在硫化物吸收和氧化方面优于其它两种材料, 其最大输出功率可达 $5100 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ ^[16]. He 等设计了以活性碳颗粒为阳极的内置 U 形 MFCs, 获得 $29.2 \text{ W} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$ 的输出功率和高达 90% 的化学需氧量 (Chemical Oxygen Demand, COD) 去除率^[17]. 另一以活性碳颗粒作阴阳极填充物, 染料废水为燃料, 阳极室无氧发酵, 阴极室有氧氧化的 MFCs, 其最大输出功率为 $1.7 \text{ W} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$, 阴阳极的 COD 去除率分别为 76% 和 71%^[18].

1.2 碳材料修饰

Feng 等用高温氨气处理石墨纤维刷, MFCs 最大输出功率可达 $1280 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$, 功率提高了 34%. X 射线光电子能谱 (XPS) 分析显示此处理过程增加了材料的 N/C 比^[19]. 使用高温氨气处理碳网 (Carbon Mesh), MFCs 输出功率为 $988 \text{ mW} \cdot$

m^{-2} , 材料表面分析表明其 O/C 比率降低^[20]. Cheng 报道氨处理的碳布电极, 最大输出功率达 $1970 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$, 氨处理增加了电极表面电子数量^[5]. Saito 等又进一步证实电极材料的 N/C 比必须限制在一定比例内, 碳布电极表面的 N/C 比从 0.7 至 3.8, 最大输出功率从 $938 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ 降至 $707 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$. 由此可知, 在不影响微生物生长和电子传递功能的情况下, 碳布电极的弱氮化处理可极大促进带负电微生物的吸附^[21].

碳材料酸化处理也可提高 MFCs 的性能. 葱醌-2,6-二磺酸处理的石墨阳极可使埋植于海底污泥中的 MFCs 输出功率从 $20 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ 提升至 $99 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ ^[22-23]. Feng 等用聚吡咯和葱醌-2,6-二磺酸处理碳毡电极, 并接种 *Shewanella decolorationis* S12, 其双室 MFCs 的最大功率达 $1303 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$, 相当于未修饰电极 MFCs 产电功率的 13 倍^[24]. Scott 用 5 种方法处理石墨毡电极, 其中硝酸酸化的电极呈现出最好的活性, 其最大输出功率提高近 200%^[25]. 另一酸化处理的石墨刷电极最大功率则可达 $1100 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$, 这可能归因于酸氧化产生了醌基^[19].

阳极材料掺入少量金属离子或金属化合物充当电子传递中间体, 也可改善 MFCs 性能. Kim 等将铁氧化物涂覆于多孔碳纸阳极, 电池输出功率由 $8 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ 提升至 $30 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ ^[26]. 石墨电极表面沉积 Mn^{4+} 、 Fe_3O_4 能缩短 MFCs 的启动时间^[27]. Rosenbaum 将贵金属铂修饰于电极上可加速底物的氧化速率^[28]. 而另一研究表明金属铂修饰阳极抑制 MFCs 的启动, 原因是金属电极的高疏水性不利于吸附产电微生物^[29]. 另外, 也需要考虑金属电极的微生物腐蚀. 因此, 金属修饰电极作为 MFCs 阳极仍有争议. 最近, 陈胜利等合成了一种以聚 4-乙烯基吡啶作骨架、中性红单体为氧化还原活性中心, 有良好导电性和生物兼容性的氧化还原水凝胶, 用此材料修饰碳纸作阳极并组装成 MFCs, 可缩短修饰生物阳极的驯化周期, 其阳极电势接近于 NADH/NAD 的平衡电位, 且 MFCs 功率密度有明显的提高^[30].

1.3 碳纳米管及其复合物

碳纳米管 (Carbon Nanotubes, CNTs) 有特定孔隙结构、高机械强度、大比表面积、好的热稳定性和化学惰性以及高导电性. CNTs 可增大电极表面积, 其一维纳米尺度可促进细菌细胞膜纳米纤维

表1 CNTs及其复合物阳极的MFCs性能
Tab.1 Performance of MFCs with CNTs or CNTs composites anode

Anode material	Reactor	Substrate	Open-circuit voltage/V	Maximal power density/ ($\text{mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$)	Coulombic efficiency/%	Internal resistance/ Ω	Reference
CNTs	Single	Acetate		402	79	263	[32]
CNTs/Graphite	Dual	Glucose	0.84	2470			[33]
CNTs/CC	Dual	Acetate		65	67	900	[35]
CNTs /CP	Dual	Glucose	0.85	290		258	[36]
CNTs/textile	Dual	Glucose		1098		30	[37]
PANI/CNTs		Glucose	0.70	42		156	[43]
PPY/CNTs/CP	Dual	Glucose	0.45	228		18	[44]
N-CNTs/CC	Dual	Acetate	0.70	1040	35	23	[45]

的电子传递,增强微生物向电极传输电子的能力,作为MFCs催化剂载体有较好的应用前景^[31].表1列出了CNTs及其复合物阳极的MFCs性能.

CNTs可有效降低MFCs的阳极内阻,且CNTs-MFCs的最大产电功率密度和库仑效率均高于活性碳和柔性石墨^[32].多壁CNTs修饰石墨电极可将MFCs的最大输出功率提高至 $2470 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ (高于对照石墨电极的6倍).Sharma等认为CNTs功能化后,其表面羧基与微生物间的相互作用有助于提高电极活性^[33].经CNTs修饰的阳极功率输出提高了252.6%,但这并非羧基化所致^[34].Tsai等用CNTs修饰碳布电极组装单室MFCs处理污水,大幅提高了输出电压、功率密度和库仑效率^[35].最近,Sun等用层层组装技术将CNTs修饰至碳纸电极上,在电极表面形成交织网状三维结构,使电子转移电阻从 1163Ω 降低至 258Ω ,同时MFCs最大输出功率提升了20%^[36].另一实例,嵌于纺织纤维的CNTs可形成三维网状结构,与传统的沉积法相比,显著地增大了阳极液-生物膜-阳极接触面,更有利于底物传输、微生物繁殖及电子转移.MFCs最大电流密度、最大功率密度及能量回收率分别提高了157%、68%和141%^[37].

毫无疑问,CNTs确可大幅改善MFCs性能,但其生物相容性问题仍有待解决^[38].鉴于导电聚合物如聚苯胺(Polyaniline, PANI)易加工、生物相容性较好^[39-40],Schröder等采用PNAI修饰铂电极作MFCs阳极,其电流密度增加1倍以上.PANI虽可

促进MFCs中的微生物的电催化作用,但其较低的电导性不利于电子传输,限制了其在MFCs中应用^[41-42].最近,CNTs/PANI纳米复合物在MFCs上显示了良好的应用前景.Qiao等将PANI负载于CNTs上,其电极表面积增大,电子传输能力改善,MFCs最大产电密度大幅提升^[43].Zou等以聚吡咯(Polypyrrole,PPY)掺杂CNTs作MFCs阳极,较碳纸有更好的电化学性能^[44].氮掺杂是改性CNTs的另一种方法,Ci等利用掺氮CNTs修饰碳布阳极,其内阻减小,生物相容性提高,最大输出功率较CNTs修饰电极和碳布电极分别提高1.6倍和4倍^[45].

1.4 石墨烯

功能独特的二维纳米石墨烯材料,因其比表面积大、导电性优异、机械强度高及电催化活性高,在锂离子电池、太阳能电池及电化学超级电容器等领域已广泛应用^[46-50].石墨烯经化学氧化、剥离、还原处理等可形成石墨烯^[51],合成过程不使用毒性金属催化剂,这为石墨烯用于MFCs提供了可能.Huang等首次证实石墨烯氧化物的网状结构可促进生物电化学系统中的微生物胞外电子向电极转移,将其应用于MFCs中,电流密度和功率密度较碳纸电极增加4倍^[52].其后,Zhang等使用石墨烯修饰不锈钢电极,MFCs最大功率密度可达 $2668 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$,这归因于电极面积增大及微生物数量增多^[53].最近,Luo等用化学法制得多孔石墨烯修饰MFCs阳极,其性能优于活性碳^[54].

2 阴极材料

MFCs 阳极产生的电子通过外电路到达阴极,与电子受体(如 O_2 、铁氰化钾等)、阳极室迁移过来的质子在阴极表面发生还原反应. 电子受体在电极的还原速率也是决定 MFCs 输出功率的重要因素. 采用化学阴极法或生物阴极法,增强催化活性,加快还原反应速率是 MFCs 阴极材料的首选方法. 目前, MFCs 阴极材料大多采用性能优异的碳载铂催化剂,但成本较高. 因此,寻求高活性的廉价催化剂仍是 MFCs 阴极的研究重点.

2.1 贵金属铂基催化剂

碳材料因其良好的导电性、化学稳定性和生物相容性,仍是目前 MFCs 阴极使用最为广泛的电极材料. 但直接使用效果不佳,通常可在碳纸、碳布、碳毡或石墨基底上负载高活性贵金属铂^[55]. 然而,铂金属的昂贵价格限制了其在 MFCs 中的应用. 降低铂用量或提高单位面积铂的催化活性是降低成本的重要技术问题. Cheng 等发现负载于阴极电极上的铂催化剂用量在 $0.1 \sim 2 \text{ mg} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$ 范围的变动并没有显著影响其催化活性^[56]. 另一研究表明,增大铂纳米粒子表面积/体积比并使其均匀分散于 CNTs 表面,铂催化活性可增大 4 倍^[57]. Xie 等改性铂负载基质,将铂纳米粒子沉积于 CNTs 海绵上, MFCs 最大功率密度可达 $837 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ (是商业铂碳阴极的 2.14 倍),而铂用量减少 80.7%^[58]. 由此可见,阴极材料的结构与优化是提高 MFCs 整体性能的有效途径.

2.2 非贵金属氧化物催化剂

近年, Morris 等首次报道以 PbO_2 取代铂阴极催化剂,电池最大输出功率密度可提高 2~4 倍,成本降低 2~17 倍^[59],但 PbO_2 阴极的铅渗漏及其对环境的毒化限制了其广泛应用. Roche 等由旋转圆盘电极测试发现碳载氧化锰 (MnO_x/C) 在中性介质溶液可取代铂催化剂,且掺杂 Ni、Mg 金属离子可进一步提高 MnO_x/C 催化剂的氧还原性能^[60]. Zhang 等研究了 $\alpha\text{-MnO}_2$ 、 $\beta\text{-MnO}_2$ 和 $\gamma\text{-MnO}_2$ 三种晶形氧化物空气阴极的电催化活性. 线性伏安扫描曲线显示,三种化合物在中性介质条件下均可电催化氧还原,其中 $\beta\text{-MnO}_2$ 有较高的比表面和平均氧化态,呈现出最高的电催化活性. Zhang 等又以葡萄糖作底物,管状 MFCs 的最大输出功率密度达 $(3773 \pm 347) \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$,这一催化剂为低成本的

MFCs 装置规模化提供了可能^[61]. Li 等研究了八面体分子筛结构 (OMS-2) 的锰氧化物 MFCs 阴极催化剂,以 Co、Cu 修饰 OMS-2 及铂. 实验结果表明,以 Co、Cu 修饰的 OMS-2 显现出最高的电催化活性,有效地增加了 MFCs 功率输出,提高了有机物质的降解效率,并极大降低 MFCs 的运行成本^[62]. Liu 等通过电化学沉积制备了形貌和大小可控的 MnO_x 纳米结构,并指出材料形貌及 Mn 氧化态决定着 MFCs 阴极的电催化活性, MnO_x 催化剂对氧的还原以 4 电子途径进行, MFCs 最大输出功率为 $772.8 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$ ^[63]. Lu 等以 CNTs 作支撑材料,研究了 $\alpha\text{-MnO}_2$ 、 $\beta\text{-MnO}_2$ 和 $\gamma\text{-MnO}_2$ 的电催化活性,其中 $\beta\text{-MnO}_2$ 的电催化活性最高,这归因于其特殊的内部结构及 CNTs 与 $\beta\text{-MnO}_2$ 间的强作用力,其最大输出功率为 $97.8 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$,相当于 Pt/C 催化剂的 64.1%^[64]. 尽管其产电功率还不理想,但成本低、制备方法简便使得 CNTs/ MnO_2 仍可视作未来 MFCs 阴极的候选催化剂.

2.3 过渡金属大环类催化剂

1964 年, Jasinski 等首次报道过渡金属卟啉和酞菁化合物对氧气的电化学还原呈现出极好的电催化活性,适宜作燃料电池的阴极催化剂^[65]. 过渡金属大环化合物有大 π 共轭结构和较高化学稳定性,是氧还原极佳的电催化剂. 通常可将过渡金属大环化合物吸附于碳载体上高温裂解,其大环化合物芳环、残留的 N 与吸附于碳载体表面的过渡金属相互作用,并形成 $M-N_4-C$ 结构,该结构被预测为电催化活性中心^[66]. 金属酞菁化合物的中心离子通常为 Fe、Co、Ni、Mn 等,其中以 Fe 和 Co 的配合物呈现较高的氧还原催化活性^[67]. Zhao 等使用铁酞菁 (FePc) 和钴卟啉 (CoTMPP) 作双室 MFCs 阴极催化剂,两者性能均接近于商业铂催化剂的水平, CoTMPP 含有钴氧反向键,其氧还原电催化活性更高,且略优于 FePc^[68]. Yu 等证实,中性介质条件下,负载于炭黑的 FePc 较 CoTMPP 有更高的氧还原活性,其输出功率密度最高可达 $634 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$,较 Pt/C 催化剂约高出 7%^[69]. Harnisch 等采用热裂解法和等离子体法处理 FePc,后者较前者活性提高 40%. 等离子体法可能增加了催化剂表面氧与氮含量,催化剂活性与氧氮含量呈线性关系^[70]. Kim 等研究了炭黑 (C)、萘酞菁/炭黑 (NPc/C)、钴萘酞菁/炭黑

(CoNPc/C)及Pt/C在H型双室MFCs中的氧还原催化特性,CoNPc/C催化剂阴极的最大输出功率为 $64.7 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$,相当于Pt/C催化剂的80%,且电池电压和阴阳极电势可长期保持稳定,与铂相当.因此,MFCs的CoNPc阴极催化剂更具有潜在竞争力^[71].Birry等测试了醋酸亚铁(FeAc)、氯铁卟啉(ClFeTMPP)及FePc在旋转圆盘电极及连续流动式MFCs的电催化特性,在氨气氛围下热裂解的FeAc活性较差,而在氩气氛围下裂解的ClFeTMPP及FePc有较高的电催化活性.FePc的铁含量经优化后负载量为 $0.01 \sim 0.16 \text{ mg} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$,MFCs最大输出功率为 $550 \sim 590 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$,与 $0.5 \text{ mg} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$ 的铂载量相当^[72].而后,Yuan等将FePc负载于聚苯胺/炭黑(PANI/C)复合物上,制作了单室空气阴极MFCs,其最大输出功率可达 $630.5 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$,同样条件下的铂阴极为 $575.6 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ ^[73].最近,Zhang等测试了四磺基铁酞菁(FeTsPc)功能化石墨烯电极的循环伏安和线性扫描曲线,结果显示该电极的氧还原能力增强,其双室阴极MFCs的最大输出功率为 $817 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$,与Pt/C电极的 $856 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ 相当,而FeTsPc电极的输出功率仅为 $523 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ ^[74].上述研究表明,大环类过渡金属化合物的修饰或功能化均可增强其氧还原能力.然而,其制备工艺复杂,且大多需高温裂解,该过程中形成的中间产物可能破坏电催化剂的结构,导致其稳定性下降.因此,应探索催化剂制备工艺的简化、修饰方法的改进以降低产品价格.

2.4 其它催化剂

Logan小组使用冷压于镍网上的活性碳作阴极,避免了使用碳布电极和金属催化剂,MFCs的最大输出功率可达 $1220 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$,而Pt/C催化剂输出功率为 $1060 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ ^[75].Zhang等测定了活性碳在空气阴极MFCs的氧还原稳定性,经一年运行,其输出功率降低甚微(可能由阴极扩散电阻的增加引起).若将活性碳阴极更新,最大功率又可恢复^[76].

Feng等报道掺氮CNTs阴极MFCs的最大输出功率可达 $1600 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ (商业Pt/C催化剂的仅为 $1393 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$),其内阻较小,阴极电势较高,且在中性介质缓冲溶液中以4电子途径进行氧还原反应^[77].

3 展望

MFCs因其自身的优点,近年来已引起广泛关注,但其输出功率密度仍远不能满足实用需求.今后应注重设计和研发高性能的电极材料,提高MFCs的产电性能.MFCs阳极既作产电微生物附着载体,又可使电子从微生物向阳极快速传递.解析材料表面的微生物产电特性及电池稳定运行机理,对提高MFCs产电能力具有十分重要的意义.而MFCs阴极材料则侧重提高单位面积催化剂活性、降低Pt用量,以金属氧化物及过渡金属大环化合物替代Pt/C的空气阴极,改进复杂的制备工艺.MFCs的研制虽还处在起步阶段,但随着电化学、材料学及微生物学的发展,MFCs在不久的将来有望付之实用.

参考文献(References):

- [1] Logan B E, Hamelers B, Rozendal R, et al. Microbial fuel cells: Methodology and technology[J]. Environmental Science & Technology, 2006, 40(17): 5181-5192.
- [2] Franks A E, Nevin K P. Microbial fuel cells, a current review[J]. Energies, 2010, 3(5): 899-919.
- [3] Das S, Mangwani N. Recent developments in microbial fuel cells: A review[J]. Journal of Scientific & Industrial Research, 2010, 69(10): 727-731.
- [4] Lu N (卢娜), Zhou S G (周顺桂), Ni J R (倪晋仁). Mechanism of energy generation of microbial fuel cells [J]. Progress in Chemistry (化学进展), 2008, 20(7/8): 1233-1240.
- [5] Cheng S A, Logan B E. Ammonia treatment of carbon cloth anodes to enhance power generation of microbial fuel cells [J]. Electrochemistry Communications, 2007, 9(3): 492-496.
- [6] Rinaldi A, Mecheri B, Garavaglia V, et al. Engineering materials and biology to boost performance of microbial fuel cells: A critical review [J]. Energy & Environmental Science, 2008, 1(4): 417-429.
- [7] Zeng L Z (曾丽珍), Li W S (李伟善). Research progress on the electrode materials for microbial FC [J]. Chinese Battery Industry (电池工业), 2009, 14(4): 280-284.
- [8] Kim B H, Chang I S, Gadd G M. Challenges in microbial fuel cell development and operation [J]. Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology, 2007, 76(3): 485-494.
- [9] Zhou M H, Chi M L, Luo J M, et al. An overview of elec-

- trode materials in microbial fuel cells [J]. *Journal of Power Sources*, 2011, 196(10): 4427-4435.
- [10] Wu C (武晨), Zhang J Q (张嘉琪), Wang, X L (王晓丽), et al. Power generation of microbial fuel cell from aniline and glucose [J]. *Acta Scientiae Circumstantiae (环境科学学报)*, 2011, 31(6): 1227-1232.
- [11] Wang X, Feng Y J, Lee H. Electricity production from beer brewery wastewater using single chamber microbial fuel cell [J]. *Water Science and Technology*, 2008, 57(7): 1117-1121.
- [12] Liu H, Ramnarayanan R, Logan B E. Production of electricity during wastewater treatment using a single chamber microbial fuel cell [J]. *Environmental Science & Technology*, 2004, 38(7): 2281-2285.
- [13] Chaudhuri S K, Lovley D R. Electricity generation by direct oxidation of glucose in mediatorless microbial fuel cells [J]. *Nature Biotechnology*, 2003, 21(10): 1229-1232.
- [14] Wang H M, Davidson M, Zuo Y, et al. Recycled tire crumb rubber anodes for sustainable power production in microbial fuel cells [J]. *Journal of Power Sources*, 2011, 196(14): 5863-5866.
- [15] Logan B E, Cheng S A, Watson V, et al. Graphite fiber brush anodes for increased power production in air-cathode microbial fuel cells [J]. *Environmental Science & Technology*, 2007, 41(9): 3341-3346.
- [16] Zhao F, Rahunen N, Varcoe J R, et al. Activated carbon cloth as anode for sulfate removal in a microbial fuel cell [J]. *Environmental Science & Technology*, 2008, 42(13): 4971-4976.
- [17] He Z, Wagner N, Minteer S D, et al. An upflow microbial fuel cell with an interior cathode: Assessment of the internal resistance by impedance spectroscopy [J]. *Environmental Science & Technology*, 2006, 40(17): 5212-5217.
- [18] Kalathil S, Lee J, Cho M H. Granular activated carbon based microbial fuel cell for simultaneous decolorization of real dye wastewater and electricity generation [J]. *New Biotechnology*, 2011, 29(1): 32-37.
- [19] Feng Y, Yang Q, Wang X, et al. Treatment of carbon fiber brush anodes for improving power generation in air-cathode microbial fuel cells [J]. *Journal of Power Sources*, 2010, 195(7): 1841-1844.
- [20] Wang X, Cheng S A, Feng Y J, et al. Use of carbon mesh anodes and the effect of different pretreatment methods on power production in microbial fuel cells [J]. *Environmental Science & Technology*, 2009, 43(17): 6870-6874.
- [21] Saito T, Mehanna M, Wang X, et al. Effect of nitrogen addition on the performance of microbial fuel cell anodes [J]. *Bioresource Technology*, 2011, 102(1): 395-398.
- [22] Tender L M, Reimers C E, Stecher H A, et al. Harnessing microbially generated power on the seafloor [J]. *Nature Biotechnology*, 2002, 20(8): 821-825.
- [23] Lowy D A, Tender L M, Zeikus J G, et al. Harvesting energy from the marine sediment-water interface II—Kinetic activity of anode materials [J]. *Biosensors and Bioelectronics*, 2006, 21(11): 2058-2063.
- [24] Feng C H, Ma L, Li F B, et al. A polypyrrole/anthraquinone-2,6-disulphonic disodium salt (PPy/AQDS)-modified anode to improve performance of microbial fuel cells [J]. *Biosensors and Bioelectronics*, 2010, 25(6): 1516-1520.
- [25] Scott K, Rumbu G A, Katuri K P, et al. Application of modified carbon anodes in microbial fuel cells [J]. *Process Safety and Environmental Protection*, 2007, 85(B5): 481-488.
- [26] Kim J R, Min B, Logan B E. Evaluation of procedures to acclimate a microbial fuel cell for electricity production [J]. *Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology*, 2005, 68(1): 23-30.
- [27] Park D H, Zeikus J G. Improved fuel cell and electrode designs for producing electricity from microbial degradation [J]. *Biotechnology and Bioengineering*, 2003, 81(3): 348-355.
- [28] Rosenbaum M, Schroder U, Scholz F. Investigation of the electrocatalytic oxidation of formate and ethanol at platinum black under microbial fuel cell conditions [J]. *Journal of Solid State Electrochemistry*, 2006, 10(10): 872-878.
- [29] Nam J Y, Kim H W, Lim K H, et al. Electricity generation from MFCs using differently grown anode-attached bacteria [J]. *Environmental Engineering Research*, 2010, 15(2): 71-78.
- [30] Wang K P (王凯鹏), Chen S L (陈胜利). The synthesise of electron-conducting redox hydrogel and its application in microbial fuel cell [J]. *Journal of Electrochemistry (电化学)*, 2010, 16(1): 20-24.
- [31] Peng L, You S J, Wang J Y. Carbon nanotubes as electrode modifier promoting direct electron transfer from *Shewanella oneidensis* [J]. *Biosensors and Bioelectronics*, 2010, 25(5): 1248-1251.
- [32] Liang P (梁鹏), Fan M Z (范明志), Cao X X (曹效

- 鑫), et al. Electricity generation by the microbial fuel cells using carbon nanotube as the anode[J]. Environmental Science (环境科学), 2008, 29(8): 2356-2360.
- [33] Sharma T, Reddy A L M, Chandra T S, et al. Development of carbon nanotubes and nanofluids based microbial fuel cell[J]. International Journal of Hydrogen Energy, 2008, 33(22): 6749-6754.
- [34] Nambiar S, Togo C A, Limson J L. Application of multi-walled carbon nanotubes to enhance anodic performance of an enterobacter cloacae-based fuel cell[J]. African Journal of Biotechnology, 2009, 8(24): 6927-6932.
- [35] Tsai H Y, Wu C C, Lee C Y, et al. Microbial fuel cell performance of multiwall carbon nanotubes on carbon cloth as electrodes [J]. Journal of Power Sources, 2009, 194(1): 199-205.
- [36] Sun J J, Zhao H Z, Yang Q Z, et al. A novel layer-by-layer self-assembled carbon nanotube-based anode: Preparation, characterization, and application in microbial fuel cell[J]. Electrochimica Acta, 2010, 55(9): 3041-3047.
- [37] Xie X, Hu L B, Pasta M, et al. Three-dimensional carbon nanotube-textile anode for high-performance microbial fuel cells [J]. Nano Letters, 2011, 11(1): 291-296.
- [38] Magrez A, Kasas S, Salicio V, et al. Cellular toxicity of carbon-based nanomaterials [J]. Nano Letters, 2006, 6(6): 1121-1125.
- [39] Dong H, Li C M, Chen W, et al. Sensitive amperometric immunosensing using polypyrrolepropylic acid films for biomolecule immobilization [J]. Analytical Chemistry, 2006, 78(21): 7424-7431.
- [40] Li C M, Chen W, Yang X, et al. Impedance labelless detection-based polypyrrole protein biosensor [J]. Frontiers in Bioscience, 2005, 10: 2518-2526.
- [41] Schröder U, Niessen J, Scholz F. A generation of microbial fuel cells with current outputs boosted by more than one order of magnitude [J]. Angewandte Chemie International Edition, 2003, 42(25): 2880-2883.
- [42] Niessen J, Schröder U, Rosenbaum M, et al. Fluorinated polyanilines as superior materials for electrocatalytic anodes in bacterial fuel cells [J]. Electrochemistry Communications, 2004, 6(6): 571-575.
- [43] Qiao Y, Li C M, Bao S J, et al. Carbon nanotube/polyaniline composite as anode material for microbial fuel cells [J]. Journal of Power Sources, 2007, 170(1): 79-84.
- [44] Zou Y J, Xiang C L, Yang L N, et al. A mediatorless microbial fuel cell using polypyrrole coated carbon nanotubes composite as anode material [J]. International Journal of Hydrogen Energy, 2008, 33(18): 4856-4862.
- [45] Ci S Q, Wen Z H, Chen J H, et al. Decorating anode with bamboo-like nitrogen-doped carbon nanotubes for microbial fuel cells [J]. Electrochemistry Communications, 2012, 14(1): 71-74.
- [46] Chen D, Tang L H, Li J H. Graphene-based materials in electrochemistry [J]. Chemical Society Reviews, 2010, 39(8): 3157-3180.
- [47] Chang H X, Zhang H, Lv X J, et al. Quantum dots sensitized graphene: In situ growth and application in photoelectrochemical cells [J]. Electrochemistry Communications, 2010, 12(3): 483-487.
- [48] Li Y M, Lv X J, Lu J, et al. Preparation of SnO₂ nanocrystal/graphene nanosheets composites and their lithium storage ability [J]. Journal of Physical Chemistry C, 2010, 114(49): 21770-21774.
- [49] Xia J L, Chen F, Li J H, et al. Measurement of quantum capacitance of graphene [J]. Nature Nanotechnology, 2009, 4: 505-509.
- [50] Li Y M, Tang L H, Li J H. Pt/graphene nano composites as the anode catalyst of methanol oxidation [J]. Electrochemistry Communications, 2009, 11(4): 846-849.
- [51] Tang L H, Wang Y, Li Y M, et al. Preparation, structure and electrochemical properties of graphene modified electrode [J]. Advanced Functional Materials, 2009, 19(17): 2782-2789.
- [52] Huang Y X, Liu X W, Xie J F, et al. Graphene oxide nanoribbons greatly enhance extracellular electron transfer in bio-electrochemical systems [J]. Chemical Communications, 2011, 47(20): 5795-5797.
- [53] Zhang Y, Mo G, Li X, et al. A graphene modified anode to improve the performance of microbial fuel cells [J]. Journal of Power Sources, 2011, 196(13): 5402-5407.
- [54] Luo J Y, Jang H D, Sun T, et al. Compression and aggregation-resistant particles of crumpled soft sheets [J]. ACS Nano, 2012, 5(11): 8943-8949.
- [55] Watanabe K. Recent developments in microbial fuel cell technologies for sustainable bioenergy [J]. Journal of Bioscience and Bioengineering, 2008, 106(6): 528-

- 536.
- [56] Cheng S, Liu H, Logan B E. Power densities using different cathode catalysts (Pt and CoTMPP) and polymer binders (Nafion and PTFE) in single chamber microbial fuel cells [J]. *Environmental Science & Technology*, 2006, 40(1) :364-369.
- [57] Sanchez D V P, Huynh P, Kozlov M E, et al. Carbon nanotube/platinum (Pt) sheet as an improved cathode for microbial fuel cells [J]. *Energy & Fuels*, 2010, 24(11) :5897-5902.
- [58] Xie X, Pasta M, Hu L B, et al. Nano-structured textiles as high-performance aqueous cathodes for microbial fuel cells [J]. *Energy & Environmental Science*, 2011, 4(4) :1293-1297.
- [59] Morris J M, Jin S, Wang J Q, et al. Lead dioxide as an alternative catalyst to platinum in microbial fuel cells [J]. *Electrochemistry Communications*, 2007, 9(7) :1730-1734.
- [60] Roche I, Scott K. Carbon-supported manganese oxide nanoparticles as electrocatalysts for oxygen reduction reaction (orr) in neutral solution [J]. *Journal of Applied Electrochemistry*, 2009, 39(2) :197-204.
- [61] Zhang L X, Liu C S, Zhuang L, et al. Manganese dioxide as an alternative cathodic catalyst to platinum in microbial fuel cells [J]. *Biosensors and Bioelectronics*, 2009, 24(9) :2825-2829.
- [62] Li X, Hu B X, Suib S, et al. Manganese dioxide as a new cathode catalyst in microbial fuel cells [J]. *Journal of Power Sources*, 2010, 195(9) :2586-2591.
- [63] Liu X W, Sun X F, Huang Y X, et al. Nano-structured manganese oxide as a cathodic catalyst for enhanced oxygen reduction in a microbial fuel cell fed with a synthetic wastewater [J]. *Water Research*, 2010, 44(18) :5298-5305.
- [64] Lu M, Kharkwal S, Ng H Y, et al. Carbon nanotube supported MnO₂ catalysts for oxygen reduction reaction and their applications in microbial fuel cells [J]. *Biosensors and Bioelectronics*, 2011, 26(12) :4728-4732.
- [65] Jasinski R. A new fuel cell cathode catalyst [J]. *Nature* 1964, 201 :1212-1213.
- [66] Faubert G, Lalande G, Cote R, et al. Heat-treated iron and cobalt tetraphenylporphyrins adsorbed on carbon black; Physical characterization and catalytic properties of these materials for the reduction of oxygen in polymer electrolyte fuel cells [J]. *Electrochimica Acta*, 1996, 41(10) :1689-1701.
- [67] Ohms D, Herzog S, Franke R, et al. Influence of metal-ions on the electrocatalytic oxygen reduction of carbon materials prepared from pyrolyzed polyacrylonitrile [J]. *Journal of Power Sources*, 1992, 38(3) :327-334.
- [68] Zhao F, Harnisch F, Schroder U, et al. Application of pyrolysed iron(II) phthalocyanine and CoTMPP based oxygen reduction catalysts as cathode materials in microbial fuel cells [J]. *Electrochemistry Communications*, 2005, 7(12) :1405-1410.
- [69] Hao Y E, Cheng S A, Scott K, et al. Microbial fuel cell performance with non-Pt cathode catalysts [J]. *Journal of Power Sources*, 2007, 171(2) :275-281.
- [70] Harnisch F, Savastenko N A, Zhao F, et al. Comparative study on the performance of pyrolyzed and plasma-treated iron(II) phthalocyanine-based catalysts for oxygen reduction in pH neutral electrolyte solutions [J]. *Journal of Power Sources*, 2009, 193(1) :86-92.
- [71] Kim J R, Kim J Y, Han S B, et al. Application of Coporphthalocyanine (CoNPc) as alternative cathode catalyst and support structure for microbial fuel cells [J]. *Bioresource Technology*, 2011, 102(1) :342-347.
- [72] Birry L, Mehta P, Jaouen F, et al. Application of iron-based cathode catalysts in a microbial fuel cell [J]. *Electrochimica Acta*, 2011, 56(3) :1505-1511.
- [73] Yuan Y, Ahmed J, Kim S. Polyaniline/carbon black composite-supported iron phthalocyanine as an oxygen reduction catalyst for microbial fuel cells [J]. *Journal of Power Sources*, 2011, 196(3) :1103-1106.
- [74] Zhang Y, Mo G, Li X, et al. Iron tetrasulfophthalocyanine functionalized graphene as a platinum-free cathodic catalyst for efficient oxygen reduction in microbial fuel cells [J]. *Journal of Power Sources*, 2012, 197 :93-96.
- [75] Zhang F, Cheng S A, Pant D, et al. Power generation using an activated carbon and metal mesh cathode in a microbial fuel cell [J]. *Electrochemistry Communications*, 2009, 11(11) :2177-2179.
- [76] Zhang F, Pant D, Logan B E. Long-term performance of activated carbon air cathodes with different diffusion layer porosities in microbial fuel cells [J]. *Biosensors and Bioelectronics*, 2011, 30(1) :49-55.
- [77] Feng L Y, Yan Y Y, Chen Y G, et al. Nitrogen-doped carbon nanotubes as efficient and durable metal-free cathodic catalysts for oxygen reduction in microbial fuel cells [J]. *Energy & Environmental Science*, 2011, 4(5) :1892-1899.

An Overview of Electrode Materials in Microbial Fuel Cells

CI Su-qin¹, WU Na¹, WEN Zhen-hai^{1*}, LI Jing-hong^{2*}

(1. Key Laboratory of Jiangxi Province for Ecological Diagnosis-Remediation and Pollution Control, Nanchang Hangkong University, Nanchang 330063, China; 2. Department of Chemistry, Beijing Key Laboratory of Microanalytical Detection Technique and Instrument Development, Tsinghua University, Beijing 10086, China)

Abstract: Microbial fuel cells (MFCs) are devices that can directly convert organic chemical energy into electrical energy with microbial as catalysts. MFCs are promising bio-electrochemical systems with the potential to degrade organic sewage and produce electricity. This article supplies a critical and comprehensive review for the electrode materials concerning about anode and cathode in MFCs, including the fabrications, functional modifications and surface constructions of electrode materials, as well as their applications in MFCs. Additionally, the existing problems of electrode materials in current MFCs have been demonstrated in order to provide the guidelines for exploring the next-generation electrode materials for MFCs.

Key words: microbial fuel cells; anode; cathode