

Amperometric gaseous H₂O₂ sensor based on ultra-low platinum content electrocatalyst

Vasko Jovanovski, Larisa Filip, Urša Klun, Francisco Ruiz

Laboratory for Electrocatalysis, Department of Materials Chemistry, National Institute of Chemistry, Hajdrihova 19, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

Detecting gases and volatile compounds using electrochemical gas sensors presents ongoing challenges regarding sensitivity and selectivity. Many scenarios demand rapid, sensitive, and user-friendly sensors capable of detecting gaseous hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) at room temperature. In this study, we introduce an H₂O₂ gas sensor utilizing sodium polyacrylate aqueous gel electrolytes combined with commercially available screen-printed carbon electrodes, where the working electrode has been modified with low platinum content-MWCNT electrocatalyst. The examined electrolyte facilitates the accumulation and stabilization of the gaseous analyte, allowing for its rapid and sensitive detection of the highly active sensing material. Notably, the sensor demonstrates high sensitivity below the mg m⁻³ range, exhibiting linear responses across concentrations ranging from 10 to 70 mg m⁻³ after just 5 minutes of accumulation and 1 to 10 mg m⁻³ after 10 minutes of accumulation under ambient conditions.

The simplicity of the sensor's setup and its robust electroanalytical performance renders it highly promising for various applications in emerging fields such as clinical diagnostics [1], explosive detection [2], environmental monitoring [3], and occupational health and safety [4].

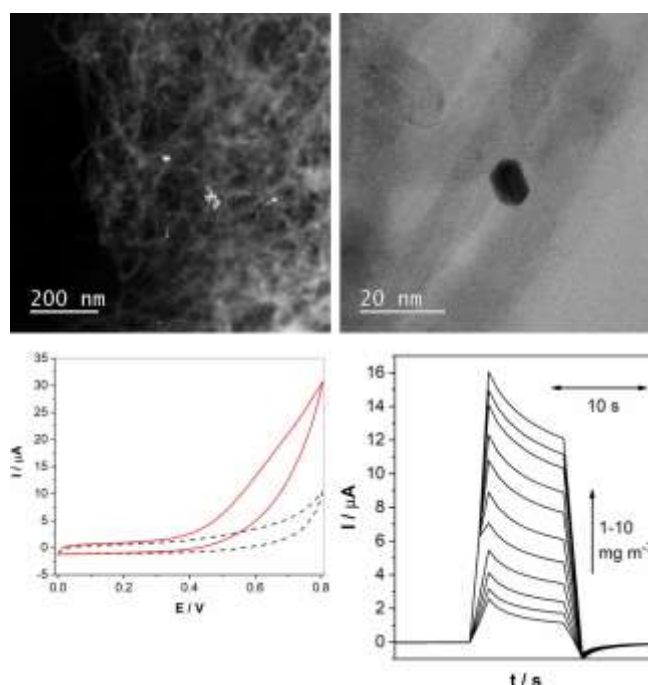


Figure 1. Above, TEM images depicting low content Pt on MWCNT. The bottom left: CV response of the gas sensor in the absence (black dashed line) and the presence of H₂O₂ (red solid line). Bottom right: chronoamperometric response of the gas sensor for different concentrations of H₂O₂, measured at 0.5 V

Acknowledgment: The authors would like to acknowledge the Slovenian research agency and NATO for funding through projects N1-0224, J2-50076 and G5550, and programs P2-0421 and P2-0393.

References

1. H. Kiss, Z. Örlös, Á. Gellért, Z. Megyesfalvi, A. Mikáczó, A. Sárközi, A. Vaskó, Z. Miklós, I. Horváth, Exhaled Biomarkers for Point-of-Care Diagnosis: Recent Advances and New Challenges in Breathomics, *Micromachines* **14** (2023) 391. <https://doi.org/10.3390/mi14020391>
2. W. Wang, H. Li, W. Huang, C. Chen, C. Xu, H. Ruan, B. Li, H. Li, Recent development and trends in the detection of peroxide-based explosives, *Talanta* **264** (2023) 124763. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.talanta.2023.124763>
3. J.E. Giaretta, H. Duan, F. Oveissi, S. Farajikhah, F. Dehghani, S. Naficy, Flexible Sensors for Hydrogen Peroxide Detection: A Critical Review, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces* **14** (2022) 20491-20505. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acsami.1c24727>
4. G.I. Walters, P.S. Burge, V.C. Moore, M.O. Thomas, A.S. Robertson, Occupational asthma caused by peracetic acid-hydrogen peroxide mixture, *Occup. Med.* **69** (2019) 294-297. <https://doi.org/10.1093/occmed/kqz032>