



## **Carbon-based sensors for industrial applications**

#### Majlinda Vasjari

Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Tirana, Albania NanoAlb, Albanian Nanoscience and Nanotechnology Unit, Academy of Sciences of Albania







## Electrochemical (bio)sensor as a powerful analytical device

There is a widespread need for the application of electrochemical sensors with good quality and cost performance

This is a continuing demand which can be noticed in the large number of publications in chemistry, reviews and books.

There are more than 6 volumes in **Comprehensive Analytical Chemistry Series** (44, 49, 66, 74, 77), dedicated to electrochemical (bio)sensor designs, characterisations and their important applications in real clinical, environmental, food, and industry related samples.







The electrochemical sensor aplications represent important advantages compared with other sophisticated techniques.

The most important advantages are:

in-situ applications,
cost-effective techniques
easy-to-use techniques
these methods are able to be automated
can provide frequently results
can detect short-term pollution sources,
can be used from everyone, etc.

- Recently the studies are focused on:
- application of new modifiers
- easily preparation techniques (printed sensors)



Sensor-based analysis has attracted considerable interest.







veterinary analysi

## Nhere are (bio)sensors being used?



Clinical diagnosis and biomedicine



Food and drink production and analysis, fermentation control



Pharmaceutical and drug analysis

Pollution control and monitoring



Electrochemical analyses is already a well established research and applied area of analytical chemistry.





### **Different ways to develop carbon-based electrochemical sensors**







## **Composite electrodes Modified Carbon Paste Electrodes**

Widely applicable in electrochemical studies due to:

- \* their low background current (compared to solid graphite or noble metal electrodes),
- \* low cost,
- \* easy preparation,
- \* feasibility to incorporate different substances during the paste preparation,
- \* simple renewal of their surface,





## Modified carbon paste electrodes with plant crude tissue and /or Au-np



metal nanoparticles Au–nanoparticles Ag-nanoparticles, etc

## double modification crude tissues + Au-nanoparticles





## Crude tissue as sources of enzyme as modifier of CPE

#### Advantages:

the enzyme is in its natural environment higher enzyme activity compared with biosensors modified with purified enzyme cofactors may be already present may be used without preparatory work simplicity of the biosensor construction & low cost **Disadvantages:** the tissue contains more than one enzime

(problem with selectivity ? ?

## Role of Au-np in CPE modified with enzyme

The structure of PPO enzyme consists in a dense protein layer around its active sites, like a barrier for the electron transfer.

Introducing Au-np into the carbon paste electrode a more efficient electron transfer between the active sites of the enzyme and the electrode is obtained.

Modified sensors using the enzyme and the Au-np are developed for phenolic compounds determinations (Very toxic, Persistence in the environment, highly soluble in water).





## **Preparation procedure of modified CPE**

The graphite powder, paraffin and modifiers (mushroom tissue and/or Au-np solution, zeolite, ilmenite, etc), were mix gently for several minutes, together until a uniform paste was obtained.

The (un)modified paste was kept in a refrigerator at 4°C for 24 hours before measurement.

The carbon paste was packed into the plastic syringe with internal diameter 8 mm and outer 9.5 mm containing a copper wire as the external electric contact.

## **Objectives:**

- Construction of home made (bio)sensor for phenolic compounds, HM,
- > Optimization of carbon paste komponents
- Analytical performance of the bio)sensors

A glass surface was used to smooth the surface of the electrode before the measurements.

**Broli N, Vasjari M. 2013.** Hacettepe Journal of Biology and Chemistry, Vol 41, Issue 3, pp 187-193. **Vasjari M, Broli N. 2014,**International Conference: New frontiers of nanomaterial technologies for applications in biology and medicine, 10 – 11 July 2014, Tirana, Albania.





# Carbon paste electrode modified with banana.





#### Unmodified CPE



#### Modified CPE with crude tissue and Au-np



	Sensitivity (μA/ppm)	Linear range (ppm)	(R)	L. D. (ppm)	S <sub>D</sub> (ppm)
СРЕ	0.3014	1.4-15.7	0.99558	1.24	0.6324
CPE-Enzyme	0.4218	1.4-15.7	0.99743	0.73	0.5517
CPE-Au.np	0.5556	1.4-25.5	0.99663	0.18	0.1977
CPE-Enzym-Au.np	0.6443	1.4-25.5	0.99867	0.11	0.4134



## Voltamogrames recorded in 9.4ppm catechol

(other experimental conditions are the same),

The current (I  $\mu$ A), is increased in the following order:

ICPE < ICPE+CT <ICPE+Au np < ICPE+CT+Au np,

**Redox potential** is shifted to lower values due to the activity of Au np from 0.42V to 0.38V



1 - unmodified CPE;

- 2 modified CPE with crude tissue;
- 3 modified CPE with Au np;
- 4 modified CPE with
  - crude tissue and Au np.



The modified biosensor with Au np retained successively 85% and 75% of its initial response after 24 and 36 days.

Determination of catechol in green tea

- \* water extraction 141 ± 8.3 mg/L
- \* phosphate buffer solution extraction 478.5±6.8 mg/L The calculated recovery was between 89% and 92%

Broli, N. Vasjari, M. (2017). Journal of Natural and Technical Sciences. JNTS No 43 / 2017, pp 57-72







## Behavior of the modified sensor towards other phenolic compounds

	Sensitivity (µA/ppm)	Linear range (ppm)	(R)	Limit of detection (ppm)	S <sub>D</sub> (ppm)	Relative response %
catechol	0.64436	1.4-24.45	0.99867	0.11	0.41	100.0
hydroquinone	0.52184	1.4-25.45	0.99316	0.14	0.39	81.0
m-cresol	0.46744	1.4-6.6	0.94914	1.13	0.73	72.6
o-cresol	0.44828	3.3-9.4	0.98021	2.43	1.83	69.6
nitro-4-phenol	0.45352	0.7-9.4	0.97121	0.57	0.50	70.4
nitro-3-phenol	0.49641	0.7-6.6	0.97593	0.34	0.47	77.1
chloro -4-phenol	0.51712	1.4-15.7	0.95042	0.23	1.19	80.3





## **Modified CPE for determination of propranolol**

#### **Objectives:**

- Construction of home made sensor for propanolol
- Optimization of ration between carbon modifier (Ilmenit/zeolit)
- Analytical performance of the sensors
- Determination of propanolol in pharmaceutics tablets







 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Modified CPE with Ilmenite} \\ \mbox{(particle size ~ 70-90 $\mu$m $)} \end{array}$ 







## **Analytical performance of sensors:**

## unmodified CPE, modified CPE with Ilmenite (CPE-I), modified CPE with zeolite (CPE-Z)

	Sensitivity (μA/mM)	Linear range (mM)	(R)	L. D. (mM)	S <sub>D</sub> (mM)
CPE-I	50	0.2-8.9	0.9969	0.08	0.008
CPE-Z	46	0.6-15.7	0.9919	0.45	0.035
СРЕ	43	0.5-4.9	0.9983	0.5	0.008

#### > Determination of propanolol in pharmaceutics tablets (40mg propanolol/tablet)

	mg/tablet	Spiked	Detected	Recovery
	ing/tablet	propranolol (mM)	(mM)	%
CPE-I	36.5±1.4	1.8	1.82±0.2	101
		3.6	3.54 ±0.4	98
CPE-Z	37.3±1.9	1.8	1.65± 0.22	92
		3.6	3.61 ±0.33	100.2



## Sensors based on surface modifications of GCE for determination of HM

#### **Objectives:**

Determination of heavy metals (Pb & Cu) by ASV using GCE modified with :

a) electrodeposition of the Hg filmb) GCE was coated mechanically bymodifying solution Hg:Naffion



Typical stripping curves for Pb and Cu at different pH a) electrochemical formation of the Hg film b) electrode modified with Hg-naffion film



#### **Results:**

✓ Nafion stabilises the Hg mecanically and facilitates the modification procedures.

✓ Hg-nafion films gives better sensitivity

 $\checkmark$  The procedure based on Hg-naffion film is simpler and quicker

✓ This kind of applications opens the new possibilities for the design of single-use devices using screen-printing procedures





## Screen-printed electrodes for determination of amino acids



#### **Results:**

.

The suitability of SPES for fast analysis of amino acids in commercial pharmaceutical products.



LS V for A)cysteine and (B) thyrosine concentration 2.4\*10<sup>-3</sup>M



Amperometric calibration curves for A)cysteine 0.6V and (B) thyrosine 0.8V





## Screen-printed electrodes for determination of heavy metals; histamine

#### **Objective 1:**

- Determination of heavy metals using screen-printed electrodes.
   Technique:
- Anodic Stripping Voltametry



## Configuration of the SPE:

Three electrodes

in one strip!

Collaboration

✓ Barcelona

✓ Florence

with:

- **Results**:
- ✓ Optimization
- ✓ Determination of Cd in sea water
- ✓ Quality controll based on recocery of analyte additions

#### **Objective 2:**

Determination of histamine using rhenium (IV) oxide as modifier of carbon electrodes:

 modified CP E
 modified SP CP E
 Working el. is SPE

 Counter and reference are clasical ones
 Experiments :

 ✓ in batch system
 ✓ In flow system

#### **Results**:

✓ Determination of histamine in real samples (fish sauce)





## **Selected publication**

Merkoci A. Vasjari M., Fabregas E., Alegret S., *"Determination of Pb and Cu by anodic stripping voltametry using glassy carbon electrodes modified with mercury or mercury nafion films*", **"Microchimica Acta**" 135 (2000),29-33

Vasjari M., Mirsky V.M., "*Calibrated nanoinjections of mercury vapor*", "**Fresenius'Jurnal of Analytical Chemistry**", (2000) 368 727-729

V.Mirsky, M.Vasjari, I.Novotny, V.Rehacek, V.Tvaroyek and O.Wolfbeis, "*Self-assembled monolayers as selective filter for chemical sensors*", "**NANOTECHNOLOGY**", (2002), No.13, f.1-

M.Vasjari, A.Merkoci, J.P.Hart, S.Alegret, "*Amino acid determination using screen-printed electrochemical sensors*", **Microchim. Acta** (2005), DOI10.10007/s00604-005-0361-4 (Springer-Verlag 2005)

M.Vasjari, Z.M.Shirshov, A.V.Samoylov, V.M.Mirsky; "SPR investigation of mercury reduction and oxidation on thin gold electrodes", Journal of Electrochemical Chemistry; 605 (2007)73-76

M. Vasjari, V.M. Mirsky,"*Chemoresistor for determination of mercury vapor*, in: S. Alegret, A. Merkoci (Eds.), **Electrochemical Sensor Analysis;Comprehensive Analytical Chemistry, vol. 49**, Elsevier, 2007, pp.233–249.

N. Broli, M. Vasjari, -" A modified cabon paste biosensor for phenolic compounds".-Journal of International Environmental Application \$ Science. Vol 8, Issue 3, pp 412-418, July 2013.

A. Veseli · **M. Vasjari** · T. Arbneshi · A. Hajrizi ·Ľ. Švorc · A. Samphao · K.Kalcher " *Electrochemical determination of histamine in fish sauce using heterogeneous carbon electrodes modified with rhenium (IV) oxide*" Feb 2016 · **Sensors and Actuators B Chemical** Volume 228, 2016, Pages 774–781





# Thank you!

## Prof. Dr. Majlinda VASJARI

Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Tirana Albanian Unit of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology – NanoAlb majlinda.vasjari@fshn.edu.al