

“Bleaching” glycerol in a microfluidic fuel cell to produce high power density at minimal cost

Cauê A. Martins,^{*ab} Omar A. Ibrahim^a, Pei Pei^a and Erik Kjeang^a

^a Fuel Cell Research Lab (FCReL), School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering, Simon Fraser University, Surrey, BC, Canada.

^b Faculty of Exact Sciences and Technology, Federal University of Grande Dourados, 79804-970, Dourados, MS, Brazil.

* Corresponding Author. Phone: +55 67 3410-2100

e-mail: cauealvesmartins@gmail.com, cauemartins@ufgd.edu.br

Table S1. Performance comparison of alcohol fed microfluidic fuel cells.

Author (Year) [Reference]	Category	Electrode type	Fabrication	Additional features	Fuel	Oxidant	Flow rate	Peak potential (mV)	Peak power (mW cm ⁻²)	Open circuit voltage (mV)	Maximum current (mA cm ⁻²)
Arjona (2014) ¹	Liquid/liquid	Flow-by	Multi-layer		EgOH 2	Dissolved	183	210	1.6	0.53 V	6.3
Maya-Cornejo (2015) ²	Liquid/liquid+gaseous	Flow-through & flow- breathing	Multi-layer	Cu@Pd (anode)	MeOH 0.3 M	O ₂ in 0.3 M KOH	(anolyte); 50	KOH		17.1	610
Maya-Cornejo (2015) ²	Liquid/liquid+gaseous	Flow-through & flow- breathing	Multi-layer	Cu@Pd (anode)	EtOH 0.1 M	Dissolved O ₂ in 0.3	200	M KOH + air	100	25.75	670
Maya-Cornejo (2015) ²	Liquid/liquid+gaseous	Flow-through & flow- breathing	Multi-layer	Cu@Pd (anode)	EgOH 0.1 M	Dissolved O ₂ in 0.3	50	M KOH + air	100	19.95	653

Maya-Cornejo (2015) ²	Liquid/liquid+gaseous	Flow-through & flow-through + air breathing	Multi-layer	Cu@Pd/C (anode)	GIOH 0.1 M in 0.3	Dissolved O ₂ in 0.3	100 (anolyte); in 0.3 M KOH + 66.7		20.43	622	111.95
Maya-Cornejo (2016) ³	Liquid/liquid+gaseous	Flow-through & flow-through + air breathing	Multi-layer	Cu@Pt/C (anode); Pt/C (cathode)	GIOH 5% in 0.3 M	Dissolved O ₂ in 0.3 M KOH +	33.4 370	23.16	791	104.10	
Dector (2013) ⁴	Liquid/liquid+gaseous	Flow-by	Multi-layer	Pd/MWCNTs (anode); Pt/C (cathode)	GIOH 0.1 M in 0.3	Dissolved O ₂ in 0.3 M KOH +	333.3 1666.7	0.70	550	5	
Hollinger (2013) ⁵	Liquid/gaseous	Flow-by	Multi-layer	Pt/Ru//C (anode); Pt/C (cathode)	1 M MeOH in 1 M H ₂ SO ₄	O ₂	300	10.9	~700	~100	
Miao (2017) ⁶	Liquid/liquid	Microtubular	Monolithic	TiO ₂ -Pt-RuO ₂ (anode); Pt (cathode)	MeOH 2 M in 0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	Dissolved O ₂ in 0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	0.16 275	257	620	936	
Xin (2012) ⁷	Liquid/gaseous	AEM		Au/C (anode); 80 °C	GIOH 1M in 2M	O ₂	4 10 ⁵	57.9	670	~400	

KOH											
Benipal (2017) ⁸	Liquid/gaseous	AEM	PdAg/CNT (anode); 80 °C	GIOH 1M in 6 M KOH	O ₂	4 10 ³ (anolyte); 2 10 ⁵ (O ₂)		277.7	880	~900	
Qi (2013) ⁹	Liquid/gaseous	AEM	PtCo/CNT (anode); 80 °C	GIOH 3M in 6 M KOH	O ₂	4 10 ³		268.5	860	~1500	
This work	Liquid/Liquid	Flow-through	Monolithic	Pt/C 1M in 1M KOH	GIOH Bleach in 100 2 M KOH	100	362	71.2	1000	337.3	
This work	Liquid/Liquid	Flow-through	Monolithic	Pt/C; mixed media	GIOH 1M in 1M KOH	Bleach in 100 1 M H ₂ SO ₄	814	315.3	1970	637.8	

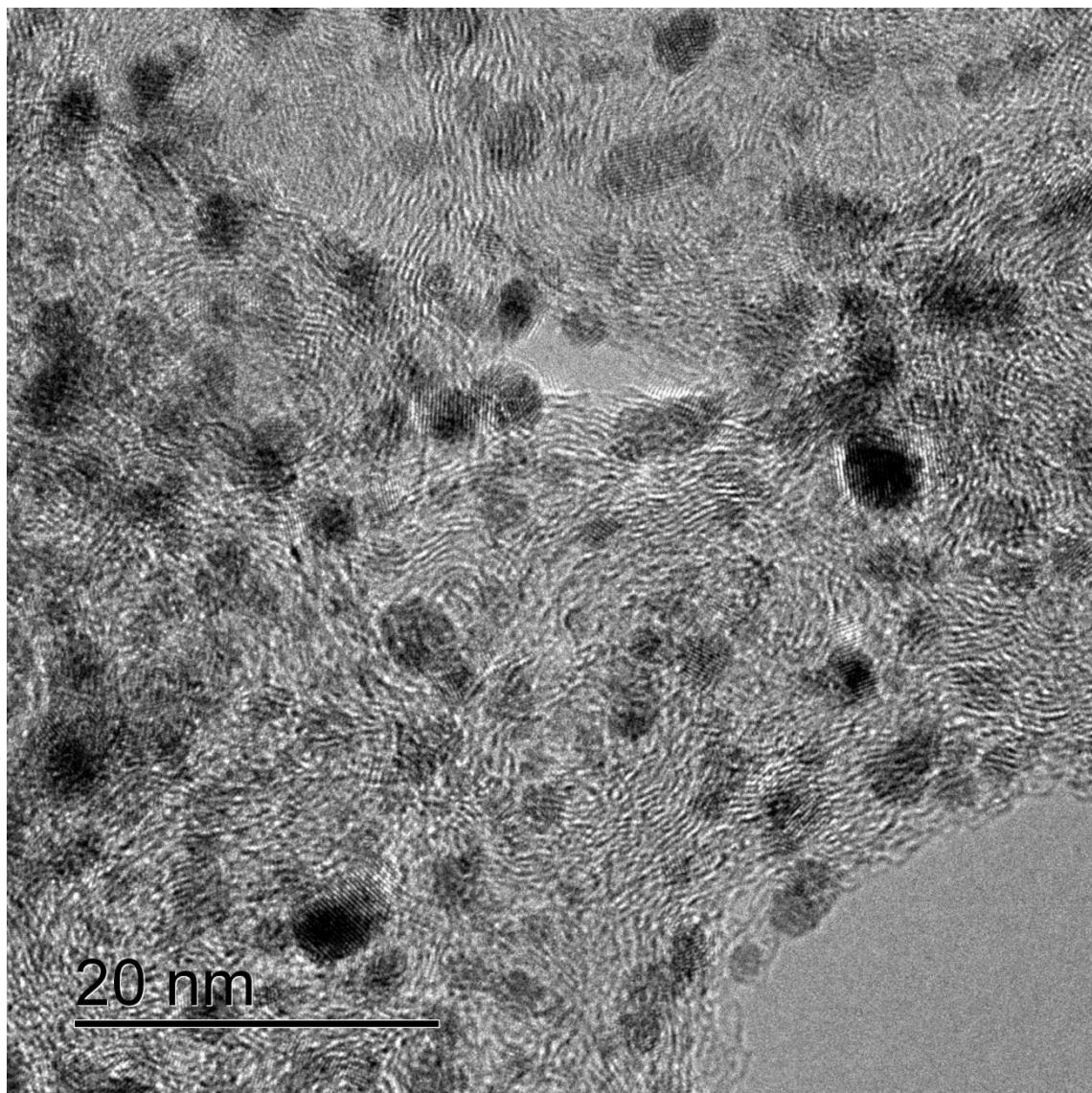


Figure S1. Representative transmission electron microscopy image of Pt/C nanoparticles.

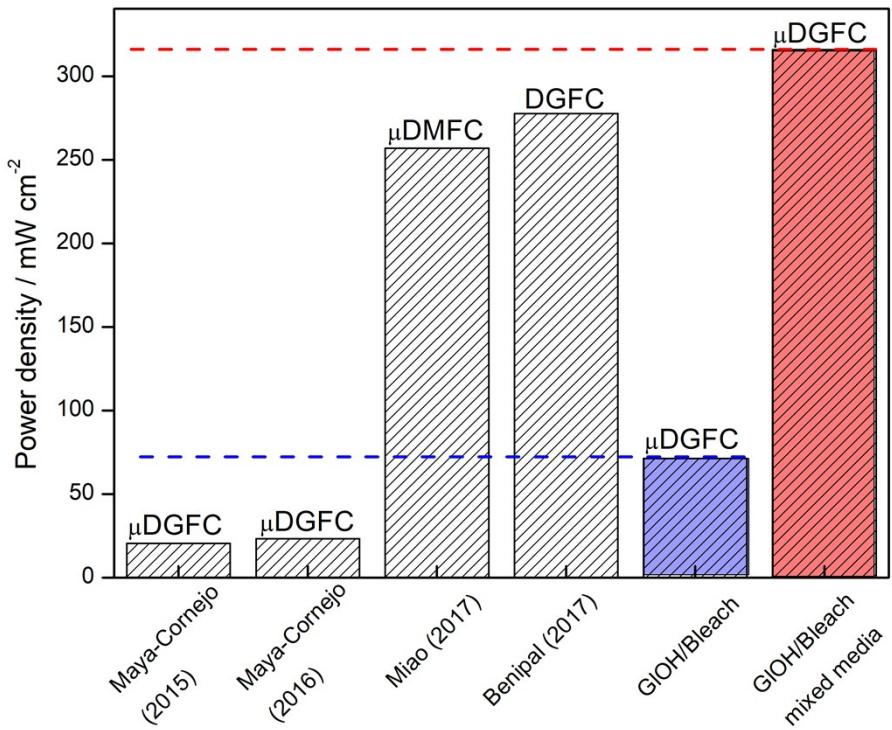


Figure S2. Power density performance of the most active glycerol microfluidic fuel cells (μ DGFC), alcohol fed microfluidic fuel cell (μ DMFC), glycerol fuel cells (DGFC), and the present work (blue and red bars).

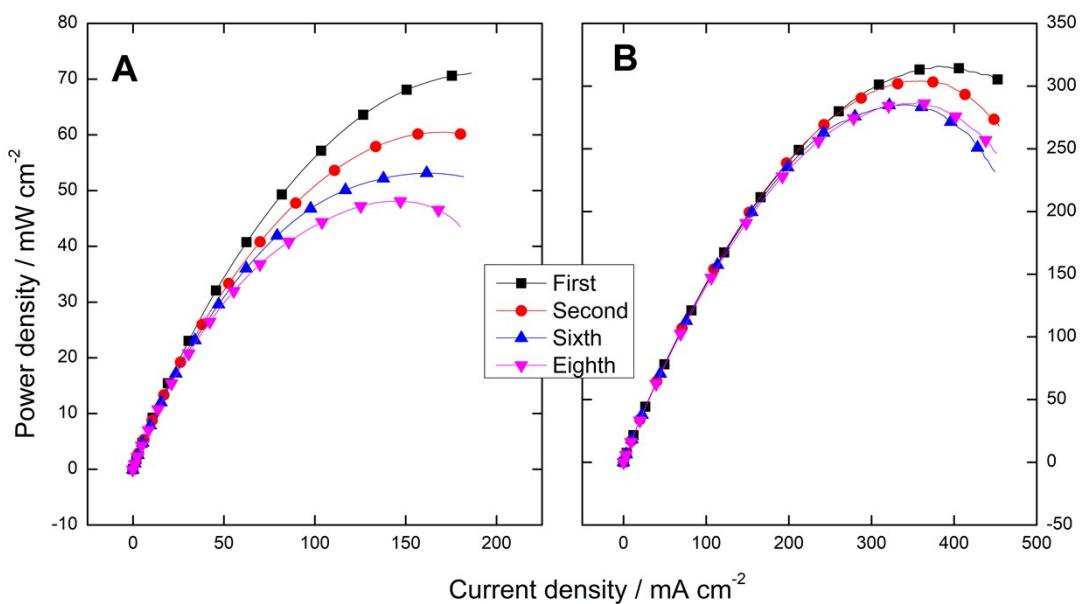


Figure S3. Successive power density curves for the GIOH/Bleach microfluidic fuel cell in (a) all-alkaline and (b) mixed media with Pt/C/CP as anode and cathode. Polarization curves were measured with 1 M glycerol in 1 M KOH as anolyte and bleach in 2 M KOH (all-alkaline) or 1 M H_2SO_4 (mixed media) as catholyte. All solutions were N_2 -saturated and supplied at a flow rate of $100 \mu L min^{-1}$.

REFERENCES

- 1 N. Arjona, A. Palacios, A. Moreno-Zuria, M. Guerra-Balcázar, J. Ledesma-García and L. G. Arriaga, *Chem. Commun.*, 2014, **50**, 8151–8153.
- 2 J. Maya-Cornejo, E. Ortiz-Ortega, L. Álvarez-Contreras, N. Arjona, M. Guerra-Balcázar, J. Ledesma-García and L. G. Arriaga, *Chem. Commun.*, 2015, **51**, 2536–2539.
- 3 J. Maya-Cornejo, M. Guerra-Balcázar, N. Arjona, L. Álvarez-Contreras, F. J. Rodríguez Valadez, M. P. Gurrola, J. Ledesma-García and L. G. Arriaga, *Fuel*, 2016, **183**, 195–205.
- 4 A. Dector, F. M. Cuevas-Muñiz, M. Guerra-Balcázar, L. A. Godínez, J. Ledesma-García and L. G. Arriaga, *Int. J. Hydrot. Energy*, 2013, **38**, 12617–12622.
- 5 A. S. Hollinger and P. J. A. Kenis, *J. Power Sources*, 2013, **240**, 486–493.
- 6 S. Miao, S. He, M. Liang, G. Lin, B. Cai and O. G. Schmidt, *Adv. Mater.*, 2017, **29**, n/a-n/a.
- 7 Z. Zhang, L. Xin and W. Li, *Int. J. Hydrot. Energy*, 2012, **37**, 9393–9401.
- 8 N. Benipal, J. Qi, J. C. Gentile and W. Li, *Renew. Energy*, 2017, **105**, 647–655.
- 9 J. Qi, L. Xin, Z. Zhang, K. Sun, H. He, F. Wang, D. Chadderton, Y. Qiu, C. Liang and W. Li, *Green Chem.*, 2013, **15**, 1133–1137.