



Department of Materials Science and Engineering Seminar Series 2024

Molten Salt CO₂ Reduction Reaction to Value-added Carbon Nanostructures

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Abstract

The electrochemical CO₂ reduction reaction (CO₂RR) embodies a promising strategy to transform CO₂ into fuels and chemical feedstocks. Nevertheless, these products may cause CO₂ re-emission upon combustion, emphasizing the need for CO₂-negative strategies to selectively transform CO₂ into value-added products without re-emission. To this end, the molten salt CO₂RR (MSCO₂RR) enables CO₂ transformation into solid-state nanostructured carbons that can be collected easily, stored permanently, and utilized with a low carbon footprint. However, previous reported MSCO₂RR-derived carbons, particularly carbon nanotubes (CNTs), have exhibited non-uniform mixtures of carbon morphologies with low selectivity and graphitization degree, limiting applications and commercial viability. Moreover, the graphene synthesis vis MSCO₂RR has not been truly realized and comprehensively studied. Here, several advancements were presented to explore and solve the current bottlenecks in the MSCO₂RR field such as the achievement of MSCO₂RR-derived CNT growth with high purity (~100%) and high Faradaic efficiency (~80%), and the realization of solution-phase CO₂-electroreduced multilayer graphene growth.

Biography

Yu Fei received his M.Eng. degree from University of Science and Technology of China in 2019. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate under the supervision of Asst. Prof. Andrew Barnabas Wong. His research interests focus on molten salt CO₂ reduction reaction to carbon nanostructures such as CNTs and graphene, and their functional applications.

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