SENSORS and TRANSDUCERS

Klas Hjort, Materialvetenskap

(Bio)chemical microtransducers

- Basic considerations
- Principles of detection for (bio)chemical sensors:
 - Chemoresistors
 - Chemocapacitors
 - Chemotransistors
 - Thermal chemical sensors
 - Mass-sensitive chemical sensors
 - Biochemical principles
- Applications

(Bio)chemical sensors

- Basic definitions
 - (Bio)chemical signals \implies Electrical signals $X + M \underset{k_b}{\overset{k_f}{\Leftrightarrow}} (X.M)$
- Change of heat Calorimetric
- Change of charge Conductometric / Amperometric /

Potentiometric

(Bio)chemical sensors

Typical sensor Measurand Principle Resistance/conductance Tin oxide gas sensor Conductometric Ion selective FET for pH Potentiometric Voltage/e.m.f. Polymeric humidity sensor Capacitive Capacitance/charge Electrochemical cell Amperometric Current Calorimetric Heat/temperature Pellistor gas sensor Piezoelectric or SAW sensors Mass Gravimetric Infra-red detector for methane gas Optical Path length/absorption Surface plasmon Resonant Frequency Fibre-optic Intensity Fluorescent

Table 9.1 Principles, measurands and typical examples of (bio)chemical sensors.

Classification of chemical sensors



(Bio)chemical sensor materials

Active material	Examples	Sensing principles	Measurands
Thin oxide layer	SnO ₂ , ZnO	Surface conductance	Combustible gases
Thick porous oxide layers	SnO_2 , ZnO, TiO ₂	Bulk conductance	Combustible gases
Catalytic metals	Pd-TiO ₂ , Pd-MOS,	Surface potential	Н ₂ , СО
j	Pd-MOSFET	Threshold voltage	Н ₂ , NH ₃ , CO
Ion-selective devices	AgCl, AgBr	Electrochemical potential	Cl ⁻ , Br ⁻
Catalytic coating	ThO ₂ /Al ₂ O ₃	Heat of combustion	H ₂ , CH ₄
Organic films	Substituted phthalocyanines	Bulk conductance	NO _x
Langmuir-Blodgett films	Steric acid	Piezoelectric/SAW	Various polar molecules
Conducting polymers	Poly(pyrrole)	Bulk conductance /mass	Polar compounds, NH ₃

Table 9.2 Some common materials used in (bio)chemical microsensors.

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Principles of biochemical sensors



Chemoresistors



Tin oxide gas sensors



 Table 9.3 Commercial tin oxide gas sensors [9.3].

Model	Category	Measurand	Range (ppm)
TGS 815	Combustible gases	Methane	500 to 10,000
TGS 821	Combustible gases	Hydrogen	50 to 1,000
TGS 824	Toxic gases	Ammonia	30 to 300
TGS 825	Toxic gases	Hydrogen sulphide	5 to 100
TGS 822	Organic solvents	Alcohol, toluene	50 to 500
TGS 830	CFCs	R-113, R-22	100 to 3,000
TGS 800	Air quality	Cigarette smoke	< 10
TGS 550	Odour	Sulphur compounds	0.1 to 10

Chemocapacitors



Chemotransistors





Chemotransistors





Thermal chemical sensors



Thermistors

Analyte	Enzymes	$-\Delta E_{\rm h}$ (kJ/mol)
Cholesterol	Cholesterol oxidase	52.9
Glucose	Glucose oxidase (GOx)	80.0
H ₂ O ₂	Catalase	100.4
Lactate	Lactate oxidase	-
Urea	Urease	6.6
Lipids	Lipase	-
Peptides	Trypsin	-
ATP	ATPase	-

 Table 9.5 Molar enthalpies of some common biosensing reactions.

 β -D-glucose + H₂O + O₂ \xrightarrow{GOx} H₂O₂ + D-gluconic acid; ΔE_{h1}

$$H_2O_2 \xrightarrow{Catalase} \frac{1}{2}O_2 + H_2O; \Delta E_{h2}$$
 (9.12)

Resonant mass-sensitive sensors

QCMs - quartz crystal microbalances

AT-cut thickness-shear resonators, typical at 10 MHz, m_{min} 1 ng

SAW - surface acoustic wave devices

Y-cut SAW resonators, typical at 1 GHz, m_{min} 1 pg

	Strychnine		β-ionone	
Coatings	Δm (ng)	Р	Δm (ng)	Р
Uncoated	2 ± 10	10	2 ± 10	10
2C ₁₈ N ⁺ 2C ₁ /PSS ⁻	533 ± 10	2,700	610 ± 10	3,050
DMPE ²	560 ± 10	2,800	540 ± 10	2,700
Poly(vinyl alcohol)	4 ± 10	18	4 ± 10	19
Poly(methyl glutamate)	5 ± 10	25	6 ± 10	30
Poly(styrene)	7 ± 10	35	7 ± 10	35
Bovine plasma albumin ³	5 ± 10	25	6 ± 10	30
Keratin	7 ± 10	35	6 ± 10	30

Table 9.7 Adsorption masses and partition coefficients of 19.3 ppm strychnine or β -ionone for various active coatings on a QCM held at 45°C [9.22].

Applications of chemical sensors

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Table 9.8 Typical applications of chemical sensors.

Field of application	Typical example
Automotive	Engine control, air quality in car, emission
Aerospace	Engine control, air quality in cabin, emission
Agriculture	Fertiliser and pesticide control
Chemical analysis	Laboratory testing of materials
Safety (fire)	Fire warnings in mines, buildings, houses etc.
Process control	Production of chemicals, foodstuffs, etc.
Environmental monitoring	Detection of pollutants in air, water and soil
Medicine	Anaesthetic gases, diagnostics, biochemistry
Customs	Illegal and dangerous substances (explosives)
Quality control	Smell/flavour of drinks, foodstuffs, tobacco

BIACORE



BIACORE - Surface plasmon detection



S-SENCE (Bio)chemical sensor center



Industrial Competence Center at Linköping University:

- High-T sensors on SiC
- New control methods for production quality
- Surveilance of chemical processes
 - Surface plasmon resonance



Nordic Sensor Technologies



Electronic Noses: Arrays of with different materials on the gate







Telair Europe



Model M-SENSE II: Integrated CO / CO₂ / Moisture / Temperature sensor & ventilation controller

