

# Novel electrode PtCr/PAA (polyamic acid) for efficient ethanol oxidation reaction

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# Outline

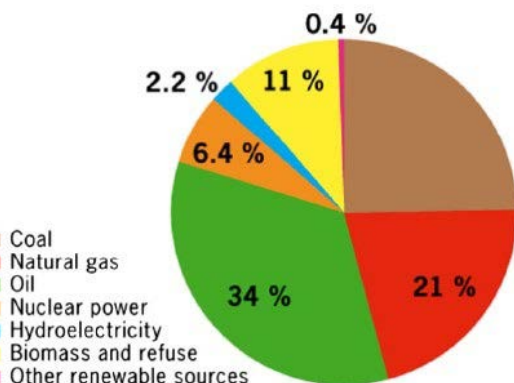
- **Introduction**
- **Objectives**
- **Preliminary Results**
- **Summary & Conclusions**
- **Acknowledgment**
- **Reference**

# Introduction

**SOLAR<sup>10</sup>**  
**23,000 TWy/year**

2009 World energy  
 consumption  
 16 TWy/year

2050: 28 TWy



R. Perez et al.

Solar Energy. *Daylight & Architecture Magazine*. 2009 9. 8-17

renewable

finite

25-70  
per year

WIND

Waves 1  
0.2-2

215  
total

Natural Gas

240  
total

Petroleum

90-300  
Total

Uranium

900  
Total reserve

COAL

3-11 per year  
OTEC

2-6 per year  
Biomass

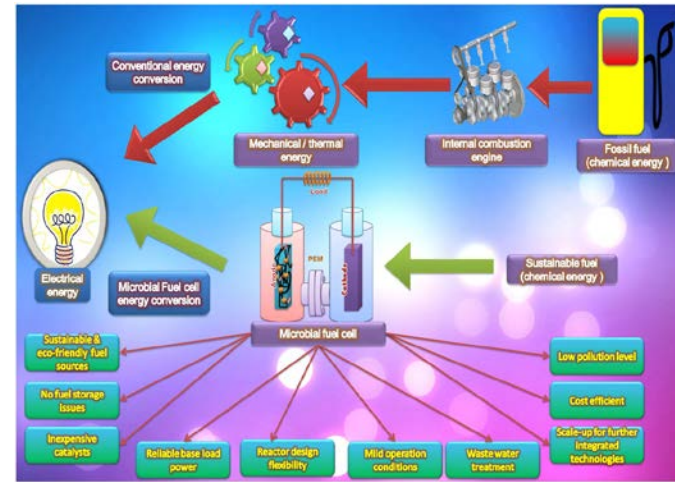
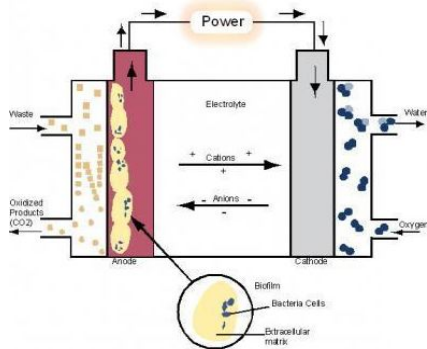
3-4 per year  
HYDRO

0.3-2 per year  
Geothermal

TIDES  
0.3 per year

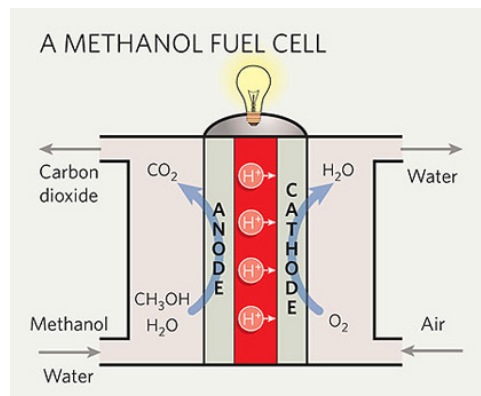
# Fuel Cells

## ❖ Microbial Fuel Cells (MFC):

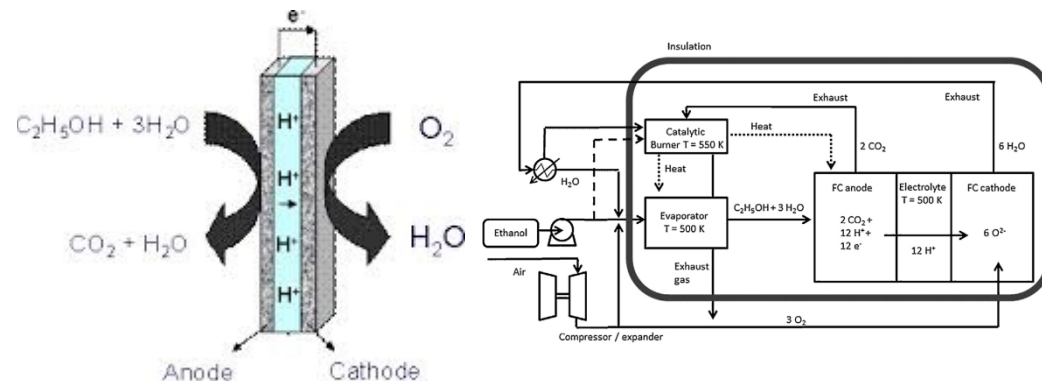


## ❖ Direct Alcohol Fuel Cells :

Direct Methanol fuel cells (DMFCs)



Direct Ethanol Fuel cells (DEFCs)



# Ethanol is a promising fuel in the so-called direct ethanol fuel cell (DEFC)

- ❖ less toxic
- ❖ easy to store and transport due to its relatively higher boiling point
- ❖ has higher energy density due to the nature of 12 electron transfer
- ❖ has been qualified as a substantial energy source since it can be produced in large quantities from agriculture products, even some waste part, like grass.



# Factors Affecting the efficiency of fuel cells

- Design of the device
- Nature of chemical substrate
- The internal and external cell resistances
- The ionic strength
- **The electrode materials**

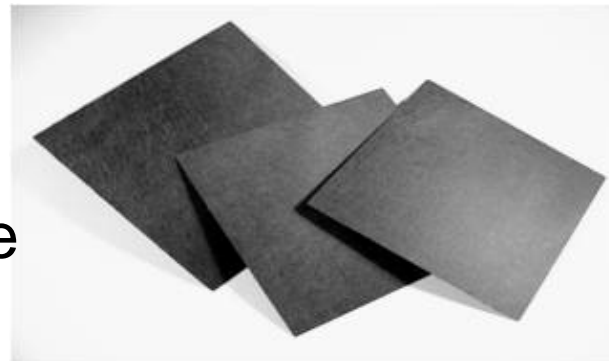
Carbon materials

Catalyst/ Carbon

Challenge : **NOT STABLE**



Nafion  
Membrane



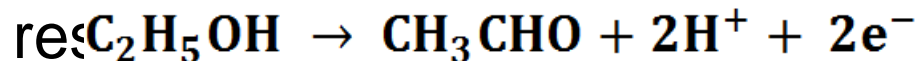
Vulcan  
Membrane

## Objectives- Novel electrode material for EOR

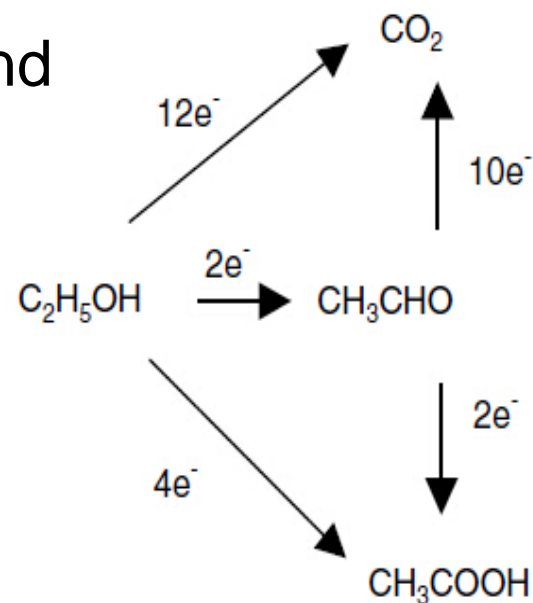
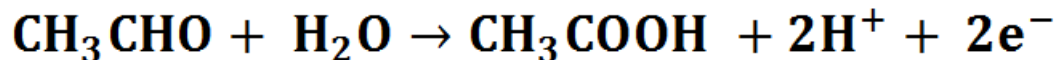
For the electrochemical route, the complete oxidation product is  $\text{CO}_2$ .



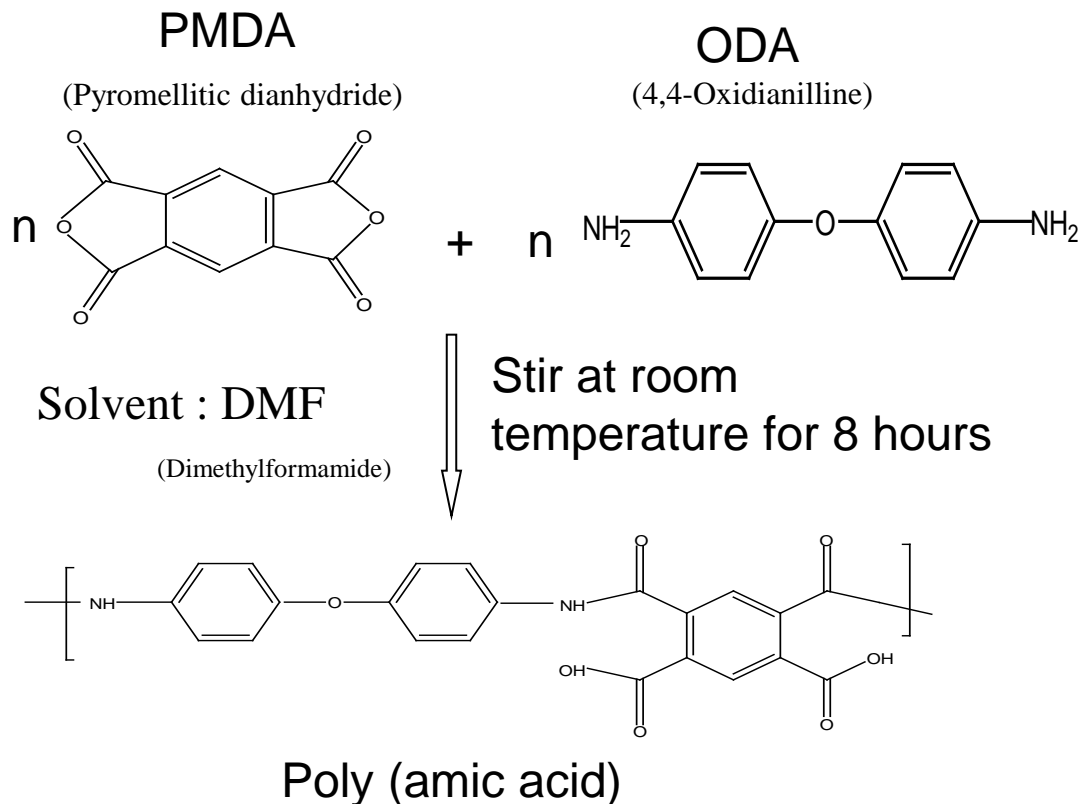
The partial oxidation to acetaldehyde and acetic acid releases 2 and 4  $\text{e}^-$ ,



and



# Novel electrode material PAA/PtCr/ GC



What is PAA ?

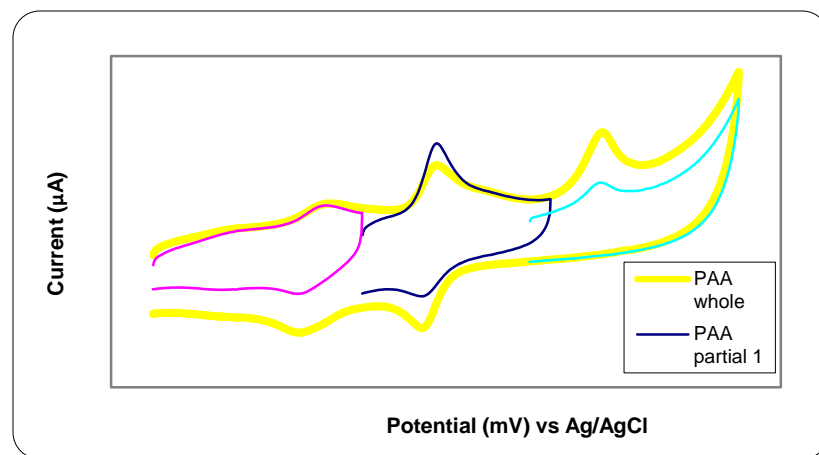
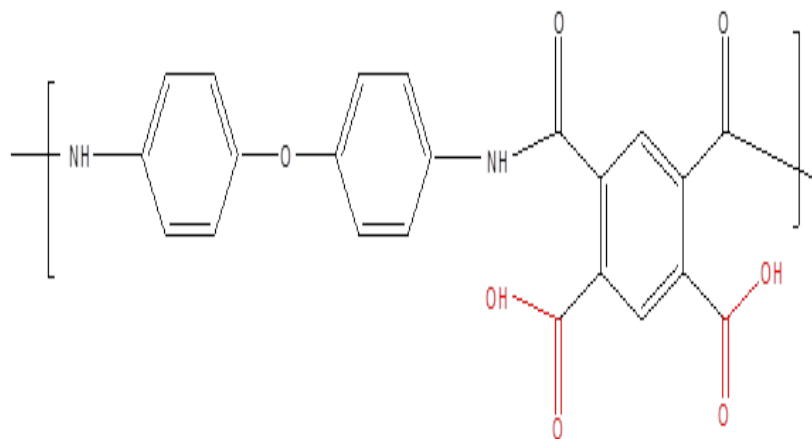


Schematic representation of the formation of PAA .

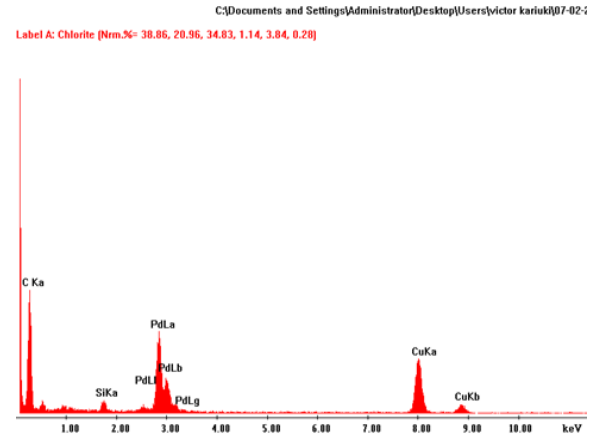
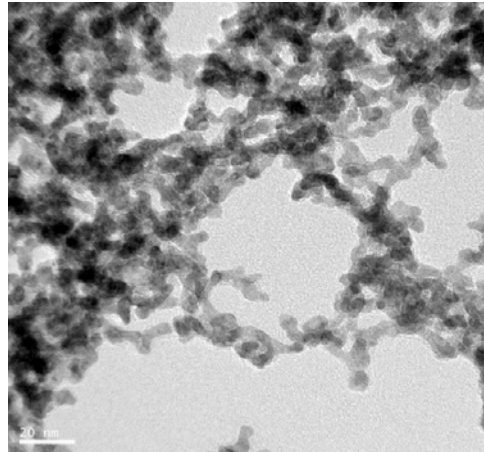
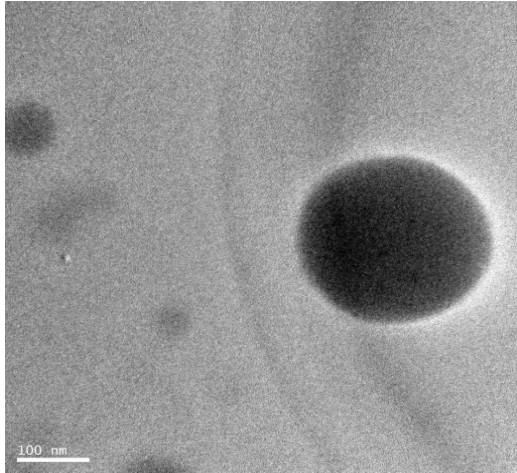


# Why Polyamic acid (PAA)?

- ◆ Conductive
- ◆ Biocompatibility
- ◆ Ease of preparation
- ◆ Flow of electronic charges
- ◆ Redox stable
- ◆ Surface functional groups
- ◆ Permeability

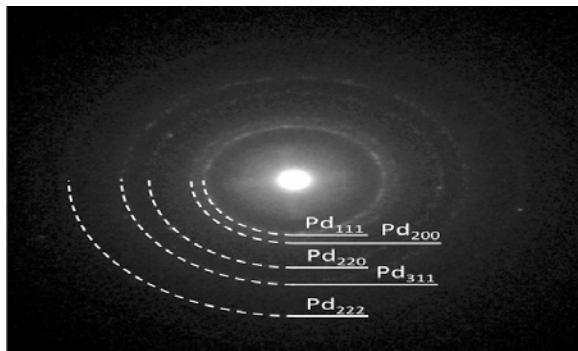


# PAA stabilized the nanoparticles while maintaining wettability

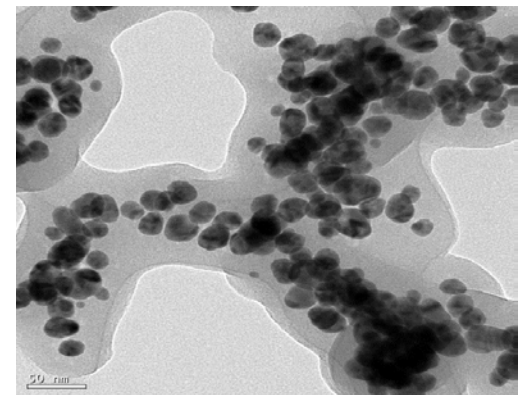
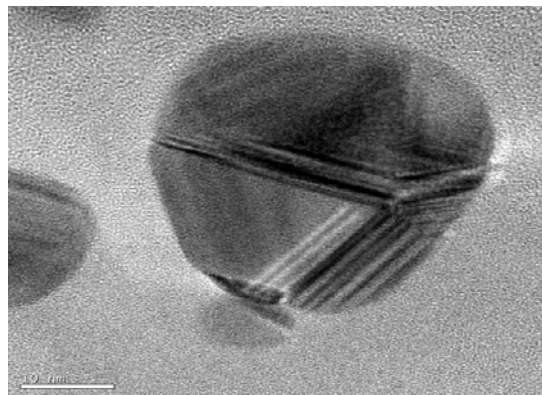


PdNPs stabilized with PAA

PdNPs with no PAA

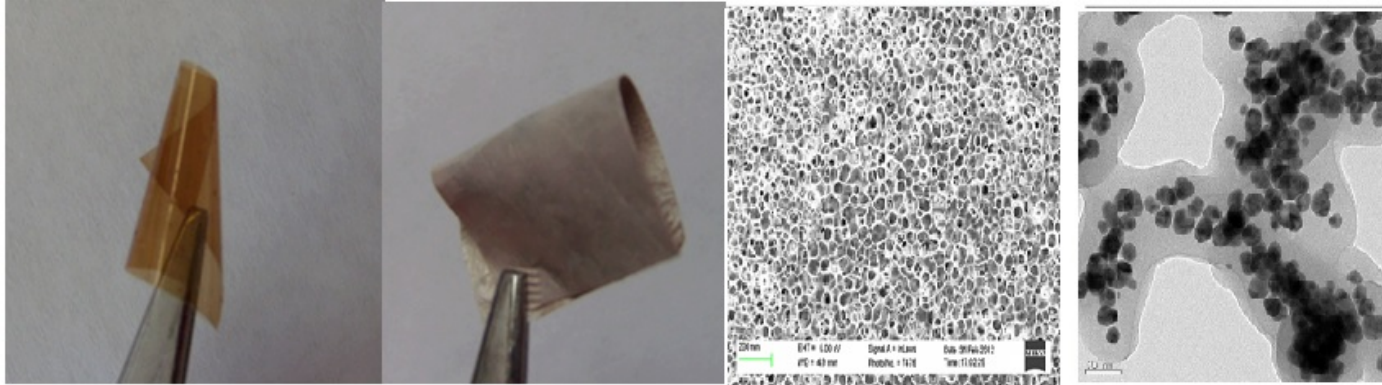


X-ray diffraction pattern shows crystalline particles were formed with uniform size & random size distribution.

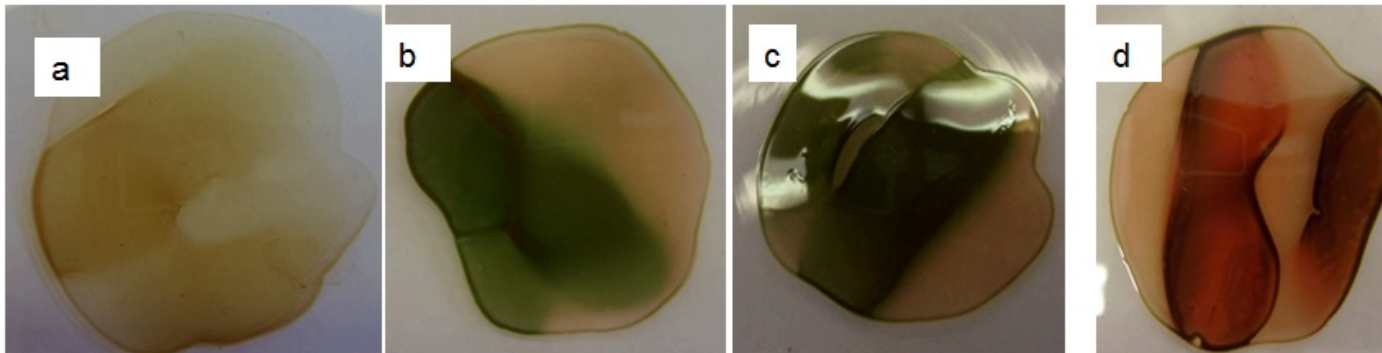


HRTEM of nanosilver with PAA: Particles are twinned with 5 fold symmetry

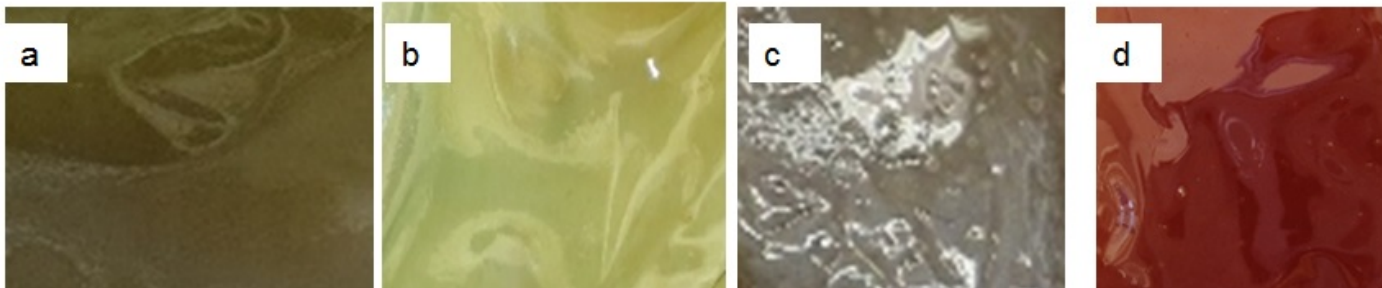
# Classic PAAs



- **Stable :300°C**
- **Flexible**
- **Mechanically strong**
- **Porous**



**Temperature dependence of PAA**  
**a-75 ° C,b-150° C,c-250° C,d-300° C**



**Fluorescent PAA biomembranes:** A- PAA-CS with %0.3 GA, B-PAA-DA, C- l-PAA 15 h incubation D- m-PAA-DA with for 15 h

# Working Electrodes Designed

❖ PAA/GC (Glass Carbon)



❖ Pt/GC



❖ Cr/GC



❖ PtCr/GC



❖ PAA/Pt/GC



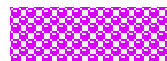
❖ PAA/PtCr/GC



PAA spin coated layer



GC – glassy carbon electrode



Pt particles electrodeposited



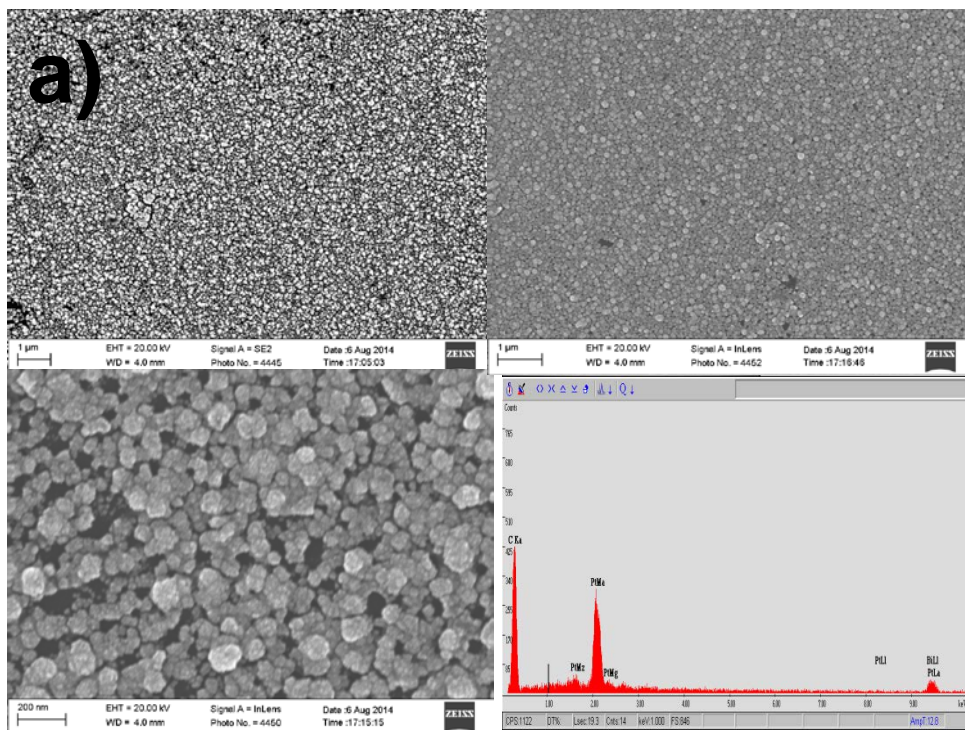
Cr particles electrodeposited



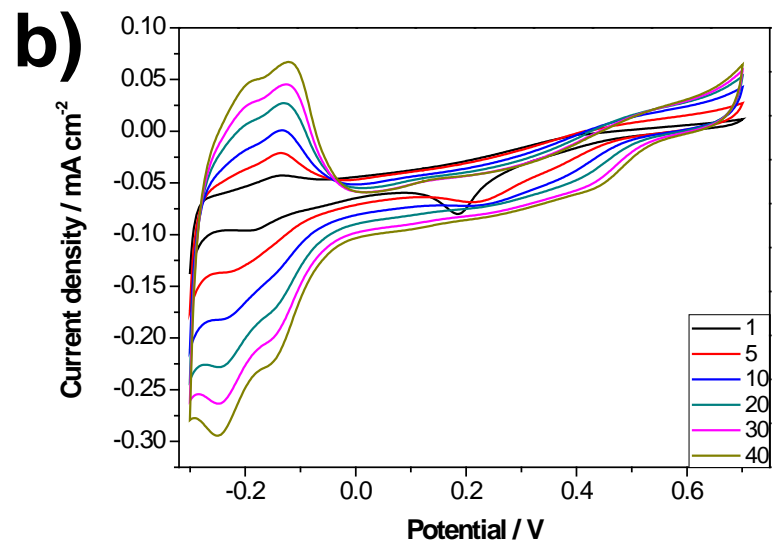
Pt and Cr particles electrodeposited



# Electrodeposition of Pt on GC



a) SEM images of Pt deposited on GC surface and EDS spectra as proof the existence of the platinum; b) Cyclic voltammograms of electrodeposition



## Three-electrode system:

Working Electrode – GC

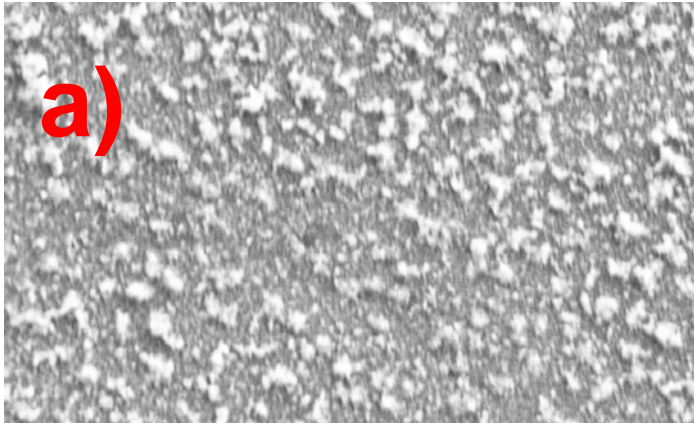
Counter Electrode - Carbon

Reference Electrode - Ag/AgCl

Conditions : 0.01M HCl +  $8 \times 10^{-4}$  M PtCl<sub>4</sub>

Scan rate : 10 mV/S, Sweep 40 cycles

# Electrodeposition of Pt-Cr on GC – CV method



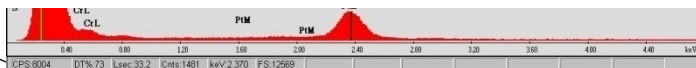
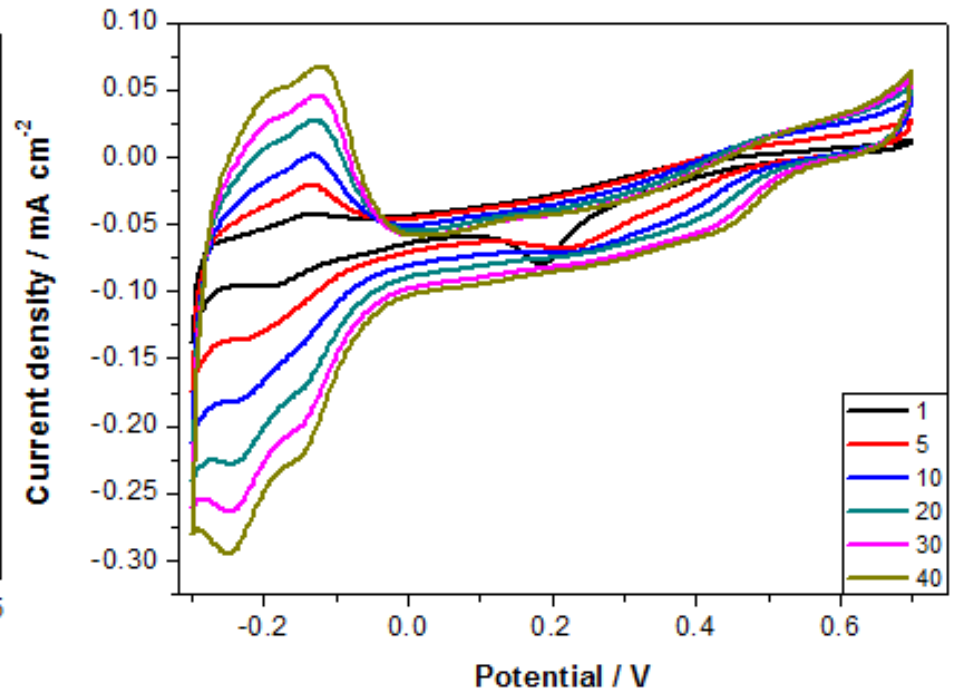
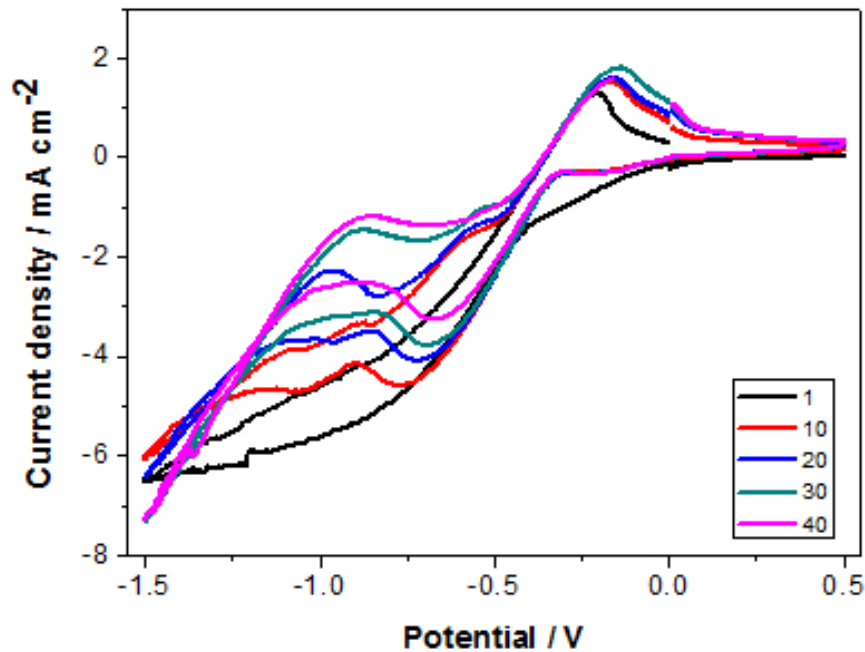
## Three-electrode system:

Working Electrode – GC,

Counter Electrode - Carbon

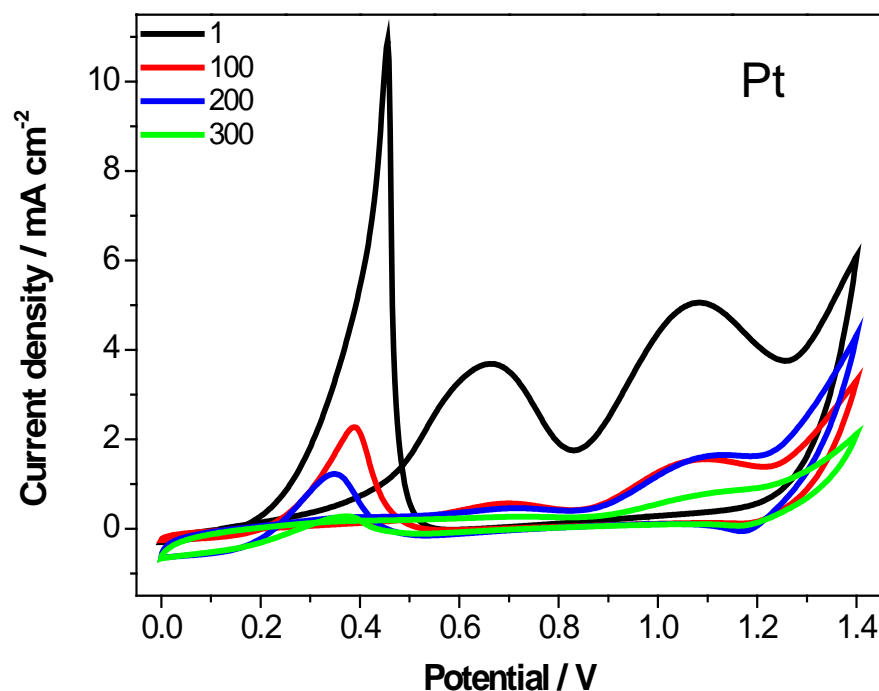
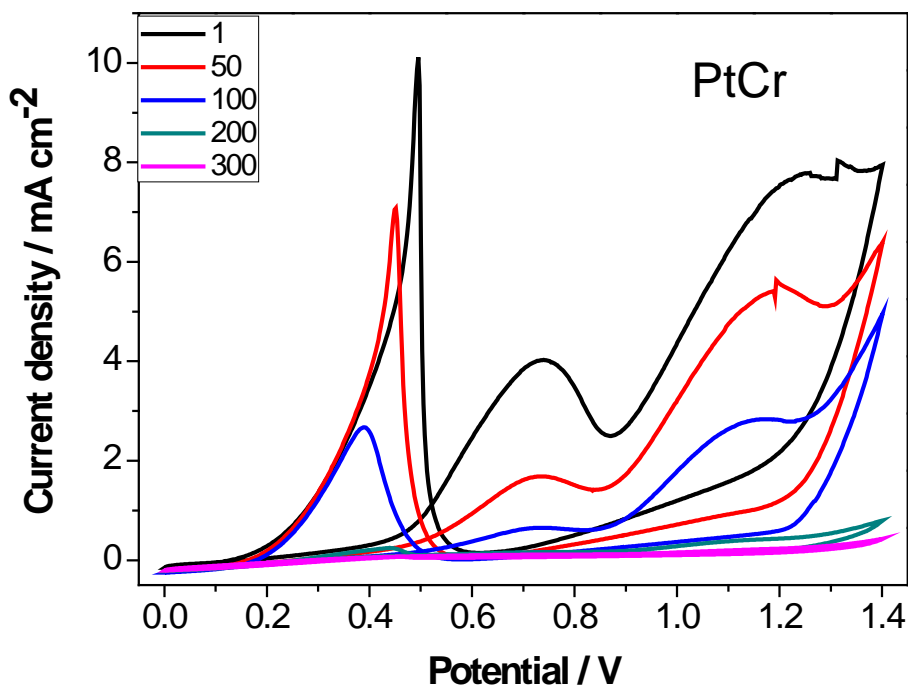
Reference Electrode - Ag/AgCl

Conditions : 0.01M HCl +  $8 \times 10^{-4}$  M  $\text{PtCl}_4$   
+  $2 \times 10^{-4}$  M  $\text{CrCl}_3$

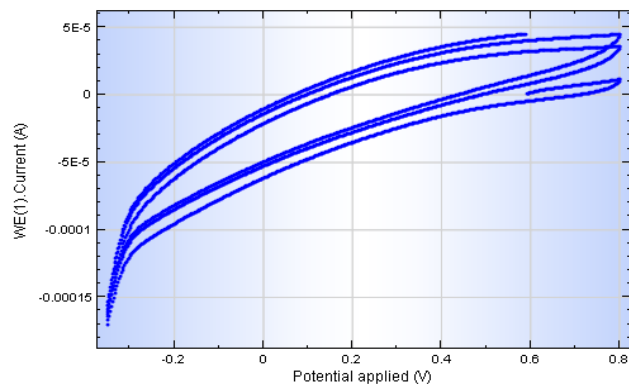


platinum and chromium, by cyclic voltammograms of electrodeposition

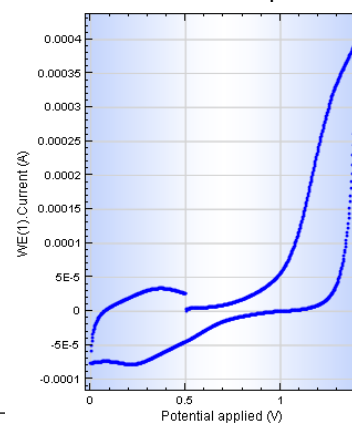
# Study of PtCr/GC and Pt/GC for EOR



Cyclic voltammograms of ethanol oxidation reaction in 0.1 M HClO<sub>4</sub> and 1 M ethanol of PtCr and Pt.

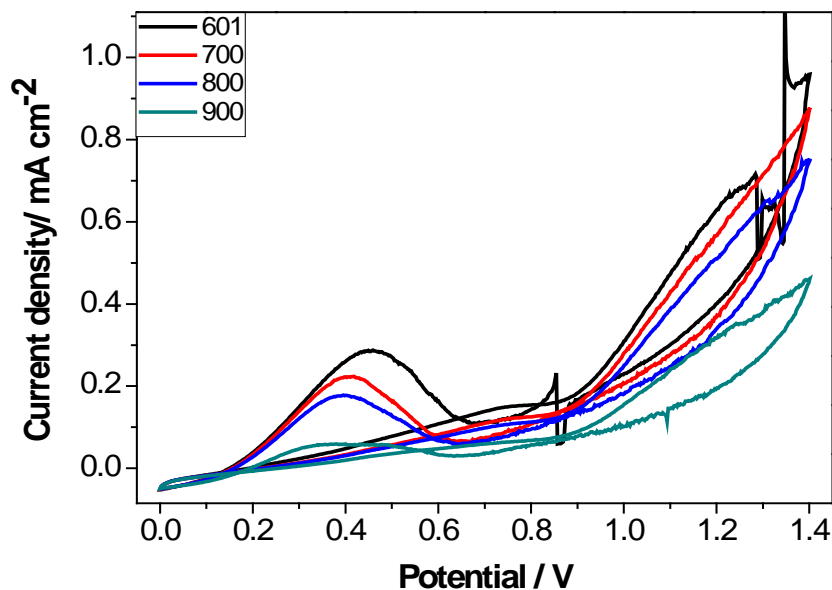
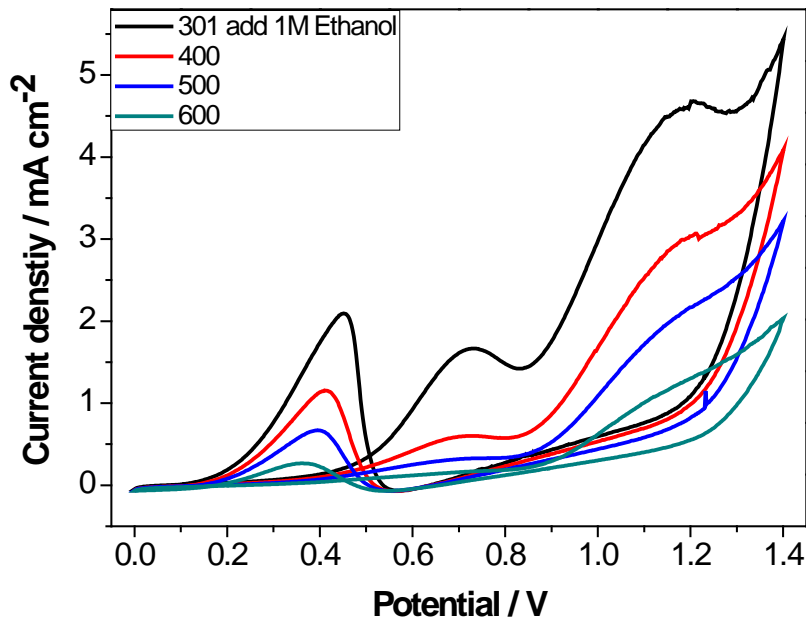
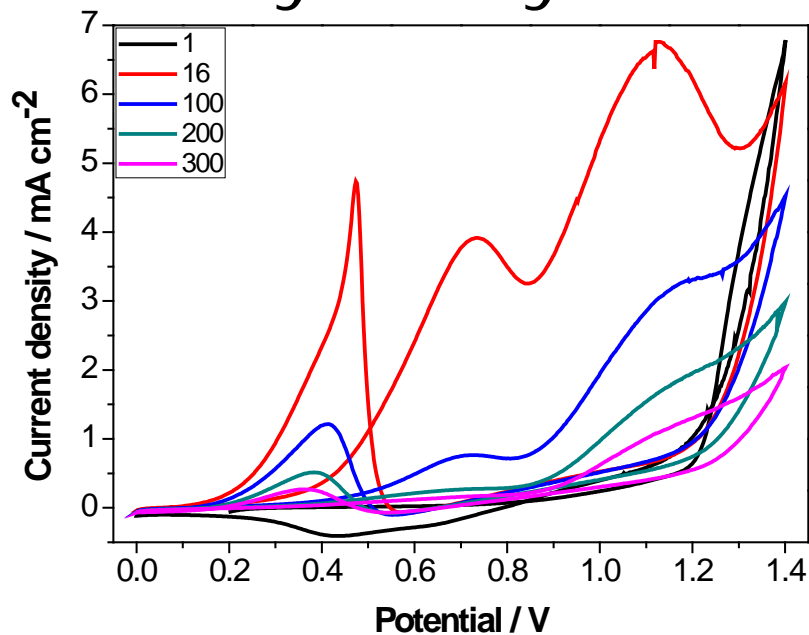


Cyclic voltammograms of ethanol oxidation reaction in 0.1 M HClO<sub>4</sub> and 1 M ethanol of PAA



Cyclic voltammograms of ethanol oxidation reaction in 0.1 M HClO<sub>4</sub> and 1 M ethanol of Cr

# Stability study of PAA/PtCr/GC for EOR



Scan cycles	Current density	Time (h)	Scan cycles	Current density	Time (h)
1	0.00	0.00	500	0.81	38.88
16	4.85	1.24	600	0.25	46.67
100	1.40	7.78	601	0.32	46.74
200	0.86	15:56	700	0.22	54.44
300	0.37	23:33	800	0.18	62.22
301	2.45	23:41	900	0.05	70.00
400	1.12	31.11			



# Summary & Conclusions

- ❖ Catalyst PtCr is more stable on the glass carbon than Pt particles. That will help to improve the efficiency of fuel cell.
- ❖ PAA alone is not active towards the ethanol oxidation reaction. Conversely, the Pt/GC, PtCr/GC and PAA/PtCr/GC electrodes exhibit oxidation currents for ethanol oxidation reaction.
- ❖ After PtCr/GC is coated with PAA, based on the current of ethanol oxidation, the activation of working electrode decreased. This is due to the insufficient conductivity of PAA.
- ❖ Without coating of PAA, the electrodeposited catalysts are very easily lost into solution.

# References

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- ◆ All the group members in our lab.
- ◆ Binghamton University
- ◆ Audience



**Thank You  
for  
Your Attention !**

**Any Questions ?**