

Abstract

CuO-Doped Alginate for Simple Electrochemical Vitamin C Sensing in Sweat [†]

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- [†] Presented at the 8th International Symposium on Sensor Science, 17–28 May 2021; Available online: <https://i3s2021dresden.sciforum.net/>.

Abstract: Heat-exposed work activities or prolonged sport sessions suppose a continuous nutrient loss through sweating, leading to long-term health issues. Among prevention steps, the use of miniaturized sensors for real-time monitoring of micronutrient presence directly in sweat can be of great interest. Here, we propose a flexible sensor for the detection of vitamin C (ascorbic acid) based on a very simple process of electrode modification via electrodeposition of a membrane containing CuO nanoparticles. The reductive effect of ascorbic acid on the nanoparticles produces a shift of the redox peaks in cyclic voltammetry analysis, which can be measured at nearly zero volts as a current increase by amperometry. The detection is performed efficiently at the micromolar ascorbic acid levels found naturally in sweat and works at ultra-low potential (−5 mV), showing no interferences with other typical molecules found in the samples. In combination with sensors for other nutrients, this can be a promising approach for preventive healthcare applications.

Keywords: ascorbic acid; vitamin C; electrochemical detection; biosensor; copper oxide nanoparticles



Citation: Ibarlucea, B.; Perez Roig, A.; Belyaev, D.; Baraban, L.; Cuniberti, G. CuO-Doped Alginate for Simple Electrochemical Vitamin C Sensing in Sweat. *Eng. Proc.* **2021**, *6*, 16. <https://doi.org/10.3390/I3S2021Dresden-10090>

Academic Editors: Gianarelio Cuniberti and Larysa Baraban

Published: 17 May 2021

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Author Contributions: Conceptualization, B.I., L.B. and G.C.; experimental work, B.I., A.P.R. and D.B.; data analysis, B.I. and A.P.R.; original draft preparation; B.I.; supervision: B.I. and L.B.; project administration, B.I. and G.C.; funding acquisition, G.C. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

Funding: This research was funded by the Arbeitsgemeinschaft industrieller Forschungsvereinigungen (AiF), grant number F009438.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.



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