

Assessing the Performance of Continuous-Flow Microbial Fuel Cells and Membrane Electrode Assembly with Electrodeposited Mn Oxide Catalyst

Laura Mais, Michele Mascia * and Annalisa Vacca

Dipartimento di Ingegneria Meccanica, Chimica e dei Materiali, Università degli Studi di Cagliari,
Via Marengo 2, 09123 Cagliari, Italy

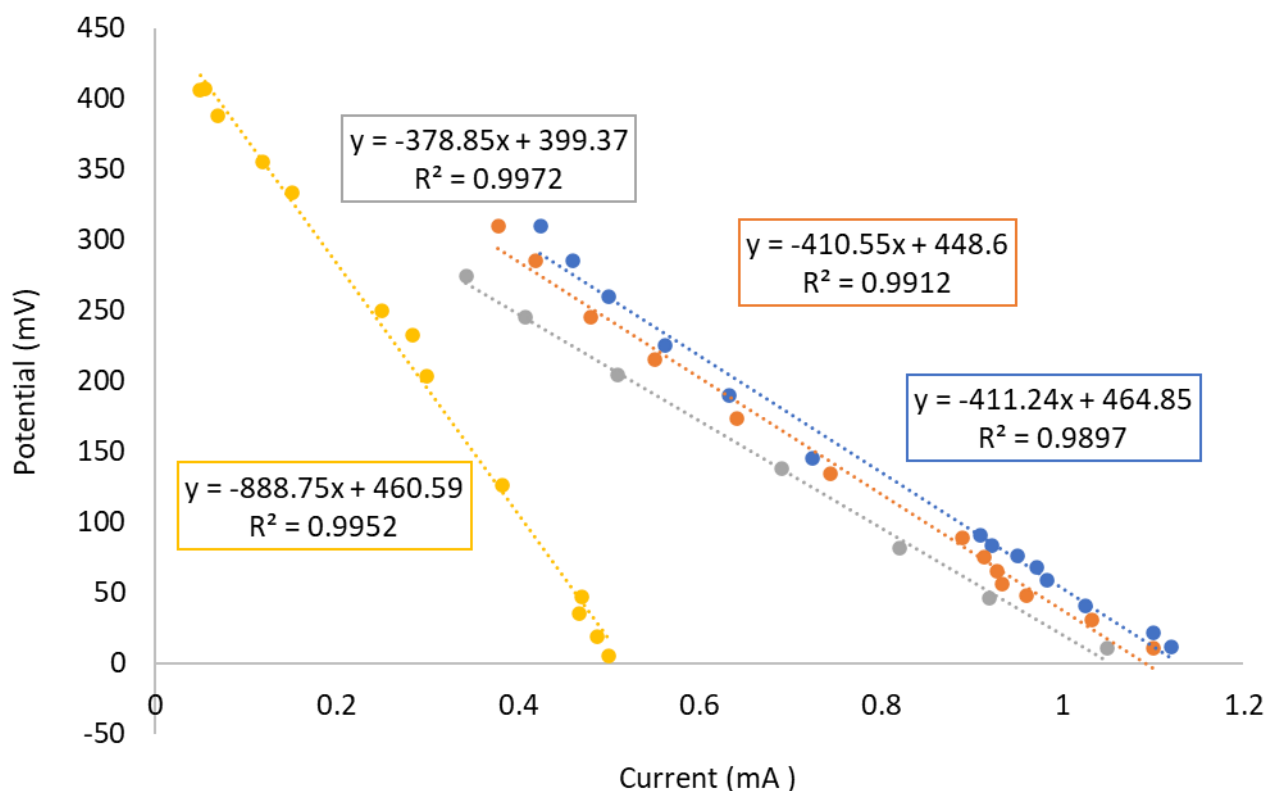


Figure S1: Slopes of the linear region of the polarization curves for the determination of the internal resistances (AC/CB in yellow; Mn100 in grey; Mn20 in orange and Mn10 in blue).

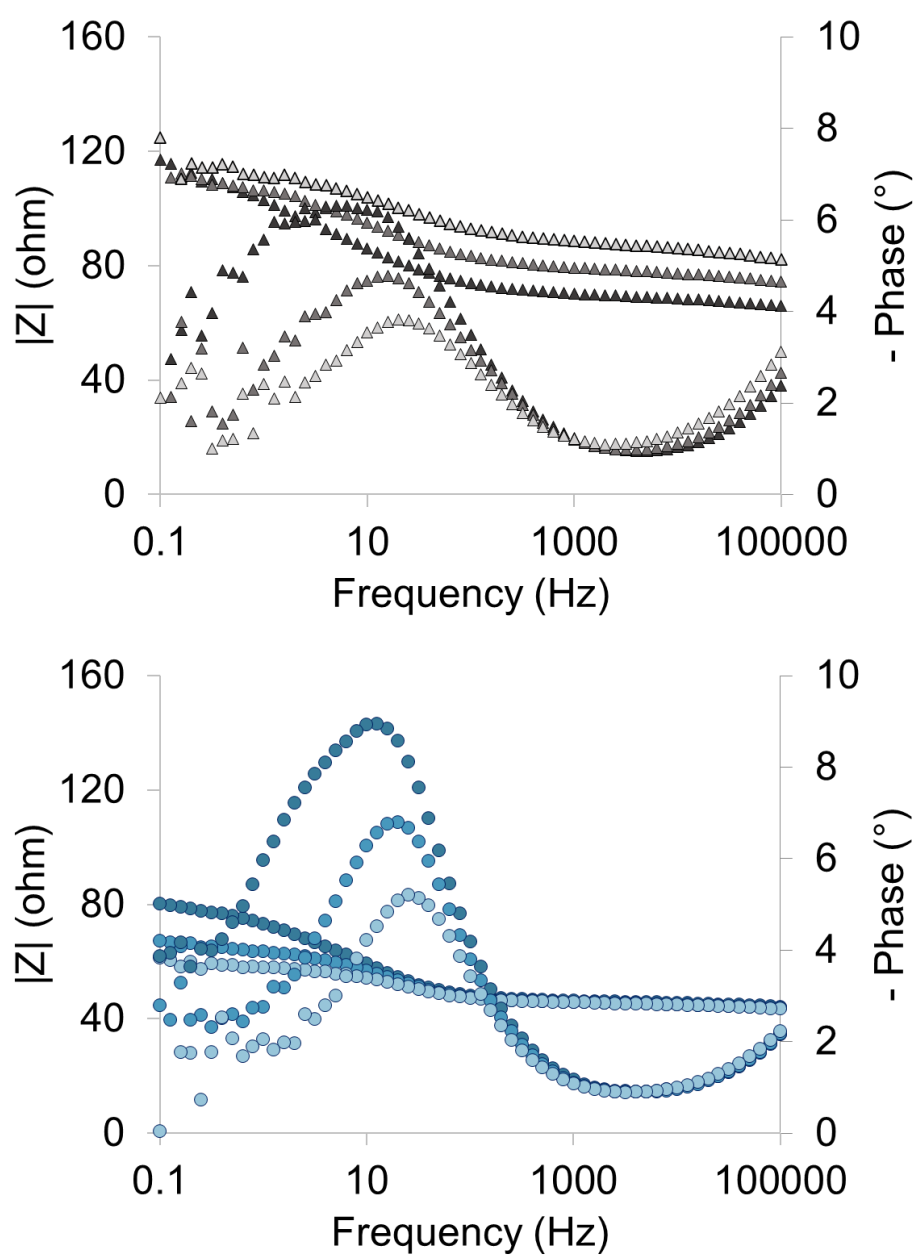


Figure S2: Bode plots obtained from EIS experiments with Mn10 electrodes under dry (black symbols) and saturated air (blue symbols) conditions.

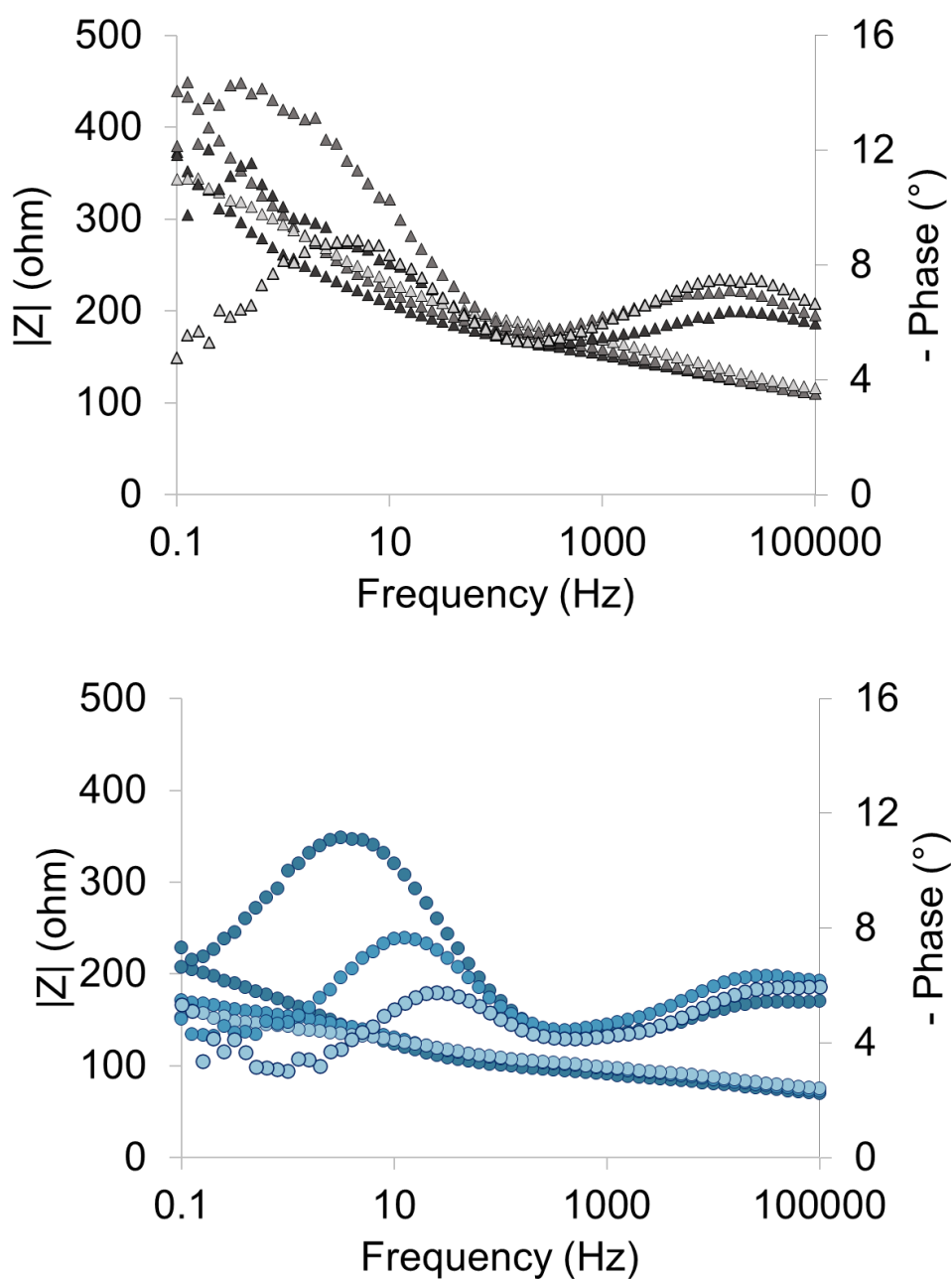


Figure S3: Bode plots obtained from EIS experiments with AC/CB electrodes under dry (black symbols) and saturated air (blue symbols) conditions.

Table S1 a-d: Parameters of the equivalent circuits used to characterise the cathodes

Table S1 a: Mn10 Electrode

	Dry air Potential applied / V			Saturated air Potential applied / V		
	-1.7	-1.9	-2.1	-1.7	-1.9	-2.1
chi-squared (χ^2) K-K analysis	5.24 10^{-5}	5.24 10^{-5}	5.24 10^{-5}	1.56 10^{-6}	7.44 10^{-6}	5.21 10^{-5}
chi-squared (χ^2)	1.11 10^{-4}	1.11 10^{-4}	1.11 10^{-4}	2.80 10^{-5}	1.70 10^{-5}	3.20 10^{-5}
$R_{\Omega} / \Omega \text{ cm}^2$	322	362	401	197.8	194.1	185.7
$Q_{DL} / \text{mS s}^n \text{ cm}^{-2}$	0.76	0.58	0.58	0.54	0.37	0.44
n	0.52	0.56	0.59	0.7	0.6	0.6
$R_{CT} / \Omega \text{ cm}^2$	244	169.5	126.35	155.1	89.5	66.1
$Q_{cont} / \mu\text{F cm}^{-2}$	1.1	0.85	0.76	1.34	5	3.6
n	0.78	0.76	0.83	0.68	0.76	0.75
$R_{cont} / \Omega \text{ cm}^2$	21.25	27.2	35.8	31.1	34	40.5
$W / \text{S s}^{-0.5} \text{ cm}^{-2}$	0.076	0.084	0.06	0.042	0.052	0.076

Table S1 b: Mn10 Electrode after previous EIS series

	Dry air Potential applied / V
	-1.7
chi-squared (χ^2) K-K analysis	1.21 10^{-6}
chi-squared (χ^2)	4.49 10^{-6}
$R_{\Omega} / \Omega \text{ cm}^2$	305
$Q_{DL} / \text{mS s}^n \text{ cm}^{-2}$	0.5
n	0.63
$R_{CT} / \Omega \text{ cm}^2$	157.4
$Q_{cont} / \mu\text{F cm}^{-2}$	5
n	0.48
$R_{cont} / \Omega \text{ cm}^2$	144.95
$Q_3 / \text{mS s}^n \text{ cm}^{-2}$	1.8
n	0.99
$R_3 / \Omega \text{ cm}^2$	112.5
$W / \text{S s}^{-0.5} \text{ cm}^{-2}$	0.04

Table S1 c: AC/CB electrode

	Dry air Potential applied / V			Saturated air Potential applied / V		
	-1.7	-1.9	-2.1	-1.7	-1.9	-2.1
chi-squared (χ^2) K-K analysis	$7.87 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$7.72 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$9.85 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$5.52 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$6.57 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$6.79 \cdot 10^{-5}$
chi-squared (χ^2)	$1.25 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$5.26 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$2.94 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$9.34 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$2.4 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$1.25 \cdot 10^{-4}$
$R_{\Omega} / \Omega \text{ cm}^2$	432.50	453.20	466.00	273.75	269.8	292
$Q_{DL} / \text{mS s}^n \text{ cm}^{-2}$	0.73	0.47	0.31	0.42	0.24	0.31
n	0.35	0.45	0.54	0.59	0.71	0.58
$R_{CT} / \Omega \text{ cm}^2$	2658.50	2605.00	885.50	516	223.45	219.2
$Q_{cont} / \mu\text{F cm}^{-2}$	24.58	18.01	15.94	43.28	41.62	21.74
n	0.41	0.45	0.45	0.39	0.38	0.43
$R_{cont} / \Omega \text{ cm}^2$	347.00	399.25	475.05	218.5	278.5	223.35
$W / \text{S s}^{-0.5} \text{ cm}^{-2}$	0.05	0.05	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01

Table S1 d: Pt/C electrode

	Dry air Potential applied / V			Saturated air Potential applied / V		
	-1.7	-1.9	-2.1	-1.7	-1.9	-2.1
chi-squared (χ^2) K-K analysis	$7.93 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$6.57 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$2.69 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$2.62 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$1.09 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$5.50 \cdot 10^{-6}$
chi-squared (χ^2)	$1.93 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$1.77 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$8.56 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$1.98 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$1.80 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$2.02 \cdot 10^{-5}$
$R_{\Omega} / \Omega \text{ cm}^2$	472.95	454.5	455.3	259.65	254.5	258
$Q_{DL} / \text{mS s}^n \text{ cm}^{-2}$	0.196	0.164	0.17	0.44	0.3	0.34
n	0.6	0.658	0.66	0.59	0.67	0.67
$R_{CT} / \Omega \text{ cm}^2$	1135	726	520	519	270	179
$Q_{cont} / \mu\text{F cm}^{-2}$	3.6	3.2	3.0	6.5	6.6	6.8
n	0.58	0.56	0.53	0.56	0.56	0.56
$R_{cont} / \Omega \text{ cm}^2$	200	251.65	260.85	121.75	130	121.5
$W / \text{S s}^{-0.5} \text{ cm}^{-2}$	0.066	0.068	0.074	0.088	0.134	0.134

Table S2: Parameters of the equivalent circuit in figure 8.

chi-squared (χ^2) K-K analysis	$4.0 \cdot 10^{-5}$
chi-squared (χ^2)	$3.1 \cdot 10^{-6}$
R_{Ω} / Ω	3.35
$Q_A / \mu S s^n$	49.1
n	0.83
R^p_A / Ω	304
$Q_C / \mu S s^n$	17.5
n	0.44
R^p_C / Ω	59.2

Activation of the felt anodes:

- soak the material in pure acetone overnight,
- soak the material in 200 g L⁻¹ ammonium peroxydisulfate and 1M HCl for 15 min
- wash the material in distilled water
- dry the material in muffle furnace at 450°C for 30 min