Research and Reviews in Electrochemistry

Research & Reviews in Electrochemistry
ISSN: 0974-7540

Editorial | Vol 15 Issue 1

Bioelectrochemical Interactions at the Interface of Living Systems and Electrodes

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Received: January 6, 2024; **Accepted:** January 12, 2025; **Published:** January 22, 2024

Abstract

Bioelectrochemistry investigates electron transfer processes involving biological molecules, cells, and tissues in electrochemical environments. This interdisciplinary field connects electrochemistry, biology, and materials science to understand how living systems interact with electrodes. The article examines redox-active biomolecules, microbial electron transfer, and enzymatic electrochemical reactions. Applications in bioenergy, medical diagnostics, and environmental monitoring are discussed. Particular attention is given to microbial fuel cells and bioelectronic devices, where bioelectrochemical principles enable direct conversion of biochemical energy into electrical signals. The growing role of bioelectrochemistry in sustainable technologies and healthcare highlights its scientific and technological importance.

Keywords: ***Bioelectrochemistry, electron transfer, biomolecules, microbial fuel cells, bioelectronics, electrochemistry, rechargeable batteries, electrode reactions, ion transport, energy storage***

Citation: Kenji Nakamura. Bioelectrochemical Interactions at the Interface of Living Systems and Electrodes. 2025;15 (1):292.

Introduction

Bioelectrochemistry focuses on electrochemical phenomena involving biological entities, offering insights into how electrons are transferred in living systems. Many biological processes, such as respiration and photosynthesis, rely on redox reactions that can be studied electrochemically. By integrating electrodes with biological components, researchers can probe these processes in real time. The interface between living matter and conductive materials is complex, influenced by factors such as surface chemistry, biocompatibility, and molecular orientation. Understanding these interactions enables the development of biosensors, biofuel cells, and implantable devices. As interest in renewable energy and biomedical innovation grows, bioelectrochemistry provides a platform for translating biological functions into practical technologies. Traditional electrochemical techniques such as polarization resistance and impedance spectroscopy provide valuable insights but often require system perturbation, which may alter natural corrosion processes. Electrochemical noise analysis offers an alternative approach by measuring spontaneous fluctuations generated by electrochemical reactions occurring on metal surfaces. These fluctuations arise from stochastic events such as pit initiation, film breakdown, and mass transport variations. Over the past two decades, advances in data acquisition systems and digital signal processing have significantly improved the reliability and interpretability of electrochemical noise measurements. As a result, ENA has gained increasing acceptance as a practical tool for in-situ corrosion monitoring in pipelines, marine structures, and reinforced concrete systems.

Conclusion

Bioelectrochemistry offers a unique perspective on electron transfer in biological systems and its technological exploitation. Advances in electrode materials and surface modification have improved the efficiency and stability of bioelectrochemical devices. Continued interdisciplinary research will expand applications in energy, medicine, and environmental sustainability, reinforcing the relevance of bioelectrochemistry in modern science.

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