

Supplementary materials for

Cr(VI) reduction, electricity production, and microbial resistance variation in paddy
soil under microbial fuel cell operation

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Section 1: Preparation of cathode supported by Fe_3O_4 catalyst

Cathode preparation: 100×50×3 mm graphite felt (GF) (purchased from Jiangsu Xinye Electronic Materials Factory, Jiangsu, China) was selected as the cathode material of the SMFC, which was ultrasonicated in ethanol for 50 min to remove impurities, removed, and washed. Then put it into an oven and dried at 60°C for 12 h. It was put into the hydrothermal synthesis reactor and added concentrated nitric acid, and reacted at 90°C for 9 h. After the reaction was completed, the GF was rinsed continuously with ultrapure water to ensure that the pH of the rinsed water was neutral, and dried at 60°C for 12 h to complete the pre-activation of the GF. The Fe_3O_4 catalyst was obtained by dissolving 3.6 g of ferric chloride hexahydrate, 6 g of sodium acetate, and 1 g of sodium citrate in 140 ml of ethylene glycol, and repeatedly ultrasonicated for 2 h to form a homogeneous solution. The pre-activated GF was put into a hydrothermal synthesis reactor: the Fe_3O_4 catalyst was added and soaked for half an

hour and then heated at 200°C for 8 h. After heating, the reactor was cooled down to room temperature, washed repeatedly with ultrapure water and ethanol, and then put into an oven at 60°C to dry for 12 h. The reaction was then dried at 60°C.

Section 2: Python code of Raspberry Pi voltage acquisition system

```
1.  # -*- coding:UTF-8 -*-
2.  from threading import Timer
3.  import time
4.  import RPi.GPIO as GPIO
5.  import datetime
6.  import os
7.  import sys
8.  import xlwt
9.
10. sys.path.append('./modules/')
11.
12. from GetVoltage import get_voltage
13. from modules.ADS1263 import ADS1263
14.
15. GPIO.setmode(GPIO.BCM)
16. CollectTimes = 150
17.
18. def _get_average_list():
19.     """smooth"""
20.     if CollectTimes <= 0:
21.         print("Error number for the array to averaging!/n")
22.         return -1
23.     elif CollectTimes <= 5:
24.         return sum(VoltageArray) / CollectTimes
25.     else:
26.         return sum(VoltageArray) / CollectTimes
27.
28. # clean txt
29. book = xlwt.Workbook(encoding='utf-8',style_compression=0)
30. sheet = book.add_sheet('MFCdata',cell_overwrite_ok=True)
31. col = ('current time','MFC1','MFC2','MFC3')
32. for i in range(0,4):
33.     sheet.write(0,i,col[i])
34.
35. x=0
36. while(1):
37.     x=x+1
38.
39.     time.sleep(1)
40.
41.     VoltageArray = []
42.     for i in range(CollectTimes):
```

```

43.     VoltageArray.append(get_voltage(0))
44.     adc1 = _get_average_list()
45.
46.     #####
47.
48.     VoltageArray = []
49.     for i in range(CollectTimes):
50.         VoltageArray.append(get_voltage(1))
51.         adc2 = _get_average_list()
52.
53.         #####
54.
55.         VoltageArray = []
56.         for i in range(CollectTimes):
57.             VoltageArray.append(get_voltage(2))
58.             adc3 = _get_average_list()
59.
60.             #####
61.
62.             curr_time = datetime.datetime.now()
63.             time_str = datetime.datetime.strftime(curr_time,'%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S')
64.
65.             datalist = [time_str,str(adc1),str(adc2),str(adc3 )]
66.             print(datalist)
67.
68.             for j in range(0, 4):
69.                 sheet.write(x, j, datalist[j])
70.                 savepath = '/home/pi/excel.xls'
71.                 book.save(savepath)
72.
73.     time.sleep(598.5)

```

Section 3: Sampling method

We used a plastic cylindrical straw with a diameter of 0.4 cm and a length of 16 cm as the sediment sampler. The SMFC sediment part is inserted by the sampler vertically at a specific time, and then quickly removed, and the upper, middle, and lower parts of the sampler are mixed as a determination sample. And the fresh sample each time is only 8-16 g, only 0.2-0.4% of the SMFC. The total sampling amount shall not exceed 5% of the total population. Because the sampler is much smaller than SMFC, the disturbance is avoided to a great extent and the normal operation of SMFC is guaranteed.

Section 4: Soil DNA extraction method

Microbial DNA Rapid extraction kit (Shenggong Bioengineering Co., LTD., Shanghai, China) was used to extract total DNA from fresh samples. Specifically, 0.50 g sample, 0.50 g magnetic beads, and 1.0 ml SLX-Mlus Buffer were added in a 2.0 ml Eppendorf tube, and ground for 250 s under 45 HZ. Then added and mixed with 100 μ l DS Buffer, and cultivated under 70 $^{\circ}$ C for 10 min and then 90 $^{\circ}$ C for 2 min. Then the mixture was centrifuged at 10000 g for 5 min at room temperature. 800 μ l supernatant was moved to a new tube and added with 270 μ l P2 buffer and 100 μ l HTR reagent, and then cultivated under -20 $^{\circ}$ C for 5 min and then centrifuged again at 10000 g for 5 min. The supernatant was then moved to a new 2 ml tube added with the same amount of XP5 buffer and mixed upside down for 8 min. After magnetic rack adsorption, discard the residual liquid, remove the tube, add 500 μ L XP5 Buffer, and mix well. Then adsorbed again with a magnetic rack, discard the residual liquid, remove the tube, add 500 μ L PHB, and mix well. Then adsorbed again with a magnetic rack, discard the residual

liquid, remove the tube, add 500 μ L SPW Wash Buffer, and mix well (repeat this step twice). Then the mixture was adsorbed again with a magnetic rack, discard the residual liquid, was centrifuged in the tube under 10000 g for 10 s. Then the beads were adsorbed again with a magnetic rack, discard the residual liquid, and let stand for 8 min. After that, the beads were added with 100 μ L elution buffer, mixed, and let stand for 5 min. Finally, after adsorbing with a magnetic rack, the supernatant was moved to a new 1.0 ml Eppendorf tube, and total DNA was obtained for further use. The PCR reaction system was constructed.

Table S1 Main material dimensions

Material	Length/cm	Width/cm	Area/cm ²
Collector plate	10.5	5.5	57.75
Aluminum foam	6.6	5.4	35.64
GF	10.0	5.0	50.00

Table S2 Primer sequence of HRGs and MGEs

Gene	Primer sequence	Function description	Ref
<i>chrA-F</i>	TCCTTCGGCGGCCCTGCCGGNCARATHGC	<i>chrA</i> encodes a transporter protein involved in chromate efflux.	(Rivera et al., 2008)
<i>chrA-R</i>	GTAGGTGGCCAGCTGCTNGCYTCNGGNCC		
<i>chrB-F</i>	CCGGAATTCATGCGTGTCTGGCGAACCCTGA	<i>chrB</i> genes regulate the transcription of genes in the	(Branco and
<i>chrB-R</i>	CCCAAGCTTTCACCTCTGCGGAAGAACGA		

		transporter protein complex.	Morais,
			2013)
			(Nepple
		The chromate reductase chrR is	et al.,
<i>ChrR-F</i>	AGGAACTTCTGCGTGCCCTC	the best-known of the reductases	2000;
<i>ChrR-R</i>	TACGGTGACAGTGCGTTTGC	that catalyze the reduction of	Baldiris
		Cr ⁶⁺ to Cr ³⁺ .	et al.,
			2018).
<i>IntI-F</i>	CGAACGAGTGGCGGAGGGTG	MGEs such as integrons,	(Wu et
<i>IntI-R</i>	TACCCGAGAGCTTGGCACCCA	plasmids, and transposons play a	al.,
<i>tnpA02-F</i>	GGGCGGGTCGATTGAAA	key role in the transfer of	2022;
<i>tnpA02-R</i>	GTGGGCGGGATCTGCTT	resistance genes between	Wu et
<i>tnpA05-F</i>	GCCGCACTGTCGATTTTATC	different microorganisms in the	al.,
<i>tnpA05-R</i>	GCGGGATCTGCCACTTCTT	environment	2023).

Table S3 Distribution percentage of EDS elements in electrode materials.

Elements	Samples					
	Cathode	Fe ₃ O ₄ - cathode	Cathode after operation	Anode	Anode with EAB-loading	Anode after operation
C	93.74%	66.85%	33.83%	6.7%	14.65%	14.35%
O	6.26%	19.97%	38.96%	47.57%	18.49%	50.92%
Fe	n.d.	13.17%	8.07%	n.d.	n.d.	0.88
Mg	n.d.	n.d.	0.44%	n.d.	0.41%	n.d.

Al	n.d.	n.d.	3.34%	37.04%	53.72%	17.56%
Cr	n.d.	n.d.	0.08%	n.d.	n.d.	0.12%
Cu	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	1.59%	n.d.
Zn	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	1.81%	n.d.
Si	n.d.	n.d.	7.16%	8.68%	9.32%	2.58%
Na	n.d.	n.d.	2.18%	n.d.	n.d.	4.55%
Ca	n.d.	n.d.	4.81%	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
K	n.d.	n.d.	1.12%	n.d.	n.d.	0.58%
Cl	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	2.67%
P	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	5.81%

Table S4 SMFC power generation performance on 15-day and 30-day

Resistor (Ω)	15d-Current density (mA/m ²)	15d-Power density (mW/m ²)	30d-Current density (mA/m ²)	30d-Power density (mW/m ²)
51	448.57	37.43	485.23	42.21
100	386.53	53.84	424.57	63.47
200	296.55	62.24	357.26	90.22
510	202.88	73.52	238.08	102.02
1000	131.18	60.60	157.54	87.35
2000	75.99	40.43	95.91	64.58
5100	31.55	17.77	43.88	34.41
10000	17.01	10.13	23.95	20.09

Table S5 Performance comparison of various configurations of SMFC.

Reactor configuration	Chamber volume (L)	Output voltage (V)	Maximum power density (mW/m ²)	Reference
Single-chamber	0.72	0.33	17.3	(Li et al., 2016)

SMFC				
Single-chamber SMFC	2.16	0.297	12.1	(Yu et al., 2017)
Two-chamber SMFC	4.2	0.399	29.78	(Srivastava et al., 2019)
Single-chamber circle SMFC	0.95	0.345	24	(Yu et al., 2021)
Single-chamber SMFC	8	0.4-0.6	0.2 mW	(Yoon et al., 2023)
Single-chamber circle SMFC	n.m.	n.m.	25.51	(Wang et al., 2023)
Single-chamber SMFC	9.7	n.m.	70.4±1.4	(Dhillon et al., 2023)
Two-chamber SMFC	0.05	n.m.	71.00 ± 0.82	(Zhang et al., 2023a)
Constructed wetland MFC	38.85	0.197	12.5	(Tao et al., 2023)
Constructed wetland MFC	4.08	0.425	28.1	(Niu et al., 2023)
Plant-SMFC	0.769	0.51	46.8	(V et al., 2023)
Single-chamber circle SMFC	2	0.17	10	(Youssef et al., 2023)
Constructed wetland MFC	2.7	0.394	4468.4	(Zhang et al., 2023b)
Two-chamber SMFC	0.5	0.306	20.35	(Zhang et al., 2024)
Constructed wetland MFC	13	0.167	1.4	(Dai et al., 2024)
Plant-SMFC	1.05	0.55	8957.7	(Chen et al., 2024)
Single-chamber circle SMFC	1.6	0.4	472.52±14.2	(Zhao et al., 2024)
Single-chamber circle SMFC	1.4	0.528	178.17	(Sun and Wang, 2024)
Single-chamber SMFC	2.3	0.75	102	This study

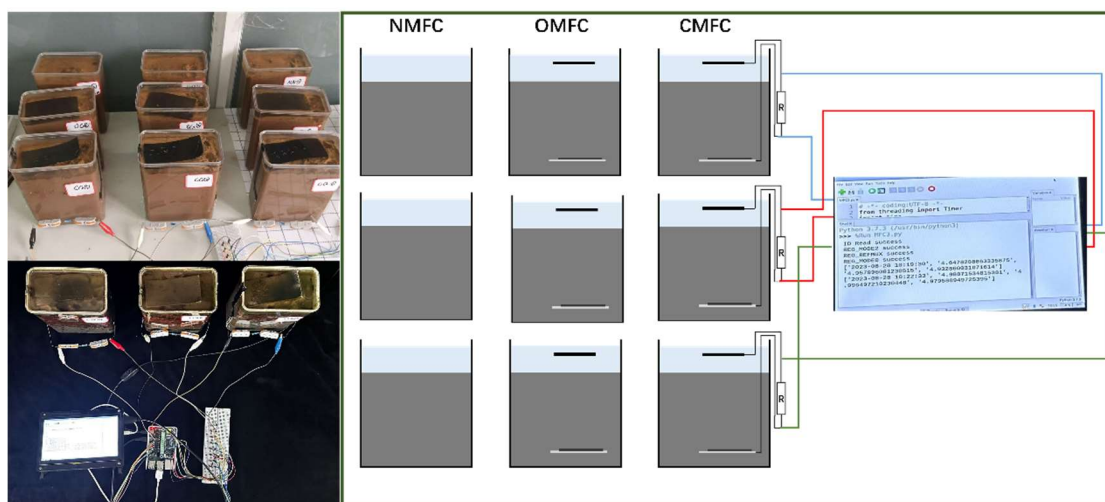


Fig. S1 SMFC structure and experimental grouping.

The left part of the picture is the SMFC photo, and the right part is the model groups.

A plastic box (140.0×85.0×165.0 mm) was used as the SMFC reactor, with 1.50 kg soil and overlying water of 3.0 cm to simulate the flooded state during rice planting. The cathode was floated on the water surface while the anode was buried (about 3.0 cm from the bottom). The cathode and anode were connected to a 2000 Ω resistor using titanium wire. The water level was kept constant by daily replenishment.

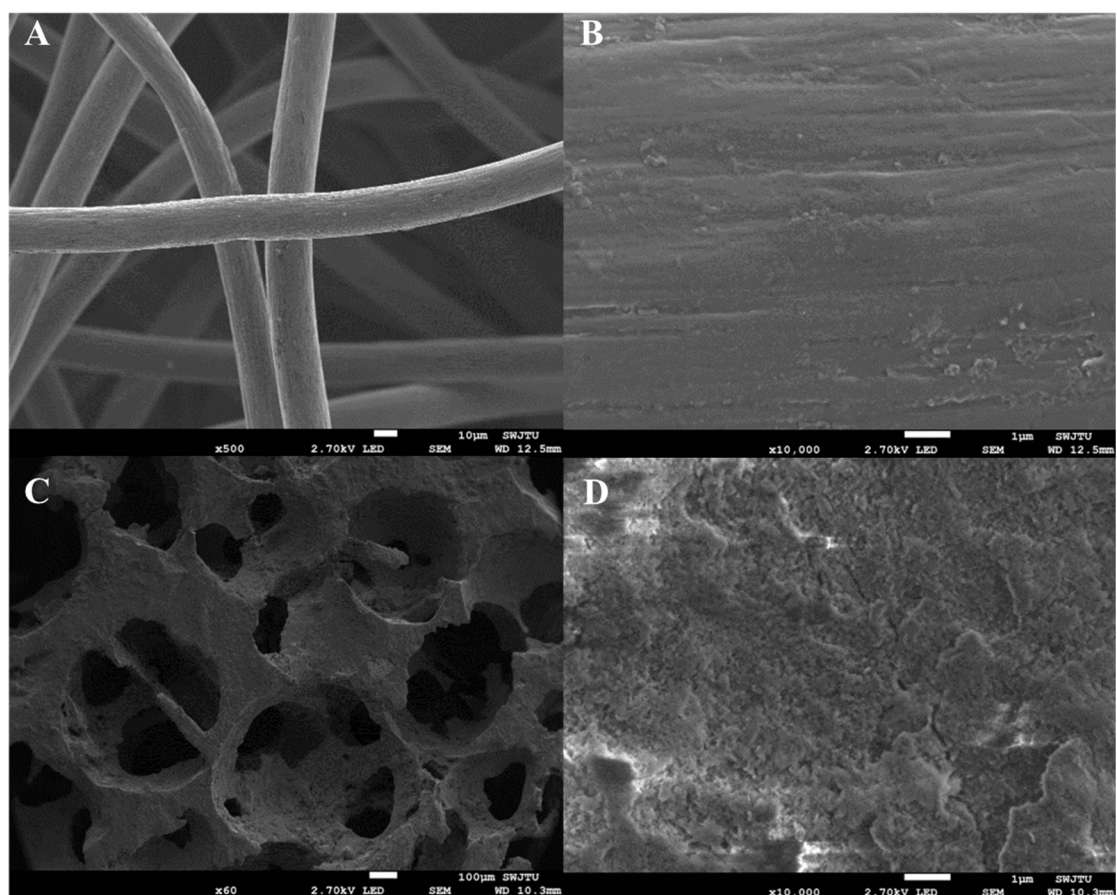


Fig. S2 Electrode material characterization. (A, B) SEM images of GF without catalyst loading; (C, D) SEM images of aluminum foam.

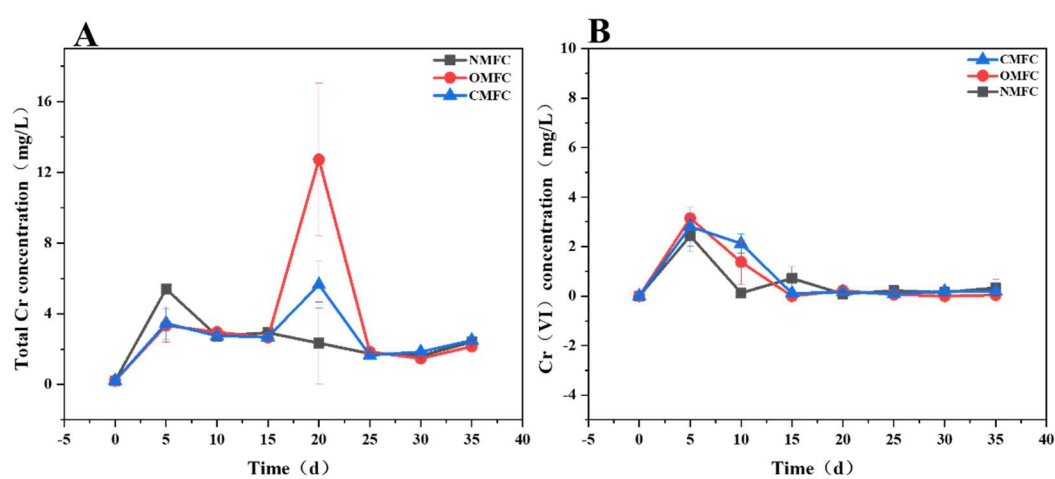


Fig. S3 Variation of (A) total chromium and (B) Cr(VI) in overlying water during SMFC operation.

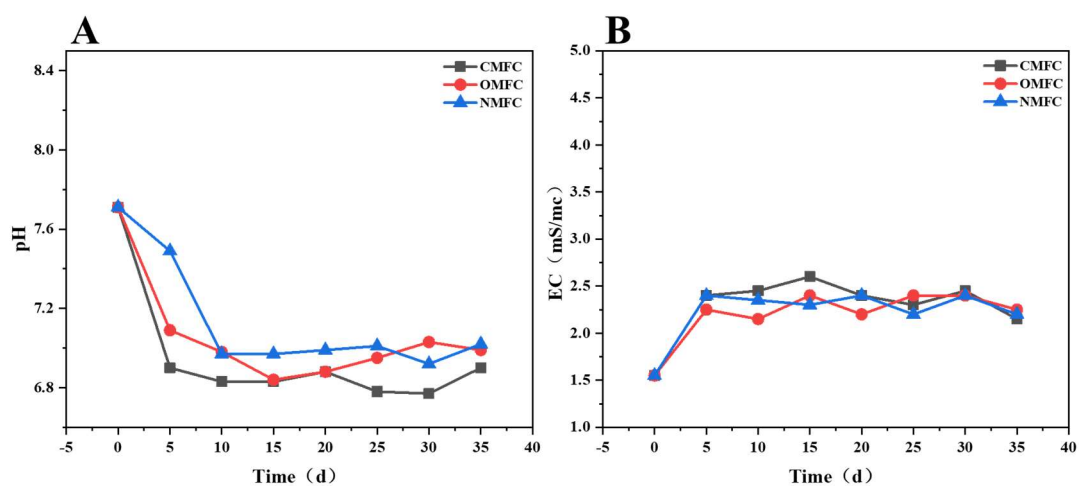


Fig. S4 pH (A), EC (B) variation curves of soil.

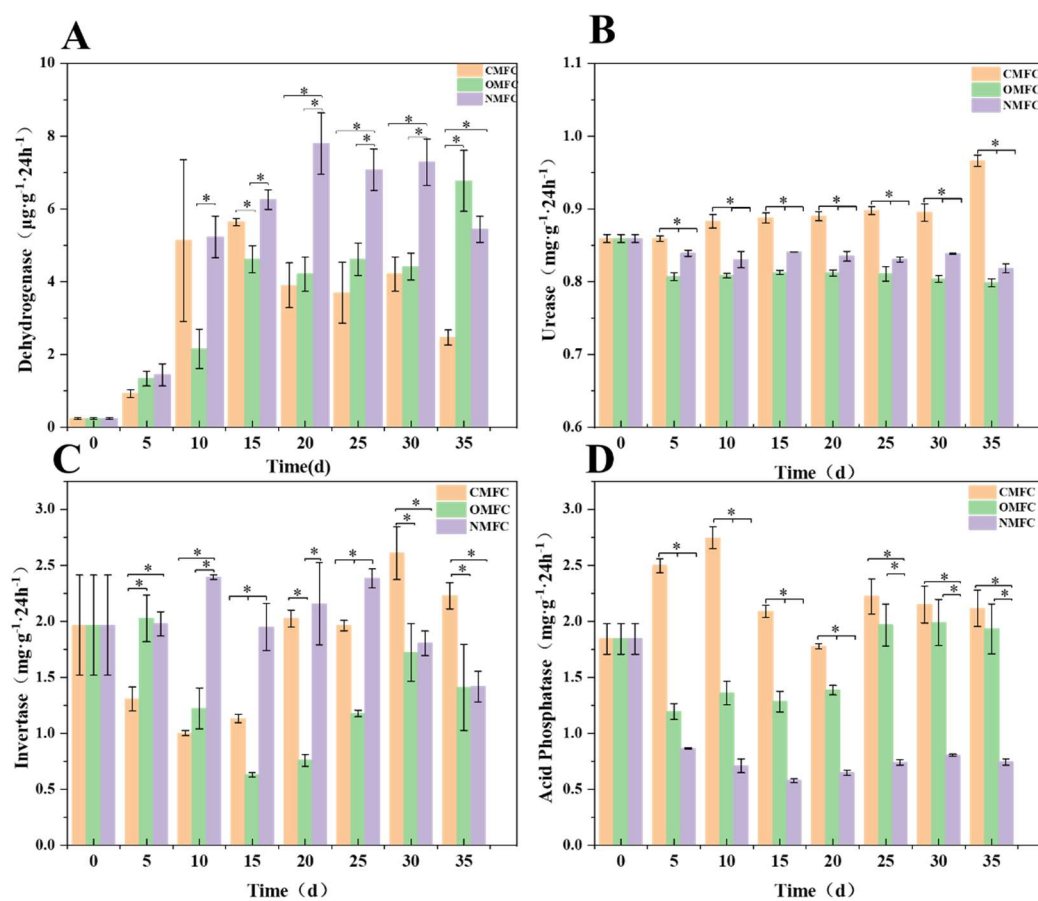


Fig. S5 Changes in soil enzyme activities during SMFC operation (A) Dehydrogenase (B) Urease (C) Invertase (D) Acid Phosphatase.

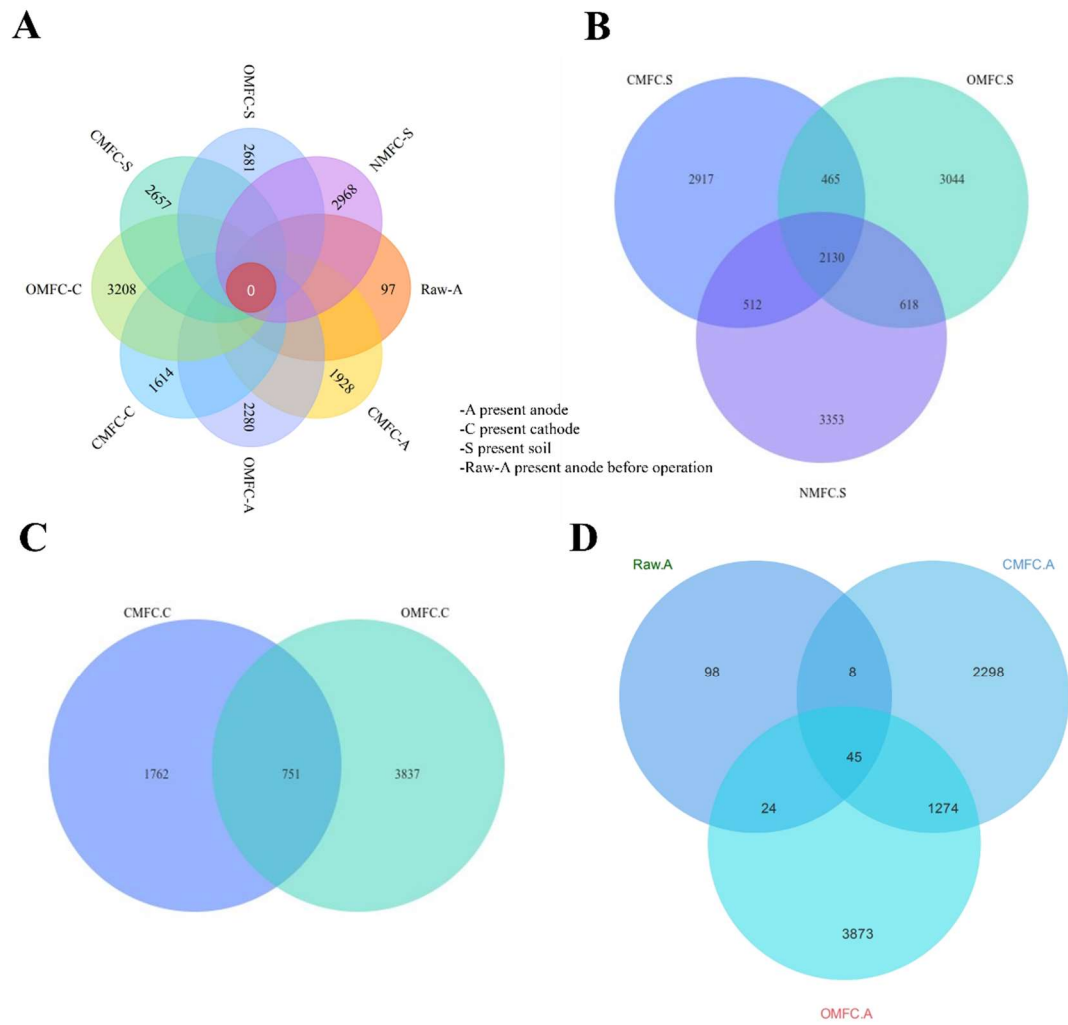
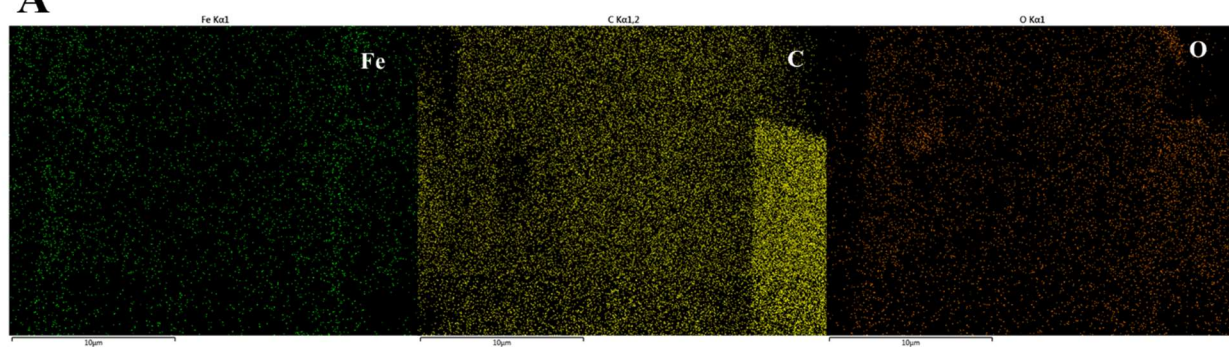
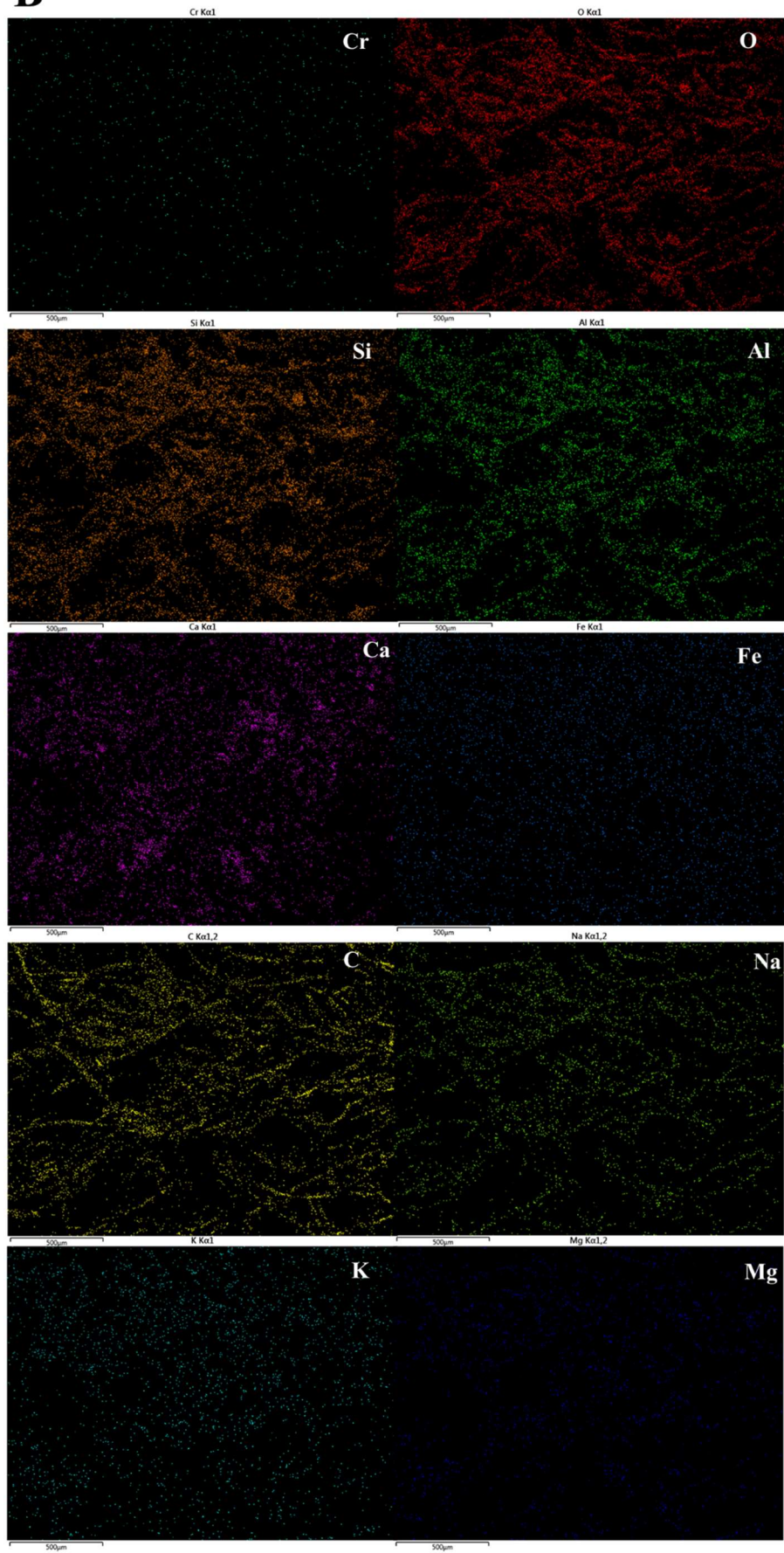


Fig. S6 Venn diagram on OTU level in different treatments

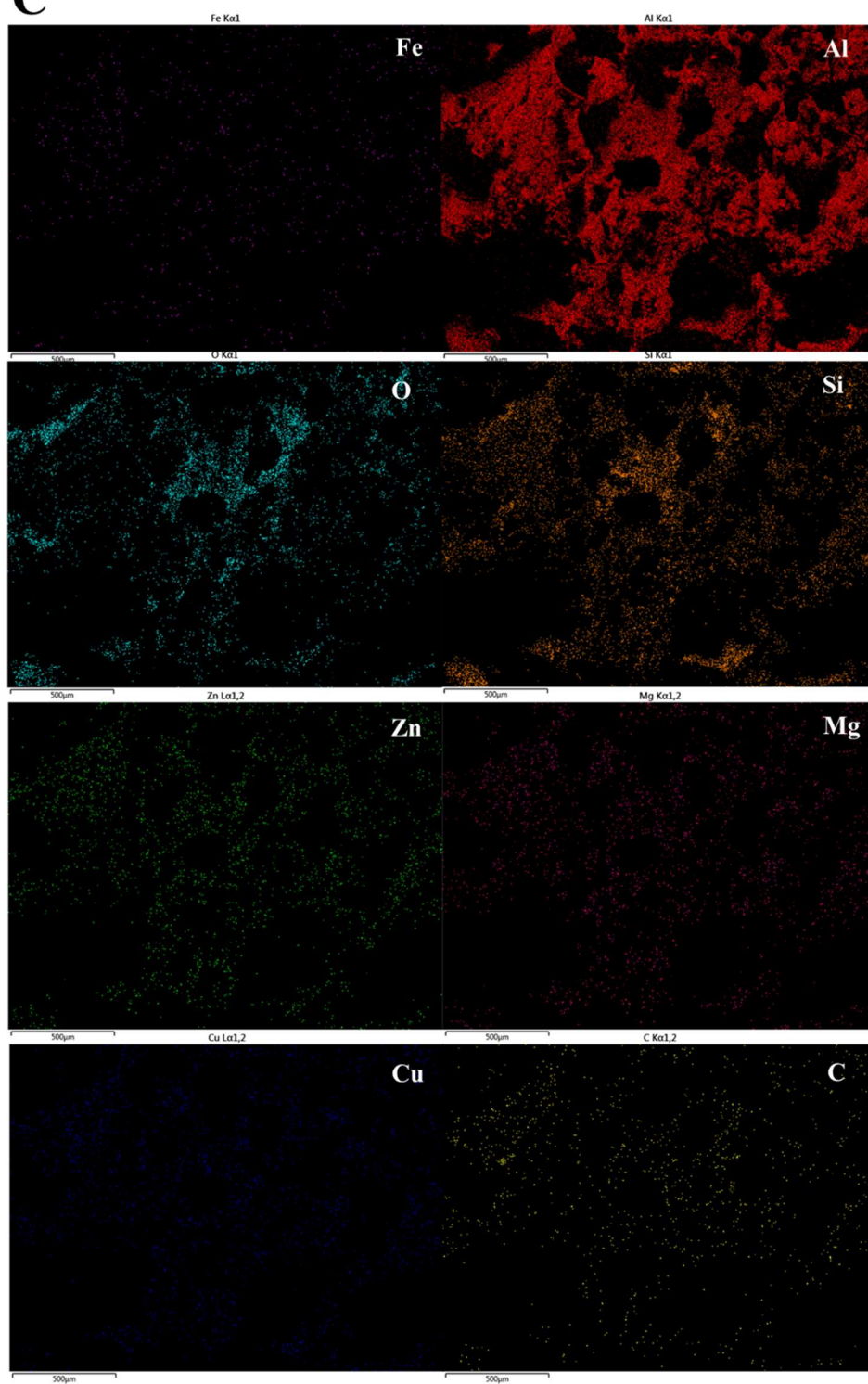
A



B



C



D

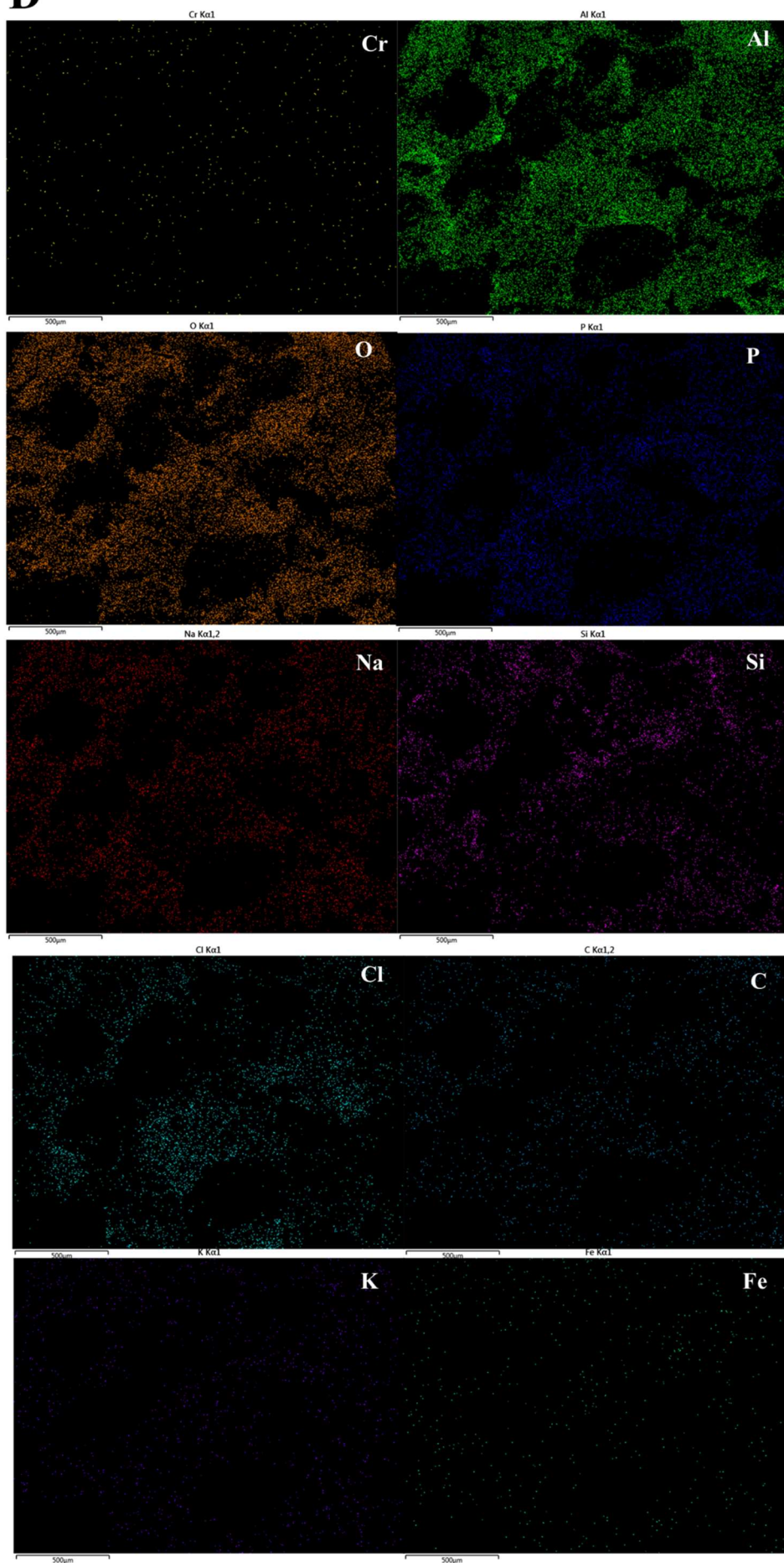


Fig. S7 Characterization of electrode materials before and after operation by EDS mapping. (A) EDS image of cathode loaded with Fe_3O_4 ; (B) EDS image of cathode after the SMFC operation; (C) EDS image of anode microorganisms; (D) EDS image of the anode after SMFC operation.

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