

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, Jjiangsu, 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)
```

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>	TCC TTC GGC GGC CCT GCCggncarathgc	<i>chrA</i> encodes a transporter protein involved in chromate efflux.	(Rivera et al., 2008)
<i>chrA-R</i>	GTA GGT GGC CAG CTG Ctnngcytcngncc		
<i>chrB-F</i>	CCGGAATTCATGCGTGTCTGGCGAACCCCTGA	<i>chrB</i> genes regulate the transcription of genes in the transporter protein complex.	(Branco and Morais, 2013)
<i>chrB-R</i>	CCC AAG CTT TCA CTC TGC GGA AGA ACG		
	A		
<i>ChrR-F</i>	AGG AAC TTC TGC GTG CCC TC	The chromate reductase	(Baldiris et al., 2018;
<i>ChrR-R</i>	TAC GGT GAC AGT GCG TTT GC	<i>chrR</i> is the best-known of the reductases that catalyze the reduction of Cr ⁶⁺ to Cr ³⁺ .	Nepple et al., 2000).
<i>IntI-F</i>	CGA ACG AGT GGC GGA GGG TG	MGEs such as integrons, plasmids, and transposons play a key role in the transfer of resistance genes between different microorganisms in the environment	(Wu et al., 2023; Wu et al., 2022);
<i>IntI-R</i>	TAC CCG AGA GCT TGG CAC CCA		
<i>tnpA02-F</i>	GGG CGG GTC GAT TGA AA		
<i>tnpA02-R</i>	GTG GGC GGG ATC TGC TT		
<i>tnpA05-F</i>	GCC GCA CTG TCG ATT TTT ATC		
<i>tnpA05-R</i>	GCG GGA TCT GCC ACT TCT T		

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
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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 SMFC	0.72	0.33	17.3	(Li et al., 2016)
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	1.4	0.528	178.17	(Sun and Wang,

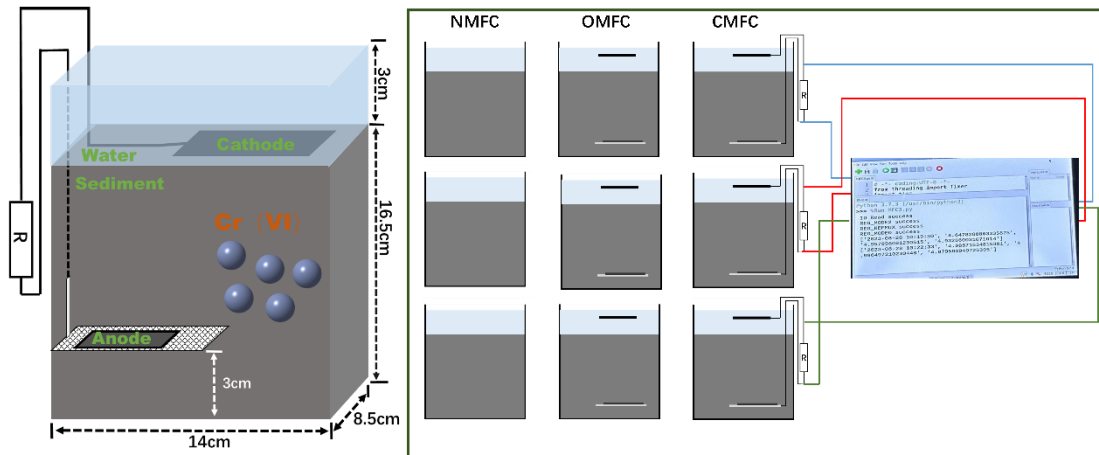


Fig. S1 SMFC structure and experimental grouping.

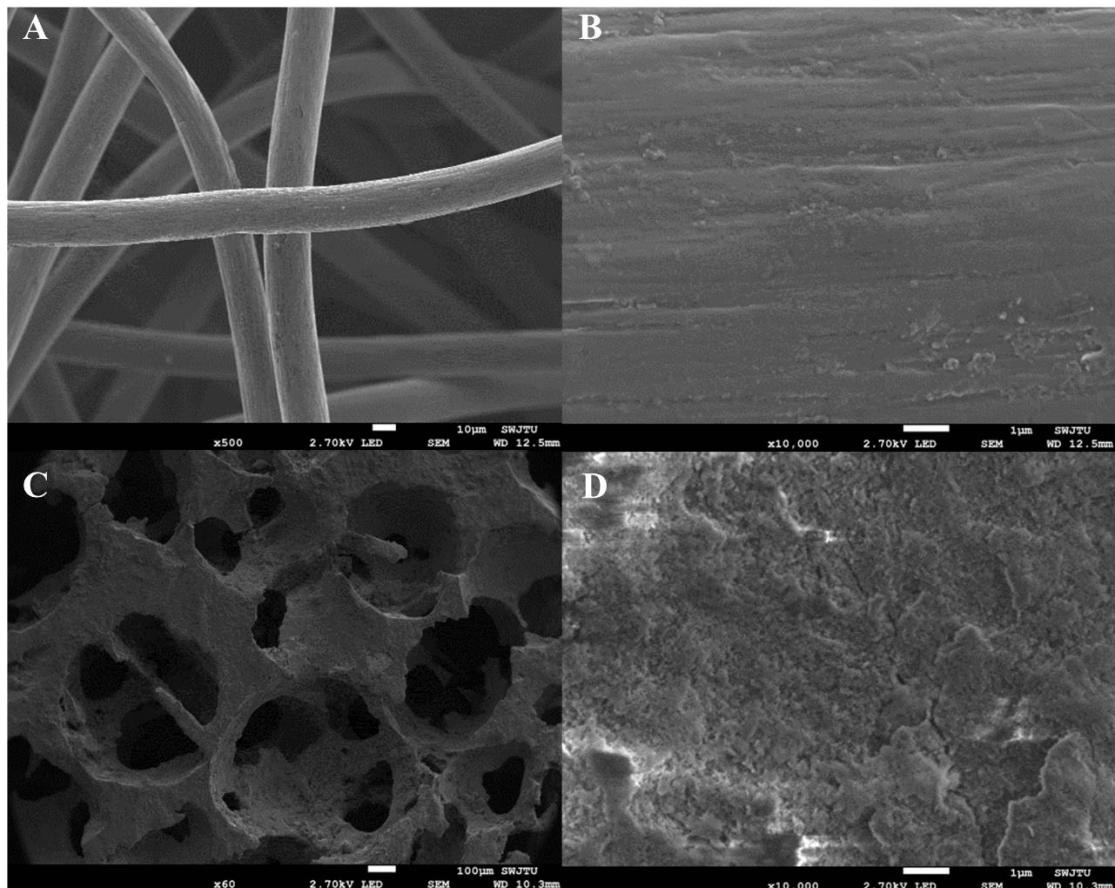


Fig. S2 Electrode material characterization. (A, B) SEM images of GF without

catalyst loading; (C, D) SEM images of aluminum foam.

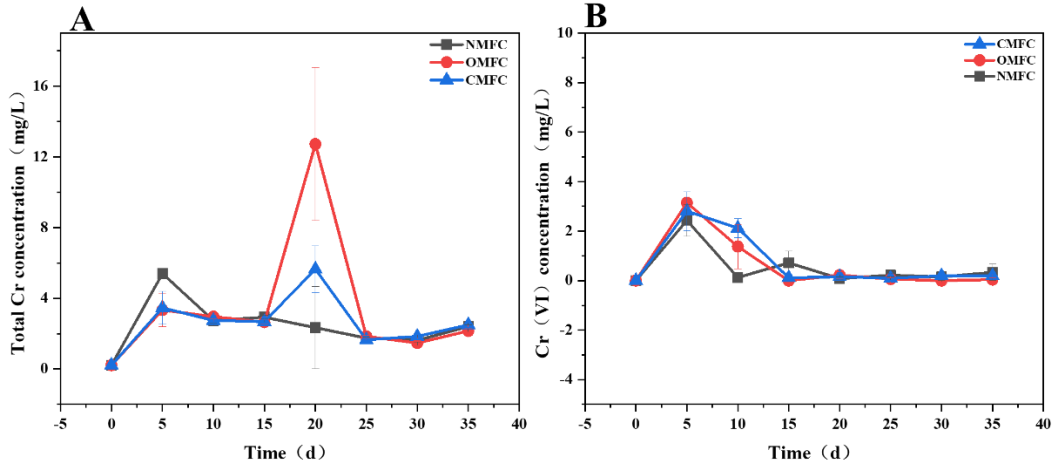


Fig. S3 Variation of (A) total chromium and (B) Cr(VI) in overlying water during SMFC operation.

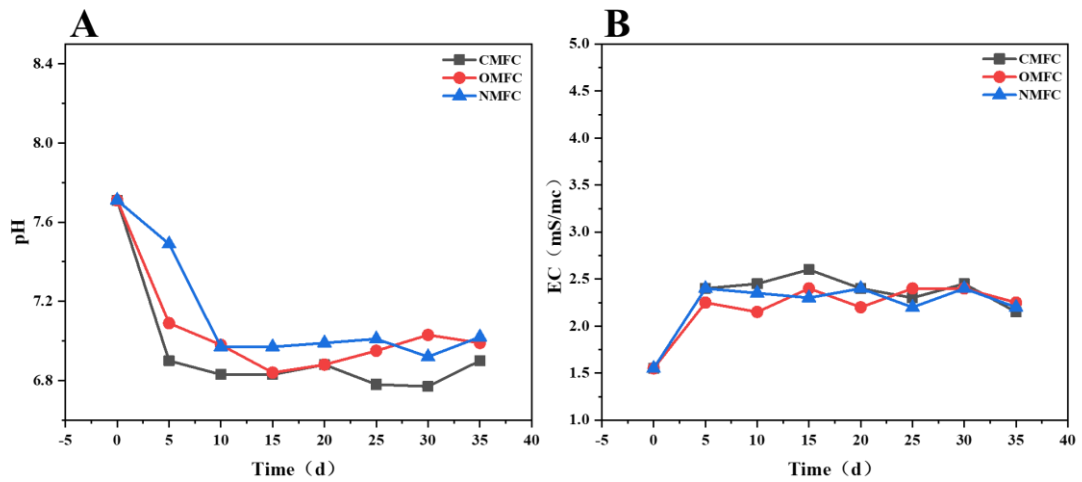


Fig. S4 pH (A), EC (B) variation curves of soil.

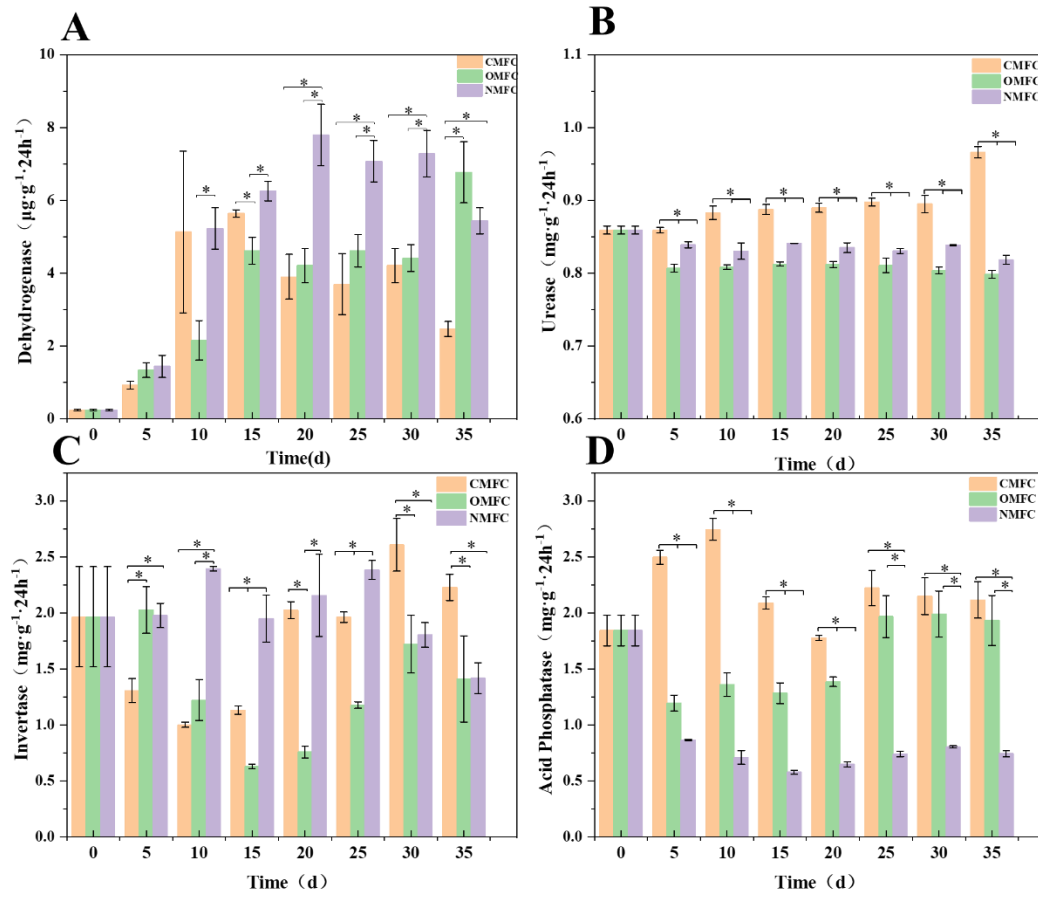


Fig. S5 Changes in soil enzyme activities during SMFC operation (A) Dehydrogenase (B) Urease (C) Invertase (D) Acid Phosphatase.

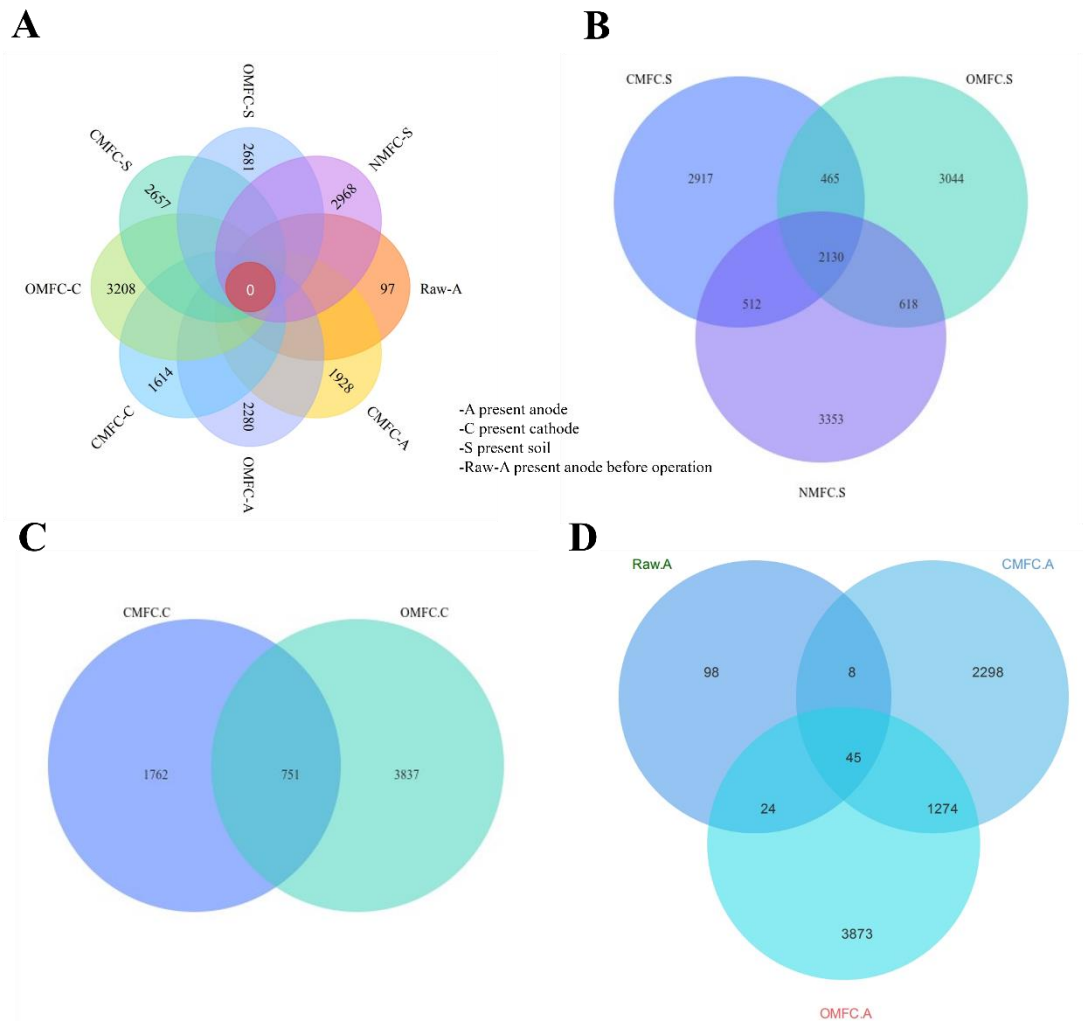
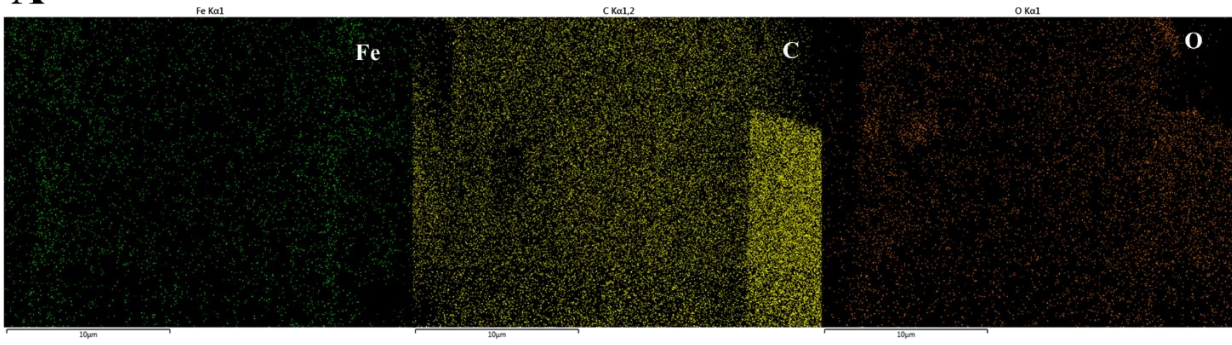
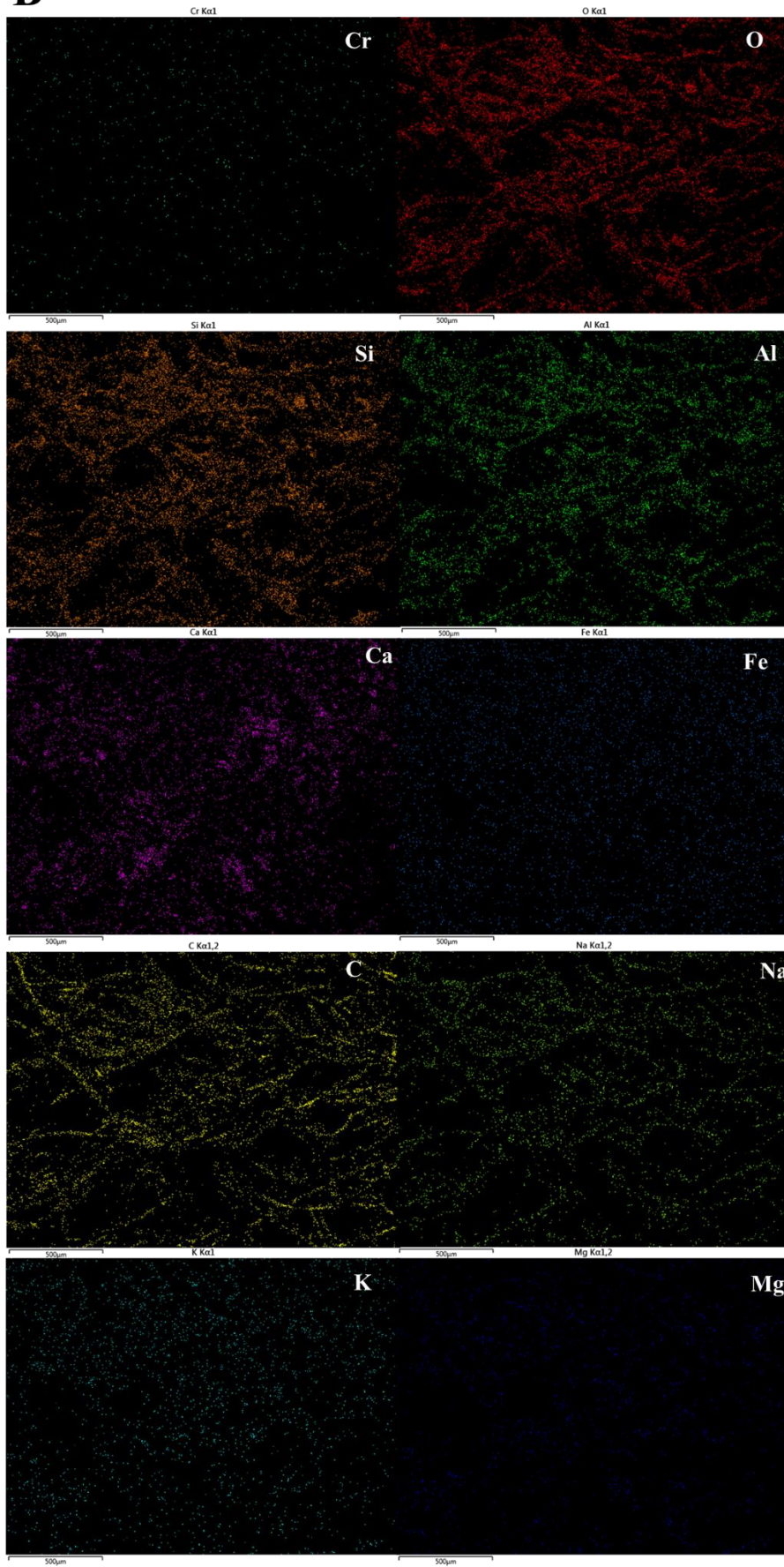


Fig. S6 Venn diagram on OTU level in different treatments

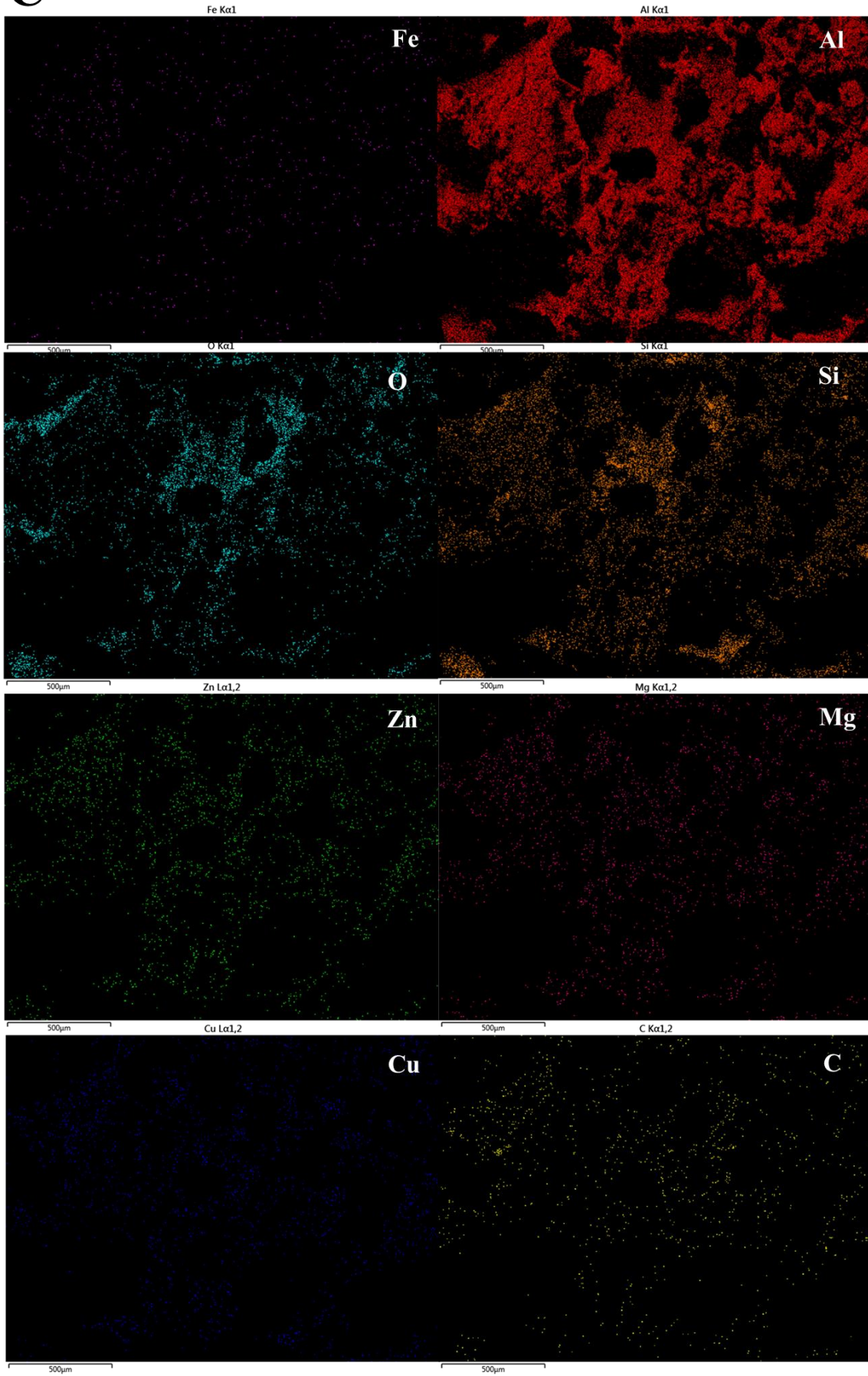
A



B



C



D

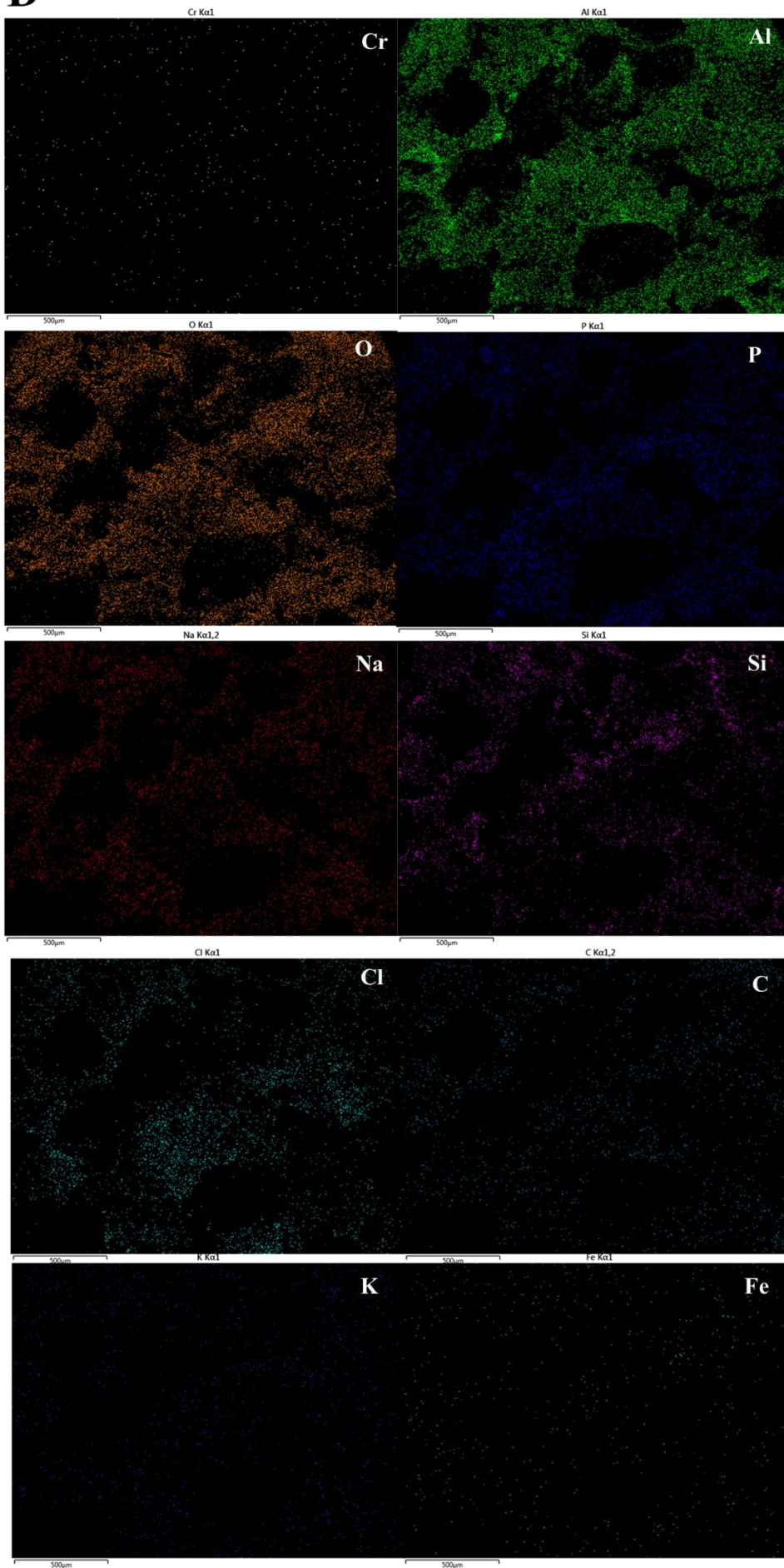


Fig. S7 Characterization of electrode materials before and after operation by EDS mapping. (A) EDS image of cathode loaded with Fe_3O_4 ; (B) EDS image of cathode after the SMFC operation; (C) EDS image of anode microorganisms; (D) EDS image of the anode after SMFC operation.

Reference:

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