

THE ACADEMY OF APPLIED TECHNICAL STUDIES BELGRADE



INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE **POLITEHNIKA 2023**

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Belgrade, 15th December 2023

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CONFERENCE SCOPES: ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY AND FIRE SAFETY SMART MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS GRAPHIC ENGINEERING DESIGN TRAFFIC ENGINEERING BIOTECHNOLOGY AND HEALTHCARE MECHANICAL ENGINEERING ECOTOURISM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT MECHATRONICS

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FOREWORD

The International Scientific and Professional Conference POLITEHNIKA 2023 represents the seventh edition of the POLITEHNIKA scientific and professional events, occurring biannually since its inaugural event in 2011. POLITEHNIKA 2023 upholds a distinguished tradition and commitment to integrating higher education and practical application across a diverse spectrum of disciplines represented by defined thematic scopes.

Organized with the patronage of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Serbia, the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia, the Ministry of European Integration of the Republic of Serbia, the Directorate for Occupational Safety and Health, the Office for Dual Education and National Qualifications Framework, the Conference of Academies of Applied Studies in Serbia, the Chamber of Commerce of Serbia, the Chamber of Commerce of Belgrade, the Institute for Standardization of Serbia, the Association of Belgrade Architects, the City of Požarevac and the Tourist Organization of the City of Požarevac, POLITEHNIKA 2023 stands as a collaborative platform at the intersection of academia, governmental institutions and industry.

This year heralds a notable progression with its international status and the incorporation of 10 conference scopes. Expanding beyond the thematic domains featured in previous events, the Conference now encompasses Environment and Sustainable Development, Occupational Safety and Health and Fire Safety, Smart Management Systems, Graphic Engineering, Design, Traffic Engineering, Biotechnology and Healthcare, Mechanical Engineering, Ecotourism and Rural development, and Mechatronics. By engaging experts, emerging professionals, and practitioners from these domains, the conference unifies fields of study programs of the Academy of Applied Technical Studies Belgrade. The thematic scopes, coupled with the structure of the compiled papers in this Proceedings, exhibit a rich diversity and multidisciplinary approach, fundamentally contributing to a holistic examination and resolution of societal and scientific challenges.

Comprising over 220 peer-reviewed contributions, the Proceedings represent a substantial intellectual asset, aligning with the conference's overarching objective of fostering the exchange of knowledge, research findings, and professional experiences among experts from industry, research institutions, and higher education establishments.

The Proceedings of the International Scientific and Professional Conference POLITEH-NIKA 2023 serve as a comprehensive snapshot of the current landscape within the thematic realms of the conference, offering both insights and directives for ongoing scientific and professional development. Moreover, they proffer concrete solutions to practical challenges grounded in contemporary trends and pertinent insights.

The Academy of Applied Technical Studies Belgrade extends its sincere appreciation to all conference supporters whose financial contributions played a pivotal role in its successful realization. Special acknowledgment is reserved for the authors of the papers, whose diligence and eagerness to present their work to a wider audience, alongside the reviewers and members of the International Scientific Committee, Program Committee and Organizational Committee, have collectively contributed to the triumph of the International Scientific and Professional Conference POLITEHNIKA 2023.



ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

INVITED PAPERS

Srećko Stopić, PhD, Bernd Friedrich, PhD, Process Metallurgy and Metal Recycling, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

Advances in understanding of a role of unit metallurgical operations for recycling

Svetlana Grujić, PhD, Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, University of Belgrade *Emerging pollutants in the environment: contamination of the Danube river basin in Serbia*

Marija Nikolić, PhD, Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, University of Belgrade *Biodegradable polyesters – from ecology to medicine*

DESIGN

INVITED PAPER

Jelena Ristić Trajković, PhD, Faculty of Architecture, University of Belgrade Society, Ecology and Design Education: Transformative Learning for Future Sustainable and Healthy Environments

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

INVITED PAPERS

Tamara Bajc, PhD, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, University of Belgrade Energy savings and CO2 emission reduction potential through the existing building renovation

Marko S. Jarić, PhD, Innovation Centre of Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in Belgrade Analysis of remediation of horizontal cylindrical tank for oil storage

ECOTURISAM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

INVITED LECTURES

Marko Perić, PhD, Faculty of Tourism and Hospitality Management, University of Rijeka, Croatia Challenges of sustainable tourism: Example of Croatia

Snežana Štetić, PhD, Balkan Network of Tourism Experts, Igor Trišić, PhD, Faculty of Geography, University of Belgrade Selective forms of tourism and sustainable development of rural tourist destinations

INVITED PAPERS

Radomir Stojanović, PhD, Western Serbia Academy of Applied Studies *Education as a pillar of sustainable agritourism in Serbia*

Jelena Premović, PhD, Faculty of Economics, University of Priština & Faculty of Economics and Engineering, University Business Academy in Novi Sad Cultural heritage as a generator of sustainable development of tourism in local communities in the countries of the Western Balkans

Vladimir Živanović, Nevena Majstorović, Zlatibor Tourism Organization, Zlatibor Analysis of the real number of tourist overnights based on the estimation of water consumption in Zlatibor

MECHATRONICS

INVITED PAPER

Andrea Matta, PhD, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering, Politecnico di Milano, Italy Mohsen Jafari, PhD, Dept. of Industrial and Systems Engineering, Rutgers University, USA Towards a theory of digital twins: fundamental definition

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ANALYSIS OF CARBON MONOXIDE IN AMBIENT AIR USING PASSIVE SENSORS

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Abstract: Air quality monitoring is necessary due to various pollutants that can have a harmful effect on human health. Carbon monoxide (CO) is a pollutant of concern because it is very toxic at low concentrations. It is an odorless and colorless gas that is very difficult to detect. In recent years, passive sensors have been widely used to analyze CO in ambient air. The CO sensor for commercial use must be stable during operation and have a linear and reproducible output over a long period. Hence, developing CO gas sensors with high sensitivity, selectivity, and stability is essential. This study compared three types of CO gas sensors: electrochemical, metal-oxide semiconductors, and colorimetric. Each of these sensors is characterized by specific advantages and disadvantages; therefore, their comparative analysis is presented, and their most important characteristics are emphasized.

Keywords: air quality, electrochemical sensors, metal-oxide semiconductors, colorimetric sensors

1. INTRODUCTION

Rapid industrial development leads to the endangerment of the basic components of the environment: air, water, and soil. This type of pollution has a severe impact on people; therefore, the existence of environmental pollution control is of great importance [1]. Air pollution is a big problem worldwide, especially in cities with developed industries. Harmful substances come directly from anthropogenic or natural activities and can be formed later in the atmosphere through mutual interaction. Gases and particles that pollute the air can be hazardous and associated with various diseases. Air pollutants include CO, NO₂, NO, SO₂, NH₃, and many others [2]. Carbon monoxide (CO) is one of the most poisonous gases and is also called the silent killer because it is very toxic to humans [3]. It is colorless and odorless and can be produced from both natural and anthropogenic sources. This most often includes incomplete combustion of fossil fuels and exhaust gases from vehicles, as well as volcanic activity and wildfires [4]. Depending on the concentration of CO to which people are exposed, the health consequences can be minimal or even fatal [5]. By increasing the concentration of CO in the body, the amount of oxygen decreases because human blood has a much greater affinity for CO than for oxygen [1]. CO binds to hemoglobin in the blood and prevents it from transporting oxygen through the body. Some characteristic symptoms are headache, dizziness, and nausea, which occur at low concentrations of CO. At high concentrations, more serious organ damage occurs, and in fatal cases, even death [4]. Because the content of pollutants in the air directly affects people's health, it is extremely important to monitor air quality. Air monitoring is necessary to determine the source of pollution, assess exposure, and form a plan for air quality management to protect people from the harmful effects of polluting gases [6]. Monitoring the amount of dangerous gases in the air has drawn more attention recently as a way to control the environment, not only in industrial environments but also in workplaces and residences. Most researchers study pollutants such as CO, CO₂, NH₃, VOCs, SO₂, and others [1].

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In the last few decades, various chemical sensors have been developed to detect various types of pollutants in various media [7,8]. Several types of popular sensors are piezoelectric [9], electrochemical [2], metal-oxide semiconductors [1], and colorimetric sensors [10]. For the analysis of pollutants in the air, various types of gas sensors that work on various principles have been developed to obtain fast but high-quality results [11]. Gas sensors are widely used for monitoring air quality in the environment, workplaces, living places, and industries [3]. Recently, gas sensors have been increasingly improved and developed to improve human safety and air quality. The main parameters of the gas sensor are sensor response, selectivity, sensitivity, limit of detection, energy consumption, operating temperature, and, of course, production costs [1]. Various devices are available for measuring CO concentration, but fast, portable, and selective sensors are still being developed [12]. So far, electrochemical sensors, metal-oxide semiconductors, and colorimetric sensors have been widely used [10]. The main goal of this study was to compare three various types of CO gas sensors. In recent years, using these sensors to analyze CO in ambient air has become a real challenge. Therefore, their comparative analysis is presented, and their most important characteristics are singled out.

2. PASSIVE SENSORS

2.1 Electrochemical sensors

Electrochemical sensors work on the principle of converting the concentration or partial pressure of the target gas into an electrical signal. These sensors can differ depending on what type of electrolyte they use: liquid, gel, or solid. However, using electrochemical sensors with a liquid electrolyte is increasingly common in practice. An electrochemical sensor consists of several parts: a working electrode, a counter electrode, a reference electrode, and an electrolyte. Figure 1 shows a schematic diagram of the electrochemical sensor. Electrodes can be made of various materials. The walls of the sensor housing must be made of a hydrophobic membrane that is permeable to gases and impermeable to liquids. This way, the amount of gas reaching the electrodes is controlled [4,13].

Determining CO is based on measuring the potential change when oxidation and reduction processes occur concurrently on the working and counter electrodes. Oxidation occurs when gases collide with the working electrode:

$$CO + H_2O \Rightarrow CO_2 + 2H^+ + 2e^-$$
(1)

The process of oxygen reduction takes place on the counter electrode:

$$O_2 + 4H^+ + 4e^- \Rightarrow 2H_2O \tag{2}$$

These two reactions lead to the flow of current. The generated current is related to the number of molecules that have been reduced, i.e., oxidized [4,13].

The measured value of electrochemical sensors can be affected by other substances in the air, and this phenomenon is called the crossing effect. During the crossing effect, the reduction/oxidation potential of undesirable substances is measured, and the result obtained in this way is not accurate. When the measured values are higher than the actual values, it is positive interference, while negative interference occurs when the read values are lower than the actual values. The operation of electrochemical sensors can be affected by the conditions under which the measurements are made [13]. Electrochemical sensors have a relatively fast response, low energy consumption, and are lightweight [11].

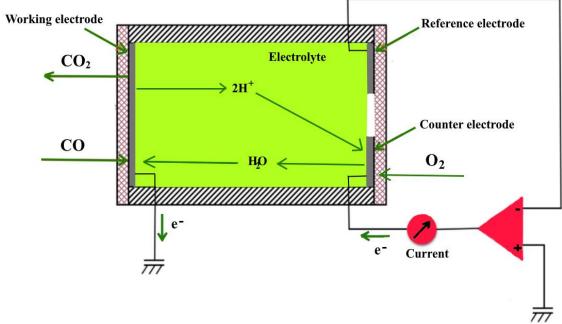


Figure 1. Schematic diagram of the electrochemical sensor

2.2 Metal-oxide semiconductors

When carbon monoxide comes into contact with a metal oxide semiconductor (MOS) gas sensor, a change in electrical conductivity or resistivity occurs. Based on that change, the target gas concentration is determined. Two types of MOS sensors used for CO detection, the n-type and the ptype, are shown in Table 1. Since not all oxides have the same properties, there are differences between semiconductors. Oxides such as SnO₂, ZnO, and TiO₂ are the most widely used because they have a good crystal structure, density, and lattice parameter, and they are the most studied for use in CO detection [1]. In addition to these three n-type conductors, Co₃O₄, the p-type semiconductor, gives good results in the determination of CO because it has a very high catalytic activity towards the oxidation of CO [14]. Metal oxides can be synthesized by various techniques such as hydrothermal, electrospinning, RF and DC sputtering, chemical vapor deposition (CVD), anodization, sol-gel, vapor phase transport, UV lithography, and many others [1].

Table 1. Various types of semiconductors for CO sensing		
Metal-oxide	Type of the semiconductor	Reference
TiO ₂	n-type	[3]
SnO_2	n-type	[15]
ZnO	n-type	[16]
Fe ₂ O ₃ or Fe ₃ O ₄	n-type	[17]
In ₂ O ₃	n-type	[18]
WO ₃	n-type	[19]
CuO	p-type	[1]
Cr_2O_3	p-type	[20]
Co_3O_4	p-type	[14]
NiO	p-type	[21]

MOS sensors detect CO based on the redox reaction between the determined gas and the sensing material. First, oxygen is adsorbed on the surface of metal oxides, creating a surface layer depleted of electrons. Depending on the types of MOS, there will be an electron-depletion layer in the n-type and a hole accumulation layer in the p-type. In the n-type, electrons are charge carriers, and in the ptype, holes are charge carriers. Therefore, due to the adsorption of oxygen molecules, the resistance

in the n-type is high and low in the p-type. Under the influence of the reducing gas, oxygen atoms are removed, and the trapped electron is transferred back to the sensing material, resulting in a decrease in the resistance in the n-type and an increase in the resistance in the p-type. Based on changes in resistance, MOS sensors detect CO gas [1,3]. MOS sensors are characterized by low cost, simplicity, high sensitivity, and low response time. The disadvantages are the high operating temperature, poor selectivity towards gases of the same type, and the fact that they are susceptible to environmental conditions. Currently, SnO₂ is the most efficient MOS material because it has excellent CO detection capabilities, especially at low concentrations [1,4].

2.3 Colorimetric sensors

The colorimetric determination of CO attracts attention due to its high sensitivity, simplicity, and selectivity. The reaction between the tested gas and the sensing probe is crucial when using colorimetric sensors. As a result of this reaction, a color change occurs. These sensing probes are a vital part of the sensor, and the operation of the CO sensor depends on these sensing probes. Chemicals in the probes act as catalysts for the reaction but also cause a color change. There are various types of sensing probes for CO determination. Most current colorimetric CO sensors are based on organic probes such as rhodium, iridium, and ruthenium complexes. Organic complexes of Pd are also used, and one example of a sensing probe contains palladium salts as a catalyst and molybdenum compounds as indicators. Although these probes have a fast response, high specificity, and high sensitivity for CO detection, their synthesis is complex [6,22].

Colorimetric sensors are characterized by their simplicity, rapid response, and low costs. However, their main disadvantage is the impossibility of continuously using a single sensor, especially when the resulting reaction is irreversible [23]. There are various attempts to overcome this shortcoming of colorimetric sensors. Lin et al. (2018) worked on a gradient-based colorimetric sensor, while Mo et al. (2023) developed a repeatable colorimetric system. The system is set to register changes in the colorimetric sensor signal, prevent the sensor from reaching saturation, and allow the sensor to fully regenerate before the subsequent measurement.

3. CONCLUSION

Air pollution from various contaminants is a problem worldwide, particularly in cities and urban areas where industry has grown. There must be enough monitoring to track the amount of contaminants in the air because air quality can significantly impact human health. Due to its unique characteristics and high toxicity, CO differs from other contaminants, making early identification and detection in ambient air crucial. As a result, carbon monoxide sensors aid in preventing excessive CO exposure; therefore, it is crucial to design CO gas sensors with high sensitivity, stability, and selectivity. There are several types of CO gas sensors, but the three most common types are electrochemical, metaloxide semiconductor, and colorimetric sensors. These sensors have certain advantages regarding CO detection but also several drawbacks. Hence, researchers from all over the world are trying to overcome these disadvantages in order to enhance their performance. By comparing these three sensors, which are frequently used in the analysis of ambient air, their operating principles, advantages, and challenges associated with using them are highlighted. In this way, their comparative analysis was carried out. When synthesizing CO gas sensors, the main interests of researchers are in enhancing sensitivity, response time, selectivity and recovery time. Since the performance of the gas sensor depends on improving these key features, many researchers base their research on this. In addition, modern systems should undoubtedly be quick and affordable for the analysis of the target gas.

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LITERATURE

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