

基于硫化镉的镍基光催化产氢助催化剂的研究进展

李旺轩

武汉工程大学化学与环境工程学院, 绿色化工过程教育部重点实验室, 新型反应器与绿色化学工艺湖北省重点实验室, 湖北 武汉

收稿日期: 2022年4月13日; 录用日期: 2022年5月13日; 发布日期: 2022年5月23日

摘要

硫化镉(CdS)因其具有良好的可见光响应能力和合适的导带位置, 已被广泛应用于光催化产氢研究中。然而, 单一CdS材料存在载流子复合较快及表面缺乏产氢活性位点等问题, 极大地限制了其应用。在CdS表面负载助催化剂能够改善其表面的光生载流子的迁移行为, 从而提升其光催化活性。在众多助催化剂中, 过渡金属镍及化合物由于低成本、易合成且具有较好的析氢能力等特点而备受关注。本文主要介绍了基于CdS设计和制备的镍基光催化产氢助催化剂, 阐述了其对CdS产氢活性的提升机制, 最后对镍基助催化剂的发展方向进行了展望。

关键词

镍, 助催化剂, 硫化镉, 光催化, 产氢

Research Progress of Nickel-Based Photocatalytic Hydrogen Production Cocatalysts Based on Cadmium Sulfide

Wangxuan Li

Huber Key Laboratory of Novel Reactor and Green Chemical Technology, Key Laboratory of Green Chemical, Engineering Process of Ministry of Education, School of Chemistry and Environmental Engineering, Wuhan Institute of Technology, Wuhan Huber

Received: Apr. 13th, 2022; accepted: May 13th, 2022; published: May 23rd, 2022

Abstract

Cadmium sulfide (CdS) has been widely used in photocatalytic hydrogen production due to its ex-

cellent visible light response and suitable conduction band position. CdS has some disadvantages such as rapid carrier recombination and insufficient hydrogen-producing active sites on the surface, which largely limits its application in photocatalysis. Loading the cocatalyst on the surface of CdS is an effective method to improve the migration behavior of photogenerated carriers on the surface, which can eventually enhance its photocatalytic activity. The transition metal nickel and its compounds acting as cocatalyst have received intensive attention because of their low cost, facile preparation and high performance in hydrogen evolution reaction. This review mainly introduces the design and preparation of nickel-based photocatalytic hydrogen production cocatalyst based on CdS, and expounds its mechanism of improving the hydrogen production activity of CdS. Finally, the development direction of Ni-based cocatalysts is prospected.

Keywords

Nickel, Cocatalyst, Cadmium Sulfide, Photocatalysis, Hydrogen Evolution

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1. 引言

半导体光催化产氢技术利用太阳能将水分解产生氢能，是解决全球能源和环境问题的有效手段[1]。1972年 Fujishima 和 Honda 发现 Pt/TiO₂ 电极在紫外光照射下，可以分解水从而产生氢气和氧气[2]。自此，人们对半导体光催化分解水技术的研究拉开了序幕。在过去的 40 年里，各种半导体光催化剂被设计和开发用于光催化产氢。其中，ZrO₂、ZnS、TiO₂、ZnO 和 SiC 为宽带隙半导体，这些半导体只能利用紫外区的光进行光催化反应。而太阳光中紫外光只占 5% [3]，使得这类半导体对太阳能的利用率较低，实际应用前景不佳。Cu₂O 具有合适的导带位置，但由于其化学稳定性差，限制了其应用。CdS 和 g-C₃N₄ 都具有适合光催化水分解的带隙能量和带边位置。与 g-C₃N₄ 相比，CdS 由于其更窄的带隙和合适的导带和价带位置，在可见光区域具有更广泛的吸收。因此，CdS 被认为是一种较为理想的光催化产氢催化剂，备受研究者的关注。

然而，纯 CdS 材料光生电子与空穴对复合机率较高，载流子迁移效率低，并且材料表面缺乏催化产氢活性位点等，使得其光催化活性受到限制[4]。因此，如何提升 CdS 材料载流子的分离和迁移效率，使更多的光生电子迁移到材料表面参与产氢过程是解决单一 CdS 光催化产氢活性低的关键。引入助催化剂是一种有效的提升光生电子与空穴分离效率的方法，能够引导光生载流子定向迁移至材料表面参与催化反应[5]。一方面，助催化剂在材料表面可以促进材料中光生载流子迁移[6]；另一方面，也可以作为催化反应的活性中心参与表面催化反应，通过改变反应路径，降低析氢反应的活化能，从而提升光催化产氢活性[7]。本文主要综述了 CdS 光催化产氢助催化剂的研究进展，并对镍基助催化剂的种类进行了归纳，最后对该类镍基助催化剂的发展方向进行了展望。

2. 助催化剂

按照所含元素种类，助催化剂可分为金属基助催化剂和非金属基助催化剂。其中，金属基助催化剂可分为贵金属基助催化剂和非贵金属基助催化剂。

2.1. 金属助催化剂

贵金属及其化合物已被广泛作为助催化剂，应用于光催化产氢，诸如 Au [8] [9]、Pd [10] [11]、Pt [12]

等。Li 等人[9]通过在 CdS 表面负载 16 nm 的 Au 纳米颗粒,使得催化剂的产氢速率达到 $6385 \mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ 。由于表面等离子共振(SPR)效应,与 3 nm 的 Au 纳米颗粒相比,较大的 Au 纳米颗粒(16 nm 和 45 nm)显著提高了 CdS 的光催化析氢活性。Wang 等人[10]成功合成出单原子 Pd 修饰的 CdS,并使得硫化镉的活性提升了 110 倍。密度泛函理论(DFT)表明,复合催化剂的能量势垒较低,容易在表面形成 H*中间体,促进氢气的产生。

引入贵金属能显著提升 CdS 的光催化产氢活性,但其较高的成本限制了他们的实际应用。过渡金属中的非贵金属(Fe [13] [14] [15]、Co [16] [17]、Ni [18] [19] [20]等)由于其成本低、丰富的地球储量以及不弱于贵金属的催化活性等特点,逐渐成为贵金属产氢助催化剂的替代品。Gao 等人[14]将 Fe₃C 与 CdS 简单复合,提高了 Fe₃C 与 CdS 界面的电荷迁移速率,从而提升 CdS 的光催化产氢活性。Fe₃C/CdS 的析氢速率比纯 CdS 纳米棒高 15 倍,表观量子效率为 11.5% (420 nm)。Chen 等人[17]通过简单高效的原位光沉积法,将 Co 负载在 CdS 上。当 Co 负载量为 1 wt% 时,样品的产氢速率最高可达 $1299 \mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$,是纯 CdS 的 17 倍。Co 不仅可以有效促进 CdS 光生载流子的分离,也可以作为产氢反应的活性位点,降低析氢过电位,从而提高光催化产氢活性。Cui 等人[6]在 Ni-MOF 空心金属-有机骨架(Ni-MOF)球表面原位生长 CdS 纳米颗粒,成功合成了 CdS/Ni-MOF 光催化剂。当 CdS 在 MOF 表面上的负载量为 40 wt% 时,复合材料在可见光下的产氢速率为 $2508 \mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$,为 CdS 的 8 倍。CdS 中光生电子可以迅速转移到 Ni-MOF 上,同时 Ni-MOF 上含有高度分散的 Ni²⁺,可以作为反应的活性位点。

2.2. 非金属助催化剂

用于光催化产氢的非金属助催化剂中,常见的是各种含碳材料(如石墨烯[21]和碳量子点[22] [23])及黑磷[24]。Li 等人[21]以氧化石墨烯(GO)为载体,通过溶剂热法制备了 CdS 修饰的石墨烯纳米片。合成的 CdS 均匀分散在石墨烯表面,提高了光生电子从 CdS 向石墨烯的迁移速率。当石墨烯的最佳含量为 1.0 wt% 时,氢气的产率为 $1.12 \text{ mmol}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$,是纯 CdS 的 4.87 倍。Peela 等人[23]将碳量子点(CQD)引入到 CdS 纳米线中,能提高 CdS 中光生电子空穴对的分离效率。 0.4CQD/CdS 样品的光催化产氢速率最高,为 $309 \text{ mmol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$,为单一 CdS 的 1.5 倍。Chen 等人[25]合成了黑磷量子点/CdS (BPQDs/CdS)复合材料。当 BPQDs 负载量为 3 wt% 时,复合材料具有最佳的光催化产氢速率,达到 $9.9 \text{ mmol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$,分别是 BPQDs 和 CdS 的 99 倍和 5.5 倍。在 BPQDs/CdS 复合材料中,由于 CdS 和 BPQDs 之间的界面强相互作用,大大提高了材料中光生电子空穴对的分离效率,从而提升了光催化产氢活性。

在众多助催化剂中,贵金属助催化剂由于其成本较高而限制了其发展,碳材料由于其复杂的制备过程严重限制了它们的广泛应用。近年来,过渡金属镍基、钴基和铁基助催化剂以其低成本、资源丰富、高稳定性和催化活性等优点在光催化领域受到了广泛关注。

3. 镍基助催化剂

镍基助催化剂由于其结构稳定、制备简单、析氢反应(HER)活性较高等特点,已有大量含 Ni 材料被广泛用作光催化产氢的助催化剂。

3.1. 金属镍助催化剂

相比于块状金属镍,镍纳米颗粒具有更大的比表面积和更多的活性位点,更利于电荷转移和界面化学反应[26]。Wang 等人[27]通过简单的还原法,将 10 nm 的镍纳米颗粒修饰在 CdS 上。当 Ni 的含量为 4 wt% 时, Ni/CdS 的产氢速率可以达到 $25.85 \text{ mmol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$,量子效率为 26.8% (420 nm)。最近,单原子镍也被开发用作光催化产氢助催化剂。Zhang 等人[28]通过简单的光化学方法,制备了原子分散 Ni 负载的

CdS 光催化剂。当 Ni 的负载量为 2.85 wt% 时, Ni/CdS 的光催化产氢速率高达 $326.7 \text{ mmol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ 。DFT 结果表明, 在 CdS 上引入单个 Ni 原子可以降低 CdS 对 H^{*}的吸附自由能, 使得 Ni/CdS 复合材料更容易吸附 H^{*} 和解吸氢气, 从而大大提高了 CdS 的光催化产氢活性。单个 Ni 原子位于氮掺杂石墨烯(NG)的空位上[29], 当 Ni 原子的负载量为 0.0013 wt% 时, Ni-NG/CdS 的光催化性能比 NG/CdS 高 3.4 倍。Ni-NG/CdS 在 420 nm 处的量子效率高达 48.2%, 是无贵金属助催化剂中量子效率最高的一种。其优异的光催化活性主要是由于单 Ni 原子存在于在氮掺杂石墨烯的空位上, 可以提供更多的活性位点, 显著降低了光催化产氢过程的活化能。这些结果表明, 金属镍可作为产氢反应的活性位点, 影响了反应路径, 降低反应能垒, 从而提高光催化产氢活性。

3.2. 氢氧化镍助催化剂

镍的氢氧化物同样能作为助催化剂与半导体结合提高其光催化产氢活性。Mao 等人[30]将超薄 Ni(OH)₂ 纳米片修饰在 CdS 纳米棒的表面, Ni(OH)₂/CdS 复合材料的光催化产氢速率为 $40.18 \text{ mmol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$, 量子效率高达 66.1% (420 nm), 约为 1.25 wt% Pt/CdS 活性的 1.5 倍。借助时间分辨荧光, 说明了 Ni(OH)₂ 能延长 CdS 光生电子寿命, 提高载流子的分离效率, 并且 Ni(OH)₂ 超薄纳米片能提供反应活性位点, 提高了光催化活性。Zhang 等人[31]通过光沉积法合成了 Ni-Ni(OH)₂ 复合材料, 并将其作为 CdS 的助催化剂用于光催化产氢。在可见光下, Ni-Ni(OH)₂/CdS 在 Na₂S/Na₂SO₃ 水溶液中产氢速率为 $428 \text{ mmol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$, 并具有较好的稳定性。此外, Ni-Ni(OH)₂/CdS 在 40 vol% 甘油中仍有良好的光催化产氢活性($13.3 \text{ mmol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$)。Ni-Ni(OH)₂/CdS 具有优异光催化产氢性能主要是由于 Ni 和 Ni(OH)₂ 的协同作用。Zhuang 等人[32]将 Ni 基助催化剂修饰在 CdS 纳米棒表面, 制备了不同的 CdS 纳米棒复合材料, 其中 Ni(OH)₂/CdS 样品的产氢活性最高, 平均产氢速率可达 $0.79 \text{ mmol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$, 约为单一 CdS 的 2.5 倍。Ni(OH)₂ 助催化剂能促进光生电子的迁移, 并提供了更多的活性位点。另外, Ni(OH)₂/CdS 样品的过电位较小, 利于质子还原成 H₂。

3.3. 硫化镍助催化剂

硫化镍(NiS、NiS₂、Ni₃S₂), 由于具有带隙窄和导电性高等特点, 已被广泛用作光催化产氢助催化剂[33][34][35]。Ke 等人[36]通过光沉积法合成了硫化镍/硫化镉 - 二乙烯三胺纳米片(NiS/CdS-DETA)。在可见光照射下, NiS/CdS-DETA 复合光催化剂的产氢速率达到 $230.6 \mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$, 分别是单组分 CdS 和 CdS-DETA 材料的 8.42 倍和 1.72 倍, 甚至高于 Pt/CdS 和 Pt/CdS-DETA, 表明 NiS 是一种可以替代 Pt 的助催化剂。引入 NiS 可以促进光生电子 - 空穴对的分离和转移, 降低产氢反应的过电位。Li 等人[34]合成了 NiS₂ 纳米颗粒修饰的 CdS 纳米线。在乳酸为牺牲剂的条件下, 40%-NiS₂/CdS 的产氢速率可达 $14.49 \text{ mmol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$, 远远高于纯 CdS。瞬态吸收光谱结果表明, 40%-NiS₂/CdS 复合材料的载流子寿命远短于 CdS 纳米线, 说明光生电子能有效地从 CdS 转移至 NiS₂, 从而提高光催化性能。Guan 等人[37]通过一锅水热法成功在泡沫镍上合成核壳 CdS@Ni₃S₂ 纳米棒阵列(CSNC)。其中, Ni₃S₂ 作为助催化剂的外层可以保护 CdS 材料免受光腐蚀, 增强 CdS@Ni₃S₂ 复合光催化剂的稳定性, 提高 CdS 的光催化产氢性能。在 475 nm 单色光照射下, CdS@Ni₃S₂ 复合光催化剂的表观量子效率为 1.36%。

3.4. 磷化镍助催化剂

近年来, 由于磷化镍具有独特的金属性质和良好的导电性, 已被应用到光催化、电催化和光电催化等领域[38][39][40]。Wang 等人[41]采用溶剂热法在 CdS 纳米棒上生长 Ni₂P 纳米颗粒, 合成的 Ni₂P/CdS 复合材料平均析氢速率为 $34.9 \text{ mmol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$, 是纯 CdS 纳米棒的 23 倍。Ni₂P 与 CdS 界面结合紧密, 使

得电子转移路径缩短，有利于光生电子迁移至 Ni_2P ，促进光催化产氢过程。此外，Sun 等人[42]同样将 Ni_2P 修饰在 CdS 纳米棒上。 $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}/\text{CdS}$ 的产氢速率最高可达 $1200 \mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{mg}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ ，表观量子效率达到 41% (450 nm)。同时，采用稳态荧光和时间分辨光致发光光谱来探索载流子的转移过程，结果表明光生电子能够迅速地从 CdS 纳米棒转移到 Ni_2P 表面，促进了光生电子空穴对的分离和迁移，进而还原质子生成 H_2 。

3.5 其他镍基助催化剂

其他镍基助催化剂包括 NiSe [43]、 NiSe_2 [44] [45] [46] 和 Ni_3N [47] 材料。Irfan 等人[43]通过简单的合成方法得到 NiSe ，并将 NiSe 原位沉积在 CdS 纳米棒表面，形成 NiSe/CdS 复合材料。在最佳条件下， NiSe/CdS 复合材料的光催化产氢速率为 $340 \mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ ，表观量子效率可达 12% (420 nm)。光致发光光谱和光电流响应表明， NiSe/CdS 光催化剂中存在有效的电子转移。Huang 等人[44]将 NiSe_2 助催化剂原位生长在 CdS 纳米棒上。5 wt% NiSe_2/CdS 的光催化产氢速率为 $167.1 \text{ mmol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ ，是单组分 CdS 纳米棒的 2.7 倍。由于 CdS 与 NiSe_2 复合后可以形成一个内置电场，提高载流子的分离和迁移速率，提升了 CdS 的活性。Sun 等人[47]制备了 $\text{Ni}_3\text{N}/\text{CdS}$ 光催化剂。在最佳条件下， $\text{Ni}_3\text{N}/\text{CdS}$ 样品的产氢速率为 $88 \mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{mg}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ ，约是纯 CdS 样品的 10 倍。引入 Ni_3N 后， CdS 与 Ni_3N 界面电荷转移更快，抑制了载流子的复合，从而提高了产氢活性。

金属镍作为助催化剂时，镍原子作为产氢反应活性位点，能够改变反应路径降低反应能垒，从而提高 CdS 的光催化产氢活性。选用镍基化合物作助催化剂时，研究者们难以确定其活性位点，对于机理的研究不够深入。因此，在光催化产氢领域中，仍需进一步开发新型的镍基助催化剂。

4. 总结与展望

在硫化镉的众多光催化产氢助催化剂中，镍基材料具有较大的实际应用前景。尽管目前合成了许多高效的镍基助催化剂，但这些助催化剂通常为纳米颗粒，其表面结构难以精准确定，使得研究者们难以确定参与光催化反应的活性中心，长久以来关于光催化产氢反应机制的研究无法深入到分子水平。另外，对于助催化剂与半导体之间的作用机制模糊不清，极大地限制了高活性光催化产氢催化剂的开发。因此，为了深入理解助催化剂的作用和光催化反应机理，未来应该在以下方面进行深入研究：开发具有精确结构和组成的镍基助催化剂(如单原子或团簇助催化剂)；借助原位表征手段来监测微观反应过程。

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