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Biohydrogen Production



Outline

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Basic methods of biohydrogen production
- 3) Direct biophotolysis
- 4) Indirect biophotolysis
- 5) Photo Fermentation
- 6) Dark Fermentation



Introduction

- Currently the CO₂ concentration exceed 350 ppm by vol. which increase the green house effect hence increasing global temperatures.
- Biohydrogen is H₂ that is produced biologically. Interest is high in this technology because H₂ is a clean fuel and can be readily produced from certain kinds of biomass.
- Biohydrogen is a fuel produced by microbial metabolism, similar to bioethanol orbiogas (CH : CO mixture)



Basic methods of biohydrogen

production

1. Production of biohydrogen by algea.
2. Microbial Electrolysis Cell
3. Fermentation
4. Stream reforming



Bio-hydrogen production

Anaerobic
fermentation

Microbial
electrolysis

Photo-
fermentation

Dark
fermentation

Direct
photolysis

Indirect
photolysis

Light
fermentation

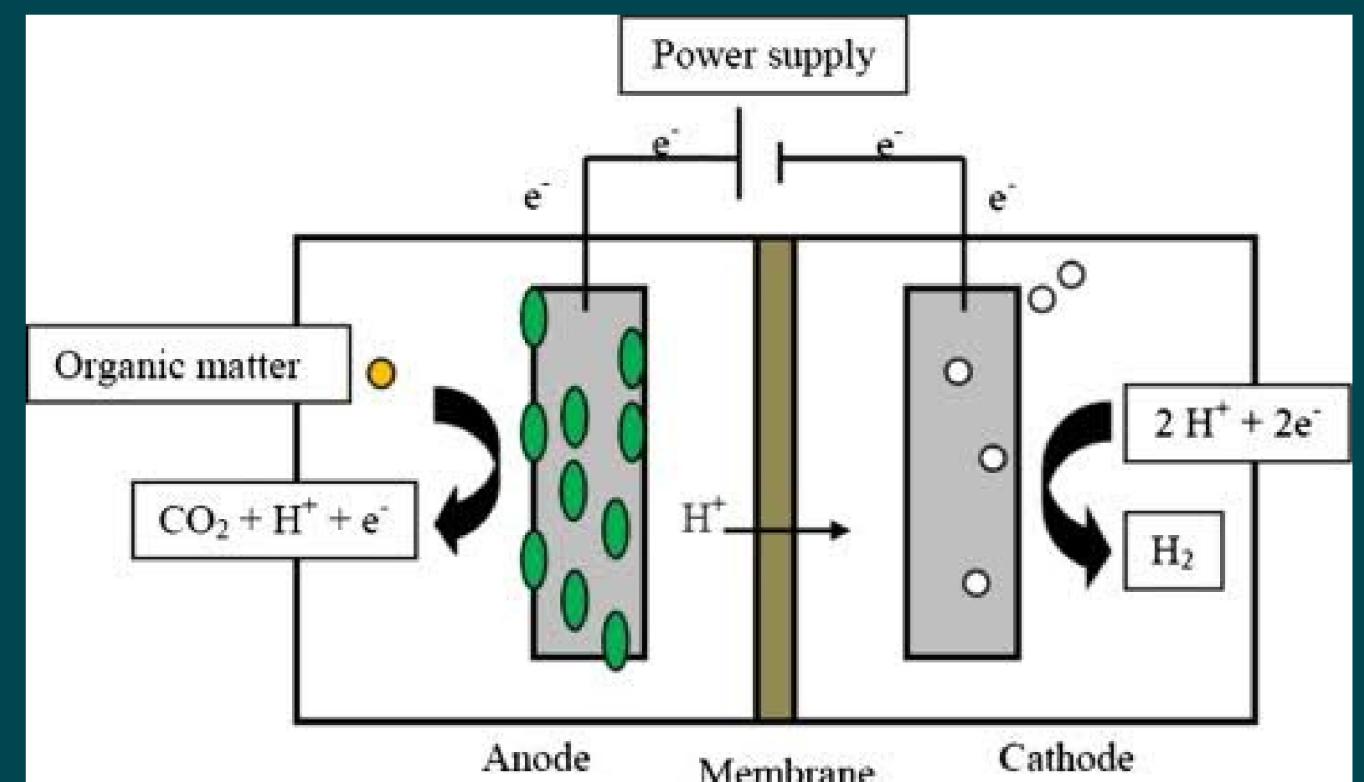
Microbial Electrolysis cell

- In a microbial electrolysis cell (MEC), catalyzed oxidation of organic compounds in the anode chamber is typically combined with the chemical evolution of hydrogen in the cathode chamber.
- So, the current production is directly proportional to H₂ production in anaerobic conditions. Reaction occurring are as follows:



(Here taking acetate as organic substrate)

($[\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-] = [\text{HCO}_3^-] = 10 \text{ mM}$, pH 7, 298.15 K, hydrogen pressure=1 bar; $\Delta G = 93.14 \text{ kJ/mol}$; emf = -0.12 V)



- As we can see ΔG is +ve ,so rxn is not spontaneous .So an additional voltage is needed for making it spontaneous which can be derived from nerst equation.
- However,the applied voltage needs to be larger than equilibrium voltage (E_{eq}) of the elechemical cell given as $E_{eq} = E_{cat} - E_{an}$
(E_{cat} & E_{an} are half cell potential of cathode and anode respectively)

$$E_{an}=E_{an}^{\circ}-(RT/8F)\ln([CH_3COO^-]/[HCO_3]^2[H^+]^9)$$

$E_{an}^{\circ}=0.187V$. Under standard biological conditions, the anode potential is 0.279 V

$$E_{cat} = E_{0cat}^{\circ} -(RT/2F)\ln [pH_2]/[H]^2$$

- where $E_{cat}^{\circ}=0 V$. Under standard biological conditions, the cathode potential is 0.414 V.
Thus $E_{eq}=0.14$,but in actual scenerio it is in the range of 0.2-1 V.
- The efficiency of hydrogen production depends on which organic substances are used. Lactic and acetic acid achieve 82% efficiency, while the values for unpretreated cellulose or glucose are close to 63%.

Biophotolysis

Refrence

file:///C:/Users/rajra/Downloads/7933-Article%20Text-17449-1-10-20210822.pdf

- Biophotolysis or photofermentation are driven by photonic energy to produce hydrogen by using water as the material resource.
- In biophotolysis, microalgae are used because they can produce hydrogen in closed systems. .
- Biophotolysis is done in moderate temperatures and pressures (e.g., standard temperature and pressure).

Direct Biophotolysis

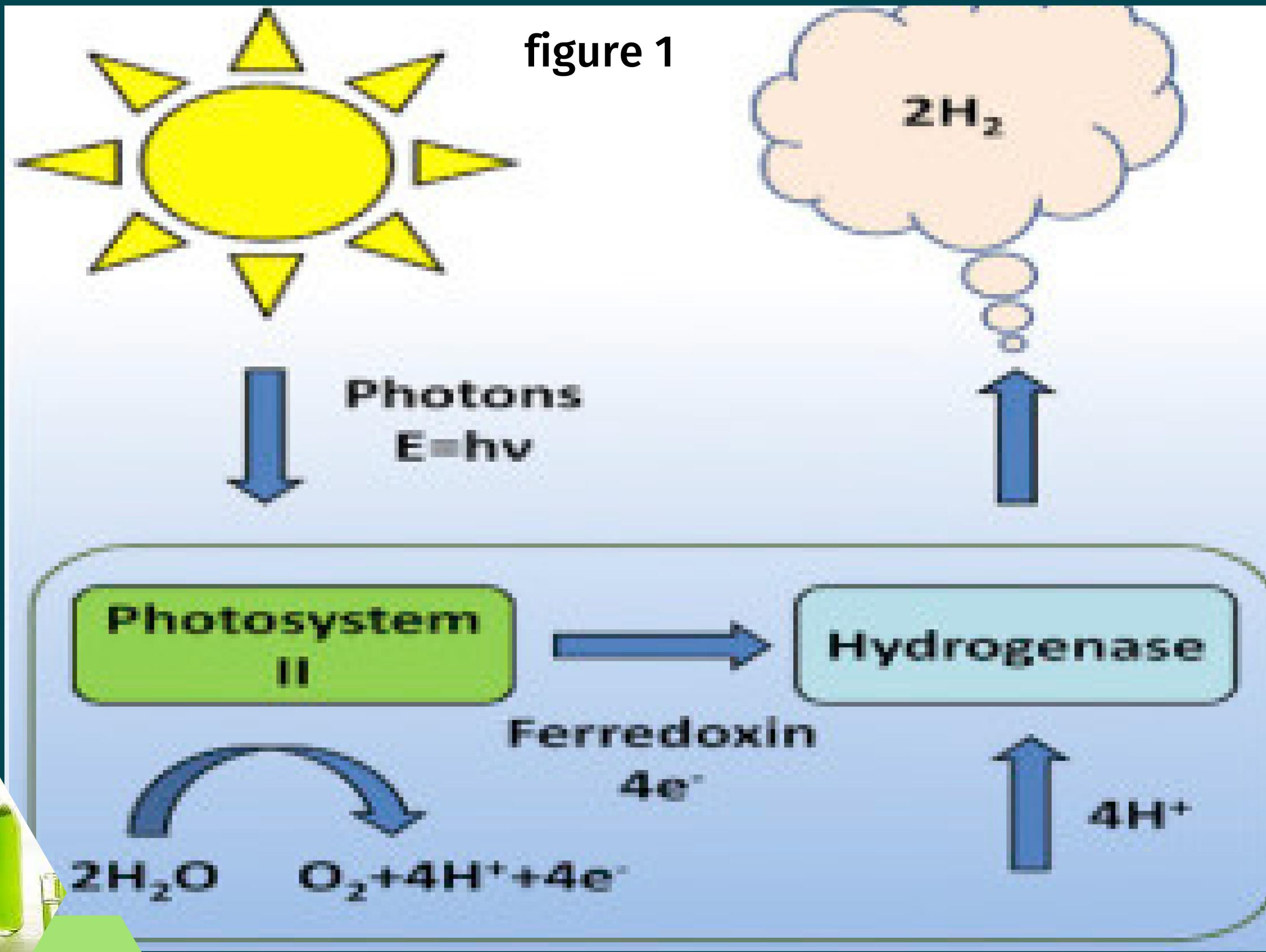
- Direct biophotolysis is a biological process that can produce hydrogen *directly from water* using *microalgae photosynthesis* system to convert solar energy into chemical energy in the form of hydrogen, the reaction is generally as follows:

(Photosynthesis)



- The microorganisms green algae and cyanobacteria are used here.
- The overall reaction is mediated by the concerted action of the two photosystems (PSI and PSII) of cyanobacteria, which are utilized in plant-type photosynthesis.
- Hydrogen production by green microalgae take place in *anaerobic conditions* in the dark to induce activation of enzymes involved in hydrogen metabolism.
- Green microalgae have the genetic machinery, enzymatic, metabolic and electron-transport to photoproduce hydrogen.

figure 1



INDIRECT BIOPHOTOLYSIS

- Indirect biophotolysis is the production of hydrogen from water via microlalgae and cyanobacteria photosynthetic system to convert solar energy into chemical energy.

It is carried out by two steps:-

- a) The first step is the biomass production through photosynthetic system
- b) Second step which utilise the biomass rich-carbohydrate for hydrogen production fermentation



Steam Reforming

Steam-Methane Reforming :

Most hydrogen produced today in the United States is made via steam-methane reforming, a mature production process in which high-temperature steam (700°C - $1,000^{\circ}\text{C}$) is used to produce hydrogen from a methane source, such as natural gas

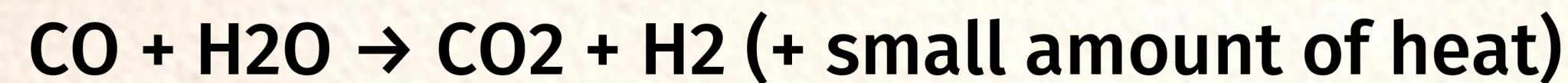
Steam methane reforming reaction:



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water-gas shift reaction," the carbon monoxide and steam are reacted using a catalyst to produce carbon dioxide and more hydrogen.

Water-gas shift reaction

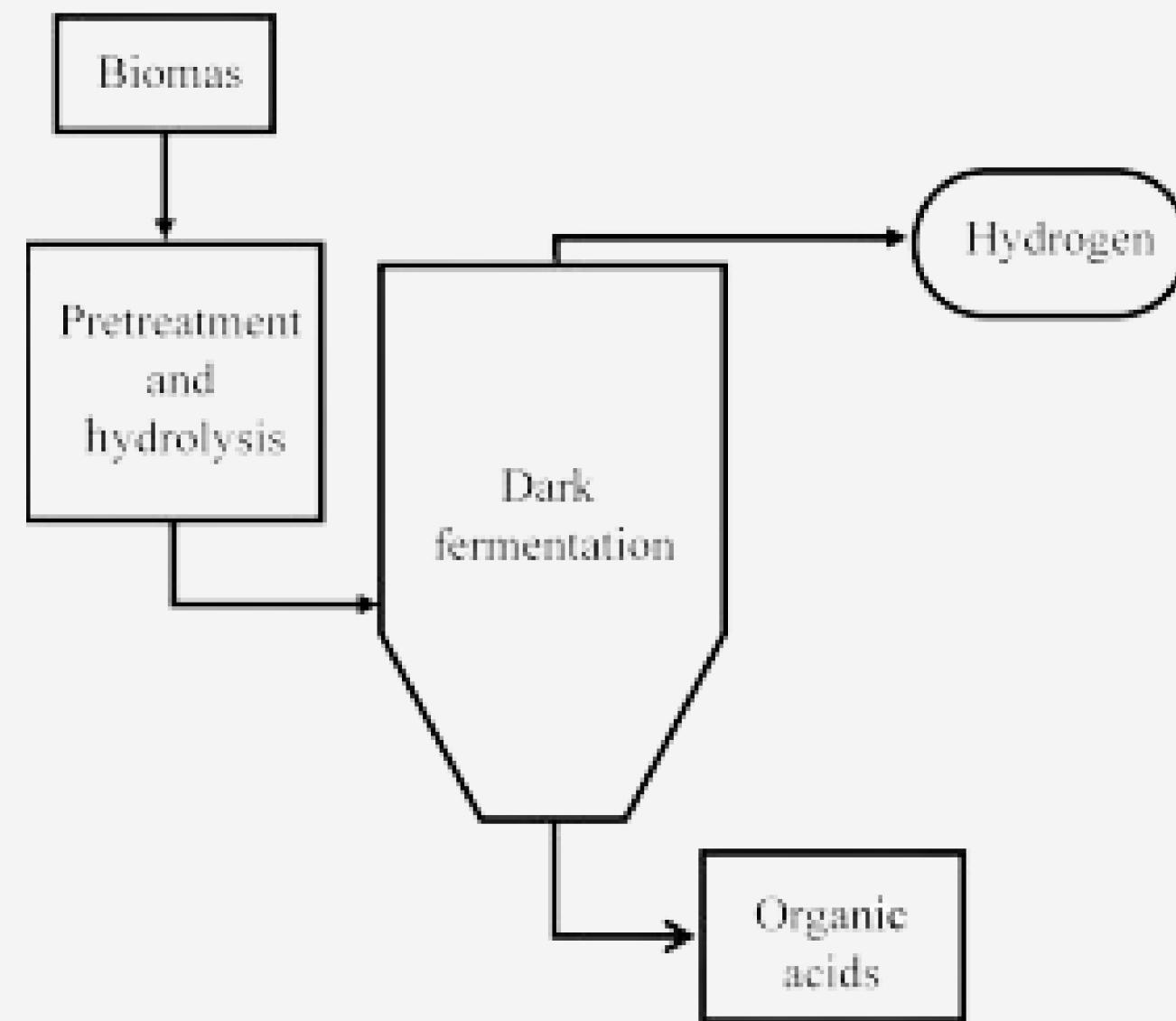


carbon dioxide and other impurities are removed from the gas stream, leaving essentially pure hydrogen

Dark fermentation

- It is a type of biological production of hydrogen.
- Carried out by obligate anaerobes & facultative anaerobes in the absence of light & oxygen
- Bacteria act on the substrate and generate hydrogen.
- Substrate is lignocellulosic biomass, carbohydrate materials like wastewater from industry, sugar-containing crop residues, and municipal solid waste.
- Pretreatment of the biomass greatly affects the efficiency of the dark fermentation.
- Efficiency affecting parameters are the microorganism involved and the sugar content of the substrate

Dark fermentation block diagram



Hydrogen yield in dark fermentation

Theoritically

1 mol of glucose can produce 12 mol of hydrogen



But dark fermentation produce only 4 mol of hydrogen



The maximum efficiency is only 33%

further studies express hydrogen yield as 0.47lit/gm of COD when sucrose is used and 0.27lit/gm of COD when glucose is used as substrate

Reference

Tip: Use links to go to the various resources

How: Highlight text, click on the link symbol on the toolbar, and paste the link of the document or websites that you want to reach.

- [https://www.canva.com/design/DAFMOZLQUnI/-rlmBzYibZIZNvmD-qC8rA/edit?
utm_content=DAFMOZLQUnI&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton](https://www.canva.com/design/DAFMOZLQUnI/-rlmBzYibZIZNvmD-qC8rA/edit?utm_content=DAFMOZLQUnI&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton)
- <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fenrg.2021.753878/full>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qAMDiT6iEBQ>
Biohydrogen: For Future Engine Fuel Demands
- Source: Springer-eBooks
- Author: Demirbas, Ayhan



Thank You

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