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Preparation and characterization of nanoporous carbon from expanded graphite for high energy density supercapacitor in aqueous electrolyte

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Abstract content
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In this work, we present the synthesis of low cost carbon nanosheets derived from expanded graphite dispersed in Polyvinylpyrrolidone, subsequently activated in KOH and finally carbonized in Ar atmosphere. Interconnected sheet-like structure with low concentration of oxygen (9.0 at.%) and a specific surface area of 457 m² g⁻¹ was obtained. The electrochemical characterization of the carbon material as supercapacitor electrode in a 2-electrode configuration shows high specific capacitance of 337 F g⁻¹ at a current density of 0.5 A g⁻¹ as well as high energy density of 37.9 Wh kg⁻¹ at a power density of 450 W kg⁻¹. This electrical double layer capacitor electrode also exhibits excellent stability after floating test for 120 h in 6 M KOH aqueous electrolyte. These results suggest that this activated expanded graphite (AEG) material has great potential for high-performance electrode in energy storage applications.

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Prof N. Manyala / Ncholu.Manyala@up.ac.za

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Primary author: Dr BARZEGAR, Farshad (University of Pretoria)

Co-authors: Dr BELLO, Abdulhakeem (Department of Physics University of Pretoria); Dr MOMODU, Damilola (UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA); Dr DANGBEGNON, Kouadio Julien (University of Pretoria); Mr MADITO, Moshawe (Student); Dr MANYALA, Ncholu (University of Pretoria)

Presenter: Dr BARZEGAR, Farshad (University of Pretoria)

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