

## **Porous 3D Carbon Decorated Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> Nanocomposite Electrode for Highly Symmetrical Supercapacitor Performance**

You Sing Lim, Chin Wei Lai\*, Sharifah Bee Abd Hamid

Nanotechnology & Catalysis Research Centre (NANOCAT), Level 3, IPS Building, University of Malaya (UM), 50603 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

## Supplementary table

Table 1: Type of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> composite and reported electrochemical performance

Composite materials	Specific surface area, (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	Electrolyte	Capacitance, Fg <sup>-1</sup> (Current density)	Capacitive retention, % (cycles)	Energy density (Whkg <sup>-1</sup> )	Power density (Wkg <sup>-1</sup> )	(Year) [Ref.]
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /CNT	-	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	165.0 (0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup> )	-	-	-	(2011) <sup>1</sup>
Ultrathin nanoporous Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /CNS	229	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	163.4 (1 A g <sup>-1</sup> )	-	-	-	(2013) <sup>2</sup>
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /Gr	-	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	154 (1 A g <sup>-1</sup> ) 236 (TX-100 surfactant)	-	-	-	(2015) <sup>3</sup>
4wt% Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /Ac	949.03	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	86 (10mV s <sup>-1</sup> )	-	-	-	(2013) <sup>4</sup>
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /Ac	1197 (AC) 25 (Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> )	6 mol L <sup>-1</sup> KOH	37.9 (0.5 mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )	85.1% (1000)	-	-	(2009) <sup>5</sup>
Nanosized Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> -Modified AC	-	0.5 mol L <sup>-1</sup> Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	154.3 (5 mA cm <sup>-1</sup> )	79.6% (1000)	-	-	(2013) <sup>6</sup>
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /Fe-CNTs	-	3 mol L <sup>-1</sup> KOH	1065 (1A g <sup>-1</sup> )	82.1% (1000)	29.9 <sup>a</sup> 18.54 <sup>b</sup>	897 <sup>a</sup> 8139.51 <sup>b</sup>	(2016) <sup>7</sup>
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> @C	-	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> KOH	110.8 (0.5A g <sup>-1</sup> )	95.6% (2000)	34.6 <sup>a</sup> 9.1 <sup>b</sup>	375 <sup>a</sup> 3000 <sup>b</sup>	(2014) <sup>8</sup>
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> @carbon nanosheets	-	6 mol L <sup>-1</sup> KOH	586 (0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup> )	70.8% (5000)	18.3	351	(2016) <sup>9</sup>
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /Carbon	344	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	136.2 (1 A g <sup>-1</sup> )	84.5% (1000)	27.2	705.5	(2016) <sup>10</sup>
Active carbon-Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> nanocomposite	-	6 mol L <sup>-1</sup> KOH	120 (5 A g <sup>-1</sup> )	93.66% (1000)	15.97	-	(2014) <sup>11</sup>

<b>Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> on oxidised activated carbon</b>	2356.6	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	202.6 (10 mVs <sup>-1</sup> )	94% (5000)	-	-	(2015) <sup>12</sup>
<b>Porous 5% Fe/HC</b>	<b>1712.3</b>	<b>1 M Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub></b>	<b>245.3 (1 Ag<sup>-1</sup>) - initial 233.5 -5000<sup>th</sup> cycle</b>	<b>95.1% (5000)</b>	27.6 <sup>a</sup> 22.4 <sup>b</sup>	2490.6 <sup>a</sup> 15186.7 <sup>b</sup>	<b>This work</b>

\*Footnote: a = maximum energy density condition, b = maximum power density condition

Table 2: The textural properties of p-HC and porous 5%Fe/HC nanocomposite

Samples	BET surface area m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup>	Micropore volume cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup>	Micropore area m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup>	External surface area m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup>	Average pore diameter/ Å
p-HC	1117.6922	0.150571	351.0773	766.6149	38.5
5%Fe/HC	1712.7953	0.263566	602.6501	1110.1452	37.2

Table 3: Electrochemical performance of p-HC symmetric cell at 1 mol L<sup>-1</sup> Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

Current density (Ag <sup>-1</sup> )	Specific capacitance (Fg <sup>-1</sup> )	Energy density (Whkg <sup>-1</sup> )	Power density (Wkg <sup>-1</sup> )	Coulombic Efficiency (%)
0.5	204.7	23.0	1309.6	95.8
1	172.6	19.4	2618.5	96.4
2	157.7	17.7	5554.6	94.3
3	145.6	16.4	8672.3	93.2
4	137.3	15.4	12359.0	90.0
5	129.8	14.6	16426.8	84.2

Table 4: Electrochemical performance of p-Fe/HC symmetric cell at 1 mol L<sup>-1</sup> Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

Current density (Ag <sup>-1</sup> )	Specific capacitance (Fg <sup>-1</sup> )	Energy density (Whkg <sup>-1</sup> )	Power density (Wkg <sup>-1</sup> )	Coulombic Efficiency (%)
0.5	259.3	29.2	1212.8	96.3
1	245.4	27.6	2490.6	97.3
2	224.7	25.3	5260.7	96.1
3	213.0	24.0	8216.0	93.8
4	204.4	23.0	11498.1	92.3
5	198.7	22.4	15186.7	88.3

## Supplementary figures

Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy was performed for both symmetric cell before and after charge-discharge cycle. It was observed that the slope of p-HC and p-Fe/HC was not steeper as before and bending Warburg diffusion region. This might due to fast charge-discharge cycle causing partial damage of charge transfer channels, results in decay of specific capacitance. However, overall variation on the nyquist plot show that p-HC and p-Fe/HC nanocomposites electrodes had good stability and charge-discharge rate.

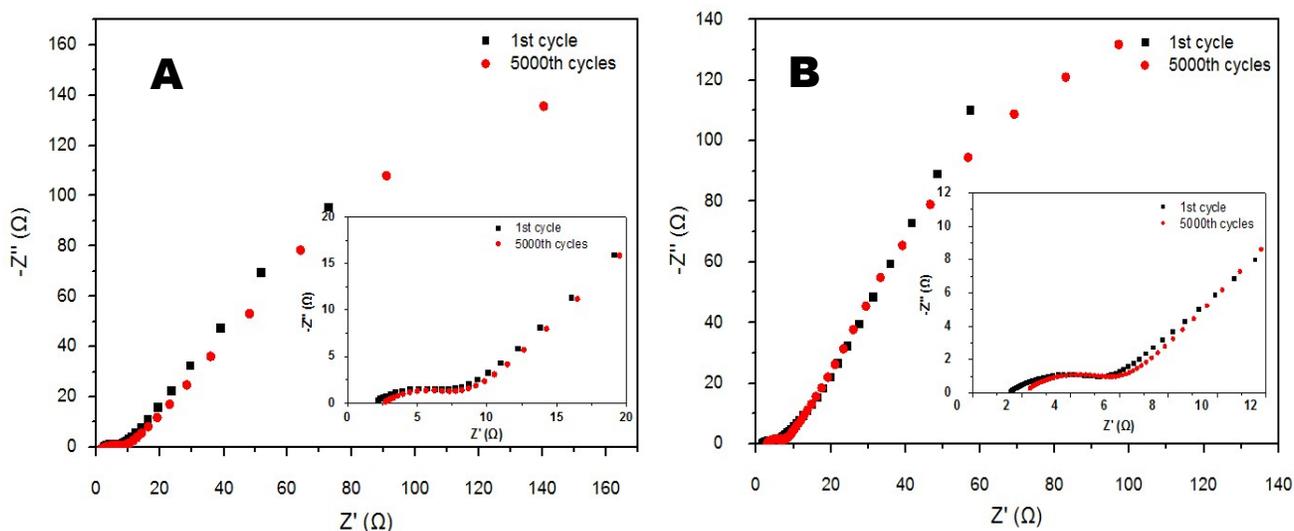


Fig S1: Nyquist plot of 1<sup>st</sup> and 500<sup>th</sup> cycles (a) p-HC electrode and (b) p-Fe/HC nanocomposite electrode

## References:

1. Y.-H. Kim and S.-J. Park, *Current Applied Physics*, 2011, **11**, 462-466.
2. D. Liu, X. Wang, X. Wang, W. Tian, J. Liu, C. Zhi, D. He, Y. Bando and D. Golberg, *Journal of Materials Chemistry A*, 2013, **1**, 1952-1955.
3. S. Ghasemi and F. Ahmadi, *Journal of Power Sources*, 2015, **289**, 129-137.
4. P. Khiew, M. Ho, T. Tan, W. Chiu, R. Shamsudin, M. A. Abd-Hamid and C. Chia, 2013.
5. X. Du, C. Wang, M. Chen, Y. Jiao and J. Wang, *The Journal of Physical Chemistry C*, 2009, **113**, 2643-2646.
6. P. He, K. Yang, W. Wang, F. Dong, L. Du and H. Liu, *Russian Journal of Electrochemistry*, 2013, **49**, 354-358.
7. J. Sun, P. Zan, X. Yang, L. Ye and L. Zhao, *Electrochimica Acta*, 2016, **215**, 483-491.

8. J. Pu, L. Shen, S. Zhu, J. Wang, W. Zhang and Z. Wang, *Journal of Solid State Electrochemistry*, 2014, **18**, 1067-1076.
9. H. Fan, R. Niu, J. Duan, W. Liu and W. Shen, *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces*, 2016, **8**, 19475-19483.
10. N. Sinan and E. Unur, *Materials Chemistry and Physics*, 2016, **183**, 571-579.
11. G. Wang, H. Xu, L. Lu and H. Zhao, *Journal of Energy Chemistry*, 2014, **23**, 809-815.
12. I. Oh, M. Kim and J. Kim, *Microelectronics Reliability*, 2015, **55**, 114-122.