Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Nanoscale. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2021

Supplementary information

Flexible nanoporous activated carbon for adsorption of organics from industrial effluents

Usama Zulfiqar ^a, Nikolaos Kostoglou ^b, Andrew G. Thomas ^a, Claus Rebholz ^{a,c,*}, Allan

Matthews ^{a,*} and David J. Lewis ^{a,*}

^a Department of Materials, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL,

UK

- ^b Department of Materials Science, Montanuniversität Leoben, 8700 Leoben, Austria
- Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, University of Cyprus, 1678
 Nicosia, Cyprus
- * Corresponding authors. Email address: claus@ucy.ac.cy (Claus Rebholz); Email address: allan.matthews@manchester.ac.uk (Allan Matthews), Email address: david.lewis-4@manchester.ac.uk (David J. Lewis)

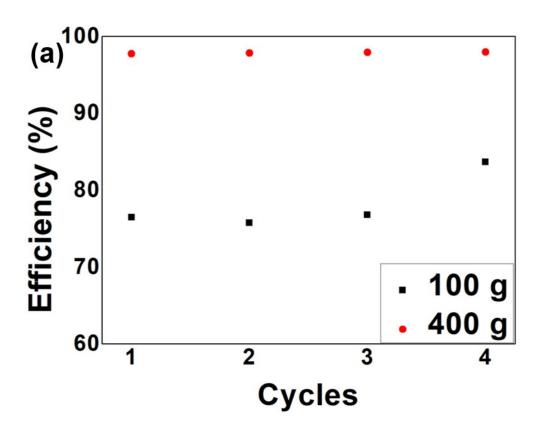


Figure S1: (a) The graph shows the emulsion separation efficiency of FACC powder for four cycles.

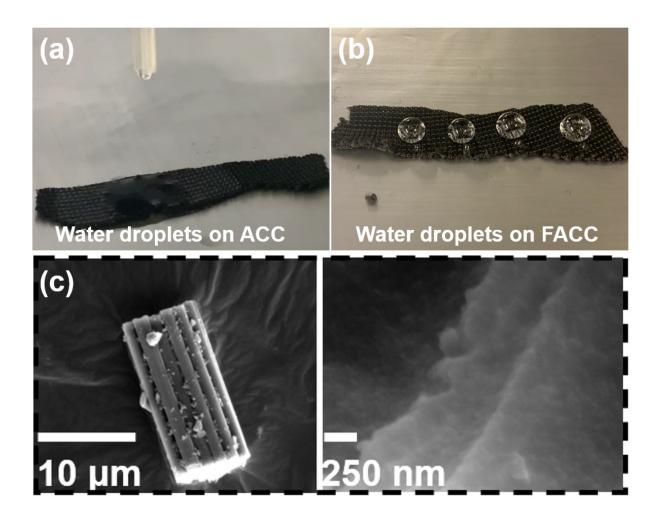


Figure S2: (a and b) The digital images show water droplets on ACC and FACC samples.

FACC sample shows good repellency towards water even after 30 cycles of separation. The pristine ACC is presented as a comparison to show the hydrophilic nature of ACC before modification. (c) SEM images showing the FACC and nanostructures on the surface of fractured FACC particles.

Elements	FACC (at.%)	FACC (at.%)	FACC (at.%)	FACC (at.%)	FACC (at.%)	FACC (at.%)
	Before		After separation of		After separation of	
	separation		oil/water mixtures		emulsion	
С	84	82.51	81.8	81.98	84.02	85.6
0	7.35	8.46	8.89	8.12	8.08	6.12
F	3.45	4.12	3.61	3.72	3.41	3.56
Si	0.63	0.55	1.29	1.31	0.76	0.39
Pt	2.83	2.53	2.8	2.92	2.13	2.48

Table S1: The table shows the quantification of elements on the surface of FACC before and after separation cycles with oil/water mixtures and emulsions.

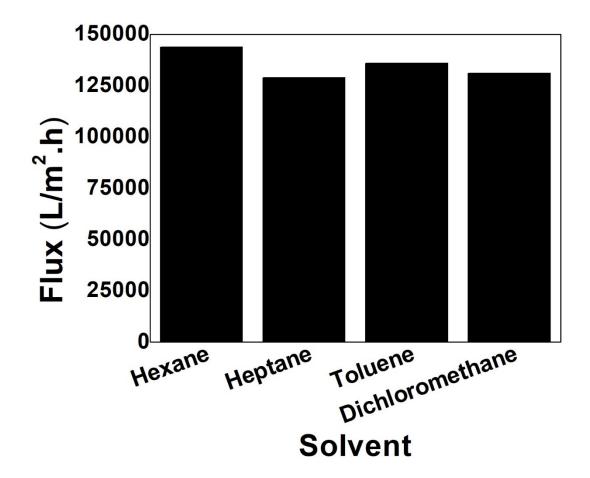


Figure S3: Figure shows the flow rates of various organic solvents under gravity without any external force.

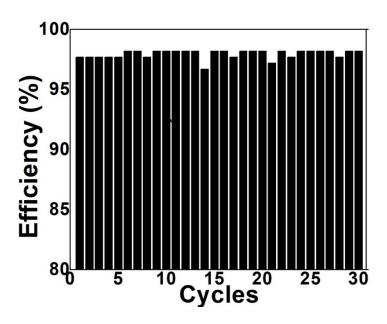


Figure S4: Figure shows the separation efficiency of FACC up to 30 cycles.