

Effect of the hydrothermal synthesis temperature on the capacitive performance of α -MnO₂ particles

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A hydrothermal method was used to synthesise α -MnO₂ particles, with manganese sulfate as the metal precursor and potassium permanganate as the oxidising agent. The α -MnO₂ samples synthesised by hydrothermal treatment at 120 °C (α -120) and 140 °C (α -140) for 2 h exhibited different sample morphologies. The sample morphology consisted of a mixture of rose-like microflower and needles, and X-ray diffraction (XRD), scanning electron microscopy (SEM), Brunauer–Emmett–Teller (BET) characterisation and Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FT–IR) were carried out on both the α -120 and α -140 samples. The results show that the only MnO₂ phase obtained in the synthesis was α -MnO₂. The electrochemical properties of the samples were analysed by cyclic voltammetry (CV) using a 0.1 M Na₂SO₄ electrolyte solution at scan rates ranging from 5 to 100 mV s⁻¹. The specific capacitance of the system was calculated from the CV curves. The α -120 and α -140 samples had specific surface areas of 128 m² g⁻¹ and 95 m² g⁻¹, respectively, and specific capacitances at a scan rate of 5 mV s⁻¹ of 112.8 F g⁻¹ and 34.86 F g⁻¹, respectively. The specific capacitance decreased as the scan rate increased for both samples.

Keywords: α -MnO₂ particles, average surface area, specific capacitance behaviour

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