

Graphene-Based Hybrid Electrodes for High Performance Supercapacitors

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The high power density, long life cycle and very short charging time make supercapacitor a desirable energy storage system.¹ One of the limitations, however, is their low energy density as compared to the batteries.² The best approach so far to overcome this problem is to design hybrid electrodes by combining the capacitor type and battery type materials.³ Such hybrid electrodes use carbon materials as a conductive backbone and the transition metal oxides as an electroactive components.⁴ As a result, a synergistically high performance is obtained which originates from the high conductivity and long life cycle of carbon materials and the high specific capacitance of TMOs.⁵ Herein, we report two hybrid ternary electrode systems by using graphene-CNTs and graphene-CNCs as conductive matrix and combining them with bimorph Akaganeite (β -FeOOH) and Manganese dioxide (α -MnO₂) nanoparticles respectively via a simple hydrothermal self assembly method. When used as electrode in symmetric and asymmetric supercapacitors (2V) in an aqueous electrolyte system, the hybrid electrodes gave an excellent energy-power profile, high specific capacitance and remarkable cyclic stability of upto 99.8% after 10,000 galvanostatic charge-discharge cycles. This high performance is attributed to a dominant capacitive charge storage mechanism and the well-structuring of the hybrid electrodes. This system approach can be useful in designing high performance electrodes for long life supercapacitor systems with high energy and power densities.