



Non-wovens carbon nanofibers doped and covered with carbon nanotubes as binderless hybrid hierarchical electrode for lithium storage

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Abstract:

This study is an investigation of a hybrid hierarchical electrode produced by electrospinning and chemical vapor deposition methods. The binderless hybrid hierarchical electrode is composed by carbon nanofibers with carbon nanotubes inside and outside the fibers. Single-walled or multi-walled carbon nanotubes are present inside the nanofiber as a dopant and they are incorporated during the carbon nanofiber electrospun production. After that, multi-walled carbon nanotubes are grown onto the surface of the carbon nanofiber using chemical vapor deposition method.

The suitability of carbon nanofibers for lithium storage applications was investigated by electrochemical methods using charge and discharge curves, cyclic voltammetry and impedance spectroscopy. The morphology of the flexible binderless hybrid hierarchical electrodes was investigated by scanning electron microscopy. The additional incorporation of oxide nanoparticles (manganese, zinc or both) by electrodeposition method are responsible to improve the specific capacitance of the electrode, showing new perspectives to use this electrode configuration to produce lightweight, flexible and conductive electrode for lithium ion batteries without binder addition.

Biography:

Elaine Yoshiko Matsubara holds a BA (2002) in Chemistry, PhD (2010) in Carbon Nanomaterials for Energy Storage Devices from the University of São Paulo (USP), a part of her PhD studies from the Instituto de Ciencias de Los Materiales de Madrid (Spain), ENEA (Italian National Agency for New Technologies Energy and Sustainable Economic Development), University of Rome La Sapienza (Italy), and a post-doc in Photovoltaic Energy Devices from the State University of São Paulo (UNESP). She is presently Researcher at University of São Paulo (USP), Brazil. Her work focuses on synthesis of doped carbon nanotubes, 3D hybrid hierarchical carbon composite materials and chemical and electrochemical graphene production to application and development of lithium and sodium ion batteries, sensors and capacitors. Her experience is focused on Materials Science with emphasis in energy devices and nano composites for filtration, catalysis, environmental remediation and polymer reinforcement.

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Smart Materials and Polymer Technology Webinar

Citation: Elaine Y. Matsubara ref; Non-wovens carbon nanofibers doped and covered with carbon nanotubes as binderless hybrid hierarchical electrode for lithium storage *Smart Materials* 2020; August 26.2020, Dubai , UAE