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Symmetric Supercapacitors Employing MnO₂ And Polyaniline Composite

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ABSTRACT

Large area electrodes of MnO_2 + polyaniline (PANI) composites of several compositions are fabricated with high specific mass of the active materials. Laboratory scale symmetric capacitors consisting of two similar electrodes separated by absorbent glass mat soaked in aqueous $Mg(NO_3)_2$ electrolytes are assembled. The capacitor made with a composite of MnO_2+5 wt% PANI provides high capacitance and low equivalent series resistance. The results of longcycle life test conducted for the capacitors suggest that the capacitance of MnO_2+5 wt% PANI capacitor is stable over 1000 charge-discharge cycles and the capacitance is greater than that of MnO_2 capacitor. Ac impedance data suggest that the charge-transfer resistance (R_{ct}) associated with Mn^{4+}/Mn^{3+} redox process, which is noticeable at high frequency region is associated with build-up of pseudocapacitance, which is noticed at low frequency region. There is a gradual increase in R_{ct} during the initial stages of cycling and thereafter it remains unchanged. MnO_2+5 wt% PANI composite is found to be suitable for development of commercial capacitors.

Keywords: Manganese dioxide, Polyaniline, Composites, Supercapacitors, Ac impedance.