

Synthesis of Polypyrrole / MnO₂ Composite and Characterization

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Abstract: This work is related with electrodeposition of composite form of MnO₂ and polypyrrole (PPY) using Potentiostatic electrodeposition Method, and study of super capacitive behaviour. Here supercapacitive behaviour is studied by Cyclic Voltammetry technique in 1M of Na₂SO₄, maximum specific capacitance for composite material is 128F/gm and maximum columbic efficiency is 99.97%. Similarly supercapacitive behaviour is also studied by charging-discharging, Nyquist Impedance spectroscopy. Surface morphology is observed by scanning electron microscope (SEM), x-ray diffraction (XRD), and Raman spectroscopy technique.

Keywords: Composite, Surface Morphology, Columbic Efficiency, Potentiostatic

1. Introduction

Super capacitors are also known as electrochemical capacitor. They utilize high surface areas, electrode materials and thin electrolytic dielectric. Capacitance of super capacitors is larger than conventional capacitor [7-11]. Super capacitors have greatest energy density and power density. Super capacitors are generally used in electrochemical batteries and fuel cell, they are classified into two groups, one is electrochemical double-layer capacitor and other is pseudo capacitors. The electrochemical double layered capacitors are constructed from two carbon based electrode, electrolyte and separator, while pseudo capacitors store charge faradically through the transfer of charge between electrode and electrolyte. Pseudo capacitors are obtained from electrosorption, reduction-oxidation reaction and intercalation process [7,12]. Conducting polymer and metal oxides shows the pseudo capacitive behaviour.

There are many metal oxides available in nature. MnO₂ is one of most high electrochemical active material, environmental compatibility, low cost and abundantly available in earth. The electrochemical performance of MnO₂ nano particle is largely dependent on their microstructure and surface area. Similarly polypyrrole is high conductive, easily synthesizable and low cost polymer. Polypyrrole shows redox active properties hence, it is used in super capacitor and battery application.

Due to high super capacitor behaviour of polypyrrole and MnO₂, most of the researchers studied their composite behaviour. Shalini Kulandaivalu, Nadhrah suhaimi and yusran Sulaiman [3] have reported specific capacitance of MnO₂/ppy as 786.6 F/g. Liang Zhang, Xiallei Peng [4] have reported specific capacitance in composite form as 239 F/g. R. K. Sharma, A. c. Rastogi [5] have reported specific capacitance as 620 F/gm, Jiaypu tao, Nishuang Liu [6] have reported specific capacitance for composite material as 69.3F/gm.

In this research paper, by using AR grade chemicals, we have Potentiostatically deposited Polypyrrole and MnO₂ on

stainless steel compositely. For confirmation of composite material, material was characterised by XRD, Raman spectra technique and its morphology was studied by using SEM technique. Electrochemical behaviour was studied by using Cyclic Voltammetry, galvanostatic charging-discharging and electrochemical impedance spectroscopy technique.

2. Experimental Method

For synthesis of MnO₂/polypyrrole, we have used AR grade MnSO₄. H₂O, KOH, Pyrrolemonomer (99%pure), dehydrated 5sulfosalicylic acid etc. Before electrodeposition of MnO₂/PPY, steel substrate was polished using zero grade polish paper, it was washed well with mild detergent, then rinse it with acetone and ethanol, etched substrate in HNO₃ for few seconds then rinsed it ultrasonically with distilled water. For synthesis of MnO₂, we have used 0.1M of MnSO₄.H₂O, to adjust pH up to 6.5 we added(0.05M) KOH slowly and with the help of magnetic stirrer, kept the solvent for 1 hour to stir, after then using potentiostatic electrodeposition method 0.95V voltage was applied across reference and working electrode(Stainless steel) for 20 min. After deposition, MnO₂ electrode was rinsed with distilled water and annealed it at 200^oc for 1 hour, once MnO₂ was synthesized, for synthesis of polypyrrole 0.1M pyrrole monomer is used, to adjust pH upto 2.2, 0.01M 5sulfosalicylic acid is added slowly and solution was stirred for 1 hour. By using potentiostatic electrodeposition method 0.7 V was applied across reference electrode and MnO₂ electrode for 25 min, so polypyrrole deposited on MnO₂ electrode, this process is related with layer to layer electrodeposition process. After electrodeposition of polypyrrole, sample was rinsed with distilled water and was dried at room temperature, MnO₂/ppy sample was annealed at 70^oc for 3 hours. Electrodeposition Method was carried out by three electrode system, stainless steel was used as working electrode, graphite used as counter electrode and saturated calomel used as reference electrode.

For study of super capacitive behaviour of MnO₂, in 0.1 MnSO₄.H₂O solution added 0.05M KOH for maintaining pH of solution equal to 6.5. MnO₂ was deposited on Separate

Substrate Potentiostatically at 0.95V for 20 Min. similarly we have studied super capacitive behaviour of PolyPyrrole separately. For Polypyrrole bath contain 0.1 M Pyrrole and adjusted pH of Pyrrole solution equal to 2.2 by adding 5 sulphosalicylic acid. Polypyrrole was Potentiostatically deposited on steel substrate at 0.7 V for 25 min

The MnO₂/PPY, MnO₂, Poly Pyrrole samples were electrochemically characterized by cyclic voltammetry technique, charging-discharging technique, Nyquist impedance spectroscopic technique using Metrohm autolab potentiostatic204, and is confirmed from the XRD and Raman spectroscopy technique.

3. Result and Analysis

3.1 XRD

Figure 1 shows that amorphous structure of MnO₂/polypyrrole, MnO₂, Polypyrrole. More intense peaks in XRD, which are indicated by square shows the peaks of stainless steel, Amorphous nature of XRD is more fissile for super capacitor. Because ion are easily penetrate inside the active material, all so from XRD it confirmed that amorphous phase of all material. from figure 1a peak at 23-35° (indicated by triangle) indicating the diffraction peak of polypyrrole and suggest that Polypyrrole phase is amorphous and at 2θ = 64.44° (002), 37.35° (002), 83.21° (212), we have confirmed that peak of MnO₂ (exactly match with Match3 software JCPD no.-96-151-4118), from fig 1b there is no diffraction peak other than substrate peak, substrate peak indicated by square. From figure 1b confirmed that amorphous phase Polypyrrole. And from fig 1c peak at 64.52° shows amorphous and slightly crystalline nature of gamma MnO₂.

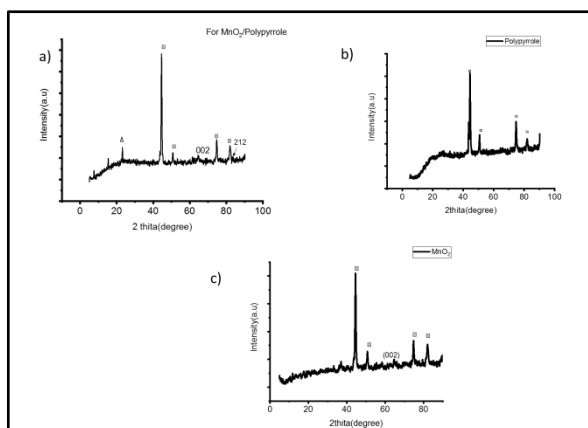


Figure 1: XRD of a) MnO₂/ polypyrrole composite b) for Polypyrrole c) For MnO₂

3.2. Raman spectra

Figure 2 shows the Raman spectroscopy of MnO₂/ppy, PPY, MnO₂. Peak at 921 cm⁻¹, 931 cm⁻¹ attributes the polypyrrole ring, 975, 972 cm⁻¹ attributes C-H Bond, peak at 1045 cm⁻¹, 1052 cm⁻¹ shows C-H plane symmetry band, Peaks at 1323 cm⁻¹, 1377 cm⁻¹ and 1416 cm⁻¹ shows C-N asymmetry plane. Peaks at 1577 cm⁻¹, 1584 cm⁻¹ are obtained because of the C=C backbone stretch of PPY, so the presence of polypyrrole is confirmed. Peaks at 645 cm⁻¹ is main peak of

MnO₂. So from Raman spectra it is confirmed that MnO₂ and PPY are present. from fig a and b, shows composite Raman spectra almost same as polypyrrole Raman spectra because according to EDS Spectra the atomic weight of MnO₂ is small as compared to polypyrrole.

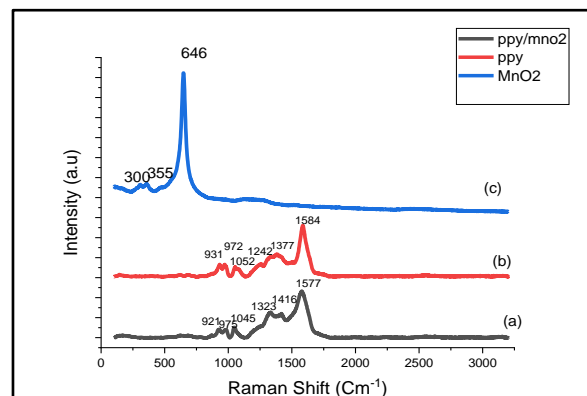


Figure 2: Raman spectroscopy for MnO₂/ PPY

3.3. Surface Morphology Material

Surface morphology of Materials was studied by Scanning of electron Microscope which is shown in figure. Figure 3 shows MnO₂, PPY, MnO₂/PPY films grown with potentiostatic deposition on stainless steel substrate. Figure 3c shows that the whole surface of film is covered with nano particles of MnO₂ and its size is about 0.03 μm also particles of polypyrrole are deposited on it, in nodule like structure [14]. Film is slightly porous due to MnO₂. figure 3a shows that granular like structure of MnO₂ its size about 0.1 μm. figure 3b shows that particles are uniformly distributed and shows cloud like cluster structure its size about 480 nm. so at composite deposition size of MnO₂ is less as MnO₂ thin film particle size.

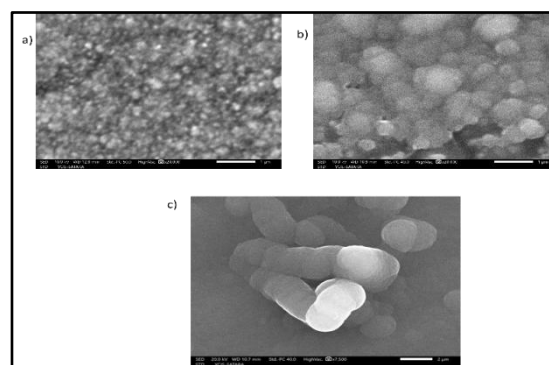


Figure 3: SEM Image of a) MnO₂ b) PPY c) MnO₂/PPY

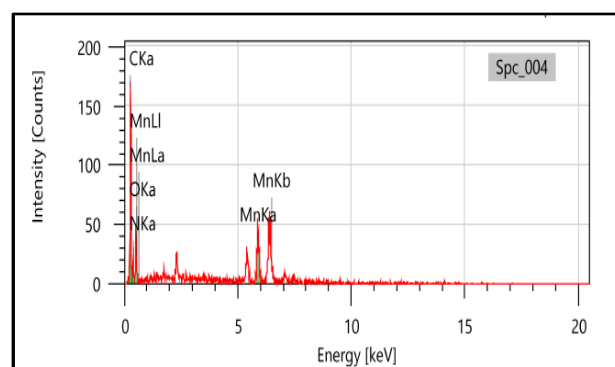


Figure 4: EDX spectra for MnO₂/PPY

Figure 4 shows EDX spectra of MnO₂/PPY. The coating of polypyrrole and MnO₂ in composite form is further verified by energy-dispersive x-ray spectroscopy analysis (EDX). The significant amount of carbon, nitrogen, manganese, and oxygen signals are detected on MnO₂/PPY sample which is shown in the following table 1

Table 1: EDAX data for MnO₂/PPY

Element	Mass%	Atom%
C	42.85±0.78	54.13±0.99
N	21.04±1.62	22.79±1.76
O	19.49±1.35	18.49±1.28
Mn	16.61±0.93	4.59±0.26
Total	100	100

3.4. Electrochemical properties

3.4.1 Cyclic Voltammetry (CV)

Super capacitive behaviour of MnO₂/PPY, MnO₂ were studied by cyclic voltammetry technique at voltage range from 0 to 1V for 20 mV/sec in 1 M of Na₂SO₄ solution. Super capacitive behaviour of PPY was studied by cyclic Voltammetry technique at voltage range from -0.5 V to 0.4 V for 20 mV/sec in 0.5 M Na₂SO₄. The maximum capacitance Of MnO₂/PPY composite, MnO₂ and polypyrrole obtained at 20 mv/sec is 128 F/gm, 145 F/gm, 55.11 F/gm, figure 5a, b, & c shows the pseudo capacitive behaviour of MnO₂/PPY film, MnO₂ film and PPY. Area of Cyclic Voltammetry curve For MnO₂ is maximum as compared to MnO₂/Ppy composite and ppy so it show maximum specific capacitance as compared to other films. The specific capacitance stability was studied by plotting graph of specific capacitance against number of cycle which is shown in figure 5d. After 1000 cycle for 100mV/sec in 1M of Na₂SO₄ the capacity retention for Mno2/PPY is 78.87% and coulomb efficiency is 99.97%. And for MnO₂ is 91.73% and coulomb efficiency is 99.99%. For Polypyrrole stability is very less due to Because of dissolution and oxidation of substrates in the electro polymerization process, adherence of film is a major challenge for electrodeposition of PPY on stainless steel. But MnO₂ thin film is more stable than Mno2/ppy composite and PPy film. Mno2/ppy is also stable due to presence of MnO₂.

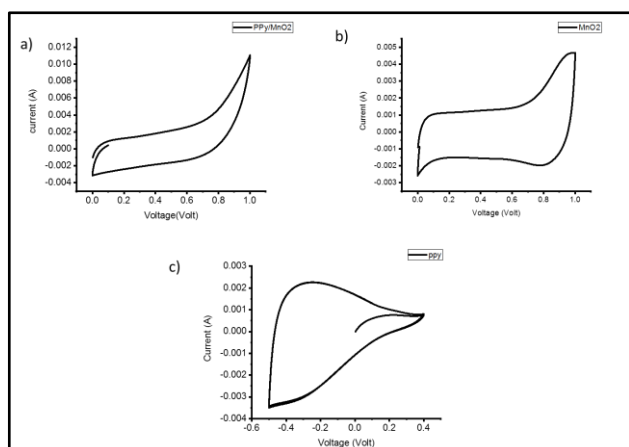


Figure 5(a): Cyclic Voltammetry for MnO₂/PPY in 1 M Na₂SO₄ at 20 mV/sec

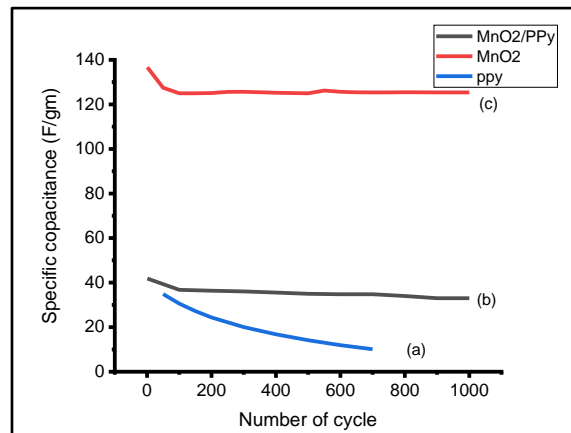


Figure 5(d): Plot of specific Capacitance Vs. Number of cycle for a) MnO₂ b) MnO₂/PPY c) PPY for 100 mV/sec

3.4.2. Galvanostatic Charging-Discharging curve

Galvanostatic charging-discharging curve at currents 0.5 mA is shown in, at 0.5 mA specific capacitance for MnO₂/ppy composite is 50.86 F/gm, for PPY specific capacitance is 21.66 F/gm and for MnO₂ specific capacitance is 203.92 F/gm. so from Galvanostatic charging discharging curve MnO₂ thin film shows maximum specific capacitance as compared to other material. Small voltage drop initially before discharging curve. The energy density for PPY, MnO₂/PPY composite and MnO₂ is 10.57 Wh/Kg, 25.09 Wh/Kg and 103.045 Wh/Kg. so MnO₂ shows high current density as compared to others film.

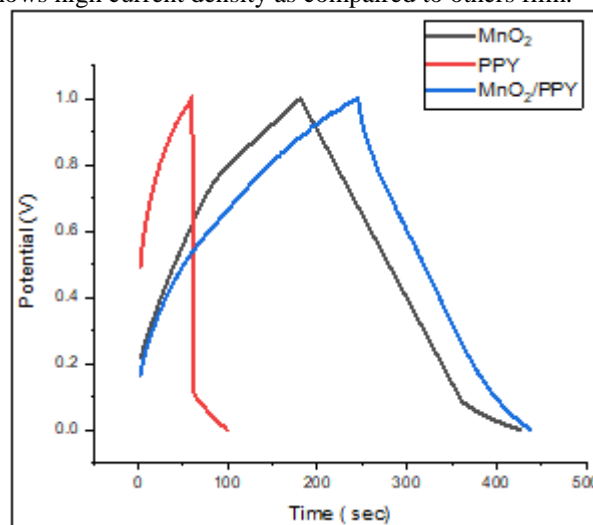


Figure 6(a): galvanostatic charging-discharging curve for MnO₂/PPY in 1 M Na₂SO₄

3.4.3 Electrochemical Impedance spectroscopy:-

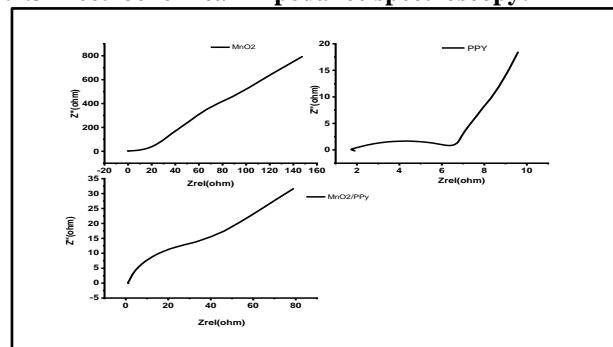


Figure 7: Nyquist plot for MnO₂/PPY composite in 1M Na₂SO₄

In figure 7, electrochemical performance of MnO₂, PPY and MnO₂/PPY were studied by electrochemical impedance spectroscopy technique, at frequency range from 0.1MHz to 0.1 Hz. The Electrochemical impedance Spectroscopy plots at high frequency region are collected and results show that, MnO₂/PPY, MnO₂, PPY gives lower equivalent series resistance (Rs) equal to 1.06, 4.54, 1.73ohm and semicircle is absent at high frequency side for MnO₂/ppy and MnO₂ film so it suggests that lower charge transfer resistance (Rct= 0 ohm), the charge transfer resistance for polypyr role is 4.7 ohm. At low frequency side, nature of the graph is linear. This result suggests that MnO₂/PPY, MnO₂ exhibits better capacitive performance with low charge transfer resistance and diffusion resistance.

4. Conclusion

XRD and Raman spectra confirmed that synthesis of MnO₂/PPY in composite form, MnO₂,PPy, their nature is amorphous in nature, so maximum capacitance is obtained at 20mV/sec is 128 F/gm, 145 f/gm, 55.11 F/gm for MnO₂/PPY, MnO₂/PPY, using cyclic voltammetry, similarly in charging-discharging curve we observed super capacitive behaviour of MnO₂/PPY, MnO₂,PPY Films. 78.87% and 99.97% retention and coulomb efficiency is obtained from stability curve of MnO₂/PPY and 91.73% and 99.99% retention and coulomb efficiency is obtained for MnO₂ so MnO₂/PPY film is more stable than PPY but slightly less stable than MnO₂.

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