

Synthesis of Ni-Doped Graphene Aerogels for Electrochemical Applications

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Electrochemically Active Surface Area (ECSA)

The electrochemically active surface area (ECSA) is commonly calculated by the following equation:

$$ECSA = Cdl/Cs$$

where Cdl is the double-layer capacitance and Cs the specific capacitance of a reference material (Cs). It is quite complex to know or determine the exact value of Cs , especially for inorganic/organic hybrid materials or material with complex structures, so most of the reported publications assumed that Cs have the same value for all the studied materials or at least range around the same order of magnitude. Thus, the trend of the Cdl values can be equivalent to that of ECSA. Cdl was determined by performing cyclic voltammetry (CV) in a three-electrode cell involving the studied samples, an Ag/AgCl electrode, and a glassy carbon electrode as the working, reference, and counter electrodes, respectively. The electrodes were immersed in a 0.1 NaOH solution and the CV were recorded between 0 and 0.3 V (vs Ag/AgCl), in which non-Faradaic processes take place, at different scan rates (from 20 to 140 mV s⁻¹). Then, Cdl was calculated as the slope obtained by plotting the maximum current density (at a potential of 0.15 V) versus the scan rate. Figure S1 shows the CV measured at different scan rates for the undoped sample GA-20 and Ni-doped graphene aerogels.

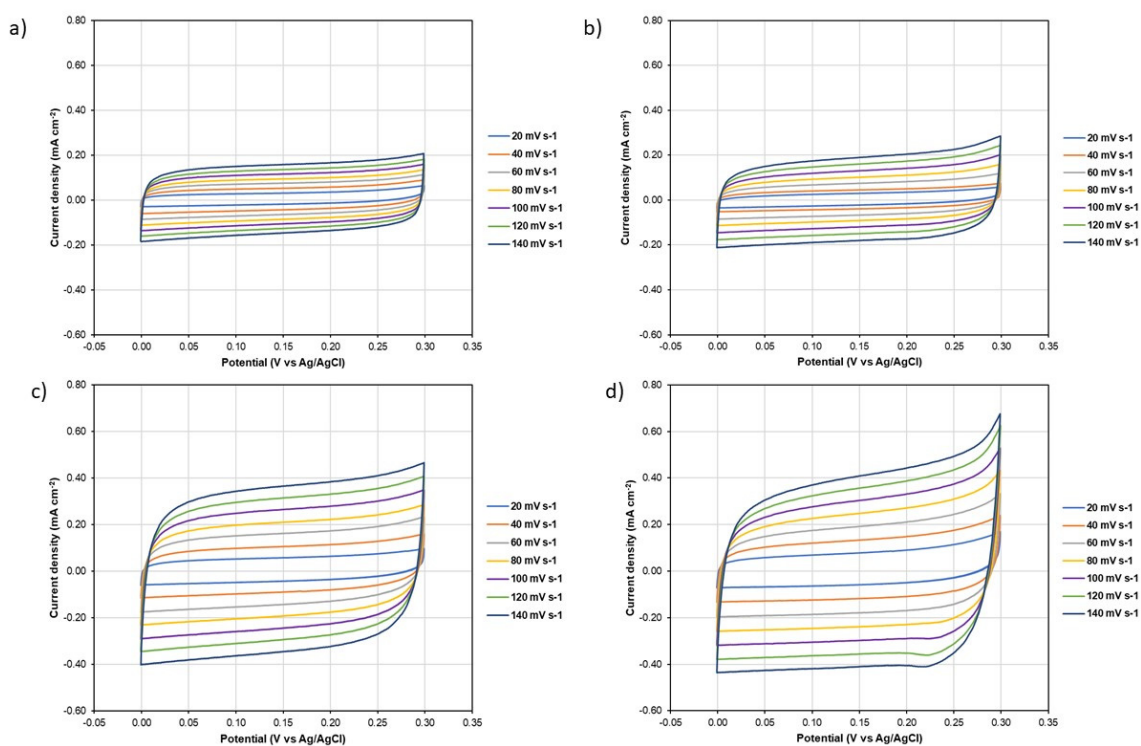


Figure S1. Cyclic voltammograms recorded between 0 and 0.3 V (vs Ag/AgCl), in which non-Faradaic processes take place, at different scan rates (from 20 to 140 mV s⁻¹) for sample GA-20 (a), GA-20-5%Ni_{ac} (b), GA-20-5%Ni_{cl} (c), and GA-20-5%Ni_{nit} (d).