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## Supercapacitor electrode materials prepared from biomass derived activated carbons

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### Abstract

The objective of using the proposed method based on microporous structure development is to produce new inexpensive carbon matrix which could be used as an efficient active component of electrode material implemented in electric double layer capacitors (EDLC).

Produced carbons are characterized by a highly developed polymodal porous texture [1]. These nanostructured materials were produced through the process of one step carbonization and chemical activation of vegetable biomass by the use of phosphoric acid. It was found that in the development of activated carbon's microporous structure, the impregnation ratio can play a crucial role. Also, the range of temperature treatment and the initial carbonaceous precursor features can contribute to that. The specific surface area of samples derived on the base of rice husks, apricot stones and walnut shell calculated by BET was equal to 1690 m<sup>2</sup>/g, 2030 m<sup>2</sup>/g and 1380 m<sup>2</sup>/g, respectively [2].

Micro-mesoporous activated carbons were electrochemically investigated as active components of symmetric electrodes in a two electrode cell. The specific capacitance of the cell retains 160 F/g after 1000 charge-discharge cycles in 1 M Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> aqueous electrolyte. Electrode materials are also characterized by a great ability to polarization. The indicated value of specific capacitance corresponds to the characteristics of the capacity of commercially available carbons based on carbonized coconut shell. However, proposed porous carbons with advanced surface texture were produced by simple processing of vegetable biomass that traditionally grows in Kazakhstan and usually forms a large-tonnage waste.

The average pore size of the sample presented by the carbon derived through activation of rice husk lies between 1.2 and 1.6 nm. In this case, the pore diameter corresponds to the dimension of the solvated ions in the electrolyte. This trend can positively influence the diffusion processes associated with the mass transfer in the micropore volume of the electrode material. Therefore, main specific characteristics based on EDLC can be improved significantly.

### References

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