Supplementary information

Gamma-radiated biochar carbon for improved supercapacitor performance

Ezaldeen Adhamash ^{a†}, Rajesh Pathak ^{a†}, Qiquan Qiao ^a, Yue Zhou ^{a*}, Robert McTaggart ^{b*} a Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD 57007, USA b Department of Physics, South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD 57007, USA *Email: yue.zhou@sdstate.edu robert.mctaggart@sdstate.edu





Fig. S1 Raman spectroscopy of untreated biochar, 50kGy, 100 kGy and 150 kGy of gamma radiation.

	untreated		50 kGy	gamma	100 rays	kGy	150 kGy	gamma
			rays			gamma	rays	
Current	Energy	Power	Energy	Power	Energy	Power	Energy	Power
$(A g^{-1})$	density	density	density	density	density	density	density	density
	Wh kg ⁻¹	(kW kg ⁻¹)	Wh kg ⁻¹	(kW kg ⁻¹)	Wh kg ⁻¹	(kW kg ⁻¹)	Wh kg ⁻¹	(kW kg ⁻¹)
0.05	16.01	0.12	28.3	0.101	34.2	0.1	25.7	0.1
0.1	15.5	0.26	26.4	0.204	32.7	0.202	25.1	0.207
0.2	15.4	0.6	25.6	0.422	31.8	0.411	24	0.425
0.5	14.8	2.2	24.2	1.13	30.6	1.06	22.4	1.18
1	14.2	10.2	22.9	2.57	29.7	2.3	19.2	2.6
2	13.6	16.3	21.5	7.03	28.8	5.5	17.5	8.04
5	12.8	18	17.2	51	25.9	31.08	15.8	11
10	11.1	22	13.9	60	22.5	33	13.2	13

Table S1 Values of energy densities with power densities with different current densities for untreated, 50 kGy, 100 kGy, and 150 kGy gamma radiation.

Table S2 Comparison of our work with previous works

Precursor	Method	P (kW kg ⁻¹)	E (Wh kg ⁻¹)	References
Carbon YP-50	Gamma dose100 kGy	0.1	34.2	Present work
Active carbon	Gamma dose 5 KGy	0.236	5.45	[1]
Active carbon	Gamma dose 20 kGy	0.047-0.101	0.3 x 10 ⁻³ – 0.04	[1]
Carbon nanoparticles	Flame synthesis	0.014	4.8	[2]
With MnO ₂				
Oil Palm Kernel	Annealing at 500°C/4h	0.3	7.4	[3]
Shell Biomass	-			

Table S3 I_D/I_G ratios of untreated, 50 kGy, 100 kGy, and 150 kGy gamma radiation

I_D/I_G
0.833
0.839
0.843
0.839

Current density (A g ⁻¹)	Specific Capacitance (F g ⁻¹)				
	untreated	50 kGy dose	100 kGy dose	150 kGy dose	
0.05	115.3	203.6	246.2	185	
0.1	111.8	190.3	235.5	180.9	
0.2	110.8	184.1	229.3	173.2	
0.5	106.5	174.5	220.2	161	
1	102.4	165.3	214.2	138.0	
2	98.15	154.6	207.2	126	
5	92.5	123.7	186.8	114	
10	80	100	162	95	

Table S4 Specific capacitance, specific energy, and specific power with different current density for untreated, 50 kGy, 100 kGy, and 150 kGy gamma rays.

Table S5 Impedance results of untreated, 50 kGy, 100 kGy, and 150 kGy gamma rays.

Resistance	untreated	50 kGy	100 kGy	150 kGy
R _{CT}	21.7 Ω	13.6 Ω	7.4 Ω	16.7 Ω
R _S	0.33 Ω	0.31 Ω	0.30 Ω	0.32 Ω



Fig. S2. The electrochemical properties of different carbon sample after 10,000 cycles. (a) CV curves of untreated and treated samples with gamma radiation, (b) capacitance retention versus cycles number at a current density of 2 A g⁻¹, (c) EIS curves of untreated and treated samples with gamma radiation (d) Galvanostatic charge-discharge curve of untreated and treated and treated samples.

References

- 1. Nor, N.S.M., et al., *Influence of gamma irradiation exposure on the performance of supercapacitor electrodes made from oil palm empty fruit bunches.* Energy, 2015. **79**: p. 183-194.
- 2. Yuan, L., et al., *Flexible solid-state supercapacitors based on carbon nanoparticles/MnO2 nanorods hybrid structure.* ACS nano, 2012. **6**(1): p. 656-661.
- 3. Misnon, I.I., N.K.M. Zain, and R. Jose, *Conversion of oil palm kernel shell biomass to activated carbon for supercapacitor electrode application.* Waste and Biomass Valorization, 2019. **10**(6): p. 1731-1740.