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Improved electrosorption performance using acid treated electrode scaffold in capacitive deionization

Shreerang D Datar ^a, Shakeelur Raheman ^b, Rupali S Mane ^a, Dhaval Chavda ^a, Neetu Jha ^a △ ⊠

- ^a Department of Physics, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai, 400019, India
- b Department of Applied Science, Shri Vile Parle Kelavani Mandal Institute of Technology, Dhule, 424001, India

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Highlights

- Commercial polyurethane sponge (OPS) was modified by oxygen-containing functional groups via direct acid treatment (APS).
- Acid treatment significantly increased the wettability and reduced the co-ion expulsion effect.
- N-doped camphor soot (NCS) was used as CDI electrode material.
- APS-NCS exhibited significantly higher electrosorption performance than OPS-NCS.
- APS-NCS showed better cyclic stability retaining 66.1% of the initial electrosorption capacity.

