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L Jimenez-Lopez, R Morales, Jimena Castro-Gutiérrez, A. Celzard, Vanessa Fierro. Hydrogen storage in HKUST-1@Activated Carbon composites obtained by Resonant Acoustic Mixing. 18th International Symposium on Metal-Hydrogen Systems, MH2024, May 2024, Saint-Malo, France. hal-04568152

## HAL Id: hal-04568152 https://hal.univ-lorraine.fr/hal-04568152

Submitted on 3 May 2024

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#### Hydrogen storage in HKUST-1@Activated Carbon composites obtained by Resonant Acoustic Mixing

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Metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) are promising adsorbents for hydrogen storage, as they feature adaptable porosities, high surface areas and the potential to be functionalized to suit specific applications [1]. Incorporating carbon materials into the MOF matrix has already proved to be a successful strategy for enhancing the specific surface area of the resulting composite material compared with the original MOF. This, in turn, improves its adsorption capacity [2]. This study focuses on the impact of mixing a commercial, high-surface area activated carbon (AC, MSC 30 from Kansai Coke and Chemicals Co., Ltd.) with a well-known MOF, HKUST-1, on the properties of the composite, including hydrogen storage capacity. Resonant Acoustic Mixing (RAM) was used because it provides exceptional powder mixing. Figure 1 shows a schematic representation of the synthesis method and some relevant results.

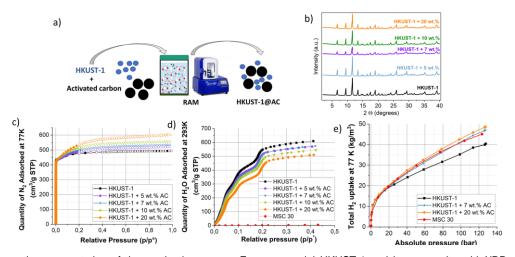


Figure 1 a) Schematic representation of the synthesis process. For commercial HKUST-1 and its composites: b) XRD patterns; c)  $N_2$  isotherms at 77 K; d) Amount of  $H_2O$  adsorbed at 293 K; e) Total  $H_2$  uptake (kg/m³)

Mixing different weight percents of AC with HKUST-1 increased the mesopore volume, leading to enhanced  $H_2$  uptake at pressures above 20 bars, and the composites exhibited reduced hydrophilic behavior, possibly extending their lifespan. The total  $H_2$  uptake increased from 40.4 kg/m<sup>3</sup> for pure HKUST-1 to 48.6 kg/m<sup>3</sup> for the composite with 20 wt.% AC, surpassing the  $H_2$  storage capacity of pure AC, 45.07 kg/m<sup>3</sup> at 130 bar and 77K.

Aknowledgements The authors acknowledge: (i) SOLHYD project funded by the ANR-22-PEHY-0007 from the Agence Nationale de la Recherche, (ii) FRCR HyPE project (Production et stockage d'Hydrogène décarboné et son utilisation pour la Production d'Energie dans des dispositifs sans métaux nobles) funded by Région Grand-Est and FEDER, and (iii) TALiSMAN and TALiSMAN2 projects funded by FEDER.

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