

Controlled Synthesis of Trimanganese tetroxide nanorods: Applications on electrochemical supercapacitors

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This paper reports on a controlled solution processed synthesis of trimanganese tetraoxide ( $Mn_3O_4$ ) nanorods (NRs) using potassium permanganate  $KMnO_4$ , as precursor at low temperature of  $80^\circ C$ . It was found that the pH and reaction time were crucial for achieving the rods like morphology. pH 12 and 24 h were found to be the optimum conditions for the formation of  $Mn_3O_4$  NRs. With crystalline and structural studies, the characteristic tetragonal spinel structure of  $Mn_3O_4$  NRs was confirmed wherein the divalent manganese ions were attached in the tetrahedral coordination. The band gap of  $Mn_3O_4$  NRs was estimated to be 2.43 eV which was slightly higher than  $Mn_3O_4$  nanoparticles (NPs) due to the transformation of NPs to NRs morphology. The synthesized  $Mn_3O_4$  NRs were used as electro-active materials for electrochemical supercapacitors and showed reasonably high specific capacitance of 266 F/g at 10 mV/s due to its excellent electrochemical behaviour.