

Nanocomposites and nanomaterials

Nano-particulate structures with glucose derived char and compacted fumed silica in gaseous and aqueous media

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Compacted fumed silica (densil, DS) was prepared using mechanochemical activation (MCA) of wetted nanosilica A-300 (0.5 g of water per gram of dry silica) in a powder state. Densil is characterized by a value of the specific surface area ($S_{\text{BET}} = 328 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$) close to that of initial silica ($330 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$) but by a greater value of the pore volume ($1.325 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$ vs. $0.826 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$) and a greater bulk density ($0.21 \text{ g}/\text{cm}^3$ vs. $0.05 \text{ g}/\text{cm}^3$). Despite these textural changes, densil remains in the powder state. Densil was used as a matrix for preparation of a composite with glucose (Gl/DS) (90 g of glucose + 25 g of water per 50 g of DS), which was then carbonized to form nano-particulate char bound to nanosilica. The Gl/DS composite has strongly reduced porosity ($0.227 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$) and specific surface area ($42 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$) compared to DS. After carbonization of bound glucose ($500 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for 3 h), the values of pore volume ($0.5 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$) and S_{BET} ($302 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$) of increase, and contribution of nanopores significantly grows.

The particle size distribution of C/DS in the aqueous media is similar to that of DS (mainly in the range of 0.1-10 μm) that is appropriate for some practical applications of both DS and C/DS, *e.g.* as drug carriers and enterosorbents.

The developed method of gas-phase mechano-sorption modification of nanooxides can be useful for adsorption modification of disperse materials by non-volatile compounds using a small amount of a solvent ($\sim 30\text{-}40 \text{ wt.}\%$ in a mixture).

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