Accepted Manuscript

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Yi Li, Danlin Zeng

PII: S0167-577X(17)30081-2

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.matlet.2017.01.071

Reference: MLBLUE 22024

To appear in: *Materials Letters*

Received Date: 24 November 2016 Revised Date: 9 January 2017 Accepted Date: 18 January 2017



Please cite this article as: Y. Li, D. Zeng, Synthesis and characterization of flower-like carbon spheres solid acid from glucose for esterification, *Materials Letters* (2017), doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.matlet.2017.01.071

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Synthesis and characterization of flower-like carbon spheres solid acid

from glucose for esterification

Yi Li, Danlin Zeng*

The Archives of Wuhan University of Science and Technology, Hubei Key Laboratory of Coal Conversion and

New Carbon Material, School of Chemitry and Chemical Engineering, Wuhan University of Science and

Technology, Wuhan 430081, China

Abstract: A novel flower-like carbon spheres solid acid was prepared from

glucose by the simple hydrothermal method. The characterization results show that

-SO₃H groups are covalently linked on the carbon spheres solid acid in sulfonation

process, which enhanced acid strength and acid densities of the solid acid catalyst.

The flower-like shape derived from the preparation process also increases the surface

area of the catalysts and the accessibility of the active sites. The catalytic performance

results indicate that the carbon spheres solid acid is an excellent catalyst for

esterification reaction.

Keywords: carbon spheres; solid acid; carbon materials; biomaterials; esterification

Corresponding author.

E-mail addresses: zdanly@163.com (D. Zeng).

1. Introduction

Liquid acid has been extensively used in the acid catalyzed reaction. While

considering its high toxicity, serious corrosiveness and poor recyclability, this kind of

catalyst has been greatly limited in the modern chemical industry applications.

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