Accepted Manuscript

Research paper

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PII:	S0009-2614(18)30001-0
DOI:	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cplett.2018.01.001
Reference:	CPLETT 35353
To appear in:	Chamical Physics Lattars
10 appear m.	Chemicai I hysics Letters

Received Date:18 October 2017Accepted Date:2 January 2018



Please cite this article as: H. Khoshnevis, S.M. Mint, E. Yedinak, T.Q. Tran, A. Zadhoush, M. Youssefi, M. Pasquali, H.M. Duong, Super high-rate fabrication of high-purity Carbon nanotube aerogels from floating catalyst method for oil spill cleaning, *Chemical Physics Letters* (2018), doi: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cplett.2018.01.001

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Super High-rate Fabrication of High-purity Carbon Nanotube Aerogels from Floating Catalyst Method for Oil Spill Cleaning

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Abstract

In this study, we apply an advanced floating catalyst method to fabricate carbon nanotube (CNT) aerogels at super high deposition rate for oil spill cleaning. The aerogels consist of 3D porous network of stacking double-walled CNT bundles with low catalyst impurity (9%) and high thermal stability (650 $^{\circ}$ C). With high porosity, surface areas, and water contact angles, the CNT aerogels exhibit a high oil adsorption of up to 107 g/g and good reusability of up to four adsorption-burning cycles. This work suggests that the lightweight, porous, and super hydrophobic CNT aerogels can be promising sorbent materials for environmental applications.

Keywords: carbon nanotube aerogel; floating catalyst method; oil spill cleaning; oil adsorption kinetics¹

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