

Table of Contents

| | Page number |
|--|--------------|
| List of Figures | i-vi |
| List of Tables | vii |
| List of Acronyms/Abbreviations | viii-x |
| Preface | xi-xiii |
| Chapter 1 Introduction and Literature review | 1-44 |
| 1.1 Conjugated polymer: Historical background and classification | 2 |
| 1.2 Origin and mechanism of conductivity of conjugated polymers | 6 |
| 1.3 Properties limitations of conjugated polymers | 10 |
| 1.4 Conjugated polymer nanocomposites: Improved properties | 11 |
| 1.5 Electrochemical applications of conjugated polymers nanocomposites | 14 |
| 1.6 Renewable energy and hydrogen (H_2) production | 17 |
| 1.7 Conjugated polymer nanocomposites: an effective electrocatalyst | 19 |
| 1.7.1 Principles and figures of merit of electrocatalyst | 21 |
| 1.7.2 Polymer nanocomposites as a catalyst for electro-oxidation of formic acid | 22 |
| 1.7.2.1 Mechanism of electro-oxidation of formic acid | 24 |
| 1.7.3 Polymer nanocomposites as an HER electrocatalyst | 27 |
| 1.7.3.1 Mechanism of electrocatalytic HER | 29 |
| 1.7.3.2 Evaluating parameters for electrochemical performance of electrocatalyst | 31 |
| 1.8 Conjugated polymer nanocomposites: next-generation supercapacitor | 36 |
| 1.8.1 Principles, classification and mechanisms of supercapacitors | 38 |
| 1.8.2 Evaluating parameter for performance supercapacitor | 41 |
| 1.9 Scope of the work and objectives of the thesis | 42 |
| Chapter 2 Characterization Techniques | 45-62 |
| 2.1 Structural characterization | 46 |
| 2.1.1 UV-Visible spectroscopy | 46 |
| 2.1.2 X-ray diffraction | 48 |
| 2.1.3 FTIR spectroscopy | 49 |
| 2.2 Morphological characterization | 50 |
| 2.2.1 Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) | 51 |
| 2.2.2 Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) | 52 |
| 2.3 Elemental analysis | 54 |
| 2.3.1 X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) | 54 |
| 2.3.2 Energy dispersive X-ray analysis (EDX) | 55 |
| 2.4 Surface area analysis: Brunauer-Emmett-Teller (BET) theory | 56 |

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| | 2.5 Electrochemical analysis 2.5.1 CHI7044 electrochemical workstation 2.5.5 Cyclic voltammetry (CV) and linear sweep voltammetry(LSV) 2.5.6 Differential pulse voltammetry (DPV) 2.5.7 Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) 2.5.8 Galvanic charge-discharge (GCD) 2.5.9 Amperometry, chronopotentiometry and chronoamperometry 2.5.10 Faradic and capacitive current | 57 57 58 60 60 61 61 62 |
| Chapter 3 | Electro-oxidation of formic acid for the production of hydrogen on polycarbazole-WO₃ composite-modified electrodes | 63-83 |
| | 3.1 Introduction | 64 |
| | 3.2 Experimental section | 66 |
| | 3.3 Results and discussion | 68 |
| | 3.4 Conclusion | 82 |
| Chapter 4 | Facile hydrogen evolution reaction on polypyrrole/NASICON (PPy/NFS) composites modified electrodes | 84-108 |
| | 4.1 Introduction | 85 |
| | 4.2 Experimental section | 88 |
| | 4.3 Results and discussion | 90 |
| | 4.4 Conclusion | 108 |
| Chapter 5 | Enhanced hydrogen evolution reaction on polypyrrole/Ni-doped NASICON PPy/NFS(Ni) composites modified electrodes | 109-134 |
| | 5.1 Introduction | 110 |
| | 5.2 Experimental section | 113 |
| | 5.3 Results and discussion | 115 |
| | 5.4 Conclusion | 134 |
| Chapter 6 | Investigation of Redox mediated Super capacitive property of PPy/NFS and PPy/Ni-doped NFS composites | 135-148 |
| | 6.1 Introduction | 136 |
| | 6.2 Experimental section | 138 |
| | 6.3 Results and discussion | 139 |
| | 6.4 Conclusion | 148 |
| Chapter 7 | Conclusions and future scope | 149-152 |
| References | | 153 |
| List of Publications | | 172 |
| List of Conferences/workshops/symposiums attended | | 174 |