

# Magnesium Bismuth Ferrite Nitrogen-Doped Carbon Nanomagnetic Perovskite: Synthesis and Characterization as a High-Performance Electrode in a Supercapacitor for Energy Storage

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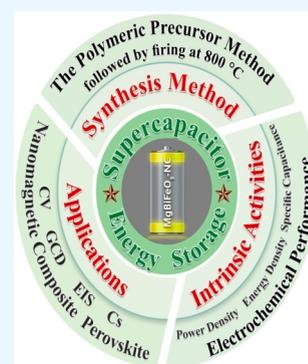
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**ABSTRACT:** Bismuth ferrite ( $\text{BiFeO}_3$ ) is regarded as an important  $\text{ABO}_3$  perovskite in the areas of energy storage and electronics. A high-performance novel  $\text{MgBiFeO}_3\text{-NC}$  nanomagnetic composite (MBFO-NC) electrode was prepared using a perovskite  $\text{ABO}_3$ -inspired method as a supercapacitor for energy storage. The electrochemical behavior of the perovskite  $\text{BiFeO}_3$  has been enhanced by magnesium ion doping in the basic aquatic electrolyte as the A-site.  $\text{H}_2$ -TPR revealed that the doping of  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  ions at the  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  sites minimizes the oxygen vacancy content and improves the electrochemical characteristics of  $\text{MgBiFeO}_3\text{-NC}$ . Various techniques were used to confirm the phase, structure, surface, and magnetic properties of the MBFO-NC electrode. The prepared sample showed an enhanced mantic performance and specific area with an average nanoparticle size of  $\sim 15$  nm. The electrochemical behavior of the three-electrode system was shown by cyclic voltammetry to have a significant specific capacity of 2079.44 F/g at 30 mV/s in 5 M KOH electrolyte. GCD analysis at a 5 A/g current density also showed an enhanced capacity improvement of 2159.88 F/g, which is 3.4 $\times$  higher than that of pristine  $\text{BiFeO}_3$ . At the power density of 5284.83 W/kg, the constructed MBFO-NC//MBFO-NC symmetric cell showed an exceptional energy density of 730.04 W h/kg. The MBFO-NC//MBFO-NC symmetric cell was employed as a direct practical application of the electrode material to entirely brighten the laboratory panel, which had 31 LEDs. This work proposes the utilization of duplicate cell electrodes made of MBFO-NC//MBFO-NC in portable devices for daily use.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

With the world's increasing population and the current energy crisis, fears regarding the generation and use of electrical power have arisen. As a consequence, a potential alternative energy storage technology other than what is now available is needed. Batteries are the most extensively used and preferred alternatives due to their high energy capacity and low voltage supply. Capacitors, as a result, remain the most effective devices for storing massive loads of energy at high power levels. Nanostructures have distinct physical and chemical features that make them an attractive choice for wide applications in industries such as supercapacitors, electronics, and energy storage devices. It should be clear that energy storage is a crucial tool for meeting the world's growing demand for energy generation and consumption.<sup>1</sup> The energy storage and conversion properties of perovskite-type ( $\text{ABX}_3$ ) materials are particularly advantageous among others nanoheterostructures. Moreover, in regard to fossil fuel depletion and climate change, much attention has been invested in offering innovative renewable energy storage systems.<sup>2</sup> The hunt for affordable, highly effective electrode materials for use in upcoming energy applications is a research hotspot. Supercapacitors are a relatively recent kind of electrochemical energy storage device. They operate on a similar concept as

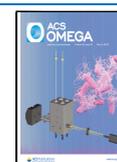
rechargeable batteries in terms of how they store charge rather than electrostatic capacitors. Due to their exceptional performance qualities, these devices can be utilized to meet needs for long-term electrical energy storage. Scientists have researched the relationship between the magnetic, electric, and ferroelectric characteristics of transition metal oxides to develop switchable multifunctional nanoelectronics, magnetoelectric memory with random access, and many types of optical-electronic devices.<sup>3</sup>

Ferromagnetic materials are materials that are strongly attracted to an external magnetic field. This type of material has more unpaired electrons in its metal atoms or metal ions. Thus, any excitation of the ferromagnetic material causes a transfer of individual electrons. This transfer increases the electrical conductivity (electrochemical), greatly benefiting supercapacitors and energy storage devices. Similarly, a

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ferroelectric material has spontaneous electric polarization. The reversing of the polarity of a ferroelectric material through applying an external electric field is known as switching behavior.<sup>4</sup> Ferroelectric materials can also maintain polarization after the removal of the electric field. The relationship between the ferroelectric and ferromagnetic materials is that they have similarities in polarization. Ferroelectric materials have many applications, and supercapacitors are one of them.<sup>5</sup> In addition, electricity and magnets are two sides of the same coin according to the laws of electromagnetism. An electric current can create a magnetic field. Conversely, a changing magnetic field can create an electric current in a physical phenomenon called electromagnetic induction. Perovskite BiFeO<sub>3</sub> (BFO) of a single-phase multiferroic material has received the most attention, as it exhibits a high link between the magnetism in the ground state and the random electric polarization.<sup>3</sup> At low temperatures, BFO goes through two phase transitions: one from paraelectric to ferroelectric at temperatures around 830 °C and another from paraelectric to magnetoelectric at 370 °C (Néel temperature). The stereochemical activity of the Bi<sup>3+</sup> 6s<sup>2</sup> lone electronic pair controls the ferroelectric mechanism for BiFeO<sub>3</sub>, which is responsible for transferring charge from the 6s<sup>2</sup> orbital to nominally empty 6p orbitals, while the residue momentum from the cantilevered Fe<sup>3+</sup> spin structure is responsible for the weak ferromagnetic feature.<sup>6</sup> The interaction influence between electric and magnetic properties generated by BiFeO<sub>3</sub> lattice distortion has highlighted the various techniques to integrate magnetism and ferroelectricity in multiferroic materials. New studies on improving the magnetic and electrical characteristics of the thin film BiFeO<sub>3</sub> have revealed that the addition of common A-site dopants like M<sup>2+</sup> can significantly reduce BiFeO<sub>3</sub>'s current leakage. The leakage current and aging concerns of BiFeO<sub>3</sub> films are both linked to oxygen vacancies, and lowering the oxygen vacancy concentration is a good strategy to alleviate both problems at the same time. However, the number of oxygen vacancies in the perovskites is crucial, which could positively enhance or negatively affect the electrochemical properties.<sup>7</sup> Oxygen vacancies in perovskites are considered as charge storage sites for pseudocapacitance.<sup>7c</sup> Hence, the energy densities of perovskite supercapacitors could be maximized by increasing the number of oxygen vacancies. On other hand, their access could negatively affect the electrochemical properties.<sup>7a</sup> Doping Mg<sup>2+</sup> ions at the Bi<sup>3+</sup> site is an effective technique to minimize the oxygen vacancy content and improve the characteristics of BiFeO<sub>3</sub>. The doping quantity can control the ferroelectric and ferromagnetic characteristics, allowing for unique multifunctional applications.<sup>8</sup> The antiferromagnetic structure in BiFeO<sub>3</sub> involves a complex interaction of interchange and spin-orbit pairing that influences Fe ions. Chemical alterations, morphology, and structure control are all options for improving the magnetic properties. In terms of morphologies, BiFeO<sub>3</sub>-based nanostructures demonstrate higher magnetization than comparable bulks because of the specific size of nanoparticles distributed in helimagnetic order.<sup>9</sup>

Another strategy to change the magnetic structure is to replace Bi with Mg<sup>2+</sup> ions because the super exchange interaction between localized Mg 2p and Fe 3d electrons may be significant in the perovskite-like structure. Activated carbon is the most well-known active component used to make electric double-layer capacitor (EDLC) electrodes. Additional improvements to this carbon material are necessary to make

the activated carbon electrodes compatible with electrolytes.<sup>10</sup> Due to of its unique qualities, such as reasonably high electronic conductivity, low price, and adequate chemical stability, activated carbon is preferable.<sup>10b</sup> Therefore, the electrolyte and electrode surface ions form a double layer. This is a crucial characteristic of an energy device, especially EDLC, which can retain more energy, so it is possible to use a non-Faradaic technique to store charge in an EDLC. This can be further explained by claiming that ions from the electrolyte compensate for the charge on the electrodes' electrons by shifting in that direction.<sup>11</sup> In contrast, an EDLC outperforms Faradaic capacitors or pseudocapacitors in terms of comparably higher stability, power density, thermal stability, greater reversibility, safety, cost-effectiveness, and simpler fabrication methods.<sup>12</sup> Moreover, nitrogen molecules present a number of interpreting obstacles in the fields of structural chemistry, energy conversion, electronics, physical chemistry, materials chemistry, biochemistry, and energy storage because of their high electronegativity, small size, high ionization enthalpy, and absence of a d orbital.<sup>13</sup> It is very interesting to see how N interacts with the local atomic coordination structure and the importance of these coordination structures for the local structure and conductivity performance.<sup>14</sup>

Recent studies have shown that heteroatom N doping in a carbon matrix is capable of generating polar covalent bonds between the nitrogen and carbon atoms due to their similar atomic sizes.<sup>15</sup> Furthermore, the C–C bond is weaker than the C–N bond because the C and N atoms have a higher rate of charge buildup.<sup>16</sup> Remarkably, a reasonable quantity of nitrogen doping results in various local structures, which are advantageous for increasing (Cs) the electrical conductivity.<sup>16a</sup> Electrocatalytic reactions also have the potential to alter the adsorption behavior of oxygen and hydrogen atoms. In this study, we prepared a nanomagnetic perovskite magnesium-doped bismuth ferrite nitrogen-doped carbon (MBFO-NC MNP). The perovskite was doped with 5% magnesium versus 95% bismuth increased the magnetic and electrical properties. In addition, urea and formaldehyde were used in the polymerization process as sources of nitrogen, carbon, and oxygen, resulting in a composite with a wide surface area and enhanced magnetic properties. These make it an excellent material for electrodes, and the material has a high specific capacitance as a supercapacitor.

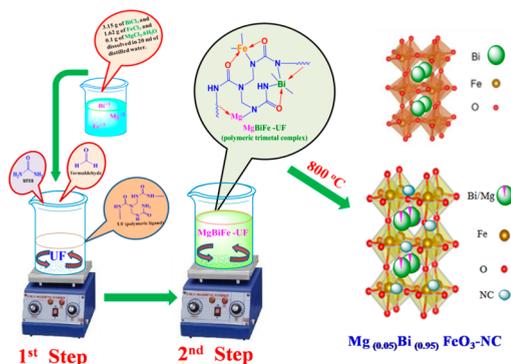
## 2. EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**2.1. Materials.** The chemical reagents listed as follows are Sigma-Aldrich grade and were utilized as received: sodium hydroxide (NaOH), urea, formaldehyde, bismuth chloride (BiCl<sub>3</sub>), magnesium chloride hexahydrate (MgCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O), and ferric chloride (FeCl<sub>3</sub>).

**2.2. Fabrication of the Precursors (MgBiFe-UF) and (MgBiFeO<sub>3</sub>-NC).** The polymerization technique was used to produce the precursors (MgBiFe-UF) for the preparation of the MgBiFeO<sub>3</sub>-NC. Typically, 15 mL of formaldehyde and 6.0 g of urea were mixed at pH 7–10 using aqueous NaOH. The mixture was placed at 70 °C on a magnetic stirrer for 1 h in order to form a urea–formaldehyde (UF) polymer ligand. Later, 1.62, 3.15, and 0.1 g of FeCl<sub>3</sub>, BiCl<sub>3</sub>, and MgCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, respectively (1:0.95:0.05) (Fe<sup>3+</sup>/Bi<sup>3+</sup>/Mg<sup>2+</sup>) were thoroughly mixed in 20 mL of double distilled H<sub>2</sub>O. Finally, the dissolved mixture salts were mixed with the viscous solution (UF) of urea formaldehyde and stirred for 4 h at 70 °C, producing a three-metal polymeric precursor MgBiFe-UF. The obtained

MgBiFe-UF was washed thoroughly several times with double distilled H<sub>2</sub>O and ethanol and dried at 50 °C. MgBiFe-UF precursors were then calcinated at 800 °C (5 °C per min) for 6 h in an argon atmosphere to produce the MgBiFeO<sub>3</sub>-NC nanomagnetic composite. Scheme 1 shows how to prepare the target material.

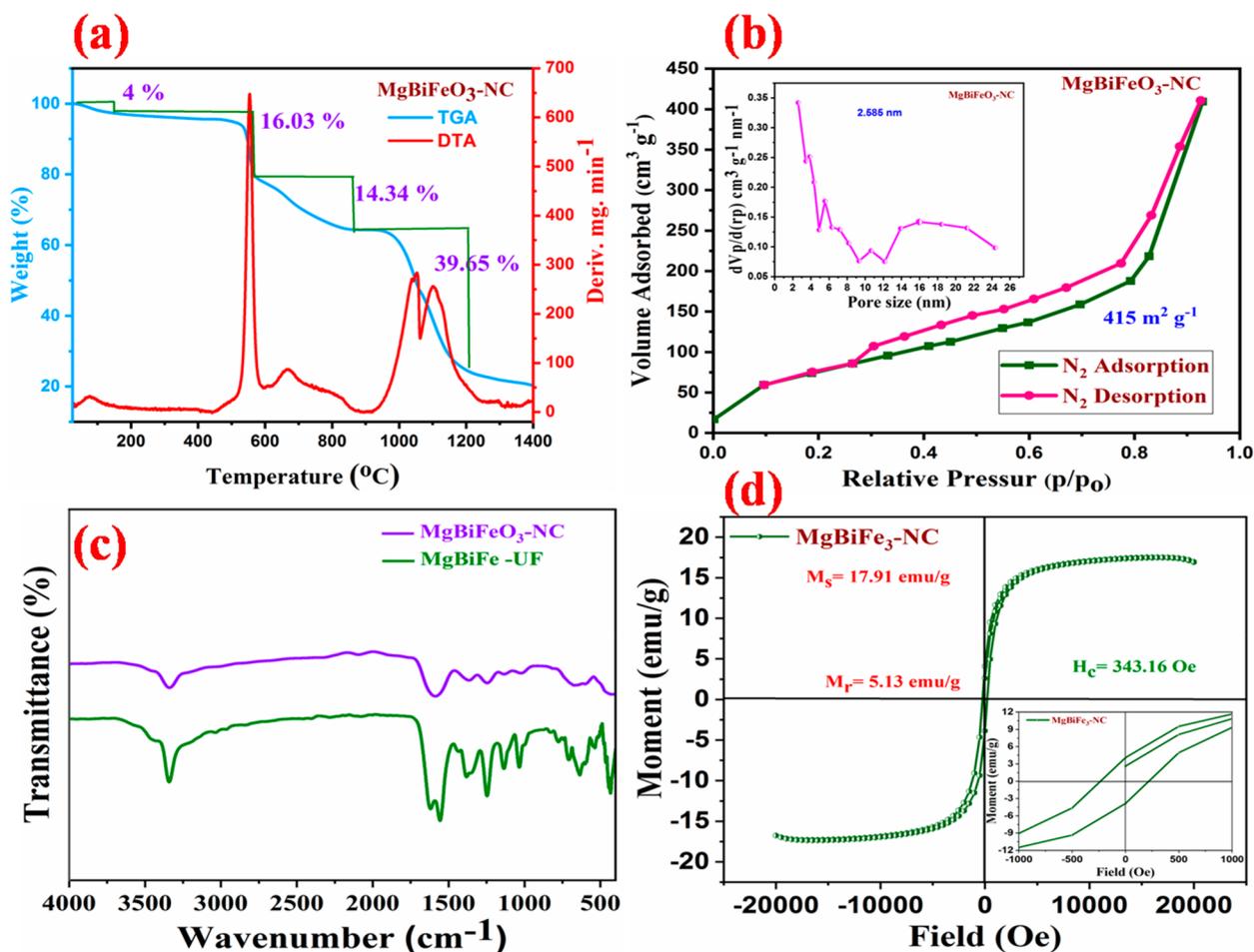
### Scheme 1. Polymeric Precursor Technique for the Preparation of the MgBiFeO<sub>3</sub>-NC Nanomagnetic Composite



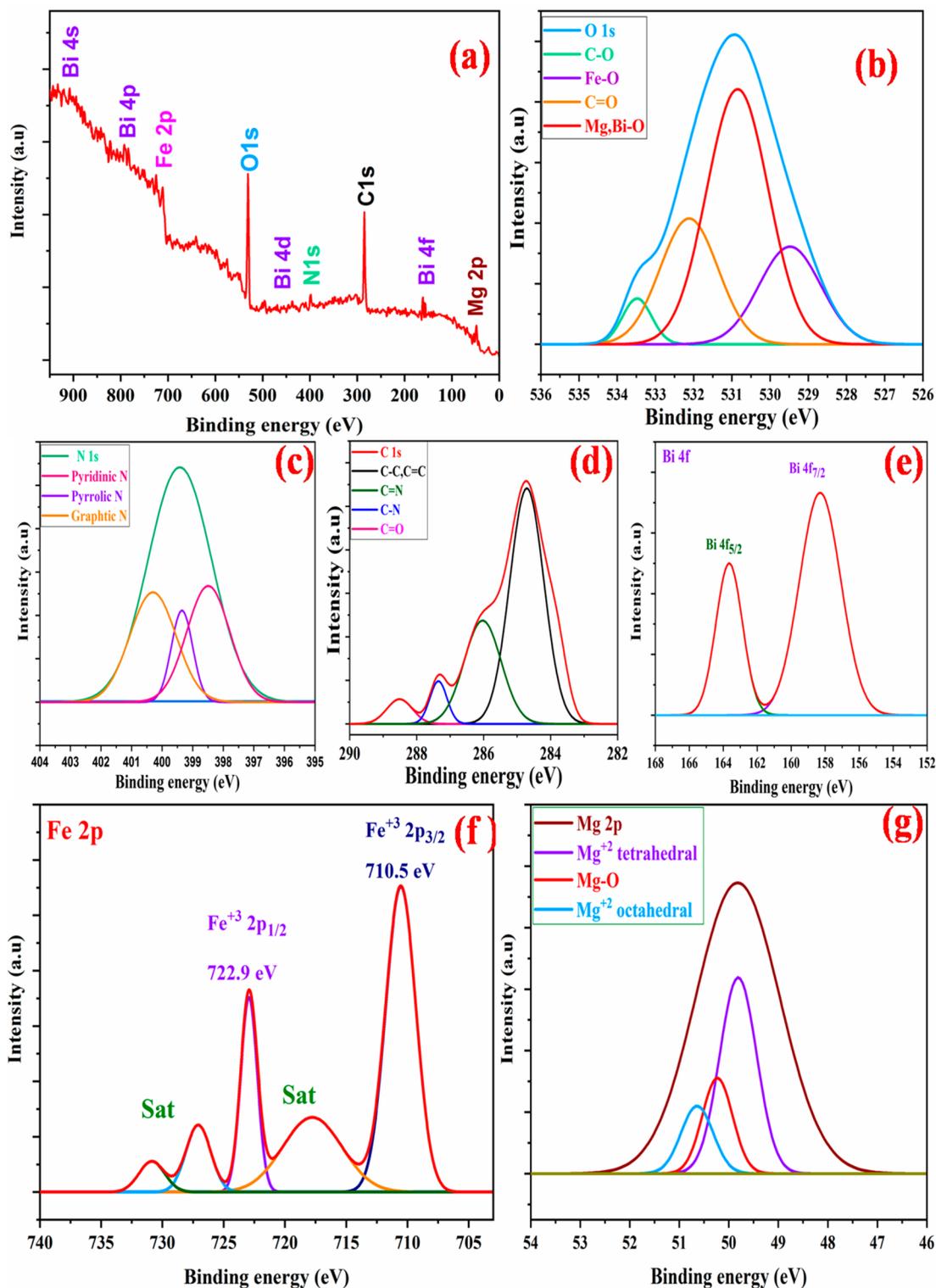
**2.3. Characterization Techniques.** SII 6300 EXSTAR with a reaction temperature of 10 °C/min was used to perform

the thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) and the differential thermal analysis (DTA) of the fabricated MgBiFeO<sub>3</sub>-NC nanomagnetic composite. Infrared (FTIR) spectra between 400 and 4000 cm<sup>-1</sup> were obtained using a Bruker Tensor II instrument. The surface area for the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite (N<sub>2</sub> adsorption/desorption) was calculated using a BET Micromeritics Tristar II Plus analyzer. The oxidation states of the elements were investigated via XPS examination using a PHI 5000 Versa Probe III instrument. An X-ray diffractometer (Rigaku;  $\lambda = 1.54059 \text{ \AA}$ , Cu-K radiation) was employed to confirm the crystalline phase of sintered MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite. Field emission scanning electron microscopy (FE-SEM) microscopy (JSM-7600F) and high-resolution transmission electron microscopy (HR-TEM) (Tecnai G2, F30) were used to determine the morphology of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite.

**2.4. Electrochemical Studies.** The electrochemical property of the prepared MgBiFeO<sub>3</sub>-NC nanomagnetic composite was tested using an electrochemical workstation (CHI 608e) with a three-electrode system. 3 mg of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite was dispersed in 2 mL of isopropanol containing 0.004 mL of a Nafion solution. Prior to the experimentation, argon gas was purged for 30 min. A small amount of the suspension solution, approximately 0.18 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>, was dropped on the glassy carbon electrode (working electrode) and dried in the vacuum oven at 50 °C. Platinum



**Figure 1.** (a) Thermal analysis of the MBFO-NC, (b) BET surface area of the MBFO-NC, (c) FT-IR bands of MgBiFe-UF and MgBiFeO<sub>3</sub>-NC, and (d) VSM curve of MBFO-NC.



**Figure 2.** XPS spectrum of the MBFO-NC: (a) comprehensive survey of  $\text{MgBiFeO}_3\text{-NC}$ , (b) O 1s spectra, (c) N 1s spectra, (d) C 1s spectra, (e) Bi 4f spectra, (f) Fe 2p spectra, and (g) Mg 2p spectra.

wire, KOH (5M), and Ag/AgCl were utilized as a counter electrode, an electrolyte, and a reference electrode, respectively. Galvanic charge–discharge (GCD), cyclic voltammetry (CV), and electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) were performed. The EIS testing was done in an open circuit using an AC voltage with 5 mV amplitude and frequencies between 10 kHz and 0.1 MHz.

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A three-region collapse pattern was seen in the TGA curve for MBFO-NC, as shown in Figure 1a. In the first stage, 4% of the MBFO-NC weight loss of humidity occurred in the region between 25 and 140 °C. The second phase is mass decrease due to the oxidative decomposition of organic matter weight loss of 16.03% at 140–570 °C. There were mass losses of



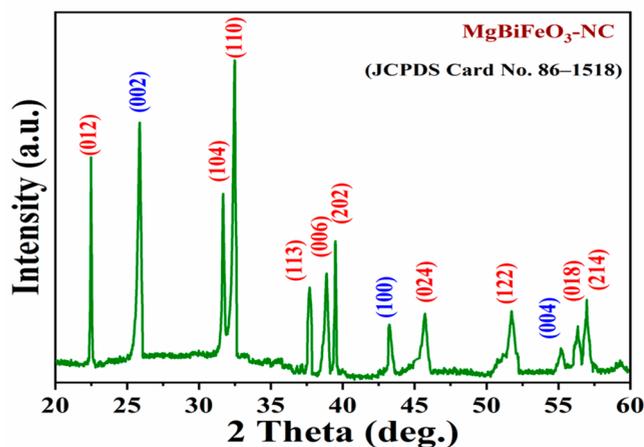


Figure 3. PXRD of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite.

and  $56.96^\circ$  correspond to (012), (104), (110), (113), (006), (202), (024), (122), (018), and (214) miller planes, respectively. These crystal planes are attributed to the rhombohedral perovskite phase ( $R3c$ ) of  $\text{BiFeO}_3$  (JCPDS no. 86-1518).<sup>19b,24b,28</sup> The crystal structure of  $\text{BiFeO}_3\text{-NC}$  (single phase  $R3c$ ) would change into another phase once doped with magnesium ions.<sup>29</sup> This could be due to the partial transformation of the  $\text{Bi-O}$  bond into the  $\text{Mg-O}$  bond once the partial replacement of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  ions by  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  ions occurred. This partial ion substitution would reduce the number oxygen vacancies in the crystal structure, improving the material's electrical conductivity.<sup>29,30</sup> The XRD peaks at  $2\theta$  ( $\sim 32^\circ$ ) reveal that when the material was doped an amount of  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  ions, the diffraction angle shifted toward a higher angle, which also could transfer the crystal phase structure.<sup>29</sup> Additionally, XRD analysis confirmed the presence of N-doped graphitic carbon in the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite at  $2\theta$  of  $25.9^\circ$ ,  $43.2^\circ$ , and  $55.14^\circ$  corresponding to the following miller levels: (002), (100), and (004), respectively.<sup>16b,c,31</sup> This confirms the success and the purity of the fabricated nitrogen-doped carbon  $\text{MgBiFeO}_3\text{-NC}$  nanomagnetic composite perovskite.

Figure 4a shows the morphology of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite. FE-SEM shows the fabricated composite is an establishment of spherically agglomerated nanoparticles. The annealing time ( $800^\circ\text{C}$ ) and the magnetism attraction contributed to the aggregation of the primary ferrite nanoparticles<sup>16b</sup> or might be due to tiny nucleation centers clumping together to form large grains.<sup>32</sup> The inclusion of  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  ions into  $\text{BiFeO}_3\text{-NC}$  has a significant impact on the particle size, which could indicate the phase of the nanostructured transferred to another phase with a reduced crystal unit cell volume.<sup>29b</sup> This fine nanometer-range particle boosts the surface area and the magnetic properties of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite.<sup>16b</sup> Figure 4b shows the TEM image of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite, and the average particle size was found to be  $\sim 15$  nm. The HR-TEM image illustrates a prototypical crystalline area of nanoparticles in the carbon matrix.<sup>33</sup> Figure 4c shows the spacing lattice of  $0.344$  nm matches that of the (002) Miller indices of graphite carbon, suggesting the presence of carbon matrices in the MBFO-NC. The lattice spacing of  $0.278$  and  $0.396$  nm correspond to (110) and (012) Miller indices, respectively, of the rhombohedral ( $R3c$  space group)

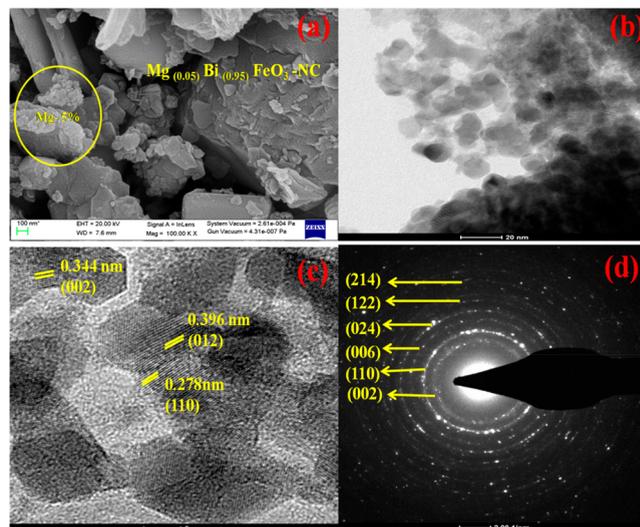
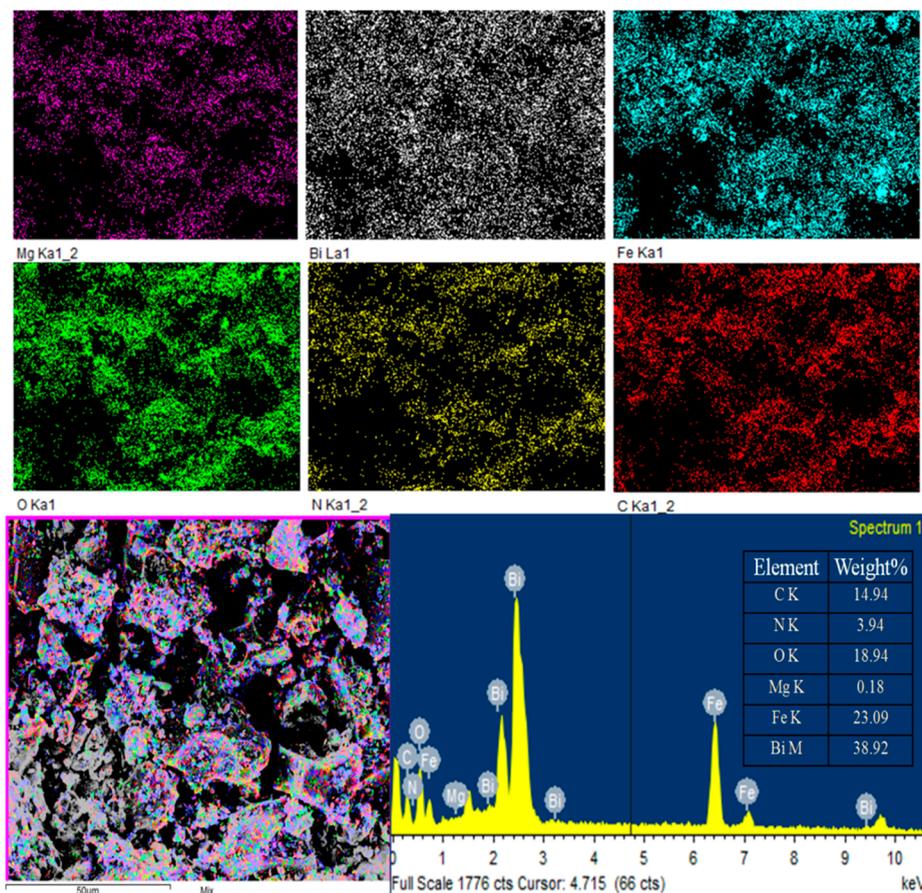


Figure 4. (a) FE-SEM, (b) TEM, and (c) HR-TEM images and (d) selected area electron diffraction (SAED) of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite.

phase.<sup>16c,28a,34</sup> Figure 4d shows the selected area electron diffraction (SAED) of the MBFO-NC. It exhibits five intense rings indexed as (110), (006), (024), (122), and (214) of the Miller levels, which match to the rhombohedral perovskite phase ( $R3c$ ) of  $\text{BiFeO}_3$ , where there is one ring indexed as (002) of the graphite carbon. The electron diffraction patterns of MBFO-NC demonstrate that the  $\text{BiFeO}_3$  nanostructure is firmly connected with the graphite carbon. The HR-TEM and SEAD analyses closely match the XRD results (Figure 3).

Mapping images were used to confirm the distribution of elements in the  $\text{MgBiFeO}_3\text{-NC}$  nanomagnetic composite (Figure 5). The presence of C, O, N, Fe, Bi, and Mg components in the sample was confirmed by EDAX (Figure 5). All elements in the nanocomposite have their atomic percentages listed in the tables. The elemental composition fairly (atomic weight %) matched the stoichiometry of the elements when they were initially loaded.

Three-electrode systems were utilized to study the electrochemical properties of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite. KOH (5M) was used as the electrolyte solution to determine the galvanostatic charge/discharge (GCD) and perform cyclic voltammetry (CV) and electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS). CV of MBFO-NC was performed at different scan rates (30, 50, 100, 200, and 300 mV/s) and operating voltage range between  $-1.12$  and  $+1.5$  V. Figure 6 shows that the CV did not exhibit any obvious redox peaks, which suggests that it resembles the approximate properties of a traditional double-layer capacitor.  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  ions are partially replaced by  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  ions in an attempt to reduce the oxygen vacancies, which improves the conductance of the pristine compound, as the pure  $\text{BiFeO}_3$  from the perovskite structure has low electrical conductivity.<sup>35</sup> In the Bi site, the magnesium ions were doped into the structure  $\text{BiFeO}_3$ ; because of the substitution of the bivalent  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  ions for the trivalent  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  ions, an unequal distribution of charges resulted. This demonstrates that adding heterogeneous ions to the perovskite ( $\text{BiFeO}_3$ ) materials successfully increases their electrical conductivity. It was determined that 5% magnesium doping of  $\text{BiFeO}_3$  is suitable for the replacement of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ .  $\text{H}_2$ -temperature-programmed reduction ( $\text{H}_2\text{-TPR}$ ) analysis of the



**Figure 5.** EDAX spectra and elemental mapping of the MgBiFeO<sub>3</sub>-NC.

BFO-NC and MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composites was performed to investigate their reducibility and the presence of oxygen vacancies on the surface.<sup>36</sup> Figure S1 show that both samples undergo a two-step reduction at 350 and 560 °C. The low-temperature peak (350 °C) corresponds to the presence of vacancies on the surface, while the peak at a higher temperature (560 °C) indicates the lattice oxygen of the samples. It can be seen that the MBFO-NC sample has a lower intensity peak at 350 °C than the BFO-NC sample, indicating the doping of the Mg<sup>2+</sup> ions at the Bi<sup>3+</sup> sites reduces the oxygen vacancy availability in the MgBiFeO<sub>3</sub>-NC nanomagnetic composite. As a result, CV curves found that the MBFO-NC nanocomposite has a specific capacitance (*C<sub>s</sub>*) around 2079.44 F/g at 30 mV/s (Figure 6b), while pure BiFeO<sub>3</sub> shows a specific capacitance of ~613.76 F/g at 30 mV/s (Figure S2), as calculated using eq 1 as follows:

$$C_s = \frac{\int I(V) dV}{m \times \Delta V \times \nu} \text{ F/g} \quad (1)$$

where  $\int I(V) dV$  symbolizes the area obtained from the CV curve, *m* is the active mass of the materials,  $\Delta V$  is the potential window, and  $\nu$  is the scan rate. The values plot of *C<sub>s</sub>* versus the CV curve with different scan rates is illustrated in Figure 6b. The performance of electric double-layer capacitors (EDLC) is demonstrated by the electrochemical reaction in CV (eqs 2–7). This behavior is due to the interaction of the electrode's contact with the electrolyte ions in the porous structure.

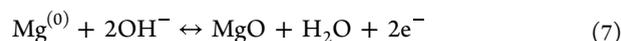
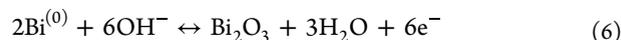
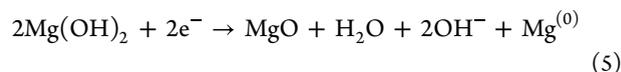
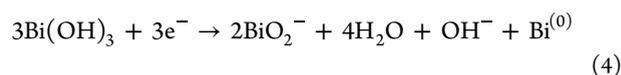
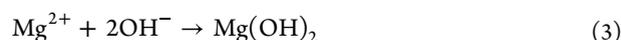
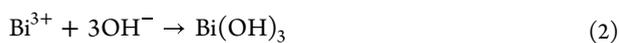
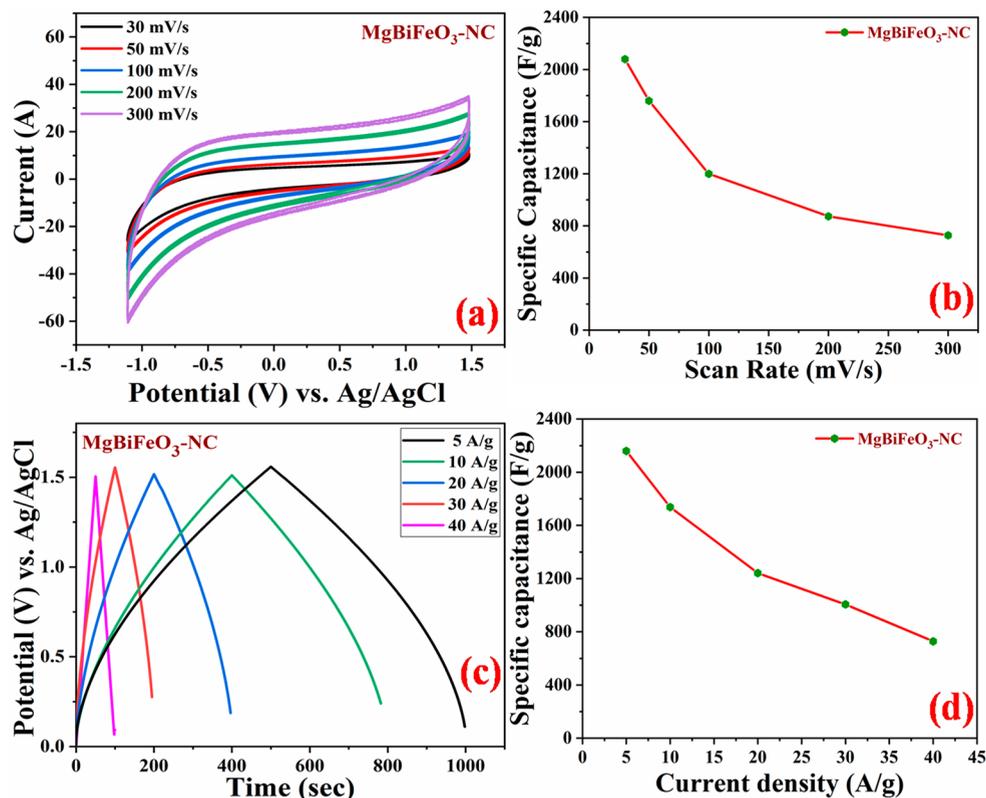


Figure 6c shows the GCD studies conducted between 0–1.56 V voltages at current densities in the range of 5, 10, 20, 30, and 40 A/g. Based on GCD values of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite at various current densities, eq 8 was used to calculate the *C<sub>s</sub>* of the electrode in the three-electrode system.<sup>22b,37</sup>

$$C_s = \frac{I \times \Delta t}{m \times \Delta V} \text{ F/g} \quad (8)$$

where *I* and ( $\Delta t$ ) are the discharge current and the discharge time, *m* is the active mass of the materials, and  $\Delta V$  is the potential window. The *C<sub>s</sub>* values were found to be 2159.88, 1737.11, 1241, 1005.83, and 728.22 F/g for the current densities of 5, 10, 20, 30, and 40 A/g, respectively. From the GCD studies of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite, the maximum value for *C<sub>s</sub>* was found to be around 2159.88 F/g at 5 A/g. With the increase of the current density from 5 to 40 A/g, the *C<sub>s</sub>* values of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite



**Figure 6.** Electrochemical analysis of MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite: (a) CV curves, (b)  $C_s$  by CV plot, (c) GCD curves, and (d)  $C_s$  by GCD plot.

**Table 1.** Comparison of the Recent Research to Previously Reported Nanocomposites for Supercapacitors and Energy Storage

material electrode	electrolyte	scan rate (mV/s)	energy density (Wh/kg)	power density (W/kg)	specific capacitance $C_s$ (F/g)	refs
MnFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /rGO	6 M KOH	5	15.9	324.5	271	44
Ni <sub>1-x</sub> Mg <sub>x</sub> Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	6 M KOH	5	11.96	143.9	259.89	45
TiO <sub>2</sub> /BiFeO <sub>3</sub>	0.5 M Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	5	58.5	1.2	440	46
Mg <sub>1-x</sub> Zn <sub>x</sub> Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	1 mol/L Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	5	10.8	0.5	484.6	47
rGO-NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	1 M Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	5	23.7	225	210.9	48
C/Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	aqueous electrolyte	5	42	14500	536	49
BiFeO <sub>3</sub> -NC nanocomposite perovskite	1.0 M Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	5			811.12	16c
CoFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /graphene/PANI	6 M KOH	5	240	2680	1123	50
SrFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> -NC nanocomposite	5 M KOH	5	59.094	2784.977	895	22b
BiFe <sub>0.95</sub> Co <sub>0.05</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	6 M KOH	5			278.2	51
BiFe <sub>0.95</sub> Cu <sub>0.05</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	6 M KOH	5			568.13	52
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> NAs@2DCCS	6 M KOH	5	115.5	8000	820	41
MnTiO <sub>3</sub> (MTO) perovskites	2 M KOH	5	52.2	1351.9	1513.7	53
BiFeO <sub>3</sub> -RGO	3 M KOH + 0.1 M K <sub>4</sub> [Fe(CN) <sub>6</sub> ]	5	6.65	1900	928.43	54
N-CQDs/Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> nanocomposite	6 M KOH	5	36.9	480	1867	55
MgBiFeO <sub>3</sub> -NC (MBFO-NC) nanomagnetic composite perovskite	5 M KOH	5	730.04	16665.69	2159.88	this study

decreased from 2159.88 to 728.22 F/g (Figure 6d). For pure BiFeO<sub>3</sub>, the maximum value for  $C_s$  was found to be around 649.50 F/g at 5 A/g (Figure S2). This further demonstrates how effective the method of introducing heterogeneous ions to materials is for enhancing their electrical properties. The electrochemical performance of the MBFO-NC nanocomposite is better than that of the reported electrode materials, as shown in Table 1.

Figure 7a displays the EIS results represented by Nyquist plots for the prepared MBFO-NC electrode. The plot was

obtained in a semicircle with an alternating current frequency range from 10 Hz to 0.1 MHz and an amplitude of 5 mV. A semicircle and a straight line are used to illustrate the Warburg impedance ( $Z_w$ ) and the charge transfer resistance ( $R_{ct}$ ) at the electrode–electrolyte interface.<sup>22b,38</sup> The EIS equivalent circuit model can be seen in Figure 7a. There is a series of resistance included in the circuit:  $R_s$ , the electrochemical system's solution resistance,  $Z_w$ , and a double-layer capacitor ( $C_{dl}$ ). For MBFO-NC, the  $R_s$  and  $R_{ct}$  values are 13 and 21  $\Omega$ , respectively. Furthermore, these values line up with MBFO-

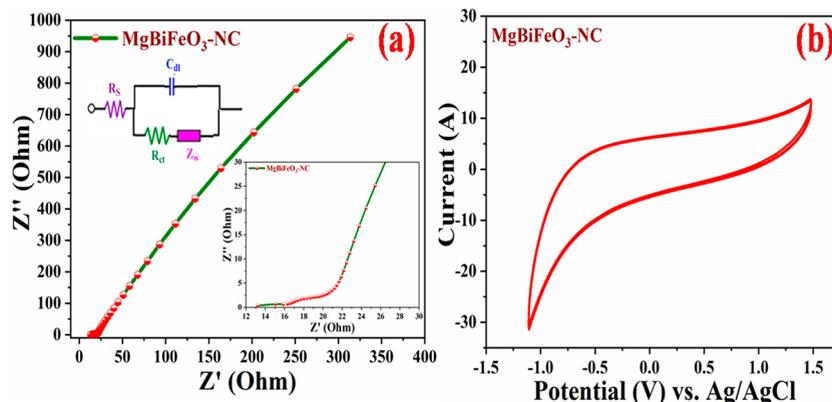


Figure 7. (a) EIS study of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite and (b) CV cyclic stability.

NC's high ionic conductivity, which denotes the high stability of the prepared electrode.<sup>39</sup> According to our findings, the porous MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite exhibits excellent electrochemical performance for supercapacitors. This enhancement is attributed to the pores in the carbon lattice acting as electrolyte ion reservoirs. These reservoirs ensure the quick and consistent transport of electrolyte ions.<sup>40</sup> The nitrogen-doped carbon in the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite demonstrates considerably better electrochemical performance compared to pure metal oxides because of its conducting nature, redox activity, and high surface area. Symmetric GCD curves of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite exhibit high Coulombic indicators of the electrochemical process and excellent reversibility. The MBFO-NC electrode has remarkable cyclic stability over 20 000 segments at 50 mV/s, as shown in (Figure 7b).

Using the two-electrode testing system, the following eqs 9–11 are used to determine the specific capacitance ( $C_t$ , F/g), energy density ( $E_t$ , Wh/kg), and power density ( $P_t$ , W/kg) of the symmetric electrode:

$$C_t = \frac{4I \times \Delta t}{m \times \Delta V} \text{ F/g} \quad (9)$$

$$E_t = \frac{1}{8 \times 3.6} C_t \Delta V^2 \text{ Wh/kg} \quad (10)$$

$$P_t = \frac{E_t}{\Delta t} \times 3600 \text{ W/kg} \quad (11)$$

Figure 8 shows the Ragone plot to demonstrate the entire capability of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite. At a power density of 5284.83 W/kg, the symmetric cell showed the highest energy density of about 730.04 Wh/kg. In contrast, at a power density of 16665.69 W/kg the energy density decreased to 227.57 Wh/kg. Therefore, the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite demonstrates superior power density and excellent energy density, which are crucial for being environmentally friendly and commercially viable.<sup>41</sup> Various factors contributed to the outstanding performance of the MBFO-NC symmetric electrode material, including the nitrogen-doped carbon lattice, charge transfer resistance, reduced ionic diffusion, and enhanced wettability of carbon materials in electrolyte solutions. The nitrogen-doped carbon lattice can enhance the electronic conductivity and specific capacitance. Additionally, the presence of magnesium ions increases the electronic density of the electrolyte.<sup>22b</sup> Additionally, the reduced internal

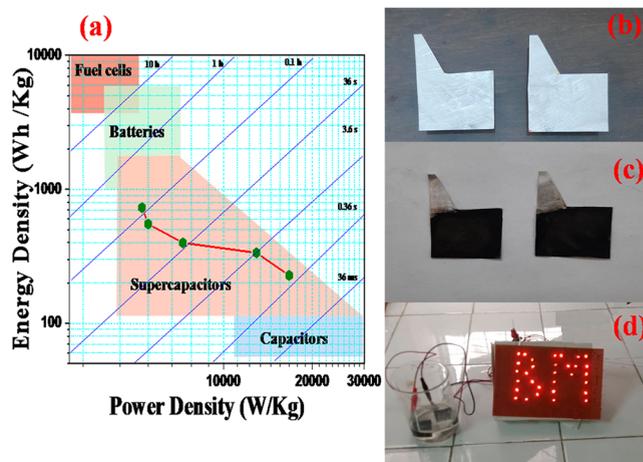


Figure 8. (a) Ragone plot of the MBFO-NC // MBFO-NC symmetric cell, (b) image of the aluminum substrate before MBFO-NC coating, (c) image of the aluminum substrate after MBFO-NC coating, (d) and practical clear application of the electrode material to light the laboratory panel, which contained 31 LEDs.

resistance of the MBFO-NC electrode also enables a quicker rate of charge transport between the active substance and the electrolyte. Furthermore, the EDLC characteristics of MBFO-NC also expedite the charge transfer when used with a highly ion-conductive aqueous electrolyte. Due to the higher electroactive surface of MBFO-NC, a fast and transient faradic reaction occurs. As a result, these nanomaterials could provide a short electrolyte transportation route.<sup>37,42</sup> The symmetric MBFO-NC//MBFO-NC supercapacitor cell was fabricated, and two “L” shaped aluminum substrates were coated with nanocomposite-based MBFO-NC as electrodes. Digital images of the aluminum substrate after and before MBFO-NC coating are shown in Figure 8b and c, respectively. One of these electrodes was labeled as the positive electrode, while the other was marked as the negative electrode. In the next step, these two substrates were kept in a beaker containing 5.0 M KOH. The manufactured MBFO-NC//MBFO-NC replica electrodes were connected to a laboratory plate (BM), whereby the MBFO-NC//MBFO-NC replica electrode was used for a practical application of the electrode material for the illumination of the BM, which contains 31 LEDs as shown in Figure 8 d. This shows how crucial the use of the manufactured symmetric cell electrodes MBFO-NC//MBFO-NC is in portable electronic devices for daily use.<sup>43</sup>

## CONCLUSION

A mesoporous nitrogen-doped carbon MgBiFeO<sub>3</sub> nanomagnetic perovskite with a size of around 15 nm was fabricated using the polymeric method at 800 °C for 6 h in inert gas. BET analysis showed the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic perovskite has an excellent specific surface area of 415 m<sup>2</sup>/g. The crystal structure, elemental surface, and morphology of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic perovskite were investigated using XRD, XPS, FTIR, FESEM, and HRTEM techniques. H<sub>2</sub>-TPR analysis confirmed the doping of Mg<sup>2+</sup> reduced the number of oxygen vacancies in the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composites. The synthesized MBFO-NC nanomagnetic perovskite exhibits ferromagnetic properties with a saturation magnetization value of around 17.91 emu/g. The ultimate goal of supercapacitor technical development is to achieve better energy densities while keeping high power densities in order to introduce these devices for practical applications. This can only be done through concerted efforts incorporating the timely advancement of numerous components, such as electrodes, electrolytes, and separators. The supercapacitor produced by MBFO-NC as the electrode material in 5 M KOH electrolyte showed an enhanced C<sub>s</sub> of 2079.44 F/g at 30 mV/s. Furthermore, GCD studies exhibit better improved capacitive performance at 5 A/g current density with a C<sub>s</sub> of 2159.88 F/g. The MBFO-NC nanomagnetic composite showed a specific capacitance enhanced by 3.4× compared to that of the pure BiFeO<sub>3</sub> sample. Interestingly, at a power density of 5284.83 W/kg, the symmetric cell showed the highest energy density of about 730.04 Wh/kg. In contrast, at a power density of 16665.69 W/kg, the energy density decreased to 227.57 Wh/kg. The MBFO-NC electrode has remarkable cyclic stability over 20 000 cycles at 50 mV/s with an excellent retention capacity. The excellent C<sub>s</sub> of the MBFO-NC nanomagnetic perovskite electrode can be attributed to porosity, which provides many active sites for redox mechanisms, high surface area, and interconnected mesoporous networks that facilitate the easy transportation of electrolyte ions and quick kinetic reaction. Additionally, nitrogen-doped graphitic carbon has a synergistic effect that improves electron transport while increasing conductivity. To build a superior electrode nanocomposite for energy storage, the lab panel which has 31 LEDs was illuminated as a practical use of the electrode material. This shows how crucial it is to employ MBFO-NC//MBFO-NC replica cell electrodes in portable electronics for daily use.

## ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsomega.3c00259>.

Electrochemical properties of BiFeO<sub>3</sub> and the H<sub>2</sub>-TPR of BFO-NC and MBFO-NC perovskites (PDF)

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## Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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