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## Fluorine-decorated graphene nanoribbons for an anticorrosive polymer electrolyte membrane fuel cell

Song Jin <sup>1,2</sup>, Seung Yong Yang <sup>1,3</sup>, Jong Min Lee <sup>1</sup>, Mun Seon Kang <sup>1,4</sup>, Sung Mook Choi <sup>5</sup>, Wook Ahn <sup>6</sup>, Xolile Fuku <sup>7</sup>, Remegia Mmalewane Modibedi <sup>7</sup>, Byungchan Han <sup>3</sup>, Min Ho Seo <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Fuel Cell Research and Demonstration Center, New and Renewable Energy Institute, Korea Institute of Energy Research (KIER), Buan-gun, Jeollabuk-do 56332, Republic of Korea.

<sup>2</sup>School of Materials Science and Engineering, Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST), 261 Cheomdan-gwagiro, Gwangju 500-712, Republic of Korea.

<sup>3</sup>Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Yonsei University, Seoul 03772, Republic of Korea.

<sup>4</sup>Department of Energy Storage and Conversion Engineering, Chonbuk National University, Jeollabuk-do 54596, Republic of Korea.

<sup>5</sup>Department of Energy & Electronic Materials, Surface Materials Division Korea Institute of Materials Science (KIMS), Changwon 51508, Republic of Korea.

<sup>6</sup>Department of Energy Systems Engineering, SoonChunHyang University, 22 Soonchunhyang-ro, Asan-si, Chungnam, 31538, Republic of Korea.

<sup>7</sup>Energy Materials, Energy Centre, The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Pretoria 0001, South Africa.

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### Abstract

Pt-supported carbon material-based electrocatalysts are formidably suffering from carbon corrosion when H<sub>2</sub>O and O<sub>2</sub> molecules are present at high voltages in polymer electrolyte membrane fuel cells (PEMFCs). In this study, we discovered that the edge site of a fluorine-doped graphene nanoribbon (F-GNR) was slightly adsorbed with H<sub>2</sub>O and was thermodynamically unfavorable with O atoms after defining the thermodynamically stable structure of the F-GNR from DFT calculations. Based on computational predictions, the physicochemical and electrochemical properties of F-GNRs with/without Pt nanoparticles derived from a modified Hummer's method and the polyol process were investigated as support materials for electrocatalysts and additives in the cathode of a PEMFC, respectively. The Pt/F-GNR showed the lowest degradation rate in carbon corrosion and was effective in the cathode as additives, resulting from the enhanced carbon corrosion durability owing to the improved structural stability and water management. Notably, the F-GNR with highly stable carbon corrosion contributed to achieving a more durable PEMFC for long-term operation.