



Cite this: *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2019, 7, 20445

DOI: 10.1039/c9ta90201e

www.rsc.org/MaterialsA

Retraction: One-pot synthesis of O-doped BN nanosheets as a capacitive deionization electrode for efficient removal of heavy metal ions from water

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Retraction of 'One-pot synthesis of O-doped BN nanosheets as a capacitive deionization electrode for efficient removal of heavy metal ions from water' by Ming Ming Chen *et al.*, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2017, 5, 17029–17039.

The Royal Society of Chemistry hereby wholly retracts this *Journal of Materials Chemistry A* article, with the agreement of the authors, due to concerns with the reliability of the electron microscope (EM) images in the published article.

The elemental mapping images in Fig. S4a–d each contain repetitions of patterns across each of the four images.

The authors informed us that the characterisation was completed by a third party company and they used the images “*without any editing or modification*”. The authors repeated the experiments and requested to publish replacement data for Fig. S4. The new figures were reviewed by an independent expert. The authors believe that the scientific content and conclusions of the related studies presented by the pictures in the published paper can be reproduced. However, the independent expert still questions the reliability of the published images. The authors informed us that due to a flooding accident in the laboratory, the original data of the published EM images were destroyed. In addition, the third party company only saved the test data for one month. Due to the large number of images, it is not possible to replace the published images with the new figures. To avoid the possibility of publishing unreliable EM images, the authors agree to retract this paper to protect the rigor of the scientific record.

This retraction supersedes the information provided in the Expression of Concern related to this article.

Signed: Dr Dong Ge Tong (on behalf of the authors)

Date: 1st August 2019

Retraction endorsed by Sam Keltie, Executive Editor, *Journal of Materials Chemistry A*

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