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Molybdenum disulfide nanosheets embedded in hollow nitrogen-doped carbon spheres for efficient lithium/sodium storage with enhanced electrochemical kinetics

Pengqian Guo, Kai Sun, Dequan Liu, Pu Cheng, Mingzhi Lv, Qiming Liu, and Deyan He*

School of Physical Science and Technology, and Key Laboratory for Magnetism and Magnetic Materials of the Ministry of Education, Lanzhou University, Lanzhou 730000, China

ABSTRACT

Molybdenum disulfide nanosheets@hollow nitrogen-doped carbon ($\text{MoS}_2\text{@NC}$) spheres were prepared via a facile synthesis and investigated as a host material for ion storages. When used in lithium ion batteries (LIBs) or sodium ion batteries (SIBs), the $\text{MoS}_2\text{@NC}$ spheres electrodes exhibited excellent electrochemical performances. A high capacity of 1386 mAh g^{-1} after 100 cycles was obtained at a current density of 200 mA g^{-1} for LIBs. As for SIBs, a capacity of 330 mAh g^{-1} was retained after 400 cycles at 1000 mA g^{-1} . The remarkable ion storage performances can be attributed to the hierarchical architecture of the $\text{MoS}_2\text{@NC}$ spheres, which not only supply abundant active sites and efficient electron and ion pathways, but also alleviate the volume change of the active MoS_2 material. Meanwhile, synergistic effect of the heterogeneous components, interfacial ion storages, nitrogen doping and induced defects are responsible for high capacities of the $\text{MoS}_2\text{@NC}$ electrodes. And the electrodes exhibited enhanced electrochemical kinetics due to the significantly improved electrical conductivity and the large specific area of the $\text{MoS}_2\text{@NC}$ spheres.

* Corresponding author.

E-mail address: hedy@lzu.edu.cn (D. He)

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