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One-pot sonochemical synthesis of magnetite@reduced graphene oxide nanocomposite

for high performance Li ion storage

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Abstract

In this research, we introduce a one-pot sonochemical method for the fabrication of magnetite@reduced graphene oxide (Fe₃O₄@rGO) nanocomposite as anode material for Li-ion batteries. Fe₃O₄@rGO is synthesized under ultrasonic irradiations by using iron (II) salt and GO as raw materials. An in-situ oxidation-reduction occurs between GO and Fe²⁺ during the ultrasonic chemical reaction process. Fe₃O₄ particles with the size of ~20 nm are uniformly deposited on the surface of rGO nanosheets. The electrochemical activity of Fe₃O₄@rGO is systematically evaluated as an anode material in Li-ion battery. Li-ion cells using Fe₃O₄@rGO as electrode deliver high discharge and charge capacities of 1433.6 and 907.8 mAh g⁻¹ in the initial cycle at 200 mA g⁻¹. Even performed at 500 and 5000 mA g⁻¹, it is able to deliver reversible capacities of 846.4 and 355.6 mAh g⁻¹, respectively, demonstrating outstanding Li-ion storage performance. This research presents a straightforward and efficient method for the fabrication of Fe₃O₄@rGO, which holds great potential in synthesis of other metal oxides on graphene sheets.

Key Words: Sonochemical synthesis; Fe₃O₄@rGO; Nanocomposite; Electrochemical

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