

Researchers develop high-performance 2D pseudocapacitive multi-electron reaction lithium storage material

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Schematic of LillETPTA-LiClO₄-SSEllVOPO₄ solid-state lithium metal battery and the corresponding Ragone plot. Credit: Xing FeiFe

A multi-electron reaction is defined as a reaction in which more than one electron is transferred per active material molecule. VOPO₄, a typical class of multi-electron reaction cathode material with V^{4+}/V^{5+} and V^{3+}/V^{4+} multiple redox couples, possesses a higher potential with the introduction of more electronegative (PO₄)³⁻ anion, which can provide



enhanced energy density.

However, the vanadium phosphates suffer from unsatisfactory performance, especially for high rate capability due to the bulk diffusion process and low intrinsic electrical conductivity.

Recently, a research team led by Prof. Wu Zhongshuai from the Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics (DICP) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences has developed a high-performance 2D pseudocapacitive multielectron reaction lithium storage material via V⁴⁺ defect engineering for solid-state lithium metal batteries with high <u>energy density</u> and high power density. This study was published in *Advanced Energy Materials* on April 9.

The researchers realized high-rate pseudocapacitive cathode with multielectron reaction chemistry by regulating V^{4+} defect in VOPO₄. The asprepared 2D VOPO₄/graphene nanosheets not only had an ultrathin nanosheet structure to improve electronic and ionic conductivity, but also adjusted the uniformity of multi-electron reactions and reduced polarization by controlling the content of V^{4+} defects.

The pseudocapacitive multi-electron reaction cathode exhibited a high capacity of 313 mAh g⁻¹ at 0.1 C and maintained a capacity of 116 mAh g⁻¹ at an ultrafast rate of 50 C.

The researchers further synthesized a novel UV-curable solid electrolyte (ETPTA-LiClO₄-SSE), which had an ion conductivity of 0.99 mS cm⁻¹ at room temperature. This was much higher than that of polyethylene oxide solid electrolytes ($\sim 10^{-6}$ S cm⁻¹). The assembled LillETPTA-LiClO₄-SSEllVOPO₄ solid-state lithium metal battery presented a high energy density of 85.4 Wh kg⁻¹ and a high power density of 2.3 kW kg⁻¹.



What's more, the as-assembled solid-state lithium metal batteries pouch cell displayed good flexibility and safety.

"Our study provides a new avenue for the development of 2D pseudocapacitive fast-charging cathodes with multi-electron chemistry for high specific energy and high-power <u>lithium</u> metal batteries," said Prof. Wu.

More information: Feifei Xing et al, 2D VOPO 4 Pseudocapacitive Ultrafast-Charging Cathode with Multi-Electron Chemistry for High-Energy and High-Power Solid-State Lithium Metal Batteries, *Advanced Energy Materials* (2023). DOI: 10.1002/aenm.202204015

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