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High rate and stable capacity performance of 2D LiMn_{1.5}Ni_{0.5}O₄ nanoplates cathode with ultra-long cycle stability

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Abstract

Typically, the high electrochemical performance of cathode materials is achieved by fine-tuning the surface morphology and particle size of the nano-electrode materials. Two-dimensional (2D) nanomaterials like nanoplates show astounding advantages of high surface area and shorter diffusion path-length, inducing improved Li-ion kinetics compared to bulk and 1D cathodes. This study reports the fabrication of 2D nanoplates of LiMn_{1.5}Ni_{0.5}O₄ via the solid-state method using α -MnO₂ nanorods prepared from EMD, as a highly stable and long-cycle life cathode for lithium-ion battery (LIBs) applications. The fabricated 2D LMNO nanoplates delivered an exceptional specific capacity of 88 mAh g⁻¹ at a high current rate of 1 C and 98% retention of its initial capacity upon 1000 consecutive cycles. The nanoplates rendered a specific capacity of 77 mAh g⁻¹ even at a high current rate of 7 C. The aligned LMNO stacked nanoplates with exposed {111} facets, and large Mn⁴⁺ concentration revealed high lithium-ion coefficient, decreased Mn dissolution, and high interfacial stability, which resulted in enhanced cycle stability and rate capability. The remarkable electrochemical performance of the LMNO cathode was attributed to its unique 2D-nanoplates structure, which is favourable for accommodating volume changes during the repeated insertion and de-insertion of lithium ions.