

Dendrite-free Zn Anodes Enabled by Functional Nitrogen-Doped Carbon Protective Layers for Aqueous Zinc-Ion Batteries

Cuiping Wu, Kaixuan Xie, Kaixin Ren, Shun Yang,* Qinghong Wang*

School of Chemistry and Materials Science, Jiangsu Normal University, Xuzhou,
Jiangsu 221116, P.R. China.

*Corresponding author. E-mail addresses: wangqh@jsnu.edu.cn

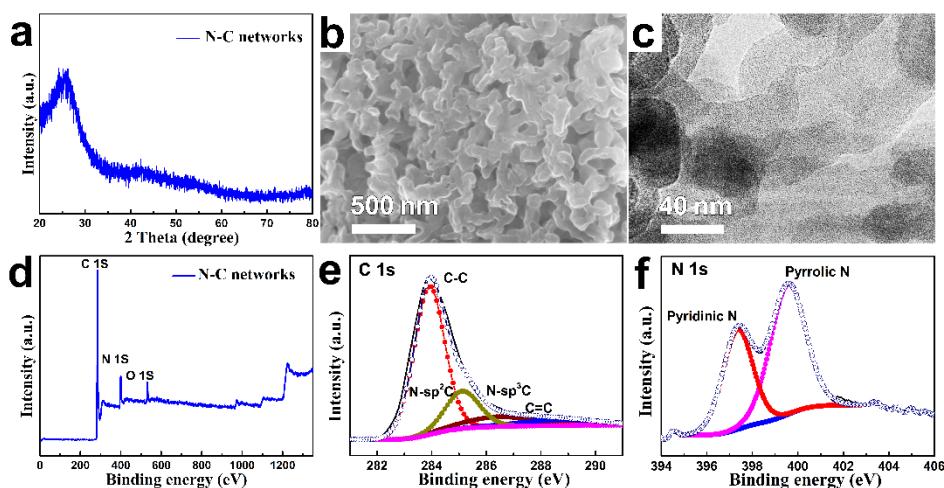


Fig. S1 (a) XRD patterns. (b and c) SEM and HRTEM images of the N-C networks materials. (d) XPS survey spectra of the N-C networks. High-resolution (e) C 1S and (f) N 1s spectra of N-C networks.

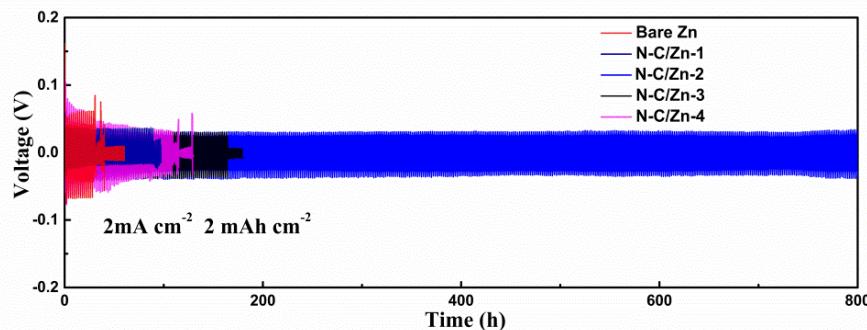


Fig. S2 Voltage-time profiles of the N-C/Zn anodes with different coating amount at a current density of 2 mA cm^{-2} with a fixed capacity of 2 mAh cm^{-2} .

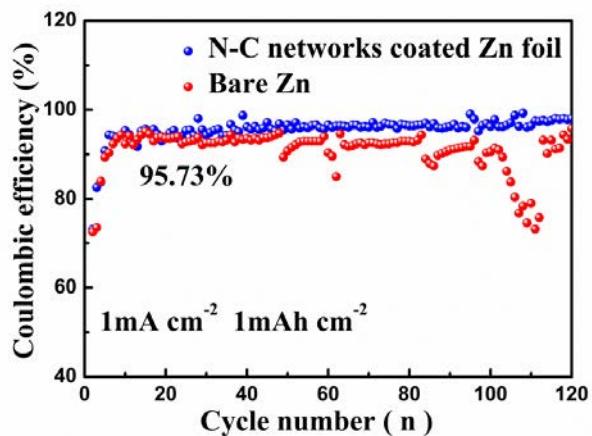


Fig. S3 Coulombic efficiencies of Zn plating/stripping on Cu foil with/without N-C coating at 1 mA cm^{-2} .

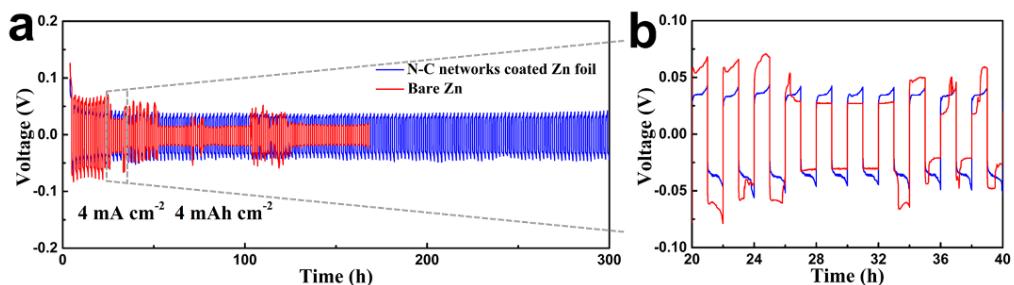


Fig. S4 Voltage-time profiles (a and b) at a current density of 4 mA cm^{-2} with a fixed capacity of 4 mAh cm^{-2} .

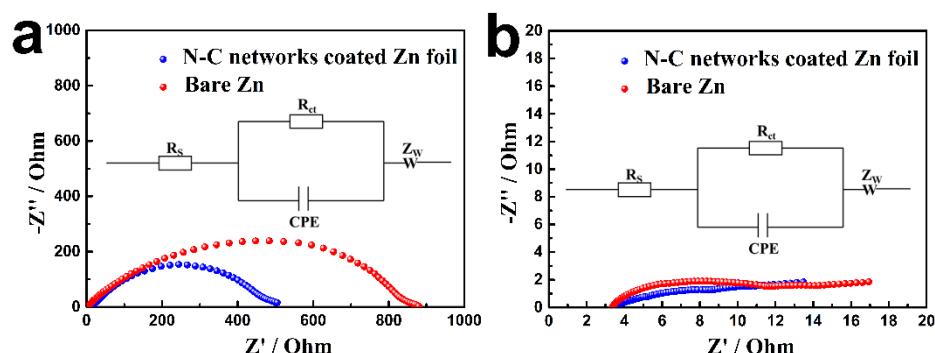


Fig. S5 (a and b) Nyquist plots of the N-C networks coated Zn electrode before cycling and after 60 h at 1 mA cm^{-2} . (the inset is the relevant equivalent circuit)

Table S1 The simulated impedance results of the N-C networks coated Zn foil and bare Zn electrodes before and after 60 h at 1 mA cm⁻².

Sample	N-C networks coated Zn foil	Bare Zn
R _{ct} (ohm) (Before cycle)	451.7	846
R _{ct} (ohm) (60th cycle)	7.797	10.16

Table S2 Comparison of the cycling performances of different coated-Zn anodes

Coating Materials	Current Densities	Capacity	Cycle life	Ref.
3D CNTs	2 mA cm ⁻²	2 mAh cm ⁻²	200h	[1]
Al ₂ O ₃ coating	1 mA cm ⁻²	1 mAh cm ⁻²	500h	[2]
TiO ₂ layer	1 mA cm ⁻²	1 mAh cm ⁻²	150h	[3]
Porous kaolin coating	4.4 mA cm ⁻²	1.1 mA h cm ⁻²	800 h	[4]
Nanoporous CaCO ₃	0.25 mA cm ⁻²	0.05 mA h cm ⁻²	836 h	[5]
Reduced graphene oxide	2 mA cm ⁻²	2 mA h cm ⁻²	200 h	[6]
Nitrogen-Doped Carbon Protective Layers	2 mA cm ⁻²	2 mAh cm ⁻²	800 h	This work

References

- [1] Y. Zeng, X. Zhang, R. Qin, X. Liu, P. Fang, D. Zheng, Y. Tong and X. Lu, *Adv. Mater.*, 2019, **31**, 1903675.
- [2] H. He, H. Tong, X. Song, X. Song and J. Liu, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2020, **8**, 7836-7846.
- [3] K. Zhao, C. Wang, Y. Yu, M. Yan, Q. Wei, P. He, Y. Dong, Z. Zhang, X. Wang and L. Mai, *Adv. Mater. Interfaces*, 2018, **5**, 1800848.
- [4] C. Deng, X. Xie, J. Han, Y. Tang, J. Gao, C. Liu, X. Shi, J. Zhou and S. Liang, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 2020, **30**, 2000599.
- [5] L. Kang, M. Cui, F. Jiang, Y. Gao, H. Luo, J. Liu, W. Liang and C. Zhi, *Adv. Energy Mater.*, 2018, **8**, 1801090.
- [6] C. Shen, X. Li, N. Li, K. Xie, J.G. Wang, X.R. Liu and B. Wei, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces*, 2018, **10**, 25446–25453.