

Supplementary information

One-pot synthesis of ultrafine ZnFe_2O_4 nanocrystals anchored on graphene for high-performance Li and Li-ion batteries

Jian Xie,^{*ab} Wentao Song,^{ab} Gaoshao Cao,^b Tiejun Zhu,^a Xinbing Zhao^{*ab} and

Shichao Zhang^c

^aState Key Laboratory of Silicon Materials, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou 310027, China. E-mail: xiejian1977@zju.edu.cn; zhaoxb@zju.edu.cn; Fax: +86-571-87951451; Tel: +86-571-87951451

^bKey Laboratory of Advanced Materials and Applications for Batteries of Zhejiang Province, China

^cSchool of Materials Science and Engineering, Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Beijing 100191, China

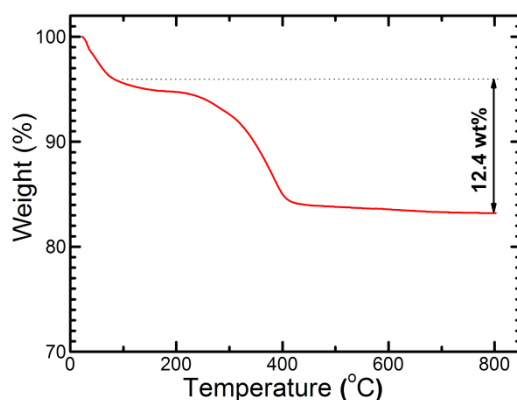


Fig.S1 TG curve of $\text{ZnFe}_2\text{O}_4/\text{G}$ measured in air.

The weight loss before 100°C is due to the loss of the absorbed water trapped within the graphene sheets.¹ The weight loss between 100 °C and 800 °C is the removal of the oxygen-containing groups and the combustion of the carbon skeleton into carbon oxide.

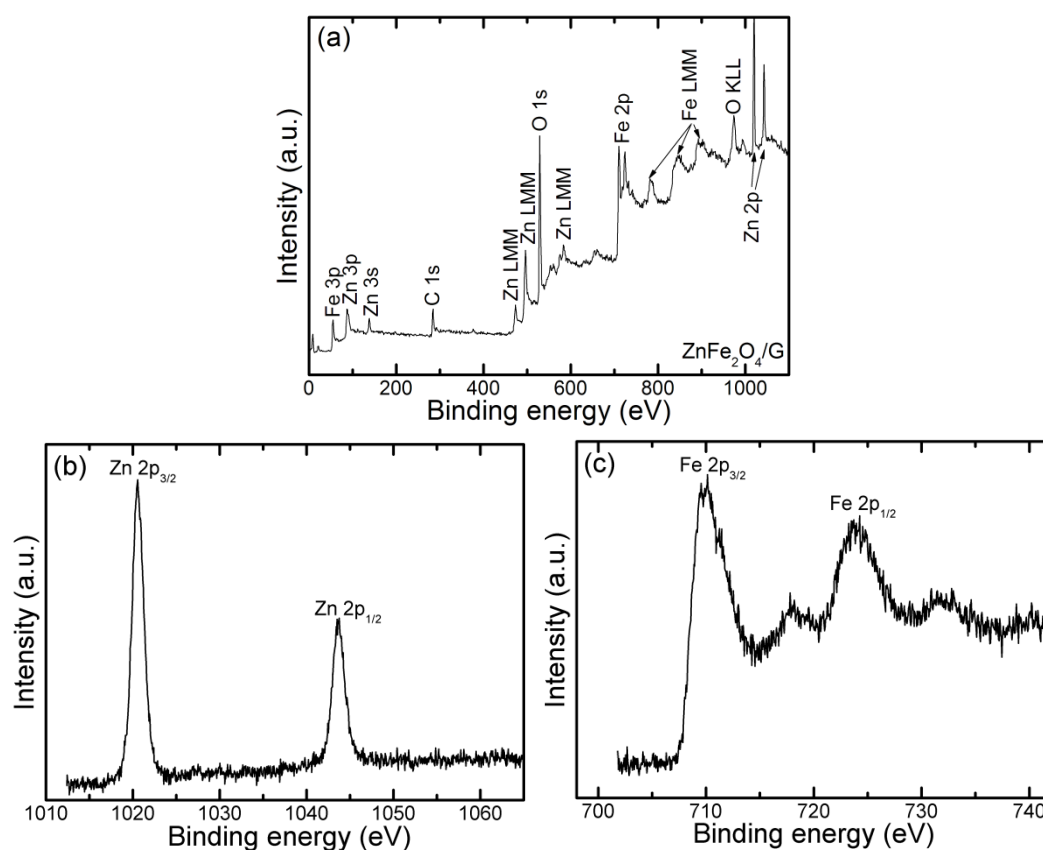


Fig. S2 XPS of ZnFe₂O₄/G: (a) survey spectra, (b) Zn2p spectra and (c) Fe2p spectra.

For the above spectra, the peaks at 1020.6 and 1043.7 eV correspond to the Zn2p_{3/2} and Zn2p_{1/2} bands, respectively, the peaks at 709.8 and 724.1 eV are related to the Fe2p_{3/2} and Fe2p_{1/2} bands, respectively, and the peak at 529.6 eV corresponds to O1s peak of ZnFe₂O₄.²

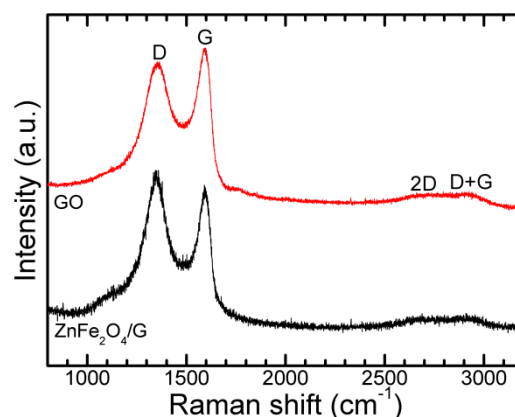


Fig. S3 Raman spectra of GO and ZnFe₂O₄/G.

In the above spectra, the two peaks at 1350 and 1580 cm⁻¹ are related to the disordered (D) band and graphitic (G) band, respectively, of carbon-based materials.³ Compared to those in GO, the peaks in ZnFe₂O₄/G exhibit an increased D/G intensity ratio, due to the decrease of the average size of the sp² domains.³ The change in D/G intensity ratio indicates the reduction of GO to graphene.⁴ The 2D peak at around 2700 cm⁻¹ is broad and weak, suggesting that the graphene in ZnFe₂O₄/G is in few-layer form instead of single-layer form.⁵ The peak at around 2900 cm⁻¹ is the D+G mode of carbon material.⁶

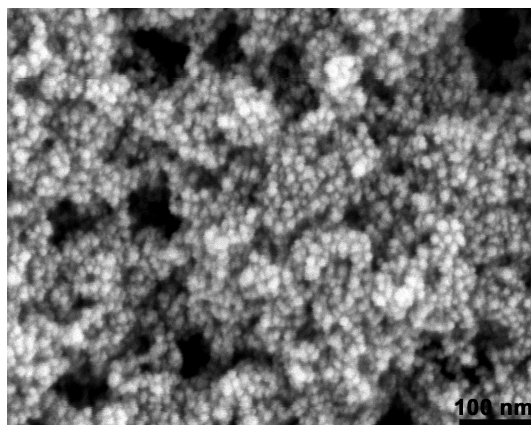


Fig. S4 SEM image of ZnFe_2O_4 .

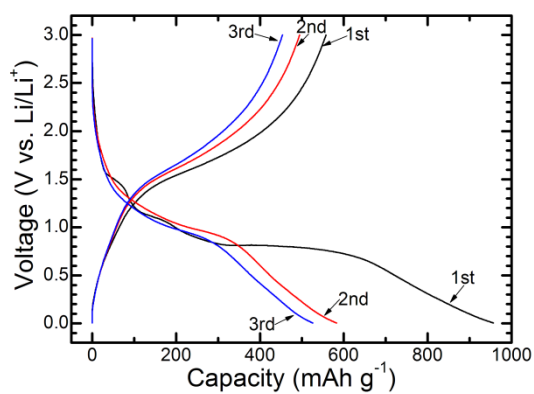


Fig. S5 The first three charge and discharge curves of ZnFe_2O_4 at 50 mA g^{-1} .

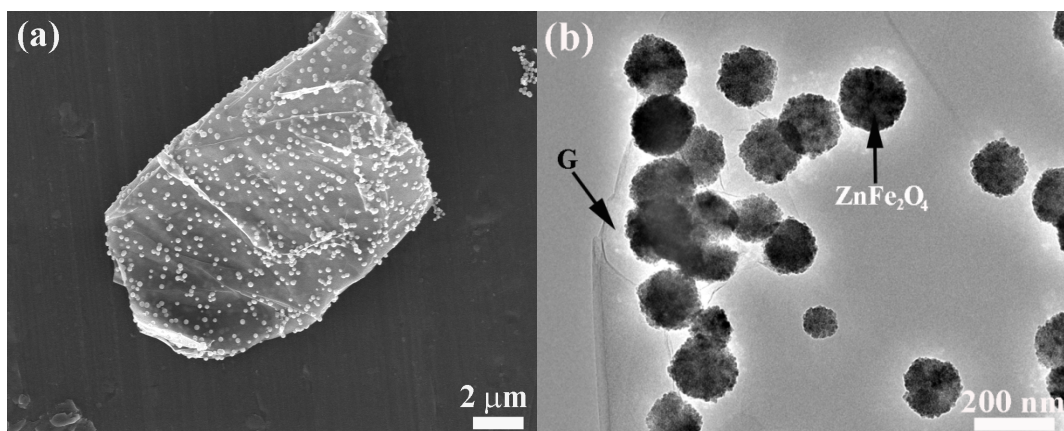


Fig. S6 (a) SEM and (b) TEM images of $\text{ZnFe}_2\text{O}_4/\text{G}$ prepared in EG.

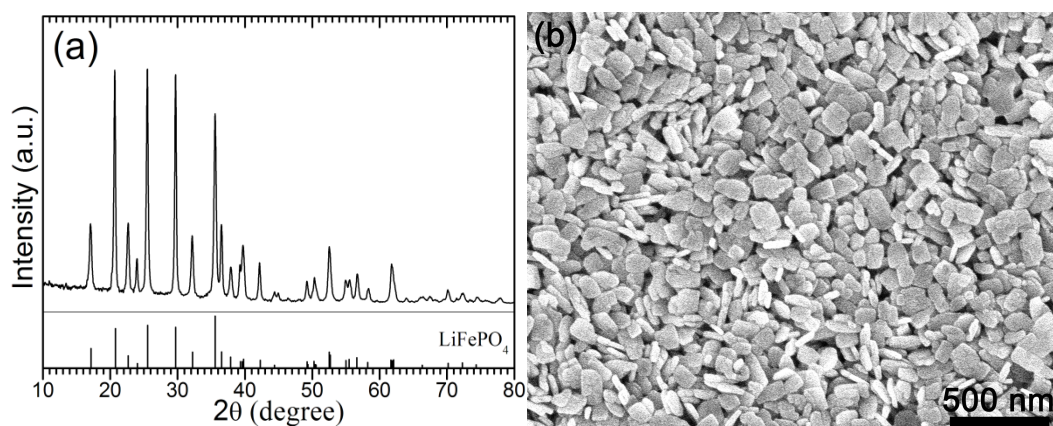


Fig. S7 (a) XRD patterns and (b) SEM image of LiFePO_4/C .

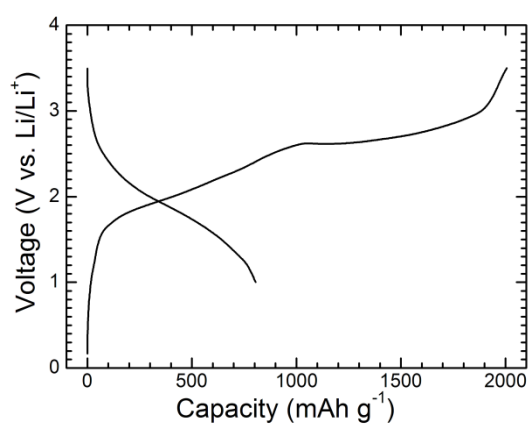


Fig. S8 The first charge and discharge curves of the $\text{ZnFe}_2\text{O}_4/\text{G}-\text{LiFePO}_4/\text{C}$ full cell at 100 mA g^{-1} .

References

- 1 S. Dubin, S. Gilje, K. Wang, V. C. Tung, K. Cha, A. S. Hall, J. Farrar, R. Varshneya, Y. Yang and R. B. Kaner, *ACS Nano*, 2010, **4**, 3845–3852.
- 2 M. Wang, Z. H. Ai and L. Z. Zhang, *J. Phys. Chem. C*, 2008, **112**, 13163–13170.
- 3 F. Tuinstra and J. L. Koenig, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 1970, **53**, 1126–1130.
- 4 S. Stankovich, D. A. Dikin, R. D. Piner, K. A. Kohlhaas, A. Kleinhammes, Y. Y. Jia, Y. Wu, S. T. Nguyen and R. S. Ruoff, *Carbon*, 2007, **45**, 1558–1565.
- 5 A. C. Ferrari, J. C. Meyer, V. Scardaci, C. Casiraghi, M. Lazzeri, F. Mauri, S. Piscanec, D. Jiang, K. S. Novoselov, S. Roth and A. K. Geim, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 2006, **97**, 187401.
- 6 C. N. R. Rao, A. K. Sood, K. S. Subrahmanyam and A. Govindaraj, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, 2009, **48**, 7752–7777.