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Templated Fabrication of Graphene-Based Materials for Energy Applications



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Preface

With carbon neutrality being raised as the high-priority mission for human society, there is an urgent need for technological development in related fields. In particular, the demand for energy storage and conversion applications, represented by batteries, is increasing rapidly. Moreover, their development of energy-related applications greatly boosted the requirements for new materials.

Among various new materials, graphene is undoubtedly the most popular one. Since its discovery, graphene has become a star material due to its excellent mechanical. electrical, and chemical properties. However, in energyrelated fields such as batteries, supercapacitors, and electrocatalysis, the demand for materials has a different focus. How to manufacture and improve the graphenebased materials to meet different needs is a question worth exploring. Among the many strategies to prepare graphenebased materials, the template method is one of the most popular methods. The advantage of the template method is that it can effectively regulate the microstructure of graphene. Also, such a method can introduce heteroatoms or other phases in graphene by the interaction between the template and precursors during the preparation process. There are more and more researchers recognizing the benefits of the template method for graphene-based materials production. There has been a rapid growth in research in this area and many promising applications have emerged. Therefore, we think it is necessary to summarize and review the development in this field, which is the main reason why we have written this book.

The framework of this book can be broadly divided into three parts. Firstly, we will start with a basic introduction to graphene-based materials (<u>Chapters 1</u> and <u>2</u>); the second part is the frontier of template methods for the preparation of graphene-based materials (<u>Chapters 3–5</u>); the third part is the research progress of graphene-based materials in different energy-related applications (<u>Chapter 3–6–10</u>).

<u>Chapter 1</u> mainly introduces the basic knowledge of graphene, including its history and physical properties. The purpose of this chapter is to give the reader a background for the following chapters. <u>Chapter 2</u> will give readers a grasp of the current synthesis strategies for graphene. To this regard, the classification of graphene preparations is described and some typical researches are introduced in this chapter. <u>Chapters 3</u> to <u>5</u> will focus on a brief overview of different kinds of template methods for graphene production. The study of porous metals for graphene preparation is presented in <u>Chapter 3</u>. Nanoporous graphene shows excellent physics and electrochemical performance in the fields of energy storage and conversion due to its high-quality and unique interconnected structure. <u>Chapter 3</u> presents an overview of the recent research about the nanoporous graphene-based materials using nanoporous metal as the substrates. Then, Chapter 4 focuses on how to prepare graphene in large quantities, in particular. Considering the cost of graphene preparation with the potential for a large number of applications, substantial efforts have been devoted to developing a facile and versatile method, and several low-cost template methods will be reviewed in this part. In <u>Chapter 5</u>, the strategy of powder metallurgy and additive manufacturing procedures to prepare graphene materials is highlighted, which is one of the current research interests of our group. Subsequent chapters will discuss the various applications of graphene-based materials, such as lithium-ion batteries (Chapter 6), lithium-metal batteries (Chapter 7), lithium-

sulfur batteries (<u>Chapter 8</u>), supercapacitors (<u>Chapter 9</u>), electrocatalysis (Chapter 10), and so on. Chapters 6 to 10 all follow a similar framework of discussion. At first, we will give the background of these fields, such as the basic concepts in energy applications and the physicochemical principles for different devices. Then, the discussion of the current bottlenecks in materials encountered in these applications will be presented. Consequently, we will describe why graphene-based materials are promising in these fields and how graphene should be improved to suit the different requirements. Meanwhile, we will review the specific applications of graphene-based materials prepared by the template methods in these fields and give the properties that can be achieved or the performance in practical cases. At the end of each chapter, we will discuss the current challenges of these graphene-based materials in each energy-related application, as well as possible improvement strategies and directions.

In these chapters, relevant content includes both the authors' studies and the research of others. This content has been reorganized and reviewed to form systematic frameworks. It is my pleasure to write and edit this book on graphene-based materials and their energy applications. It is hoped that the publication of this book will be helpful to researchers in this field and provide guidelines for related researches. Special thanks go to my students, colleagues, and the publisher's editors for their discussions and help.

List of Abbreviations

0D

zero-dimensional

1D

one-dimensional

2D Fe₃O₄@C@PGC

2D porous graphitic carbon nanosheets uniformly embedded with carbon-encapsulated $\mathrm{Fe}_3\mathrm{O}_4$ nanoparticles

2D

two-dimensional

3D BMG

three-dimensional bi-functional modular graphene network

3D CG

3D graphene-based hosts with continuous ductlike structure

3D FL-MoS₂@PCNNs

few layers \mbox{MoS}_2 nanosheets anchored on 3D porous carbon nanosheet networks

3D G

3D graphene architectures

3D GF

3D graphene foam

3D GF-FeS₂

cauliflower-like \mbox{FeS}_2 anchored on three-dimensional graphene foams

3D GM

3D graphene monolith

3D GN

three-dimensional graphene foams

3D GNs

3D porous graphene-like networks

3D PG

3D porous graphene

3D Rebar GF

CNTs-reinforced 3D graphene foam

3D S@PGC

sulfur nanoparticles in three-dimensional (3D) porous graphitic carbon (PGC)

3D SnSb@N-PG

SnSb in-plane nanoconfined three-dimensional N-doped porous graphene composite microspheres

3D ZnO@PCCMs

ZnO nanoparticle-confined 3D porous carbon composite microspheres

3D

three-dimensional

3DCu@NG

nanoporous Cu@N-doped graphene

3D-DG

free-standing 3D duct-like graphene

3D-DG@MnO₂

3D nanoporous graphene $@MnO_2$ composite

ΔG

Gibbs free energy

AFM

atomic force microscopy

AGNRs

armchair graphene nanoribbons

ALD

atomic layer deposition

a-MEGO

KOH-activated microwave-exfoliated graphite oxide

a-MnO_x

amorphous manganese oxide

AMs

anode materials

An

aniline

APCVD

atmospheric-pressure CVD

APS

aminopropyltriethoxysilane

APTMS

3-aminopropyl-trimethoxysilane

ASCs

asymmetric supercapacitors

a-TiO₂

amorphous TiO₂

BET

Brunauer-Emmett-Teller

BF-STEM

bright-field scanning transmission electron microscopy

B-LIG-MSCs

flexible supercapacitors based on boron-doped laser scribing graphene

BN-GAs

nitrogen and boron co-doped monolithic graphene aerogels $% \left({{\left({{{\left({{{\left({{{\left({{{\left({{{c}}} \right)}} \right.} \right.} \right.} \right.} \right)}_{0,2}}} \right)} \right)$

С

capacitance

C60

fullerene

carbide@CNS

vertically aligned 2D N-doped carbon nanosheets embedded with uniform nanosized metal carbides

Cat

catecho

CE

coulombic efficiency

CNF

carbon nanofiber

CNFs

carbon nanofibers

CNs

carbon nanosheets

CNTs

carbon nanotubes

CO₂RR

carbon dioxide reduction reaction

Co_3O_4/GS

Co₃O₄/graphene sheets

Co-MOF/3DGN

Co-MOF/three-dimensional graphene network

CoS₂/G

CoS₂/graphene/CoS₂ heterostructure

CoS₂-N-C/3DGN

 CoS_2 encapsulated in N-doped carbon/3DGN

CPD

critical point dryer

CS-800A

S-doped carbons synthesized from K_2SO_4 at 800 $^\circ C$

CS-800B

S-doped carbons synthesized from $Na_2S_2O_3$ at 800 °C

СТАВ

cetyltrimethylammonium bromide

CV

cyclic voltammogram

CVD

chemical vapor deposition

DA

dopamine hydrochloride

DFT

density functional theory

DMA

dynamic mechanical analysis

DOS

density-of-states

Ε

energy density

ECR

electrochemical CO₂ reduction

EDLCs

electrical double-layer capacitors

EELS

electron energy-loss spectroscopy

EIS

electrochemical impedance spectroscopy

EOG

edge-oriented multilayer graphene

Fe@C@PGC

2D porous graphitic carbon nanosheets uniformly embedded with carbon-encapsulated Fe nanoparticles

Fe_2O_3/GS

Fe₂O₃/graphene sheets

FeS₂/rGO

 FeS_2 microspheres anchored on rGO

G@MoS₂-C

 $\ensuremath{\text{MoS}}_2$ encapsulated in carbon and coupled on graphene sheets

GAMs

graphene aerogel microlattices

$g-C_3N_4$

carbon nitride

G-CNF film

carbon nanofiber-stabilized graphene aerogel film

G-Co₃O₄

graphene-embedded Co3O4 rose-spheres

GF separator

glass fibers separator

GF

graphene fiber

GNR

graphene nanoribbons

GO

graphene oxide

H-3DRG

heteroatom-doped edge-enriched 3D rivet graphene

HAADF-STEM

high-angle annular dark-field scanning transmission electron microscopy

HAH

hydroxylamine hydrochloride

HER

hydrogen evolution reaction

HG

hydrogenated graphite

HIP

hot isostatic pressing

hnp-G

hierarchical nanoporous graphene

HOPG

highly oriented pyrolytic graphite

HPC-BMS

hierarchical porous carbons with different size of pores (-B, -M, S, meaning big, medium, and small, respectively.)

HPGN

layered porous graphene nanoparticles

HR-TEM

high-resolution TEM

$I_{\rm D}/I_{\rm G}$

The ratio of D-band and G-band in the Raman spectroscopy

ΙΤΟ

indium tin oxide

K

thermal conductivity

LCGO

liquid crystalline graphene oxide

LDH

layered double hydroxide

LEG

light-emitting diode

LIBs

lithium-ion batteries

LIC

lithium-ion capacitors

LMA

lithium metal anode

LMB

lithium metal battery

LMO

lithium transition-metal oxide

LOG

laterally oriented graphene

LPCVD

low-pressure CVD

LPM-3D Rebar GF

3D rebar GF prepared via a loose powder metallurgy templates method

LSG

laser scribing graphene

MBE

molecular beam epitaxy

MG

 MoS_2 -reduced graphene oxide

ML

monolayer

MMT

montmorillonite

MnO₂/e-CMG

 $graphene-MnO_2$ composites

MOF

metal-organic framework

MoS₂/G