

Graphene-Coated 1D MoTe₂ Nanorods as Anode for Enhancing Lithium-Ion Battery Performance

Shuwei Chai¹, Xiong Xiao¹, Yabei Li¹ and Changhua An^{1*}

¹Tianjin Key Laboratory of Organic Solar Cells and Photochemical Conversion, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, and Tianjin Key Laboratory of Advanced Functional Porous Materials, Institute for New Energy Materials & Low-Carbon Technologies, Tianjin University of Technology, Tianjin 300384, China

*Corresponding author. Email: anchua@ustc.edu

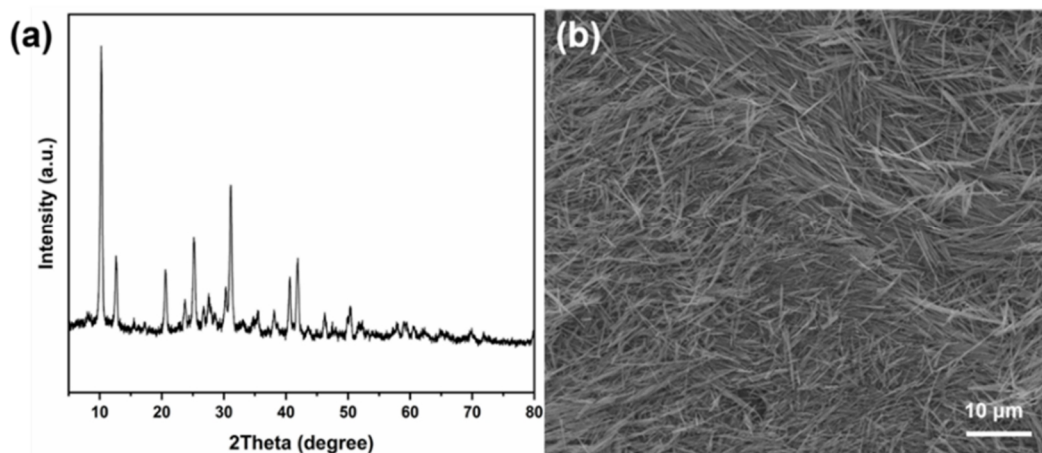


Figure S1. (a) XRD pattern of $\text{Mo}_3\text{O}_{10}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_2)$ and (b) SEM image of $\text{Mo}_3\text{O}_{10}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_2)$ nanowires.

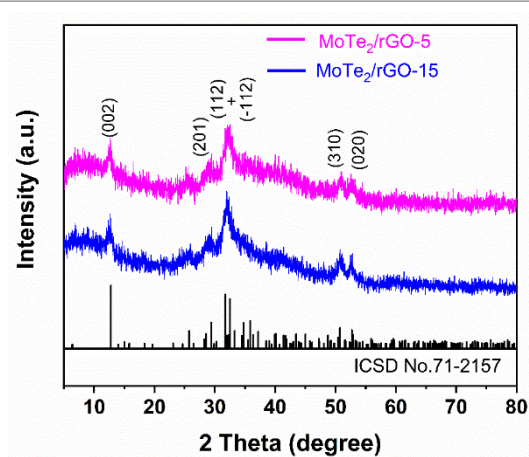


Figure S2. XRD patterns of MoTe₂/rGO-5 and MoTe₂/rGO-15 nanocomposites.

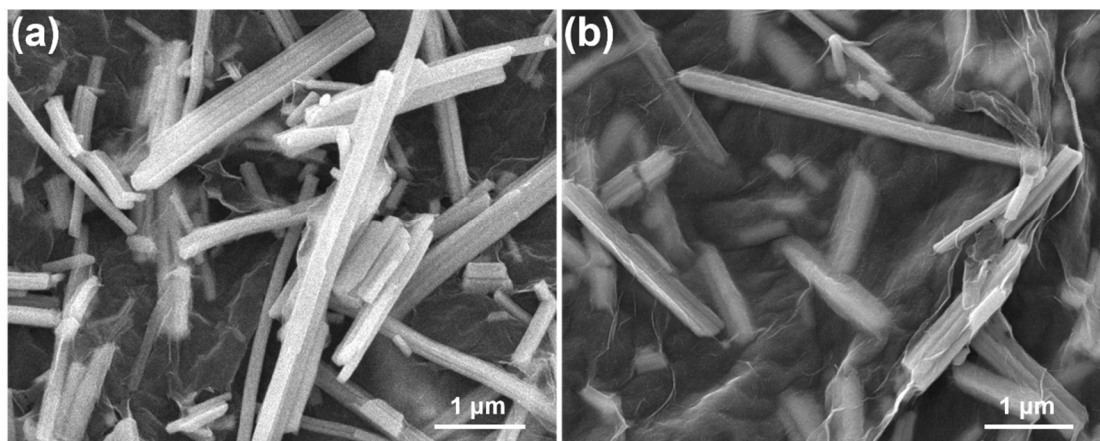


Figure S3. SEM images of (a) MoTe₂/rGO-5 and (b) MoTe₂/rGO-15 nanocomposites.

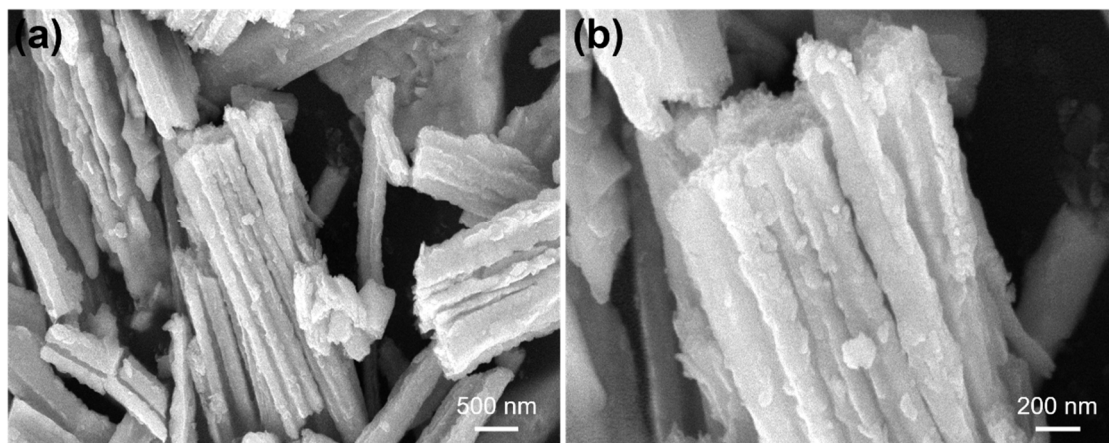


Figure S4. Low- (a) and high-magnification (b) SEM images of bare MoTe₂ nanorods.

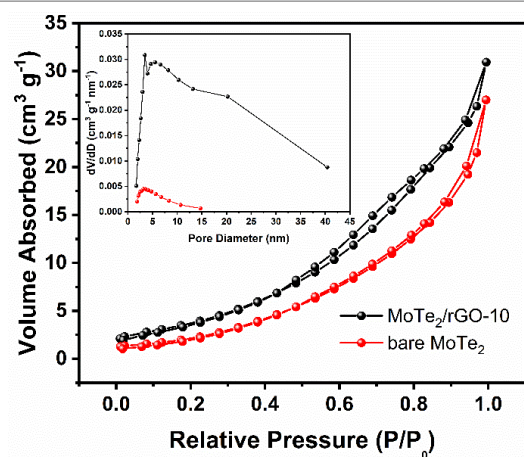


Figure S5. Nitrogen adsorption and desorption isotherms of bare MoTe₂ and MoTe₂/rGO-10 nanocomposite.

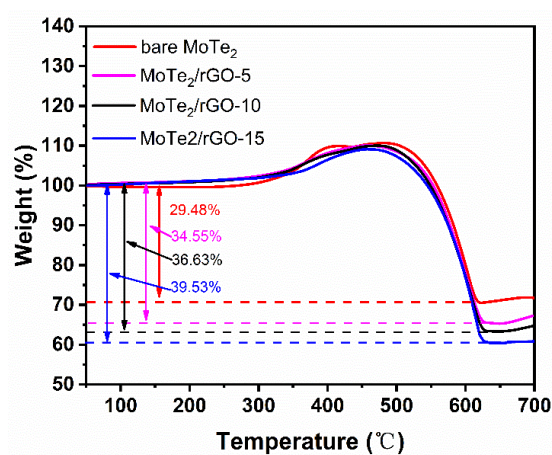


Figure S6. TGA curves of bare MoTe₂, MoTe₂/rGO-5, MoTe₂/rGO-10, and MoTe₂/rGO-15 nanocomposites.

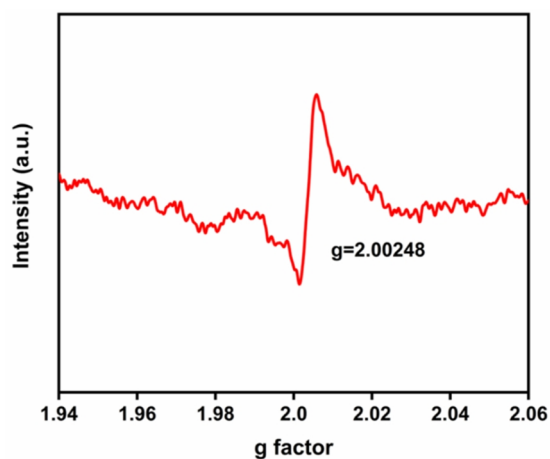


Figure S7. EPR spectrum of MoTe₂/rGO-10 nanocomposite.

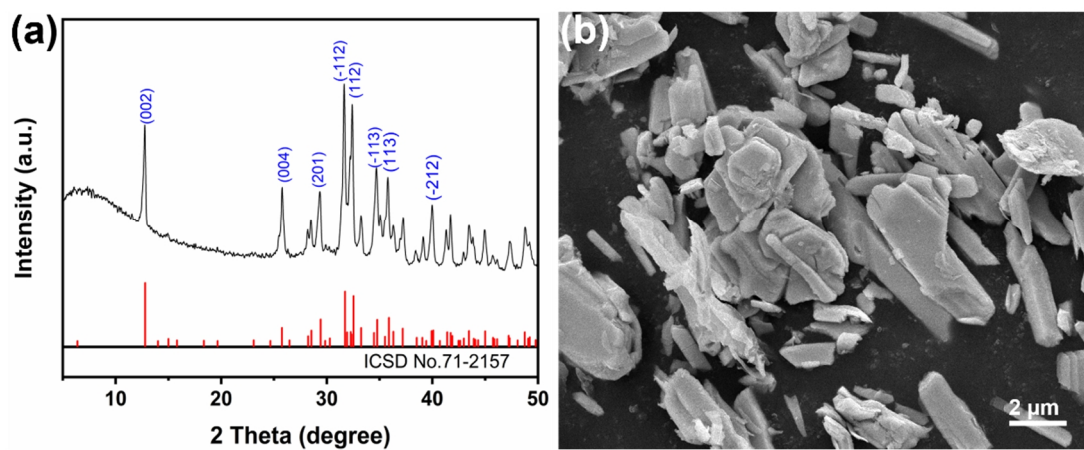


Figure S8. (a) XRD pattern and (b) SEM image of bulk MoTe₂.

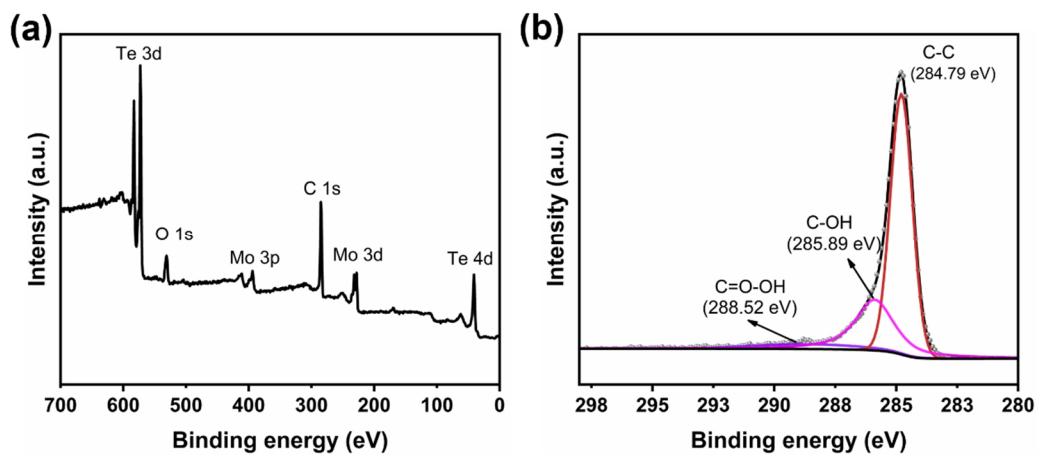


Figure S9. (a) Survey XPS, and (b) high resolution C 1s spectrum of MoTe₂/rGO-10 nanocomposite.

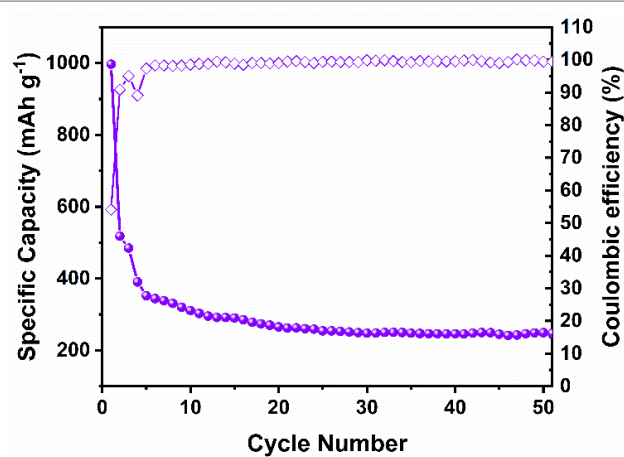


Figure S10. Cycling performance of the bare rGO coating at 0.2 A g⁻¹.

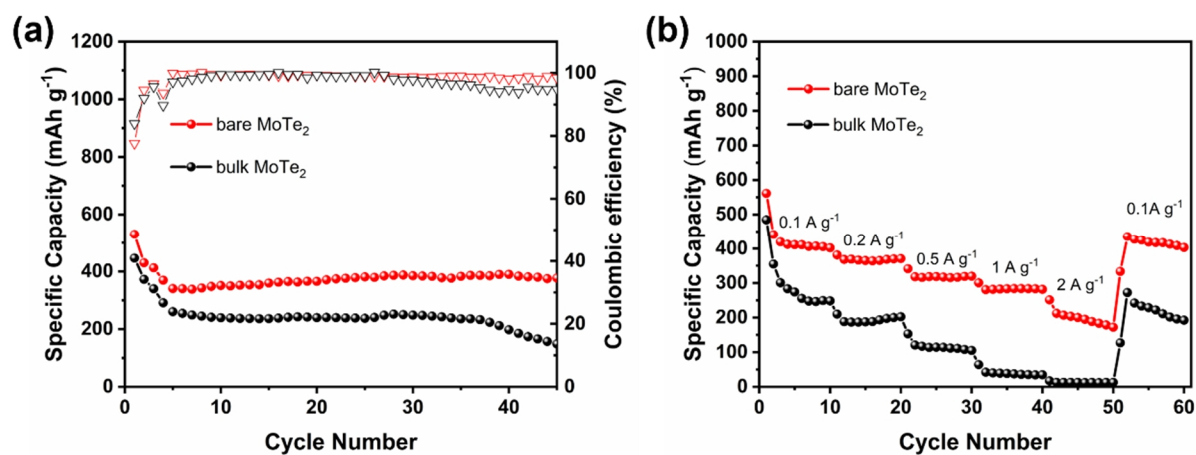


Figure S11. (a) Cycling performance at 0.2 A g⁻¹ and (b) rate capability of bare MoTe₂ and bulk MoTe₂.

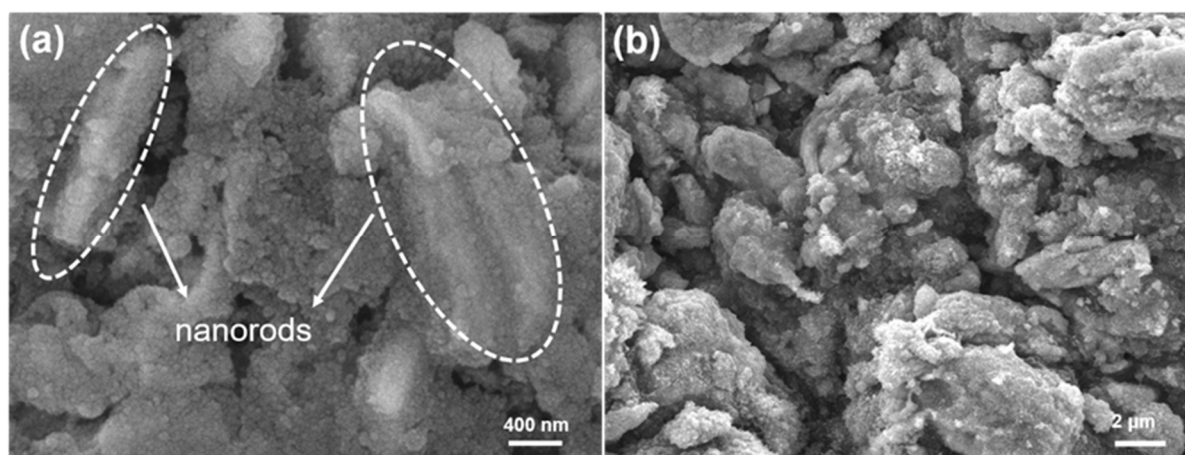


Figure S12. SEM images of MoTe₂/rGO-10 nanocomposite (a), and bulk MoTe₂ (b) electrode after 100 cycles at 0.2 A g⁻¹.

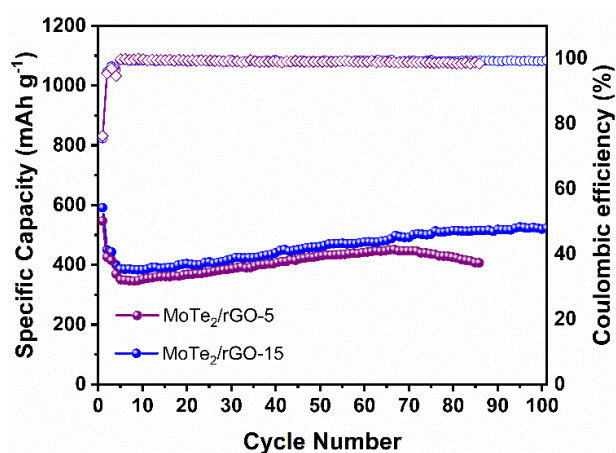


Figure S13. Cycling performance of the bare MoTe₂ nanorods and MoTe₂/rGO-10 composite at 0.2 A g⁻¹.

The Li⁺ diffusion coefficient (D) was yielded by galvanostatic intermittent titration technique (GITT) based on the following Eq. S1:

$$D = \frac{4}{\pi\tau} \left(\frac{m_B V_m}{M_B S} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\Delta E_s}{\Delta E_t} \right)^2 \quad \text{Eq. S1}$$

where τ represents the relaxation time (s), m_B is the mass of active material (g), V_m represents the molar volume of active material, M_B is the molar mass of active material (g/mol), ΔE_s represents the steady-state voltage change (V) by the current pulse, and ΔE_t is the voltage change (V) during the constant current pulse after eliminating the iR drop, respectively.

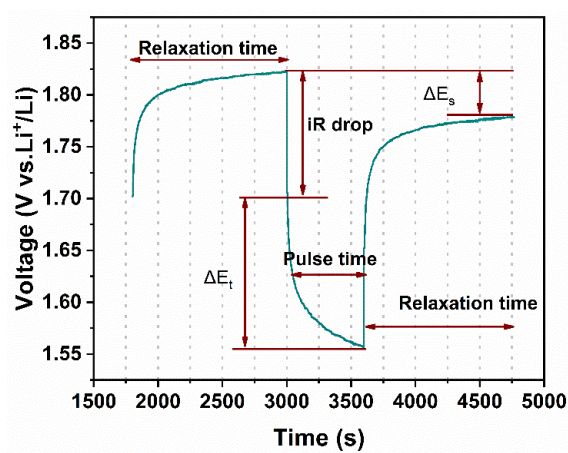


Figure S14. Voltage vs. time profile of $\text{MoTe}_2/\text{rGO-10}$ electrode for a single GITT titration.

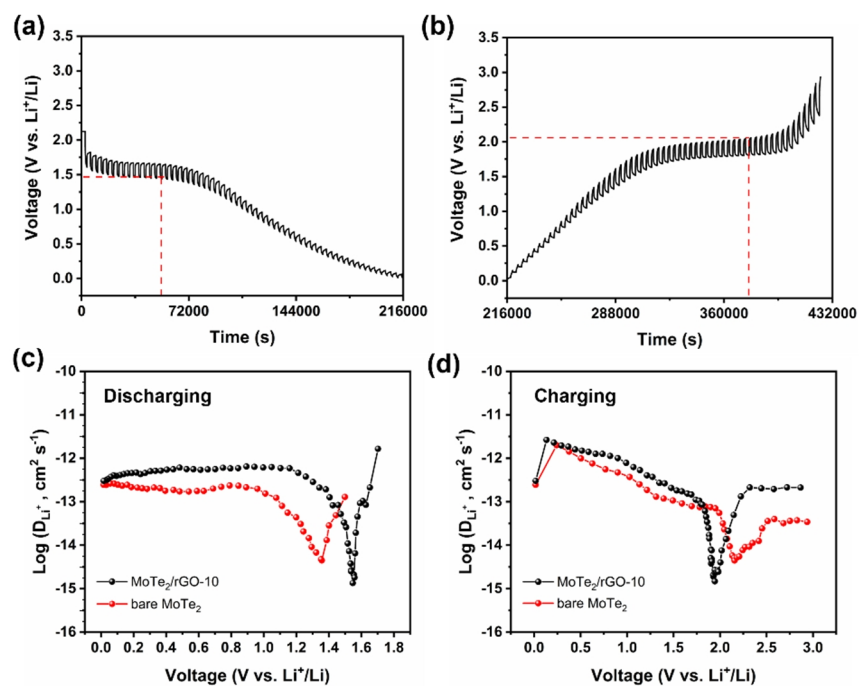


Figure S15. GITT profiles of $\text{MoTe}_2/\text{rGO-10}$ electrode at discharge (a) and charge state (b); Li^+ diffusion coefficient at (c) discharge and (d) charge process.

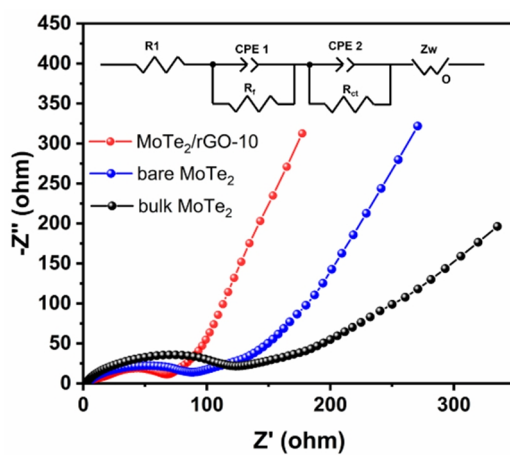


Figure S16. Nyquist plots and equivalent circuit for the EIS analysis of the bare MoTe₂, bulk MoTe₂ and MoTe₂/rGO-10 nanocomposite.

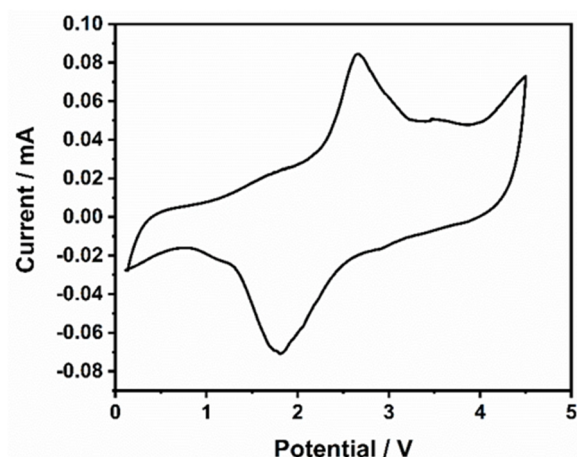


Figure S17. CV curve of MoTe₂/rGO-10//LCO full cell at a scan rate 0.1 mV s⁻¹ in the potential window of 0.1-4.5 V.

Table S1. Comparison of the Conventional Anode Materials and Our MoTe₂/rGO Nanocomposite Anode Configuration

Anode material	Current rate (A g ⁻¹)	Discharging capacity (mA h g ⁻¹)	Cycling retention	Reference
pristine MoTe ₂	1	291	260	[1]
MoTe ₂ /FLG	0.1	150	596.5	[2]
1D-MoTe ₂ film	0.05	770	1st	[3]
MoSe ₂ /C nanorods	0.2	200	755	[4]
MoSe ₂ /C	0.2	618	300	[5]
MoO ₂ -carbon nanowires	0.2	500	20	[6]
MoO ₂ -loaded porous carbon hollow sphere	0.05	640	80	[7]
MoS ₂ @Ti ₃ C ₂ T _x	1	132	275	[8]
p-Ti ₃ C ₂ /MoS ₂	0.5	230	50	[9]
MoTe₂/rGO	0.2/0.5	637/320	100/200	Our work

n REFERENCES

- (1) Panda, M. R.; Gangwar, R.; Muthuraj, D.; Sau, S.; Pandey, D.; Banerjee, A.; Chakrabarti, A.; Sagdeo, A.; Weyland, M.; Majumder, M.; Ban, Q. L.; Mitra, S. High performance lithium-ion batteries using layered 2H-MoTe₂ as anode. *Small* **2020**, 16, 2002669.
- (2) Ma, N.; Jiang, X. Y.; Zhang, L.; Wang, X. S.; Cao, Y. L.; Zhang, X. Z. Novel 2D layered molybdenum ditelluride encapsulated in few-layer graphene as high-performance anode for lithium-ion batteries. *Small* **2018**, 14, 1703680.
- (3) Kim, E. K.; Yoon, S. J.; Bui, H. T.; Patil, S. A.; Bathula, C.; Shrestha, N. K.; Im, H.; Han, S. H. Epitaxial electrodeposition of single crystal MoTe₂ nanorods and Li⁺ storage feasibility. *J. Electroanal. Chem.* **2020**, 878, 114672.
- (4) Qiong, S.; Cao, X. X.; Kong, X. Z.; Wang, Y. P.; Peng, C.; Chen, J.; Yin, B.; Shi, J. R.; Liang, S. Q.; Pan, A. Q. Carbon-encapsulated MoSe₂/C nanorods derived from organic-inorganic hybrid enabling superior lithium/sodium storage performances. *Electrochim. Acta* **2018**, 292, 339-346.
- (5) Qin, F. R.; Hua, H. X.; Jiang, Y. J.; Zhang, K.; Fang, Z.; Lai, Y. Q.; Li, J. Mesoporous MoSe₂/C composite as anode material for sodium/lithium ion batteries. *J. Electroanal. Chem.* **2018**, 823, 67-72.
- (6) Gao, Q. S.; Yang, L. C.; Lu, X. C.; Mao, J. J.; Zhang, Y. H.; Wu, Y. P.; Tang, Y. Synthesis, characterization and lithium-storage performance of MoO₂/carbon hybrid nanowires. *J. Mater. Chem.* **2010**, 20, 2807.
- (7) Gao, H.; Liu, C. L.; Liu, Y.; Liu, Z. H.; Dong, W. S. MoO₂-loaded porous carbon hollow spheres as anode materials for lithium-ion batteries. *Mater. Chem. Phys.* **2014**, 147, 218.
- (8) Shen, C. L.; Wang, L. B.; Zhou, A. G.; Zhang, H.; Chen, Z. H.; Hu, Q. K.; Qin, G. MoS₂-Decorated Ti₃C₂ MXene nanosheet as anode material in lithium-ion batteries. *J. Electrochem. Soc.* **2017**, 164, A2654.
- (9) Zheng, M.; Guo, R. S.; Liu, Z. C.; Wang, B. Y.; Meng, L. C.; Li, F. Y.; Li, T. T.; Luo, Y. N. MoS₂ intercalated p-Ti₃C₂ anode materials with sandwich-like three dimensional conductive networks for lithium-ion batteries. *J. Alloy Compd.* **2018**, 735, 1262.