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Performance of Silicon Carbonitride Functionalized MoS₂ Nanosheets as Lithium-ion Battery Anode¹ LAMUEL DAVID, ROMIL BHANDAVAT, URIEL BARRERA, GURPREET SINGH, Kansas State University — Liquid-phase exfoliated MoS_2 was functionalized with polysilazane polymer to yield ceramic SiCN-MoS₂ layered composite upon pyrolysis. Ceramization of polymer to ceramic phase on surfaces on MoS_2 was confirmed by electron microscopy and spectroscopic techniques. Electrochemical behavior of MoS_2 and $SiCN-MoS_2$ on both traditional and paper-based electrode architecture was investigated in a Lithium ion battery half-cell configuration. All electrodes showed the classical 3phase behavior characteristic of a conversion reaction. SiCN-MoS₂ composite paper showed more stable cycling and higher reversible capacity retention than MoS_2 . The contribution of conversion reaction in MoS_2 or electrolyte decomposition in overall capacity was found to reduce in $SiCN-MoS_2$ specimen, which is understood as one of the reason for decreased first cycle loss and increased capacity retention for SiCN- MoS_2 composite. In addition, the freestanding composite paper exhibited excellent C-rate performance, regaining approx. 97% of its initial charge capacity when the current density was reduced to 100 mA.g^{-1} (508 mAh.g⁻¹) from 2400 mA.g⁻¹ (170 $mAh.g^{-1}$).

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