

Morphological and Electrochemical Properties of ZnMn₂O₄ Nanopowders and Their Aggregated Microspheres Prepared by Simple Spray Drying Process

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Electrochemical Measurements

1.1. Characterization Techniques

The crystal structure of the as-prepared and post-annealed powders was investigated by using X-ray diffraction (XRD, X'pert PRO MPD) with Cu K_α radiation (= 1.5418 Å), at the Korea Basic Science Institute (Daegu). The morphological characteristics of the prepared samples were investigated by using scanning electron microscopy (SEM, (S-4800, Hitachi, Tokyo, Japan) and a high-resolution transmission electron microscopy (TEM, JEM-2100F, JEOL, Tokyo, Japan). The specific surface areas of the aggregated microsphere powders were calculated from a Brunauer–Emmett–Teller (BET) analysis of nitrogen adsorption measurements (TriStar 3000).

1.2. Electrochemical Measurements

The electrochemical properties, including capacities and cycling performance of the powders, were determined by assembling a 2032-type coin cell. The anode was prepared by mixing 70 wt% of active material, 20 wt% of Super P[®] carbon black (H30253, Alfa Aesar, Haverhill, MA, USA) as the conductive material, and 10 wt% of sodium carboxymethyl cellulose (CMC, C5013, Sigma Aldrich, Saint Louis, MO, USA) as the binder. Lithium metal (010769, Alfa Aesar, Haverhill, MA, USA) and microporous polypropylene film were used as the counter electrode and separator, respectively. LiPF₆ (1 M) in a mixture of ethylene carbonate (EC) and dimethyl carbonate (DMC) in the volume ratio of 1:1 with 2 wt% vinylene carbonate (VC) was used as the electrolyte (Dongwha Electrolyte, Nonsan, Korea). The charge/discharge characteristics of the samples were determined by cycling in the voltage range 0.001–3.0 V. Cyclic voltammetry measurements were carried out at a scan rate of 0.07 mV s⁻¹.

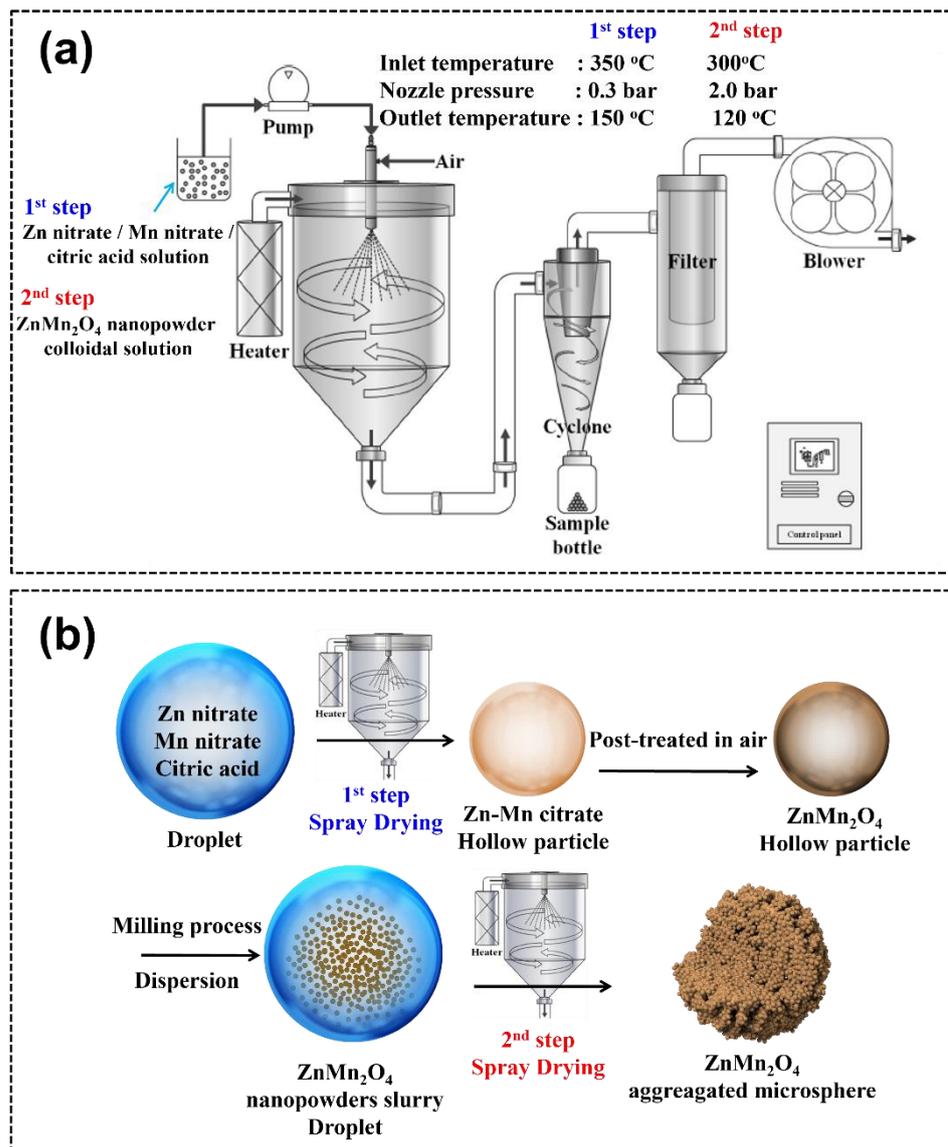


Figure S1. (a) Schematic diagram of spray drying system and (b) formation of ZnMn₂O₄ aggregated microspheres by 2 step spray drying process.

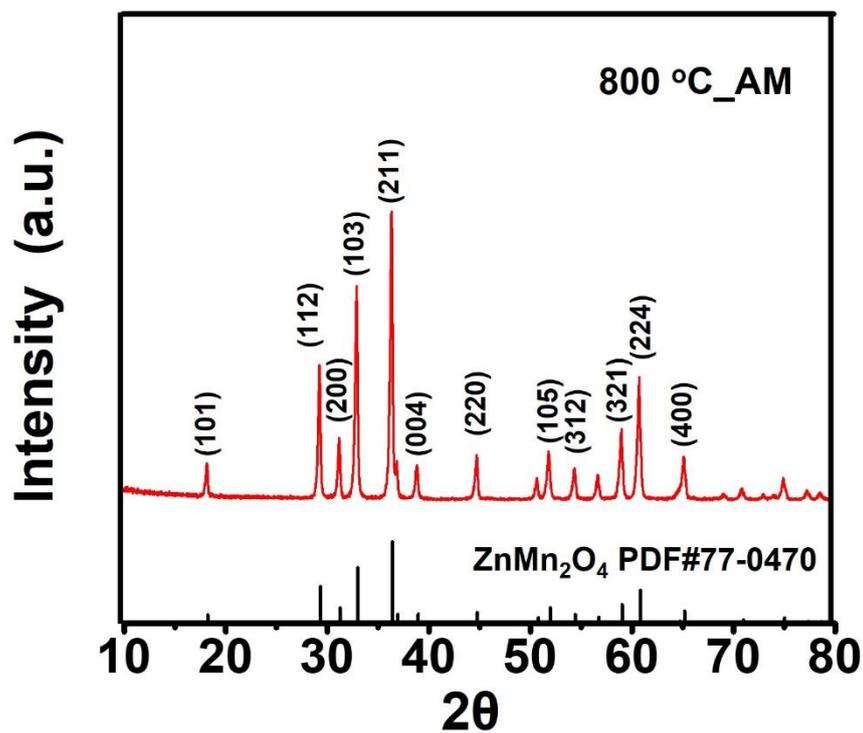


Figure S2. XRD pattern of the aggregated microsphere consisting of ZnMn_2O_4 nanoparticles, which were prepared at $800\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ post-treatment temperature.

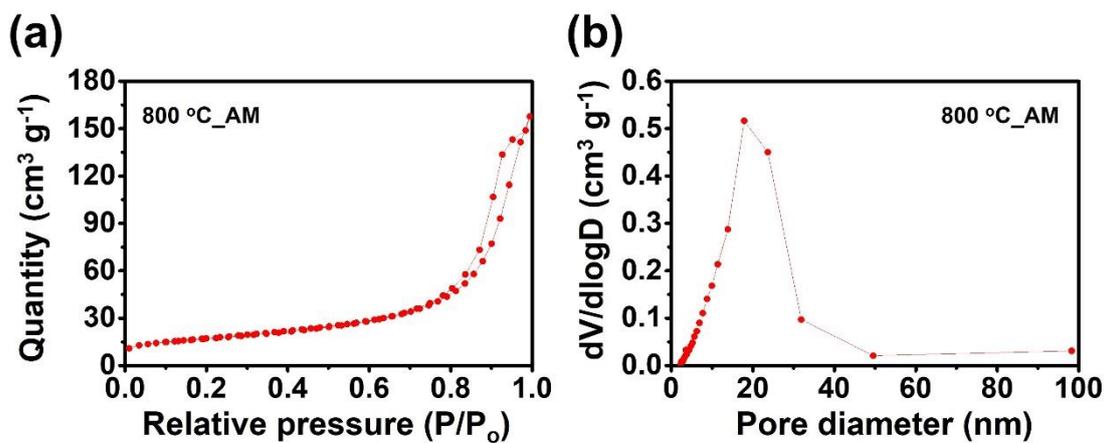


Figure S3. (a) N_2 gas adsorption and desorption isotherm and (b) BJH pore-size distribution of the aggregated microsphere consisting of ZnMn_2O_4 nanoparticles, which were prepared at $800\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ post-treatment temperature.

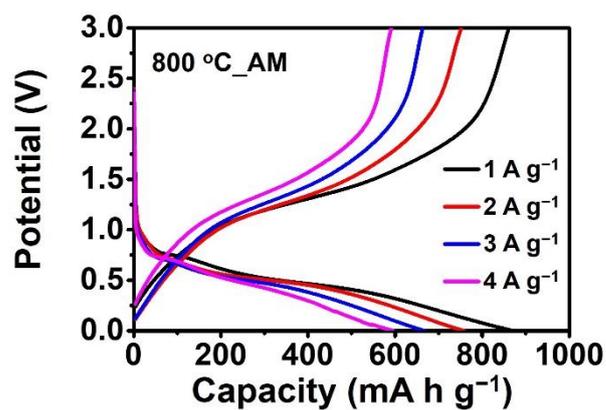


Figure S4. The charge and discharge profiles of ZnMn_2O_4 800 °C_AM at different current density.

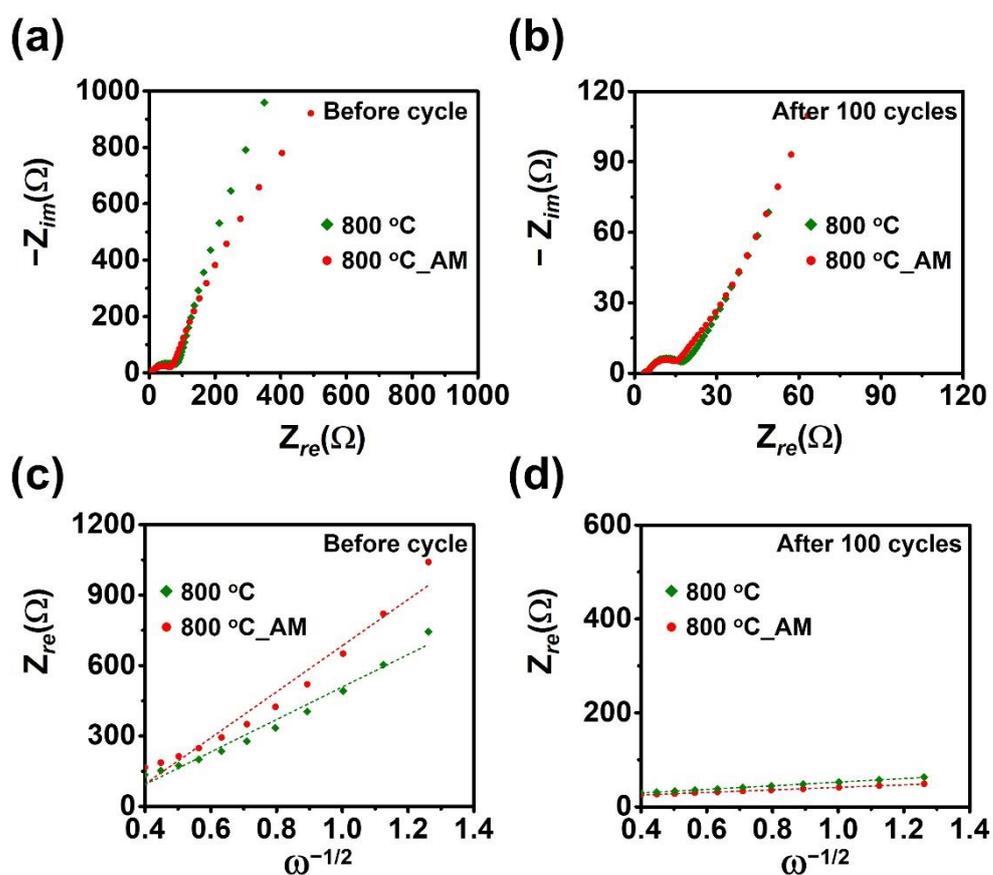


Figure S5. (a,b) Nyquist plots and (c,d) relationships between Z_{re} and $\omega^{-1/2}$ of the ZnMn_2O_4 powders post-treated at 800 °C temperatures and aggregated microsphere consisting of ZnMn_2O_4 nanoparticles (800 °C_AM): (a) before cycle, (b) after 100 cycles, (c) before cycle, and (d) after 100 cycles.

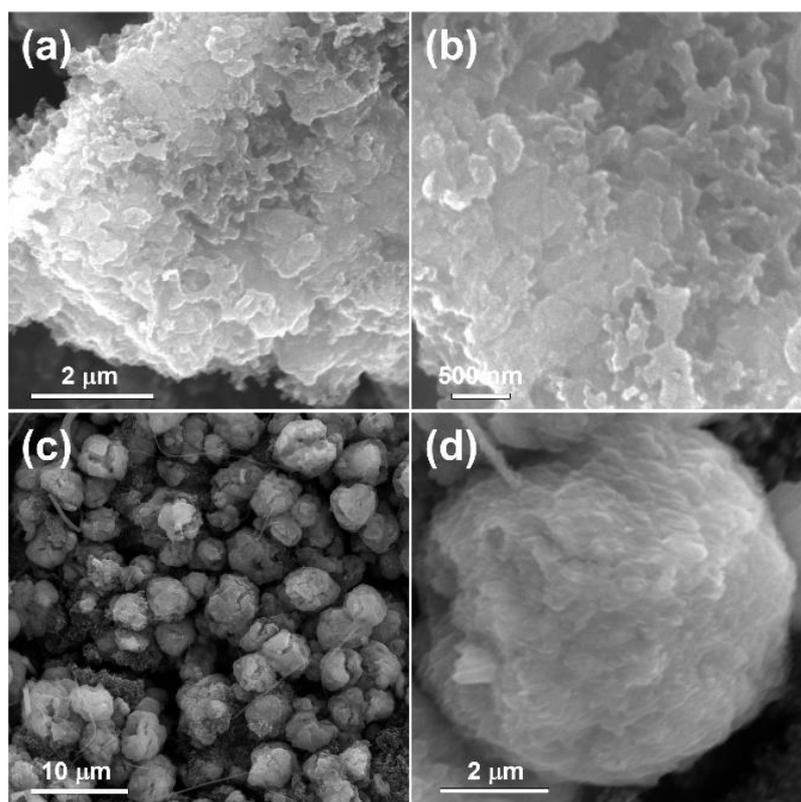


Figure S6. SEM images of (a,b) ZnMn_2O_4 powders post-treated at 800 °C temperatures and (c,d) aggregated microsphere consisting of ZnMn_2O_4 nanoparticles (800 °C_AM) after 100 cycles.

Table S1. Electrochemical properties with other ZnMn_2O_4 materials as anode materials for LIBs reported in the previous literatures.

Materials	Current Rate	Discharge Capacity [mA h g ⁻¹] and (Cycle Number)	Rate capacity [mA h g ⁻¹] (Current Rate)	Ref
ZnMn_2O_4 ball-in-ball hollow microspheres	0.4 A g ⁻¹	750 (120)	396 (1.2 A g ⁻¹)	[1]
Pure phase of ZnMn_2O_4	0.2 A g ⁻¹	458 (50)	205 (10.0 A g ⁻¹)	[2]
Porous ZnMn_2O_4 microspheres	0.5 A g ⁻¹	800 (300)	400 (2.0 A g ⁻¹)	[3]
Hierarchical porous ZnMn_2O_4 hollow nanotubes	0.2 A g ⁻¹	669 (280)	352 (2.0 A g ⁻¹)	[4]
ZnMn_2O_4 microspheres	0.1 A g ⁻¹	602 (100)	483 (0.5 A g ⁻¹)	[5]
Porous ZnMn_2O_4 nanospheres	0.2 A g ⁻¹	~800 (120)	300 (6.0 A g ⁻¹)	[6]
Porous ZnMn_2O_4 nanowires	0.5 A g ⁻¹	869 (100)	345 (4.0 A g ⁻¹)	[7]
Aggregated microsphere consisting of ZnMn_2O_4 nanoparticles	2.0 A g⁻¹	687 (100)	594 (4.0 A g⁻¹)	Our work

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