

Supporting Information

2D P-Doped Carbon Nitride as an Effective Artificial Solid Electrolyte Interphase for the Protection of Li Anodes

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		BE	CNP (%At)	CN (%At)
C1s	C-C	284	9.2	7.6
	C-N-P	285.9	12.9	
	C ₃ -N	286.7		11.8
	C-N pyridinic	288.4	15.2	28.1
	π - π	290.9		
	<i>TOT. %</i>		37.3	47.5
N1s	N pyridinic	397.4	7.7	24.4
	C-NH ₂	398.5	10.1	12.5
	C ₂ -NH	399.7	8.4	11.7
	N-P	400.8	8.4	
	NQ	402.5	2.4	3.9
	<i>TOT. %</i>		37	52.5
P2p	P-N	133.5	11.5	
	P-O ₃	135.5	14.2	
	<i>TOT. %</i>		25.7	

Table S1. Binding Energy and Chemical composition of CNP and CN powders.

		CNP 1x anode			Non-modified Li anode			
			0s	10s	30s	0s	10s	30s
		BE	%At	%At	%At	%At	%At	%At
C1s	C-Li	282.6	1.7	1.1	1.1	1.2	1	0.9
	C-C	284.4	28.5	11.3	8.8	25	8.5	7.8
	C=O	286.2	6.8	3.3	1.9	5.8	2.1	1.7
	C O ₃	288.4	3.4	2.1	0.9	2.8	1.7	1.3
	C-SO _x	289.4			0.7		0.6	0.6
	C-F	292.5	1.6	0.7	0.5	2.8	0.8	0.6
	<i>TOT. %</i>		<i>42.1</i>	<i>18.5</i>	<i>13.9</i>	<i>37.6</i>	<i>14.7</i>	<i>12.9</i>
N1s	Li3N	398.1	1.8	1.3	0.9	1.4	0.8	0.4
	LiTFSI	400	1.5	1.4	1	1.6	1.4	1
	<i>TOT. %</i>		<i>3.3</i>	<i>2.7</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2.2</i>	<i>1.4</i>
O1s	Li2O	528.5	1.2	3.1	4.2	0.8	2.6	3.6
	LiHCO ₃	531.8	15	14.7	11.3	12.8	13.6	11.8
	C=O	533.1	6.2	1.1	2.2	8.1	2.2	2.1
	<i>TOT. %</i>		<i>22.4</i>	<i>18.9</i>	<i>17.7</i>	<i>21.7</i>	<i>18.3</i>	<i>17.5</i>
F1s	LiF	685.3	3.9	16.9	17.3	12.4	23.4	26
	LiTFSi	688.8	8.4	3.1	2.1	3.8	3.5	2.6
	<i>TOT. %</i>		<i>12.3</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>19.4</i>	<i>16.2</i>	<i>26.9</i>	<i>28.6</i>
P2p	Li-N	133.4		0.2	0.3			
	LiPO _x F _y	136.1	0.7	0.6	1			
	<i>TOT. %</i>		<i>0.7</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>1.3</i>			
S2p	Li ₂ S	160.2	0.6	1	1.1	0.4	0.9	1.4

		161.9		0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5
	Li ₂ S _x	164	0.3	0.2		0.3	0.4
	SO ₃	167.2	2	0.9	0.9	2.4	1.2
	SO ₄	168.9	1.8	0.5	0.2	2.5	0.6
	TOT. %		4.7	3	2.7	5.6	3.6
Li	TOT. %		14.5	36.1	43.1	15.9	34.3

Table 2. Binding Energy and Chemical composition of CNP modified and non-modified Li electrodes cycled at 3mA/cm² for 150 cycles”

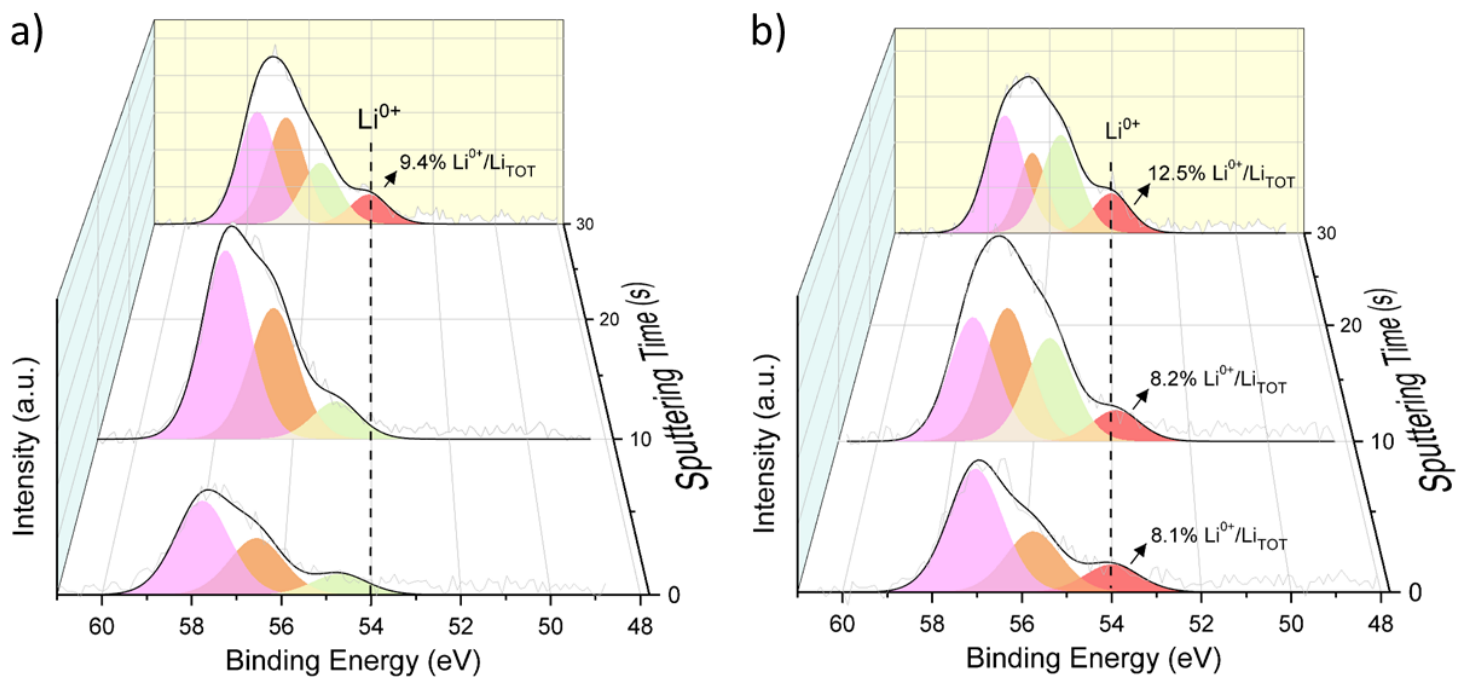


Figure S1. Li 1s detailed spectra for the XPS depth profile of a) Li and b) CNP1x anode after 150 cycles of Li plating/stripping at current density of 3mA/cm² and a cycling capacity of 1mAh/cm².

Building the computational model for CNP

Full convergence studies of the calculation parameters were performed on the pristine $g\text{-C}_3\text{N}_4$ structure, modeled by a single layer of a 2×2 slab. In all cases, full geometry optimization of all cartesian coordinates and the cell vectors in the xy -plane (ie. the plane parallel to the surface) was performed. Different doping configurations were evaluated by replacing either a C or a N atom with a P atom. In the first approximation, the different equivalent C or N atoms, as indicated in Fig. S1, were considered as potential doping sites.

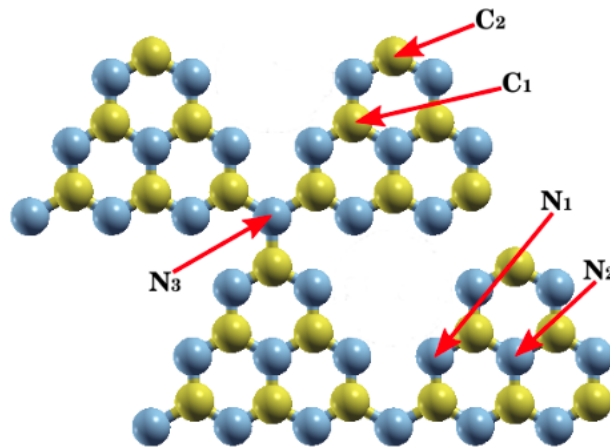


Fig. S2: Different C/N doping positions in pristine $g\text{-C}_3\text{N}_4$.

Doping energies were calculated using the following equation:

$$E(\text{doping}) = E(\text{CNP}) - E(\text{CN}) + \Delta H_f(\text{C/N}) - \Delta H_f(\text{P})$$

where $E(\text{CN})$ and $E(\text{CNP})$ are the energies of the fully optimized structures for pristine $g\text{-C}_3\text{N}_4$ and the different P-doped materials, respectively, and $\Delta H_f(\text{C/N/P})$ are the corresponding elemental enthalpies of formation. These values were taken from the NIST Standard Reference Data

[<https://www.nist.gov/srd>] and are: $\Delta H_f(\text{C}) = 7.43$ eV, $\Delta H_f(\text{N}) = 1.98$ eV and $\Delta H_f(\text{P}) = 3.28$ eV.

The calculated E(doping) values are summarized in Table S1:

Table S1: Doping energies, E(doping), for the different CNP structures obtained by replacing either a N atom (N-doped) or a C atom (C-doped) in pristine g-C₃N₄.

CNP / N-doped	E(doping), eV	CNP / C-doped	E(doping), eV
N1	-372.27	C1	-502.66
N2	-371.35	C2	-502.29
N3	-372.04		

The absolute values are certainly not comparable to any experimental measure. This is due to the reference adopted for the atomic species, ie. the elemental ΔH_f values. Regardless of this, it is interesting to note that replacing either N₁ or N₃ is energetically more favorable than N₂, and that C-doped structures are relatively more favorable than N-doped ones. Specifically, C₁ is the most likely doping site to produce graphitic P-doped structures. This result is consistent with experimental findings reported in the literature [R. Škuta *et al.* Applied Surface Science 552 (2021) 149490].

Additional P atoms were incorporated into the CN structure by gradually replacing C₁ atoms in the 2×2 slab. For instance, for the incorporation of the second P atom, starting from the optimized CNP structure that resulted from the replacement of a C₁ atom in pristine g-C₃N₄ (labeled as g-CNP₁ in Fig. S2 and corresponding to entry C1 under CNP / C-doped in Table S1), all remaining non-equivalent C₁ positions were evaluated. From all these different structures, the one that yielded the most favorable from an energetic point of view is the one labeled as g-CNP₂ in Fig. S2. Following this protocol, the doping percentage gradually increased yielding the doped

structures shown in Fig. S2. The structure in which 8 C_1 atoms were replaced by P, ie. corresponding to a doping of 14% ($g\text{-CNP}_8$ in Fig. S2) is our model for CNP that was employed to study the interaction with lithium, as it is described in the manuscript.

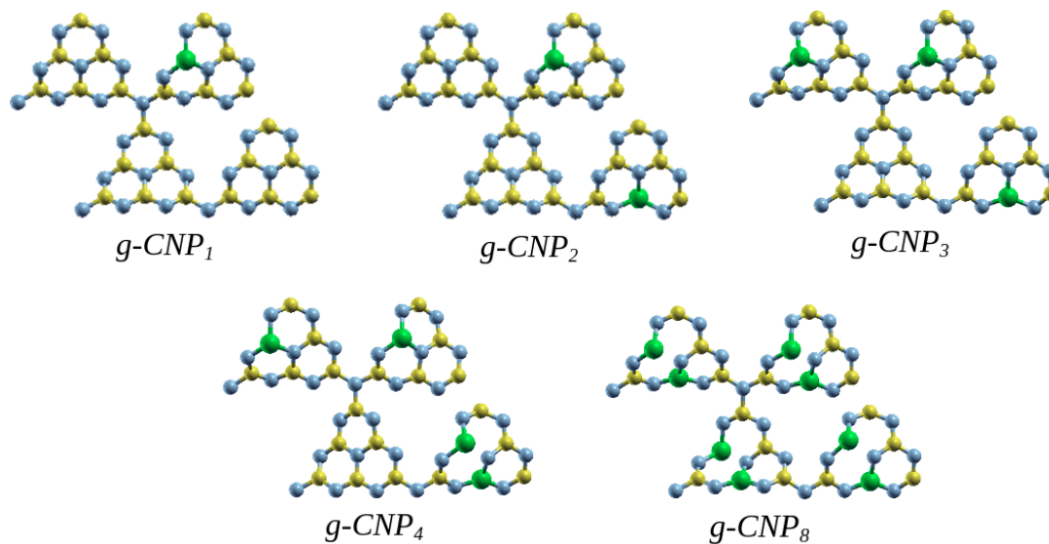


Fig. S3: Most stable structures for different percentages of P-doping pristine $g\text{-C}_3\text{N}_4$ by replacing C_1 atoms.