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아크리산을 사용한 LiCoO₂의 합성과 그 전기화학적 특성에 관한 연구 Synthesis of LiCoO₂ Using Acrylic Acid and its Electrochemical Properties for Li Secondary Batteries

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Lithiated transition metal oxides have been extensively studied as cathode materials for commercial lithium-ion rechargeable batteries. Among those oxides, LiCoO₂ is most widely used as the cathode material of commercial secondary lithium batteries due to its advantages including easy preparation and high theoretical specific capacity.

A synthesis of LiCoO₂ is generally divided into two methods; a solid state method and a solution method. A solid state method consists of grinding and calcination of hydroxides or carbonates such as LiOH, Li₂CO₃ and CoCO₃. This method has disadvantages such as broader particle-size distribution, higher calcination temperature, longer reaction time. A solution method requires condensation of a solid oxide network starting from soluble species and a thermal treatment leading to oxide LiCoO₂. This method makes possible a better mixing of the elements and therefore a better reactivity of the mixture, which then allows lower reaction temperature and shorter reaction time. Additionally, the resulting powders also show good stoichiometric control and narrow particle size distribution.

Two preparation techniques have been reported as a solution method for synthesis of LiCoO2. One is a synthesis of LiCoO2 using a precipitation process in aqueous solutions of hydroxide, nitrates, and acetates salts. The other is a sol-gel process using organic acid as a chelating agent. In the sol-gel process, chelating agents previously reported have shown drawbacks such as fluffiness during calcination and need for pH control during the gel-formation. In this study, acrylic acid has been used as a chelating agent in order to overcome the disadvantages of the reported chelating agents. HT-LiCoO2 can be synthesized at a wide temperature range in the sol-gel process. However, systematic investigation of electrochemical properties of LiCoO2 powders synthesized by the sol-gel process at various temperatures has not been reported so far. In this study, LiCoO2 powders were synthesized their structural and acid as a chelating agent using acrylic electrochemical properties were studied as a function of calcination temperature by XRD, EXAFS, EVS, CV, and galvanostatic charge/discharge experiments.