

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

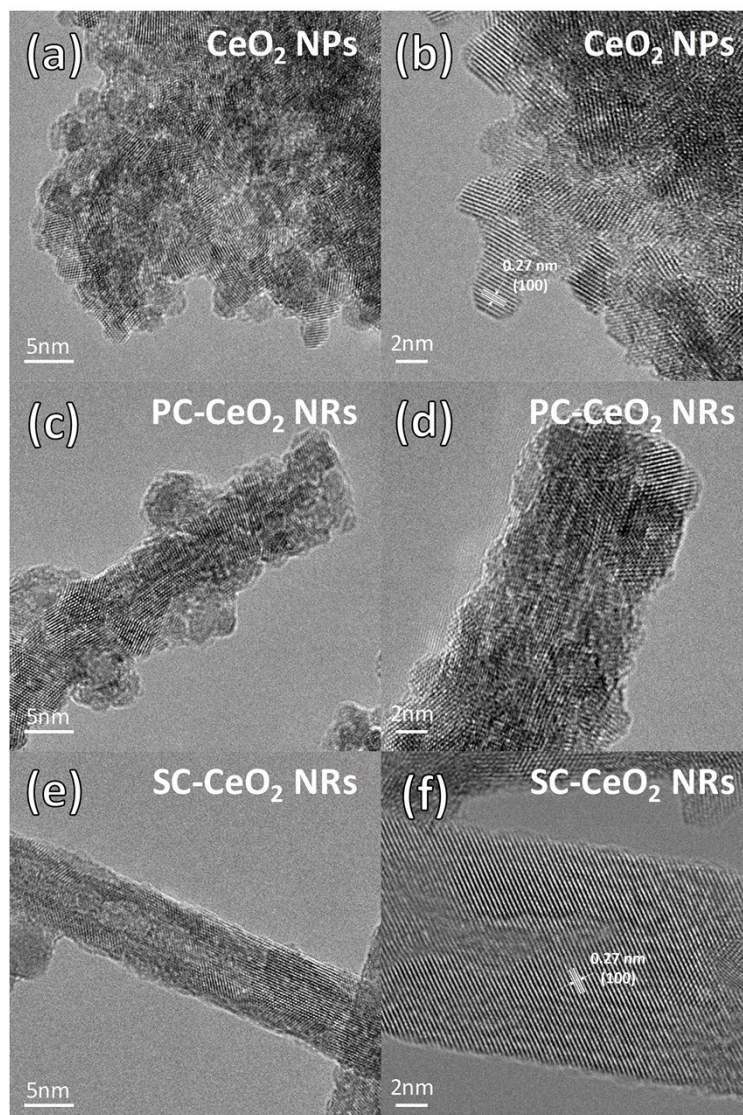
### **Single and Polycrystalline CeO<sub>2</sub> Nanorods as Oxygen–Electrode Materials for Lithium–Oxygen Batteries**

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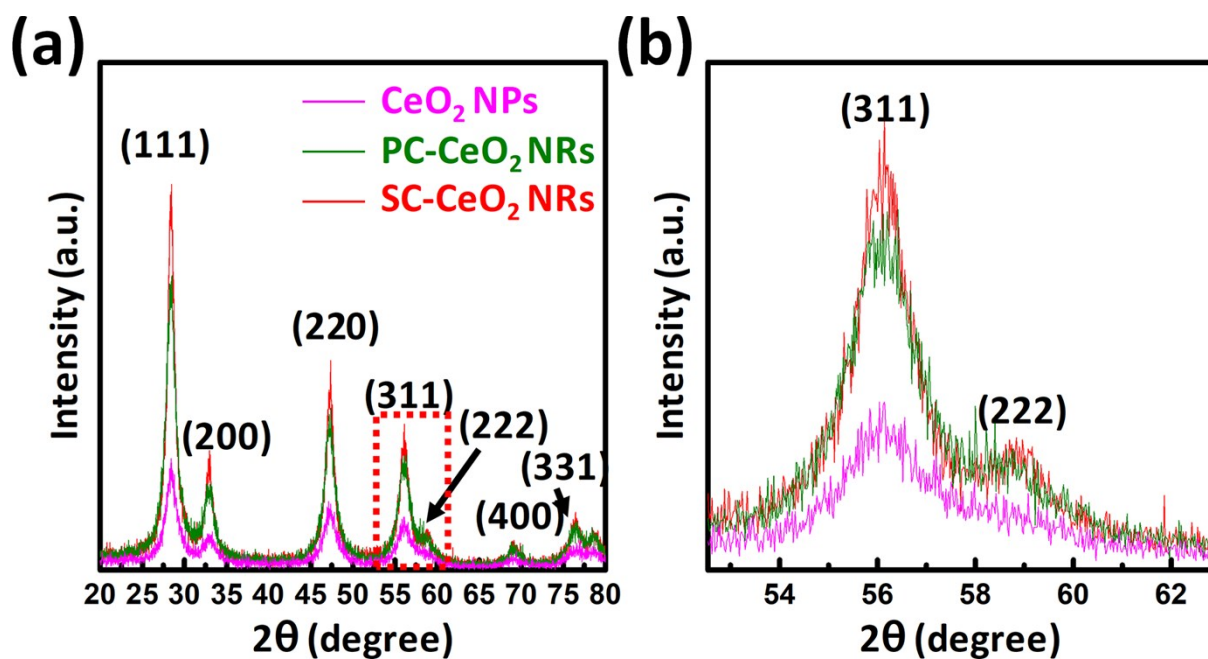
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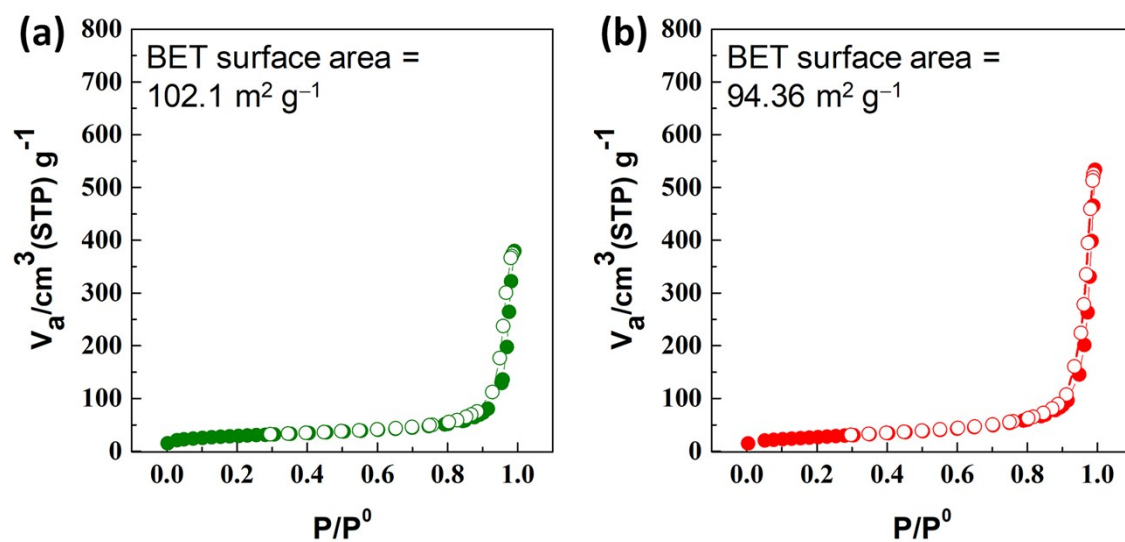
**Fig. S1** TEM image of (a, b) CeO<sub>2</sub> NPs at the beginning of the reaction (0h), (c, d) PC-CeO<sub>2</sub> NRs at the reaction time of 0.5h, and (e, f) SC-CeO<sub>2</sub> NRs at the reaction time of 1h.



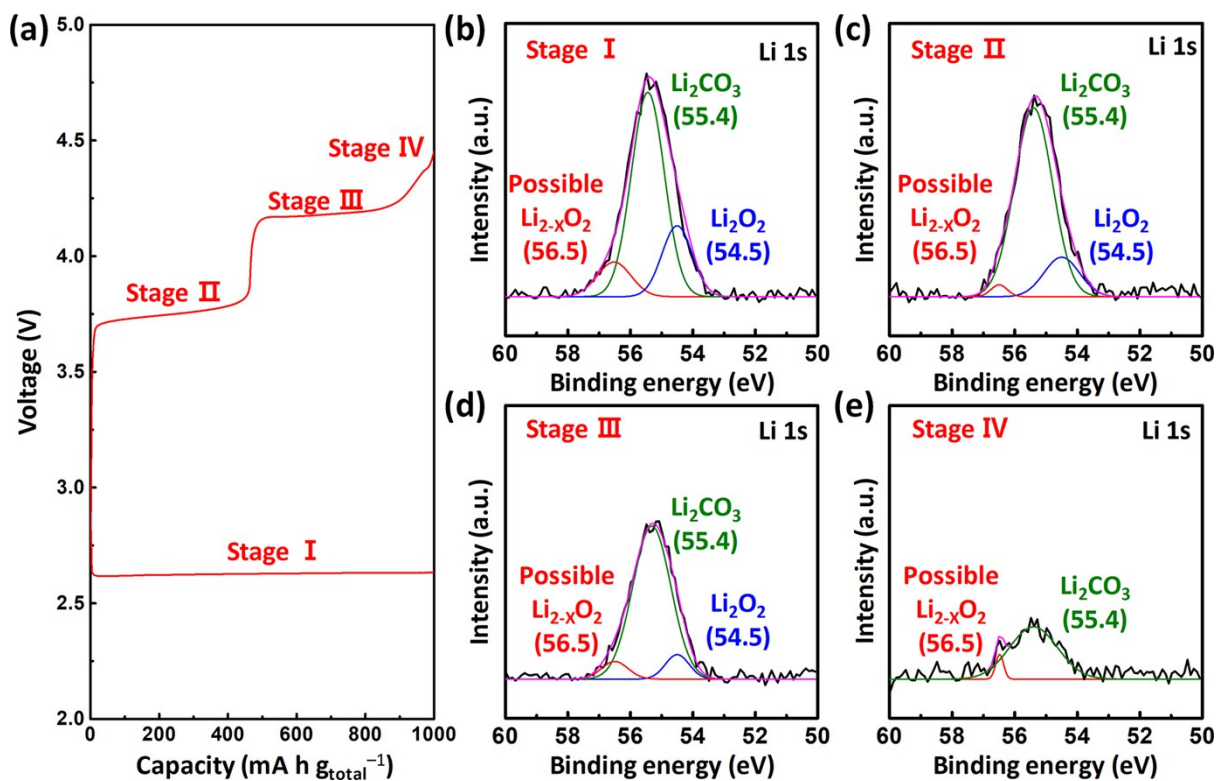
**Fig. S2** (a) XRD patterns of CeO<sub>2</sub> NPs ( $t = 0\text{h}$ ), PC-CeO<sub>2</sub> NRs ( $t = 0.5\text{h}$ ) and SC-CeO<sub>2</sub> NRs ( $t = 1\text{h}$ ). (b) Magnified XRD patterns of red rectangle in (a).

**Table S1.** The degree of preferential orientation for CeO<sub>2</sub> materials from the XRD patterns.

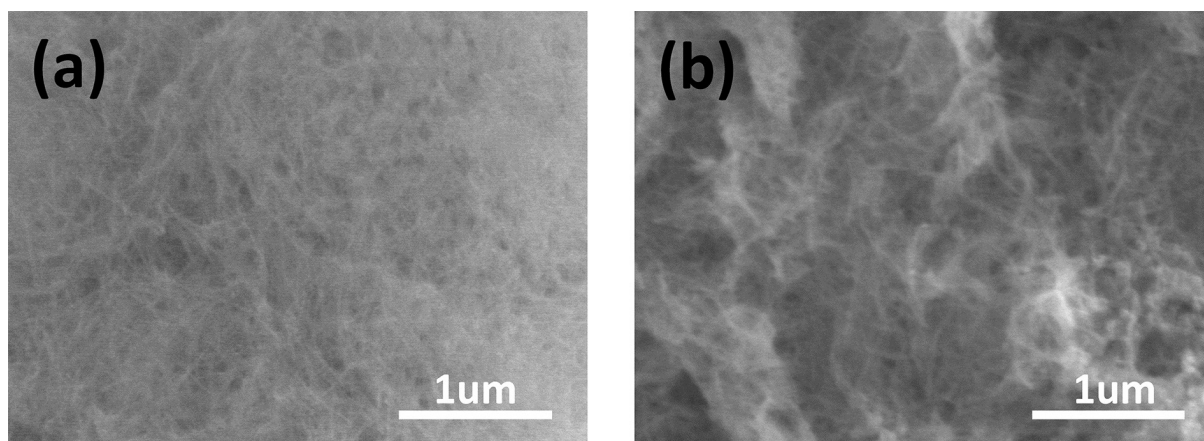
|             | Intensity<br>(311) | Intensity<br>(222) | $I_{(311)} / I_{(222)}$ |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>0h</b>   | 58.4               | 22.3               | 2.6                     |
| <b>0.5h</b> | 142.0              | 46.3               | 3.1                     |
| <b>1h</b>   | 174.0              | 46.3               | 3.8                     |



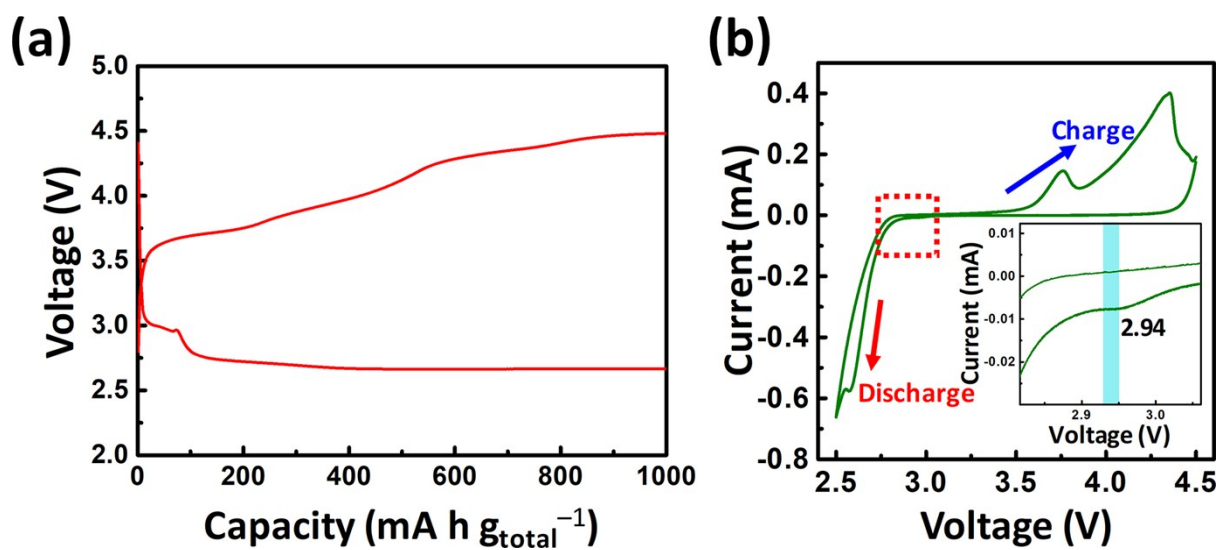
**Fig. S3**  $N_2$  adsorption-desorption curves for (a) PC-CeO<sub>2</sub> and (b) SC-CeO<sub>2</sub> NRs.



**Fig. S4** (a) 1<sup>st</sup> discharge-charge curve of SC-CeO<sub>2</sub> NR at a current rate of 500 mA g<sup>-1</sup>. (b-e) Li 1s XPS spectra of SC-CeO<sub>2</sub> NR at different stages in the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle, corresponding to stage I -IV in (a), respectively.

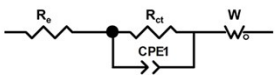
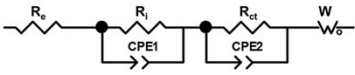
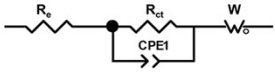
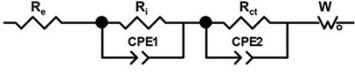


**Fig. S5** FESEM images of (a) discharged and (b) charged SC-CeO<sub>2</sub> NR electrodes.



**Fig. S6** (a) 50<sup>th</sup> cycle discharge–charge curves of SC-CeO<sub>2</sub> NR at a current rate of 500 mA g<sup>-1</sup> and (b) CV curve for SC-CeO<sub>2</sub> NR at 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle.

**Table S2** RC equivalent circuit model and fitting values of PC-CeO<sub>2</sub> NR and SC-CeO<sub>2</sub> NR electrodes.

| Electrode               | Cycle  | RC equivalent circuit model                                                       | $R_e$<br>( $\Omega \text{ mg}^{-1}$ ) | $R_i$<br>( $\Omega \text{ mg}^{-1}$ ) | $R_{ct}$<br>( $\Omega \text{ mg}^{-1}$ ) |
|-------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| PC-CeO <sub>2</sub> NRs | OCV    |  | 47.2                                  | -                                     | 3666.9                                   |
|                         | Charge |  | 37.0                                  | 3450.4                                | 61347.0                                  |
| SC-CeO <sub>2</sub> NRs | OCV    |  | 37.0                                  | -                                     | 2132.1                                   |
|                         | Charge |  | 34.6                                  | 704.0                                 | 16461.9                                  |

**Table S3** Comparison of the present work with CeO<sub>2</sub> electrocatalysts for LOBs.

| Reference | Material                                                               | Current rate                                           | Voltage gap @500<br>mA h g <sup>-1</sup> (V) | 1 <sup>st</sup> discharge capacity (mA h g <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Our work  | SC-CeO <sub>2</sub> NRs                                                | 500 (mA g <sup>-1</sup> ), 0.16 (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> ) | 1.53                                         | 16300                                                      |
| [20]      | NP-CeO <sub>2</sub>                                                    | 0.05 (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )                            | -                                            | 2128                                                       |
| [31]      | Ce <sub>0.8</sub> Zr <sub>0.2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>                     | 80 (mA g <sup>-1</sup> )                               | -                                            | 1620                                                       |
| [32]      | LaFe <sub>0.5</sub> Mn <sub>0.5</sub> O <sub>3</sub> -CeO <sub>2</sub> | 100 (mA g <sup>-1</sup> )                              | -                                            | 4700                                                       |
| [33]      | GNS/ZDC                                                                | 0.2 (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )                             | 1.77                                         | 3254                                                       |
| [34]      | CeO <sub>2</sub> /δ-MnO <sub>2</sub>                                   | 200 (mA g <sup>-1</sup> )                              | 1.42                                         | 8260                                                       |
| [35]      | CeO <sub>2</sub> @RGO                                                  | 400 (mA g <sup>-1</sup> ),                             | 1.02 (1000 mA g <sup>-1</sup> )              | 11900                                                      |
| [36]      | Ag@CeO <sub>2</sub>                                                    | 100 (mA g <sup>-1</sup> )                              | -                                            | 3415                                                       |
| [37]      | ZDC/carbon                                                             | 0.2 (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )                             | 1.65                                         | 8435                                                       |
| [38]      | CeO <sub>2</sub> /CNT                                                  | 20 (mA g <sup>-1</sup> )                               | -                                            | 2000                                                       |