Electronic Supplementary Information for

TiNb$_2$O$_7$ Nanoparticles Assembled into Hierarchical Microspheres as High-Rate Capability and Long-Cycle-Life Anode Materials for Lithium Ion Batteries

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Fig. S1. The representative morphology of the bulk TiNb$_2$O$_7$. 
Fig. S2. The XRD pattern of the uncalcined TiNb$_2$O$_7$ microspheres.
Fig. S3. Narrow-scan XPS spectra of (a) Nb 3d, (b) Ti 2p in TiNb$_2$O$_7$ microspheres.
**Fig. S4.** The formation process of the nano/micro TiNb$_2$O$_7$ microspheres. SEM images of TiNb$_2$O$_7$ after solvothermal treatment for 3 h (a), 6 h (b) 12 h (c) and 24 h (d), respectively.
Fig. S5. (a) Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherms for TiNb$_2$O$_7$ microspheres and bulk TiNb$_2$O$_7$ and (b) the corresponding pore size distributions.
Fig. S6. The EDX spectrum of the TiNb₂O₇ mircospheres.
Fig. S7. The rate and cycling performances of the bulk TiNb$_2$O$_7$. 
Fig. S8. FESEM images of the TiNb$_2$O$_7$ microspheres after 100 discharge/charge cycles at 5 C.