

Supporting Information for

## Graphene-wrapped hair-derived carbon/sulfur composite for high performance lithium sulfur batteries

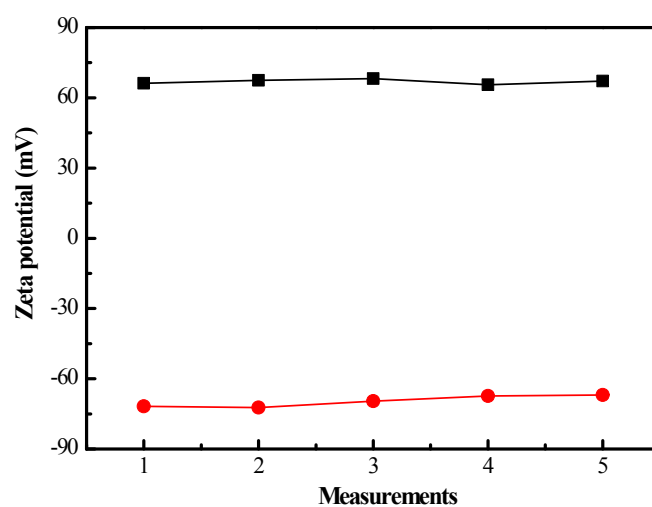
Mingpeng Yu,<sup>a</sup> Rui Li,<sup>a</sup> Yue Tong,<sup>a</sup> Yingru Li,<sup>a</sup> Chun Li,<sup>a</sup> Jong-Dal Hong,<sup>b</sup> and Gaoquan Shi<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Chemistry, Tsinghua University, Beijing 100084, People's Republic of China. Fax: 86 62771149; Tel: 86 6277 3743; E-mail: gshi@tsinghua.edu.cn

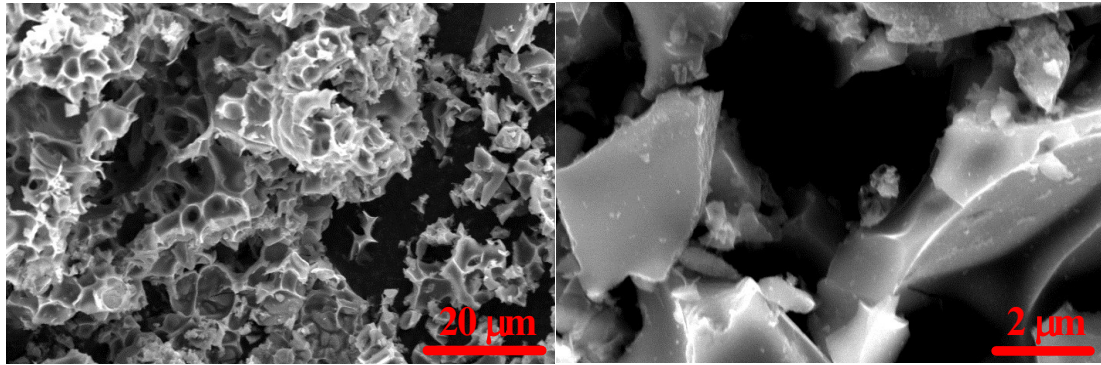
<sup>b</sup>Department of Chemistry, Incheon National University, 406-772 Incheon, South Korea

**Table S1** Summary of the initial and final discharge capacities, as well as the capacity retentions of g-C/S electrode; the capacity retentions were calculated on account of the final and maximum discharge capacities measured at each discharge rate.

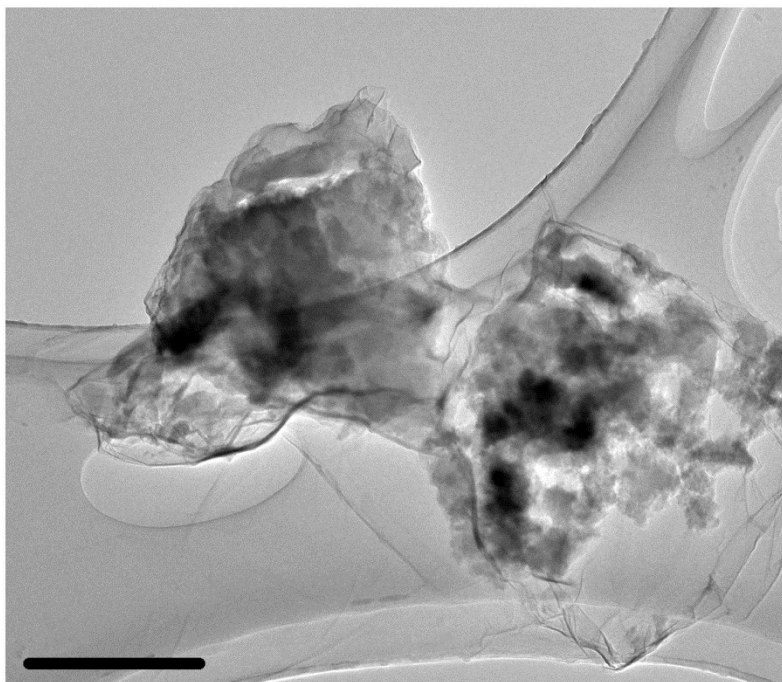
Rate (C)	Initial capacity (mA h g <sup>-1</sup> )	Capacity after 300 cycles (mA h g <sup>-1</sup> )	Capacity retention (%)
0.2	1113.2	989.2	88.8
0.5	1066.1	870.3	81.6
1.0	737.8	705.3	86.9
2.0	606.7	574.2	80.2



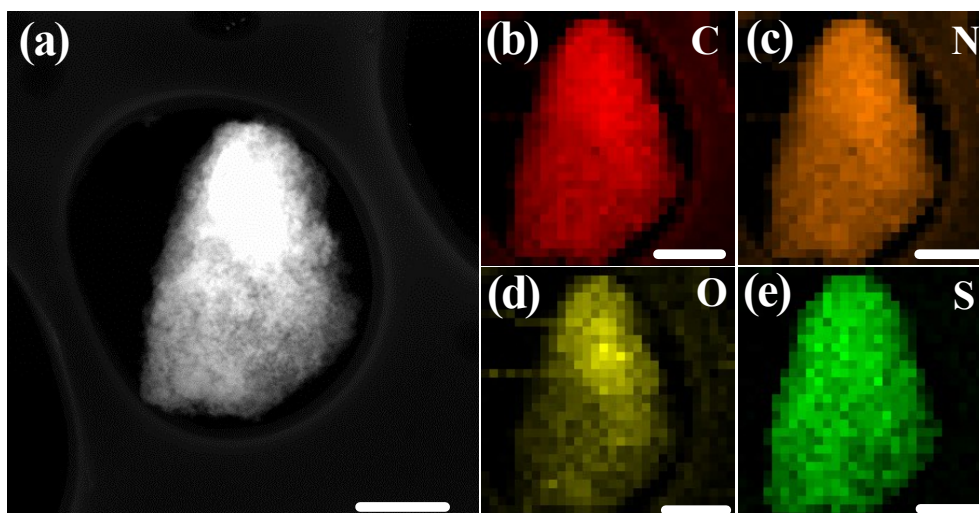
**Fig. S1** Zeta potentials of the aqueous suspensions (pH ~ 5.3) of CTAB modified C/S composite (black) and graphene oxide (red); the interval of each measurement is 1.0 min.



**Fig. S2** SEM images of the activated carbon material prepared from hair.

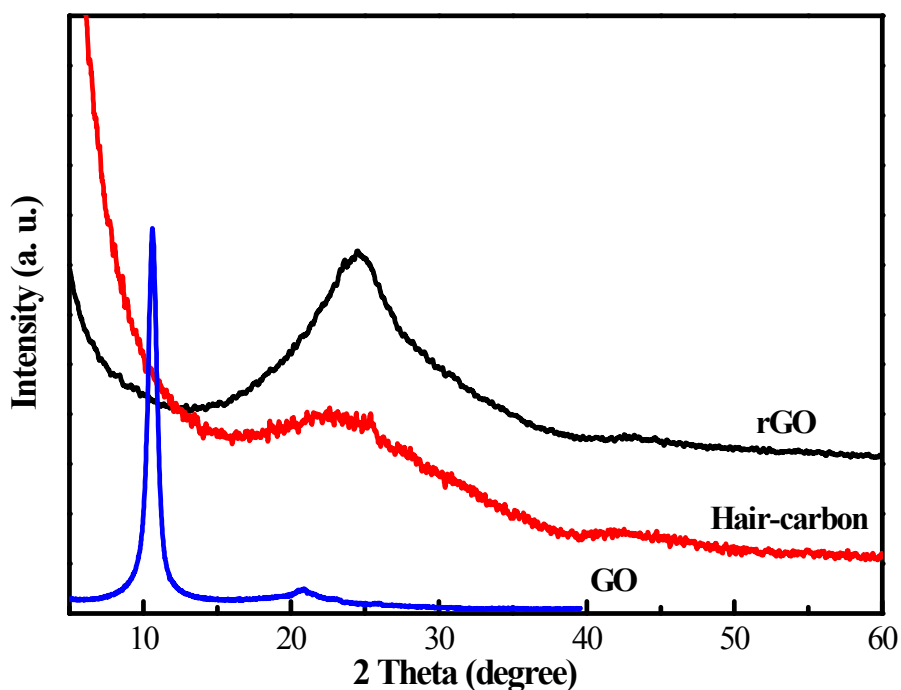


**Fig. S3** STEM image of rGO wrapped C/S composite. Scale bar, 500 nm.

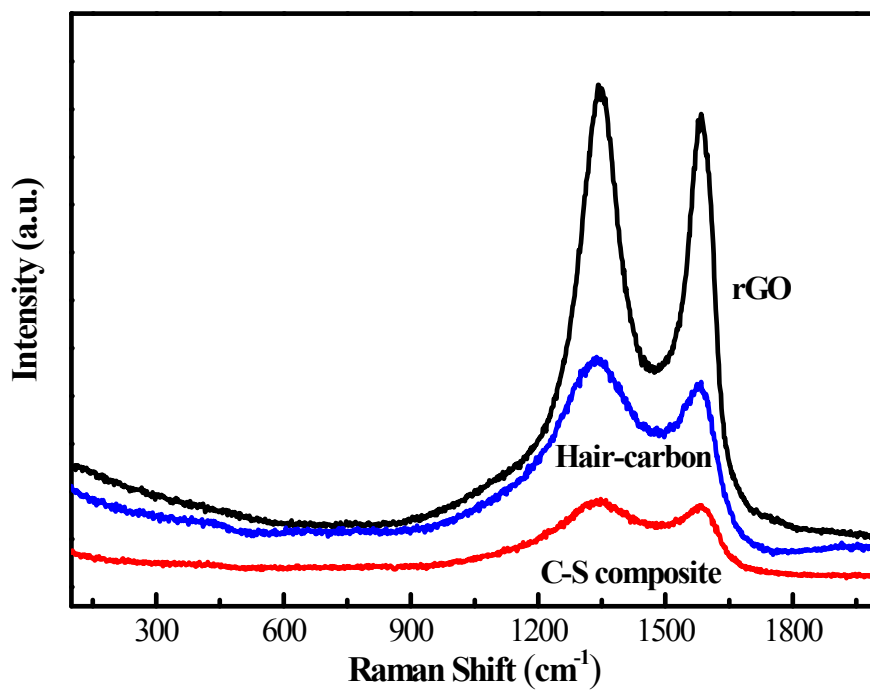


**Fig. S4** (a) STEM images of C/S composite and the corresponding elemental mapping images of (b) carbon, (c) nitrogen, (d) oxygen and (e) sulfur. Scale bars, 500 nm.

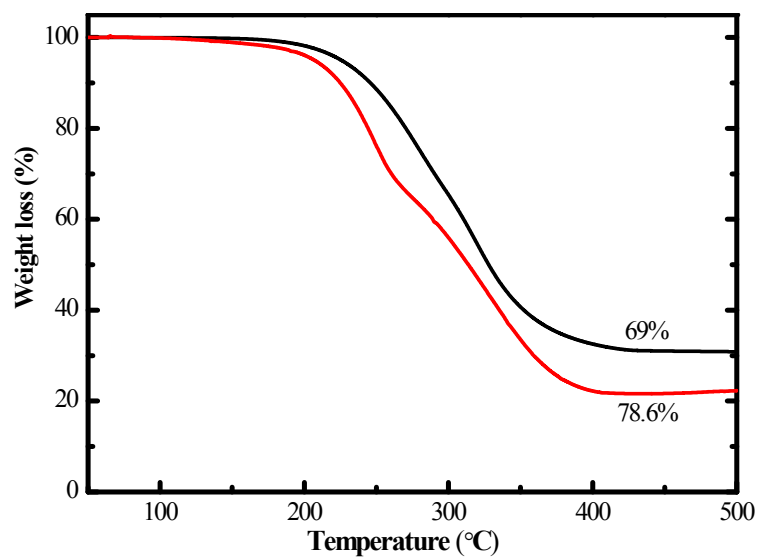
Fig. S4 shows the *STEM* and the corresponding elemental mapping images of C/S composite. Accordingly, the C/S aggregates are composed of tiny particles because of the ball milling treatment, and they have homogeneous distributions of carbon, oxygen, nitrogen, and sulfur elements



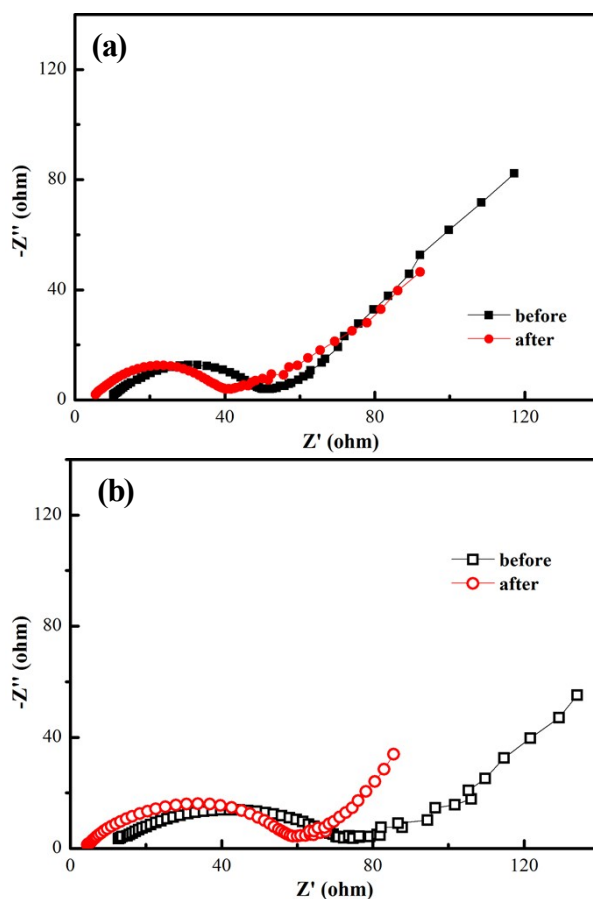
**Fig. S5** XRD patterns of GO, rGO sheets and as-prepared hair carbon.



**Fig. S6** Raman spectra of the rGO sheets, as-prepared hair carbon, and C/S composite.

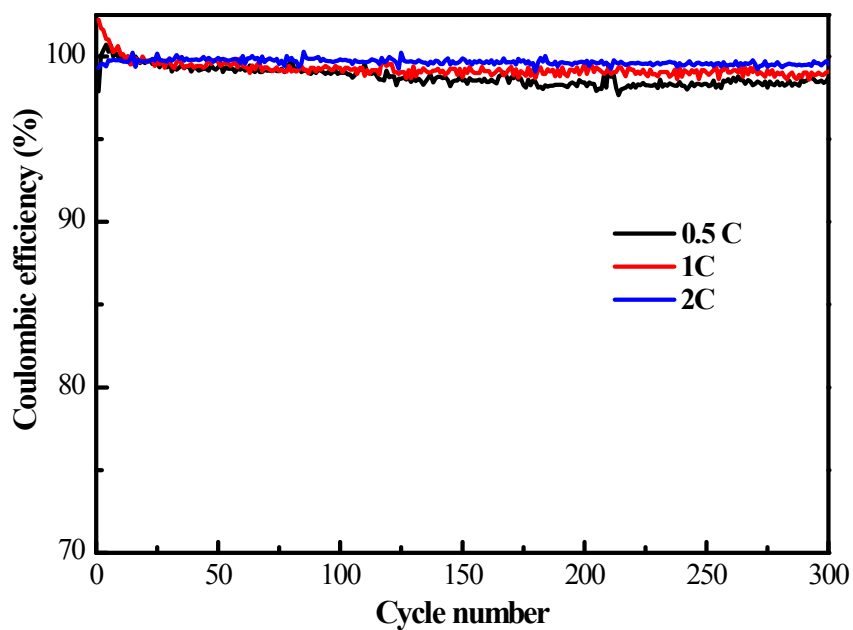


**Fig. S7** TGA curves of C/S (red) and g-G/S (black) composites.

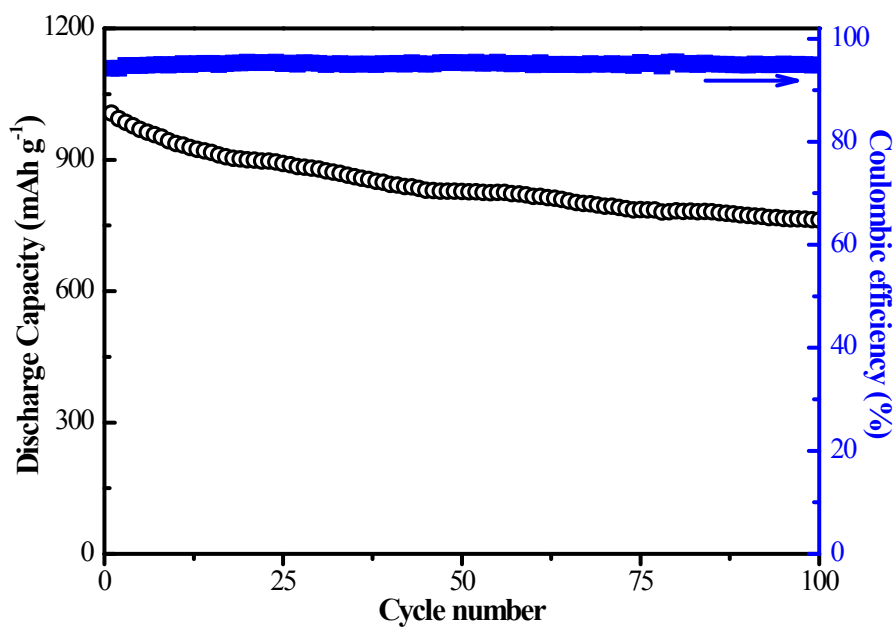


**Fig. S8** Electrochemical impedance spectra of (a) g-C/S and (b) C/S electrodes before and after cycling.

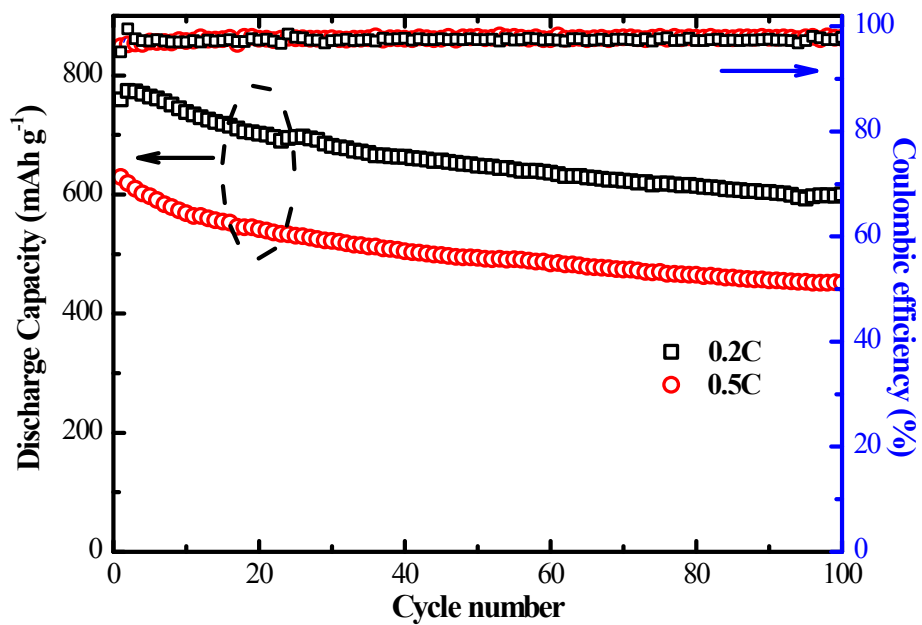
The impedance spectrum of g-C/S composite electrode shows a much smaller high-frequency semicircle than that of the C/S composite electrode. Since the depressed semicircle in high frequency region is related to the contact resistance and charge transfer resistance, a smaller semicircle of g-C/S composite indicates its more efficient charge transfer process between C/S particles, attributing to the enhanced conductivity of the graphene wrapping.



**Fig. S9** Coulombic efficiencies of g-C/S composite recorded during the processes of charging/discharging for 300 cycles at different rates.



**Fig. S10** Cycling performance of the g-C/S composite electrode at a constant rate of 0.2 C without  $\text{LiNO}_3$  additive. The coulombic efficiency is also shown.



**Fig. S11** Cycling performance of the g-C/S composite electrode with a high sulfur loading of about  $5.5 \text{ mg cm}^{-2}$ . The coulombic efficiencies are also shown.