

**Supporting information**

**High performance carbon nanotube based fiber-shaped  
supercapacitors using redox additives of polypyrrole and  
hydroquinone**

Ruiqiao Xu, Fengmei Guo, Xian Cui, Li Zhang, Kunlin Wang and Jinquan Wei\*

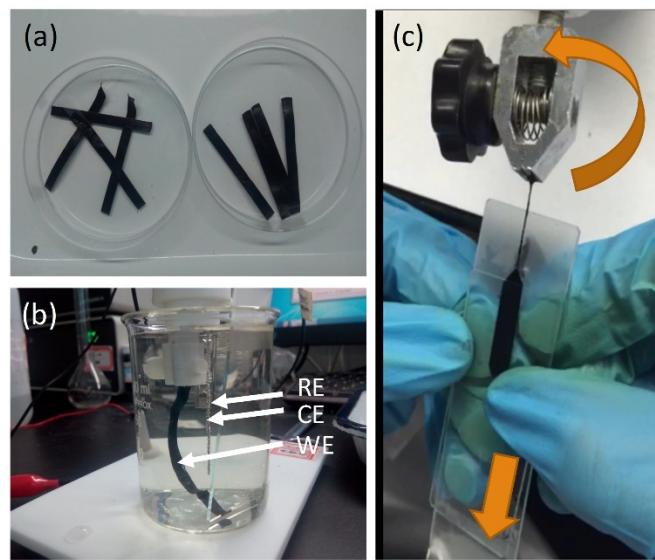
Key Laboratory for Advanced Materials Processing Technology of Education Ministry; State Key  
Laboratory of New Ceramic and Fine Processing; School of Materials Science and Engineering,  
Tsinghua University, Beijing 100084, P.R. China.

E-mail: [jqwei@tsinghua.edu.cn](mailto:jqwei@tsinghua.edu.cn); Tel:+86-10-62781065

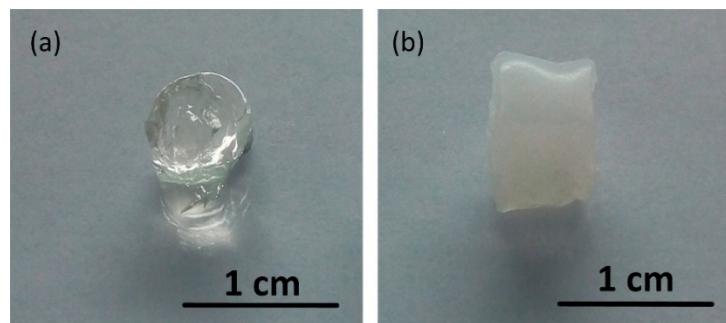
**Calculation method for the supercapacitor performance values**

Capacitance ( $C/F$ ), energy storied ( $E/Wh$ ) and power ( $P/W$ ) of FSSCs were evaluated from GCD curves at various discharging current ( $I/A$ ) following the equations<sup>1</sup>:  $C = I \times \Delta t / \Delta U$ ,  $E = 0.5 \times C \times \Delta U^2 / 3600$ ,  $P = E / \Delta t \times 3600$ , where  $\Delta U$  (V) is width of voltage window and  $\Delta t$  (s) is discharging time. Specific performance values have much more importance, such as specific capacitance ( $C_s$ ), energy density ( $E_{ds}$ ) and power density ( $P_{ds}$ ). These values in terms of weight (m/g), length (L/cm), area ( $S/cm^2$ ) or volume ( $V/cm^3$ ) were calculated by dividing  $C$ ,  $E$  or  $P$  with  $m$ ,  $L$ ,  $S$  or  $V$ . In this paper,  $m$  is the total weight of two fiber electrodes measured by an analysis balance, and  $L$  is the length of a fiber-shaped supercapacitor measured by a microcalliper.  $S$  ( $= \pi \times D \times L$ ) is the surface area of a single fiber electrode, and  $V$  ( $= 2 \times \pi \times (D/2)^2 \times L$ ) is the total volume of two fiber electrodes.  $D$  (cm) represents diameter of a cylinder-shape fiber electrode measured by an optical microscope.

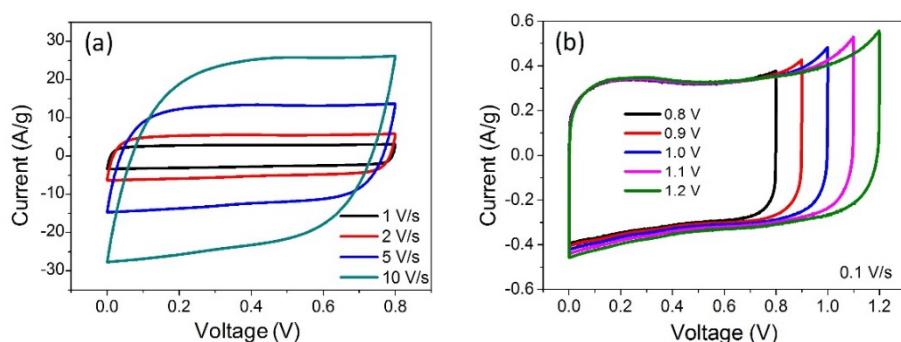
## Figures



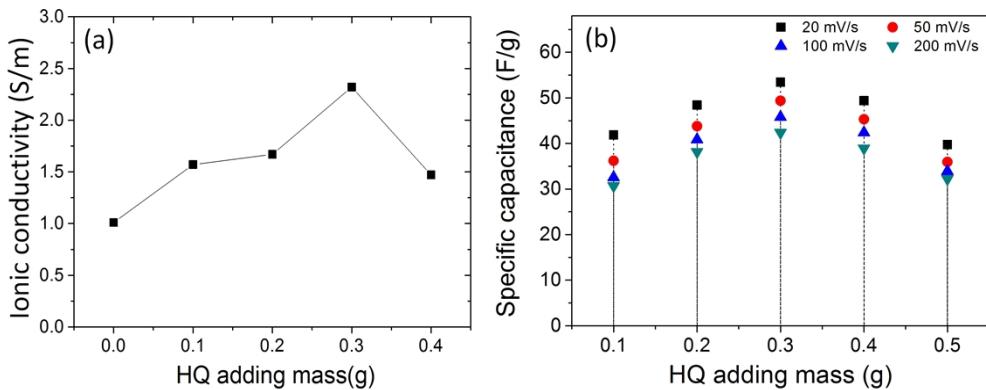
**Fig. S1** Optical images of (a) CNT strips, (b) 3-electrode system for PPy deposition, (c) Spinning process.



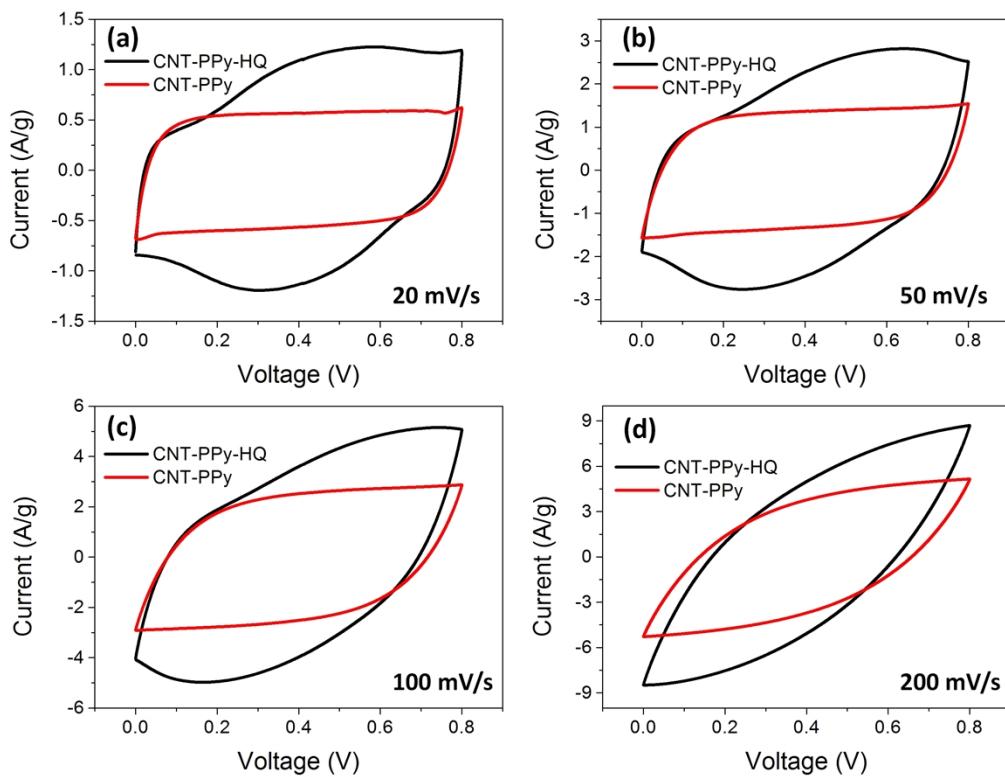
**Fig. S2** (a) PVA-H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> gel electrolyte. (b) PVA-H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> gel electrolyte with HQ.



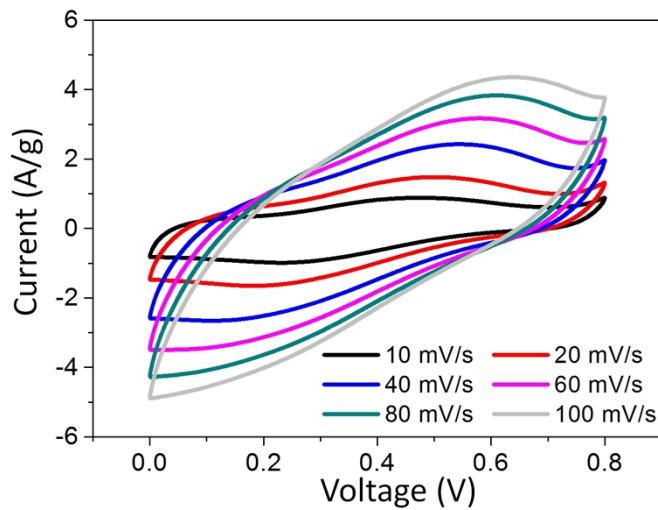
**Fig. S3** CV curves of a pure CNT FSSC at (a) high scan rates, and (b) wide voltage windows.



**Fig. S4** (a) Plot of ionic conductivity vs. weight of HQ in 10 mL PVA/H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> gel solution. (b) Dependence of specific capacitance of the CNT-PPy-HQ FSSCs on the weight of HQ in 10 mL PVA/H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> gel solution.



**Fig. S5** CV curves of the CNT-PPy FSSC and the CNT-PPy-HQ FSSC at various scan rate. (a) 20 mV/s, (b) 50 mV/s, (c) 100 mV/s, (d) 200 mV/s.



**Fig. S6** CV curves of a CNT-PPy-HQ FSSC at various scan rates of 10~100 mV/s. This FSSC is used for bending, knotting and tensile tests in Fig. 7b-d.

**Table**

Table S1 Comparison of capacitive performances of FSSCs

Electrode materials	Electrolyte	$C_s$ F/g	$C_l$ mF/cm	$C_a$ mF/cm <sup>2</sup>	$C_v$ F/cm <sup>3</sup>	Ref.
CNT fiber	PVA-H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	4.9~5.2	2.0~2.2	32~34	3.2~3.3	
CNT fiber	PVA-H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> -HQ	7.8~8.0	3.1~3.2	48~49	4.7~4.9	This work
CNT-PPy fiber	PVA-H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	33.6~36.1	118.5~127.4	574~588	15.9~17.0	
CNT-PPy fiber	PVA-H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> -HQ	50.1~55.7	181.6~202.0	1051~1168	38.2~42.5	
CNT-MnO <sub>2</sub> fiber & CNT fiber <sup>a</sup>	PVA-KOH	--	0.261	27.98	35.19	2
CNT-MC fiber	PVA-H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> -PySH	--	17.51	507.02	0.184	3
MnO <sub>2</sub> -CNP-CF fiber & CNP-CF fiber <sup>a</sup>	PVA-LiCl	--	--	--	4.6	4
MnO <sub>2</sub> -PPy-CF fiber & V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> -PANI-CF fiber <sup>a</sup>	LiCl (liquid)	--	--	613	19.52	5
MnO <sub>2</sub> -RGO-CF fiber & CH-CW fiber <sup>a</sup>	PAAK-KCl	--	--	50.8	2.53	6
G fiber <sup>b</sup>	PVA-H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	182	4.63	205	--	7
CNT fiber	PVA-H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	--	--	4.28	11.4	8
rGO-CNT-CMC fiber	PVA-H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	--	5.3	117	158	9
MnO <sub>2</sub> -RGO fiber	PVA-H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	36	0.143	9.6	--	10
rGO fiber	PVA-H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	40	0.0271	1.7	--	11
rGO-CNT fiber	PVA-H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	31.5	0.0271	4.97	--	12
Pen ink-Au-plastic fiber	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (liquid)	--	0.504	19.5	--	13

$C_s/C_l/C_a/C_v$  are the specific/liner/areal/volumetric capacitance of the FSSCs. Capacitances in this manuscript are evaluated from GCD curves at current densities of 0.2~1.0 A/g. There are three device structures in the literature: asymmetric, coaxial, and symmetric. The superscript of "a" means a FSSC with asymmetric structure. The superscript of "b" means a FSSC with coaxial structure. The else are FSSCs with symmetric and parallel structure. In previous papers by Yu et al.<sup>1</sup> and Xu et al.<sup>2</sup>, the comparison of specific capacitance for different FSSCs are also provided.

## References

- 1 D.S. Yu, Q.H. Qian, L. Wei, W.C. Jiang, K.L. Goh, J. Wei, J. Zhang and Y. Chen, *Chem. Soc. Rev.*, 2015, **44**, 647-662.
- 2 P. Xu, B.Q. Wei, Z.Y. Cao, J. Zheng, K. Gong, F.X. Li, J.Y. Yu, Q.W. Li, W.B. Lu, J.H. Byun, B.S. Kim, Y.S. Yan and T.W. Chou, *ACS Nano*, 2015, **9**, 6088-6096.
- 3 S. Pan, J. Deng, G. Guan, Y. Zhang, P. Chen, J. Ren and H. Peng, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2015, **3**, 6286-6290.
- 4 H. Jin, L. Zhou, C. L. Mak, H. Huang, W. M. Tang and H. L. Wa Chan, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2015, **3**, 15633-15641.
- 5 W. Liu, N. Liu, Y. Shi, Y. Chen, C. Yang, J. Tao, S. Wang, Y. Wang, J. Su, L. Li and Y. Gao, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2015, **3**, 13461-13467.
- 6 Z. Zhang, F. Xiao and S. Wang, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2015, **3**, 11215-11223.
- 7 X. Zhao, B. Zheng, T. Huang and C. Gao, *Nanoscale*, 2015, **7**, 9399-9404.
- 8 P. Xu, T. Gu, Z. Cao, B.Q. Wei, J. Yu, F.X. Li, J. H.S. Byun, W.B. Lu, Q.W. Li and T.W. Chou, *Adv. Energy Mater.*, 2014, **4**, 1300759.
- 9 L. Kou, T. Huang, B. Zheng, Y. Han, X. Zhao, K. Gopalsamy, H. Sun and C. Gao, *Nat. Commun.*, 2014, **5**, 3754.
- 10 Q. Cheng, Y. Meng, C. Hu, Y. Zhao, H. Shao, N. Chen and L. Qu, *J. Power Sources*, 2014, **247**, 32-39.
- 11 Y. Meng, Y. Zhao, C. Hu, H. Cheng, Y. Hu, Z. Zhang, G. Shi and L. Qu, *Adv Mater.*, 2013, **25**, 2326-2331.

- 12 J. Ren, L. Li, G. Guan, C. Chen, X. Chen, Z. Cai, L. Qiu, Y. Wang, X. Zhu and H.S. Peng, *Adv. Mater.*, 2013, **25**, 1155-1159.  
13 Y. Fu, X. Cai, H. Wu, Z. Lv, S. Hou, M. Peng, X. Yu and D. Zou, *Adv. Mater.*, 2012, **24**, 5713-5718.