## Supporting Information

## Tuning of intrinsic antiferromagnetic to ferromagnetic ordering in microporous $\alpha$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> by inducing tensile strain

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Fig. S1: Polyhedral model of optimized structure of  $\alpha$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> 0.375H<sub>2</sub>O compound. It is observed that the tunnel accommodated with two water molecules distorts the crystal structure. Thus, it gives lesser stability as compared to  $\alpha$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> 0.25H<sub>2</sub>O compound.

Table. S1. Number of sites obeying GKA rule (two Mn atoms that are connected through  $O(sp^2)$  atoms) and triangular ( $\Delta$ ) rule (in the double chain) in different types of magnetic configurations of  $\alpha$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>.0.25 H<sub>2</sub>O.

| Туре          | AFM-C                      | AFM-C2                 | AFM-A2                     | FM                         | FIM                     |
|---------------|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| $\Delta$ rule | All 4 sites are not obeyed | All 4 sites are obeyed | All 4 sites are not obeyed | All 4 sites are obeyed     | All 4 sites are obeyed  |
| GKA rule      | All 4 sites are obeyed     | All 4 sites are obeyed | All 4 sites are not obeyed | All 4 sites are not obeyed | Only 2 sites are obeyed |



Fig. S2 (a). Exchange energies (J1, J2) are shown with respect to triaxial strain. (b) Optimized structure distorted at 11% tensile strained  $\alpha$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>.0.25H<sub>2</sub>O. It is observed that at 11% tensile strain, the linkage between double chains is broken.



Fig. S3. Exchange energy (J2) for unhydrated  $\alpha$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> compound. It shows that the FM ordering is induced by an application of 3% tensile strain.



Fig. S4: Variation of (a) Mn-Mn distance and (b) Mn-O-Mn angle with respect to the triaxial strain introduced  $\alpha$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>.0.25H<sub>2</sub>O compound. All the values are given for AFM-C2 configuration.

Table. S2. Comparison of various parameters of unstrained and 4% tensile strained  $\alpha$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>. 0.25H<sub>2</sub>O compound, calculated using different exchange correlation functionals (PW91 and PBE).

|                           |      | Unstrained | 4% tensile strain |  |
|---------------------------|------|------------|-------------------|--|
| Moment on                 | PW91 | 3.2        | 3.4               |  |
| Mn atoms                  | PBE  | 3.1        | 3.3               |  |
| $(\mu_{\rm B})$           |      |            |                   |  |
| Exchange                  | PW91 | -16        | 10                |  |
| Energy                    |      |            |                   |  |
| $(\Delta = E_{afmc2-fm})$ | PBE  | -9         | 19                |  |
| (meV/f.u.)                |      |            |                   |  |



Fig. S5: The distortion in geometry of  $MnO_6$  octahedra are shown for various triaxial strained  $\alpha$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> compounds. Mn-O bond distances (in Å) are given in the diagram.



Fig. S6: Charge transfer between sorbent and  $\alpha$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> framework ( $\Delta \rho = \rho_{\alpha-MnO2,0.25X} - \rho_{\alpha-MnO2} - \rho_X$ ) is shown for  $\alpha$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> 0.25*X* compound, where *X* = Xe (a) and NH<sub>3</sub> (b). It demonstrates that the small charge transfer is occurred between the tunnel species and lattice oxygen. Isosurface for respective compounds are plotted for values of 3×10<sup>-3</sup> and 4×10<sup>-3</sup> e/Å<sup>3</sup> respectively. Yellow (blue) isosurface represents charge accumulation (depletion) region.

Table. S3. Lattice parameters, relative energy of  $\alpha$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> compound having various tunnel species with respect to different (AFM-C2, FM) magnetic configurations and local magnetic moment (absolute average value) of Mn, O(sp<sup>3</sup>), O(sp<sup>2</sup>) atoms in their stable ground state magnetic configurations.

| Tunnel<br>species | Lattice parameters (Å) |       |      | Magnetic<br>configurations<br>(meV/f.u.) |    | Local magnetic moment (µ <sub>B</sub> ) |                     |                     |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------|------|--|----|---|---------------------|---------------------|
|                   | а                      | b     | С    | AFM-C2                                   | FM | Mn                                      | O(sp <sup>3</sup> ) | O(sp <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Ar                | 9.83                   | 9.83  | 2.90 | 0  | 12 | 3.2                                     | 0.2                 | 0.0                 |
| Kr                | 9.86                   | 9.87  | 2.92 | 0  | 8  | 3.3                                     | 0.2                 | 0.0                 |
| Xe                | 9.99                   | 9.99  | 2.96 | 28                                       | 0  | 3.4                                     | 0.2                 | 0.1                 |
| NH <sub>3</sub>   | 10.04                  | 9.73  | 2.89 | 20                                       | 0  | 3.4                                     | 0.2                 | 0.1                 |
| CH <sub>4</sub>   | 9.69                   | 9.89  | 2.90 | 0  | 13 | 3.2                                     | 0.2                 | 0.0                 |
| H <sub>2</sub> S  | 9.92                   | 9.98  | 2.79 | 0  | 83 | 3.0                                     | 0.1                 | 0.0                 |
| Li <sub>2</sub> O | 9.80                   | 10.14 | 2.89 | 2  | 0  | 3.5                                     | 0.2                 | 0.1                 |