

## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

### **FeO<sub>x</sub>@carbon yolk/shell nanowires with tailored void spaces as stable and high-capacity anodes for lithium ion battery**

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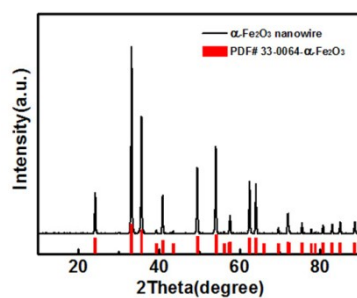
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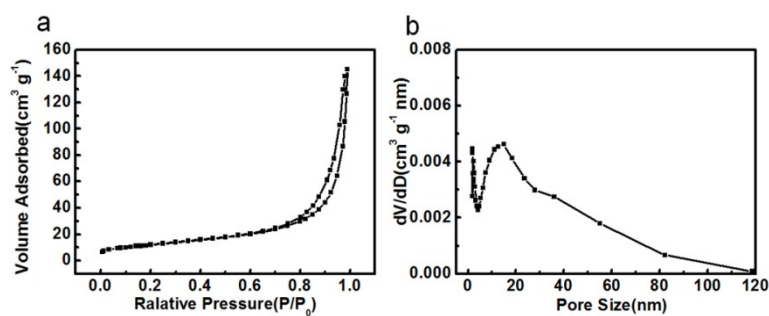
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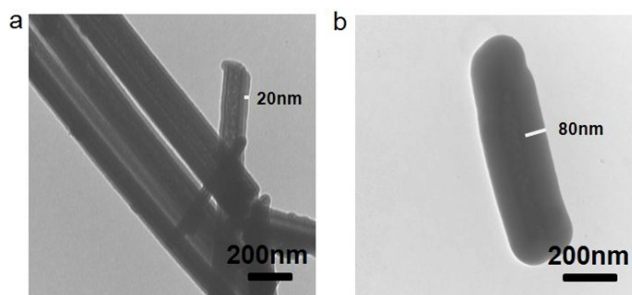
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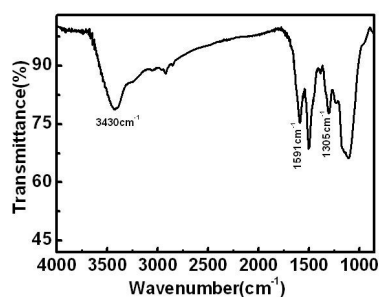
**Fig. S1** The XRD pattern of  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanowires



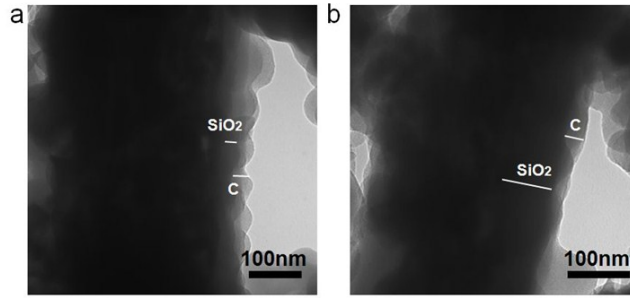
**Fig. S2** (a) N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms profile of  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanowires; (b) Pore size distribution of  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanowires



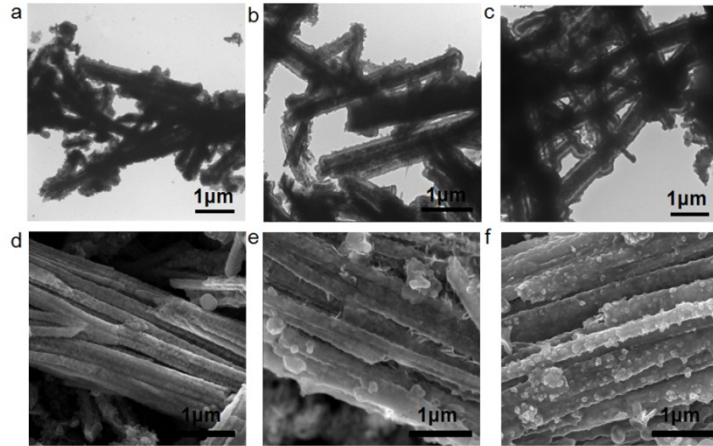
**Fig. S3**  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>@SiO<sub>2</sub> with different thickness of silica layer (a) 20nm; (b) 80nm



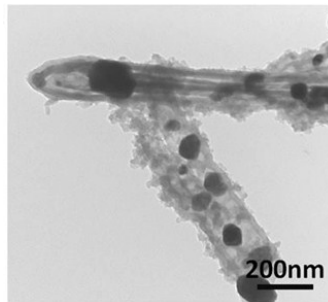
**Fig. S4** The FT-IR spectra of  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>@SiO<sub>2</sub>@PAN



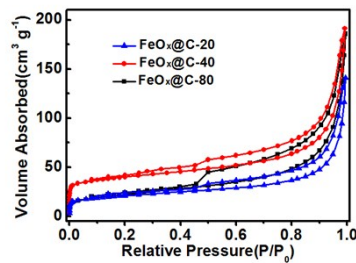
**Fig. S5** (a) TEM image of  $\text{FeO}_x@SiO_2@C-20$ ; (b) TEM image of  $\text{FeO}_x@SiO_2@C-80$



**Fig. S6** (a, d) TEM image and SEM image of  $\text{FeO}_x@C-20$ ; (b, e) TEM image and SEM image of  $\text{FeO}_x@C-40$ ; (c, f) TEM image and SEM image of  $\text{FeO}_x@C-80$ .

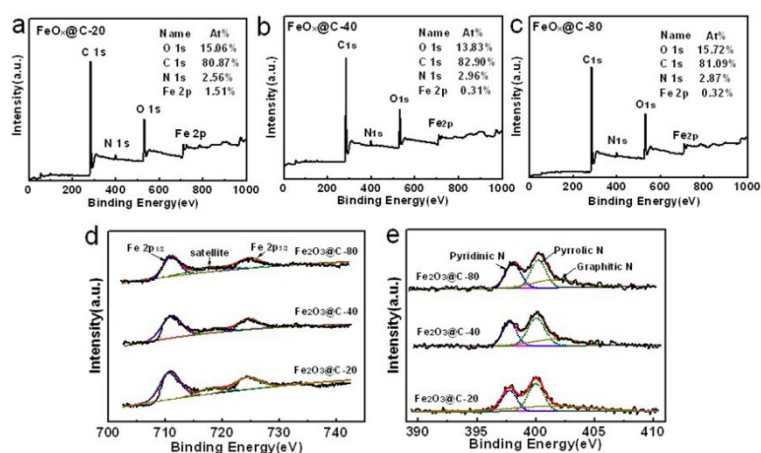


**Fig. S7** TEM image of  $\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3@C$  nanowires without the step of silica layer coating

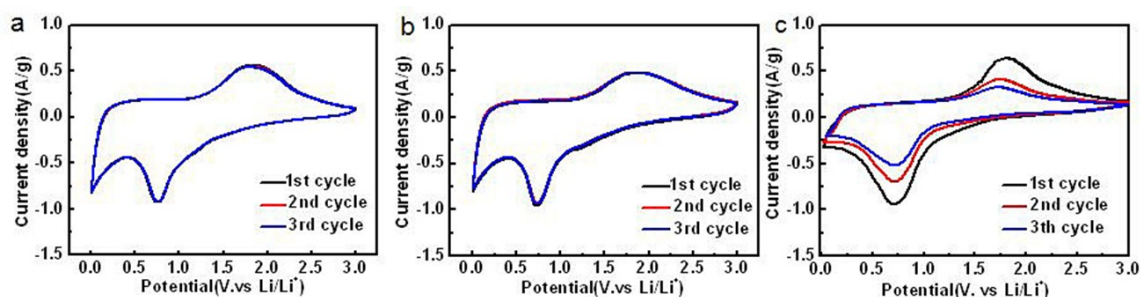


	$\text{FeO}_x@C-20$	$\text{FeO}_x@C-40$	$\text{FeO}_x@C-80$
Surface area	60.4 m <sup>2</sup> /g	84.6 m <sup>2</sup> /g	100.5 m <sup>2</sup> /g
Pore size	13.9 nm	12.6 nm	11.5 nm

**Fig. S8**  $N_2$  adsorption-desorption isotherms profile of  $\text{FeO}_x@C$  yolk-shell nanowires



**Fig. S9** (a) The XPS spectra of  $\text{FeO}_x\text{@C-20}$ ; (b) The XPS spectra of  $\text{FeO}_x\text{@C-40}$ ; (c) The XPS spectra of  $\text{FeO}_x\text{@C-80}$ ; (d) The high resolution of Fe 2p for these three  $\text{FeO}_x\text{@C}$  yolk-shell structures; (e) The high resolution of N 1s for these three  $\text{FeO}_x\text{@C}$  yolk-shell structures



**Fig. S10** (a) CV curves of  $\text{FeO}_x\text{@C-20}$  yolk-shell nanowires at a scan rate of  $0.5\text{mV/s}$  in the potential range from  $0\text{V}$  to  $3.0\text{V}$  vs.  $\text{Li/Li}^+$ ; (b) CV curves of  $\text{FeO}_x\text{@C-80}$  yolk-shell nanowires at a scan rate of  $0.5\text{mV/s}$  in the potential range from  $0\text{V}$  to  $3.0\text{V}$  vs.  $\text{Li/Li}^+$ ; (c) CV curves of bare  $\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  nanowires at a scan rate of  $0.5\text{mV/s}$  in the potential range from  $0\text{V}$  to  $3.0\text{V}$  vs.  $\text{Li/Li}^+$

**Tab. S1** The volume of FeO<sub>x</sub>, void space and the lithiated FeO<sub>x</sub> in three samples

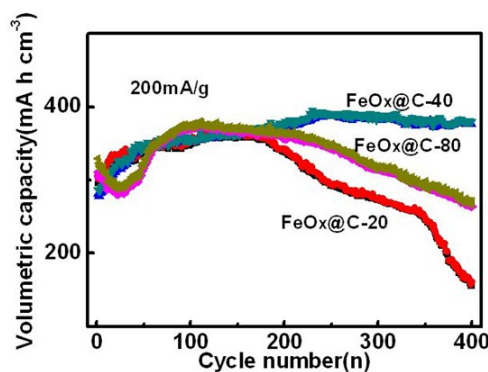
Parameters	FeO <sub>x</sub> @C-20	FeO <sub>x</sub> @C-40	FeO <sub>x</sub> @C-80
R <sub>FeO<sub>x</sub></sub> (nm)	75	75	75
R <sub>(FeO<sub>x</sub>+void)</sub> (nm)	93	107	149
L (nm)	L	L	L
V <sub>FeO<sub>x</sub></sub> (nm <sup>3</sup> )	17671 × L	17671 × L	17671 × L
V <sub>(FeO<sub>x</sub>+void)</sub>	27171 × L	35968 × L	69746 × L
V <sub>void</sub>	9500 × L	18297 × L	52075 × L
r (V <sub>void</sub> /V <sub>FeO<sub>x</sub></sub> )	0.54	1.04	2.94

The data in the table are obtained by the following formula:

$$V = \pi R^2 L,$$

$$V_{\text{void}} = V_{(\text{FeO}_x + \text{void})} - V_{\text{FeO}_x},$$

**V** represents the volume of materials, **R** represents the radius of materials, **L** represents the length of the materials. The values of **R** in the formula are the statistical averages from the TEM images.

**Fig. S11** The volumetric capacities versus cycle number of three FeO<sub>x</sub>@C yolk/shell nanowires at 200mA/g for 400cycles.