## **Supplementary information**

## MnO Modified Carbon Nanotubes as Sulfur Host with

## **Enhanced Performance in Li/S Batteries**

Taihua An,<sup>a</sup> Dingrong Deng,<sup>a</sup> Ming Lei,<sup>a</sup> Qihui Wu,<sup>b</sup> Zhaowu Tian,<sup>a</sup>

Mingsen Zheng,\*\* and Quanfeng Dong,\*\*

 Department of Chemistry, College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Xiamen University Collaborative Innovation Centre of Chemistry for Energy Materials, State Key Lab. of Physical Chemistry of Solid Surfaces, Xiamen, Fujian, 361005, China.

\*E-mail: qfdong@xmu.edu.cn, mszheng@xmu.edu.cn; Fax: (+86)0592-2183905; Tel: (+86)0592-2185905.

b. Department of Materials Chemistry, College of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, Quanzhou Normal University, Quanzhou, 362000, China.



**Fig. S1** TGAresult curves.(a) CNTs/MnO measured under  $O_2$ , the mass first have first increased because MnO got oxidized to  $Mn_2O_3$  and then decreased as the carbon burned; the remained weight was regarded as  $Mn_2O_3$  thus to calculate an original carbon content as 31.4%. (b) CNTs/MnO-S and CNTs-S measured under  $N_2$ , the lost weights have given the sulfur loadings as 71.2% and 88.3%, respectively, so that their C/S ratio can be calculate both around 1:8.

Current density*	CNTs@MnO-S (mAh g <sup>-1</sup> )				<b>CNTs-S</b> (mAh g <sup>-1</sup> )			
	Q	$Q_1$	Q <sub>2</sub>	$Q_2/Q_1$	Q	<b>Q</b> 1	Q <sub>2</sub>	$Q_2/Q_1$
0.1 C	1308	361	947	2.62	1265	383	882	2.30
0.2 C	1236	343	893	2.60	1110	326	784	2.40
0.5 C	1121	327	794	2.43	1011	322	689	2.14
1.0 C	1051	320	731	2.28	906	300	606	2.02
2.0 C	915	312	603	1.93	747	290	457	1.58
5.0 C	716	265	451	1.70	415	205	210	1.02

**Table S1**The capacities of two cathodes in first discharge at different current<br/>densities.

\* 1 C = 1.68 A g<sup>-1</sup>.

CNTs/	MnO-S	CNTs-S			
Discharging depth (%)	<b>R</b> <sub>ct</sub> (ohm mg⁻¹)	Discharging depth(%)	<b>R</b> <sub>ct</sub> (ohm mg <sup>-1</sup> )		
0	52.86408	0	51.44578		
8.4	14.6068	9.7	10.07229		
18.7	9.02913	20.8	7.11647		
34	7.21845	30.9	6.72289		
58.5	11.0534	55.5	6.97189		
77.6	19.05825	77.2	11.21687		
83.9	23.68932	90.2	21.14056		
100	61.45631	100	50.88353		

**Table S2** The  $R_{ct}$  variation during the 1<sup>st</sup> discharge at different discharging depth for the two electrodes.

\*In this discharging process, the terminated potential was always set as 1.7 V and the current was 0.5 C