

## Electronic Supplementary Material

### Rational design of metal oxide hollow nanostructures decorated carbon nanosheets for superior lithium storage

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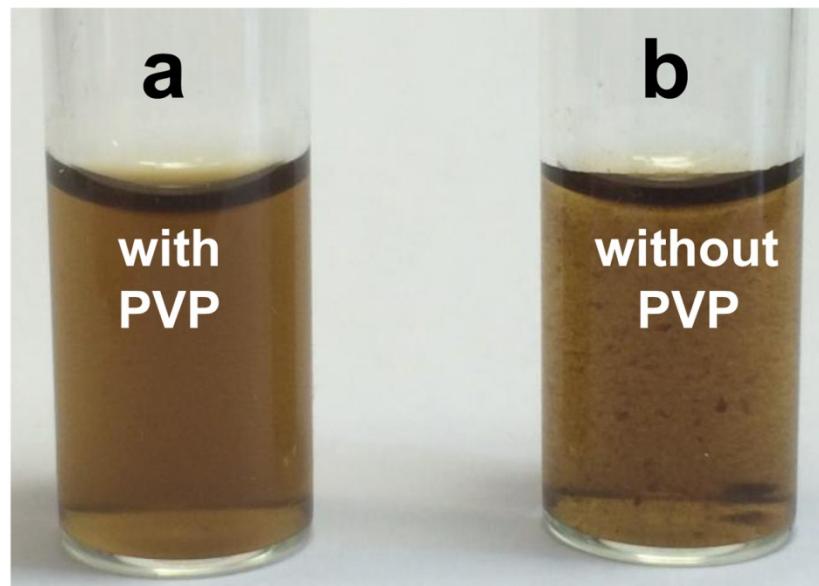


Fig.S1 Photos of  $\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3$  (0.05 g) and GO (0.01 g) mixed solution (20 mL) with (a) or without (b) PVP (0.01 g).

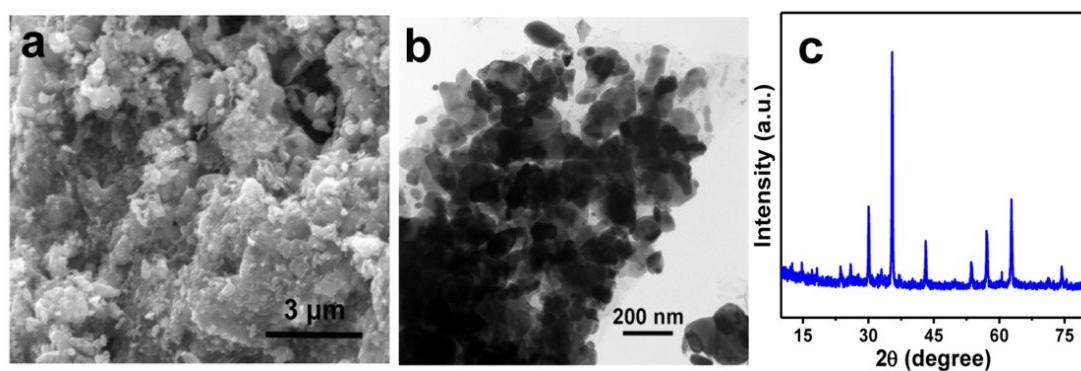


Fig.S2 SEM (a), TEM (b) images and XRD pattern (c) of  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{G}$ .

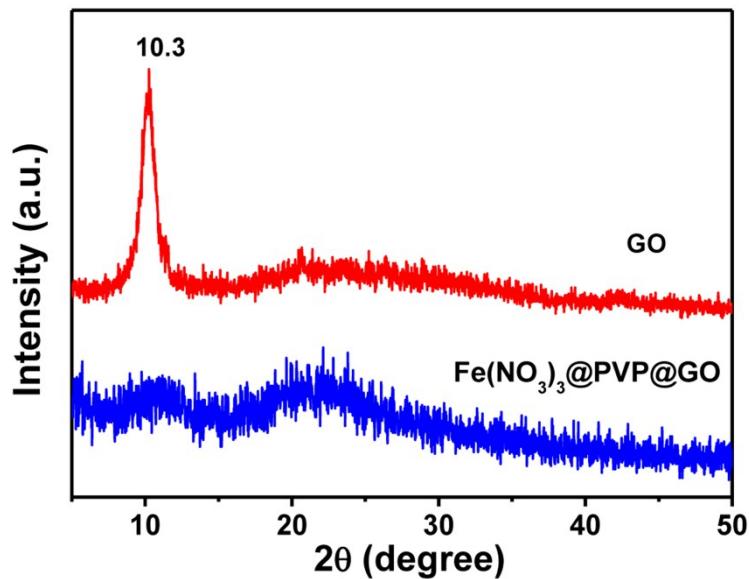


Fig.S3 XRD patterns of GO and  $\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3@\text{PVP}@$ GO.

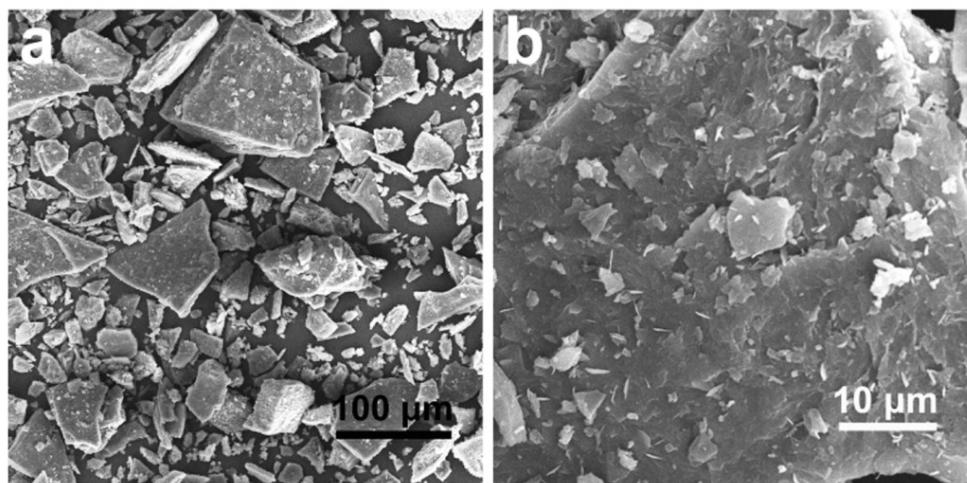


Fig.S4 (a) Low magnification SEM image of  $\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3@\text{PVP}@$ GO, suggesting the dense and bulk particles. (b) SEM image of a bulk  $\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3@\text{PVP}@$ GO particle, indicating the thick and multilayered nanostructures.

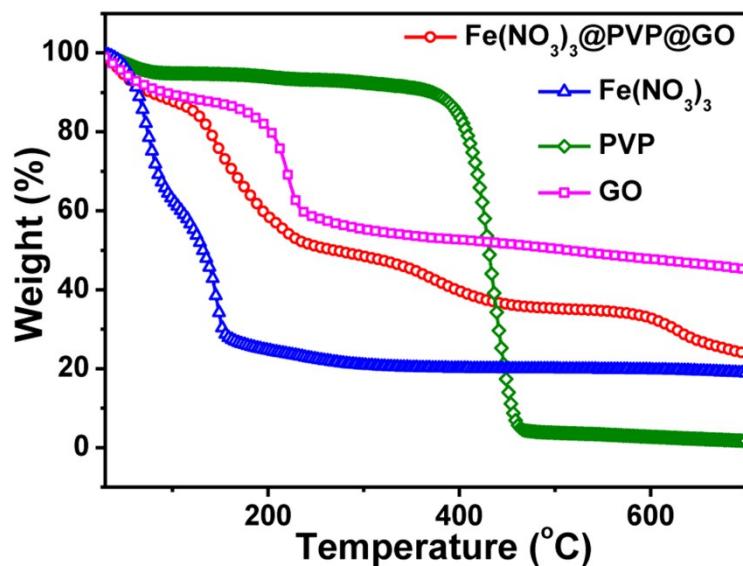


Fig.S5 Thermogravimetric analysis of GO, PVP, iron nitrate and  $\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3@\text{PVP}@ \text{GO}$  in nitrogen atmosphere at  $10 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C min}^{-1}$  heating rate.

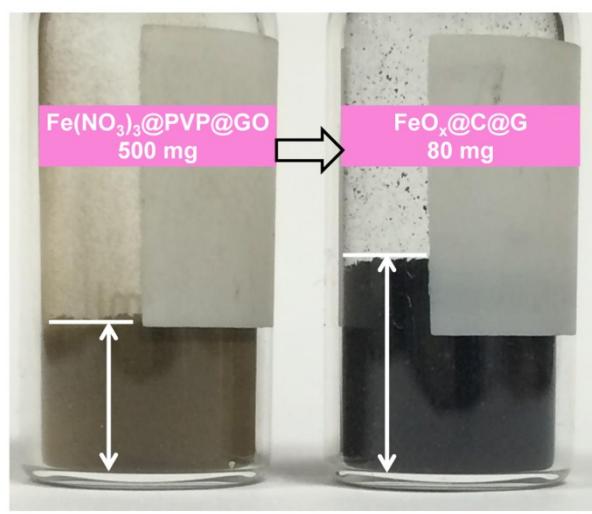


Fig.S6 Photo image (left) of 500 mg  $\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3@\text{PVP}@ \text{GO}$  powder in a glass container, after carbonation process, the volume of the resulting 80 mg  $\text{FeO}_x@\text{C}@ \text{G}$  exceeds that of  $\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3@\text{PVP}@ \text{GO}$  (right).

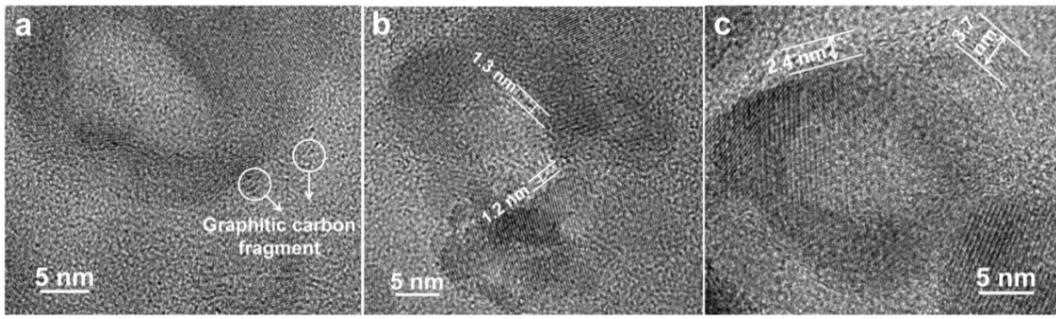


Fig.S7 HRTEM images of h- $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ @C@G with 84 wt.%  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ (a), 78 wt.%  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ (b) and 70 wt.%  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ (c).

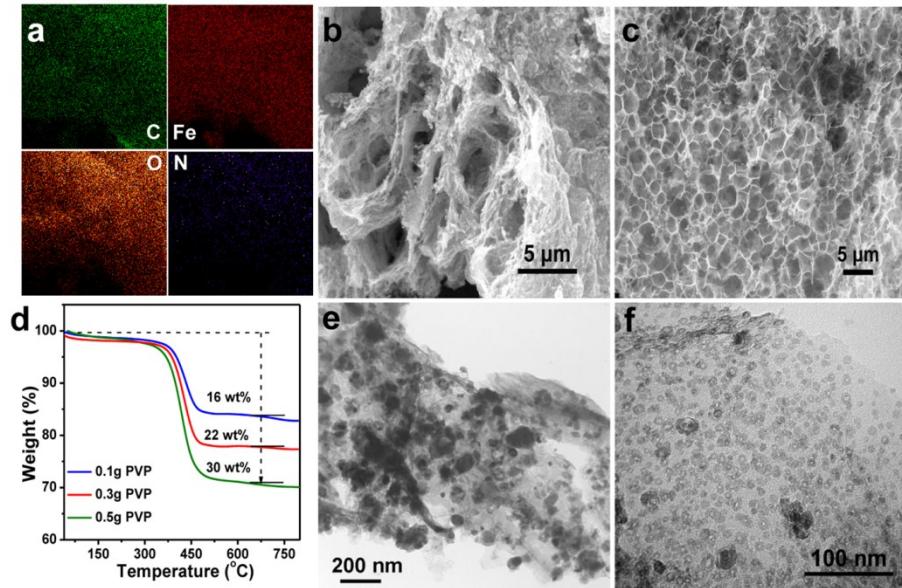


Fig.S8 (a) Elemental analysis of h- $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ @C@G hybrids (with 0.3 g PVP dose), in which element C, N, Fe and O uniformly disperse in the observed zone; SEM image (b) and TEM image (e) of h- $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ @C@G with 0.1 g PVP dose (corresponding to 84 wt.%  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ ); SEM image (c) and TEM image (f) of h- $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ @C@G with 0.5 g PVP dosage (corresponding to 70 wt.%  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ ); (d) TGA analysis of h- $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ @C@G hybrids with different  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  contenting, which are recorded under air atmosphere at 10 °C min<sup>-1</sup>.

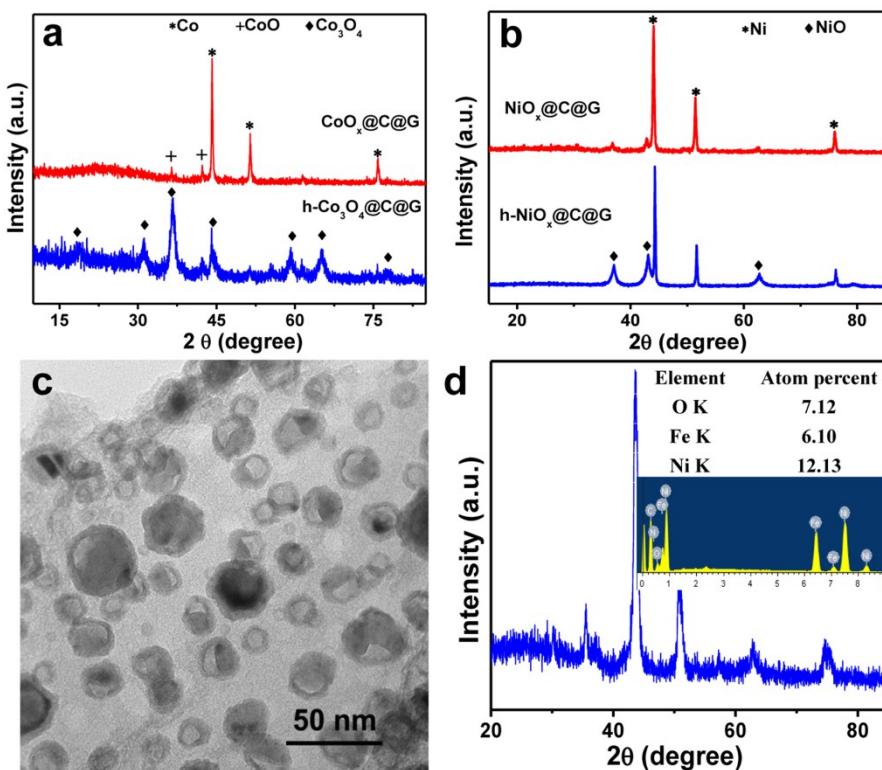


Fig.S9 (a) XRD patterns of CoO<sub>x</sub>@C@G and h-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@C@G hybrids; (b) XRD patterns of NiO<sub>x</sub>@C@G and h-NiO<sub>x</sub>@C@G hybrids; (c) TEM image of h-FeNiO<sub>x</sub>@C@G; (d) XRD pattern and element analysis (inset) of h-FeNiO<sub>x</sub>@C@G hybrid.

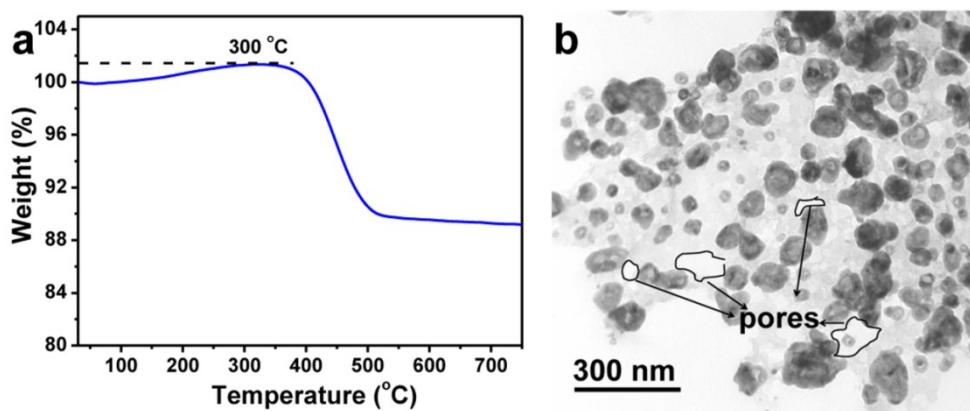


Fig.S10 (a) TGA analysis of FeNiO<sub>x</sub>@C@G hybrid in air at the heating rate of 10 °C min<sup>-1</sup>; (b) TEM image of h-FeNiO<sub>x</sub>@C@G hybrid synthesized by air oxidation at 310 °C, in which many pores created by over oxidation of carbon could be found.

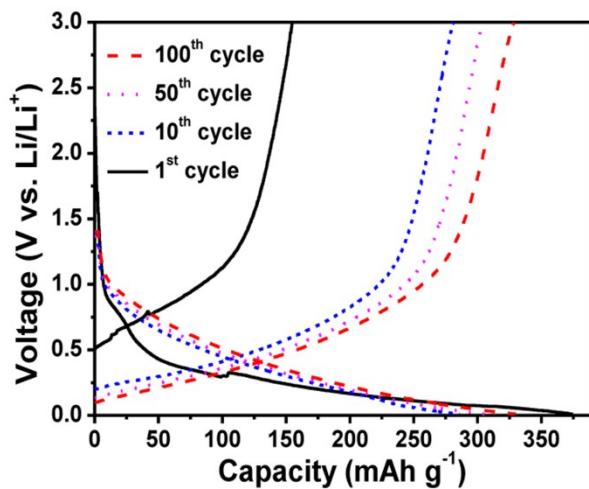


Fig.S11 Discharge/charge voltage profiles of G anode at  $1\text{ A g}^{-1}$ .

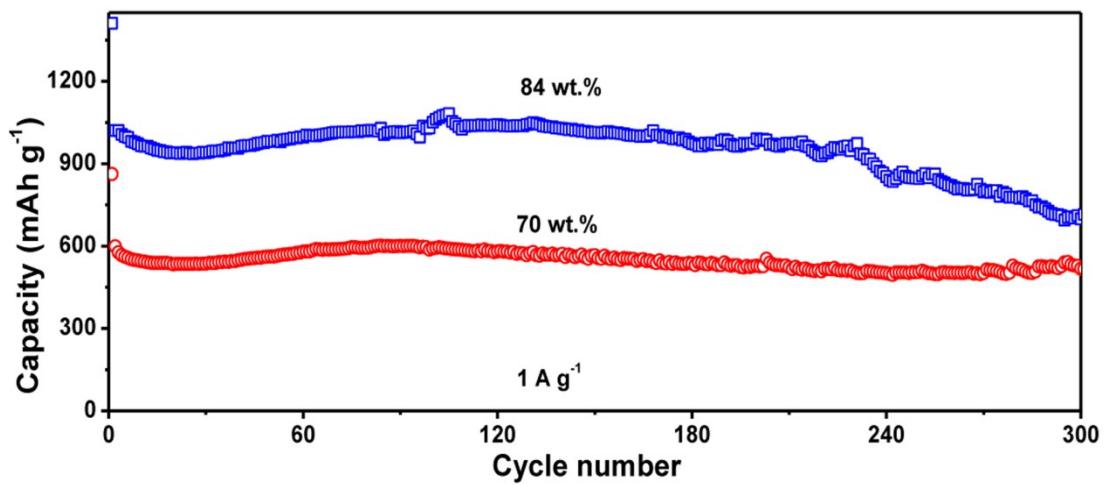


Fig.S12 Cycling stability of h- $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ @C@G anodes with 84 wt.%  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  content and with 70 wt.%  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  content at  $1\text{ A g}^{-1}$ .

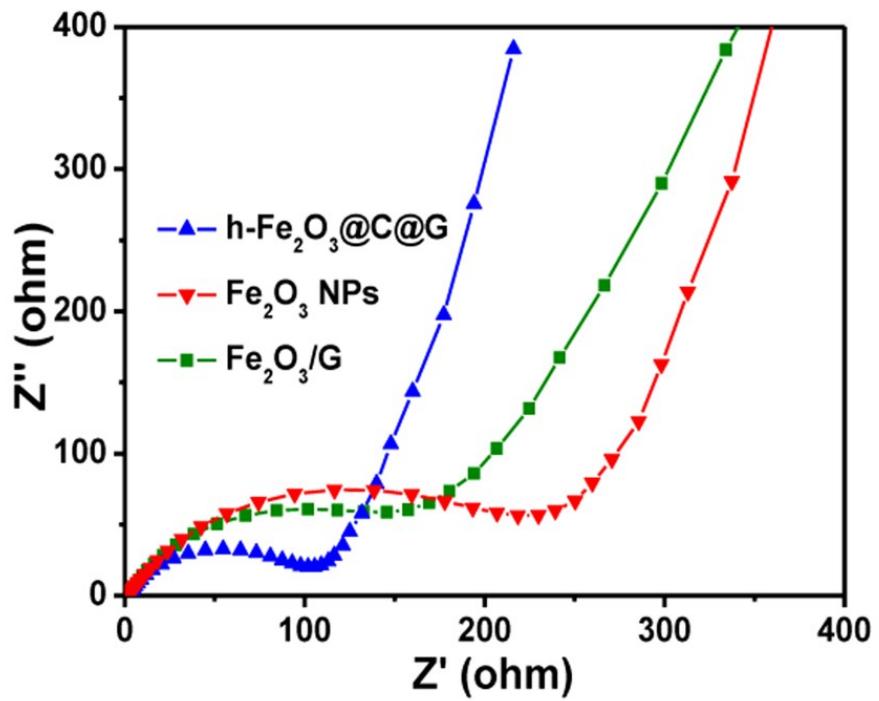


Fig.S13 Nyquist plots of  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  NPs,  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{G}$  and  $\text{h-Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{C}@\text{G}$  anodes.

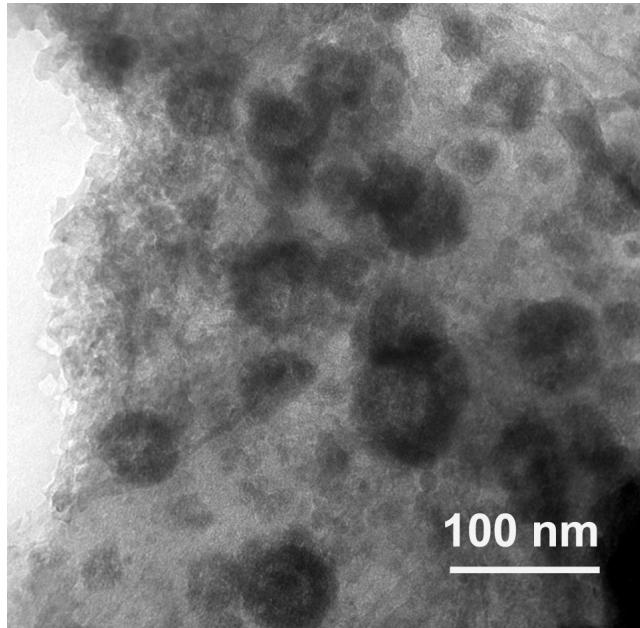


Fig.S14 TEM image of cycled  $\text{h-Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{C}@\text{G}$  anode.

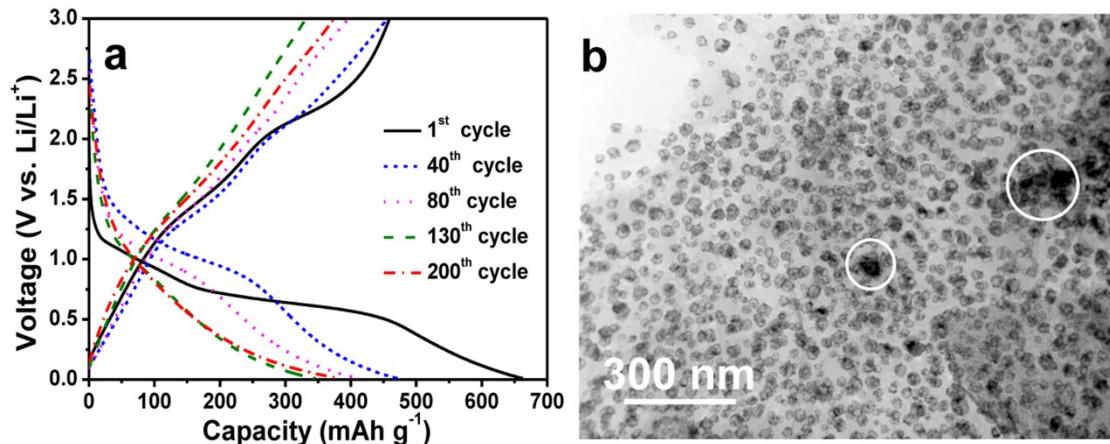


Fig.S15 (a) Discharge/charge voltage profiles of h-NiO<sub>x</sub>@C@G anode, and (b) TEM image of h-NiO<sub>x</sub>@C@G hybrid, in which few solid sphere or big particles could be found.

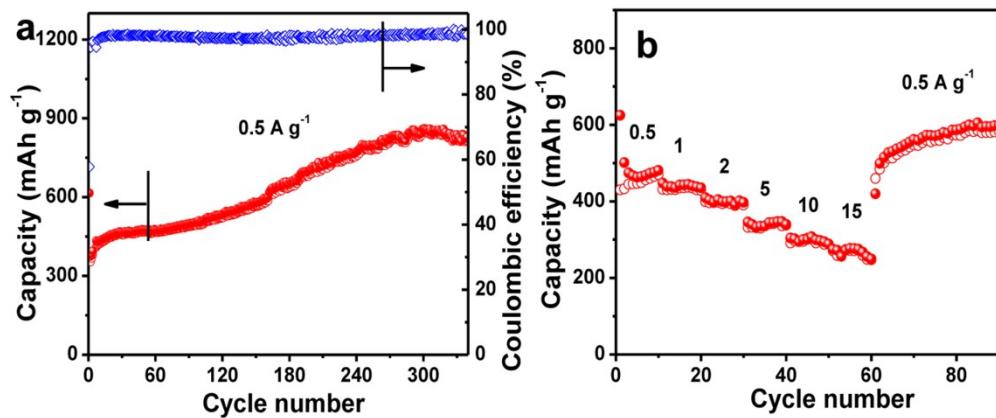


Fig.S16 Cycling stability (a) at 0.5 A g<sup>-1</sup> and rate capability (b) of the h-FeNiO<sub>x</sub>@C@G anode.

**Table S1** A comparison of the electrochemical properties between h-Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>@C@G anodes and other iron oxide-graphene electrodes

Active materials	Electrochemical properties	Reference
<b>h-Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>@C@G</b>	<b>430-1163 mAh g<sup>-1</sup> at 0.5-15 A g<sup>-1</sup>, 724 mAh g<sup>-1</sup> for 500 cycles at 5 A g<sup>-1</sup></b>	<b>This work</b>
3D Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> /N-doped graphene	420-1140 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.2-6.0 A g <sup>-1</sup> , 11200 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> for 500 cycles at 0.50 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Ref [1]
Bubble-nanorod structured Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> /C nanofibers	491-913 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.5-5 A g <sup>-1</sup> , 824 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> for 300 cycles at 1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Ref [2]
Yolk-shell FeO <sub>x</sub> @C structure	370-843 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.2-4 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Ref [3]
Iron oxide-rGO	~500-1050 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.1-1.6 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Ref [4]
Porous iron oxide ribbons -graphene	615 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 1.86 A g <sup>-1</sup> 1046 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> for 130 cycles at 0.074 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Ref [5]
$\alpha$ -Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> /graphene	615 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 5 A g <sup>-1</sup> 1046 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> for 130 cycles at 0.074 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Ref [6]
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /CN <sub>x</sub> /rGO	450-1110 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.1-10 A g <sup>-1</sup> , 590 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> for 500 cycles at 5 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Ref [7]
Hollow Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> @graphene	420-900 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.2- 2 A g <sup>-1</sup> , 940 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> for 50 cycles at 0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Ref [8]
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /CNTs @graphene	150-850 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.15-2.4 A g <sup>-1</sup> , 680 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> for 100 cycles at 0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Ref [9]
2D G@Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> @C	550-900 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.2-0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Ref [10]
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /graphene	629-913 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.1-2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Ref [11]
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> @graphene	410-740 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.3-1.0 A g g <sup>-1</sup> , 1048 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> for 90 cycles at 0.1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Ref [12]

## Referenecce

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