#### **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Three-Dimensional Graphene/Polyimide Composite-Derived Flexible High-

## Performance Organic Cathode for Rechargeable Lithium and Sodium

### **Batteries**

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**Fig. S1.** (a) XRD patterns of GF-PI, PI and GF; (b) TGA of GF-PI, PI and GF, carried out in  $N_2$  at a heating rate of 20 °C min<sup>-1</sup>; FTIR of (c) GF, GO and (d) GF-PI, PI and GF; (e) Raman spectra of GF-PI and GO; (f) XPS spectrum of GF-PI and the corresponding high-resolution (g) C1s; (h) N1s and (i) O1s peaks.

The TGA curves indicates that the weight reduction in both GF-PI and GF occurred slightly quickly than pure PI between 200-400 °C, which is attributed to the decomposition of a small amount of residual oxygen functional groups on the GF surface. The content of PI is caculated as follow:

PI%= [(pure GF<sub>Weight retention ratio</sub>- composite<sub>Weight retention ratio</sub>)/(GF<sub>Weight retention ratio</sub>- pure PI<sub>Weight retention ratio</sub>)]\*100%

There are peaks at 3430, 1625 and 1385 cm<sup>-1</sup> that attributed to –OH, O-C-O, O-C-O, C=O in the FT-IR of GO samples.<sup>S1</sup> For GF, such peaks are almost reduced or disappeared, indicating that GO is almost reduced by solvothermal and annealing treatment (Fig. S1c). Both pure PI and GF-PI have a peak at 1340 cm<sup>-1</sup>, which is ascribed to the stretching vibration of the C-N bond. The absorption peaks at 1703 and 1670 cm<sup>-1</sup> are ascribed to the asymmetry and symmetry stretching vibration of C=O bond, respectively (Fig. S1d).<sup>S2</sup> This finding indicates that the carbonyl group is still maintained in the polymer structure. The GF-PI increased intensity ratio of D peak to G peak in comparison with GO in the Raman spectra, which is ascribed to the solvothermal and thermal reduction (Fig. S1e).

The chemical compositions of the GF-PI are examined by X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS, Fig. S1e-h). The component peak  $C_I$  at 284.6 eV, corresponding to C-C coordination, is attributed to the carbon atoms of graphitic carbon. The peak  $C_{II}$  at 285.3 eV is related to the C-N bond. Peak  $C_{III}$  at 288.1 eV corresponds to C=O double bond. The high resolution N 1s spectra shows a clear peak at 399.3 eV, corresponding to the N-C bond of pyridinic N from PI unit.<sup>S3</sup> The component peak of O 1s locates at 531.3 eV and corresponds to C=O bond.



**Fig. S2**. (a, b) Charge/discharge profile of C-PI and G-PI at a current density of 40 mA g<sup>-1</sup>, (c) Cycling performance and (d) charge/discharge profile of pure GF at a current density of 40 mA g<sup>-1</sup> for LIBs,

Calculation of the utilization ratio of PI in the GF-PI composites is as follows:

$$utilization \ ratio = \frac{C_{composites} - C_{GF} \times P_{GF}}{(1 - P_{GF}) \times C_{polymer, theoretical}}$$

Where C is discharge capacity of GF-PI and P is weight percentage in the composite.



Fig. S3. Equivalent circuit for GF-PI, G-PI and C-PI electrodes

samples	$R_{\Omega}(\Omega)$	$R_{ct}(\Omega)$
C-PI	3.5	279.2
G-PI	2.5	184.8
GF-PI	2.2	66.5
GF-PI after 600 cycles	2.2	48.3

Table S1. The resistance of C-PI, G-PI and GF-PI electrodes



**Fig. S4.** (a, b) Charge/discharge profile of C-PI and G-PI at a current density of 50 mA  $g^{-1}$ , (c) Cycling performance and (d) charge/discharge profile of pure GF at a current density of 50 mA  $g^{-1}$  for SIB in the voltage range of 1.5–3.5 V.

Materials	Ratio of active materials	Current density (mA g <sup>-1</sup> )	Initial capacity (mAh g <sup>-1</sup> )	High current density (mA g <sup>-1</sup> )	Capacity (mAh g <sup>-1</sup> )	Capacity Retention (Cycles)	Current density (mA g <sup>-1</sup> )	Ref.
PI/SWNT (PMDA/EDA) $\left[ \begin{array}{c} & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ \end{array} \right]_{n}$	<100%	44	226 N. A. (by electrode)	8860	120 N. A. (by electrode)	85% (200)	221	Adv. Mater., 2014, 26, 3338
$\frac{\text{PMTA/SWCNT}}{(\text{PMDA/TDA})}$	65%	38	160 104 (by electrode)	3830	74 48 (by electrode)	. 87% (200)	191	Adv. Mater. 2015, 27, 6504
$\frac{\text{PMAQ-SWNT}}{(\text{PMDA/AQ})}$ $\left[ - \int_{\gamma} + $	100%	44	190 (by electrode)	4180	120 (by electrode)	91% (300)	221	<i>JMC.A</i> 2016, 4, 2115
PI/CNT (PTCDA/EDA) $\left[ \begin{array}{c} & \\ & \\ & \\ & \\ & \\ & \\ & \\ & \\ & \\ & $	85%	27	125 106 (by electrode)	546	115 98 (by electrode)	74% (300)	100	<i>JMC.A</i> 2013, 1, 6366
PI-FLEG (PMDA/EDA) $\left[ - \sqrt[3]{r} + \sqrt[3]{r} + \sqrt[3]{r} \right]_n$	65%	44	177 115 (by electrode)	2200	38 25 (by electrode)	80% (221)	200	<i>RSC Adv.</i> 2016, 6, 33287
3D-RGO/PI (PMDA/EDA)	80%	44	175	886	101 81	82% (150)	221	<i>JMC.A</i> 2014, 2, 10842

 Table S2. Electrochemical performance of typical PI-based cathode materials for LIB

			(by electrode)		(by electrode)			
PI-FGS-b (NTCDA/EDA)			205		135			Nano Lett.
	60%	37	123	3670	81	N	A.	2012, 12,
			(by electrode)		(by electrode)			2205
PI-4			188		173			Angew.
(NTCDA/EDA)	60%	18	112	74	104	95%	74	. Ed.
			(by electrode)		(by electrode)	(100)		2010, 49,
								8444
GF-PI (NTCDA/EDA)	100%	40	240	4000	102	91% (100)	50	- This work
		(by electrode)		(by electrode)	81% (600)	100		

# Table S3. Electrochemical performance of typical PI-based cathode materials for SIB

Materials Precursor, structure	Ratio of active materials	Current density (mA g <sup>-1</sup> )	Initial capacity (mAh g <sup>-1</sup> )	High current density (mA g <sup>-1</sup> )	Capacity (mAh g <sup>-1</sup> )	Capacity Retention (Cycles)	Current density (mA g <sup>-1</sup> )	Ref.
PMDA-based PI2 (PMDA/EDA)	60%	25	124 74.4 (by electrode)		N. A.	40% (62)	200	Adv. Energy Mater. 2014, 4, 1301651

NTCDA-based PI2			132					Adv.
(NTCDA/EDA)								Energy
	60%	25	70.2	N. A.		65%	200	Mater.
			(by cleatrode)			(100)		2014, 4,
n			(by electrode)				1301651	
PTCDA-based PI2			150		75			Adv.
(PTCDA/EDA)								Energy
	30%	25	45	10000		87.5%	200	Mater.
			(by electrode)		22.5	(5000)		2014, 4,
n			(by electrode)					1301651
PTCDA-based PI3			116					
(PTCDA/1 3-			116					Adv.
propapediamine)								Energy
	60%	25	69.6	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	Mater.
			(by electrode)					2014, 4,
								1301651
PTCDA-based PI4			100					
(PTCDA/1 4-			100					Adv.
diaminobutane)								Energy
	60%	25	60	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	Mater.
			(by electrode)					2014, 4,
								1301651
PI			126		90			
(PTCDA/N <sub>2</sub> H₄·H <sub>2</sub> O)								J. Mater.
	60%	100	75.6	800		90%	100	Chem. A
			(by electrode)		54	(50)		2015, 3,
			(by cicci duc)					10453
PAQI			162					Electro.
PMDA/26DAAQ						95%		Commun.
	40%	50	64.8	N. A.	N. A.	(150)	50	2015, 60,
			(by electrode)					117
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PAQI NTCDA/26DAAQ	40%	50	179 71.6 (by electrode)	N. A.	N. A.	95% (150)	50	Electro. Commun. 2015, 60, 117
PAQI NTCDA/14DAAQ $\left[ \begin{array}{c} & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\$	40%	50	220 88 (by electrode)	1000	75 30 (by electrode)	82% (150)	50	J. Mater. Chem. A 2016, 4, 11491
PNTCDA NTCDA/EDA	30%	140	140 42 (by electrode)	2520	84 25.2 (by electrode)	- 68% (500)	140	<i>RSC Adv.</i> 2014, 4, 25369
GF-PI (NTCDA/EDA)	100%	50	213 (by electrode)	1000	116 (by electrode)	~100% (150) 80.4% (10 00)	50	• This work

### Reference

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