

Supplementary Information

Hybridizing Fe₃O₄ nanocrystals with nitrogen-doped carbon nanowires for high-performance supercapacitors †

Jizhang Chen,^{*a} Qiongyu Chen,^a Junling Xu^b and Ching-Ping Wong^b

^a College of Materials Science and Engineering, Nanjing Forestry University, Nanjing 210037, China.

^b Department of Electronic Engineering, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, New Territories, Hong Kong.

E-mail address: jizhang.chen@hotmail.com (J. Chen).

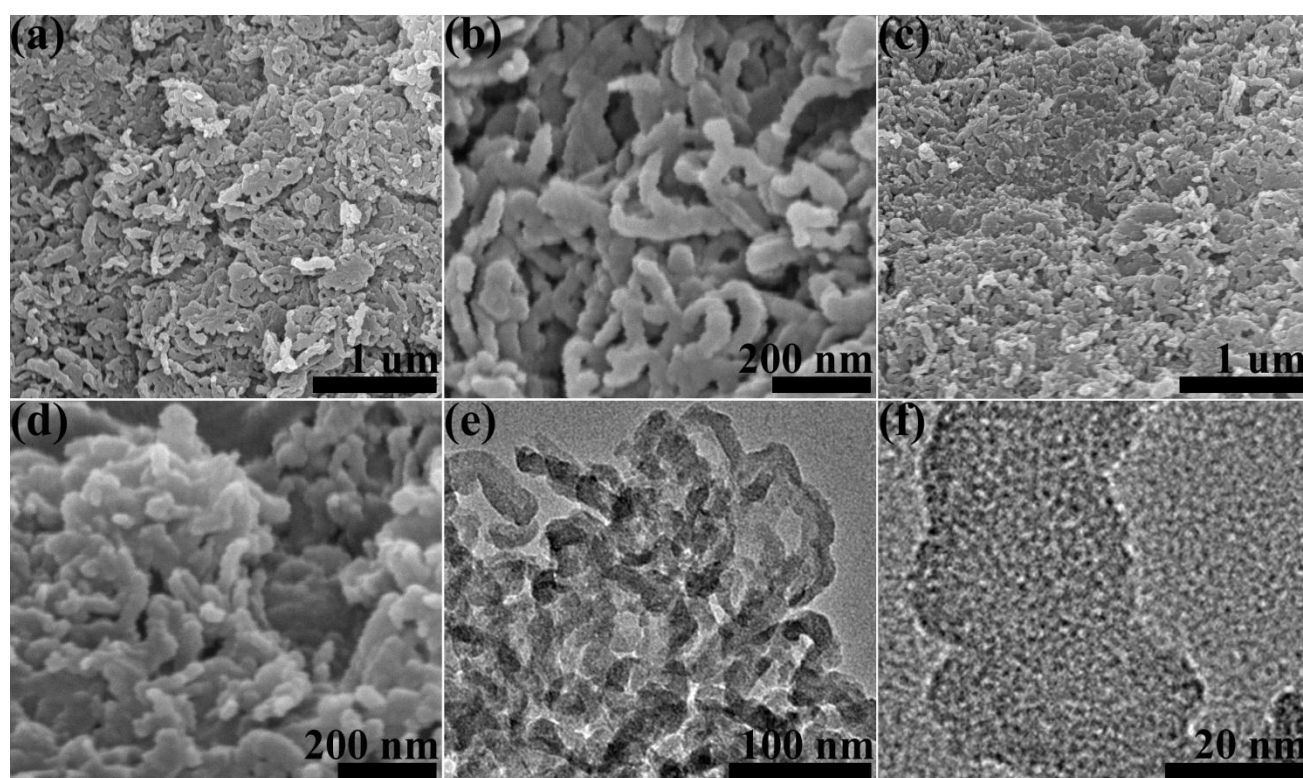


Fig. S1 SEM and TEM images of (a, b) PPy nanowires and (c–f) NCN.

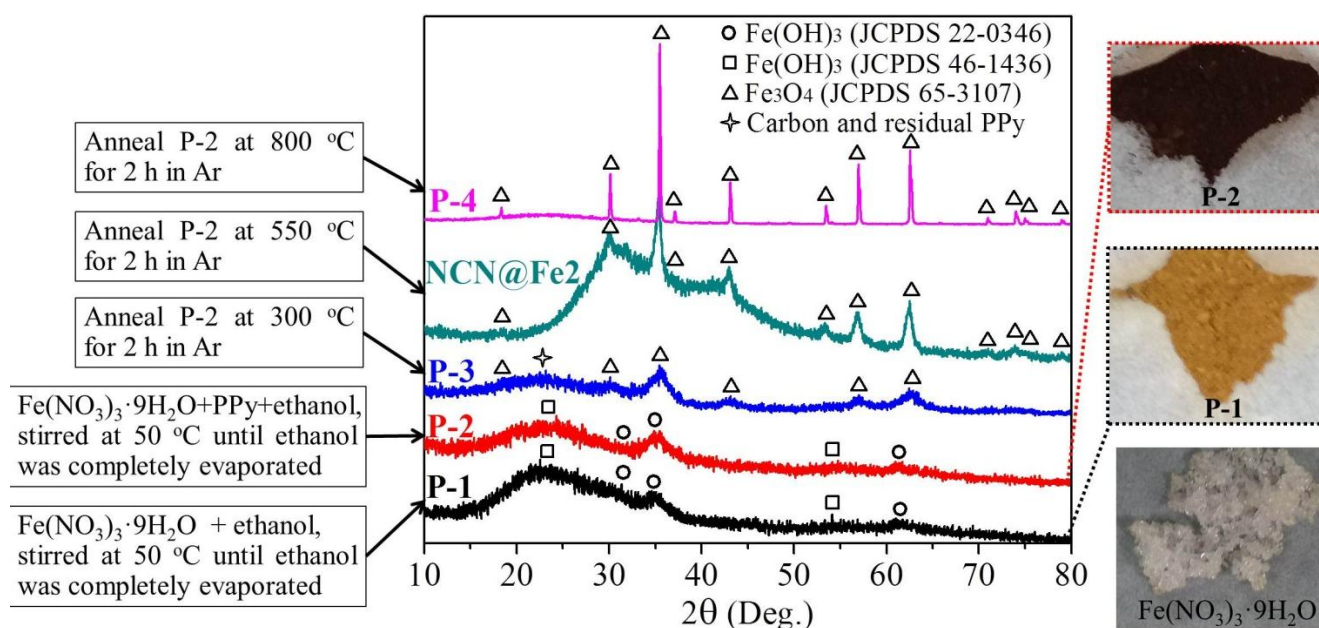


Fig. S2 XRD patterns of different products when altering the raw material or annealing temperature.

P-1 is obtained without the addition of PPy. From the XRD pattern of P-1 and the photographs (on the right of XRD patterns), we can see that the Fe(NO₃)₃·9H₂O precursor was hydrolyzed to Fe(OH)₃ after dissolved in ethanol and subsequently evaporating ethanol at 50 °C. When PPy was added, the product P-2 exhibits nearly the same XRD pattern as that of P-1. The signal from PPy is so weak that it is covered up by that of Fe(OH)₃. After annealing P-2 at 300 °C for 2 h in Ar atmosphere, P-3 was obtained. Except for a hump arising from carbon and residual PPy, all the peaks of P-3 can be indexed to Fe₃O₄ (JCPDS 65-3107). When the annealing temperature was increased to 550 °C, the obtained NCN@Fe2 keeps the Fe₃O₄ phase and its crystallinity is much higher than that of P-3. When the annealing temperature was further increased to 800 °C, the obtained P-4 shows sharp peaks of Fe₃O₄, indicative of large particle size and rather high crystallinity.

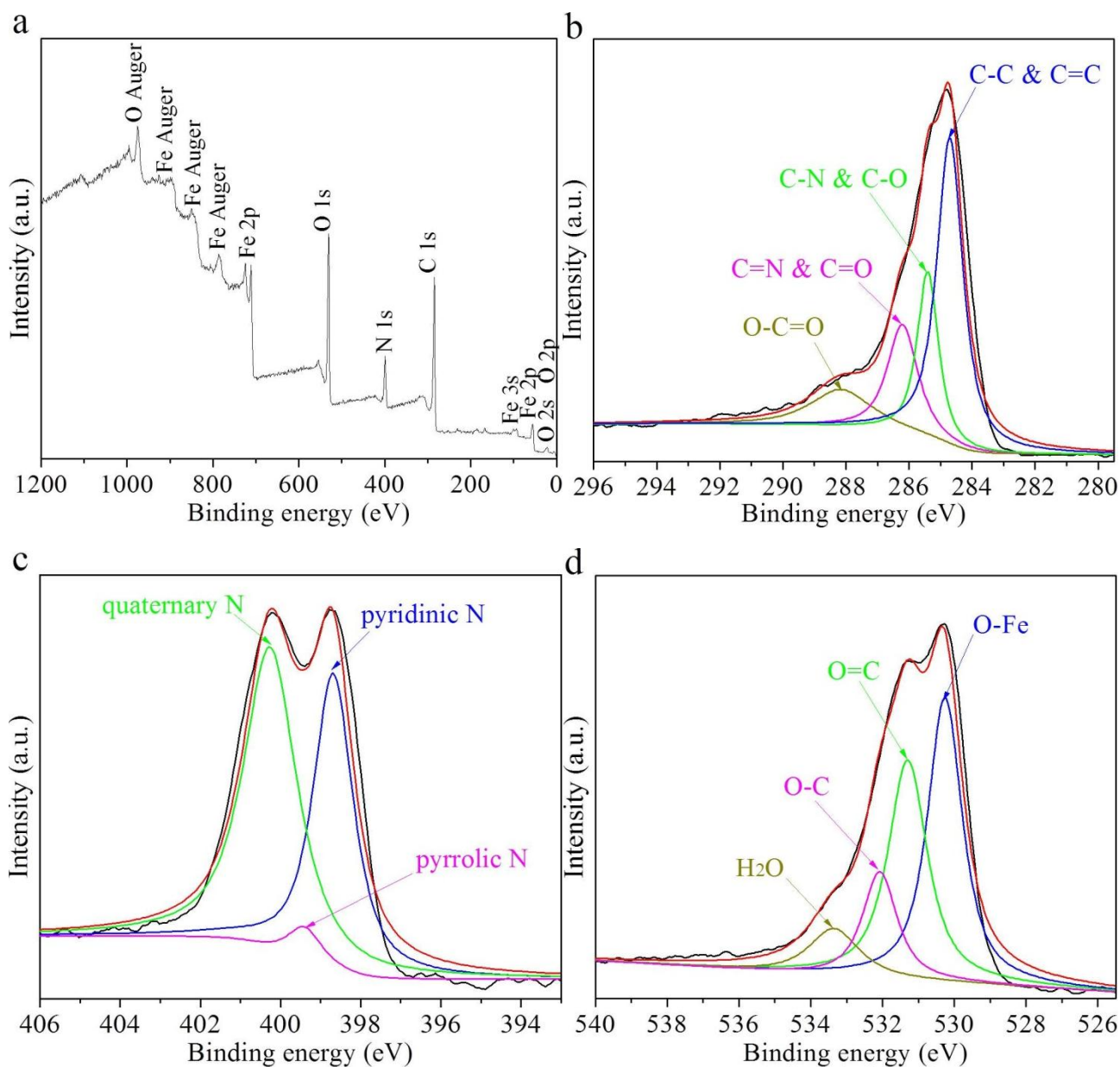


Fig. S3 (a) Survey XPS spectrum and (b) C 1s, (c) N 1s, and (d) O 1s HR XPS spectra of NCN@Fe₂.

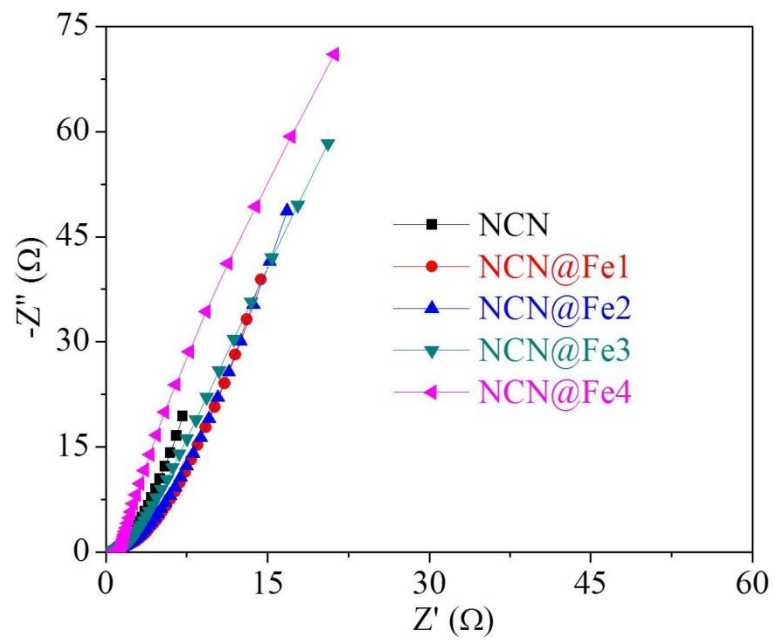


Fig. S4 Nyquist plots of NCN, NCN@Fe1, NCN@Fe2, NCN@Fe3, and NCN@Fe4.

Table S1 Specific capacitance of NCN@Fe₂O₃ versus Fe-based pseudocapacitive materials reported in recent three years, all tested in 3-electrode setups.

Active material	Electrolyte	Capacitance	Ref. (Year)
NCN@Fe ₂ O ₃	3 M KOH	541.7 F g ⁻¹ at 1 A g ⁻¹	This work
Ti-doped Fe ₂ O ₃ @PEDOT	5 M LiCl	311.6 F g ⁻¹ at 1 mA cm ⁻²	¹ (2015)
graphene/Fe ₂ O ₃ QDs	1 M Na ₂ SO ₄	347 F g ⁻¹ at 10 mV s ⁻¹	² (2015)
α-Fe ₂ O ₃ hollow tubes	6 M KOH	330 F g ⁻¹ at 0.5 A g ⁻¹	³ (2016)
FeOOH/Ag/ZnO nanorods	0.5 M Li ₂ SO ₄	376.6 F g ⁻¹ at 1 A g ⁻¹	⁴ (2016)
hollow and porous Fe ₂ O ₃	0.5 M Na ₂ SO ₃	346 F g ⁻¹ at 2 mV s ⁻¹	⁵ (2016)
Fe ₂ O ₃ nanotubes	1 M Li ₂ SO ₄	300.1 F g ⁻¹ at 0.75 A g ⁻¹	⁶ (2016)
VACNTs@Fe ₂ O ₃	2 M KOH	248 F g ⁻¹ at 8 A g ⁻¹	⁷ (2016)
Fe ₂ O ₃ @N-doped graphene	2 M KOH	274 F g ⁻¹ at 1 A g ⁻¹	⁸ (2016)
graphene/FeOOH QDs	1 M Li ₂ SO ₄	365 F g ⁻¹ at 10 mV s ⁻¹	⁹ (2016)
rGO/Fe ₃ O ₄ nanoparticles	1 M KOH	241 F g ⁻¹ at 1 A g ⁻¹	¹⁰ (2016)
rGO/Fe ₂ O ₃ nanotubes	1 M Na ₂ SO ₄	262.2 F g ⁻¹ at 1 A g ⁻¹	¹¹ (2017)
Fe ₂ O ₃ @C-rGO	1 M Na ₂ SO ₄	211.4 F g ⁻¹ at 0.5 A g ⁻¹	¹² (2017)
Fe ₃ O ₄ @hollow graphite	4 M KOH	481 F g ⁻¹ at 1 A g ⁻¹	¹³ (2017)
rGO/Fe ₃ O ₄ nanoparticles	2 M KOH	455 F g ⁻¹ at 8 mV s ⁻¹	¹⁴ (2017)
Fe ₂ O ₃ @MnO ₂ nanotubes	3 M KOH	289.9 F g ⁻¹ at 1 A g ⁻¹	¹⁵ (2017)
Fe ₂ O ₃ nanorods	2 M KOH	516.7 F g ⁻¹ at 1 A g ⁻¹	¹⁶ (2017)
NiNTAs@Fe ₂ O ₃ nanoneedles	1 M Na ₂ SO ₄	418.7 F g ⁻¹ at 10 mV s ⁻¹	¹⁷ (2017)

References

- 1 Y. Zeng, Y. Han, Y. Zhao, Y. Zeng, M. Yu, Y. Liu, H. Tang, Y. Tong and X. Lu, *Adv. Energy Mater.*, 2015, **5**, 1402176.
- 2 H. Xia, C. Hong, B. Li, B. Zhao, Z. Lin, M. Zheng, S. V. Saviolov and S. M. Aldoshin, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 2015, **25**, 627-635.
- 3 J. Li, W. Zhang, G. Zan and Q. Wu, *Dalton T.*, 2016, **45**, 12790-12799.
- 4 S. Yang, Y. Li, T. Xu, Y. Li, H. Fu, K. Cheng, K. Ye, L. Yang, D. Cao and G. Wang, *RSC Adv.*, 2016, **6**, 39166-39171.
- 5 C. Fu, A. Mahadevegowda and P. S. Grant, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2016, **4**, 2597-2604.
- 6 Y.-G. Lin, Y.-K. Hsu, Y.-C. Lin and Y.-C. Chen, *Electrochimica. Acta*, 2016, **216**, 287-294.
- 7 W. Zhang, B. Zhao, Y. Yin, T. Yin, J. Cheng, K. Zhan, Y. Yan, J. Yang and J. Li, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2016, **4**, 19026-19036.
- 8 L. Liu, J. Lang, P. Zhang, B. Hu and X. Yan, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interf.*, 2016, **8**, 9335-9344.
- 9 J. Liu, M. Zheng, X. Shi, H. Zeng and H. Xia, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 2016, **26**, 919-930.
- 10 L. Li, P. Gao, S. Gai, F. He, Y. Chen, M. Zhang and P. Yang, *Electrochim. Acta*, 2016, **190**, 566-573.
- 11 D. M. G. T. Nathan and S. J. M. Bobby, *J. Alloys Compd.*, 2017, **700**, 67-74.
- 12 M. Zhang, J. Sha, X. Miao, E. Liu, C. Shi, J. Li, C. He, Q. Li and N. Zhao, *J. Alloys Compd.*, 2017, **696**, 956-963.
- 13 H. Khani and D. O. Wipf, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interf.*, 2017, **9**, 6967-6978.
- 14 R. Kumar, R. K. Singh, A. R. Vaz, R. Savu and S. A. Moshkalev, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interf.*, 2017, **9**, 8880-8890.
- 15 G. Nie, X. Lu, M. Chi, Y. Zhu, Z. Yang, N. Song and C. Wang, *Electrochim. Acta*, 2017, **231**, 36-43.
- 16 J. Wang, L. Zhang, X. Liu, X. Zhang, Y. Tian, X. Liu, J. Zhao and Y. Li, *Sci. Rep.*, 2017, **7**, 41088.
- 17 Y. Li, J. Xu, T. Feng, Q. Yao, J. Xie and H. Xia, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 2017, **27**, 1606728.