

## Supporting Information

# Graphene-like $\delta$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> decorated with ultrafine CeO<sub>2</sub> as a highly-efficient catalyst for long-life lithium–oxygen batteries

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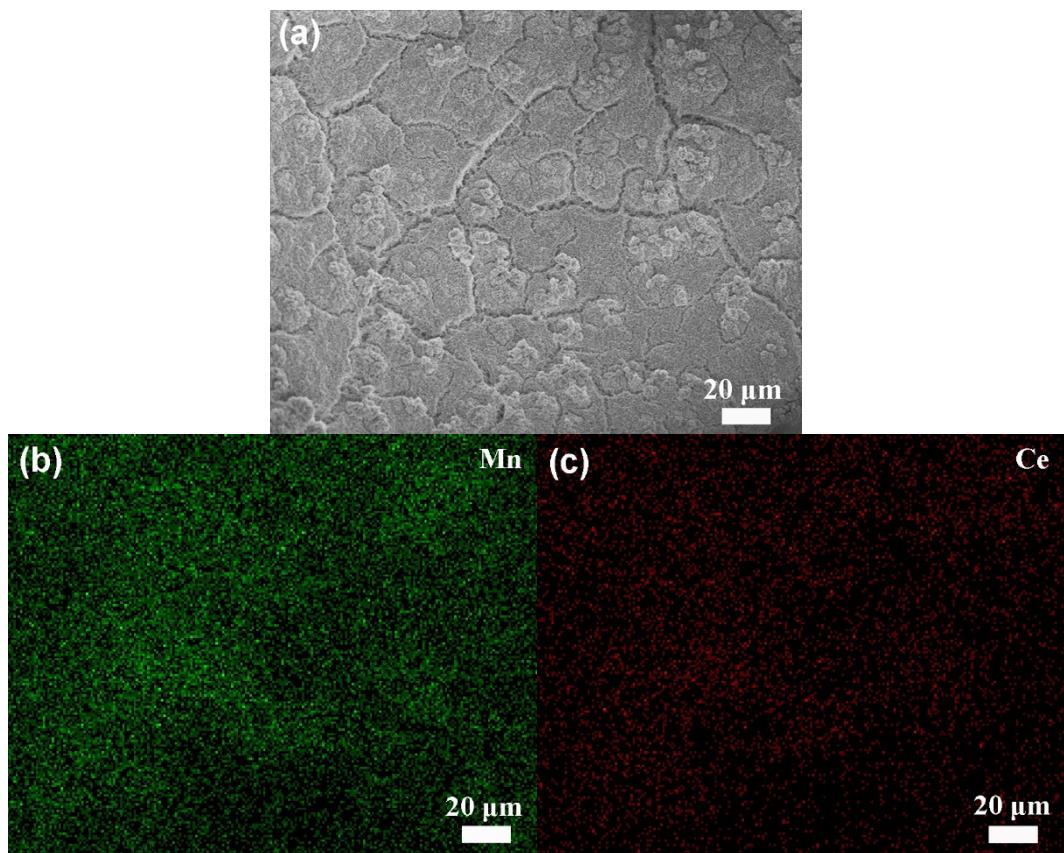
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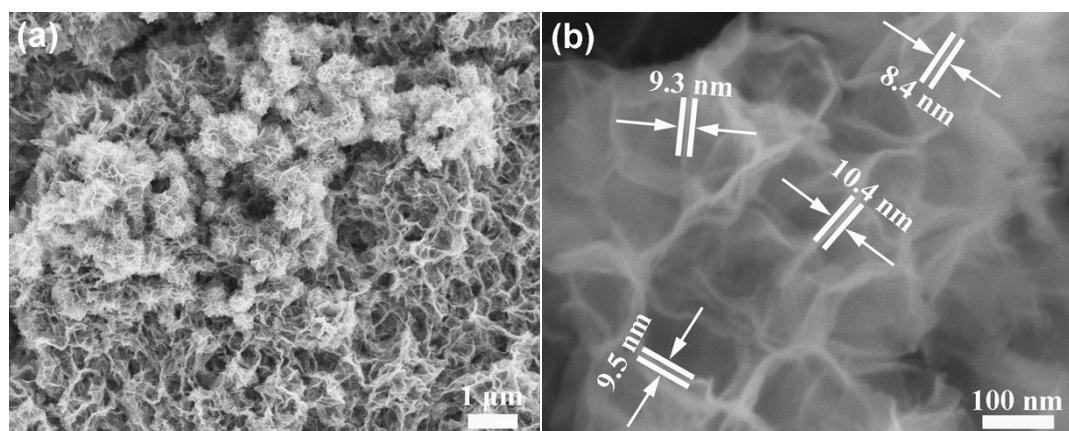
<sup>d</sup> Industrial Technology Research Institute of Zhejiang University, Hangzhou 310058, P. R. China

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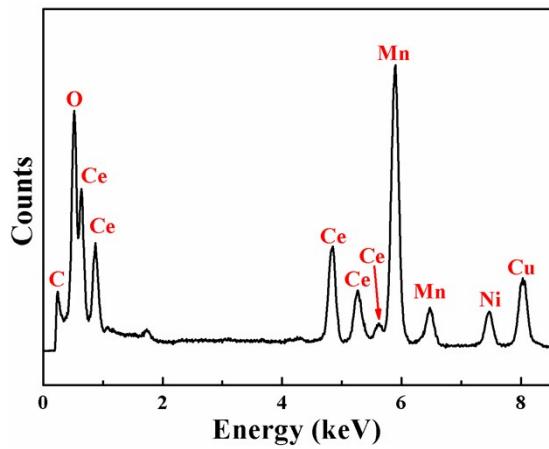
\*E-mail: xiejian1977@zju.edu.cn; zhaoxb@zju.edu.cn



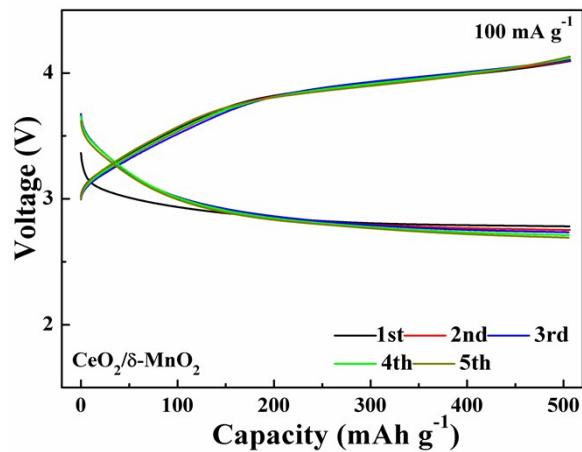
**Fig. S1.** Low-magnification SEM image and the corresponding EDS mapping of Mn and Ce elements in  $\text{CeO}_2/\delta\text{-MnO}_2$ .



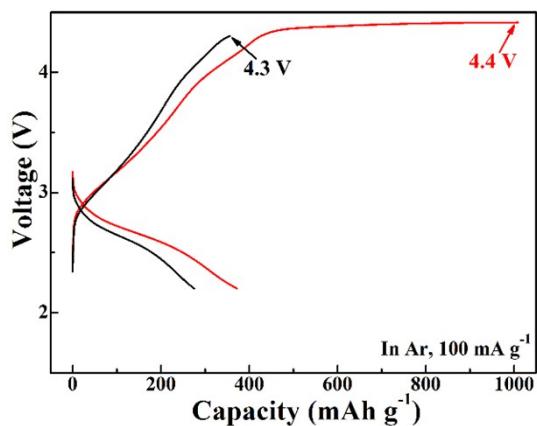
**Fig. S2.** SEM images of bare  $\delta\text{-MnO}_2$ .



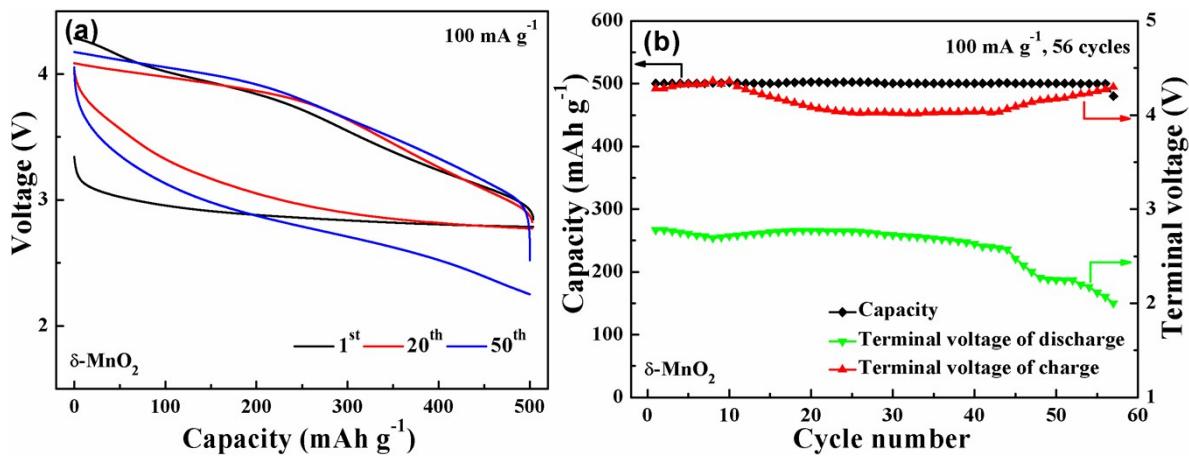
**Fig. S3.** TEM-EDS of the  $\text{CeO}_2/\delta\text{-MnO}_2$  catalyst.



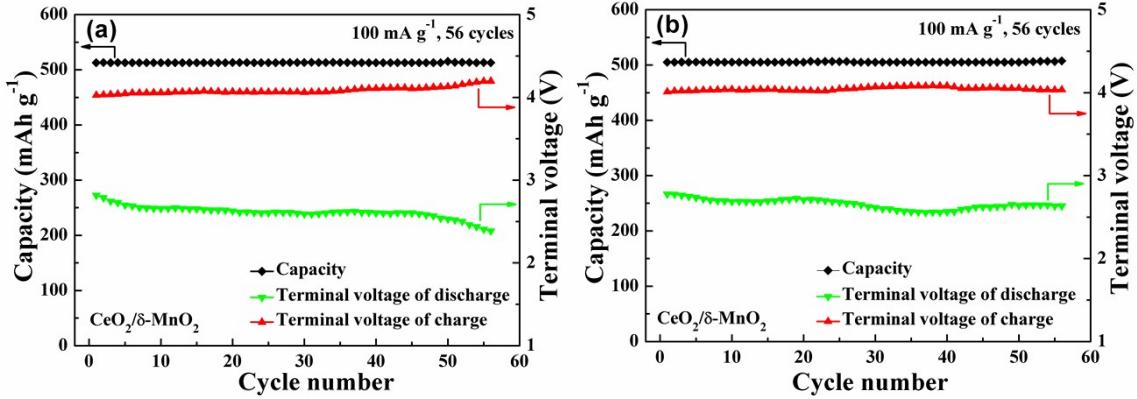
**Fig. S4.** Voltage profiles of  $\delta\text{-MnO}_2$ -catalyzed  $\text{Li-O}_2$  cell at a limited capacity of  $500 \text{ mAh g}^{-1}$  with a rest time of 1 h after each charge and discharge step.



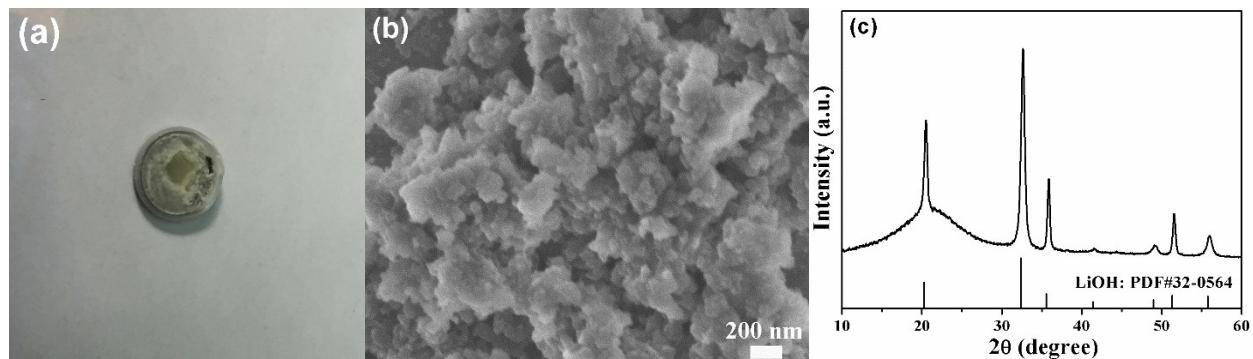
**Fig. S5.** Voltage profile of  $\text{Li-CeO}_2/\delta\text{-MnO}_2$  cells charged to 4.3 and 4.4 V at a current density of  $100 \text{ mA g}^{-1}$  in Ar.



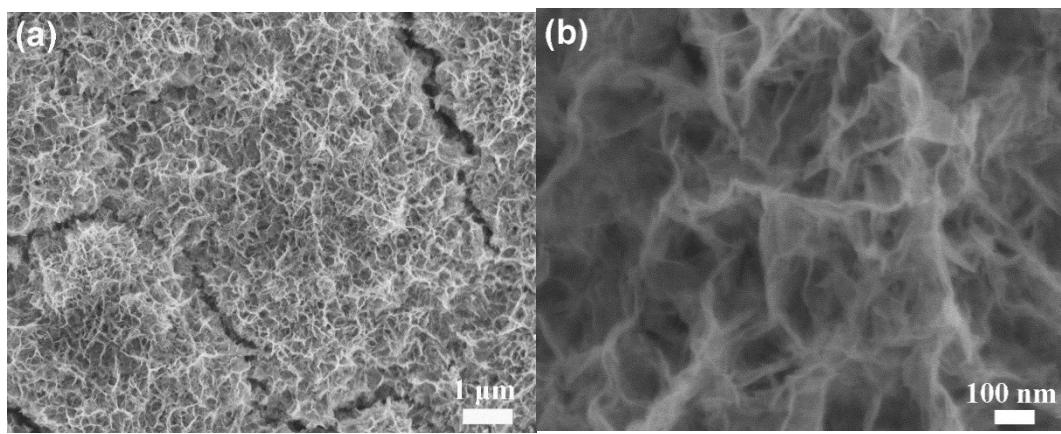
**Fig. S6.** (a) Voltage profiles and (b) terminal voltages of  $\delta\text{-MnO}_2$ -catalyzed Li–O<sub>2</sub> cell at a limited capacity of 500 mAh g<sup>-1</sup>.



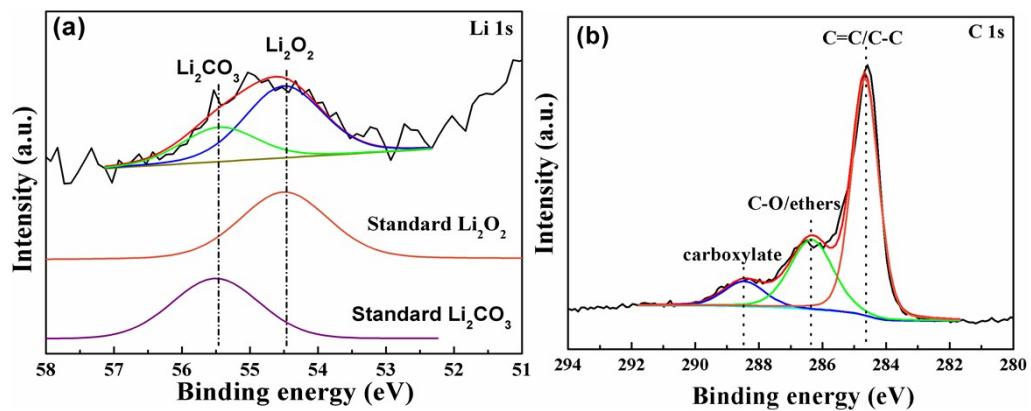
**Fig. S7.** Terminal voltages of CeO<sub>2</sub>/δ-MnO<sub>2</sub>-catalyzed Li–O<sub>2</sub> cells with a (a) low (Ce:Mn=5:95) and (b) high (Ce:Mn=23:77) CeO<sub>2</sub>/δ-MnO<sub>2</sub> molar ratios at a limited capacity of 500 mAh g<sup>-1</sup>.



**Fig. S8.** (a) Digital photo, (b) SEM image and (c) XRD patterns of the Li anode from the dead cell cycled at 100 mA g<sup>-1</sup> in the 1 M LiClO<sub>4</sub>/TEGDME electrolyte.



**Fig. S9.** SEM images of the  $\text{CeO}_2/\delta\text{-MnO}_2$  electrode from the dead cell cycled at  $100 \text{ mA g}^{-1}$  in the  $1 \text{ M LiClO}_4/\text{TEGDME}$  electrolyte.



**Fig. S10.** (a) Li 1s and (b) C 1s of the  $\text{CeO}_2/\delta\text{-MnO}_2$  electrode from the dead cell cycled at  $100 \text{ mA g}^{-1}$  in the  $1 \text{ M LiClO}_4/\text{TEGDME}$  electrolyte.

**Table S1** Comparison of electrochemical performance using CeO<sub>2</sub>-based catalysts.

| Catalyst                             | Maximum capacity/current density  | Capacity limited/current density  | Cycle number | Reference |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--------------|-----------|
| CeO <sub>2</sub> /δ-MnO <sub>2</sub> | 8260 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> /100 mA g <sup>-1</sup> (~0.05 mA cm <sup>-2</sup> ) | 500 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> /100mA g <sup>-1</sup> (~0.05 mA cm <sup>-2</sup> ) | 296          | This work |
| CeO <sub>2</sub> /CNT                | ~2000 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> /20 mA g <sup>-1</sup>                              | —   | —            | [1]       |
| CeO <sub>2</sub> @N-RGO              | 11900 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> /400 mA g <sup>-1</sup>                             | 1000 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> /400mA g <sup>-1</sup>                             | 40           | [2]       |
| MnO <sub>x</sub> @CeO <sub>2</sub>   | 2617 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> /100 mA g <sup>-1</sup>                              | 1000 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> /200mA g <sup>-1</sup>                             | 30           | [3]       |
| Ag@CeO <sub>2</sub>                  | 3415 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> /100 mA g <sup>-1</sup>                              | 500 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> /200mA g <sup>-1</sup>                              | 50           | [4]       |
| Zr-CeO <sub>2</sub>                  | 8435 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> /0.1 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>                             | 1000 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> /1 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>                             | 40           | [5]       |
| G/Zr-CeO <sub>2</sub>                | 3254 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> /0.2 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>                             | 500 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> /1 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>                              | 14           | [6]       |

## References

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