## **Supplementary Information**

## CoS<sub>2</sub> nanodots trapped within the graphitic structured N-doped carbon spheres with efficient performances for lithium storage

Huicong Xia,<sup>a</sup> Kexie Li,<sup>a</sup> Yingying Guo,<sup>a</sup> Junhui Guo,<sup>c</sup> Qun Xu,<sup>\*,a</sup> Jianan Zhang<sup>\*,a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>College of Materials Science and Engineering, Zhengzhou University, Zhengzhou 450001,

P. R. China.

<sup>b</sup>Key Laboratory of Advanced Energy Materials Chemistry (Ministry of Education), Nankai

University, Tianjin 30071, P. R. China.

<sup>c</sup>State Key Laboratory of Inorganic Synthesis and Preparation, Jilin University, Changchun,

130012, P. R. China.

\*Corresponding authors' Emails: <u>zjn@zzu.edu.cn</u> (J. Zhang) and <u>qunxu@zzu.edu.cn</u> (Q. Xu)

## Figures



Figure S1. a) SEM and b) TEM images of the Co/NCSs.



Figure S2. XRD patterns of a) NCSs, b) Co/NCSs.



**Figure S3.** Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherms and insert: pore size distribution; a) CoS<sub>2</sub>-in-wall-NCSs, b) NCSs, and c) Co/NCSs.



Figure S4. Survey XPS spectrum of CoS<sub>2</sub>-in-wall-NCSs.



**Figure S5.** Equivalent series circuit for CoS<sub>2</sub>-in-wall-NCSs samples as electrode materials for LIBs. Re: Electrolyte resistance, Rf: Resistance of surface film on the electrodes, Rct: Charge transfer impedance, Zw: Warburg impedance, Qdl1/Qdl2: Constant phase element.



Figure S6. TEM images of the CoS<sub>2</sub>-in-pore-NCSs.

Samples	S <sub>BET</sub> (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	Pore Diameter (nm)	Pore Volume (cc g <sup>-1</sup> )
CoS <sub>2</sub> -in-wall-NCSs	480.590	3.835	0.268
Co/NCSs	449.960	1.345	0.193
NCSs	299.021	1.347	0.100

**Table S1.** BET Specific Surface Area of the samples.

	CoS <sub>2</sub> -based	discharge	voltage	Capacity	Reference
_		capacity	range	Retention	
1	CoS <sub>2</sub> -in-wall-NCSs	1415.4 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 200 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	0.01-3.0 V	1080.6 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> (200 mA g <sup>-1</sup> , 500 cycles)	This work
2	CoS <sub>2</sub> /NCNTFs	1191 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 200 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	0.05-3.0V	1040 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> (200 mA g <sup>-1</sup> , 200 cycles)	Nano Res. doi: 10.1007/s12274-016-1394-1
3	CoS <sub>2</sub> NP/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> NSs	1150 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 100 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	0.01-3.0 V	626 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> (100 mA g <sup>-1</sup> , 150 cycles)	J. Mater. Chem. A, 2017, 5, 2861
4	CoS <sub>2</sub> nanobubble hollow prisms	910 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 200 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	0.01-3.0 V	864 mA h g <sup>-1</sup> (200 mA g <sup>-1</sup> , 50 cycles)	Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2016, 55,13422.
5	rGO/CoSx	1248 mA h g <sup>-1</sup> at 100 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	0.01-3.0V	670 mA h g <sup>-1</sup> (100 mA g <sup>-1</sup> , 100 cycles)	Chem. Eur. J. 2016, 22,1467.
6	Co <sub>9</sub> S <sub>8</sub> nanorods-coated carbon fiber	632 mA h g <sup>-1</sup> at 100 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	0.01-3.0V	515 mA h g <sup>-1</sup> (100 mA g <sup>-1</sup> , 60 cycles)	Chem. Mater. 2016, 28, 3897.
7	NC/CoS <sub>2</sub>	710 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 100 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	0.01-3.0V	560 mAhg <sup>-1</sup> (100 mA g <sup>-1</sup> , 50 cycles)	small 2015, 11, 2511.
8	the yolk–shell CoS2@NG	995 mA h g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.2C	0.01-3.0V	1099 mA h g <sup>-1</sup> (100 mA g <sup>-1</sup> , 150 cycles)	Chem. Eur. J. 2015, 21, 4359.
9	worm-like CoS <sub>2</sub>	1416 mA h g <sup>-1</sup> at 100 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	0.05-3.0V	883 mA h g <sup>-1</sup> (100 mA g <sup>-1</sup> , 100 cycles)	J. Mater. Chem. A, 2015, 3,10677.
10	hollow CoS2@C	800 mA h g <sup>-1</sup> at 500 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	0.01-3.0V	730 mA h g <sup>-1</sup> (500 mA g <sup>-1</sup> , 200 cycles)	J. Power Sources, 2015, 286, 159.

**Table S2.** Electrochemical performances of the previous reported  $CoS_2$ -basednanocomposites anodes.