## PdNi alloy decorated 3D hierarchically N, S co-doped macro-

## mesoporous carbon composites as efficient free-standing and binder-

## free catalysts for Li-O<sub>2</sub> battery

Xiangzhong Ren\*, Moujie Huang, Shan Luo, Yongliang Li\*, Libo Deng, Hongwei Mi, Lingna

Sun, Peixin Zhang

College of Chemistry and Environmental Engineering, Shenzhen University, Shenzhen,

Guangdong 518060, P.R. China

Corresponding author:

Xiangzhong Ren, Email: renxz@szu.edu.cn, Tel/Fax: +86-755-26558134

Yongliang Li, Email: liyli@szu.edu.cn, Tel/Fax: +86-755-26536627



**Figure S1.** (a) The Zeta Potential in aqueous solution of amino-modified  $SiO_2$  nanospheres, (b) FTIR spectra of normal and  $O_2$  plasma treated carbon paper.



Figure S2. The synthesis route of ANT.



**Figure S3.** (a) TEM and (b) HRTEM images; (c) selected area electron diffraction (SAED) pattern and (d) the particle size distribution of Pd-NSMmC/CP.



Figure S4. The enlarged XRD pattern of the (111) peak.



Figure S5. (a) XPS survey spectrum of Ni-NSMmC/CP; (b) Ni2P XPS spectrum.



Figure S6. The relationship between Z'and  $\omega^{-1/2}$  of  $O_2$  electrode.



**Figure S7.** (a) XRD patterns, (b) XPS spectra, (c) Raman spectra and (d) charge/discharge profiles of Pd<sub>x</sub>Ni<sub>y</sub>-NSMmC/CP-based composites.



**Figure S8.** Cycle performance of the PdNi-NSMmC/CP, Pd-NSMmC/CP and NSMmC electrodes at current density of 300mA g<sup>-1</sup> with limited capacity of (a) 500mAh g<sup>-1</sup> (b)1000mAh g<sup>-1</sup>.



Figure S9. Energy conversion efficiency changes with cycling for PdNi-NSMmC/CP.



Figure S10. (a) The initial discharge/charge profiles of Ni-NSMmC/CP cathode with the voltage range of 2.0-4.5 V at a current density of 300mAh g<sup>-1</sup>. (b) CV curve of Ni-NSMmC/CP at a scan rate of 0.5 mV s<sup>-1</sup>. Cycling performance of Ni-NSMmC/CP cathode at a current density of 300 mA g<sup>-1</sup> with a limited capacity of (c) 500 mAh g<sup>-1</sup> and (d) 1000 mAh g<sup>-1</sup>.

| Pd          | Ni   |  |  |  |
|-------------|--|--|--|--|
| (mg/sample) | (mg/sample)                                |  |  |  |
| 0.0542      | 0.0178                                     |  |  |  |
| 0.0651      | /  |  |  |  |
| /           | /  |  |  |  |
|             | Pd<br>(mg/sample)<br>0.0542<br>0.0651<br>/ |  |  |  |

 Table S1. Contents of Pd and Ni determined by ICP-AES.

| those of representative state-of-the-art cathodes reported in literature. |                         |                      |   |   |                        |              |  |  |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------|---|---|------------------------|--------------|--|--|
| Materials   | Current<br>density      | Overpotential<br>(V) | Limited<br>capacity/cycles<br>(mAh g <sup>-1</sup> )/ times | 1 <sup>st</sup> discharge<br>capacity<br>(mAh g <sup>-1</sup> ) | Products<br>Morphology | Ref.         |  |  |
| Pd/Co3O4 Nanoclusters   | 0.1 mA cm <sup>-2</sup> | 1.17                 | 300 /70   | ~1840   | nanoparticles          | 1            |  |  |
| Pd NDs -GNPs  | 200mA g <sup>-1</sup>   | 0.89                 | 500/30  | ~3000   | nanosheet-like         | 2            |  |  |
| PtAu/HMCMS  | 100mA g <sup>-1</sup>   | 1.28                 | 1000/75   | ~6000   | film-like              | 3            |  |  |
| Pd/PNCNF  | 100mA g <sup>-1</sup>   | 1.47                 | 1000/50   | ~10080  | Sheet-like             | 4            |  |  |
| Ru/GA   | 0.1mA cm <sup>-2</sup>  | 1.25                 | 500/50  | ~12000  | toroidal               | 5            |  |  |
| CBC/Ru Nanofibers   | 200 mA g <sup>-1</sup>  | 1.26                 | 500/27  | ~ 2750  | -                      | 6            |  |  |
| Ru/hCNCs  | 0.08mA cm <sup>-2</sup> | 1.15                 | 500/79  | ~8000   | toroid-like            | 7            |  |  |
| Au-MnO2   | 100mA g <sup>-1</sup>   | 1.36                 | 1000/60   | ~5760   | leaf-like              | 8            |  |  |
| Au@CST  | 400mA g <sup>-1</sup>   | 1.79                 | 500/112   | ~5000   | thin-layered           | 9            |  |  |
| Pt-HGNs   | 100mA g <sup>-1</sup>   | -                    | 1000/55   | ~5600   | toroid shape           | 10           |  |  |
| Pd/Co3O4 nanosheets   | 100mA g <sup>-1</sup>   | 1.46                 | 300/72  | ~1500   | nanoparticles          | 11           |  |  |
| wheat-like<br>Ag–Mn3O4  | 0.02mA cm <sup>-2</sup> | 0.8                  | 1000/50   | ~5000   | _                      | 12           |  |  |
| PdNi-NSMmC/CP   | 300mA g <sup>-1</sup>   | 1.05                 | 500/120,<br>1000/70   | ~9960   | Cage-like              | This<br>work |  |  |

Table S2. Comparison of Li-O $_2$  battery properties of PdNi-NSMmC/CP cathode with

## Reference

- L. Leng, X. Zeng, H. Song, T. Shu, H. Wang and S. Liao, *Journal of Materials Chemistry A*, 2015, 3, 15626-15632.
- S. J. Ye, D. Y. Kim, D. W. Kim, O. O. Park and Y. Kang, *Journal of Materials Chemistry A*, 2016, 4, 578-586.
- 3. M. Lu, D. Chen, C. Xu, Y. Zhan and J. Y. Lee, *Nanoscale*, 2015, **7**, 12906–12912.
- J. Wang, L. Liu, S. Chou, H. Liu and J. Wang, *Journal of Materials Chemistry A*, 2017, 5, 1462-1471.
- J. Jiang, P. He, S. Tong, M. Zheng, Z. Lin, X. Zhang, Y. Shi and H. Zhou, *NPG Asia Materials*, 2016, 8, e239-e239.
- S. Tong, M. Zheng, Y. Lu, Z. Lin, X. Zhang, P. He and H. Zhou, *Chemical communications*, 2015, 51, 7302-7304.
- L. Wang, Z. Lyu, L. Gong, J. Zhang, Q. Wu, X. Wang, F. Huo, W. Huang, Z. Hu and W. Chen, *ChemNanoMat*, 2017, 3, 415-419.
- M. Lu, J. Qu, Q. Yao, C. Xu, Y. Zhan, J. Xie and J. Y. Lee, ACS applied materials & interfaces, 2015, 7, 5488-5496.
- 9. F. Tu, J. Hu, J. Xie, G. Cao, S. Zhang, S. A. Yang, X. Zhao and H. Y. Yang, Advanced Functional Materials, 2016, 26, 7725-7732.
- F. Wu, Y. Xing, X. Zeng, Y. Yuan, X. Zhang, R. Shahbazian-Yassar, J. Wen, D. J. Miller, L. Li, R. Chen, J. Lu and K. Amine, *Advanced Functional Materials*, 2016, 26, 7626-7633.
- Y. Ren, S. Zhang, H. Li, X. Wei and Y. Xing, *Applied Surface Science*, 2017, 420, 222-232.
- 12. J. Qu, M. Lu, C. Xu, B. Ding, Y. Zhan, J. Yang and J. Y. Lee, *Nanoscale*, 2014, **6**, 12324-12327.