

## Supporting Information

# Hierarchical MoS<sub>2</sub>-carbon porous nanorods towards atomic interfacial engineering for high-performance lithium storage

Zhenyou Li<sup>\*1,2,7</sup>, Alexander Ottmann<sup>1</sup>, Qing Sun<sup>1,3</sup>, Anne K. Kast<sup>6</sup>, Kai Wang<sup>8</sup>, Ting Zhang<sup>2</sup>, Hans-Peter Meyer<sup>5</sup>, Claudia Backes<sup>4</sup>, Christian Kübel<sup>7,8,9</sup>, Rasmus R. Schröder<sup>3,6</sup>, Junhui Xiang<sup>2</sup>, Yana Vaynzof<sup>1,3</sup>,  
Rüdiger Klingeler<sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Kirchhoff Institute of Physics, Heidelberg University, INF 227, 69120 Heidelberg, Germany

<sup>2</sup>College of Materials Science and Opto-Electronic Technology, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Yuquan Road 19A, Beijing, 100049 China.

<sup>3</sup>Centre for Advanced Materials (CAM), Heidelberg University, INF 225, 69120 Heidelberg, Germany

<sup>4</sup>Institute of Physical Chemistry, Heidelberg University, INF 253, 69120 Heidelberg, Germany

<sup>5</sup>Institute of Earth Sciences, Heidelberg University, INF 236, D-69120 Heidelberg, Germany

<sup>6</sup>BioQuant, Cryo Electron Microscopy, Heidelberg University, INF 267, 69120 Heidelberg, Germany

<sup>7</sup>Helmholtz Institute Ulm (HIU), Helmholtzstraße 11, D-89081 Ulm, Germany

<sup>8</sup>Institute of Nanotechnology, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Hermann-von-Helmholtz-Platz 1, D-76344 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen, Germany

<sup>9</sup>Karlsruhe Nano Micro Facility (KNMF), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Hermann-von-Helmholtz-Platz 1, D-76344 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen, Germany

*Author Information*

*Corresponding Authors*

\*Email: [zhenyou.li@kit.edu](mailto:zhenyou.li@kit.edu)

## Author Contributions

The manuscript was written through contributions of all authors. All authors have given approval to the final version of the manuscript.

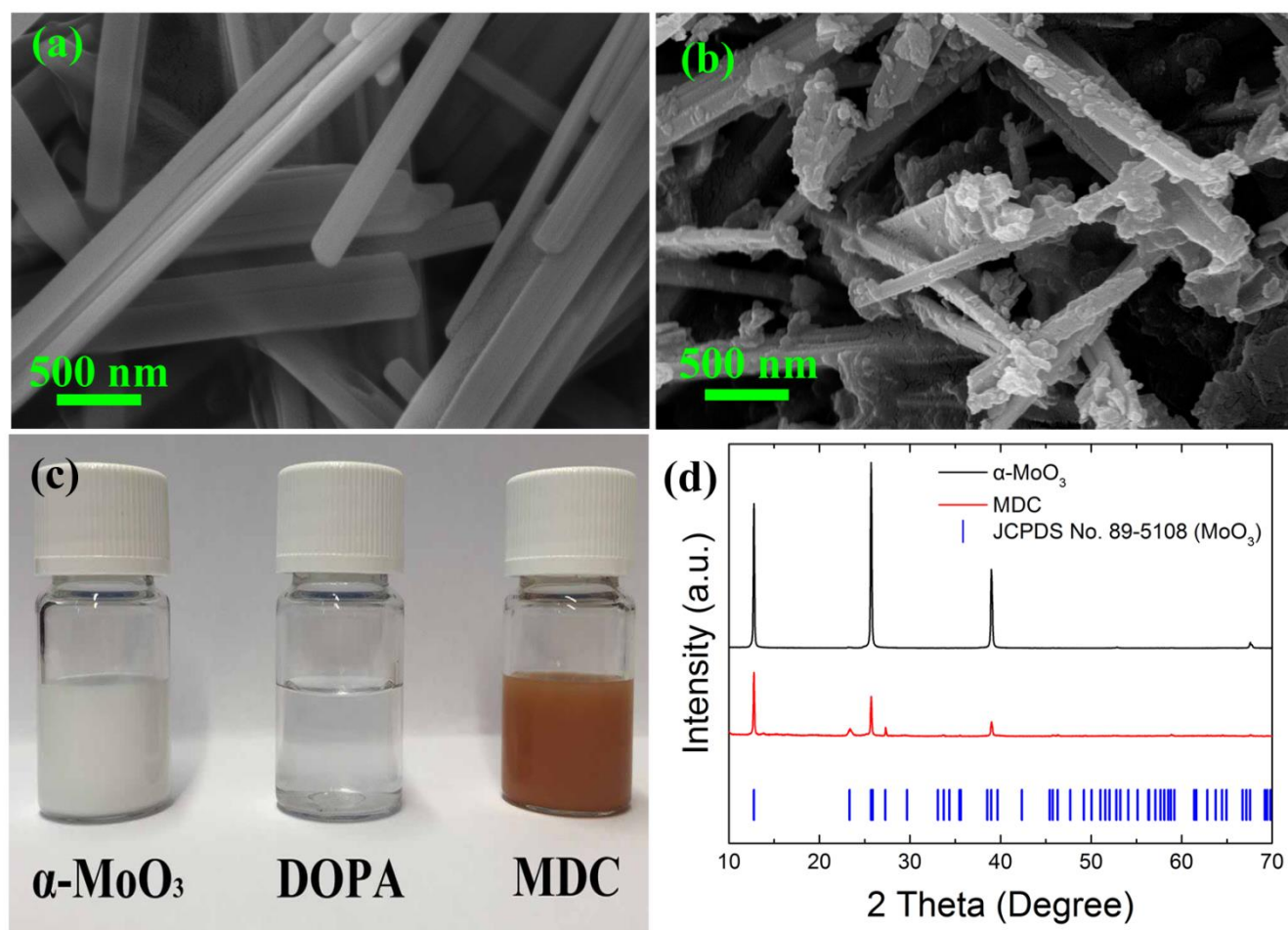


Fig. S1: SEM images of  $\alpha\text{-MoO}_3$  nanorods (a) and MDC (b); photo image of  $\alpha\text{-MoO}_3$  nanorods, DOPA and MDC water solution (c); and XRD pattern of synthesized  $\alpha\text{-MoO}_3$  nanorods, MDC, and standard pattern of  $\alpha\text{-MoO}_3$  according to JCPDS No. 89-5108 (d).

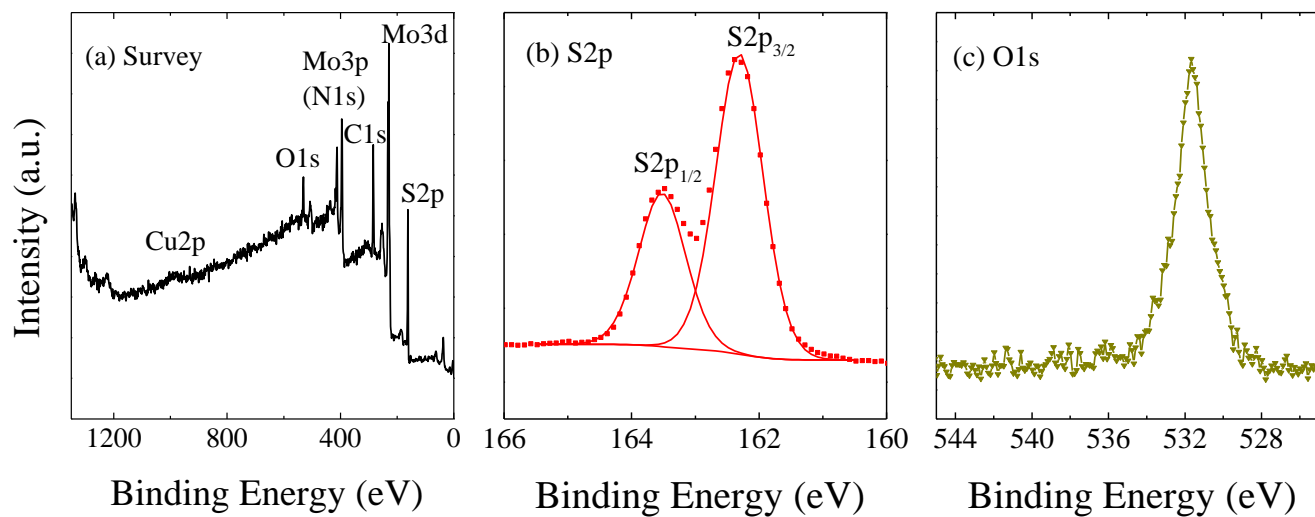


Fig. S2: XPS measurements of the MoS<sub>2</sub>/NC-PNR superstructure: (a) survey scan, (b)~(c) high resolution scans of S2p and O1s.

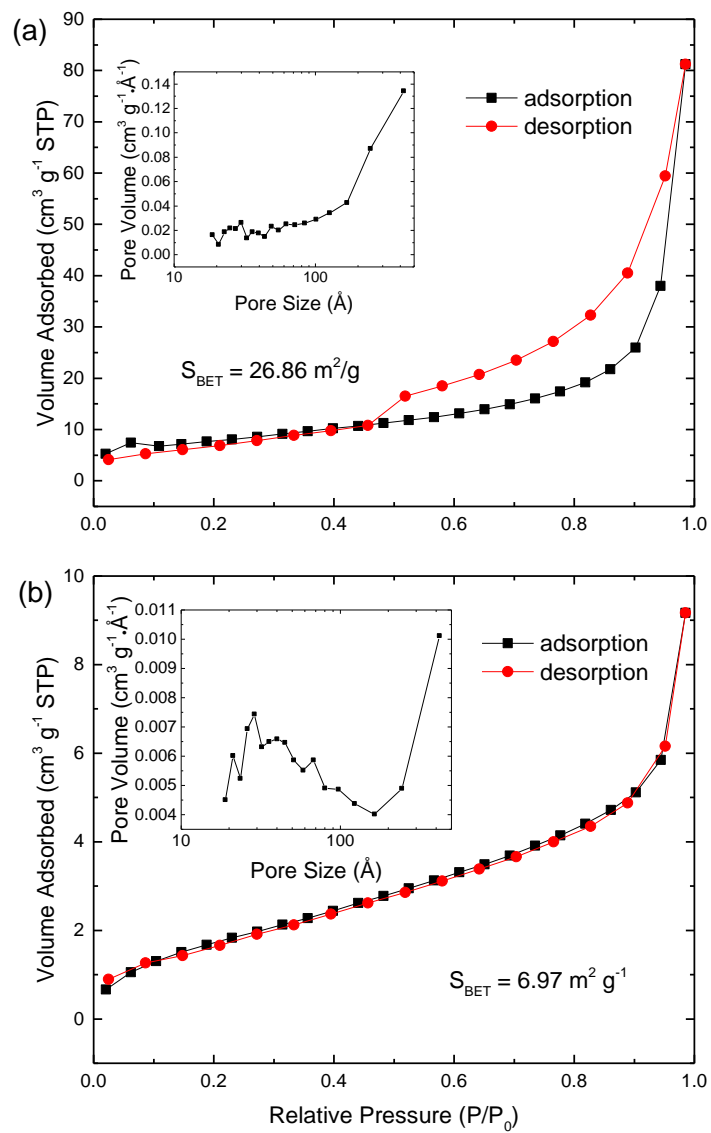
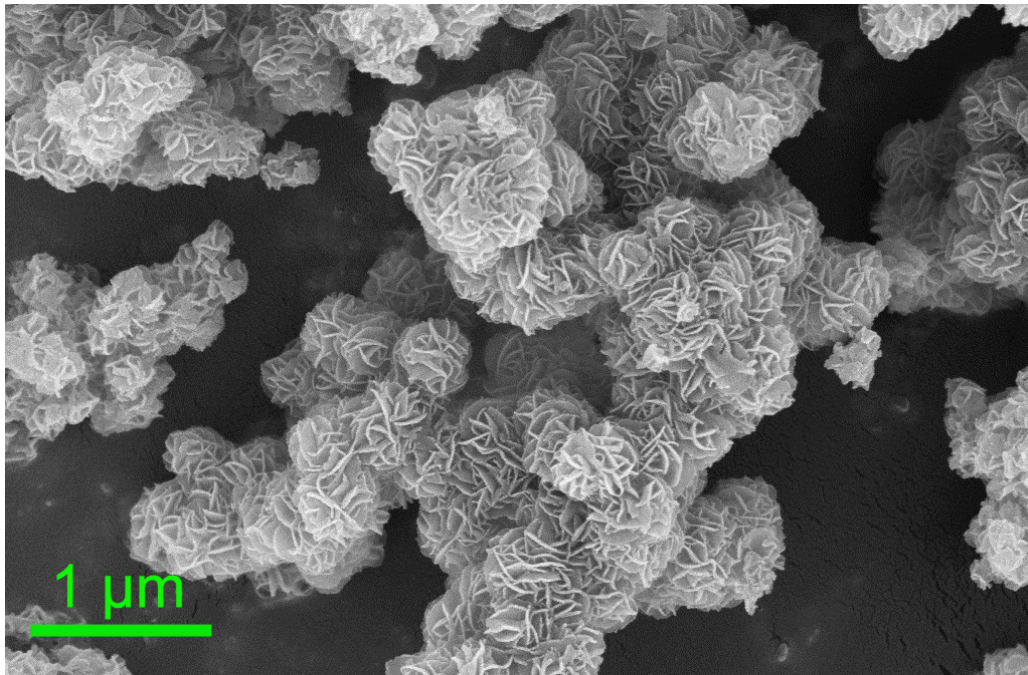
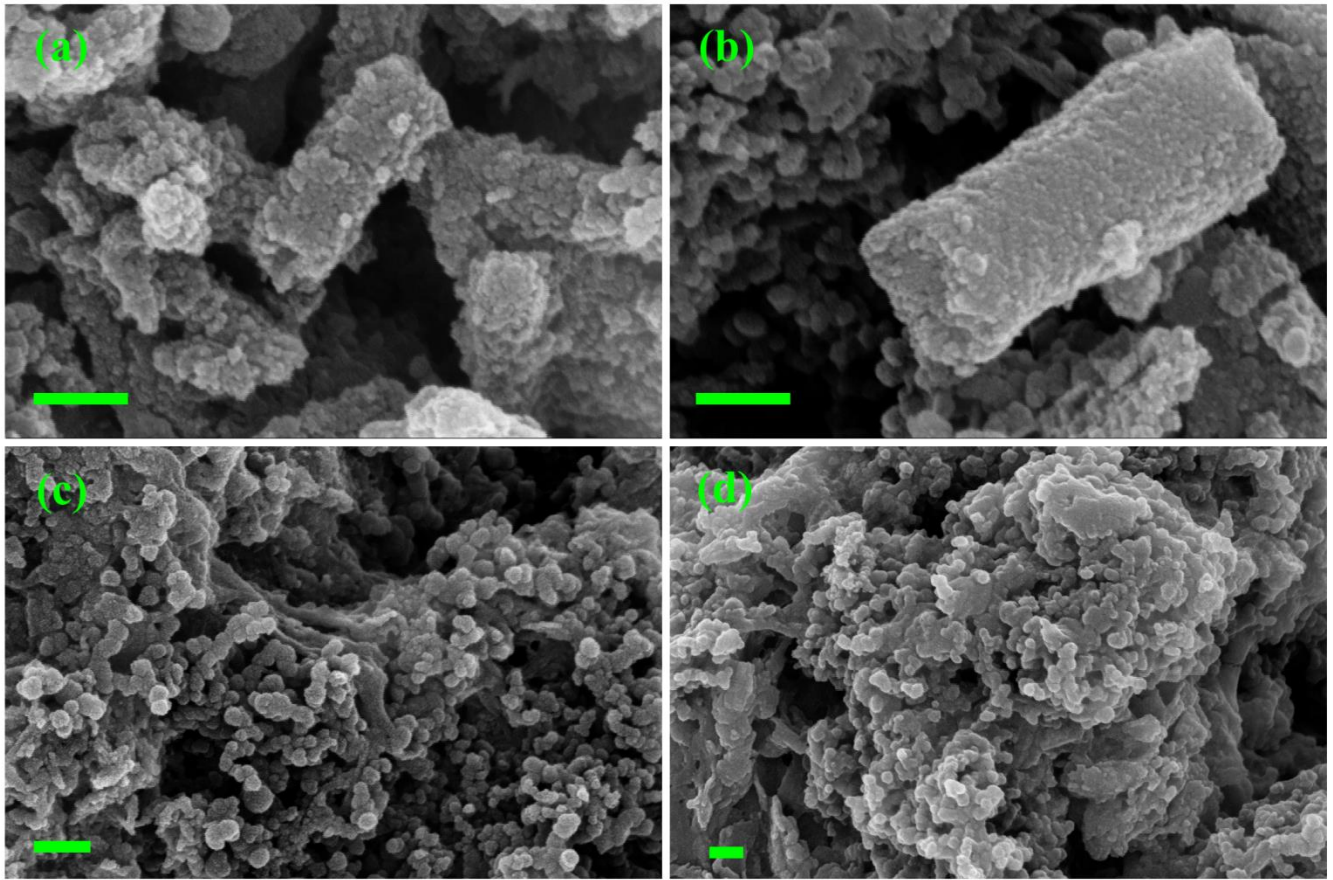


Fig. S3:  $N_2$  adsorption-desorption isotherms of (a)  $MoS_2/NC-PNR$  and (b)  $S-MoS_2$ . Insets are the pore distribution.



*Fig. S4: Morphology of S-MoS<sub>2</sub> synthesized by the same procedure but without adding DOPA.*



*Fig. S5: SEM images of different samples after 150 cycles at 0.5 C: a~b for MoS<sub>2</sub>/NC-PNR superstructure; c~d for S-MoS<sub>2</sub>. The scale bar is 200 nm.*

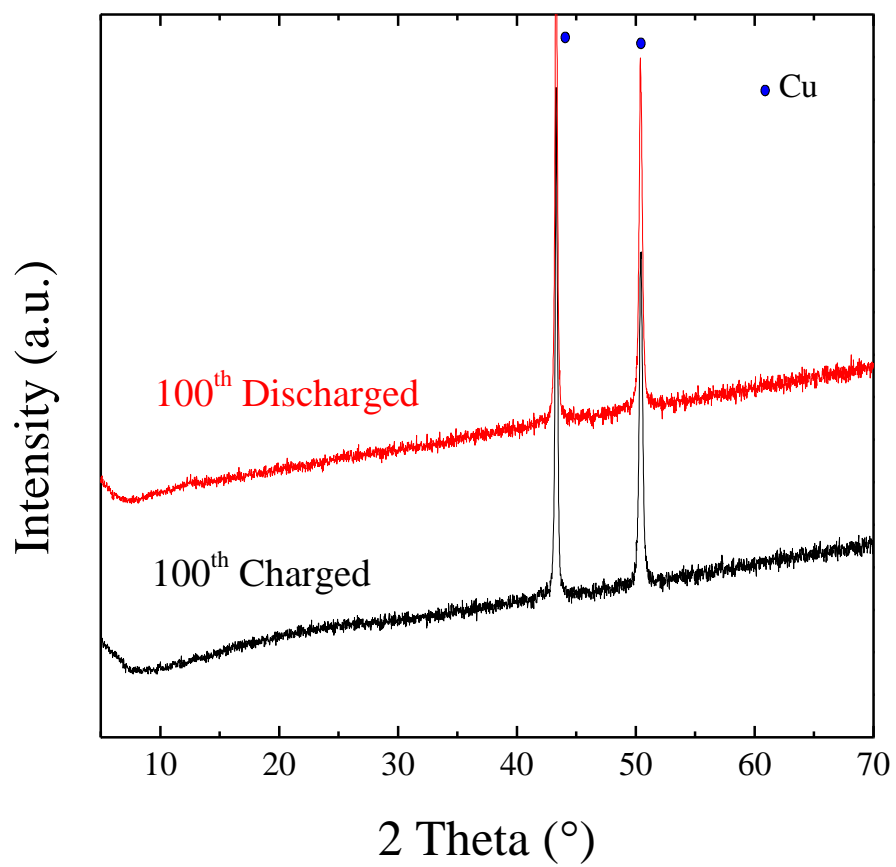


Fig. S6: XRD pattern of the MoS<sub>2</sub>/NC-PNR electrode at the 100<sup>th</sup> discharged and 100<sup>th</sup> charged states, respectively.

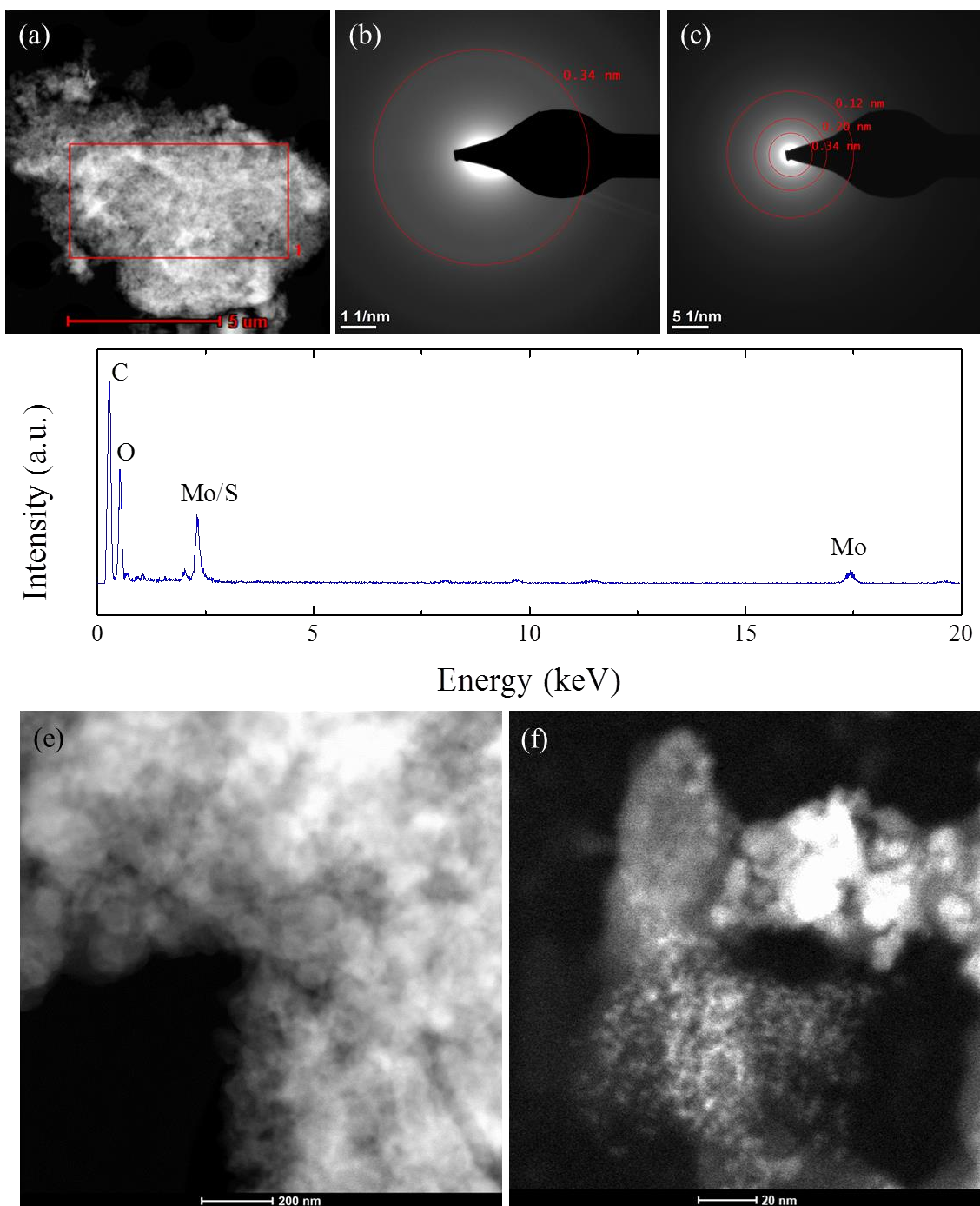


Fig. S7 S-/TEM study of the  $\text{MoS}_2/\text{NC-PNR}$  electrode at the 100<sup>th</sup> charged state: (a) HAADF-STEM image; (b)~(c): SAED patterns of (a) with different camera length, the red rings label the reflections of carbon; (d) EDX spectrum of the red square area in (a); (e)~(f) HAADF-STEM images with higher magnification.

TEM studies for the cycled electrode was performed using an aberration (image) corrected FEI Titan 80-300 microscope operated at 300 kV, equipped with a Gatan UltraScan CCD camera. The sample was prepared by dispersing the powder in dimethoxyethane, placing a drop on copper grids (Quantifoil Inc.) and taking of the residual suspension after natural drying in the glovebox.



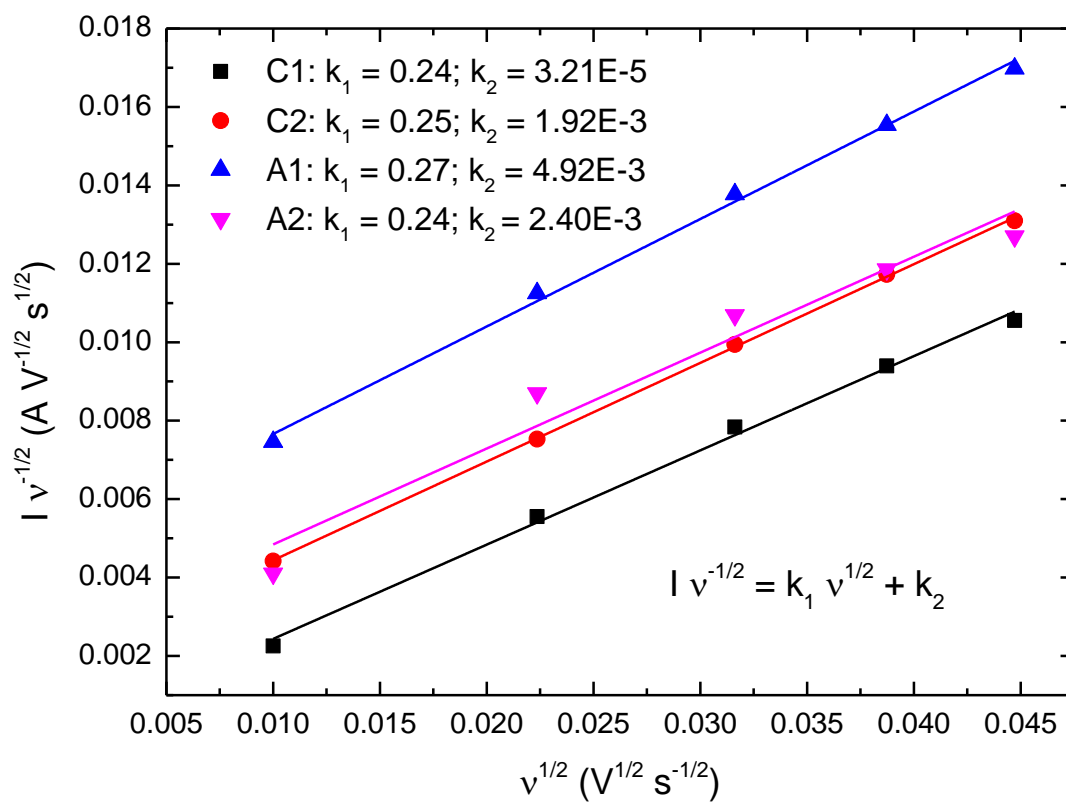


Fig. S8:  $I v^{-1/2}$  versus  $v^{1/2}$  plot of the  $\text{MoS}_2/\text{NC-PNR}$  electrode.

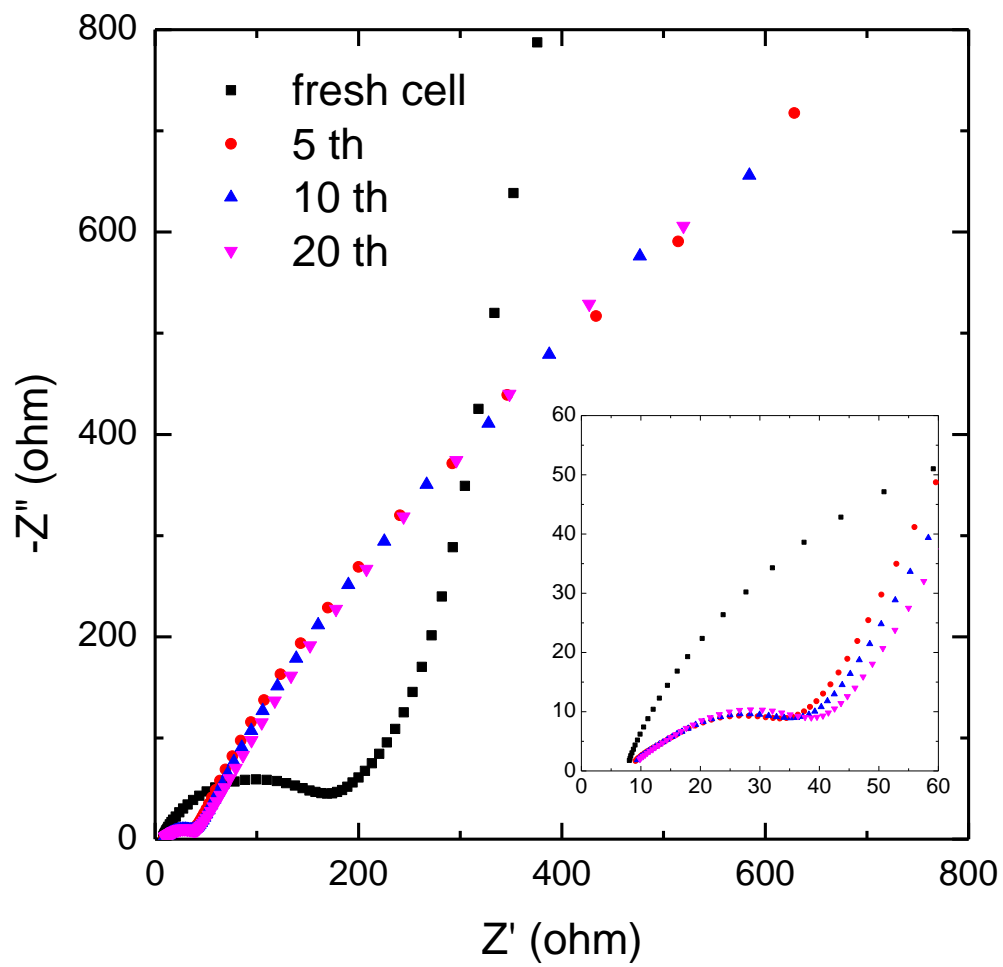
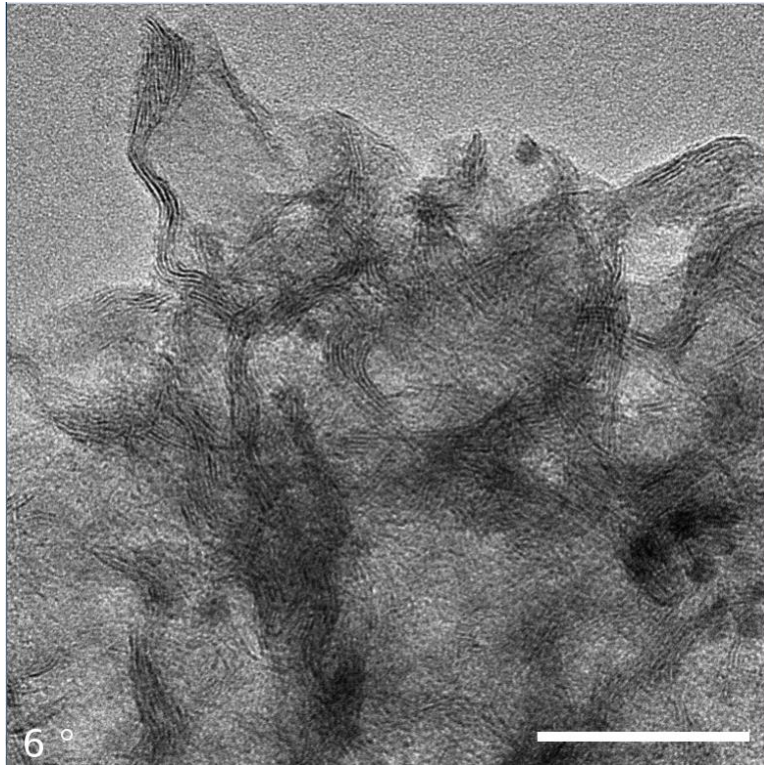


Fig. S9: Impedance measurements of the MoS<sub>2</sub>/NC-PNR electrode before and after specific cycles at 0.5 C.



*Movie S1: HR-TEM tilt-series movie of the MoS<sub>2</sub>/NC-PNR superstructure in the range of -68° to + 64° with 1° steps. The scale bar is 50 nm.*

MoS <sub>2</sub> hierarchical structure	MoS <sub>2</sub> content (%)	Cycling stability (cycles)	Rate capability		Ref.
			Specific capacity (mA h g <sup>-1</sup> )	Current density (A g <sup>-1</sup> )	
MoS <sub>2</sub> /NC-PNR	74.2	700	925	0.067	Present work
			636	0.67	
			443	6.7	
MoS <sub>2</sub> HNS	-	100	944	0.1	1
			762	1	
			576	5	
CNTs@MoS <sub>2</sub> @C	79.8	500	960	0.1	2
			820	1	
			758	2	
NDG/MoS <sub>2</sub> /NDG	91.7	600	750	0.1	3
			589	1	
			416	4	
sS-MoS <sub>2</sub> @C	87.2	100	980	0.1	4
			~830	1	
			805	5	
MHPC	62.3	300	948	0.1	5
			725	1	
			496	10	
HMCM	71	300	915	0.1	6
			648	1	
			481	4	
mesoporous-carbon/MoS <sub>2</sub>	45	300	1400	0.1	7
			740	1	
			400	10	
MoS <sub>2</sub> @C nanotubes	82	300	1327	0.067	8
			993	0.67	

			850	3.35	
MoS <sub>2</sub> /CMK-3	70	150	893	0.1	9
			713	1	
			391	8	

Tab. S1: Battery performance comparison between this work and recently published MoS<sub>2</sub>-based hierarchical structures.

## Reference

1. Y. Wang, L. Yu and X. W. Lou, *Angew. Chem.-Int. Edit.*, 2016, **55**, 7423-7426.
2. Z. Zhang, H. Zhao, Y. Teng, X. Chang, Q. Xia, Z. Li, J. Fang, Z. Du and K. Świerczek, *Advanced Energy Materials*, 2018, **8**, 1700174.
3. B. Chen, Y. Meng, F. He, E. Liu, C. Shi, C. He, L. Ma, Q. Li, J. Li and N. Zhao, *Nano Energy*, 2017, **41**, 154-163.
4. B. Guo, K. Yu, H. Song, H. Li, Y. Tan, H. Fu, C. Li, X. Lei and Z. Zhu, *Nanoscale*, 2016, **8**, 420-430.
5. S.-K. Park, J. Lee, S. Bong, B. Jang, K.-d. Seong and Y. Piao, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces*, 2016, **8**, 19456-19465.
6. Z. Bai, Y. Zhang, Y. Zhang, C. Guo and B. Tang, *Chemistry – A European Journal*, 2015, **21**, 18187-18191.
7. Y. Fang, Y. Lv, F. Gong, A. A. Elzatahry, G. Zheng and D. Zhao, *Adv. Mater.*, 2016, **28**, 9385-9390.
8. X. Zhang, X. Li, J. Liang, Y. Zhu and Y. Qian, *Small*, 2016, **12**, 2484-2491.
9. X. Xu, Z. Fan, X. Yu, S. Ding, D. Yu and X. W. D. Lou, *Advanced Energy Materials*, 2014, **4**, 1400902.