

## Supporting Information

### **Cu<sub>2</sub>CoGeS<sub>4</sub> nanocrystals for high performance aqueous polysulfide/iodide redox flow batteries: enhanced selectively to the electrocatalytic conversion of polysulfides**

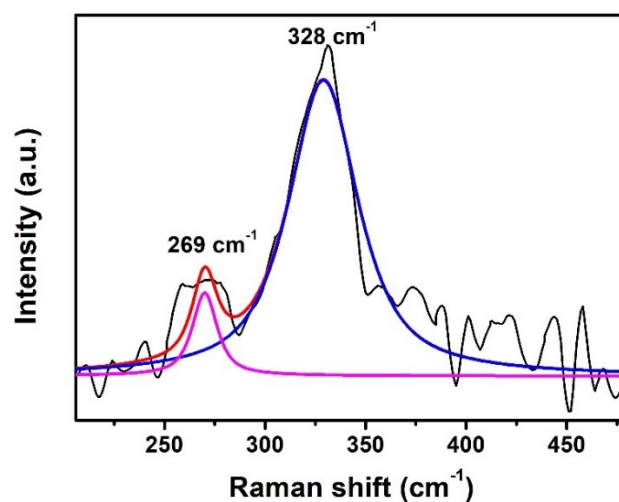
Ye Zhu <sup>a,b</sup>, Kai He <sup>b</sup>, Tsegaye Tadesse Tsega <sup>b</sup>, Nazakat Ali <sup>b</sup>, Jiantao Zai <sup>b,\*</sup>,  
Shoushuang Huang <sup>a,\*</sup>, Xuefeng Qian <sup>b</sup> and Zhiwen Chen <sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> School of Environmental and Chemical Engineering, Shanghai University, Shanghai 200444, P. R. China

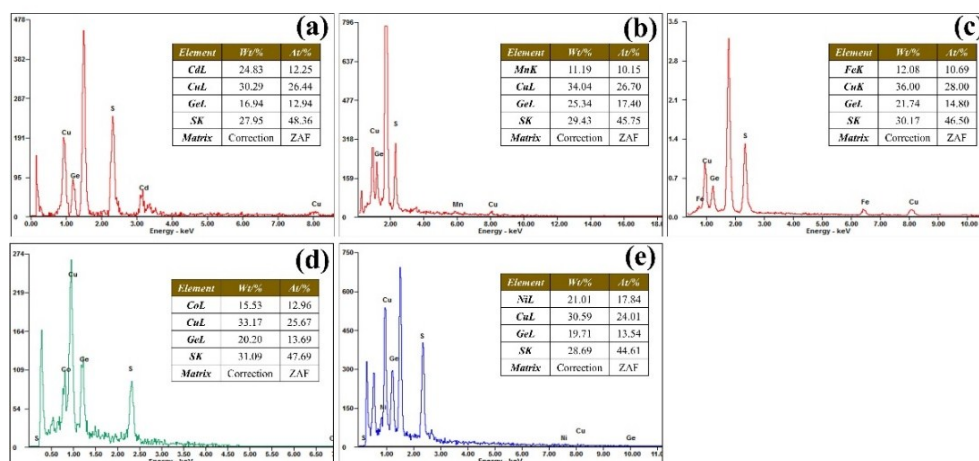
<sup>b</sup> Shanghai Electrochemical Energy Devices Research Center, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering and State Key, Laboratory of Metal Matrix Composites, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai 200240, P. R. China

\* Correspondence to: [zaijiantao@sjtu.edu.cn](mailto:zaijiantao@sjtu.edu.cn); [sshuang@shu.edu.cn](mailto:sshuang@shu.edu.cn);

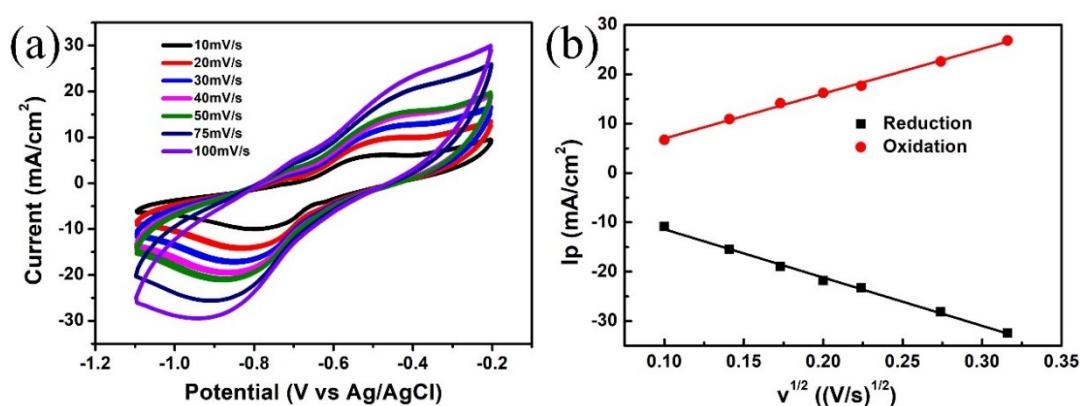
[zwchen@shu.edu.cn](mailto:zwchen@shu.edu.cn)



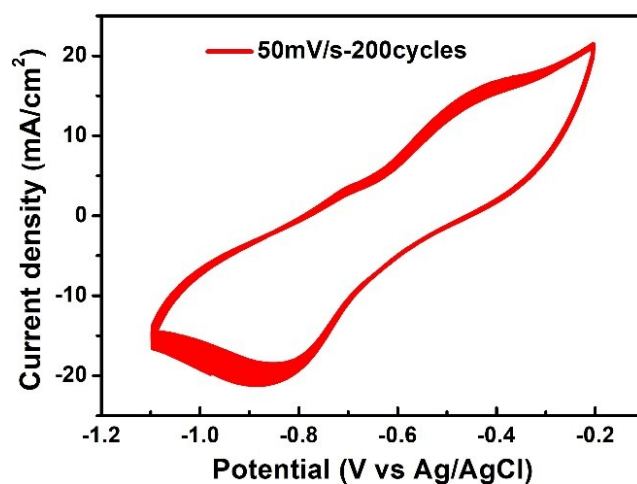
**Figure S1.** The Raman spectra of the as-synthesized  $\text{Cu}_2\text{CoGeS}_4$  nanocrystals.



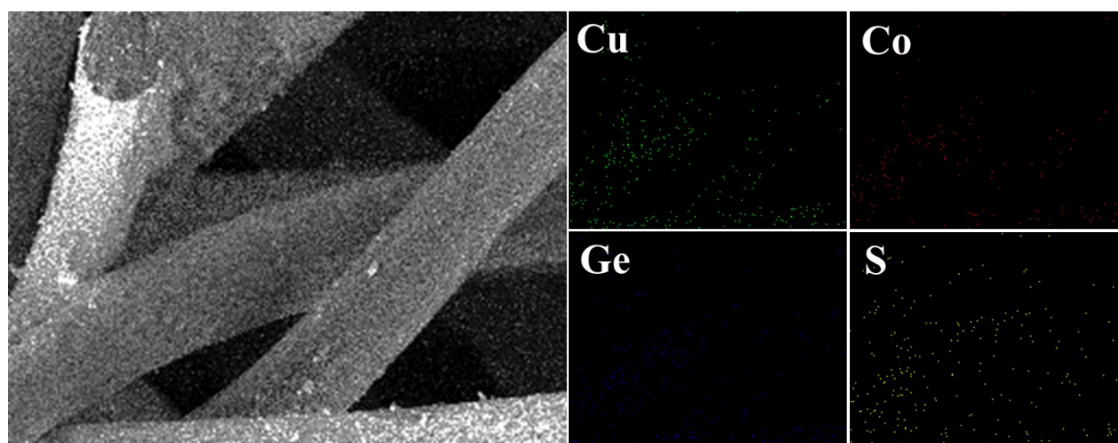
**Figure S2.** EDS spectrum of the as-prepared  $\text{Cu}_2\text{XGeS}_4$  ( $\text{X}=\text{Fe}, \text{Co}, \text{Ni}, \text{Cd}, \text{Mn}$ ) nanocrystals.



**Figure S3.** (a) The CVs of the negative electrolyte sweeping at different scan rates from  $10 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$  to  $100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ ; (b) The linear relationship between the peak current density with the square root of the scan rates.



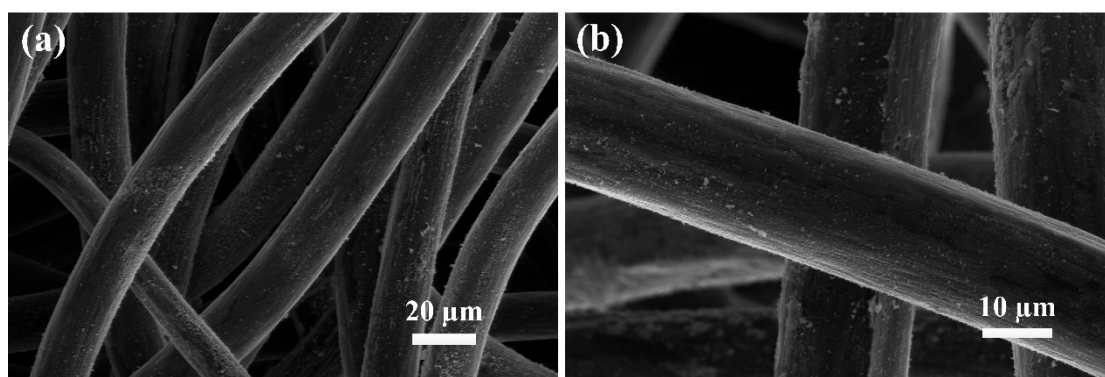
**Figure S4.** 200 consecutive cycles of the negative electrolyte with CP-Cu<sub>2</sub>CoGeS<sub>4</sub> work electrode at a scan rate of 50 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.



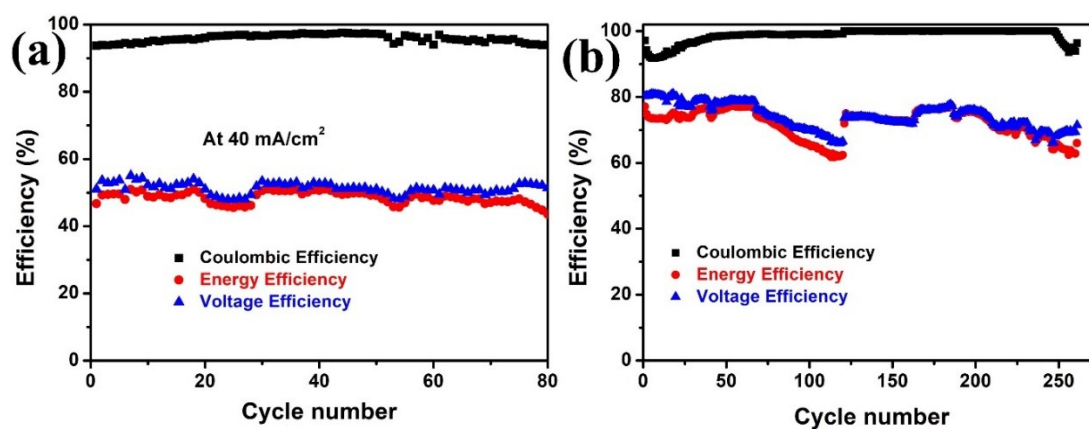
**Figure S5.** Elemental mappings spectrum of the as-prepared GF-Cu<sub>2</sub>CoGeS<sub>4</sub> composite electrode.

**Table S1** Summary of simulation results from EIS spectra of different electrodes.

| Electrode                             | $R_s$ ( $\Omega$ cm <sup>2</sup> ) | $R_{ct1}$ ( $\Omega$ cm <sup>2</sup> ) | $R_{ct2}$ ( $\Omega$ cm <sup>2</sup> ) |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| GF                                    | 20.93                              | 2.61                                   | 19.43                                  |
| GF-Cu <sub>2</sub> CoGeS <sub>4</sub> | 7.36                               | 0.37                                   | 1.82                                   |
| GF-Cu <sub>2</sub> NiGeS <sub>4</sub> | 8.20                               | 0.98                                   | 4.32                                   |
| GF-Cu <sub>2</sub> CdGeS <sub>4</sub> | 9.54                               | 1.24                                   | 27.06                                  |
| GF-Cu <sub>2</sub> FeGeS <sub>4</sub> | 9.42                               | 3.08                                   | 32.57                                  |
| GF-Cu <sub>2</sub> MnGeS <sub>4</sub> | 25.54                              | 3.63                                   | 5.14                                   |



**Figure S6.** Scanning electron microscope (SEM) showing the morphologies of GF-Cu<sub>2</sub>CoGeS<sub>4</sub> composite electrode after 50 cycles at 20 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> with the 50% SOC; (a) at low magnification; (b) at high magnification.



**Figure S7.** The cycling performance of the flow battery for the GF-Cu<sub>2</sub>CoGeS<sub>4</sub> composite electrode; (a) at 40 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> with the 50% SOC; (b) at 20 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> with the 10% SOC.