

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

# A Silver Wire Aerogel Promotes Hydrogen Peroxide Reduction for Fuel Cells and Electrochemical Sensors

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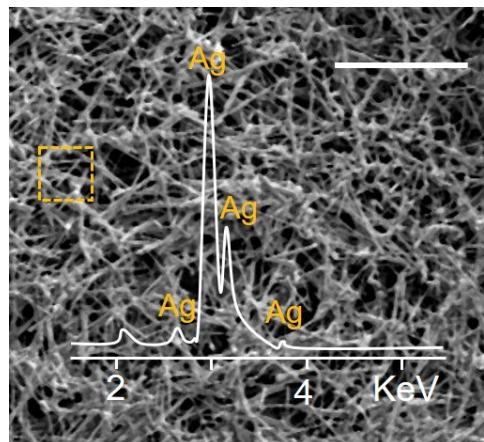
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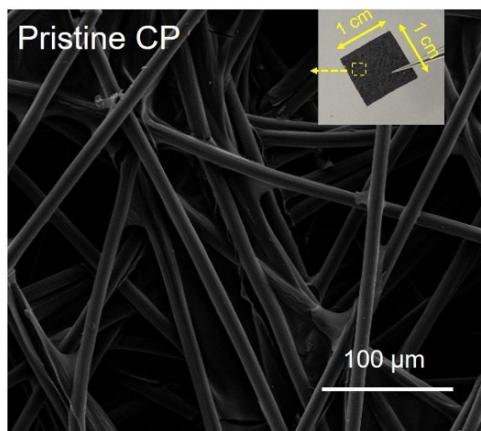
E-mail: tliu23@vt.edu (T. Liu)

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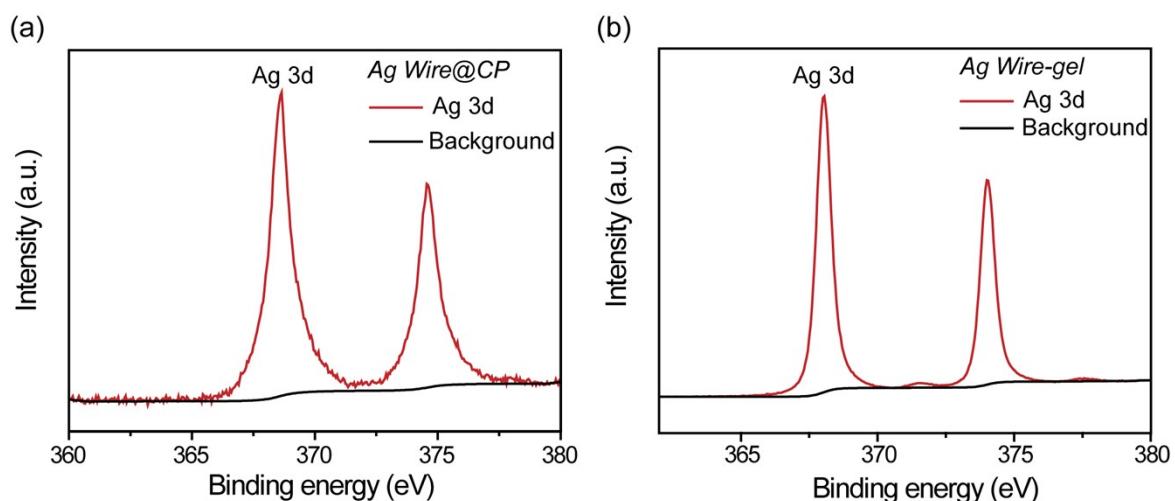
## Supplementary Figures



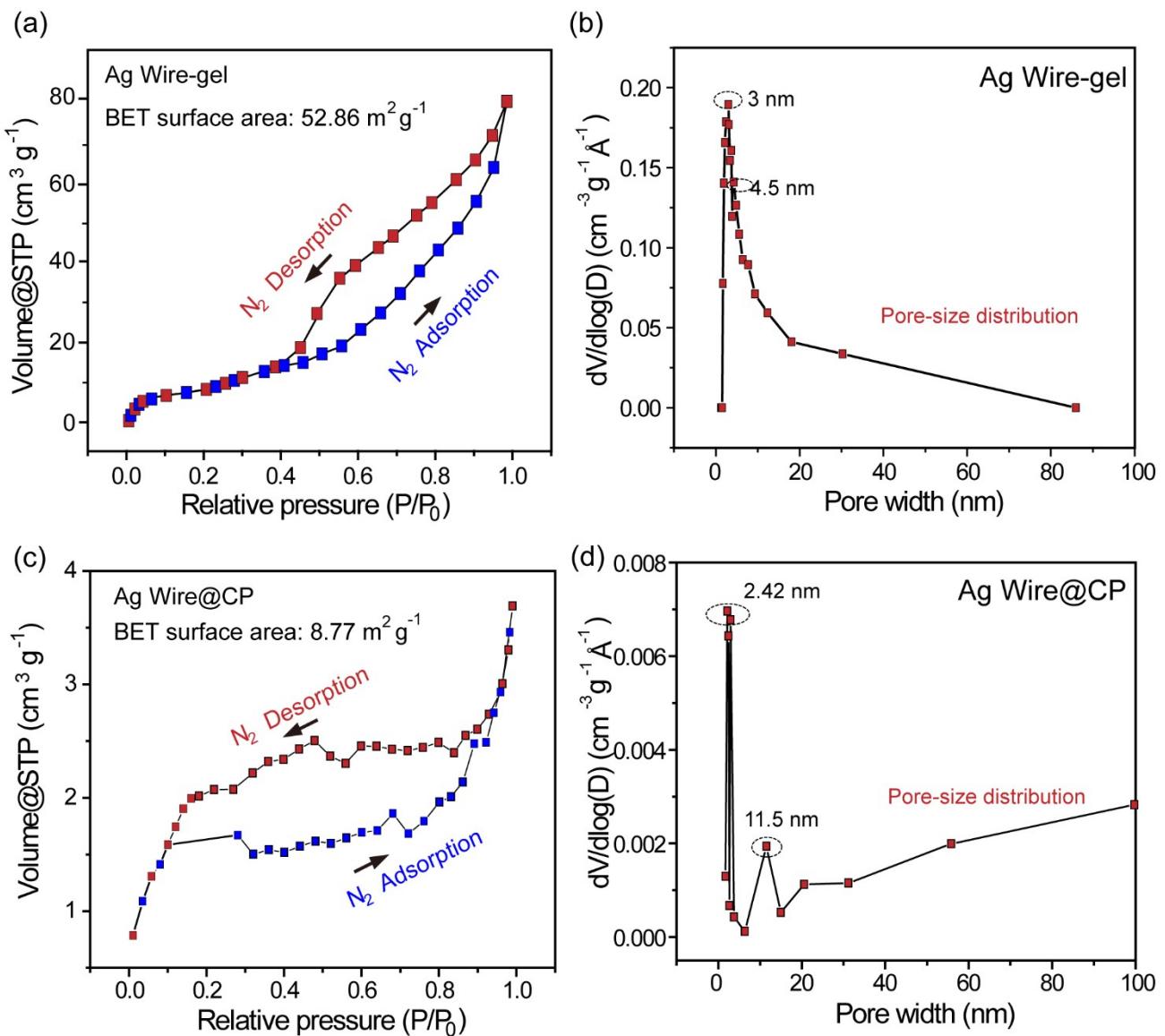
**Fig. S1** EDS spectrum of Ag Wire-gel taken from the area highlighted by the dashed box. Scale bar: 30  $\mu\text{m}$ .



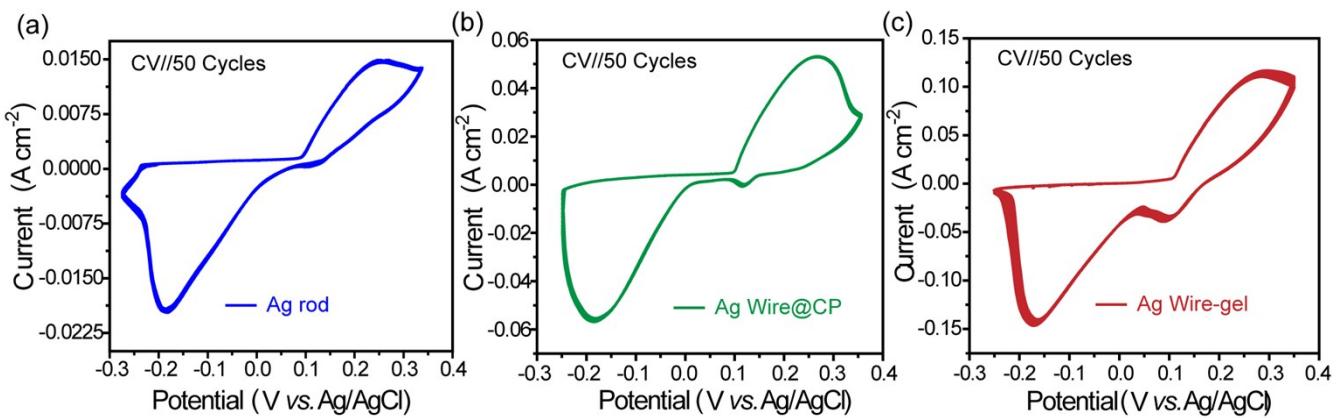
**Fig. S2** SEM image of pristine carbon fiber paper (CP). Inset: A photograph showing the size of a piece of the pristine CP.



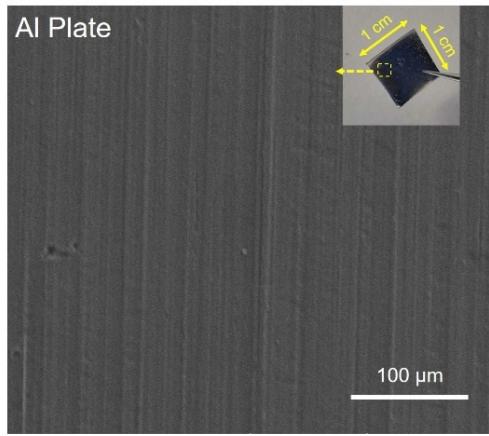
**Fig. S3** Ag 3d XPS spectra of (a) Ag Wire@CP and (b) Ag Wire-gel.



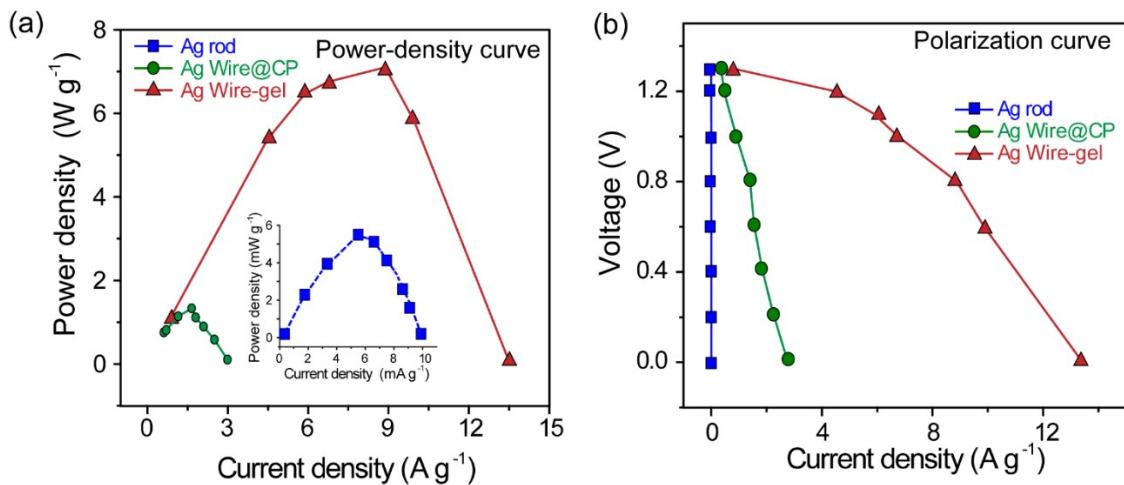
**Fig. S4** (a and c)  $\text{N}_2$  adsorption (blue) - desorption (red) isotherms at 77 K and (c and d) pore size distributions of Ag Wire-gel (a, b) and Ag Wire@CP (c, d).



**Fig. S5** Cyclic voltammograms of (a) Ag rod, (b) Ag Wire@CP, and (c) Ag Wire-gel for 50 cycles.



**Fig. S6** SEM image of Al plate, the fuel cell anode. Inset: Photograph showing the size of a Al-plate anode.



**Fig. S7** (a) Power-densities and (b) polarization curves of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ -fed fuel cells equipped with Ag rod, Ag Wire@CP, and Ag Wire-gel cathodes. The power densities and current densities were normalized to the Ag mass.

## Supplementary Tables

**Table S1.** Mass loadings of CP, Ag rod, Ag Wire@CP and Ag Wire-gel.

	CP	Ag rod (diameter = 0.04 cm)	Ag Wire@CP	Ag Wire-gel
Mass loading (mg cm <sup>-2</sup> )	8	105.3	12 (4 for Ag wires)	4

**Table S2.** Elementary composition of Ag Wire-gel determined by EDS.

Element	Intensity (c s-1)	Content (wt.%)
C	11.31	1.25
Mg	2.02	0.18
Ag	479.52	98.57

**Table S3.** Parameters and performances of selected  $\mu\text{L}$ -scale fuel cells.

Anodic Catalyst	Cathodic Catalyst	Electrolyte	$I_{\max}$ (A m <sup>-2</sup> )*	$P_{\max}$ (W m <sup>-2</sup> )*	Ref.
Aluminum	Ag Wire-gel	<i>Anolyte &amp; Catholyte: 0.1 M H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> &amp; 1 M NaOH</i>	<i>634.7±26.6</i>	<i>299.3±33.7</i>	This work
Silver	Prussian Blue	<i>Anolyte &amp; Catholyte: 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> &amp; 0.1 M HCl</i>	57 <sup>a</sup>	8 <sup>b</sup>	[S1]
Nickel	Prussian Blue	<i>Anolyte &amp; Catholyte: 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> &amp; 0.1 M HCl</i>	101 <sup>a</sup>	15.5 <sup>b</sup>	[S1]
Ni/carbon Nanotube Sponge	Pt/C	<i>Anolyte: 3 M Urea; Catholyte: O<sub>2</sub></i>	230 <sup>b</sup>	39 <sup>b</sup>	[S2]
Pt-Ru/C	Pt <sub>x</sub> Se <sub>y</sub> /C (x:y=5:1)	<i>Anolyte: 5 M CH<sub>3</sub>OH Catholyte: O<sub>2</sub></i>	409 <sup>a</sup>	30 <sup>a</sup>	[S3]
Aluminum	Prussian Blue	<i>Anolyte &amp; Catholyte: 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> &amp; 0.1 M HCl</i>	45 <sup>a</sup>	10 <sup>b</sup>	[S4]
Pt-Ru/Au COP	Pt/CC (40 wt%)	<i>Anolyte: 4 M CH<sub>3</sub>OH Catholyte: O<sub>2</sub></i>	155 <sup>a</sup>	32 <sup>a</sup>	[S5]
AuAg/C	Vulcan XC-72	<i>Anolyte: Laccase/Glucose Catholyte: O<sub>2</sub></i>	19.6 <sup>a</sup>	5 <sup>b</sup>	[S6]
Pt	Carbon Nitride Nanofibers	<i>Anolyte: 2.1 M HCOOH Catholyte: 0.144 M KMnO<sub>4</sub></i>	97.9 <sup>a</sup>	34.3 <sup>a</sup>	[S7]
Pt	Pt	<i>Anolyte: 2.1 M HCOOH Catholyte: 0.144 M KMnO<sub>4</sub></i>	61.8 <sup>a</sup>	30.9 <sup>a</sup>	[S7]

Pt	Au	<i>Anolyte</i> : 2.1 M HCOOH <i>Catholyte</i> : 0.144 M KMnO <sub>4</sub>	60.4 <sup>a</sup>	27.2 <sup>a</sup>	[S7]
Pt-Ru	Pt	<i>Anolyte</i> : 0.5 M CH <sub>3</sub> OH <i>Catholyte</i> : O <sub>2</sub>	1400 <sup>b</sup>	200 <sup>b</sup>	[S8]
Pt	Pt/C	<i>Anolyte</i> : H <sub>2</sub> <i>Catholyte</i> : O <sub>2</sub>	1000 <sup>b</sup>	221	[S9]
None	None	<i>Anolyte</i> : V <sup>2+</sup> /V <sup>3+</sup> <i>Catholyte</i> : VO <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> /VO <sup>2+</sup>	225	160	[S10]
Bacteria	Pt/C	<i>Anolyte</i> : Acetate <i>Catholyte</i> : O <sub>2</sub>	0.88	0.019	[S11]
Nickel Foam	Prussian Blue	<i>Anolyte &amp; Catholyte</i> : 0.33 M H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> & 0.067 M HCl <i>Anolyte</i> : 0.75 M H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> &	3.68	0.58	[S12]
None	None	0.75 M NaOH <i>Catholyte</i> : 0.75 M H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> & 0.325 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	210 <sup>b</sup>	31.2	[S13]

\*Note: Numbers with superscripts a and b represent the reported values and the estimated values from figures, respectively.

**Table S4.** Fuels, oxidants and open-circuit voltages of selected  $\mu$ L-scale fuel cells.

Fuel	Oxidant	Open-circuit potential (V)	Ref.
H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	1.3	This work
CH <sub>4</sub>	O <sub>2</sub>	0.7	[S14]
H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.26	[S15]
H <sub>2</sub>	O <sub>2</sub>	0.81	[S16]
MeOH	O <sub>2</sub>	0.93	[S17]
CH <sub>3</sub> COONa	Ferricyanide	0.56	[S18]

**Table S5.** Parameters and performances of selected H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> sensors.

<b>Electrode*</b>	<b>Potential (V)**</b>	<b>Sensitivity (μA mM<sup>-1</sup> mm<sup>-2</sup>)</b>	<b>Limit of Detection (μM)</b>	<b>Linear range (μM)</b>	<b>Ref.</b>
<b>Ag Wire-gel</b>	<b>-0.5<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>4.178</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.1-1000</b>	<b>This work</b>
Ag-SWCNTs	-0.3 <sup>b</sup>	10.92	2.76	16-18085	[S19]
Pt-Pd/MWCNTs	0.25 <sup>b</sup>	4.148	1.2	2.5-125	[S20]
Se/Pt Nanocomposites	0.0 <sup>a</sup>	0.313	3.1	10-1500	[S21]
Ag NPs	-0.3 <sup>a</sup>	~0.476	38.9	100-180000	[S22]
Pt/MWCNTs- PANI	-0.25 <sup>b</sup>	7.484	2.0	7-2500	[S23]
Pt-MnO- Graphene	-0.15 <sup>a</sup>	1.295	1.0	2-13330	[S24]
Carbon Fiber Microelectrodes	-0.4 <sup>a</sup>	—	1.9	1.9-2000	[S25]
Nitrogen-Doped CNTs	+0.3 <sup>b</sup>	0.18	1.2	2-140	[S26]

Note:

\*Acronyms: SWCNT: single-wall carbon nanotube; MWCNT: multi-wall carbon nanotube; NP: nanoparticle; PANI: polyaniline.

\*\* Potentials with superscripts a and b are *vs.* Ag/AgCl and *vs.* saturated calomel electrode (SCE), respectively.

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