

Supplementary Information for

**Supercritically Exfoliated Ultrathin Vanadium Pentoxide
Nanosheets with High Rate Capability for Lithium Batteries†**

**Qinyou An,^{a,‡} Qiulong Wei,^{a, ‡} Liqiang Mai,^{*a} Jiayang Fei,^b Xu Xu,^a Yunlong Zhao,^a
Mengyu Yan,^a Pengfei Zhang^a and Shizhe Huang^a**

^a State Key Laboratory of Advanced Technology for Materials Synthesis and Processing,
WUT-Harvard Joint Nano Key Laboratory, Wuhan University of Technology, Wuhan, 430070, P.
R. China. Fax: +86-027-87644867; Tel: +86-027-87467595; E-mail: mlq518@whut.edu.cn

^b Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania 19104, United States.

† These authors contributed equally to this work.

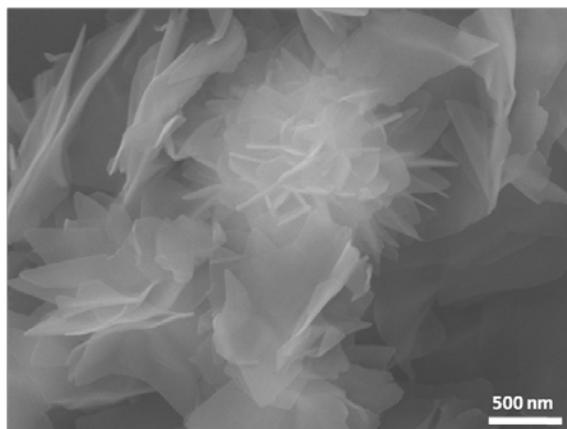


Figure S1. SEM images of the products synthesized under 10 h solvothermal reaction.

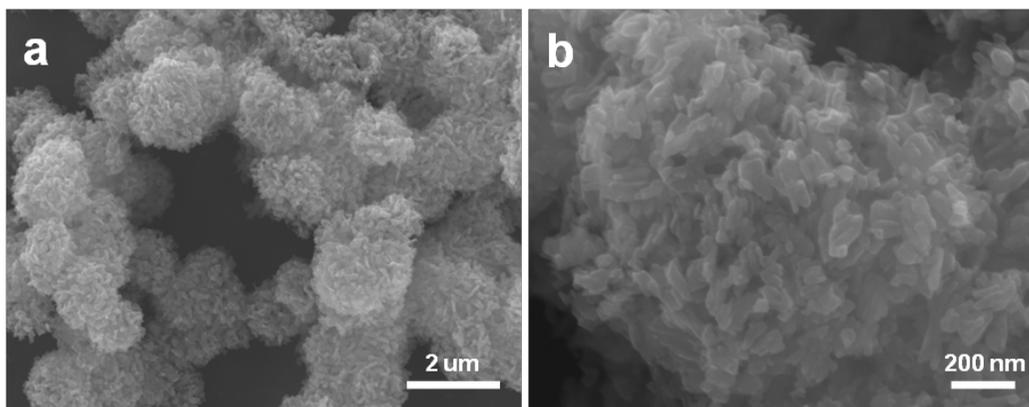


Figure S2. SEM images of V₂O₅ microspheres obtained by annealing the solvothermally prepared microflowers (duration 6 h) in air at 400 °C for 2 h.

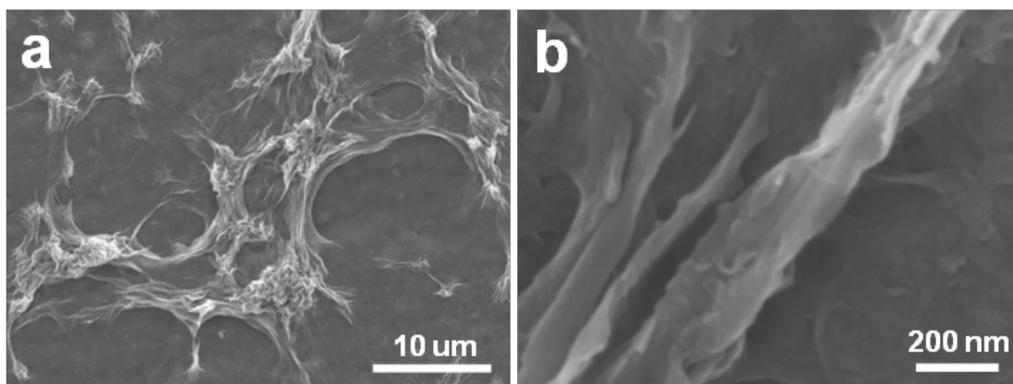


Figure S3. SEM images of the V₂O₅ ethanol-gels after drying at 70 °C.

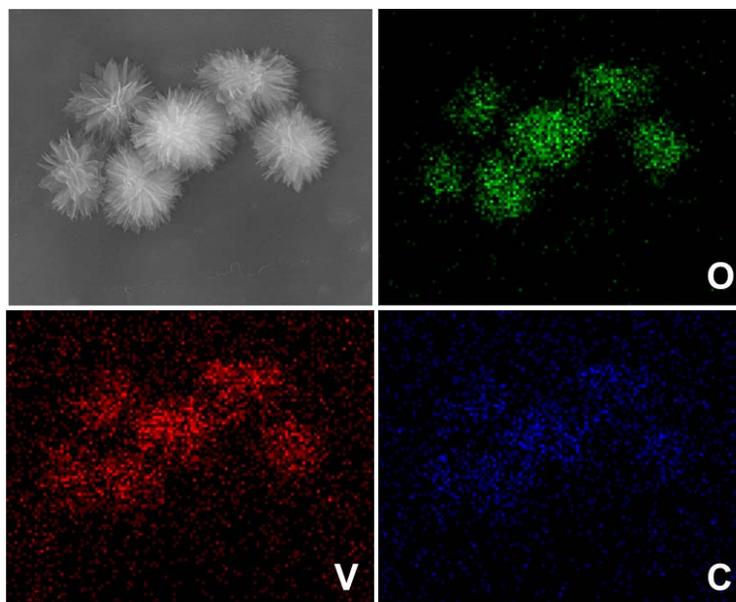


Figure S4. Energy dispersive X-ray spectrometric (EDS) mapping of the V_2O_5 microflowers obtained by solvothermal treatment (duration 6 h).

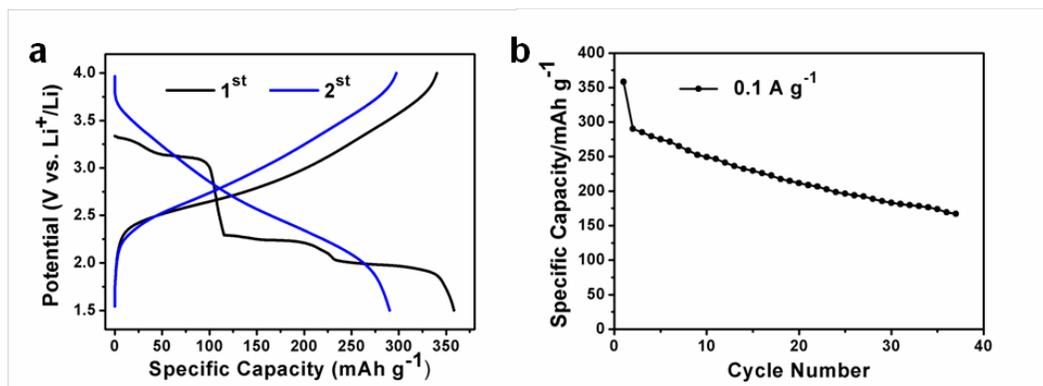


Figure S5. (a) Charge-discharge curves and (b) the cycling performance of the ultrathin V_2O_5 nanosheets, at the current density of $100\ mAh\ g^{-1}$ and the charge/discharge potential range from 1.5 to 4.0 V.

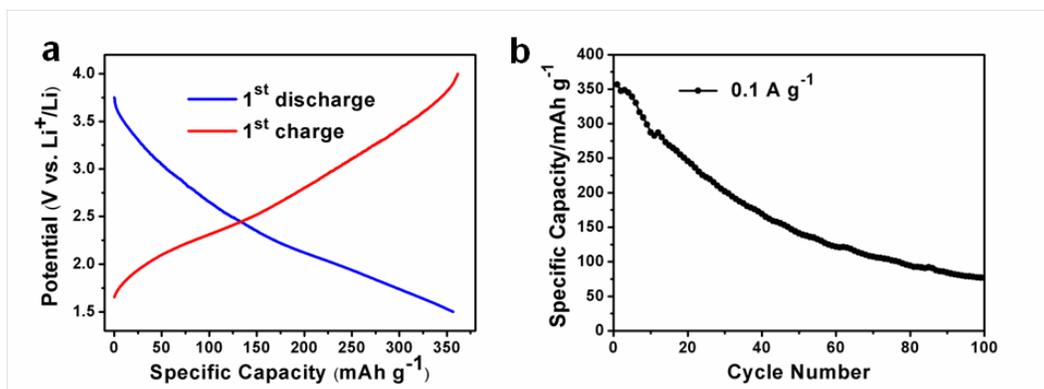


Figure S6. (a) Charge-discharge curves and (b) the cycling performance of the amorphous vanadium oxide ultrathin nanosheets, at the current density of 100 mAh g⁻¹ and the charge/discharge potential range from 1.5 to 4.0 V. A high initial capacity above 350 mAh g⁻¹ is achieved, but the cycleability is poor.

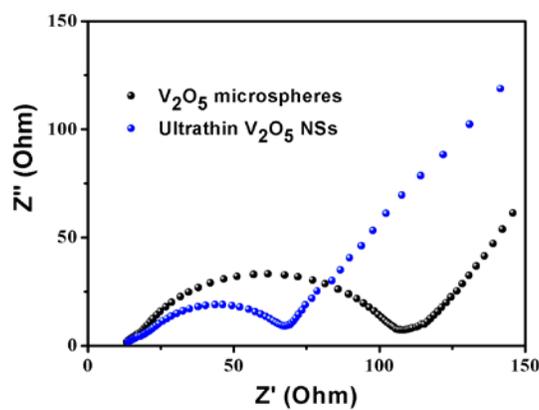


Figure S7. AC impedance plots of ultrathin V₂O₅ nanosheets and V₂O₅ microspheres cathodes, from 0.01 Hz to 100 kHz.

Table S1. The electrochemical performances (cycling performance at relevant current rate or density, and rate capability) of the V₂O₅ NSs and the reported V₂O₅ materials.

Sample	Voltage range	Capacity (mAh g ⁻¹) / Cycle number	Current rate or density	Rate capacity (mAh g ⁻¹) at relevant Current rate or density
V ₂ O ₅ microspheres ¹	2.5 – 4 V	~ 135 / 100	0.2 C	92.2 at 15 C
V ₂ O ₅ / CNTs composites ²	2 – 4 V	104 / 200	5 C	169 at 10 C
Porous V ₂ O ₅ nanotubes ³	2.5 – 4 V	105 / 250	2 A g ⁻¹ (~ 13.5 C)	62.5 at 15 A g ⁻¹ (~101 C)
3D porous V ₂ O ₅ ⁴	2.5 – 4 V	110 / 200	10 C	86.7 at 56 C (Charge at 1C)
Yolk-shelled V ₂ O ₅ microspheres ⁵	2–4 V	227 / 50	1 C	~150 at 8C
As-prepared V ₂ O ₅ NSs in this work	2.4-4 V	108 / 200	10 C	100 at 15 C

References

1. Wang, S. Q.; Lu, Z. D.; Wang, D.; Li, C. G.; Chen, C. H.; Yin, Y. D. *J. Mater. Chem.* **2011**, *21*, 6365.
2. Jia, X. L.; Chen, Z.; Suwarnasarn, A.; Rice, L.; Wang, X. L.; Sohn, H.; Zhang, Q.; Wu, B. M.; Wei, F.; Lu, Y. F. *Energy Environ. Sci.* **2012**, *5*, 6845.
3. Wang, H. G.; Ma, D. L.; Huang, Y.; Zhang, X. B. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2012**, *18*, 8987.
4. Wang, S. Q.; Li, S. R.; Sun, Y.; Feng, X. Y.; Chen, C. H. *Energy Environ. Sci.* **2011**, *4*, 2854.
5. Pan, A. Q.; Wu, H. B.; Yu, L.; Lou, X. W. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, *52*, 2226.