

## Supplementary Material

Carbon coated 3D  $\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_5$  hollow nanospheres with superior performance  
as the anode for high energy Li-ion capacitors

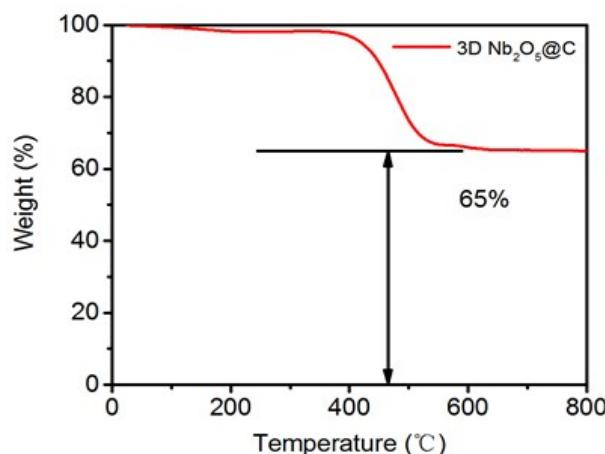
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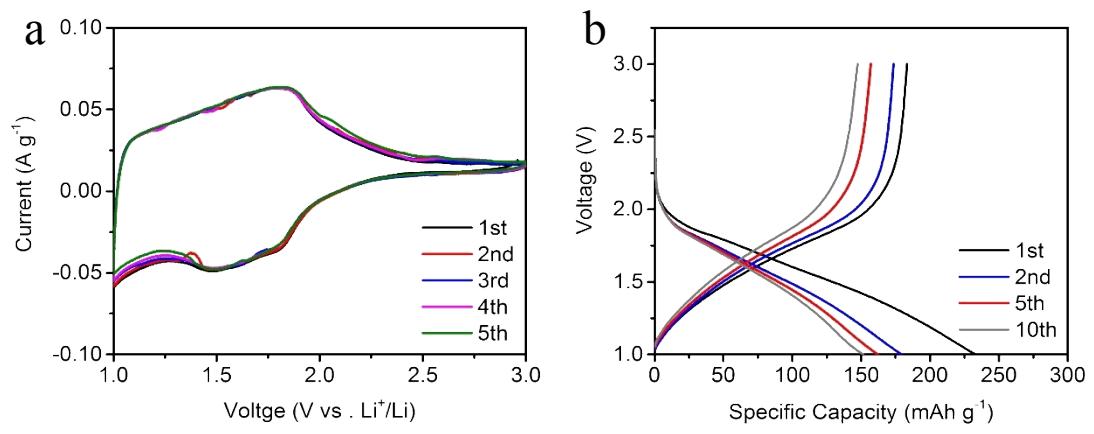
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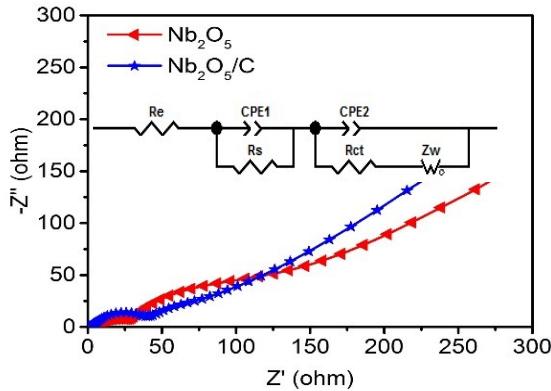
E-mail address: [shijing@ouc.edu.cn](mailto:shijing@ouc.edu.cn) (J. Shi); [huanleiwang@gmail.com](mailto:huanleiwang@gmail.com) (H. Wang).



**Fig. S1** Thermogravimetric curves of 3D  $\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_5@\text{C}$  hollow nanosphere composite in air.

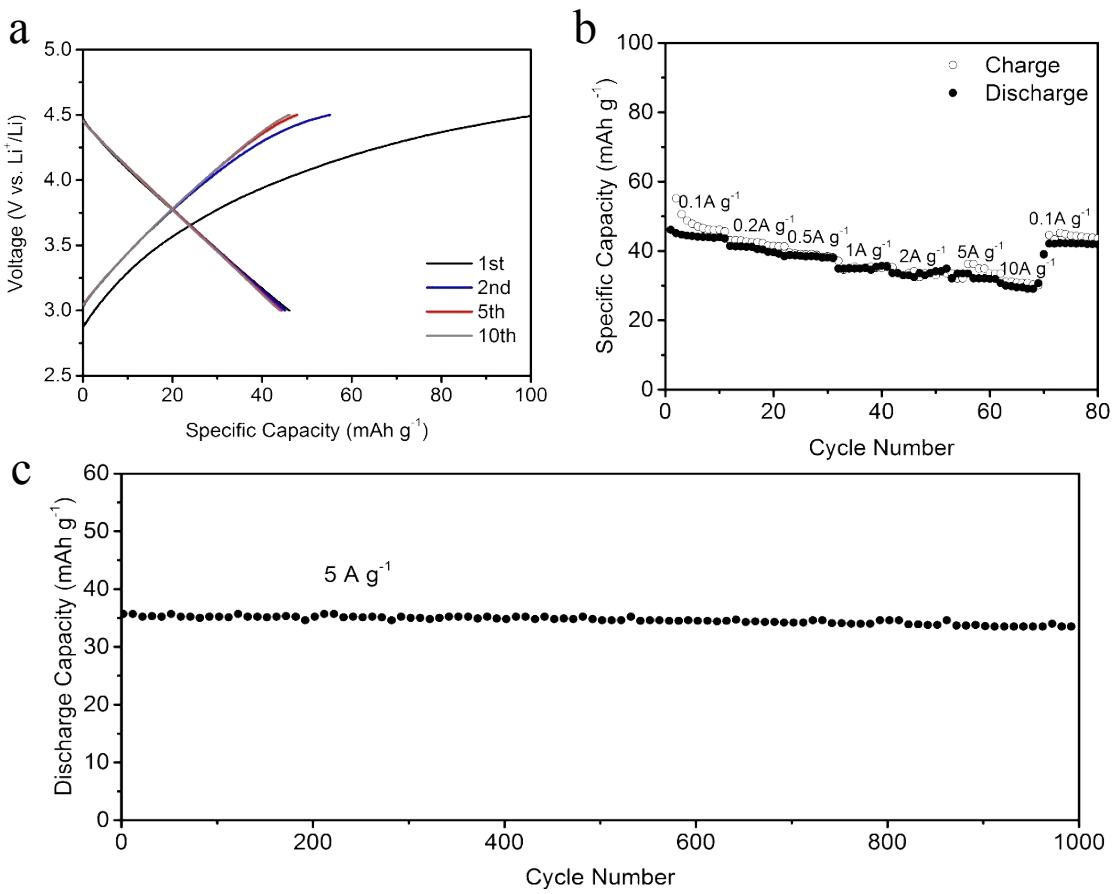


**Fig. S2** (a) CV cures of  $\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_5$  at  $0.1 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ . (b) Galvanostatic charge-discharge profiles of  $\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_5$  at  $0.1 \text{ A g}^{-1}$ .



**Fig. S3** Nyquist plots of  $\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_5$  and 3D  $\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_5@\text{C}$  electrodes after 500 cycles and the corresponding equivalent circuit.

After 500 cycles, the impedance spectra are composed of three parts. The first semicircle is associated with the  $\text{Li}^+$  migration in the electrode surface. The second semicircle is related to the charge transfer. The sloping line is bound up with the  $\text{Li}^+$  diffusion. As shown in the corresponding equivalent circuits,  $R_e$  represents the ohmic resistance,  $R_{ct}$  is charge transfer resistance and  $W_s$  is the Warburg impedance



**Fig. S4** (a) Galvanostatic charge-discharge profiles of GCN at  $0.1 \text{ A g}^{-1}$ . (b) Rate capacities at various current densities from  $0.1$  to  $10 \text{ A g}^{-1}$ . (c) Cycling performance and the related coulombic efficiency for GCN at  $5 \text{ A g}^{-1}$  for 1000 cycle.

**Table S1** Comparison with the performance of previously reported Li-ion capacitors.

Hybrid system	Voltage Window	Energy Density/ Power Density	Cyclability	Ref.
3DNb <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> @C//GCN (Li <sup>+</sup> )	0-3.5 V	96.8 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 435.5 W kg <sup>-1</sup> 12.6 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 41000 W kg <sup>-1</sup>	75% after 3000 cycles at 5A g <sup>-1</sup>	This work
CNT/Nb <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> //AC (Li <sup>+</sup> )	0.5-3 V	33.5Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 83 W kg <sup>-1</sup> ~4 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 4000 W kg <sup>-1</sup>	-	1
Nb <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> //AC (Li <sup>+</sup> )	1-3.5 V	95.55 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 191 W kg <sup>-1</sup> 65/39 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 5350.9 W kg <sup>-1</sup>	-	2
CNT <sub>S</sub> -Nb <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> //AC (Li <sup>+</sup> )	0.5-3 V	~50 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 86.46 W kg <sup>-1</sup> 14.77 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 6753.5 W kg <sup>-1</sup>	-	3
T-Nb <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> /graphene//MC (Li <sup>+</sup> )	0.8-3 V	48 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 690 W kg <sup>-1</sup> 13 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 16000 W kg <sup>-1</sup>	~92% after 3000 cycles at 1A g <sup>-1</sup>	4
m-Nb <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> - C//MSP-20 (Li <sup>+</sup> )	0-3 V	20 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 12137 W kg <sup>-1</sup> 15 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 18510 W kg <sup>-1</sup>	90% after 1000 cycles at 1A g <sup>-1</sup>	5
T- Nb <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> @C//MSP- 20 (Li <sup>+</sup> )	1-3.5 V	63 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 70 W kg <sup>-1</sup> 5 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 16528 W kg <sup>-1</sup>	~80% after 1000 cycles at 1A g <sup>-1</sup>	6
MnO/C//CNS (Li <sup>+</sup> )	1-4 V	100 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 83 W kg <sup>-1</sup> 30 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 20000 W kg <sup>-1</sup>	70% after 5000 cycles at 5A g <sup>-1</sup>	7
MnO-C//AC (Li <sup>+</sup> )	0-4 V	227 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at ~60 W kg <sup>-1</sup> ~20 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 2952 W kg <sup>-1</sup>	92.5% after 3500 cycles at 4 A g <sup>-1</sup>	8
TiO <sub>2</sub> //CNT-AC (Li <sup>+</sup> )	1-3 V	59.6 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 120 W kg <sup>-1</sup> 31.2 Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> at 7000 W kg <sup>-1</sup>	-	9

## References

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