

ARTICLE

## Supplementary Information

### Nb doped TiO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles derived from titanate with improved lithium storage performance

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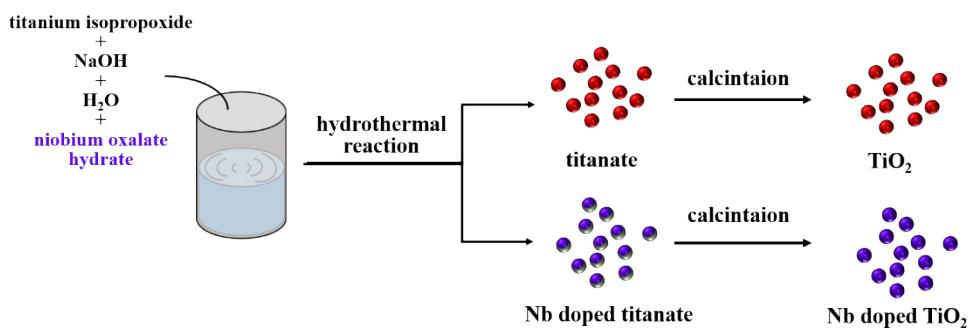


Fig. S1 Schematic illustration of the formation of TiO<sub>2</sub> and Nb doped TiO<sub>2</sub>.

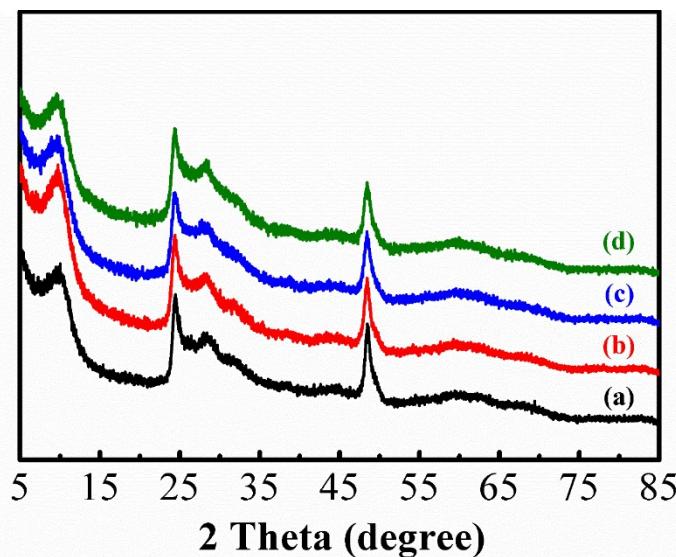


Fig.S2 XRD patterns of (a) titanate, (b) Nb-titanate-0.1, (c) Nb-titanate-0.2 and (d) Nb-titanate-0.4.

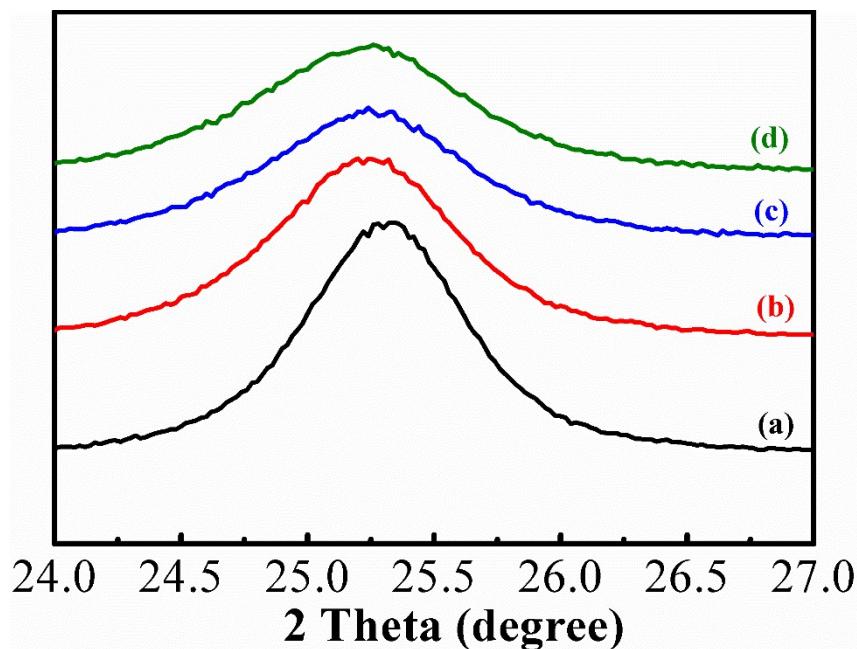


Fig.S3 Magnified XRD patterns of (a)  $\text{TiO}_2$ , (b)  $\text{Nb}-\text{TiO}_2$ -0.1, (c)  $\text{Nb}-\text{TiO}_2$ -0.2 and (d)  $\text{Nb}-\text{TiO}_2$ -0.4 between  $24^\circ$  and  $27^\circ$ .

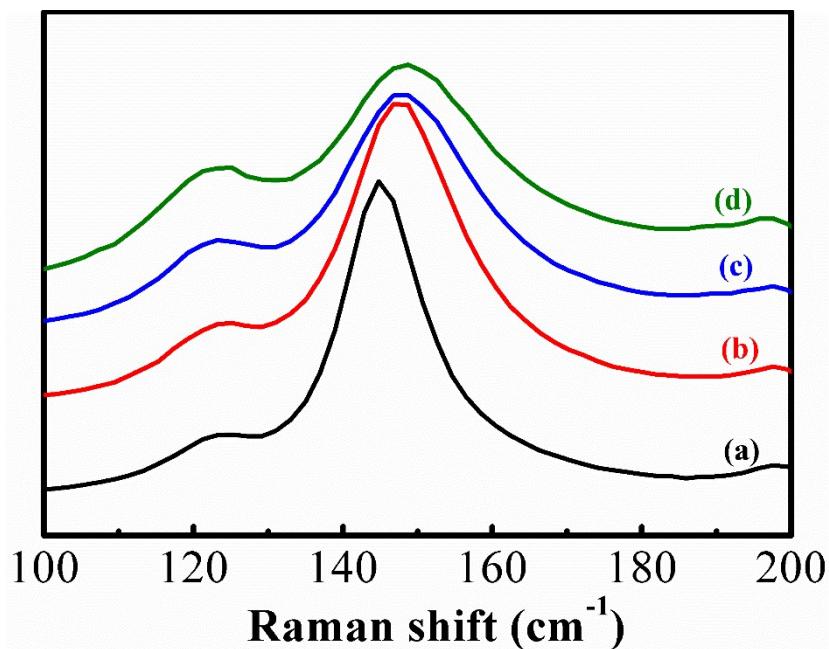


Fig.S4 Magnified Raman spectra of (a)  $\text{TiO}_2$ , (b)  $\text{Nb}-\text{TiO}_2$ -0.1, (c)  $\text{Nb}-\text{TiO}_2$ -0.2 and (d)  $\text{Nb}-\text{TiO}_2$ -0.4 between  $100$  and  $200 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

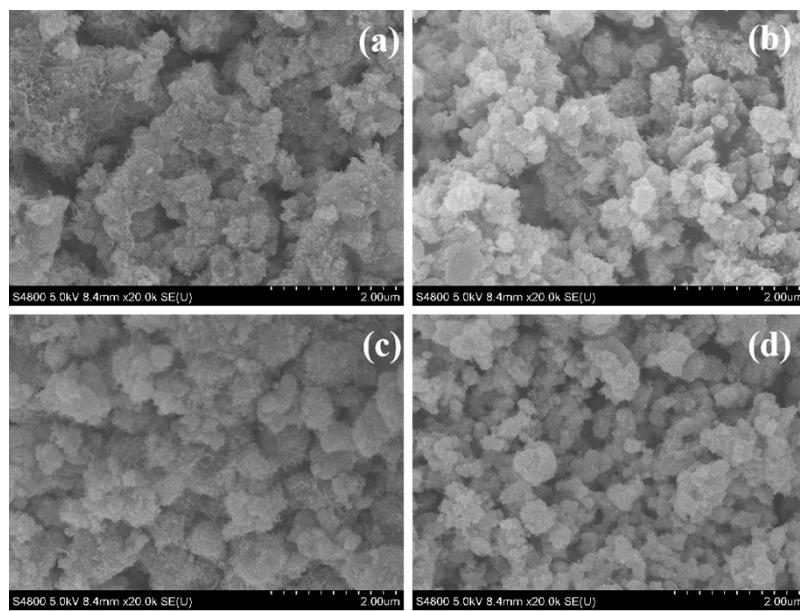


Fig.S5 SEM images of (a)  $\text{TiO}_2$ , (b)  $\text{Nb}-\text{TiO}_2$ -0.1, (c)  $\text{Nb}-\text{TiO}_2$ -0.2 and (d)  $\text{Nb}-\text{TiO}_2$ -0.4 .

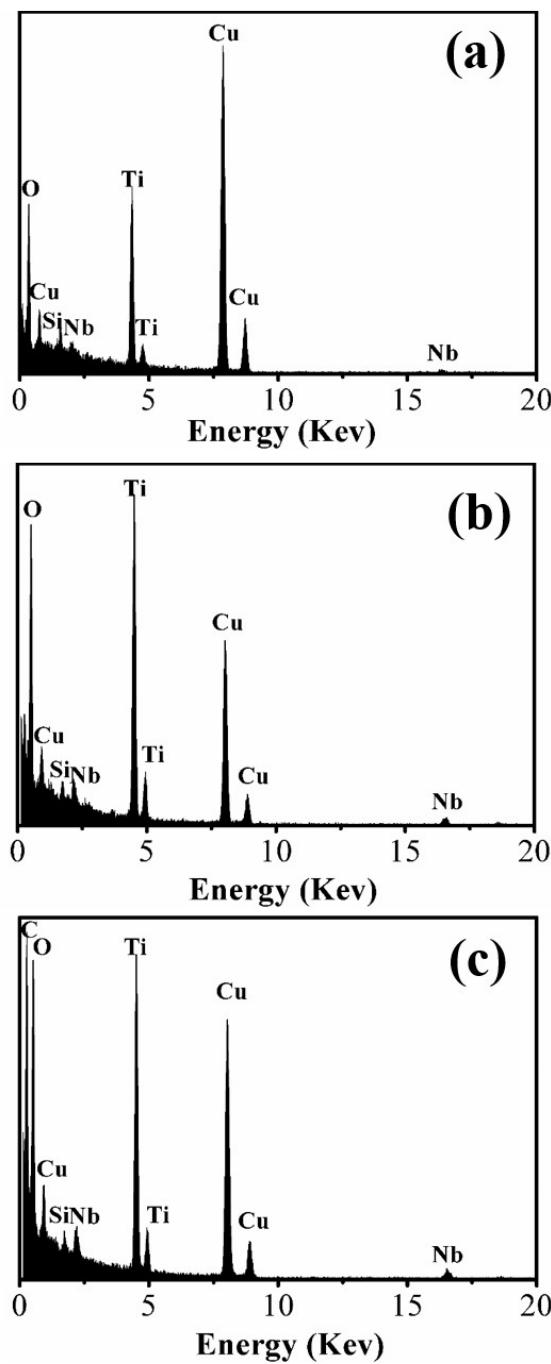
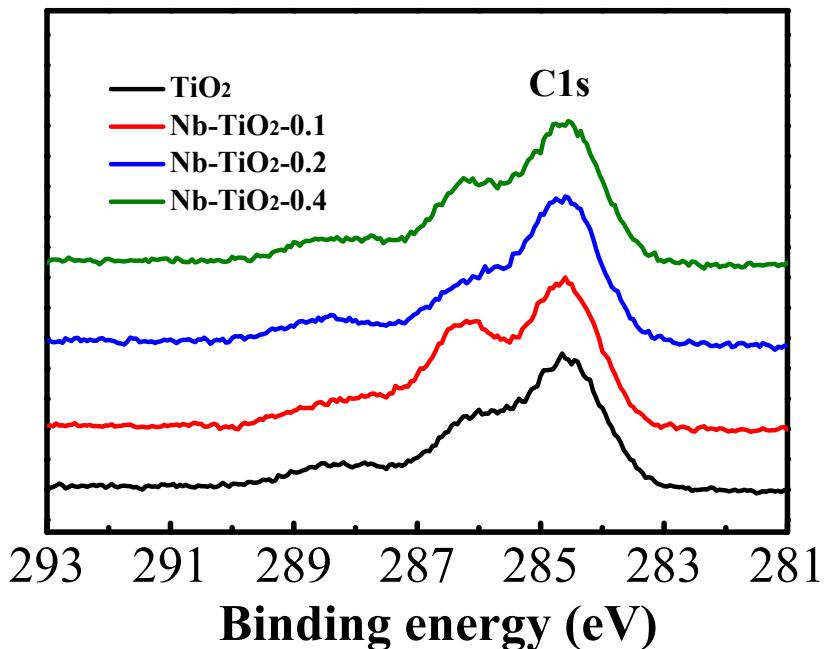


Fig.S6 EDX analysis of (a) Nb-TiO<sub>2</sub>-0.1, (b) Nb-TiO<sub>2</sub>-0.2 and (c) Nb-TiO<sub>2</sub>-0.4.

Table S1 ICP-OES date of Nb-TiO<sub>2</sub>-0.1, Nb-TiO<sub>2</sub>-0.2 and Nb-TiO<sub>2</sub>-0.4.

	Ti (mg L <sup>-1</sup> )	Nb (mg L <sup>-1</sup> )	The ratio of Nb to Ti (Atomic %)
Nb-TiO <sub>2</sub> -0.1	7.200	0.343	2.37%
Nb-TiO <sub>2</sub> -0.2	7.361	0.923	6.44%
Nb-TiO <sub>2</sub> -0.4	7.548	1.433	9.76%

Fig.S7 High-resolution XPS spectra of C1s for TiO<sub>2</sub>, Nb-TiO<sub>2</sub>-0.1, Nb-TiO<sub>2</sub>-0.2 and Nb-TiO<sub>2</sub>-0.4.

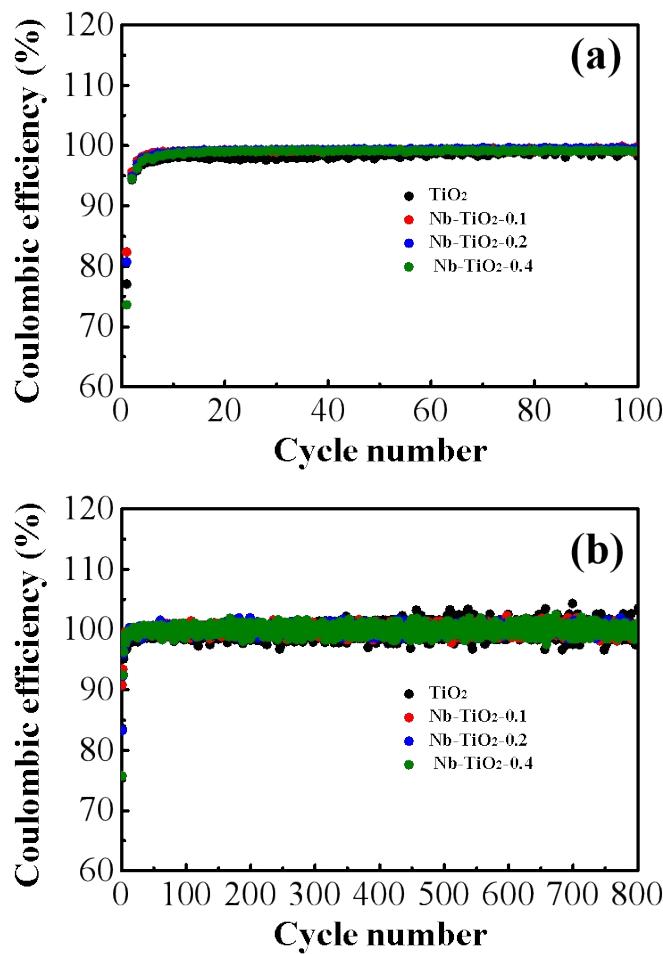


Fig.S8 Coulombic efficiency of  $\text{TiO}_2$ ,  $\text{Nb}-\text{TiO}_2-0.1$ ,  $\text{Nb}-\text{TiO}_2-0.2$  and  $\text{Nb}-\text{TiO}_2-0.4$  at (a) 1 C and (b) 10 C.

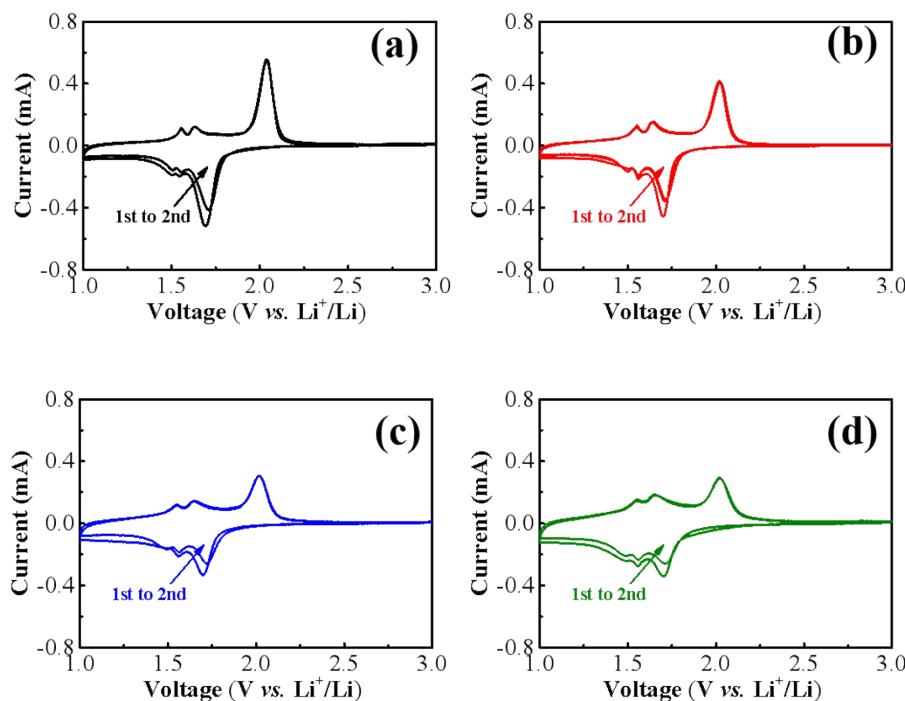


Fig.S9 CV curves of (a) TiO<sub>2</sub>, (b) Nb-TiO<sub>2</sub>-0.1, (c) Nb-TiO<sub>2</sub>-0.2 and (d) Nb-TiO<sub>2</sub>-0.4.

Table S2  $\Delta E_p$  and Impedance parameters of TiO<sub>2</sub>, Nb-TiO<sub>2</sub>-0.1, Nb-TiO<sub>2</sub>-0.2 and Nb-TiO<sub>2</sub>-0.4.

	$\Delta E_p$ (mV)	R <sub>s</sub> ( $\Omega$ )	R <sub>f</sub> ( $\Omega$ )	R <sub>ct</sub> ( $\Omega$ )
TiO <sub>2</sub>	334.3	2.17	2.01	34.6
Nb-TiO <sub>2</sub> -0.1	307.9	1.81	1.33	16.3
Nb-TiO <sub>2</sub> -0.2	290.5	1.76	1.14	15.4
Nb-TiO <sub>2</sub> -0.4	300.5	2.24	0.87	18.5