

Electronic Supplementary Information

High-Performance Aqueous Zn-MnO₂ Batteries Enabled by the Coupling Engineering of K⁺ Pre-intercalation and Oxygen Defects

Kun Han,^a Fuqiang An,^a Fengsheng Yan,^a Hailong Chen,^{b,*} Qi Wan,^c Yongchang Liu,^a Ping Li,^{a,*}
Xuanhui Qu^a

^a Beijing Advanced Innovation Center for Materials Genome Engineering, Institute for Advanced Materials and Technology, University of Science and Technology Beijing, Beijing 100083, PR China;

^b The Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia 30332, United States.

^c School of Materials Science and Engineering, Southwest University of Science and Technology, Mianyang 621010, PR China.

*Corresponding authors.

E-mail addresses: ustbliping@126.com, hailong.chen@me.gatech.edu

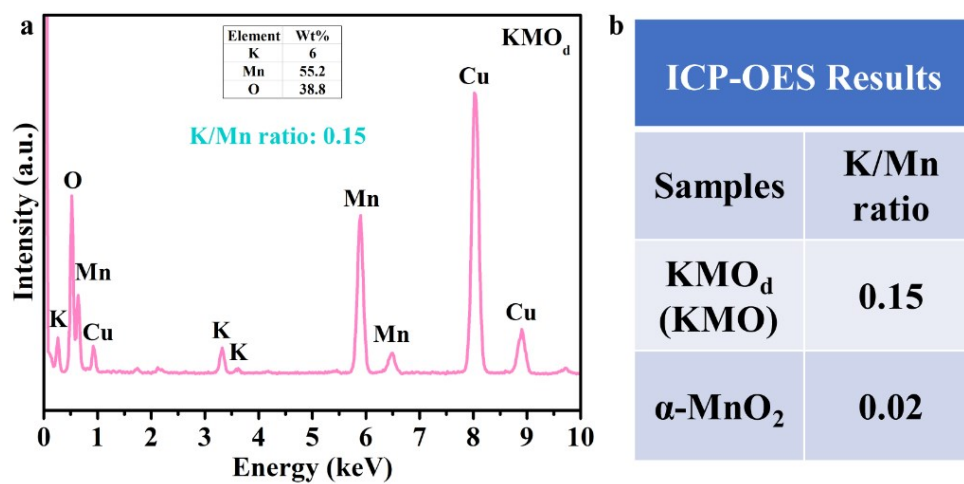


Fig. S1 (a) Energy dispersive X-ray (EDX) spectrum of KMO_d . (b) Inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometer (ICP-OES) results of KMO_d , KMO, and $\alpha\text{-MnO}_2$.

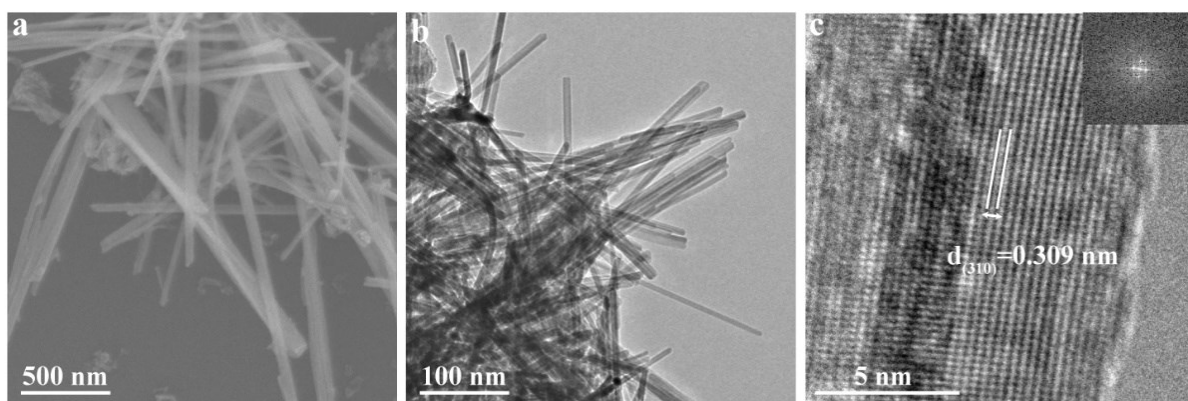


Fig. S2 (a) FESEM image, (b) TEM image, and (c) high-resolution TEM image of α - MnO_2 . The inset shows the corresponding FFT pattern.

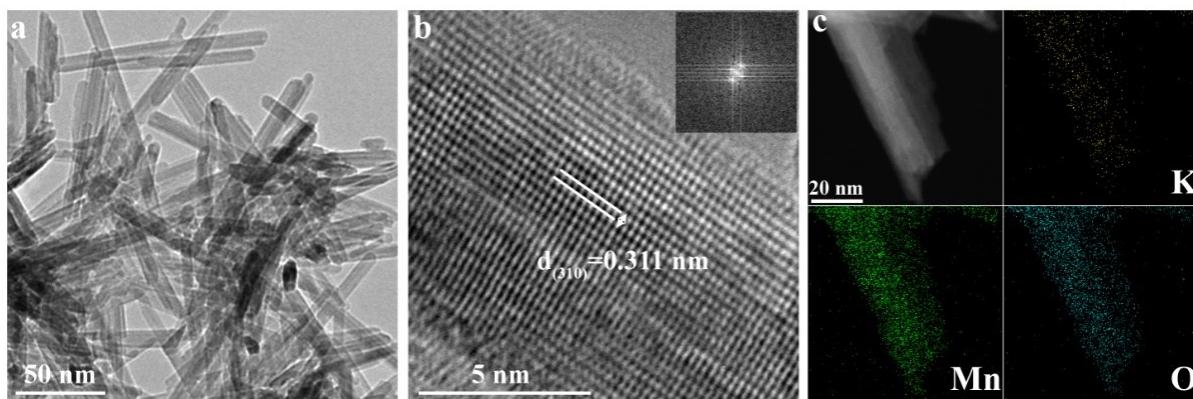


Fig. S3 (a) TEM image, (b) high-resolution TEM image, and (c) HAADF-STEM image and corresponding elemental mappings (K, Mn, O) of KMO. The inset shows the corresponding FFT pattern.

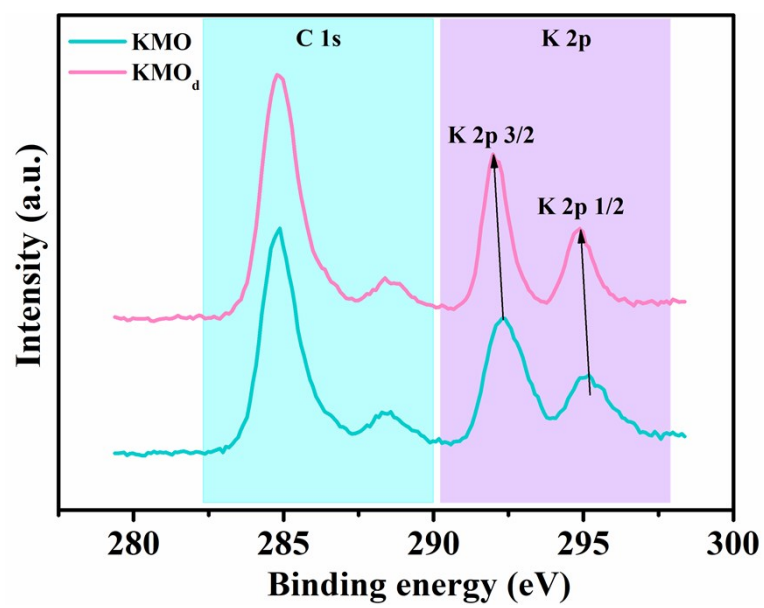


Fig. S4 K 2p and C 1s high-resolution XPS spectra of KMO_d and KMO.

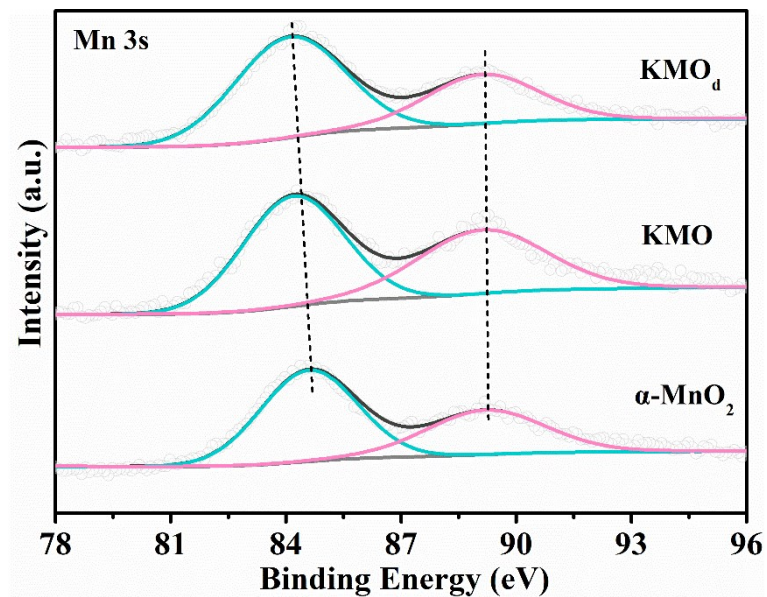


Fig. S5 Mn 3s high-resolution XPS spectra of KMO_d , KMO , and $\alpha\text{-MnO}_2$. The gradual increase of Mn 3s multistate splitting distance in KMO and KMO_d indicating the gradual decrease of Mn valence from $\alpha\text{-MnO}_2$ to KMO , and further from KMO to KMO_d .

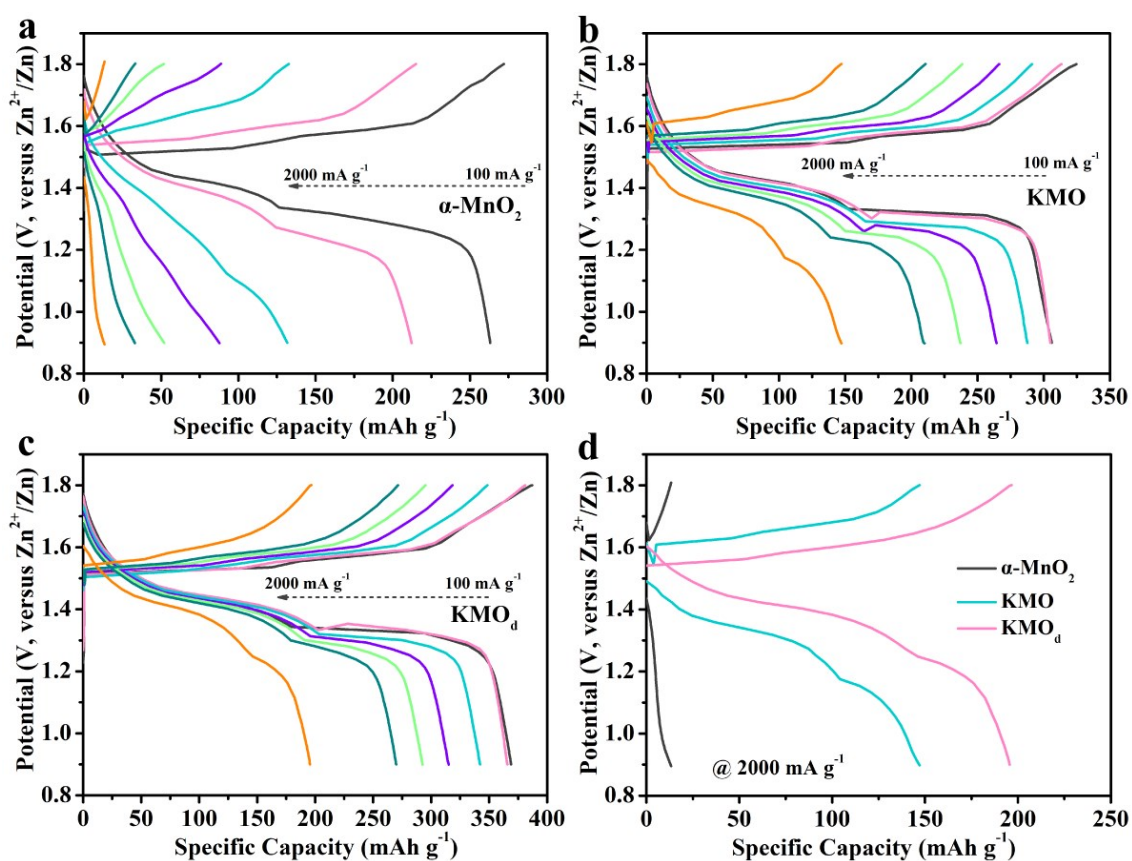


Fig. S6 Galvanostatic charge-discharge curves at different current densities of (a) $\alpha\text{-MnO}_2$, (b) KMO, and (c) KMO_d electrodes. (d) Galvanostatic charge/discharge curves of KMO_d , KMO, and $\alpha\text{-MnO}_2$ electrodes at 2000 mA g^{-1} .

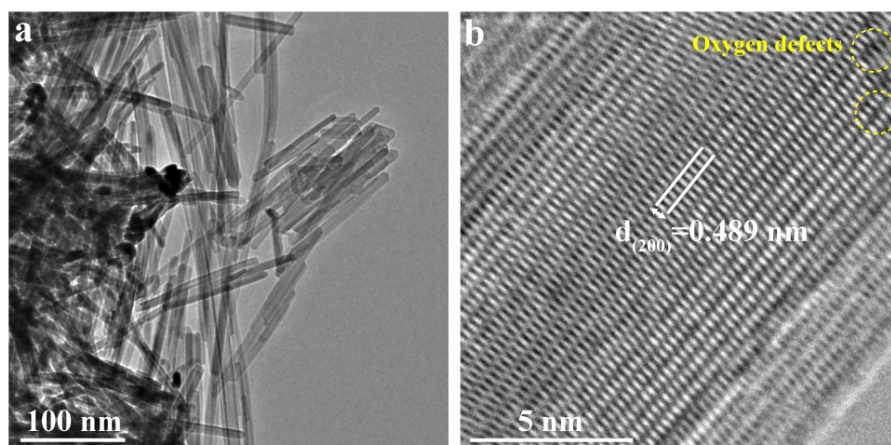


Fig. S7 (a) TEM image and (b) high-resolution TEM image of α -MnO₂-D.

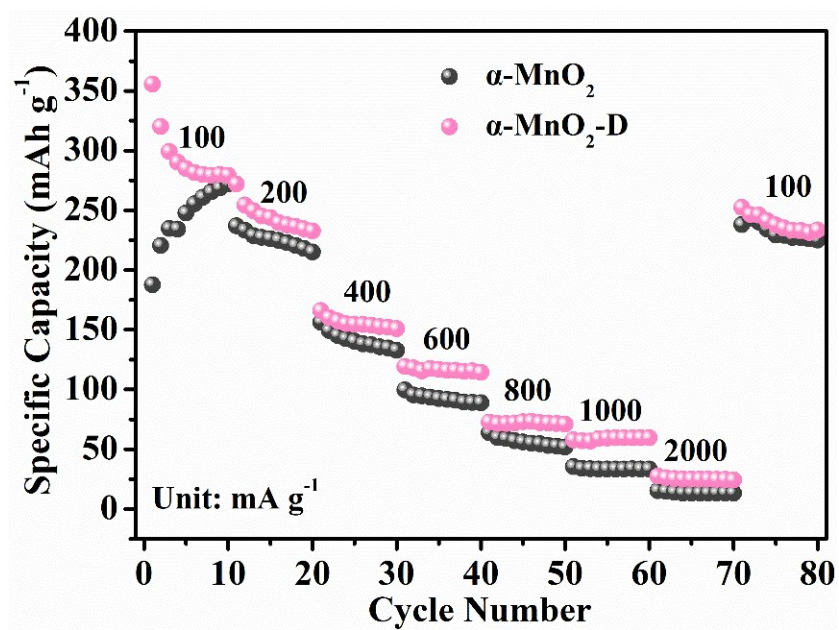


Fig. S8 Rate capability of α -MnO₂ and α -MnO₂-D cathodes.

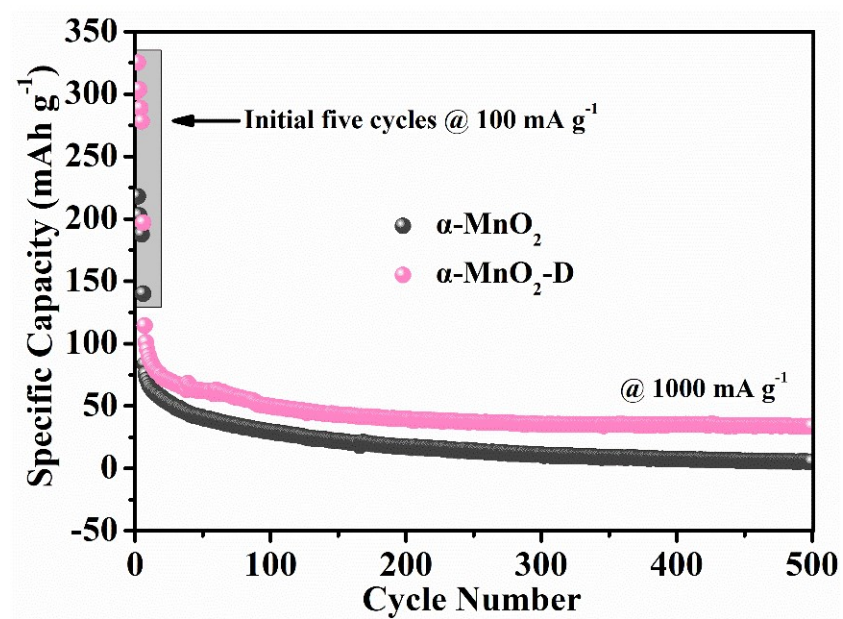


Fig. S9 Cycling performance of α -MnO₂ and α -MnO₂-D cathodes.

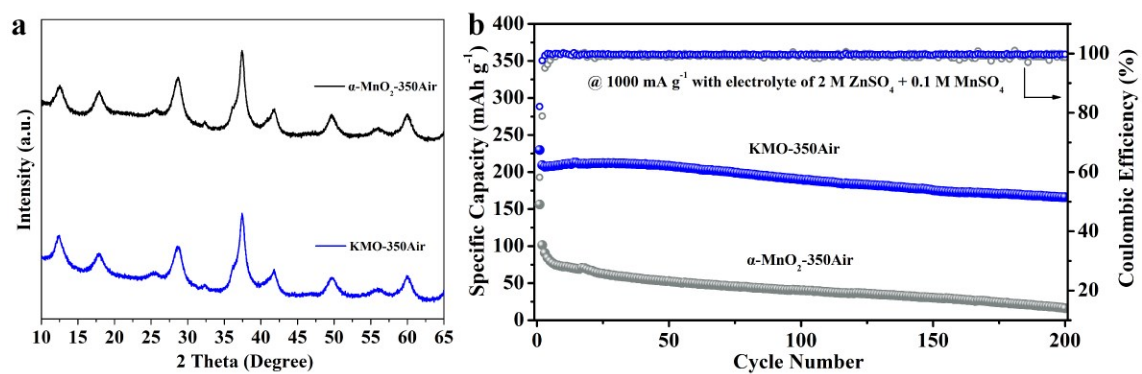


Fig. S10 (a) XRD spectra and (b) cycling performance in 2 M ZnSO₄ + 0.1 M MnSO₄ at 1000 mA g⁻¹ of α -MnO₂-350Air and KMO-350Air cathodes.

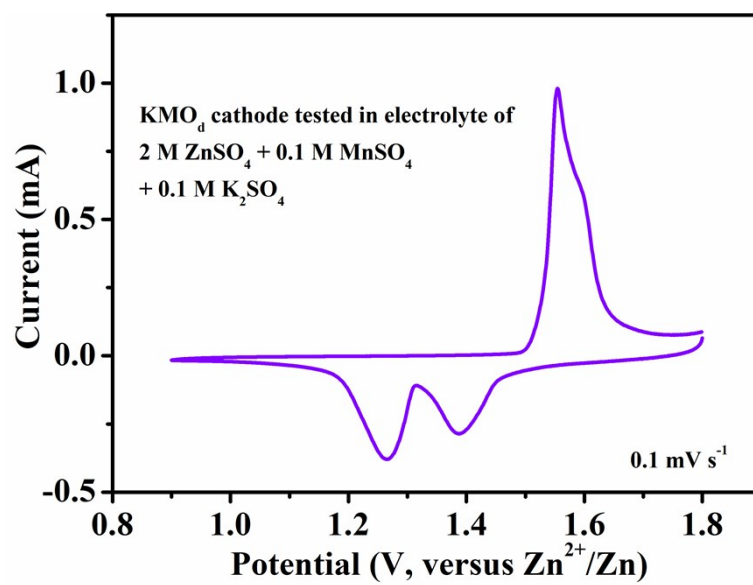


Fig. S11 CV profile of the Zn/ KMO_4 battery tested in electrolyte with K_2SO_4 additive at 0.1 mV s^{-1} .

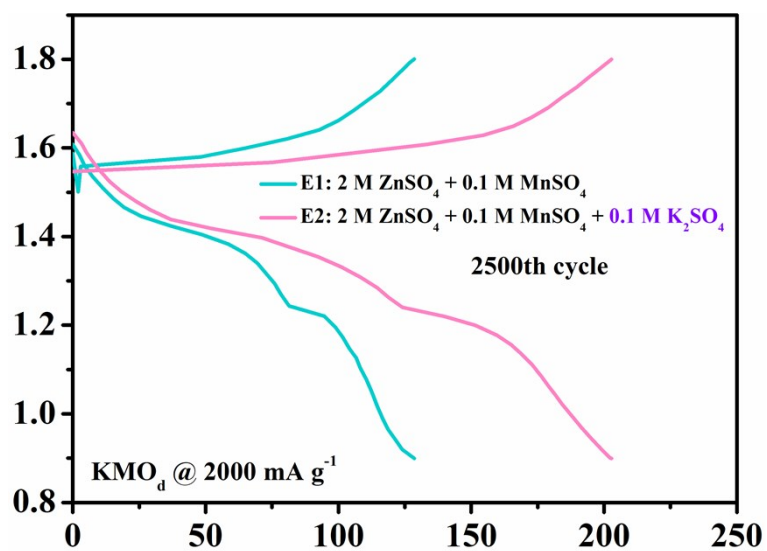


Fig. S12 Charge-discharge profiles of the 2500th cycle for KMO_d electrode at 2000 mA g^{-1} in electrolytes of 2 M ZnSO_4 and 0.1 M MnSO_4 without/with 0.1 M K_2SO_4 as an additive.

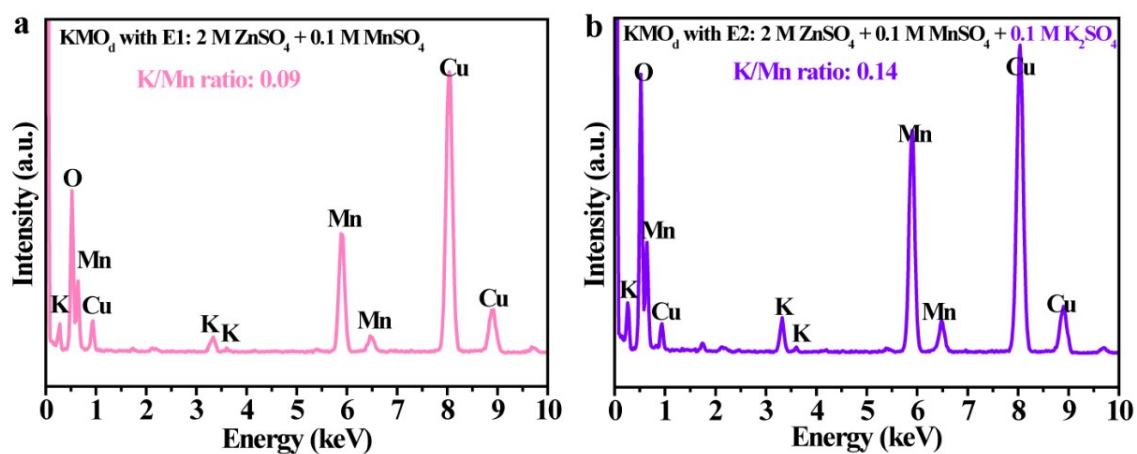


Fig. S13 Energy dispersive X-ray (EDX) spectra of KMO_d electrode after 2500 cycles at 2000 mA g⁻¹ in aqueous electrolytes of (a) 2 M ZnSO₄ and 0.1 M MnSO₄ and (b) with 0.1 M K₂SO₄ as an additive.

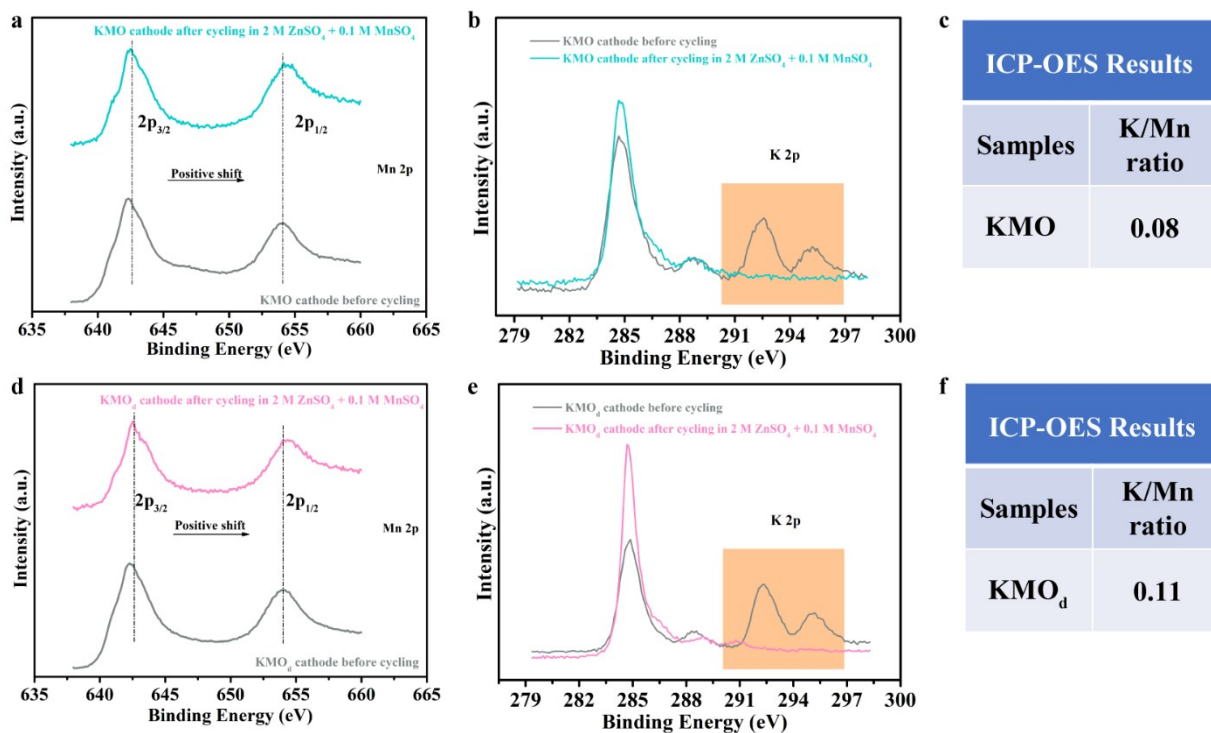


Fig. S14 Mn 2p and K 2p XPS spectra of KMO (a, b) and KMO_d (d, e) cathodes before cycling and after 300 cycles at 1000 mA g⁻¹ in aqueous electrolytes of 2 M ZnSO₄ + 0.1 M MnSO₄. (c, f) ICP-OES results of KMO and KMO_d cathodes after 300 cycles at 1000 mA g⁻¹ in aqueous electrolytes of 2 M ZnSO₄ + 0.1 M MnSO₄.

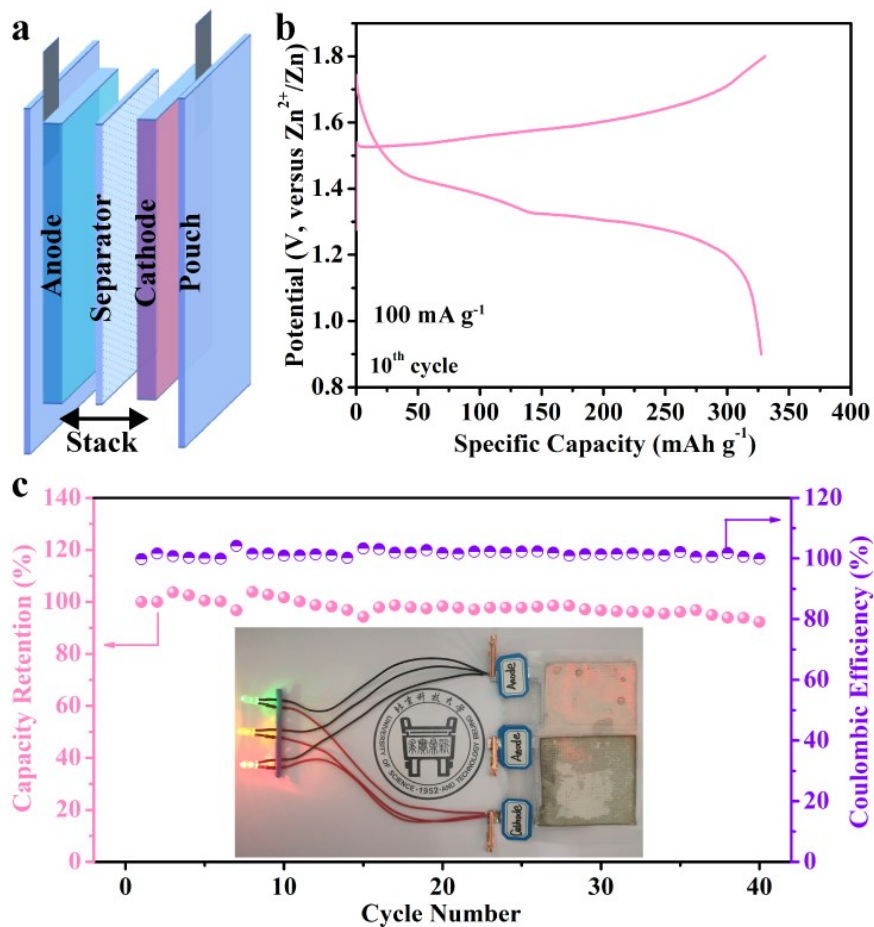


Fig. S15 (a) Illustration of the soft-packed battery configuration with anode-separator-cathode stack. (b) Charge-discharge profiles of the 10th cycle and (c) capacity retention and CE of Zn-KMO_4 soft-packed battery at 100 mA g^{-1} in electrolyte of 2 M ZnSO_4 and 0.1 M MnSO_4 with 0.1 M K_2SO_4 as an additive. The inset shows that three LED lights can be lightened by two soft-packaged batteries.

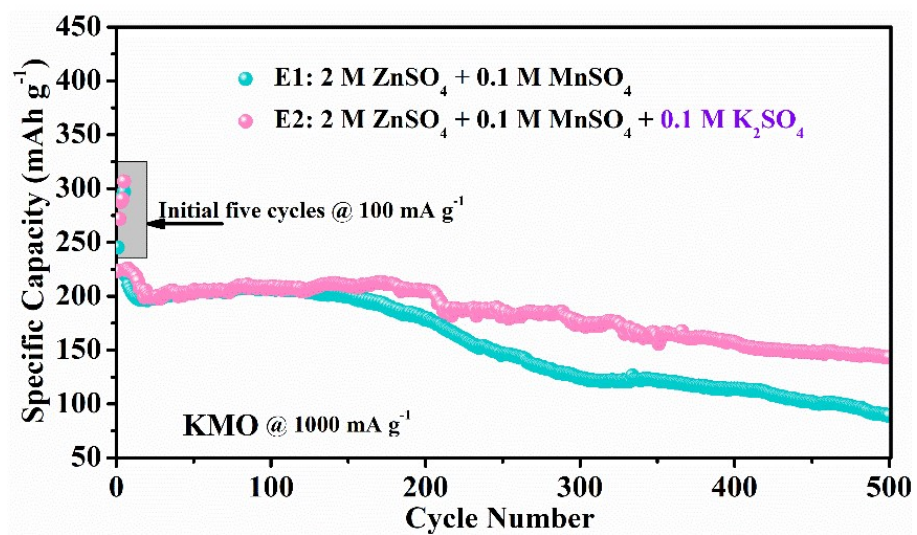


Fig. S16 Cycling performance of KMO electrode at 1000 mA g⁻¹ in 2 M ZnSO₄ and 0.1 M MnSO₄ electrolytes with/without 0.1 M K₂SO₄ as an additive.

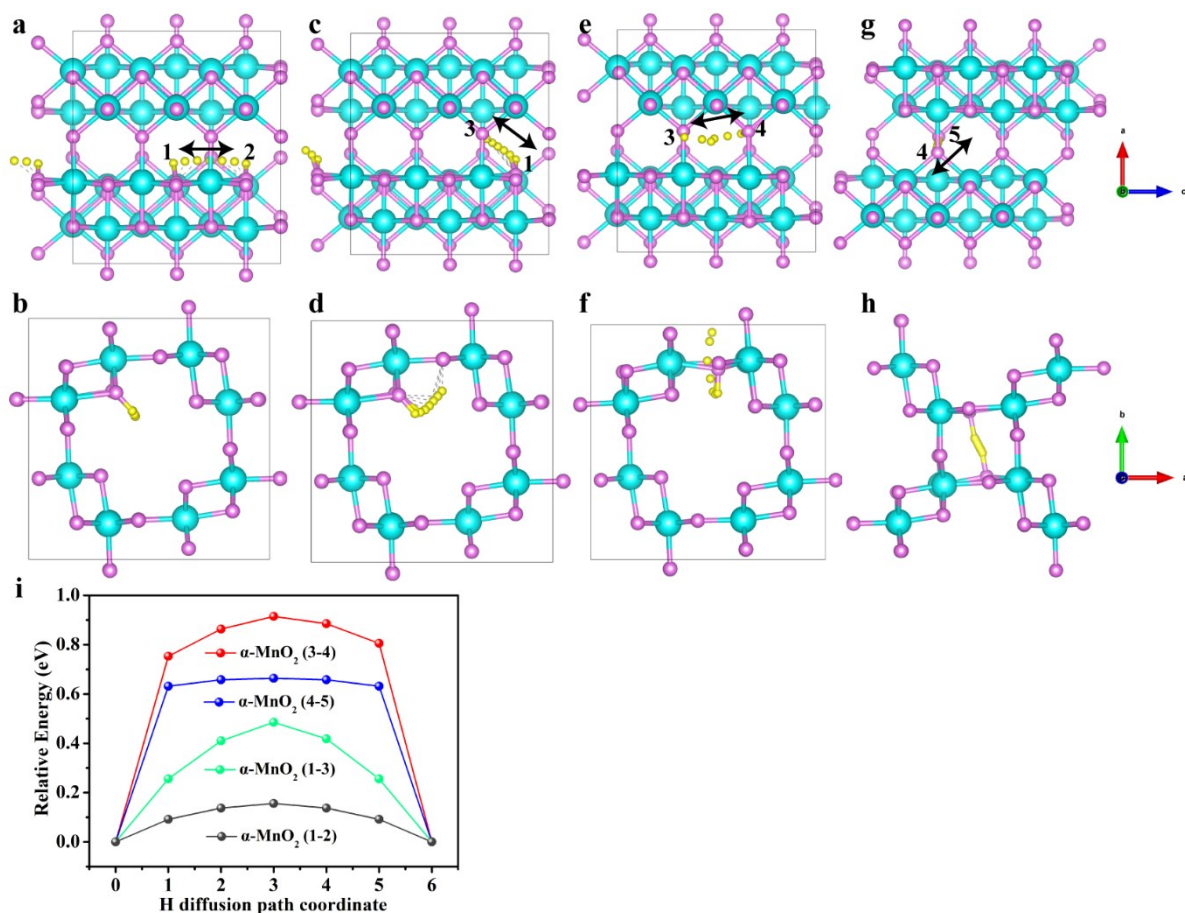


Fig. S17 (a-h) Optimized supercells and H⁺ diffusion paths in α -MnO₂. The yellow spheres represent the H atom. (i) The corresponding energy variations and energy barriers for H⁺ diffusion along different paths in α -MnO₂.

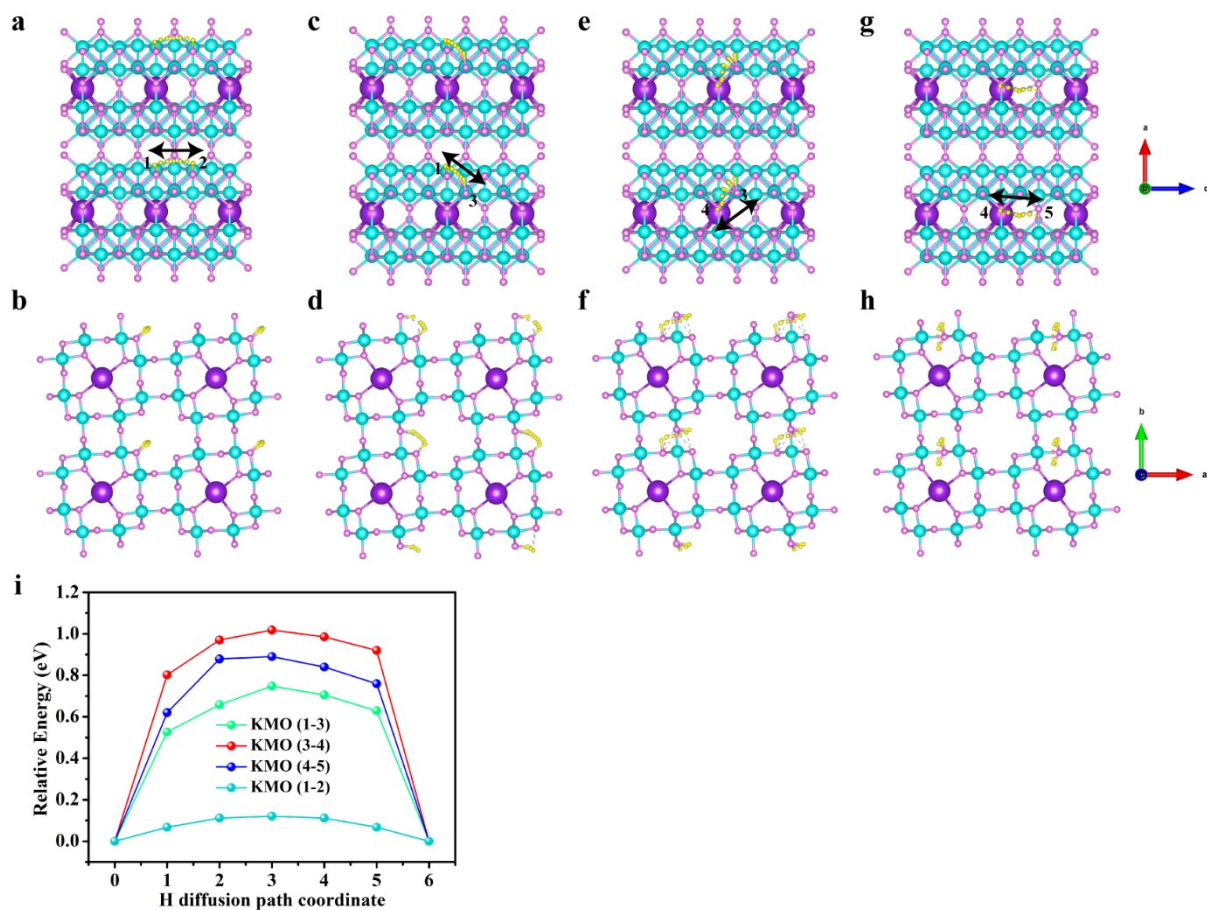


Fig. S18 (a-h) Optimized supercells and H⁺ diffusion paths in KMO. The yellow spheres represent the H atom. (i) The corresponding energy variations and energy barriers for H⁺ diffusion along different paths in KMO.

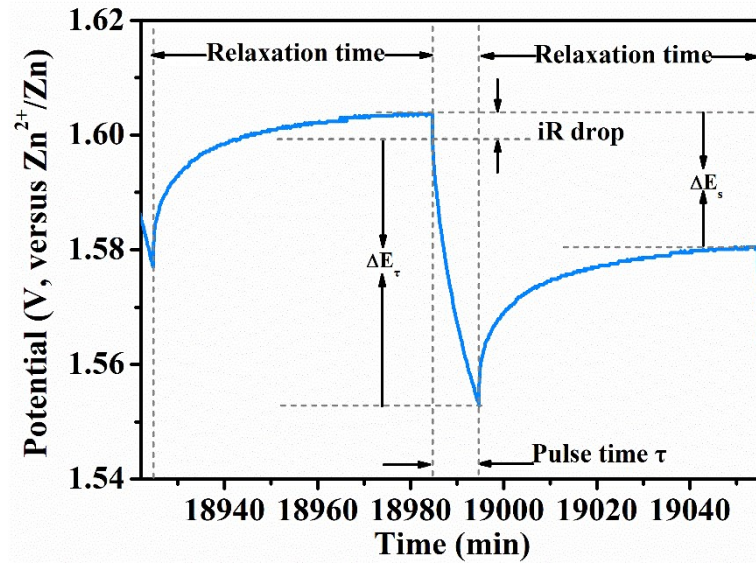


Fig. S19 E versus t curves of KMO_d electrode for a single GITT during discharge process.

The solid diffusion coefficients were measured by Galvanostatic Intermittent Titration Technique (GITT) and calculated based on the Equation (1) below:^[1]

$$D_{GITT} = \frac{4}{\pi\tau} \left(\frac{m_B V_m}{M_B S} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\Delta E_s}{\Delta E_\tau} \right)^2 \quad (\tau \ll \frac{L^2}{D_{GITT}}) \quad (1)$$

Where m_B (g) is the weight of the active materials, M_B (g/mol) is the molecular weight, V_m (cm³/mol) is its molar volume, S (cm²) is the surface area, τ (s) is duration time of the current pulse, ΔE_s is the voltage difference measured at the end of the relaxation period for two successive steps, ΔE_τ is the difference between the initial voltage and final voltage during the discharge pulse time τ after eliminating the iR drop, L is the thickness of electrode. If the voltage was linearly related to the $\tau^{1/2}$, above equation can be simplified as the following Equation (2):^[2]

$$D_{GITT} = \frac{4}{\pi\tau} \left(\frac{m_B}{\rho S} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\Delta E_s}{\Delta E_\tau} \right)^2 \quad (2)$$

Where ρ is the density of active materials.

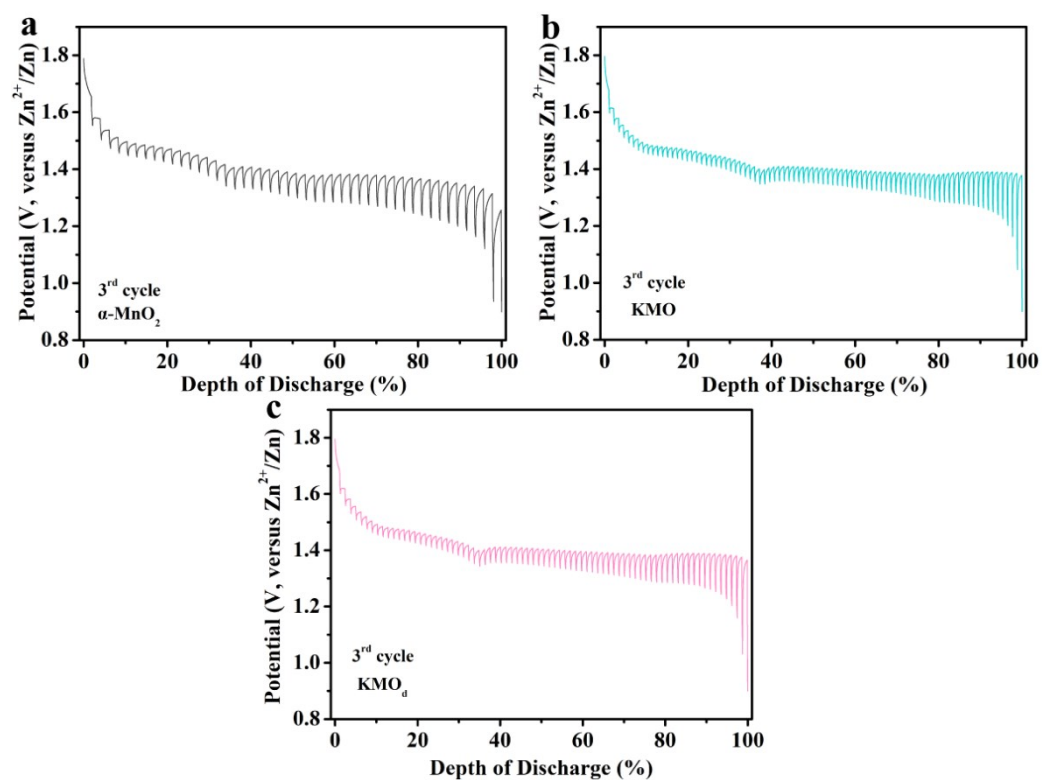


Fig. S20 The GITT curves of (a) $\alpha\text{-MnO}_2$, (b) KMO, and (c) KMO_d electrodes.

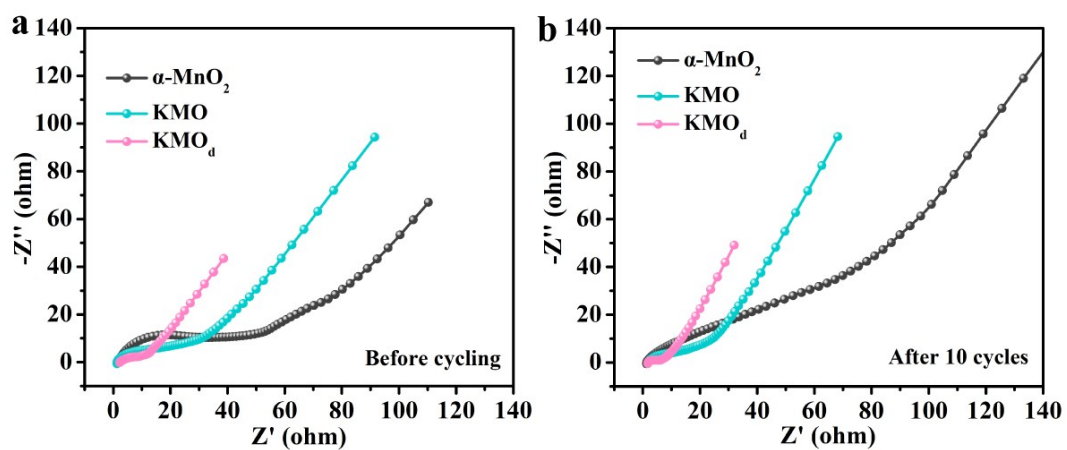


Fig. S21 Nyquist plots of KMO_d, KMO, and α -MnO₂ electrodes (a) before cycling and (b) after 10 cycles.

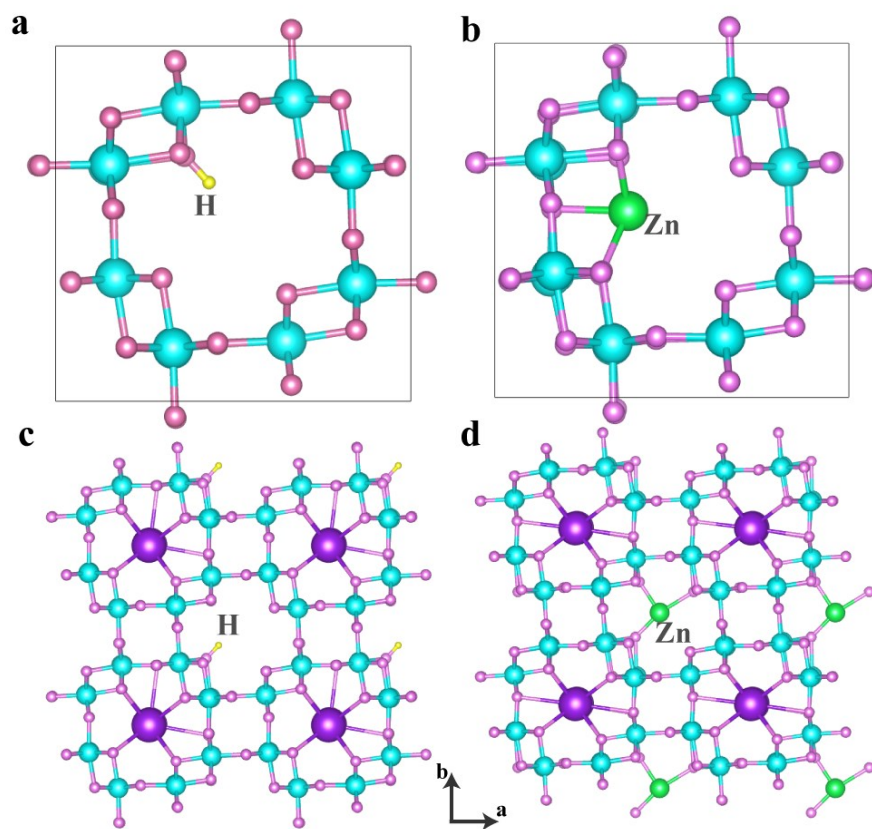


Fig. S22 The adsorption structures for H^+ and Zn^{2+} of (a,b) $\alpha\text{-MnO}_2$ and (c,d) KMO.

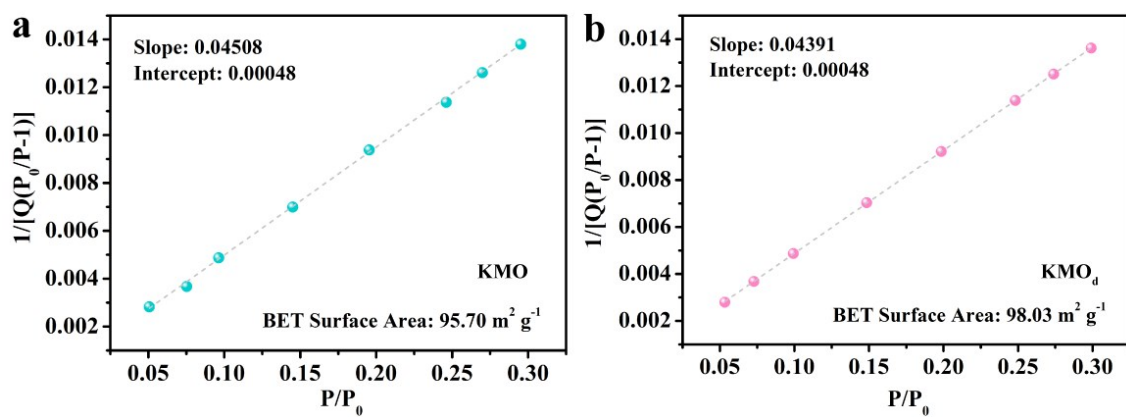


Fig. S23 The BET surface area plots of (a) KMO and (b) KMO_d.

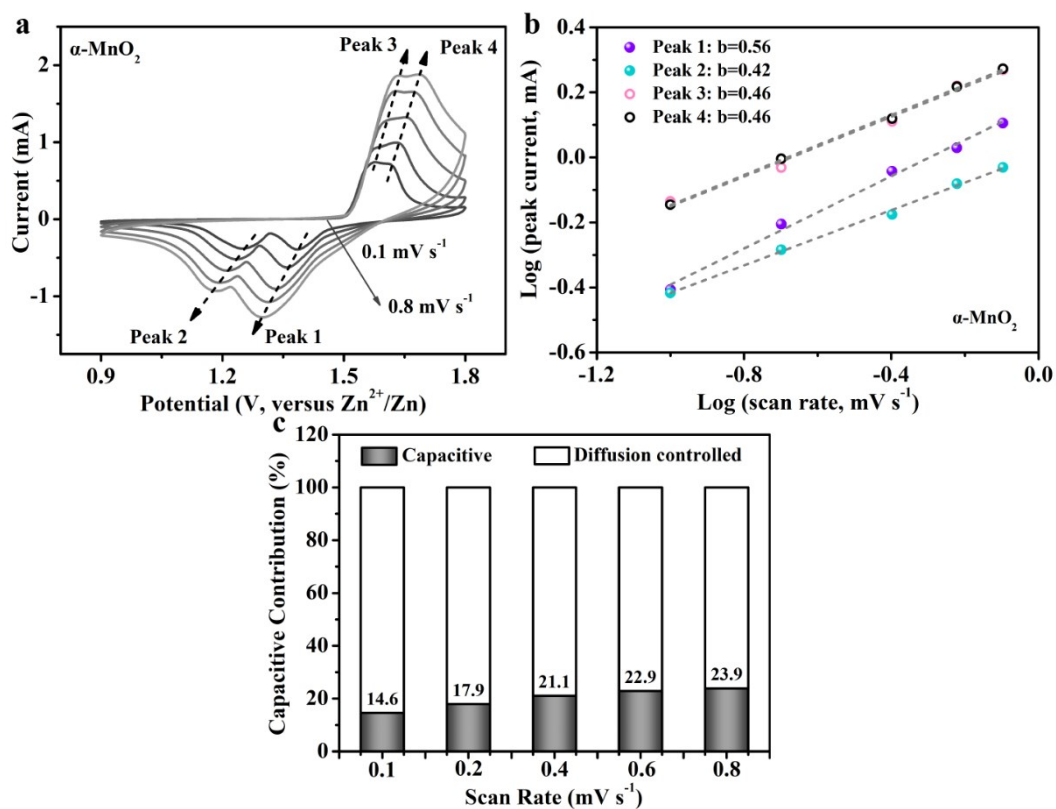


Fig. S24 (a) Cyclic voltammetry (CV) curves at different scan rates, b) the corresponding linear relationship of $\log(v)$ and $\log(i)$ at different potentials, and c) the corresponding percent of pseudocapacitive contribution of $\alpha\text{-MnO}_2$ electrode.

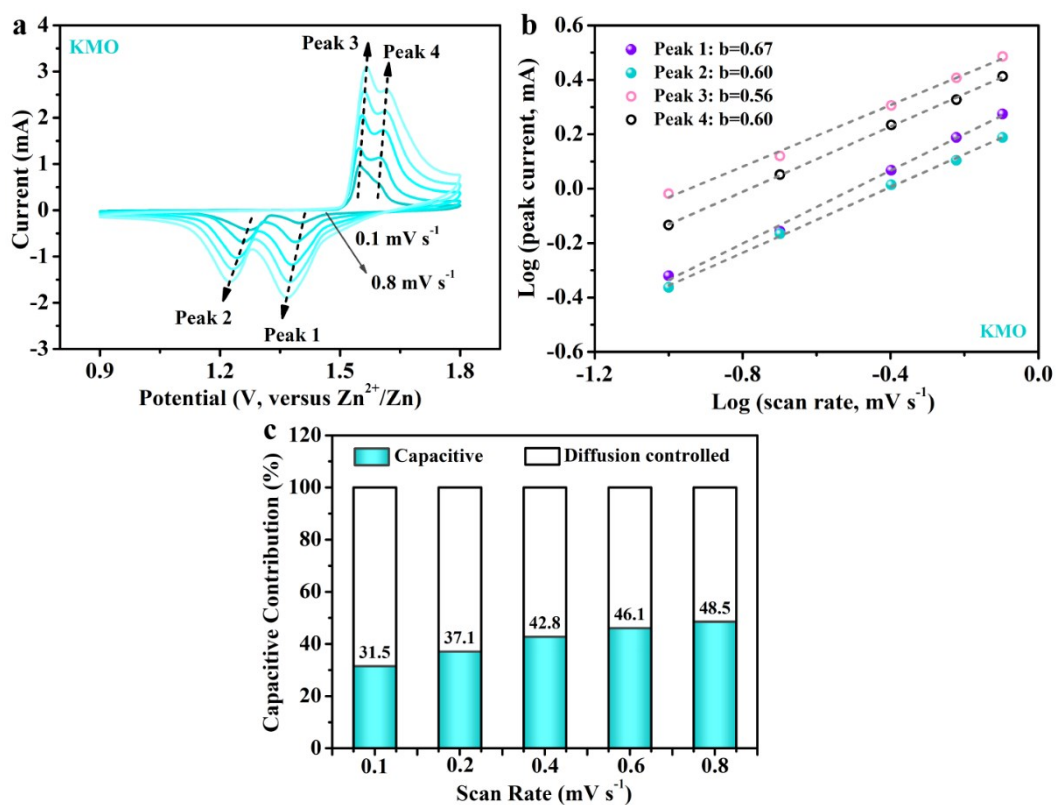


Fig. S25 (a) Cyclic voltammetry (CV) curves at different scan rates, b) the corresponding linear relationship of $\log(v)$ and $\log(i)$ at different potentials, and c) the corresponding percent of pseudocapacitive contribution of KMO electrode.

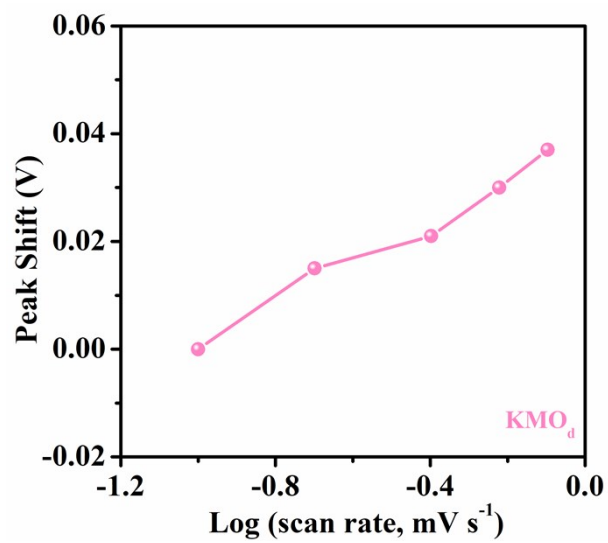


Fig. S26 Variation of the cathodic peaks voltage with different scan rates.

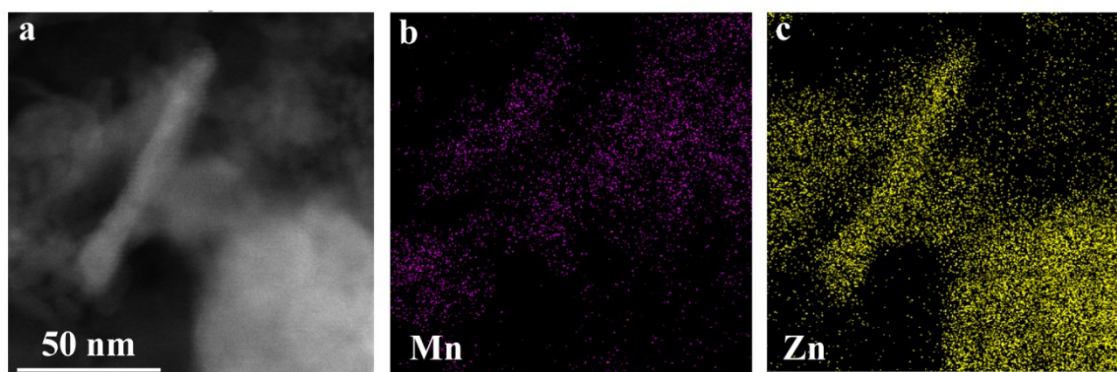


Fig. S27 (a) STEM-HAADF image, and (b,c) EDX mappings of the elemental distributions of Zn and Mn in KMO_4 nanowire at fully discharged state.

Table S1. The mass loadings of different active materials shown in Fig. 3d.

Active materials	Mass loadings/ mg cm ⁻¹	References
K _{0.15} MnO _d (This work)	1.2	-
K _{0.1} MnO ₂	unknown	Adv. Funct. Mater. 2019, 29, 1808375
K _{0.19} MnO ₂	1.0	J. Mater. Chem. A, 2019, 7, 20806-20812
Ni-K _{0.12} MO·0.208H ₂ O	1.5	Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2021, 60, 4169-4174
O _d -MnO ₂	1.0	Adv. Energy Mater. 2019, 9, 1803815
δ-MnO ₂	unknown	Electrochem. Commun. 2015, 60, 121-125
Todorokite-MnO ₂	2.0	Electrochimica Acta, 2013, 112 138-143
ZnMn ₂ O ₄	2.0	J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2016, 138, 12894-12901
ZnHcF	unknown	Adv. Energy Mater. 2015, 5, 1400930
CuHcF	unknown	ChemSusChem 2015, 8, 481-485

Table S2. Electrochemical performance of MnO₂-based cathodes for aqueous ZIBs.

Cathodes	Energy density (Wh kg ⁻¹)	Power density (W kg ⁻¹)	Cycle stability	Ref.
KMO _d	518	1884	271 mAh g ⁻¹ at 1000 mA g ⁻¹ with 97.5% capacity retention after 500 cycles; 203 mAh g ⁻¹ at 2000 mA g ⁻¹ with 81.3% capacity retention after 2500 cycles	This work
MnO ₂	231	4000 (9C)	100 mAh g ⁻¹ at 344 mA g ⁻¹ with 55.6% capacity retention after 150 cycles	[3]
O _d -MnO ₂	470	10 ⁴ (30 A g ⁻¹)	105 mAh g ⁻¹ at 5000 mA g ⁻¹ with 84% capacity retention after 2000 cycles	[4]
β-MnO ₂	385	-	134 mAh g ⁻¹ at 1250 mA g ⁻¹ with 83.2% capacity retention after 1000 cycles	[5]
K _{0.19} MnO ₂	380	403	180 mAh g ⁻¹ at 1540 mA g ⁻¹ with 90% capacity retention after 400 cycles	[6]
KMO	398	2750	156 mAh g ⁻¹ at 1000 mA g ⁻¹ after 1000 cycles	[7]
β-MnO ₂	-	-	135 mAh g ⁻¹ at 200 mA g ⁻¹ with 75% capacity retention after 200 cycles	[8]
MnO _x @N-C	390	1900	100 mAh g ⁻¹ at 2000 mA g ⁻¹ after 1600 cycles	[9]
Ni-doped KMO	421	1766	120 mAh g ⁻¹ at 1232 mA g ⁻¹ with 71.4% capacity retention after 2000 cycles	[10]
α-MnO ₂ @G	407	9450	240 mAh g ⁻¹ at 1000 mA g ⁻¹ after 100 cycles	[11]
D-MnO ₂	406	4100	250 mAh g ⁻¹ at 1000 mA g ⁻¹ after 500 cycles	[12]

Table S3. The optimized lattice constants of KMO_d , KMO , and $\alpha\text{-MnO}_2$ unit cells.

	$\alpha\text{-MnO}_2$	KMO	KMO_d
a/Å	9.687819	9.71956	9.775119
b/Å	9.687819	9.71956	9.711212
c/Å	2.890018	5.808683	5.816079
$\alpha/^\circ$	90	90	90
$\beta/^\circ$	90	90	90
$\gamma/^\circ$	90	90	90

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