

## Supplemental information

# Dual additive of lithium titanate and sulfurized pyrolyzed polyacrylonitrile in sulfur cathode for high rate performance in lithium-sulfur battery

Koshin Takemoto,\*<sup>a</sup> Jungo Wakasugi<sup>a</sup>, Masaaki Kubota<sup>a</sup>, Kiyoshi Kanamura<sup>a,b</sup>, and Hidetoshi Abe\*<sup>a,c</sup>

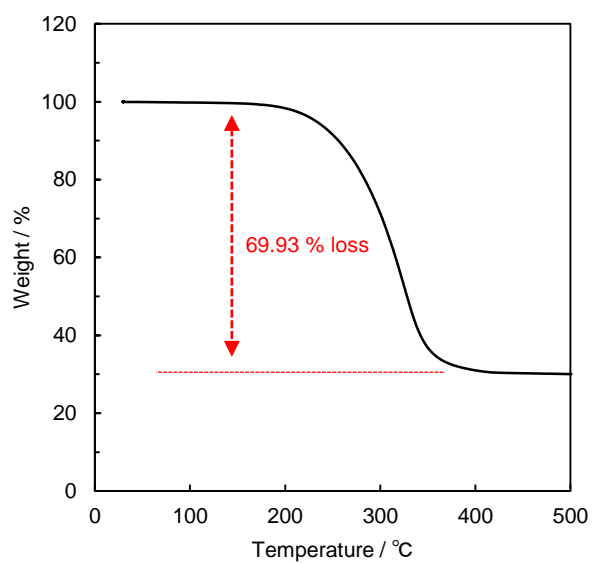
<sup>a</sup>ABRI Co., Ltd., Building P-302, Tokyo Metropolitan University, 1-1 Minami-Ohsawa, Hachioji, Tokyo 192-0397, Japan

<sup>b</sup>Department of Applied Chemistry for Environment, Graduate School of Urban Environmental Sciences, Tokyo Metropolitan University, 1-1 Minami-Ohsawa, Hachioji, Tokyo 192-0397, Japan

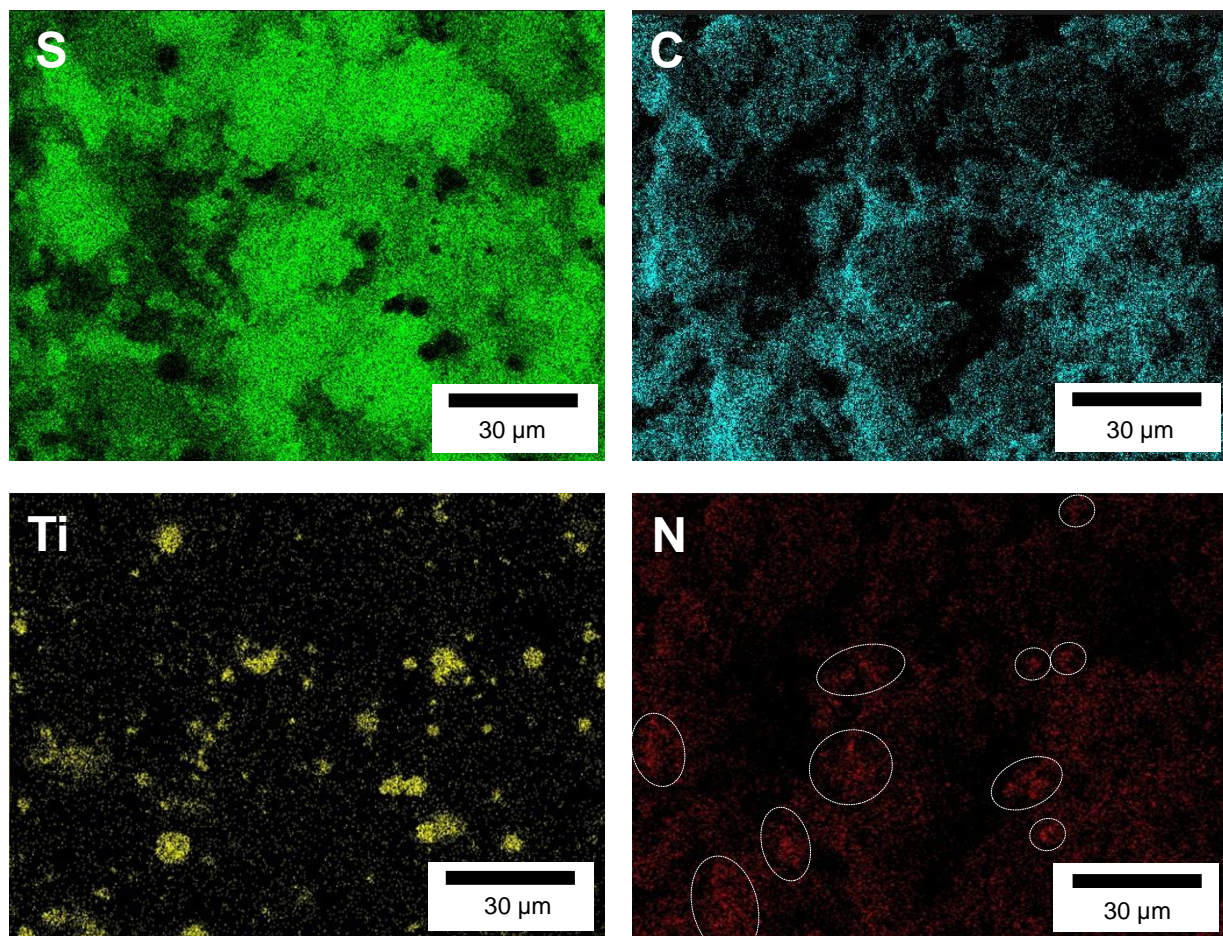
<sup>c</sup>Yamaguchi University, 2-16-1 Tokiwadai, Ube, Yamaguchi 755-8611, Japan

\*E-mail: k-takemoto@abri.co.jp

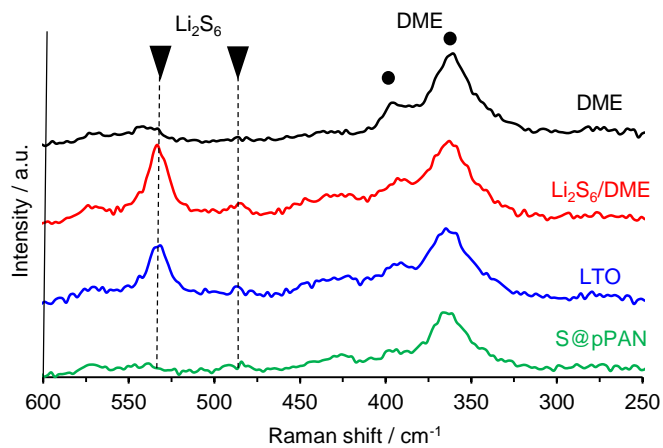
\*E-mail: h-abe@abri.co.jp



**Figure S1.** TGA plot of S/CNovel complex powder. S and CNovel in the weight ratio of 70:30 were mixed and then heated at 155 °C for 12 h to incorporate S into CNovel.



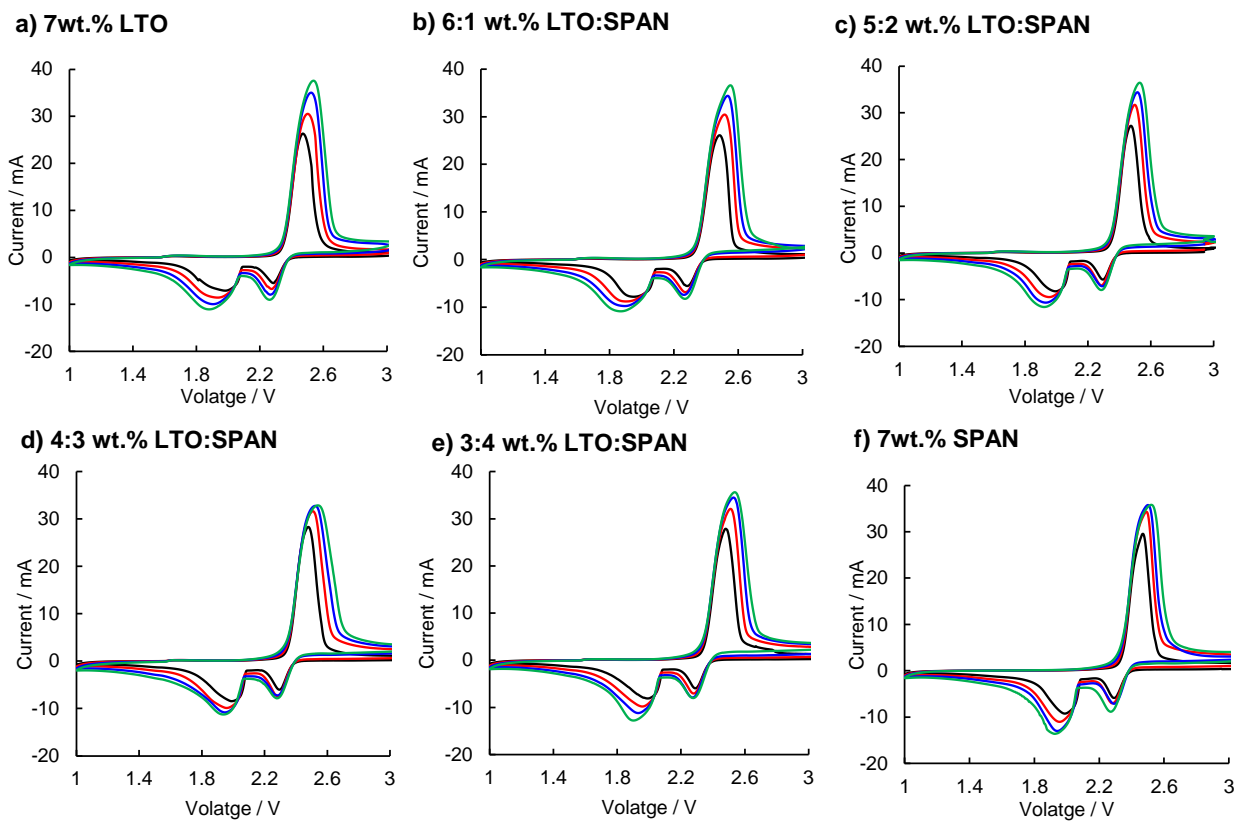
**Figure S2.** EDS mapping images of sulfur, carbon, titanium, and nitrogen in the 4:3 wt.% LTO:SPAN electrode surface. The images of N atom, white circles indicate



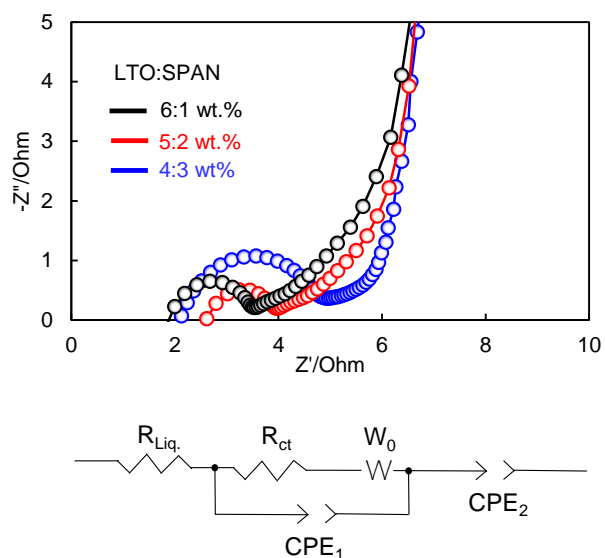
**Figure S3.** Raman spectra with the solutions after the adsorption test. LTO and SPAN with an equal surface area were added into 5mM Li<sub>2</sub>S<sub>6</sub>/DME solution with storage for 7 days..

**Table S1.** Atomic ratios of the SPAN surface obtained by XPS before/after the polysulfide adsorption test. SPAN was immersed in the solution for 7 days.

	Before the polysulfide adsorption/%	After the polysulfide adsorption/%
Oxygen	12.36	11.27
Nitrogen	9.91	9.69
Carbon	67.29	67.36
Sulfur	10.44	11.68



**Figure S4.** Cyclic voltammogram at different sweep rates from 0.2 to 0.5  $\text{mV s}^{-1}$  for Li-S cells in the different cathodes. (a) 7 wt% LTO, (b) 6:1 wt% LTO:SPAN, (c) 5:2 wt% LTO:SPAN, (d) 4:3 wt% LTO:SPAN, (e) 3:4 wt% LTO:SPAN, and (f) 7 wt% SPAN. The  $C_1$  peak and the  $C_2$  peak correspond to the reduction from  $S_8$  to higher-order lithium polysulfide ( $\text{Li}_2S_x$ ,  $x \geq 4$ ) and the reduction from  $\text{Li}_2S_4$  to  $\text{Li}_2S_2$  and/or  $\text{Li}_2S$ , respectively. The  $A_1$  peak is assigned to oxidation from  $\text{Li}_2S$  to higher-order lithium polysulfide and/or  $S_8$ .



**Figure S5.** (a) Nyquist plots of Li-S cells using different weight ratios of LTO and SPAN and an equivalent circuit model. EIS was conducted in the frequency range of 3 MHz to 0.1 Hz with an amplitude of 10 mV at 60 °C.