

Supporting Information for

**Durable modulation of Zn (002) plane deposition via reproducible zincophilic carbon quantum dots towards low N/P ratio Zinc-Ion Batteries**

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## Supplementary Figures and Tables

**Table S1** Comparison in depth of discharge (DOD) and cycling lifespan for Zn||Zn symmetric cells with different modified strategies.

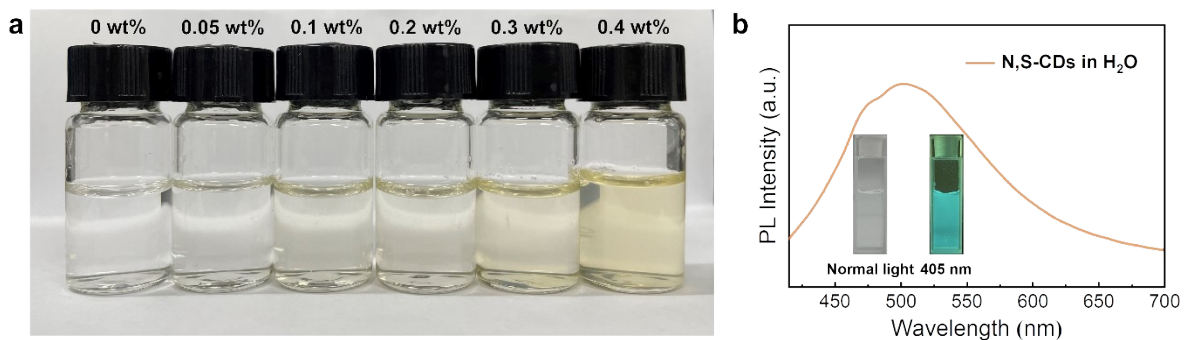
Modified strategies	Zn foil thickness ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Current density ( $\text{mA cm}^{-2}$ )	Areal capacity ( $\text{mAh cm}^{-2}$ )	DOD (%)	Lifespan (h)	Ref.
<i>N,S-CDs additive</i>	<b>10</b>	<b>1.95</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>103</b>	<b><i>This work</i></b>
CNF-SO <sub>3</sub> Zn separator	10 $\mu\text{m}$ on one side and 130 $\mu\text{m}$ on the other	2	3	50	100	<sup>1</sup> Adv. Funct. Mater., 2022
		1	5	80	60	
Zn <sub>3</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> /ZnF <sub>2</sub> -rich in situ SEI	10	3	3	50	250	<sup>2</sup> Energy Environ. Sci., 2021
		4.7	4.7	80	120	
<i>N,S-CDs additive</i>	<b>20</b>	<b>1.95</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>250</b>	<b><i>This work</i></b>
	<b>20</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>200</b>	
Zwitterionic hydrogel electrolyte	~20	20	10	80.9	100	<sup>3</sup> Adv. Energy Mater., 2022
Polyamide coating	20	10	10	85	150	<sup>4</sup> Energy Environ. Sci., 2019
MX-TMA coating	20	10	10	85	450	<sup>5</sup> Energy Storage Mater., 2022
ZGL coating	20	1	5	42.7	560	<sup>6</sup> Energy Storage Mater., 2022
		1	10	85.5	250	
TiO <sub>2</sub> & PVDF coating	25	8.85	8.85	60	250	<sup>7</sup> Adv. Funct. Mater., 2021
Glass fiber gasket	~26	50	10	66.7	100	<sup>8</sup> Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2022

CO <sub>2</sub> -purged electrolyte	30	10	10	57	100	<sup>9</sup> ACS Nano, 2022
NH <sub>2</sub> -PSiO <sub>x</sub> coating	30	20	10	57	~300	<sup>10</sup> Energy Storage Mater., 2023
PSN coating	30	10	10	60	250	<sup>11</sup> Adv. Funct. Mater., 2021
2-propanol composite electrolyte	~50	15	15	51.2	500	<sup>12</sup> Adv. Mater., 2022
Cellulose film separator	~50	2	20	69.7	300	<sup>13</sup> Energy Storage Mater., 2022
ZP coating	50	25	17.67	65	200	<sup>14</sup> Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2023
		25	19.03	70	138	
		26.55	21.74	80	60	
Janus separator	~85	28.3	28.3	56	220	<sup>15</sup> Adv. Mater., 2022
CuHCF coating	100	30	30	51.3	200	<sup>16</sup> Small, 2022
Acetone additive	100	50	50	73.5	800	<sup>17</sup> Adv. Funct. Mater., 2023
Montmorillonite coating	100	10	45	77	>1000	<sup>18</sup> Adv. Energy Mater., 2021
ZnHAP/BC separator	100	1	29.1	50	1025	<sup>19</sup> Small, 2023
		1	46.5	80	611	
ZnP coating	100	20	30	51	300	<sup>20</sup> Adv. Funct. Mater., 2021
		15	48	82	100	

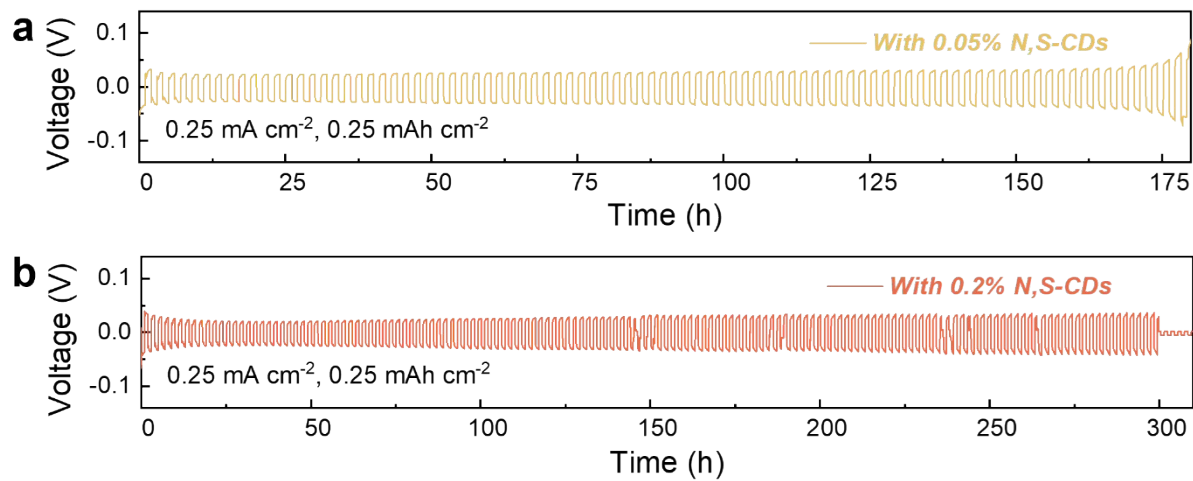
**Table S2** Electrochemical performance of the full cells with different modified strategies.

Modified strategies	Zn foil	Cathode		Full cell performance		Cathode area specific capacity (mAh cm <sup>-2</sup> )	N/P ratio	Energy density (Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> )		Ref.
	Thickness (μm)	Material	Mass loading (mg cm <sup>-2</sup> )	Specific capacity (mAh g <sup>-1</sup> )	Current density			Based on active material	Including electrolyte	
Nafion-Zn-X coating	300	VS <sub>2</sub>	3	~ 175	0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>	0.53	513.00	0.95	0.60	<sup>21</sup> Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2020
Cellulose film separator	200	α-MnO <sub>2</sub>	2	~ 300	0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	0.60	189.92	5.80	0.15	<sup>13</sup> Energy Storage Mater., 2022
F-GQDs additive	100	MnO <sub>2</sub>	1	~ 330	0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	0.33	189.92	6.38	NA	<sup>22</sup> Chem. Eng. J., 2023
Zn <sub>3</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> /ZnF <sub>2</sub> -rich in situ SEI	100	α-MnO <sub>2</sub>	1	~ 270	0.1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	0.27	189.92	5.22	2.36	<sup>2</sup> Energy Environ. Sci., 2021
In <sup>3+</sup> additive	100	V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.65	~ 540	0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	0.35	152.81	3.90	NA	<sup>23</sup> Adv. Funct. Mater., 2022
TiO <sub>2</sub> & PVDF coating	80	MnO <sub>2</sub>	1	244	2 C	0.24	151.94	5.88	1.94	<sup>7</sup> Adv. Funct. Mater., 2021
Mxene in situ coating	50	α-MnO <sub>2</sub>	1	~ 300	0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	0.30	94.96	11.44	NA	<sup>24</sup> Angew. Chem., Int. Ed., 2021
ZIF-8 in situ coating	50	LaVO <sub>4</sub>	1.9	~ 95	10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	0.18	72.96	3.84	NA	<sup>25</sup> Adv. Sci., 2020
rGO in situ coating	110	V <sub>3</sub> O <sub>7</sub> ·H <sub>2</sub> O	5.13	245	1.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>	1.26	47.09	6.95	NA	<sup>26</sup> ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces, 2018
Liquefied Gas Electrolytes	100	Na <sub>2</sub> V <sub>6</sub> O <sub>16</sub> ·1.63H <sub>2</sub> O	~ 3	~ 260	0.02 A g <sup>-1</sup>	0.78	38.65	8.39	NA	<sup>27</sup> ACS Energy Lett., 2021
Gelatin coating	50	V <sub>6</sub> O <sub>13</sub>	~ 2	~ 375	0.1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	0.75	35.06	15.92	NA	<sup>28</sup> Adv. Energy Mater., 2021
Montmorillonite coating	100	MMT-MnO <sub>2</sub>	8.5	~ 270	2 C	2.30	22.34	40.21	NA	<sup>18</sup> Adv. Energy Mater., 2021
1,4-dioxane additive	100	MnO <sub>2</sub>	9.4	~ 130	0.05 A g <sup>-1</sup>	1.22	20.20	21.17	NA	<sup>29</sup> ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces, 2021

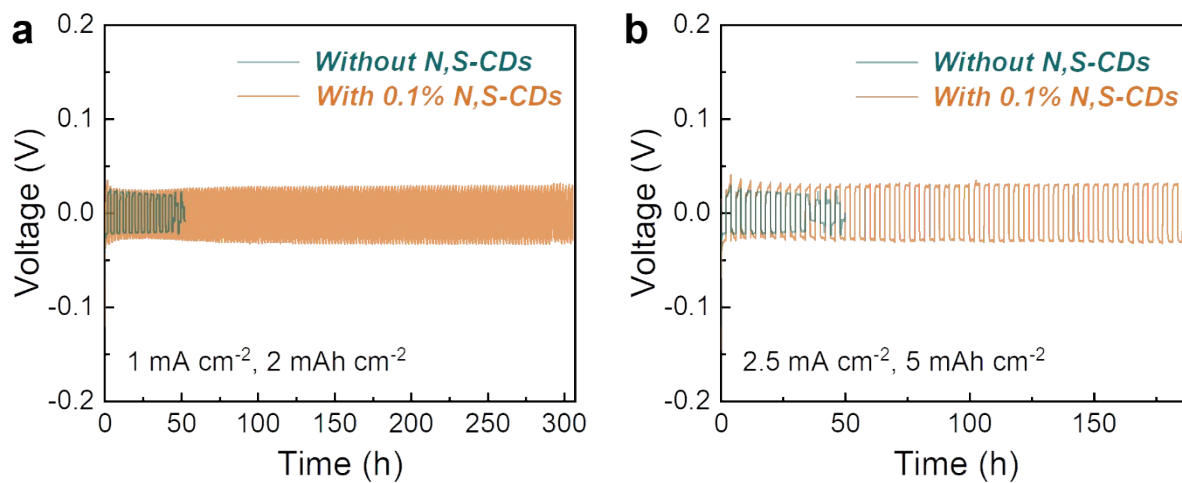
PVB coating	10	MnO <sub>2</sub>	1.13	~ 250	1 C	0.28	16.86	47.71	NA	<sup>30</sup> Adv. Funct. Mater., 2020
1,4-dioxane additive	20	NH <sub>4</sub> V <sub>4</sub> O <sub>10</sub>	13.3	~ 160	2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	2.13	2.44	52.00	11.71	<sup>31</sup> ACS Nano, 2023
FCOF coating	NA	MnO <sub>2</sub>	16	NA	3 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	~ 2.00	2.00	130.00	55.00	<sup>32</sup> Nat. Commun., 2021
	NA	MnO <sub>2</sub>	8	~ 180	4 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	NA	5.00	113.00	NA	
	NA	MnO <sub>2</sub>	8	~ 160	4 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	NA	10.00	74.00	NA	
GQDs additive	NA	NVO (PDF#49-0996)	1.5	350	0.1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	0.53	NA	NA	NA	<sup>33</sup> Nano Energy, 2022
<i>N,S-CDs additive</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>Na<sub>2</sub>V<sub>6</sub>O<sub>16</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O</i>	<i>6.56</i>	<i>345</i>	<i>0.2 A g<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>2.27</i>	<i>1.83</i>	<i>132.34</i>	<i>9.26</i>	<i>This work</i>
<i>N,S-CDs additive (lean electrolyte)</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>Na<sub>2</sub>V<sub>6</sub>O<sub>16</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O</i>	<i>11.52</i>	<i>294</i>	<i>0.2 A g<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>3.38</i>	<i>1.05</i>	<i>144.98</i>	<i>39.34</i>	<i>This work</i>
	<i>20</i>	<i>Na<sub>2</sub>V<sub>6</sub>O<sub>16</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O</i>	<i>16.47</i>	<i>303</i>	<i>0.2 A g<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>4.99</i>	<i>1.46</i>	<i>129.75</i>	<i>26.34</i>	



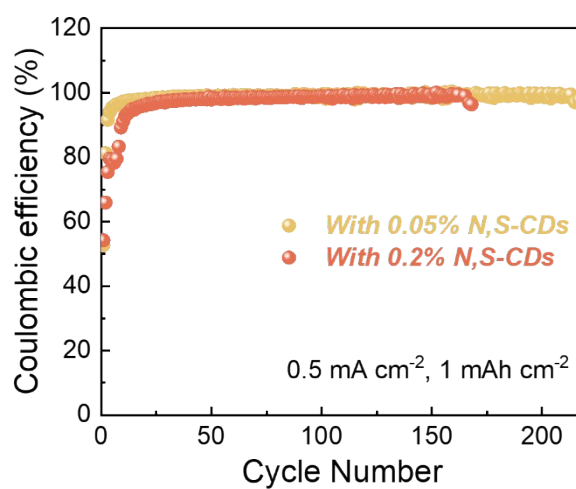
**Fig. S1** (a) Digital image of 2 M ZnSO<sub>4</sub> electrolyte solution containing various amounts (0, 0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, and 0.4 wt %) of N,S-CDs additives. (b) Photoluminescence spectra of N,S-CDs in aqueous solutions under 405 nm excitation. Inset: optical images of the N,S-CDs aqueous solution under nature light and excited by 405 nm.



**Fig. S2** Long-term cycling performance of the Zn||Zn symmetric cells using electrolyte with (a) 0.05% N,S-CDs and (b) 0.2% N,S-CDs at 0.25 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> for 0.25 mAh cm<sup>-2</sup>.

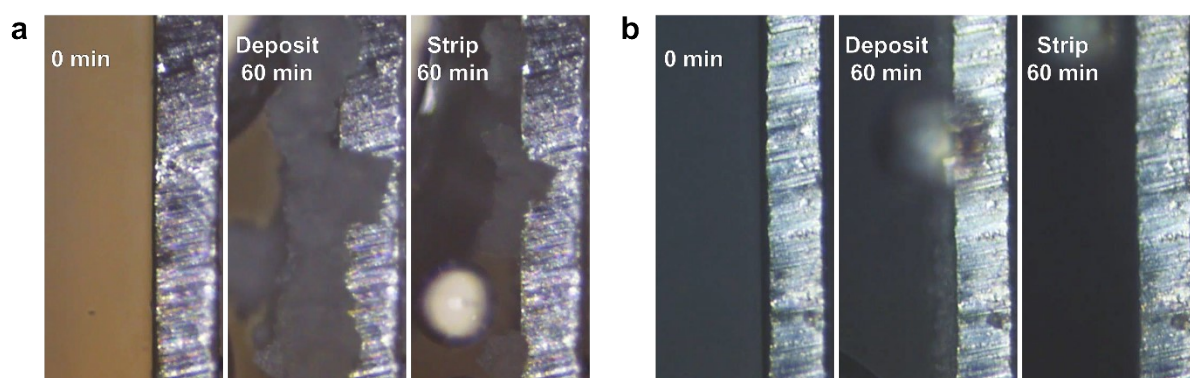


**Fig. S3** Long-term cycling performance of the Zn||Zn symmetric cells using pristine ZnSO<sub>4</sub> electrolyte and electrolyte with 0.1% N,S-CDs at (a) 1 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> for 2 mAh cm<sup>-2</sup> and (b) 2.5 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> for 5 mAh cm<sup>-2</sup>.

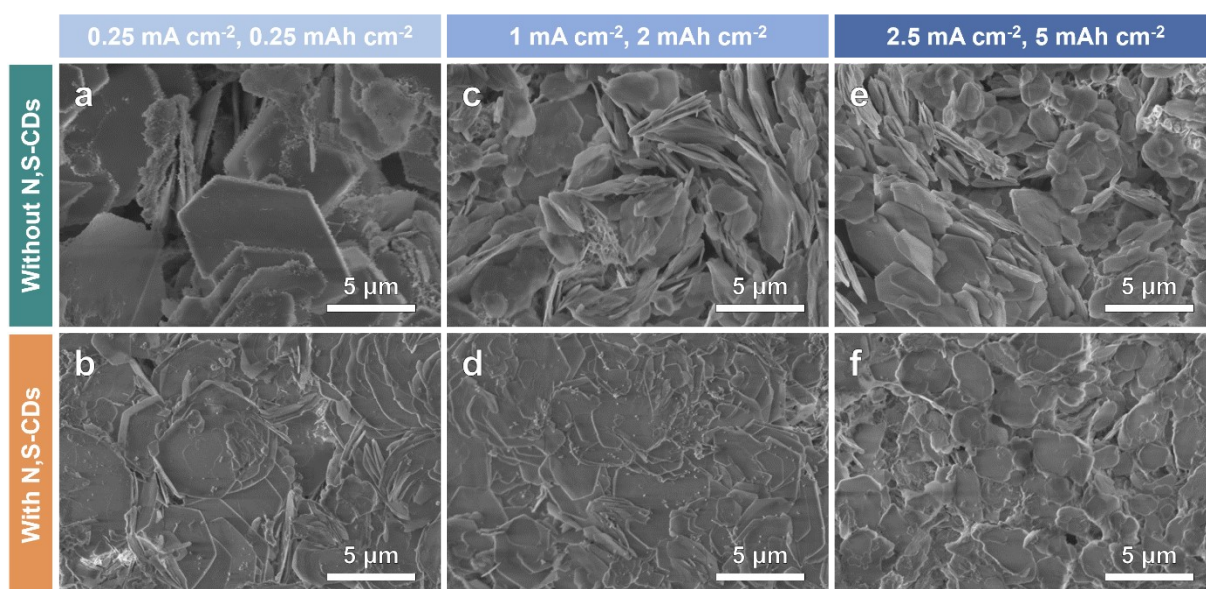


**Fig. S4** Coulombic efficiency of Zn||Cu cells using electrolyte with 0.05% N,S-CDs and 0.2% N,S-CDs at 0.5 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> for 1 mAh cm<sup>-2</sup>.

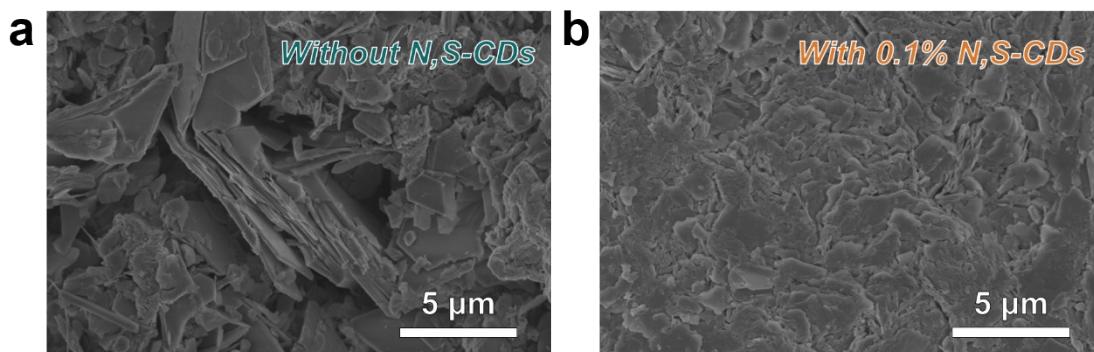




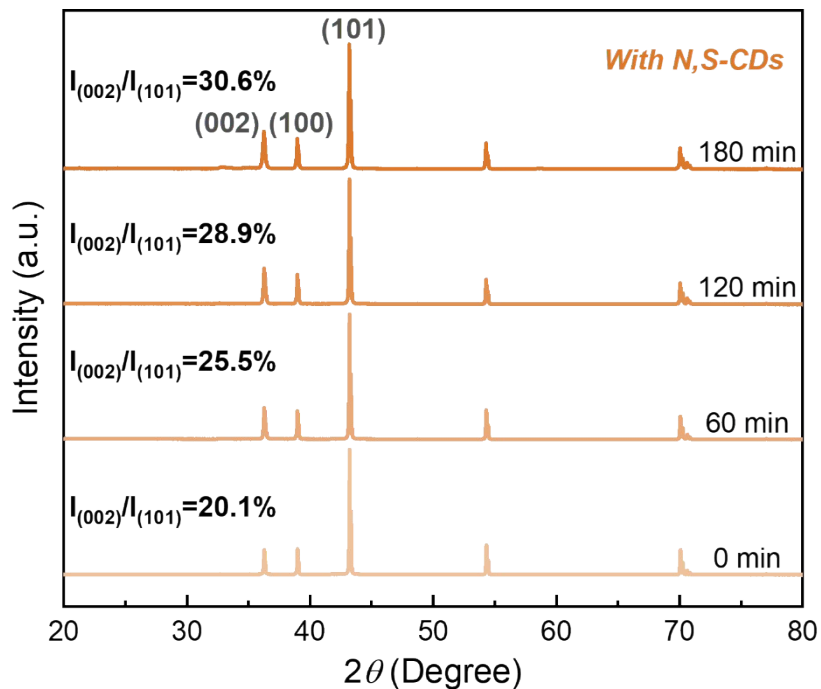
**Fig. S5** In situ OM images of the anodes deposited at  $5 \text{ mA cm}^{-2}$  for 60 minutes and then stripped at  $1 \text{ mA cm}^{-2}$  for 60 minutes in the electrolyte (a) without and (b) with 0.1% N,S-CDs.



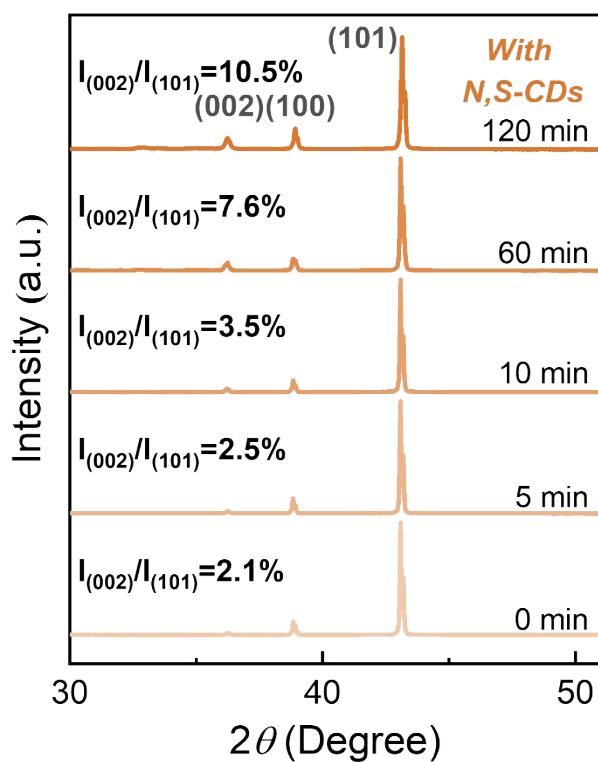
**Fig. S6** Top-view SEM images of the anodes in the Zn||Zn symmetric cells using pristine  $\text{ZnSO}_4$  electrolyte and electrolyte with 0.1% N,S-CDs at (a, b)  $0.25 \text{ mA cm}^{-2}$  for  $0.25 \text{ mAh cm}^{-2}$ , (c, d)  $1 \text{ mA cm}^{-2}$  for  $2 \text{ mAh cm}^{-2}$  and (e, f)  $2.5 \text{ mA cm}^{-2}$  for  $5 \text{ mAh cm}^{-2}$  after 15 cycles.



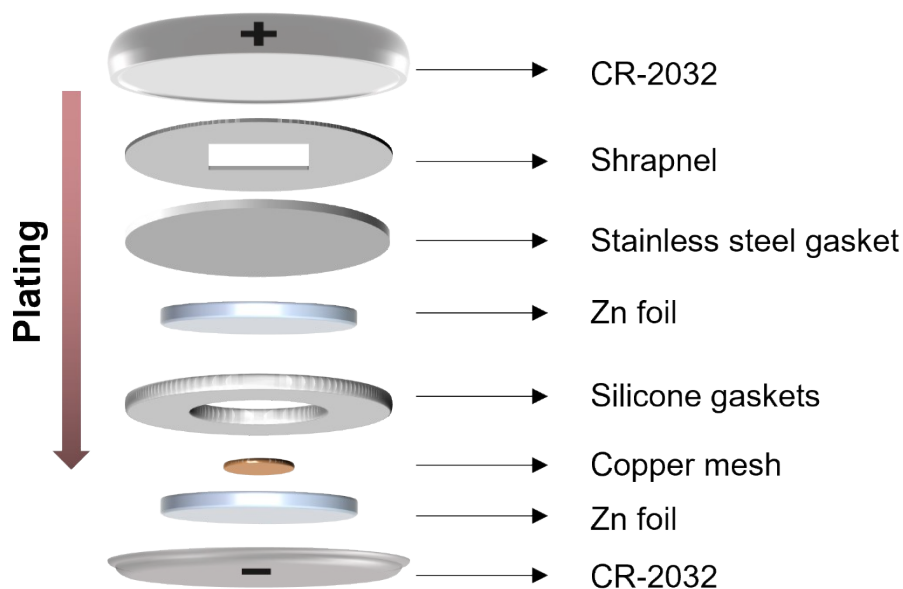
**Fig. S7** Top-view SEM images of the anodes in the Zn||Zn symmetric cells after rate test (a) without and (b) with 0.1% N,S-CDs.



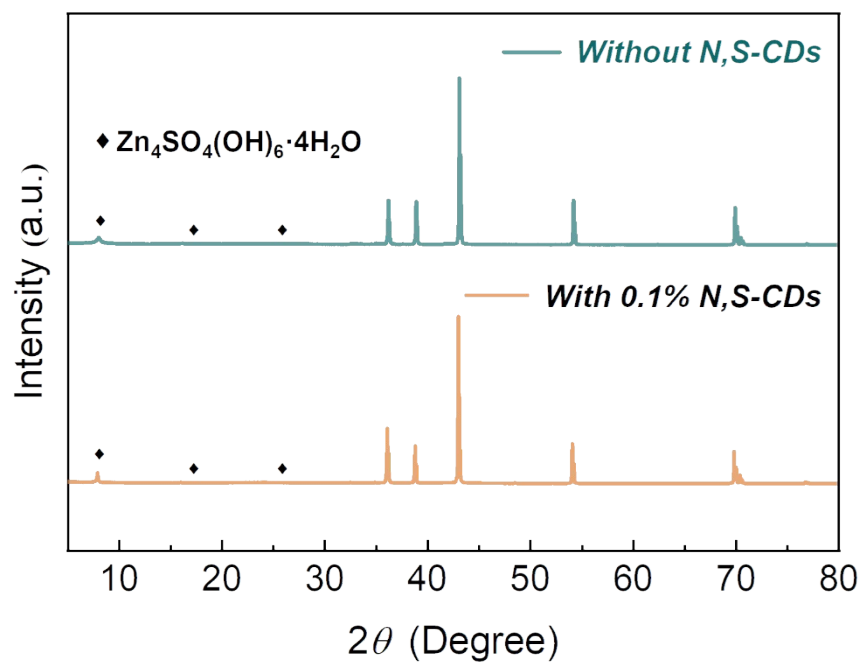
**Fig. S8** XRD patterns of the Zn deposits with deposition time from 0 to 180 minutes in the electrolyte with 0.1% N,S-CDs.



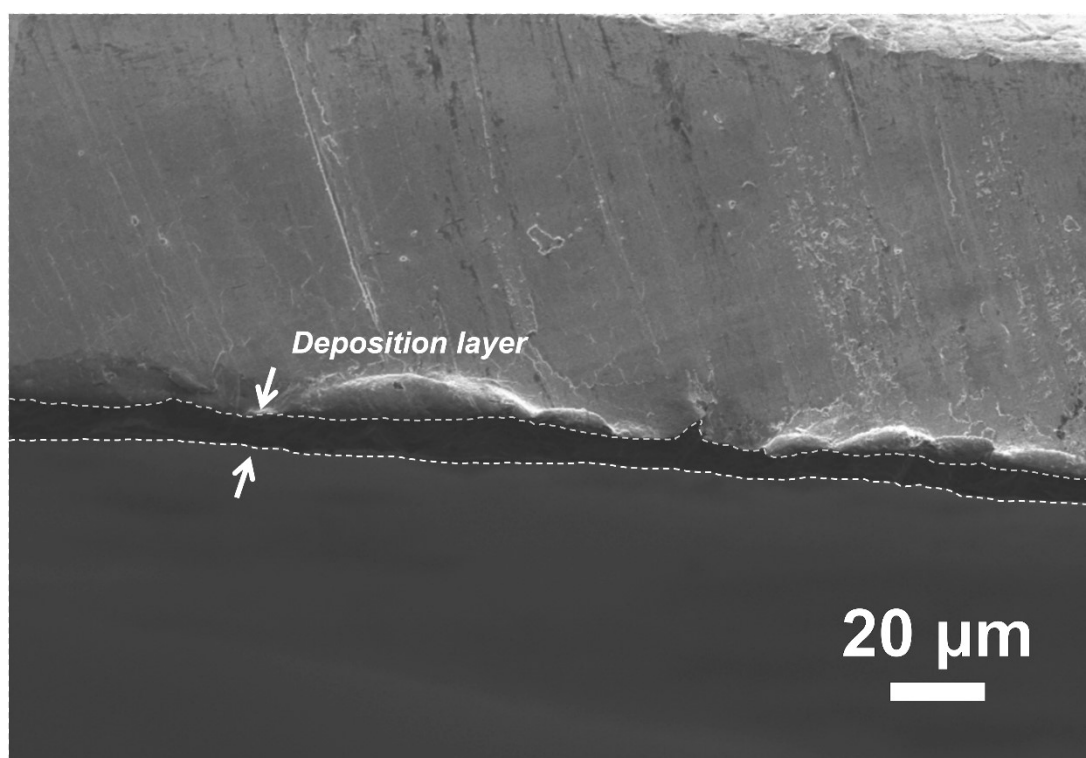
**Fig. S9** XRD patterns of the Zn anode (with a lower initial  $I_{(002)}/I_{(101)}$  ratio) using electrolyte with 0.1% N,S-CDs at various deposition time ranging from 0 to 120 min.



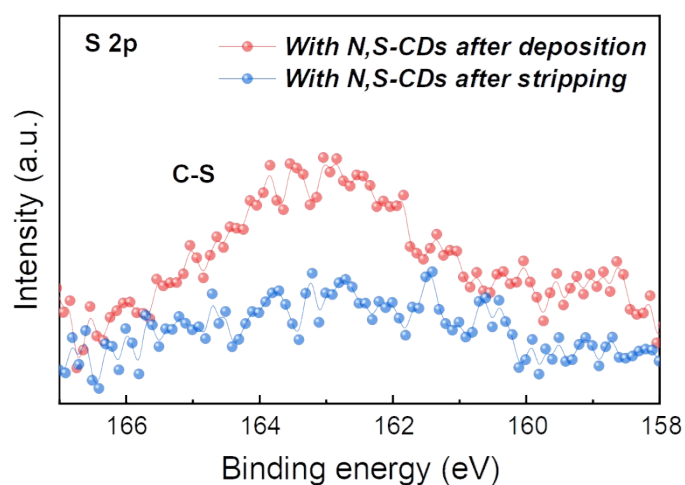
**Fig. S10** Schematic illustration of the special-design cell configuration to obtain the in situ generated Zn deposit on a Cu mesh.



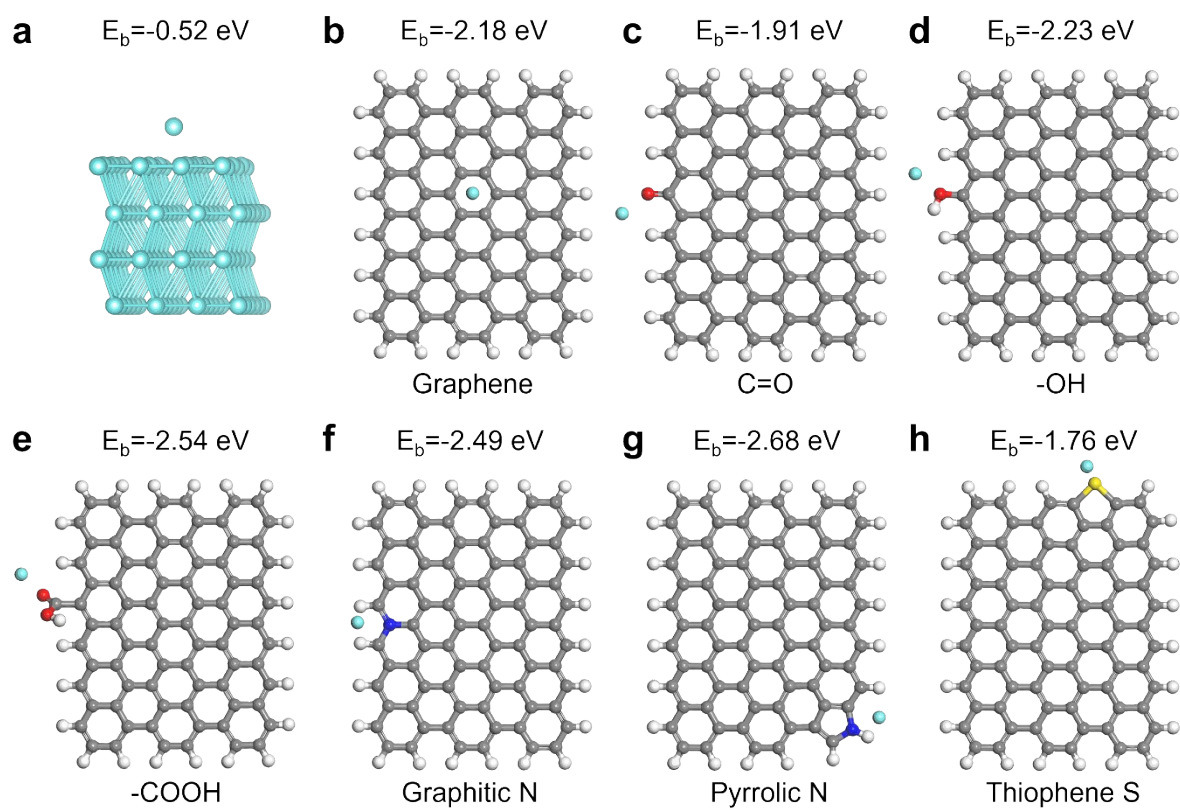
**Fig. S11** XRD patterns of the cycled Zn anode using the electrolyte without and with 0.1% N,S-CDs.



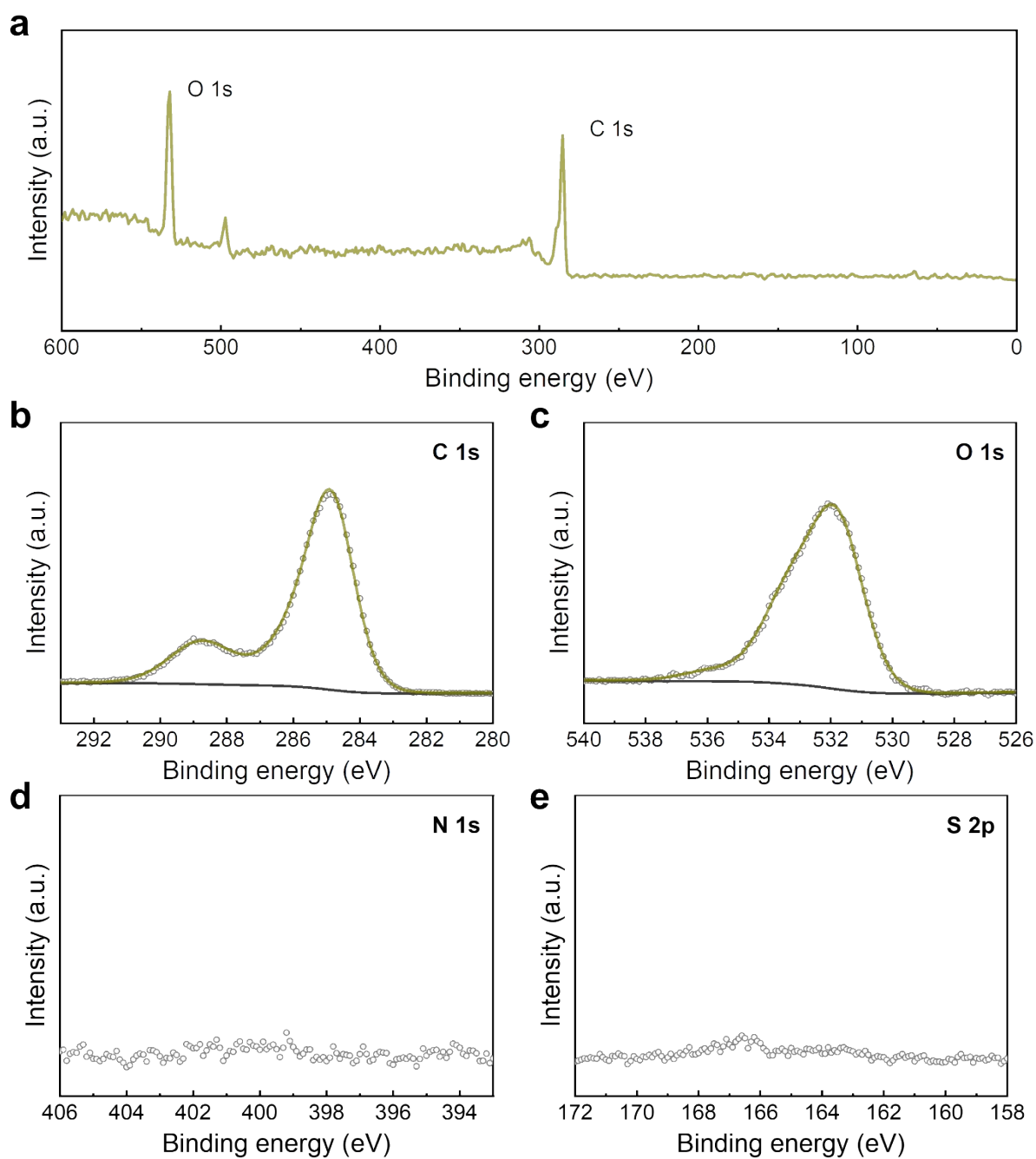
**Fig. S12** Cross-section SEM image of the anodes deposited at  $1 \text{ mA cm}^{-2}$  for  $1 \text{ mAh cm}^{-2}$  in the electrolyte with 0.1% N,S-CDs.



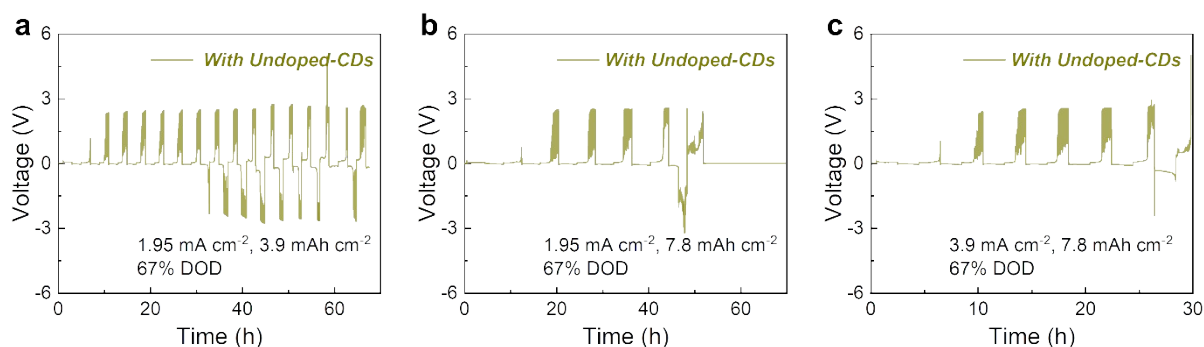
**Fig. S13** XPS high-resolution spectra of S 2p of the anode surface after deposition (deposited at  $1 \text{ mA cm}^{-2}$  for 60 minutes) and stripping (deposited at  $1 \text{ mA cm}^{-2}$  for 60 minutes and then stripped at  $1 \text{ mA cm}^{-2}$  for 60 minutes) in the electrolyte with 0.1% N,S-CDs.



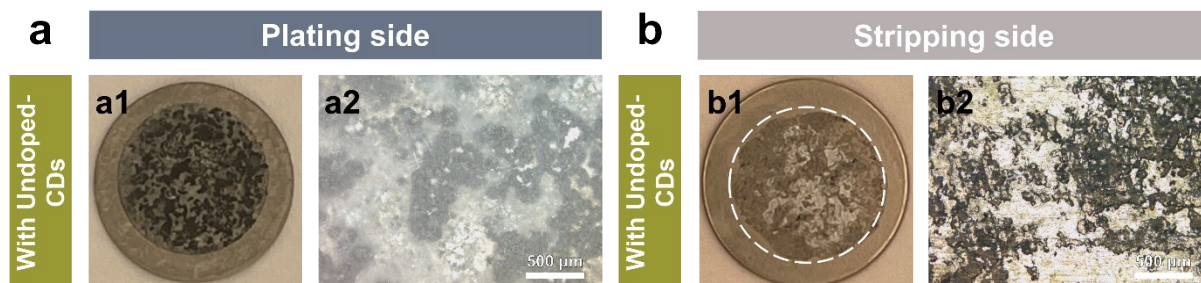
**Fig. S14** (a) Atomic model structure of binding energy between  $Zn^{2+}$  ions and Zn substrate. (b–h) Atomic model structure of binding energy between  $Zn^{2+}$  ions and graphene quantum dots with different functional groups.



**Fig. S15** (a) The XPS full spectra of the Undoped-CDs. The XPS high-resolution spectra of (b) C 1s, (c) O 1s, (d) N 1s, and (e) S 2p of the Undoped-CDs, respectively.

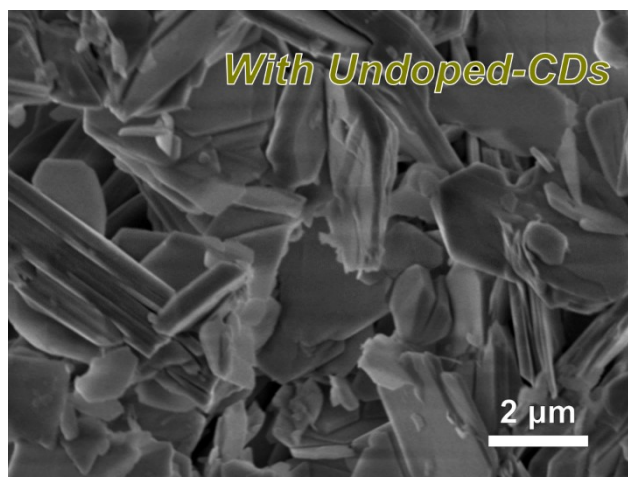


**Fig. S16** (a) Long-term cycling performance of the Zn||Zn (thickness: 10  $\mu\text{m}$ ) symmetric cells using electrolyte with 0.1% Undoped-CDs at 1.95  $\text{mA cm}^{-2}$  for 3.9  $\text{mAh cm}^{-2}$ . Long-term cycling performance of the Zn||Zn (thickness: 20  $\mu\text{m}$ ) symmetric cells using electrolyte with 0.1% Undoped-CDs at (b) 1.95  $\text{mA cm}^{-2}$  for 7.8  $\text{mAh cm}^{-2}$  and (c) 3.9  $\text{mA cm}^{-2}$  for 7.8  $\text{mAh cm}^{-2}$ .

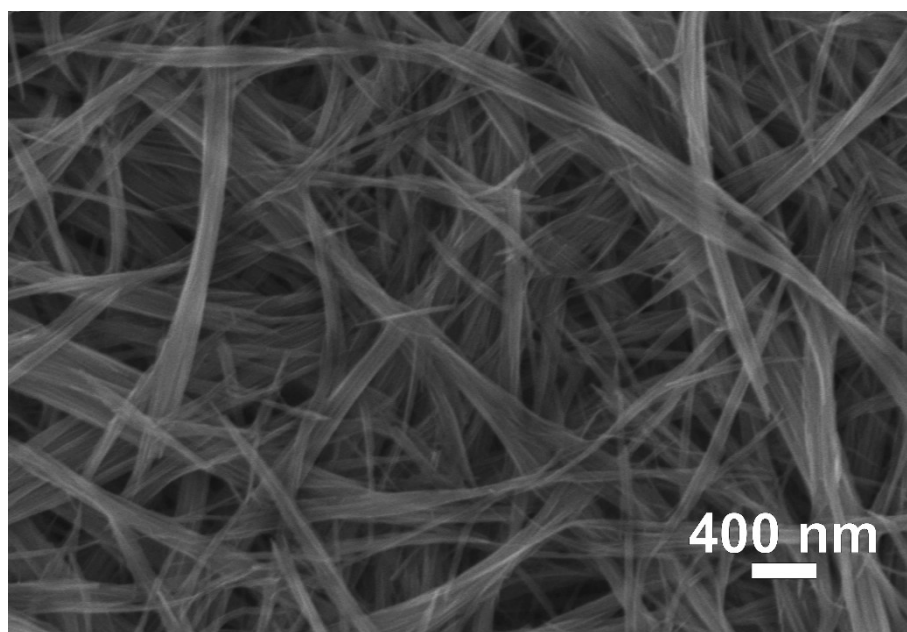


**Fig. S17** Digital images and top-view OM images of the Zn foil surface after (a) the second plating and (b) the second stripping in the Zn||Zn (thickness: 10  $\mu\text{m}$ ) symmetric cells using electrolyte with 0.1% Undoped-CDs at 1.95  $\text{mA cm}^{-2}$  for 3.9  $\text{mAh cm}^{-2}$ .

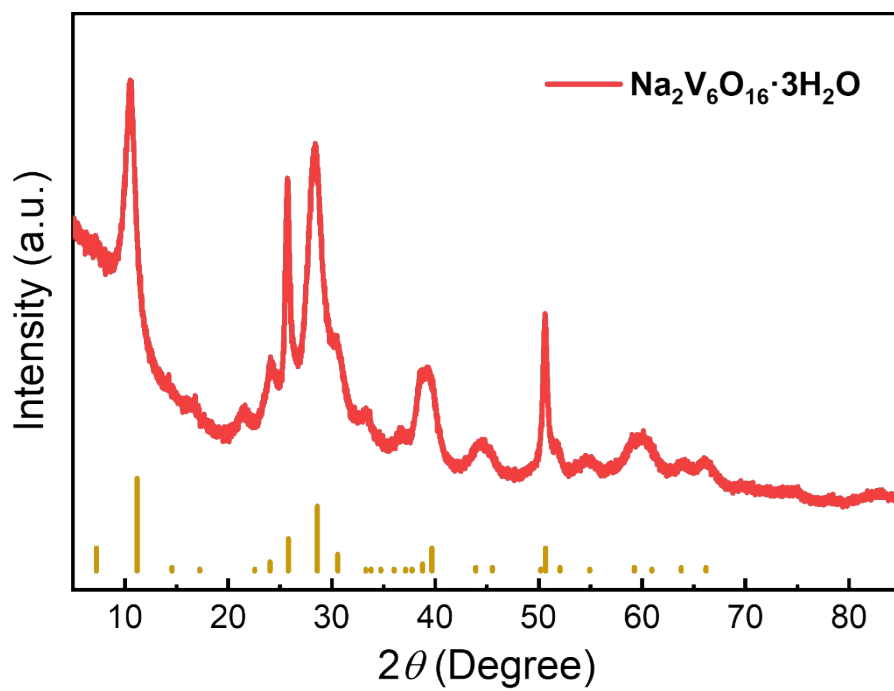




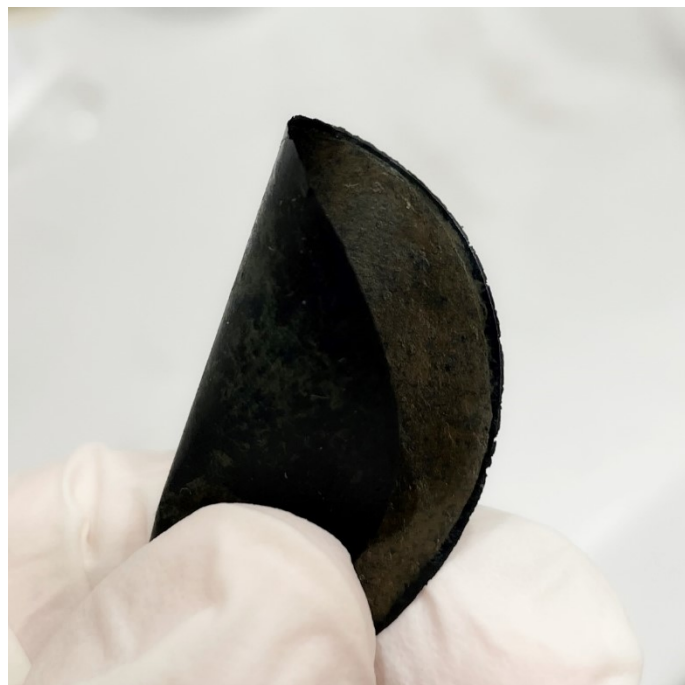
**Fig. S18** Top-view SEM images of the cycled Zn anodes using electrolyte with Undoped-CDs.



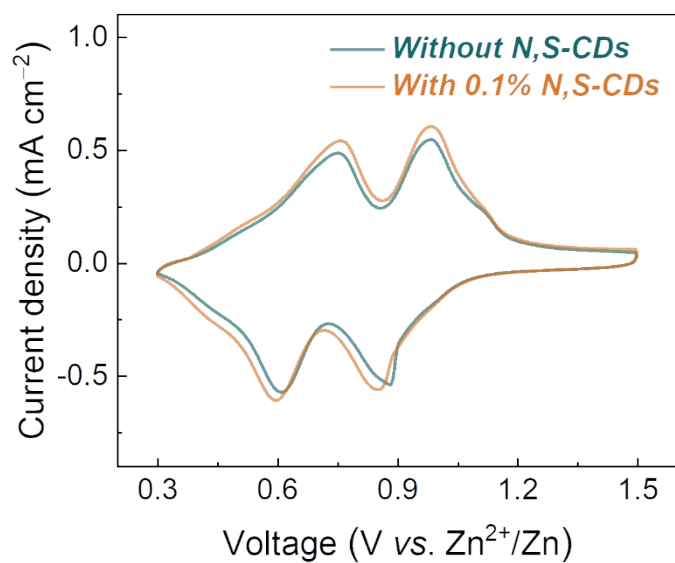
**Fig. S19** Top-view SEM image of the NVO nanobelts.



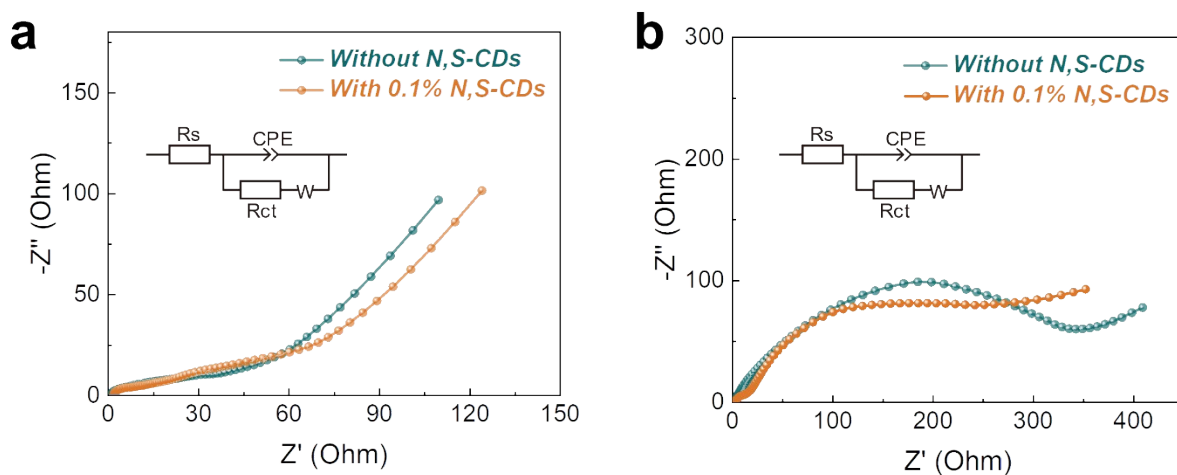
**Fig. S20** XRD pattern of the synthesized NVO material.



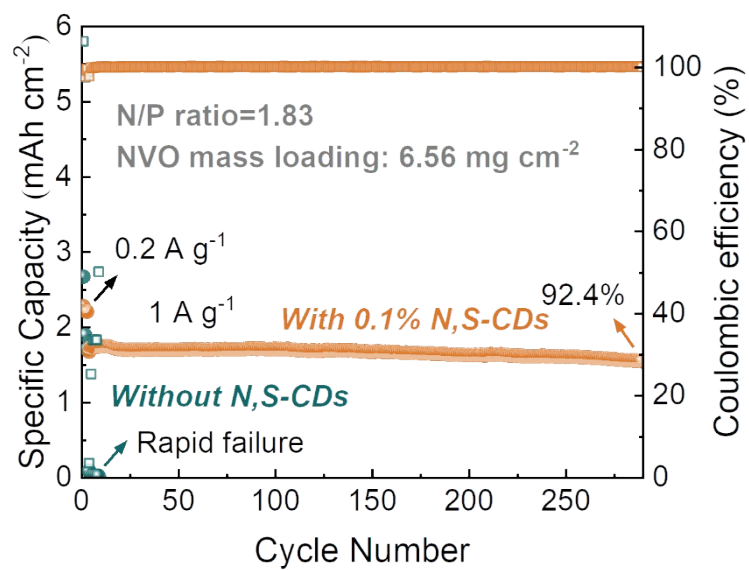
**Fig. S21** Digital image of the self-supporting cathode membrane.



**Fig. S22** Cyclic voltammetry (CV) curves of Zn||NVO cells in a voltage range of 0.3 V to 1.5 V at 0.1 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.



**Fig. S23** Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) plots of Zn||NVO cells (a) before and (b) after the CV test.



**Fig. S24** Cycling performance of the Zn||NVO full cells with low N/P ratio of 1.83.

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