Supporting information

Combining *in situ* electrochemistry, *operando* XRD & Raman and density functional theory to investigate the fundamentals of Li₂CO₃ formation in supercapacitor

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Figure S1. Measurements under dynamic polarization conditions: a) coin cell set up; b) top view of the coin cell installed in metallic adapter and positioned on the sample stage at the XPD beamline. There is a hole on the center of the coin cell which is covered with with a Kapton[®] foil to be transparent to the income and outcome x-ray and; c) a lateral view of the coin cell and the exhibiting the electrical contacts.



Figure S2. Electrochemical data from symmetric coin cell filled with a 1 M Li_2SO_4 aqueous solution (a) Voltammetric curves up to 2.2 V; (b) chronoamperometry from 0.2 V to 2.2 V; (c) galvanostatic charge/discharge curves up to 2.2 V; (d) electrochemical impedance spectroscopy at constant cell voltages from 0.2V to 2.2V in steps of 0.4V and; (e) Coin cell set up for electrochemical measurements. (e) Cyclic voltamograms for MWCNT and (f) for NiO@MWCNT.



Figure S3. *Operando* XRD from MWCNTs electrodes in the coin cell. All XRD diffraction patterns were obtained under constant voltage during anodic polarization for MWCNTs anode (positive pole) green lines and MWCNTs cathode (negative pole) orange lines.



Figure S4. SEM data from (a) Pristine NiO@MWCNT electrode; electrodes after chronoamperometry of 30 min. (b) positive; (c) negative. EDS data from (d) Pristine NiO@MWCNT electrode; electrodes after chronoamperometry of 2.0 hours. (e) positive; (f) negative.



Figure S5. Coin cell used for electrochemical analysis: a) open-up coin cell after abusive regime of voltage applied; b) & c) undamaged coin cell under 1.6 V voltage; d) & e) damaged coin cell under 1.8 V voltage.



Figure S6. DFT calculation for SWCNT: a) relaxed; b) ELF. Ni-doped SWCNT: c) relaxed; d) ELF. SWCNT with vacancy: e) relaxed; f) ELF. NiO-doped SWCNT: g) relaxed; h) ELF.

| | Pristine electrode | | Positive electrode | | Negative electrode | |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------|---------------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| Element | Weight | Atom | Weight | Atom | Weight | Atom |
| | (%) | (%) | (%) | (%) | (%) | (%) |
| C _K | 8.732 | 22.952 | 17.284 | 35.075 | 10.645 | 29.281 |
| O _K | 18.729 | 36.959 | 26.484 | 40.346 | 9.342 | 19.29 |
| S _K | - | - | 1.991 | 1.514 | 8.697 | 8.962 |
| Fe _L | 24.313 | 13.745 | 25.724 | 11.227 | 17.031 | 10.075 |
| Ni _L | 42.333 | 22.765 | 28.516 | 11.838 | 28.892 | 16.258 |
| Cr _K | 5.893 | 3.578 | - | - | 25.393 | 16.134 |

Table S1. Elemental analysis via EDS of electrodes

 Table S2. Bond lengths armchair single wall carbon nanotubes

| Distance (Å) | SWCNT (CNT) | Ni-doped SWCNT (CNT_Ni) | NiO-doped SWCNT (CNT_NiO) | SWCNT with vacancy (CNT_v0) | Ni-doped SWCNT with vacancy (CNT_Ni_v0) |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| C1 – C2 | 1.4215 | 1.4496 | 1.4313 | - | 1.4458 |
| C1 – C5 | 1.4392 | 1.4042 | 1.4077 | - | 1.4001 |
| C3 - C4 | 1.4213 | 1.4490 | 1.4311 | - | 1.4397 |
| C3 – C6 | 1.4398 | 1.4044 | 1.4073 | - | 1.4072 |
| C7 - C8 | 1.4217 | 1.4043 | 1.3914 | - | 1.3866 |
| C7 – C9 | 1.4216 | 1.4040 | 1.3911 | - | 1.4014 |
| C1 – Ni | 1.4217 | 1.7848 | 1.8467 | - | 1.7991 |
| C3 – Ni | 1.4216 | 1.7853 | 1.8446 | - | 1.7887 |
| C7 – Ni | 1.4394 | 1.8999 | 1.8446 | - | 1.9036 |
| C1' – C2' | 1.4215 | 1.4246 | 1.4231 | 1.3689 | 1.3573 |

| C2' – C3' | 1.4217 | 1.4199 | 1.4193 | 1.4517 | 1.4595 |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| C3' – C4' | 1.4394 | 1.4336 | 1.4349 | 1.4320 | 1.4338 |
| C4' – C5' | 1.4217 | 1.4250 | 1.4210 | 1.5425 | 1.5422 |
| C5' - C6' | 2.4355 | 2.4454 | 2.4365 | 1.5707 | 1.5906 |
| C6' – C7' | 1.4216 | 1.4159 | 1.4186 | 1.5427 | 1.5330 |
| C7' – C8' | 1.4398 | - | - | 1.4321 | 1.4390 |
| C8' – C9' | 1.4216 | - | - | 1.4519 | 1.4441 |
| C9' – C1' | 1.4217 | - | - | 1.3688 | 1.3563 |