## Formation of WO<sub>3</sub> Nanotube-based Bundles Directed by NaHSO<sub>4</sub> and Its Application in Water Treatment

Jin Li,<sup>a</sup> Xiaoheng Liu,<sup>\*a</sup> Qiaofeng Han,<sup>a</sup> Xiaxi Yao,<sup>a</sup> Xin Wang<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Key Laboratory of Education Ministry for Soft Chemistry and Functional Materials, Nanjing University of Science and Technology, Nanjing 210094, 5 China.

| sample             | pore size | BET surface area <sup>ª</sup> | pore volume | micropore surface $area^{\flat}$ |
|--------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|
|                    | (nm)      | $(m^2/g)$                     | $(cm^3/g)$  | $(m^2/g)$                        |
| as-obtained $WO_3$ | 12.50     | 27.83                         | 0.05        | 6.32                             |
|                    |           |                               |             |                                  |

Table S1. Pore size, BET surface area, micropore surface area and pore volume parameters of the sample.

a: Calculated from the desorption branches. b: Calculated by the V-t method.

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Scheme S1. A possible process of nitrogen liquefaction inside a long nanotube during BET measurement.

Scheme S1 describes a possible result of nitrogen absorption inside a long nanotube during BET measurement. Because the nanotube with the length of more than 1 µm (Fig. 1a and Fig. S2a) is too long, condensed nitrogen liquid can block two inlet of the nanotube. Thus 15 not all inside surface can be occupied by nitrogen molecules, resulting in false data (surface area and pore volume) listed in Table S1.



Fig. S1. XRD patterns of the as-obtained samples prepared with NaHSO4, NH4HSO4, KHSO4, respectively.

Fig. S1 presents XRD patterns of three  $WO_3$  samples prepared with NaHSO<sub>4</sub>, NH<sub>4</sub>HSO<sub>4</sub> and KHSO<sub>4</sub>, respectively. The sample from NaHSO<sub>4</sub> has highest crystallinity, while the crystallization of other two samples is quite different from NaHSO<sub>4</sub>-assisted.



Fig. S2. SEM images of the WO<sub>3</sub> samples prepared with different reagents: (a) NaHSO<sub>4</sub>, (b) NH<sub>4</sub>HSO<sub>4</sub>, (c) KHSO<sub>4</sub>.

The SEM observations (Fig. S2) can also present analogous result. Fig. S2a exhibits  $WO_3$  sample from NaHSO<sub>4</sub> with rod-like <sup>5</sup> morphology, but the others (Fig. S2 b,c) exhibit spherical morphology.



Fig. S3. (a) TEM image of the WO<sub>3</sub> sample in Fig. S2(a). (b) Energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) of the WO<sub>3</sub> sample in Fig. S3(a).

Fig. S3a is a TEM image of the WO<sub>3</sub> sample in Fig. S2a, and the structure of nanotube bundles can be seen. Furthermore, the chemical composition of the obtained nanotube bundles was analyzed by using energy-dispersive spectroscopy (EDS). The EDS spectrum (Fig. <sup>10</sup> S3b) exhibits the existence of W and O with a molar ratio close to 1:3.