## **Supporting information**

# Permselective SPEEK/Nafion Composite-Coated Separator as a Potential Polysulfide Crossover Barrier Layer for Li-S Batteries

Dasari Bosu Babu<sup>a,b</sup>, Krishnan Giribabu<sup>a</sup>, Kannadka Ramesha<sup>a,b</sup>\*

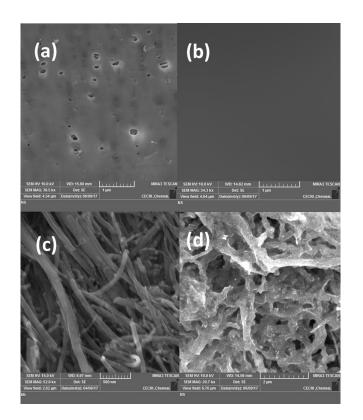
<sup>a</sup>CSIR-Central Electrochemical Research Institute-Chennai Unit, CSIR-Madras Complex, Taramani, Chennai 600113,India

<sup>b</sup>Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR), CSIR-CECRI, Karaikudi 630003, India.

### **Author information**

Corresponding Authors

\*E-mail: <u>ramesha.cecri@gmail.com</u>.



**Figure S1** : (a ) SPEEEK-25 coated separator (b) SPEEK- 75 Coated separator (c ) S@MWCNT paper composite (d) Cycled S@MWCNT paper composite.

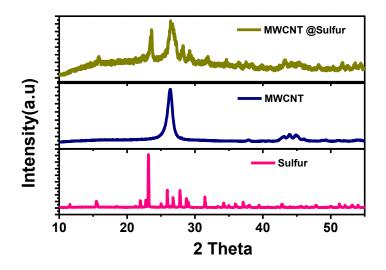
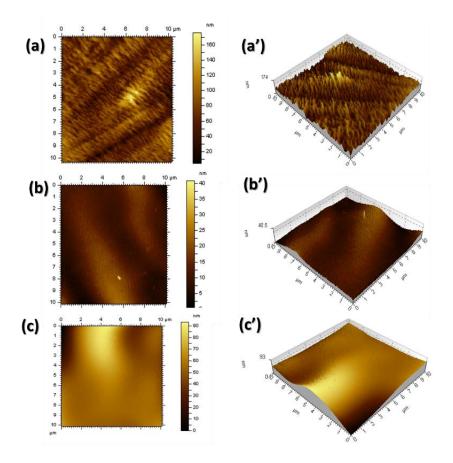


Figure S2. XRD of sulfur, MWCNT and MWCNT@ Sulfur composite.



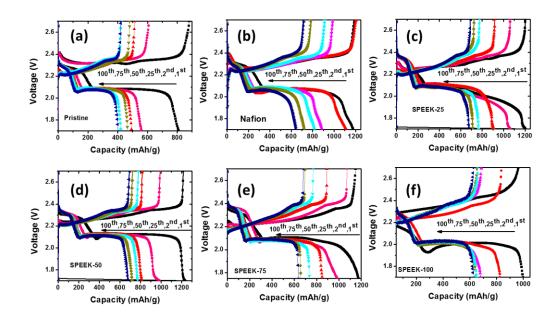
**Figure S3**: AFM 2D and 3D- morphological images of separator (a, a') Pristine (b, b') Nafion (c, c') SPEEK-100.

#### **Structural Characterizations**

X-Ray Diffraction (XRD) analyses were performed on Bruker D8 advance Davinci diffractometer equipped with Cu K $\alpha$  radiation source ( $\lambda$ = 1.5418 Å) at a generator voltage of 40 kV and current of 30 mA with a scanning speed of 2 °/min (2 $\theta$ ). The morphology of samples characterized by using field-emission scanning electron microscope (FESEM MIRA3 LMU) with EDX attachment for elemental composition analysis, TESCAN instrumentation. AFM imaging is carried out with the help of Nanoscope E–3138J instrumentation. Contact angle measurement is taken with Data Physics OCA35, Germany. XPS analysis is performed by Thermo Scientific ESCALAB 250 xi MULTILAB 2000.

### **Electrochemical Measurements**

The as prepared S@MWCNT paper is used as cathode with the thickness of 120 µm, lithium metal acts as a both reference and counter electrode with the thickness of 700 µm and modified celgard (2400) separator is used for the separation of both the electrode with the thickness of 25.7 µm. The electrolyte is 1 M bis (trifluoromethane) sulfonamide lithium salt (LiTFSI, Sigma-Aldrich) in 1, 2-dimethoxyethane (DME, Sigma-Aldrich) and 1,3Dioxalane (DOL, Sigma-Aldrich) in 1:1 V /V%. Coin cell were assembled in argon filled glove box (where  $O_2$ ,  $H_2O$  levels restricted to  $\leq$ 1ppm). The cells were galvano statically cycled in the voltage range of 1.7- 2.7V. The cycling voltammetry is performed at 0.01mV scan speed within 1.7- 2.7V and electrochemical impedance studies were performed over a frequency range of 400 kHz to 50 mHz. All experiments are carried out in VMP3Z Biologic multichannel galvanostat/ potentiostat. The capacities are calculated based on mass of sulfur in the electrode.



**Figure: S4** Discharge-charge profile of Li-S cell with various composite ionomer coated separators at 0.2C rate (a) pristine (b) Nafion (c) SPEEK-25 (d) SPEEK-50 (e) SPEEK-75 (f) SPEEK-100.