### **Supporting Information**

# Innovative Electrochemical Strategy to Recovery of Cathode and Efficient Lithium Leaching from Spent Lithium-Ion Batteries

Kui Liu,† Shenglong Yang,† Feiyan Lai,\*,‡ Hongqiang Wang,† Youguo Huang,† Fenghua Zheng,†,§ Shubin Wang,§ Xiaohui Zhang,\*,†,‡ and Qingyu Li†

† Guangxi Key Laboratory of Low Carbon Energy Materials, Guangxi New Energy Ship Battery Engineering Technology Research Center, School of Chemical and Pharmaceutical Science, Guangxi Normal University, Guilin 541004, China

‡ College of Materials and Chemical Engineering, Hezhou University, Hezhou 542899, China § School of Environmental Science and Engineering, Guangdong Provincial Key Laboratory of Soil and Groundwater Pollution Control, Southern University of Science and Technology, Guangzhou 518055, China.

#### Corresponding author email addresses:

zxhui017@163.com (X. Zhang) Tel: +86-0773-5856104;

fylai112@163.com (F. Lai) Tel: +86-0774-5271906.

## **Tables**

**Tab. S1** The leaching efficiency of metal using different cathodes in (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> electrolyte.

Cathodes		Time				
	Li	Al	Ni	Co	Mn	(min)
Pt	98.13	2.51	0.0026	0.0030	0.00060	4-5
Al	91.82	11.09	0.0026	0.0026	0.00061	18-20
Cu	91.92	4.49	0.0052	0.0059	0.00078	18-20
Graphite	85.86	5.01	0.0039	0.0049	0.00064	28-30

Tab. S2 The recovery rate of metal elements with the optimized condition

Elements	Li	Al	Ni	Co	Mn
Recovery rate (%)	98.28	97.48	99.56	99.24	98.75

## **Figures**

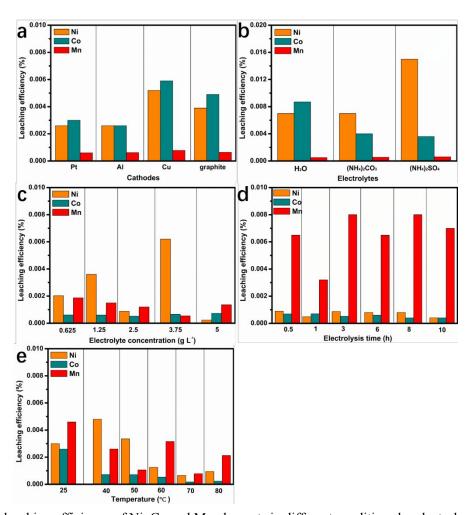
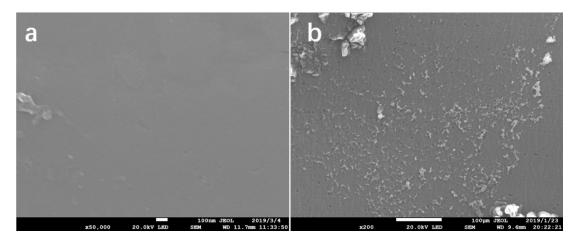


Fig. S1 The leaching efficiency of Ni, Co and Mn elements in different conditions by electrolysis process.



 $\textbf{Fig. S2} \ \ \text{The surface appearance of the Al foils before (a) and after (b) electrolysis in } (NH_4)_2SO_4 \ solution.$ 

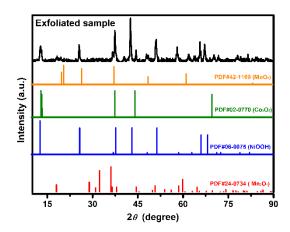


Fig. S3 XRD patterns of the exfoliated cathode residue after electrolysis