

## Water repelling behavior of 1-D hematite nano-network

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### Supplementary data

Fig. S1, the as-grown pristine hematite nanorods have uniformly grown on substrate with a diameter of about  $15 \pm 5$  nm.

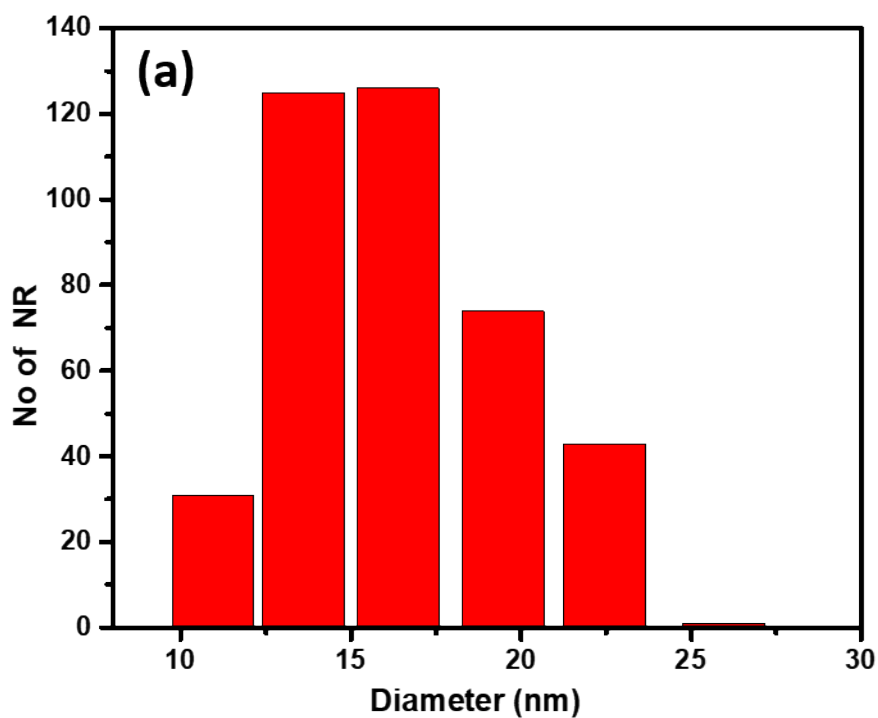


Fig. S2, the as-grown pristine hematite nanorods have uniformly grown on substrate with a length about  $75 \pm 10$  nm.

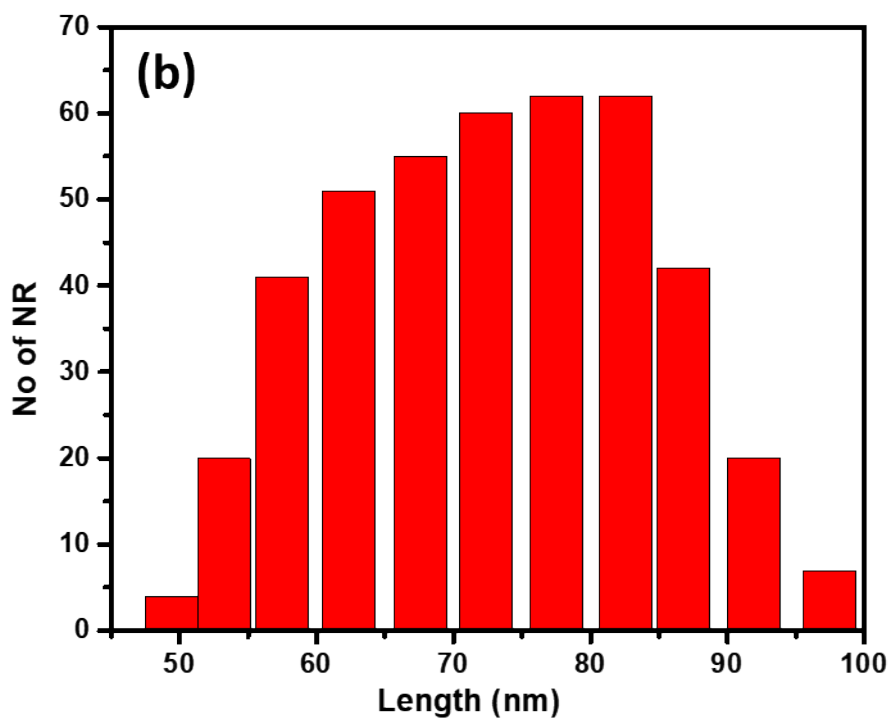


Fig. S3, the energy-dispersive X-ray spectra (EDX) confirm the presence of Fe and O in the pristine sample.

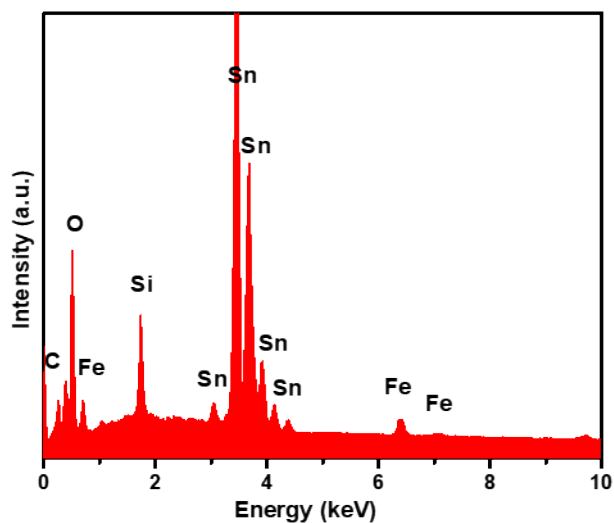


Fig .S4, the energy-dispersive X-ray spectra (EDX) confirm the presence of Fe and O in the irradiated sample at the ion fluence of  $5 \times 10^{16}$  ions.cm<sup>-2</sup>.

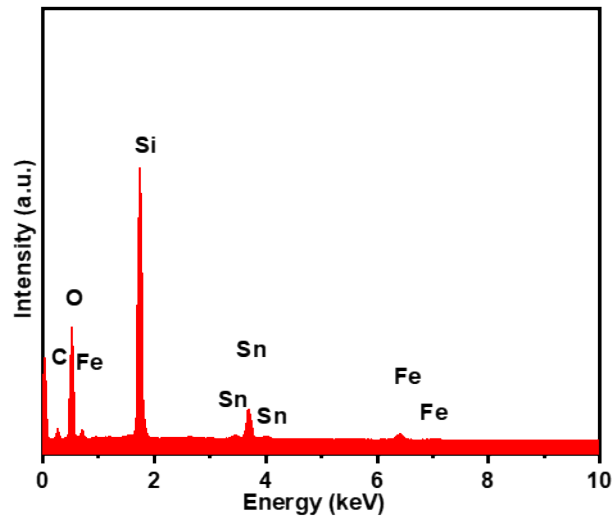


Fig .S5, the irradiated nano-network contains pores with sizes ranging from 10 to 100 nm at ion fluence of  $3 \times 10^{16}$  ions.cm<sup>-2</sup>.

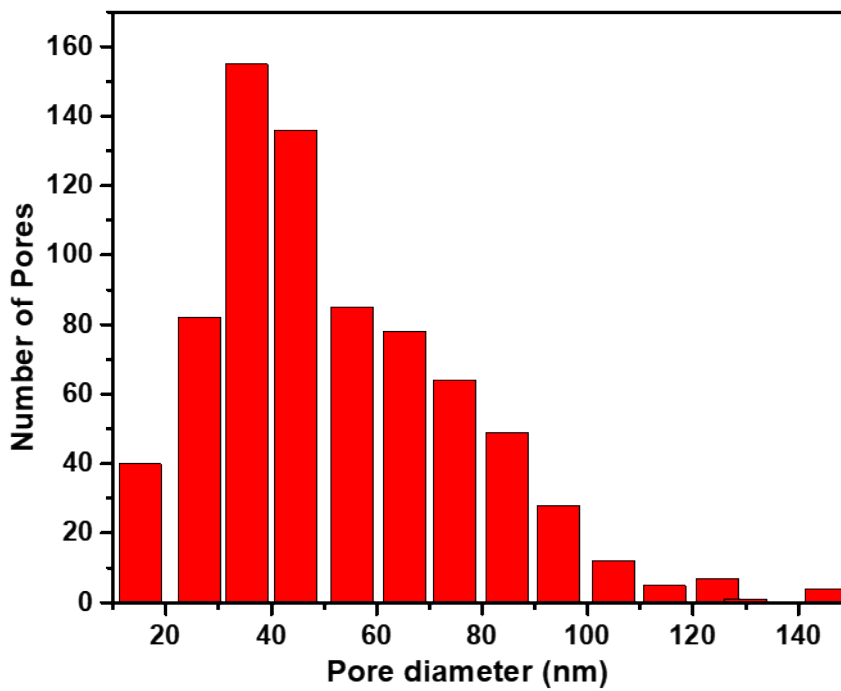


Fig .S6, I-V characteristic of the pristine sample (black) and 5 keV Ar<sup>+</sup> ions used at ion fluences of  $1 \times 10^{16}$  (blue),  $3 \times 10^{16}$  (red), and  $5 \times 10^{16}$  ions.cm<sup>-2</sup> (green). The calculated electrical conductivity for pristine samples is  $1.09 \text{ Sm}^{-1}$ . The samples were systematically irradiated with 5 KeV Ar<sup>+</sup> at fluences  $1 \times 10^{16}$ ,  $3 \times 10^{16}$ , and  $5 \times 10^{16}$  ions.cm<sup>-2</sup> and they yield current in the range  $-0.014$  to  $0.013 \text{ }\mu\text{A}$ ,  $-0.023$  to  $0.022 \text{ }\mu\text{A}$ , and  $-0.039$  to  $0.031 \text{ }\mu\text{A}$  in the same range of voltage and the corresponding conductivities are  $1.12 \text{ Sm}^{-1}$ ,  $2.12 \text{ Sm}^{-1}$ , and  $3.01 \text{ Sm}^{-1}$  respectively.

