## **Supporting information**



**Figure S1** (a) TEM images of  $Ti_3C_2@TiO_2-40$  min and (b) corresponding statistical  $TiO_2$  particle size distribution; (c) TEM images of  $Ti_3C_2@TiO_2-60$  min and (d) corresponding statistical  $TiO_2$  particle size distribution



Figure S2 Digital photos of static adsorption experiments for  $Ti_3C_2$ ,  $Ti_3C_2$ @TiO<sub>2</sub>-20 min and  $Ti_3C_2$ @TiO<sub>2</sub>-40 min in Li<sub>2</sub>S<sub>6</sub> solution



**Figure S3** Digital photo of (a) Ti<sub>3</sub>C<sub>2</sub>-PP, (b) Ti<sub>3</sub>C<sub>2</sub>@TiO<sub>2</sub>-20 min-PP, (c) Ti<sub>3</sub>C<sub>2</sub>@TiO<sub>2</sub>-60 min-PP and (d) pristine PP separators; SEM images of (e) pristine PP (f, g) Ti<sub>3</sub>C<sub>2</sub>-PP, (h, i) Ti<sub>3</sub>C<sub>2</sub>@TiO<sub>2</sub>-20 min-PP

## and (j, h) Ti<sub>3</sub>C<sub>2</sub>@TiO<sub>2</sub>-60 min-PP separators



Figure S4 (a, b) Mechanical stability and (c, d) static stability in the electrolyte of the  $Ti_3C_2$ -PP and  $Ti_3C_2$ @TiO<sub>2</sub>-40 min-PP separators



**Figure S5** Contact angle measurements with electrolyte for (a) pristine PP, (b)  $Ti_3C_2$ -PP, (c)  $Ti_3C_2@TiO_2-20$  min-PP, (d)  $Ti_3C_2@TiO_2-40$  min-PP and (e)  $Ti_3C_2@TiO_2-60$  min-PP separators



Figure S6 Four probe conductivity tests of the coated separators



Figure S7 (a, b) SEM images, (c) corresponding area EDX elemental analysis and (d) TG curve of sulfur/carbon nanotube composite cathode



**Figure S8** (a) Cyclic voltammogram profiles, (b) charge/discharge voltage profiles, (c) rate performance and (d) long-term cycling performance for Li-S battery with pristine PP and  $Ti_3C_2@TiO_2$ -PP separators



Figure S9 EIS plots of Li-S batteries with Ti<sub>3</sub>C<sub>2</sub>@TiO<sub>2</sub> coated PP separators