

Supporting Information for

## Defect Engineering of Disordered Carbon Anodes with Ultra-High Heteroatom Doping through A Supermolecule-Mediated Strategy for Potassium Ion Hybrid Capacitors

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## S1 Experimental Methods

### S1.1 Electrochemical Equations and Calculations

In PIHCs full-cell tests, the calculations of energy ( $E$ ,  $Wh\ kg^{-1}$ ) and power densities ( $P$ ,  $W\ kg^{-1}$ ) based on the total mass of both anode and cathode materials were performed using the equations below [S1, S2]:

$$P = \Delta V \times i \quad (S1)$$

$$E = P \times t/3600 \quad (S2)$$

$$\Delta V = (V_{max} + V_{min})/2 \quad (S3)$$

in which  $t$  (s) is the discharge time,  $i$  ( $A\ g^{-1}$ ) is the charge/discharge current,  $V_{max}$  (V) is the discharge potential excluding the IR drop, and  $V_{min}$  (V) is the potential at the end of discharge voltages.

The contributions to capacitive controlled and diffusion-controlled processes are estimated as follows [S3]:

$$i = av^b \quad (S4)$$

$$i = k_1v + k_2v^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (S5)$$

or

$$\frac{i}{v^{\frac{1}{2}}} = k_1v^{\frac{1}{2}} + k_2 \quad (S6)$$

where  $i$  is the instantaneous current density,  $v$  is the scanning rate, and  $a$  and  $b$  are adjustable parameters obtained from the  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  scanning rates, respectively. The electrode reaction is controlled by the diffusion process when the value of  $b$  is 0.5, and the electrode response is controlled by the surface-dominated process when the  $b$  value is 1. The contributions of the capacitive current and the diffusion-controlled current to the whole electrode reaction process are represented by the  $k_1v$  and  $k_2v^{1/2}$  in equations (S5) and (S6), respectively.

The diffusion coefficients of  $K^+$  were calculated from the Galvanostatic Intermittent Titration Technique (GITT) using the following equation [S4].

$$D_{K^+} = \frac{4}{\pi\tau} \left( \frac{m_B V_M}{M_B S} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\Delta E_s}{\Delta E_\tau} \right)^2 \quad (S7)$$

Where  $\tau$  denotes the duration of the current pulse, s;  $m_B$  is the mass of electrode active material, g;  $S$  is the geometric area of the electrode,  $\text{cm}^2$ ;  $\Delta E_s$  is the quasi-thermodynamic equilibrium potential difference before and after the current pulse, V;  $\Delta E_\tau$  is the potential difference during current pulse neglecting the IR-drop, V;  $V_M$  is the molar volume of the active materials,  $M_B$  is the molar mass of carbon. The value of  $M_B/V_M$  is the density of electrodes ( $1.5 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ), which is estimated to be lower than the density of graphite ( $2.2 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ). Before the GITT measurement, the NSLPCs electrodes were pre-cycled for three cycles under a constant current density of  $50 \text{ mA g}^{-1}$ .

## S2 Molecular Dynamic Simulation and Density Functional Theory Calculation

Firstly, Hundreds of initial configurations were generated by the genmer module of the Molclus program [S5]. All the clusters were then pre-optimized under the semi-empirical method GFN2-Xtb [S6]. The obtained configurations with the low energy were further optimized and calculated the frequency under B3LYP-D3(BJ)/6-31G\* level using Gaussian16 package with the consideration of implicit solvent model. The interaction energy between the LS and MA+TCA and the energy among the MA and TCA molecules were calculated with the correction of basis set superposition error (BSSE) under the B3LYP-D3(BJ)/6-311G\*\* level. To study the weak interaction among the molecules, the Independent gradient model based on Hirshfeld partition (IGMH) [S7] were analyzed by Multiwfn 3.8 (dev) program [S8] and visualized by VMD 1.9.4. software [S9].

All the calculations are performed in the framework of the density functional theory with the projector augmented plane-wave method, as implemented in the Vienna ab initio simulation package [S10]. The generalized gradient approximation proposed by Perdew, Burke, and Ernzerhof is selected for the exchange-correlation potential [S11]. The long-range van der Waals interaction is described by the DFT-D3 approach [S12]. The cut-off energy for the plane wave is set to 500 eV. The energy criterion is set to  $10^{-6}$  eV in the iterative solution of the Kohn-Sham equation. The Brillouin zone integration is performed at the Gamma point with a  $2 \times 2 \times 1$  k-mesh grid for structural optimization calculations and a  $6 \times 6 \times 1$  k-mesh grid for the electronic structure calculations. All the structures are relaxed until the residual forces on the atoms have declined to less than  $0.03 \text{ eV \AA}^{-1}$ . The vacuum thickness along the z-axis is set to  $15 \text{ \AA}$ , which is large enough to avoid interaction between periodic images.

## S3 Supporting Figures and Tables

Table S1 Porosity parameters of NSLPCs samples

Sample	$S_{BET}$ ( $m^2 g^{-1}$ )	$V_{Total}$ ( $cm^3 g^{-1}$ )	$V_{micro}$ ( $cm^3 g^{-1}$ )	$V_{meso}$ ( $cm^3 g^{-1}$ )	$V_{micro}/V_{total}$ (%)	$D_{ave}$ (nm)
NSLPC-700	229	0.56	0.02	0.54	96.4	10.8
NSLPC-800	362	0.95	0.06	0.89	93.6	18.1
NSLPC-900	322	1.52	0.02	1.50	98.7	21.5
NSLPC-1000	589	1.86	0.08	1.78	95.7	17.3

Table S2 Atomic elemental content of NSLPCs

sample	C (at%)	N (at%)	O (at%)	S (at%)
NSLPC-700	70.0	21.6	7.6	0.8
NSLPC-800	76.4	17.0	6.0	0.6
NSLPC-900	88.2	7.2	4.0	0.6
NSLPC-1000	92.5	2.4	3.9	1.2

Table S3 Table of binding energies and element content for different bond types

Bonding type	NSLPC-700	NSLPC-800	NSLPC-900	NSLPC-1000	
C 1s	C=C/C-C	284.8	284.8	284.8	284.8
	C-N	286.0	285.8	285.8	285.9
	C-S	287.2	287.9	287.3	287.0
	C=O	288.7	289.7	229.5	288.8
	O-C=O	291.0	291.8	291.6	290.7
O 1s	C=O	531.4	530.9	530.9	531.0
	C-OH/C-O-C	532.5	532.2	532.1	532.4
	-COOH/H <sub>2</sub> O	534.0	533.4	533.2	533.5
N 1s	Pyridinic-N	398.2	398.2	398.1	398.3
	Pyrolic-N	399.6	399.7	399.6	399.2
	Graphitic-N	400.2	400.3	400.8	401.2
	Oxidized-N	401.2	402.4	402.6	403.2
S 2p	S 2p <sub>3/2</sub> (C-S-C)	163.9	163.7	163.8	163.7
	S 2p <sub>1/2</sub> (C-SO <sub>x</sub> -C)	165.1	165.2	164.7	164.9
	Oxidized-S (-SO <sub>x</sub> -)	167.4/168.5	167.5/168.8	167.3/168.6	167.5/168.7

**Table S4** Different chemical bonding concentrations of NSLPCs

	Bonding type	NSLPC-700 (%)	NSLPC-800 (%)	NSLPC-900 (%)	NSLPC-1000 (%)
C 1s	C=C/C-C	51.3	39.5	55.8	61.8
	C-N	27.3	46.2	24.1	16.8
	C-S	9.6	6.7	10.2	10.1
	C=O	7.7	5.6	7.4	5.0
	O-C=O	4.1	1.9	2.6	6.3
	C=O	44.8	39.0	51.1	51.1
O 1s	C-OH/C-O-C	37.2	26.9	23.8	28.2
	-COOH/H <sub>2</sub> O	18.0	34.1	25.1	20.6
N 1s	Pyridinic-N	<b>42.7</b>	35.7	31.2	13.8
	Pyrrolic-N	<b>42.3</b>	45.8	18.2	14.8
	Graphitic-N	8.6	8.3	27.1	44.8
	Oxidized-N	6.4	10.2	22.9	26.7
S 2p	S 2p <sub>3/2</sub> (C-S-C)	26.9	12.4	29.1	34.7
	S 2p <sub>1/2</sub> (C-SO <sub>x</sub> -C)	26.4	49.7	13.4	37.2
	Oxidized-S (-SO <sub>x</sub> -)	43.3	37.9	57.5	28.1

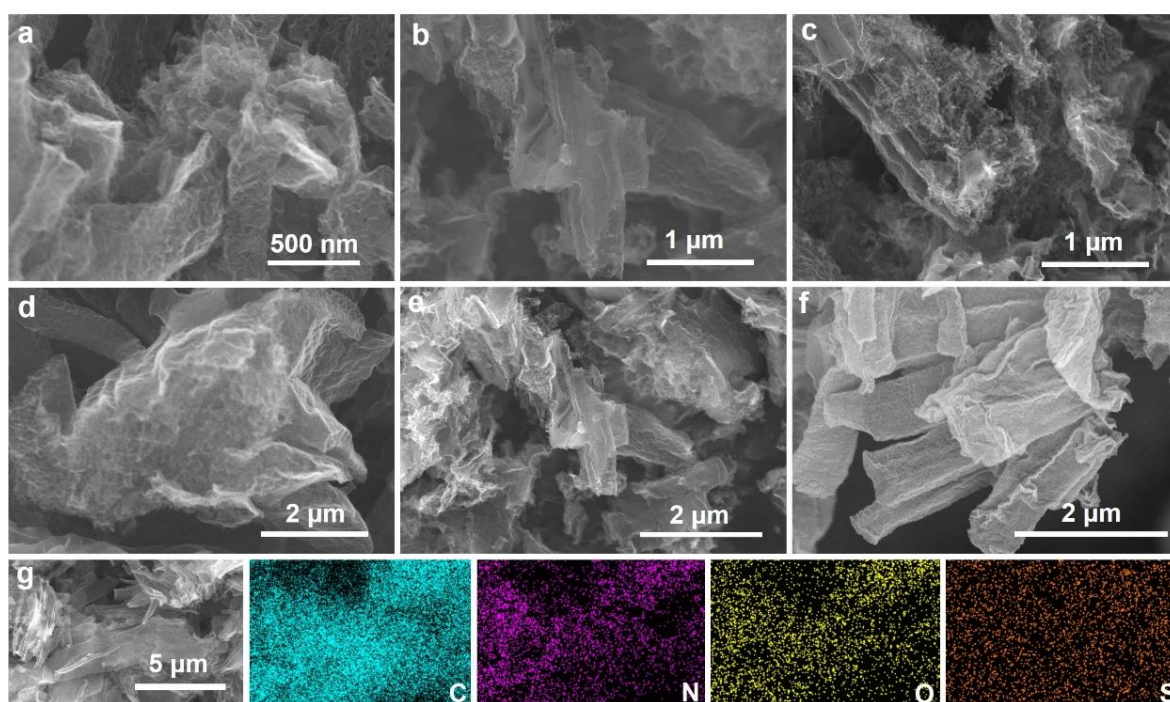
**Table S5** Comparison of different defective carbon anode materials of PIHCs

Materials	Current density (A g <sup>-1</sup> )	Initial coulombic Efficiency (%)	Refs.
S/N@C	0.05	24.6	Adv.Mater.2019, 31, 1805430 DOI:10.1002/adfm.201801989
nitrogen-doped graphitic nanocarbons-600	0.05	15.5	Adv. Funct. Mater. 2019, DOI: 10.1002/adfm.2019036411903641.
nitrogen-doped hierarchical porous hollow carbon spheres	0.028	37.1	Adv. Funct. Mater. 2019, DOI: 10.1002/adfm.2019034961903496.
nitrogen/oxygen in situ dual-doped hierarchical porous hard carbon	0.05	25	Adv. Mater. 2018, 30, 1700104. DOI:10.1002/adma.201700104
N/O dual-doped carbon network	0.05	47.1	Energy Storage Mater. 2019, DOI: 10.1016/j.ensm.2019.05.037
three-dimensional nitrogen-doped framework carbon	0.1	24.3	Energy Storage Mater. 2019, DOI: 10.1016/j.ensm.2019.04.008.

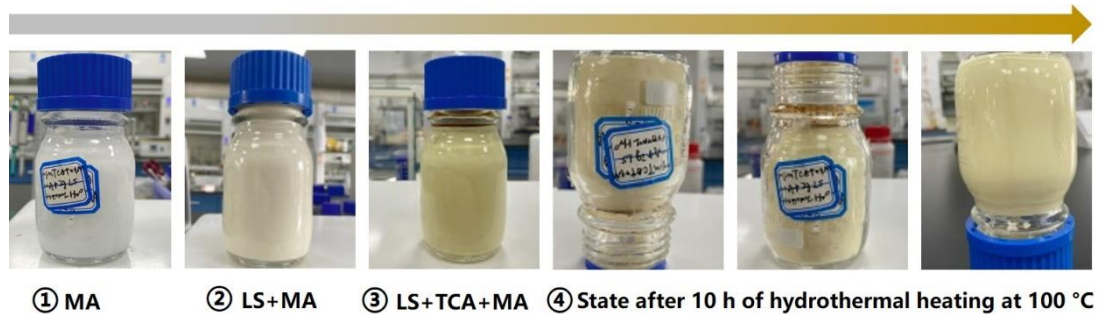
carbon nanosheets <sup>750</sup>	0.05	38	Adv. Energy Mater. 2019, 9, 1803894. DOI:10.1002/aenm.201803894
nitrogen-doped carbon nanosheets	0.05	20	Adv. Funct. Mater. 2018, 28, 1801989. DOI:10.1002/adfm.201801989
<b>NSLPC-700</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>48.0</b>	<b>This work</b>

**Table S6** Comparison of different defective carbon anode materials for PIHCs

Anode	Specific capacity	Rate capability	Cyclic stability	Refs.
N-doped hollow carbon	307 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.05 A g <sup>-1</sup>	200 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	160 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> after 800 cycles at 1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Nano Energy 2019, 65, 104038.
N, S co-doped carbon	276 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	218.5 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 3 A g <sup>-1</sup>	144.9 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> after 1200 cycles at 3 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Adv. Energy Mater. 2019, 9, 1901379.
N, S co-doped 3D porous carbon nanosheets	392 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	265 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	271 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> after 1000 cycles at 1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Adv. Energy Mater. 2019, 9, 1901533
Pitch-derived soft carbon	296 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.1 C	115.2 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 5 C	retention after 1000 cycles at 1 C	Adv. Mater. 2020, 32, 2000505.
N/O dual-doped hard carbon	304.6 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	223.4 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	189.5 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> after 5000 cycles at 1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Adv. Sci. 2020, 7, 1902547.
Highly N-doped carbon nanofibers	217 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	101 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 20 A g <sup>-1</sup>	191 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> after 200 cycles at 0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Nat. Commun. 2018, 9, 1720.
Edge N-doped carbon spheres	290 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	195 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	305 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> after 600 cycles at 0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2020, 59, 4448.
3D Carbon framework	348.2 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.05 A g <sup>-1</sup>	245 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	188.8 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> after 2000 cycles at 1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	ACS Energy Lett. 2020, 5, 1653.
<b>NSLPC-700</b>	<b>419 mAh g<sup>-1</sup> at 0.05 A g<sup>-1</sup></b>	<b>246 mAh g<sup>-1</sup> at 1 A g<sup>-1</sup></b>	<b>179 mAh g<sup>-1</sup> after 1500 cycles at 2 A g<sup>-1</sup></b>	<b>This work</b>



**Fig. S1** (a, d) SEM image of NSLPC-800, (b, e) SEM image of NSLPC-900, (c, f) SEM image of NSLPC-1000, and the (g) Energy dispersive spectroscopy (EDS) mapping images of NSLPC-800 for the elements of carbon, nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur



**Fig. S2** Digital figures for the different states for the synthesis of the supermolecule precursors at each stage



**Fig. S3** Digital pictures of a mixture of (left) TCA+MA+LS and a mixture of (right) TCA+MA

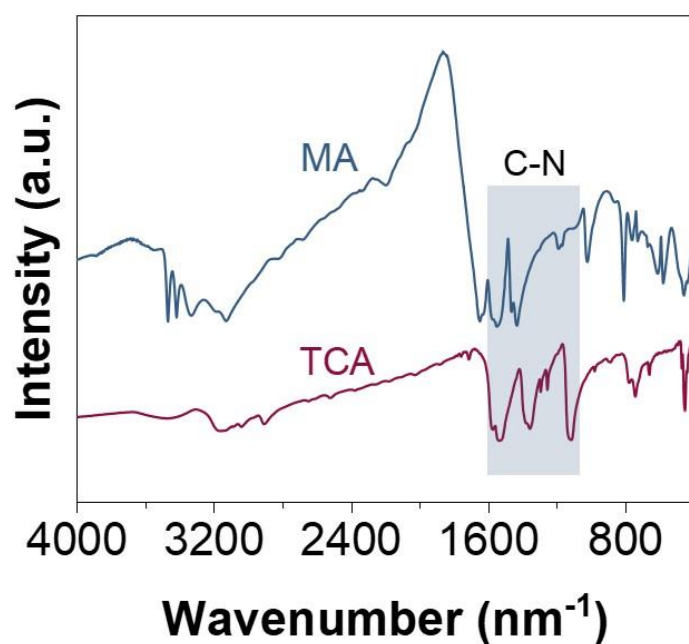


Fig. S4 FT-IR spectra of the TCA and MA

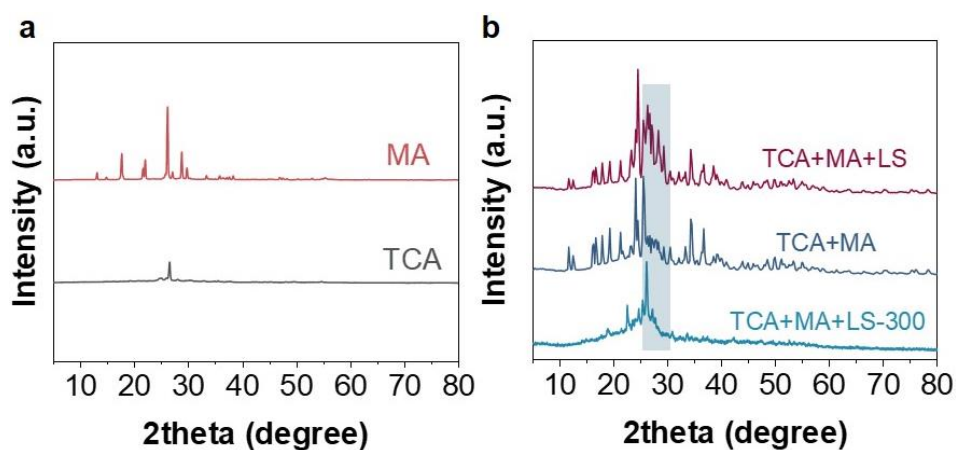
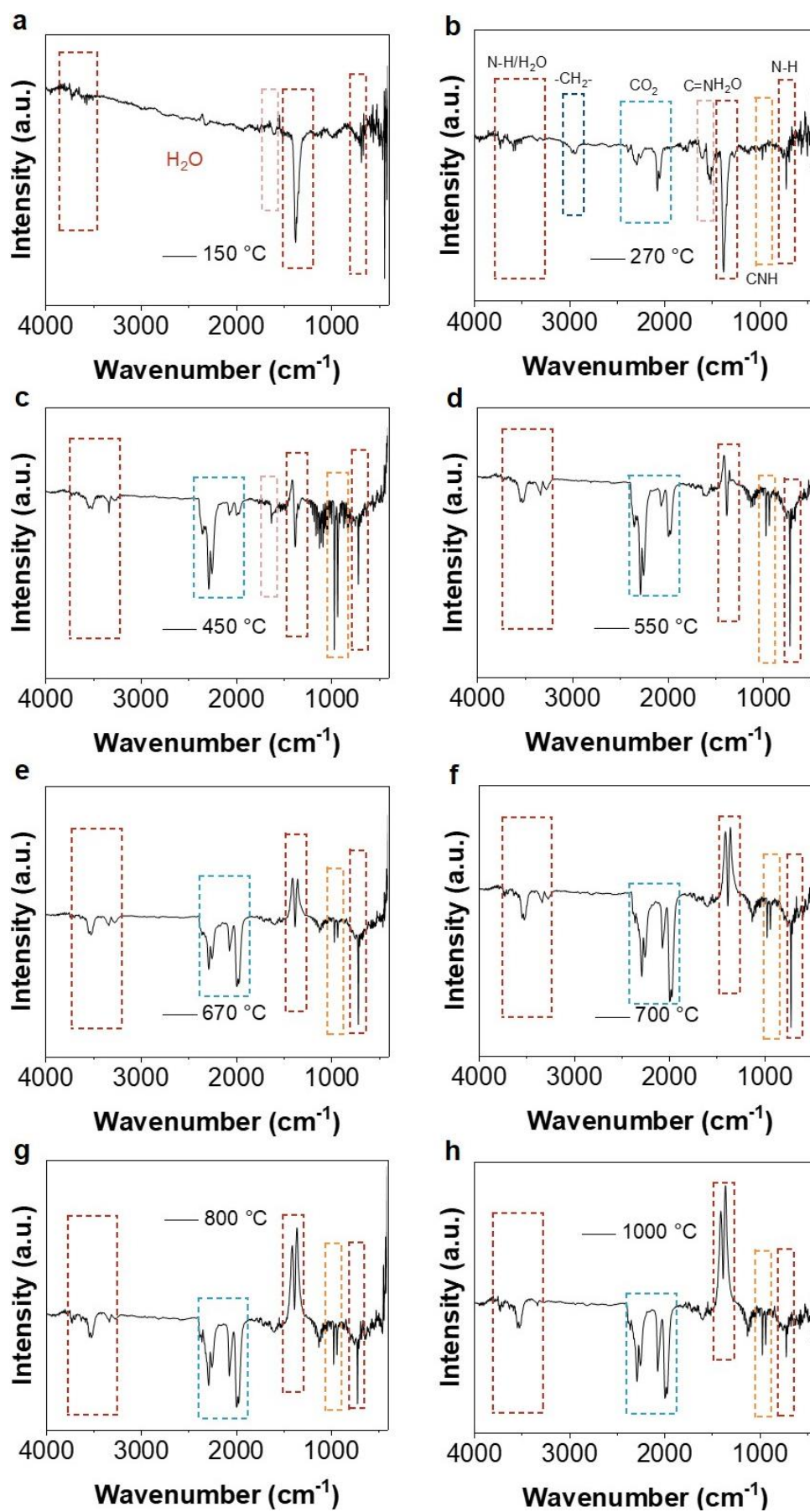
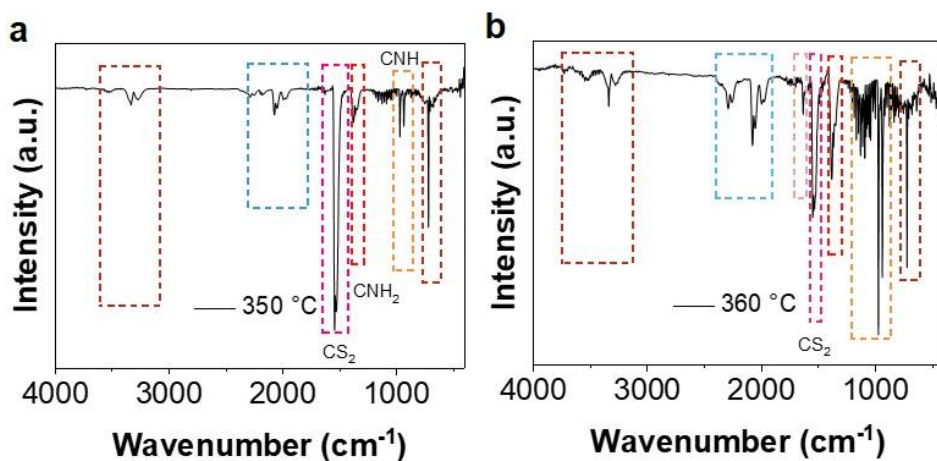


Fig. S5 (a) The XRD patterns of TCA and MA, (b) The XRD patterns of TCA+MA+LS, TCA+MA, and TCA+MA+LS-300 (heat-treated at 300 °C). Heat treatment of TCA+MA+LS would not cause apparent change in its XRD patterns

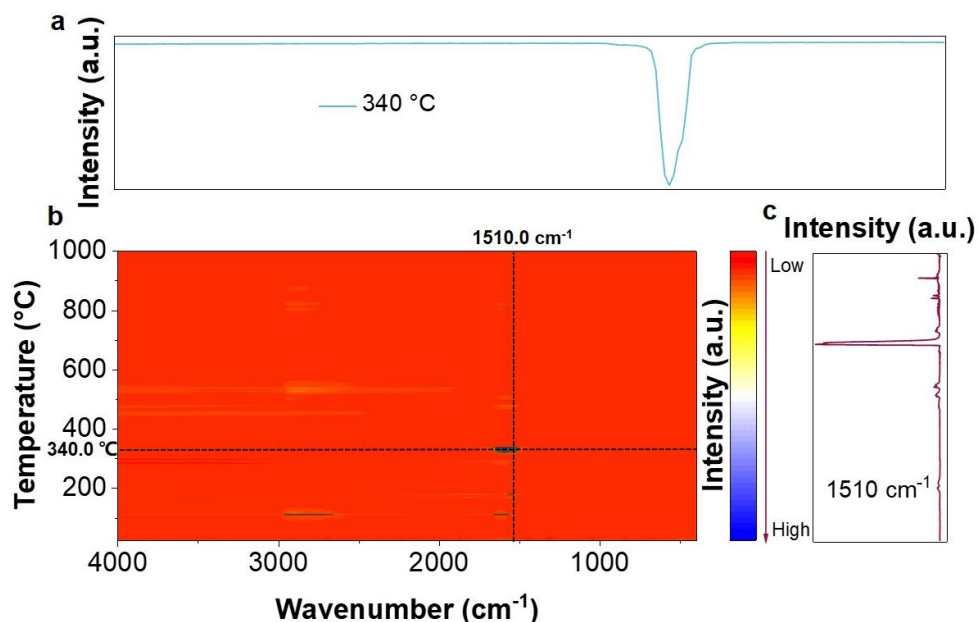


**Fig. S6** FT-IR spectra of the pyrolysis product of TCA+MA+LS precursors at different temperatures

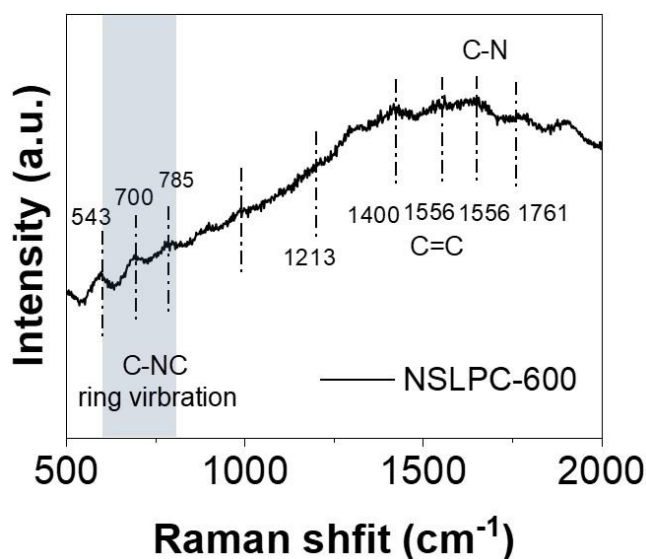




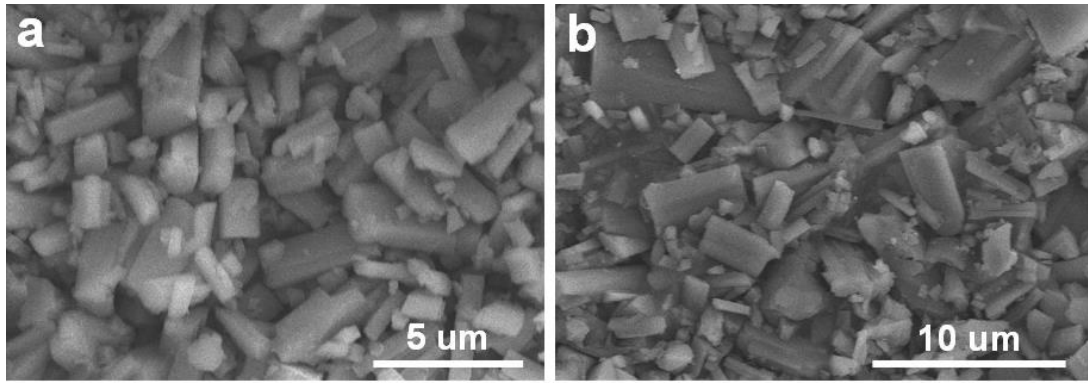
**Fig. S7** (a, b) FT-IR spectra of TCA+MA+LS precursors heat-treated at temperatures of 350 °C and 360 °C



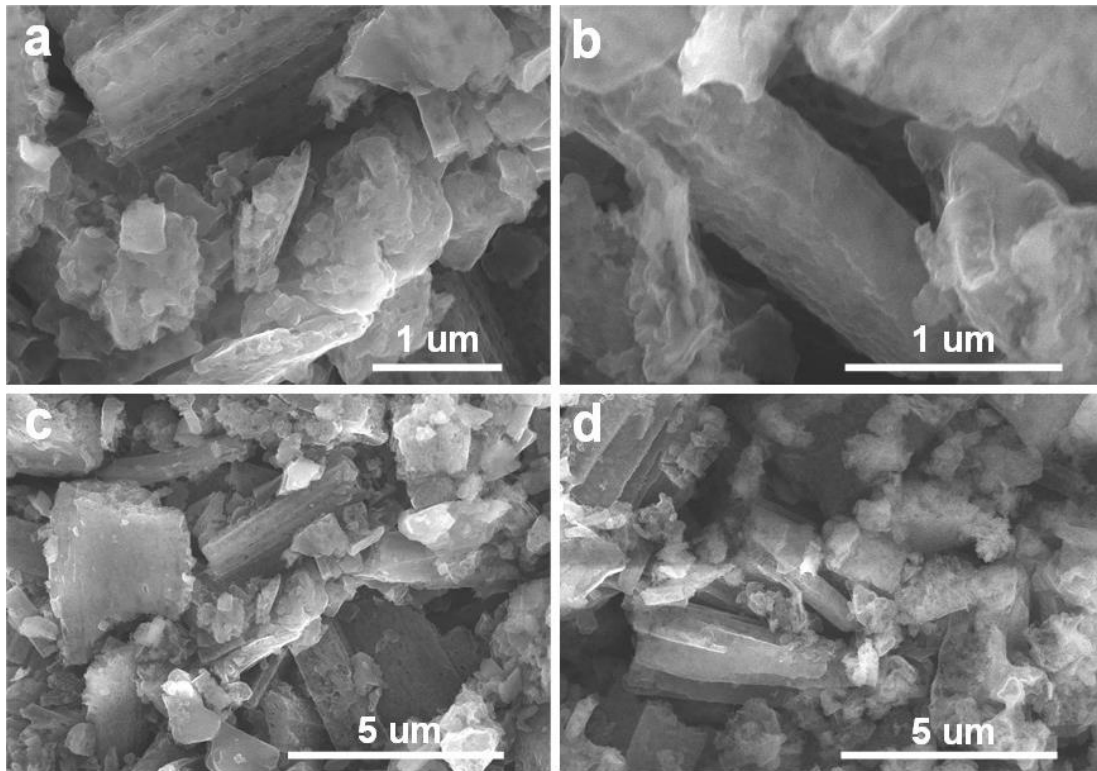
**Fig. S8** 2D temperature-dependent FT-IR spectrum of TCA+MA+LS precursor



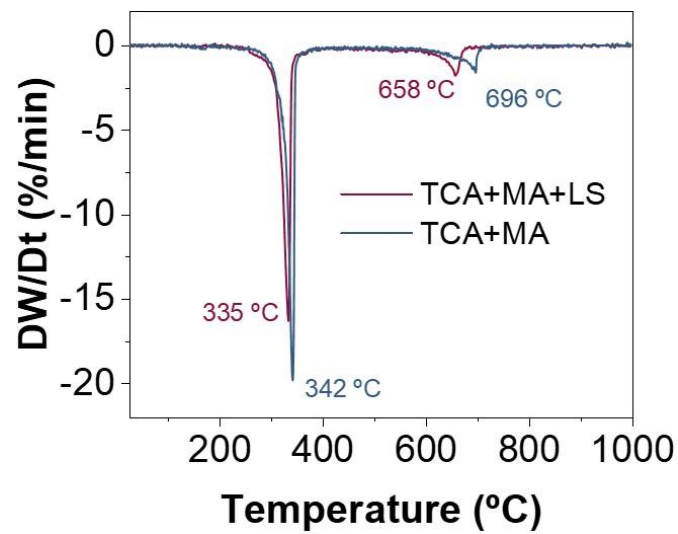
**Fig. S9** Raman spectra of the NSLPC-600



**Fig. S10** SEM images of the assembly of (a) TCA+MA and (b) TCA+MA+LS



**Fig. S11** SEM images of (a, c) NSLPC-550 and (b, d) NSLPC-600



**Fig. S12** The differential TGA curves of TCA+MA+LS and TCA+MA

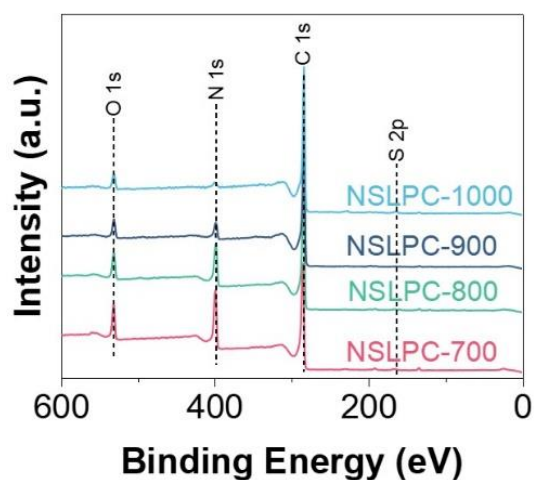


Fig. S13 XPS spectra of NSLPC-700, NSLPC-800, NSLPC-900, and NSLPC-1000

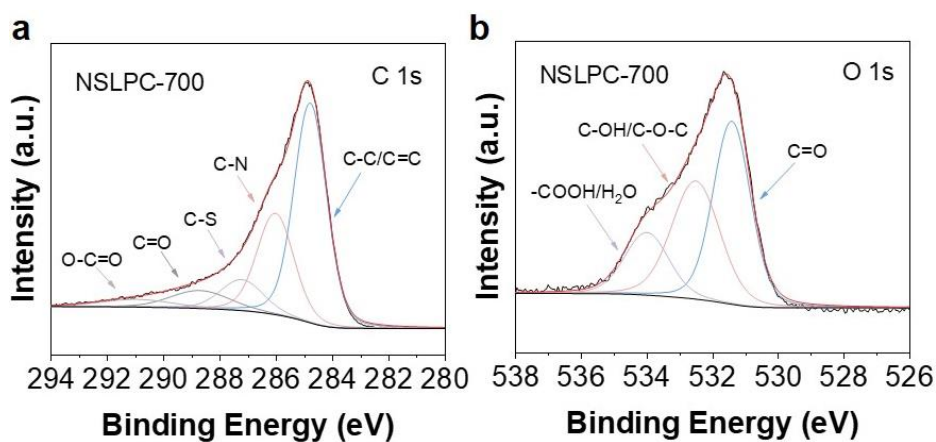


Fig. S14 High-resolution (a) C 1s and (b) O 1s XPS spectra of NSLPC-700

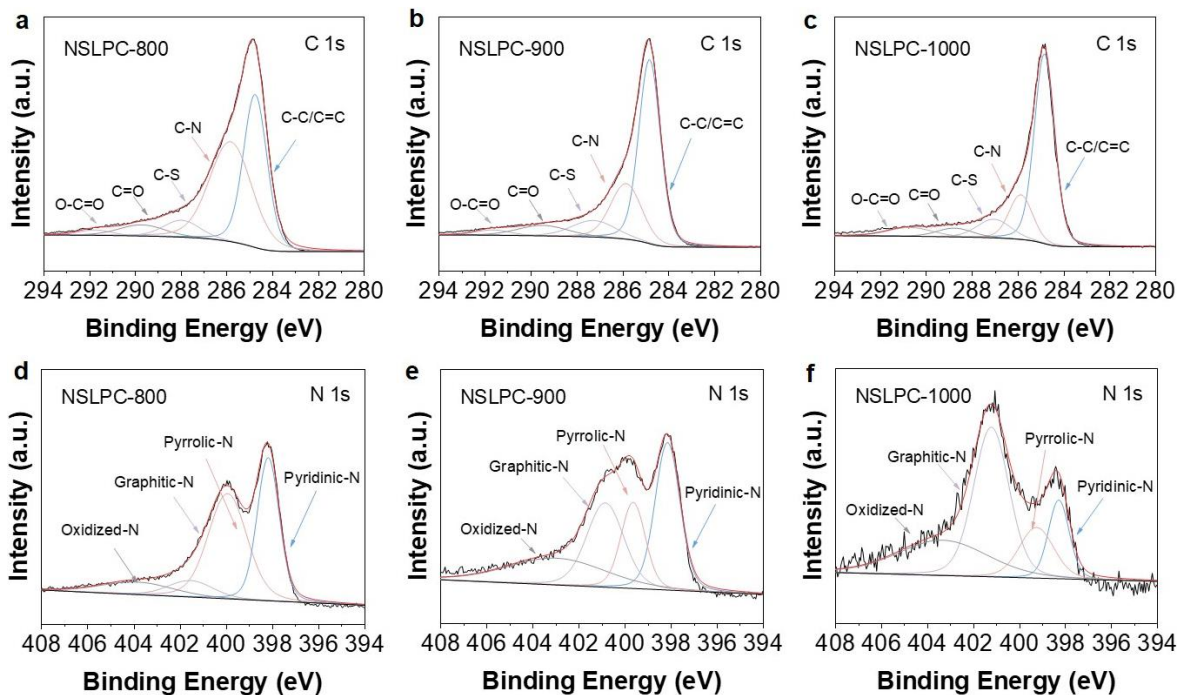
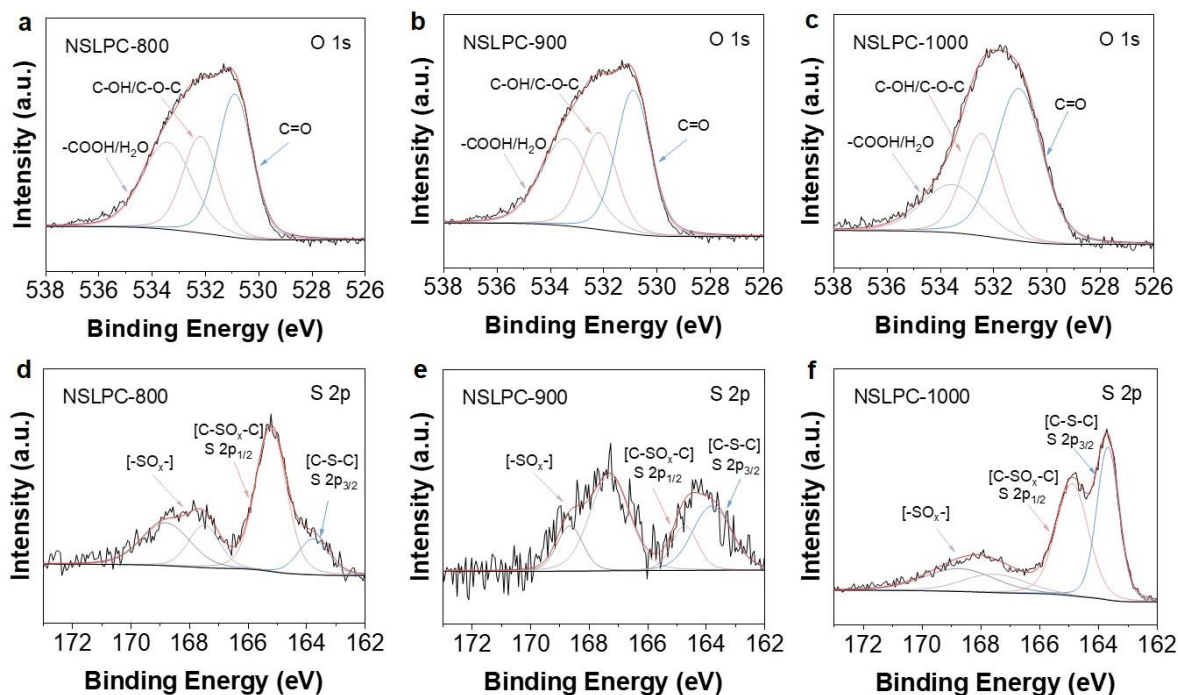
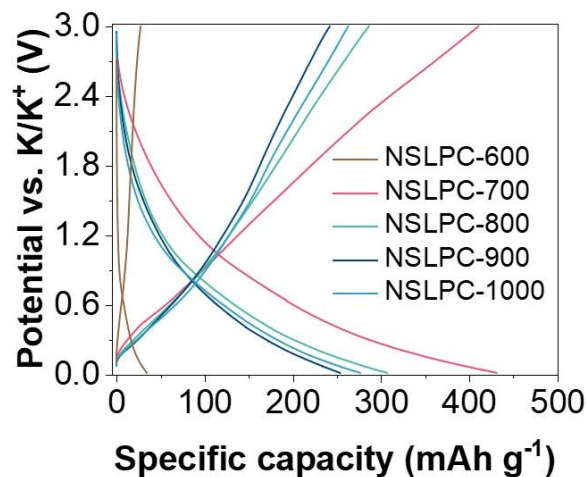


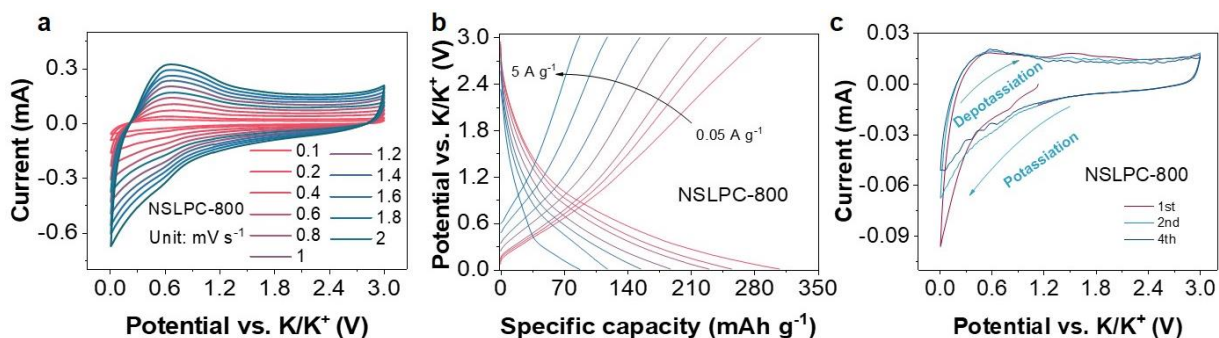
Fig. S15 High-resolution (a) C 1s and (d) N 1s XPS spectra of the NSLPC-800. High-resolution (b) C 1s and (e) N 1s XPS spectra of the NSLPC-900. High-resolution (c) C 1s, (f) N 1s XPS spectra of the NSLPC-1000



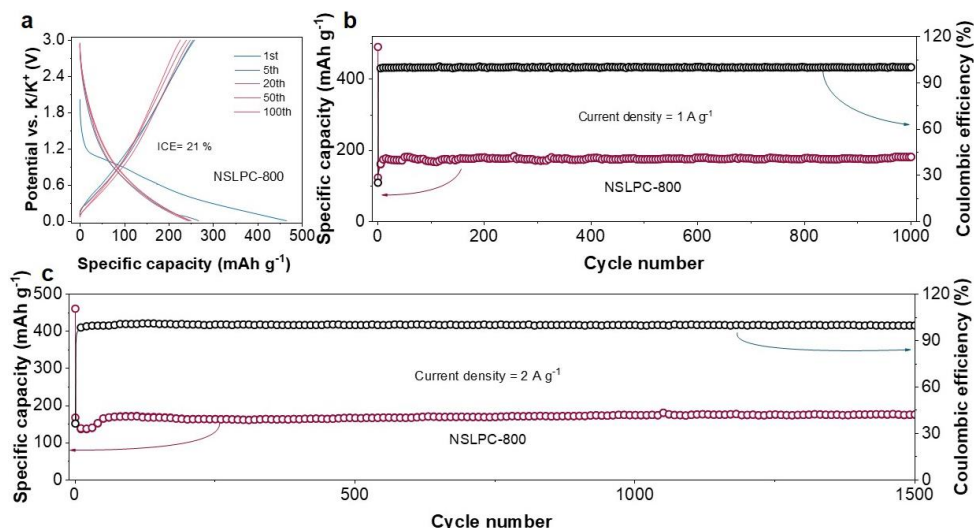
**Fig. S16** High-resolution (a) O 1s and (d) S 2p XPS spectra of the NSLPC-800. High-resolution (b) O 1s and (e) S 2p XPS spectra of the NSLPC-900. High-resolution (c) O 1s and (f) S 2p XPS spectra of the NSLPC-1000



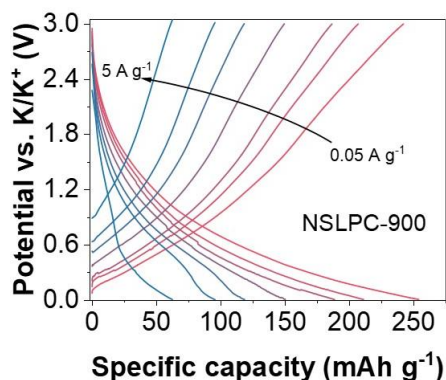
**Fig. S17** Comparison of the GCD curves of different samples at  $0.05 \text{ A g}^{-1}$



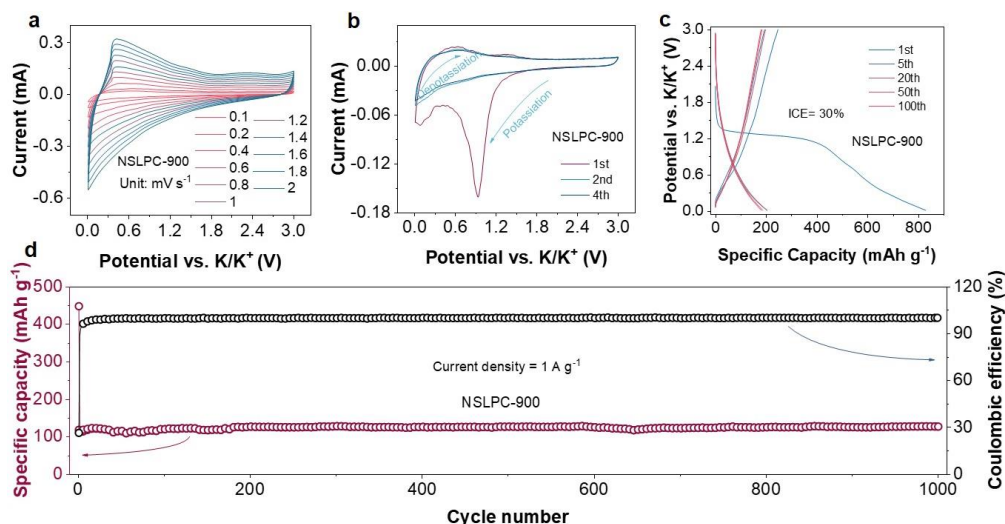
**Fig. S18** (a) CV curves of NSLPC-800 anode at different scan rates. (b) GCD curves of NSLPC-800 anode at different current densities. (c) CV curves of NSLPC-800 anode at a scan rate of  $0.1 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$



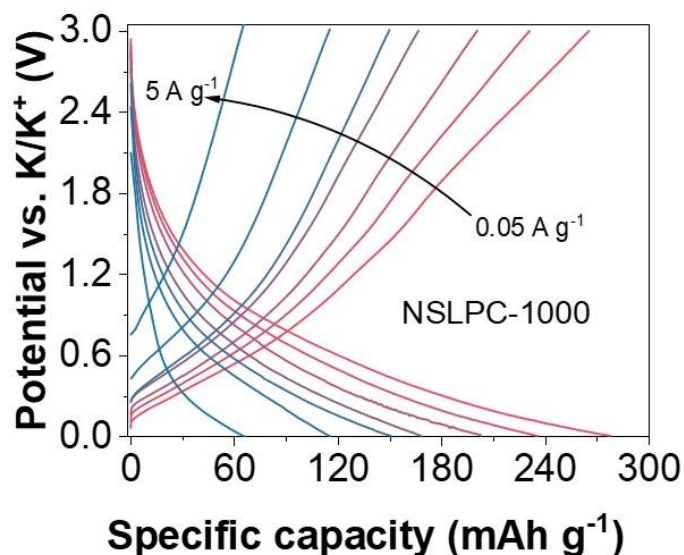
**Fig. S19** (a) GCD curves of NSLPC-800 anode at a current density of 0.05 A g<sup>-1</sup>. GCD cycling performance of the NSLPC-800 anode at current densities of (b) 1 A g<sup>-1</sup> and (c) 2 A g<sup>-1</sup>



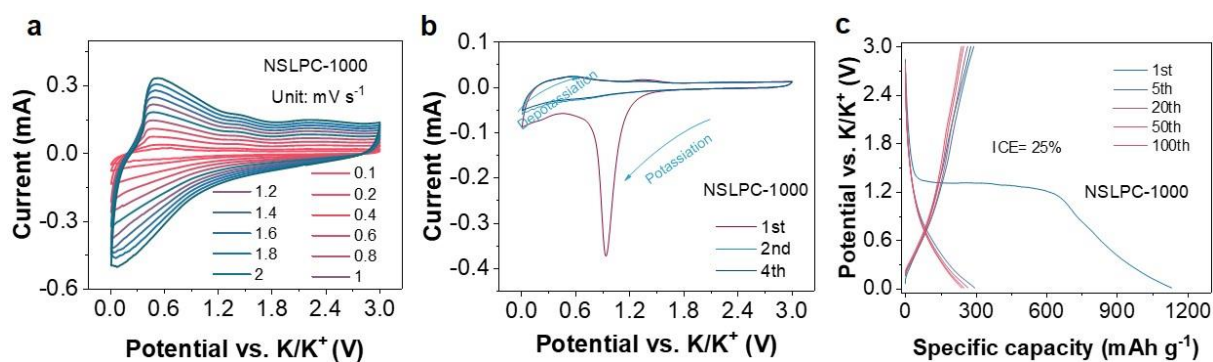
**Fig. S20** GCD curves of NSLPC-900 anode at different current densities



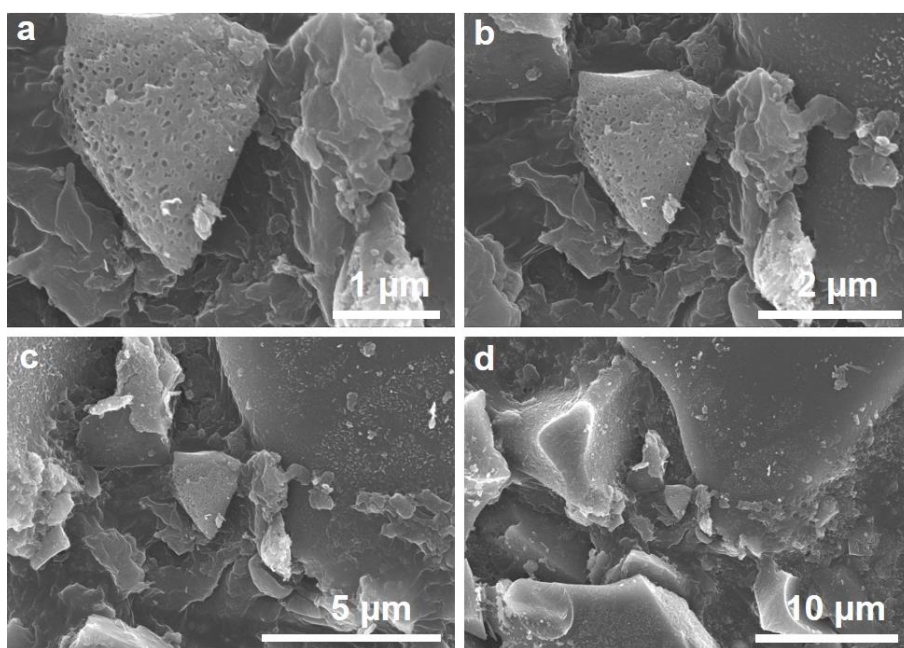
**Fig. S21** (a) CV curves of NSLPC-900 anode at different scan rates. (b) CV curves of NSLPC-900 at initial cycles at a scan rate of 0.1 mV s<sup>-1</sup>. (c) Cycling performance of the NSLPC-900 anode at a current density of 0.05 A g<sup>-1</sup>. (d) Cycling performance of the NSLPC-900 anode at a current density of 1 A g<sup>-1</sup>



**Fig. S22** GCD curves of NSLPC-1000 anode at different current densities



**Fig. S23** (a) CV curves of NSLPC-1000 at different scan rates. (b) CV curves at initial cycles at a scan rate of  $0.1 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ . (c) GCD curves of NSLPC-1000 anode at a current density of  $0.05 \text{ A g}^{-1}$



**Fig. S24** SEM images of LPC-700

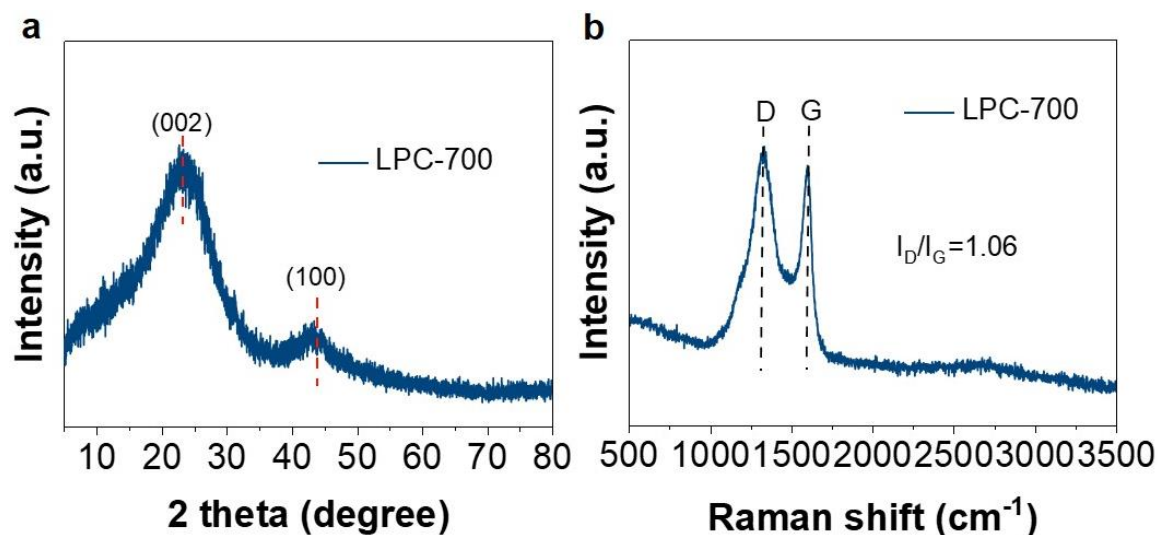


Fig. S25 (a) XRD pattern of LPC-700. (b) Raman spectra of LPC-700

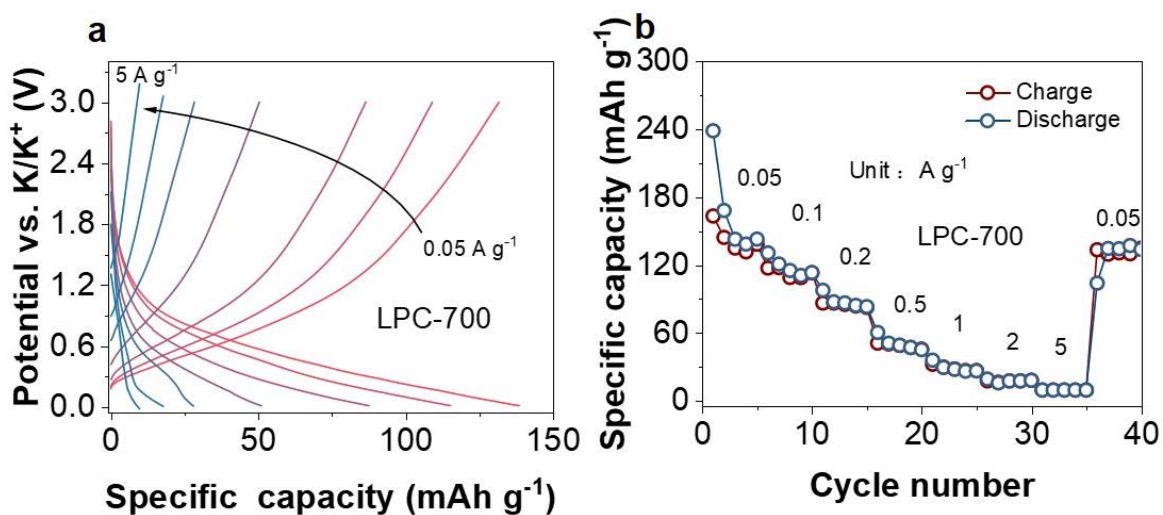


Fig. S26 (a) GCD curves of LPC-700 anode at the different current densities. (b) Rate performance of LPC-700 anode

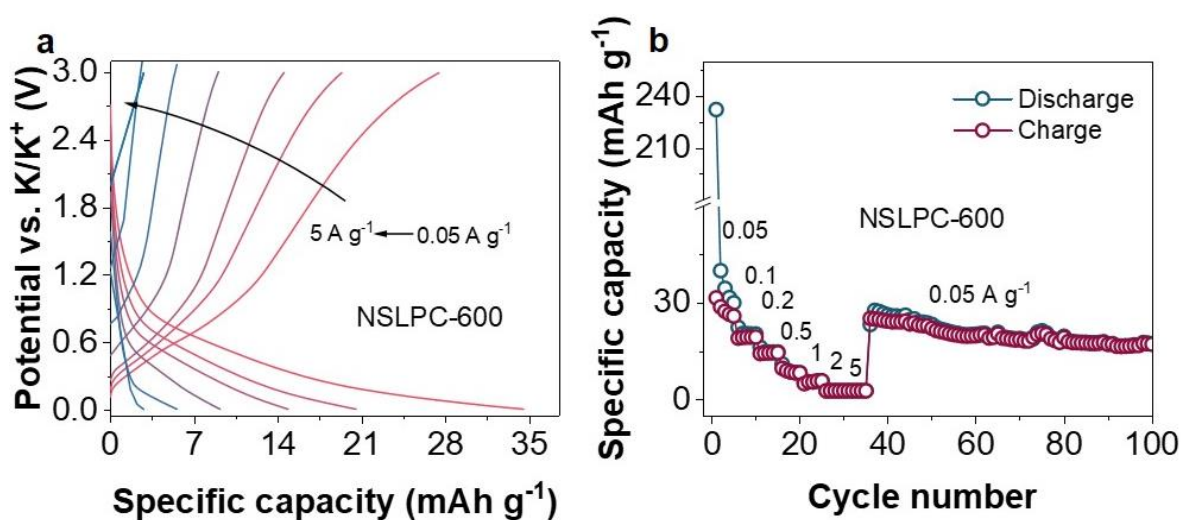
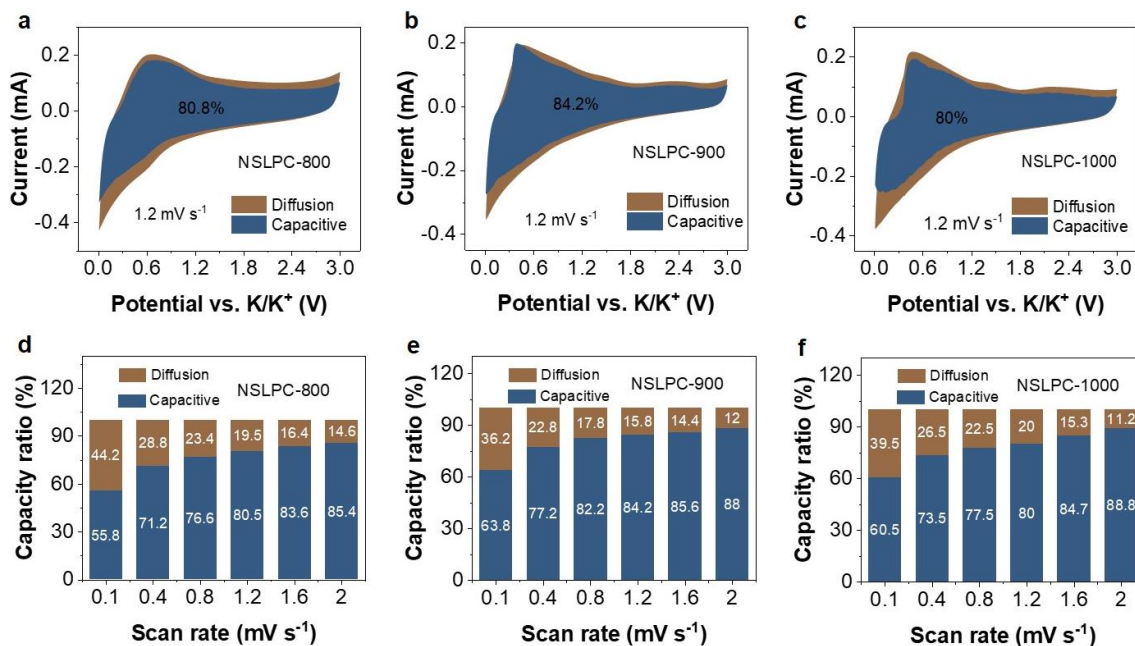
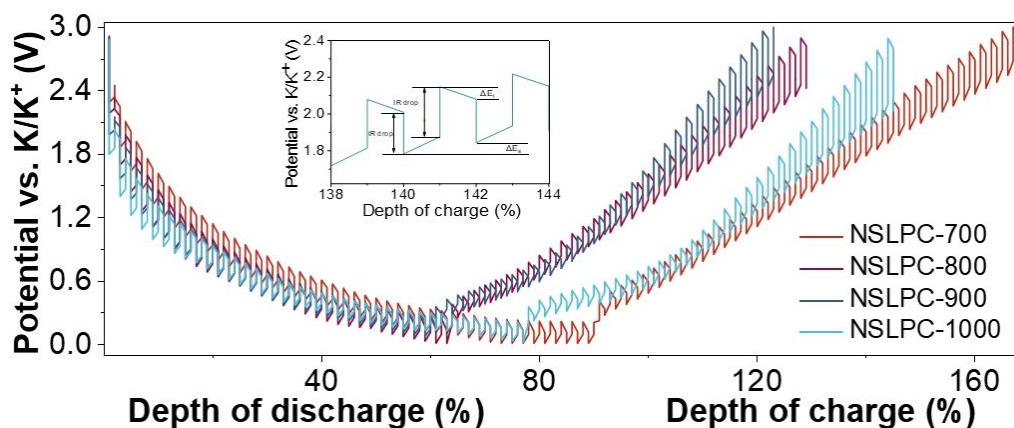


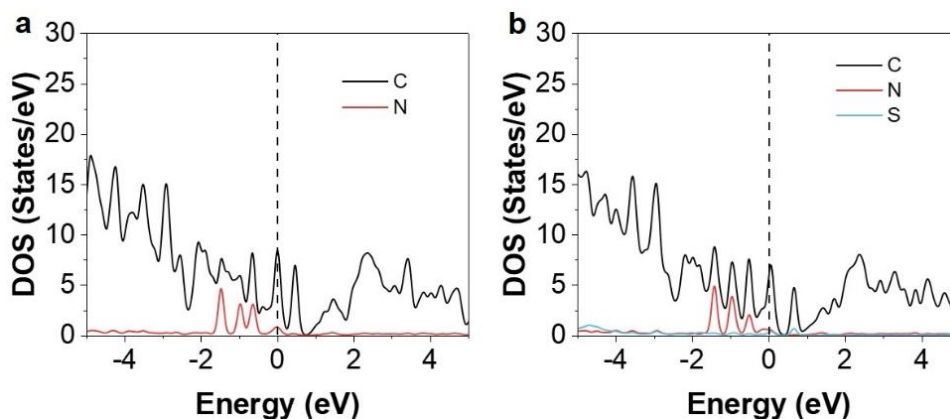
Fig. S27 (a) GCD curves of NSLPC-600 anode at different current densities. (b) Rate performance of NSLPC-600 anode



**Fig. S28** Capacitive charge-storage contribution in (a) NSLPC-800, (b) NSLPC-900 and (c) NSLPC-1000 at a specific scan rate of  $1.2 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ . Contribution ratios of the capacitive process in (d) NSLPC-800, (e) NSLPC-900 and (f) NSLPC-1000 at different scan rates

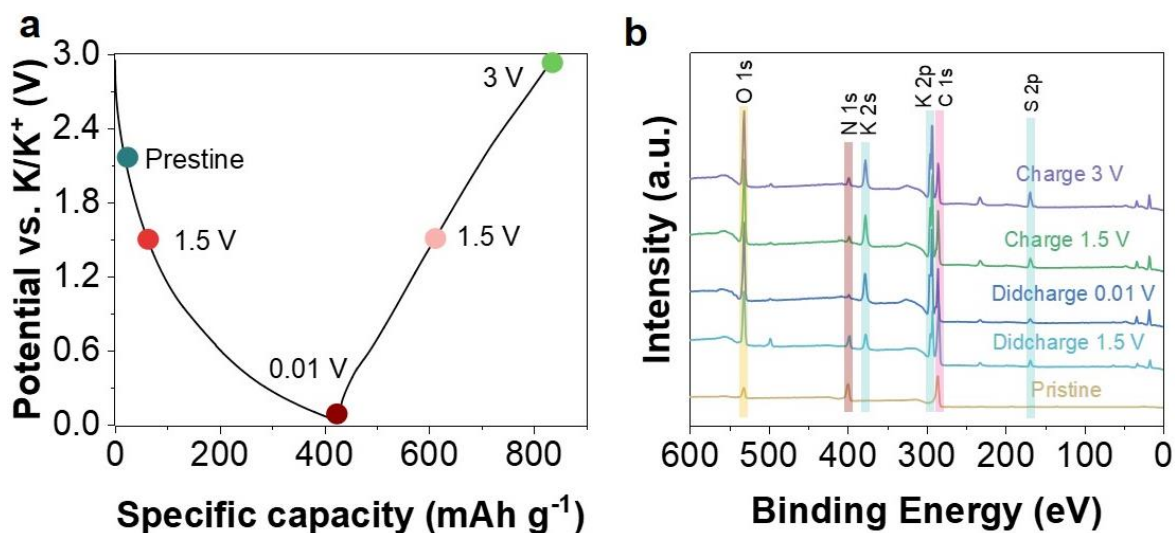


**Fig. S29** GITT profiles of the state of the potassiation and depotassiation processes. Testing conditions: this test is tested under the condition of charging or discharging pulses for 5 min each at a constant (pulsed) current density of  $0.1 \text{ A g}^{-1}$  for 2 hours

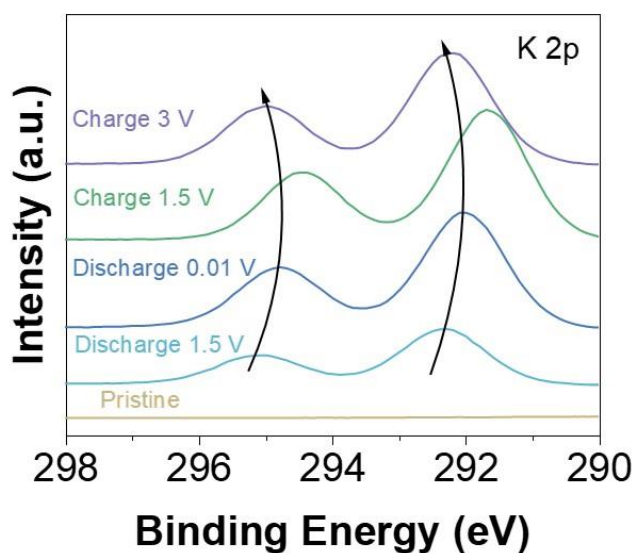


**Fig. S30** (a) DOS of C and N element. (b) DOS of C, N, and S elements

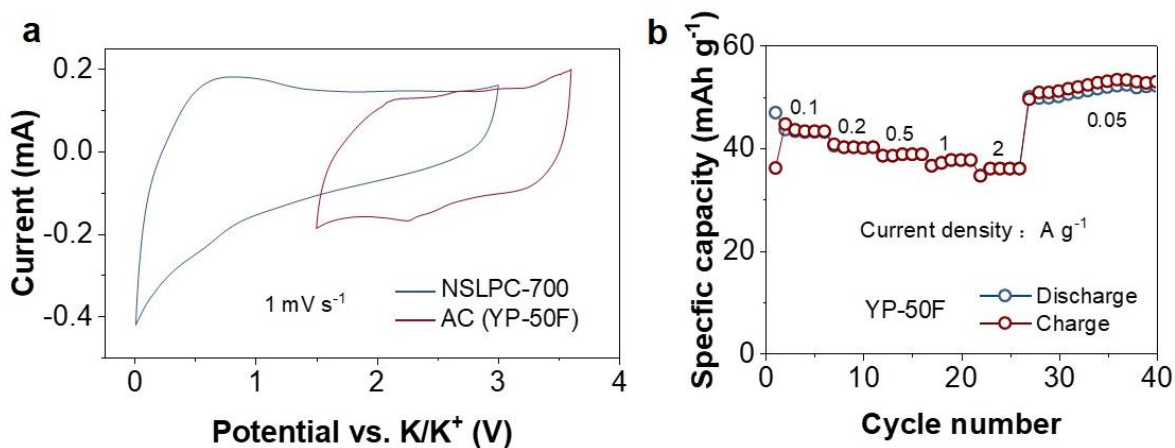




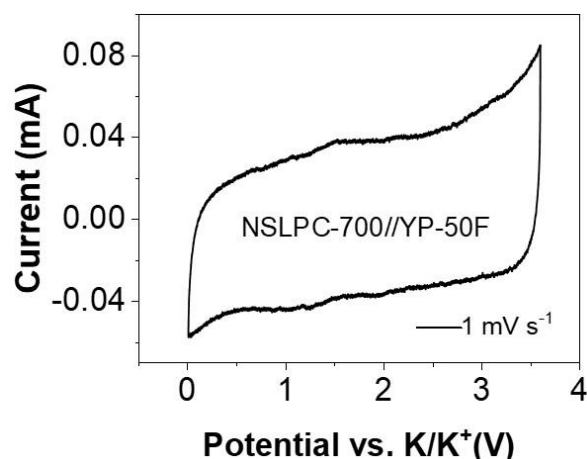
**Fig. S31** (a) GCD curves of NSLPC-700 at different charge and discharge stages. (b) XPS spectra NSLPC-700 at different charge and discharge states



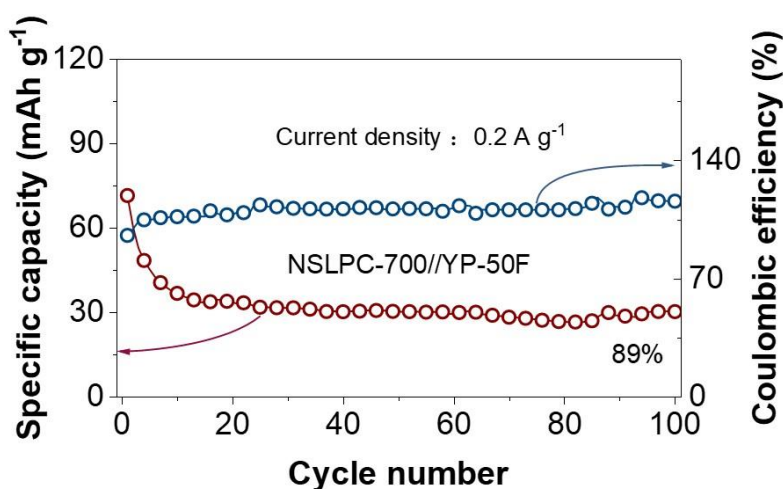
**Fig. S32** High-resolution C 1s XPS spectra of NSLPC-700 during the initial discharge and charge cycle



**Fig. S33** (a) CV curves of the NSLPC-700 and the AC (YP-50F) electrodes in half cells. (b) Rate performance of YP-50F cathode



**Fig. S34** CV curves of PIHCs assembled by NSLPC-700//YP-50F at a scan rate of  $1 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$



**Fig. S35** The cycling performance of PIHCs at a current density of  $0.2 \text{ A g}^{-1}$  (The specific capacity was calculated based on the total mass of the anode and cathode electrodes)

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