Supporting Information

## Controlled synthesis of zinc cobalt sulfide nanostructures in oil phase and their potential applications in electrochemical energy storages

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**Figure S1** (a) SEM image for EDX of ZnxCo<sub>1-x</sub>S nanoartichokes, (b-d) corresponding elemental mapping of Zn, Co and S.



Figure S2 EDX of (a) the ratios between Zn and Co precursors is 1:2, (b)  $Zn_xCo_{1-x}S$  nanoparticles.



Figure S3 Raman spectra of Zn<sub>x</sub>Co<sub>1-x</sub>S nanoartichokes and nanoparticles.



Figure S4 Schematic illustration of the formation of  $Zn_{0.76}Co_{0.24}S$  nanoartichokes and nanoparticles.



Figure S5 CV of the first three cycles of  $Zn_{0.76}Co_{0.24}S$  nanoparticles obtained between 0.005 and 3.0 V at a scan rate of 0.2 mv s<sup>-1</sup>.



Figure S6 The charge/discharge voltage profiles of  $Zn_{0.76}Co_{0.24}S$  nanoartichokes between 0.005 and 3 V (vs Li<sup>+</sup>/Li) at a current density of 0.2 A g<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S7** (a) CV curves measured at a scan rate of 5 mV s<sup>-1</sup>, (b) GCD plots tested at the current density of 2 A g<sup>-1</sup> (c) Effects of current density on specific capacitance and (d) capacitance as a function of cycle number of  $Zn_{0.76}Co_{0.24}S$  nanoartichokes and nanoparticles in a high concentration electrolyte (6 M KOH).



Figure S8 (a) XRD patterns of  $Zn_{0.76}Co_{0.24}S$  nanoartichokes before and after discharging/charging for 50 cycles at a current density of 200 mA g<sup>-1</sup>, (b) EDX of the  $Zn_{0.76}Co_{0.24}S$  nanoartichokes after discharging/charging for 50 cycles at a current density of 200 mA g<sup>-1</sup>.