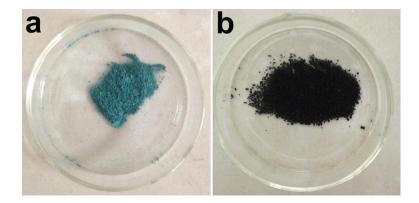
## Supporting information

## Facile synthesis of 3D plum candy-like ZnCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> microspheres as a high-performance anode for lithium ion batteries

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**Fig.S1** the photographs of as-prepared  $Zn_xCo_{1-x}O$  before calcination at air (a) and 3D plum candy-like ZCO MSs

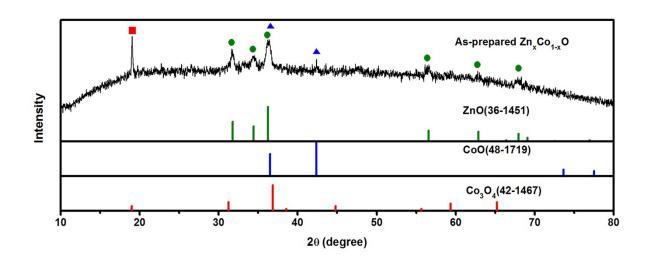


Fig. S2 XRD patterns of as-prepared  $Zn_xCo_{1-x}O$ 

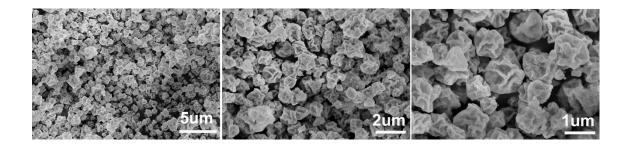
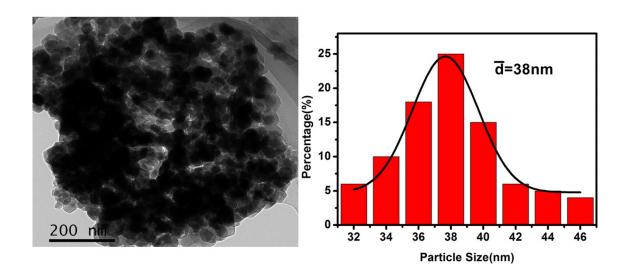


Fig.S3 SEM images of as-prepared Zn<sub>x</sub>Co<sub>1-x</sub>O



**Fig. S4** TEM image of 3D plum candy-like ZCO MSs and the particle size distribution statistical histogram

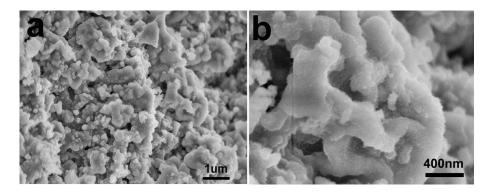


Fig. S5 SEM images of electrode after 50 cycles at 500 mA  $\rm g^{-1}$