[Supplementary Information]

## Standout electrochemical performance of SnO<sub>2</sub> and Sn/SnO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles

## embedded in a KOH-activated carbonized porous aromatic framework

## (PAF-1) matrix as the anode for lithium-ion batteries

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**Fig. S1** Cycling performance of PAF-1 showing the charge/discharge capacities at a current density of 200 mA g<sup>-1</sup> for 200 cycles (the electrodes were prepared by mixing 80 wt% active material and 20 wt% polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF) binder to form an electrode slurry). The reversible capacity after 200 cycles is 10 mA h g<sup>-1</sup>. It can be observed that the reversible capacity increases from  $2^{nd}$  to  $100^{th}$  cycles and reach a stable value of about 10 mA h g<sup>-1</sup> after 100 cycles. This is due to the high microporosity of PAF-1 (reaction between PAF-1 and electrolyte occurs cycle by cycle until the pore is filled with electrolyte).



**Fig. S2** PXRD pattern of K-PAF-1. The broad peak at 24.0° is ascribed to the (002) diffraction of carbon. The broad peak indicates that K-PAF-1 is essentially amorphous.



**Fig. S3** HRTEM image of K-PAF-1. The high magnification TEM image shows the worm-like structure of K-PAF-1. This is consistent with the result from PXRD analysis.



**Fig. S4** TGA curve of K-PAF-1. TGA was accomplished under dry air from 50 to 800 °C at the heating rate of 10 °C min<sup>-1</sup>.



**Fig. S5** SEM and corresponding mapping images of SnO<sub>2</sub>@K-PAF-1-550 (A, B), SnO<sub>2</sub>@K-PAF-1-550-50 (C, D), SnO<sub>2</sub>@K-PAF-1-550-25 (E, F) and SnO<sub>2</sub>@K-PAF-1-550-10 (G, H). It can be seen that SnO<sub>2</sub> disperses homogeneously in carbon matrix.



**Fig. S6** (A)  $N_2$  sorption (solid symbols, adsorption; open symbols, desorption) and (B) corresponding pore size distribution of K-PAF-1.



Fig. S7 CV profiles of K-PAF-1 during the first five cycles at a scanning rate of 0.2 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.



Fig. S8 Cycling performance of commercial  $SnO_2$  showing the charge/discharge capacities at a current density of 200 mA g<sup>-1</sup> for 50 cycles. The reversible capacity after 50 cycles is 52 mA h g<sup>-1</sup>.



**Fig. S9** Cycling performance of K-PAF-1 showing the charge/discharge capacities at a current density of 1000 mA  $g^{-1}$  for 30 cycles. The discharge and charge capacities are 1042 and 461 mA h  $g^{-1}$  for the first cycle. The reversible capacity after 30 cycles is 281 mA h  $g^{-1}$ .



Fig. S10 Electrochemical impedance spectra of K-PAF-1 in the frequency range 100 kHz–0.01 Hz. The charge transfer resistance ( $R_{ct}$ ) is 156  $\Omega$ .



Fig. S11 (A)  $N_2$  sorption (solid symbols, adsorption; open symbols, desorption) and (B) corresponding pore size distribution of  $SnO_x@K-PAF-1-650-25$  and  $SnO_x@K-PAF-1-750-25$ .



**Fig. S12** SEM and corresponding mapping images of  $SnO_x@K-PAF-1-650-25$  (A, B) and  $SnO_x@K-PAF-1-750-25$  (C, D). It can be seen that Sn and  $SnO_2$  disperse homogeneously in carbon matrix.

	SnO <sub>2</sub> (wt%)	Sn (wt%)	K-PAF-1 (wt%)	Theoretical capacity (mA h g <sup>-1</sup> )	Experimental Capacity (mA h g <sup>-1</sup> )
SnO <sub>2</sub> @K-PAF-1-550	74.5	-	25.5	701	793
SnO <sub>2</sub> @K-PAF-1-550-50	46.5	-	53.5	611	661
SnO <sub>2</sub> @K-PAF-1-550-25	21.6	-	78.4	531	784
SnO <sub>x</sub> @K-PAF-1-650-25	3.5	21.9	74.6	588	887
SnO <sub>x</sub> @K-PAF-1-750-25	0.9	28.5	70.6	615	870
SnO <sub>2</sub> @K-PAF-1-550-10	17.0	-	83.0	516	698

 Table S1 Mass ratio and capacity of all composites.