

Supplementary Information

Long life-span of Li-metal anode enabled by a protective layer based on the pyrolyzed N-doped binder network

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Supplementary Figures

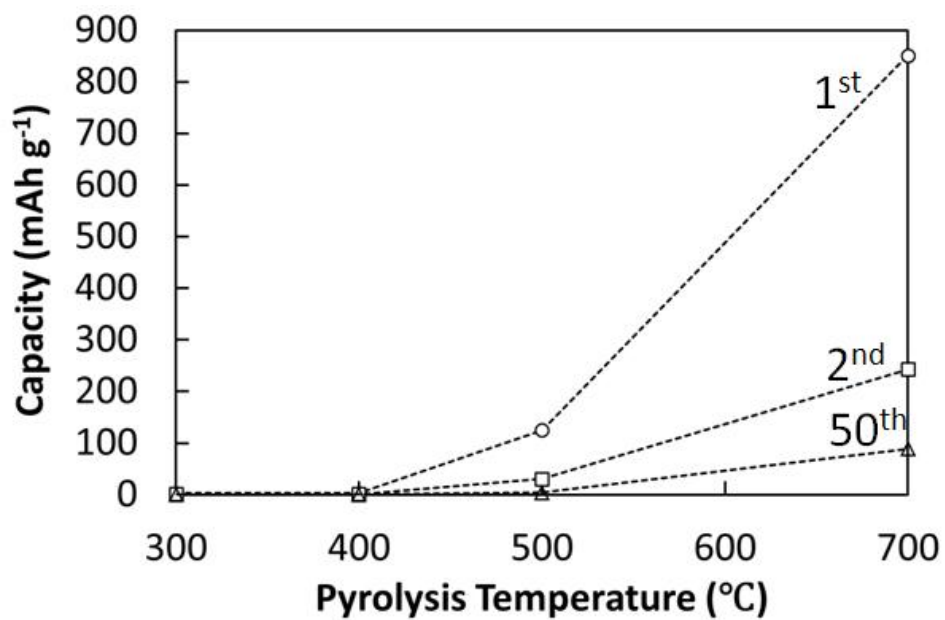


Fig. S1 Capacities of pyrolyzed PAN at various temperatures, for the 1st, 2nd and 50th cycles. The working electrodes are pyrolyzed PAN:SP:PVdF (8:1:1), the counter electrodes are Li foils, and the electrolyte is 1 M LiPF₆ in EC:DEC:EMC (1:1:1).

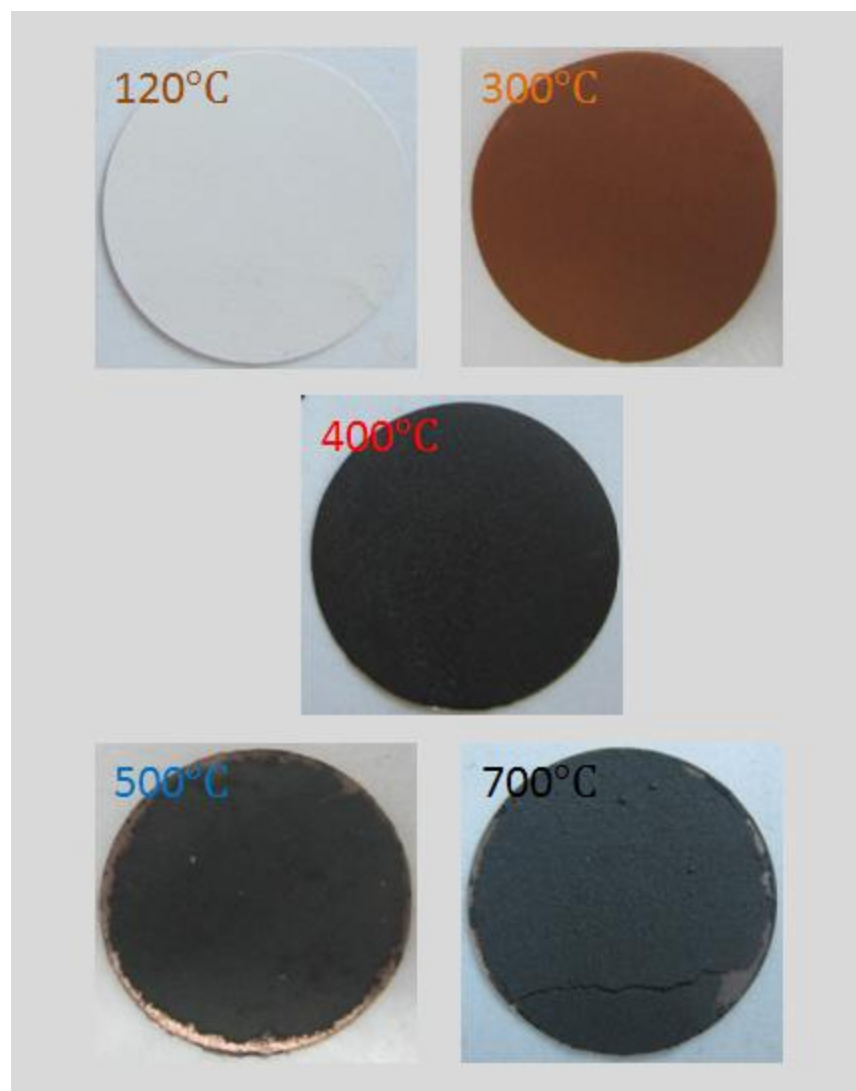


Fig. S2 Digital photos of the electrodes with porous layers prepared at various temperatures.

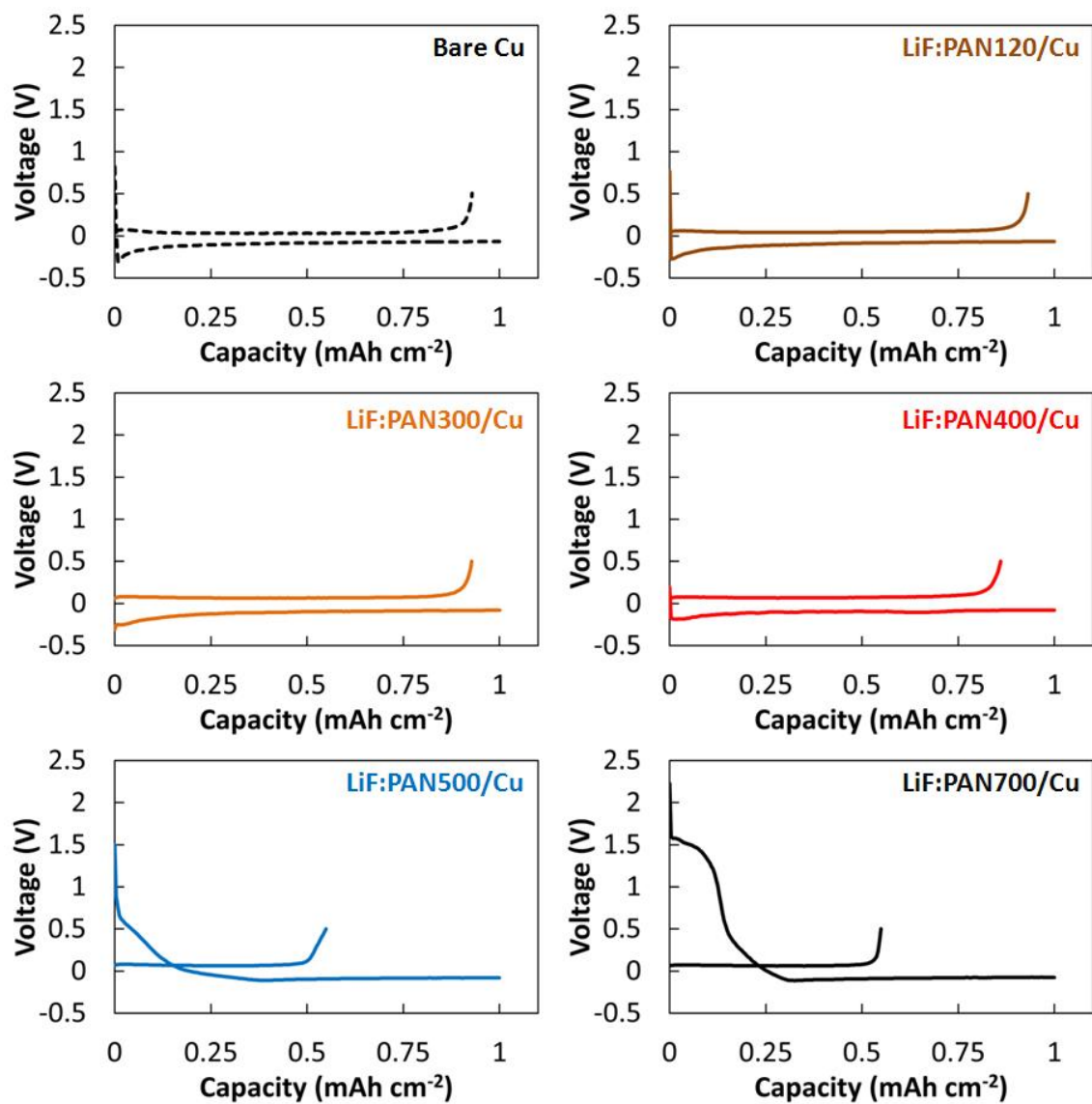


Fig. S3 Charge-discharge curvy of the 1st Li plating/stripping cycle in the electrodes with porous layers prepared at various pyrolysis temperatures.

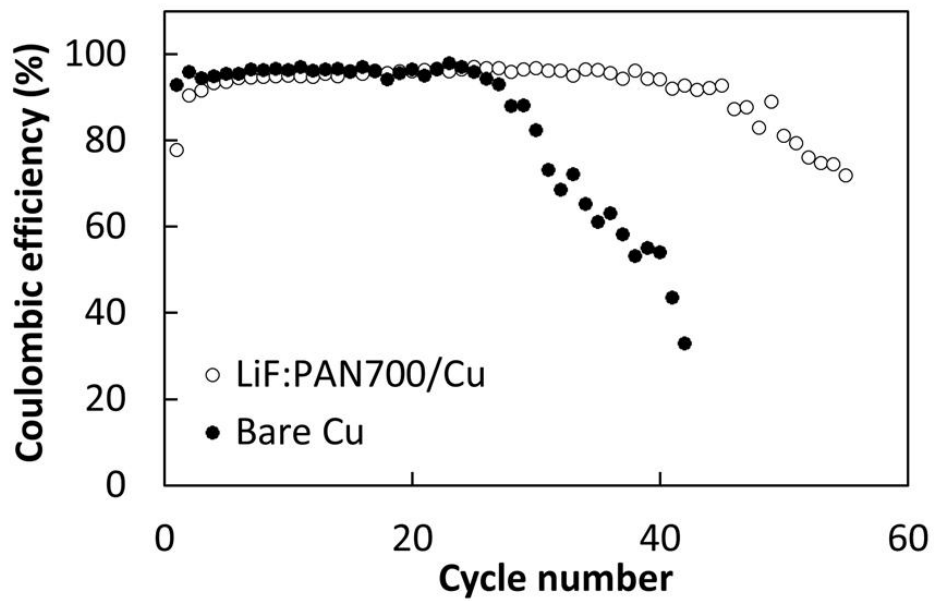


Fig. S4 Coulombic efficiency of Li plating/stripping in the electrode with porous layer prepared at 700 °C.

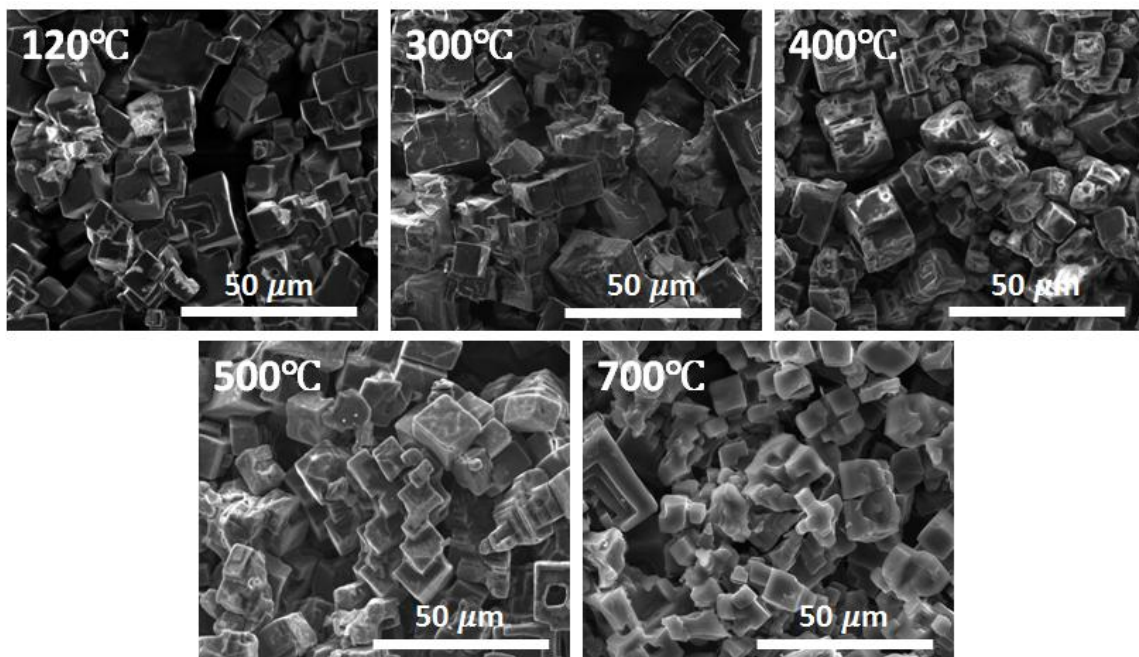


Fig. S5 SEM images of the electrodes with porous layers prepared at various temperatures.

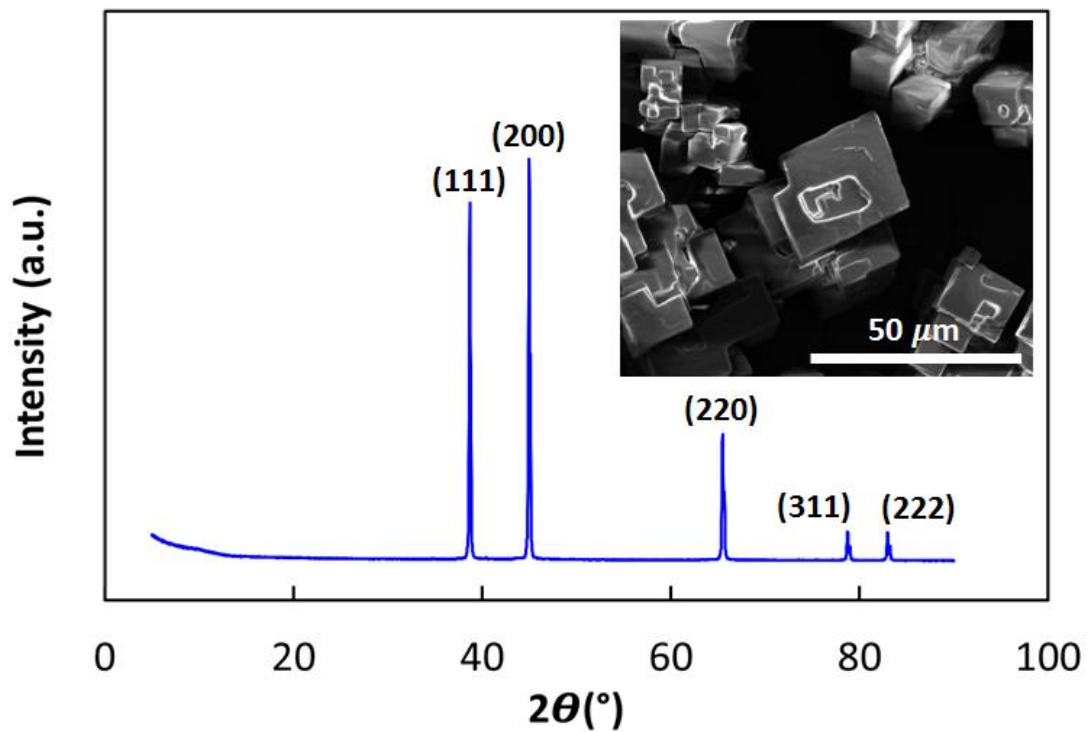


Fig. S6 XRD pattern and SEM image of the used LiF powders in this work, with a typical size of $20\text{-}30\ \mu\text{m}$. The well-defined XRD pattern justifies the high material purity.

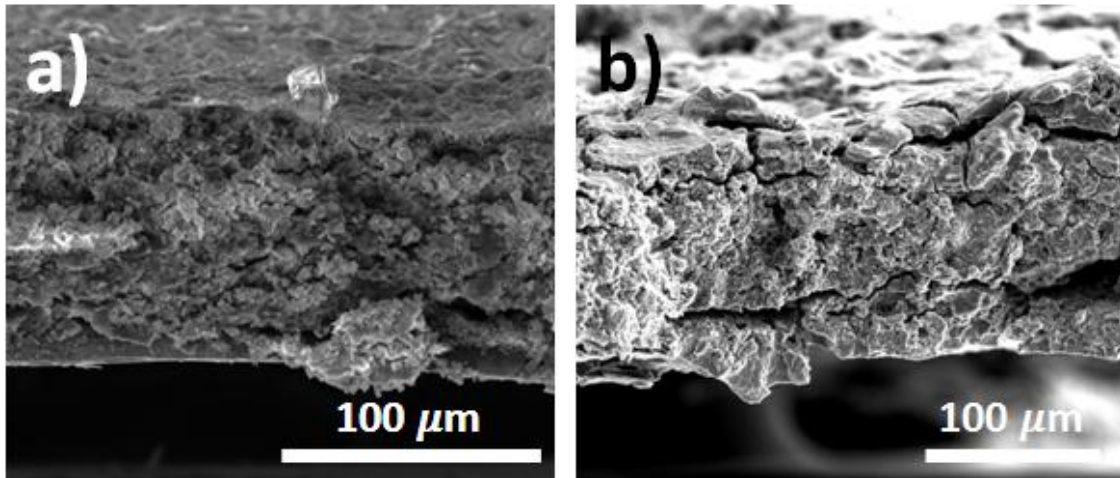


Fig. S7 Cross-sectional SEM images of the PAN-based porous layer formed at 400 °C with nano-sized Al₂O₃ powders, (a) before and (b) after cycling.

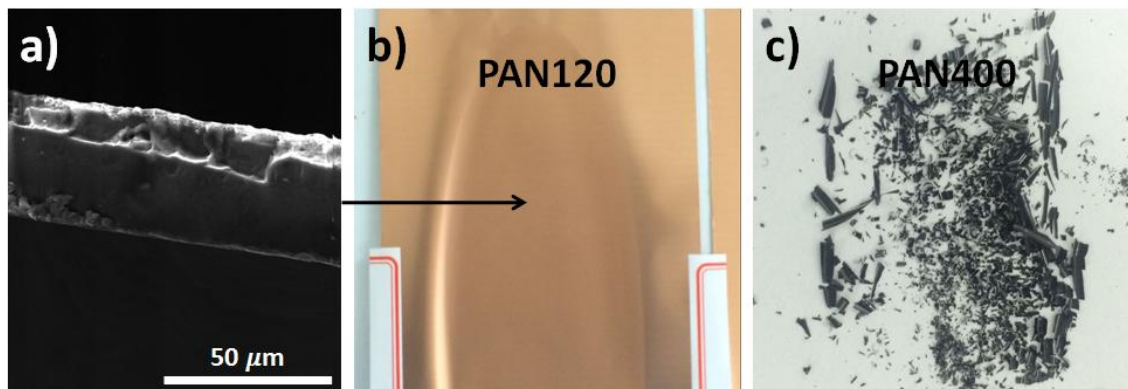


Fig. S8 (a) SEM image and (b) digital photo of the PAN layer prepared at 120 °C; (c) digital photo of the PAN layer pyrolyzed at 400 °C, with serious pulverizations.

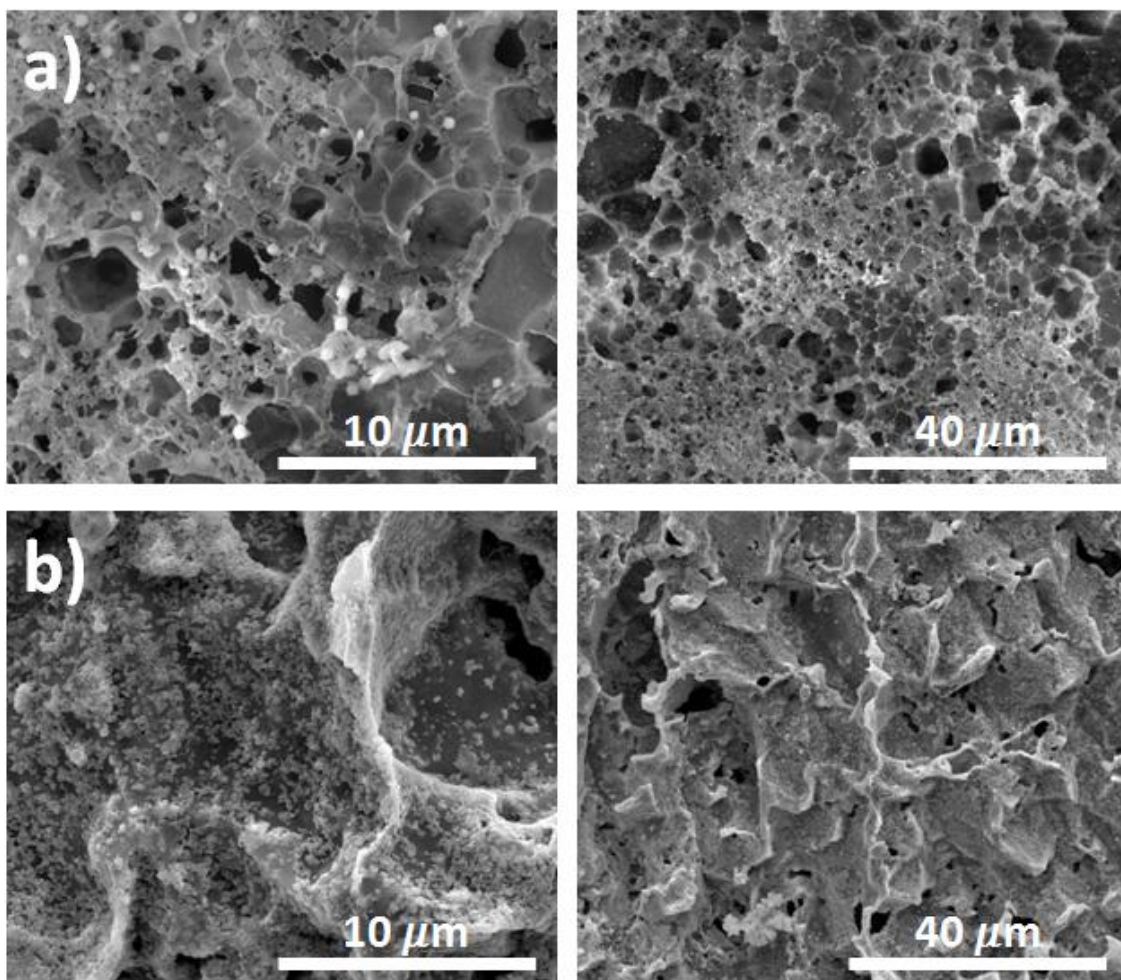


Fig. S9 SEM images of the PAN binder networks prepared at (a) 120 °C and (b) 400 °C, using LiCl to replace LiF in the porous layers followed by the removal in water.

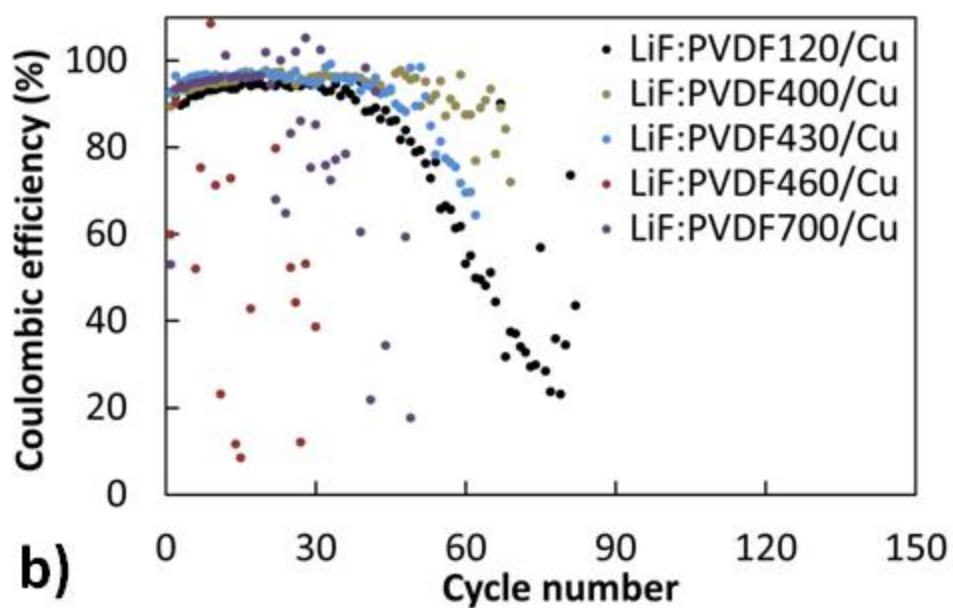
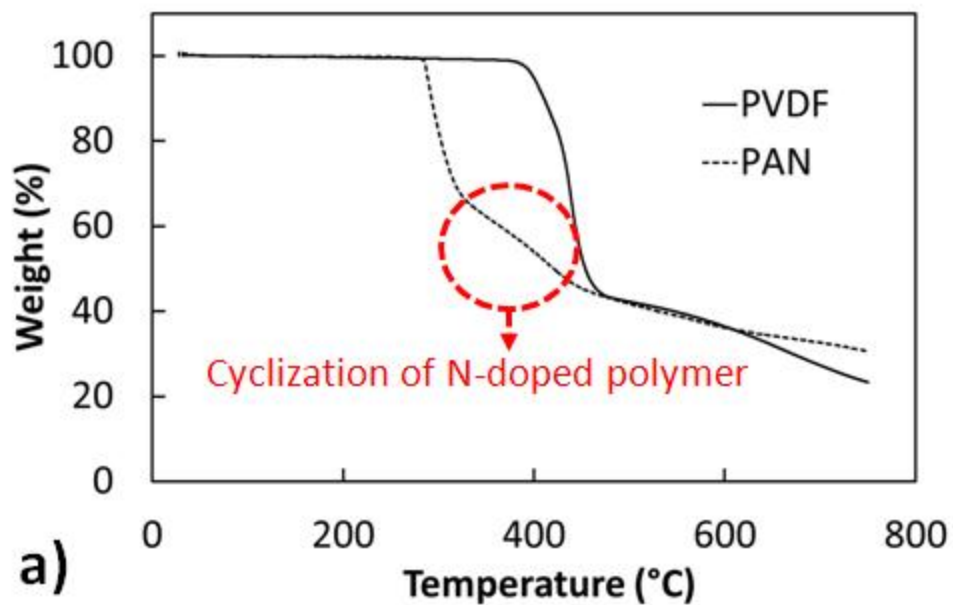


Fig. S10 (a) TG curves of PVDF and PAN; (b) Coulombic efficiencies of Li plating/stripping in the electrodes with porous layers based on PVDF binders prepared at various pyrolysis temperatures.

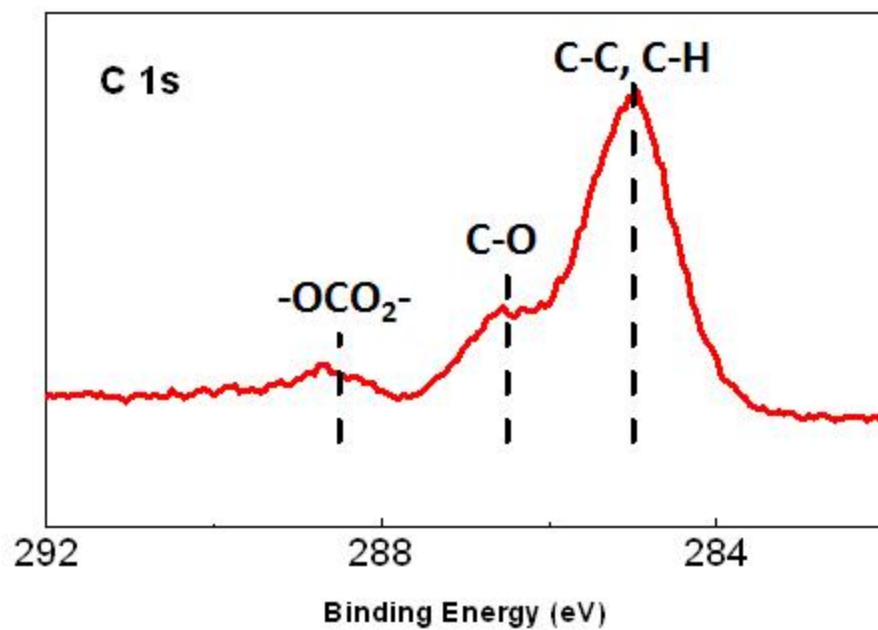


Fig. S11 C 1s XPS spectrum of a typical SEI layer formed on Li metal in carbonate-based electrolyte (LiPF_6 in EC:DEC).

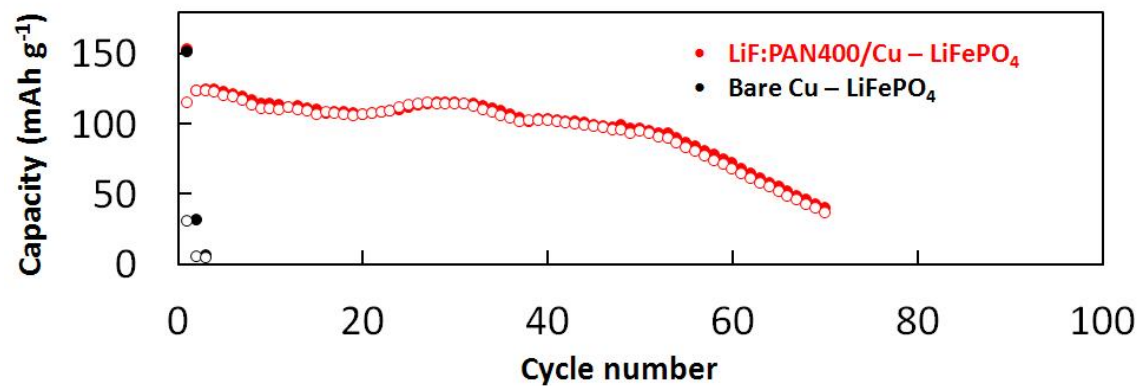


Fig. S12 Charge-discharge capacities of the Cu-LiFePO₄ cells with/without the porous layer prepared at 400 °C, the investigated Cu electrodes are directly paired with LiFePO₄ cathodes to construct the “anode-free” batteries. The mass loading of (LiF+PAN400) is ~ 0.35 mg cm⁻², on the Cu foil.