## **Electronic supplementary information**

## A general strategy to synthesize high-level N-doped porous carbons *via* Schiff-base chemistry for supercapacitors

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Fig. S1 TGA analysis of Schiff-base polymer spheres in nitrogen atmosphere.



Fig. S2 XRD patterns (a) and Raman spectra (b) of N-MCSs.



Fig. S3  $N_2$  adsorption/desorption isotherms (a) and pore size distribution curves of  $N-MCS_X$  (b).

Samples	$S_{\rm BET} ({ m m}^2 { m g}^{-1})$	$S_{\text{micropore}} (\mathrm{m}^2 \mathrm{g}^{-1})$	$P_{\text{ultramicropore}}$ (nm)	$P_{\text{supermicropore}}(\text{nm})$	$V_{\text{total}} (\text{cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1})$
N-MCS <sub>600</sub>	768	752	0.56	0.86,1.24	0.32
N-MCS <sub>700</sub>	1478	1412	0.57	0.86,1.26	0.76
N-MCS <sub>800</sub>	2431	2316	0.55	0.81,1.19	1.34
N-MCS <sub>900</sub>	1597	1534	0.53	0.80,1.27	0.81

**Table S1.** Pore structure parameters of  $N-MCS_X$ .



**Fig. S4** Wide-scan XPS spectra (a) and fitted high-solution XPS spectra of N 1s for N-MCS<sub>600</sub> (b), N-MCS<sub>700</sub> (c), N-MCS<sub>800</sub> (c), N-MCS<sub>900</sub> (d).

Samples	С	N	0	N-6 (%)	N-5(%)	N-Q (%)	N-X (%)	N-Ox (%)
	(at.%)	(at.%)	(at.%)	398.4eV	400.5eV	401.0 eV	402.6 eV	405.5 eV
N-MCS <sub>600</sub>	78.60	8.83	12.57	28.27	41.50	22.73	-	7.50
N-MCS <sub>700</sub>	83.40	8.71	7.89	32.25	32.47	19.41	5.80	10.09
N-MCS <sub>800</sub>	89.96	5.10	4.94	28.78	22.01	20.38	12.80	16.02
N-MCS <sub>900</sub>	89.84	3.48	6.68	31.11	27.66	17.33	12.62	11.25

**Table S2.** Elemental compositions of C, N, and O, and relative contents of nitrogen species to N 1s in N-MCS $_X$ .



**Fig. S5** CV curves (a) at 10 mV s<sup>-1</sup>, GCD curves at 1.0 A  $g^{-1}$  (b) of N-MCS<sub>*X*</sub> electrodes in 6 M KOH electrolyte, and the curves of specific capacitance against the current densities (c).



**Fig. S6** Nyquist plots of N-MCS<sub>*X*</sub> electrodes with frequency range of  $10^5$  to  $10^{-2}$  Hz.



Fig. S7 FT-IR spectra of Schiff-base polymer A and B.





Fig. S8 TGA analysis of Schiff-base polymer A (a) and B (b) in nitrogen atmosphere.

Samples	$S_{\rm BET} ({ m m}^2~{ m g}^{-1})$	$S_{\rm micropore} ({ m m}^2 { m g}^{-1})$	Pore size (nm)	$V_{\text{total}}(\text{cm}^3\text{ g}^{-1})$
N-FPC <sub>650</sub>	857	820	0.81, 1.27	0.47
N-FPC <sub>700</sub>	1387	870	0.71, 1.58, 2.15	1.27
N-FPC <sub>750</sub>	1751	1597	0.82, 0.82, 1.59, 1.99	1.03
N-FPC <sub>800</sub>	2552	1883	0.80, 1.23, 2.75	2.07
N-MPC <sub>650</sub>	640	297	0.60, 1.37,2.72	0.26
N-MPC <sub>700</sub>	740	606	0.68, 0.81, 1.28	0.50
N-MPC <sub>750</sub>	1552	1142	0.50, 0.80, 1.34, 2.72	1.96
N-MPC <sub>800</sub>	974	731	0.68, 0.81, 1.28, 2.72	0.81

**Table S3.** Pore structure parameters of N-FPC<sub>X</sub> and N-MPC<sub>X</sub>.



**Fig. S9** Wide-scan XPS spectra (a) and fitted high-solution XPS spectra of N 1s for N-FPC<sub>650</sub> (b), N-FPC<sub>700</sub> (c), N-FPC<sub>750</sub> (d), N-FPC<sub>800</sub> (e).



**Fig. S10** Wide-scan XPS spectra (a) and fitted high-solution XPS spectra of N 1s for N-MPC<sub>650</sub> (b), N-MPC<sub>700</sub> (c), N-MPC<sub>750</sub> (d), N-MPC<sub>800</sub> (e).

Samplas	С	Ν	0	N-6 (%)	N-5 (%)	N-Q (%)	N-X (%)	N-Ox (%)
Samples	(at.%)	(at.%)	(at.%)	398.4 eV	400.5 eV	401.0 eV	402.6 eV	405.5 eV
N-FPC <sub>650</sub>	79.97	8.12	11.91	31.79	36.94	21.19		10.08
N-FPC <sub>700</sub>	85.67	7.53	6.81	23.34	38.51	19.89	11.90	6.35
N-FPC <sub>750</sub>	81.13	5.56	13.31	24.35	40.87	25.14	6.6	3.0
N-FPC <sub>800</sub>	89.69	3.79	6.51	27.01	26.70	30.65	6.27	9.38
N-MPC <sub>650</sub>	79.36	8.29	12.36	34.66	40.38	19.74		5.2
N-MPC <sub>700</sub>	83.44	7.20	9.36	15.66	32.26	13.25	28.41	10.41
N-MPC <sub>750</sub>	83.22	5.61	11.17	17.78	35.09	29.2	13.01	4.89
N-MPC <sub>800</sub>	92.10	3.96	3.94	17.35	27.46	22.53	22.23	10.41

**Table S4.** Elemental compositions of C, N, and O, and relative contents of nitrogen species to N 1s in N-FPC<sub>X</sub> and N-MPC<sub>X</sub>.



**Fig. S11** CV curves at 10 mV s<sup>-1</sup> (a, c), GCD curves at 1.0 A g<sup>-1</sup> (b, d), the curves of specific capacitance against the current densities (e, f), and Nyquist plots (g, h) of N-FPC<sub>X</sub> (a, b, e, g) and N-MPC<sub>X</sub> (c, d, f, h) electrodes in 6 M KOH electrolyte.

Samples	Specific capacitance (F g <sup>-1</sup> )	Samples	Specific capacitance (F $g^{-1}$ )
N-FPC <sub>650</sub>	188	N-MPC <sub>650</sub>	115
N-FPC <sub>700</sub>	277	N-MPC <sub>700</sub>	160
N-FPC <sub>750</sub>	238	N-MPC <sub>750</sub>	262
N-FPC <sub>800</sub>	210	N-MPC <sub>800</sub>	178

**Table S5.** Specific capacitances of N-FPC<sub>*X*</sub> and N-MPC<sub>*X*</sub> electrodes at 1.0 A  $g^{-1}$  in 6 M KOH electrolyte.



**Fig. S12** CV curves at different scan rates (a, c, e), GCD curves at different current densities (b, d, f), Nyquist plots with frequency range of  $10^5$  to  $10^{-2}$  Hz (g), and Ragone plots (h) of N-MCS-200 (a, b), N-FPC<sub>700</sub> (c, d) and N-MPC<sub>750</sub> (e, f) electrodes using 6 M KOH electrolyte in a two-electrode cell.