## Supporting Information

## Pomegranate-Like Microclusters Organized by Ultrafine Co nanoparticles@Nitrogen-Doped Carbon Subunits as Sulfur Host for Long-life Lithium Sulfur Batteries

Peng Wang, Zhian Zhang\*, Xiaolin Yan, Ming Xu, Yuxiang Chen, Junming Li, Jie Li,

Kai Zhang, Yanqing Lai\*

School of Metallurgy and Environment, Central South University, Changsha Hunan 410083, China

E-mail address: zhangzhian@csu.edu.cn (Zhian Zhang), laiyanqingcsu@163.com (Yanqing Lai)



Fig. S1 (a) XRD pattern; (b) Raman spectrum and (c) SEM image of  $Zn_3[Co(CN)_6]_2/PVP$ -F127



Fig. S2 (a) and (b) high-solution TEM images of Co-NPC



Fig. S3 XRD patterns of different produce at different annealing temperatures



Binding energy (eV) Fig. S5. The overview XPS spectrum of Co-NPC-MCs and 80S/ Co-NPC-MCs



Fig. S6 XPS spectra of S 2p of the 80S/Co-NPC-MCs composites.



Fig. S7 (a) Initial four CV curves of 80S/Co-NPC-MCs composite; (b) galvanostatic discharge–charge voltage profile at 0.5 C of 80S/Co-NPC-MCs composite;



Fig. S8 Sealed vials of  $Li_2S_6$  /DME&DOL solutions, after contact with Co-PC, NPC and Co–NPC composites.



Fig. S9 (a) the cross-section SEM images of fresh lithium anode, combing with the corresponding line-scanning result, (b) line-scanning result of sulfur of (a); (c) the cross-section SEM images of lithium anode after 200 cycles with 80S/Co-NPC-MCs cathode, combing with the corresponding line-scanning result, (d) line-scanning result

of sulfur of (c); (e) the cross-section SEM images of lithium anode after 200 cycles with 80S/Co-PC-MCs cathode, combing with the corresponding line-scanning result, (f) line-scanning result of sulfur of (e); (g) the cross-section SEM images of lithium anode after 200 cycles with 80S/NPC-MCs cathode, combing with the corresponding line-scanning result, (h) line-scanning result of sulfur of (g).



Fig. S10 Ex situ TEM image of 80S/Co-NPC cycles after 400 cycles



Fig. S11. (a)SEM image, (b) and (c) TEM images, (d) XRD pattern of Co-BZ



Fig. S12. FT-IR of precursor without and with PVP-F127, PVP and F127



Fig. S13 TEM images of (a) Zn<sub>3</sub>[Co(CN)<sub>6</sub>]<sub>2</sub>, (b) Co-NPF, (c)

N<sub>2</sub>adsorption-desorption isotherms, and (d) pore size distributions of the as-prepared

Co-NPF



Fig. S14 Nyquist plots of 80S/Co-NPC, 80S/Co-BZ and 80S/Co-NPF



Fig. S15 Cycling performance of 80S/Co-NPC-MCs cathode with 4.9 mg cm<sup>-2</sup> at 0.2 C, 0.5 C, and 1 C rate.

Tab. S1. XPS and EDX result of Co-NPC

Element	С	Ν	Co	Zn	0	
XPS result (Atomic%)	82.56	9.31	3.23	0.33	4.89	
EDX result (Atomic%)	80.82	9.55	3.53	0.12	5.97	

Tab. S2. The surface area and pore volume of Co-NPC, Co-PC and NPC.

Materials	Surface Area (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	Pore Volume (cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> ) (at $P/P^0 = 0.99$ )
Co-NPC	470	0.93
Co-PC	489	1.13
NPC	553	1.85