## **Supporting Information**

## One-step synthesis of robust and anti-oil-fouling biomimetic cactus-

## like hierarchical architecture for highly efficient oil/water separation

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Fig. S1 (a) A 5  $\mu$ L water droplet spreading on the pristine SSM with 121.8 s; (b) photograph of the UOCA for the pristine SSM.



**Fig. S2.** (a) *n*-hexane, (b) light crude oil and (c) heavy crude oil to demonstrate the oil resistance performance of pristine SSM.



Fig. S3. Digital images of the diesel oil/water emulsion before and after separation.



**Fig. S4.** SEM images of the mesh structure after sandpaper abrasion (a) abrasion 5 times; (b) abrasion 10 times.



**Fig. S5**. Low-magnification and high-magnification of SSM soaking in aqueous solution with pH of 3 after 7 days.