Electronic supplementary information

Harnessing inherently hierarchical microstructures of biomass to in situ construct three-dimensional nanoporous nitrogendoped carbons as efficient and durable oxygen reduction electrocatalysts

Hongqu Tang, Shilin Wei, Chuangchuang Yang, Peiyao Bai, Jiawei Qi, Wendu Zhang, Lejian Yu and Lang Xu* *MOE Key Laboratory of Coal Processing and Efficient Utilization, School of Chemical Engineering and Technology, China University of Mining and Technology, 1 Daxue Road, Xuzhou, Jiangsu,* 221116, China

*Corresponding author. *E-mail address: lang.xu@cumt.edu.cn* (L. Xu)



Fig. S1 Photograph of living *E. tirucalli*.



Fig. S2 SEM images of the external surface (a–c), the cross-section (d–g) and the internal part (h and

i) of fresh E. tirucalli.



Fig. S3 TEM images of NA (a), NE (b) and EA (c); SEM images of NA (d), NE (e) and EA (f).



Fig. S4 RRDE measurements in the O₂-saturated 0.1 M KOH with a scan rate of 10 mV s⁻¹ at a rotating rate of 1600 rpm at 25 °C: showing the disk and ring current densities of NEA and 20% Pt/C.