

## Supporting Information

### Facile one-pot synthesis of biomass-derived activated carbon as an interlayer material for BAC/PE/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> dual coated separator in Li-S batteries

Seongho Jo<sup>b,†</sup>, Jeong-Won Hong<sup>c,f,†</sup>, Toshiyuki Momma<sup>d</sup>, Yiseul Park<sup>f</sup>, Junyoung Heo<sup>c,e</sup>,  
Jun-woo Park<sup>c,e,\*\*</sup>, Seongki Ahn<sup>a,\*</sup>

a. Department of Chemical Engineering, Hankyong National University, 27, Jungang-ro,  
Anseong-si, Gyeonggi-do, Republic of Korea

b. Department of New Energy and Mining Engineering, Sangji University 83 Sangjidae-gil,  
Wonju-si, Gangwon-do, Republic of Korea.

c. Next-Generation Battery Research Center, Korea Electrotechnology Research Institute (KERI),  
12, Jeongiui-gil, Seongsan-gu, Chawon-si, Gyeongsangnam-do, Republic of Korea

d. Graduate School of Advanced Science and Engineering, Waseda University, Okubo,  
Shinjukuku, Tokyo, 169-8555, Japan

e. Department of Electro-Functionality Materials Engineering, University of Science and  
Technology (UST), Daejeon 34113, Republic of Korea.

f. Department of Chemical Engineering, Pukyong National University, Busan 48513, Republic  
of Korea.

\*Corresponding author: Assistant professor Seongki Ahn, Department of Chemical Engineering,  
Hankyong National University, 27, Jungang-ro, Anseong-si, Gyeonggi-do, Republic of Korea,

E-mail: skahn@hknu.ac.kr (S. Ahn)

\*\*Co-Corresponding author, E-mail: parkjw@keri.re.kr (J.-W. Park)

Sample	BC	BAC-700	BAC-800	BAC-900
Surface Area (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	0.673	2.597	12.324	571.611

**Table. S1** Surface area of BC and BAC powders depending on the activation temperature from 700 to 900 °C.

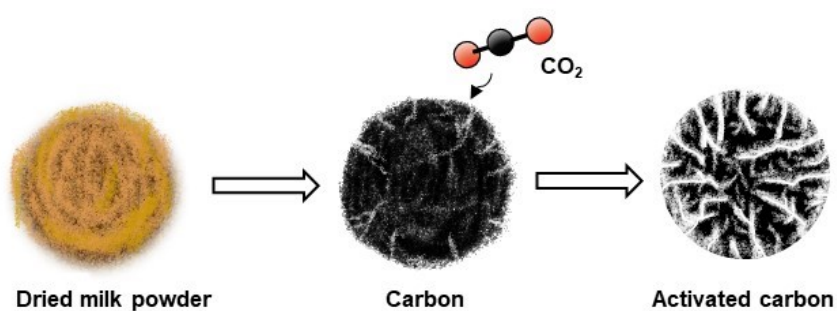


Figure S1. A schematic illustration of activation process by physical CO<sub>2</sub> activation.

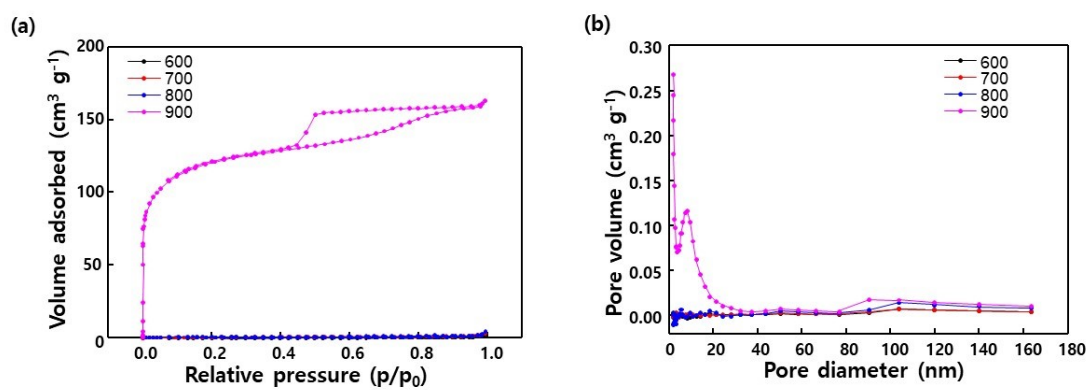


Figure S2. (a) BET isotherm and (b) BJH pore size distributions of BC and BAC.

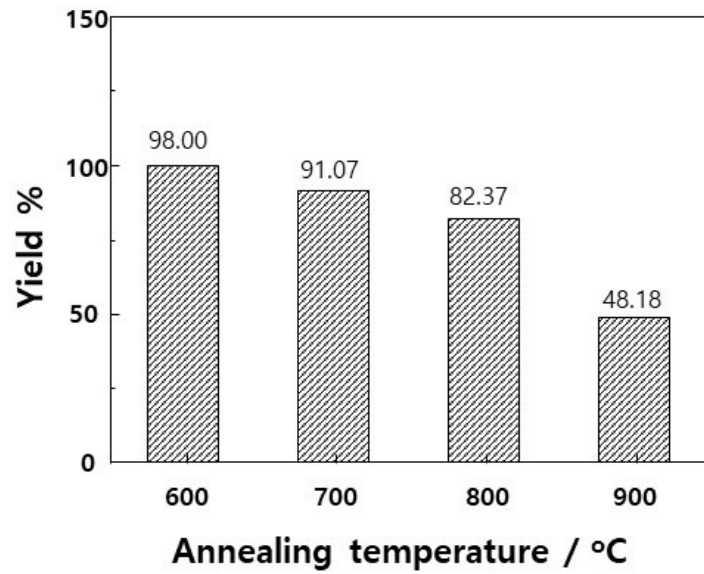


Figure S3. Yields of BAC powder by facile one-pot synthesis method at different activation temperature.

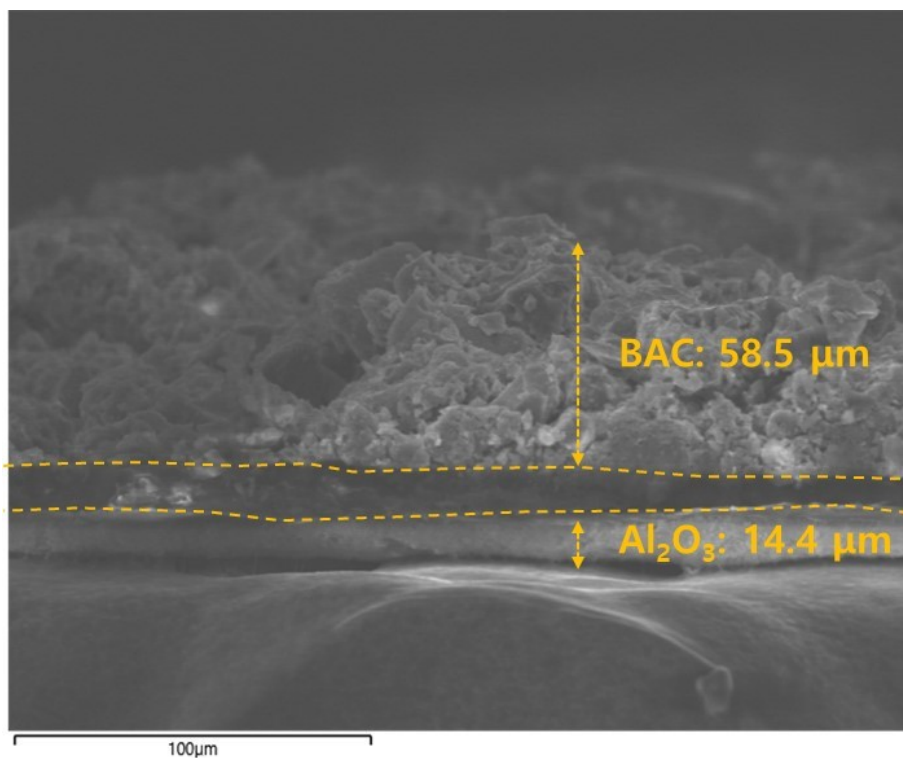


Figure S4. Cross-section SEM image of BAC/PE/ $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  separator.

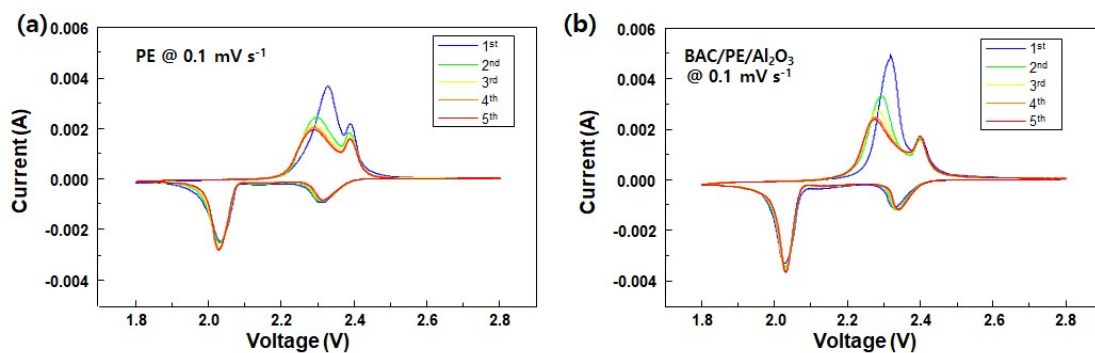


Figure S5. Cycle Voltammogram of samples prepared with PE (a) and BAC/PE/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> separator (b) tested at 0.1 mV s<sup>-1</sup> for 5 cycles.

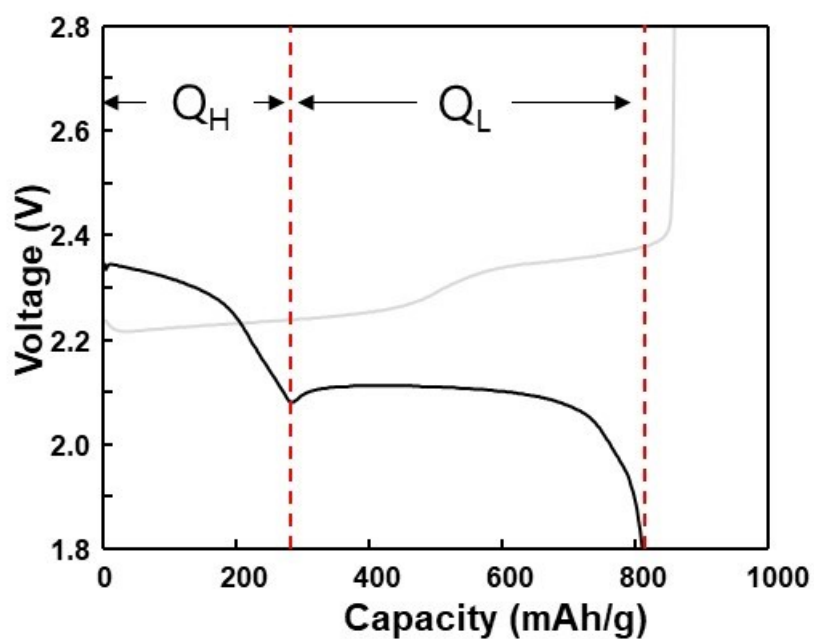


Figure S6. Charge and discharge curves of the Li-S coin-cell with Q<sub>H</sub> and Q<sub>L</sub> region.

**Table S2.**  $Q_H$ ,  $Q_L$ , and  $Q_L/Q_H$  ratio values of both samples.

Cycle	PE			BAC/PE/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		
	$Q_H$	$Q_L$	$Q_L/Q_H$	$Q_H$	$Q_L$	$Q_L/Q_H$
5	153	360	2.35	211	550	2.61
20	129	272	2.11	205	504	2.46
50	114	245	2.15	182	448	2.46
100	124	262	2.11	142	353	2.49

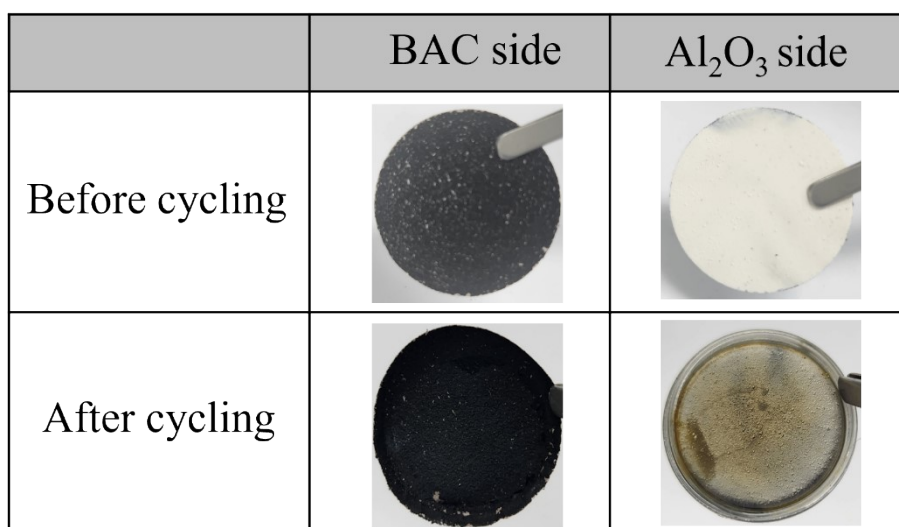


Figure S7. Morphology of BAC/PE/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> separators before and after charge/discharge process.

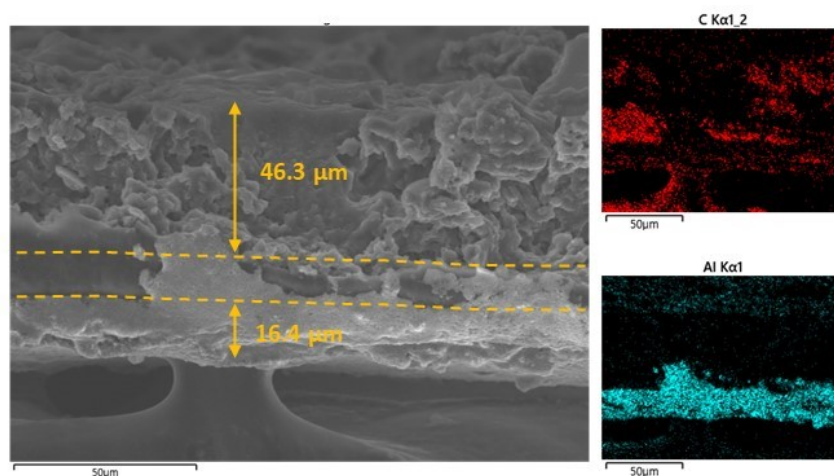


Figure S8. Cross-section SEM image and EDS mapping of BAC/PE/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> separators after charge/discharge process.