

## Supporting Information

### MOFs-Derived Hollow Multi-shell NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> Spheres as High-Performance Cathodes for Alkaline Aqueous Zn Batteries

Jingliang Wang,<sup>ab</sup> Xiaoyu Cheng,<sup>ad</sup> Dechao Chen,<sup>\*a</sup> Jiaqi Yu,<sup>\*cd</sup> Zilai Xie,<sup>a</sup>  
Changsheng Cao<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Key Laboratory of Advanced Carbon-Based Functional Materials (Fujian Province University), Fuzhou University, Fuzhou 350016 Fujian, China.

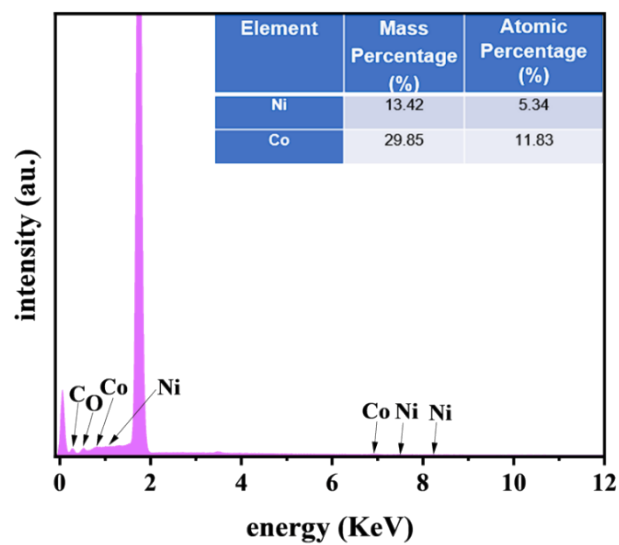
<sup>b</sup> School of Physical Science and Technology, ShanghaiTech University, Shanghai 201210, China.

<sup>c</sup> College of Materials Science and Engineering, Fuzhou University, Fuzhou 350108, China.

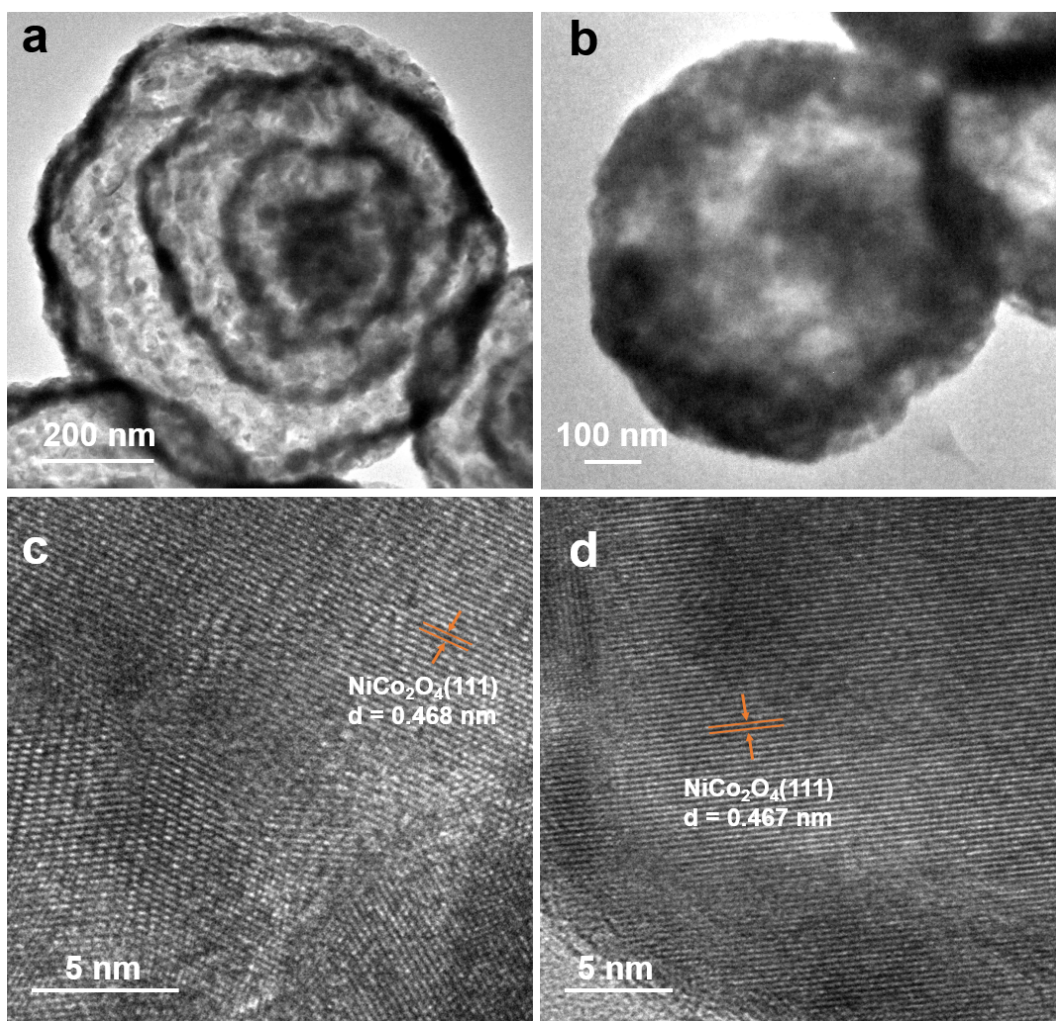
<sup>d</sup> State Key Laboratory of Structural Chemistry, and Fujian Provincial Key Laboratory of Materials and Techniques toward Hydrogen Energy, Fujian Institute of Research on the Structure of Matter, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Fuzhou, Fujian, 350002, China.

E-mail addresses: chendechao@fzu.edu.cn (D. Chen), yujiaqi@fjirsm.ac.cn (J. Yu), csc Cao@fzu.edu.cn (C. Cao)

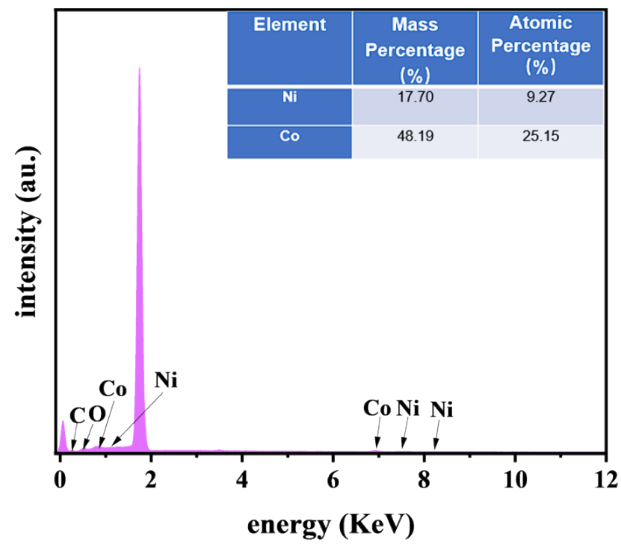
## Additional characterization results



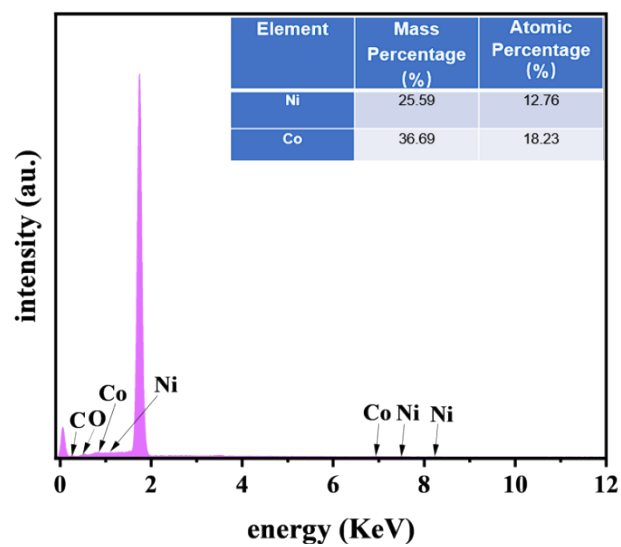
**Fig. S1.** Atomic percentage of each element in the NiCo-MOF.



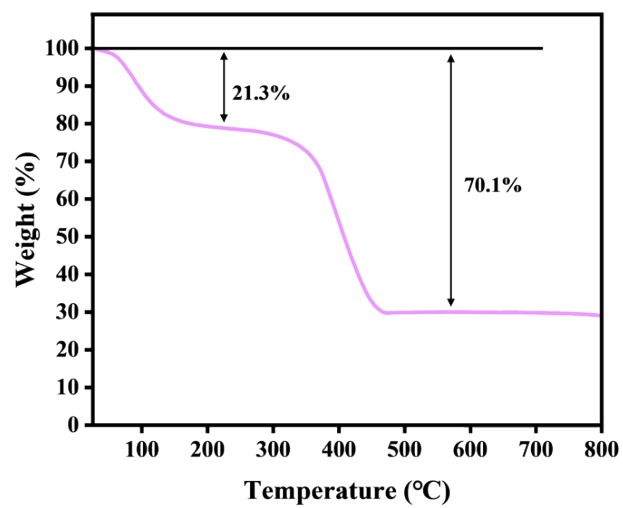
**Fig. S2.** High-magnification TEM images of (a, c) NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-HMSs and (b, d) NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-HSs.



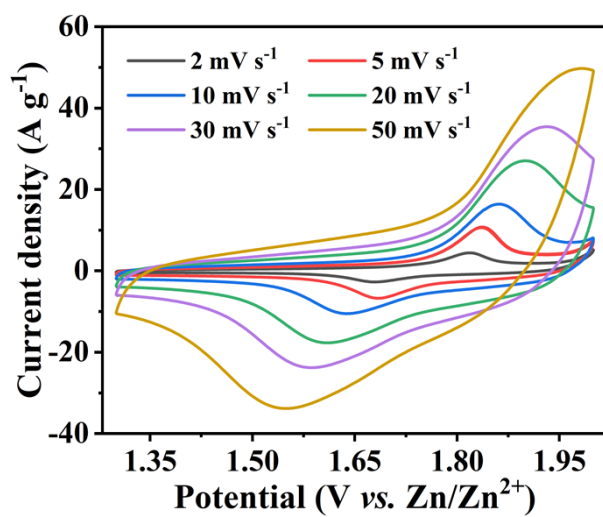
**Fig. S3.** Atomic percentage of each element in the NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-HMSs.



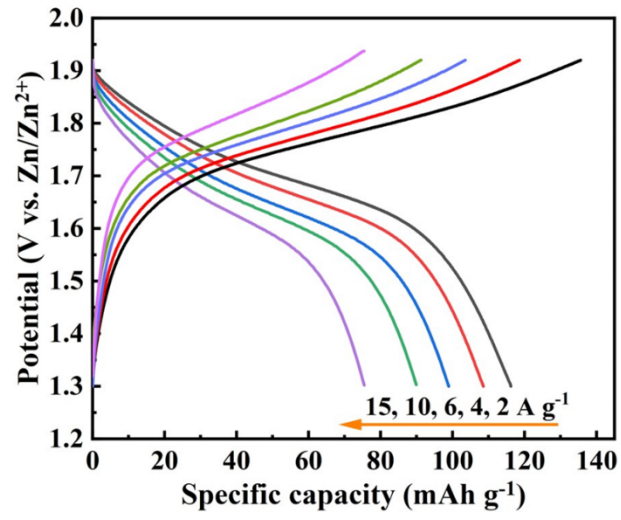
**Fig. S4.** Atomic percentage of each element in the NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-HSs.



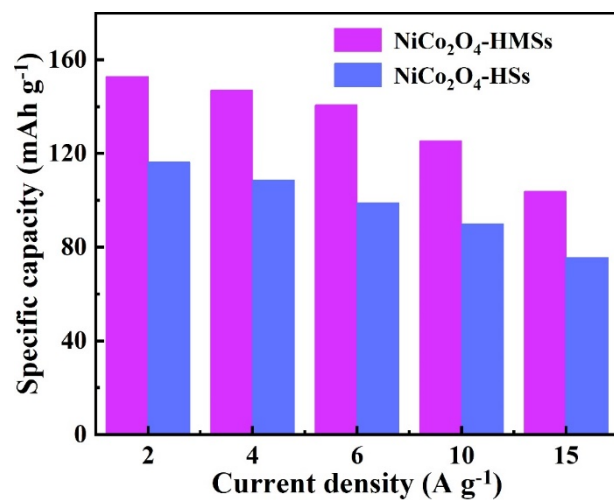
**Fig. S5.** Thermogravimetric curve of NiCo-MOF.



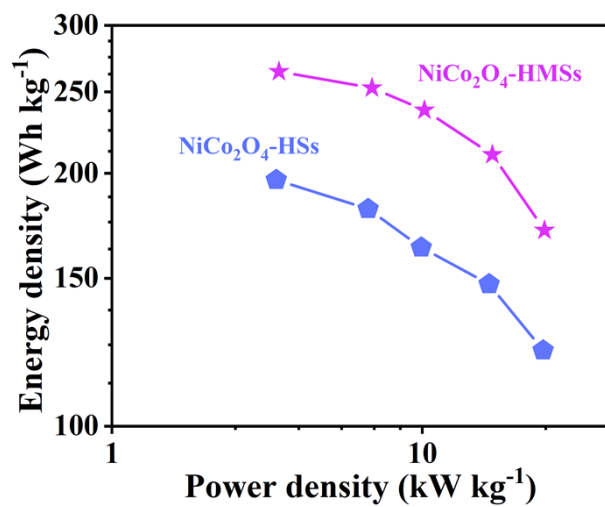
**Fig. S6.** CV curves of the NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-HSs//Zn battery at different scan rates.



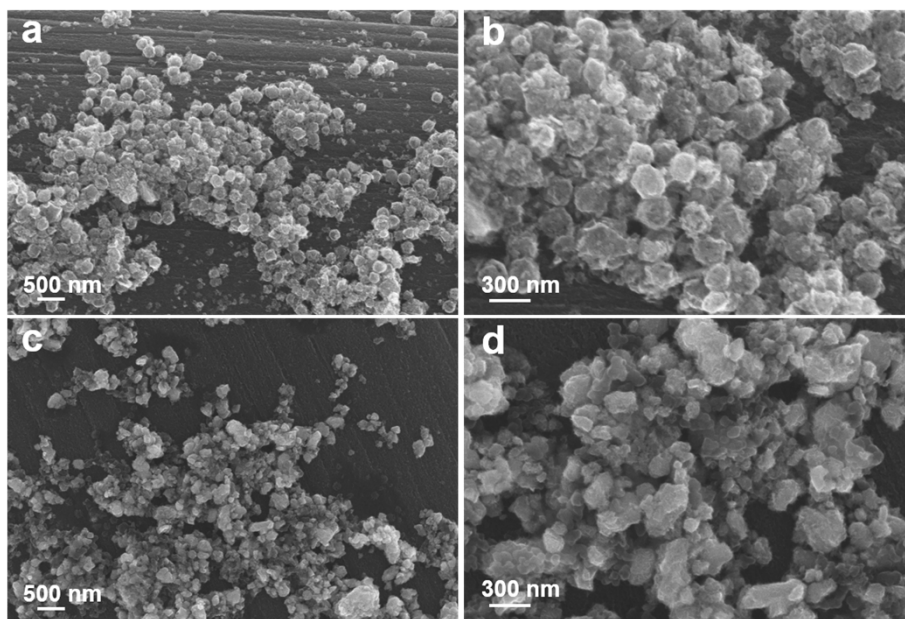
**Fig. S7.** GCD curves of the NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-HSs//Zn battery.



**Fig. S8.** Comparison of the specific capacities of the NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-HMSs//Zn and NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-HSs//Zn batteries.



**Fig. S9.** Ragone plots comparing the energy and power densities of the NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-HMSs//Zn and NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-HSs//Zn batteries.



**Fig. S10.** SEM images of (a, b) NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-HMSs and (c, d) NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-HSs after cycling.

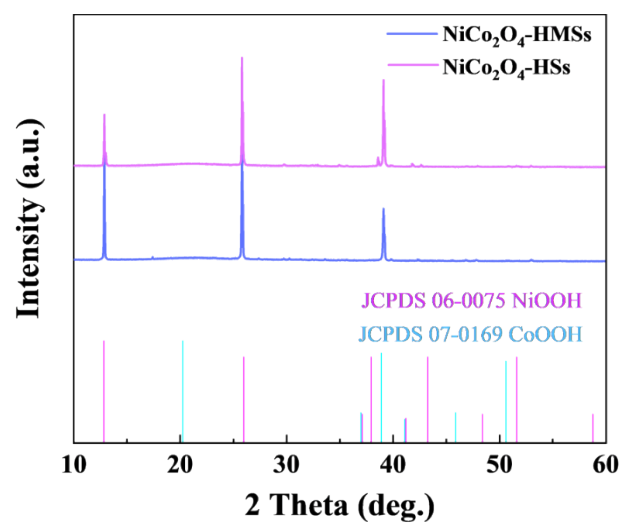
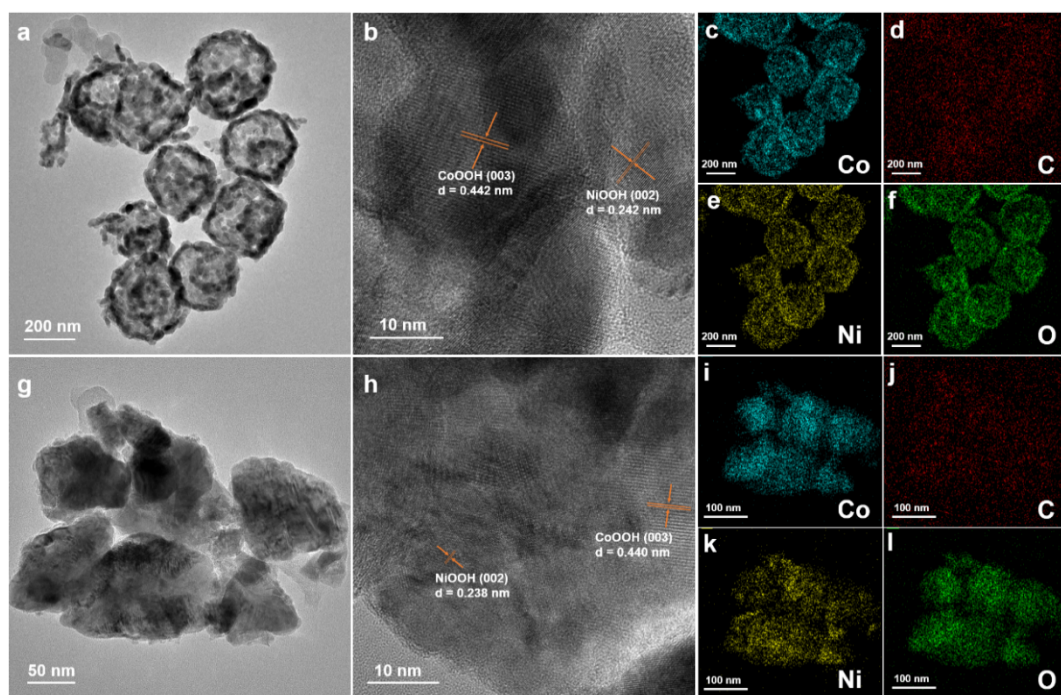
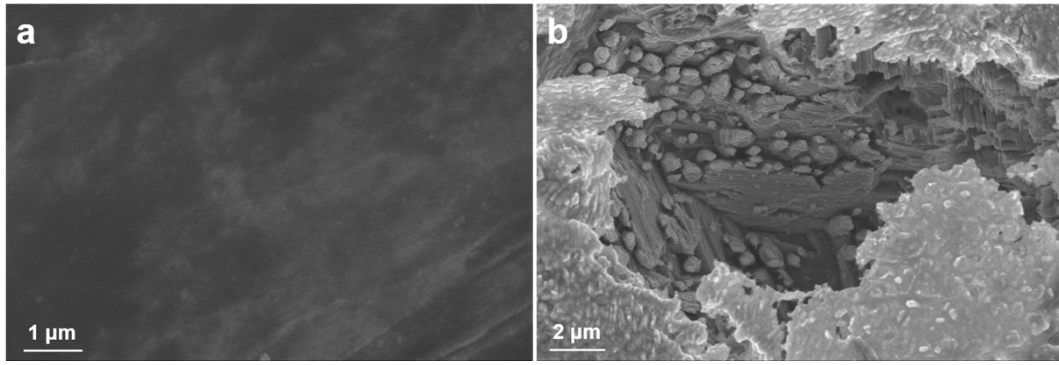


Fig. S11. XRD patterns of the cycled cathodes.



**Fig. S12.** (a) TEM, (b) HRTEM, and (c-f) EDS elemental mapping images of NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-HMSs after cycling. (g) TEM, (h) HRTEM, and (i-l) EDS elemental mapping images of NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-HSs after cycling.



**Fig. S13.** SEM images of the Zn anode before (a) and after (b) cycling.

**Table S1.** Comparison of the specific capacity and cycle stability with other previously reported works.

<b>Energy storage device</b>	<b>Specific capacity</b>	<b>Cycle stability</b>	<b>Refs.</b>
<b>NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-HMSs//Zn battery</b>	<b>152.8 mAh g<sup>-1</sup> at 2 A g<sup>-1</sup></b>	<b>86.5% after 500 cycles</b>	<b>This Work</b>
G-NCGs//Zn battery	113.8 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>	90% after 650 cycles	[1]
Ni-BTC-5// Zn battery	210.6 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	80.2% after 3000 cycles	[2]
CH@NC-LDH@NT//Zn battery	55.6 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 1.1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	71% after 800 cycles	[3]
NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> //Zn battery	211.7 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	63.2% after 1000 cycles	[4]
NiSe//Zn-KFC battery	215.0 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 4.2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	63.4% after 1300 cycles	[5]

## References

- [1] X. Zhang, J. He, L. Zhou, H. Zhang, Q. Wang, B. Huang, X. Lu, Y. Tong, C. Wang, *Adv Funct. Mater.*, 2021, **31**, 2100443.
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- [5] Y. Huang, M. Li, S. Chen, P. Sun, X. Lv, B. Li, L. Fang, X. Sun, *Appl. Surf. Sci.*, 2021, **562**, 150222.