

Supporting Information for

**Low-Cost and Sustainable Hard Carbon Derived from the
Peony Shell for the Stable Sodium-Ion Anode**

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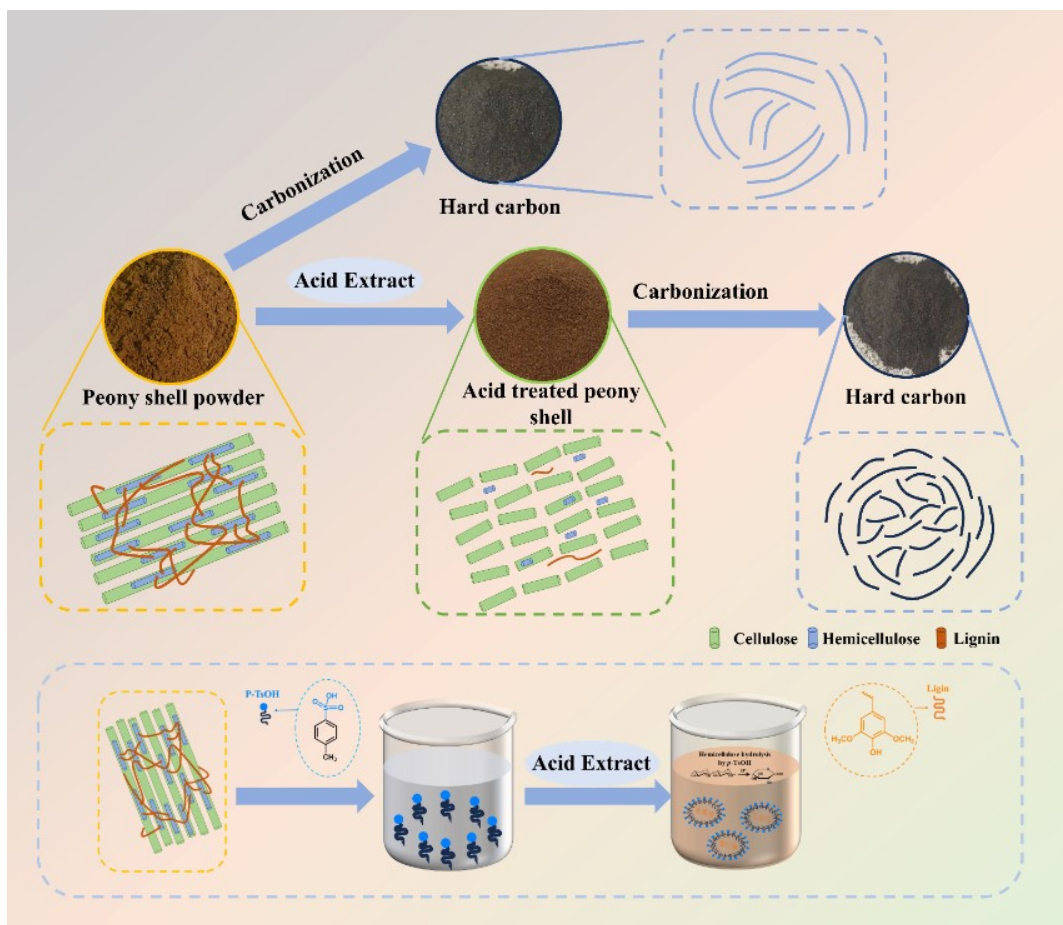


Fig. S1. Schematic of the preparation process for HC materials.

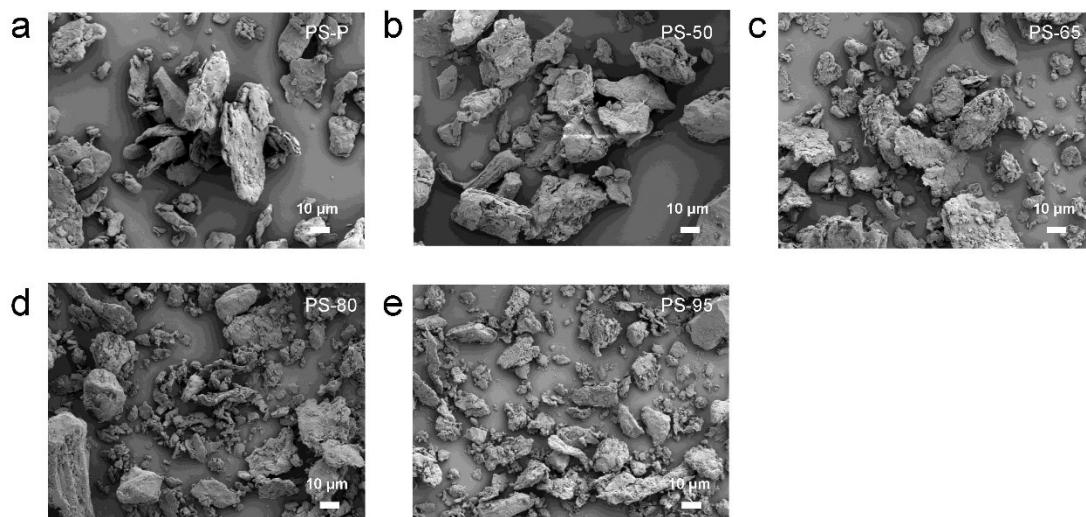


Fig. S2. SEM images of (a) PS-P, (b) PS-50, (c) PS-65, (d) PS-80, and (e) PS-95.

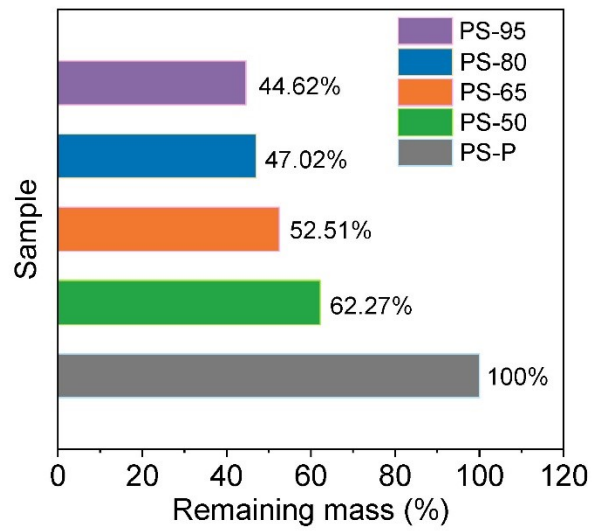


Fig. S3. Quality residual diagram after acid treatment.

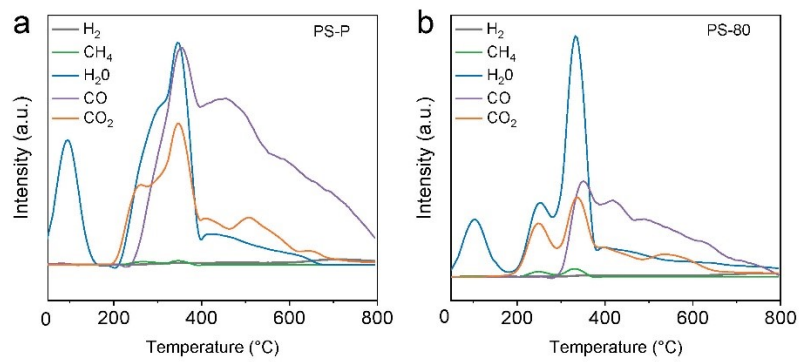


Fig. S4. MS results of (a) PHC-T0 and (b) PHC-T80.

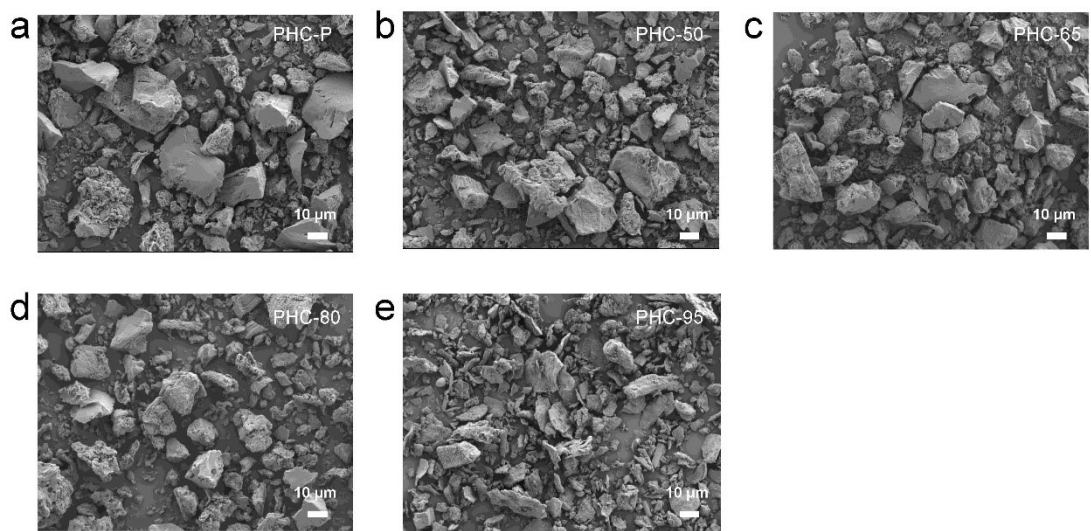


Fig. S5. SEM images of (a) PHC-P, (b) PHC-50, (c) PHC-65, (d) PHC-80, and (e) PHC-95.

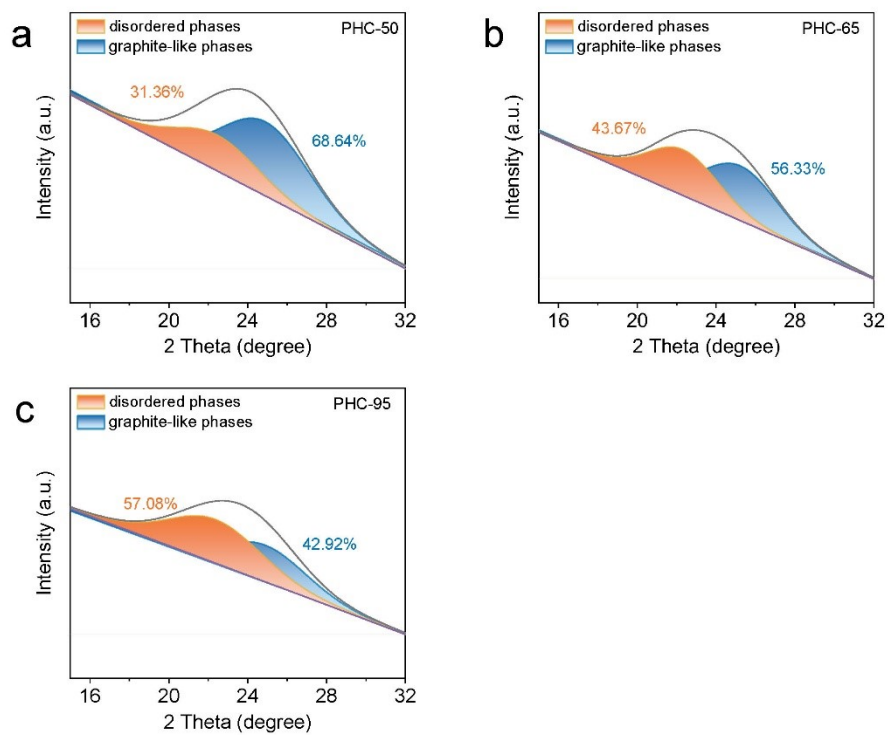


Fig. S6. XRD patterns and fitted curves of (a) PHC-50, (b) PHC-65, and (c) PHC-95.

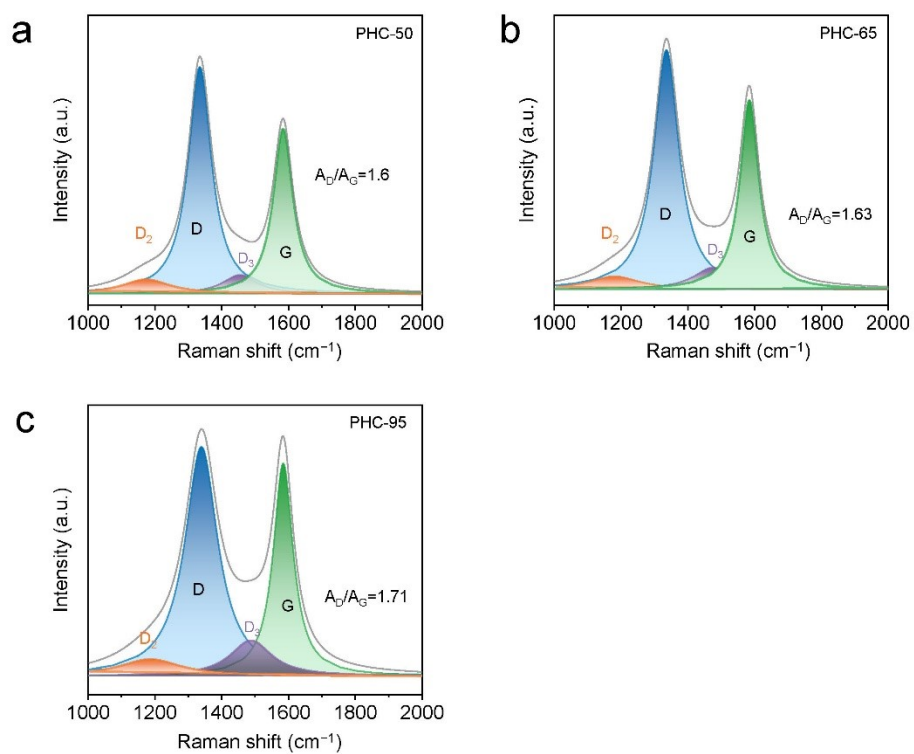


Fig. S7. Raman patterns and fitted curves of (a) PHC-50, (b) PHC-65, and (c) PHC-95.

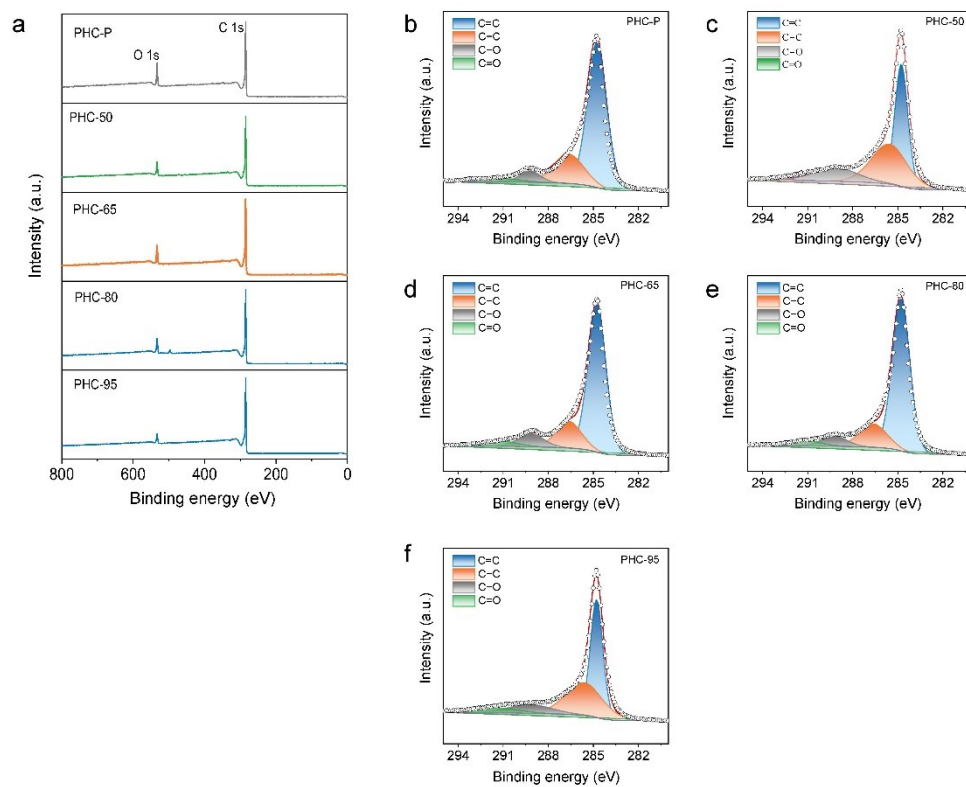


Fig. S8. (a) XPS pattern of samples. XPS C 1s spectra of (b) PHC-P, (c) PHC-50, (d) PHC-65, (e) PHC-80, and (f) PHC-95.

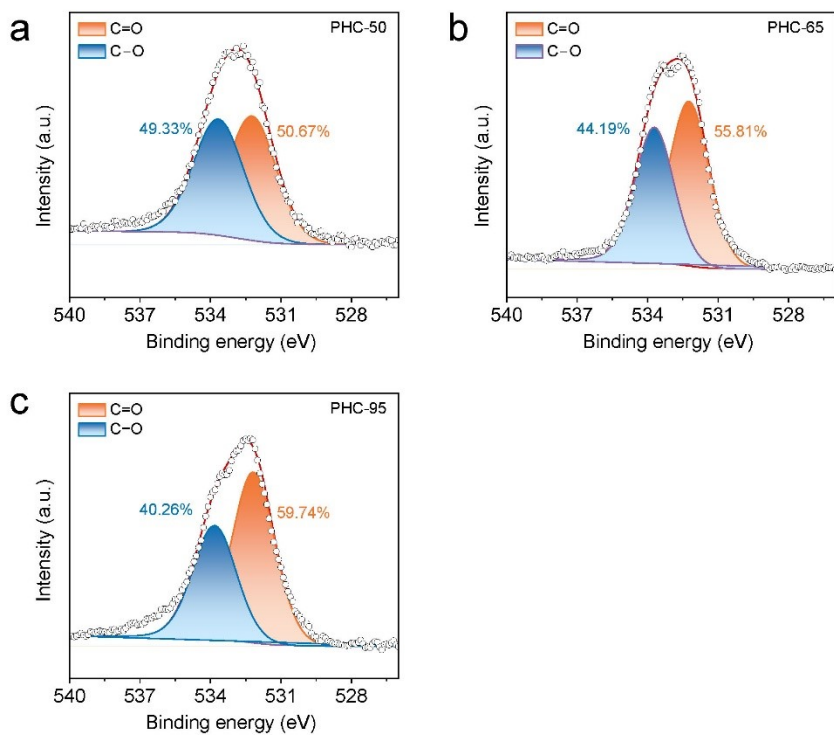


Fig. S9. XPS patterns and fitted curves of (a) PHC-50, (b) PHC-65, and (c) PHC-95.

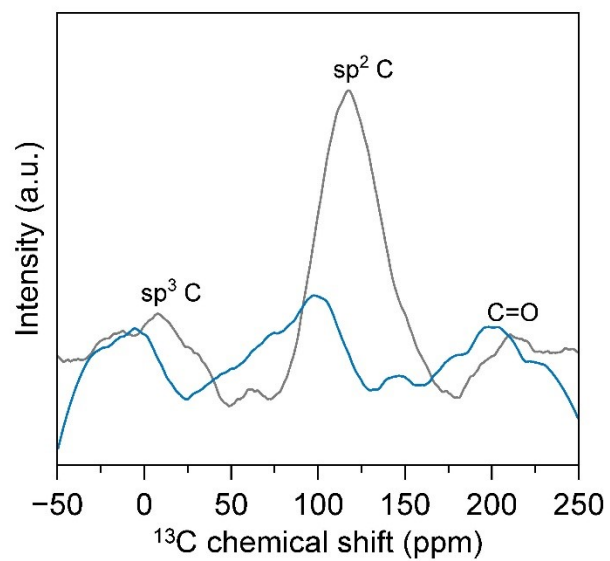


Fig. S10. ^{13}C NMR spectra of PHC-P and PHC-80.

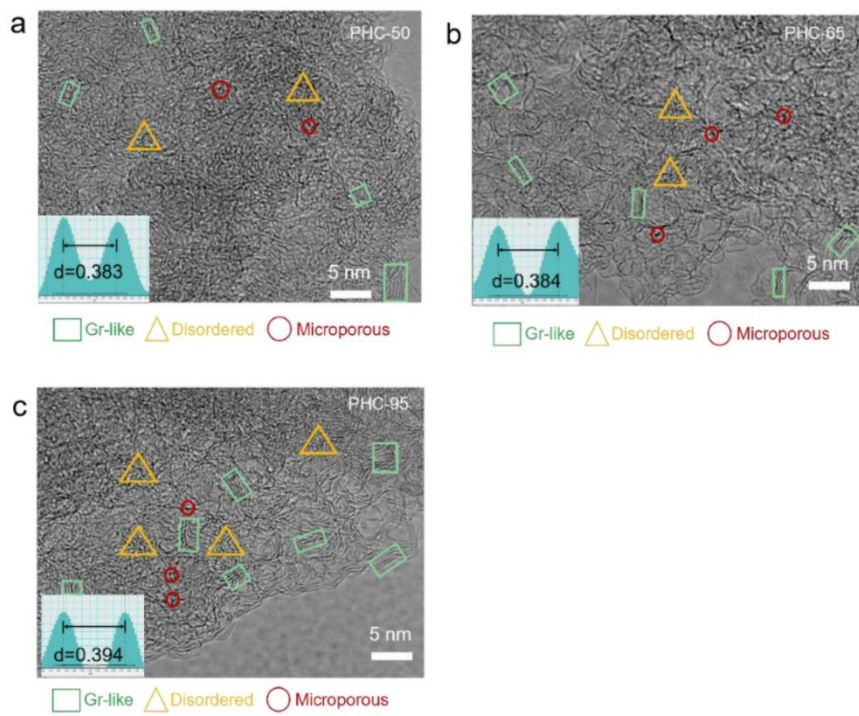


Fig. S11. TEM images of (a) PHC-50, (b) PHC-65, and (c) PHC-95.

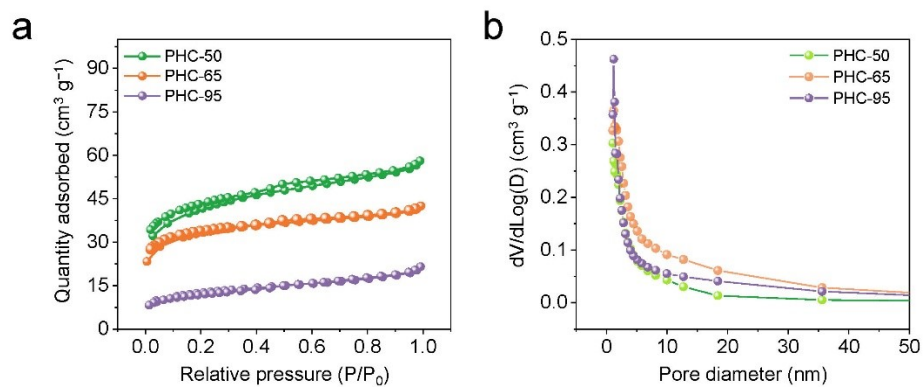


Fig. S12. (a) N₂ adsorption-desorption isotherms and (b) pore size distribution of N₂ adsorption-desorption isotherms of PHC-50, PHC-65, and PHC-95.

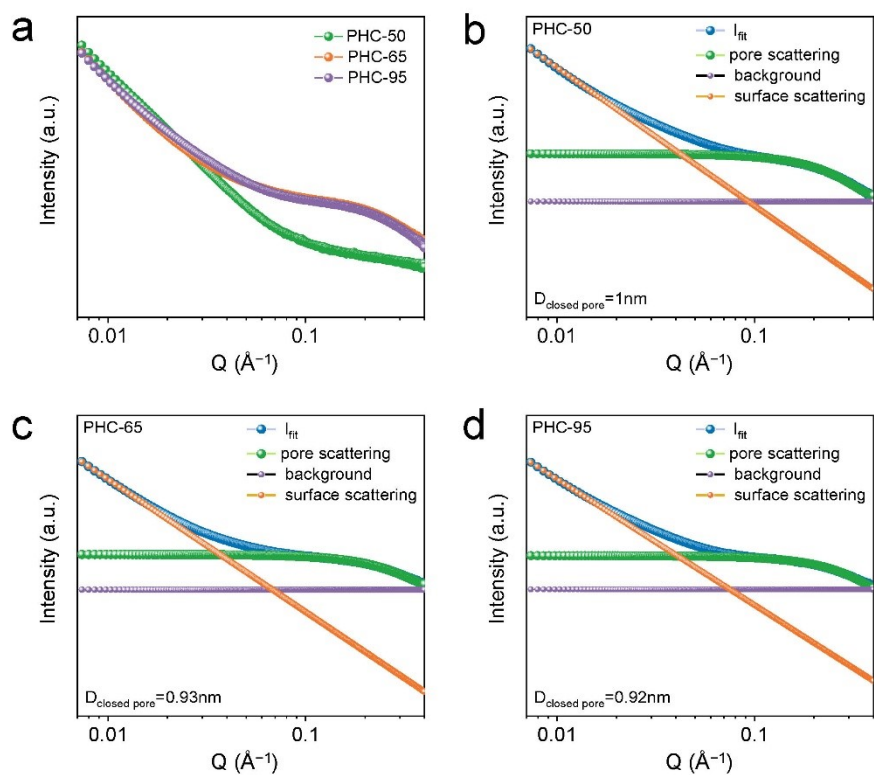


Fig. S13. (a) SAXS curves of PHC-50, PHC-65, and PHC-95. The fitted SAXS spectra of (b) PHC-50, (c) PHC-65, and (d) PHC-95.

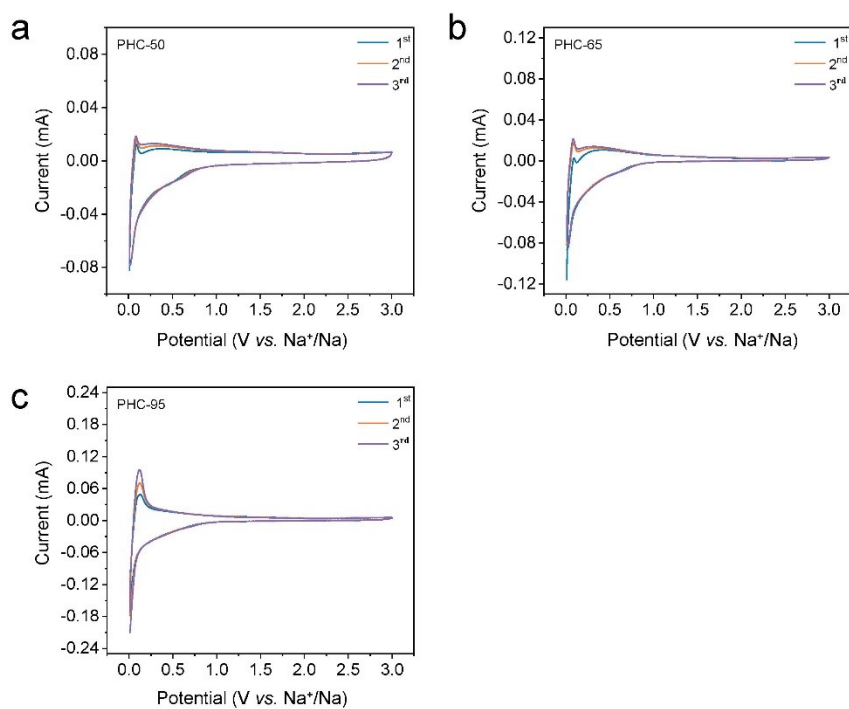


Fig. S14. CV curves for (a) PHC-50, (b) PHC-65, and (c) PHC-95 under 0.1mV s^{-1} .

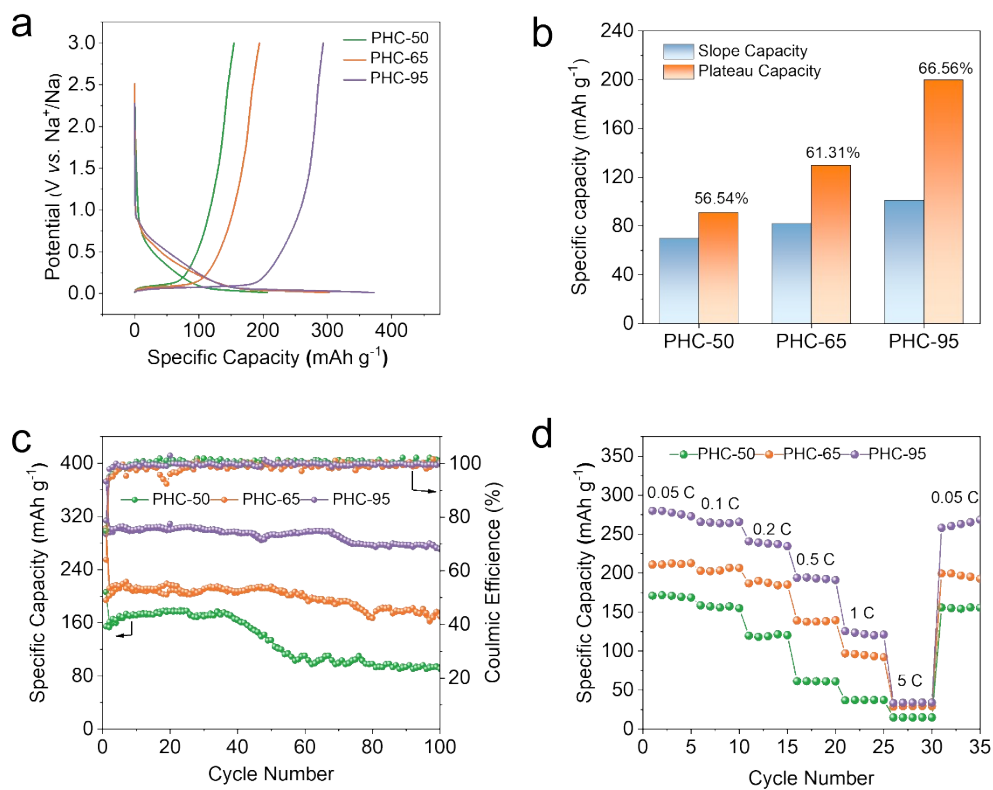


Fig. S15. (a) The initial charge/discharge curves of the half cell using PHC-50, PHC-65, and PHC-95. (b) The percentage of plateau capacity and slope capacity of the second discharging curve for PHC-50, PHC-65, and PHC-95 cells. (c) The long cycle performance and (d) rate capability of the half cell using PHC-50, PHC-65, and PHC-95.

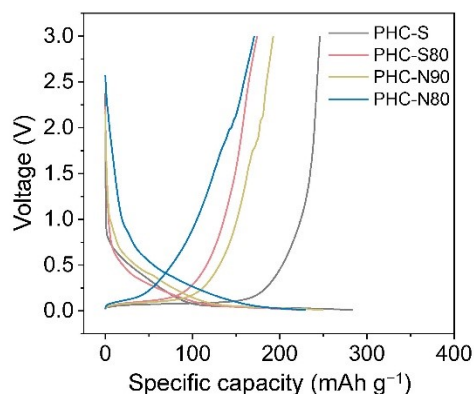


Fig. S16. Initial galvanostatic discharge/charge profiles of PHC-S, PHC-S80, PHC-N90, and PHC-N80 at 0.1 C. Two conditions were applied for sulfuric acid treatment. In the first, peony shell powder was mixed with 1 M H₂SO₄ at a solid-to-liquid ratio of 1:10 and stirred at room temperature for 6 h, then washed with distilled water until the pH reached 7, and dried at 80 °C for 12 h. This sample was designated PS-S. In the other group, the mixture was stirred in a water bath at 80 °C for 20 min, then washed to neutrality and dried, designated PS-S80. Two conditions were also used for alkali treatment. The 5 wt% NaOH solution was prepared, and peony shell powder was added at a ratio of 1:10. One batch was treated in a 90 °C water bath for 2 h, washed thoroughly with water until neutral, and dried at 80 °C for 12 h (designated PS-N90). The other group was treated at 80 °C for 20 min and then dried at 80 °C for 12 h (designated PS-N80). The carbonization process remains consistent with the previous one.

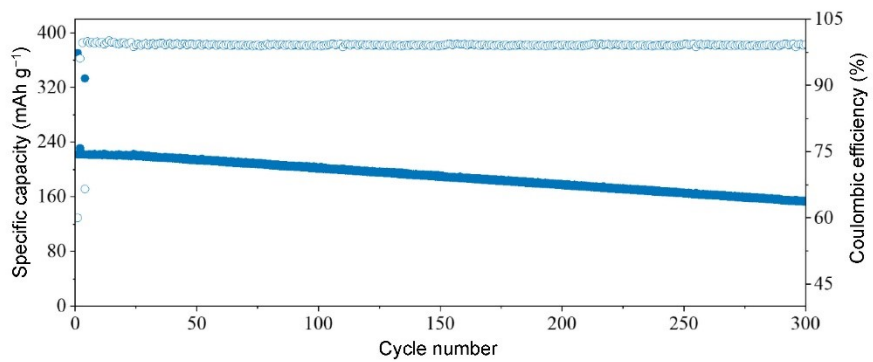


Fig. S17. Cycling performance of the half cell using PHC-80 at 1 C.

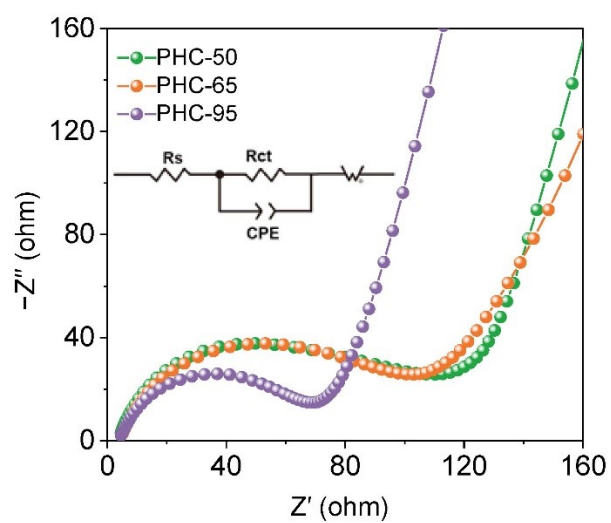


Fig. S18. The electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) curves of the half cell using PHC-50, PHC-65, and PHC-95.

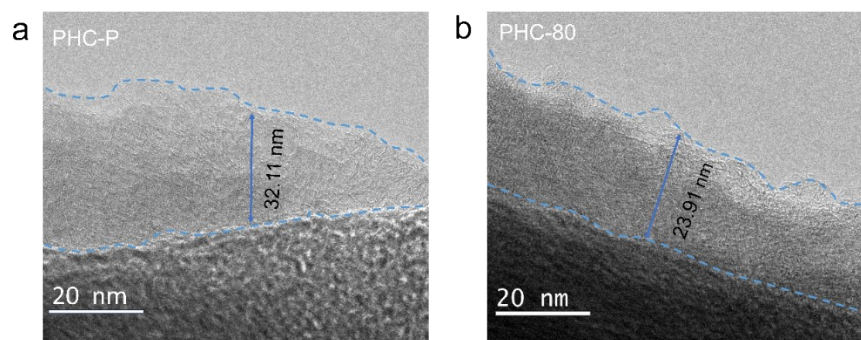


Fig. S19. HRTEM images of the SEI from (a) PHC-P and (b) PHC-80 anodes.

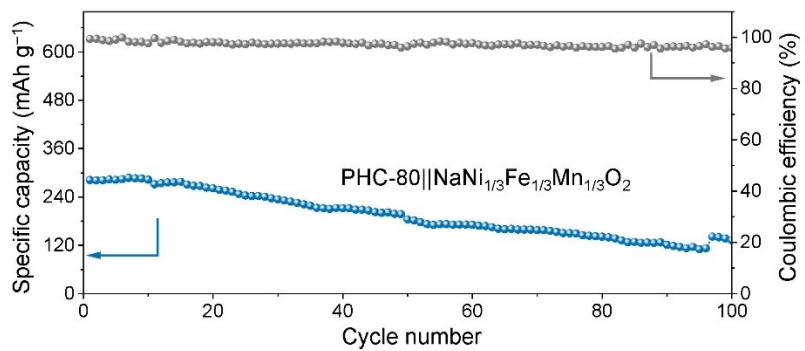


Fig. S20. Cycling performance of the full cell using PHC-80.

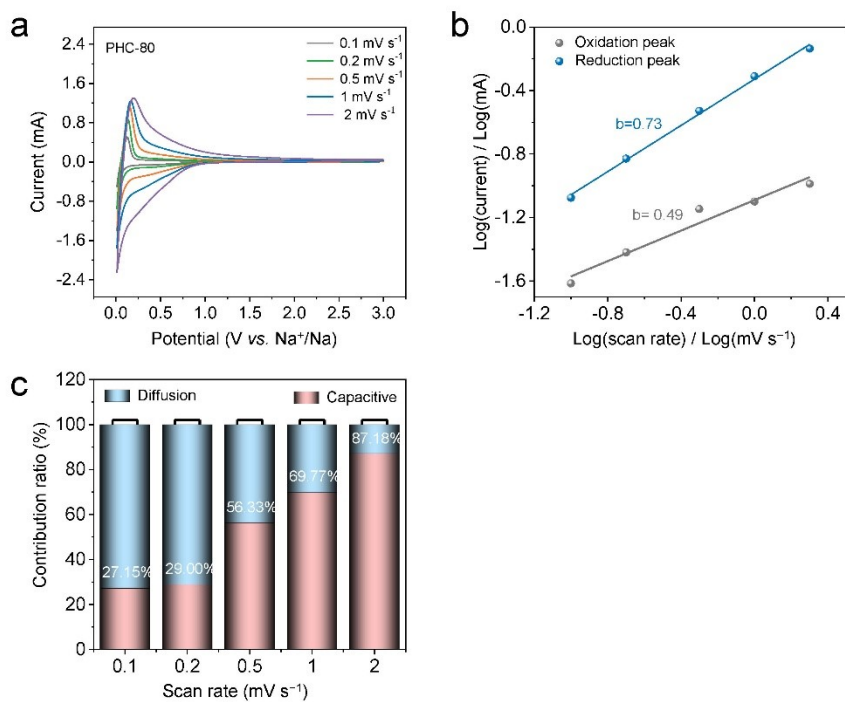


Fig. S21. (a) CV curves under different scan rates from 0.1 mV s^{-1} to 2 mV s^{-1} . (b) The relationship between $\lg(v)$ and $\lg(i)$. (c) The capacitive capacity contribution at different scan rates for PHC-80.

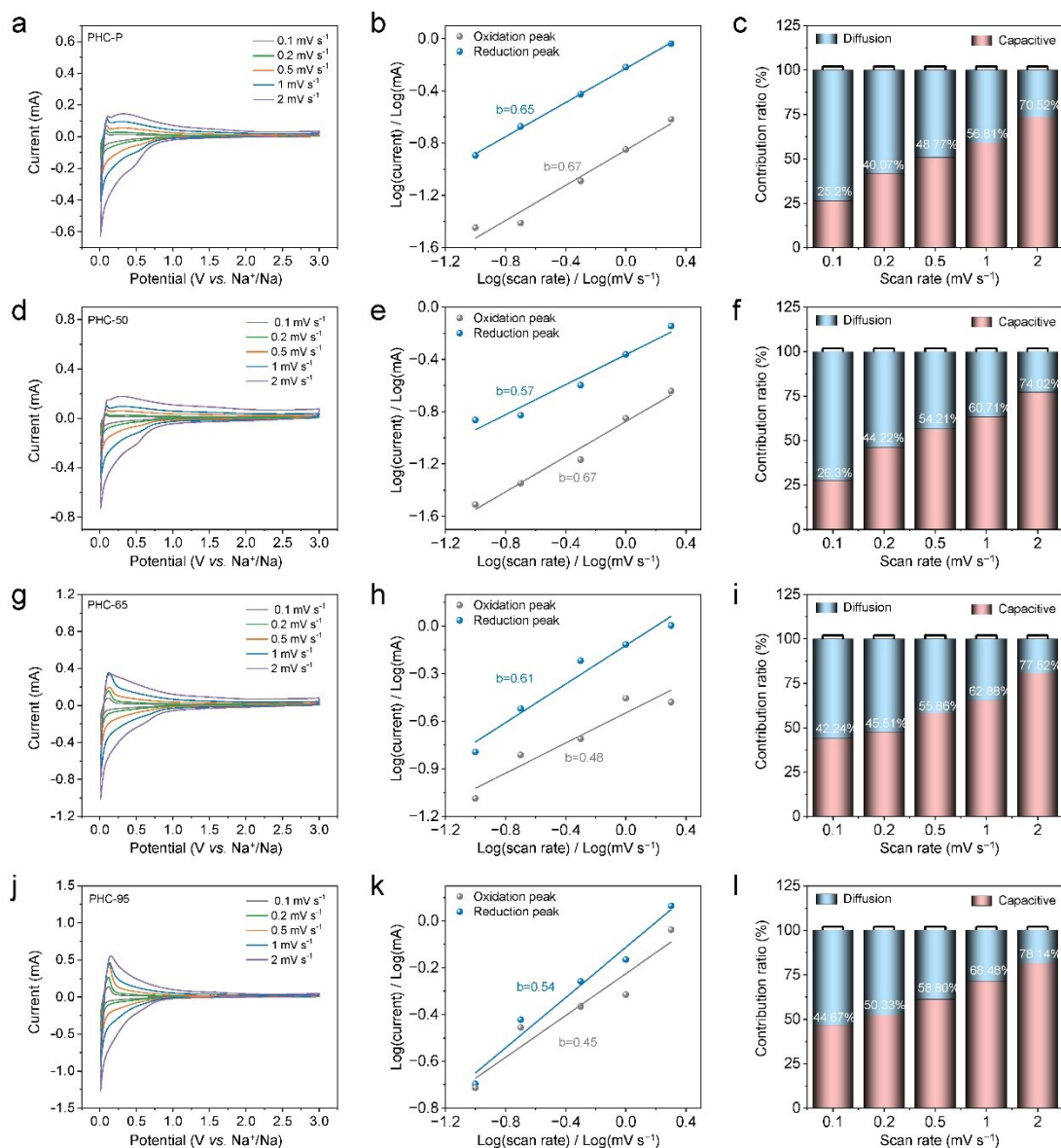


Fig. S22. CV curves and capacitive capacity contribution under different scan rates from 0.1 mV s^{-1} to 2 mV s^{-1} for (a–c) PHC-P, (d–f) PHC-50, (g–i) PHC-65, and (j–l) PHC-95.

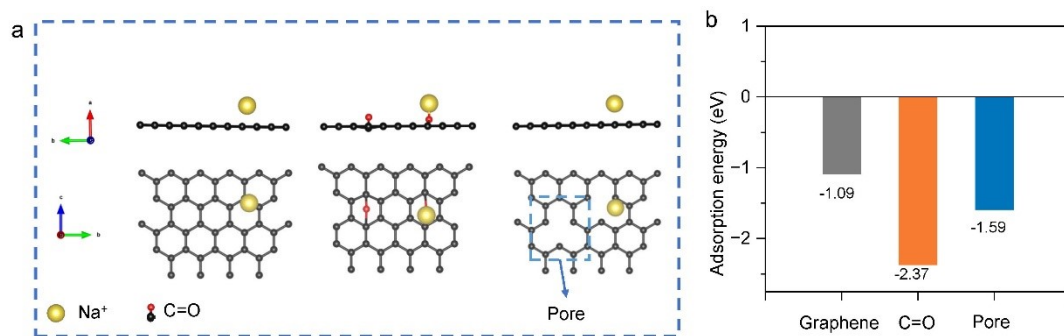


Fig. S23. (a) Schematic of Na^+ adsorption sites (monolayer). (b) Adsorption energy.

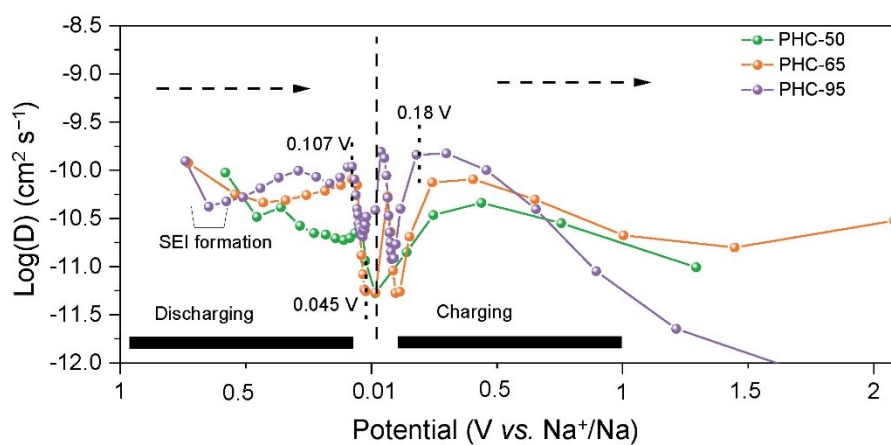


Fig. S24. Calculated Na^+ diffusion coefficients during discharge and charge of PHC-50, PHC-65, and PHC-95.

Table S1. Component analysis (wt.%) of almond shell.

| Sample | cellulose | hemicellulose | lignin | ashes |
|--------|-----------|---------------|--------|-------|
| PS | 29.28 | 22.87 | 43.93 | 3.9 |
| PS-50 | 35.69 | 18.01 | 42.82 | 3.5 |
| PS-65 | 40.77 | 15.08 | 41.25 | 2.9 |
| PS-80 | 46.75 | 12.44 | 38.60 | 2.2 |
| PS-95 | 50.62 | 10.24 | 37.34 | 1.8 |

Table S2. Molecular weight of almond shell.

| Sample | M_w | M_n | M_w/M_n |
|--------|--------|-------|-----------|
| PS | 185147 | 39731 | 4.66001 |
| PS-50 | 147719 | 40760 | 3.62412 |
| PS-65 | 123739 | 40760 | 4.06822 |
| PS-80 | 118692 | 29944 | 3.96383 |
| PS-95 | 102582 | 33515 | 3.06078 |

Table S3. Analysis parameters of the HCS from XRD and Raman spectroscopy.

| | (002) peak | | | | Disordered region | | | Graphite-like region | | | A_D/A_G |
|--------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------|-------|----------------------|-------------|-------|-----------|
| | 2θ | $d_{(002)}$ | $L_{c(002)}$ | $L_{a(002)}$ | 2θ | $d_{(002)}$ | Area | 2θ | $d_{(002)}$ | Area | |
| | (°) | | nm | | (°) | nm | (%) | (°) | nm | (%) | |
| PHC-P | 23.797 | 0.373 | 1.99 | 4.07 | 22.067 | 0.403 | 29.29 | 24.6024 | 0.362 | 70.71 | 1.5 |
| PHC-50 | 23.298 | 0.381 | 1.17 | 2.40 | 21.941 | 0.405 | 37.92 | 24.8255 | 0.359 | 62.08 | 1.6 |
| PHC-65 | 23.065 | 0.385 | 1.20 | 2.44 | 21.802 | 0.407 | 45.42 | 24.5957 | 0.362 | 54.58 | 1.63 |
| PHC-80 | 22.434 | 0.396 | 1.10 | 2.24 | 21.747 | 0.408 | 59.78 | 24.5054 | 0.363 | 40.22 | 2.1 |
| PHC-95 | 22.700 | 0.392 | 1.20 | 2.44 | 21.887 | 0.406 | 51.87 | 24.6779 | 0.361 | 48.13 | 1.71 |

Table S4. The element contents of C and O in all samples.

| Sample | Atomic % | | Functional group % | |
|--------|----------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| | C | O | C=O | C–O |
| PHC-P | 87.88 | 12.12 | 51.95 | 48.05 |
| PHC-50 | 89.06 | 10.94 | 49.33 | 50.67 |
| PHC-65 | 89.79 | 10.21 | 44.19 | 55.81 |
| PHC-80 | 90.14 | 9.86 | 36.32 | 63.68 |
| PHC-95 | 93.76 | 6.24 | 40.26 | 59.74 |

Table S5. Pore structure analyzed from N₂ adsorption-desorption and SAXS results

| Sample | N ₂ adsorption-desorption | | | CO ₂ adsorption-desorption | | SAXS | |
|--------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | S_{BET} | D_{pore} | V_{pore} | S_{DFT} | V_{pore} | $D_{\text{closed pore}}$ | $V_{\text{closed pore}}$ |
| | m ² g ⁻¹ | (nm) | g cm ⁻³ | m ² g ⁻¹ | g cm ⁻³ | (nm) | g cm ⁻³ |
| PHC-0 | 145.62 | 2.5491 | 0.0928 | 30.7 | 0.01482 | 1.06 | 0.112 |
| PHC-50 | 138.15 | 2.6008 | 0.0898 | | | 1.00 | |
| PHC-65 | 104.12 | 2.5163 | 0.0655 | | | 0.93 | |
| PHC-80 | 7.1424 | 3.6068 | 0.0064 | 43.865 | 0.01895 | 0.88 | 0.545 |
| PHC-95 | 41.4 | 3.1936 | 0.0331 | | | 0.93 | |

Table S6. The ICE and capacity of HCS measured at a current density of 0.0279 A g⁻¹.

| Sample | Reversible capacity (mAh g ⁻¹) | ICE (%) | 2 th Discharge capacity (mAh g ⁻¹) | Plateau capacity for 1 st cycle (mAh g ⁻¹) | Capacity retention rate after 100 cycles (%) |
|--------|--|---------|---|---|--|
| PHC-P | 144.4 | 68.69 | 175.79 | 67 | 53.88 |
| PHC-50 | 154 | 74.94 | 161.01 | 91 | 59.34 |
| PHC-65 | 194 | 64.14 | 212 | 130 | 87.87 |
| PHC-80 | 333 | 79.98 | 333.17 | 180 | 90.63 |
| PHC-95 | 293 | 78.72 | 301.85 | 200 | 85.66 |

Table S7. The Na storage properties of various natural biomasses derived hard carbon.

| Sources | Specific capacity (mAh g ⁻¹) | ICE (%) | Retention (%) / Cycle (n) / rate (mA g ⁻¹) | Ref. |
|------------------------|---|---------|---|-----------|
| Cellulose | 335 | 89 | 97/200/100 | [1] |
| Oak leaves biowaste | 378 | 84.7 | 97/100/30 | [2] |
| Bamboo | 320 | 91.4 | 91/300/100 | [3] |
| Asphalt | 318.3 | 86.14 | 90/200/292 | [4] |
| Brown coal | 316.3 | 87.6 | 95/300/100 | [5] |
| Tea | 308 | 90 | 91/500/280 | [6] |
| Rosewood lignin | 326 | 71 | 85/800/500 | [7] |
| Lignin | 302 | 85 | 87/500/300 | [8] |
| Peony shell | 333 | 80 | 90/100/300 | This work |

References

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