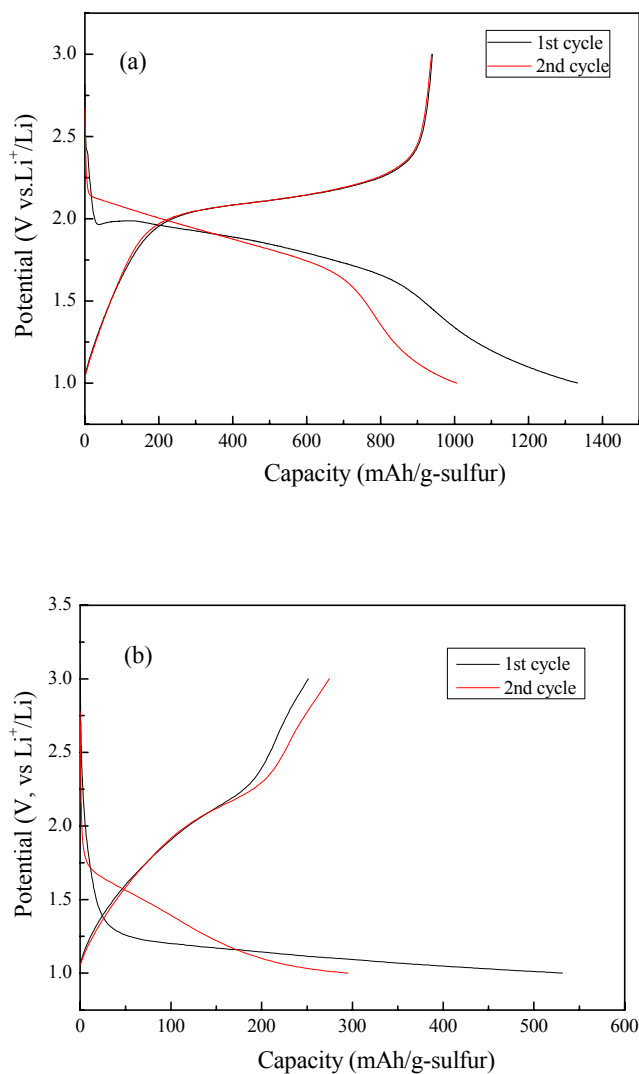


Supplementary Information:

## Enhancement of long stability of sulfur cathode by encapsulating sulfur into micropores of carbon spheres

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**Fig. S1.** Discharge and charge curves of the sulfur-carbon sphere composites with 42 wt % S (a) and 51 wt % S (b) at the low current density of 40 mA/g. It is shown that there is no flat discharge plateau in Fig. S1b, because of the full saturation of the micropore volume of carbon spheres.