## **Electronic Supplementary Information for**

## Tuning porous structure of carbon matrixes for loading sulfur toward long lifespan cathode materials of Li-S batteries

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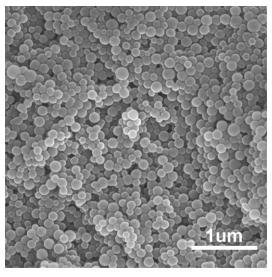


Figure S1. SEM image of carbon precursor spheres.

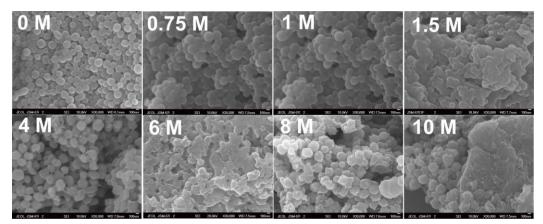


Figure S2. SEM images of MPCSs activated at different KOH concentrations.

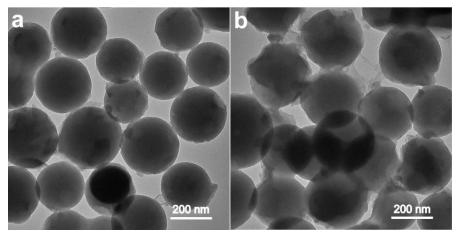


Figure S3. TEM images of (a) non-activated MPCS and (b) MPCS activated with 1 M KOH.

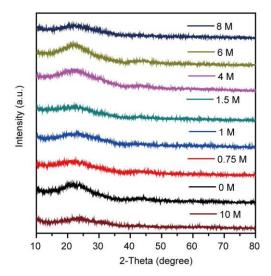


Figure S4. X-ray diffraction patterns of MPCSs activated with various concentration of KOH.

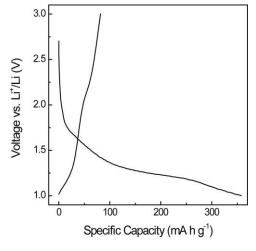
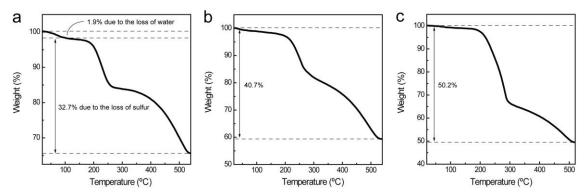
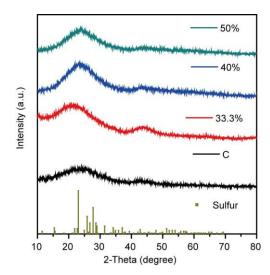


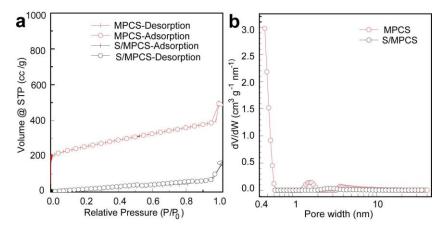
Figure S5. The discharge-charge curve of bare MPCS activated with 1 M KOH in the first cycle.



**Figure S6.** TG curve of (a)  $S_{33.3}$ /MPCS, (b)  $S_{40}$ /MPCS, and (c)  $S_{50}$ /MPCS.



**Figure S7.** X-ray diffraction patterns of MPCS activated with 1 M KOH,  $S_{33.3}$ /MPCS,  $S_{40}$ /MPCS,  $S_{50}$ /MPCS, and standard card of sulfur (JCPDS Card No. 08-0247).



**Figure S8.** (a) Nitrogen adsorption/desorption isotherms at 77K and (b) Pore size distribution of MPCS and  $S_{40}$ /MPCS activated with 1 M KOH.

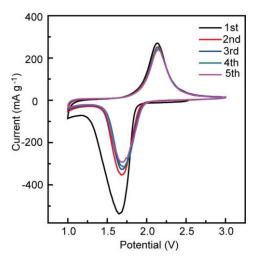


Figure S9. The first five cycling voltammograms of  $S_{40}$ /MPCS obtained in carbonate-based electrolyte at a scan rate of 0.05 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.