

Supporting Information

Metal-Organic Frameworks/Polythiophene Derivative: Neuron-Like S-Doped Carbon 3D Structure with Outstanding Sodium Storage Performance

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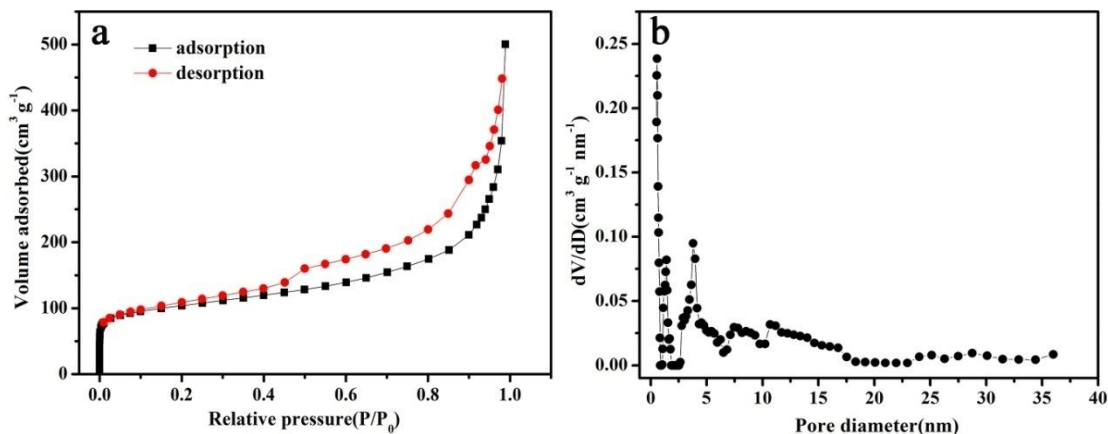


Figure S1. a) Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherm and b) the pore size distribution profile of MDC-700.

Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherm in Figure S1a indicates that the isotherm of MDC-700 is IV type. MDC-700 possesses a specific surface area of 377 m²/g. Pore size distribution profile (Figure S1b) manifests that the presence of micropores and mesoporous in MDC-700 architecture.

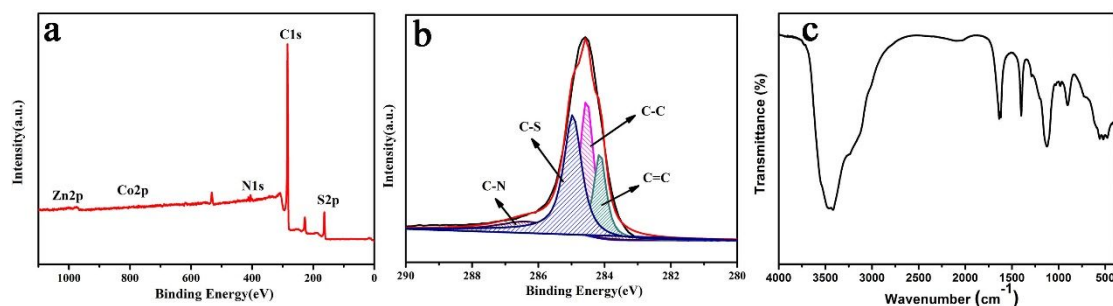


Figure S2. a) XPS wide spectrum, b) C1s XPS spectrum and c) FTIR spectra of the 3DSC-700.

As illustrated in Figure S2a, the wide spectrum manifests that the 3DSC-700 contains C, N, S, Co and Zn elements. There are four fitted peaks located at 286.4, 284.9, 284.5 and 284.1 eV in C1s spectrum (Figure S2b) which are ascribed to C-N groups, C-S, C-C, and C=C respectively.¹ Figure S2c shows the FTIR spectra of the 3DSC-700 electrode, the peak centered at 1119 cm⁻¹ correspond to the stretching vibration band of

C-S-C.²

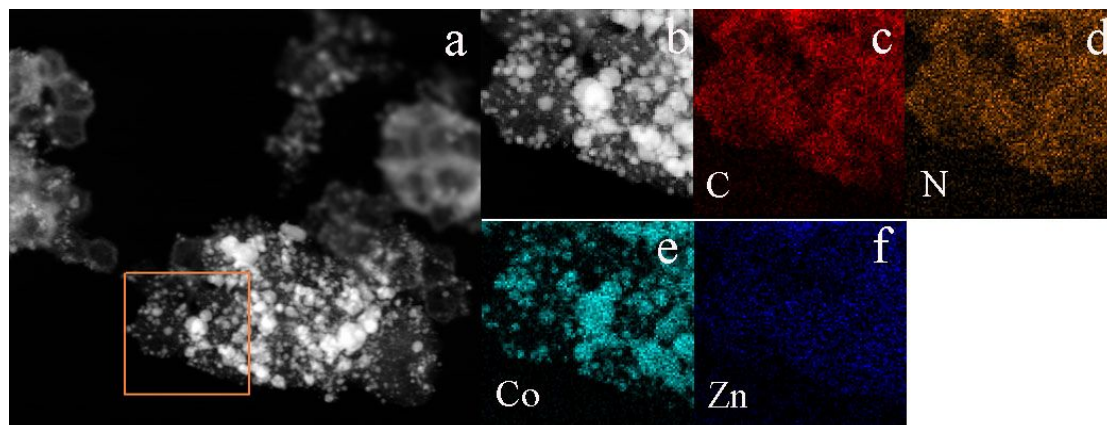


Figure S3. a) Drift-corrected image scanning and b) HAADF-STEM image of MDC-700. EDS elemental mapping images of c) carbon, d) nitrogen, e) cobalt, and f) zinc.

Figure S3a~f present the drift corrected spectrum image scanning, HAADF-STEM image and EDS element mapping of the MDC-700. EDS elemental mapping exhibit the uniformly distribution of c) carbon, d) nitrogen, e) cobalt and f) zinc. The N, Co and Zn come from the ZIF-8/ZIF-67 precursor.

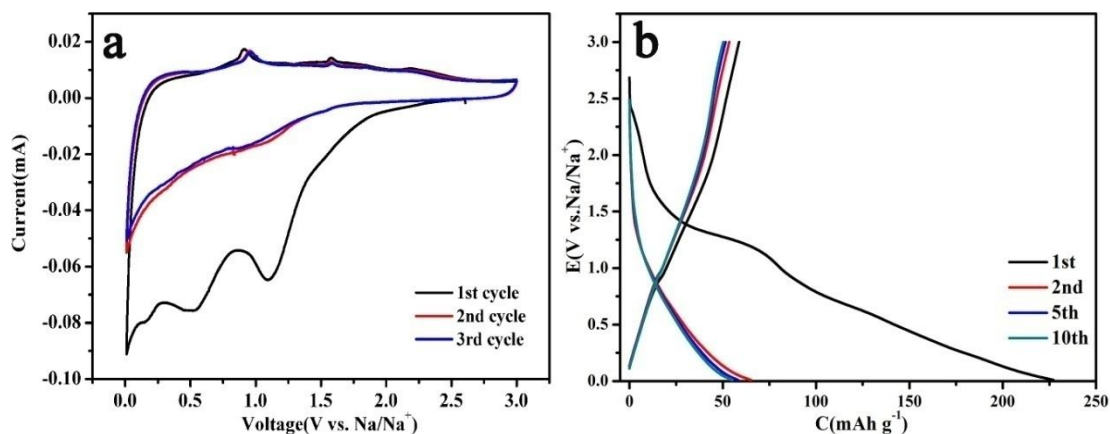


Figure S4. a) Cyclic voltammetry curves of MDC-700 in a potential range of 0.01-3.0 V (vs Na/Na⁺) at a scan rate of 0.1 mV/s and b) discharge-charge curves of MDC-700 in a potential range of 0.01-3.0 V (vs Na/Na⁺) at a current density of 100 mA/g.

For MDC-700 electrode, there are four peaks located at 1.2, 0.6, 0.28 and 0 V in the

first cathodic scan, which can be attributed to the irreversible reactions in the surface of MDC-700, the formation of solid electrolyte interface (SEI) and the insertion of sodium ions into MDC-700 interlayer, respectively (Figure S4a).³⁻⁴ The anodic peak at 0.85 V in MDC-700 electrode is mostly related to the reversible reaction between Na⁺ and N functional groups. The initial charge/discharge capacities of MDC-700 (Figure S4b) are 58.7/227.1 mAh/g.

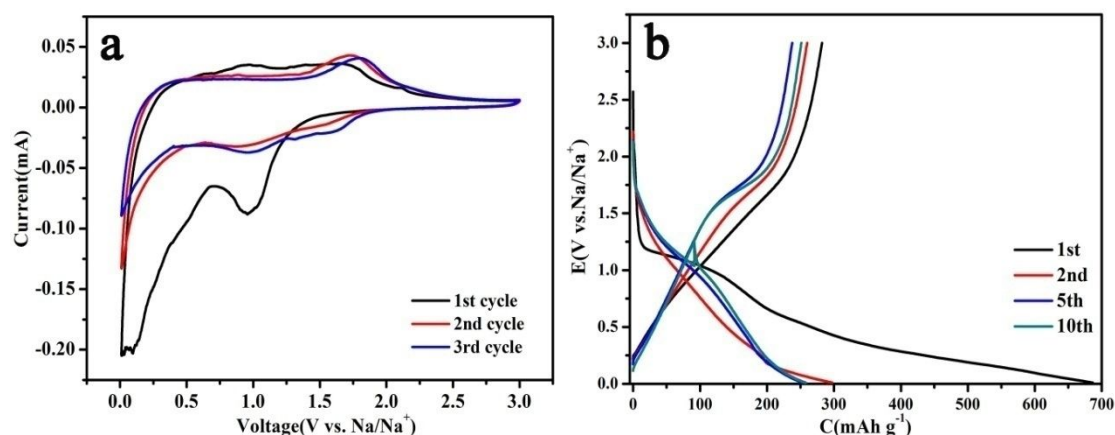


Figure S5. a) Cyclic voltammetry curves of SC-700 in a potential range of 0.01-3.0 V (vs Na/Na⁺) at a scan rate of 0.1 mV/s and b) discharge-charge curves of SC-700 in a potential range of 0.01-3.0 V (vs Na/Na⁺) at a current density of 100 mA/g.

As the Figure S5a shows, compared with MDC-700, the SC-700 electrode exhibits other two pairs of redox peaks centered at 1.75/2.15 V and 1.15/1.80 V, which is similar with room temperature Na-S batteries and can be ascribed to the Faradaic reactions between the Na⁺ and covalent sulfur.⁵⁻⁶ The initial charge/discharge capacities of SC-700 (Figure S5b) are 282.1/686.3 mAh/g, respectively.

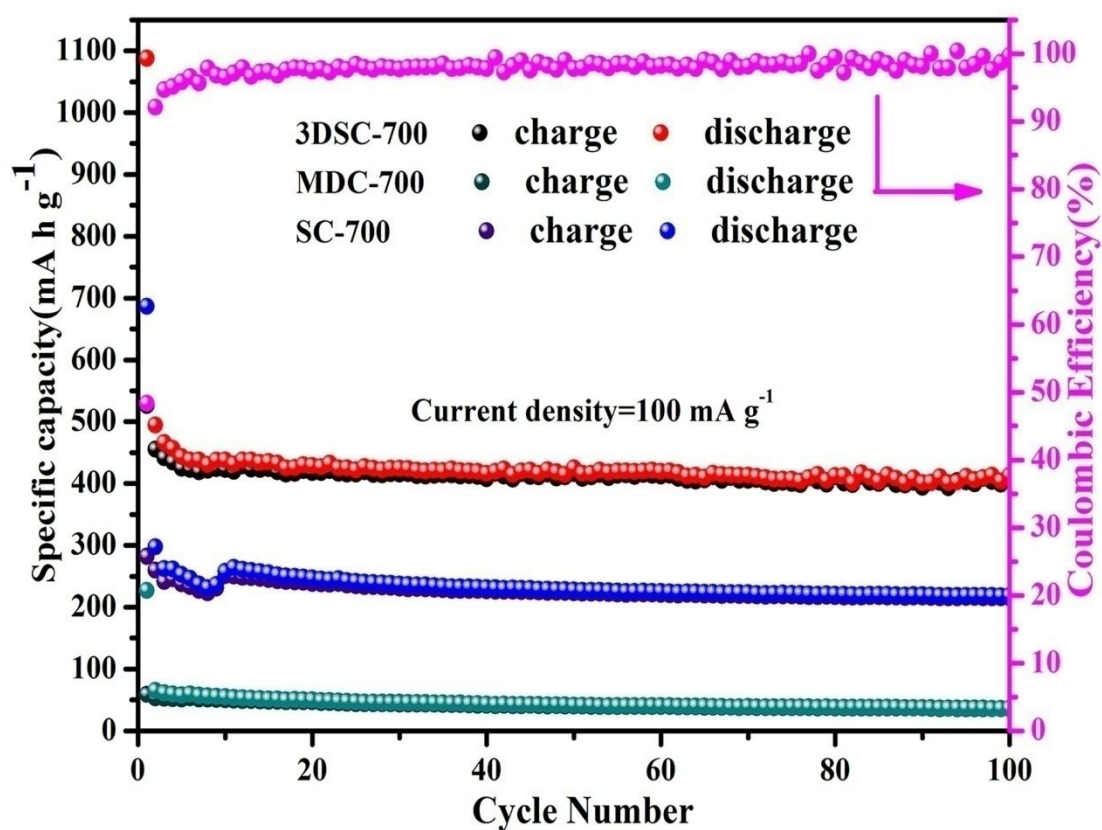


Figure S6. Cycling stability of 3DSC-700, MDC-700 and SC-700 at a current density of 100 mA/g.

As the Figure S6 shows, when tested at 100 mA/g, a high reversible capacity of $\sim 450 \text{ mAh/g}$ can be obtained for the 3DSC-700 after 100 cycles with almost 100 % Coulombic efficiency, while the capacities of MDC-700 and SC-700 after 100 cycles are 36.4 and 216.9 mAh/g, respectively.

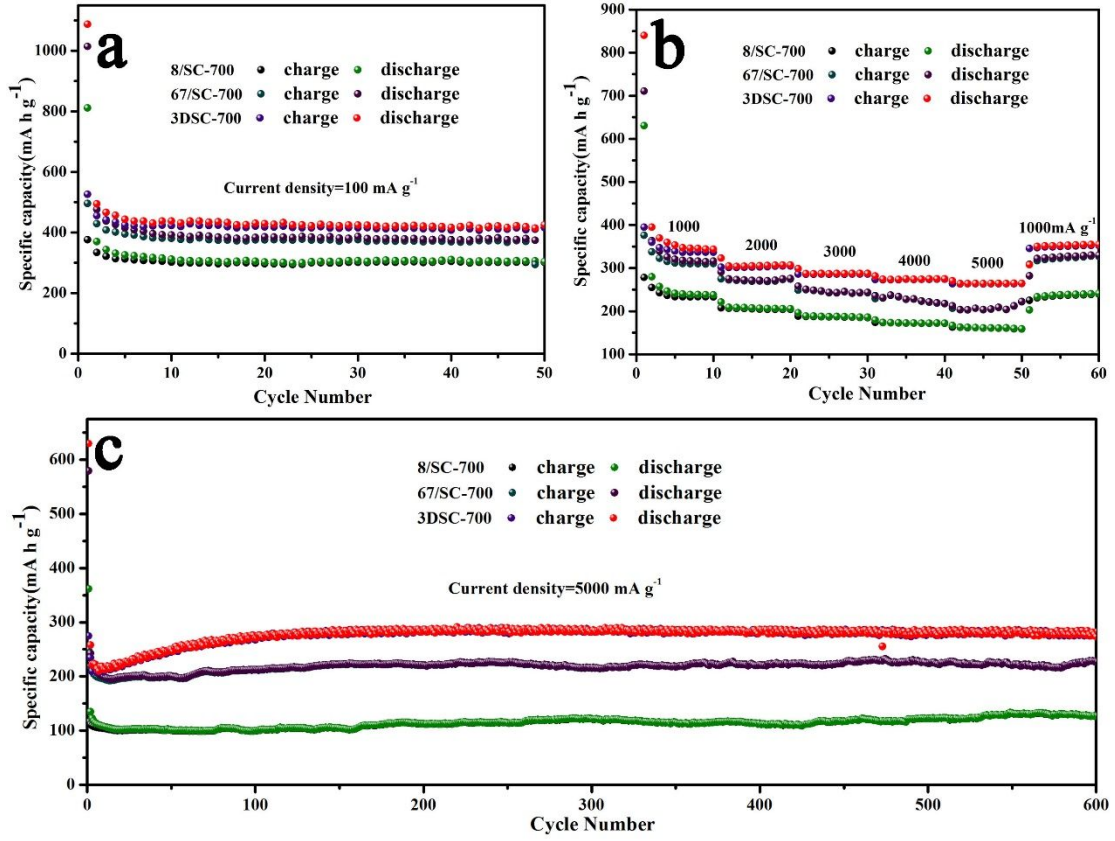


Figure S7. a) Cycling stability of 8/SC-700, 67/SC-700 and 3DSC-700 at a current density of 100 mA/g, b) rate performance of 8/SC-700, 67/SC-700 and 3DSC-700 at various current densities (1000-5000 mA/g), c) cycling stability of 8/SC-700, 67/SC-700 and 3DSC-700 at a current density of 5000 mA/g.

The relationship⁷⁻⁸ between peak current (i) and scan rate (v) can be calculated as follow:

$$i = av^b = i(V) = k_1 v + k_2 v^{1/2} \quad (1)$$

In Equation (1), a and b are adjustable values, which can be transformed to

$$\log i = b \log v + \log a \quad (2)$$

According to Equation (2), the slope of the $\log(v)$ - $\log(i)$ lines are b values. It's worth noting that when the slope is 0.5 ($b=0.5$), it implies the sodium storage process is diffusion-controlled, and when the slope is 1 ($b=1$), it reflects the sodium storage is

mainly dominated by surface capacitance.

According to Equation of $i(V) = k_1v + k_2v^{1/2}$, we can quantify the contribution of surface capacitive-controlled effect (k_1v) and the diffusion-controlled Na^+ intercalation effect ($k_2v^{1/2}$) to the total sodium storage.^{7, 9-10} In Equation of $i(V) = k_1v + k_2v^{1/2}$, $i(V)$ is the detected current response at a fixed potential V , v is the scan rate, k_1 and k_2 are constants.

Computational methods

First-principles spin-polarized calculations were performed within density functional theory (DFT) implemented in the Vienna *ab initio* simulation package (VASP).¹¹⁻¹² The projector augmented wave (PAW) method was used to describe the ion-electron electrons interactions.¹³ The generalized gradient approximation in the Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof form¹⁴ was adopted with the cutoff energy set to 450 eV. The convergence criteria for the residual force and energy were set to 0.02 eV/Å and 10^{-5} eV, respectively. The k -point meshes with $6 \times 6 \times 1$ grid for the $2 \times 2 \times 1$ supercell were sampled by the Γ -centered Monkhorst-Pack grids.¹⁵ Bilayer graphene was employed to evaluate the S-doping effect and a vacuum slab exceeds 15 Å was employed to avoid the interaction between periodic units. To evaluate the Na diffusion energy barriers, the nudged elastic band (NEB) method was adopted,¹⁶ and four images were inserted between initial and final states. The adsorption energies of Na atoms were calculated by

$$E_b = (E_{\text{Na@substrate}} - E_{\text{substrate}} - nE_{\text{Na}}) / n$$

where $E_{\text{Na@substrate}}$ and $E_{\text{substrate}}$ are the total energies of the substrate with and without Na adsorption, respectively. E_{Na} is the chemical potential of Na leveled from Na metal, and n is the number of adsorbed Na atoms.

Table S1. Elemental analysis of 3DSC-700 and MDC-700

Sample	Chemical composition [wt%]		
	C	N	S
3DSC-700	71.92	0.074	20.10
MDC-700	40.11	8.145	0.155

Table S2. Comparison of the electrochemical performance of various heteroatom doping carbon materials as anodes for SIBs

Samples	S-doping level	Specific capacity (mAh/g)	Current density (mA/g)	Refs.(year)
SC	15.17 wt. %	~ 303.2 (700 th) ~250	500 1000	¹⁷ (2015)
Sulfur-doped Disordered Carbon	26.9 wt. %	333 271 (1000 th)	100 1000	⁶ (2015)
Sulfur covalently bonded graphene	2.29 at. %	262 150 (200 th)	100 1000	¹⁸ (2015)
Sulfur-doped flexible graphene films	16.7 wt. %	244 (300 th)	100	¹⁹ (2016)
S-Doped N-Rich Carbon Nanosheets	9.19 wt. %	350 (100 th) 211 (1000 th)	50 1000	²⁰ (2017)
Sulfur-Doped Graphitic Carbon Nanosheets	2.12 wt. %	321.5 (100 th) 161.8 (5000 th)	100 5000	²¹ (2017)
Sulfur-doped mesoporous carbons	2.5 at. %	188.6 (300 th) 173.7 (500 th)	100 200	²² (2017)
S-Doped Hard Carbon	6.3 at. %	320 (100 th) 200 (4000 th)	100 1000	²³ (2018)
S/N co-doped carbon materials	5.4 wt. %	294 (150 th)	100	²⁴ (2018)
N/S-co-doped hollow		329 (100 th)	100	²⁵ (2018)

carbon nanofibers			286 (2,000 th)	1000	
S-doped	solvothermal	21.8 wt%	380 (300 th)	100	²⁶ (2018)
graphene			250 (1,000 th)	2000	
sulfur-doped	carbon	25.5 wt%	443.4 (50 th)	50	²⁷ (2017)
spheres			238.2 (600 th)	1000	
This work		20.10 wt. %	~ 450 (100 th)	100	
			225 (3000 th)	5000	

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