## Supporting Information

#### Fly ash carbon anodes for alkali metal-ion batteries

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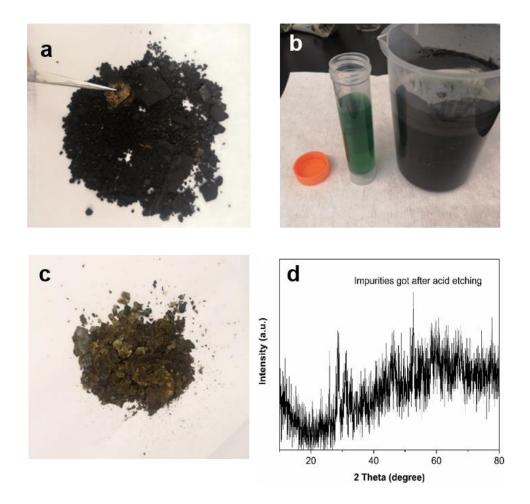
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#### **1. Supplementary Figures**



**Figure S1.** Optical photograph of (a) fly ash, (b) filter liquor after fly ash soaked in the 1 mol  $L^{-1}$  HCl, and (c) impurities from the dried filter liquor. (d) XRD pattern of the impurities.

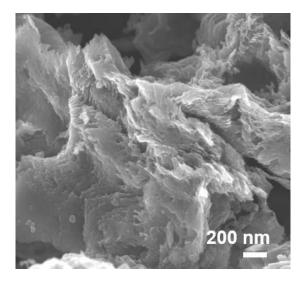
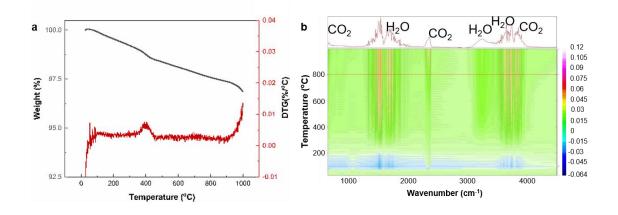


Figure S2. SEM image of FACT.



**Figure S3.** (a) TGA, DTG curves of FAC in the argon atmosphere, and corresponding (b) FTIR spectra of the gas produced in the thermal treatment of FAC.

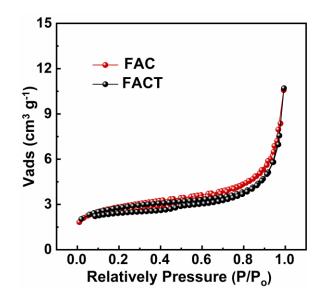


Figure S4. N<sub>2</sub> adsorption and desorption isothermals of FAC and FACT.

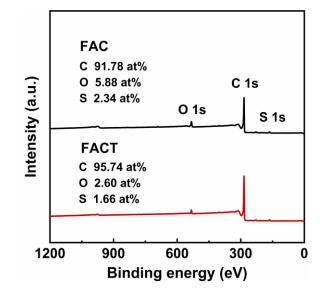


Figure S5. XPS survey of FAC and FACT.

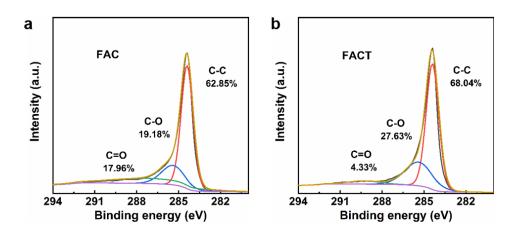


Figure S6. High-resolution C 1s XPS spectra of (a) FAC and (b) FACT.

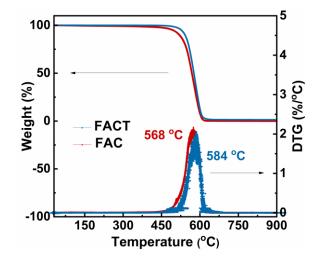
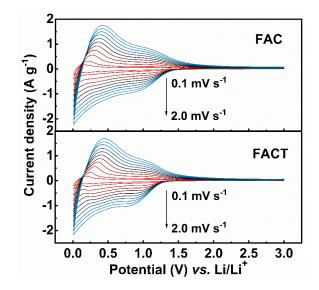


Figure S7. TGA and DTG curves of FAC and FACT in the air atmosphere.



**Figure S8.** CV at various scan rates from 0.1 to 2.0 mV s<sup>-1</sup> of FAC and FACT anodes in lithiumion half cells.

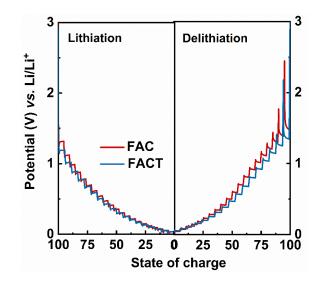
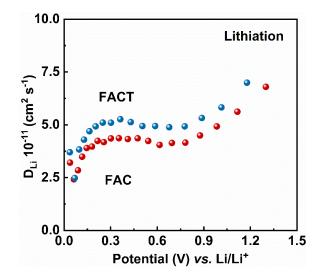


Figure S9. GITT profiles of FAC and FACT anodes in lithium-ion half cells tested at a current density of 50 mA  $g^{-1}$ .



**Figure S10.** Diffusion coefficient of Li<sup>+</sup> ions in the FAC and FACT anodes during the discharge process.

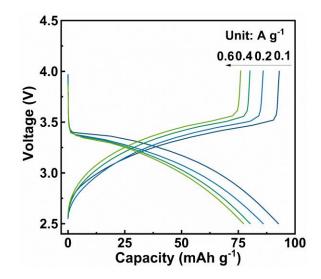
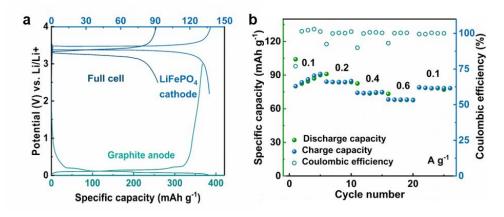


Figure S11. GCD curves of FAC//LiFePO<sub>4</sub> full cell under different current densities.



**Figure S12.** (a) GCD curves of LiFePO<sub>4</sub> cathode, graphite anode, and graphite//LiFePO<sub>4</sub> full cell. (b) The rate capability of graphite//LiFePO<sub>4</sub> full cell.

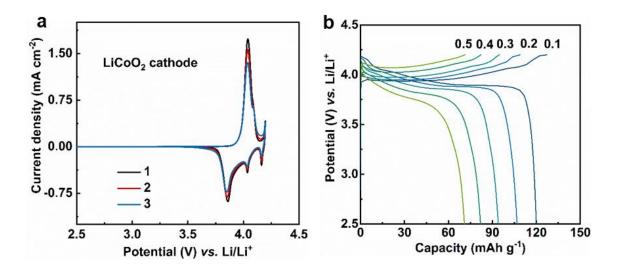
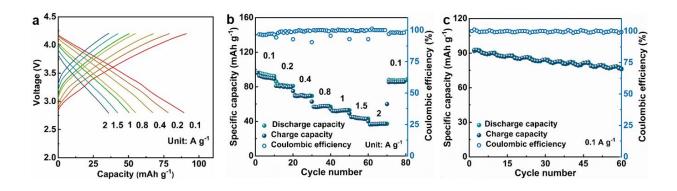


Figure S13. (a) CV curves and (b) GCD curves of  $LiCoO_2$  cathode.



**Figure S14.** (a) GCD curves FAC//LiCoO<sub>2</sub> full cell. (b) Rate capability of FAC//LiCoO<sub>2</sub> full cell. (c) Cycling performance of the FAC//LiCoO<sub>2</sub> full cell of 0.1 A g<sup>-1</sup> (Capacity is calculated with the total weight of cathode and anode).

### 2. Supplementary Tables

	FAC	FACT		
Element	Mass percentage	Mass percentage		
	wt.%	wt.%		
V	0.122	0.135		
Na	0.017	0.018		
Al	0.060	0.066		
Fe	0.047	0.051		
Si	0.177	0.196		

# **Table S1** Elemental contents of FAC and FACT tested by ICP.

Elemental fraction (at%)		Li	С	Ο	Р	F
Charge state	Etching time					
3 V	0	34.82	30.39	21.42	0.78	10.59
	10 min	33.59	33.90	21.24	0.47	10.80
	20 min	34.95	34.12	19.22	0.45	11.26
	30 min	31.98	37.14	18.40	-	12.47
0.01 V	0	43.20	22.88	27.35	0.37	6.19
	10 min	42.23	27.78	27.55	0.45	6.00
	20 min	46.22	22.27	25.40	0.31	5.80
	30 min	47.96	21.76	23.98	0.45	5.85

 Table S2 Atomic fraction of FAC anode with different etching time.