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Supplementary Information

Insight into the Effects of Different Acids on the Formations and Electrochemical

Properties of Carbon Spherules

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Figure S1. SEM image of CSs prepared through hydrothermal treatment (reaction condition: 28 mmol of glucose, 40 mL of deionized water , 5 h, 180 °C) of glucose without any mineralizer.



Figure S2. SEM image of CSs prepared through hydrothermal treatment (reaction condition: 28 mmol of glucose, 40 mL of deionized water , 2 h, 180 °C) of glucose with glutaric acid as mineralizer.



Figure S3. The TGA curves of PCSs and GCSs under $N_{\rm 2}$ atmosphere.



Figure S4. SEM images of CSs prepared through hydrothermal treatment (reaction condition: 28 mmol of glucose, 3 mmol of n-valeric acid, 40 mL of deionized water , 5 h, 180 °C) of glucose with n-valeric acid as mineralizer.



Figure S5. FT-IR spectra of MCSs, BCSs, ACSs, GCSs, HCSs, NCSs, SCSs and PCSs before annealing treatment.



Figure S6. XRD patterns of MCSs, BCSs and ACSs after being annealed at 900 oC in Ar gas flow containing 5% of H2 for 3 h.



Figure S7. Galvanostatic charge-discharge curves of CRGO/MCSs (a), CRGO/BCSs (b), CRGO/GCSs (c), CRGO/ACSs (d) and CRGO/PCSs (e) which prepared with original GO to CSs ratio of 10:1 in weight, as anodes assessed at the current densities of 0.2 A g⁻¹.

Table S1. Atomic percent contents of carbon, oxygen in MCSs, BCSs, GCSs, ACSs, and PCSs before annealing treatment.

| CS | MCSs | BCSs | GCSs | ACSs | PCSs |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|
| C-atomic% | 82.6 | 78.0 | 78.4 | 79.7 | 75.0 |
| O-atomic% | 17.4 | 22.0 | 21.6 | 20.3 | 25.0 |

Table S2. The electrokinetic property of GCSs, PCSs, CRGO/GCSs (original GO:GCSs = 10:1, in weight) ,CRGO/PCSs (original GO:PCSs = 10:1, in weight) and CRGO anodes.

| Sample | $R_{f}(\Omega)$ | R_{ct} (Ω) |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| CRGO/GCSs | 80.7 | 53.5 |
| CRGO/PCSs | 85.9 | 80 |
| CRGO | 101 | 115 |
| GCSs | 97.3 | 162 |
| PCSs | 108.7 | 146 |