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**Supporting Information** 

## KOH activation of coal-derived microporous carbons for oxygen

## reduction and supercapacitors

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Fig. S1 SEM of pure coal without KOH activation.



Fig. S2 (a) XPS survey spectra of PC4; C1s (b) and O1s (c) XPS spectra of PC4.



**Fig. S3** PCs of different temperature (a) Raman spectra; (b) nitrogen adsorptiondesorption isotherms; (c) pore size distribution curves; (d) trend of specific surface area and pore volume.



Fig. S4 PCs of different temperature (a) LSV curves at 1600 rpm; (b) the corresponding Tafel plots; (c) Bar graph of  $E_{Onset}$  and  $E_{Half-Wave}$ .



Fig. S5 (a) Nyquist plots (the inset: the enlarged part) and (b) GCD cyclic measurement for PC4 at 10 A  $g^{-1}$ .



Fig. S6 Samples at different temperatures (a) CV curves at  $50 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ ; (b) specific capacitance at different current densities; (c)Nyquist plots (d) the enlarged part.

Materials	BET surface area (m2/g)	Half-wave potential V (vs. RHE)	Capacitance F g <sup>-1</sup>	Reference
PC4	2092.2	0.78	128	This work
NPC-1000	140	0.82	140	1
NPC-800	1109.2	0.79		2
LEJC-600	1268		212	3
S-800	2105.9	0.80	208	4
THPC	2870		224	5
NCAs	1626	0.79	354	6

Table S1. Compare with other literature materials.

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