

## **Supporting Information**

### **Formation of core–shell-structured $\text{Zn}_2\text{SnO}_4$ –carbon microspheres with superior electrochemical properties by one-pot spray pyrolysis**

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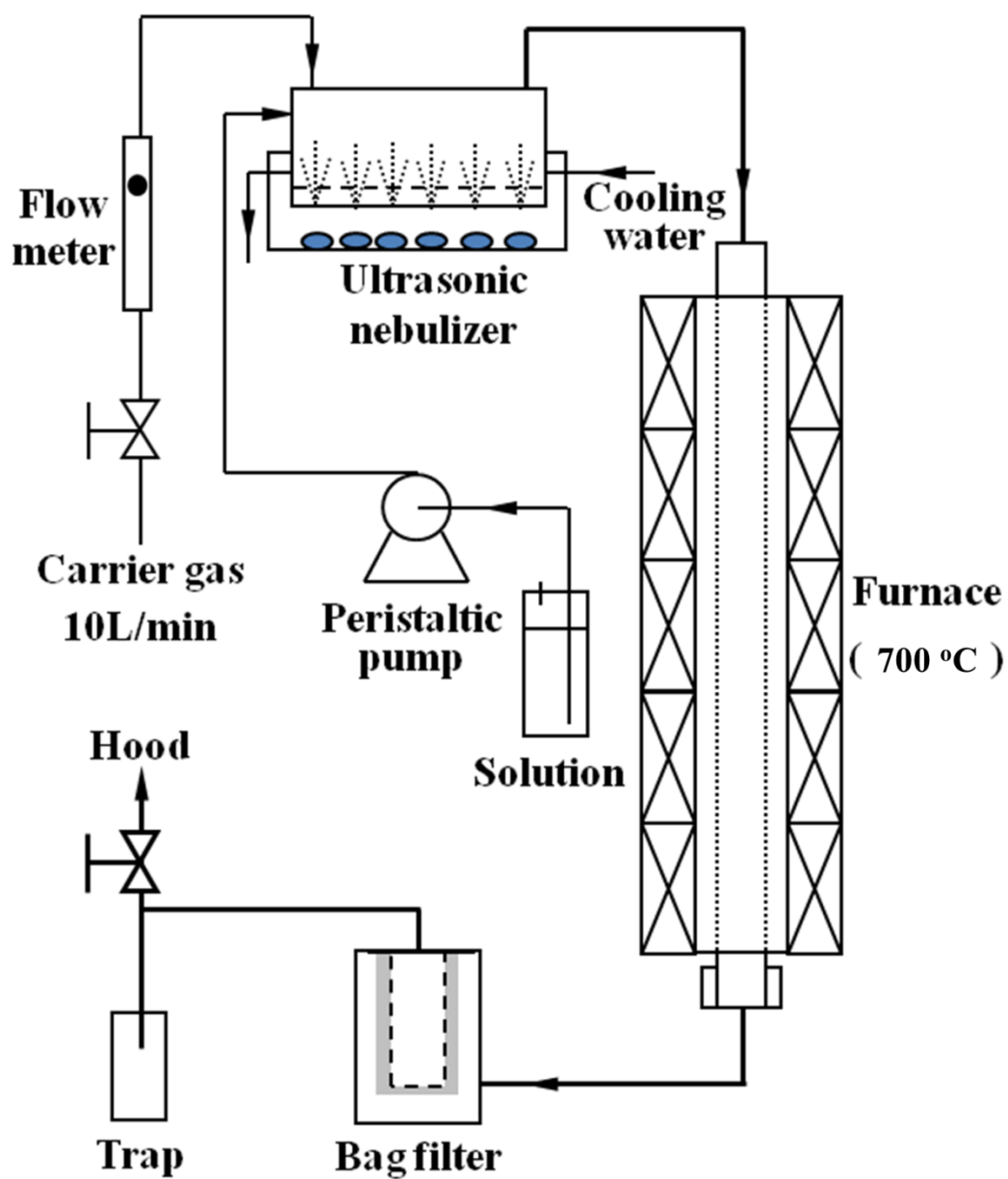
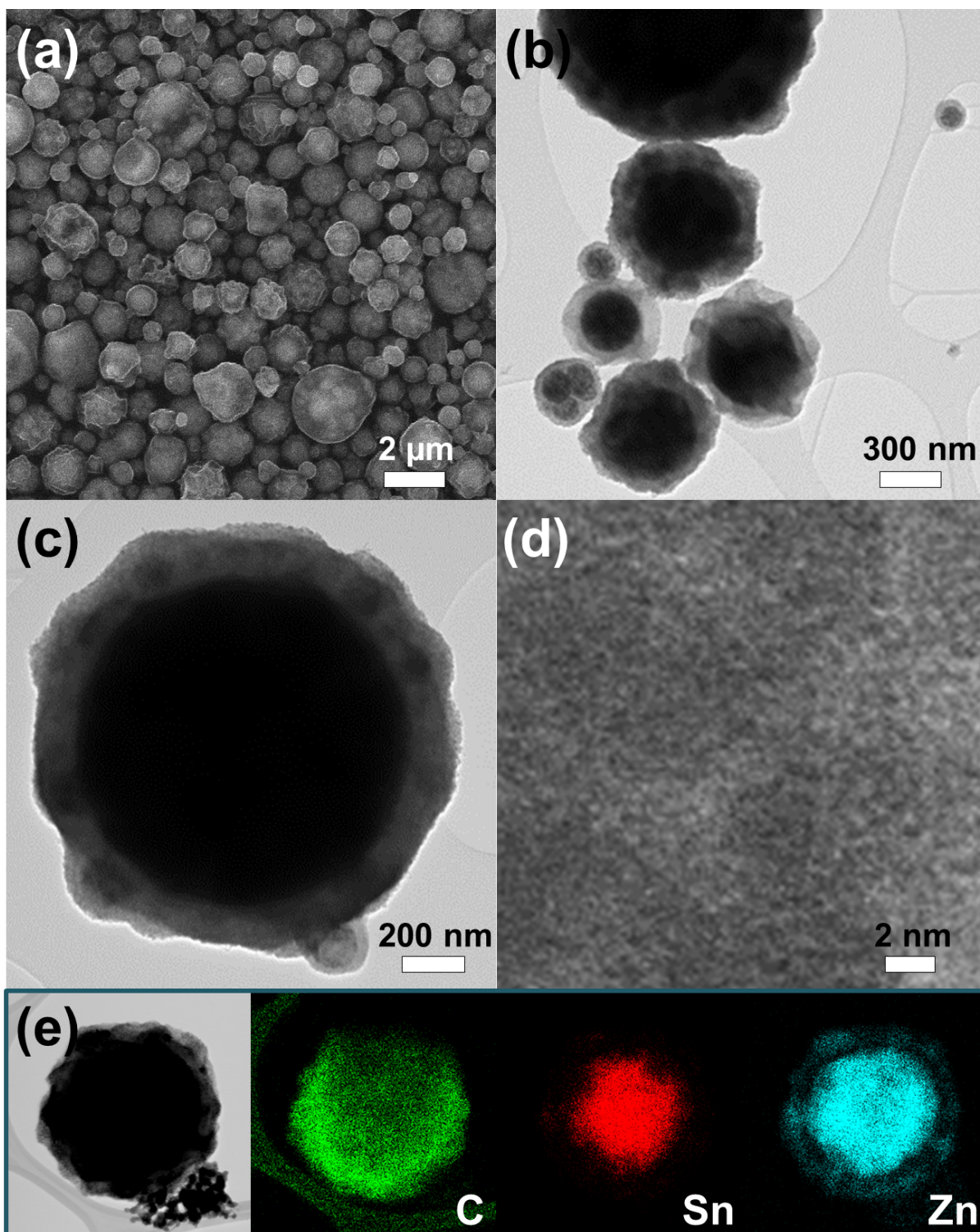
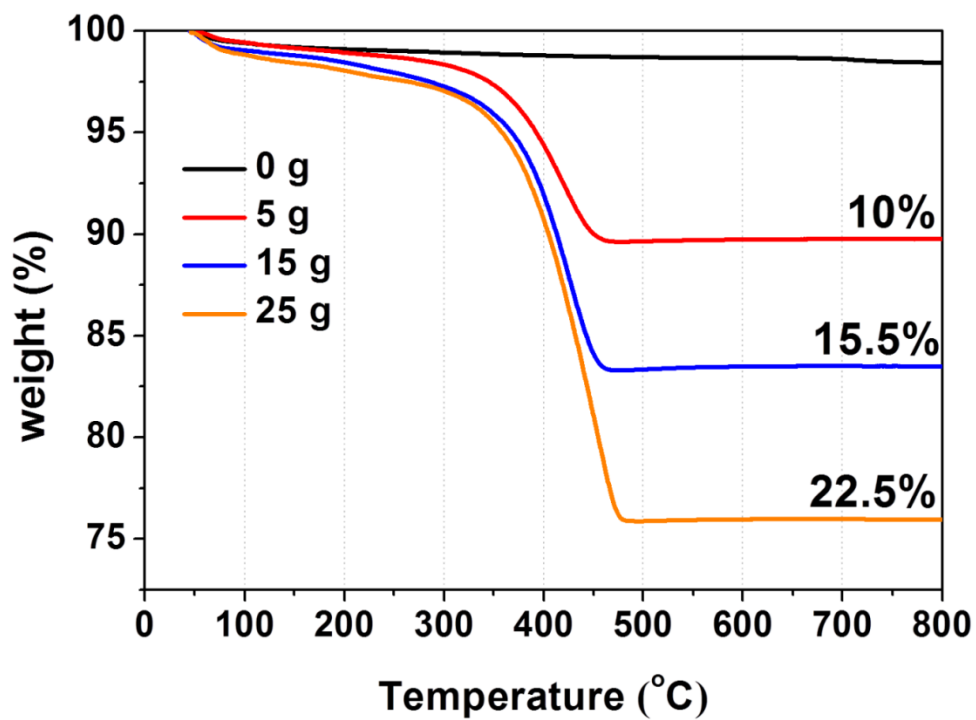


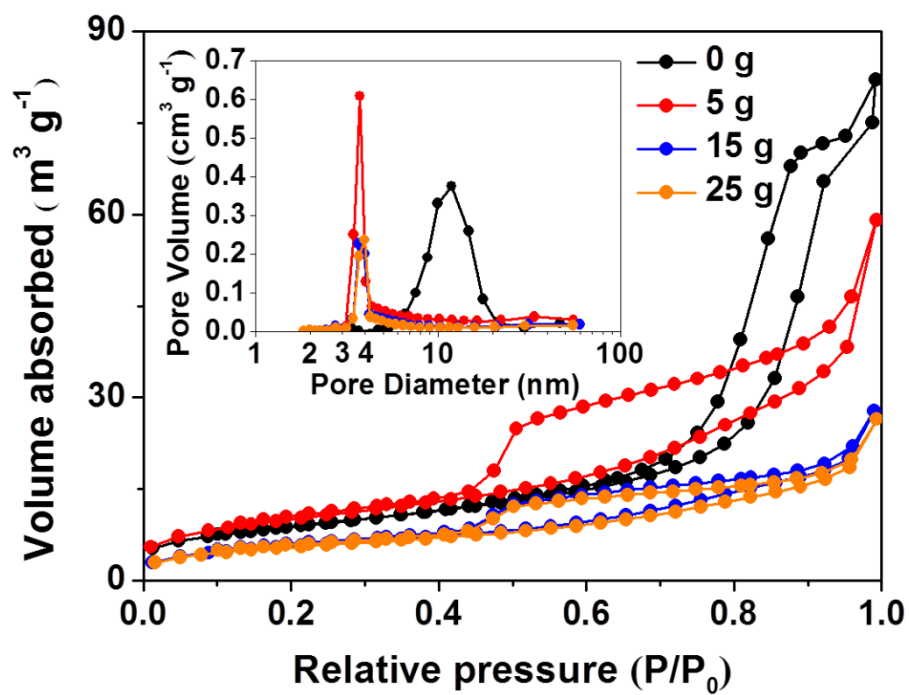
Fig. S1 Schematic diagram of ultrasonic spray pyrolysis process.



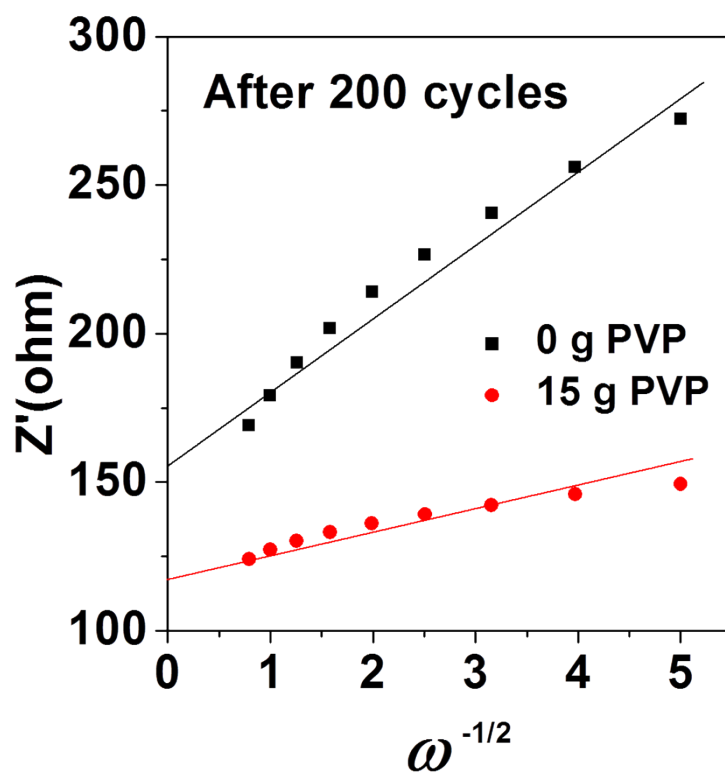
**Fig. S2** Morphologies and elemental mapping images of the  $\text{Zn}_2\text{SnO}_4$ -carbon composite microspheres prepared from the spray solution with 25 g PVP.



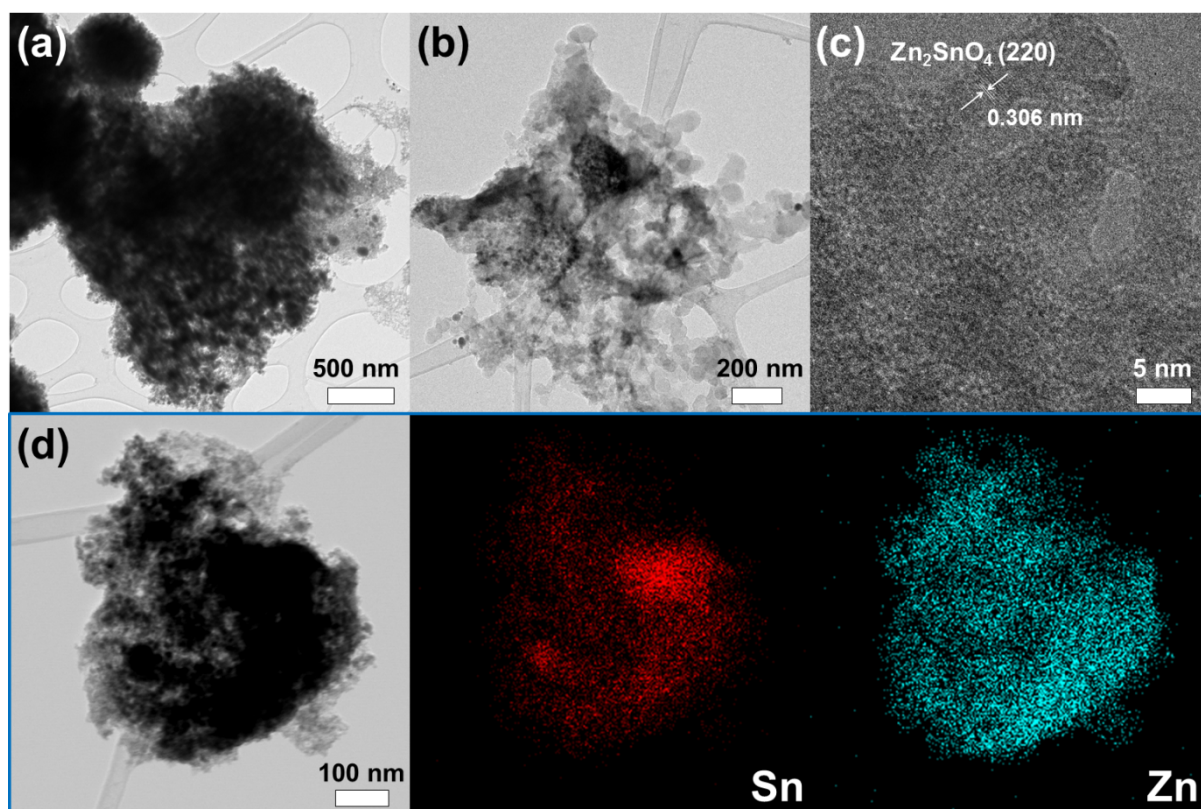
**Fig. S3** Thermogravimetric (TG) curves of the bare  $Zn_2SnO_4$  and  $Zn_2SnO_4$ -carbon composite microspheres.



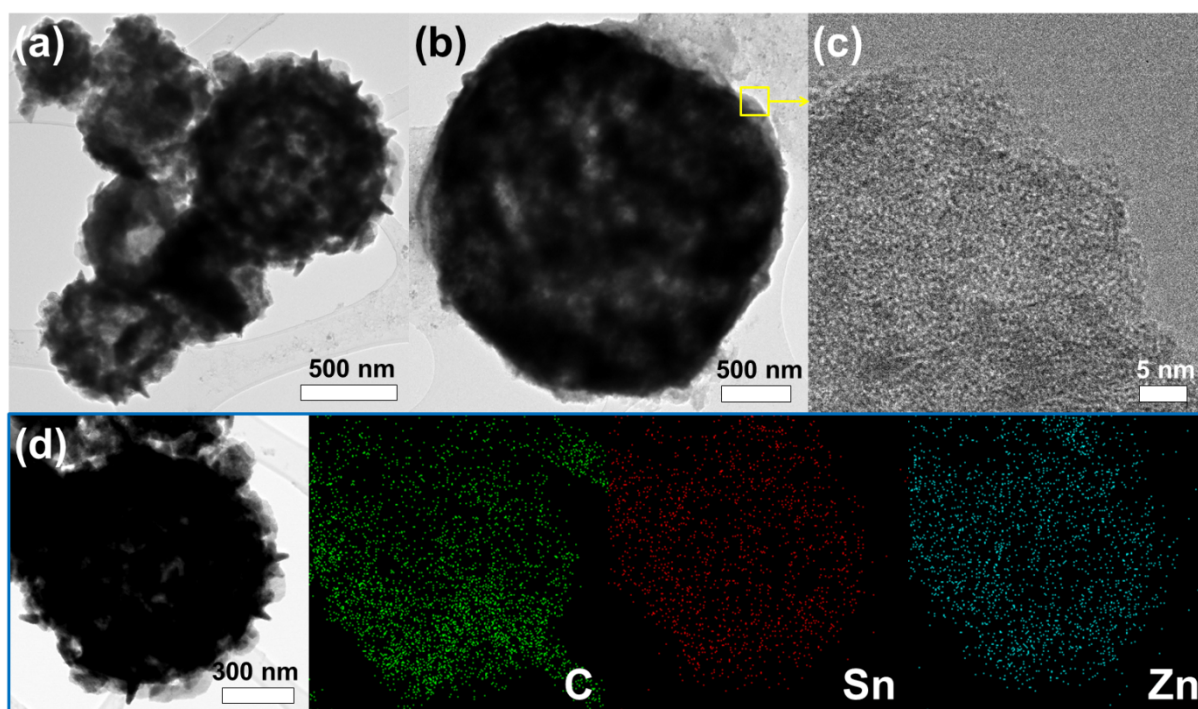
**Fig. S4** N<sub>2</sub> adsorption and desorption isotherms and the Barrett-Joyner-Halenda (BJH) pore-size distributions of the bare Zn<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>4</sub> and Zn<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>4</sub>-carbon composite microspheres.



**Fig. S5** Relationship between  $Z_{re}$  and  $\omega^{-1/2}$  in the low frequency region, where  $\omega$  is the angular frequency in the low frequency region ( $\omega = 2\pi f$ ).

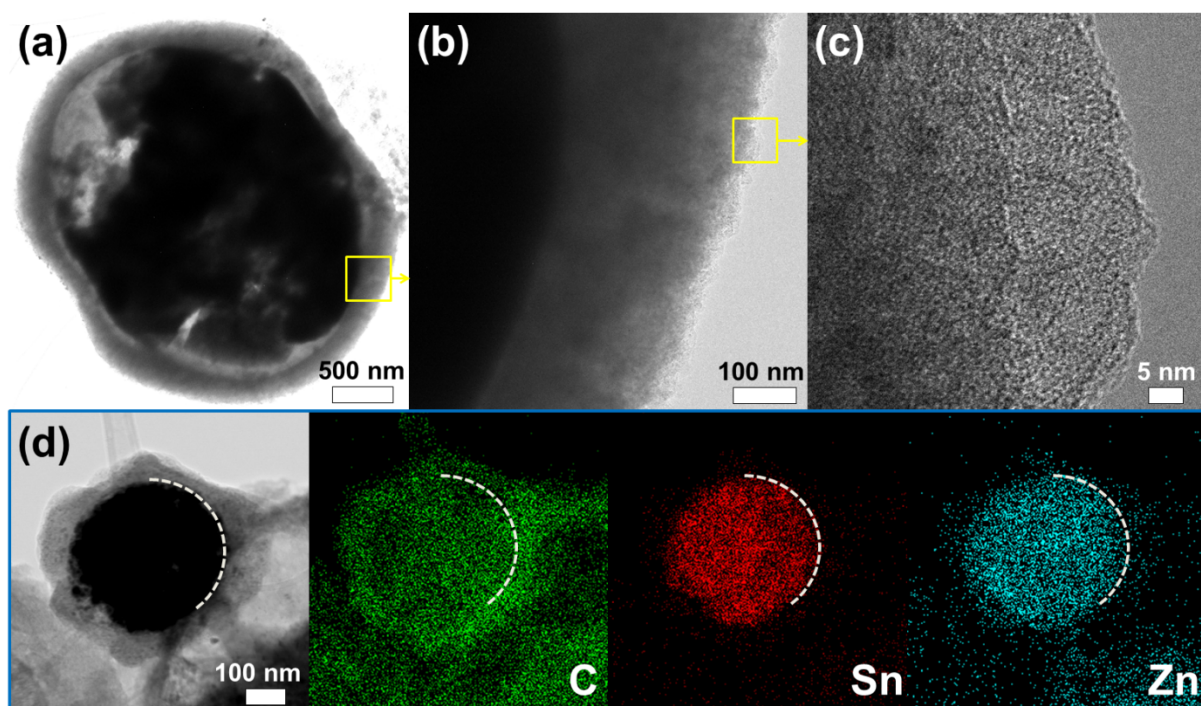


**Fig. S6** Morphologies and elemental mapping images of the bare  $Zn_2SnO_4$  microspheres after 200 cycles.



**Fig. S7** Morphologies and elemental mapping images of the  $\text{Zn}_2\text{SnO}_4$ -carbon composite microspheres prepared from the spray solution with 5 g PVP after 200 cycles.





**Fig. S8** Morphologies and elemental mapping images of the Zn<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>4</sub>-carbon composite microspheres prepared from the spray solution with 15 g PVP after 200 cycles.

**Table S1.** Electrochemical properties of Zn<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>4</sub> materials with different morphologies prepared by various preparation methods.

Morphology [preparation method]	Voltage range [V]	Current density	Initial C <sub>dis</sub> /C <sub>cha</sub> [mA h g <sup>-1</sup> ]	Discharge capacity [mA h g <sup>-1</sup> ]	Cycle number	Ref.
Polypyrrole-coated hollow Zn <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>4</sub> boxes [microemulsion polymerization]	0.01 – 3	60 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	1105.2 / 556	478.4	50	[10]
Zn <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>4</sub> nano boxes @graphene [coprecipitation]	0.01 – 2	300 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	1624.7 / 1121.2	752.9	45	[11]
Zn <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>4</sub> /graphene nanohybrid [hydrothermal]	0.005 – 3	800 mA g <sup>-1</sup> (charge) 50 mA g <sup>-1</sup> (discharge)	- / 711	500	40	[12]
Octahedral Zn <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>4</sub> -graphene [hydrothermal]	0.05 – 3	200 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	1223 / 674	326	50	[14]
Nanoparticles [hydrothermal]	0.05 – 3	50 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	- / -	521	40	[15]
Nano size Zn <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>4</sub> /C [hydrothermal]	0.05 – 3	60 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	1436.8 / 880.5	564	40	[16]
Zn <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>4</sub> @C/CSs [hydrothermal]	0.01 – 3	100 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	1242 / 775	680	345	[17]
Zn <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>4</sub> @ZIF core-shell [hydrothermal]	0.01 – 3	0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>	1125.7 / 369.2	349.2	20	[18]
Cubic [supercritical water]	0.05 – 3	0.75 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	1526 / 1093	856	50	[21]
Nanowire [vapor transport method]	0.005 – 1.5 – 3.0	120 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	1650 / 670 / 1000	390 (0.005 – 1.5V) 660 (0.005 – 3V)	50	[23]
Cubic [hydrothermal]	0.05 – 3	100 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	1509 / -	580	50	[24]
Irregular [hydrothermal]	0.05 – 3	50 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	1903.6 / 1045.5	645	20	[25]
Cubic [solid state reaction]	0.05 – 3	50 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	2054 / 1025	689	50	[26]
Cubic [hydrothermal]	0.05 – 3	50 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	1437 / 921	775	20	[27]
Carbon coated Zn <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>4</sub> [hydrothermal]	0.05 – 3	200 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	1248.8 / 873.2	341	45	[28]
Hollow Zn <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>4</sub> boxes@C [calcined process]	0.01 – 2	300 mA g <sup>-1</sup>	- / 616		45	[29]
Spherical Zn <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>4</sub> @C core-shell [spray pyrolysis]	0.001 – 3	1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	1526 / 873	770	120	This work