

# Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0925-8388(18)30026-4

DOI: [10.1016/j.jallcom.2018.01.026](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jallcom.2018.01.026)

Reference: JALCOM 44490

To appear in: *Journal of Alloys and Compounds*

Received Date: 29 November 2017

Revised Date: 30 December 2017

Accepted Date: 2 January 2018

Please cite this article as: K. Xiang, S. Cai, X. Wang, M. Chen, S. Jiang, Nitrogen-doped activated microporous carbon spheres as a sulfur matrix for advanced lithium-sulfur batteries, *Journal of Alloys and Compounds* (2018), doi: 10.1016/j.jallcom.2018.01.026.

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# Nitrogen-Doped Activated Microporous Carbon Spheres as a Sulfur Matrix for Advanced Lithium-Sulfur Batteries

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## Abstract

A kind of nitrogen-doped activated microporous carbon sphere/sulfur composite (NAMCS/S) is deliberately designed and prepared via a controllable solvothermal method and a liquid phase in-situ sulfur deposition technology. The structure characteristic and composition analysis of samples are conducted with X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS), elemental analysis (EA), field-emission scanning electron microscopy (FESEM) and high resolution transmission electron microscope (HRTEM). The electrochemical performances are characterized by galvanostatic charge-discharge (GCD), cyclic voltammetry (CV) and electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) measurements. The results show that the nitrogen-doped activated microporous carbon spheres (NAMCS) present uniform spherical morphology, abundant nitrogen content of 9.64 wt%, and large specific surface areas of 1578.6 m<sup>2</sup>/g. Compared with the activated microporous carbon sphere/sulfur (AMCS/S) composite, the NAMCS/S composite with same sulfur loading of 64 wt% can deliver a higher initial capacity of 1004.6 mAh/g and a stable capacity retention of 79.1 % after 100 cycles at 0.1 C rate as well as a remarkable Coulombic efficiency of 93 %

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