## **Supplementary Materials**

Mechanochemical process enhancing pore reconstruction for dense energy storage of carbon-based supercapacitors

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Figure S1 SEM images of CAC at different magnifications.



Figure S2 SEM images of CAC-1 at different magnifications.



Figure S3 SEM images of CAC-4 at different magnifications.



Figure S4 SEM images of CAC-8 at different magnifications.



Figure S5 SEM images of CAC-12 at different magnifications.



Figure S6 SEM images of CAC-24 at different magnifications.



Figure S7 SEM images of CAC-*x* at same magnification.



Figure S8 HRTEM images of CAC-24 at different magnifications.



Figure S9 Lattice fringes and SAED of a CAC-0, b CAC-4 and c CAC-24.



Figure S10 Vibration densities of CAC and CAC-*x*.



Figure S11 XRD patterns of CAC and CAC-*x*.



Figure S12 Deconvoluted XRD patterns of CAC and CAC-x.

**Table S1** Structural parameters of microcrystals from XRD patterns for CAC and CAC-x.

	CAC	CAC-1	CAC-4	CAC-8	CAC-12	CAC-24
$d_{002}$	0.437	0.368	0.362	0.354	0.350	0.349
La	2.221	2.338	2.399	2.824	2.272	2.651
L <sub>c</sub>	1.229	1.113	1.147	1.438	1.503	1.654



Figure S13 Raman patterns of CAC and CAC-x.



Figure S14 Deconvoluted Raman spectras of CAC and CAC-x.

	CAC	CAC-1	CAC-4	CAC-8	CAC-12	CAC-24
$A_D/A_G$	1.30	1.39	2.29	1.94	1.44	1.30

**Table S2**  $A_D/A_G$  from Raman patterns for CAC and CAC-*x*.



Figure S15 XPS patterns of CAC and CAC-*x*.



Figure S16 Deconvoluted C1s spectras of CAC and CAC-x.

**Table S3** Contents of carbon and oxygen elements from XPS spectrum for CAC and CAC-*x*.

	CAC	CAC-1	CAC-4	CAC-8	CAC-12	CAC-24
C1s	94.25	88.77	87.79	87.67	87.62	87.84
<i>O</i> 1s	5.75	11.23	12.21	12.33	12.38	12.16



**Figure S17 a** N<sub>2</sub> adsorption–desorption isotherms and **b** pore size distribution of CAC and CAC-*x*.



**Figure S18 a** CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption–desorption isotherms and **b** pore size distribution of CAC and CAC-*x*.

Table S4 Pore structure parameters of CAC and CAC-x.	

	N2 adsorption						CO2 adsorption			
	S <sub>BET</sub> m²/g	S <sub>micro</sub> m²/g	V <sub>total</sub> ml/g	V <sub>micro</sub> ml/g	V <sub>macro-meso</sub> ml/g	D <sub>a</sub>	S' <sub>BET</sub> m²/g	V' <sub>micro</sub> ml/g	V' <sub>total</sub> = V' <sub>micro</sub> +V <sub>macro-meso</sub>	V'micro/ V'total
CAC	605.18	265.85	0.50	0.13	0.37	3.28	537.30	0.151	0.521	0.290
CAC-1	510.65	396.12	0.69	0.22	0.47	5.38	670.92	0.193	0.663	0.291
CAC-4	381.24	270.81	0.49	0.14	0.35	5.11	647.24	0.187	0.537	0.348
CAC-8	335.02	228.87	0.39	0.12	0.27	4.62	502.45	0.138	0.408	0.338
CAC-12	66.84	42.97	0.09	0.02	0.07	5.64	326.48	0.086	0.156	0.551
CAC-24	33.48	13.45	0.06	0.01	0.05	7.19	314.39	0.083	0.133	0.624



Figure S19 Fractal dimensions of CAC and CAC-*x*.



**Figure S20** Cyclic voltammetry curves at various scan rates of **a** CAC, **b** CAC-1, **c** CAC-4, **d** CAC-8, **e** CAC-12 and **f** CAC-24 in a three-electrode system.



Figure S21 Galvanostatic charge/discharge (GC) at various current densities of a CAC,b CAC-1, c CAC-4, d CAC-8, e CAC-12 and f CAC-24 in a three-electrode system.



**Figure S22** Initial two galvanostatic charge/discharge curves at various current densities of CAC-24 in a three-electrode system with Initial Coulombic Efficiency of **a** 93.28% at 0.5 A g<sup>-1</sup>; **b** 95.13% at 1 A g<sup>-1</sup>; **c** 97.48% at 2 A g<sup>-1</sup>; **d** 99.44% at 5 A g<sup>-1</sup>; **e** 100% at 10 A g<sup>-1</sup>; **f** 100% at 20 A g<sup>-1</sup>.



Figure S23 Gravimetric capacitances of CAC-x calculated from CV curves.

The specific gravimetric capacitances of CAC-x at various scan rates calculated based on CV curve integral were shown in **Figure S23**, showing that the specific gravimetric

capacitances gradually increase with the extension of ball milling time. Particularly, the specific gravimetric capacitance is calculated to be 219 F  $g^{-1}$  at 10 mV s<sup>-1</sup>, which is nearly 2.3 times that of CAC (95 F  $g^{-1}$ ) calculated based on CV curves.

	CAC	CAC-1	CAC-4	CAC-8	CAC-12	CAC-24
ρм	1.000	0.840	1.010	1.124	1.695	1.786
$ ho_{\rm E}$	0.637	0.749	1.006	1.062	1.158	1.158

Table S5 Material densities and electrode densities of CAC and CAC-x.



**Figure S24** Volumetric capacitances of CAC-*x* calculated from CV curves based on material skeleton densities.



**Figure S25** Volumetric capacitances of CAC-*x* based on electrode densities calculated from **a** GC curves and **b** CV curves.

Electrode material	Specific surface area (S <sub>BET</sub> )	Pore volume (V <sub>total</sub> )	Gravimetric specific capacitance $(C_{wt})$	Volumetric specific capacitance ( <i>C</i> <sub>v</sub> )	Reference
SGC-2	2927 m <sup>2</sup> g $^{-1}$	$1.78 \text{ cm}^3 \text{g}^{-1}$	$481 \text{ F g}^{-1}$ @ 0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>	$212 \text{ F cm}^{-3}$ @ 0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>	[1]
NPCG	$410.4\ m^2\ g^{-1}$	$0.56 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1}$	$305 \text{ F g}^{-1}$ @ 2 mV s <sup>-1</sup>	287 F cm <sup>-3</sup> @ 2 mV s <sup>-1</sup>	[2]
SBC-600	$580 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$	$0.41 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1}$	425 F $g^{-1}$ @ 0.5 A $g^{-1}$	468 F cm <sup>-3</sup> @ 0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>	[3]
N-AC/Gr1	$1412.9 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$	$0.68 \text{ cm}^3 \text{g}^{-1}$	379 F $g^{-1}$ @ 0.05 A $g^{-1}$	258 F cm <sup>-3</sup> @ 0.05 A g <sup>-1</sup>	[4]
MAC/Gr	915 $m^2 g^{-1}$	$0.43 \text{ cm}^3 \text{g}^{-1}$	339 F g <sup>-1</sup> @ 0.05 A g <sup>-1</sup>	365 F cm <sup>-3</sup> @ 0.05 A g <sup>-1</sup>	[5]
GPC-600	2045m <sup>2</sup> /g	$0.99 \text{ cm}^3 \text{g}^{-1}$	353 F g <sup>-1</sup> @ 1 A/g	237 F cm <sup>-3</sup> @ 1 A/g	[6]
BNOC- BU-W	778.02 $m^2 g^{-1}$	$0.34 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1}$	238 F $g^{-1}$ @ 0.5 A $g^{-1}$	309 F cm <sup>-3</sup> ( $\hat{a}$ , 0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>	[7]

Table S6 Comparison of pore parameters and capacitance properties in the literature.

BPNOCN F-45	$379.02 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$	$0.34 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1}$	332 F g <sup>-1</sup> @ 1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	395 F cm <sup>-3</sup> @ 1 A g <sup>-1</sup>	[8]
POGH-30	$249 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$	$0.56 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1}$	257 F g <sup>-1</sup> @ 0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>	241 F cm <sup>-3</sup> @ 0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>	[9]
ACMF-F	$800 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$	$0.50 \ cm^3 \ g^{-1}$	384 F g <sup>-1</sup> @ 1.0 A g <sup>-1</sup>	384 F cm <sup>-3</sup> @ 1.0 A g <sup>-1</sup>	[10]
CAC	$33 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$	$0.06 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1}$	337 F g <sup>-1</sup> @ 0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>	$602 \text{ F cm}^{-3}$ @ 0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>	This work



Figure S26 B values calculated from CV profiles of a CAC, b CAC-1, c CAC-4, d CAC-8, e CAC-12 and f CAC-24.



Figure S27 The corresponding b values of CAC and CAC-*x*.



**Figure S28** Ratios of capacitive-controlled contributions and diffusion-controlled contributions of CAC-*x* and CAC-*x* electrodes.



**Figure S29 Electrochemical performances of CAC-H, CAC-4H and CAC-24H electrodes in a three-electrode system using 6M KOH as electrolyte**. **a** CV curves at 50 mV s<sup>-1</sup> and **b** at 100 mV s<sup>-1</sup> of CAC-H, CAC-4H and CAC-24H. **c** GC curves at 0.5 A g<sup>-1</sup> and **d** at 1 A g<sup>-1</sup> of CAC-H, CAC-4H and CAC-24H. **e** Gravimetric capacitances of CAC-H, CAC-4H and CAC-24H calculated from CV curves. **f** Volumetric capacitances of CAC-H, CAC-4H and CAC-24H based on electrode densities.



Figure S30 Cyclic voltammetry curves at various scan rates of a CAC, b CAC-1, c CAC-4, d CAC-8, e CAC-12 and f CAC-24 in aqueous symmetric supercapacitors.



Figure S31 Galvanostatic charge/discharge (GC) at various current densities of a CAC,b CAC-1, c CAC-4, d CAC-8, e CAC-12 and f CAC-24 in aqueous symmetric supercapacitors.



**Figure S32** Initial two galvanostatic charge/discharge curves at various current densities of CAC-24 based symmetric supercapacitors with Initial Coulombic Efficiency of **a** 97.84% at 0.2 A g<sup>-1</sup>; **b** 98.41% at 0.5 A g<sup>-1</sup>; **c** 99.17% at 1 A g<sup>-1</sup>; **d** 99.33% at 2 A g<sup>-1</sup>; **e** 100% at 5 A g<sup>-1</sup>; **f** 100% at 10 A g<sup>-1</sup>.



Figure S33. Relations of the capacitance, energy density, and power density in terms of **a** mass and **b** volume.

Based on the calculation method, relations of the capacitance, energy density, and power density in terms of mass and volume are shown in **Figure S33**. Due to its highest capacitance and density, the CAC-24-based symmetrical capacitor possesses the highest gravimetric energy density and volumetric energy density.



Figure S34 The comparison of Nyquist plots of CAC-x before CV and GC tests illustrated with corresponding equivalent circuits.



**Figure S35** The comparison of Nyquist plots of CAC and CAC-24 before/after CV and GC tests illustrated with corresponding equivalent circuits.

Electrode material	Electrolyte	Volumetric energy density	Cycling stability	Reference
POGH-30	6M KOH (0-1V)	8.3 Wh $L^{-1}$ @116.9 W $L^{-1}$	100% after 10000 cycles @10 A g <sup>-1</sup>	[9]
SGC-2	1 M Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (0-1.8V)	11.32 Wh L <sup>-1</sup> @45 W L <sup>-1</sup>		[1]
SBC-600	6M KOH (0-1V)	13.2 Wh $L^{-1}$ @350 W $L^{-1}$		[3]
N-AC/Gr1	6M KOH (0-1V)	11.1 Wh $L^{-1}$ @10.6 W $L^{-1}$	93% after 10000 cycles @2 A g <sup>-1</sup>	[4]
MAC/Gr	6M KOH (0-1V)	12.7 Wh $L^{-1}$ @13.4 W $L^{-1}$	95% after 2000 cycles @5 A g <sup>-1</sup>	[5]

**Table S7** Comparison of the properties of CAC-24 based symmetric supercapacitors

 with other symmetric supercapacitors based on carbon materials in the literatures.





**Figure S36 Electrochemical performances of symmetric supercapacitors using EMIMBF**<sub>4</sub> **ion liquid as electrolyte. a** CV curves at various scan rates of CAC-4 symmetric supercapacitors in EMIMBF<sub>4</sub> **ionic liquid electrolyte. b** GC curves at various

current densities of CAC-4 symmetric supercapacitors. **c** Gravimetric energy densities of CAC-x symmetric supercapacitors. **d** Volumetric energy densities of CAC-x symmetric supercapacitors.



Figure S37 Cyclic voltammetry curves at various scan rates of a CAC, b CAC-1, c CAC-4, d CAC-8, e CAC-12 and f CAC-24 in ion liquid symmetric supercapacitors.



Figure S38 Galvanostatic charge/discharge (GC) at various current densities of a CAC, b CAC-1, c CAC-4, d CAC-8, e CAC-12 and f CAC-24 in ion liquid symmetric supercapacitors.

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