## **Supporting Information**

Salt-assisted in-situ formation of N-doped porous carbons for boosting  $k^+$  storage capacity and cycling stability

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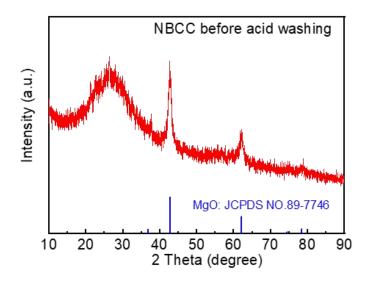


Fig. S1 XRD patterns of the NBCC sample before washing with HCl.

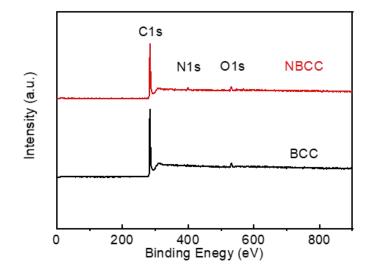


Fig. S2 (a) XPS survey spectra of BCC and NBCC.

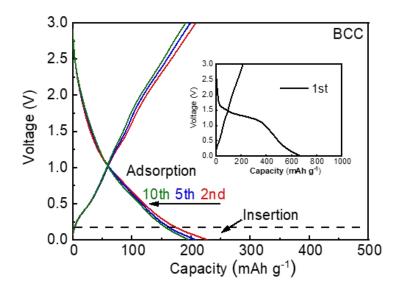


Fig. S3 Galvanostatic discharge-charge profiles of BCC at  $0.05 \text{ A g}^{-1}$ .

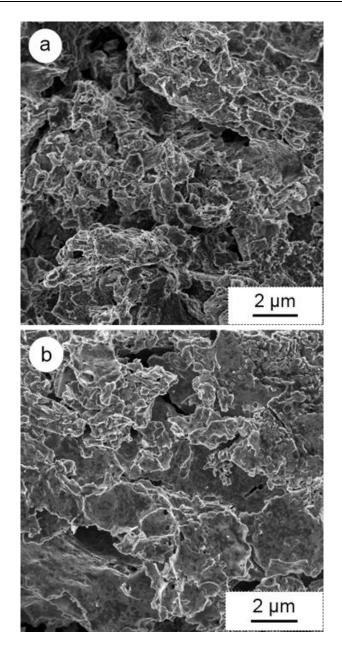
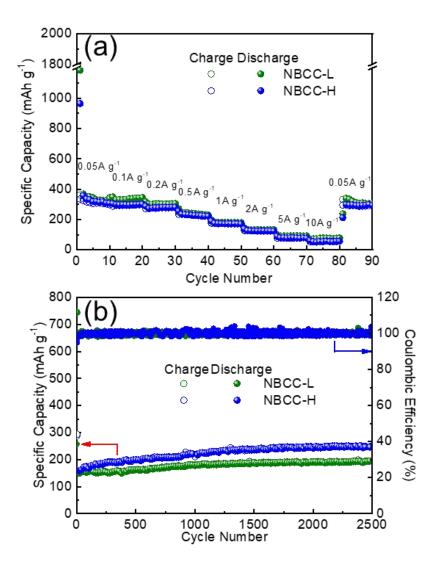


Fig. S4 The SEM images of NBCC (a) after 100 cycles, and (b) after 1000 cycles.



**Fig. S5** (a) Rate capability, and (b) Long cycling performance at 2.0 A g<sup>-1</sup> of NBCC-L and NBCC-H electrodes.

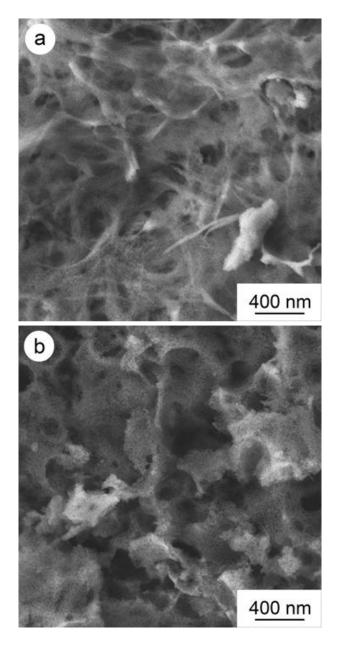


Fig. S6 SEM images of (a) NBCC-L and (b) NBCC-H.

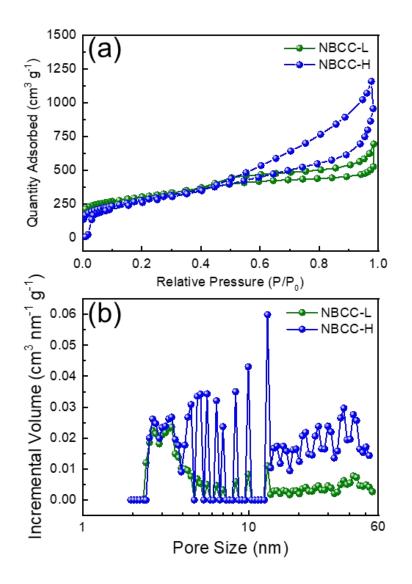


Fig. S7 (a) Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isothermal curves, and (b) DFT pore size distribution of NBCC-L and NBCC-H.

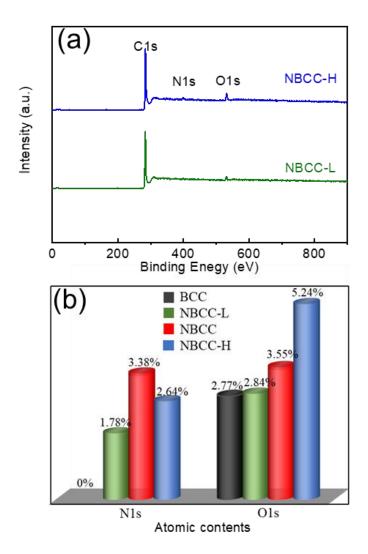


Fig. S8 (a) XPS survey spectra of NBCC-L and NBCC-H. (b) atomic contents of N/O elements of BCC, NBCC, NBCC-L and NBCC-H.

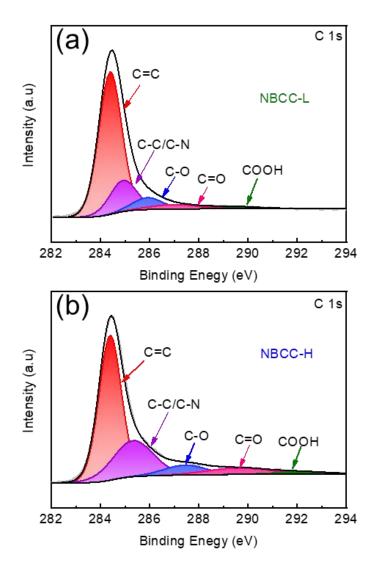


Fig. S9 C 1s spectra of (a) NBCC-L and (b) NBCC-H.

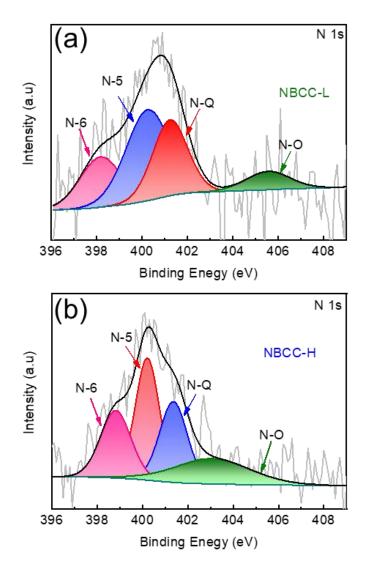


Fig. S10 N 1s spectra of (a) NBCC-L and (b) NBCC-H.

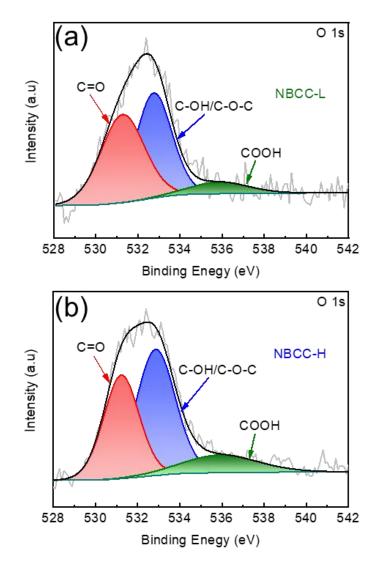


Fig. S11 O 1s spectra of (a) NBCC-L and (b) NBCC-H.

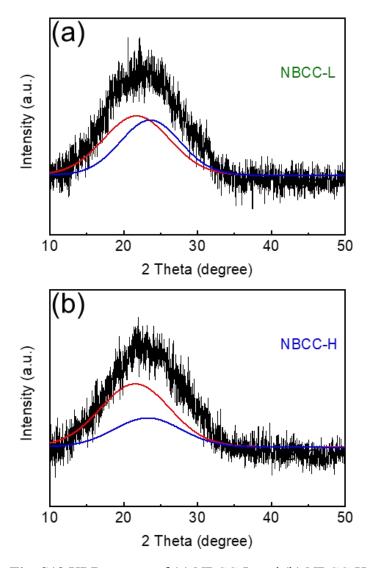


Fig. S12 XRD pattern of (a) NBCC-L and (b) NBCC-H.

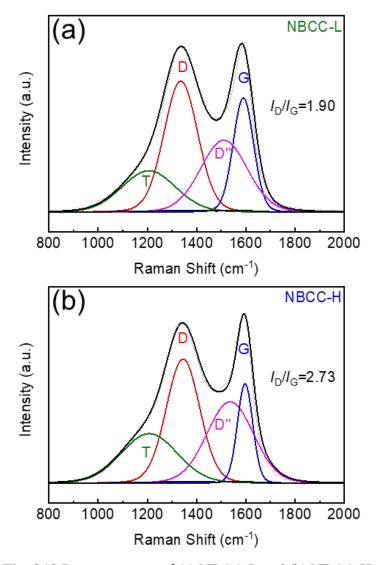


Fig. S13 Raman spectra of (a) NBCC-L and (b) NBCC-H.

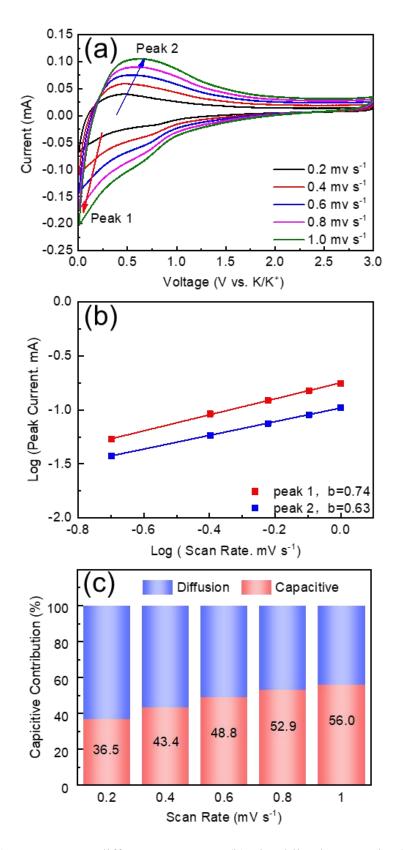
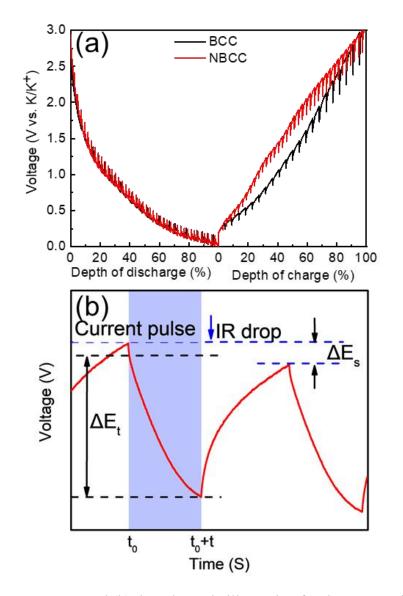


Fig. S14 (a) CV curves at different scan rates, (b) Fitted line between log(i) and log(v), (c) Normalized capacitive contribution ratio of BCC at different scan rates.



**Fig. S15** (a) GITT curves and (b) the schematic illustration for the GITT calculation method of BCC and NBCC.

The GITT profiles to investigate the K-ion diffusion coefficient ( $D_k$ ) during cycling via discharging/charging at 0.03 A g<sup>-1</sup> for 30 min followed by an open-circuit relaxation for 180 min. The  $D_k$  value can be calculated according to the Fick's second law and the equation (S1):

$$D_{Na} = \frac{4}{\pi\tau} \left(\frac{m_B V_M}{M_b S}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\Delta E_s}{\Delta E_t}\right)^2 \tag{S1}$$

where  $\tau$  is the pulse time (s),  $m_B$  is the mass of the active materials,  $M_b$  is the molar mass of the active material,  $V_M$  represents the molar volume of the active material, S is the geometric area of the electrode, and  $\Delta E_s$  and  $\Delta E_t$  are defined as shown in Figure S12b.

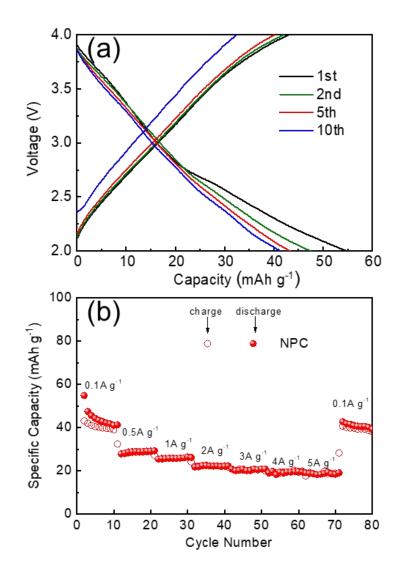


Fig. S16 Electrochemical performance of NPC as PIBs cathode in half cells. (a) Galvonastatic discharge-charge profiles of NPC at 0.1 A g<sup>-1</sup>; (b) Rate capability of NPC (The preparation process of NPC sample can be found from ref. 1).<sup>[1]</sup>

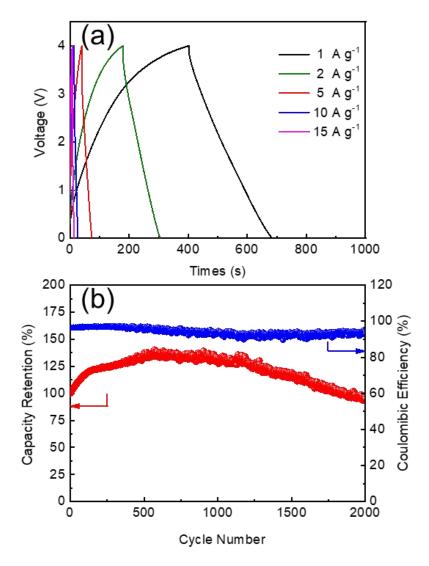


Fig. S17 (a) Representative GCD profiles at different current densities, and (b) cycling stability at 25 A  $g^{-1}$  of NBCC//NPC PIHC.

	Highly disordered			Pseudo-graphitic		
	2θ (°)	d <sub>002</sub> (nm)	Area (%)	2θ (°)	d <sub>002</sub> (nm)	Area (%)
BCC	21.84	0.406	37.01	23.65	0.376	62.99
NBCC-L	21.74	0.408	54.24	23.60	0.377	46.59
NBCC	21.60	0.410	64.97	23.54	0.378	35.03
NBCC-H	21.55	0.412	69.03	23.42	0.379	30.97

**Table S1**. Physical parameters of BCC, NBCC, NBCC-L and NBCC-H samples from XRD patterns.

Binding	Carbon	Concentration (%)			
Energy (eV)	Bonding	BCC	NBBC-L	NBBC	NBBC-H
284.4	C=C	76.5	68.15	63.44	57.7
285.9	C-C/C-N	10.69	17.61	24.33	25.93
286.4	С-О	6.75	7.31	7.43	7.34
288.1	С=О	2.28	4.45	2.75	7.04
289.6	СООН	3.79	2.48	2.06	1.99

 Table S2. Carbon bonding analysis of BCC, NBCC, NBCC-L, NBCC-H.

Anode Materials	Rate capability		
	499 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.05 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	405 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.1 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	347 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	278 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
NBCC (This work)	231 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 1.0 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	194 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 2.0 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	134 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 5.0 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	87 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 10.0 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	325mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.1 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	270 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	241 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
S co-doped soft carbon <sup>[2]</sup>	209 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 1.0 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	160 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 2.0 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	115 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 5.0 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	209 mAh g-1 at 0.1 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	159 mAh g-1 at 0.2A g <sup>-1</sup>		
Activated carbon <sup>[3]</sup>	114 mAh g-1 at 0.4 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	72 mAh g-1 at 0.8 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	30 mAh g-1 at 1.0 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	307 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.05 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	265 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.1 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	246 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
-doped hollow carbon <sup>[4]</sup>	225 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.4 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	213mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.6 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	206 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.8 A g <sup>-1</sup>		
	200 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 1.0 A g <sup>-1</sup>		

**Table S3.** Comparisons of electrochemical performance of NBCC with other carbon anodes for PIBs.

	208 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.05 A g <sup>-1</sup>			
	182 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.1A g <sup>-1</sup>			
N	141 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup>			
Nano-size porous carbon spheres <sup>[5]</sup>	104 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup>			
	81 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 1.0 A g <sup>-1</sup>			
	51 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 2.0 A g <sup>-1</sup>			
	377 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.1 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
	305 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
N/O co-doped carbon hollow	249 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
multihole bowls <sup>[6]</sup>	216 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 1.0 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
	182 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 2.0 A g <sup>-1</sup>			
	367 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.05 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
	324 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at.0.1 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
	248 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
	210 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.5A g <sup>-1</sup>			
honeycomb-like N-doped carbon <sup>[7]</sup>	162 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 1.0A g <sup>-1</sup>			
	123 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 2.0A g <sup>-1</sup>			
	103 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 5.0A g <sup>-1</sup>			
	91 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 10.0A g <sup>-1</sup>			
	175 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.05 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
	150 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.1 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
3D porous carbon <sup>[8]</sup>	118 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
	93 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.4 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
	70 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.8 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
	293 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.05 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
	266 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.1 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
N-doped soft carbon <sup>[9]</sup>	246 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.2 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
	216 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 0.5 A g <sup>-1</sup> ,			
	194 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> at 1.0 A g <sup>-1</sup> .			

## References

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