

# Nitrogen-phosphorous co-doped porous carbon from cross-linked polymers for supercapacitor applications

Daba T. Bakhoun <sup>a</sup>, Ndeye F. Sylla <sup>a</sup>, Samba Sarr <sup>a</sup>, Vusani M. Maphiri <sup>a</sup>, Ndeye M. Ndiaye <sup>b</sup>,  
Delvina J. Tarimo<sup>a</sup>, Astou Seck <sup>c</sup>, Balla D. Ngom <sup>b</sup>, Mohamed Chaker <sup>c</sup> and Ncholu  
Manyala <sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Physics, University of Pretoria, Pretoria 0028, South Africa

<sup>b</sup> Laboratoire de Photonique Quantique, d'Énergie et de Nano-Fabrication, Faculté des Sciences et Techniques  
Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar (UCAD) B.P. 5005 Dakar-Fann Dakar, Sénégal

<sup>c</sup> Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique Centre—Énergie Matériaux Télécommunications 1650,  
Boulevard Lionel Boulet, Varennes, QC J3X 1S2, Canada

\*Corresponding author's email: [ncholu.manyala@up.ac.za](mailto:ncholu.manyala@up.ac.za), Tel.: + (27)12 420 3549, Fax: + (27)12 420 2516

## Supporting information

The specific capacitance for the cell  $C_S$  (F g<sup>-1</sup>) is given by the discharge part of the GCD curves using Eq. (S1) [1].

$$C_S = \frac{I\Delta t}{m\Delta V} \quad (\text{S1})$$

Where  $I$  (in A) is the applied current,  $\Delta t$  (in seconds) is the discharging time from the GCD curves,  $m$  (in g) stands for the total mass of the electrode material, and  $\Delta V$  (in V) is the operating voltage.

The specific energy  $E_d$  (W h kg<sup>-1</sup>) and the specific power  $P_d$  (W kg<sup>-1</sup>) for the fabricated symmetric supercapacitor were determined using:

$$E_d = \frac{C_S(\Delta V)^2}{7.2} \quad (\text{S2})$$

$$P_d = 3600 \frac{E_d}{\Delta t} \quad (\text{S3})$$

**Table. S1.** Ratio of D to G of the of AC-PA/PP, AC-PA/PP/AP-0.25, AC-PA/PP/AP-0.5, AC-PA/PP/AP-0.75 samples.

<b>Samples</b>	<b>I<sub>D</sub>/I<sub>G</sub> ratio</b>
<b>AC-PA-PP</b>	0.83
<b>AC-PA/PP/AP-0.25</b>	0.85
<b>AC-PA/PP/AP-0.5</b>	0.86
<b>AC-PA/PP/AP-0.75</b>	0.84

**Table. S2.** XPS data and atomic percentage of C, O, P, N species.

<b>Samples</b>	<b>Carbon</b>	<b>Oxygen</b>	<b>Phosphorous</b>	<b>Nitrogen</b>
AC-PA/PP	89.34	9.66	0.00	1.00
AC-PA/PP/AP-0.25	89.79	9.23	0.14	0.84
AC-PA/PP/AP-0.5	87.13	10.91	0.71	1.25
AC-PA/PP/AP-0.75	91.25	7.65	0.10	1.00

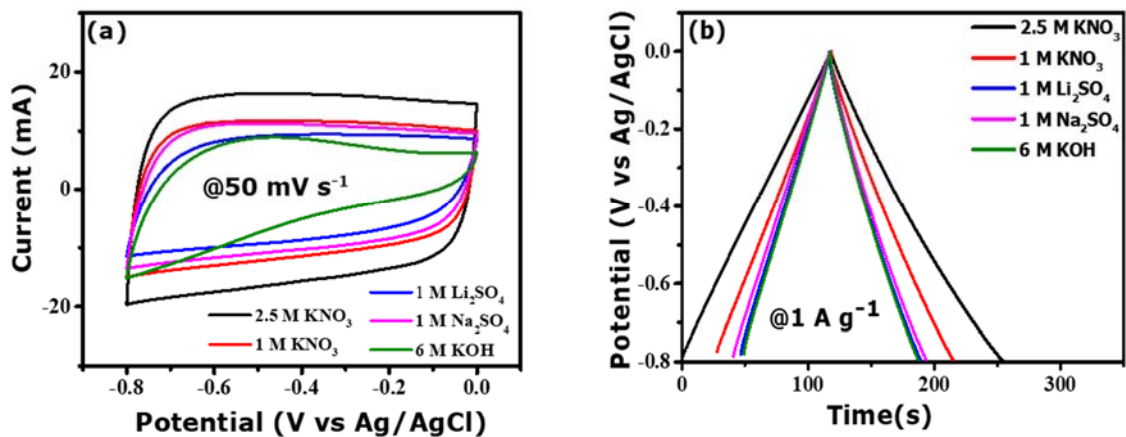


Fig. S1. Optimization of the electrolytes

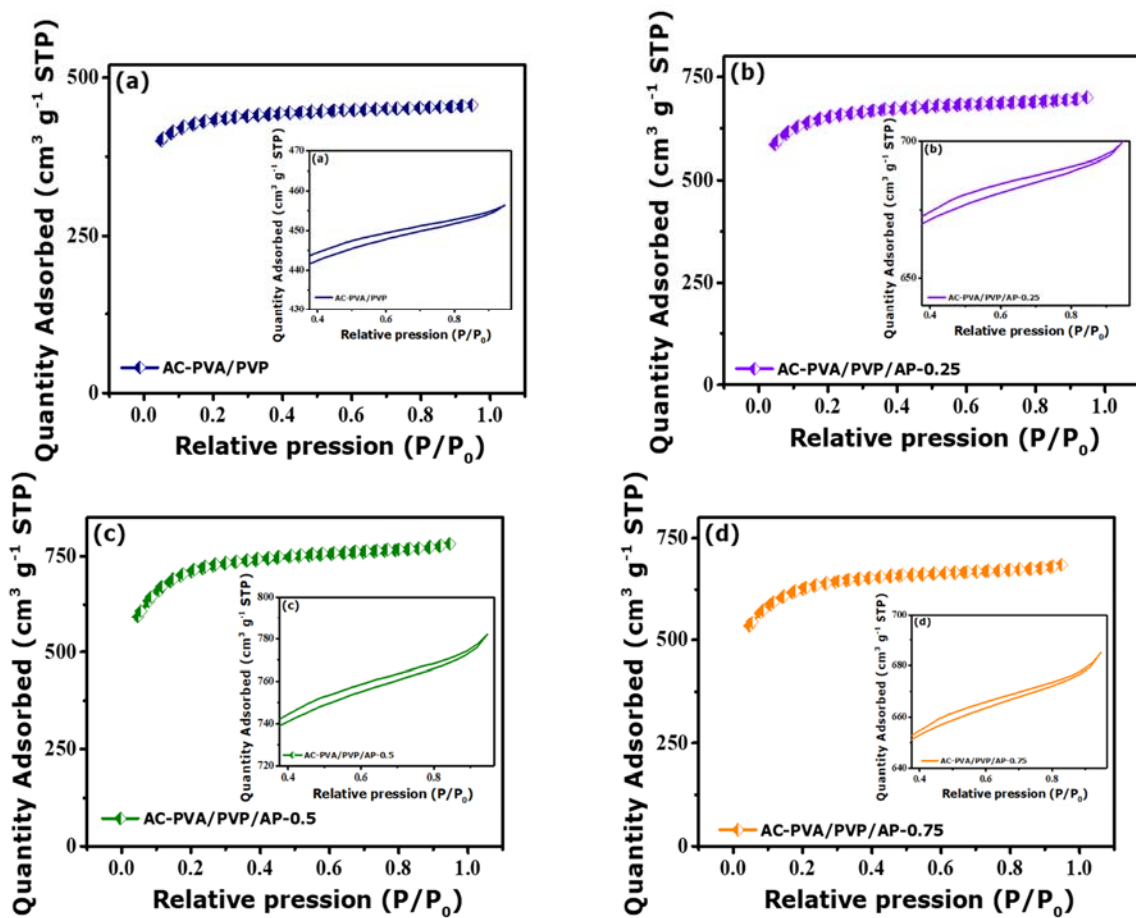
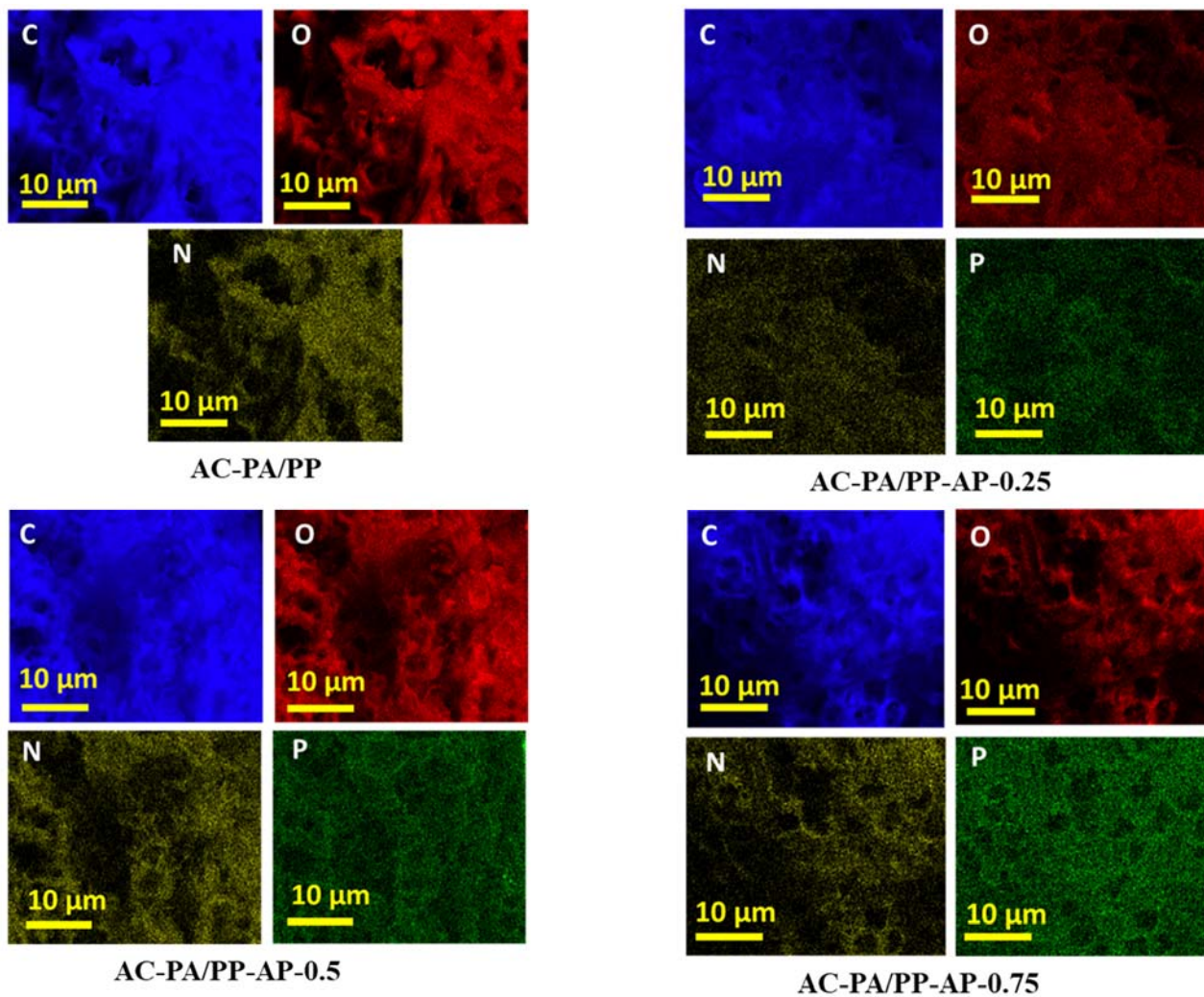
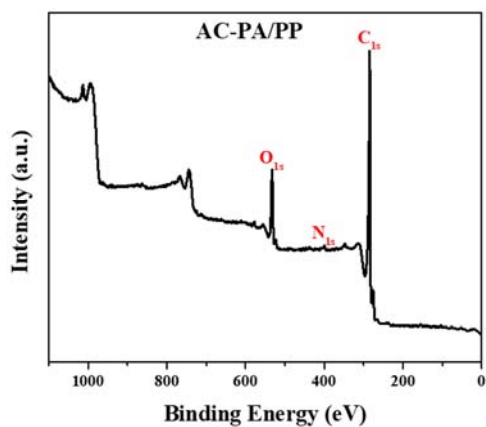


Fig. S2. Plot of the isotherms showing the hysteresis loop

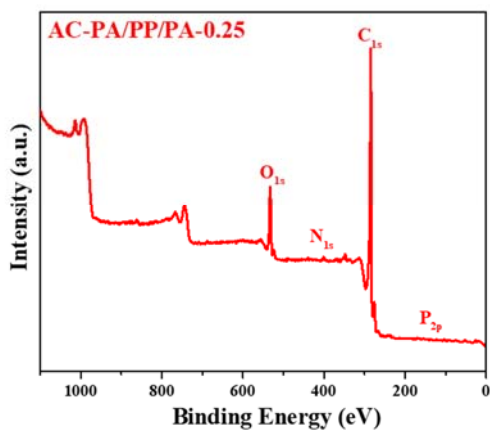


**Fig. S3.** EDS mapping of AC-PA/PVP, AC-PA/PP/AP-0.25, AC-PA/PP/AP-0.5, AC-PA/PP/AP-0.75 samples



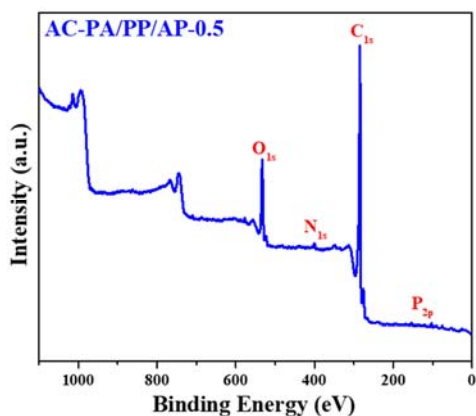
Name	Position (eV)	Raw Area	%At Conc
C 1s	284.62	133976	89.34
O 1s	532.82	47940.4	9.66
N 1s	400.32	2822.49	1.00

**Fig. S4.** XPS survey of AC/PA/PP with the details of the peaks



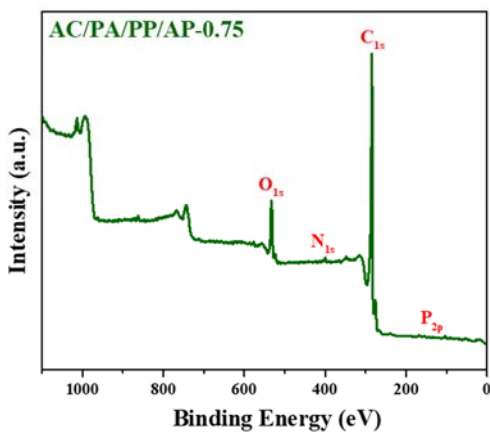
Name	Position (eV)	Raw Area	%At Conc
C 1s	284.62	145334	89.79
O 1s	532.72	49445.8	9.23
P 2p	133.92	173.718	0.14
N 1s	400.22	2564.96	0.84

**Fig. S5.** XPS survey of AC/PA/PP/AP-0.25 with the details of the peaks



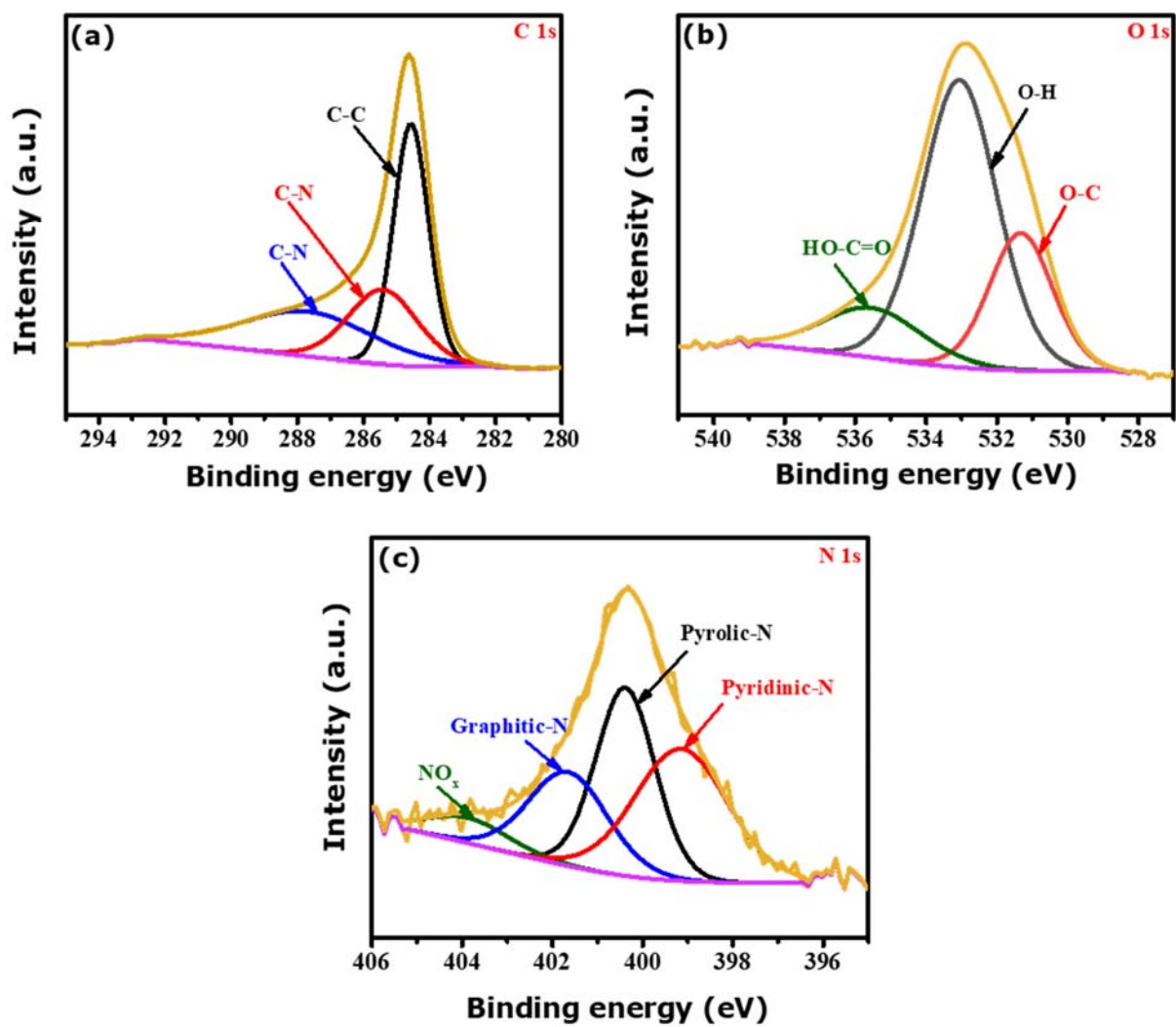
Name	Position (eV)	Raw Area	%At Conc
C 1s	284.61	142598	87.13
O 1s	533.01	59081	10.91
P 2p	134.81	894.648	0.71
N 1s	400.41	3853.83	1.25

**Fig. S6.** XPS survey of AC/PA/PP/AP-0.5 with the details of the peaks



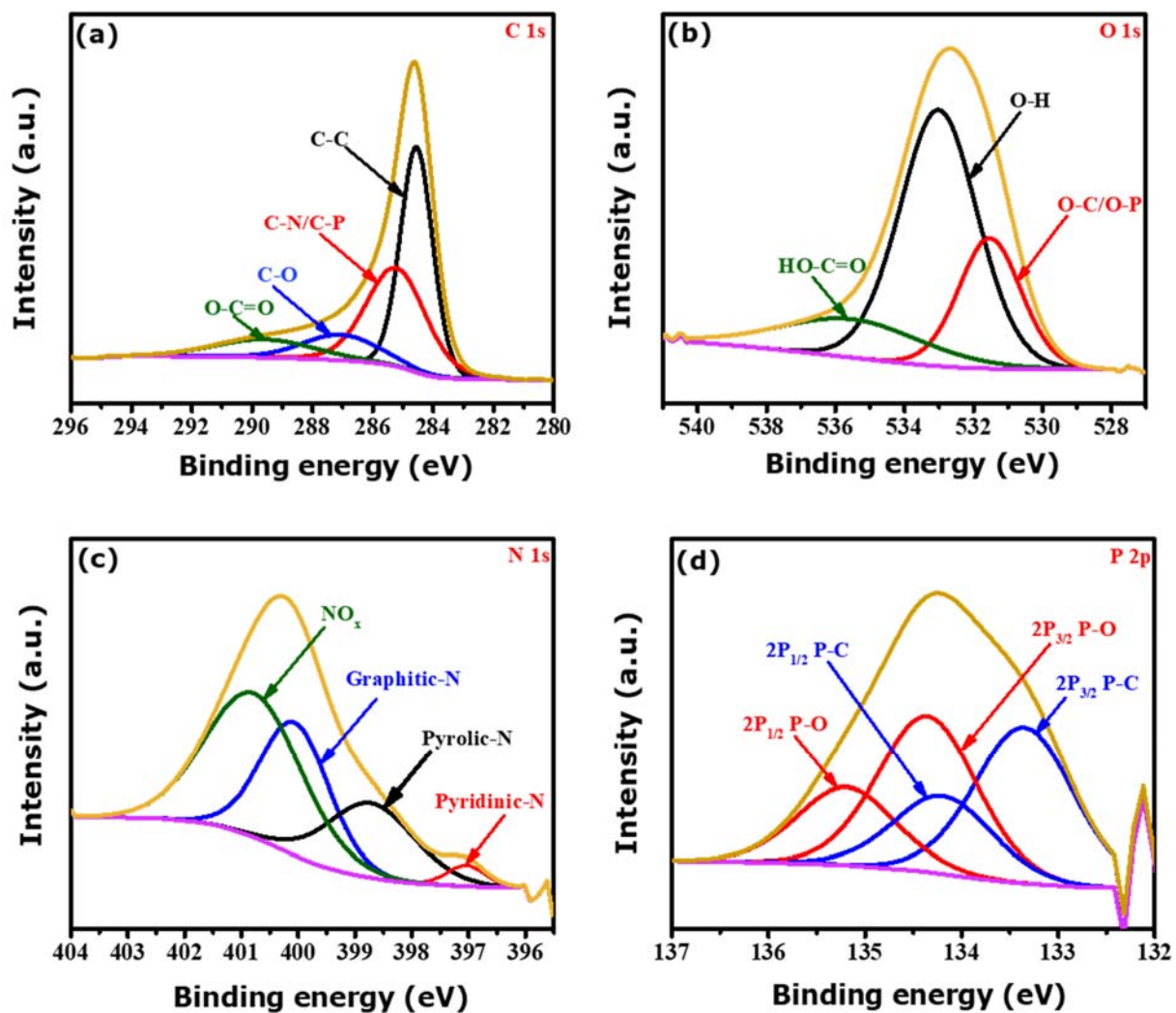
Name	Position (eV)	Raw Area	%At Conc
C 1s	284.61	142598	91.25
O 1s	533.01	59081	7.65
P 2p	134.81	894.648	0.10
N 1s	400.41	3853.83	1.00

**Fig. S7.** XPS survey of AC/PA/PP/AP-0.75 with the details of the peaks



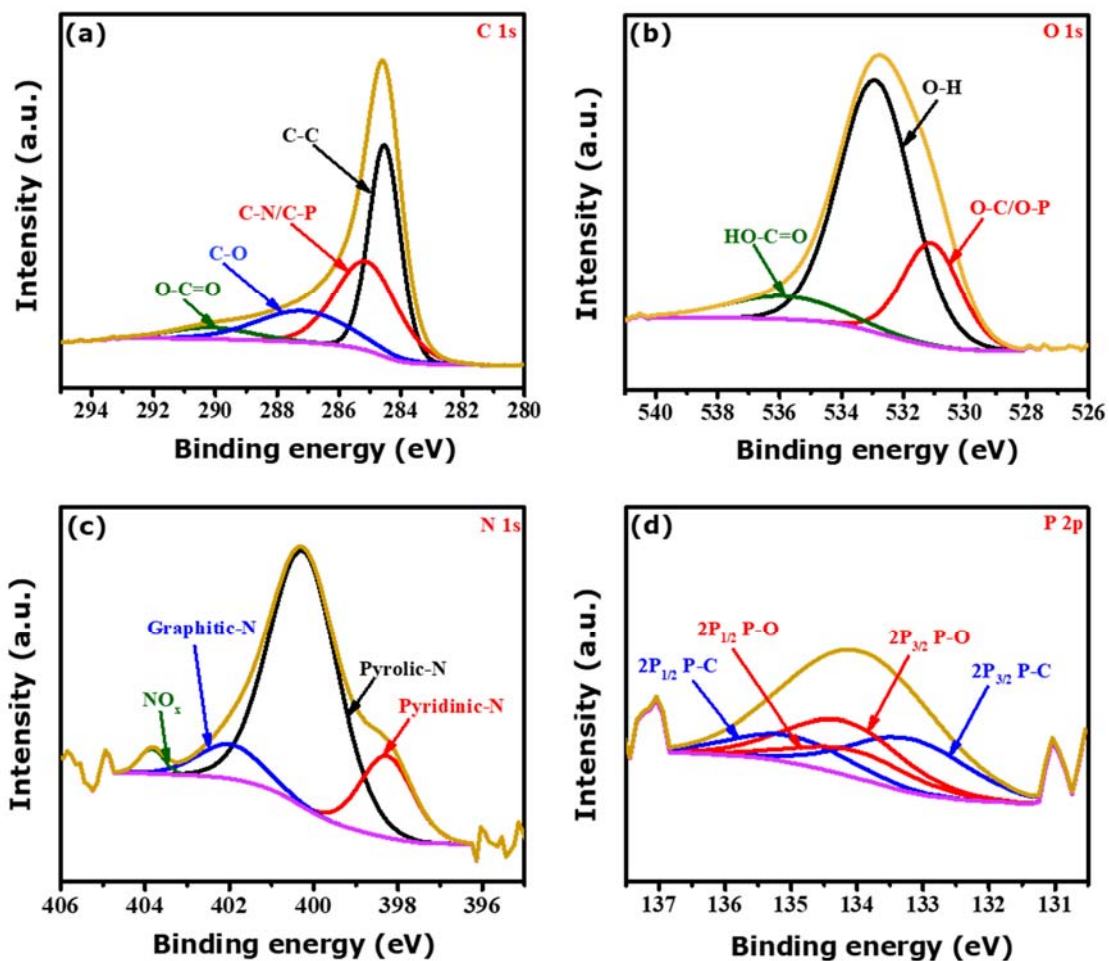
**Fig. S8.** XPS spectra deconvoluted (a) C1s (b) O1s (c) N1s of the as-synthesized AC-PA/PP





**Fig. S9.** XPS spectra deconvoluted (a) C1s (b) O1s (c) N1s (d) P2p of the as-synthesized AC-PA/PP/AP-0.25





**Fig. S10.** XPS spectra deconvoluted (a) C1s (b) O1s (c) N1s (d) P2p of the as-synthesized AC-PA/PP/AP-0.75

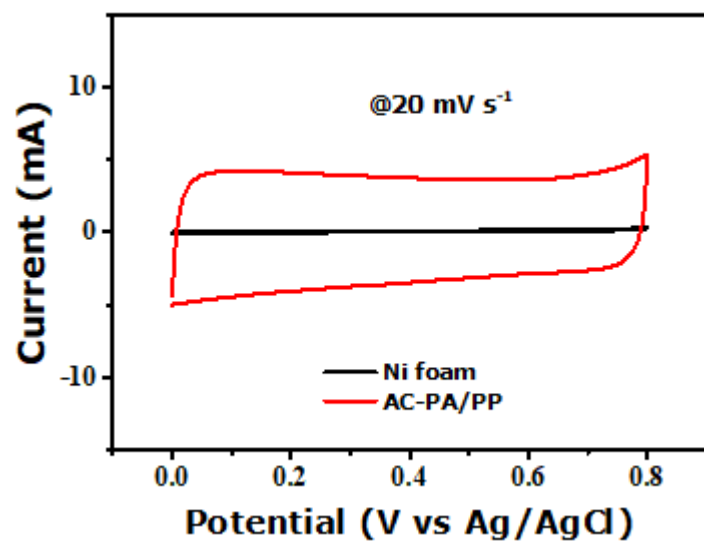
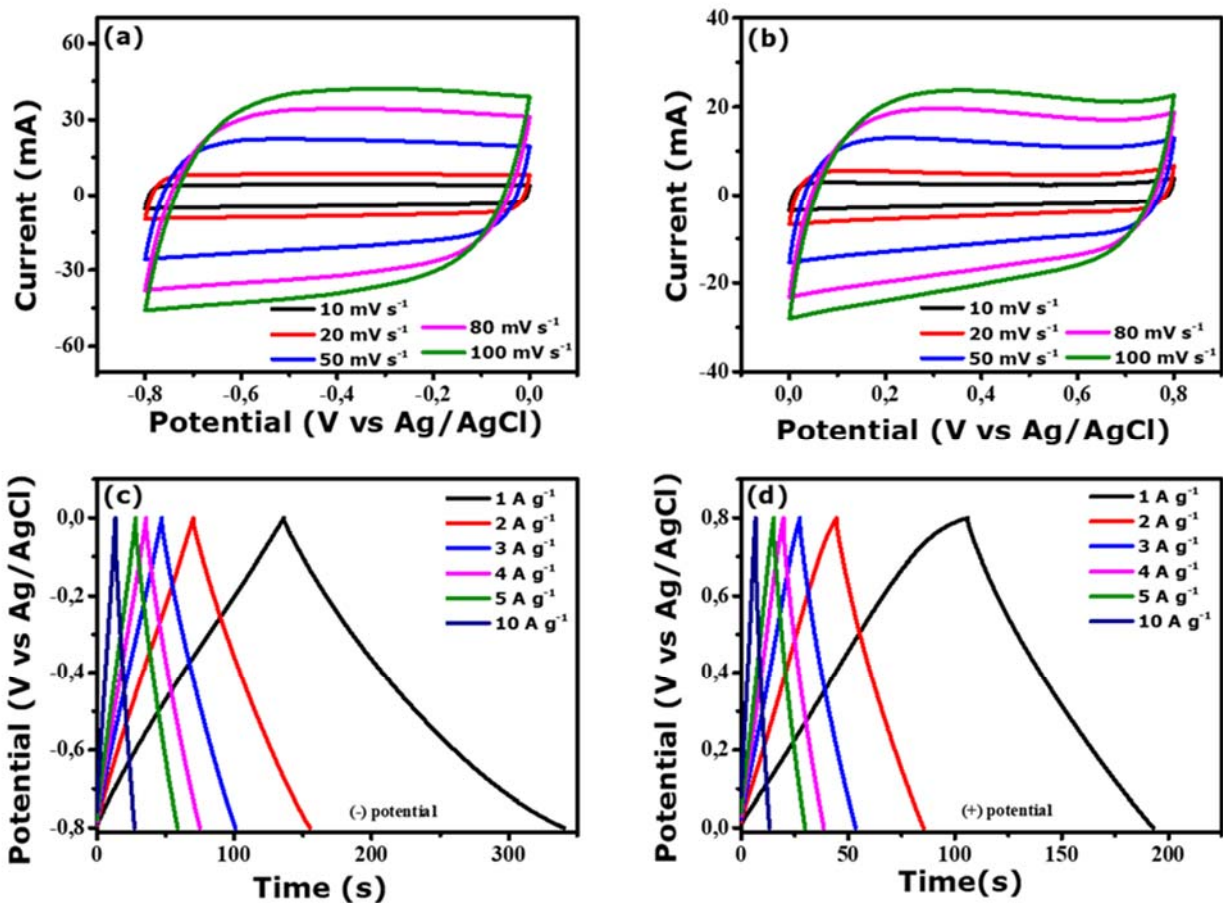
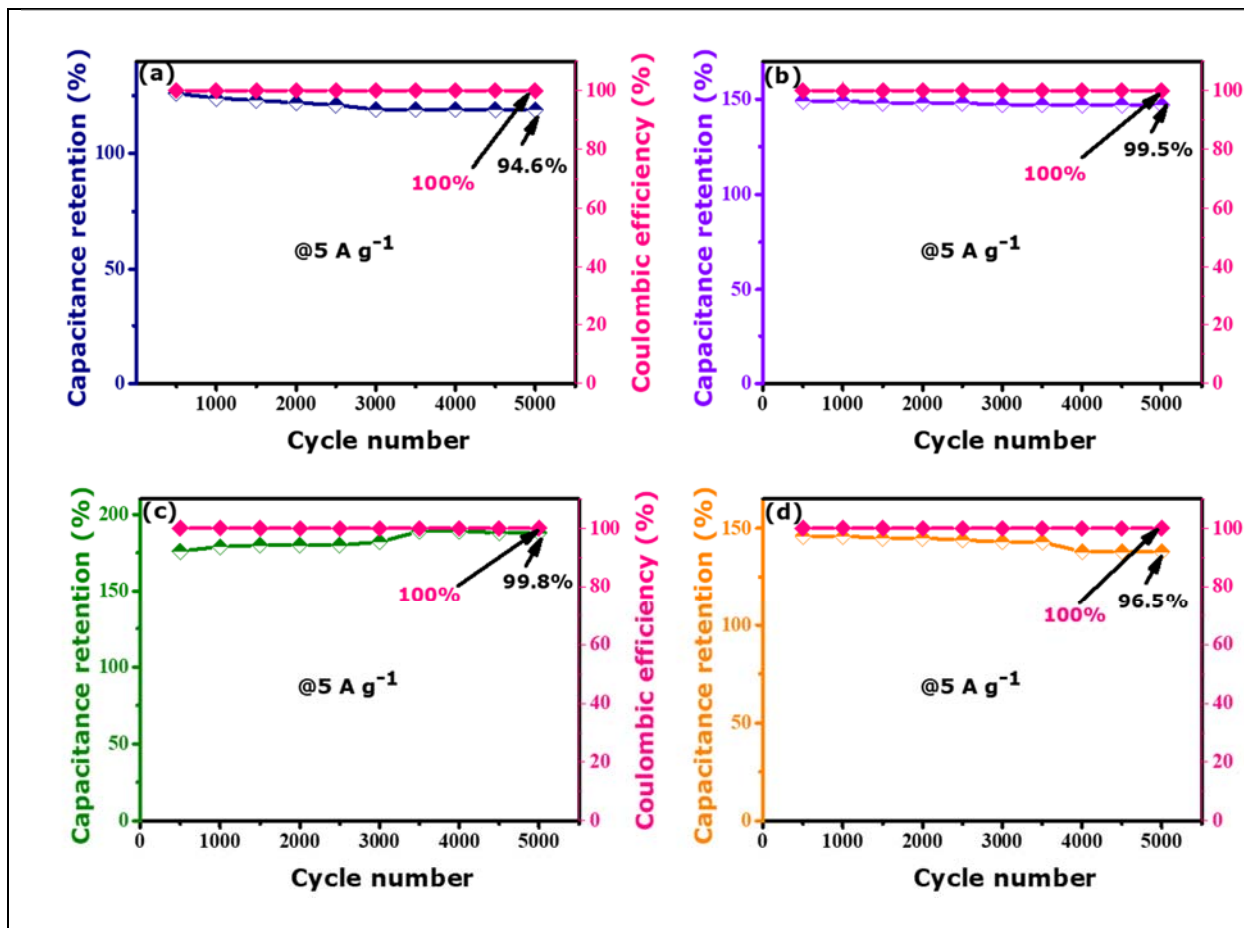


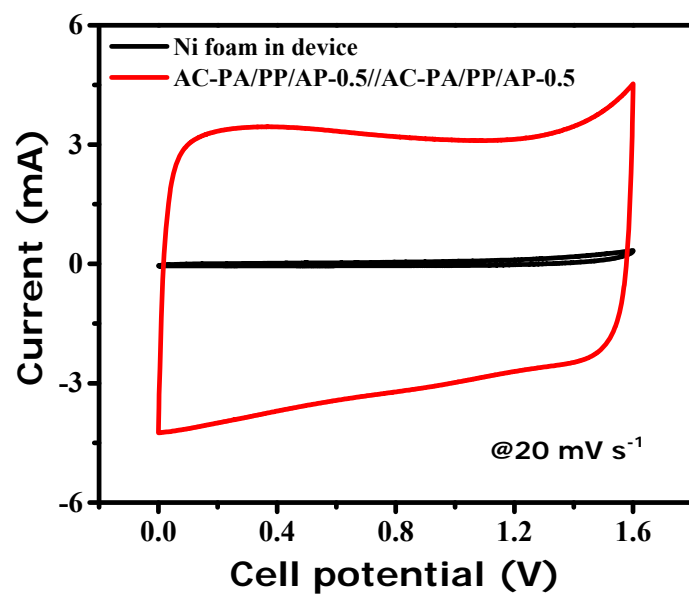
Fig. S11. Comparative CV of Ni foam and AC-PA/PP



**Fig. S12.** (a) and (c) CV and GCD curves, and (b) and (d) CV and GCD curves of AC-PVA/PVP/AP-0.5 at various scan rates and specific currents measured in negative and positive working potential, respectively.



**Fig. S13.** (a) (b) (c) and (d) GCD cycling test analysis for AC-PA/PP, AC-PA/PP/AP-0.25 AC-PA/PP/AP-0.5 and AC-PA/PP/AP-0.75 electrodes, respectively, conducted for over 5000 cycles at 5 A g<sup>-1</sup>.



**Fig. S14.** Comparison between the Ni foam and the optimized sample.

## Reference

- [1] S. Osman, R.A. Senthil, J. Pan, L. Chai, Y. Sun, Y. Wu, Hierarchically activated porous carbon derived from zinc-based fluorine containing metal-organic framework as extremely high specific capacitance and rate performance electrode material for advanced supercapacitors, *J. Colloid Interface Sci.* 591 (2021) 9–19.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcis.2021.01.109>.