

## Supporting Information

# Rational Design of a Gel-polymer-inorganic Separator with Uniform Lithium-ion Deposition for Highly Stable Lithium-Sulfur Batteries

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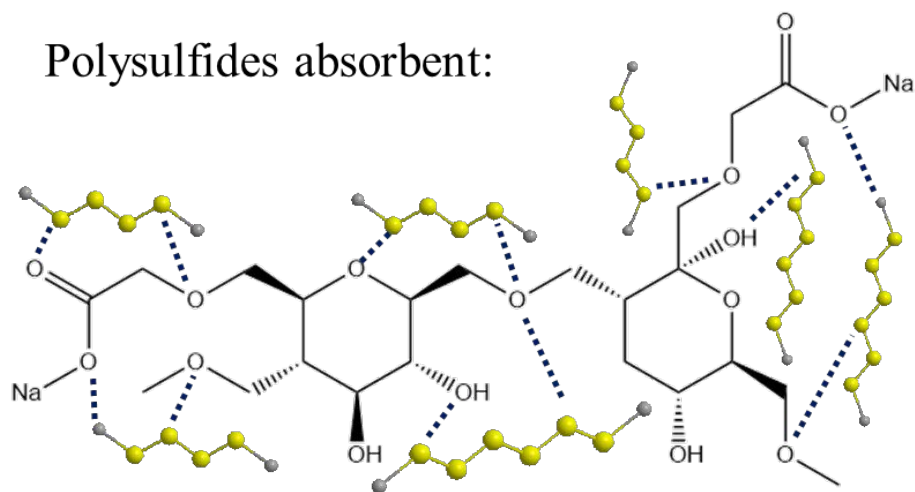
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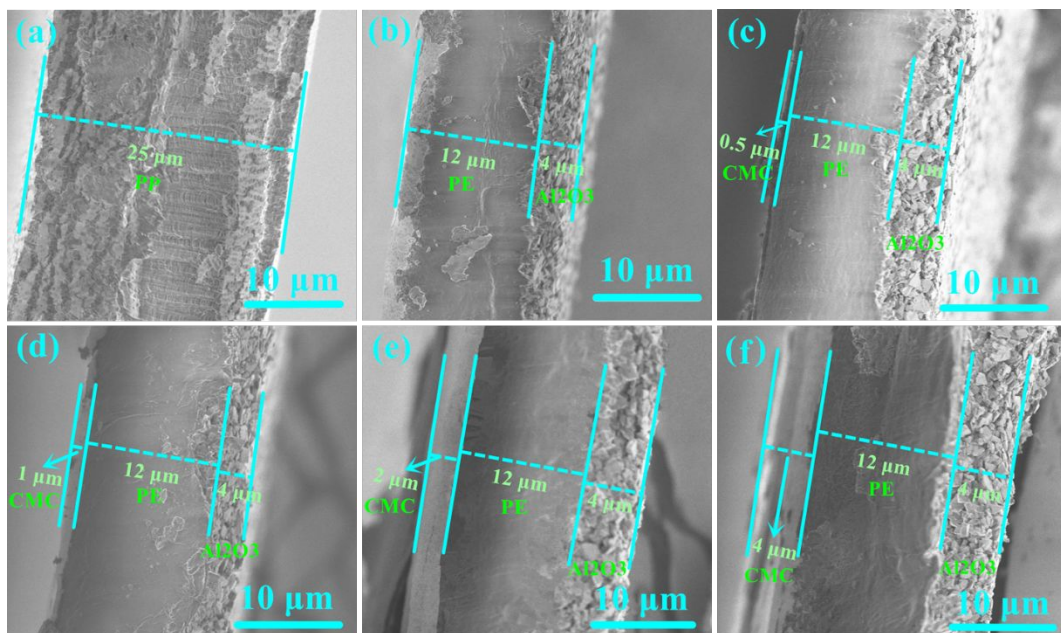
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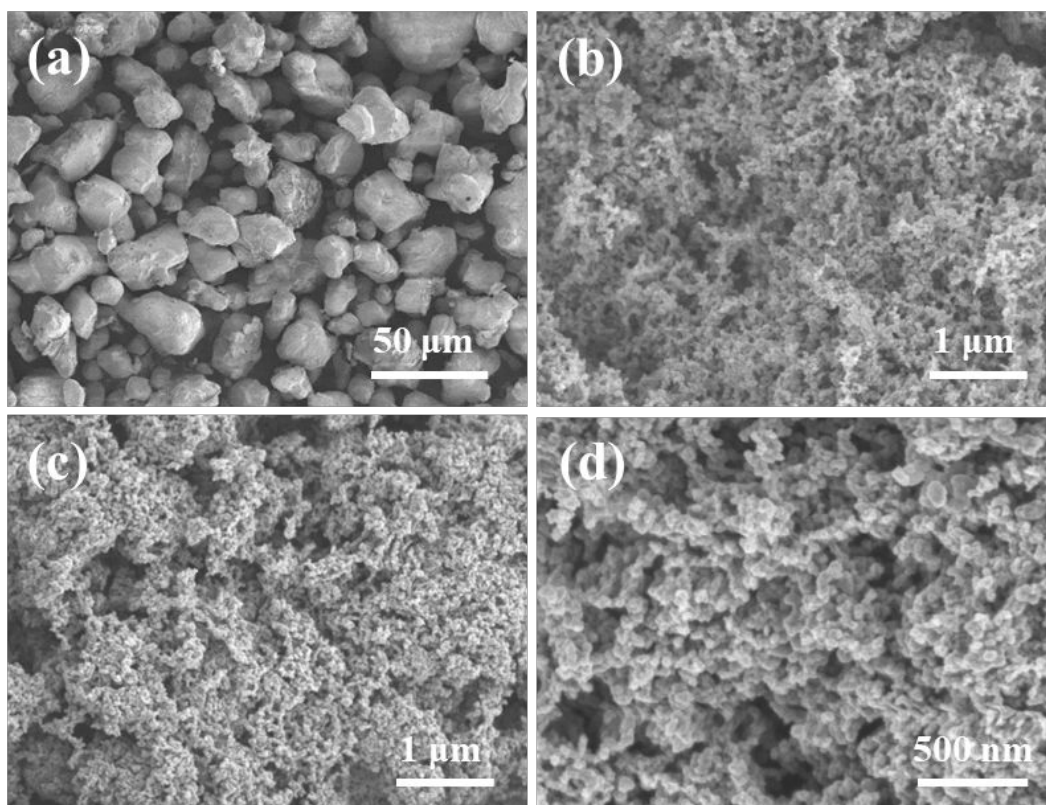
Polysulfides absorbent:



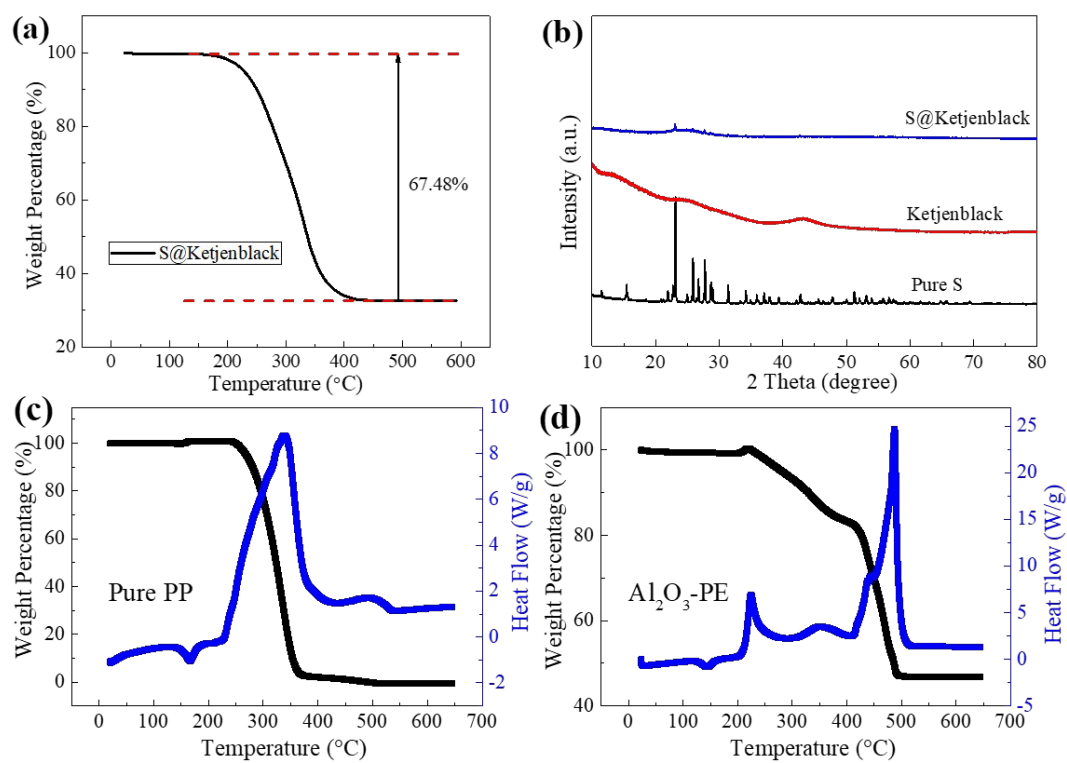
**Fig. S1.** Schematic illustration of interaction mechanism between polysulfides and CMC.



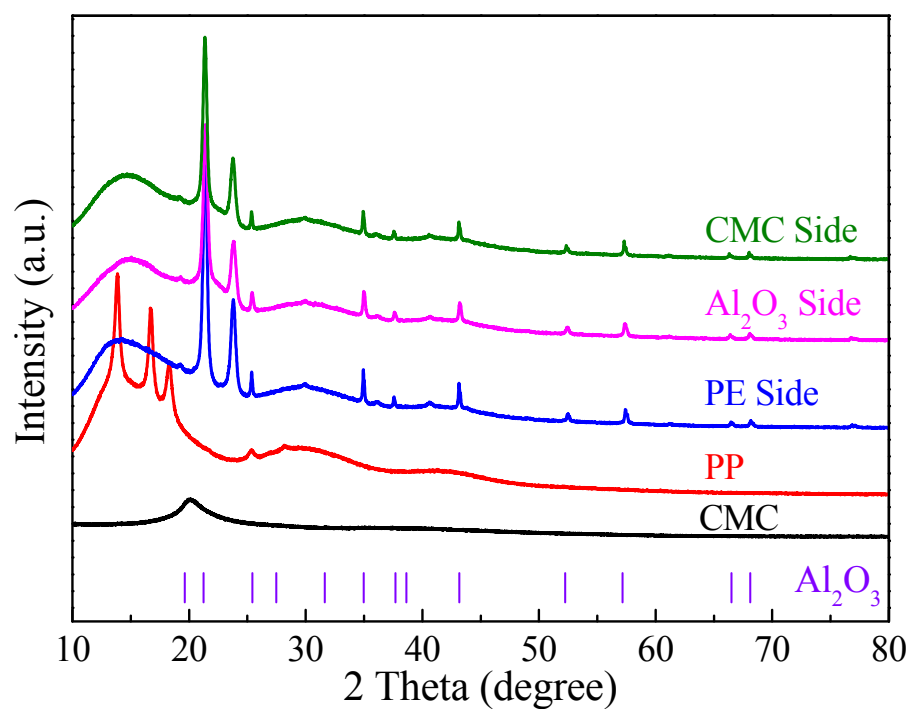
**Fig. S2.** The cross-section of PP separator (a), Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-PE separator (b) and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-PE-CMC separators with different thickness of CMC coating layer (c-f).



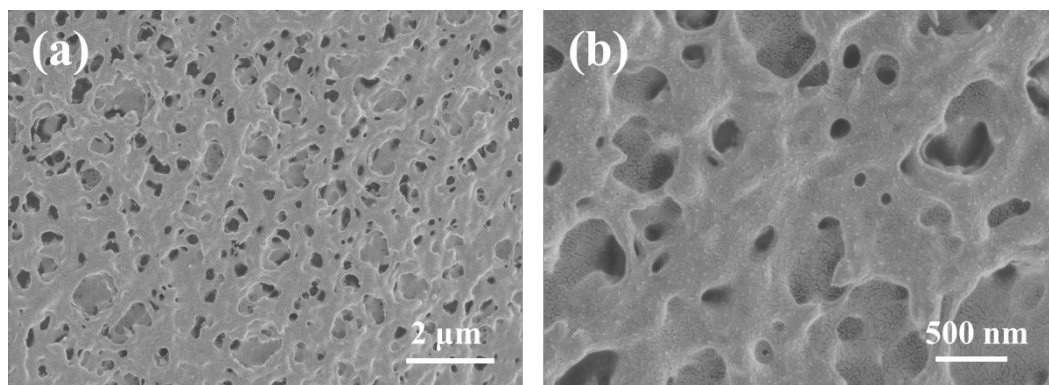
**Fig. S3.** SEM images of (a) Pure S, (b) Ketjenblack, (c, d) S@Ketjenblack.



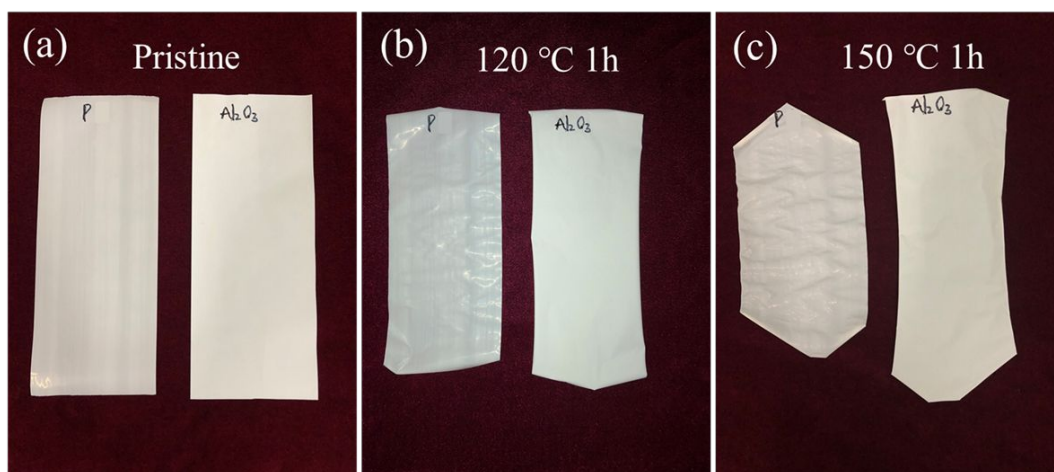
**Fig. S4.** The TG curve of S@Ketjenblack (a), XRD patterns of S, Ketjenblack and S@Ketjenblack (b), TG-DSC curves of PP (c) and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-PE (d) separator in air atmosphere.



**Fig. S5.** XRD patterns of different side of PP, PE-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and CMC-PE-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> separators.

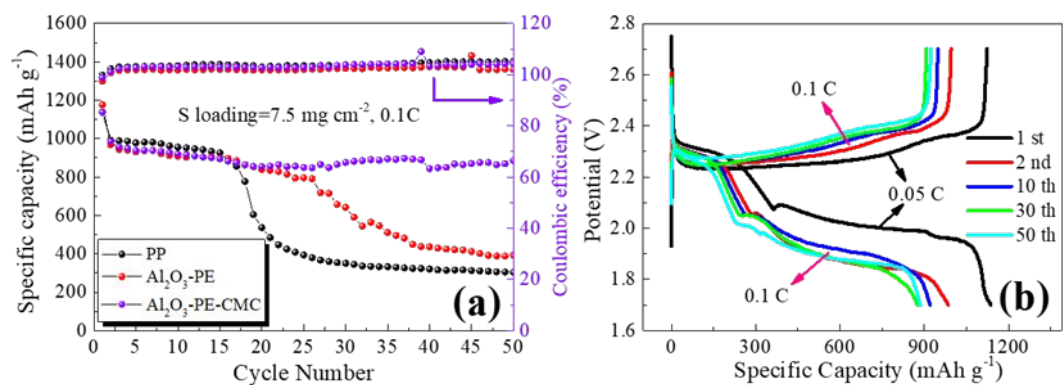


**Fig. S6.** SEM images of CMC film on the  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ -PE-CMC separator at different magnifications with the corresponding scale bar of 2  $\mu\text{m}$  (a) and 500 nm (b).

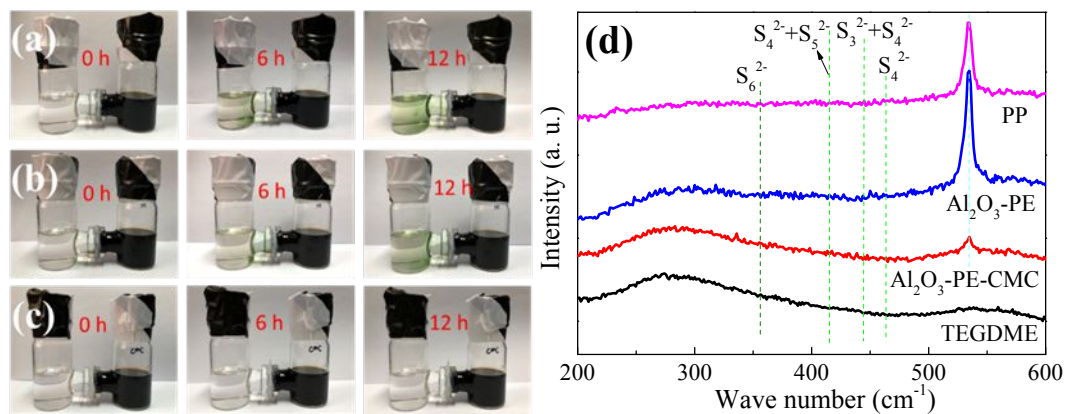


**Fig. S7.** The thermal stability tests for polymer and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-coated polymer separator (a) pristine, (b) after 120 °C for 1h and (c) after 150 °C for 1h.

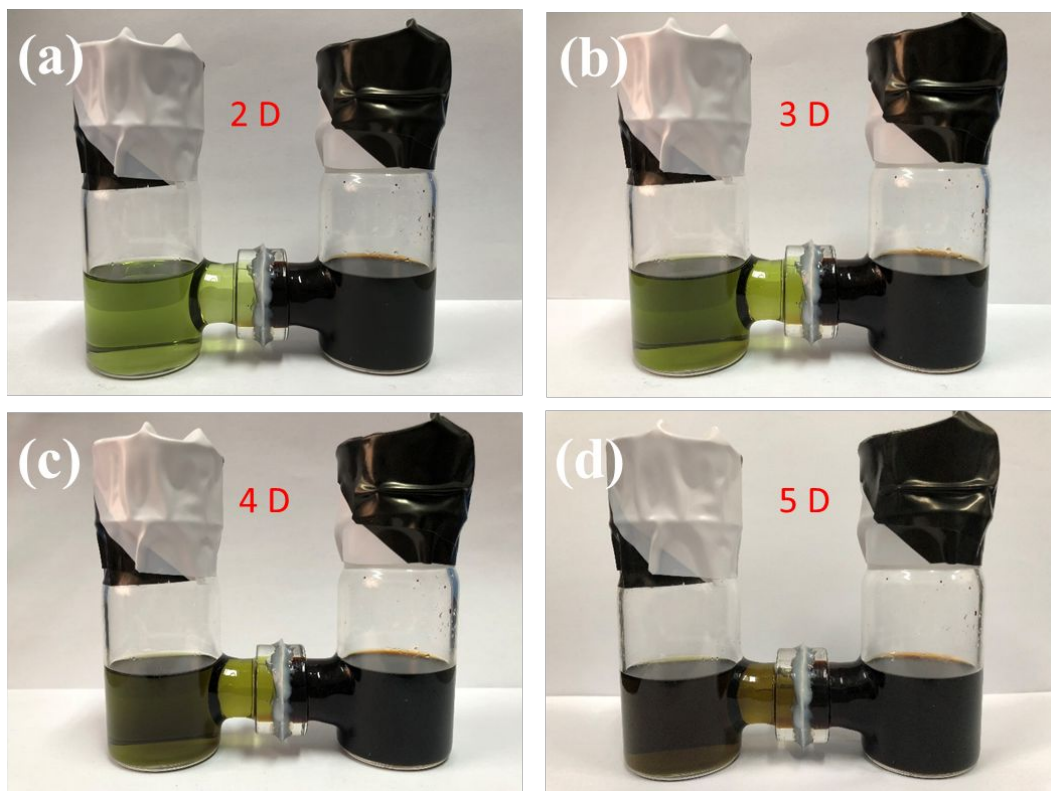




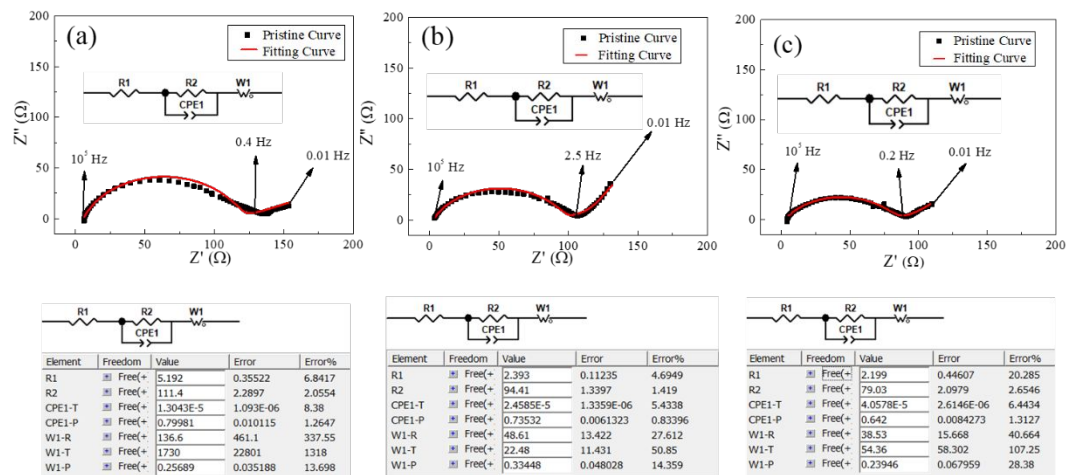
**Fig. S8.** Cycling performances and coulombic efficiency with high S loading of the PP, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-PE and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-PE-CMC separators in Li-S full cells (a) and Charge/discharge curves of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-PE-CMC separator (b).



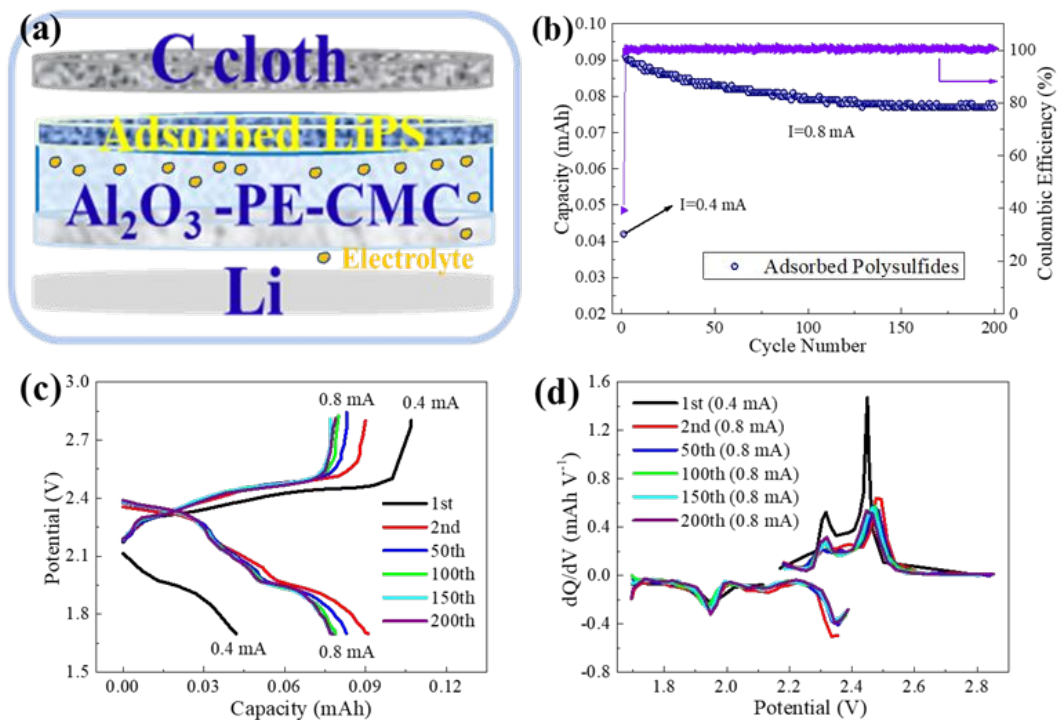
**Fig. S9.** Polysulfide permeation measurements for the PP (a), Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-PE (b) and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-PE-CMC (c) separators during the course of polysulfide diffusion from the right side to the left side of the H-shaped glass bottles, the Raman spectra of the pure TEGDME and the polysulfide solution in the left side after 12 h (d).



**Fig. S10.** Polysulfide permeation measurement for the PP separator after (a) 2 days, (b) 3 days, (c) 4 days and (d) 5 days.



**Fig. S11.** Specific fitting results from the EIS of PP (a), Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-PE (b) and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-PE-CMC (c) separators in Li-S full cells.



**Fig. S12.** The structure schematic of the battery using  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ -PE-CMC separator anchored with polysulfides and C cloth as cathode (a), the corresponding cycling performance (b), charge/discharge curves (c) and differential capacity curves (d).