

Supporting Information

Bimetallic Zeolitic Imidazolate Framework-Derived Iron-, Cobalt- and Nitrogen-Codoped Carbon Nano- Polyhedra Electrocatalyst for Efficient Oxygen Reduction

Zhaowen Hu^a, Zhiyuan Guo^a, Zhengping Zhang^{a, b,}, Meiling Dou^{a, b,*}, Feng Wang^{a, b,*},*

^a State Key Laboratory of Chemical Resource Engineering, Beijing Key Laboratory of
Electrochemical Process and Technology for Materials, Beijing University of Chemical
Technology, Beijing 100029, P R China

^b Beijing Advanced Innovation Center for Soft Matter Science and Engineering, Beijing
University of Chemical Technology, Beijing 100029, P. R. China

*Corresponding author: E-mail: wangf@mail.buct.edu.cn (F. Wang); douml@mail.buct.edu.cn
(M. L. Dou); zhangzhengping@mail.buct.edu.cn (Z.P. Zhang), Tel. / Fax: 86-10-64451996.

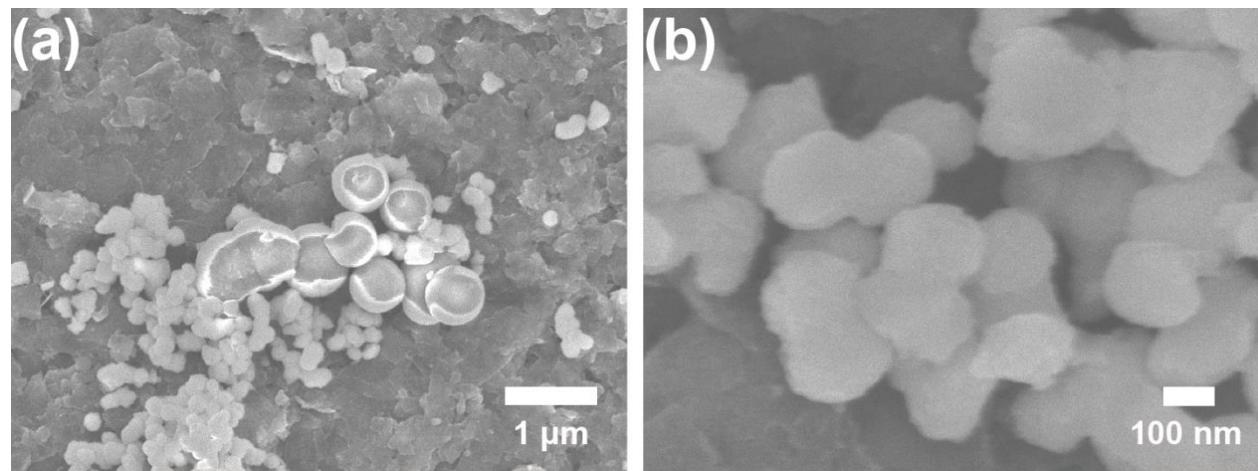


Fig. S1. Low (a) and high (b) magnification SEM images of Fe,Co-ZIF(0.2) synthesized under ambient condition

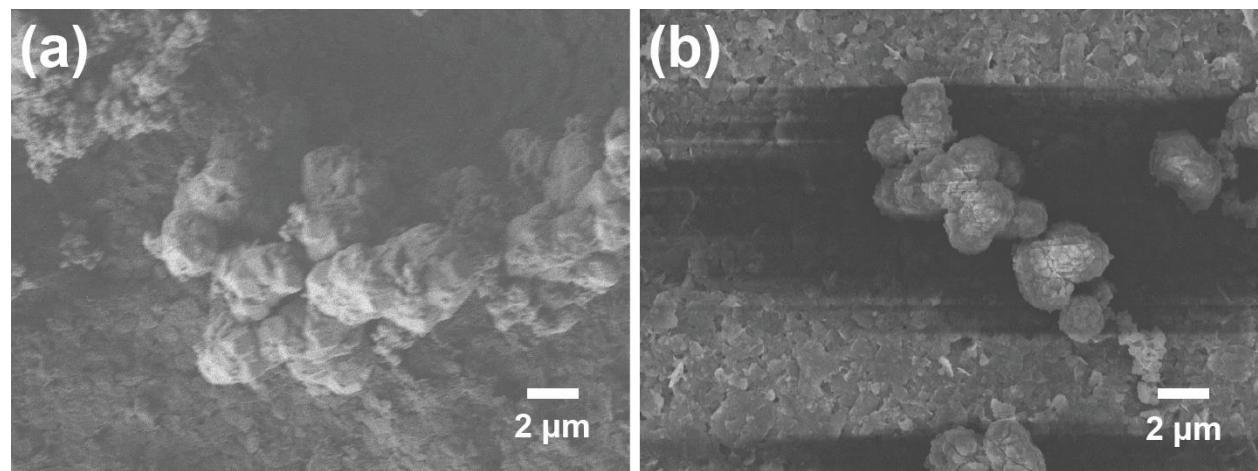


Fig. S2. SEM image of Fe,Co-ZIF with the Fe/Co ratio of 0.5 (a) and 1.0 (b)

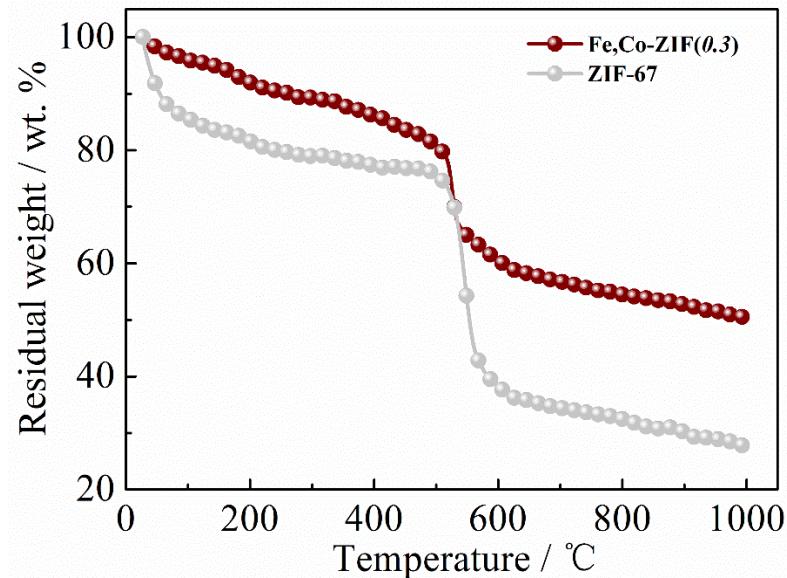


Fig. S3. TG analysis of Fe,Co-ZIF(0.3) in comparison with ZIF-67 under Argon atmosphere (temperature ramp rate: $10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C min}^{-1}$).

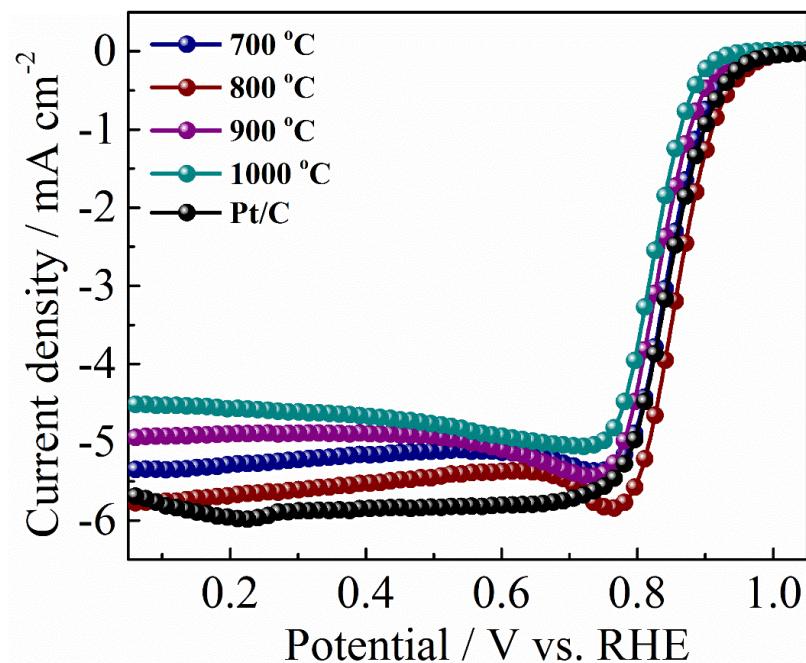


Fig. S4. LSV curves of Fe,Co,N-CNP prepared at various pyrolysis temperatures in O_2 -saturated 0.1 M KOH (scan rate: 5 mV s^{-1} , electrode rotation rate: 1600 rpm)

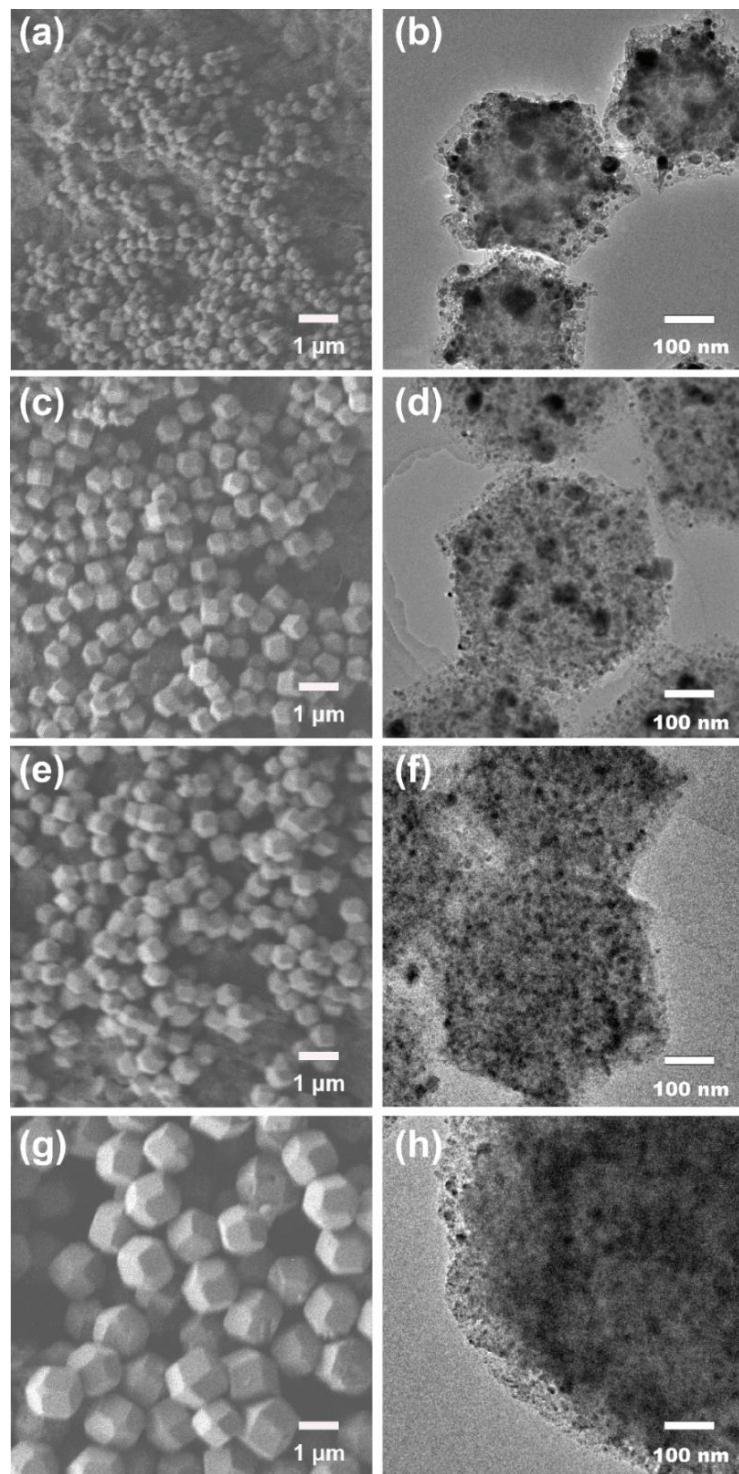


Fig. S5. Representative SEM images of (a) ZIF-67, (c) Fe,Co-ZIF(0.1), (e) Fe,Co-ZIF(0.2), and (g) Fe,Co-ZIF(0.3). HR-TEM images of (b) Co,N-CNP, (d) Fe,Co,N-CNP (0.1), (f) Fe,Co,N-CNP (0.2), and (h) Fe,Co,N-CNP (0.3)

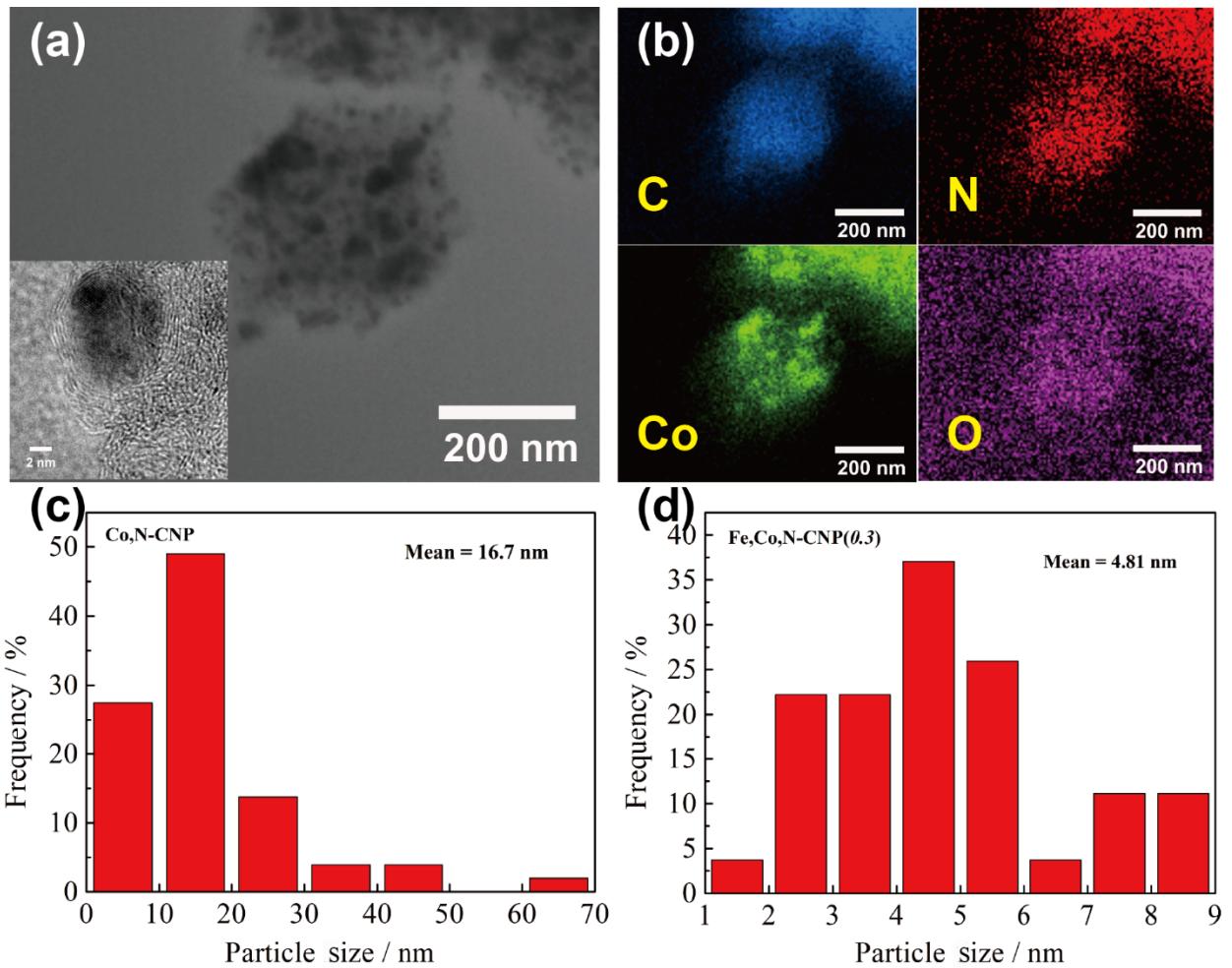


Fig. S6. HR-STEM (a) and the corresponding elemental mapping (b) of Co,N-CNP, and particle distribution of metal NPs in Co,N-CNP (c) and Fe,Co,N-CNP (0.3) (d).

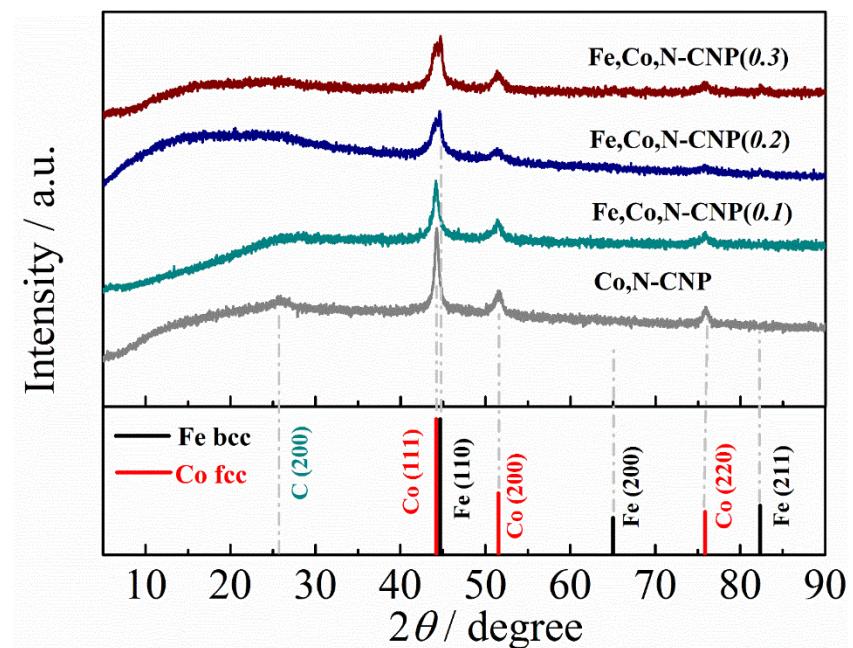


Fig. S7. XRD patterns of Co,N-CNP and Fe,Co,N-CNP(X)

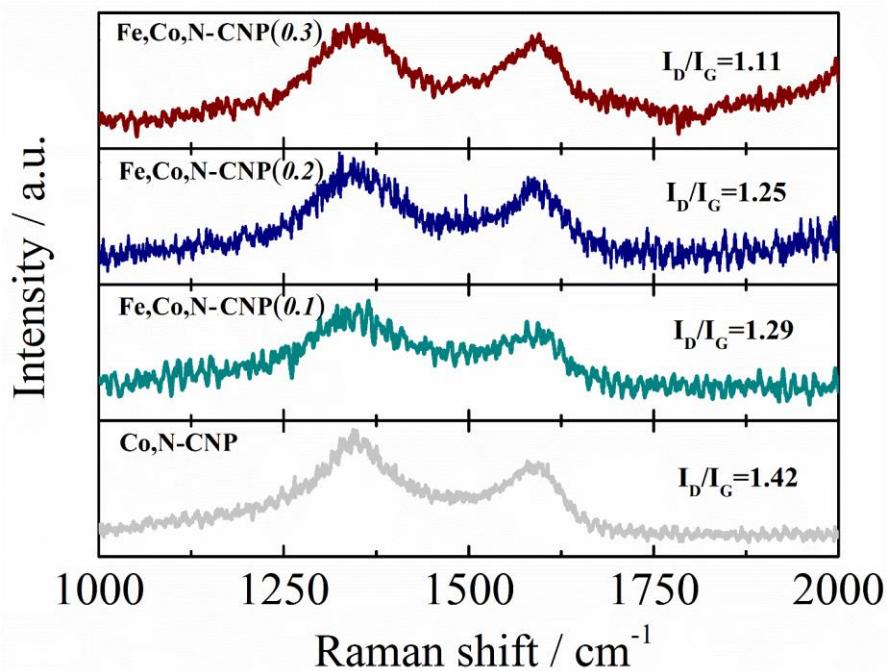


Fig. S8. Raman spectra of Co,N-CNP and Fe,Co,N-CNP(X)

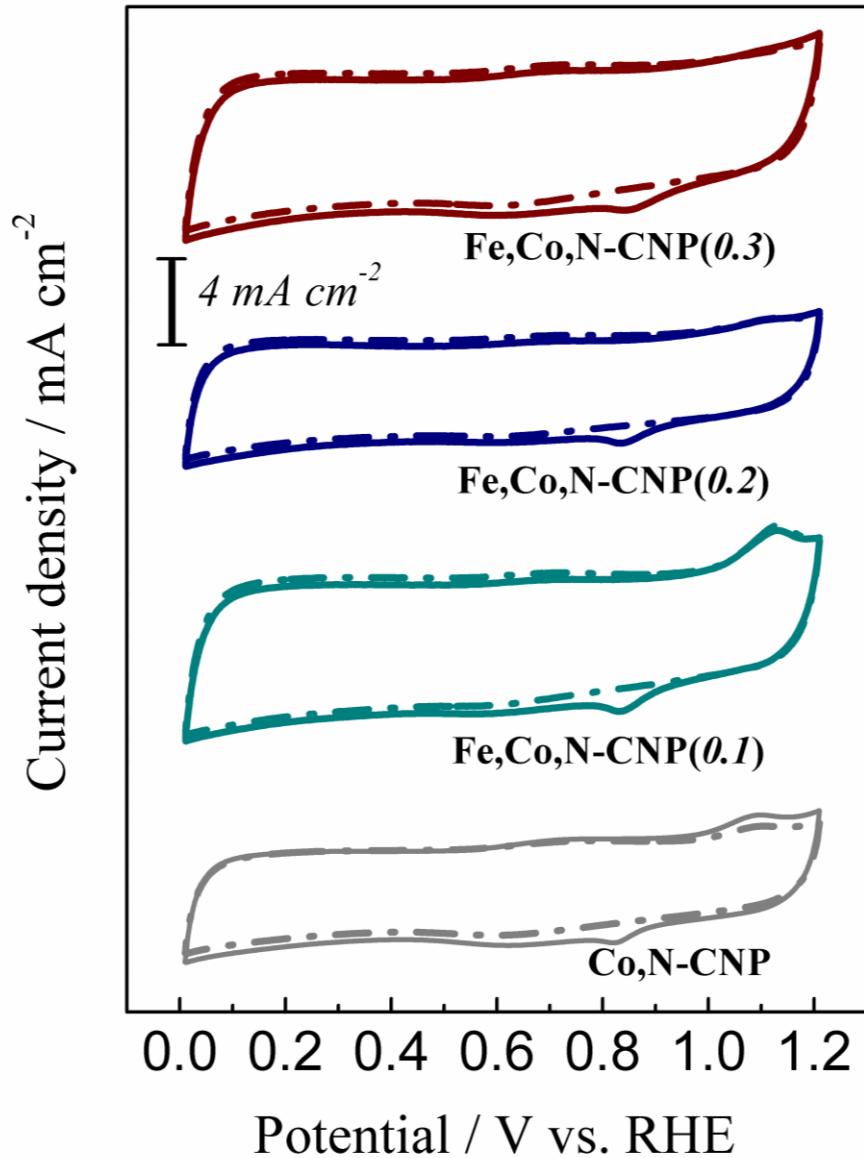


Fig. S9. Comparative CV curves of Co,N-CNP , and $\text{Fe,Co,N-CNP}(X)$ in N_2^- (dotted line) and O_2^- (solid line) saturated 0.1 M KOH (scan rate: 50 mV s^{-1}).

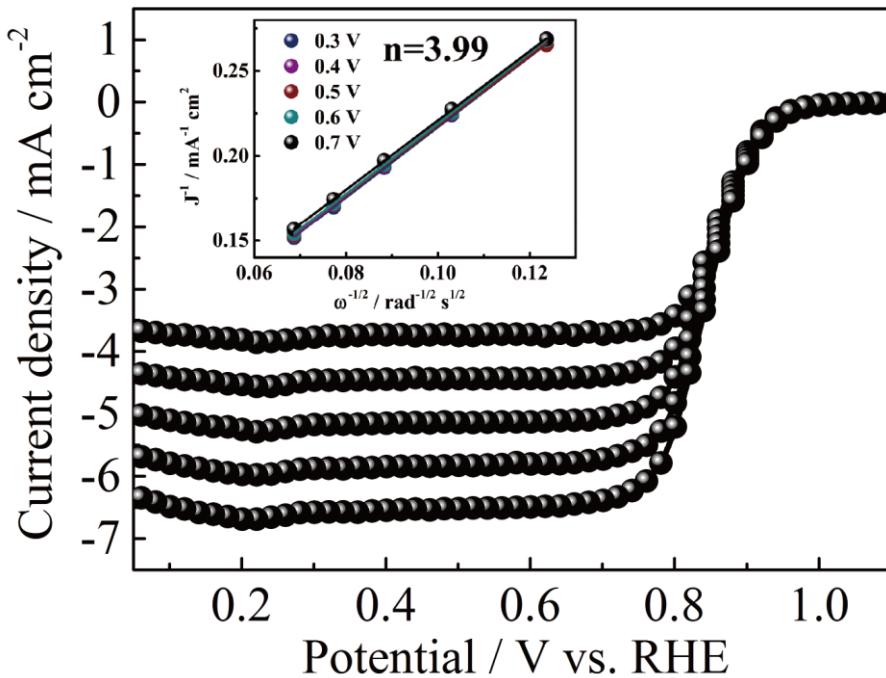


Fig. S10. LSV curves of the commercial Pt/C in O₂-saturated 0.1 M KOH (scan rate: 5 mV s⁻¹) under various rotation rates (Inset: the corresponding K-L plots).

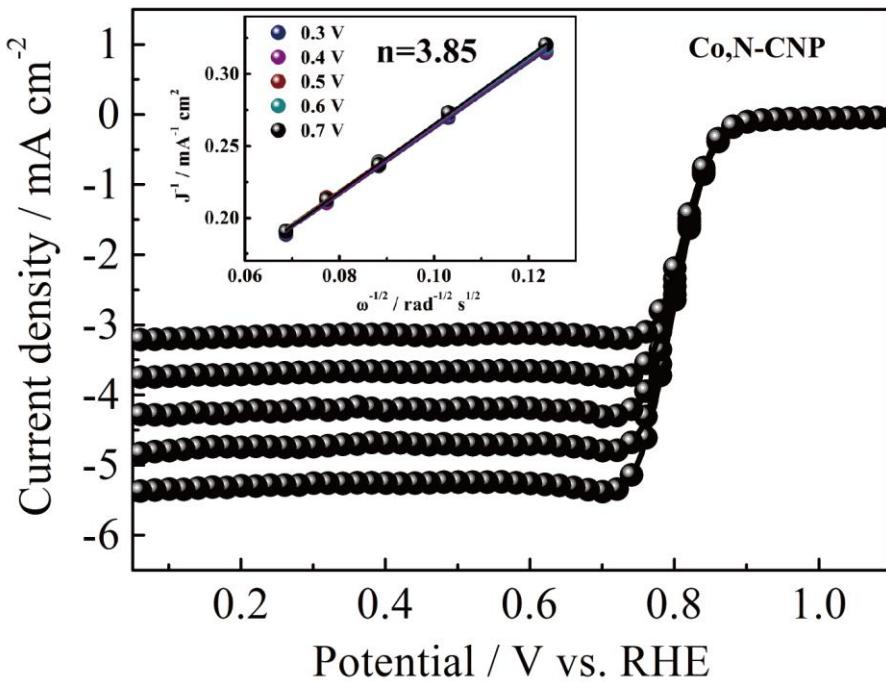


Fig. S11. LSV curves of Co,N-CNP in O₂-saturated 0.1 M KOH (scan rate: 5 mV s⁻¹) under different rotation rates (Inset: the corresponding K-L plots).

Table S1. Pore characteristics of ZIF-67 and Fe_xCo-ZIF(*X*), and the corresponding electrocatalysts

Sample	S_{BET} (m² g⁻¹)	S_{micro} (m² g⁻¹)	S_{micro} / S_{BET} (%)	V_{pore} (cm³ g⁻¹)	Retention rate of S_{micro}
ZIF-67	1564.4	1515.3	96.7	0.717	-
Co,N-CNP	347.4	153.9	44.3	0.068	10.2
Fe _x Co-ZIF(0.1)	1456.3	1363.1	93.6	0.758	-
Fe _x Co,N-CNP(0.1)	413.5	136.3	32.9	0.336	10.0
Fe _x Co-ZIF(0.2)	1447.4	1353.9	93.5	0.761	-
Fe _x Co,N-CNP(0.2)	425.3	177.6	41.7	0.349	13.9
Fe _x Co-ZIF(0.3)	1450.8	1299.5	89.5	0.670	-
Fe _x Co,N-CNP(0.3)	422.0	204.9	48.6	0.312	15.8

Table S2. N content and configuration determined by XPS in Co,N-CNP and Fe_xCo,N-CNP(*X*)

Sample	N (at. %)	Relative content of different N species			
		Pyridinic N	Pyrrolic N	Graphic N	Oxidized N
Co,N-CNP	6.19	51.9	23.0	25.1	0
Fe _x Co,N-CNP(0.1)	7.45	49.7	29.4	20.9	0
Fe _x Co,N-CNP(0.2)	8.51	56.8	25.6	17.6	0
Fe _x Co,N-CNP(0.3)	9.07	48.9	18.9	17.5	14.7

Table S3. The ORR activity of Co_xN-CNP and Fe_xCo_{1-x}N-CNP(X) in 0.1 M KOH

Sample	$E_{1/2}$ (V)	E_{onset} (V)	$J_d / 0.3 \text{ V}$ (mA cm ⁻²)	$J_k / 0.85 \text{ V}$ (mA cm ⁻²)
Co _x N-CNP	0.825	0.893	4.742	1.620
Fe _x Co _{1-x} N-CNP(0.1)	0.859	0.957	5.367	7.160
Fe _x Co _{1-x} N-CNP(0.2)	0.864	0.953	5.610	9.280
Fe _x Co _{1-x} N-CNP(0.3)	0.875	0.979	5.355	12.55
Pt/C	0.846	0.941	5.890	5.150

Table S4. Summary of ORR acitiviy of the non-precious electrocatalysts in 0.1 M KOH electrolyte reported in literatures

Sample	E_{onset} (V vs. RHE)	$E_{1/2}$ (V vs. RHE)	Ref.
NGPC/NCNT	0.94	0.82	S1
hybrid FeNC-20-1000	1.040	0.880	S2
Co-N-C	~0.982	0.871	S3
C ₃ N ₄ @NH ₂ -MIL-101- 700	0.990	0.840	S4
Au@Zn–Fe–C	0.940	N/A	S5
MOFs-800	0.90	0.80	S6
CNPs	1.03	0.92	S7
FeNi@NC _x	1.03	0.86	S8
FePc/MWCNTs	0.916	N/A	S9
DCI-Fe-700	N/A	0.839	S10
CPM-99Fe/C	0.950	0.802	S11
Fe _x Co _{1-x} N-CNP(0.3)	0.979	0.875	This work

Table S5. The ORR activity of Co_xN-CNP and Fe_xCo_yN-CNP(X) in 0.1 M HClO₄

Sample	$E_{1/2}$ (V)	E_{onset} (V)	$J_d / 0.3 \text{ V}$ (mA cm ⁻²)	$J_k / 0.75 \text{ V}$ (mA cm ⁻²)
Co _x N-CNP	0.671	0.780	4.969	0.539
Fe _x Co _y N-CNP(0.1)	0.734	0.824	6.081	1.674
Fe _x Co _y N-CNP(0.2)	0.756	0.867	5.636	1.970
Fe _x Co _y N-CNP(0.3)	0.764	0.871	5.788	2.163
Pt/C	0.814	0.901	5.926	2.860

Table S6. Summary of ORR activity of the non-precious electrocatalysts in 0.1 M HClO₄ electrolyte reported in literatures

Sample	E_{onset} (V vs. RHE)	$E_{1/2}$ (V vs. RHE)	Ref.
C-Fe-Z8-Ar	0.95	0.82	S12
ZIF-67	0.86	0.71	S13
meso/micro-PoPD	0.84	~0.70	S14
hybrid FeNC-20-1000	0.9	0.770	S2
Co-N-C	N/A	0.761	S3
S-Fe/N/C	N/A	0.825	S15
Zn(Im) ₂	0.881	0.73	S16
CoIm	0.83	0.68	S17
C-Fe-ZIF-900-0.84	N/A	0.77	S18
Fe _x Co _y N-CNP(0.3)	0.871	0.764	This work

References

- [S1] Zhang, L.; Wang, X.; Wang, R.; Hong, M. Structural Evolution from Metal–Organic Framework to Hybrids of Nitrogen-Doped Porous Carbon and Carbon Nanotubes for Enhanced Oxygen Reduction Activity. *Chem. Mater.* **2015**, *27*, 165-179.
- [S2] Liu, T.; Zhao, P.; Hua, X.; Luo, W.; Chen, S.; Cheng, G. An Fe–N–C Hybrid Electrocatalyst derived from a Bimetal–Organic Framework for Efficient Oxygen Reduction. *J. Mater. Chem. A* **2016**, *4*, 11357-11364.
- [S3] You, B.; Jiang, N.; Sheng, M.; Drisdell, W. S.; Yano, J.; Sun, Y. Bimetal–Organic Framework Self-Adjusted Synthesis of Support-Free Nonprecious Electrocatalysts for Efficient Oxygen Reduction. *ACS Catal.* **2015**, *5*, 7068-7076.
- [S4] Gu, W.; Hu, L.; Li, J.; Wang, E. Hybrid of g-C₃N₄ Assisted Metal-Organic Frameworks and Their Derived High-Efficiency Oxygen Reduction Electrocatalyst in the Whole pH Range. *ACS Appl. Mater. & Inter.* **2016**, *8*, 35281-35288.
- [S5] Lu, J.; Zhou, W.; Wang, L.; Jia, J.; Ke, Y.; Yang, L.; Zhou, K.; Liu, X.; Tang, Z.; Li, L. Core–Shell Nanocomposites Based on Gold Nanoparticle@Zinc–Iron-Embedded Porous Carbons Derived from Metal–Organic Frameworks as Efficient Dual Catalysts for Oxygen Reduction and Hydrogen Evolution Reactions. *ACS Catal.* **2016**, *6*, 1045-1053.
- [S6] Zhong, H.; Luo, Y.; He, S.; Tang, P.; Li, D.; Alonsovante, N.; Feng, Y. Electrocatalytic Cobalt Nanoparticles Interacting with Nitrogen-Doped Carbon Nanotube In Situ Generated from a Metal–Organic Framework for the Oxygen Reduction Reaction. *ACS Appl. Mater. & Inter.* **2017**, *9*, 2541-2549.
- [S7] Zhao, S.; Yin, H.; Du, L.; He, L.; Zhao, K.; Chang, L.; Yin, G.; Zhao, H.; Liu, S.; Tang, Z. Carbonized Nanoscale Metal-Organic Frameworks as High Performance Electrocatalyst for

Oxygen Reduction Reaction. *ACS Nano* **2014**, *8*, 12660-12668.

[S8] Zhu, J.; Xiao, M.; Zhang, Y.; Jin, Z.; Peng, Z.; Liu, C.; Chen, S.; Ge, J.; Xing, W. Metal–Organic Framework-Induced Synthesis of Ultrasmall Encased NiFe Nanoparticles Coupling with Graphene as an Efficient Oxygen Electrode for a Rechargeable Zn–Air Battery. *ACS Catal.* **2016**, *6*, 6335-6342.

[S9] Jahan, M.; Bao, Q.; Loh, K. P. Electrocatalytically Active Graphene–Porphyrin MOF Composite for Oxygen Reduction Reaction. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134*, 6707-6713.

[S10] Li, Z.; Sun, H.; Wei, L.; Jiang, W. J.; Wu, M.; Hu, J. S. Lamellar Metal Organic Framework Derived Fe-N-C Non-noble Electrocatalysts with Bimodal Porosity for Efficient Oxygen Reduction. *ACS Appl. Mater. & Inter.* **2017**, *9*, 5272-5278.

[S11] Lin, Q.; Bu, X.; Kong, A.; Mao, C.; Zhao, X.; Bu, F.; Feng, P. New Heterometallic Zirconium Metalloporphyrin Frameworks and their Heteroatom-Activated High-Surface-Area Carbon Derivatives. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2015**, *137*, 2235-2238.

[S12] Wang, X.; Zhang, H.; Lin, H.; Gupta, S.; Wang, C.; Tao, Z.; Fu, H.; Wang, T.; Zheng, J.; Wu, G. Directly Converting Fe-Doped Metal–Organic Frameworks into Highly Active and Stable Fe–N–C Catalysts for Oxygen Reduction in Acid. *Nano Energy* **2016**, *25*, 110-119.

[S13] Xia, W.; Zhu, J.; Guo, W.; An, L.; Xia, D.; Zou, R. Well-Defined Carbon Polyhedrons Prepared from Nano Metal-Organic Frameworks for Oxygen Reduction. *J. Mater. Chem. A* **2014**, *2*, 11606-11613.

[S14] Liang, H. W.; Zhuang, X.; Brüller, S.; Feng, X.; Müllen, K. Hierarchically Porous Carbons with Optimized Nitrogen Doping as Highly Active Electrocatalysts for Oxygen Reduction. *Nat. Commun.* **2014**, *5*, 4973.

[S15] Hu, K.; Tao, L.; Liu, D.; Huo, J.; Wang, S. Sulfur-Doped Fe/N/C Nanosheets as Highly-

Efficient Electrocatalysts for Oxygen Reduction Reaction. *ACS Appl. Mater. & Inter.* **2016**, *8*, 19379-19385.

[S16] Zhao, D.; Shui, J. L.; Grabstanowicz, L. R.; Chen, C.; Commet, S. M.; Xu, T.; Lu, J.; Liu, D. J. Highly Efficient Non-Precious Metal Electrocatalysts Prepared from One-Pot Synthesized Zeolitic Imidazolate Frameworks. *Adv. Mater.* **2014**, *26*, 1093-1097.

[S17] Ma, S.; Goenaga, G. A.; Call, A. V.; Liu, D. J. Cobalt Imidazolate Framework as Precursor for Oxygen Reduction Reaction Electrocatalysts. *Chemistry* **2011**, *17*, 2063-2067.

[S18] Deng, Y.; Dong, Y.; Wang, G.; Sun, K.; Shi, X.; Zheng, L.; Li, X.; Liao, S. Well-Defined ZIF-Derived Fe-N Codoped Carbon Nanoframes as Efficient Oxygen Reduction Catalysts. *ACS Appl. Mater. & Inter.* **2017**, *9*, 9699-9709.