

† **Electronic Supplementary Information**

Multiple Active Components Synergistically Driven Cobalt and Nitrogen Co-Doped Porous Carbon as High-performance Oxygen Reduction Electrocatalyst

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† Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) available.

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Table. S1 The raw materials for the preparation of the C@N and Co@C-N catalysts.

Samples	Amount of g-C ₃ N ₄ (g)	Molar Quantity of Co-source (mmol)	Amount of D-glucose (g)	Hydrothermal Temperature (°C)	Thermalysis Temperature (°C)	Atmosphere
C@N	0.5	--	2.16	120	900	Ar
Co@C-N-120-900	0.5	1	2.16	120	900	Ar
Co@C-N-140-900	0.5	1	2.16	140	900	Ar
Co@C-N-160-900	0.5	1	2.16	160	900	Ar

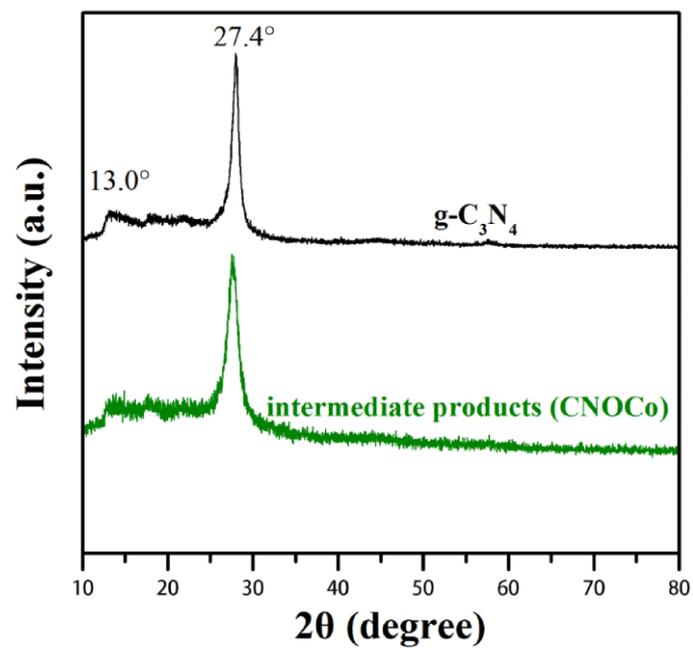


Figure S1 XRD patterns of as-prepared porous g-C₃N₄ and intermediate products (CNOCo) under ST 120 °C.

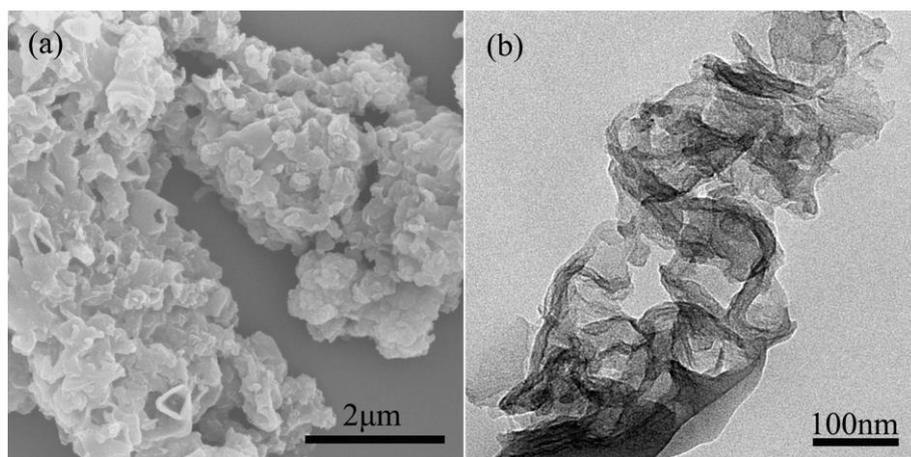


Figure S2 The SEM image (a) and TEM image (b) of porous g-C₃N₄.

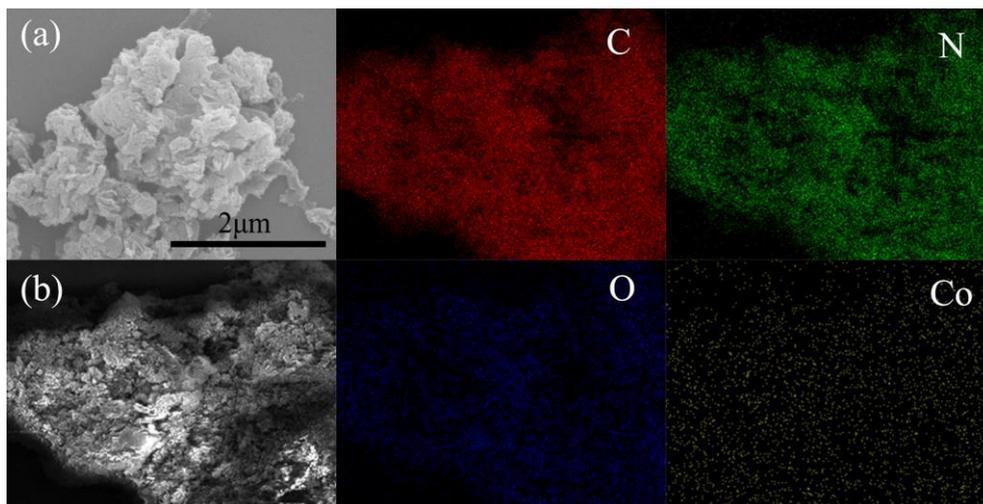


Figure S3 The SEM images (a and b) of intermediate products (CNOCo) under ST 120 °C and the corresponding EDS mapping elements C, N, O and Co for the boxed area of image (b).

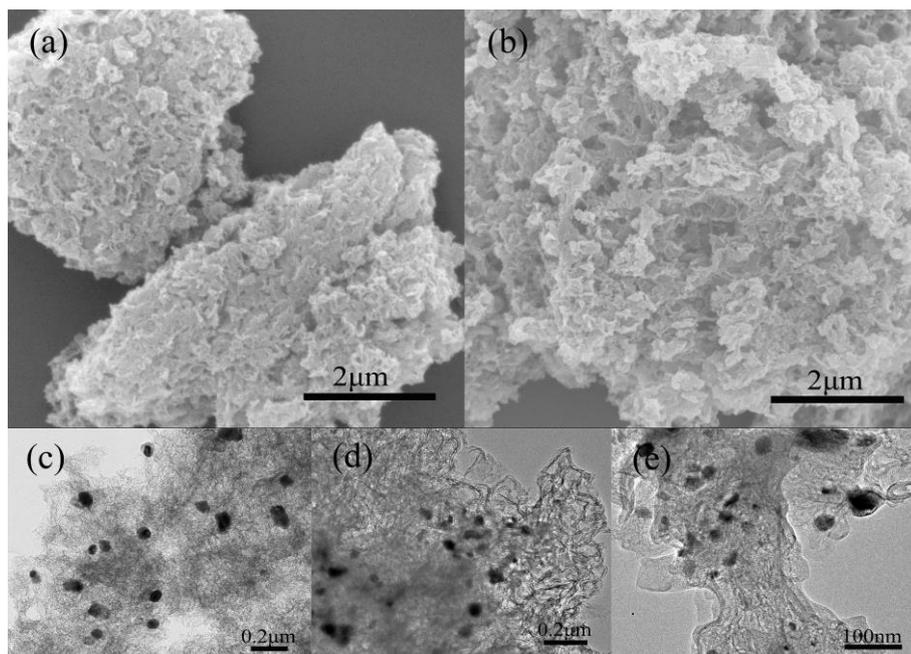


Figure S4 SEM images of (a) C@N and (b) Co@C-N-120-900, TEM images of (c) Co@C-N-120-900, (d) Co@C-N-140-900 and (e) Co@C-N-160-900 catalysts.

Table. S2 The relative percentage in C@N and Co@C-N catalysts from detailed deconvolution of XPS N1s spectra.

Samples	Pyridinic-N	Pyrrolic-N	Graphitic- N	Oxidized-N
C@N	68.07%	19.73%	8.72%	3.48%
Co@C-N-120-900	74.39%	17.96%	6.50%	1.15%
Co@C-N-140-900	62.42%	29.49%	1.8%	6.29%
Co@C-N-160-900	42%	49.64%	1.52%	6.83%

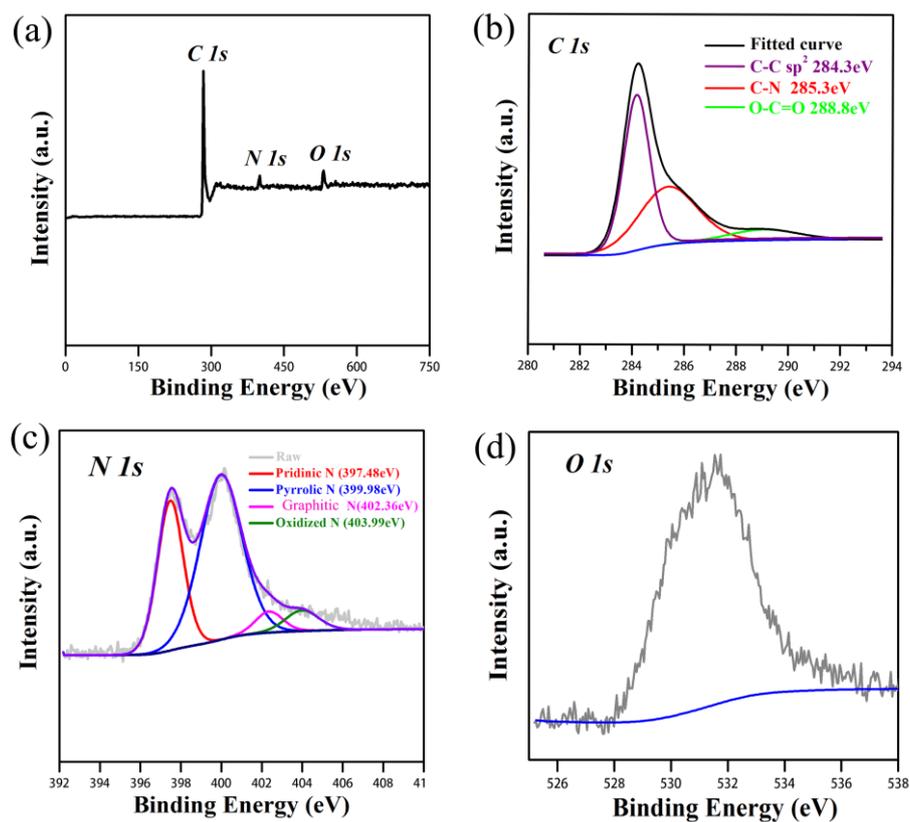


Figure S5 (a) X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) survey spectrum of C@N; (b, c and d) C 1s, N1s and Co2p high resolution spectrum of the C@N catalyst.

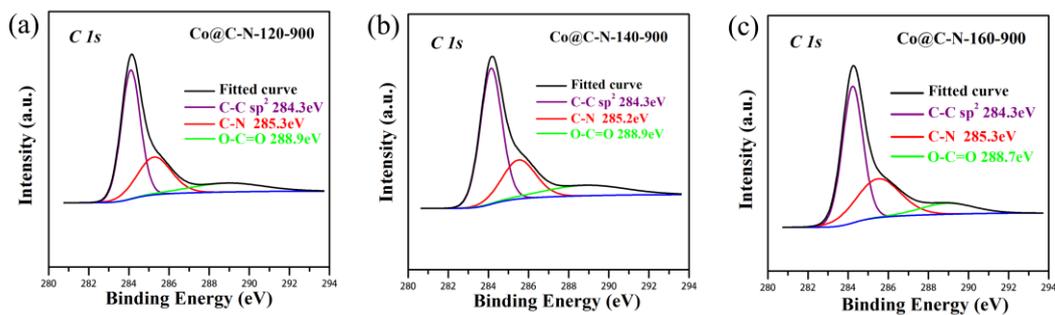


Figure S6 (a, b and c) C 1s high resolution spectrum of the Co@C-N-120-900, Co@C-N-140-900 and Co@C-N-160-900 catalysts, respectively.

Table. S3 The relative percentage in C@N and Co@C-N catalysts from detailed deconvolution of XPS C1s spectra.

Samples	C-C sp ²	C-N	O-C=O
C@N	67.55%	25.07%	7.38%
Co@C-N-120-900	67.02%	20.58%	12.4%
Co@C-N-140-900	66.88%	15.66%	17.45%
Co@C-N-160-900	65.49%	15.59%	18.91%

Table. S4 The summary for BET special surface area and pore volume (pore distribution) of Co@C-N-120-900, Co@C-N-140-900 and Co@C-N-160-900 catalysts.

Samples	BET special surface area (SSA)	Pore volume	Pore diameter
C@N	1108 m ² g ⁻¹	2.876 cm ³ g ⁻¹	ca. 3.031 nm
Co@C-N-120-900	1080 m ² g ⁻¹	2.463 cm ³ g ⁻¹	ca. 3.031 nm
Co@C-N-140-900	785 m ² g ⁻¹	1.432 cm ³ g ⁻¹	ca. 3.032 nm
Co@C-N-160-900	436 m ² g ⁻¹	0.734 cm ³ g ⁻¹	ca. 4.957 nm

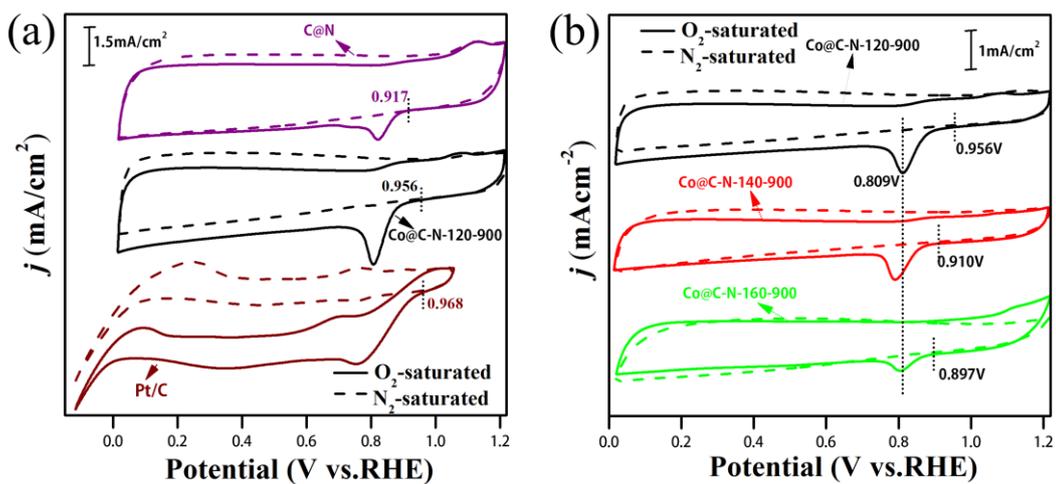


Figure S7 (a) Cycle voltammograms of C@N, Co@C-N-120-900 and Pt/C recorded by purging the electrolyte with O₂-saturated and N₂-saturated sweeping the potential at a scan rate of 50mV s⁻¹; (b) Cycle voltammograms of Co@C-N-120-900, Co@C-N-140-900 and Co@C-N-160-900 recorded by purging the electrolyte with O₂-saturated and N₂-saturated sweeping the potential at a scan rate of 50mV s⁻¹.

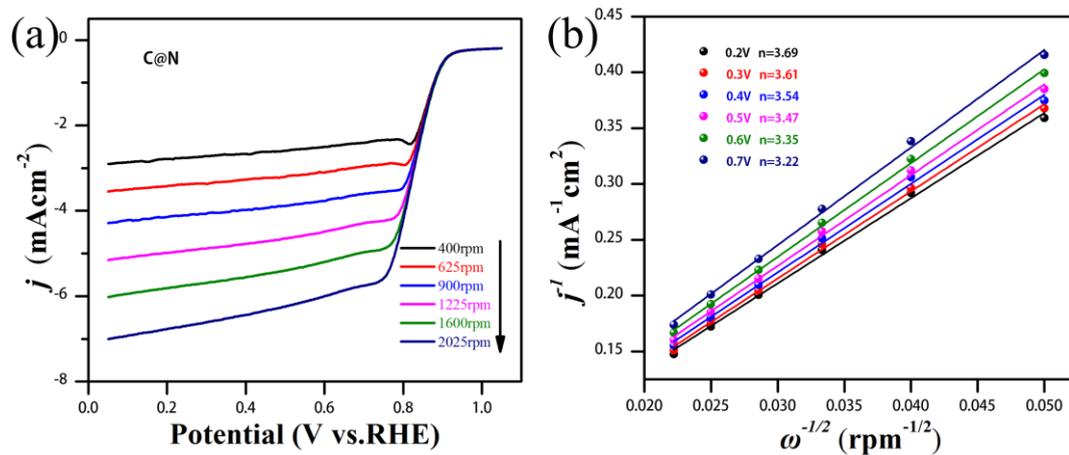


Figure S8 (a and b) RDE voltammograms of the C@N recorded at different RDE rotation rates from 400 to 2025rpm and the corresponding K-L plots.

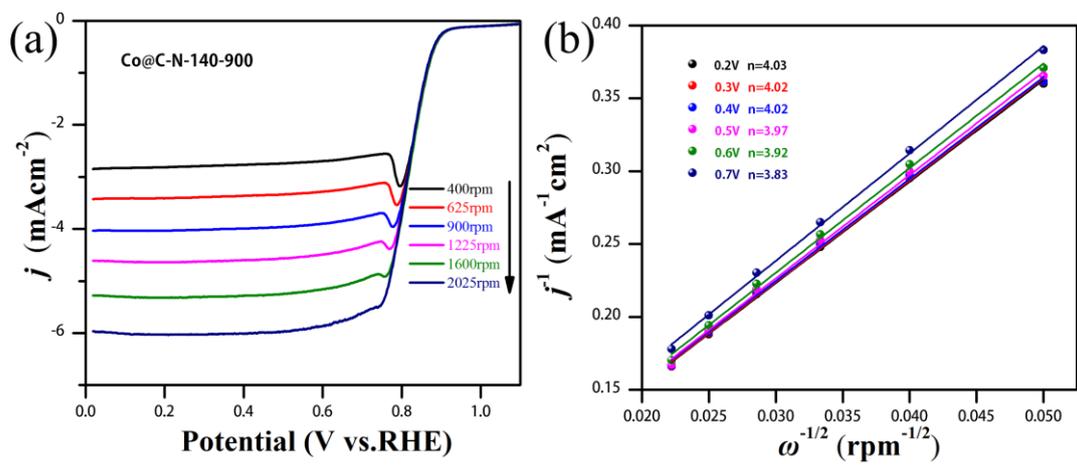


Figure S9 (a and b) RDE voltammograms of the Co@C-N-140-900 recorded at different RDE rotation rates from 400 to 2025rpm and the corresponding K-L plots.

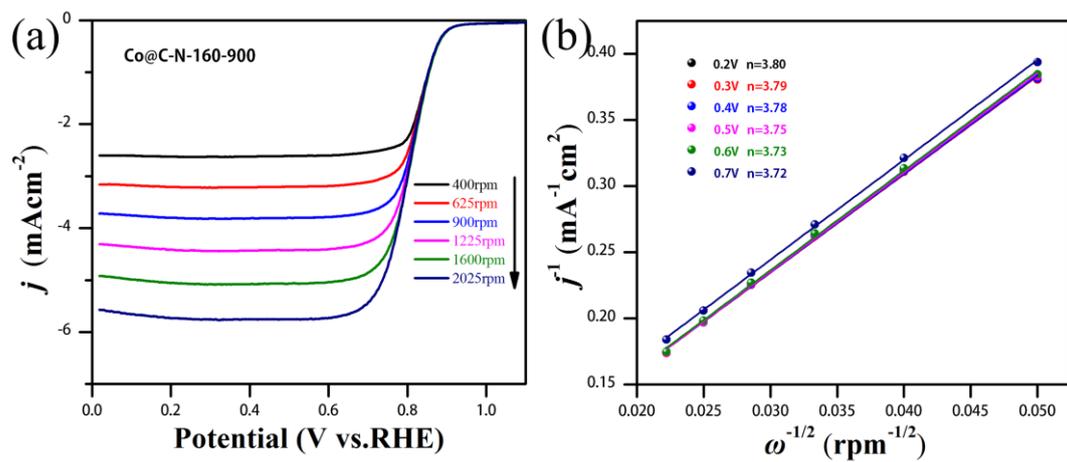


Figure S10 (a and b) RDE voltammograms of the Co@C-N-160-900 recorded at different RDE rotation rates from 400 to 2025rpm and the corresponding K-L plots.

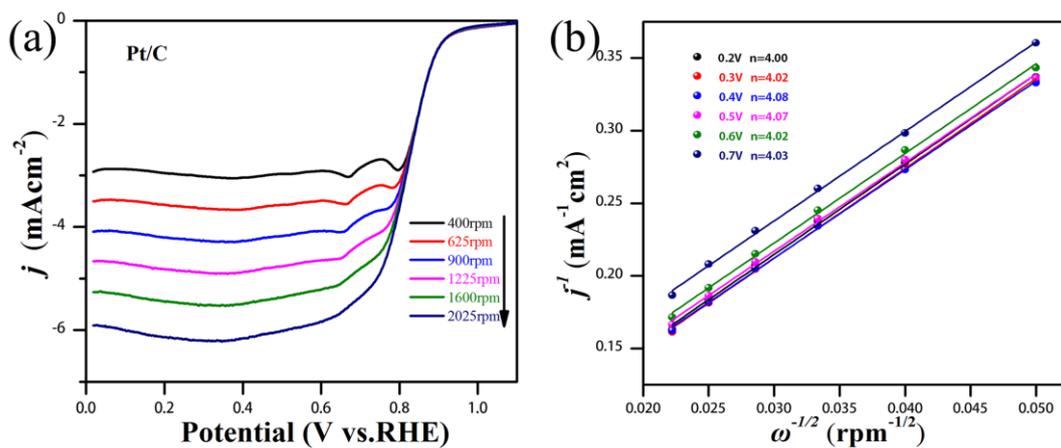


Figure S11 (a and b) RDE voltammograms of the Pt/C recorded at different RDE rotation rates from 400 to 2025rpm and the corresponding K-L plots.

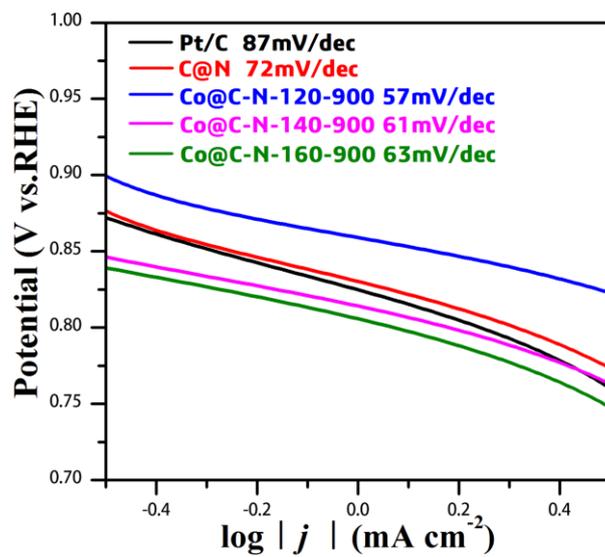


Figure S12 Tafel plots of Pt/C, C@N and Co@C-N catalysts.

Table. S5 The comparison of the ORR performances of the Co@C-N-120-900 and some other Co, N co-doped carbon catalysts.

<i>catalysts</i>	<i>Catalysts loading (mg/cm²)</i>	<i>E_{onset} (V)</i>	<i>E_{1/2} (V)</i>	<i>J_k (mA/cm²)</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>references</i>
<i>Co N-doped carbon</i>	0.407	0.89 vs. RHE	0.70 vs.RHE	~4.6	3.7	[1]
<i>Cobalt and nitrogen-cofunction alized graphene</i>	0.1	-0.098 vs. Ag/AgCl	-0.162 vs. Ag/AgCl	4.120 (-0.5V vs.Ag/Agcl)	3.72	[2]
<i>Co-N onion-like carbon</i>	0.1529	-0.13 vs. Ag/AgCl	-0.19 vs. Ag/AgCl	3.98 (-0.4V vs. Ag/Agcl)	3.93	[3]
<i>Co-N-CNTs</i>	0.1	-0.138 vs. Ag/AgCl	~	5	4	[4]
<i>Co-N_x/C</i>	0.4	0.93(vs. RHE)	~	5.49	3.97	[5]
<i>Co-N-PGCS</i>	0.25	-0.075 vs. Ag/AgCl	-0.151 vs. Ag/AgCl	~6(-0.4V vs. Ag/AgCl)	3.97	[6]
<i>Co-CNF</i>	0.498	~	0.832 vs.RHE	~5	3.8	[7]
<i>Co SAs/N-C</i>	~	0.982 vs.RHE	0.881 vs.RHE	~5.5	~	[8]
<i>Co-N doped carbon</i>	0.283	0.940 vs.RHE	0.851 vs.RHE	~4.8	3.7	[9]
<i>Co@N-CNTs</i>	0.6	0.929 vs.RHE	0.849 vs.RHE	6	~	[10]
<i>Co,N-CNF</i>	~	-0.082 vs. Ag/AgCl	-0.155 vs.Ag/AgCl	5.71	~	[11]
<i>Co-NpGr</i>	~	0.93V vs.RHE	~	~4	4.1	[12]
<i>Co@C-N-120-900</i>	0.2	0.956 vs.RHE	0.851 vs.RHE	5.6	3.99- 4.04	<i>This work</i>

- E_{onset} , E_{1/2} and n represent the onset potential, the half-wave potential and the transfer electron numbers of electrocatalysts, respectively.

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