

*Supporting Information*

**Carbon impurities-free, novel Mn, N co-doped porous Mo<sub>2</sub>C  
nanorods for efficient and stable hydrogen evolution reaction**

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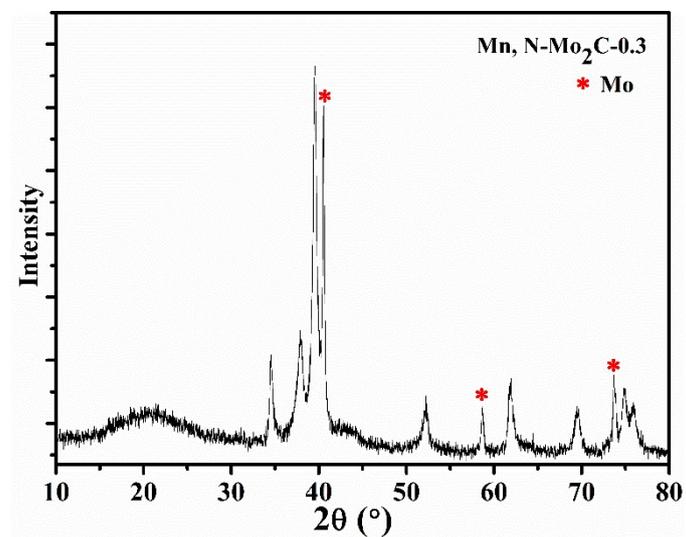


Fig. S1 XRD pattern of Mn, N-Mo<sub>2</sub>C-0.3.

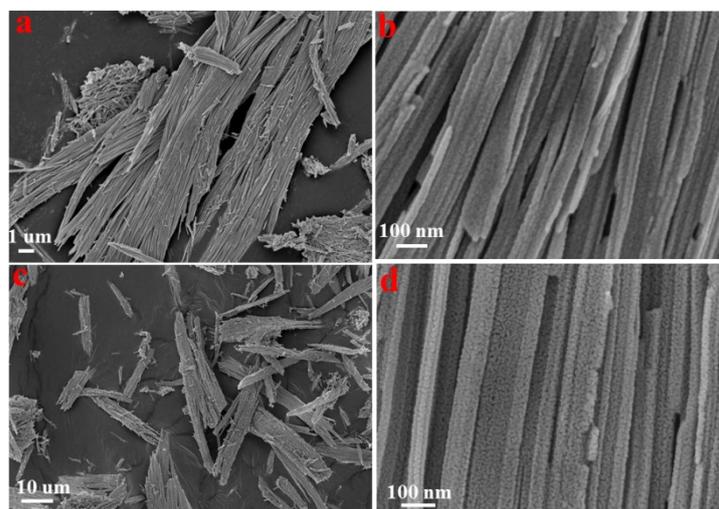
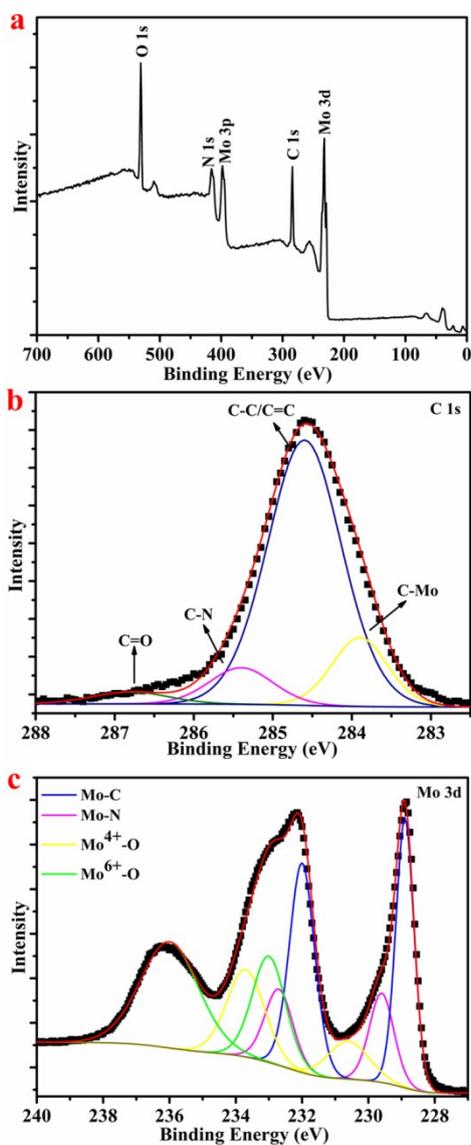


Fig. S2 SEM images of Mn, N-Mo<sub>2</sub>C-0 (a-b) and Mn, N-Mo<sub>2</sub>C-0.01 (c-d).

**Tab. S1** Mn contents of Mn, N-doped Mo<sub>2</sub>C electrocatalysts measured by ICP-OES.

Sample	Mn wt%
Mn, N-Mo <sub>2</sub> C-0	0
Mn, N-Mo <sub>2</sub> C-0.001	0
Mn, N-Mo <sub>2</sub> C-0.005	0.38
Mn, N-Mo <sub>2</sub> C-0.01	0.77
Mn, N-Mo <sub>2</sub> C-0.05	3.3



**Fig. S3** (a) XPS survey spectrum, (b) C 1s, and (c) Mo 3d high-resolution XPS spectra of Mn, N-Mo<sub>2</sub>C-0.

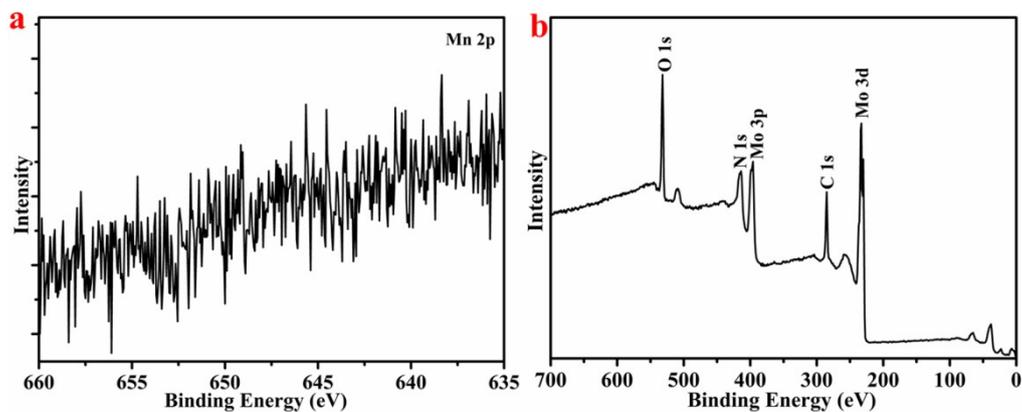


Fig. S4 (a) Mn 2p high-resolution and (b) XPS survey spectra of Mn, N-Mo<sub>2</sub>C-0.01.

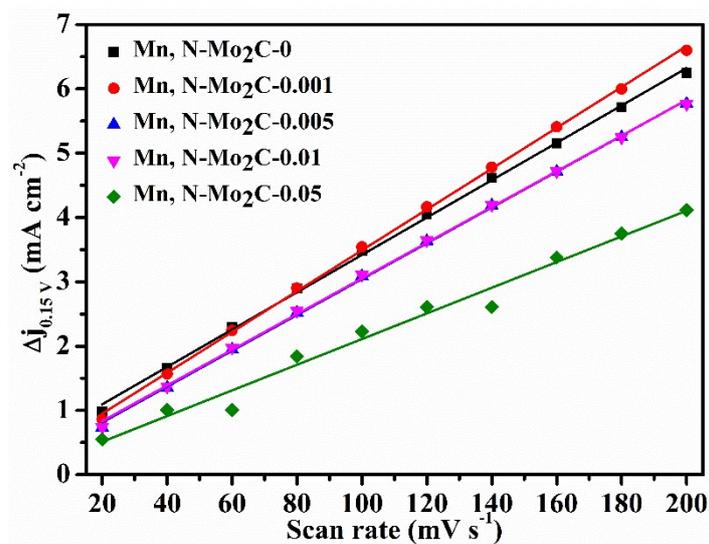
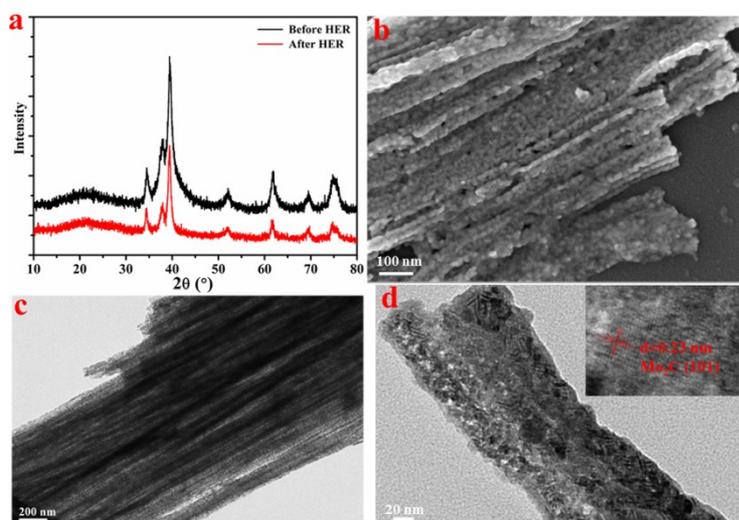


Fig. S5 Capacitive current at 0.15 V as a function of scan rate for Mn, N-doped Mo<sub>2</sub>C electrocatalysts ( $\Delta j_0 = j_a - j_c$ ) in the potential range of 0-0.3 V, where no Faradaic process occurred.



**Fig. S6** (a) XRD patterns of Mn, N-Mo<sub>2</sub>C-0.01 before and after HER test (1000 CV cycles). (b) SEM image, (c, d) TEM images for Mn, N-Mo<sub>2</sub>C-0.01 after 1000 CV cycles. The inset in Fig. S6d is the HRTEM image of Mn, N-Mo<sub>2</sub>C-0.01 after 1000 CV cycles.

**Tab. S2** Comparison of the electrocatalytic activity of Mn, N-Mo<sub>2</sub>C-0.01 and other related electrocatalysts reported for HER in acid solution.

Catalyst	Loading density (mg cm <sup>-2</sup> )	Current density j (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )	Overpotential at the corresponding j (mV)	Tafel slope (mV dec <sup>-1</sup> )	Reference
Mn, N-Mo <sub>2</sub> C-0.01	~0.55	10	163	66	This work
Mo <sub>2</sub> N-Mo <sub>2</sub> C/HGr-3	~0.337	10	157	55	<i>Adv. Mater.</i> 2018, 30, 1704156
Mo <sub>2</sub> C/CNT-GR	~0.65	10	130	58	<i>ACS Nano</i> 2014, 8, 5164
Mo-Mo <sub>2</sub> C-0.077	~0.38	10	150	55	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i> , 2018, 6, 10028
Mo <sub>2</sub> C-GNR	/	10	152	65	<i>ACS Nano</i> 2017, 11, 384
Co-Mo <sub>2</sub> C-0.020	0.14	10	140	39	<i>Adv. Funct. Mater.</i> 2016, 26, 5590
Co-NC@Mo <sub>2</sub> C	~0.83	10	143	60	<i>Nano Energy</i> 57, (2019), 746
Mo <sub>2</sub> C@NC nanomesh	0.5	10	36	33.7	<i>Adv. Funct. Mater.</i> 2018, 28, 1705967
uf-Mo <sub>2</sub> C/CF-2	0.25	10	184	71	<i>Small Methods</i> 2018, 1700396
Mo <sub>2</sub> C/C (2:2)	0.28	10	180	71	<i>ACS Appl. Mater. Inter.</i> , 2017, 9, 41314