

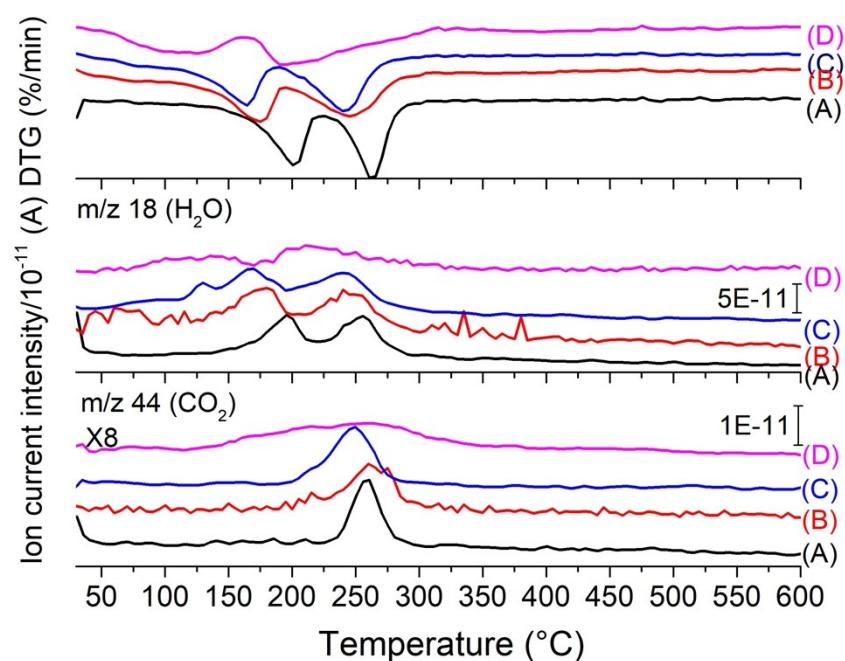
## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

### Cobalt-based Layered Double Hydroxides Revisited: evidence for an oxidizing radical generation

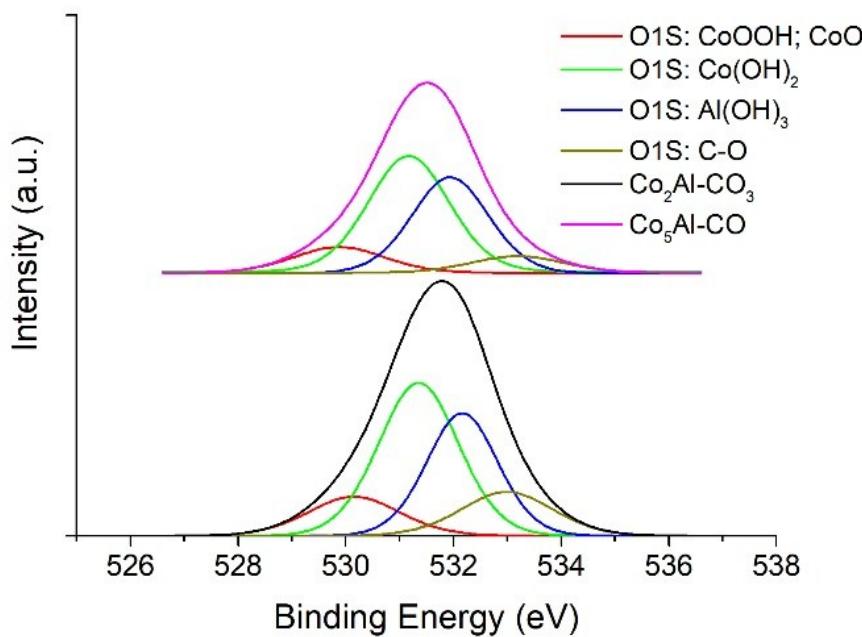
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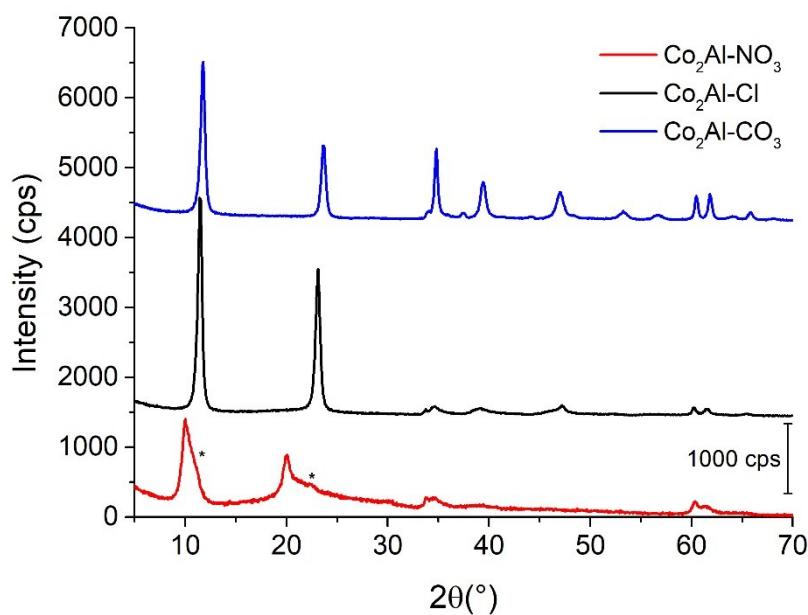
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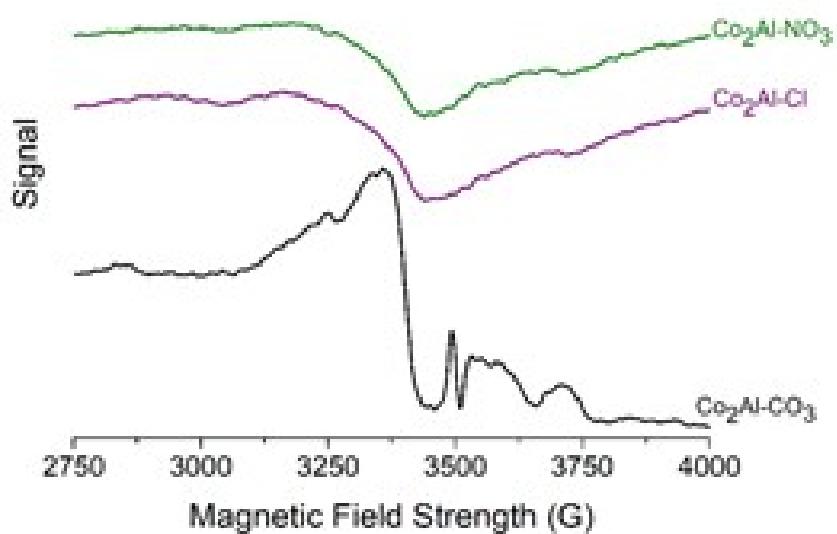
**Fig. 1S** DTG (superior) and MS (inferior) curves of Co<sub>R</sub>Al-CO<sub>3</sub> materials: (A) Co<sub>2</sub>Al-CO<sub>3</sub>, (B) Co<sub>3</sub>Al-CO<sub>3</sub>, (C) Co<sub>4</sub>Al-CO<sub>3</sub>, and (D) Co<sub>5</sub>Al-CO<sub>3</sub>.



**Fig. 2S** High-resolution XPS O1S of Co<sub>2</sub>Al-CO<sub>3</sub> and Co<sub>5</sub>Al-CO<sub>3</sub> materials.



**Fig. 3S** XRD patterns of cobalt-based LDH. (\*) carbonate phase.



**Fig. 4S** EPR spectra of  $\text{Co}_2\text{Al-CO}_3$  (black line),  $\text{Co}_2\text{Al-Cl}$  (purple line) and  $\text{Co}_2\text{Al-NO}_3$  (green line).

**Table 1S** Metal analysis (ICP OES) of nitrate and chloride cobalt-based LDH materials.

LDH samples	Molar ratio (Co/Al)
$\text{Co}_2\text{Al-NO}_3$	$2.10 \pm 0.00$
$\text{Co}_2\text{Al-Cl}$	$2.21 \pm 0.02$

**Table 2S** Reduction potential for some oxygen, carbon and cobalt species.

Reaction condition	Reaction	Potential (V x SHE)	Ref.
pH = 0	$O_2 + 4H^+ + 4e^- \rightarrow 2H_2O$	1.229	1
	$O_2 + H^+ + e^- \rightarrow HO_2^-$	-0.105	1
	$\cdot OH + H^+ + e^- \rightarrow H_2O$	2.85	1
	$O_2 + 2H^+ + 2e^- \rightarrow H_2O_2$	0.695	1
	$H_2O_2 + 2H^+ + 2e^- \rightarrow 2H_2O$	1.776	1
	$H_2O_2 + H^+ + e^- \rightarrow H_2O + \cdot OH$	0.71	1
	$Co^{3+} + e^- \rightarrow Co^{2+}$	1.92	1
pH = 7	$O_2 + 4H^+ + 4e^- \rightarrow 2H_2O$	0.815	2
	$O_2 + e^- \rightarrow O_2\cdot^-$	-0.16	2
	$O_2\cdot^- + 2H^+ + e^- \rightarrow H_2O_2$	0.89	2
	$O_2 + 2H^+ + 2e^- \rightarrow H_2O_2$	0.28	2
	$H_2O_2 + H^+ + e^- \rightarrow H_2O + \cdot OH$	0.38	2
	$\cdot OH + H^+ + e^- \rightarrow H_2O$	2.32	2
	$H_2O_2 + 2e^- \rightarrow 2OH^-$	1.349	2
	$CO_3^{2-} + e^- \rightarrow CO_3^{2-}$	1.57	3
pH = 14	$O_2 + 2H_2O + 4e^- \rightarrow 4OH^-$	0.401	1
	$O_2 + e^- \rightarrow O_2\cdot^-$	-0.563	1
	$O_2 + H_2O + 2e^- \rightarrow HO_2^- + OH^-$	-0.076	1
	$HO_2^- + H_2O + e^- \rightarrow \cdot OH + 2OH^-$	-0.245	1
	$HO_2^- + H_2O + 2e^- \rightarrow 3OH^-$	0.878	1
	$\cdot OH + e^- \rightarrow OH^-$	2.02	1
	$Co(OH)_3 + e^- \rightarrow Co(OH)_2 + OH^-$	0.17	1

## References

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- 1 W. M. Haynes, D. R. Lide and T. J. Bruno, CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics, CRC Press, Boca Raton, 97<sup>th</sup> ed., 2017.
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