

Electronic Supplementary Information

**Morphology-activity correlation in hydrogen evolution catalyzed by cobalt
sulfides**

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Supplementary Results

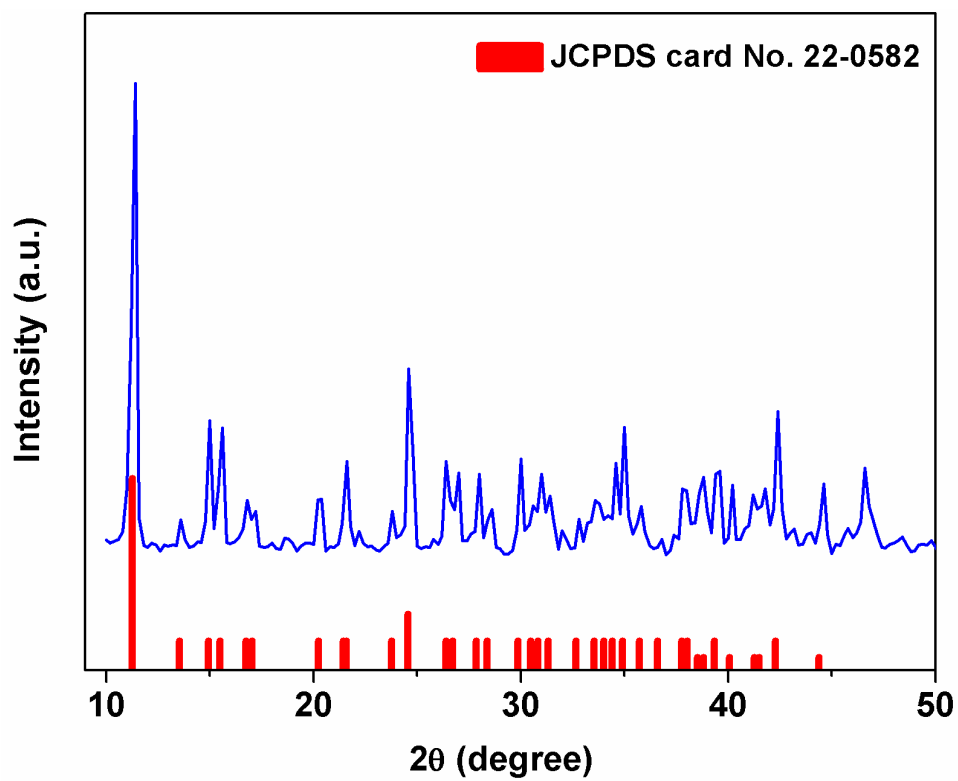


Fig. S1 XRD patterns of cobalt acetate hydroxide (CAHs) precursor

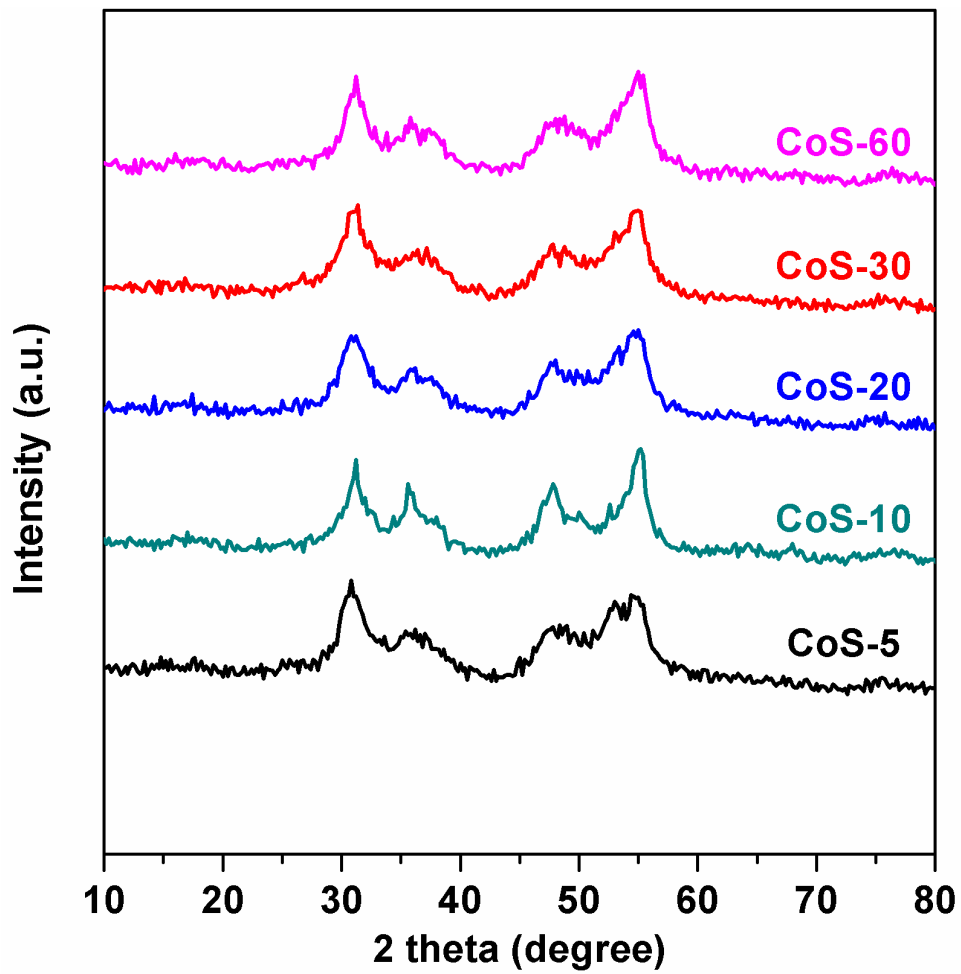


Fig. S2 XRD patterns of CoS-x samples.

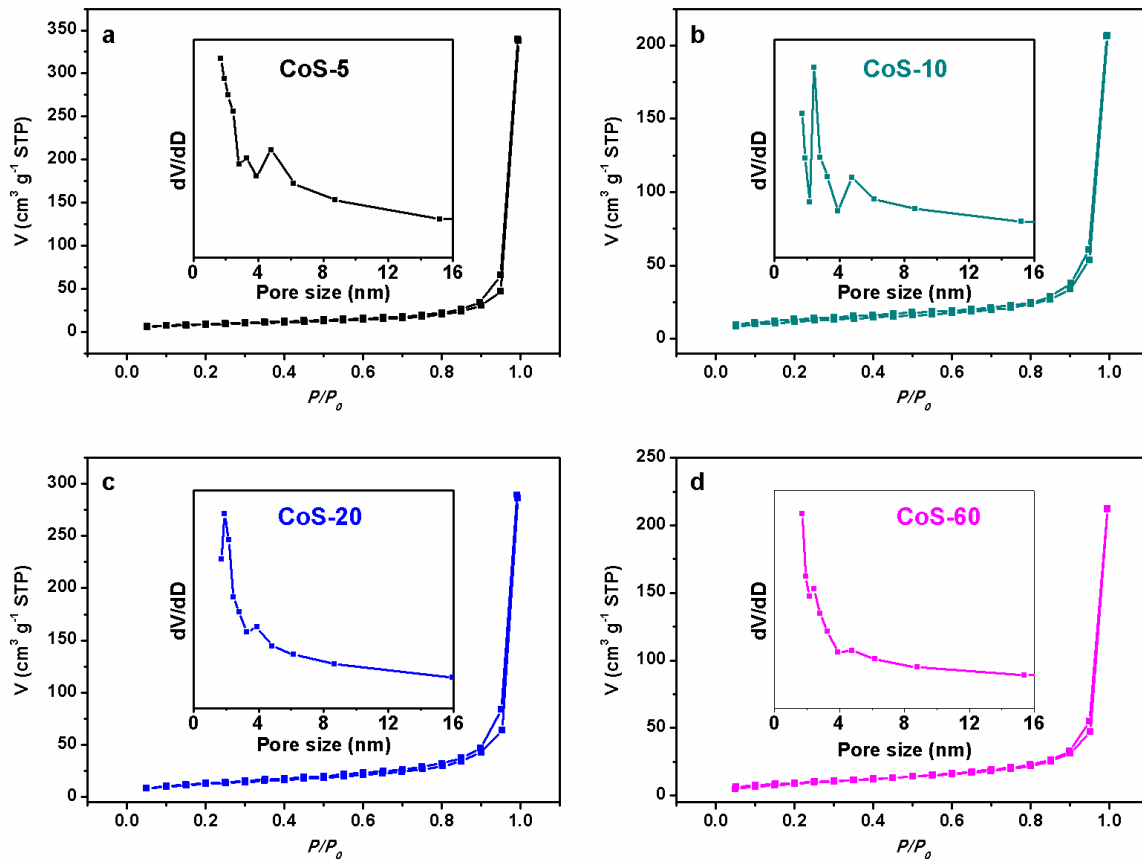


Fig. S3 N₂ sorption isotherms of (a) CoS-5, (b) CoS-10, (c) CoS-20, and (d) CoS-60 samples. The inset are the corresponding pore size distribution curves.

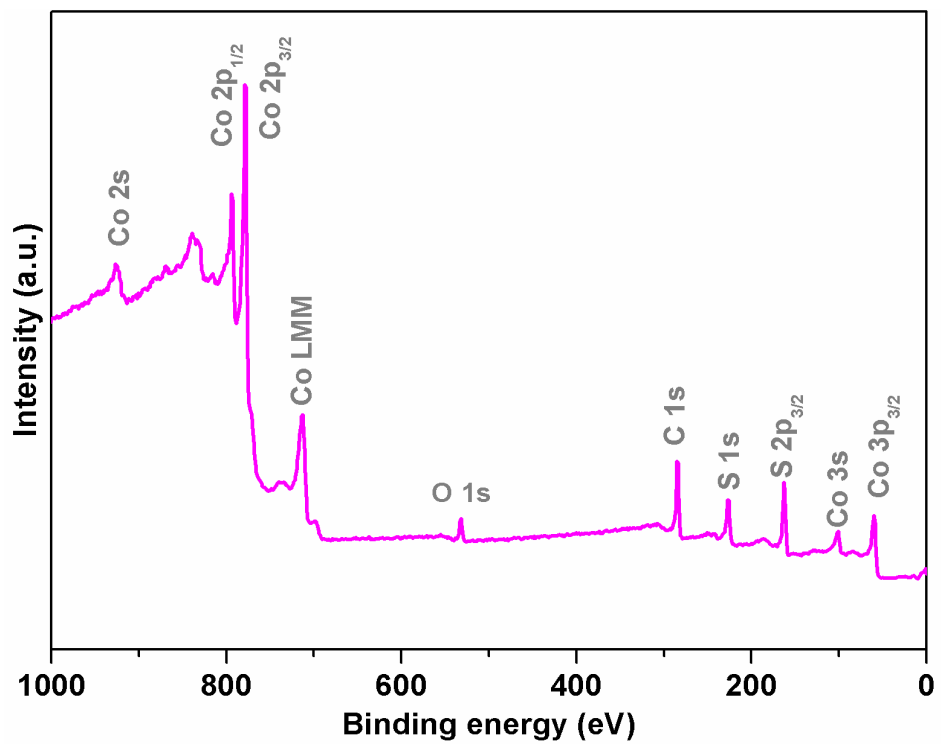


Fig. S4 XPS survey spectra of CoS-30 sample.

Table S1. Comparison of HER activity in neutral media for CoS-30 with other HER electrocatalysts.

Catalysts	Loading	Electrolyte	Tafel slope (mV dec ⁻¹)	η_{10}^a (mV)	η_{50}^a (mV)	η_{100}^a (mV)	References
CoS-30	0.24 mg cm ⁻²	1.0 M KPi	75	233	314	364	This work
MoS _{2.7} @NPG	-	0.2 M KPi	60	>350	-	-	<i>Adv. Mater.</i> , 2014 , 26, 3100.
Co-S/FTO	~1.2 mg cm ⁻²	1.0 M KPi	93	-	397	-	<i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i> 2013 , 135, 17699.
microCoS	-	TEOA (0.05 M) and Na ₂ SO ₄ (0.1 M) pH=7	-	>390	-	-	<i>Chem. Sci.</i> 2014 , 5, 4906.
MW-CoS	0.283 mg cm ⁻²	1.0 M KPi	75	275	373	450	<i>Chem. Commun.</i> 2015 , 51, 4252.
CoS ₂ /CFP	~0.625 mg cm ⁻²	1.0 M PBS	106.7	~300	~400	-	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i> 2015 , 3, 6306.
Co ₉ S ₈ @C	0.3 mg cm ⁻²	1.0 M KPi	-	280	-	-	<i>ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces</i> 2015 , 7, 980.
3DG/CoS _x	-	1.0 M PBS	93	~300	>400	-	<i>RSC Adv.</i> 2015 , 5, 6886.
H ₂ -CoCat/FTO	Co=58.9 μg cm ⁻²	0.5 M KPi	140	-	-	-	<i>Nat. Mater.</i> , 2012 , 11, 802.
CoP/CC	0.92 mg cm ⁻²	1.0 M KPi	93	~200	~250	~380	<i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i> , 2014 , 136, 7587.
Co-NRCNT	0.280 mg cm ⁻²	0.1 M KPi	-	540	-	-	<i>Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.</i> , 2014 , 53, 4372
Cu/Cu ₂ O	-	0.5 M KPi	65	>300	-	-	<i>ACS Catal.</i> 2015 , 5, 4115.
FeP NAs/CC	1.5 mg cm ⁻²	1.0 M KPi	146	202	-	-	<i>ACS Catal.</i> 2014 , 4, 4065.
Cu ₂ MoS ₄	0.042 mg cm ⁻²	0.1 M KPi	95	~350	-	-	<i>Energy Environ. Sci.</i> , 2012 , 5, 8912
Mo ₂ B	~339 mg cm ⁻²	1.0 M KPi	-	>400	-	-	<i>Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.</i> , 2012 , 51, 12703
Mo ₂ C	~339 mg cm ⁻²	1.0 M KPi	-	>400	-	-	<i>Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.</i> , 2012 , 51, 12703
H ₂ -NiCat film	-	0.1 M NaBi	226	>600	-	-	<i>J. Phys. Chem. C</i> , 2014 , 118, 4578.
Ni-S film	Ni=81.5 μg cm ⁻²	1.0 M KPi	77	330	>537	-	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i> , 2014 , 2, 19407.
Fe _{1-x} S	2.128 mg cm ⁻²	0.1 M KPi	150	>780	-	-	<i>ACS Catal.</i> 2014 , 4, 681.

^a Overpotential required to reach current densities of 10, 50 or 100 mA cm⁻².