

Electronic Supporting Information

Fe/N co-doped Carbon Microspheres as a High Performance Electrocatalyst for Oxygen Reduction Reaction

*Pengpeng Cheng¹, Shuoshuo Li¹, Ruchun Li, Jing Yan, Wendan Yu, Xiaofeng Shao, Zhaoxia Hu, and Dingsheng Yuan**

¹ Both authors have the same contribution.

*Department of Chemistry, Jinan University, Guangzhou 510632, PR China E-mail:

tydsh@jnu.edu.cn, Fax: +8620 8522 1697

Formula

the *K-L* equations:

$$1/j_{\text{lim}} = 1/j_{\text{lev}} + 1/j = 1/(B\omega^{1/2}) + 1/j_k \quad (1)$$

$$B = 0.62nFC_0(D_0)^{2/3}\nu^{-1/6} \quad (2)$$

$$j_k = nFkC_0 \quad (3)$$

where j_{lim} (mA cm⁻²) is the measured current density, which is related to Levich current (j_{lev}) and kinetic current (j_k). ω is the electrode rotation rate, F is the Faraday constant (96485 C mol⁻¹), C_0 is the bulk concentration of O₂ ($C_0 = 1.21 \times 10^{-6}$ mol cm⁻³), D_0 is the diffusion coefficient of O₂ ($D_0 = 1.9 \times 10^{-5}$ cm² s⁻¹), ν is the kinematic viscosity of the electrolyte (0.01 cm² s⁻¹), and k is the electron-transfer rate constant.

Table S1. Comparison of the electrocatalytic activity of NCMS-Fe and the reported catalysts for ORR in alkaline solution.

Catalyst	Reference electrode	electrolyte	Onset potential (V)	Reference
NCNC700/900	Ag/AgCl	0.1M KOH	-0.13	[1]
NCS-H	Ag/AgCl	0.1M KOH	-0.10	[2]
NCNTs/G	SCE	0.1M KOH	-0.136	[3]
N-HCNPs	Ag/AgCl	0.1M KOH	-0.08	[4]
N-GC	Ag/AgCl	0.1M KOH	-0.05	[5]
NCMS-Fe	Ag/AgCl	0.1M KOH	0.025	This work

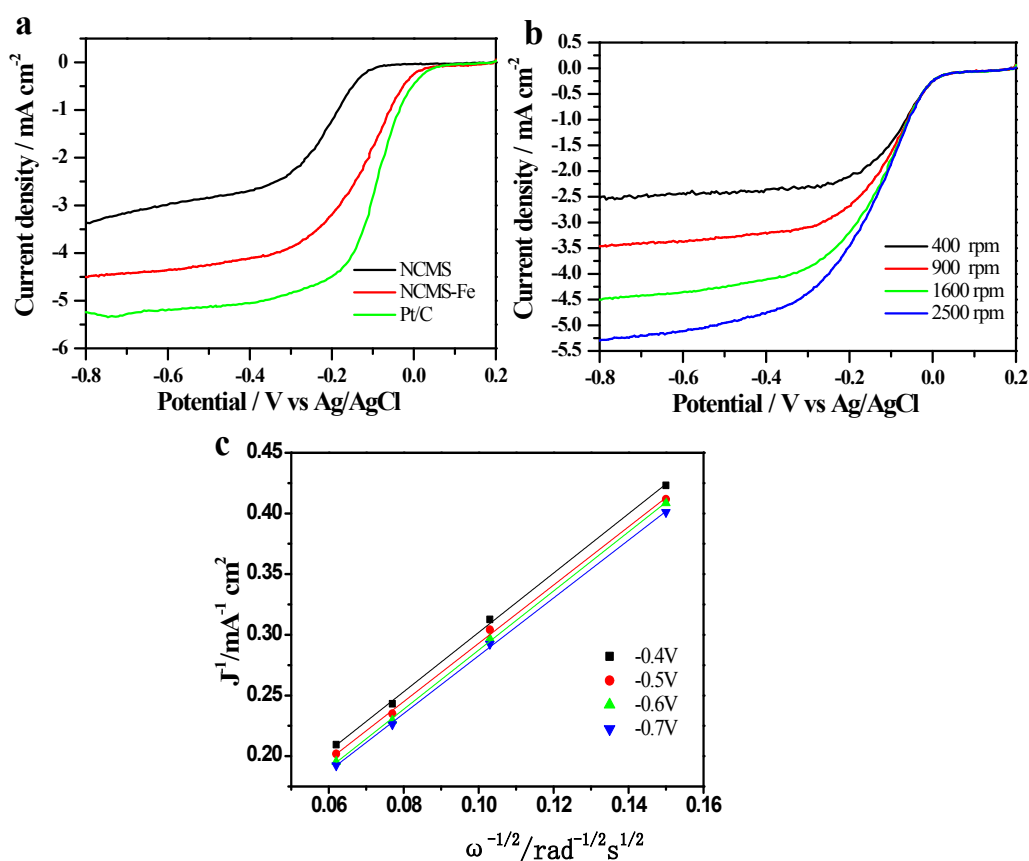


Fig. S1. (a) Polarization curves (RDE) of NCMS, NCMS-Fe and the commercial 20 wt% Pt/C at 1600 rpm in O_2 -saturated $0.1 \text{ mol L}^{-1} \text{ KOH}$; (b) RDE voltammograms at different rotating rates in $0.1 \text{ mol L}^{-1} \text{ KOH}$ solution saturated with O_2 with a scan rate rate of 10 mV s^{-1} ; (c) Koutecky–Levich plot (j^{-1} vs. $\omega^{-1/2}$) obtained from the RDE data at -0.4, -0.5, -0.6 and -0.7 V of NCMS-Fe.

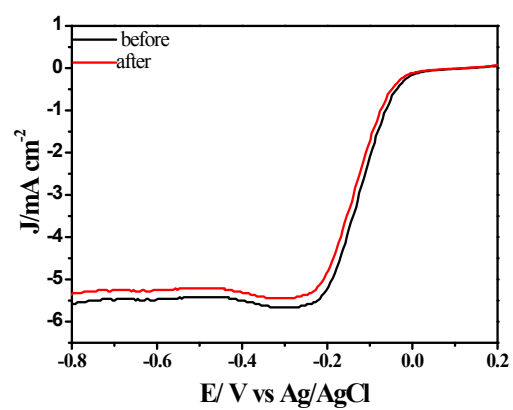


Fig. S2 ORR polarization (RRDE) plots of NCMS-Fe before and after 2000 potential cycles in O₂-saturated 0.1 M KOH.

Reference

- [1]S. Chen, J. Y. Bi, Y. Zhao, L. J. Yang, C. Zhang, Y. W. Ma, Q. Wu, X. Z. Wang and Z. Hu, *Adv. Mater*, 2012, **24**, 5593-5597.
- [2]X. M. Zhou, Z. Yang, H. G. Nie, Z. Yao, L. J. Zhang and S. M. Huang, *J. power. sources*, 2011, **196**, 9970-9974.
- [3]Y. W. Ma, L. Y. Sun, W. Huang, L. R. Zhang, J. Zhao, Q. L. Fan and W. Huang, *J. Phys. Chem. C*, 2011, **115**, 24592-24597.
- [4]G. X. Ma, R. R. Jia, J. H. Zhao, Z. J. Huang, C. Song, S. P. Jia and Z. P. Zhu, *J. Phys. Chem. C*, 2011, **115**, 25148-25154.
- [5]J. Yan, H. Meng, W. D. Yu, X. L. Yuan, W. R. Lin, W. P. Ouyang, D. S. Yuan, *Electrochim. Acta*, 2014, **129**, 196-202.