Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Journal of Materials Chemistry A. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2015

## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

Iron and nitrogen co-doped carbon nanotubes@hollow carbon fibers derived from plant biomass as efficient catalysts for oxygen reduction reaction Mian Li,<sup>a</sup> Yueping Xiong,<sup>b</sup> Xiaotian Liu,<sup>b</sup> Ce Han,<sup>a</sup> Yufan Zhang,<sup>a</sup> Xiangjie Bo<sup>\*a</sup> and Liping Guo<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Faculty of Chemistry, Northeast Normal University, Changchun, 130024, P. R.

China

<sup>b</sup> School of Chemical Engineering and Technology, Harbin Institute of Technology, Harbin 150001, China

\* Corresponding authors

Tel.: +86-0431-85099762.

Fax: +86-0431-85099762.

E-mail address: baoxj133@nenu.edu.cn (X. Bo); guolp078@nenu.edu.cn (L. Guo).

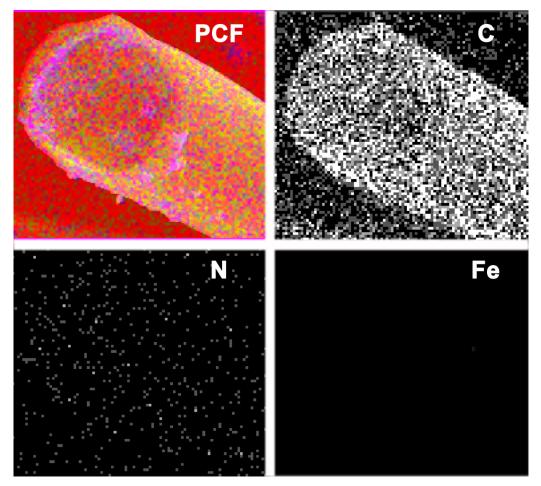


Fig. S1 Elemental mapping spectra of C, N, and Fe for the PCF composite. In the colorized image red represents the C elements and blue represents the N elements.

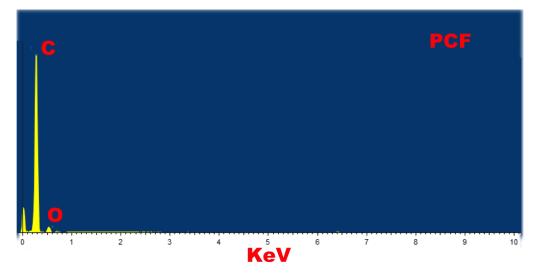


Fig. S2 EDX spectrum of the PCF.

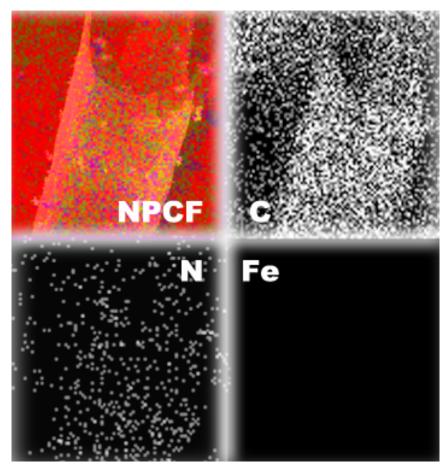


Fig. S3 Elemental mapping spectra of C, N, and Fe for the N/PCF composite. In the colorized image red represents the C elements and blue represents the N elements.

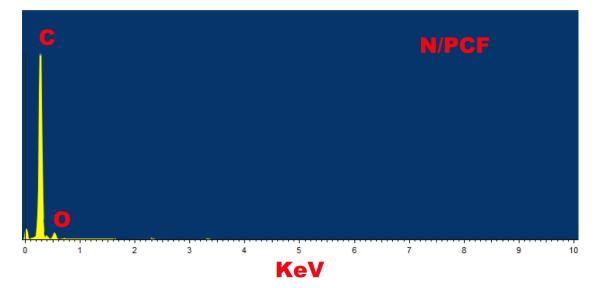


Fig. S4 EDX spectrum of the N/PCF.

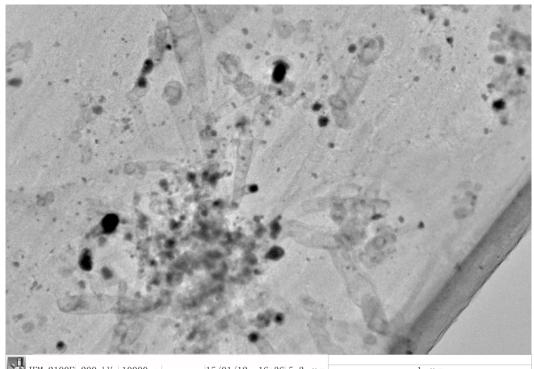


Fig. S5 TEM image of the Fe/N/CNT@PCF sample before the acid pickling process in 2 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.

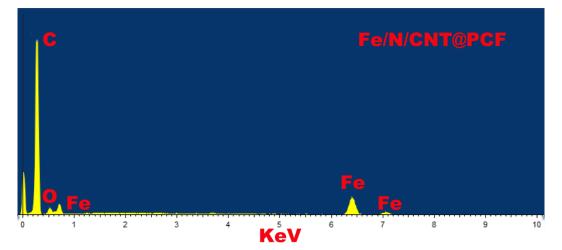


Fig. S6 EDX spectrum of the Fe/N/CNT@PCF before the acid pickling process in 2 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.

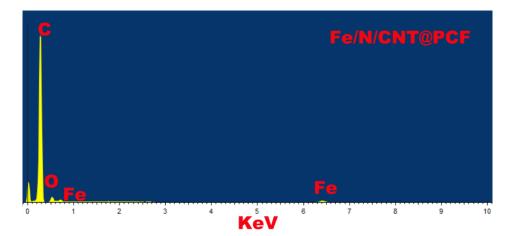


Fig. S7 EDX spectrum of the Fe/N/CNT@PCF after the acid pickling process in 2 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.

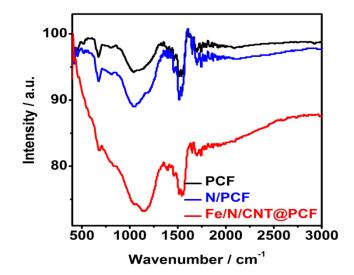


Fig. S8 FT-IR spectra of the PCF, N/PCF, and Fe/N/CNT@PCF samples.

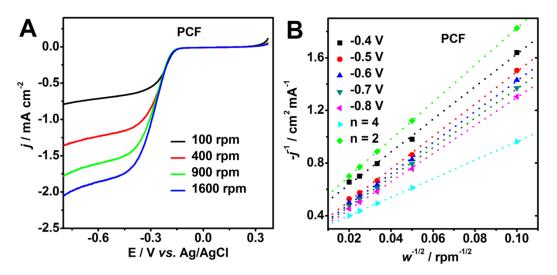


Fig. S9 (A) RDE voltammograms of the PCF in  $O_2$ -saturated 0.1 M KOH with various rotation rates at a scan rate of 5 mV s<sup>-1</sup>. (B) The corresponding Koutecky–Levich plots of the PCF catalyst at different potential.