

Supplementary information for the manuscript

“Effects of structural disorder and nitrogen content on oxygen reduction activity of polyvinylpyrrolidone-derived multi-doped carbon”

1. Oxygen reduction reaction activity in alkaline media:

Figure S1 exhibits the CV scans of as-synthesized CN_x modified GC electrodes in Ar (dotted curves) and O₂ (solid curve) saturated 0.1 M KOH electrolyte. The cathodic peak around -0.4 V vs Ag/AgCl (1.0 M KCl) disappear in absence of O₂, suggesting its origin to be the oxygen reduction reaction. Similarly, Figure S2 exhibits the CV scans of acid-treated CN_x modified GC electrodes in Ar (dotted curves) and O₂ saturated 0.1 M KOH electrolyte.

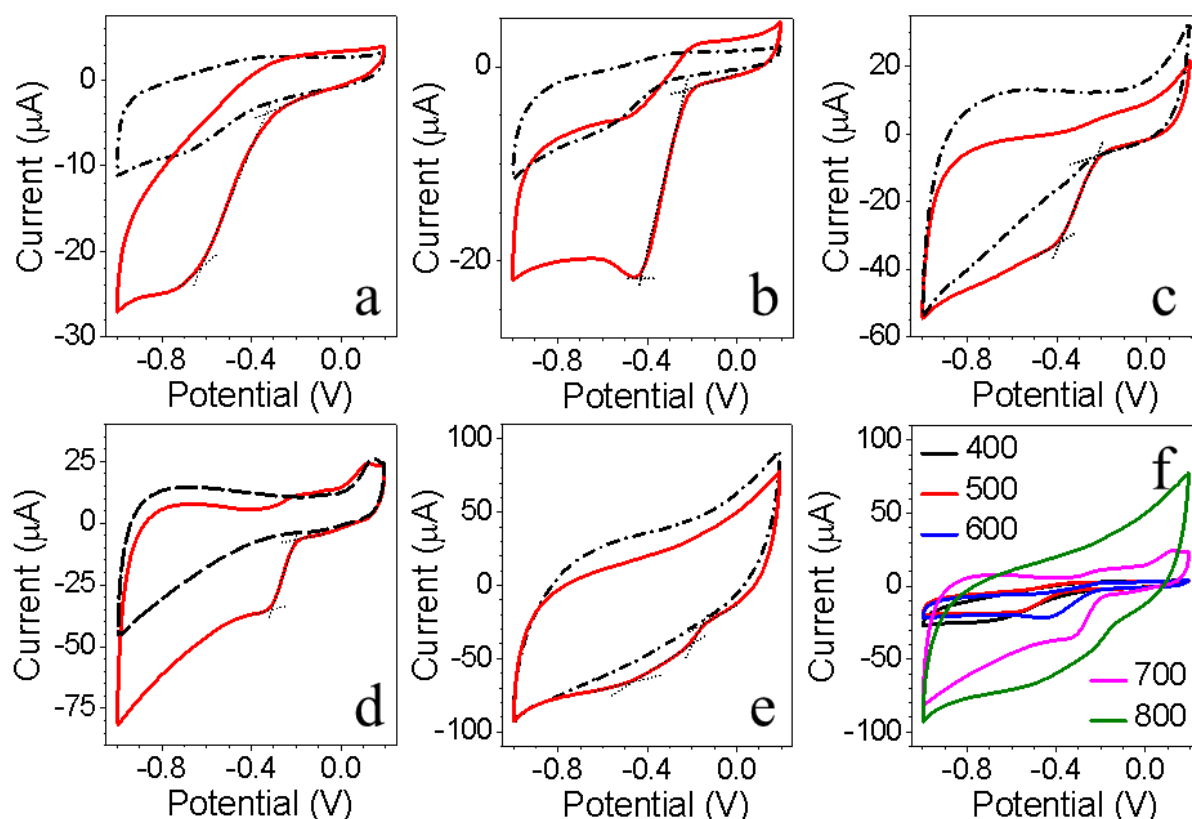


Figure S1: Cyclic voltammograms of as-synthesized CN_x in O₂ (solid curves) and Ar (dashed curves) saturated aqueous 0.1 mol L⁻¹ KOH electrolyte for (a) CN_x/400, (b) CN_x/600, (c) CN_x/600, (d) CN_x/700 and (e) CN_x/800 measured at a scan rate of 50 mV/s. (f) CV curves of CN_x in O₂ saturated KOH plotted at same Y-scale.

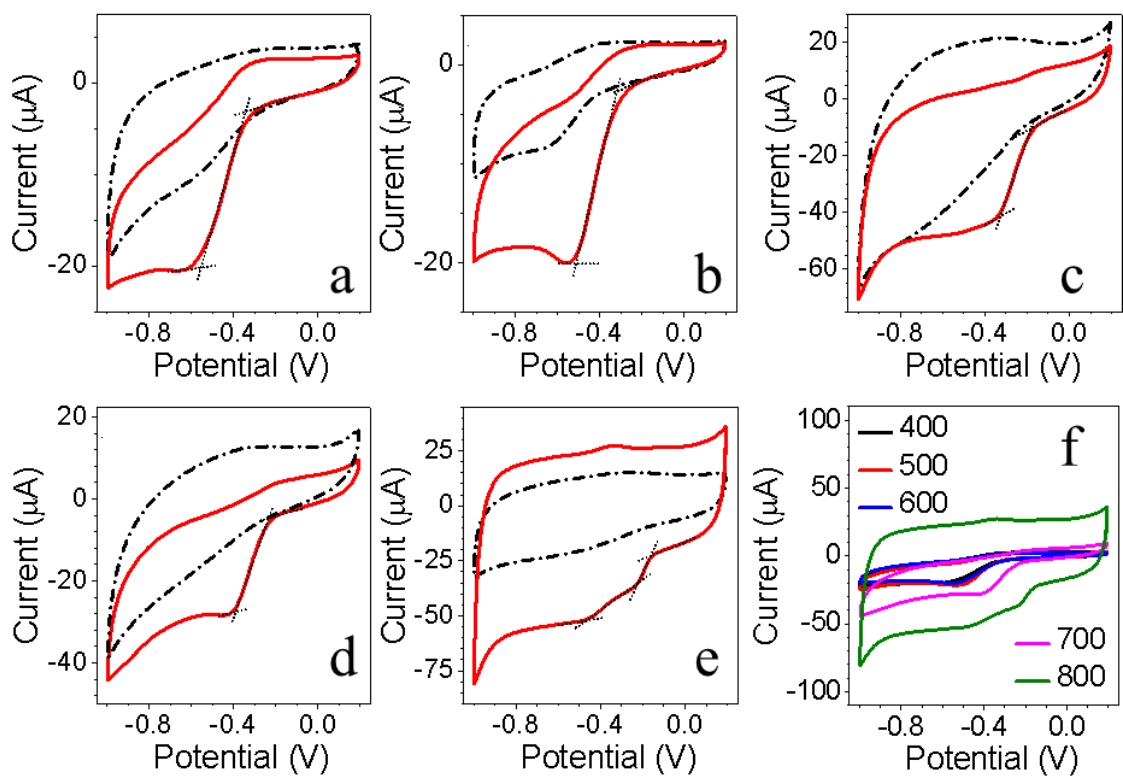


Figure S2: Cyclic voltammograms of A/CN_x in O₂ (solid red curves) and Ar (dashed black curves) saturated aqueous 0.1 mol L⁻¹ KOH electrolyte for (a) A/CN_x/400, (b) A/CN_x/600, (c) A/CN_x/600, (d) A/CN_x/700 and (e) A/CN_x/800 measured at a scan rate of 50 mV/s. (f) CV curves of A/CN_x in O₂ saturated KOH plotted at same Y-scale.

2. Methanol oxidation reaction activity in acidic media:

Figure S3 shows the CV scans for as-synthesized as well as acid-treated CN_x in an electrolyte containing 1.0 M H_2SO_4 and 1.0 M CH_3OH at a scan rate of 50 mV s^{-1} . Anodic peak around 0.7 V vs Ag/AgCl (1.0 M KCl) corresponds to the methanol oxidation reaction.

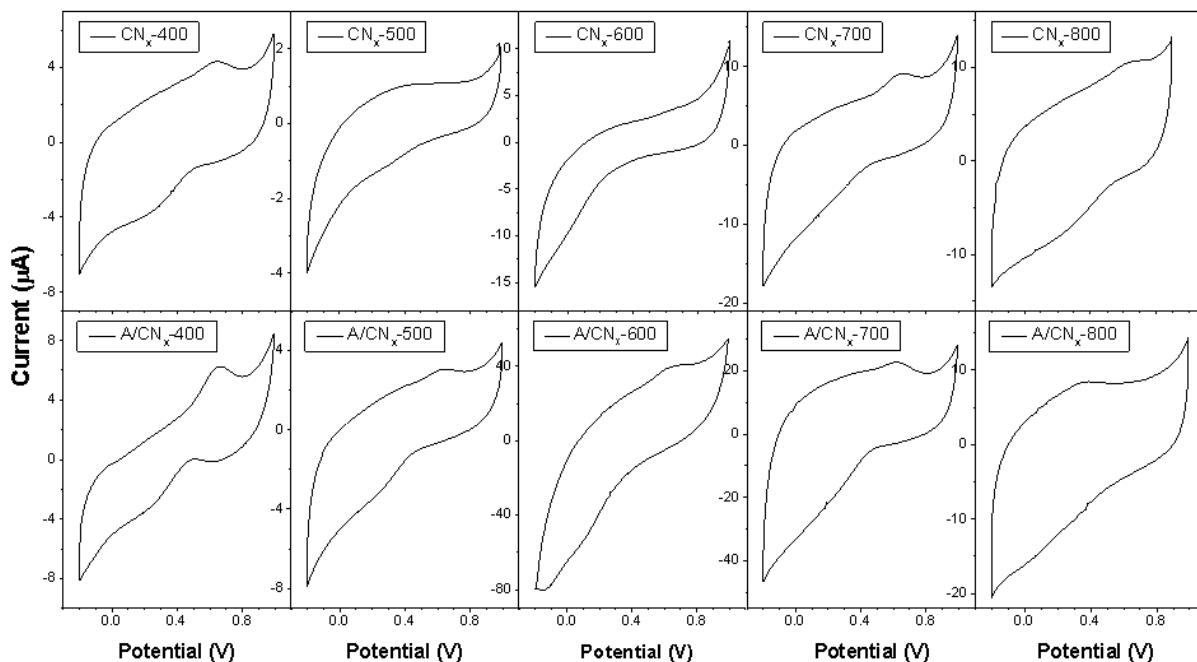


Figure S3: Cyclic voltammograms in an electrolyte containing 1.0 M H_2SO_4 and 1.0 M CH_3OH at a scan rate of 50 mV s^{-1} for as-synthesized as well as acid-treated CN_x synthesized at T_p of 400, 500, 600, 700 and 800 °C. The anodic peaks at $\sim 0.7 \text{ V}$ exhibits the methanol oxidation reaction.