

## Supporting Information

### **The Role of Oxygen Vacancies in Improving the Performance of CoO as Bifunctional Cathode Catalyst for Rechargeable Li-O<sub>2</sub> Batteries**

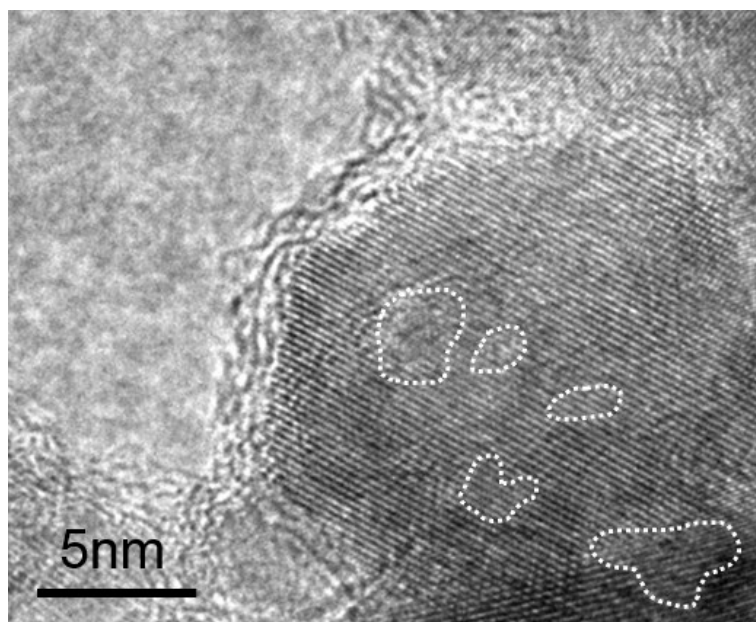
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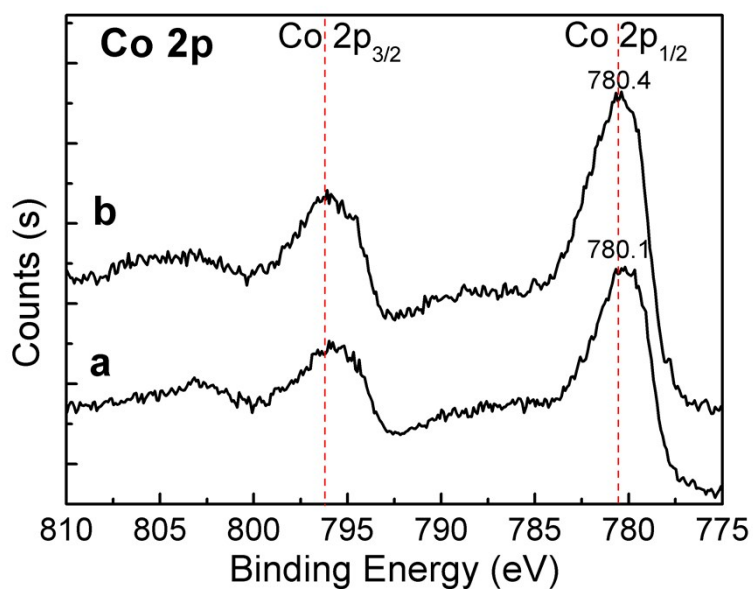
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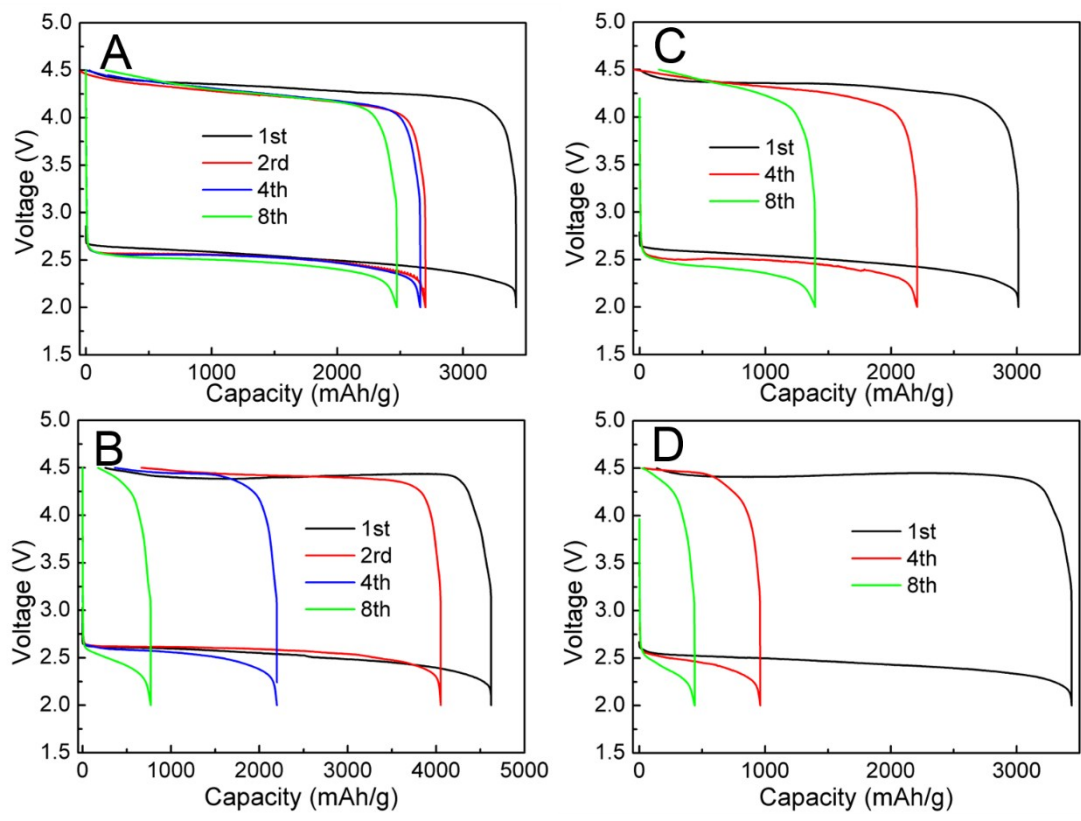
## Supporting Figures



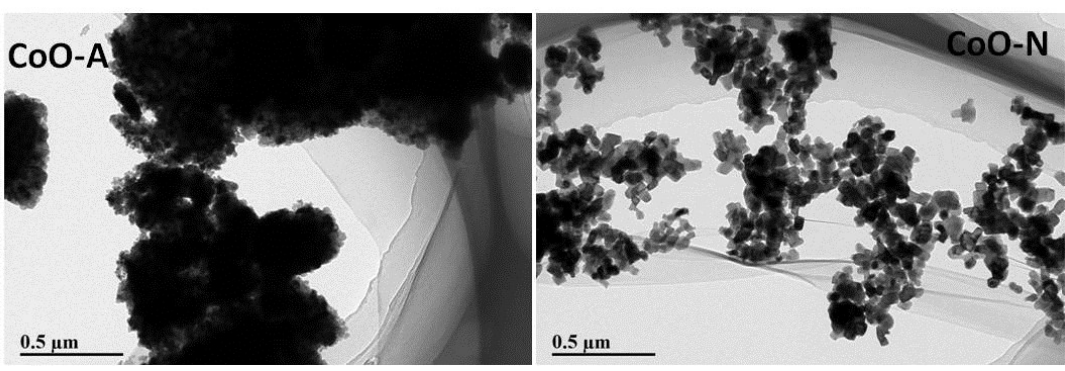
**Figure S1.** The HRTEM images of CoO-A. The blurred areas (circled) and the rough edges of CoO nanocrystals indicate the presence of surface defects



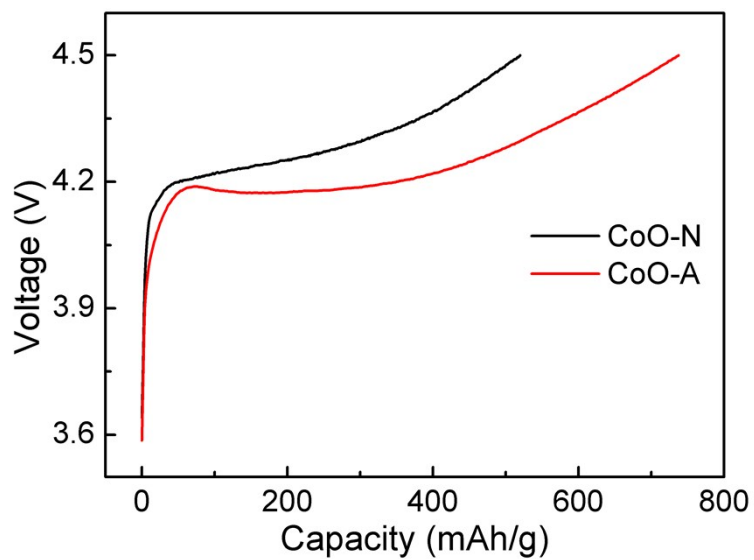
**Figure S2.** XPS spectra of CoO-A (a) and CoO-N (b). Two main peaks can be seen at ~780 eV and 796 eV, which can be attributed to Co (Co<sup>2+</sup>) 2p<sub>3/2</sub> and 2p<sub>1/2</sub>, respectively.



**Figure S3** A, B) The full discharge-charge profiles of CoO-A (A) and CoO-N (B) at the current density of  $200\text{mA}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}$ . C, D) The full discharge-charge profiles of CoO-A (C) and CoO-N (D) at the current density of  $400\text{mA}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}$ .



**Figure S4.** TEM images of CoO-A and CoO-N under a low magnification. The particles of CoO-A show a serious aggregation.



**Figure S5.** The the charge-only profile for batteries catalyzed by CoO-A and CoO-N at the current density of  $200\text{mA}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}$ . The ratio of carbon, CoO, binder and  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_2$  is 3:4:1:2