## **Supporting Information for**

Nitrogen-Doped Mesoporous Carbon Nanosheet/Carbon Nanotube Hybrids as Metal-Free Bi-functional electrocatalysts for Water Oxidation and Oxygen Reduction

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Fig. S1 TEM images of (a) N-MCN, (b) N-MCN/CNTs, (c) mixed N-MCN+CNTs, and

(d) EDX characterization.



**Fig. S2** SEM images to show the homogeneity in morphology and its structure of N-MCN/CNTs (images c-f are local image of b).



**Fig. S3** Nitrogen adsorption–desorption isotherms of N-MCN and N-MCN/CNTs (inset: the corresponding pore-size distributions curves).



Fig. S4 (a) LSVs of N-MCN/CNTs in 0.1 M and 1.0 M KOH solutions, respectively.(b) Chronopotentiometric response of N-MCN/CNTs in 1.0 M KOH solution as compared to that obtained for IrO<sub>2</sub> catalyst.



Fig. S5 LSVs of commercial 20% Pt/C catalyst in  $O_2$ -saturated 0.1M KOH with a sweep rate of 5 mV s<sup>-1</sup> at the different rotation rates.

Table S1 XPS results of N-MCN/CNTs on the atomic percentages of C, N, O and the

N distributions.

| C (%) | N (%) | O (%) | N distribution (%) |            |             |              |  |  |
|-------|-------|-------|--------------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--|--|
|       |       |       | pyridinic N        | pyrrolic N | graphitic N | oxygenated N |  |  |
| 85.1  | 10.7  | 4.2   | 37.7               | 20.5       | 31.6        | 10.2         |  |  |

| Catalysts                                 | Onset potential | η@10.0 mA cm <sup>-2</sup> | Tafel slope             | Catalyst loadings      | Electrolyte | Reference |
|---|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-----------|
|   | (V)             | (V)                        | (mV dec <sup>-1</sup> ) | (mg cm <sup>-2</sup> ) |             |           |
| N-MCN/CNTs                                | 1.50            | 0.32                       | 55                      | 0.21                   | 0.1 M KOH   | This work |
|   | 1.46            | 0.28                       | 39                      | 0.21                   | 1.0 M KOH   | This work |
| g-C₃N₄ NS-CNT                             | 1.53            | 0.37                       | 83                      | 0.20                   | 0.1 M KOH   | 1         |
|   | 1.47            | ~0.29                      | /                       | 0.20                   | 1.0 M KOH   | 1         |
| N/C                                       | ~1.50           | 0.38                       | /                       | 0.20                   | 0.1 M KOH   | 2         |
| N,P-GCNS                                  | 1.32            | 0.34                       | 70                      | 0.14                   | 0.1 M KOH   | 3         |
| NGSH                                      | ~1.44           | 0.40                       | 83                      | 0.25                   | 0.1 M KOH   | 4         |
| NPMC-1000                                 | ~1.30           | ~0.60                      | /                       | 0.15                   | 0.1 M KOH   | 5         |
| OCC-8                                     | ~1.57           | 0.48                       | 82                      | /                      | 0.1 M KOH   | 6         |
| g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> /graphene | 1.5             | 0.54                       | 68.5                    | 0.48                   | 0.1 M KOH   | 7         |
| Fe <sub>3</sub> C@NG800-0.2               | ~1.50           | 0.36                       | 62                      | 0.20                   | 0.1 M KOH   | 8         |
| Au@Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /C      | ~1.51           | 0.35                       | 60                      | 0.20                   | 0.1 M KOH   | 9         |
| Ni-P                                      | 1.48            | 0.30                       | 64                      | 0.20                   | 1.0 M KOH   | 10        |
| Ni–Co ADHs nanocages                      | 1.50            | 0.35                       | 65                      | 0.2                    | 1.0 M KOH   | 11        |
| Co-P/NC                                   | ~ 1.50          | 0.32                       | 52                      | 0.28                   | 1.0 M KOH   | 12        |
| N-CG–CoO                                  | ~ 1.52          | 0.34                       | 71                      | 0.71                   | 1.0 M KOH   | 13        |
| Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> @C-MWCNTs  | 1.50            | 320                        | 62                      | 0.33                   | 1.0 M KOH   | 14        |
| FeNi@NC                                   | 1.44            | 0.28                       | 70                      | 0.32                   | 1.0 M NaOH  | 15        |

**Table S2** Comparison of the OER activity for several recently reported highperformance OER catalysts.

| NiCo-LDH  | ~ 1.52 | 0.37  | 40 | 0.17 | 1.0 M KOH | 16 |
|---|--------|-------|----|------|-----------|----|
| Ni <sub>2</sub> P   | ~ 1.47 | 0.29  | 1  | 0.14 | 1.0 M KOH | 17 |
| CoOx@CN   | 1.51   | ~0.33 | 60 | 0.14 | 1.0 M KOH | 18 |
| CNTs-Au@Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>                    | 1.52   | 0.35  | 68 | 0.36 | 1.0 M KOH | 19 |
| Zn <sub>x</sub> Co <sub>3-x</sub> O <sub>4</sub> nanowire | ~ 1.50 | 0.32  | 51 | 1.0  | 1.0 M KOH | 20 |

**Notes:** For the convenience of comparison, the measure potentials vs. Ag/AgCl were converted to a reversible hydrogen electrode (RHE) scale accorting to the Nerst equation ( $E_{RHE} = E_{Ag/AgCl} + 0.059 \times pH + 0.198$ ).

| Table   | <b>S3</b> | Comparison    | of  | the   | ORR      | activity   | for   | several  | recently | reported | high |
|---------|-----------|---------------|-----|-------|----------|------------|-------|----------|----------|----------|------|
| perform | nanc      | ce ORR cataly | sts | (elec | tro rota | ating spee | ed is | 1600 rpi | n).      |          |      |

| Catalysts             | Onset         | Half-wave     | Electron transfer | Catalyst loadings      | Electrolyte | Reference |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------|-----------|
|                       | potential (V) | potential (V) | numbers           | (mg cm <sup>-2</sup> ) |             |           |
| N-MCN/CNTs            | 0.95          | 0.82          | 3.8-3.9           | 0.21                   | 0.1 M KOH   | This work |
| N-doped porous C      | 0.86          | 0.7           | 3.3-3.9           | 0.20                   | 0.1 M KOH   | 21        |
| N,P-doped C fiber     | 0.88          | 0.79          | ~ 4               | 0.10                   | 0.1 M KOH   | 22        |
| NG-NCNT               | 0.87          | /             | 3.7               | 0.05                   | 0.1 M KOH   | 23        |
| NC900                 | 0.83          | ~0.68         | 3.3               | 0.034                  | 0.1 M KOH   | 24        |
| N,S,O-OMC             | 0.85          | ~0.79         | 3.5               | 0.16                   | 0.1 M KOH   | 25        |
| CoP NCs               | 0.80          | 0.70          | 3.5               | 0.28                   | 0.1 M KOH   | 26        |
| Pt/CaMnO <sub>3</sub> | 0.90          | ~0.79         | 3.9               | 0.09                   | 0.1 M KOH   | 27        |

| NC-NZ-13                 | ~ 0.98  | ~ 0.84  | ~ 4       | 0.21  | 0.1 M KOH | 28 |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|-------|-----------|----|
| meso/micro-P <i>o</i> PD | ~ 1     | 0.87    | 3.97      | 0.5   | 0.1 M KOH | 29 |
| NC-A                     | ~ 0.975 | 0.832   | 0.372     | 0.128 | 0.1 M KOH | 30 |
| NDCN-22                  | 0.955   | 0.855   | 3.67–3.94 | 0.6   | 0.1 M KOH | 31 |
| NG-900                   | 0.935   | ~ 0.785 | 3.70      | 0.051 | 0.1 M KOH | 32 |
| NG/Fe <sub>10.0</sub>    | 0.961   | ~ 0.74  | 3.91      | 0.051 | 0.1 M KOH | 32 |

**Notes:** For the convenience of comparison, the measure potentials vs. Ag/AgCl were converted to a reversible hydrogen electrode (RHE) scale accorting to the Nerst equation ( $E_{RHE} = E_{Ag/AgCl} + 0.059 \times pH + 0.198$ ).

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