

Supplementary Information

Coupling Ag-doping and rich oxygen vacancies in mesoporous NiCoO nanorods supported on nickel foam for highly efficient oxygen evolution

Kai-Li Yan ^a, Jing-Qi Chi ^a, Zi-Zhang Liu ^{a, b}, Bin Dong ^{*a, b}, Shan-Shan Lu ^{a, b},

Xiao Shang ^a, Wen-Kun Gao ^{a, b}, Yong-Ming Chai ^{*a}, Chen-Guang Liu ^a

*a State Key Laboratory of Heavy Oil Processing, China University of Petroleum (East
China), Qingdao 266580, PR China*

*b College of Science, China University of Petroleum (East China), Qingdao 266580,
PR China*

* Corresponding author. Email: dongbin@upc.edu.cn (B. Dong), ymchai@upc.edu.cn (Y.-M. Chai)

Tel: +86-532-86981376, Fax: +86-532-86981787

Detailed calculation process of crystalline size:

Scherrer Equation:

$$D = k\lambda / \beta \cos\theta$$

where:

k is a dimensionless shape factor; $k=0.89$ in our article.

λ is the X-ray wavelength; $\lambda=0.15$ in our article.

β is the line broadening at half the maximum intensity (FWHM), after subtracting the instrumental line broadening, in radians.

θ is the Bragg angle (in degrees).

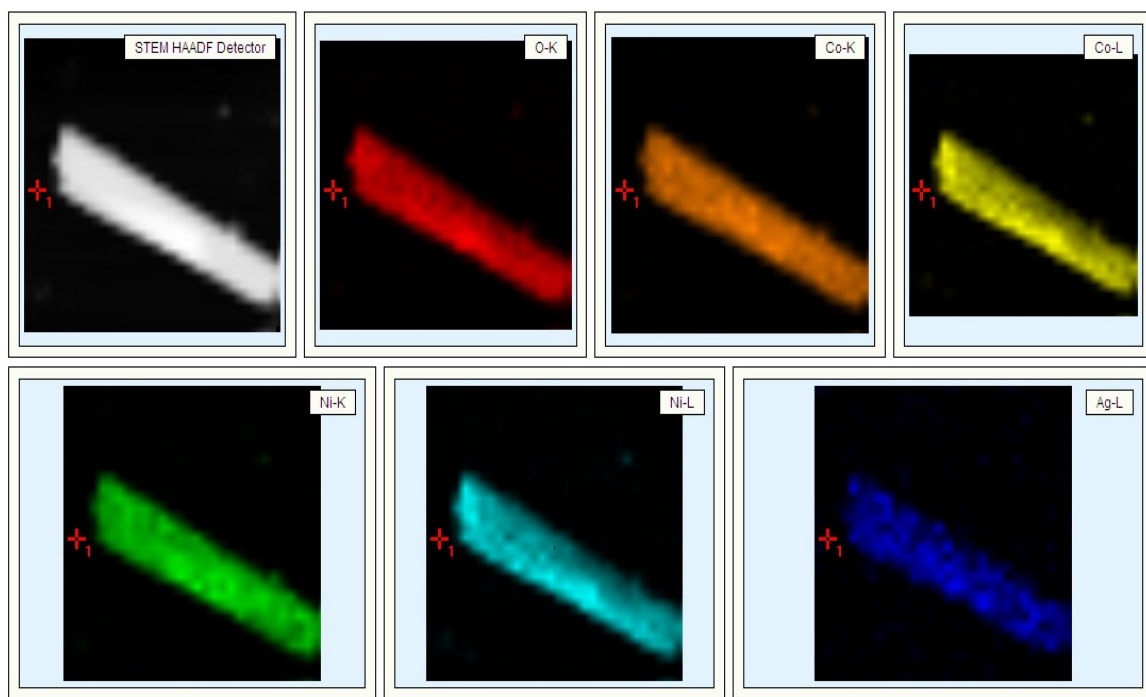


Fig. S1 TEM mappings of Ni-Co@Ag40/NF

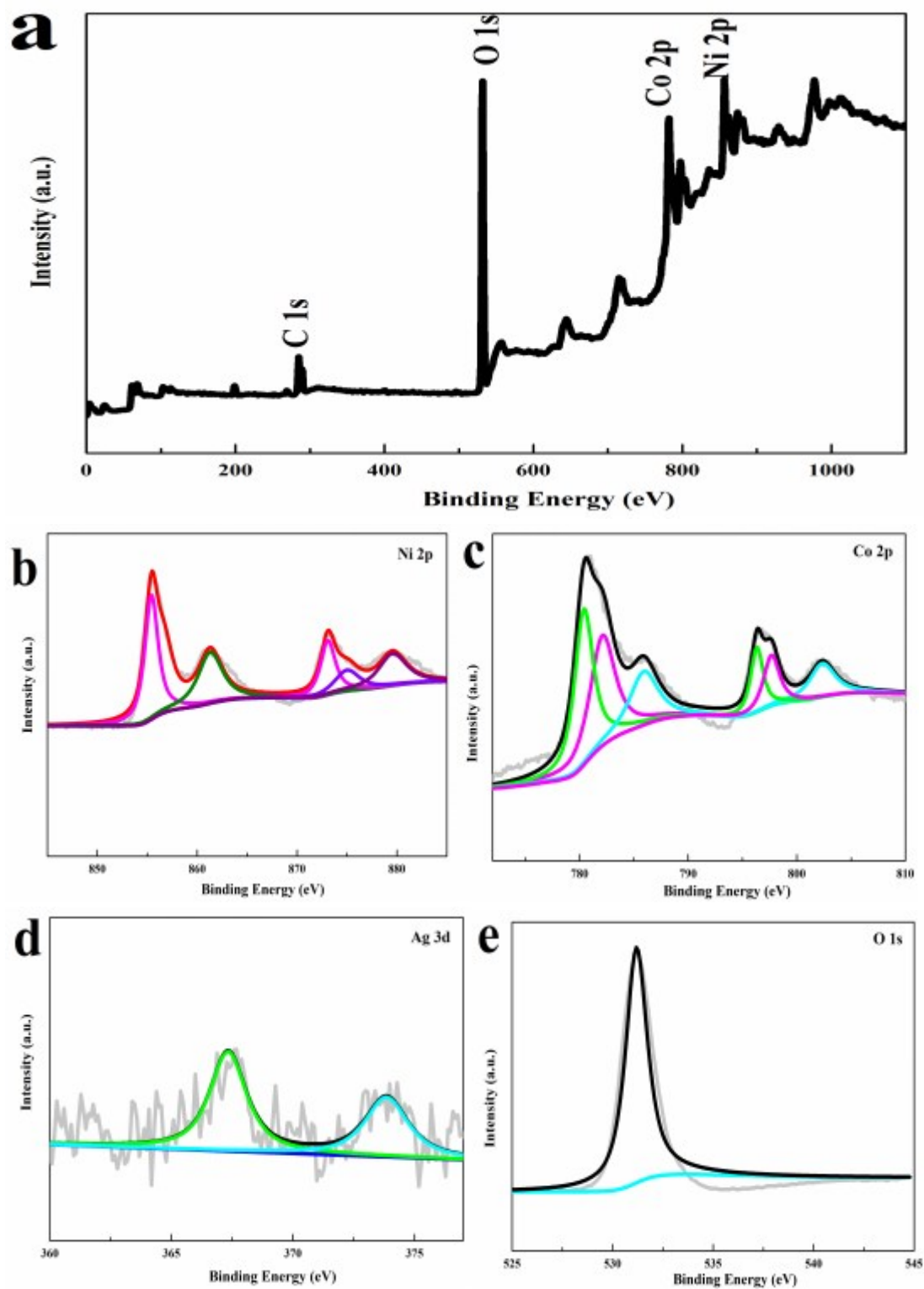


Fig. S2 XPS spectra of Ni-Co@Ag40/NF : (a) survey; (b) Ni 2p; (c) Co 2p; (d) Ag 3d; (e) O 1s.

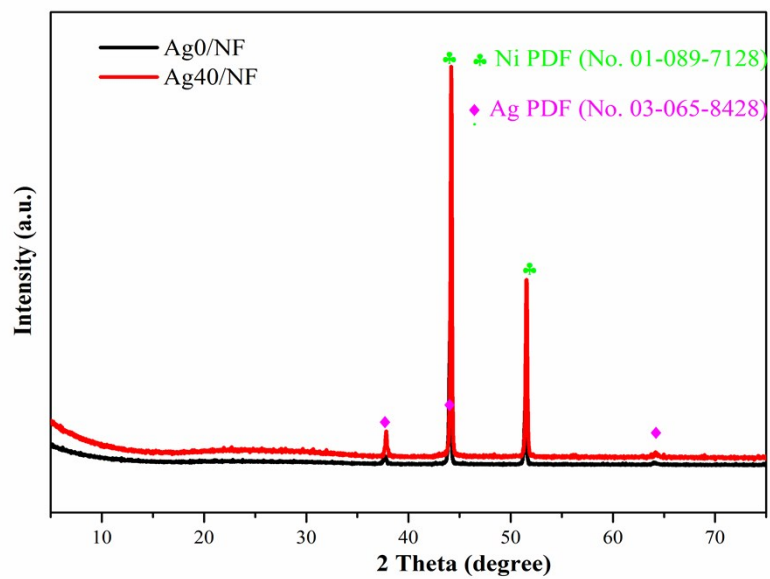


Fig. S3 XRD patterns of Ag0/NF and Ag40/NF.

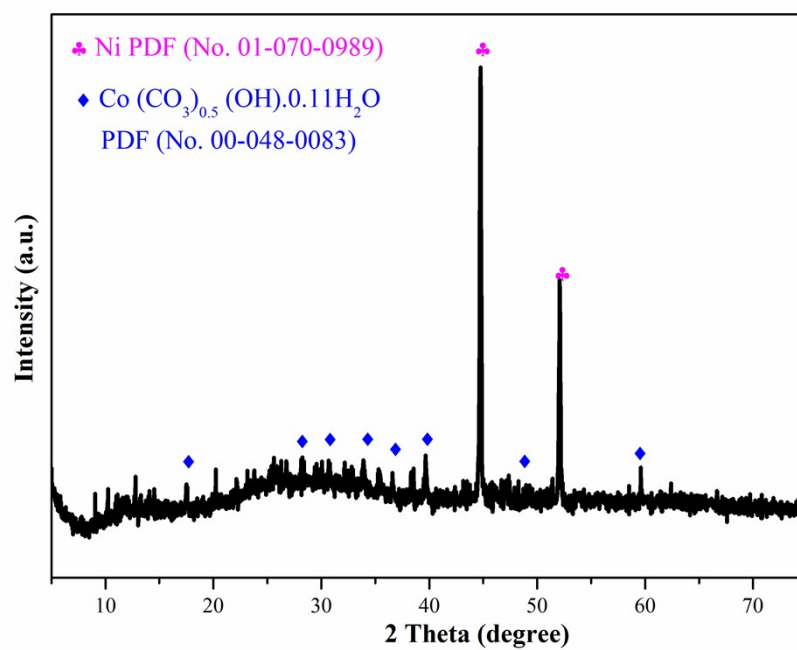


Fig. S4 XRD pattern of Ni-Co@Ag40/NF.

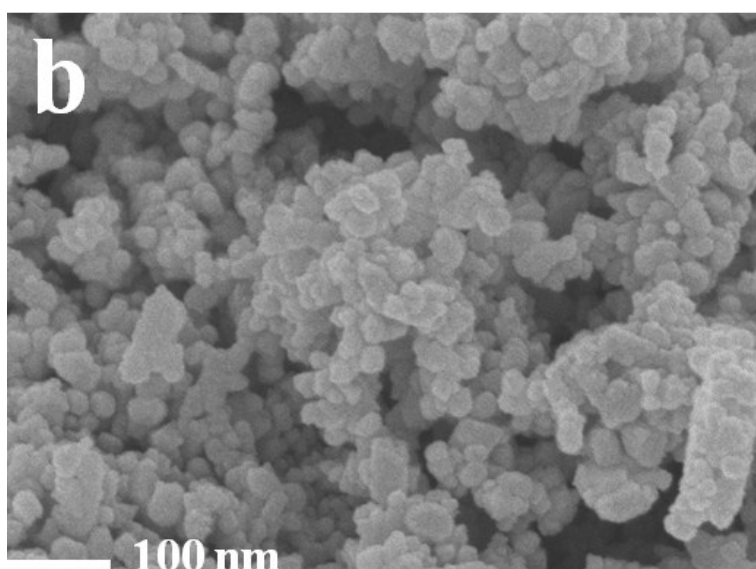
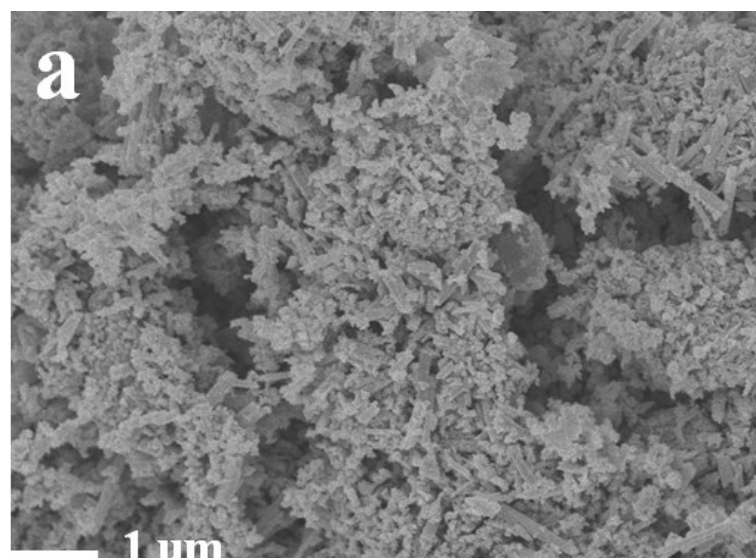


Fig. S5 SEM images of NiCoO/NF-Ar.

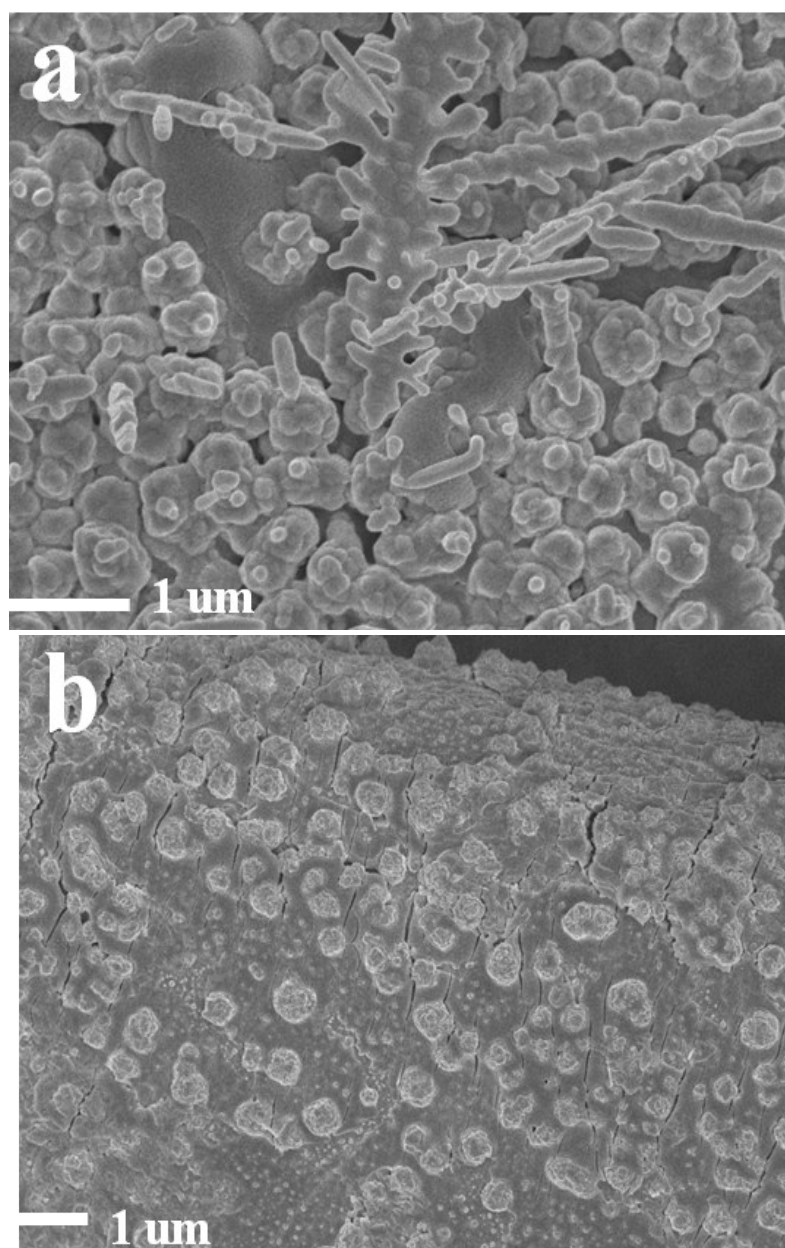


Fig. S6 SEM images of (a) Ag0/NF; (b) Ag40/NF.

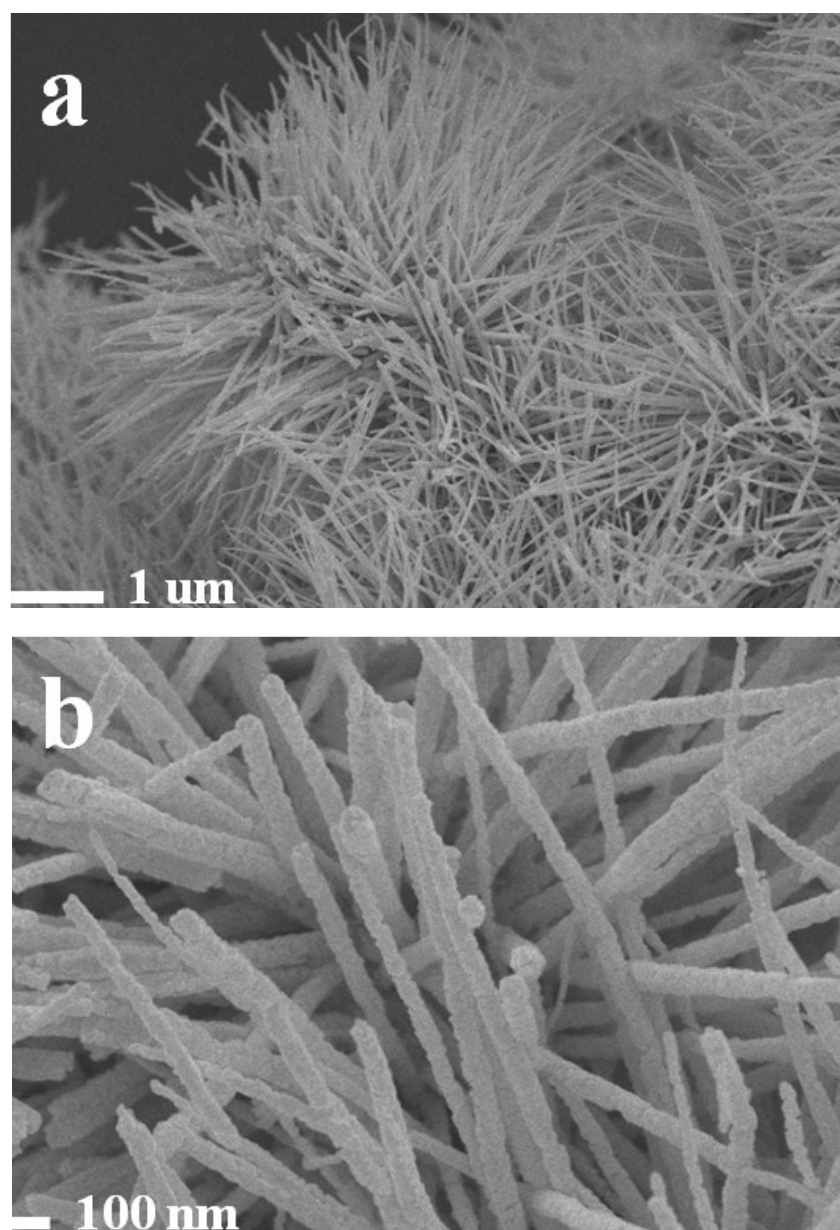


Fig. S7 SEM images of NiCoO@Ag0/NF-Ar

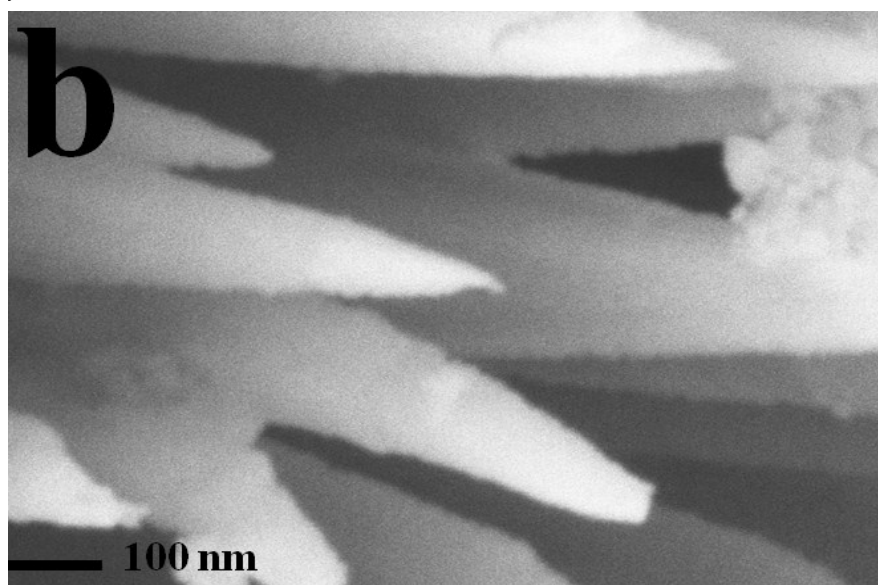
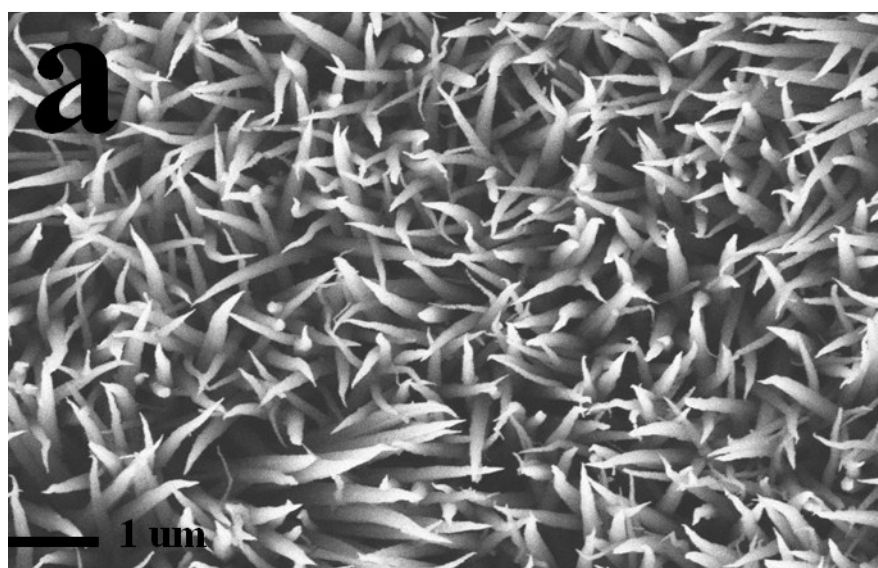


Fig. S8 SEM images of NiCoO@Ag40/NF-Air

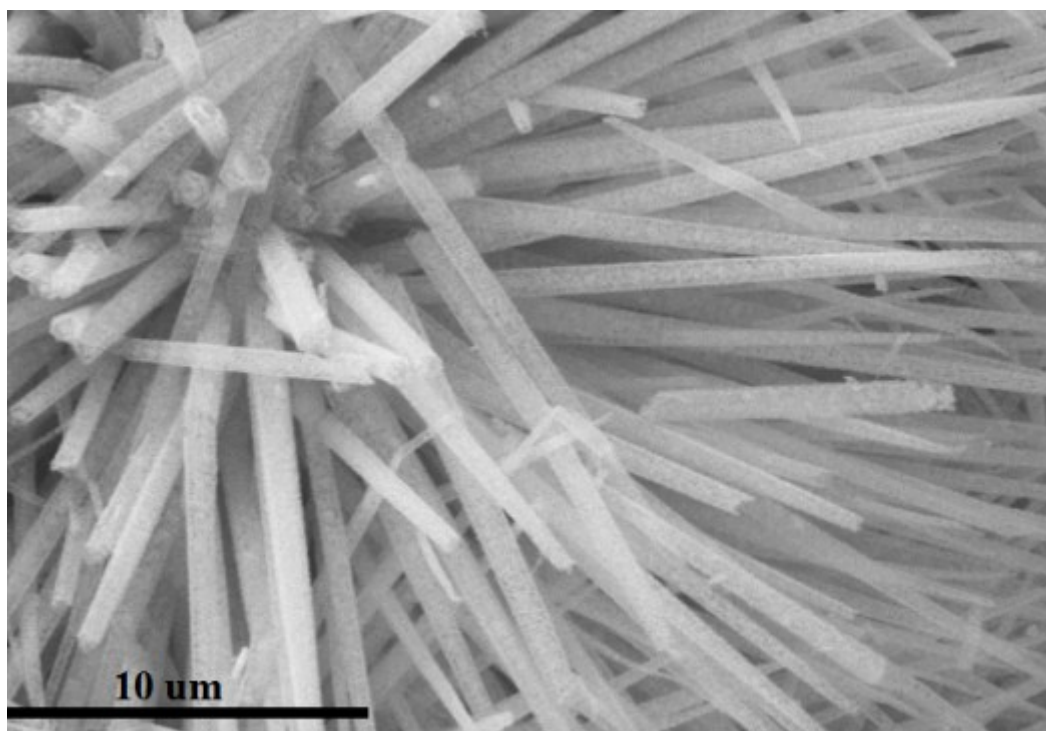


Fig. S9 The corresponding SEM image for performing EDX profile

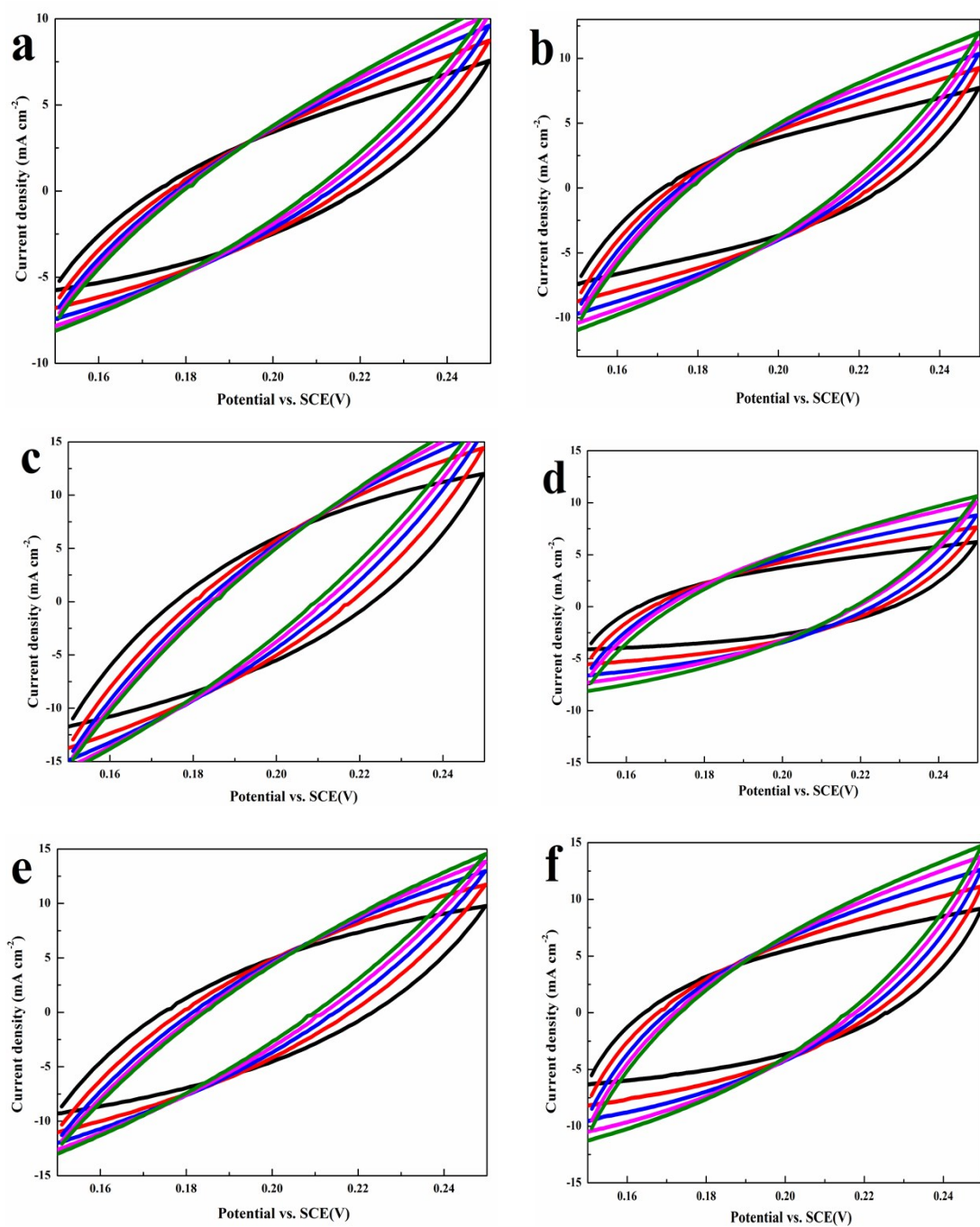


Fig. S10 CVs of the double-layer capacitance measurement for the six different samples in 1 M KOH in the non-Faradaic region of 0.15-0.25 V vs. SCE with different scan rates, varying from 40 mV s^{-1} to 120 mV s^{-1} :
 (a) NiCoO/NF; (b) Ni-Co@Ag0/NF; (c) Ni-Co@Ag40/NF; (d) NiCoO@Ag0/NF-Ar; (e) NiCoO@Ag40/NF-Air; (f) NiCoO@Ag40/NF-Ar.

Table S1 Calculation results of crystalline size based on XRD patterns

Crystalline phase	2-Theta	FWHM	Crystalline size/nm
Co based hydroxide hydrate	39.135	0.1224	71
CoO	42.423	0.204	39.8
Co ₃ O ₄	36.963	0.2880	28.2

Table S2 Comparison of the OER activity for several recently reported highly active transition metal oxides electrocatalysts.

Catalyst	J (mA cm ⁻²)	Overpotential (mV)	Electrolyte	Ref.
NiCoO@Ag40/NF-Ar	100	350	1 M KOH	This work
Reduced Co ₃ O ₄ NW	13.1	420	1 M KOH	S1
Co ₃ O ₄ nanoparticles	10	420	1 M KOH	S2
NiCo layered double hydroxide	10	367	1 M KOH	S3
Ni _x Co _{3-x} O ₄ nanowire array	10	370	1 M KOH	S4
Ni substituted Co ₃ O ₄ nanowire	10	370	1 M KOH	S5
Cu ₂ -Cu foams	10	350	1 M KOH	S6

Table S3 Comparison of OER activity data for different electrocatalysts.

Catalyst	η at $J=100$ mA cm^{-2} [mV]	Tafel slope (mV dec^{-1})	Cdl (mF cm^{-2})	Rct (Ω)
NiCoO@Ag40/NF-Ar	350	104	44	0.72
NiCoO@Ag40/NF-Air	370	147	32	1.28
NiCoO@Ag0/NF-Ar	370	128	25	0.89
Ni-Co@Ag40/NF	400	153	18	1.32
Ni-Co@Ag0/NF	400	148	13	1.49
NiCoO/NF-Ar	410	185	6	3.98

References

- S1 Y. Wang, T. Zhou, K. Jiang, P. Da, Z. Peng, J. Tang, B. Kong, W. B. Cai, Z. Yang, G. Zheng, *Adv. Energy Mater.*, 2014, **4**, 1400696.
- S2 Y. Liang, Y. Li, H. Wang, J. Zhou, J. Wang, T. Regier, H. Dai, *Nat.Mater.*, 2011, **10**, 780-786.
- S3 H. Liang, F. Meng, M. Cabán-Acevedo, L. Li, A. Forticaux, L. Xiu, S. Jin, *Nano letters*, 2015, **15**, 1421-1427.
- S4 B. Lu, D. Cao, P. Wang, G. Wang, Y. Gao, *Int. J. Hydrogen Energy* 2011, **36**, 72-78.
- S5 Y. Zhao, R. Nakamura, K. Kamiya, S. Nakanishi, K. Has himoto, *Nat. Commun.*, 2013, **4**, 2390.
- S6 H. Xu, J. X. Feng, Y. X. Tong, G. R. Li, *ACS Catal.*, 2017, **7**, 986-991.