

## Supporting Information

### Influence of $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ doping concentration on the catalytic activity of $\text{Cu}_x\text{Co}_{3-x}\text{O}_4$ for rechargeable Li- $\text{O}_2$ batteries

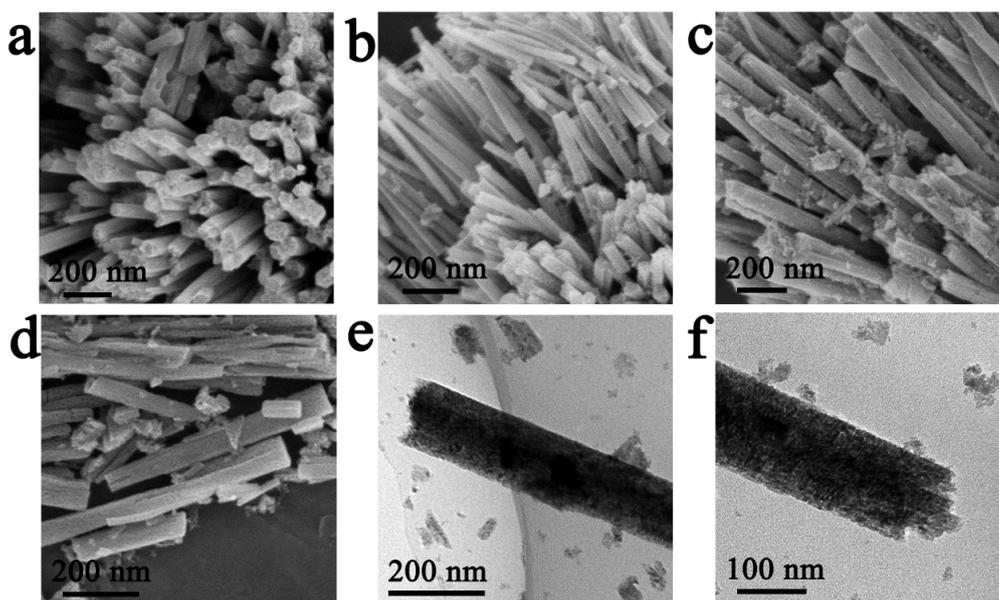
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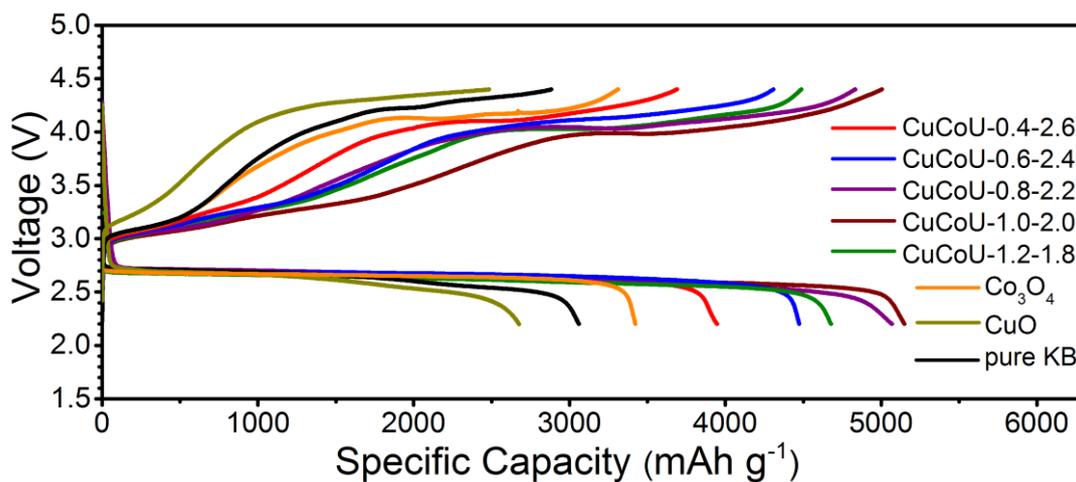
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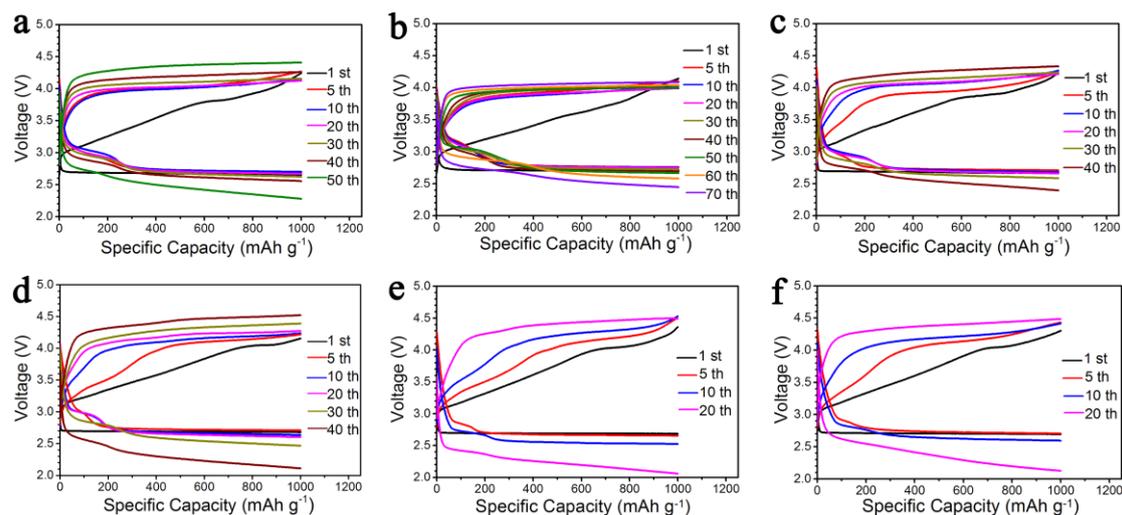
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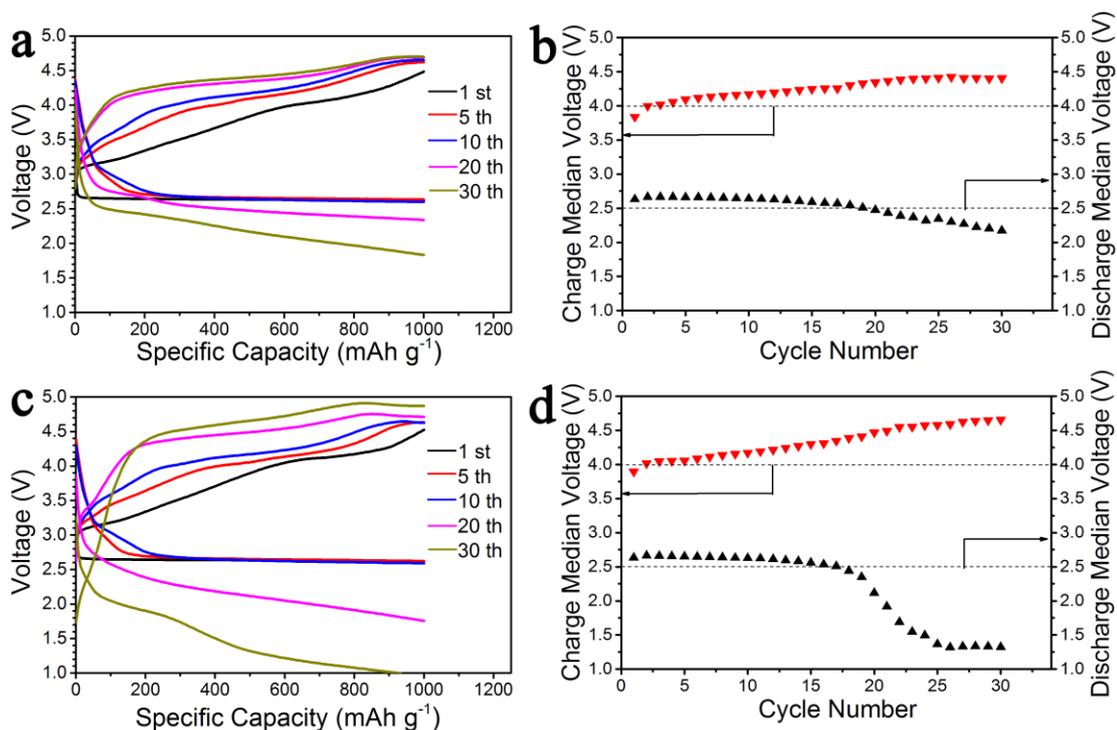
**Figure S1.** SEM images of CuCoU-0.4-2.6 (a), CuCoU-0.6-2.4 (b), CuCoU-0.8-2.2 (c) and CuCoU-1.2-1.8 (d). TEM images (e and f) of CuCoU-0.4-2.6.



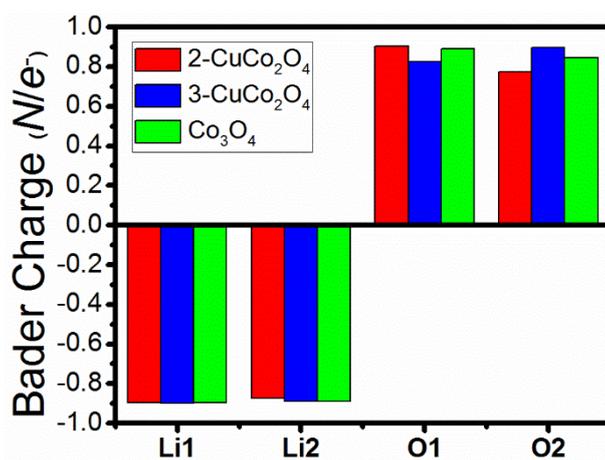
**Figure S2.** Discharge-charge profiles of the first cycle of Li-O<sub>2</sub> batteries using eight different electrodes based on corresponding samples in the potential window of 2.2~4.4 V at a current density of 100 mA g<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S3.** Discharge-charge profiles of the Li-O<sub>2</sub> batteries using electrodes based on CuCoU-0.6-2.4 (a), CuCoU-0.8-2.2 (b), CuCoU-1.2-1.8 (c), Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (d), CuO (e) and pure KB (f) with a fixed capacity of 1000 mAh g<sup>-1</sup> at a current density of 100 mA g<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S4.** Discharge-charge profiles of the Li-O<sub>2</sub> batteries using electrodes based on CuCoU-1.0-2.0 (a) and CuCoU-0.4-2.6 (c) with a fixed capacity of 1000 mAh g<sup>-1</sup> at a current density of 400 mA g<sup>-1</sup>. Corresponding variation profiles of the discharge and charge median voltages with the cycle number (b and d, respectively).



**Figure S5.** Bader charge analysis of Li1, Li2, O1 and O2 associated with the interfacial structures of Figs 7a, 7b and 7c. The charge voltages of OER path as Li1→Li2→O2, which is marked in the 7a, 7b and 7c structures, are 3.31, 2.95, 3.08 and 3.32 V for pure Li<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, CuCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> electrodes without and with doped-Cu at the surfaces, and pure Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> electrode, respectively.