

## Supporting Information

### **Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles entrapped, nitrogen and boron codoped mesoporous carbon as efficient electrocatalysts for hydrogen evolving**

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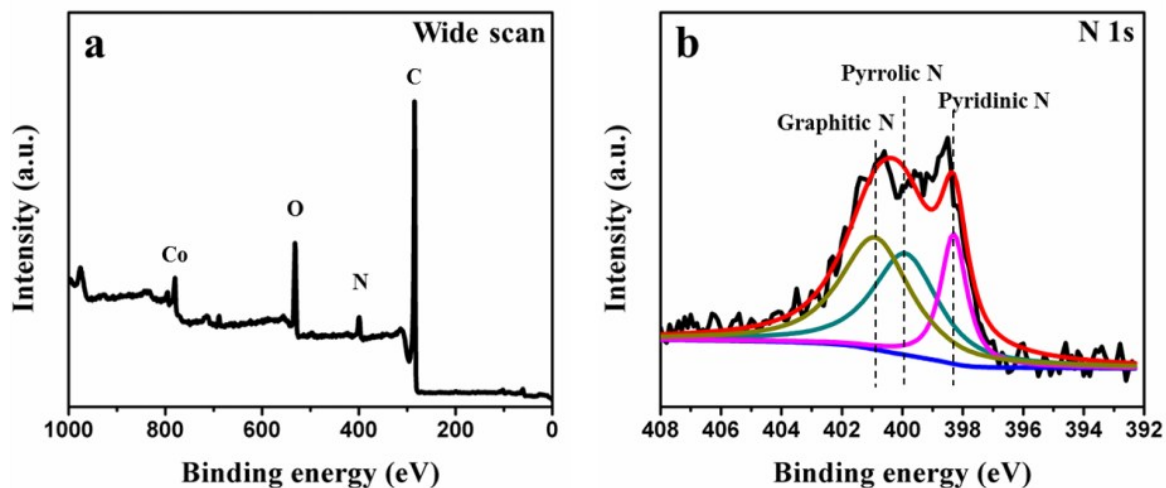
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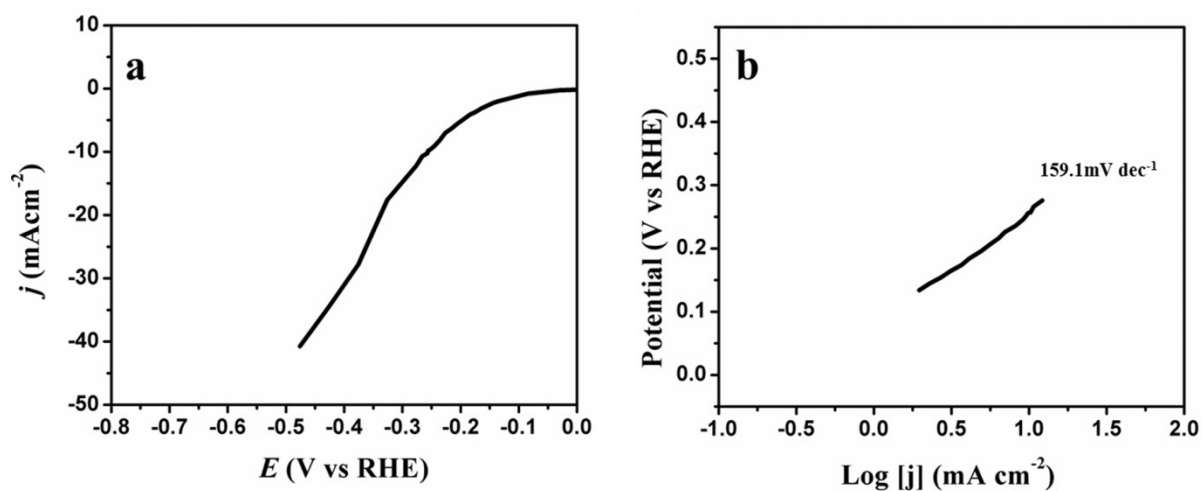
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**Fig. S1** (a) XPS survey spectrum of Co<sub>0.65</sub>B<sub>0.0</sub>NC<sub>800</sub>, (b) high-resolution N 1s XPS spectrum of Co<sub>0.65</sub>B<sub>0.0</sub>NC<sub>800</sub>.



**Fig. S2** (a) LSV curve of Co<sub>0.65</sub>B<sub>0.0</sub>NC<sub>800</sub> in 1 M KOH. (b) The corresponding Tafel plots in 1 M KOH.

**Table S1** Elements contents of the catalysts analyzed from XPS.

Samples	Elements contents (%)				
	C	B	N	O	Co
Co <sub>0.65</sub> B <sub>0.3</sub> NC600	70.51	1.31	14.62	12.14	1.43
Co <sub>0.65</sub> B <sub>0.3</sub> NC700	61.51	11.02	9.23	17.01	1.23
Co <sub>0.65</sub> B <sub>0.3</sub> NC800	64.35	8.67	8.87	15.8	2.30
Co <sub>0.65</sub> B <sub>0.3</sub> NC900	51.88	15.96	13.22	16.82	2.12
Co <sub>0.49</sub> B <sub>0.3</sub> NC800	72.09	5.35	6.39	13.84	2.32
Co <sub>0.82</sub> B <sub>0.3</sub> NC800	40.55	16.75	16.01	23.22	3.46
Co <sub>0.65</sub> B <sub>0.1</sub> NC800	67.11	7.53	6.68	16.08	2.61
Co <sub>0.65</sub> B <sub>0.5</sub> NC800	65.18	3.40	13.03	15.95	2.43

**Table S2** Double layer capacitance ( $C_{dl}$ ), ECSA, and TOF values of the catalysts.

Sample	$C_{dl}$ (mF cm <sup>-2</sup> )	ECSA (cm <sup>2</sup> )	TOF <sup>a</sup> (S <sup>-1</sup> )
Co <sub>0.65</sub> B <sub>0.3</sub> NC600	0.01	0.25	0.00001
Co <sub>0.65</sub> B <sub>0.3</sub> NC700	0.03	0.75	0.00033
Co <sub>0.65</sub> B <sub>0.3</sub> NC800	43.71	1092.75	0.00191
Co <sub>0.65</sub> B <sub>0.3</sub> NC900	10.23	255.75	0.00071
Co <sub>0.49</sub> B <sub>0.3</sub> NC800	19.46	486.5	0.00171
Co <sub>0.82</sub> B <sub>0.3</sub> NC800	3.57	89.25	0.00015
Co <sub>0.65</sub> B <sub>0.1</sub> NC800	27.56	689	0.00133
Co <sub>0.65</sub> B <sub>0.5</sub> NC800	17.32	433	0.00069

<sup>a</sup> TOFs were calculated at the overpotential of 200 mV