

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

**Metallic Atomic Thickness CuCo₂S₄ Nanosheets as Efficient Bifunctional Electrocatalyst
for Portable-Flexible Zn–Air Battery**

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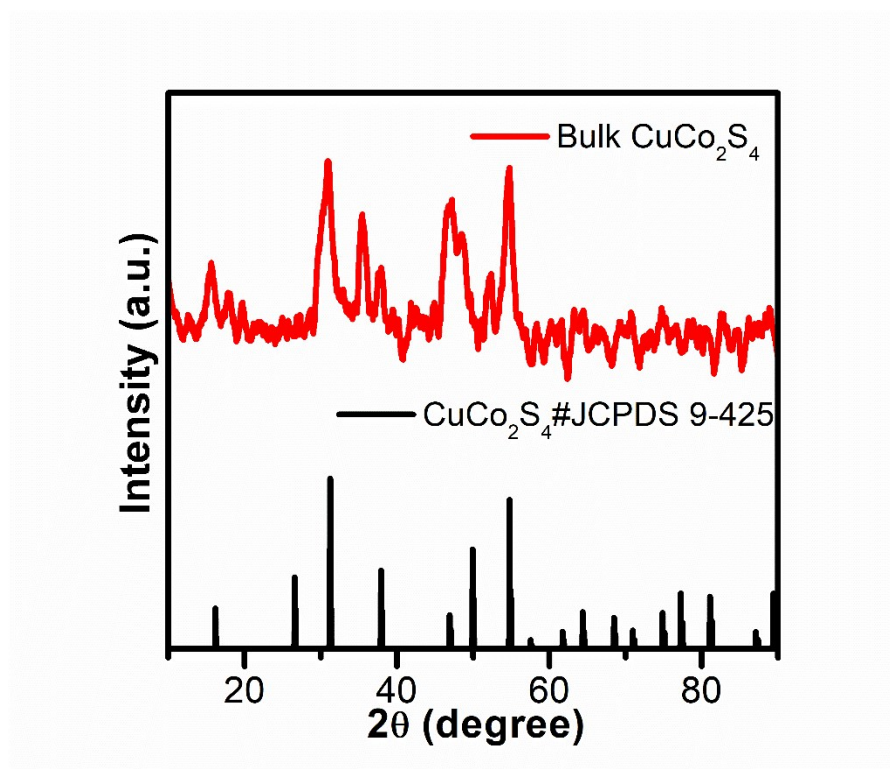


Figure S1. XRD patterns of bulk CuCo_2S_4 .

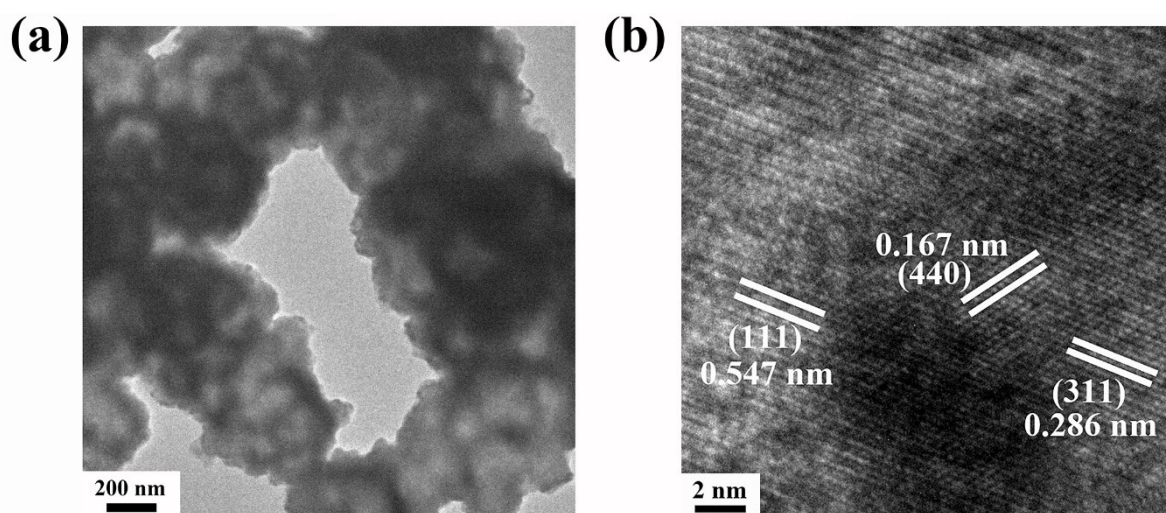


Figure S2. (a) TEM and (b) HRTEM images of bulk CuCo_2S_4 .

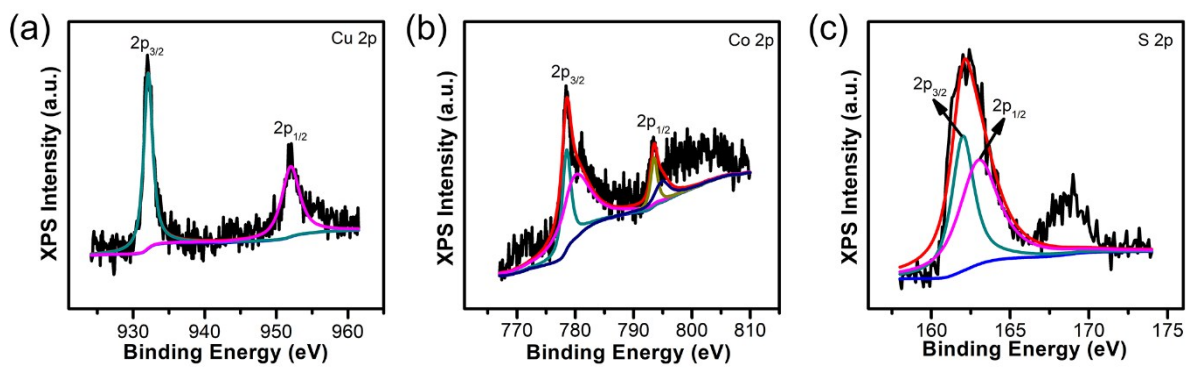


Figure S3. XPS spectra of (a) Cu 2p, (b) Co 2p and (c) S 2p of bulk CuCo_2S_4 .

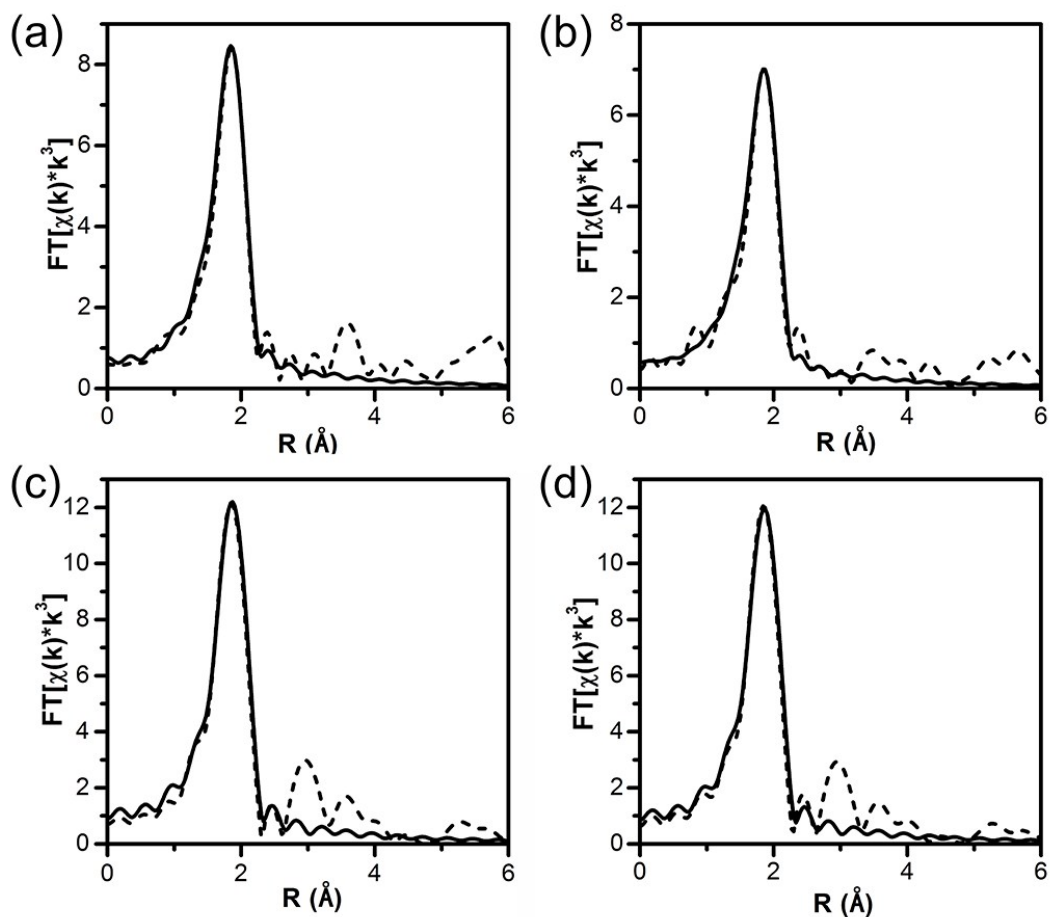


Figure S4. EXAFS data (dotted line) and fits (solid line) in R-space for (a) bulk CuCo_2S_4 Cu K-Edge, (b) CuCo_2S_4 NSs Cu K-Edge, (c) bulk CuCo_2S_4 Co K-Edge and (d) CuCo_2S_4 NSs Co K-Edge.

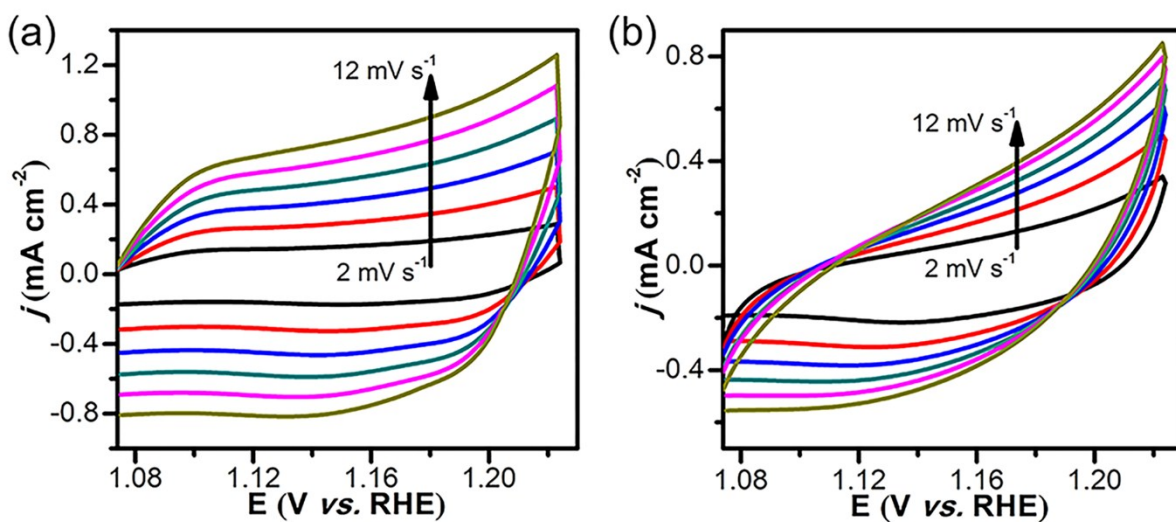


Figure S5. Cyclic voltammograms of (a) CuCo_2S_4 NSs and (b) bulk CuCo_2S_4 at different scan rate.

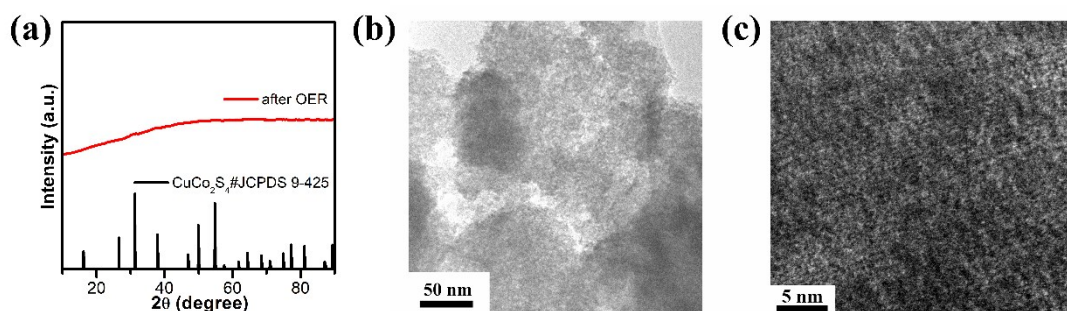


Figure S6. (a) The XRD patterns, (b) TEM image and (c) HRTEM image of the CuCo_2S_4 NSs after the OER test.

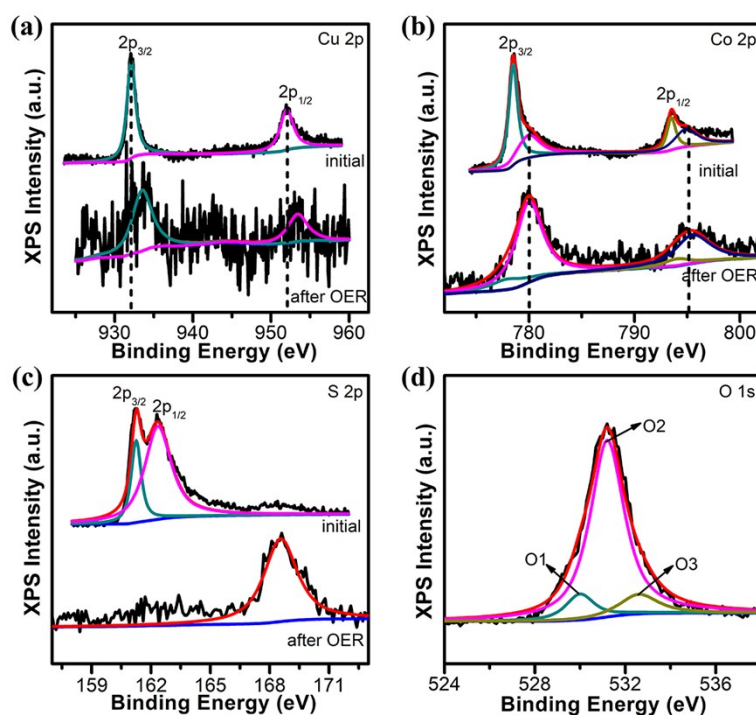


Figure S7. XPS spectra of (a) Cu 2p, (b) Co 2p, (c) S 2p and (d) O 1s of the CuCo₂S₄ NSs after the OER test.

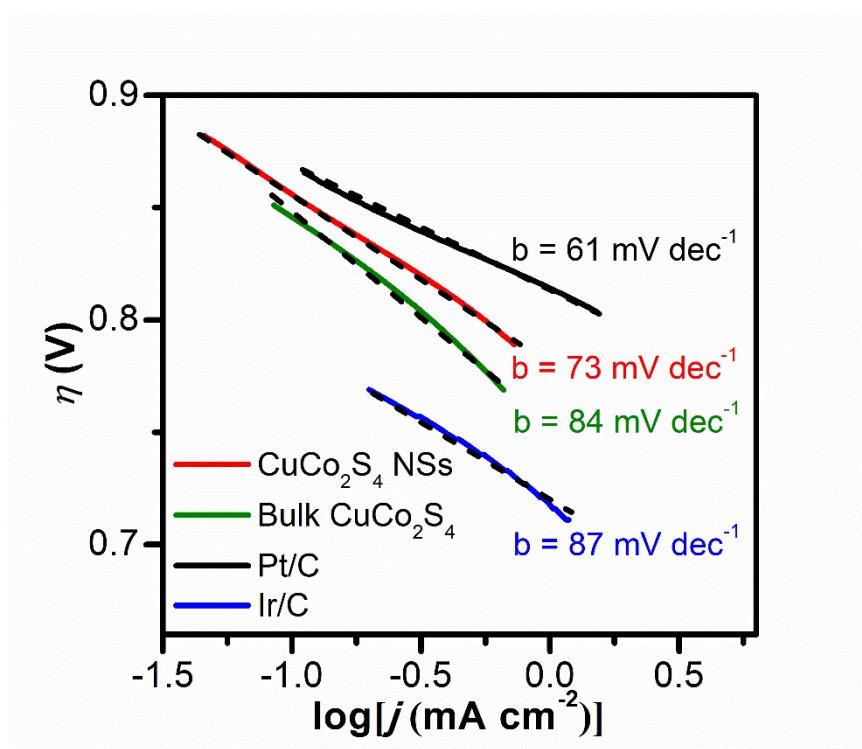


Figure S8. ORR Tafel plots of the CuCo₂S₄ NSs, bulk CuCo₂S₄, Ir/C (20 %) and Pt/C (20 %).

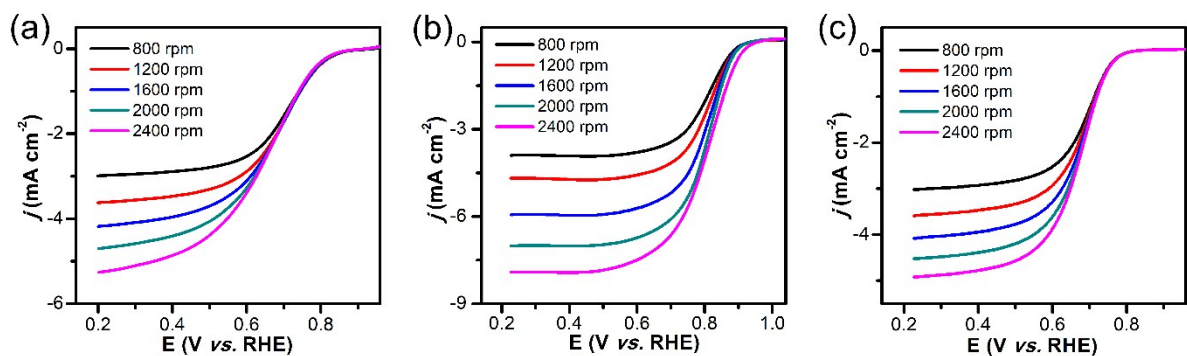


Figure S9. LSV curves of (a) bulk CuCo_2S_4 , (b) Pt/C (20 %) and (c) Ir/C (20 %) at different rotating speeds.

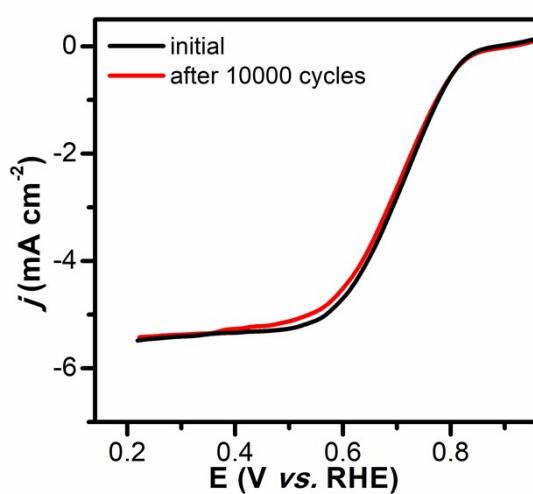


Figure S10. LSV curves of the CuCo_2S_4 NSs before and after 10 000 CV cycles for ORR.

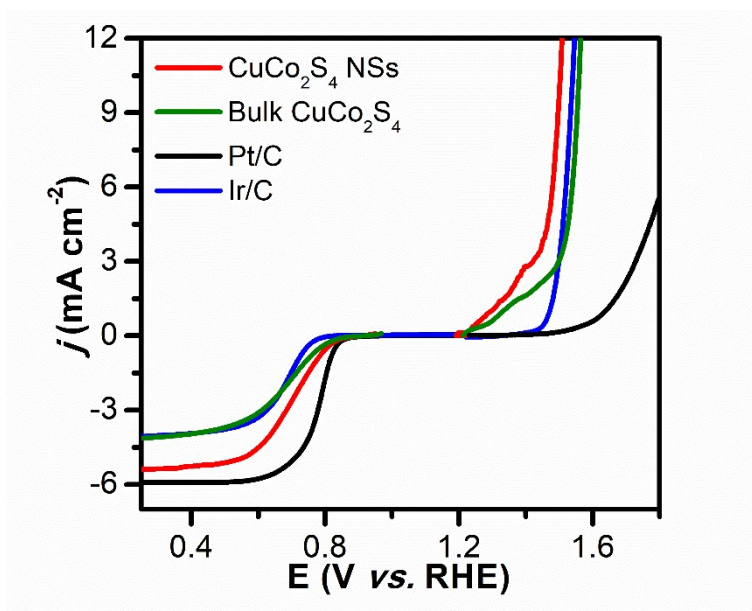


Figure S11. Polarization curves of Pt/C (20 %), Ir/C (20 %), the CuCo_2S_4 NSs and bulk CuCo_2S_4 in the whole region for OER and ORR.

Table S1. EXAFS Fitting results for Cu-center (top row) and Co center (bottom row) for bulk CuCo_2S_4 and the CuCo_2S_4 NSs. CN = Coordination Numbers, R = Vector distance ($\pm 0.02 \text{ \AA}$), σ^2 = Debye-Waller factor ($\pm 0.001 \text{ \AA}^2$).

Vector	Bulk CuCo_2S_4			CuCo_2S_4 NSs		
	CNs	R($\text{\AA}$)	$\sigma^2(\text{\AA}^2)$	CNs	R($\text{\AA}$)	$\sigma^2(\text{\AA}^2)$
Cu-S	4	2.25	0.009	3.1	2.26	0.009
Co-S	5.4	2.27	0.008	5.4	2.27	0.008

Table S2. Comparison of the OER performance for all used catalysts.

Catalysts	η_{onset} (mV vs. RHE)	η_{10} (mV vs. RHE)	Tafel slope (mV dec ⁻¹)	TOF at $\eta = 400 \text{ mV}$ (s ⁻¹)	Mass activity at $\eta = 400 \text{ mV}$ (A g ⁻¹)
CuCo_2S_4 NSs	242	287	46	0.230	489.2
Bulk CuCo_2S_4	281	330	79	0.134	285.1
Ir/C (20 %)	255	310	51	0.119	239.6

Table S3. Comparison of the ORR performance for all used catalysts.

Catalysts	Onset Potential (V vs. RHE)	$E_{1/2}$ (V vs. RHE)	Tafel slope (mV dec ⁻¹)	Limiting current density (mA cm ⁻²)	Electron transfer number (<i>n</i>)
CuCo₂S₄ NSs	0.90	0.70	73	5.28	3.9
Bulk CuCo₂S₄	0.86	0.68	84	3.95	2.9
Pt/C (20 %)	0.94	0.78	61	5.91	4.1
Ir/C (20 %)	0.84	0.68	87	3.95	3.2

Table S4. The ΔE comparison of the CuCo₂S₄ NSs, bulk CuCo₂S₄, Pt/C (20 %) and Ir/C (20 %).

Catalysts	E_{OER} at $j = 10 \text{ mA cm}^{-2}$ (V vs. RHE)	$E_{1/2}$ (V vs. RHE)	$\Delta E = E_{\text{OER}} - E_{\text{ORR}}$ (V vs. RHE)
CuCo₂S₄ NSs	1.52	0.70	0.82
Bulk CuCo₂S₄	1.56	0.68	0.88
Pt/C (20 %)	1.91	0.78	1.13
Ir/C (20 %)	1.54	0.68	0.86