

## Supporting Information

### Solvent-Mediated Length Tuning of Ultrathin Platinum-Cobalt Nanowires for Efficient Electrocatalysis

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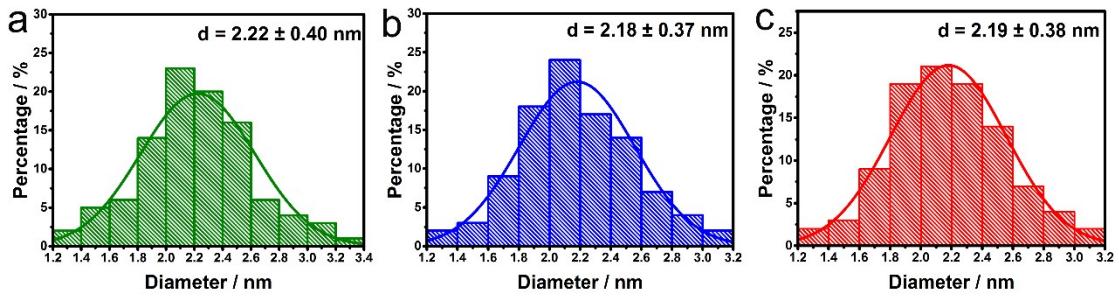
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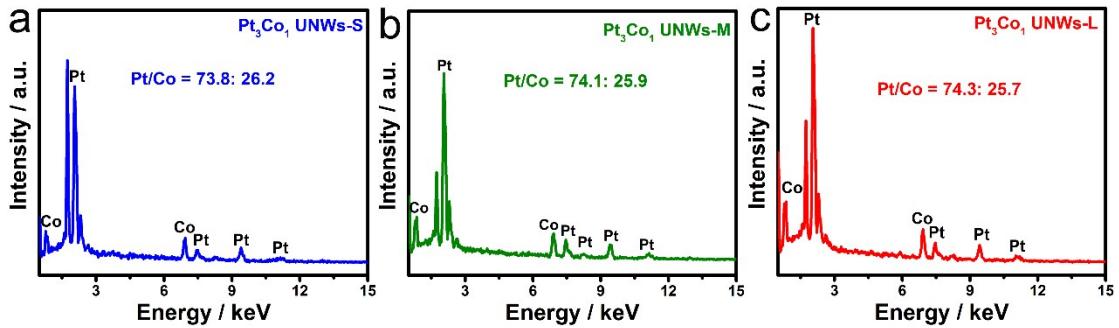
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E-mail: [duyk@suda.edu.cn](mailto:duyk@suda.edu.cn) (Y. Du)

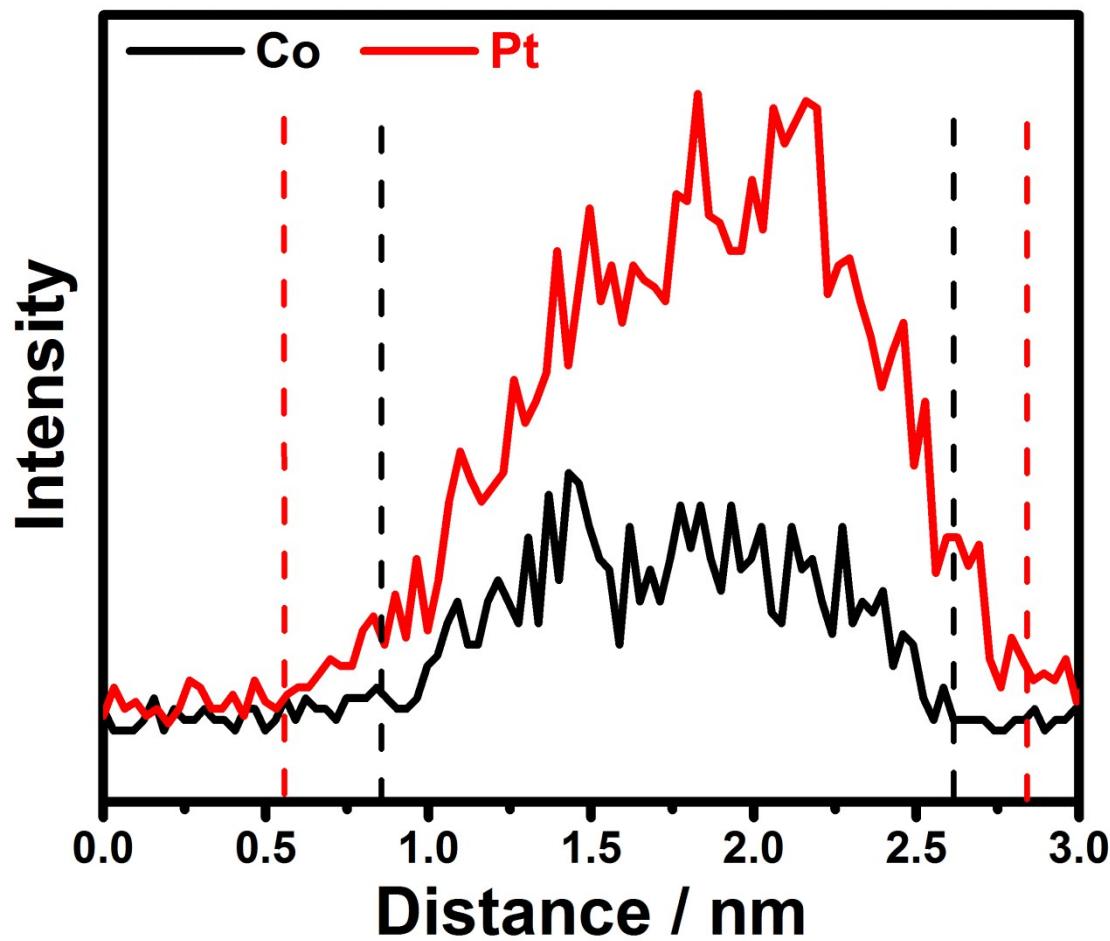
Hui Xu and Jingjing Wei contributed equally to this work



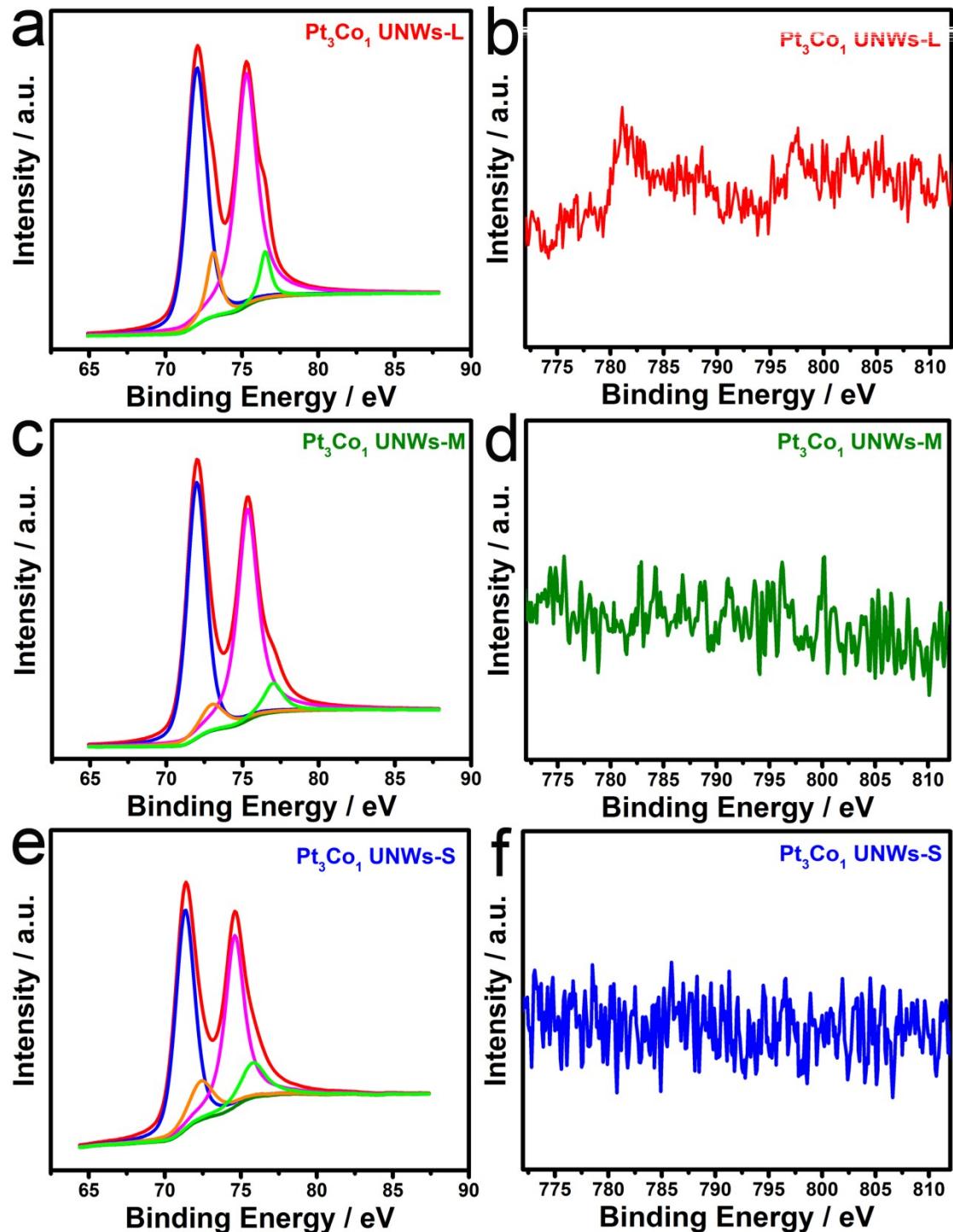
**Figure S1.** Diameter distributions of (a) Pt<sub>3</sub>Co<sub>1</sub> UNWs-S, (b) Pt<sub>3</sub>Co<sub>1</sub> UNWs-M, and (c) Pt<sub>3</sub>Co<sub>1</sub> UNWs-L.



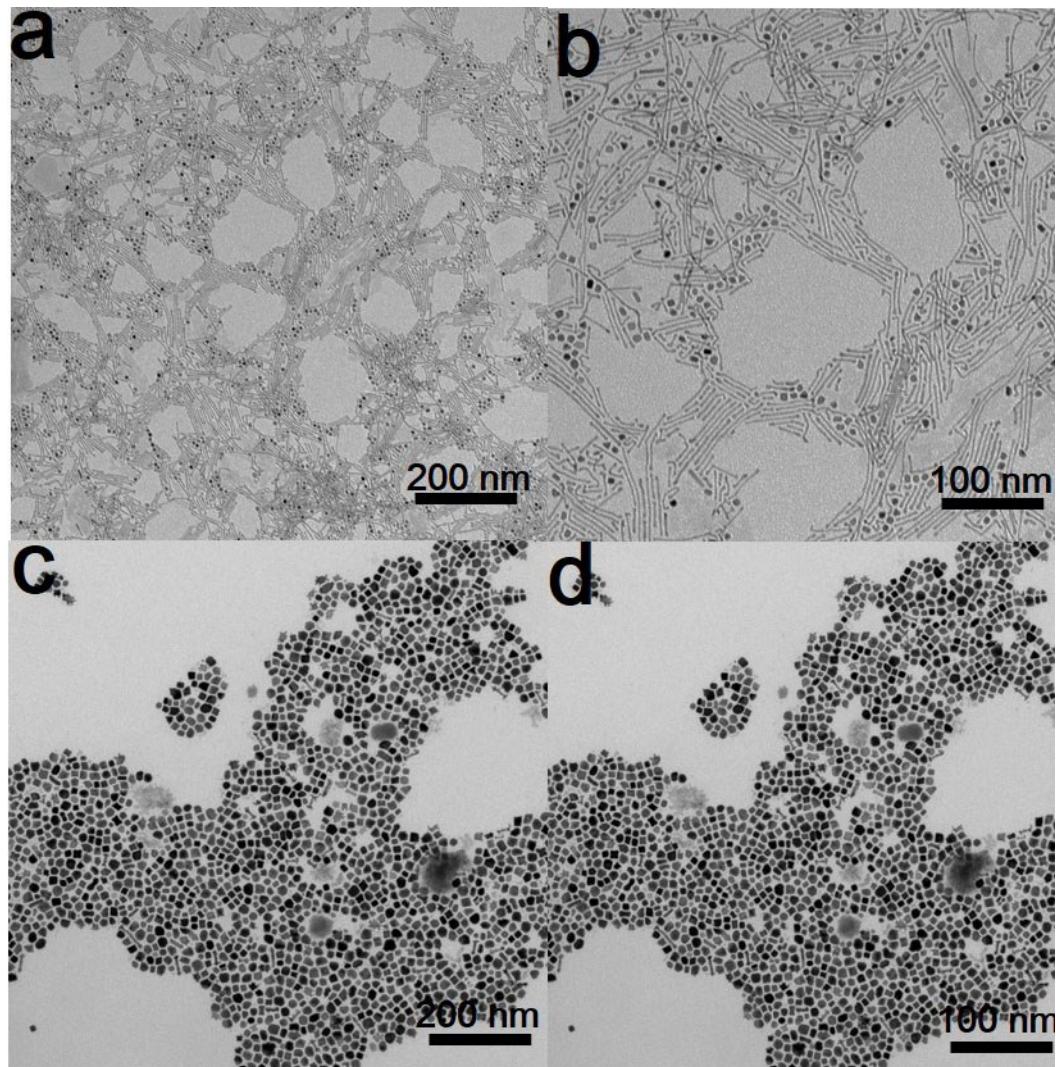
**Figure S2.** EDX patterns of (a) Pt<sub>3</sub>Co<sub>1</sub> UNWs-S, (b) Pt<sub>3</sub>Co<sub>1</sub> UNWs-M, and (c) Pt<sub>3</sub>Co<sub>1</sub> UNWs-L.



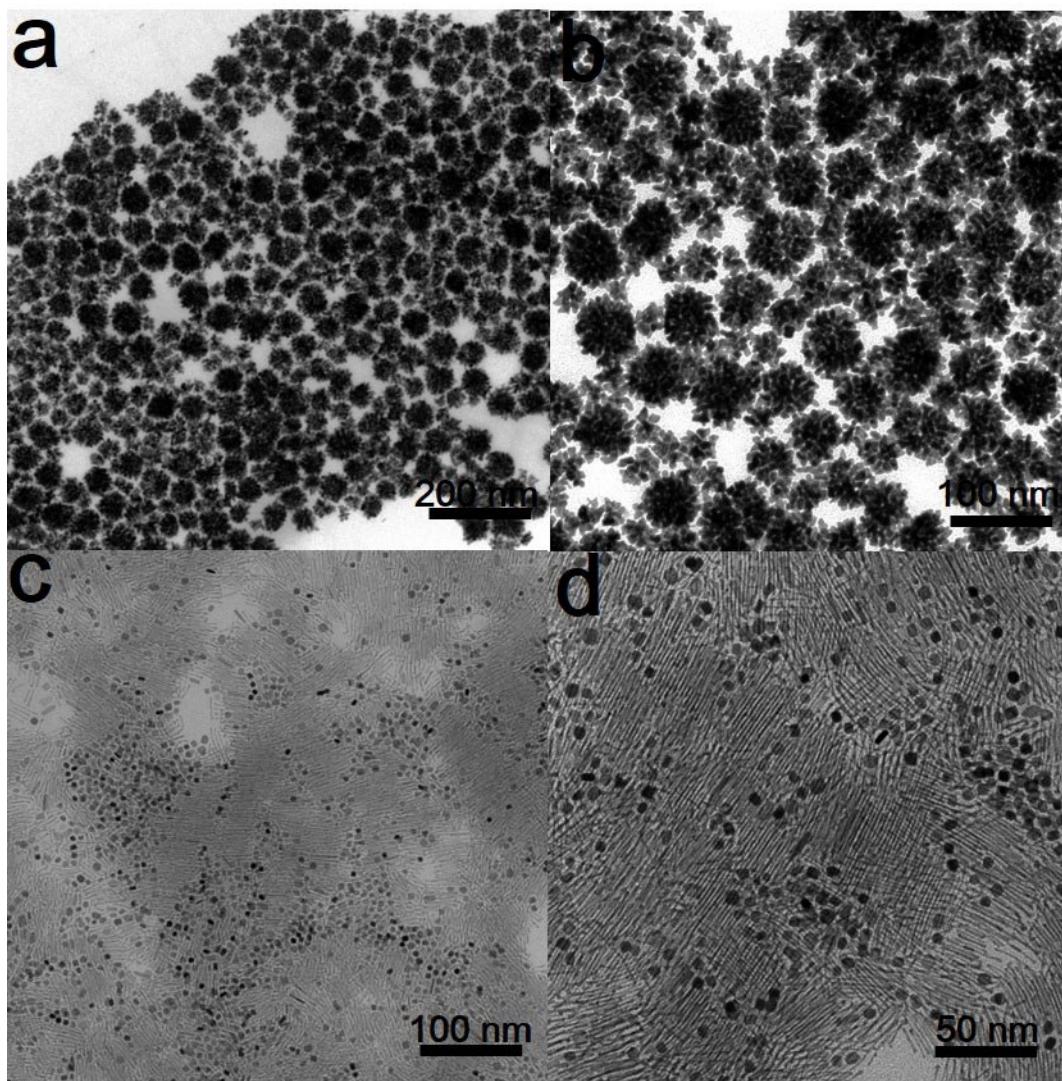
**Figure S3.** EDS line-scanning profile of  $\text{Pt}_3\text{Co}_1$  UNWs-L.



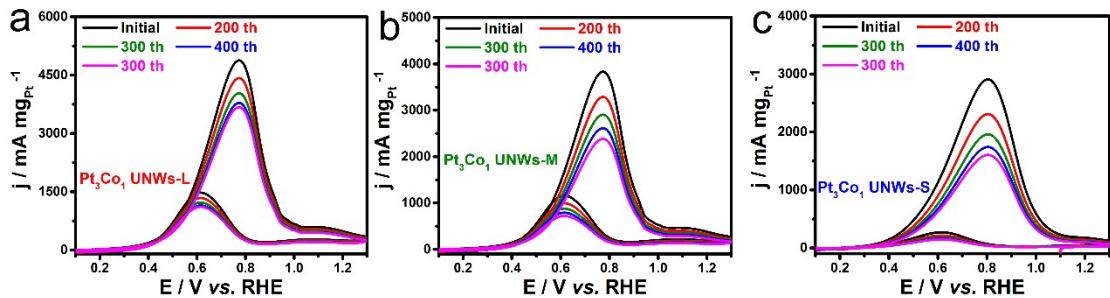
**Figure S4.** High-resolution XPS spectra of Pt 4f and Co 2p of (a and b)  $\text{Pt}_3\text{Co}_1$  NWs-L, (c and d)  $\text{Pt}_3\text{Co}_1$  NWs-M, and (e and f)  $\text{Pt}_3\text{Co}_1$  NWs-S.



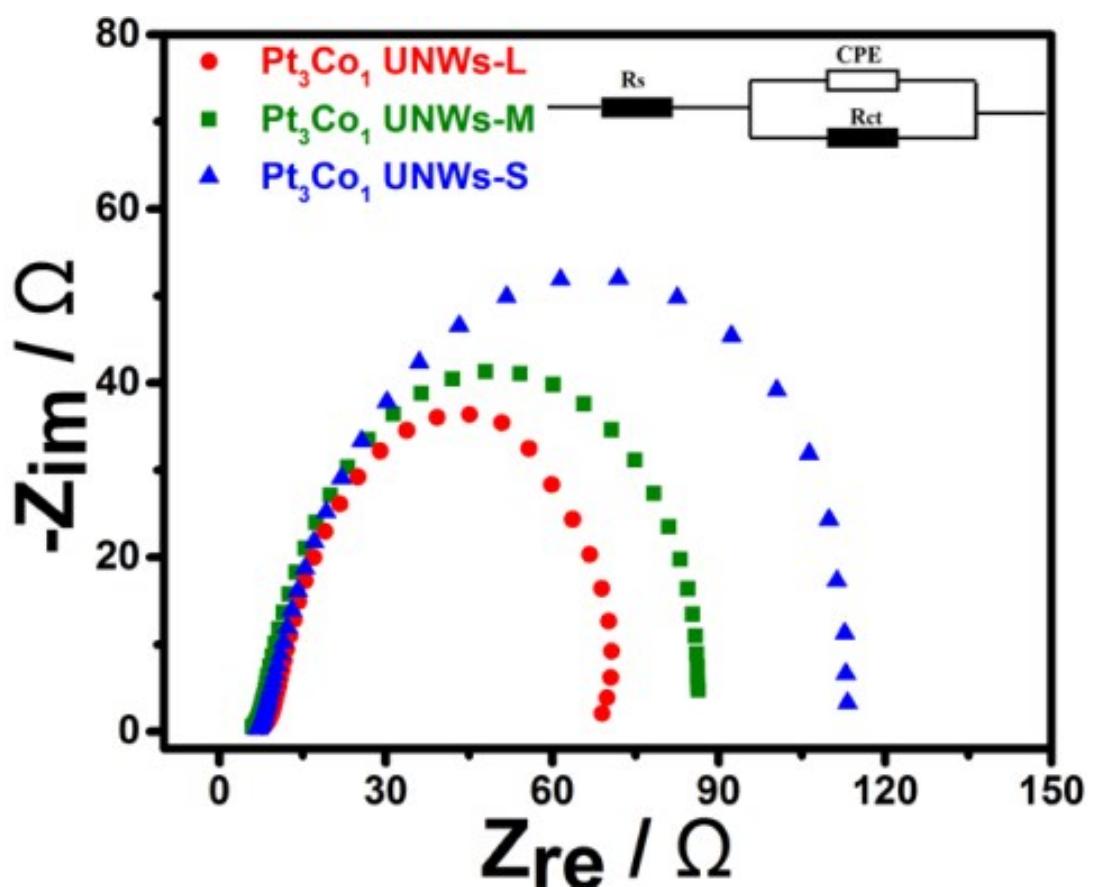
**Figure S5.** Representative TEM images of Pt<sub>3</sub>Co<sub>1</sub> UNWs prepared in the same conditions as Pt<sub>3</sub>Co<sub>1</sub> UNWs-L while replacing the (a and b) Mo(CO)<sub>6</sub> with W(CO)<sub>6</sub> or replacing glucose with (c and d) citric acid.



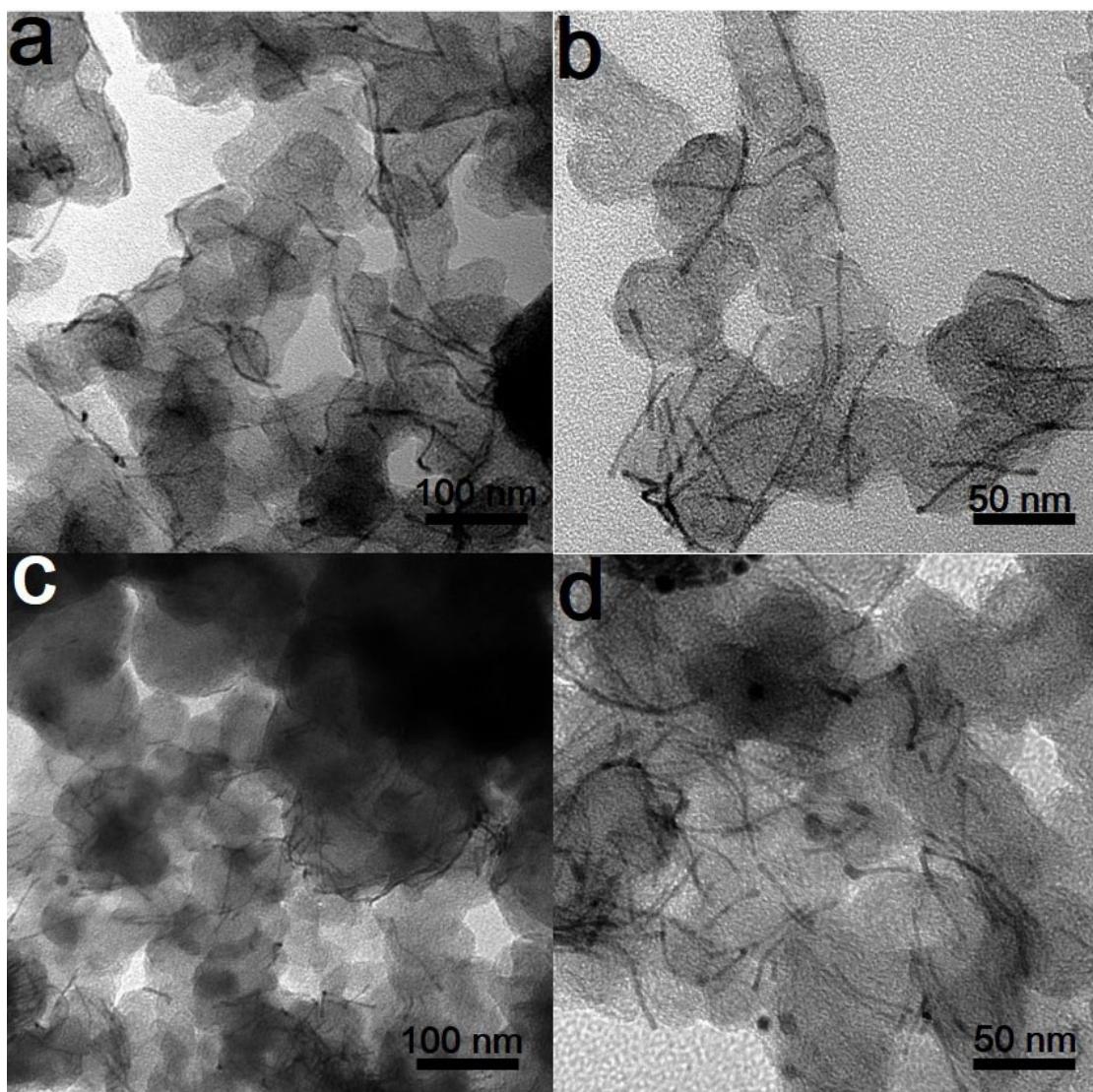
**Figure S6.** Representative TEM images of Pt<sub>3</sub>Co<sub>1</sub> UNWs prepared in the same conditions as Pt<sub>3</sub>Co<sub>1</sub> UNWs-L in the absence of Mo(CO)<sub>6</sub> with W(CO)<sub>6</sub> or replacing CTAC with (c and d) CTAB.



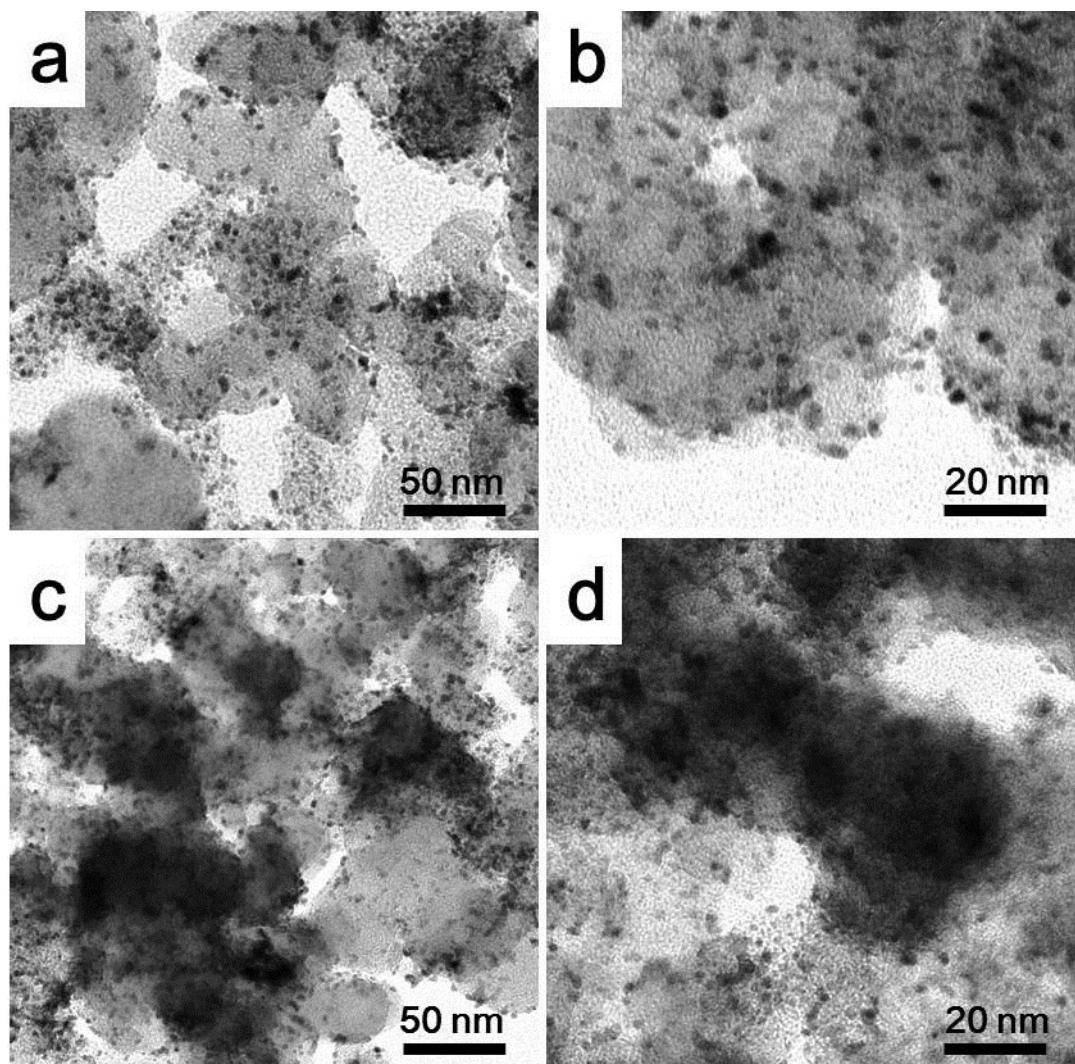
**Figure S7.** CV curves of  $\text{Pt}_3\text{Co}_{1-\delta}$  UNWs-S,  $\text{Pt}_3\text{Co}_{1-\delta}$  UNWs-M, and  $\text{Pt}_3\text{Co}_{1-\delta}$  UNWs-L at different scan rates in 1.0 M KOH and 1.0 M EG solution.



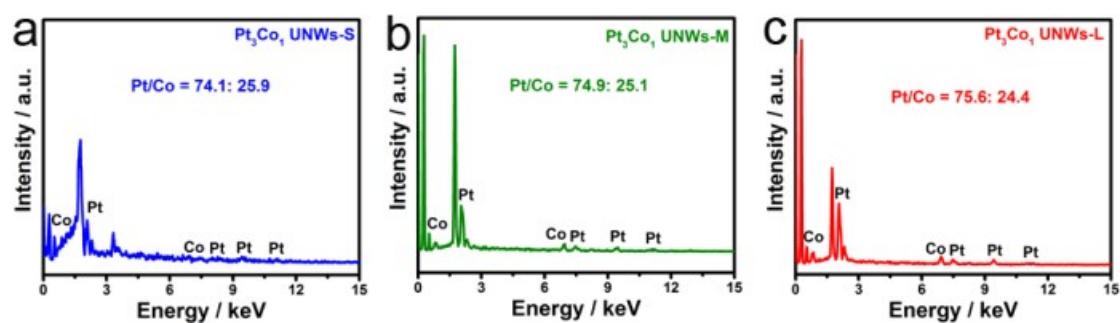
**Figure S8.** Nyquist plots of  $\text{Pt}_3\text{Co}_{1-\delta}$  UNWs-S,  $\text{Pt}_3\text{Co}_{1-\delta}$  UNWs-M, and  $\text{Pt}_3\text{Co}_{1-\delta}$  UNWs-L in 1.0 M KOH and 1.0 M glycerol solution at 0.8 V.



**Figure S9.** Representative TEM images of  $\text{Pt}_3\text{Co}_1$  UNWs-L (a and b) before and (c and d) after long-term electrochemical measurements.



**Figure S10.** Representative TEM images of commercial Pt/C catalysts (a and b) before and (c and d) after long-term electrochemical measurements.



**Figure S11.** EDX patterns of (a)  $\text{Pt}_3\text{Co}_1$  UNWs-S, (b)  $\text{Pt}_3\text{Co}_1$  UNWs-M, and (c)  $\text{Pt}_3\text{Co}_1$  UNWs-L after catalytic cycles.

**Table S1** EGOR performances of Pt<sub>3</sub>Co<sub>1</sub> UNWs-L and various electrocatalysts from published works.

Catalysts	Peaks currents from CV curves		Electrolyte	References
	J <sub>m</sub> (A/mg)	J <sub>s</sub> (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> )		
Pt <sub>3</sub> Co <sub>1</sub> UNWs-L	4.9	9.4	1.0 M KOH + 1.0 M EG	This work
Pt/Ru/XC72 Catalyst	0.24		0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> + 0.4M EG	J. Power Sources <b>2011</b> , <i>196</i> , 1078-1083.
PtPd@Pt Nanocrystals/rGO	0.23		0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> + 0.5 M EG	Electrochim. Acta <b>2016</b> , <i>18</i> , 576-583.
PtNi <sub>0.67</sub> Pb <sub>0.26</sub> NWs/C	0.42	0.65	0.1 M HClO <sub>4</sub> + 0.2 M EG	J. Mater. Chem. A <b>2017</b> , <i>5</i> , 18977-18983
Pd <sub>1</sub> Cu <sub>1</sub> nanosphere	3.58		1.0 M KOH + 1.0 M EG	Electrochim. Acta <b>2018</b> , <i>261</i> , 521-529.
PdCuBi nanoparticles	0.171		1 M KOH + 0.5 M EG	J. Power Sources <b>2014</b> , <i>249</i> , 9-12
PtCu nanocrystals	4.259		1.0 M	Int. J. Hydrogen

			KOH + 1.0 M EG	Energy <b>2018</b> , <i>43</i> , 1489-1496
PtRu alloy	3.052		1.0 M KOH + 1.0 M EG	Int. J. Hydrogen Energy <b>2017</b> , <i>42</i> , 20720-20728
PdAg nanoparticle	0.169		0.1 M KOH + 1.0 M EG	Int. J. Hydrogen Energy <b>2015</b> , <i>40</i> , 2225-2230
PtPd@Pt nanocrystals	1.167		0.5 M KOH + 0.5 M EG	Electrochim. Acta <b>2016</b> , <i>187</i> , 576-583.

**Table S2** A literature survey of the activity and stability of catalysts toward alcohol electrooxidation

Catalysts	Electrolyte	Cycling stability	References
Pt <sub>3</sub> Co <sub>1</sub> UNWs-L	1.0 M KOH + 1.0 M EG	75.3 % activity after 500 cycles	This work
Pt <sub>3</sub> Co <sub>1</sub> UNWs-L	1.0 M KOH + 1.0 M Glycerol	74.9 % activity after 500 cycles	This work
Pd/C promoted with CaSiO <sub>3</sub>	1.0 M KOH + 1.0 M EG	60 % activity after 1000 cycles	Electrochim. Acta <b>2015</b> , <i>158</i> , 18-23
Pd <sub>7</sub> Ru <sub>1</sub> nanodendrites	1.0 M KOH + 1.0 M EG	67.7 % activity after 500 cycles	Nanoscale <b>2015</b> , <i>7</i> , 12445-12451
PdCu <sub>2</sub>	1.0 M KOH + 1 M ethanol	70 % activity after 300 cycles	ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces <b>2016</b> , <i>8</i> , 34497
PdNi	1.0 M KOH + 1 M ethanol	60 % activity after 500 cycles	J. Colloid Interface Sci. <b>2017</b> , <i>493</i> , 190-197
PtRu Nanoparticles/XC	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> + 0.5 M glycerol	52 % activity after 500 cycles	Electrochim. Acta <b>2014</b> , <i>142</i> , 223-227
PtPb <sub>0.27</sub> NPs/C	0.1 M HClO <sub>4</sub> + 0.2 M ethanol	31.6 % activity after 1000 cycles	Chem. Mater. <b>2016</b> , <i>28</i> , 4447-4452.
Pt <sub>0.3</sub> Ru <sub>0.6</sub> Pd <sub>0.1</sub>	1 M KOH + 1	48 % activity after	New J. Chem. <b>2017</b> , <i>41</i> ,

	M methanol	500 cycles	3048-3054
PtAu/RGO/GC	1 M KOH + 1 M methanol	69.8 % activity after 1000 cycles	J. Mater. Chem. A <b>2013</b> , <i>1</i> , 7255-7261
THH PtNi NFs	0.5 M HClO <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> 0.2 M ethanol	30 % activity after 300 cycles	Nano Lett. <b>2016</b> , <i>16</i> , 2762-2767

**Table S3** GOR performances of Pt<sub>3</sub>Co<sub>1</sub> UNWs-L and various electrocatalysts from published works.

Catalysts	Peaks currents from CV curves		Electrolyte	References
	J <sub>m</sub> (A/mg)	J <sub>s</sub> (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> )		
Pt <sub>3</sub> Co <sub>1</sub> UNWs-L	3.7	7.2	1.0 M KOH + 1.0 M Glycerol	This work
PtNi <sub>0.67</sub> Pb <sub>0.26</sub> NWs/C	0.36	0.61	0.1 M HClO <sub>4</sub> + 0.2 M Glycerol	J. Mater. Chem. A <b>2017</b> , <b>5</b> , 18977-18983
Pt Nanoparticles		~ 0.23	0.1 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> + 0.255 M Glycerol	Electrochim. Acta <b>2013</b> , 98, 25-31.
Pt NOs		~ 0.35	0.1 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> + 0.1 M Glycerol	Electrocatal. <b>2011</b> , <b>2</b> , 96-105.
Pt/MWCNT		0.16	0.1 M HClO <sub>4</sub> + 1.0 M Glycerol	Electrochim. Acta <b>2012</b> , 66, 180-187.
PtNi/C	0.204	0.27	0.5 M KOH + 2.0 M Glycerol	Appl. Catal. A <b>2012</b> , 429-430, 39-47
Pd-CNx/G	1.1		0.5 M KOH + 0.5 M Glycerol	ACS Catal. <b>2015</b> , <b>5</b> , 3174-3180

Pd <sub>5</sub> Ru-PEDOT/C		4.3	1 M KOH + 0.5 M Glycerol	Electrochim. Acta <b>2015</b> , <i>180</i> , 339-352
Pd <sub>50</sub> Ni <sub>50</sub> /C	0.190		0.1 M KOH + 0.1 M Glycerol	Electrocatal. <b>2013</b> , 4, 167-178
Pd <sub>3</sub> Sn/phen-C	0.175		0.1 M KOH + 0.5 M Glycerol	Int. J. Hydrogen Energy <b>2016</b> , <i>41</i> , 1272-14280
Pd-NiO <sub>x</sub> -P/C	0.364		0.1 M KOH + 0.5 M Glycerol	Chem. Eng. J. <b>2017</b> , <i>38</i> , 419-427
PtAg nanotubes	0.208	6.0	0.5 M KOH + 0.5 M Glycerol	Electrochem. Commun. <b>2014</b> , <i>46</i> , 36-39

**Table S4** The parameters of  $R_{ct}$  from equivalent circuits for different catalysts in different solutions

Catalysts	1 M KOH + 1 M EG ( $\Omega$ $\text{cm}^2$ )	1 M KOH + 1 M glycerol ( $\Omega \text{ cm}^2$ )
Pt <sub>3</sub> Co <sub>1</sub> UNWs-S	108	189
Pt <sub>3</sub> Co <sub>1</sub> UNWs-M	84	154
Pt <sub>3</sub> Co <sub>1</sub> UNWs-L	76	131