

## Zn modified Co@N-C composites with adjusted Co particle sizes as catalysts for efficient electroreduction of CO<sub>2</sub>

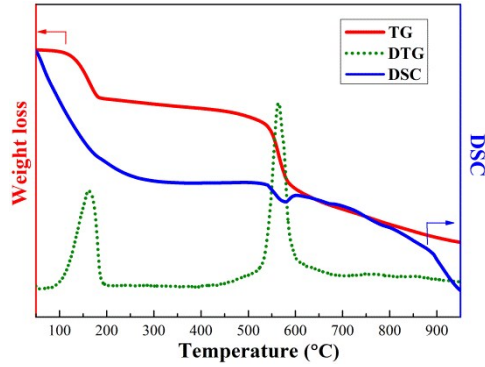
Zhichao Miao<sup>a\*</sup>, Weiqi Liu<sup>a</sup>, Yuzhen Zhao<sup>a</sup>, Fangyuan Wang<sup>a</sup>, Jian Meng<sup>a</sup>, Manfen Liang<sup>a</sup>,

Xiaozhong Wu<sup>a</sup>, Jinping Zhao<sup>a</sup>, Shuping Zhuo<sup>a</sup>, Jin Zhou<sup>a\*</sup>

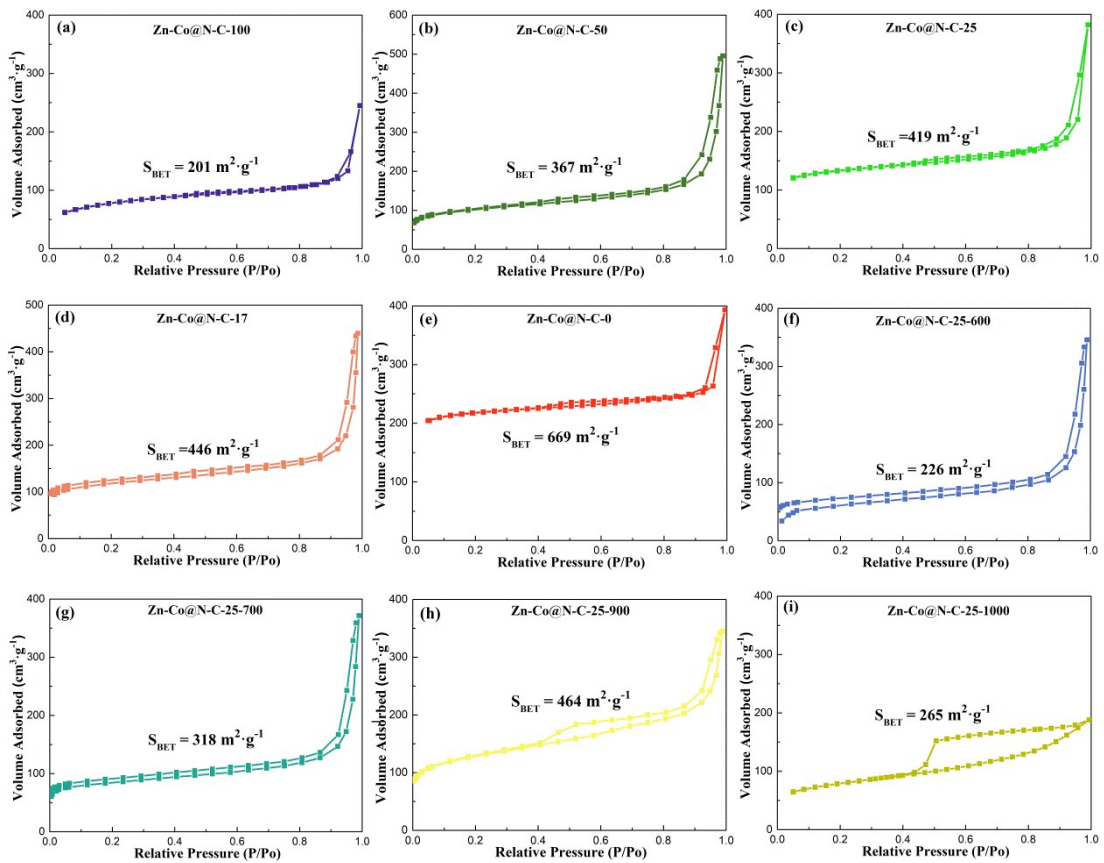
<sup>a</sup>School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Shandong University of Technology, Zibo 255049, P. R. China.

\* Corresponding author:

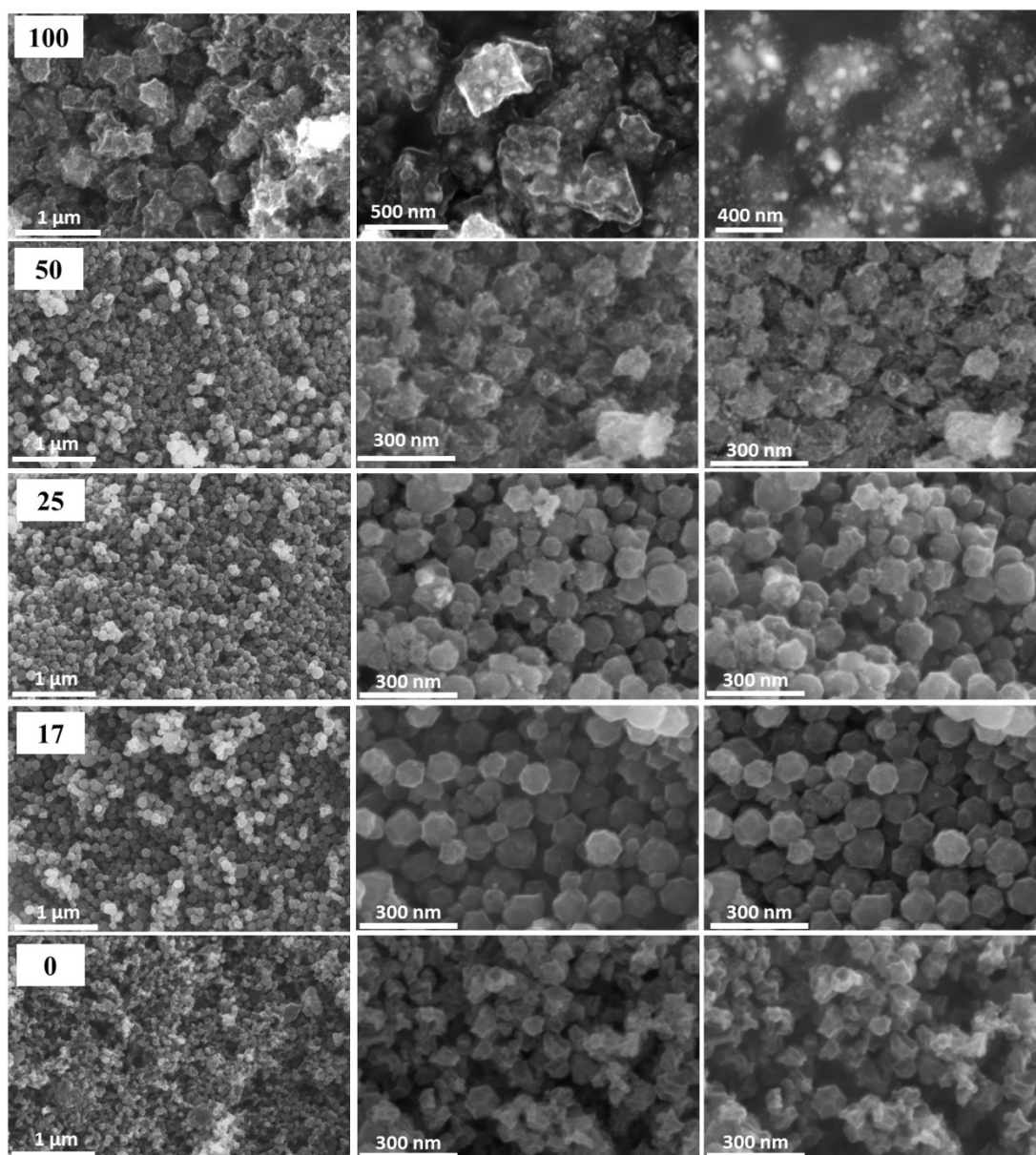
E-mail: [miaozhichao@sdut.edu.cn](mailto:miaozhichao@sdut.edu.cn) (Z. Miao); [zhoujin@sdut.edu.cn](mailto:zhoujin@sdut.edu.cn) (J. Zhou).



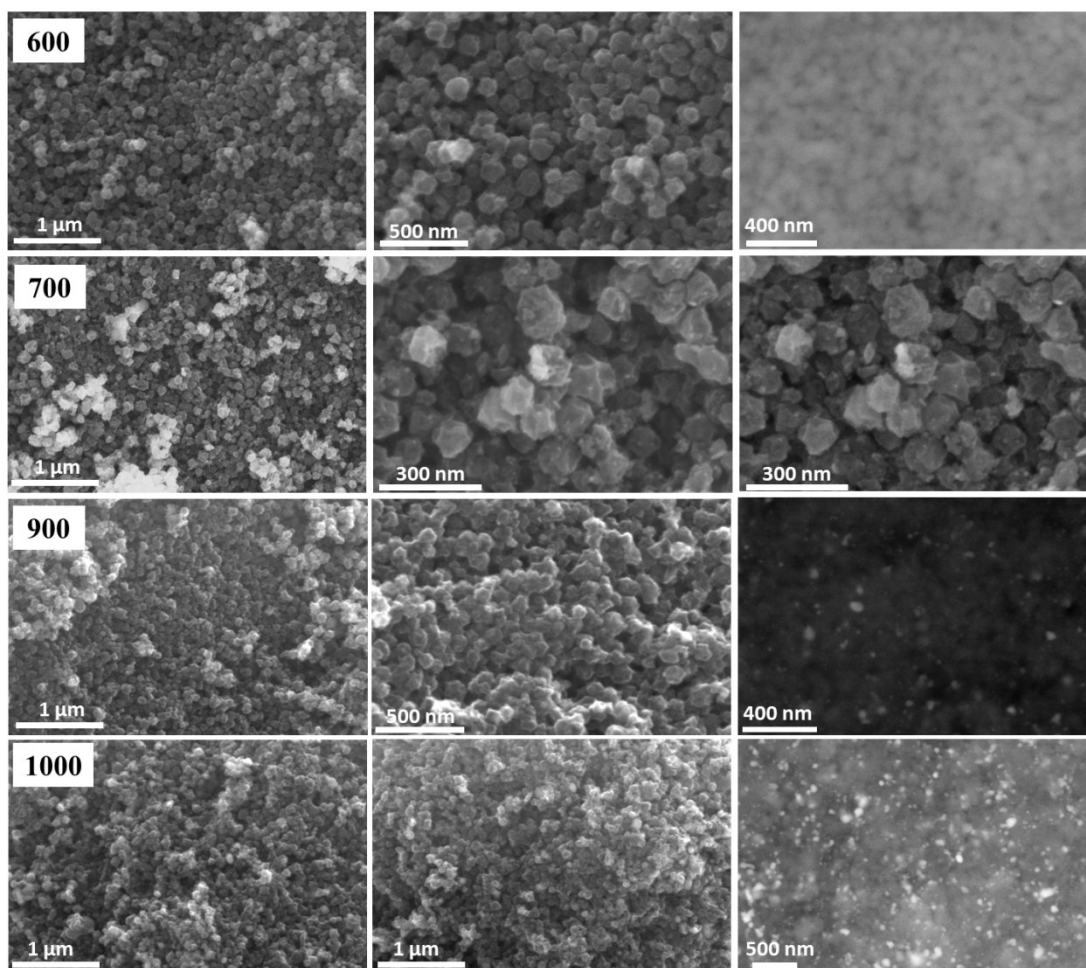
**Figure S1.** TG-DSC characterizations of the as-prepared Zn-Co-ZIF.



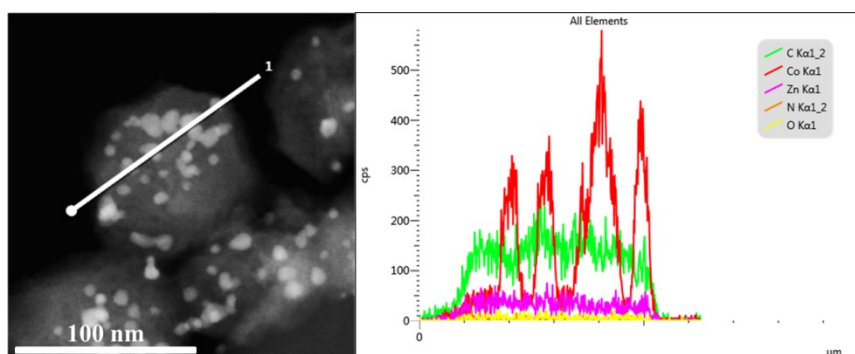
**Figure S2.** N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms of Zn-Co@N-C-X with different Co contents and Zn-Co@N-C-25-Y with different pyrolysis temperatures.



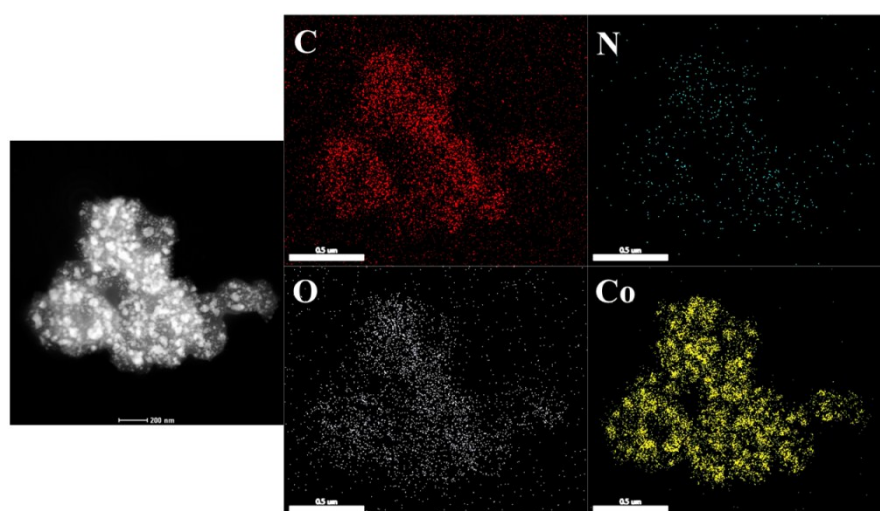
**Figure S3.** SEM image of Zn-Co@N-C-X with different Co contents.



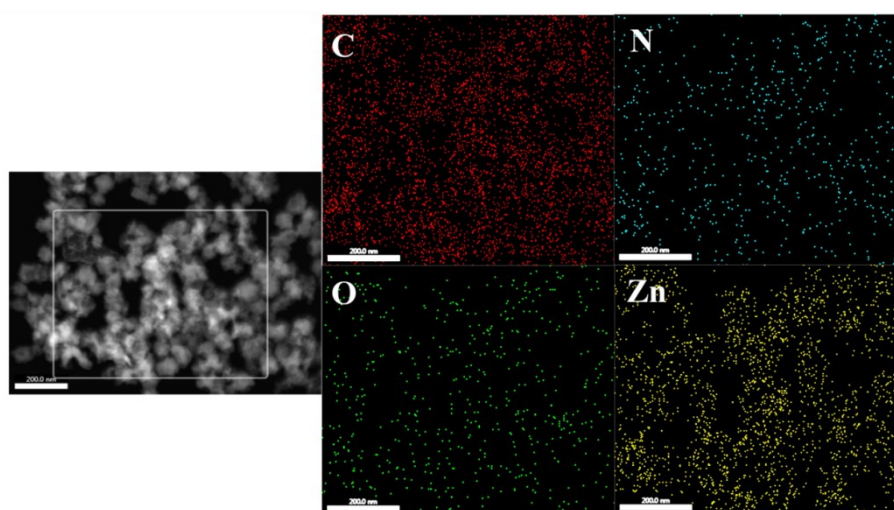
**Figure S4.** SEM image of Zn-Co@N-C-25-Y with different pyrolysis temperatures.



**Figure S5.** STEM and line-scanning EDS spectra of Zn-Co@N-C-25.

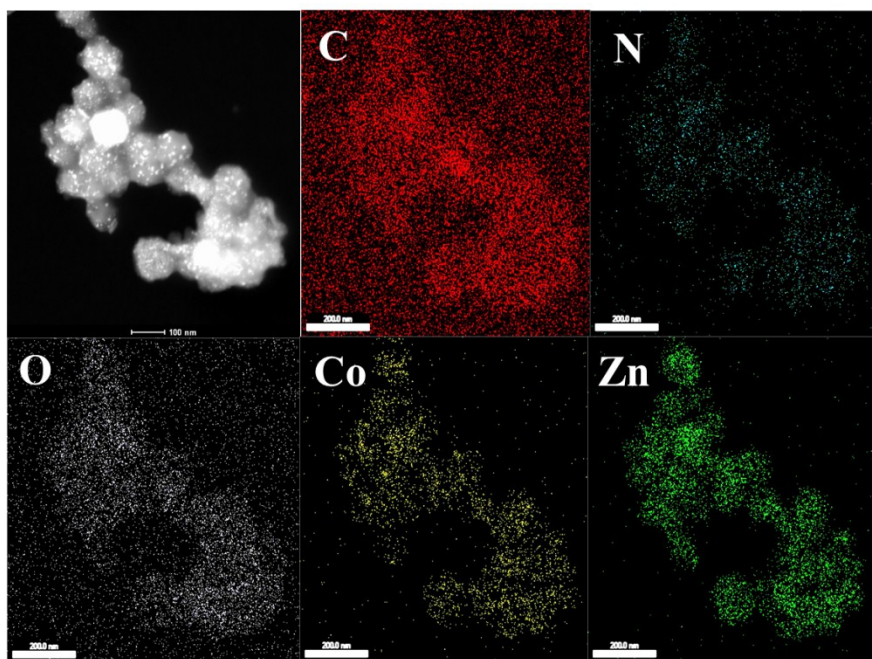


**Figure S6.** Elemental mapping of Zn-Co@N-C-100.

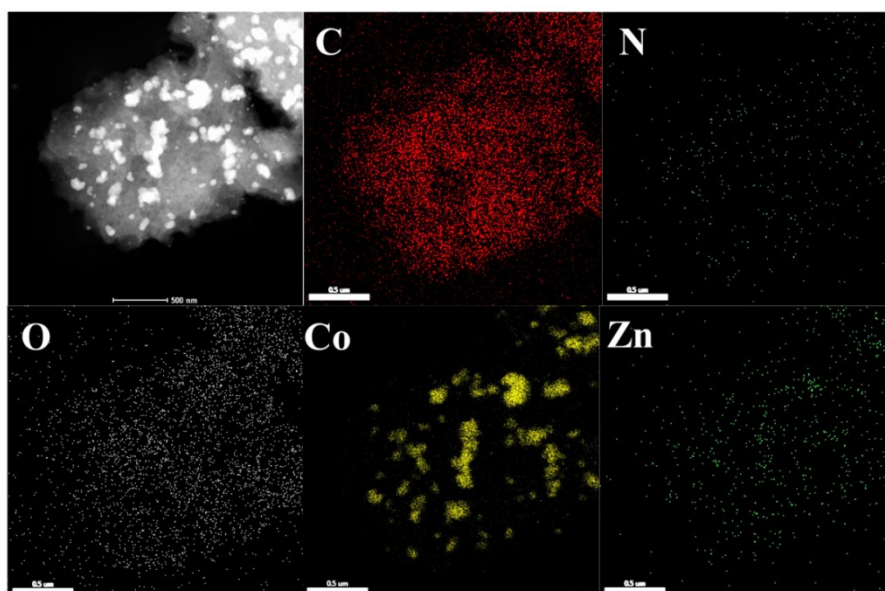


**Figure S7.** Elemental mapping of Zn-Co@N-C-0.

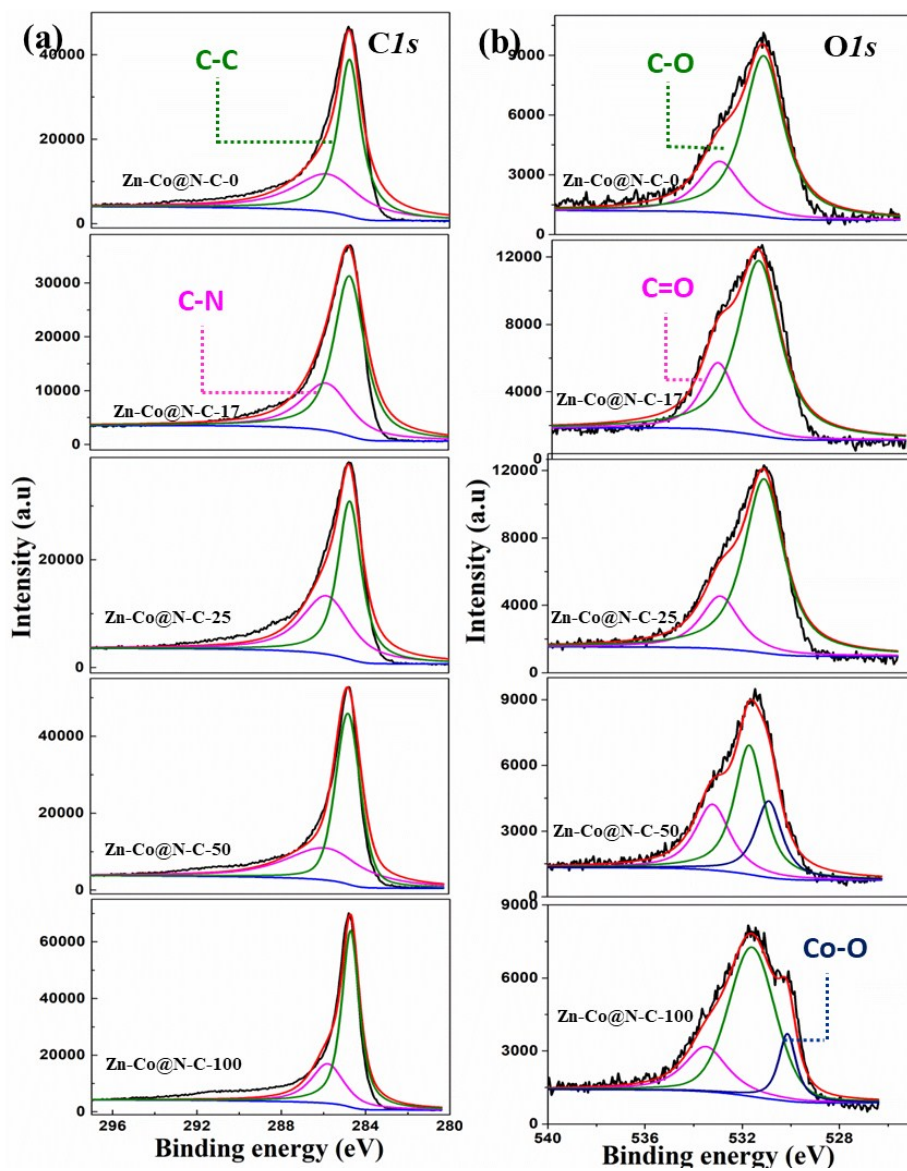




**Figure S8.** Elemental mapping of Zn-Co@N-C-25-600.



**Figure S9.** Elemental mapping of Zn-Co@N-C-25-1000.



**Figure S10.** XPS spectra of Zn-Co@N-C-X with different Co contents: **(a)** C 1s and **(b)** O 1s.

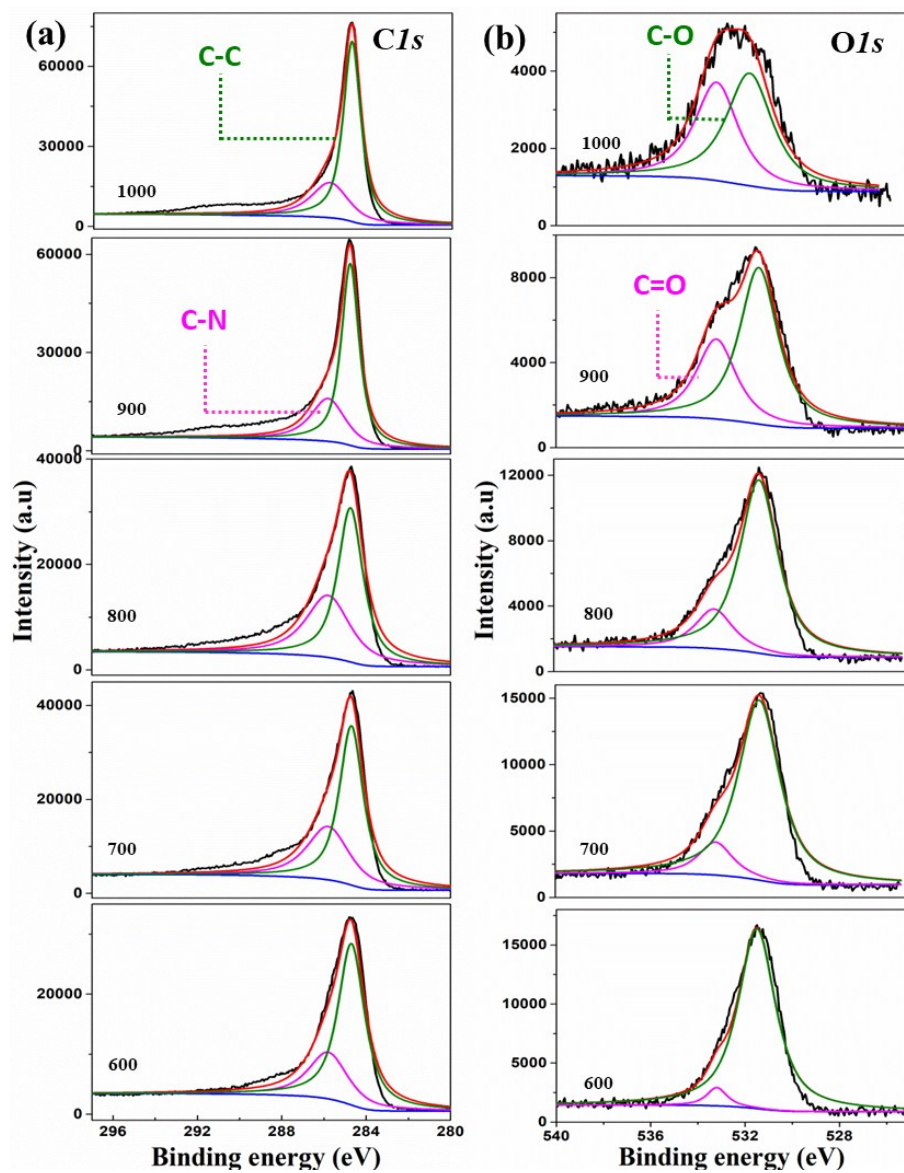
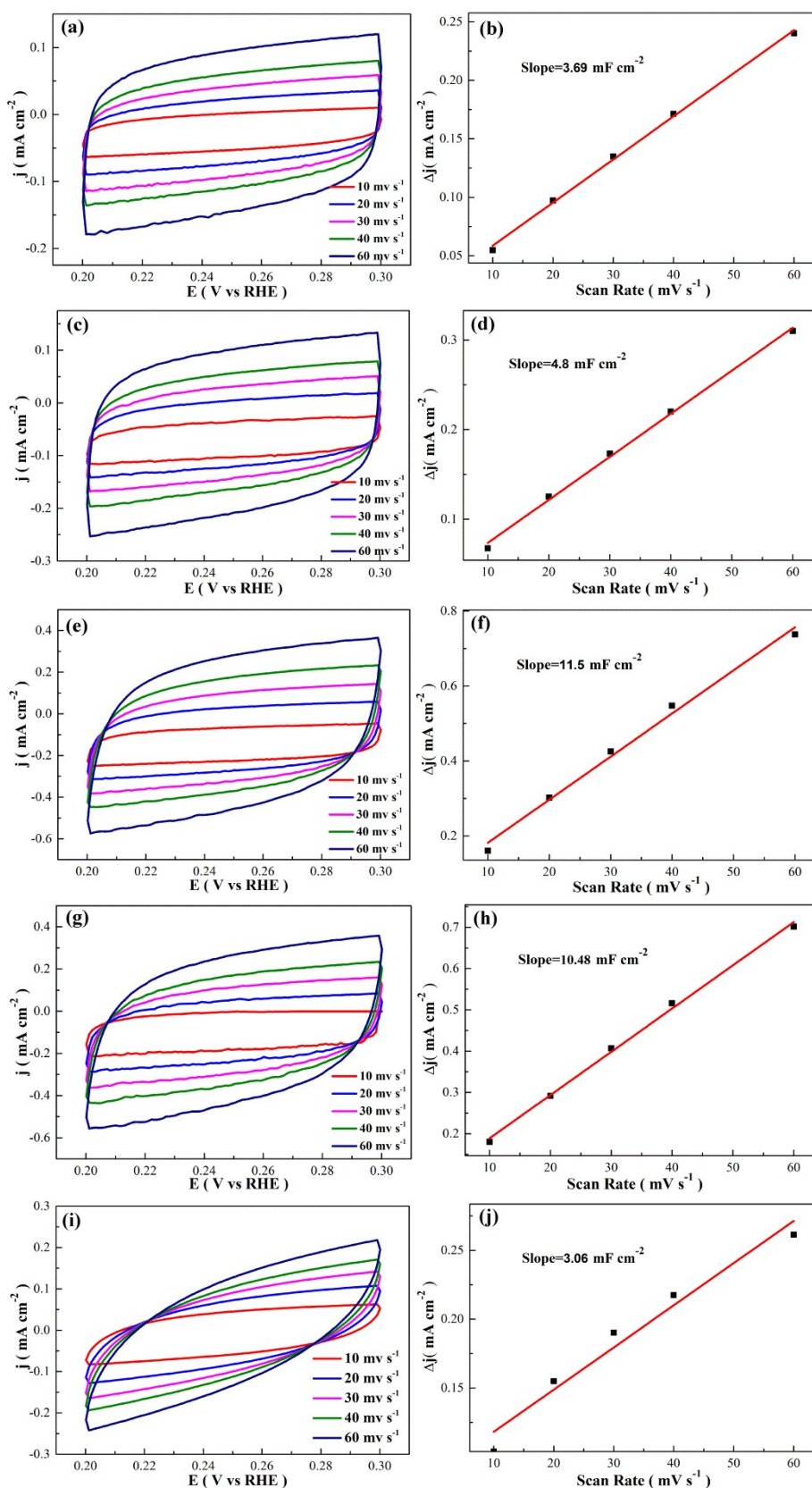


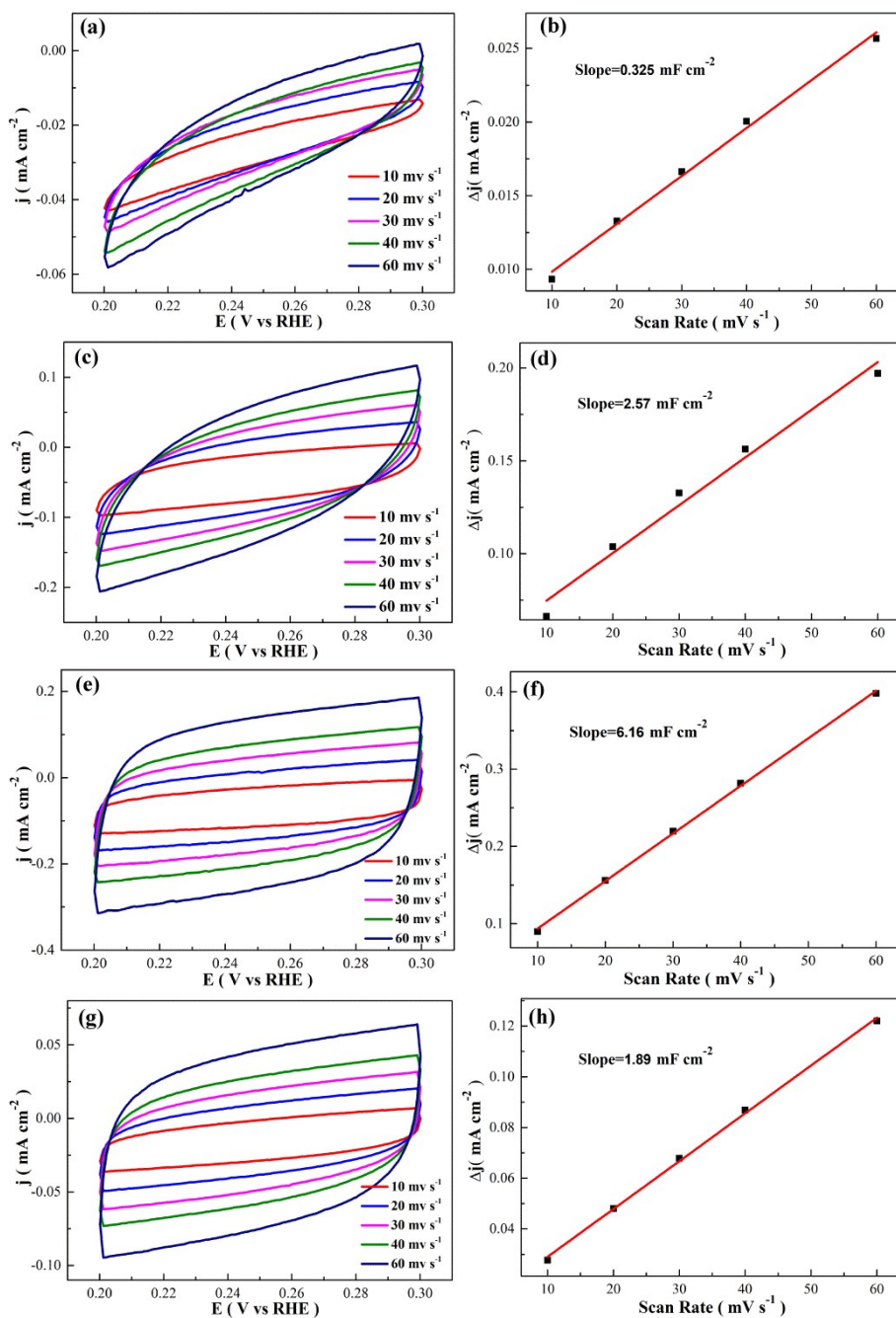
Figure S11. XPS spectra of Zn-Co@N-C-25-Y with different pyrolysis temperatures:

(a) C 1s and (b) O 1s.





**Figure S12.** Cyclic voltammetry and charging current density differences plotted against scan rates: (a, b) Zn-Co@N-C-100, (c, d) Zn-Co@N-C-50, (e, f) Zn-Co@N-C-25, (g, h) Zn-Co@N-C-17 and (i, j) Zn-Co@N-C-0.



**Figure S13.** Cyclic voltammetry and charging current density differences plotted against scan rates: **(a, b)** Zn-Co@N-C-25-600, **(c, d)** Zn-Co@N-C-25-700, **(e, f)** Zn-Co@N-C-25-900 and **(g, h)** Zn-Co@N-C-25-1000.

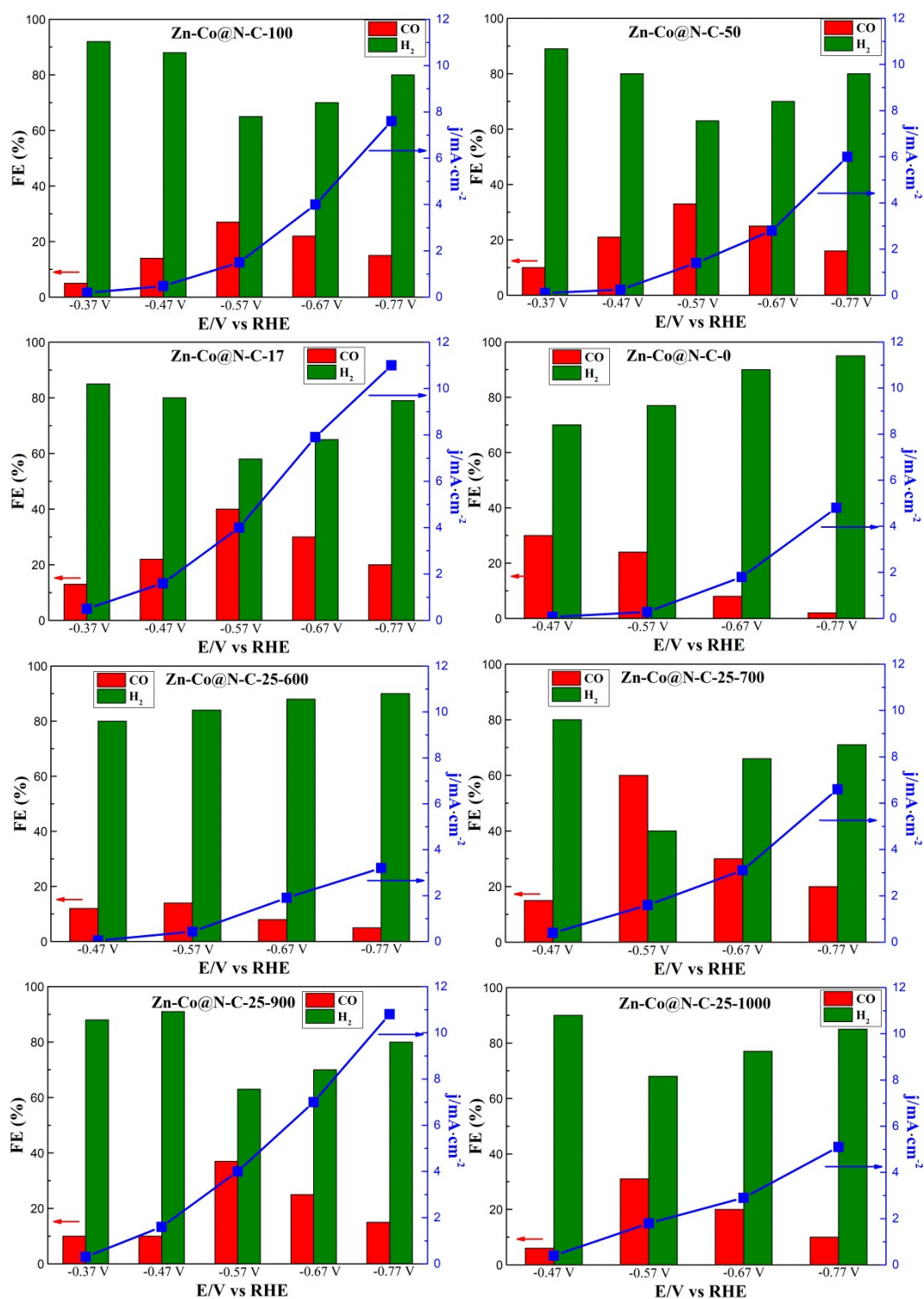
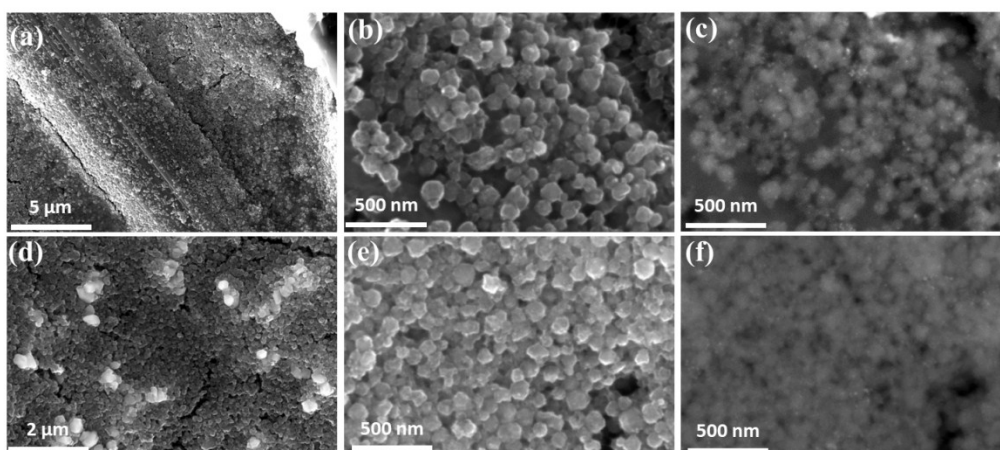
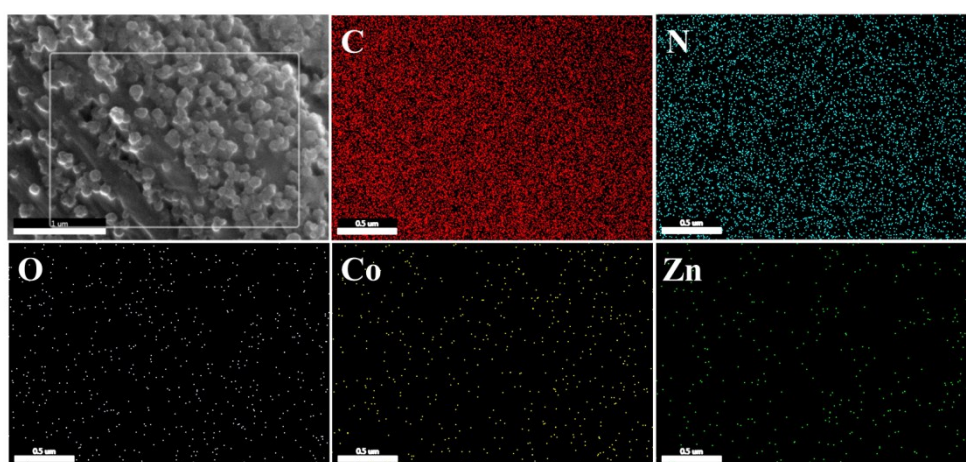


Figure S14. Catalytic performance of Zn-Co@N-C tested under different potentials.

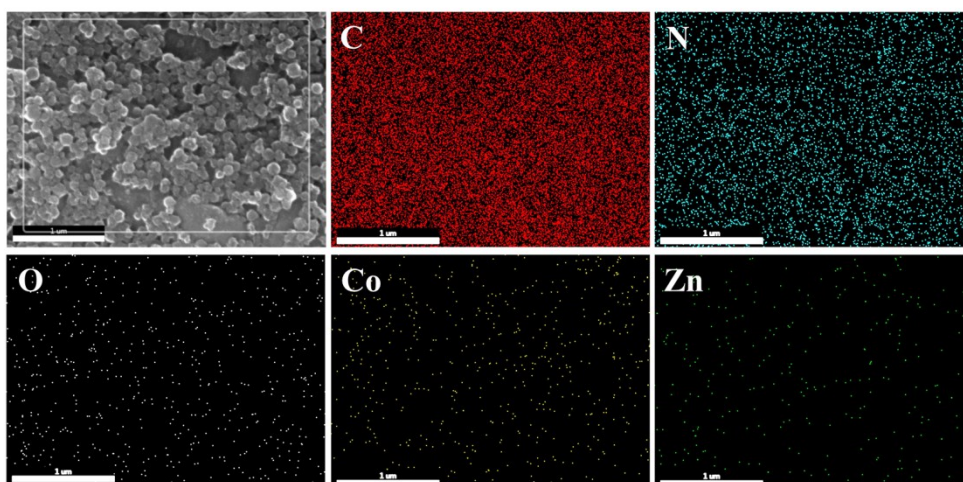




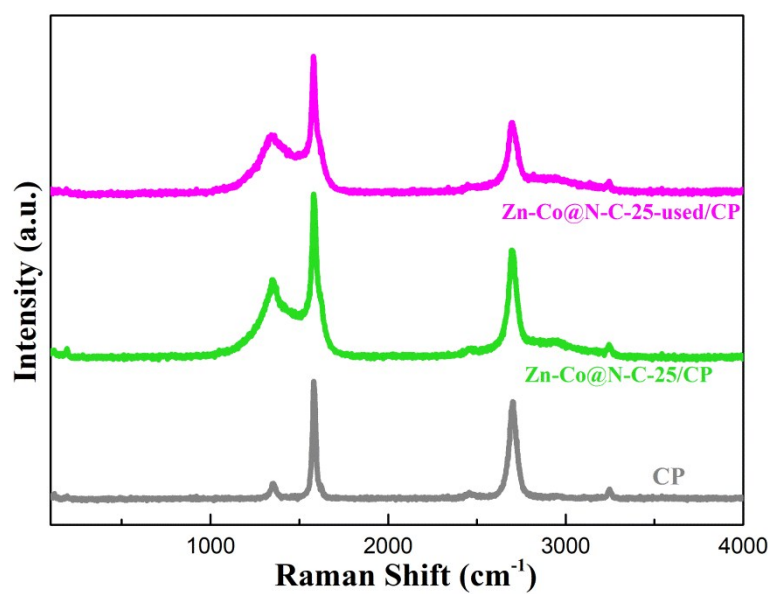
**Figure S15.** SEM images of Zn-Co@N-C-25/CP before (a-c) and after reaction (d-f).



**Figure S16.** Elemental mapping of Zn-Co@N-C-25/CP before reaction.



**Figure S17.** Elemental mapping of Zn-Co@N-C-25/CP after reaction.



**Figure S18.** Raman spectra of carbon paper and Zn-Co@N-C-25/CP before and after reaction.