

Electronic Supporting Information (ESI) for the following publication:

**In Situ addition of Graphitic Carbon into a NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>/CoO composite: its Enhanced Catalysis toward the Oxygen Evolution Reaction**

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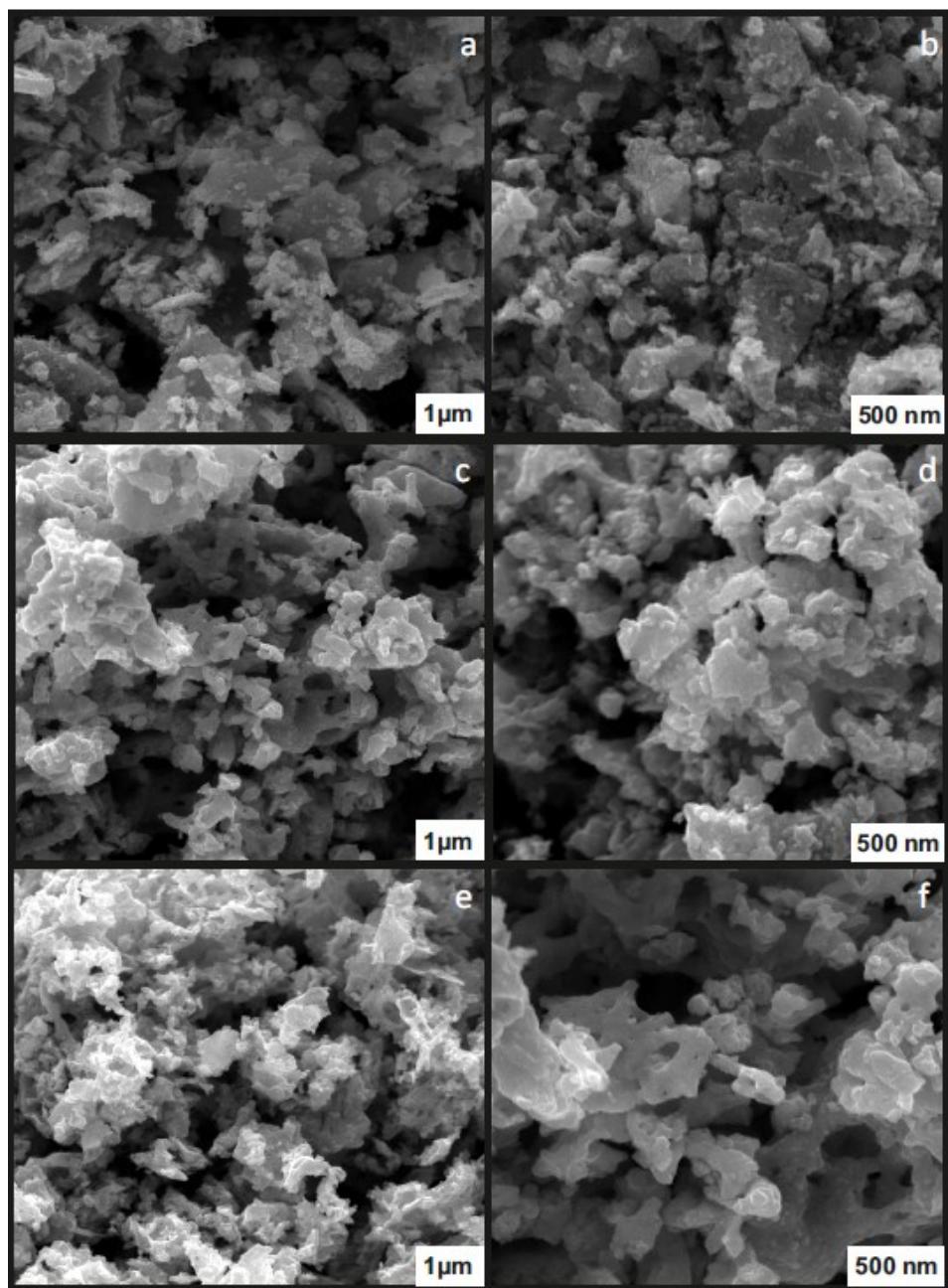
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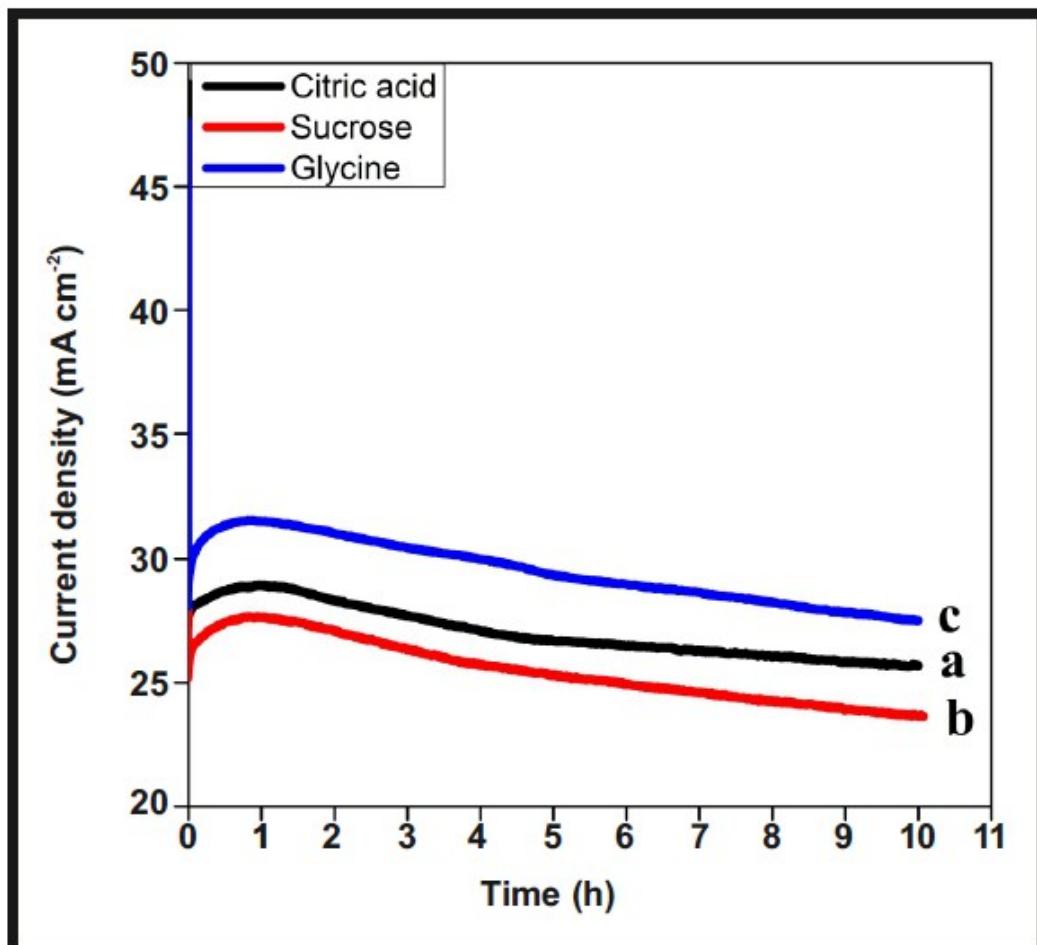
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**ESI Figure 1.** SEM images of the  $\text{NiCo}_2\text{O}_4/\text{CoO}/\text{graphitic carbon}$  composite prepared at 500  $^{\circ}\text{C}/3$  minutes using (a, b) citric acid, (c, d) sucrose, (e, f) glycine.



**ESI Figure 2.** Chronoamperometry stability curves of  $\text{NiCo}_2\text{O}_4/\text{CoO}/\text{graphitic carbon}$  composite derived from (a) citric acid, (b) sucrose and (c) glycine in applied potential of + 0.7 V in 1M KOH in the period of 10 hours.



## **Electrochemical calculations**

### **Conversion of the potential measured vs. Ag/AgCl to RHE electrode**

The potential measured *vs.* the Ag/AgCl electrode, was converted to the reversible hydrogen electrode (RHE) scale according to the Nernst equation <sup>1-3</sup>

$$E_{\text{RHE}} = E_{\text{Ag/AgCl}} + 0.059 * 14 + 0.196$$

The overpotential ( $\eta$ ) was calculated according to the following equation <sup>1-3</sup>

$$\eta \text{ (V)} = E_{\text{RHE}} - 1.23 \text{ V}$$

### **Turn over frequency**

Turn over frequency (TOF) was calculated according to the following equation:

$$\text{TOF} = jS/4Fn$$

where  $j$  is the measured current density at  $\eta_{10}$ ,  $S$  is the working electrode area ( $\text{cm}^2$ ),  $F$  is the Faraday constant, 4 is the number of electrons involved in the OER and  $n$  is the number of moles of the catalyst present in the working electrode. <sup>1,2</sup>.

1. V. Maruthapandian, M. Mathankumar, V. Saraswathy, B. Subramanian and S. Muralidharan, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces*, 2017, **9**, 13132-13141.
2. C. Chang, L. Zhang, C.-W. Hsu, X.-F. Chuah and S.-Y. Lu, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces*, 2018, **10**, 417-426.
3. H. Shi and G. Zhao, *J. Phys. Chem. C*, 2014, **118**, 25939-25946.