

Supporting Information for:

**Co_xFe_yN Nanoparticles Decorated on Graphene Sheets as High-Performance
Electrocatalysts for Oxygen Evolution Reaction**

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Table S1. The comparison of OER catalytic parameters of CoxFeyN/graphene with other previous reported electrode materials.

Catalyst	Substrate	η^{10} (mV)	Electrolyte	Stability retention	Ref
Co ₃ Fe ₁ N/graphene	RDE	266	1 M KOH		This study
Co ₃ Fe ₁ N/graphene	Carbon Paper		1 M KOH	After testing for 4 h and 16 h are compared, the overpotential increased about 5 mV	This study
FeCo-Co ₄ N/N-C	RDE	280	1 M KOH	79.9% after 12 h at 10 mA/cm ²	Rf S1
NiCo ₂ N/NF	Ni Foam	260	1 M KOH	Almost 100% after 40 h at 10 mA/cm ²	Rf 29
Ni ₃ FeN nanoparticles	Glass Carbon	280	1 M KOH	Almost 100% after 9 h, at 10 mA/cm ²	Rf 31
Pt/C	Glass Carbon		1 M KOH	exhibited a negligible OER activity	Rf 31
RuO ₂	RED	330	1 M KOH	65.2%, after 12 h, at 10 mA/cm ²	Rf S1
IrO ₂	Modified working electrode	338	1 M KOH	the overpotential increased 94 mV after 6 h at 10 mA/cm ²	Rf S2
Pyrolyzed IrO ₂	RED	345	1 M KOH	30% at $\eta = 0.37$ V after 250 min	Rf S3
Leached-Ir _{0.7} Co _{0.3} O _x	RDE	320	1 M KOH	65% at $\eta = 0.37$ V after 250 min	Rf S3

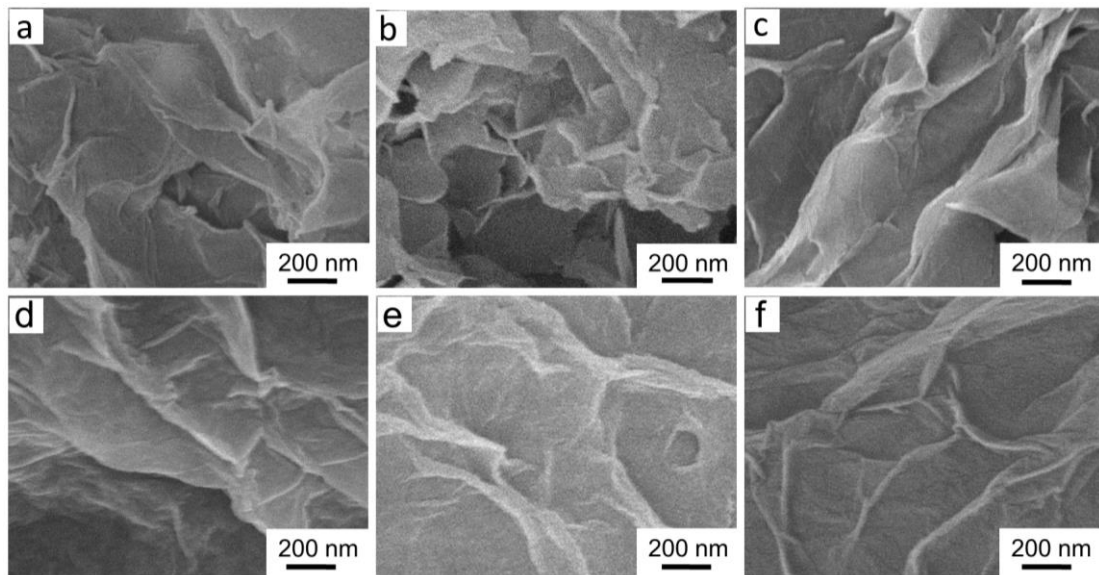


Figure S1. SEM images of ultrathin $\text{Co}_x\text{Fe}_y\text{-LDH/graphene}$ nanosheets: (a) $\text{Co}(\text{OH})_2/\text{graphene}$, (b) $\text{Co}_{3.6}\text{Fe}_{0.4}\text{-LDH/graphene}$, (c) $\text{Co}_3\text{Fe}_1\text{-LDH/graphene}$, (d) $\text{Co}_2\text{Fe}_2\text{-LDH/graphene}$, (e) $\text{Co}_1\text{Fe}_3\text{-LDH/graphene}$ and (f) $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_3/\text{graphene}$, respectively.

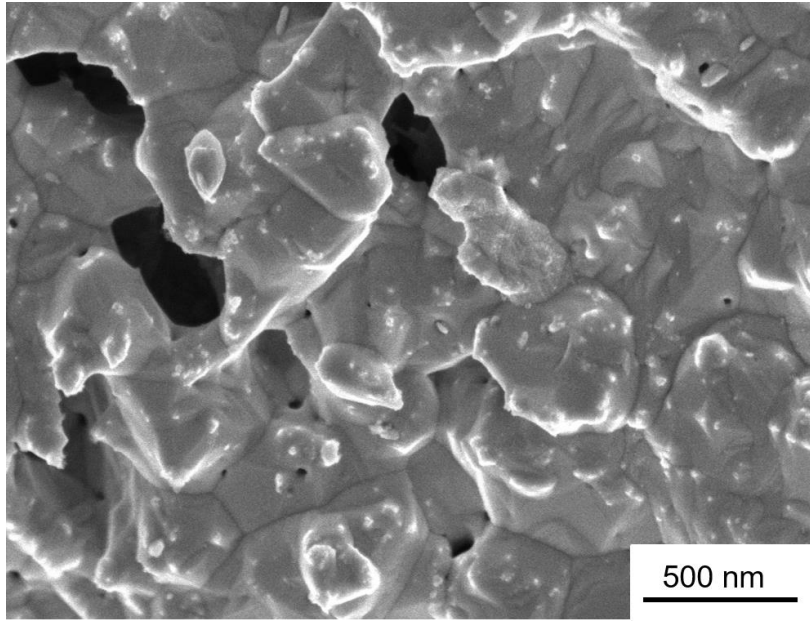


Figure S2. The SEM image of $\text{Co}_3\text{Fe}_1\text{N}$ control sample without graphene.

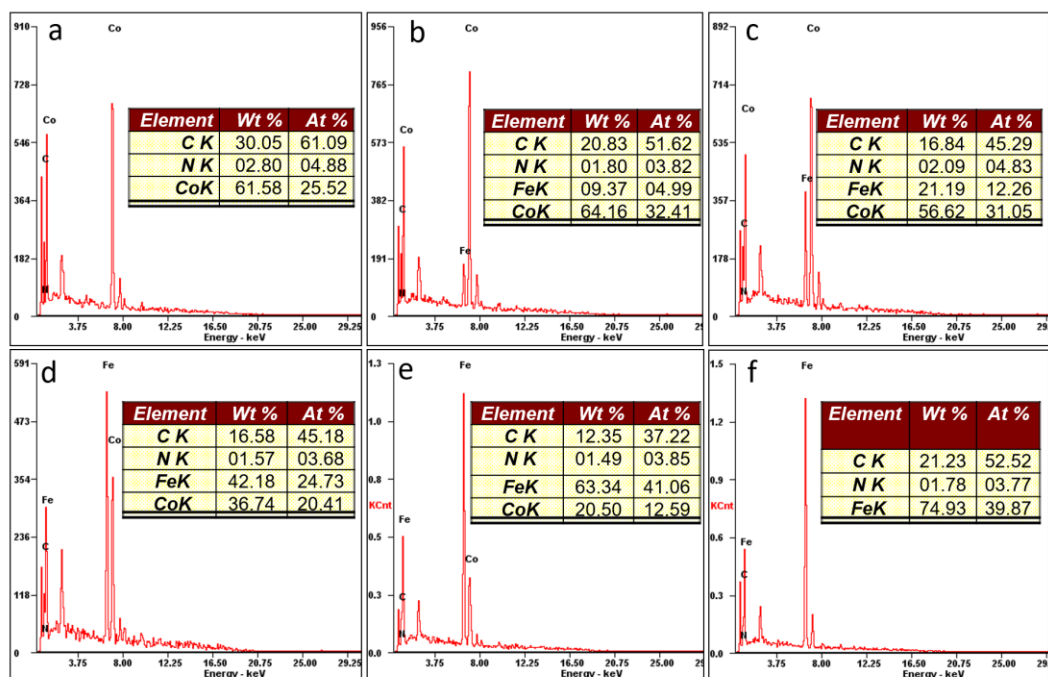


Figure S3. EDX spectra of $\text{Co}_x\text{Fe}_y\text{N}/\text{graphene}$ catalysts: (a) $\text{Co}_4\text{N}/\text{graphene}$, (b) $\text{Co}_{3.6}\text{Fe}_{0.4}\text{N}/\text{graphene}$, (c) $\text{Co}_3\text{Fe}_1\text{N}/\text{graphene}$, (d) $\text{Co}_2\text{Fe}_2\text{N}/\text{graphene}$, (e) $\text{Co}_1\text{Fe}_3\text{N}/\text{graphene}$ and (f) $\text{Fe}_4\text{N}/\text{graphene}$, respectively.

Table S2. ICP-OES analysis of Co_xFe_yN/graphene samples.

Catalysts	Atomic ratio n(Co) : n(Fe)
Co _{3.6} Fe _{0.4} N/graphene	0.99 : 0.11
Co ₃ Fe ₁ N/graphene	0.86 : 0.26
Co ₂ Fe ₂ N/graphene	0.47 : 0.52
Co ₁ Fe ₃ N/graphene	0.25 : 0.81

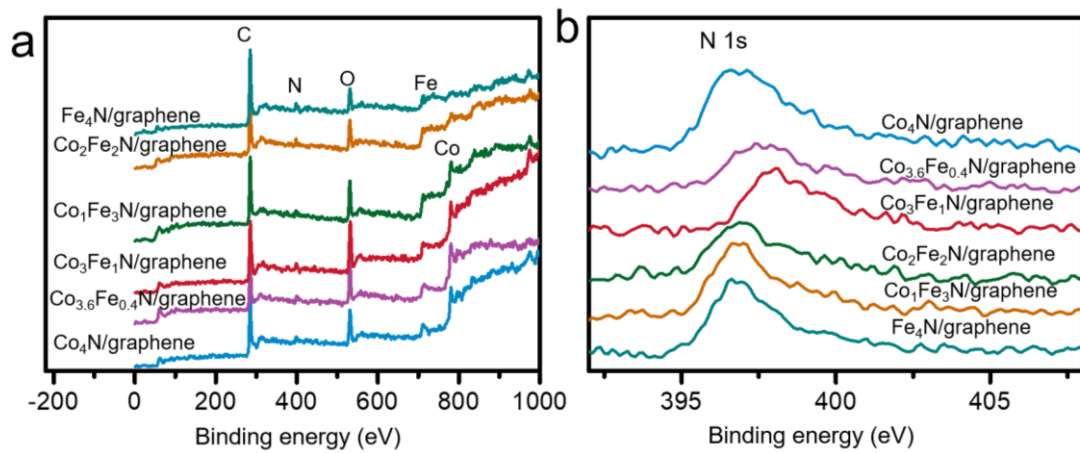


Figure S4. (a) XPS survey spectra and (b) High-resolution XPS spectra at N 1s region of $\text{Co}_x\text{Fe}_y\text{N}/\text{graphene}$ samples, respectively.

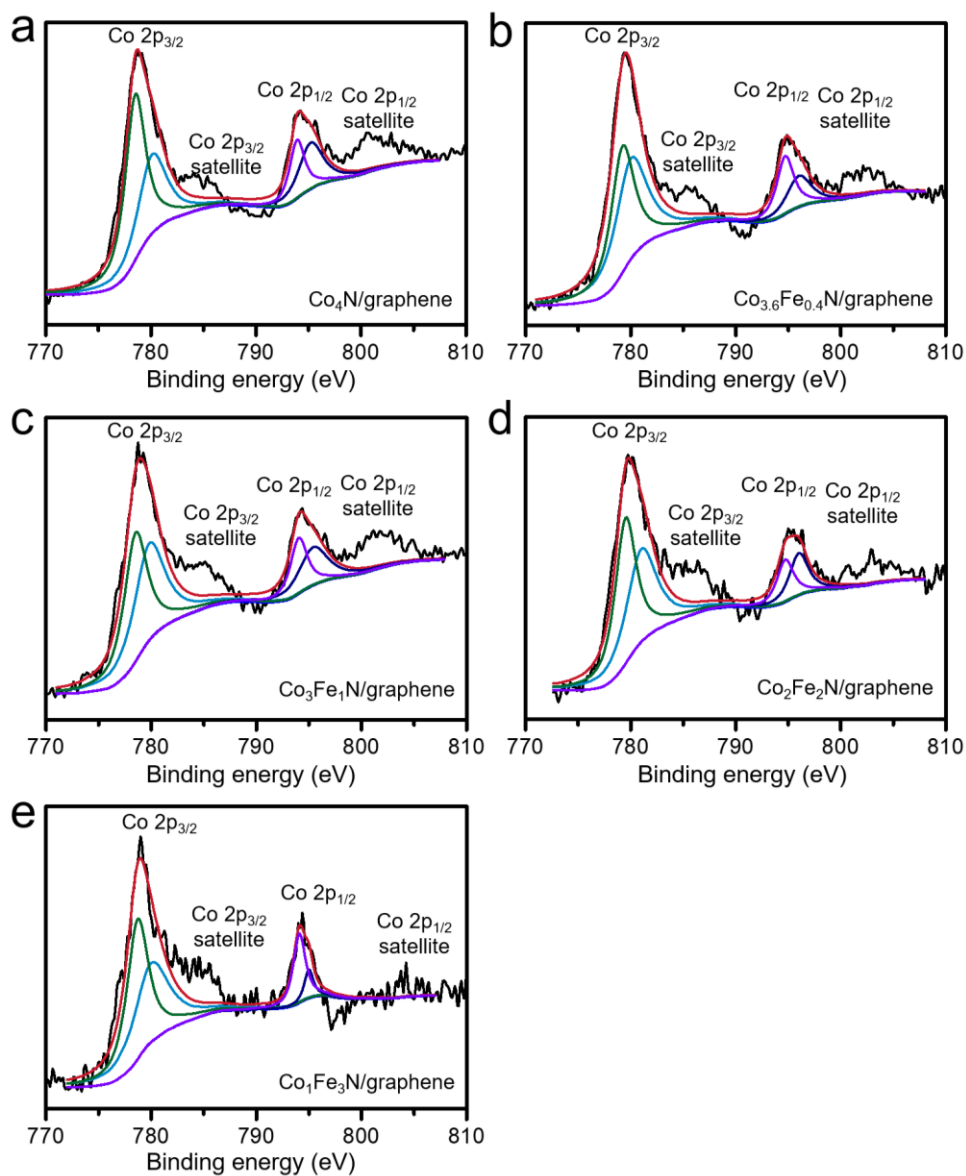


Figure S5. XPS spectra at Co 2p region of $\text{Co}_x\text{Fe}_y\text{N}/\text{graphene}$ catalysts: (a) $\text{Co}_4\text{N}/\text{graphene}$, (b) $\text{Co}_{3.6}\text{Fe}_{0.4}\text{N}/\text{graphene}$, (c) $\text{Co}_3\text{Fe}_1\text{N}/\text{graphene}$, (d) $\text{Co}_2\text{Fe}_2\text{N}/\text{graphene}$, and (e) $\text{Co}_1\text{Fe}_3\text{N}/\text{graphene}$, respectively.

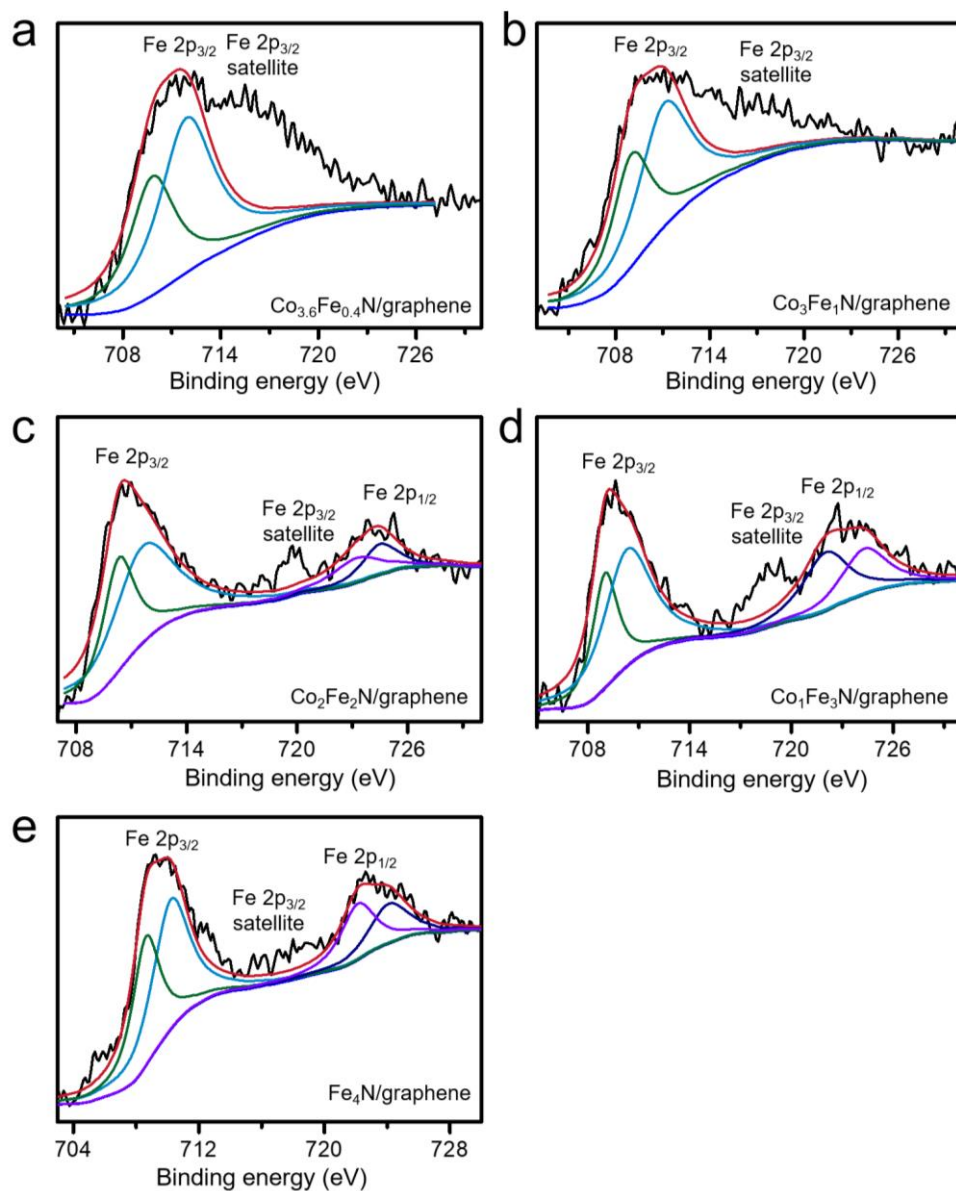


Figure S6. XPS spectra at Fe 2p region of Co_xFe_yN/graphene catalysts: (a) Co_{3.6}Fe_{0.4}N/graphene, (b) Co₃Fe₁N/graphene, (c) Co₂Fe₂N/graphene, (d) Co₁Fe₃N/graphene and (e) Fe₄N/graphene, respectively.

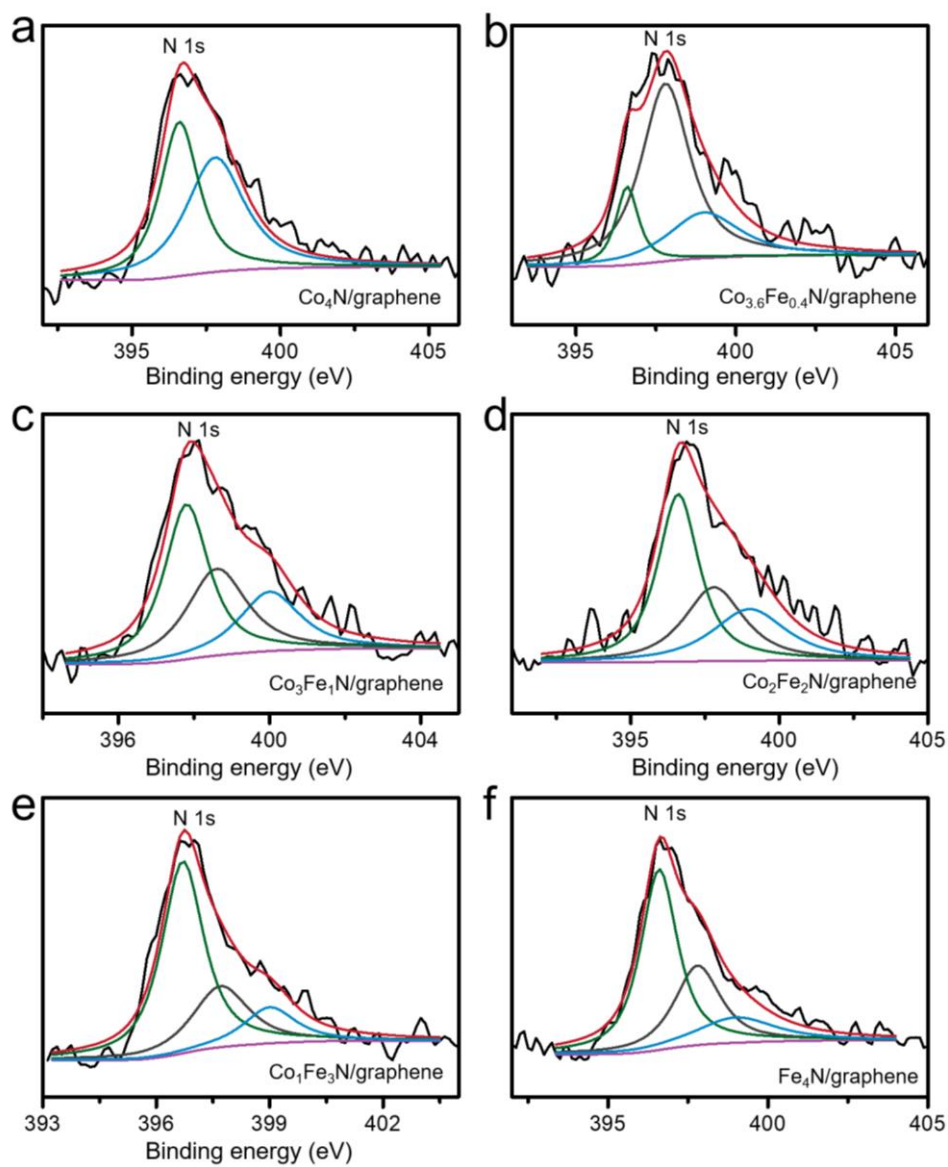


Figure S7. XPS spectra at N 1s region of $\text{Co}_x\text{Fe}_y\text{N}/\text{graphene}$ catalysts: (a) $\text{Co}_4\text{N}/\text{graphene}$. (b) $\text{Co}_{3.6}\text{Fe}_{0.4}\text{N}/\text{graphene}$, (c) $\text{Co}_3\text{Fe}_1\text{N}/\text{graphene}$, (d) $\text{Co}_2\text{Fe}_2\text{N}/\text{graphene}$, (e) $\text{Co}_1\text{Fe}_3\text{N}/\text{graphene}$ and (f) $\text{Fe}_4\text{N}/\text{graphene}$, respectively.

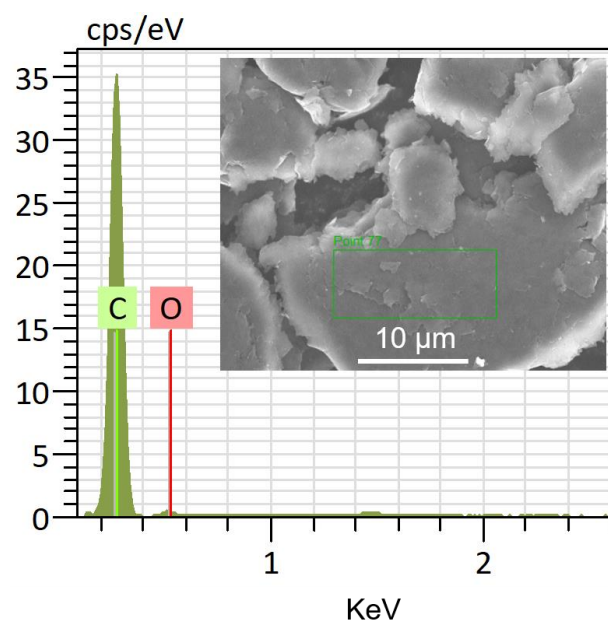


Figure S8. EDX spectrum of pristine graphene treated at 600 °C for 3 h under ammonia atmosphere.

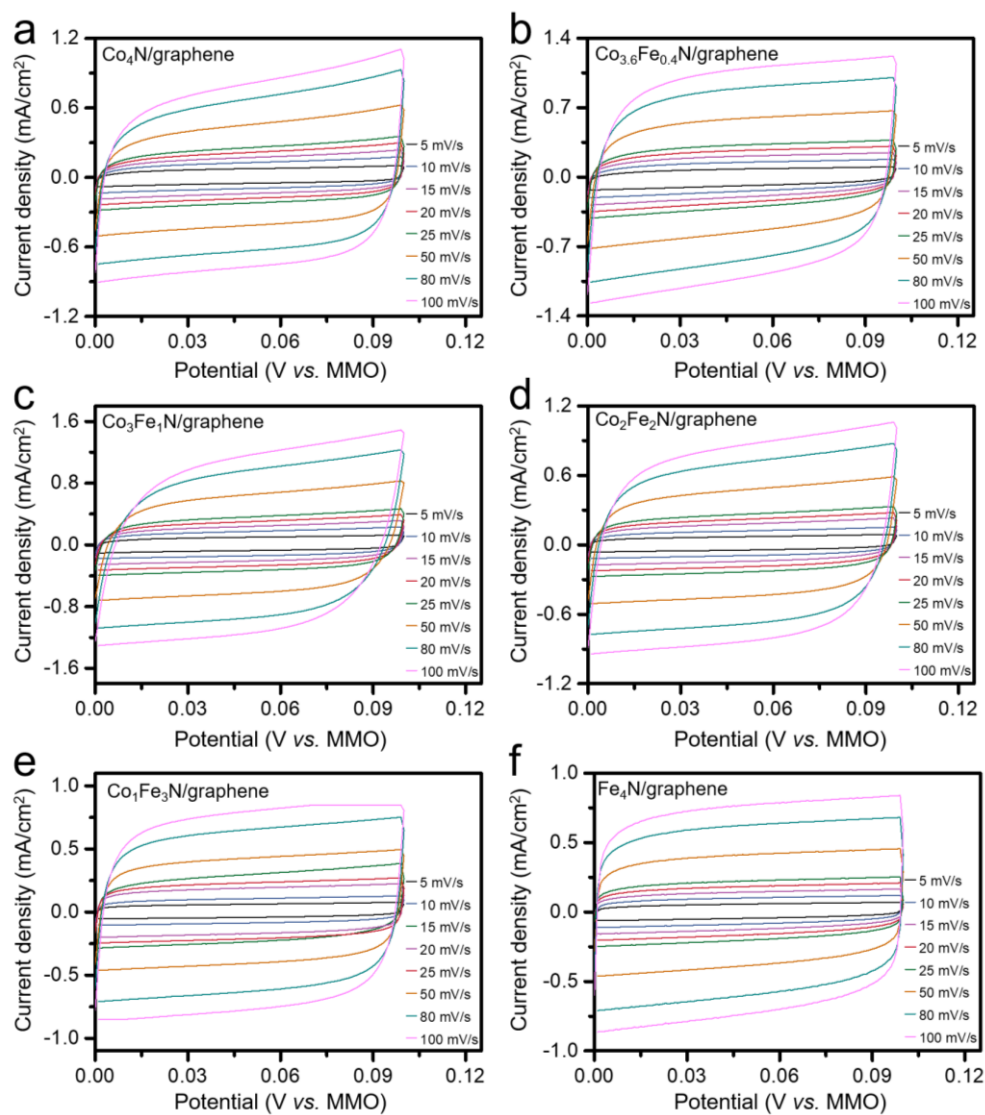


Figure S9. (a-f) Cyclic voltammograms (CVs) of $\text{Co}_x\text{Fe}_y\text{N}/\text{graphene}$ samples at different scan rates from 5 to 100 mV/s between 0-0.1 V vs. Hg/HgO reference electrode (MMO) in 1.0 M KOH.

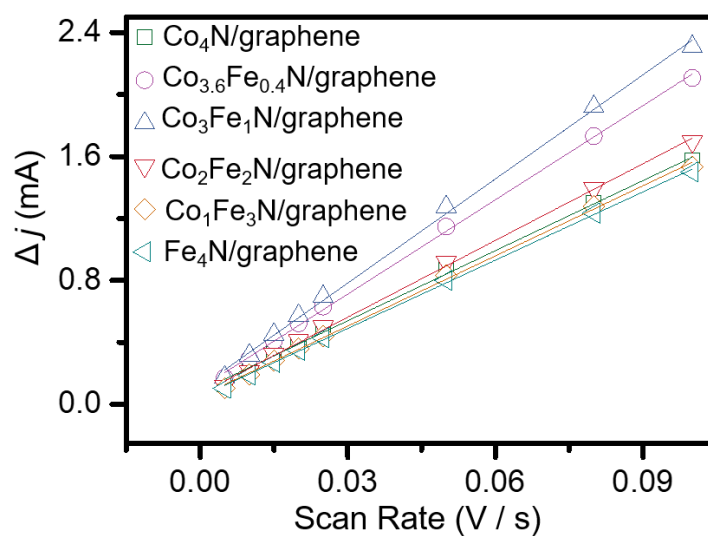


Figure S10. C_{dl} values of $Co_xFe_yN/graphene$ samples at 0.05 V vs. MMO. The C_{dl} values are calculated to be: 15.09 $mF\ cm^{-2}$ for $Co_4N/graphene$, 20.29 $mF\ cm^{-2}$ for $Co_{3.6}Fe_{0.4}N/graphene$, 22.41 $mFcm^{-2}$ $Co_3Fe_1N/graphene$, 16.51 $mFcm^{-2}$ for $Co_2Fe_2N/graphene$, 15.10 $mFcm^{-2}$ for $Co_1Fe_3N/graphene$ and 14.69 $mFcm^{-2}$ for $Fe_4N/graphene$, respectively. These results indicate that $Co_3Fe_1N/graphene$ has the largest C_{dl} value and ECSA among the samples.

Reference

- S1. X. hu, T. Jin, C. Tian, C. Lu, X. Liu, M. Zeng, X. Zhuang, S. Yang, L. He, H. Liu, S. Dai, *Adv. Mater.* 2017, **29**, 1704091
- S2 F. Song, X. L. Hu, *Nature Commun.* 2014, **5**, 4477.
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