

## Supporting Information

### **The origin of heavy elemental doping to relieve the lattice thermal vibration of layered materials for high energy density Li ion cathodes**

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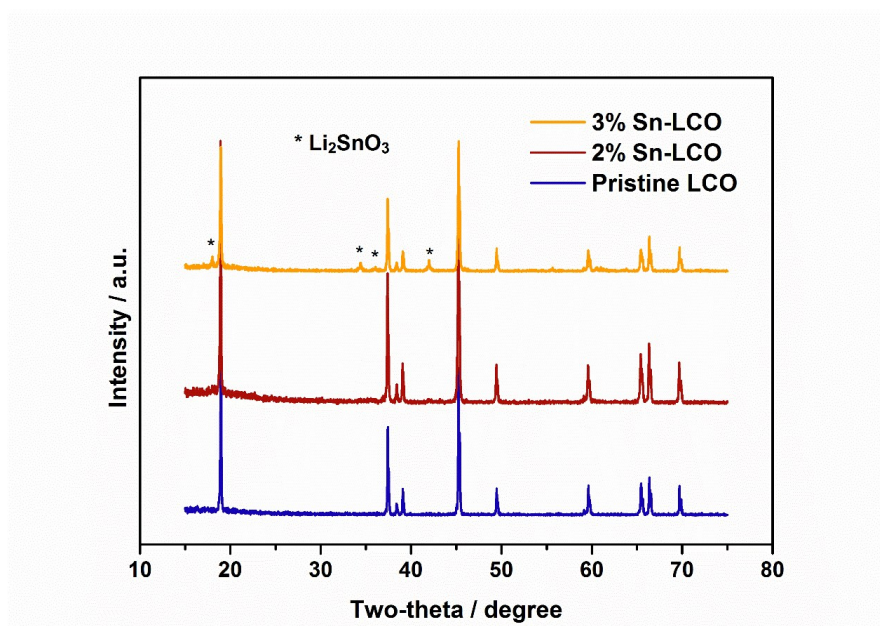
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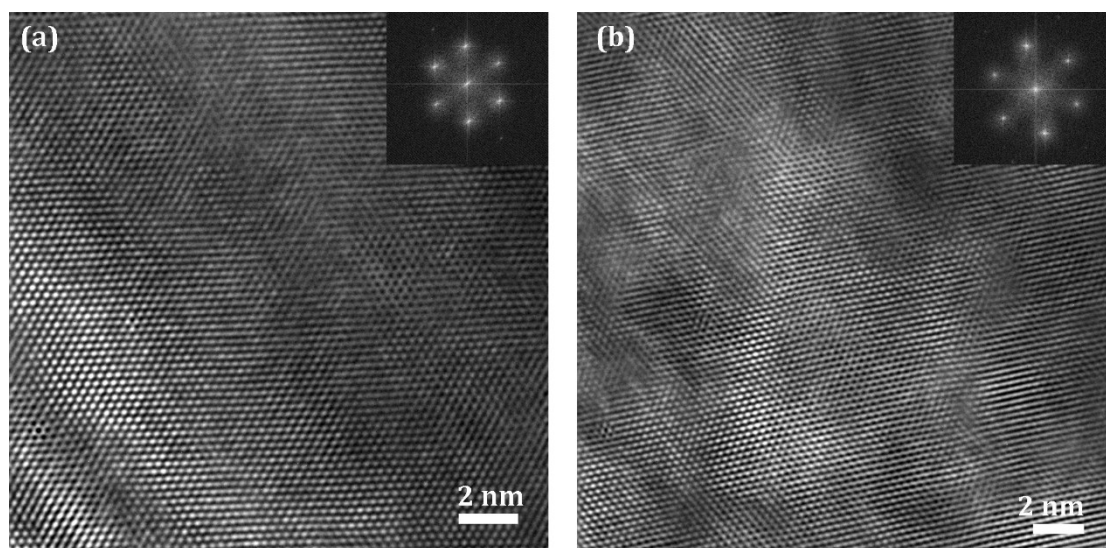
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**Figure S1.** XRD patterns of undoped  $\text{LiCoO}_2$  (Pristine-LCO), and Sn-doped  $\text{LiCoO}_2$  at 2% and 3% doping amount.



**Figure S2.** The HRTEM images and the corresponding FFT patterns for (a) LCO and (b) SLCO

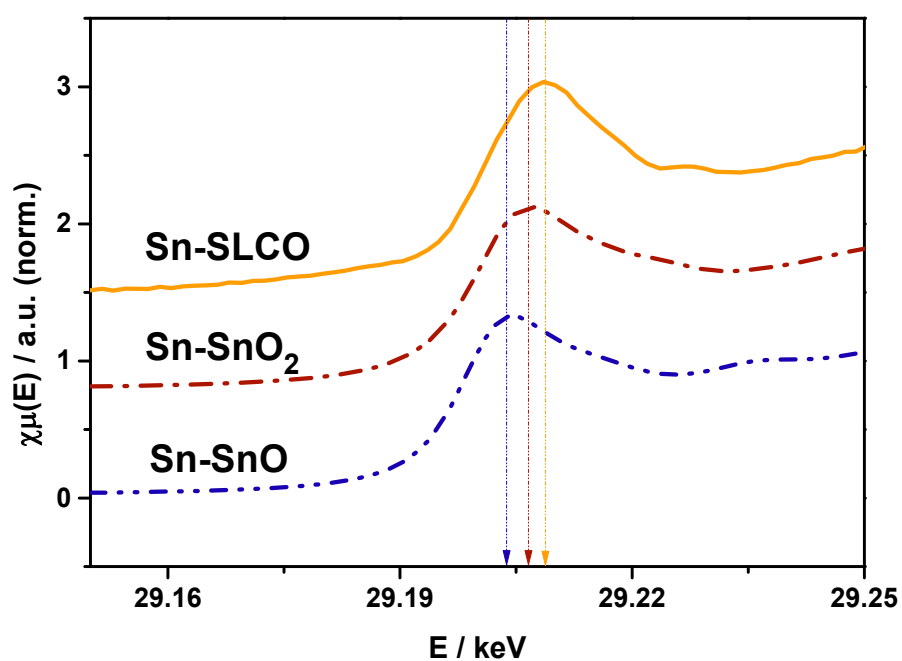
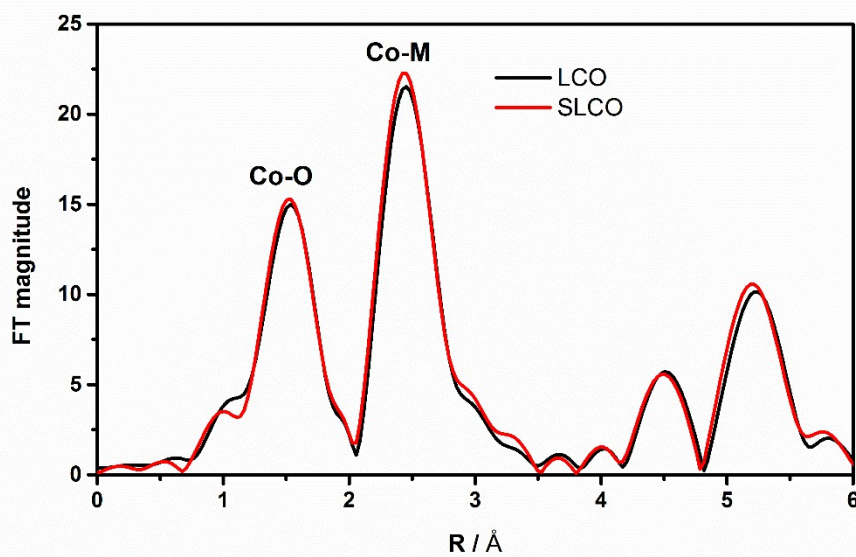


Figure S3 XANES spectra of SLCO and two reference materials, SnO and SnO<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure S4.** The  $k^3$ -weighted Fourier transformed magnitude Co  $K$ -edge EXAFS spectra of LCO and SLCO

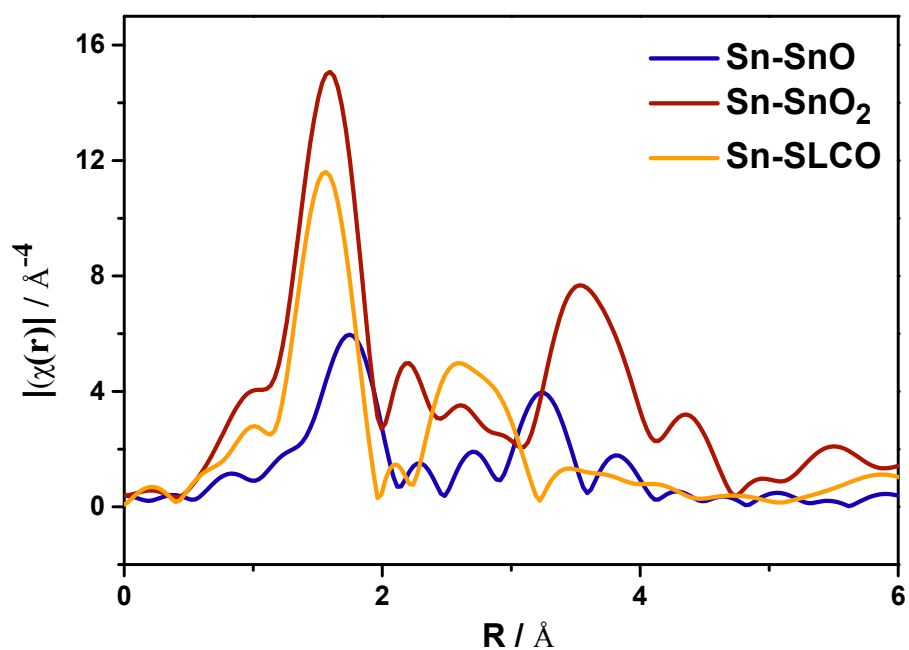


Figure S5  $k^3$ -weighted Fourier transformed magnitude Sn  $K$ -edge EXAFS spectra of SLCO and also the two reference materials.

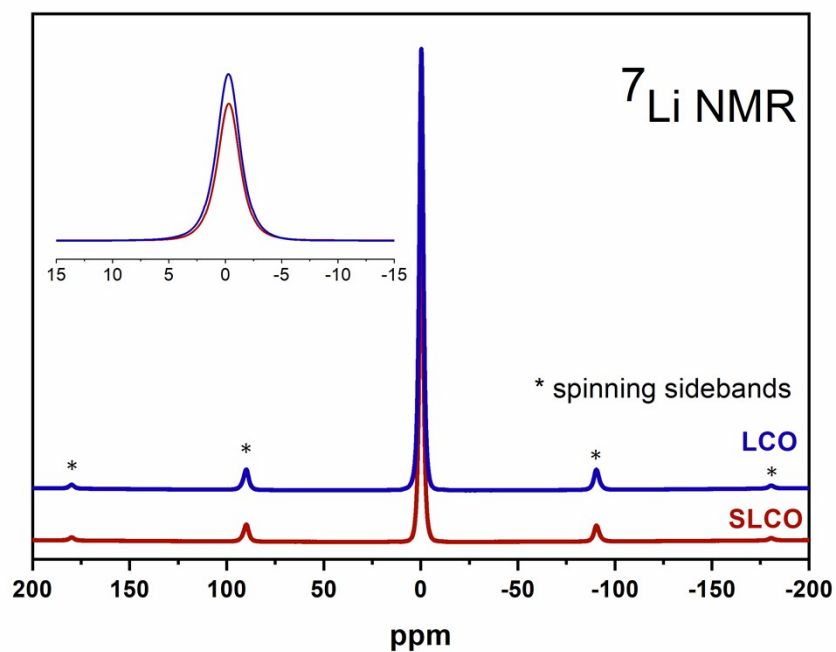
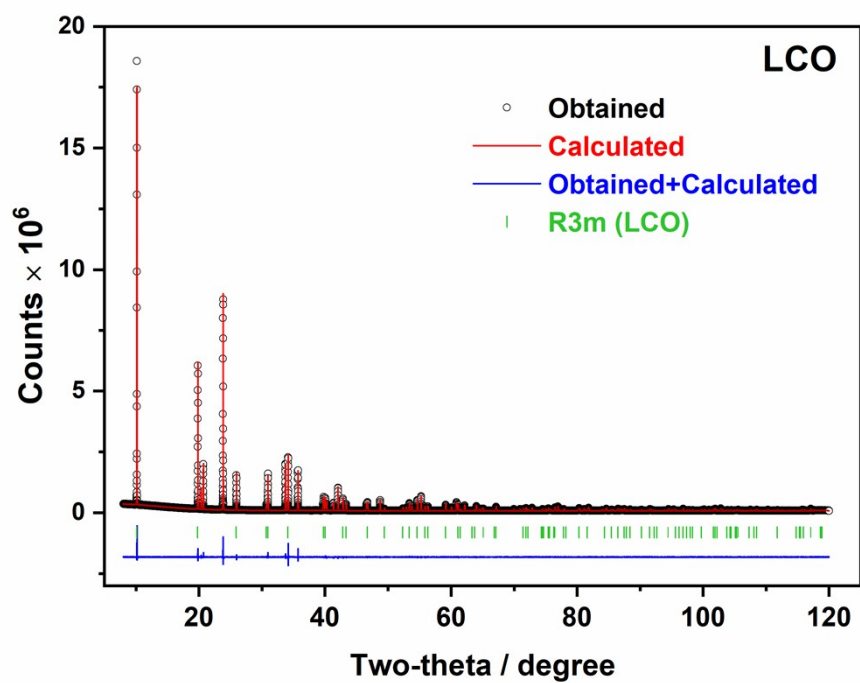
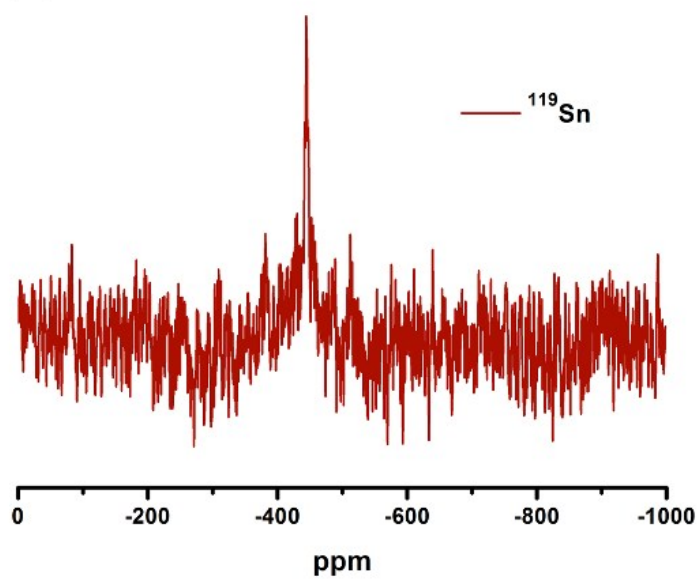


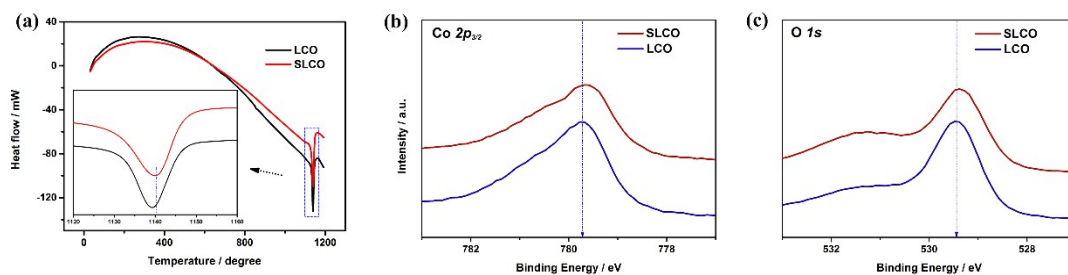
Figure S6  $^7\text{Li}$  NMR for the doped and undoped sample.



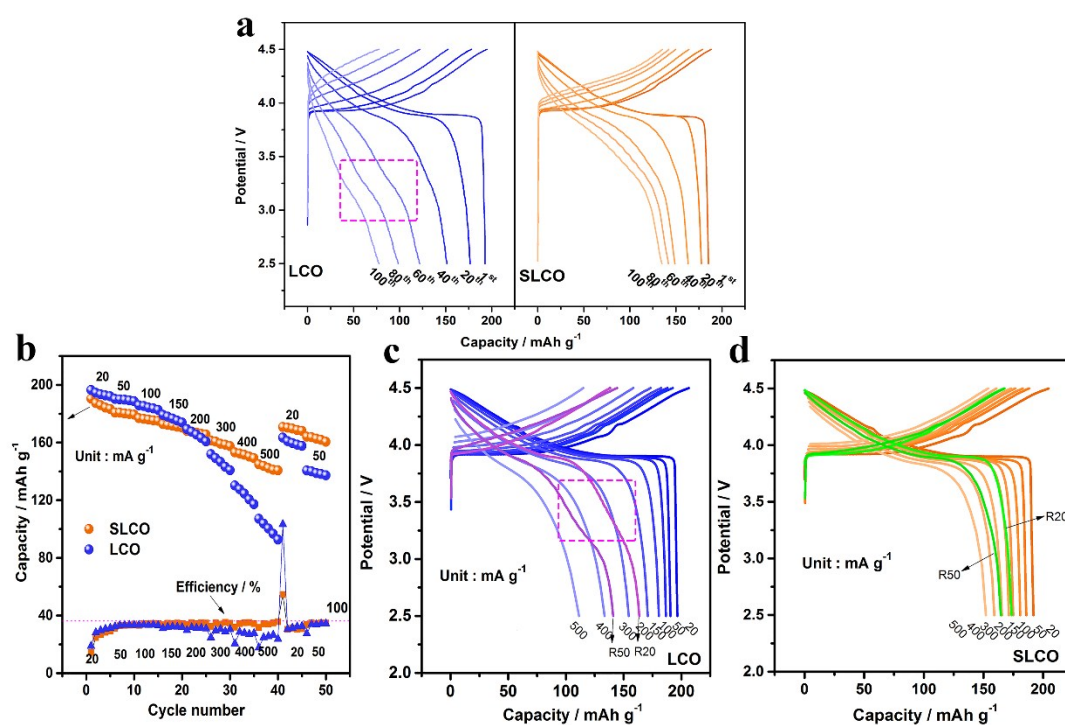
**Figure S7.** Rietveld refinement on synchrotron XRD pattern of LCO



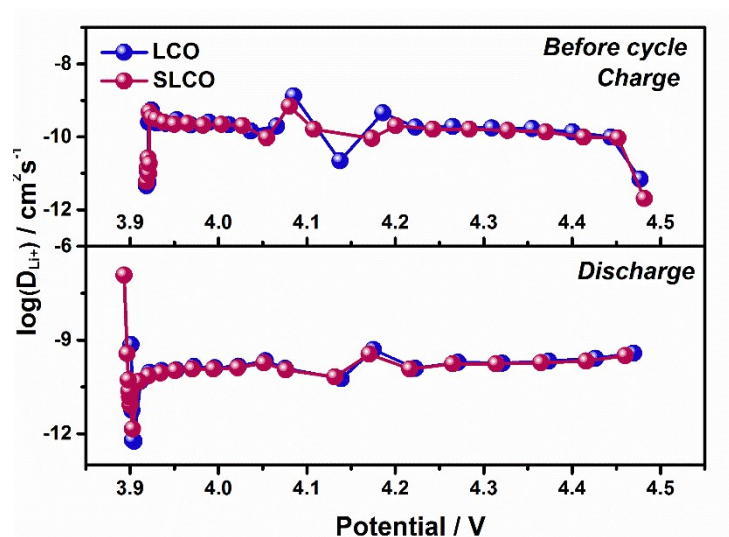
**Figure S8.**  $^{119}\text{Sn}$  MAS NMR spectrum of Sn in SLCO.



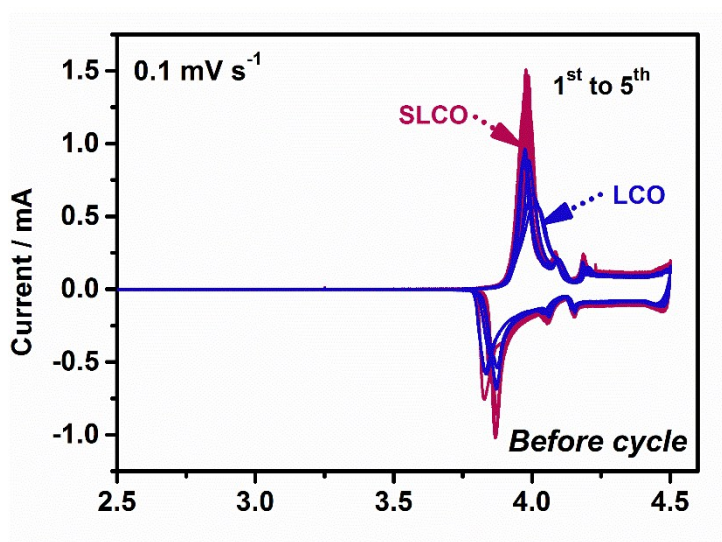
**Figure S9. DSC profiles and fine XPS spectra for LCO and SLCO.** (a) DSC profiles for LCO and SLCO samples. (b) Co  $2p_{3/2}$  and O 1s (c) region of the XPS spectra of LCO and SLCO.



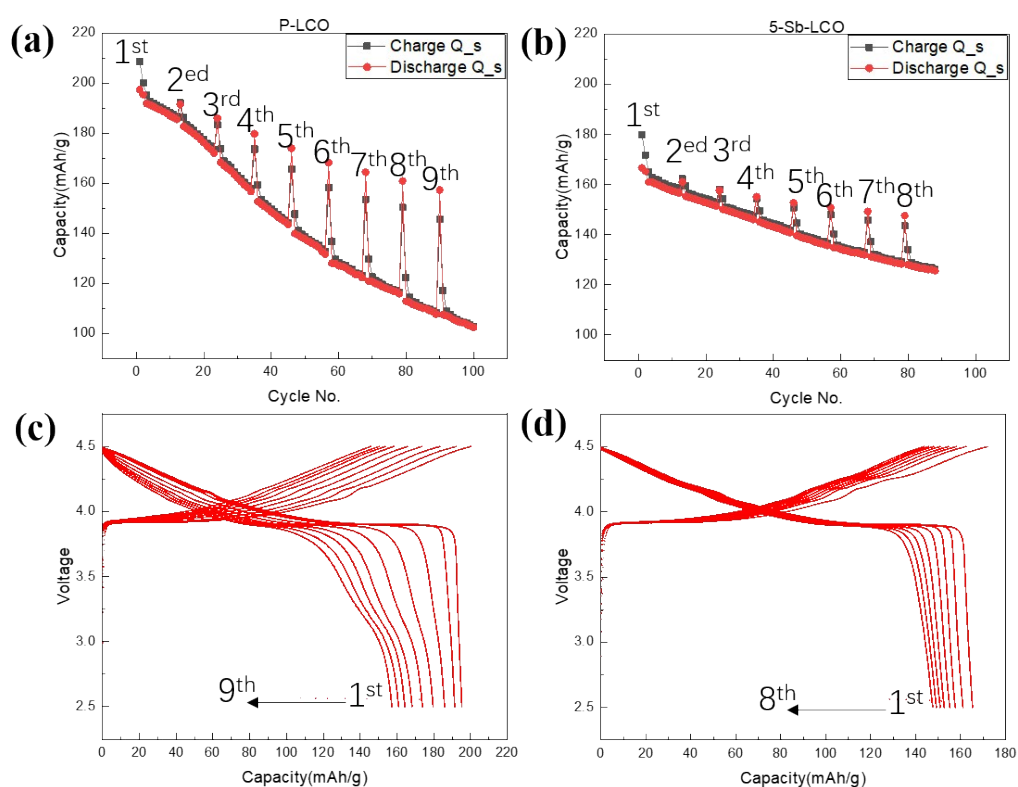
**Figure S10. Electrochemical charge/discharge details for LCO and SLCO.** (a) Charge/discharge profiles at different cycles when LCO and SLCO were cycled in the potential range of 2.5-4.5 V. (b) Rate capabilities and Coulombic efficiency of the two samples. Charge/discharge profiles at various current densities of LCO (c) and SLCO (d).



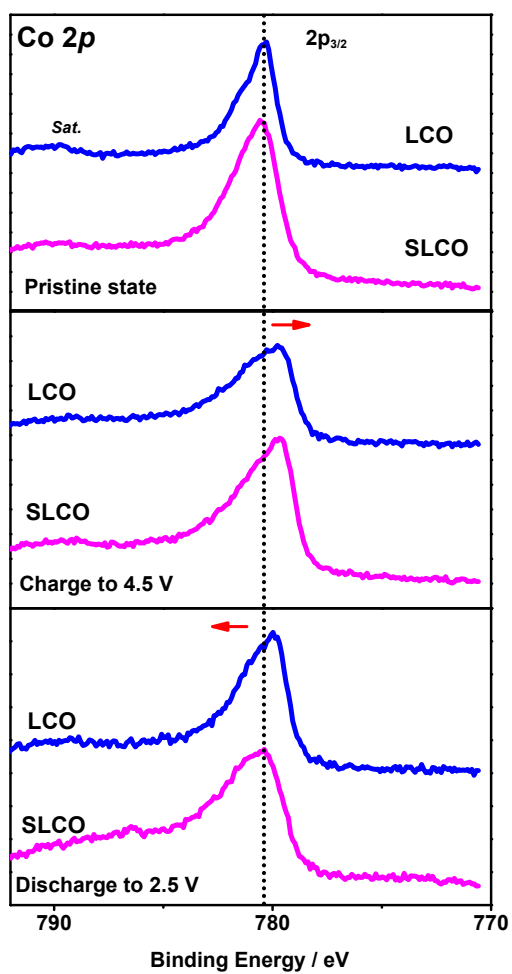
**Figure S11.** Lithium diffusion coefficients as calculated from GITT curves for the charge and discharge process in the first cycle.



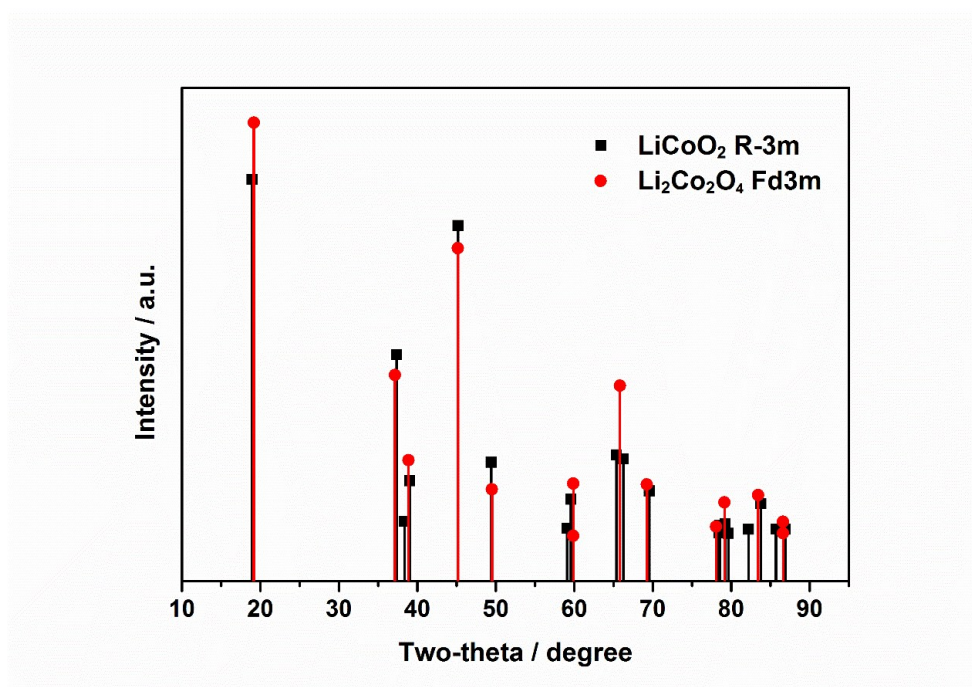
**Figure S12.** CV curves obtained after cell assembly.



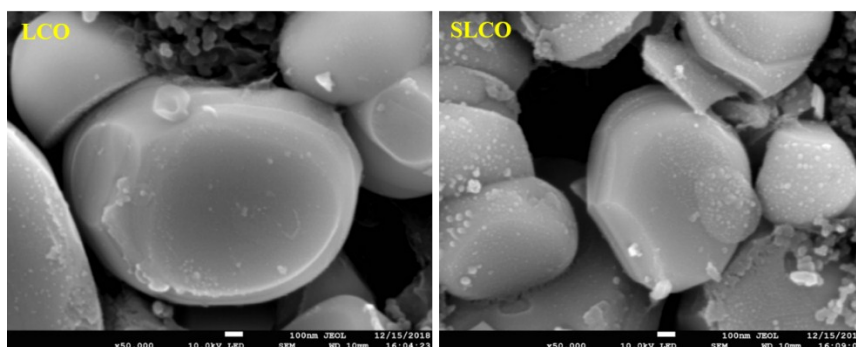
**Figure S13.** Electrochemical properties of pristine LCO and 5% Sb-doped LCO (Sb-LCO). The cycling performance was evaluated using 10 cycles under the current of  $200 \text{ mA g}^{-1}$  followed by 1 cycle under  $20 \text{ mA g}^{-1}$  of (a) LCO and (b) Sb-LCO; the detailed charge/discharge profiles of selected cycles for (c) LCO and (d) Sb-LCO.



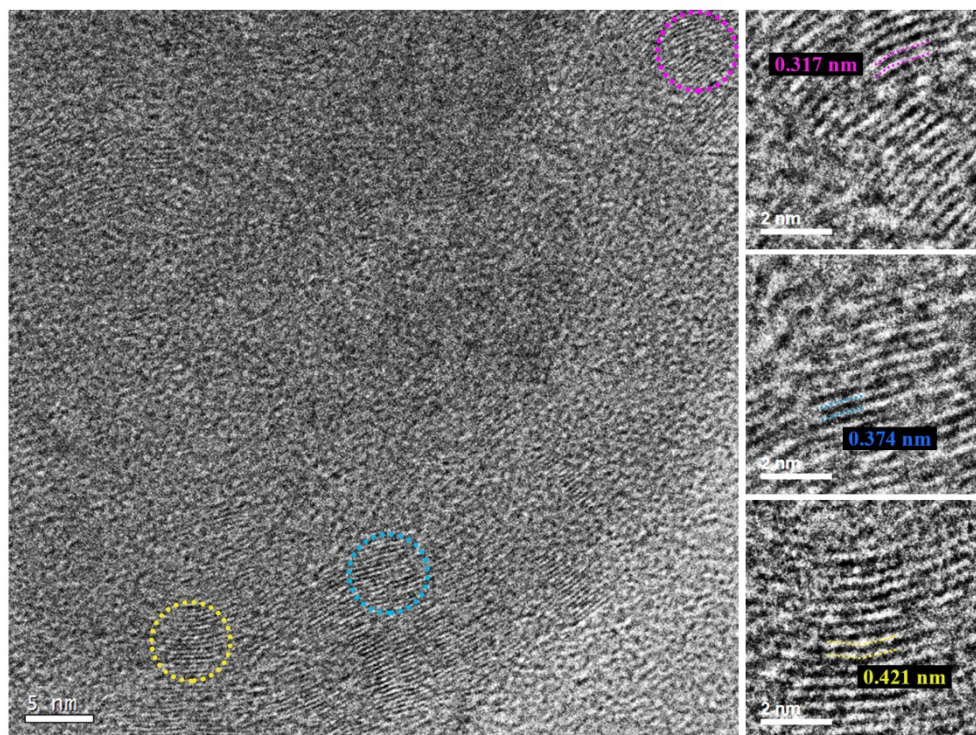
**Figure S14.** XPS spectra in the Co 2p region collected for the pristine electrodes, the electrodes charged to 4.5 V, and discharged to 2.5 V.



**Figure S15.** Calculated diffraction patterns of hexagonal  $\text{LiCoO}_2$  (R-3m) and spinel  $\text{Li}_2\text{Co}_2\text{O}_4$  (Fd3m)



**Figure S16.** SEM images of LCO and SLCO after 50 cycles at  $200 \text{ mA g}^{-1}$ .



**Figure S17** The HRTEM of LCO after 100 cycles at 200 mA g<sup>-1</sup> and the enlarged parts to show the lattice fringes

**Table S1: The elemental composition and structural information obtained from ICP, EXAFS and structural refinement.**

|      | ICP results*           |                |                | Bond length fitted from EXAFS data |       |                              |          |
|------|------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------|----------|
|      | Li (RSD <sup>§</sup> ) | Co (RSD)       | Sn (RSD)       | Bond <sub>(shell)</sub>            | R (Å) | $\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> ) | r-factor |
| LCO  | 0.9822 (0.28%)         | 1.0038 (0.87%) |                | Co-O                               | 1.916 | 0.00234                      | 0.0067   |
|      |                        |                |                | Co-M                               | 2.825 | 0.00246                      |          |
| SLCO | 0.9837 (0.27%)         | 0.9902 (0.73%) | 0.0136 (1.28%) | Co-O                               | 1.909 | 0.00205                      | 0.0060   |
|      |                        |                |                | Co-M                               | 2.822 | 0.00218                      |          |

**Selected crystallographic parameters of LCO and SLCO**

| Atom | Site | x | y | z | occupancy | B <sub>iso</sub> (Å <sup>2</sup> ) |
|------|------|---|---|---|-----------|------------------------------------|
|------|------|---|---|---|-----------|------------------------------------|

LCO (space group: *R-3m*, No. 166): *a*=*b*=2.8162(2) Å, *c*=14.0529(5) Å, *V*=96.52(1) Å<sup>3</sup>, *R*<sub>wp</sub>=5.1 %, *R*<sub>p</sub>=3.68 %

|                  |            |   |   |           |         |                |
|------------------|------------|---|---|-----------|---------|----------------|
| Li <sup>+</sup>  | 3 <i>b</i> | 0 | 0 | 1/2       | 1       | <b>0.73(8)</b> |
| Co <sup>3+</sup> | 3 <i>a</i> | 0 | 0 | 0         | 1       | <b>0.26(2)</b> |
| O <sup>2-</sup>  | 6 <i>c</i> | 0 | 0 | 0.2612(2) | 0.99(1) | <b>0.36(3)</b> |

SLCO (space group: *R-3m*, No. 166): *a*=*b*=2.8153(1) Å, *c*=14.0605(2) Å, *V*=96.51(1) Å<sup>3</sup>, *R*<sub>wp</sub>=4.37 %, *R*<sub>p</sub>=3.27 %

|                  |            |   |   |           |          |                |
|------------------|------------|---|---|-----------|----------|----------------|
| Li <sup>+</sup>  | 3 <i>b</i> | 0 | 0 | 1/2       | 1        | <b>0.52(9)</b> |
| Co <sup>3+</sup> | 3 <i>a</i> | 0 | 0 | 0         | 0.959(3) | <b>0.09(2)</b> |
| Sn <sup>4+</sup> | 3 <i>a</i> | 0 | 0 | 0         | 0.038(3) | <b>0.09(2)</b> |
| O <sup>2-</sup>  | 6 <i>c</i> | 0 | 0 | 0.2612(2) | 0.99(1)  | <b>0.06(2)</b> |

\*All samples were analyzed three times and averaged.

§ Relative standard derivation.

**Table S2. Results from different initial structures in refinement**

| Atom                                    | Site       | x | y | z      | occupancy |
|-----------------------------------------|------------|---|---|--------|-----------|
| <b>Structure I: initial structure</b>   |            |   |   |        |           |
| Li <sup>+</sup>                         | 3 <i>b</i> | 0 | 0 | 1/2    | 0.96      |
| Sn <sup>4+</sup>                        | 3 <i>b</i> | 0 | 0 | 1/2    | 0.04      |
| Co <sup>3+</sup>                        | 3 <i>a</i> | 0 | 0 | 0      | 1         |
| O <sup>2-</sup>                         | 6 <i>c</i> | 0 | 0 | 0.2612 | 1         |
| <b>Structure I: refined structure</b>   |            |   |   |        |           |
| Li <sup>+</sup>                         | 3 <i>b</i> | 0 | 0 | 1/2    | 1         |
| Sn <sup>4+</sup>                        | 3 <i>b</i> | 0 | 0 | 1/2    | 0         |
| Co <sup>3+</sup>                        | 3 <i>a</i> | 0 | 0 | 0      | 1         |
| O <sup>2-</sup>                         | 6 <i>c</i> | 0 | 0 | 0.2612 | 1         |
| <b>Structure II: initial structure</b>  |            |   |   |        |           |
| Li <sup>+</sup>                         | 3 <i>b</i> | 0 | 0 | 1/2    | 0.98      |
| Sn <sup>4+</sup>                        | 3 <i>b</i> | 0 | 0 | 1/2    | 0.02      |
| Co <sup>3+</sup>                        | 3 <i>a</i> | 0 | 0 | 0      | 0.98      |
| Sn <sup>4+</sup>                        | 3 <i>a</i> | 0 | 0 | 0      | 0.02      |
| O <sup>2-</sup>                         | 6 <i>c</i> | 0 | 0 | 0.2612 | 1         |
| <b>Structure II: refined structure</b>  |            |   |   |        |           |
| Li <sup>+</sup>                         | 3 <i>b</i> | 0 | 0 | 1/2    | 1         |
| Sn <sup>4+</sup>                        | 3 <i>b</i> | 0 | 0 | 1/2    | 0         |
| Co <sup>3+</sup>                        | 3 <i>a</i> | 0 | 0 | 0      | 0.96      |
| Sn <sup>4+</sup>                        | 3 <i>a</i> | 0 | 0 | 0      | 0.04      |
| O <sup>2-</sup>                         | 6 <i>c</i> | 0 | 0 | 0.2612 | 1         |
| <b>Structure III: initial structure</b> |            |   |   |        |           |
| Li <sup>+</sup>                         | 3 <i>b</i> | 0 | 0 | 1/2    | 1         |
| Co <sup>3+</sup>                        | 3 <i>a</i> | 0 | 0 | 0      | 0.96      |
| Sn <sup>4+</sup>                        | 3 <i>a</i> | 0 | 0 | 0      | 0.04      |
| O <sup>2-</sup>                         | 6 <i>c</i> | 0 | 0 | 0.2612 | 1         |
| <b>Structure III: refined structure</b> |            |   |   |        |           |
| Li <sup>+</sup>                         | 3 <i>b</i> | 0 | 0 | 1/2    | 1         |
| Co <sup>3+</sup>                        | 3 <i>a</i> | 0 | 0 | 0      | 0.96      |
| Sn <sup>4+</sup>                        | 3 <i>a</i> | 0 | 0 | 0      | 0.04      |
| O <sup>2-</sup>                         | 6 <i>c</i> | 0 | 0 | 0.2612 | 1         |

**Table S3.** Electrolyte resistance ( $R_s$ ), surface film resistance ( $R_{sf}$ ) and charge transfer resistance ( $R_{ct}$ ) for LCO and SLCO electrodes.

| Material | State              | $R_s$ ( $\Omega$ ) | $R_{sf}$ ( $\Omega$ ) | $R_{ct}$ ( $\Omega$ ) |
|----------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| LCO      | Pristine electrode | 3.54               | 146.30                | —                     |
|          | after 50 cycles    | 2.73               | 16.68                 | 2355.80               |
| SLCO     | Pristine electrode | 3.55               | 146.29                | —                     |
|          | after 50 cycles    | 2.18               | 13.81                 | 430.41                |

**Table S4.** Electrochemical performance of high-voltage  $\text{LiCoO}_2$  modified by single elemental doping from previous literature

| Compound                                                           | Discharge capacity ( $\text{mAh g}^{-1}$ ) | Voltage range (V) | Current density                                                   | Capacity (cycle number) ( $\text{mAh g}^{-1}$ ) | Reference        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| $\text{LiMn}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.95}\text{O}_2$                     | 180                                        | 3.5–4.5           | 0.2 C                                                             | 158 (50)                                        | 1                |
| $\text{LiFe}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.95}\text{O}_2$                     | 160                                        | 3.5–4.5           | 0.2 C                                                             | 130 (50)                                        | 1                |
| $\text{LiCu}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.95}\text{O}_2$                     | 165                                        | 3.5–4.5           | 0.2 C                                                             | 130 (50)                                        | 1                |
| $\text{LiZn}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.95}\text{O}_2$                     | 170                                        | 3.5–4.5           | 0.2 C                                                             | 110 (50)                                        | 1                |
| $\text{LiBi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.95}\text{O}_2$                     | 165                                        | 3.5–4.5           | 0.2 C                                                             | 60 (50)                                         | 2                |
| $\text{LiZr}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.95}\text{O}_2$                     | 164                                        | 3.5–4.5           | 0.2 C                                                             | 135 (50)                                        | 2                |
| $\text{LiCr}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.95}\text{O}_2$                     | 164                                        | 3.5–4.5           | 0.2 C                                                             | 90 (50)                                         | 2                |
| $\text{LiSn}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.95}\text{O}_2$                     | 160                                        | 3.5–4.5           | 0.2 C                                                             | 140 (50)                                        | 2                |
| 1 mol% Ni-doped $\text{LiCoO}_2$                                   | 160                                        | 3.0–4.5           | 1 C                                                               | 120 (100)                                       | 3                |
| $\text{LiTi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.95}\text{O}_2$                     | 165                                        | 3.5–4.5           | 0.2 C                                                             | 143 (50)                                        | 4                |
| $\text{LiCo}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{O}_2$                       | 170                                        | 3.0–4.5           | 0.1 $\text{mA cm}^{-2}$                                           | 160 (25)                                        | 5                |
| $\text{LiCo}_{0.995}\text{Ga}_{0.005}\text{O}_2$                   | 150                                        | 2.6–4.5           | 0.1 C                                                             | 100 (30)                                        | 6                |
| $\text{LiCo}_{0.99}\text{Si}_{0.01}\text{O}_2$                     | 175                                        | 2.8–4.5           | 0.4 $\text{mA cm}^{-2}$                                           | 150 (50)                                        | 7                |
| <b><math>\text{LiCo}_{0.985}\text{Sn}_{0.015}\text{O}_2</math></b> | <b>182</b>                                 | <b>2.5–4.5</b>    | <b>50 <math>\text{mA g}^{-1}</math> (<math>\sim 0.3</math> C)</b> | <b>150 (100)</b>                                | <b>This work</b> |

#### Reference.

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