

## Supporting Information

### **Electronic configuration modulation of tin dioxide by phosphorus dopant for pathway change in electrocatalytic water oxidation**

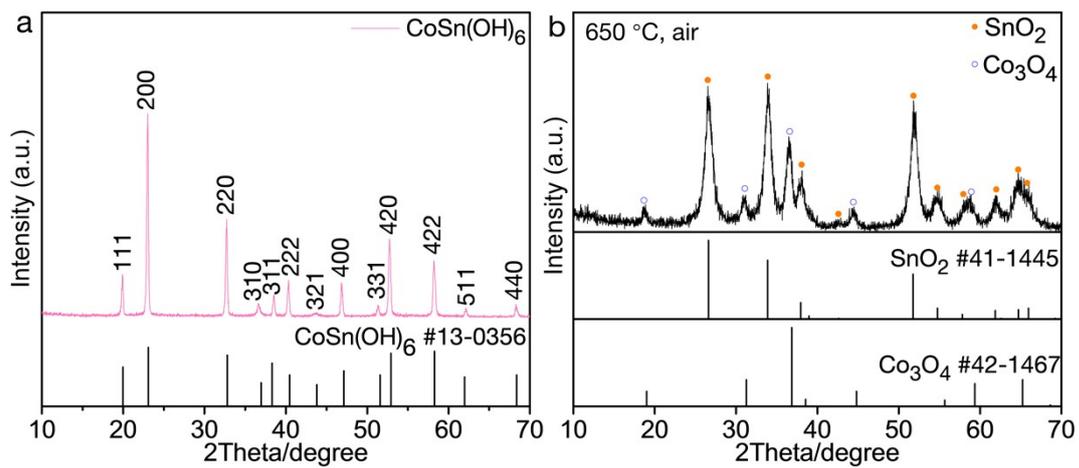
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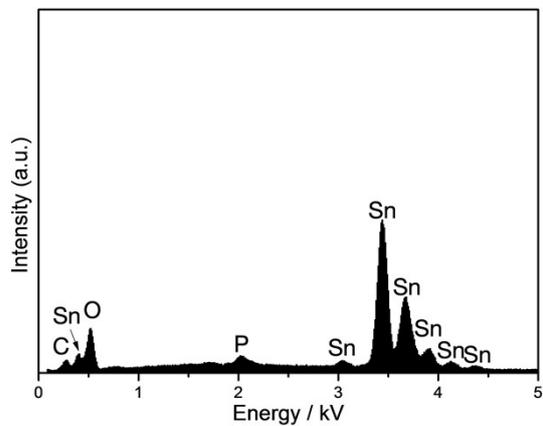
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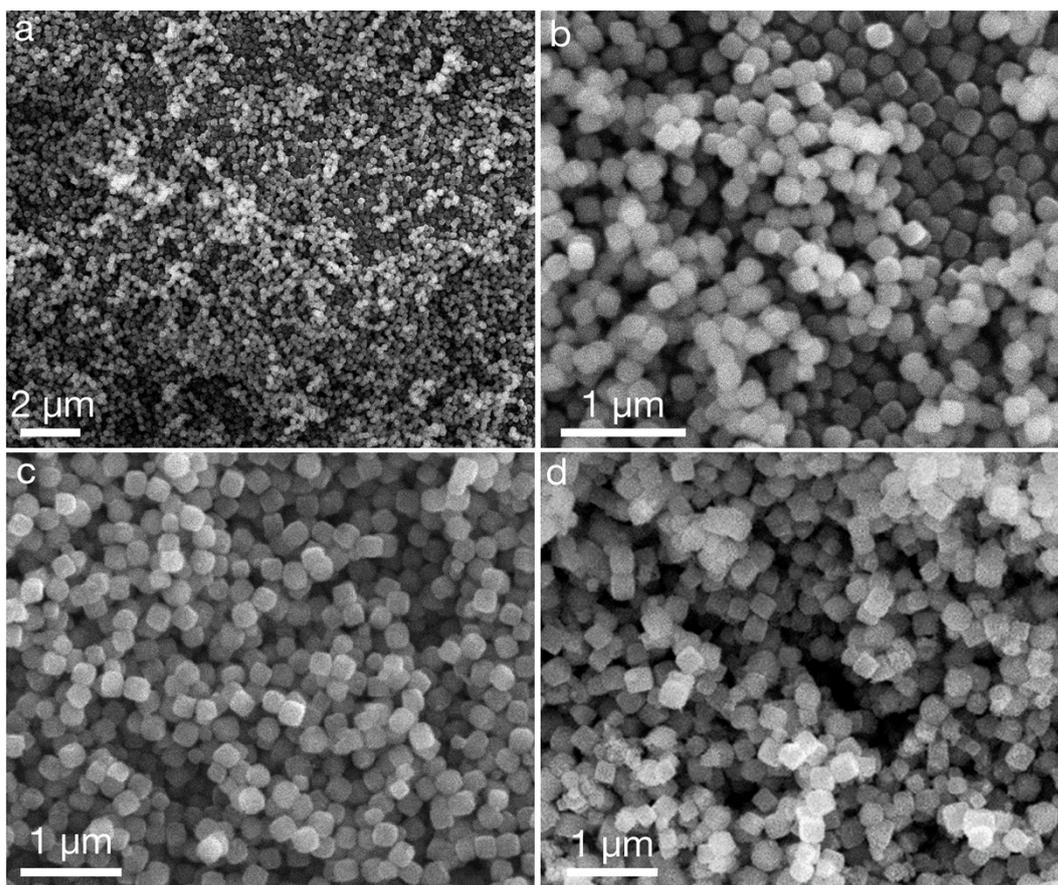
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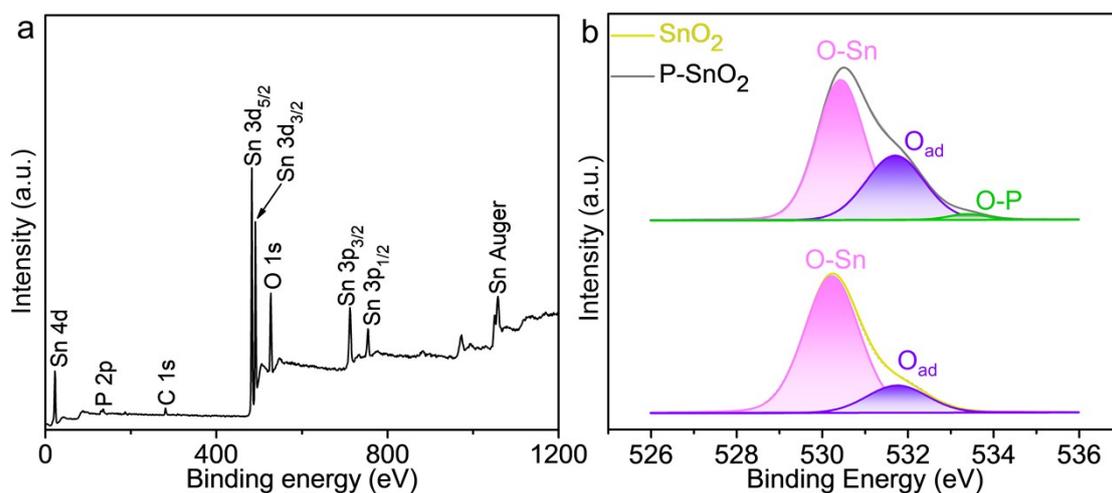
**Fig. S1.** XRD patterns of (a)  $\text{CoSn(OH)}_6$  product which was prepared via the coprecipitation process, (b) calcined sample.



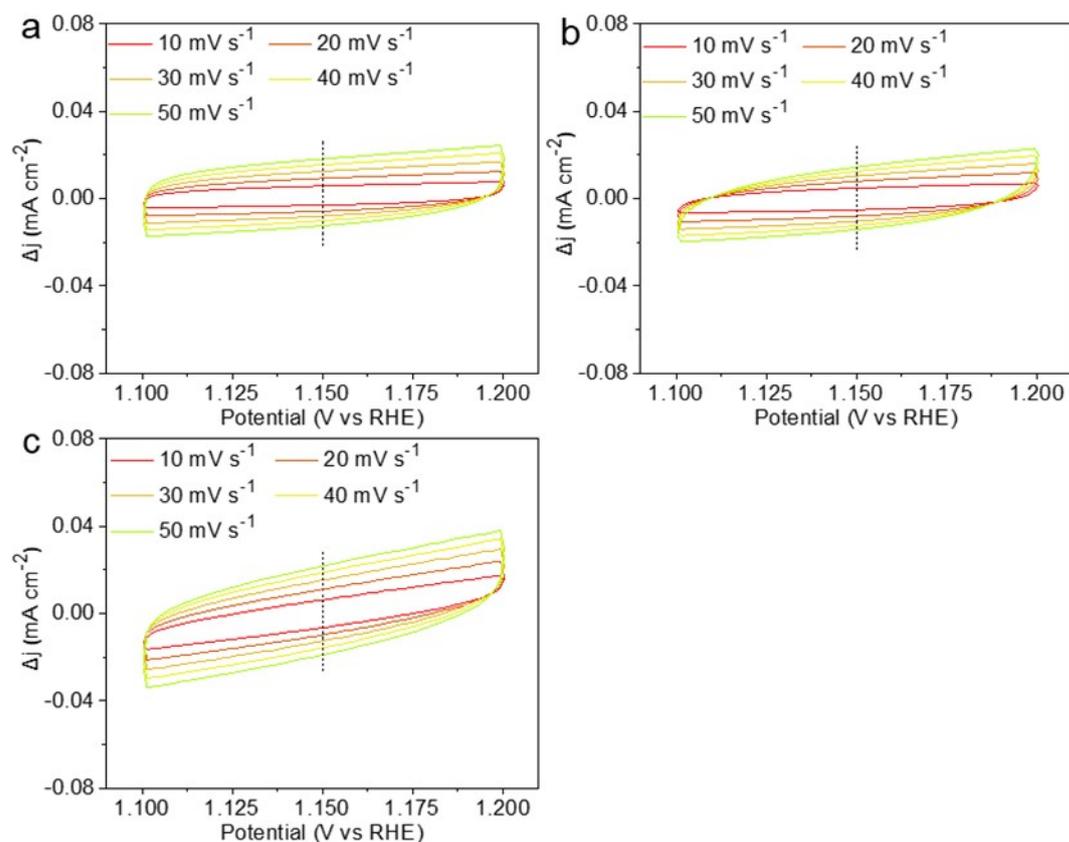
**Fig. S2.** EDX spectrum of P- $\text{SnO}_2$  product.



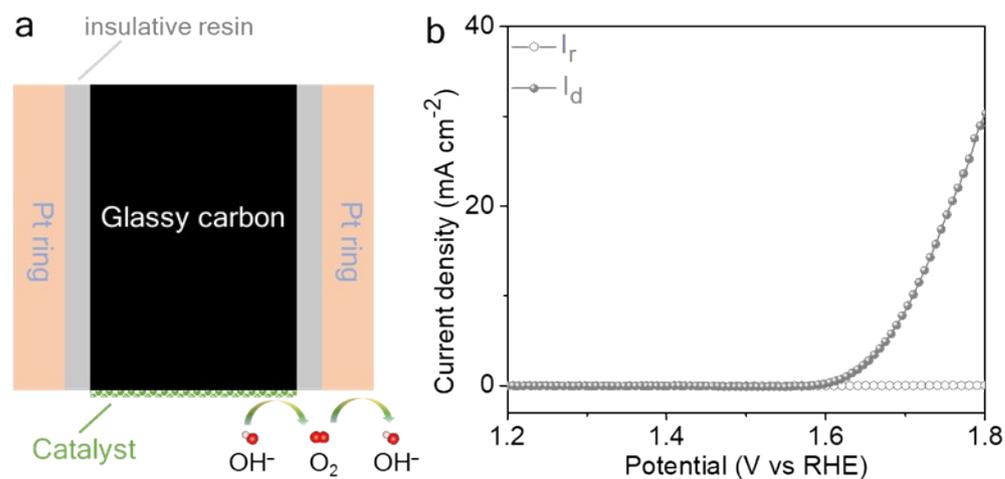
**Fig. S3.** SEM images of (a, b)  $\text{CoSn(OH)}_6$ , (c) calcined product and (d) acid-treated sample, i.e.  $\text{SnO}_2$ .



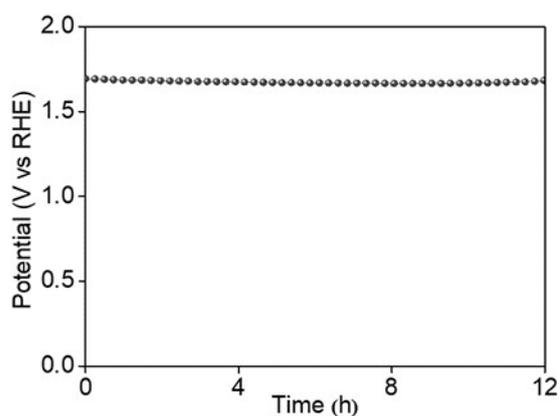
**Fig. S4.** (a) XPS survey spectrum of P-SnO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles. (b) P 2p spectra of pristine and doped SnO<sub>2</sub> products. Comparing to the O 1s spectrum benchmark of pristine SnO<sub>2</sub> product, the peak locating at  $\sim 533.3$  eV for P-SnO<sub>2</sub> sample should be ascribed to the oxidized P species.<sup>[1]</sup>



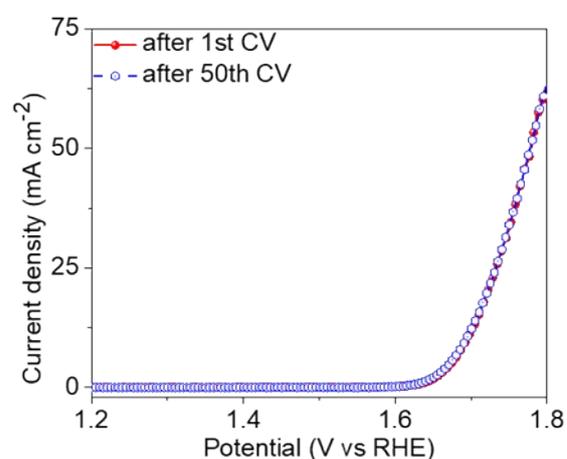
**Fig. S5.** Cyclic voltammetry (CV) curves of (a)  $\text{CoSn(OH)}_6$ , (b)  $\text{SnO}_2$  and (c)  $\text{P-SnO}_2$  nanoparticles at incremental scan rates.



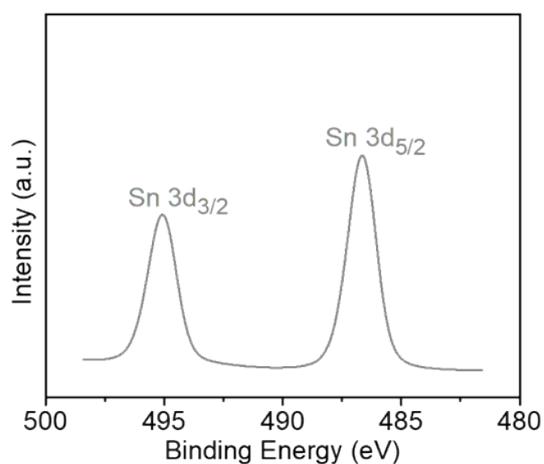
**Fig. S6.** (a) Scheme for the reaction process on a RRDE with the presence of an external voltage. (b) Rotating ring-disk electrode (RRDE) voltammogram at the ring voltage of 1.50 V vs RHE for the estimation of electron transfer number.



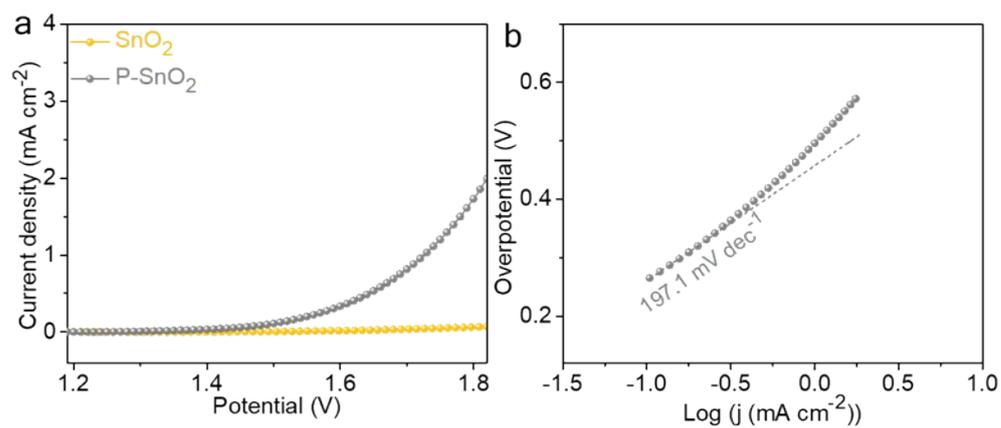
**Fig. S7.** Chronopotentiometry investigation at a constant current density of  $10 \text{ mA cm}^{-2}$  for P-SnO<sub>2</sub> product.



**Fig. S8.** LSV curves for P-SnO<sub>2</sub> product after the 1st and 50th CV scan. These two curves were rather similar, revealing the satisfactory electrochemical stability during continuous electrocatalysis.



**Fig. S9.** Sn 3d spectrum of P-SnO<sub>2</sub> product after a chronopotentiometry measurement for 1000s. Typical peak features of SnO<sub>2</sub> phase were also detected, confirming the structural stability during electrocatalysis.



**Fig. S10.** Water oxidation activity in 1.0 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution. (a) LSV curves, (b) Tafel plot.

### References

- [1] X. Zhou, X. Liao, X. Pan, M. Yan, L. He, P. Wu, Y. Zhao, W. Luo and L. Mai, Unveiling the role of surface P-O group in P-doped Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> for electrocatalytic oxygen evolution by on-chip micro-device, *Nano Energy* 2021, **83**, 105748.