## Supporting Information:

## Rational design of $M-N_4$ -Gr/V<sub>2</sub>C heterostructures as highly active ORR catalysts: A density functional theory study

Yunjian Chen,<sup>a,b</sup> Qi Jiang,<sup>a,b</sup> Xue Bai, <sup>a,b</sup> Pengyue Shan, <sup>a,b</sup> Tong Liu <sup>a,b</sup>, Yazhou Wang, <sup>a,b</sup> Hong Cui, <sup>a,b,\*</sup> Rong Feng, <sup>a,b</sup> Qin Kang, <sup>a,b</sup> Zhiyong Liang, <sup>a,b</sup> Hongkuan Yuan<sup>c</sup>

- a. School of Mechanical Engineering, Shaanxi University of Technology, Hanzhong, Shaanxi, 723001, China.
- b. Shaanxi Key Laboratory of Industrial Automation, Shaanxi University of Technology, Hanzhong, Shaanxi, 723001, China.
- c. School of Physical Science and Technology, Southwest University, Chongqing, 400715, China.



Fig. S1 The dos plots of M-3d, N-2p, C-2p for (a-g)  $M-N_4$ -Gr/ $V_2C$  (M=Ti, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu). The dotted line at zero represents the Fermi energy level.



**Fig. S2** PDOS of O<sub>2</sub> adsorbed on (a-e) M-N<sub>4</sub>-Gr/V<sub>2</sub>C (Ti, Cr, Mn, Fe, Cu) catalysts with M-3d and O-2p. The inset is a distribution of exchange charges between O<sub>2</sub> and M-N<sub>4</sub>-Gr/V<sub>2</sub>C with the isovalue of 0.054 eÅ<sup>-3</sup>. The blue and yellow bubbles represent positive and negative charges, respectively.

Table S1 With or without V <sub>2</sub> C as substrate	material M charge transfer amount( $Q_{-M}(e)$ ).
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Properties	$Q_{-M}(e)$	Properties	Q- <sub>M</sub> ( <i>e</i> )
Ti-N <sub>4</sub> -Gr	1.66	$Ti-N_4-Gr/V_2C$	1.39
Cr-N <sub>4</sub> -Gr	1.32	$Cr-N_4-Gr/V_2C$	0.99
Mn-N <sub>4</sub> -Gr	1.37	Mn-N <sub>4</sub> -Gr/V <sub>2</sub> C	0.76
Fe-N <sub>4</sub> -Gr	1.10	$Fe-N_4-Gr/V_2C$	0.63
Co-N <sub>4</sub> -Gr	0.90	$Co-N_4-Gr/V_2C$	0.61
Ni-N <sub>4</sub> -Gr	0.86	$Ni-N_4-Gr/V_2C$	0.62
Cu-N <sub>4</sub> -Gr	0.94	$Cu-N_4-Gr/V_2C$	0.70