

The following supplements is included as supporting materials for this paper:

Table S1 EIS parameters for bare NF, Co₃O₄/NF and Cu-Co₃O₄/NF

cathode	R _s (Ω cm ²)	R _{ct} (Ω cm ²)
NF	4.143	24.69
Co ₃ O ₄ /NF	4.579	7.562
Cu-Co ₃ O ₄ /NF	4.093	6.059

Table S2 Energy consumption of different cathodes

Cathode	Applied current (A)	Voltage (V)	Energy consumption (K Wh/g NO ₃ ⁻ -N)
NF	0.2	6.83	5.4099
Co ₃ O ₄ /NF	0.2	5.82	0.2836
Cu-Co ₃ O ₄ /NF	0.2	3.52	0.1164

Table S3 Comparison of eNO₃RR with other cathodes

Electro-catalysts	Preparation method	Electrolyte	Reaction time	NO ₃ ⁻ -N conversion	NH ₄ ⁺ -N selectivity	Ref.
Cu(I/II)@NF	hydrothermal	50 mg L ⁻¹ NO ₃ ⁻ + 0.05 M Na ₂ SO ₄	24 h	95.4%	/	1
Porous Cu	coprecipitation + calcination	0.01 M NO ₃ ⁻ + 0.1 M HClO ₄	8 h	98%	94%	2
Cu ₂ O/CuO/CF	solvent oxidation + electrocatalytic reduction	5 mM NO ₃ ⁻ + 0.1 M KOH	60 h	100%	99.35%	3
Co ₃ O ₄ /NF	hydrothermal + calcination	0.1 M NO ₃ ⁻ + 1.0 M NaOH	2 h	95%	85.36%	4
Fe-CoO/CuO@CF	hydrothermal + calcination	0.1 M NO ₃ ⁻ + 3.5 M KCl	2 h	93.8%	/	5
Cu ₂ O-Cu@Ti	electrodeposition	0.01 M NO ₃ ⁻ + 1 M KOH	1.5 h	90%	79%	6
Cu-Pt	electrodeposition	30 mg L ⁻¹ NO ₃ ⁻ -N + 12.5 mM Na ₂ SO ₄	2 h	94%	84%	7
Co-P/TP	electrodeposition	200 mg L ⁻¹ NO ₃ ⁻ + 0.2 M Na ₂ SO ₄ +	10 h	86.9%	/	8
NiCoP/NF	electrodeposition	50 mg L ⁻¹ NO ₃ ⁻ + 0.05 M Na ₂ SO ₄	5 h	97.68%	95.44%	9
CoO/Cu	electrodeposition + calcination	0.04 M NO ₃ ⁻ + 0.4 M Na ₂ SO ₄	0.5 h	87.6%	97.3%	10
Cu-Co ₃ O ₄	electrodeposition + calcination	50 mg L ⁻¹ NO ₃ ⁻ + 0.01 M Na ₂ SO ₄	2 h	96.78%	97.58%	This work

Table S4 Reaction energy consumption at different electrolyte concentrations*

Electrolyte concentration (M)	Solution conductivity ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$)	Reaction voltage (V)	NO_3^- -N removal rate (%)	Energy consumption ($\text{kWh}/\text{g NO}_3^-$ -N)
0.01	2720	3.52	97.77	0.1164
0.05	8940	2.21	97.58	0.0724
0.1	15530	2.03	96.75	0.0671
0.2	25800	1.87	95.91	0.0624

* data were obtained as the average value of three independent experiments.

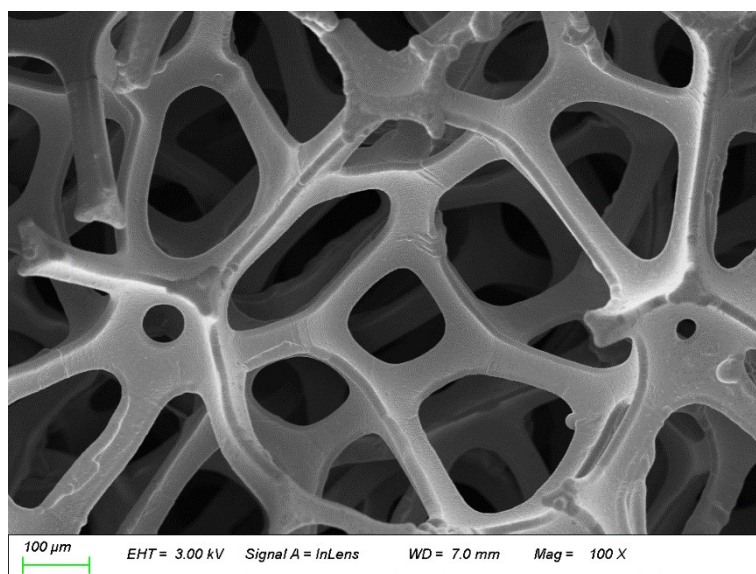


Fig. S1 SEM image of bare NF

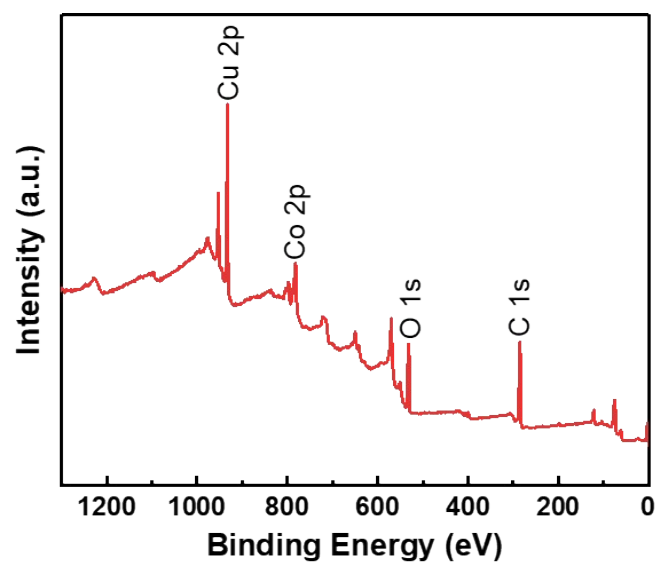


Fig. S2 XPS survey spectrum for Cu-Co₃O₄/NF



Fig. S3 Hydrogen evolution in high current reaction

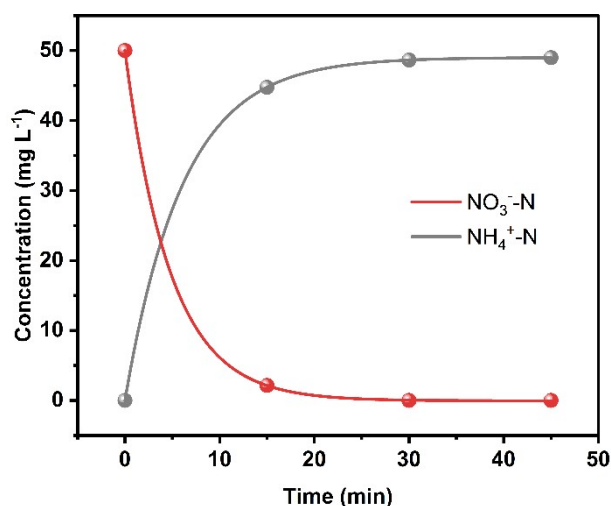


Fig. S4 Time-dependent NO₃⁻-N and NH₄⁺-N concentrations in dual-chamber reactor (experimental conditions: 50 mg L⁻¹ NO₃⁻-N, 0.2 M Na₂SO₄)

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