Supplementary information

Enhanced Electrochemical Oxygen Reduction Reaction by Restacking of N-doped Single Graphene Layers

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| Catalysta ¹ | | 1 st heat-treatment | t | 2 nd heat-treatment | | |
|--|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Catalysis | H.T. ² | materials | A.L. ³ | H.T. ² | materials | A.L. ³ |
| NGr | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| NGr-H | 0 | - | - | - | - | - |
| NGr-H _M | 0 | Co-Fe | - | - | - | - |
| NGr-H _M L | 0 | Co-Fe | 0 | - | - | - |
| NGr-H _{DM} | 0 | Co-Fe/DCDA | - | - | - | - |
| NGr-H _{DM} L | 0 | Co-Fe/DCDA | 0 | - | - | - |
| $NGr-H_{DM}LH_{DM}$ | 0 | Co-Fe/DCDA | 0 | 0 | Co-Fe/DCDA | - |
| NGr-H _{DM} LH _{DM} L | 0 | Co-Fe/DCDA | 0 | 0 | Co-Fe/DCDA | 0 |

Table S1. Abbreviated names of the prepared catalysts according to further treatment steps of

 NGr.

¹The name of catalysts were abbreviated as treatment steps of reduced GO (NGr); heattreatment without any additives (H), heat-treatment with metals (H_M), DCDA (H_D), or metal-DCDA composite (H_{DM}), and acid-leaching (L).

²H.T.: heat-treatment.

³A.L.: acid-leaching.

| CO | NCr | NCr H | NGr-H _M | NGr-H _{MD} | NGr- |
|------|--|--|---|---|--|
| 60 | NGI | NGI-П | | | H _{MD} LH _{MD} |
| 65.2 | 83.7 | 95.0 | 93.3 | 90.5 | 91.4 |
| 34.8 | 7.7 | 1.7 | 4.5 | 3.1 | 2.5 |
| - | 8.6 | 3.3 | 2.2 | 6.4 | 6.1 |
| 53.4 | 9.2 | 1.8 | 4.8 | 3.4 | 2.7 |
| - | 10.3 | 3.5 | 2.4 | 7.1 | 6.7 |
| 73 | 232 | 189 | 194 | 157 | 158 |
| | GO 65.2 34.8 - 53.4 - 73 | GO NGr 65.2 83.7 34.8 7.7 - 8.6 53.4 9.2 - 10.3 73 232 | GO NGr NGr-H 65.2 83.7 95.0 34.8 7.7 1.7 - 8.6 3.3 53.4 9.2 1.8 - 10.3 3.5 73 232 189 | GONGrNGr-HNGr-H_M 65.2 83.7 95.0 93.3 34.8 7.7 1.7 4.5 - 8.6 3.3 2.2 53.4 9.2 1.8 4.8 - 10.3 3.5 2.4 73 232 189 194 | GONGrNGr-HNGr-H_MNGr-H_{MD} 65.2 83.7 95.0 93.3 90.5 34.8 7.7 1.7 4.5 3.1 - 8.6 3.3 2.2 6.4 53.4 9.2 1.8 4.8 3.4 - 10.3 3.5 2.4 7.1 73 232 189 194 157 |

 Table S2 Compositions and BET surface areas of the prepared catalysts.

¹at. %, ²Atomic ratio (%), ${}^{3}m^{2}/g$

Table S3 Electrochemical properties of the graphene derived catalysts for the ORRs in 1M HClO₄ electrolyte.

| | NGr | NGr-H | NGr-H _M | NGr-H _{DM} | NGr-H _{DM} LH _{DM} |
|--------------------|------|-------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| O. P. ¹ | 0.58 | 0.77 | 0.86 | 0.89 | 0.89 |
| $M. A.^2$ | 0 | 0.02 | 0.22 | 0.99 | 1.28 |
| n ³ | 3.58 | 3.29 | 3.89 | 3.92 | 3.88 |

¹Onset potential (V, vs. RHE)

²Mass activity (mA mg⁻¹) at 0.75 V (V, vs. RHE)

³Number of electrons transferred at 0.4 V (V, vs. RHE)

Table S4 Proportion of various N-doping types in the graphene-derived catalysts obtained from the XPS results: pyridinic-N (N1); amide, amine, or pyrrolic-N (N2); graphitic-N (N3); and pyridinic-oxide (N4).

| 0/ | CO | NCr | NCr H | NC- U | NC- U | NGr- |
|----|----|------|-------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 70 | 60 | NOI | NOI-H | NOI-M _M | NGI-H _{DM} | H _{DM} LH _{DM} |
| N1 | - | 26.7 | 50.4 | 54.4 | 60.8 | 59.5 |
| N2 | - | 46.5 | - | - | - | - |
| N3 | - | 46.6 | 35.3 | 31.9 | 27.3 | 28.7 |
| N4 | - | 10.2 | 14.3 | 13.7 | 11.9 | 11.9 |



Fig. S1 TEM image of the graphitic carbon layers deposited on the Fe metal nanoparticles *via* carbonization of the DCDA on the metal seeds. This material was obtained *via* pyrolysis of the DCDA on Fe₂O₃/Vulcan XC-72R at 900 °C under an Ar flow, as reported previously (*Int J Hydrogen Energ* **37**, 4563-4570 (2012)).



Fig. S2 TEM images of the NGr-H_{DM}LH_{DM}. Numbers in the figure indicate the number of graphene single layers in the catalysts indicated by red circles.



Fig. S3 Cyclic voltammetry results of the graphene-derived catalysts. The data were obtained in 1M HClO₄ purged with nitrogen (black line) or oxygen (red line) during 1h.



Fig. S4 The ORR pathway results of the prepared graphene-derived catalysts. (a) The H_2O_2 production yield during the ORRs obtained from the Pt-ring disk electrode, and (b) the number of electrons transferred in the ORRs at 0.4 V (*vs.* RHE).



Fig. S5 Current-time chronoamperometric response (0.6 V, vs RHE) of NGr- $H_{DM}LH_{DM}$ and Pt/C for 10 h in 1M HClO₄ with continuous oxygen bubbling.



Fig. S6 XPS results of the prepared catalysts; (a) GO, (b) NGr, (c) NGr-H, (d) NGr-H_M, (e) NGr-H_{DM}, and (f) NGr-H_{DM}LH_{DM}. The XPS-N_{1s} results were deconvoluted with pyridinic-N (N1); amide, amine, or pyrrolic-N (N2); graphitic-N (N3); and pyridinic-oxide (N4).