

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) for

Ordered mesoporous Co_3O_4 spinels as stable, bifunctional, noble metal-free oxygen electrocatalysts

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Table. S1 Comparison of experimental conditions and OER activities of catalysts

Sample	BET surface area (m ² g ⁻¹)	Catalyst loading (mg _{cat} cm ⁻²)	Electrolyte	Overpotential @ 10 mA cm ⁻² (mV)	Tafel slope (mV dec ⁻¹)	Mass activity @ 1.6 V ⁻¹ (A g _{cat} ⁻¹)	Ref.
meso-Co ₃ O ₄ -35	135	0.10	0.1 M KOH	411	80	63	This work
meso-Co ₃ O ₄ -100	114	0.10	0.1 M KOH	426	66	53	This work
Co ₃ O ₄ NPs	58	0.10	0.1 M KOH	449	63	31	This work
Commercial Co ₃ O ₄	N/A	0.10	0.1 M KOH	N/A	85	8	This work
20 wt% Pt/C	N/A	0.10 (0.02) ^a	0.1 M KOH	634	250	9.8 (49) ^a	This work
20 wt% Ir/C	N/A	0.10 (0.02) ^a	0.1 M KOH	409	126	71.2 (356) ^a	This work
CoO/CNT	170	0.05	1 M KOH	550	108	43	[1]
Mesoporous Co ₃ O ₄	156	0.13	0.1 M KOH	525	N/A	22	[2]
6 nm Co ₃ O ₄ NPs	111	1.00	1 M KOH	328	~70	35	[3]

^aNumbers in parenthesis are values normalized by weight of only metal (Pt or Ir).

References for Table 1

1. J. Wu, Y. Xue, X. Yan, W. Yan, Q. Cheng and Y. Xie, *Nano Res.*, 2012, **5**, 521–530.
2. H. Tüysüz, Y. J. Hwang, S. B. Khan, A. M. Asiri and P. Yang, *Nano Res.*, 2013, **6**, 47–54.
3. A. J. Esswein, M. J. McMurdo, P. N. Ross, A. T. Bell and T. D. Tilley, *J. Phys. Chem. C*, 2009, **113**, 15068–15072.

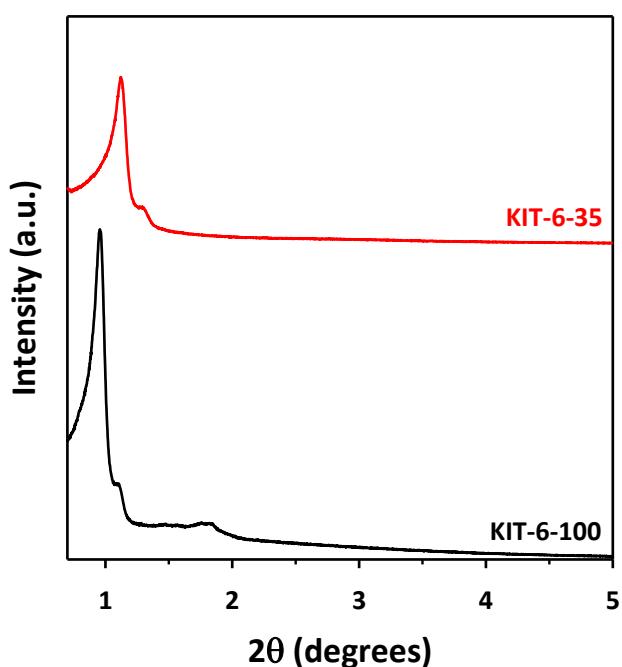


Fig. S1 Low-angle XRD patterns for KIT-6 silica templates.

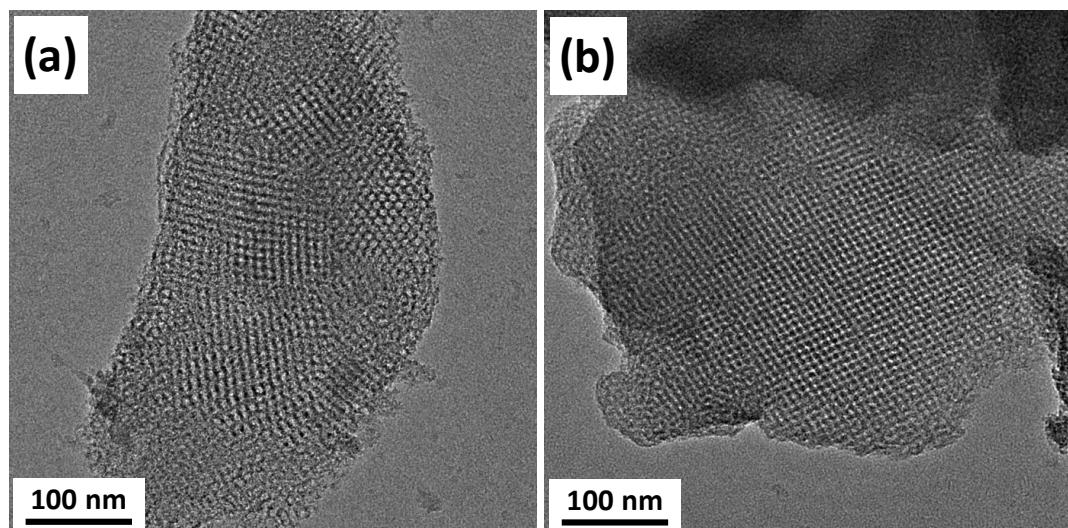


Fig. S2 TEM images of (a) KIT-6-100 and (b) KIT-6-35 silica templates.

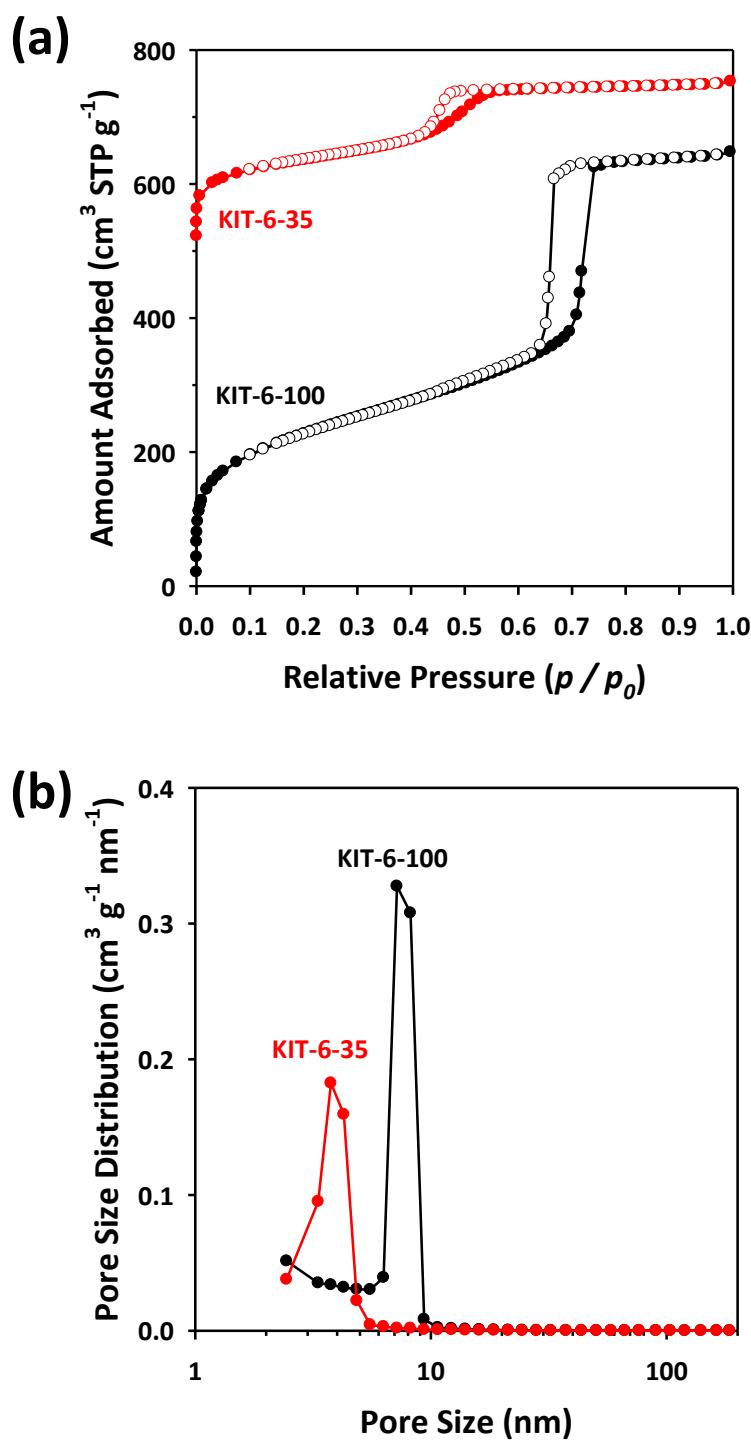


Fig. S3 (a) Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherms for KIT-6 silica templates. The adsorption data for KIT-6-35 was offset vertically by 500 cm³ g⁻¹. (b) The corresponding pore size distribution curves from adsorption branches of the isotherms.

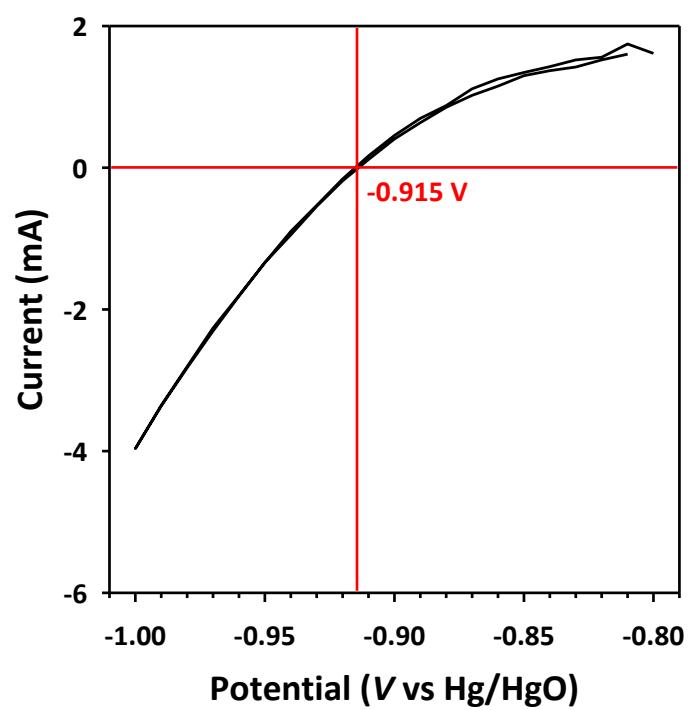


Fig. S4 Plot showing the calibration of an Hg/HgO reference electrode conducted with respect to the RHE

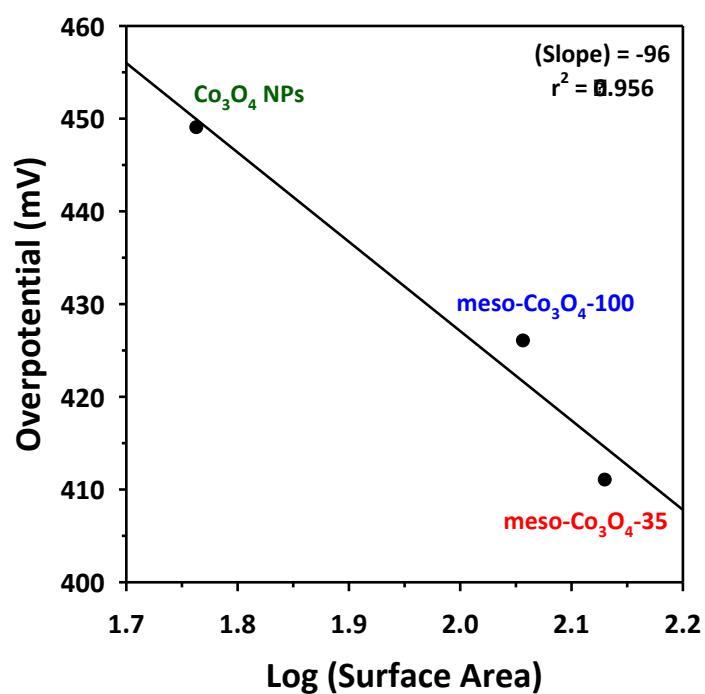


Fig. S5 Plot showing overpotentials for OER polarization at a current density of 10 mA cm^{-2} against the log of the BET surface areas of Co-based catalysts.