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## **Supporting Information**

## Investigation of Au/Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> Nanocomposites by Tailoring Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> Morphology

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Figure S1. TPO analysis of Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-C oxides after 350 °C calcination.



*Figure S2*. *TPO analysis of Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-P oxides after 350 °C calcination*.



Figure S3. TPO analysis of Au/Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-C catalysts after 300 °C calcination.



*Figure S4.* TPO analysis of  $Au/Co_3O_4$ -P catalysts after 300 °C calcination. Only some adsorbed water species on the Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-P surface are observed at ~450 °C.



Figure S5. TEM images of as-prepared Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-C oxide.



Figure S6. TEM images of as-prepared Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-P oxide.



Figure S7. TEM images and size distribution of as-prepared Au colloids.



Figure S8. Co 2p XPS spectra of Au/Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-C and Au/Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-P.

Au/Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> catalysts	Au/Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> -P(111)	Au/Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> -C(001)
Size of Au particle (nm)	2.56	2.62
Height of Au particle (nm)	2.08	1.46
Layers of Au atoms	9	7
Adhesion energy (J m <sup>-2</sup> )	1.02	1.17
Total number of Au atoms	549	441
Number of atoms at corners	24	24
Number of atoms at edges	54	42
Number of atoms on flat surfaces	142	115
Number of atoms at the interfacial perimeter	21	27

Table S1. The atomic configuration of the gold particles supported on the Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> catalysts



Scheme S1. The pathway of EG conversion during the oxidation reactions.