Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for New Journal of Chemistry. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry and the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique 2021

Supporting information

Highly Efficient Bifunctional Electrocatalyst (ORR/OER) Derived from GO Functionalized with Carbonyl, Hydroxyl and Epoxy Groups for Rechargeable Zinc-Air Batteries

Lei Gu, Xuan-Long Sun, Jiao Zhao, Bing-Quan Gong, Zheng-Lv Bao, Hai-Lang Jia*, Ming-

Yun Guan and Shuai-Shuai Ma*

School of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, Institute of Advanced Functional Materials for Energy, Jiangsu University of Technology, Changzhou 213001, P. R. China.

Electrochemical measurements

A conventional three-electrode system was employed to evaluate the electrocatalytic performance of the obtained catalyst on a CHI 760E electrochemical workstation. A rotating disk electrode (RDE) with a glassy carbon (GC) disk (electrode area: 0.1256 cm²) was used as the working electrode, Ag/AgCl was used as the reference electrode, and platinum wire was used as the counter electrode. The rotating ring disk electrode measurements for ORR were carried out on RRDE in a N₂ or O₂saturated 0.1 M KOH electrolyte solution at a scan rate of 10 mV/s. The rotating ring disk electrode measurements for OER was carried out in 1 M KOH electrolyte solution at a scan rate of 10 mV/s. For ORR, before the electrochemical measurements, the electrolyte solution was purged with O₂ for 30 min to achieve an O₂-saturated solution, and stable polarization curves were recorded after 20 cycles. All the potentials were converted to the potential versus the reversible hydrogen electrode (RHE) according to $E_{vs}RHE = E_{vs}Ag/AgCl + E_{o}Ag/AgCl + 0.059$ pH.

Rotating ring-disk electrode (RRDE) measurements were recorded with catalyst inks and electrodes prepared by the same method as that for the RDE measurements. The H_2O_2 produced and the electron number (n) transferred during the ORR were

calculated using the following equations:

$$n = 4 \frac{I_D}{I_D + I_R/N}$$

$$\frac{4-n}{H_2O_2\%=100\times 2}$$

The rotating ring-disk electrode was employed to detect the H_2O_2 yield, where the ring potential was set to 1.3 V (vs. RHE). where I_D is the Faradaic current at the disk, I_R is the Faradaic current at the ring, and N= 0.37 is the collection efficiency of ring electrode.

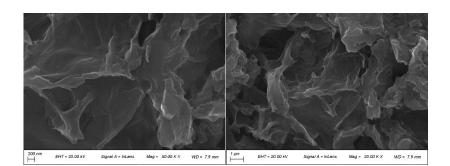


Fig. S1 SEM of Co-N/rGO.

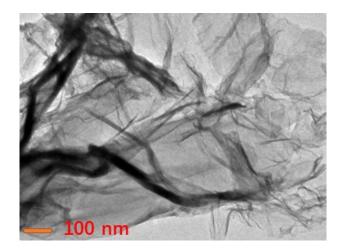
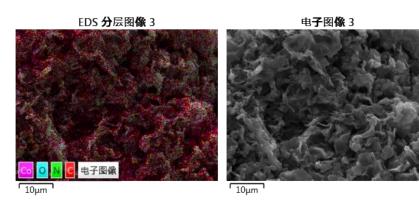
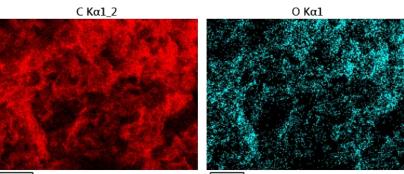


Fig. S2 TEM of Co-N/rGO.





10µm

10µm

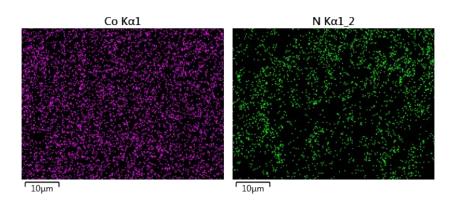


Fig. S3 EDS of Co-N/rGO.

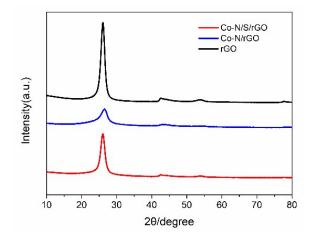


Fig. S4 XRD of Co-N/S/rGO, Co-N/rGO and rGO.

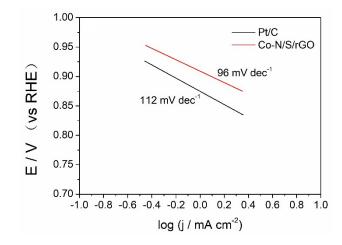


Fig. S5 Tafel plots of Co-N/S/rGO and Pt/C for ORR.

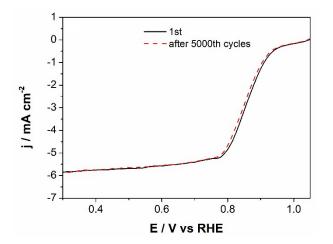


Fig. S6 LSVs of Co-N/S/rGO catalysts before and after 5000 cycles in O₂-saturated 0.1 M KOH.

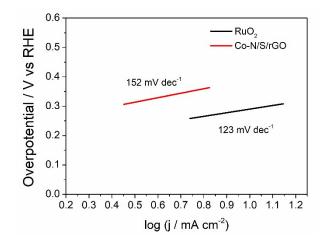


Fig. S7 Tafel plots of Co-N/S/rGO and Pt/C for OER.

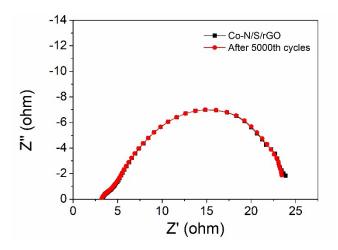


Fig. S8 EIS of Co-N/S/rGO catalysts before and after 5000 cycles in 1 M KOH for OER.



Fig. S9 CV curves of Co-N/rGO at different scan rates in 1.0 M KOH solution.

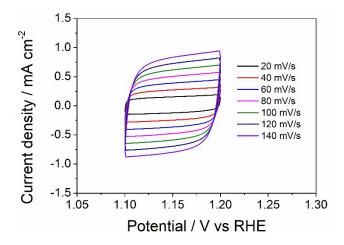


Fig. S10 CV curves of Co-N/S/rGO at different scan rates in 1.0 M KOH solution.

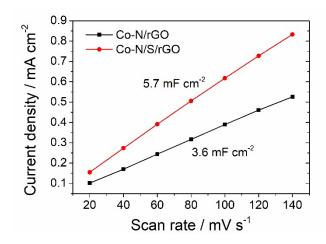


Fig. S11 Double-layer capacitance for different samples.

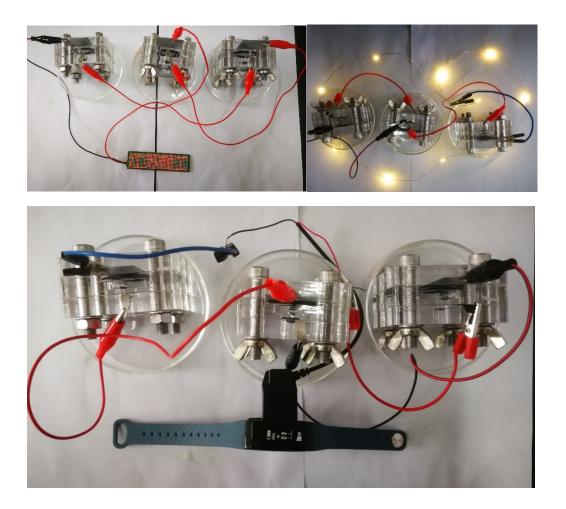


Fig. S12 Images of the Co-N/S/rGO based ZABs in series power a light emitting diode (LED) array and charge the smart bracelet, the working voltage is 3.7-5 V.