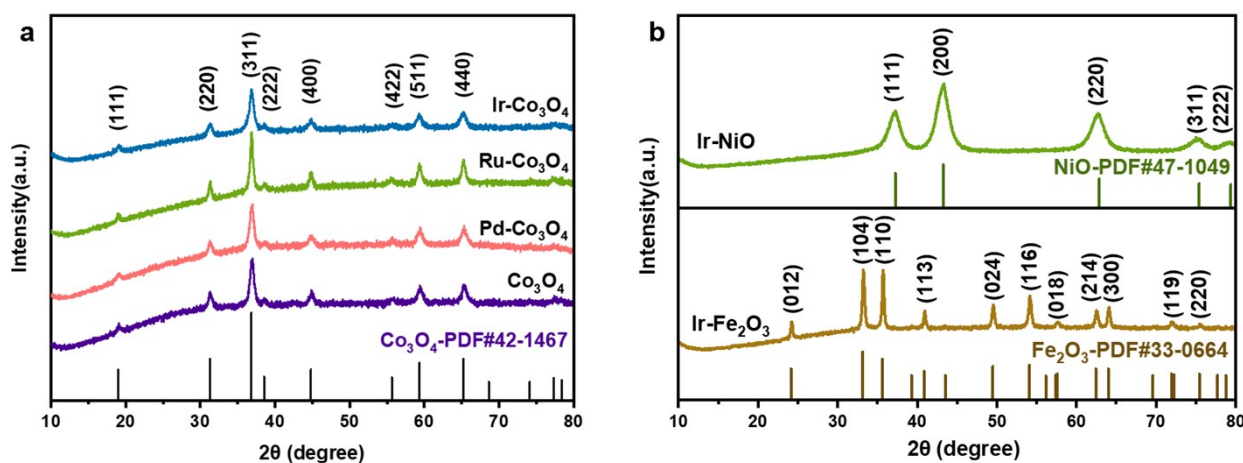


## Supporting Information

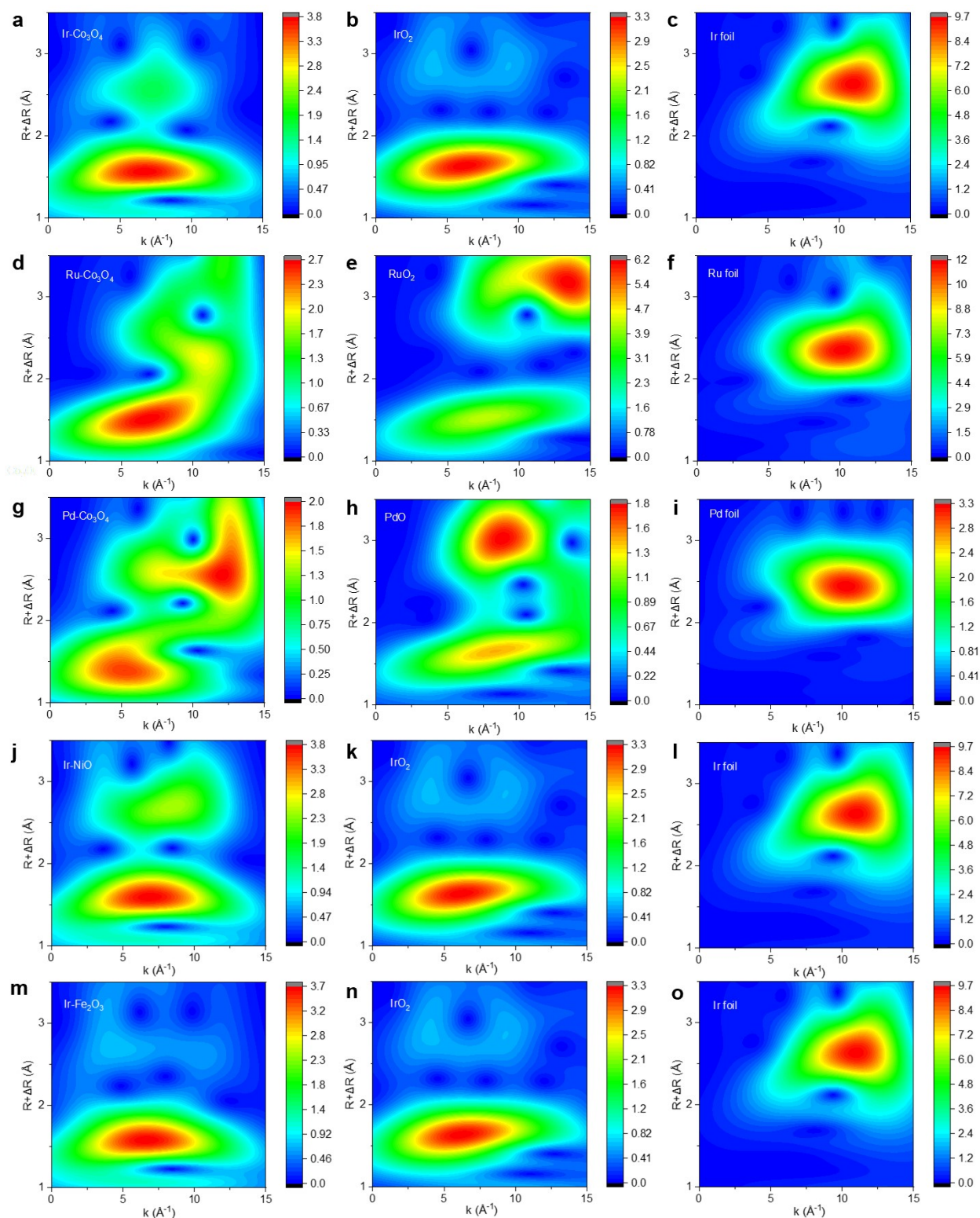
### Universal synthesis strategy for preparation of transition metal oxide electrocatalysts doped with noble metal single atoms for oxygen evolution reaction

Jingyao Wang, Yiming Zhu, Xuepeng Zhong, Zhiwei Hu, Wei-Hsiang Huang, Chih-Wen Pao, Hongfei Cheng\*, Nicolas Alonso-Vante\*, and Jiwei Ma\*

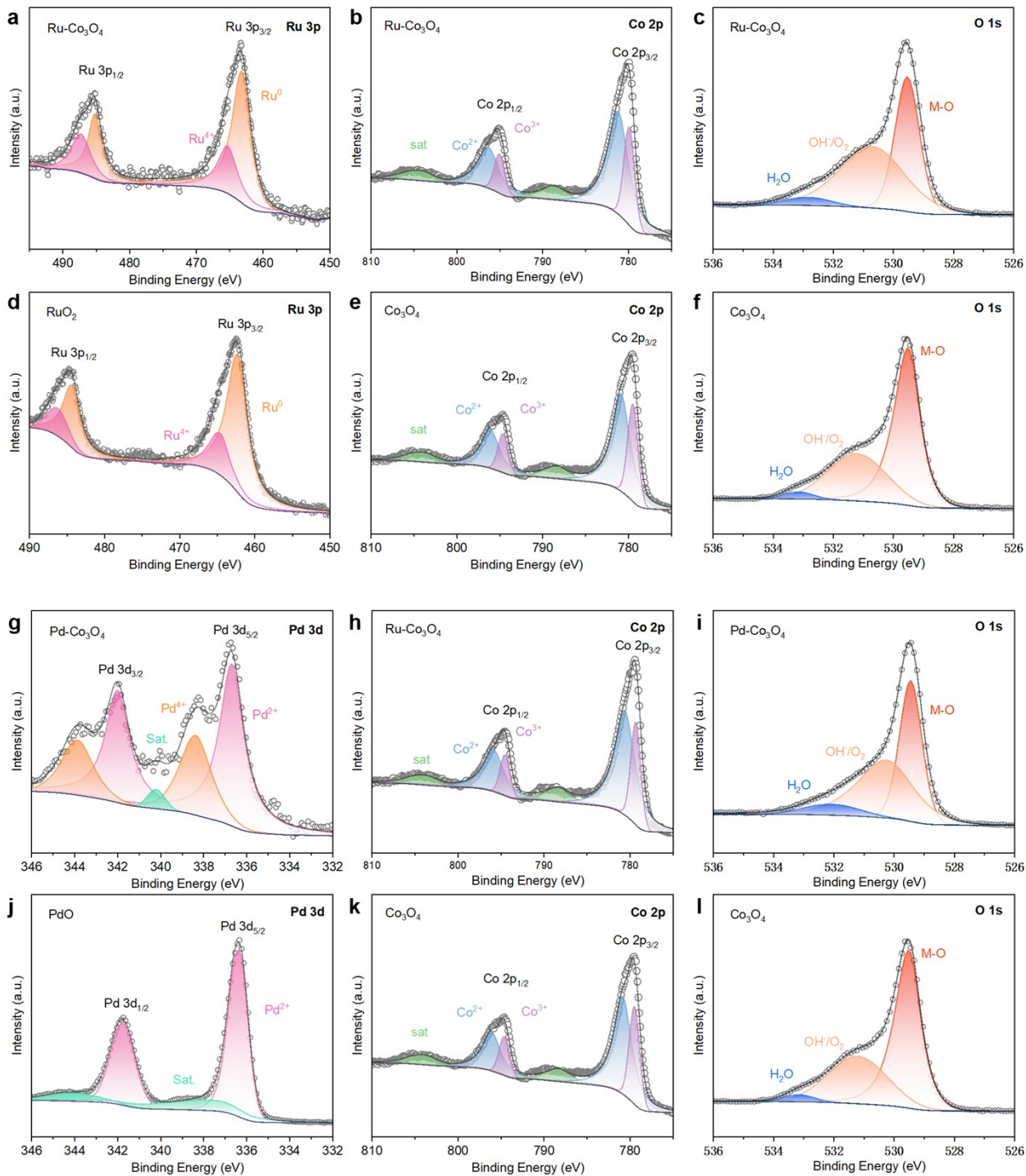
#### Figures:

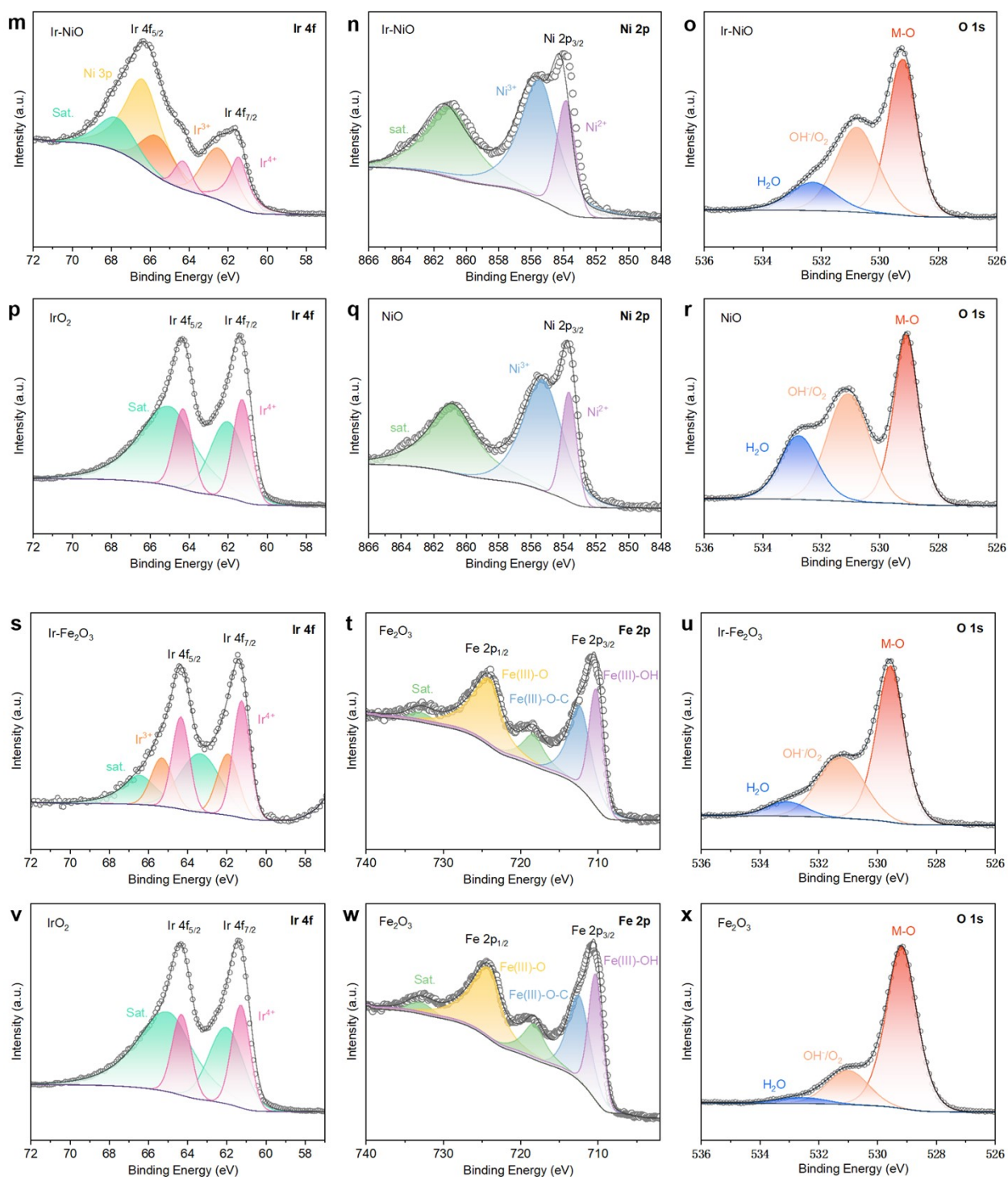


**Figure S1.** X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns of (a) Ir-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Ru-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Pd-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, and Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>. (b) Ir-NiO, and Ir-Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.

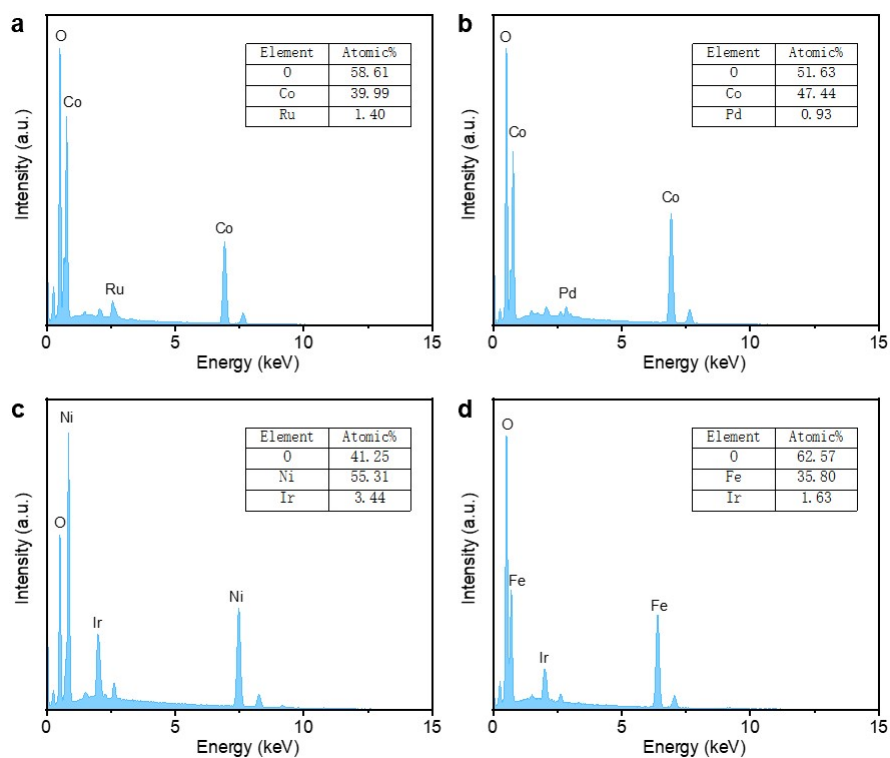


**Figure S2.** The wavelet transforms for the  $k^3$ -weighted EXAFS signals of (a-c) Ir- $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$ ,  $\text{IrO}_2$ , and Ir foil. (d-f) Ru- $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$ ,  $\text{RuO}_2$ , and Ru foil. (g-i) Pd- $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$ , PdO, and Pd foil. (j-l) Ir-NiO,  $\text{IrO}_2$ , and Ir foil. (m-o) Ir- $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{IrO}_2$ , and Ir foil.

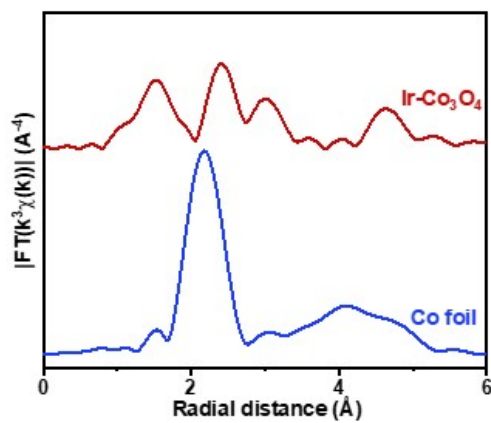




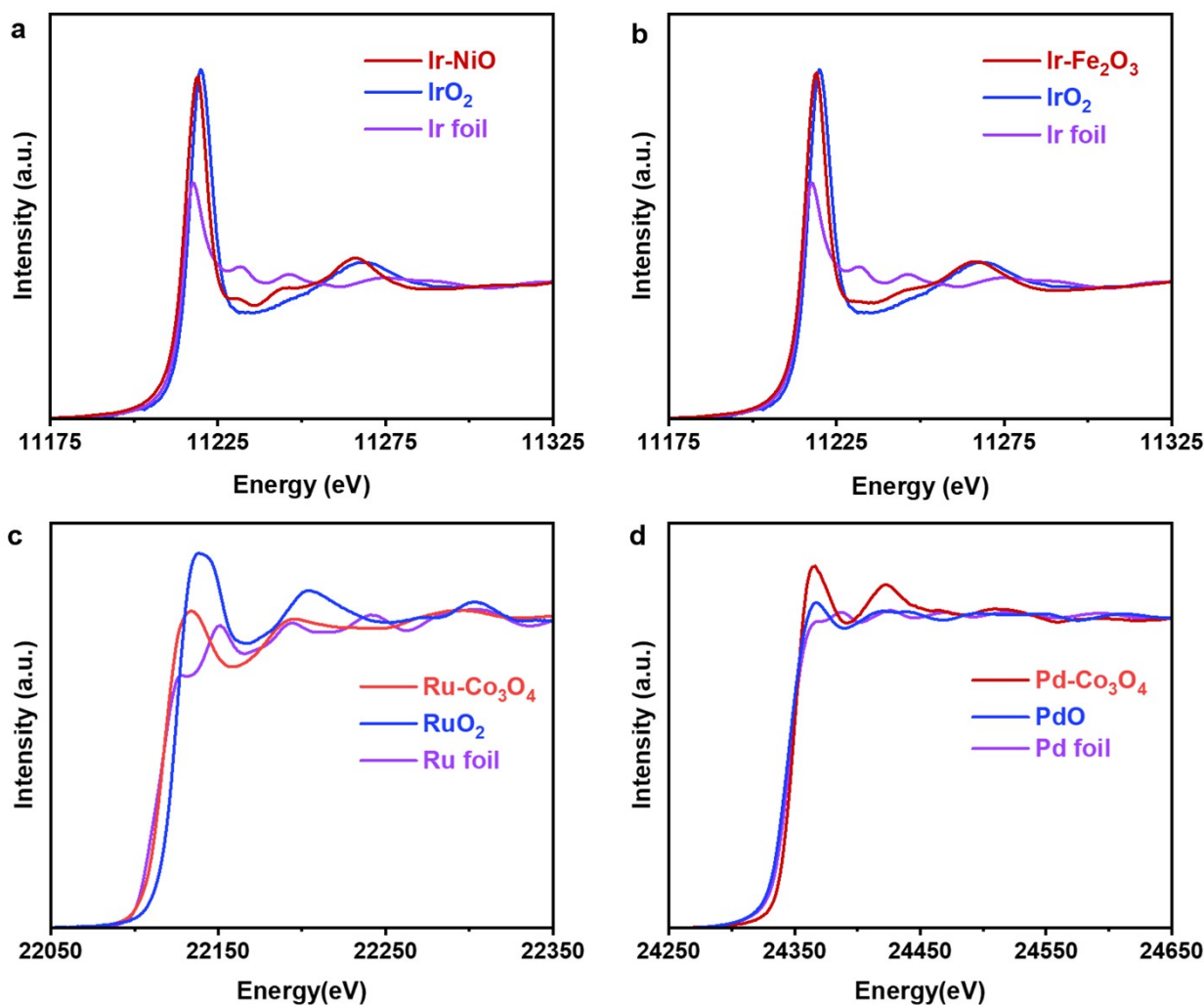
**Figure S3.** Photoemission lines: (a, d) Ru  $3p$  of Ru- $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$  and Ru $_2\text{O}_3$ . (b, e) Co  $2p$  and (c, f) O  $1s$  of Ru- $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$  and  $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$ . (g, j) Pd  $3d$  of Pd- $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$ , and PdO. (h, k) Co  $2p$ , and (i, l) O  $1s$  of Pd- $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$  and  $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$ . (m, p) Ir  $4f$  of Ir-NiO, and Ir $_2\text{O}_3$ . (n, q) Ni  $2p$ , and (o, r) O  $1s$  of Ir-NiO, and NiO. (s, v) Ir  $4f$  of Ir- $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ , and Ir $_2\text{O}_3$ . (t, w) Fe  $2p$ , and (u, x) O  $1s$  of Ir- $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ , and  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ .



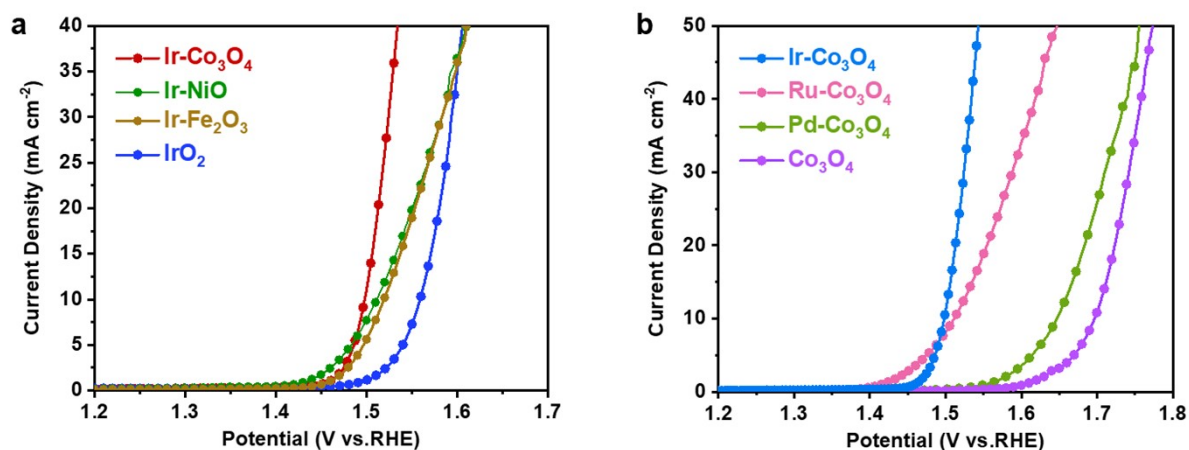
**Figure S4.** SEM-EDS spectra of (a) Ru-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, (b) Pd-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, (c) Ir-NiO, and (d) Ir-Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.



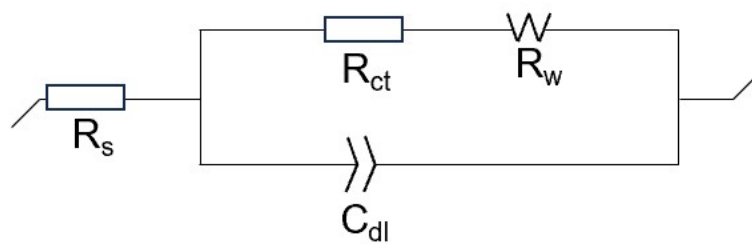
**Figure S5.** Co-K edge EXAFS spectra of Ir-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and Co foil.



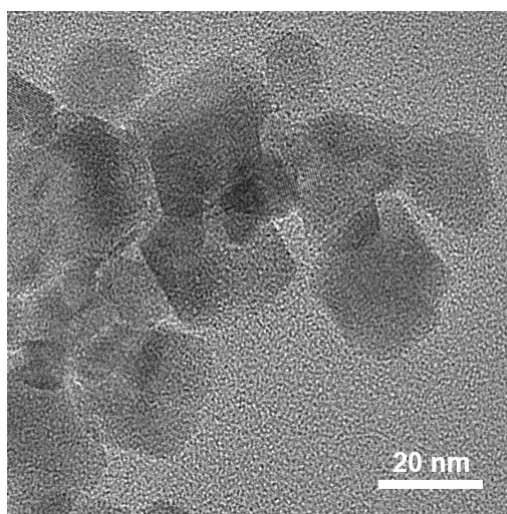
**Figure S6.** The normalized Ir-L<sub>3</sub> edge XANES spectra of (a) Ir-NiO, Ir foil, and IrO<sub>2</sub>. (b) Ir-Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Ir foil, and IrO<sub>2</sub>. (c) The normalized Ru-K edge XANES spectra of Ru-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Ru foil, and RuO<sub>2</sub>. (d) The normalized Pd-K edge XANES spectra of Pd-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Pd foil, and PdO.



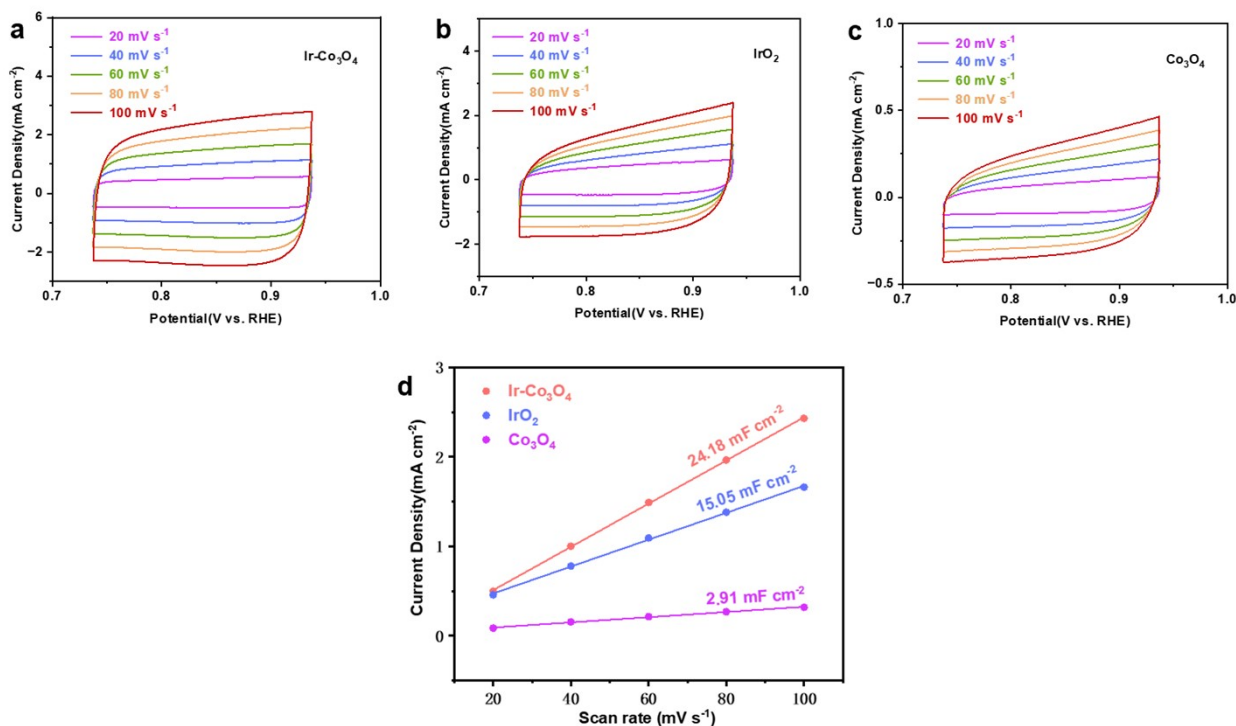
**Figure S7.** LSV curves of (a) Ir-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Ir-NiO, Ir-Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, and IrO<sub>2</sub>, (b) Ir-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Ru-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Pd-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, and Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> collected at a scanning rate of 5 mV s<sup>-1</sup> in 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution.



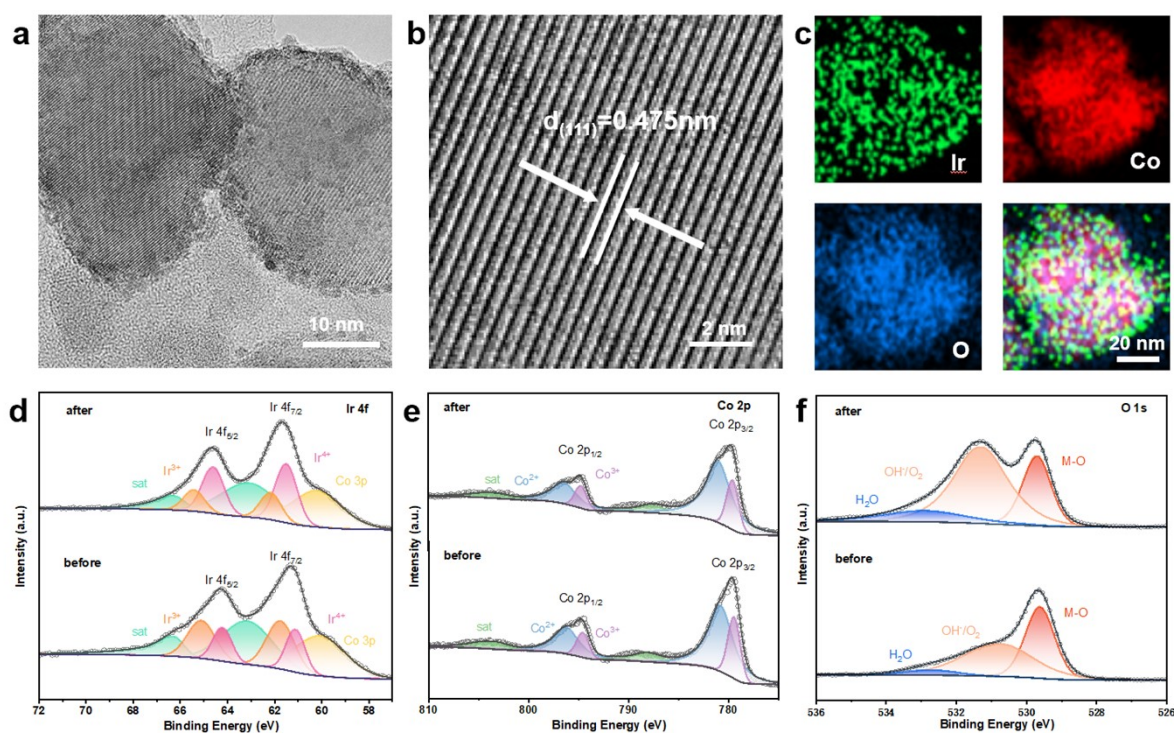
**Figure S8.** The equivalent circuit section applied in the EIS testing of the catalysts. Electrolyte, Charge transfer, and Warburg resistance are  $R_s$ ,  $R_{ct}$ , and  $R_w$ , respectively. The double layer capacitance is  $C_{dl}$ .



**Figure S9.** TEM image of  $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$ .

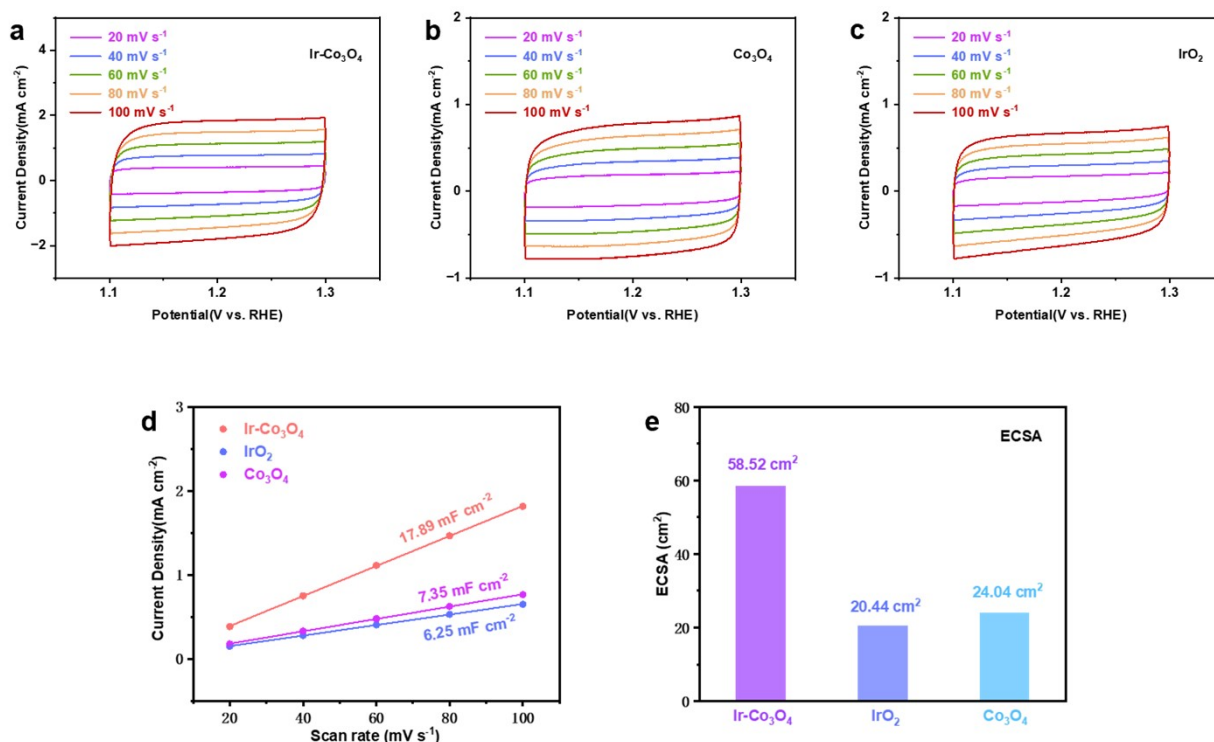


**Figure S10.** Electrochemical cyclic voltammetry scans were recorded for (a) Ir-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, (b) IrO<sub>2</sub>, and (c) Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>. Scan rates are 20, 40, 60, 80 and 100 mV s<sup>-1</sup>. (d) Linear fitting of the capacitive currents versus cyclic voltammetry scan rates for these catalysts.



**Figure S11.** (a) TEM image, (b) HR-TEM image, (c) EDS elemental mappings of Ir-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> after stability test. (d) Ir 4f, (e) Co 2p, (f) O1s XPS spectrum of Ir-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> before and after stability test.





**Figure S12.** Electrochemical cyclic voltammograms were recorded for (a) Ir-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, (b) Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, and (c) IrO<sub>2</sub>. Scan rates are 20, 40, 60, 80, and 100 mV s<sup>-1</sup>. (d) Linear fitting of the capacitive currents versus cyclic voltammogram scan rates for these catalysts. (e) The calculated ECSA values for Ir-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, IrO<sub>2</sub>, and Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> in 1.0 M KOH.

### Tables:

**Table S1.** Fit goodness and R-factor of XRD refinements for Ir-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>.

Compounds	R <sub>F</sub>	R <sub>B</sub>	R <sub>P</sub>	R <sub>WP</sub>	χ <sup>2</sup>
Ir-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	0.309%	0.314%	0.286%	0.462%	3.46
Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	0.816%	0.598%	0.228%	0.293%	1.64

**Table S2.** Results of XRD refinements for Ir-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>.

Compounds	<i>a</i> (Å)	<i>b</i> (Å)	<i>c</i> (Å)	<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )
Ir-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	8.102	8.102	8.102	531.9
Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	8.086	8.086	8.086	528.7

**Table S3.** XPS quantification data for all elements in Ir-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Ru-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Pd-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Ir-NiO, and Ir-Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.

Compounds	Element	Atomic%
Ir-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	Ir	1.86
	Co	28.44
	O	69.70
Ru-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	Ru	1.41
	Co	21.24
	O	77.35
Pd-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	Pd	1.18
	Co	31.65
	O	67.17
Ir-NiO	Ir	0.75
	Ni	41.66
	O	57.58
Ir-Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Ir	1.39
	Fe	26.06
	O	72.55

**Table S4.** Fitting parameters of EIS for Ir-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, IrO<sub>2</sub>, and Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> in 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.

Samples	R <sub>s</sub> (Ω)	R <sub>ct</sub> (Ω)	C <sub>dl</sub> (F s <sup>n-1</sup> )	s (Ω s <sup>-1/2</sup> )
Ir-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	5.1	16.6	0.0498	0.0498
IrO <sub>2</sub>	4.0	220.0	0.1991	0.0498
Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	5.1	5271.0	0.0996	4.5658

**Table S5.** Comparisons of the Tafel slopes and overpotentials at the current density of 10 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> of reported Ir-based catalysts for OER in 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.

Catalysts	Overpotential (mV)	Tafel slope (mV dec <sup>-1</sup> )	Ref.
Rh <sub>22</sub> Ir <sub>78</sub> alloy NPs	292	101	[1]
Porous carbon-coated IrCo	270	71.8	[2]
IrO <sub>2</sub> /CNT	293	67	[3]
TiN/IrO <sub>2</sub>	313	65.5	[4]
Ir-SA@Fe@NCNT	250	58.2	[5]
IrO <sub>2</sub> /GCNa	276	57	[6]
Ir <sub>6</sub> Ag <sub>9</sub> nanotubes	297	60	[7]
Amorphous IrO <sub>x</sub> NSs	250	47	[8]
Sr <sub>2</sub> IrO <sub>4</sub>	287	45	[9]
Li-IrO <sub>x</sub>	290	39	[10]
Ir-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	268	38	This work

**Table S6.** Fitting parameters of EIS for Ir-Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, IrO<sub>2</sub>, and Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> in 1.0 M KOH.

Samples	Rs (Ω)	Rct (Ω)	C <sub>dl</sub> (F s <sup>n-1</sup> )	s (Ω s <sup>-1/2</sup> )
Ir-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	4.3	14.6	0.0498	9.6399
IrO <sub>2</sub>	3.9	102.2	0.0896	6.2364
Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	4.0	445.3	0.0996	0.1216

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