

Supporting Information for

## MOF Transformed $\text{In}_2\text{O}_{3-x}\text{@C}$ Nanocorn Electrocatalyst for Efficient $\text{CO}_2$ Reduction to $\text{HCOOH}$

Chen Qiu<sup>1, #</sup>, Kun Qian<sup>2, #</sup>, Jun Yu<sup>1, \*</sup>, Mingzi Sun<sup>3</sup>, Shoufu Cao<sup>4</sup>, Jinqiang Gao<sup>1</sup>, Rongxing Yu<sup>1, 5</sup>, Lingzhe Fang<sup>2</sup>, Youwei Yao<sup>5</sup>, Xiaoqing Lu<sup>4</sup>, Tao Li<sup>2, 6, \*</sup>, Bolong Huang<sup>3, \*</sup>, Shihe Yang<sup>1, 7, \*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Guangdong Key Lab of Nano-Micro Material Research, School of Chemical Biology and Biotechnology, Peking University Shenzhen Graduate School, Shenzhen 518055, P. R. China

<sup>2</sup>Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois 60115, USA

<sup>3</sup>Department of Applied Biology and Chemical Technology, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong SAR, P. R. China

<sup>4</sup>School of Materials Science and Engineering, China University of Petroleum, Qingdao, Shandong 266580, P. R. China

<sup>5</sup>Shenzhen International Graduate School, Tsinghua University, Shenzhen, P. R. China

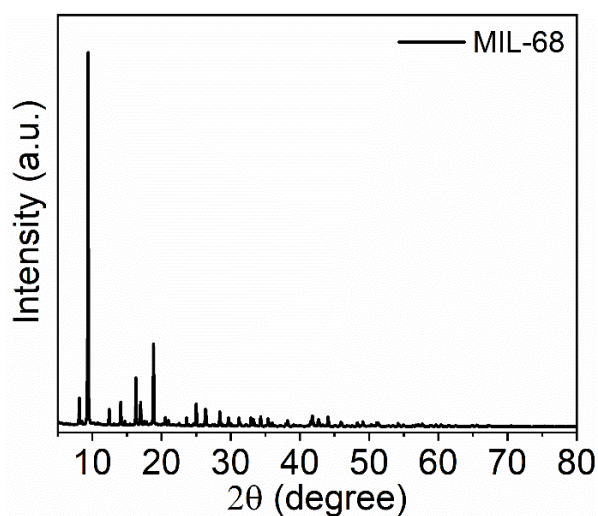
<sup>6</sup>X-ray Science Division and Joint Center for Energy Storage Research, Argonne National Laboratory, Lemont, Illinois 60439, USA

<sup>7</sup>Institute of Biomedical Engineering, Shenzhen Bay Laboratory, Shenzhen 518107, P. R. China

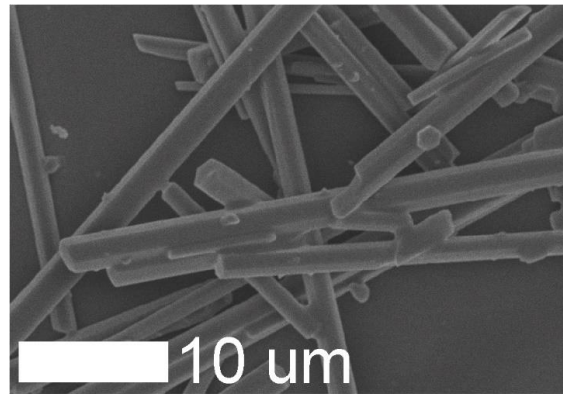
# Chen Qiu and Kun Qian contributed equally to this work.

\*Corresponding authors. E-mail: [yu.jun@pku.edu.cn](mailto:yu.jun@pku.edu.cn) (Jun Yu); [taoli@aps.anl.gov](mailto:taoli@aps.anl.gov) (Tao Li); [bhuang@polyu.edu.hk](mailto:bhuang@polyu.edu.hk) (Bolong Huang); [chsyang@pku.edu.cn](mailto:chsyang@pku.edu.cn) (Shihe Yang)

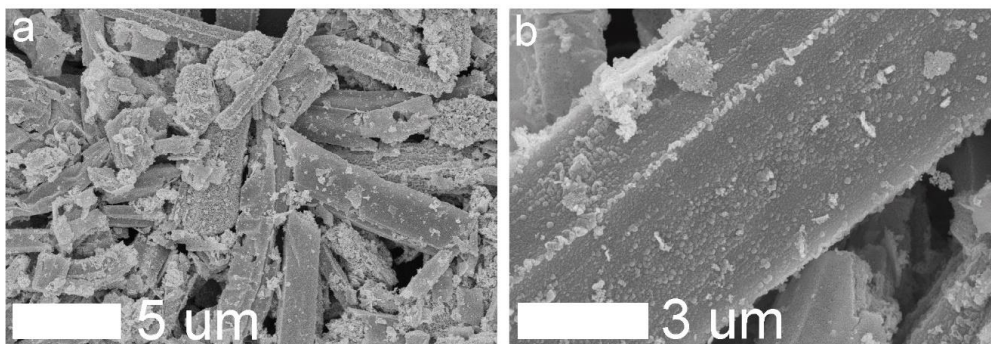
### Supplementary Figures and Tables



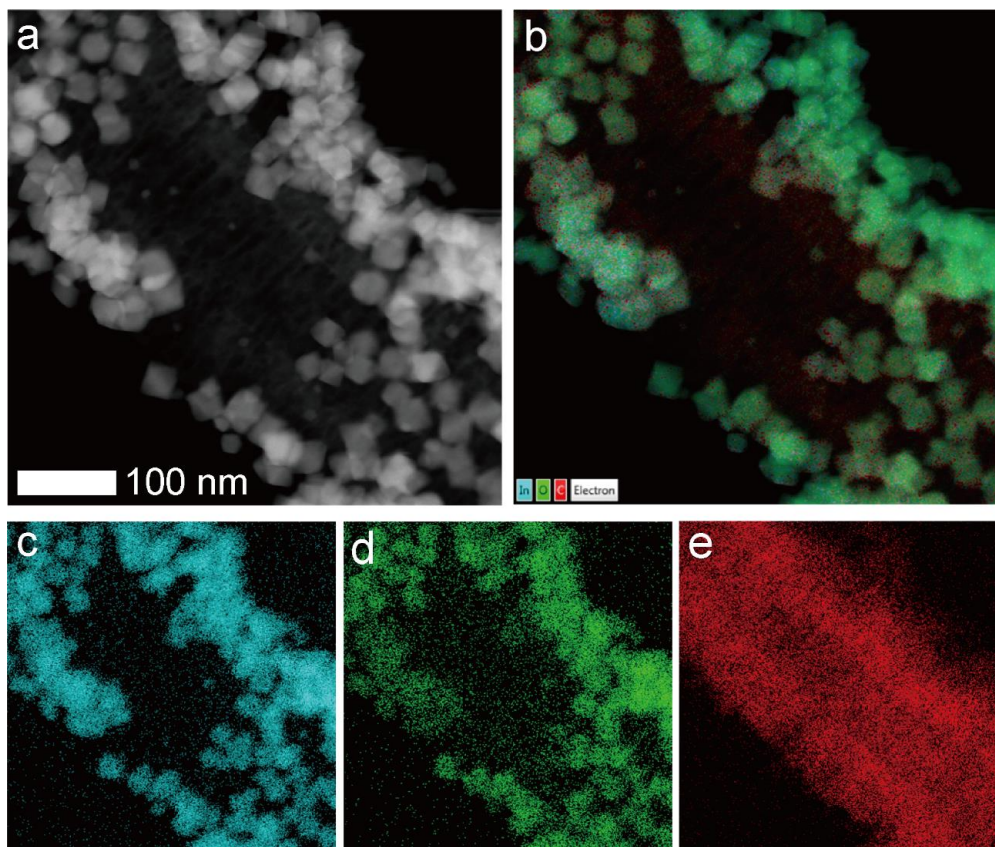
**Fig. S1** X-ray diffraction (XRD) spectrum of the MIL-68 (In) sample



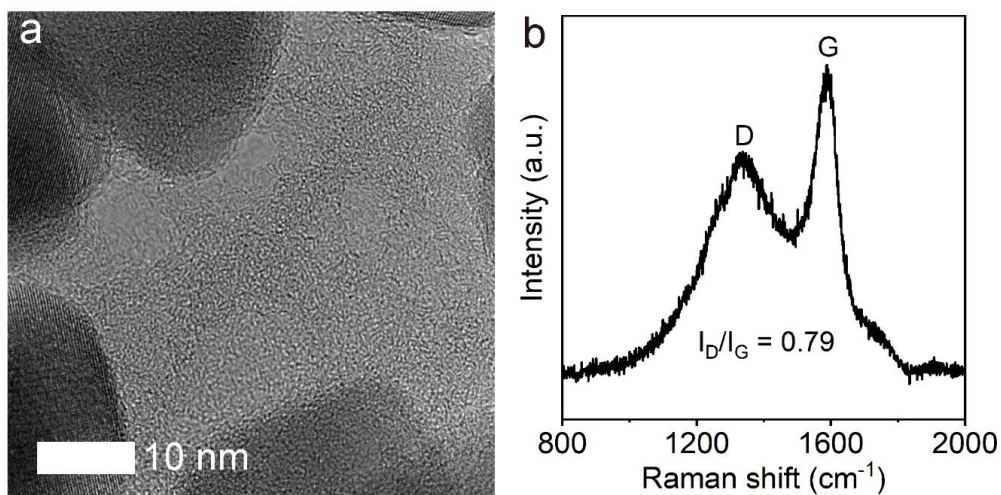
**Fig. S2** The SEM image of MIL-68



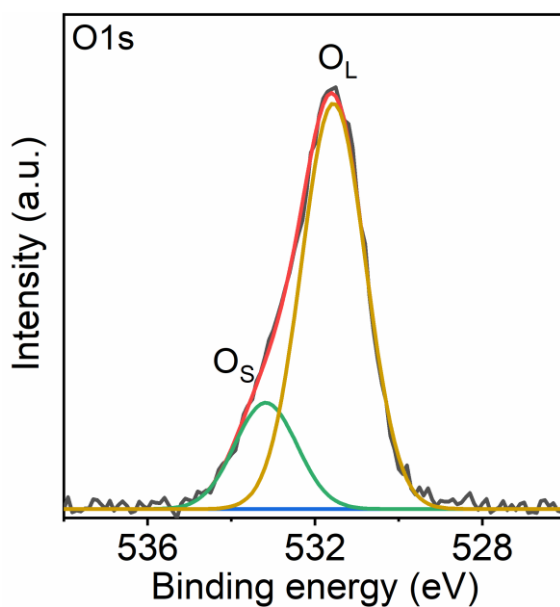
**Fig. S3** The SEM images of MIL-68-Air



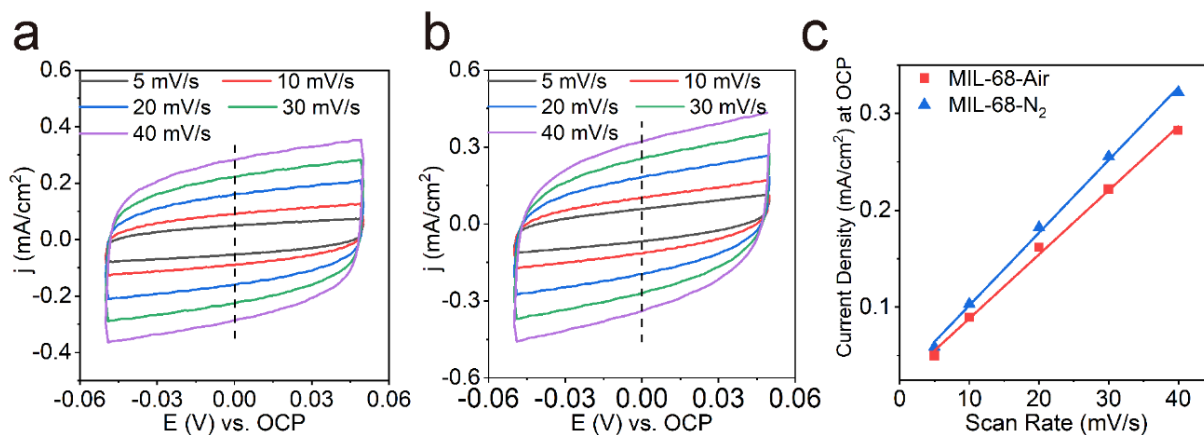
**Fig. S4** **a** Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) image of the MIL-68-N<sub>2</sub> sample and the corresponding EDS mapping images of **b** all detected elements, **c** In element, **d** O element and **e** C element. Part of the surface cubic shape particles was removed to expose the beneath film through sonication



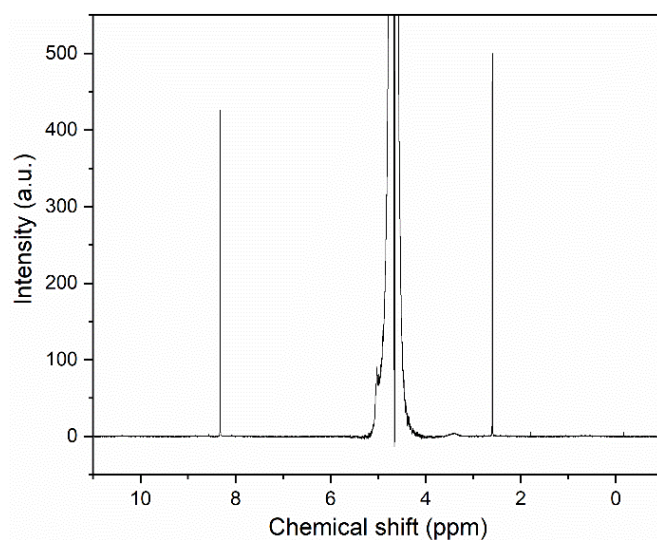
**Fig. S5** **a** HR-TEM and **b** Raman spectrum of the MIL-68-N<sub>2</sub> sample



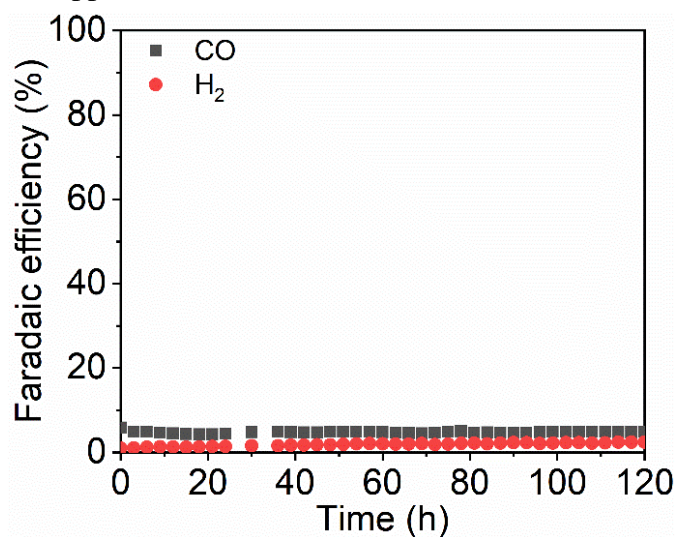
**Fig. S6** O 1s XPS spectrum of the MIL-68-Air sample



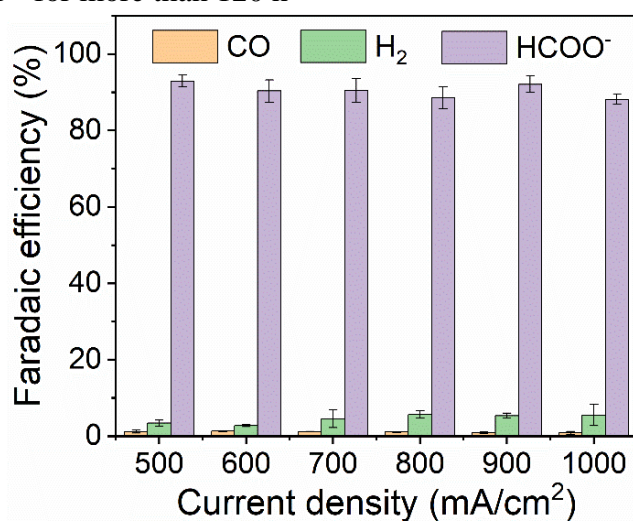
**Fig. S7** Cyclic voltammograms of **a** MIL-68-Air and **b** MIL-68-N<sub>2</sub> measured in a non-Faradaic region of the voltammogram with the scan rates of 5, 10, 20, 30, and 40 mV s<sup>-1</sup>. **c** Current density at OCP vs CV scan rate for the catalysts. The slope of current density at OCP vs scan rate represents the double-layer capacitance



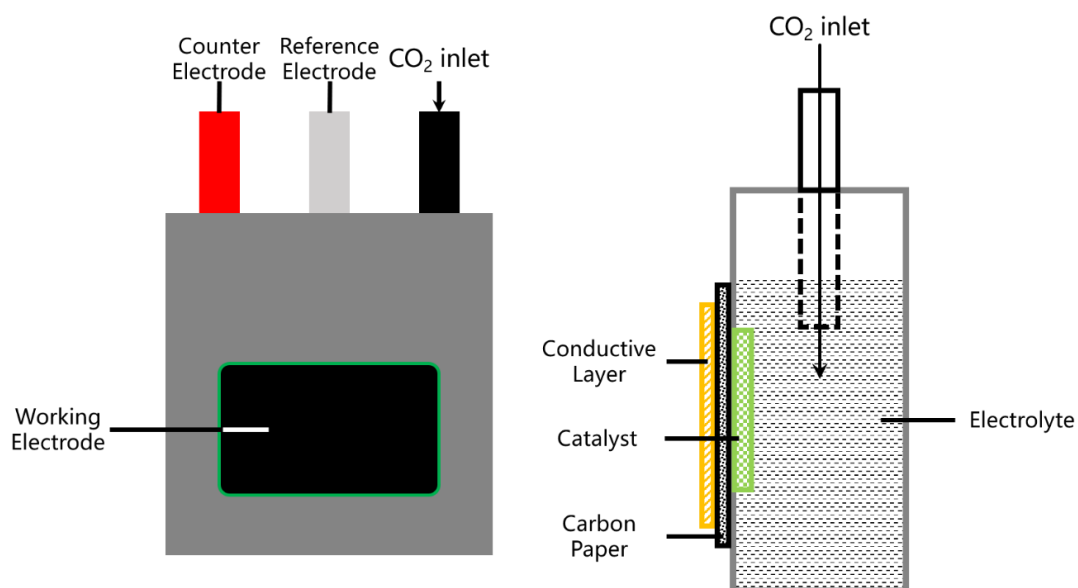
**Fig. S8** Representative nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrum of the catholyte, peak at 8.3 ppm, 4.7 ppm and 2.6 ppm were ascribed to formate, water and DMSO, respectively



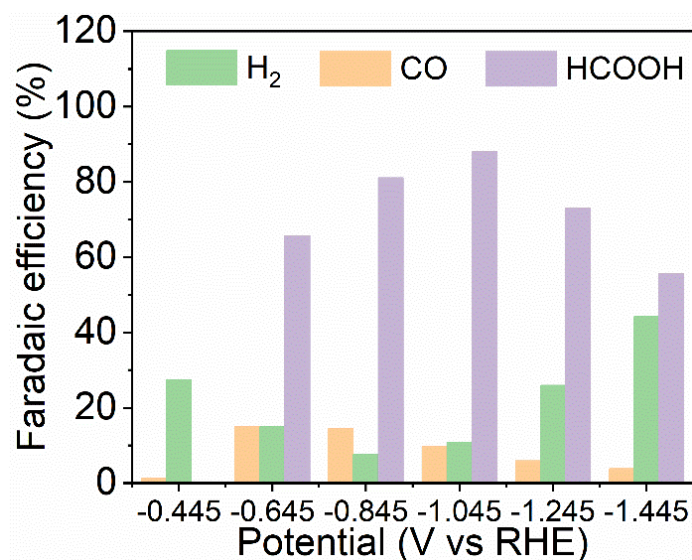
**Fig. S9** FE of CO and H<sub>2</sub> during the stability test of the MIL-68-N<sub>2</sub> catalyst at the current density of 100 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> for more than 120 h



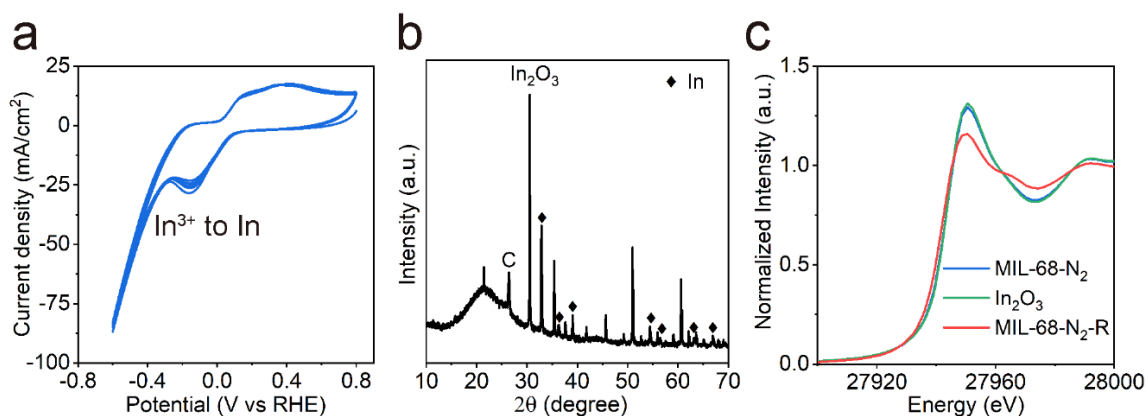
**Fig. S10** Product distributions in terms of FE for the fixed current density of 500, 600, 700, 800, 900 and 1000 mA cm<sup>-2</sup>



**Fig. S11** Diagram of the *in situ* electrochemical cell



**Fig. S12** FE and the product distribution vs the applied potentials for the MIL-68-N<sub>2</sub> catalyst tested in H-Cell. The electrolyte was 0.5 M KHCO<sub>3</sub> aqueous solution



**Fig. S13** **a** CV curves of the MIL-68-N<sub>2</sub> catalyst. **b** XRD pattern and **c** In K-edge XANES spectrum of the MIL-68-N<sub>2</sub> catalyst after electrolysis

**Table S1** Summary of the current density and faradaic efficiency of HCOOH of our results and recently published data

Catalyst	Reactor	Electrolyte	Applied potential /V <sub>RHE</sub>	J <sub>HCOOH</sub> /mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	FE/%	Refs.
In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3-x</sub> @C	Flow cell	1 M KOH	-0.4 V	11*	84	This work
In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3-x</sub> @C	Flow cell	1 M KOH	-1.0 V	218*	99	This work
In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3-x</sub> @C	Flow cell	1 M KOH	-1.2 V	324*	99	This work
MIL-68(In)-NH <sub>2</sub>	Flow cell	1 M KOH	-1.1 V	108*	94	[S1]
InP CQDs	Flow cell	1 M KOH	-2.5 V	368*	92	[S2]
hp-In	Flow cell	0.1 M KHCO <sub>3</sub>	-1.1 V	45	90	[S3]
In/In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3-x</sub>	H-cell	0.5 M NaHCO <sub>3</sub>	-0.82 V	Low	89	[S4]
MFM-300(In)-e/In	H-cell	0.5 M EmimBF <sub>4</sub> /MeCN	-2.15 V <sub>Ag/Ag+</sub>	46	99	[S5]
Cu <sub>25</sub> In <sub>75</sub>	H-cell	0.5 M NaHCO <sub>3</sub>	-0.7 V	Low	84	[S6]
In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> -rGO	H-cell	0.1 M KHCO <sub>3</sub>	-1.2 V	22	85	[S7]
H-InO <sub>x</sub>	H-cell	0.5 M NaHCO <sub>3</sub>	-0.7 V	Low	92	[S8]
MoP@In-PC	H-cell	[Bmim]PF <sub>6</sub> (30 wt%)/MeCN/H <sub>2</sub> O(5wt%)	-2.2 V <sub>Ag/Ag+</sub>	42	97	[S9]
CuBi <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> -PE	HFGDE	0.5 M KHCO <sub>3</sub>	-1.0 V	120	85	[S10]
Bi nanosheets	Flow cell	0.5 M KHCO <sub>3</sub>	-0.7 V -0.9 V	Low 16	100 50	[S11]
Bi <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> @C	Flow cell	1 M KOH	-1.0 V	170*	93	[S12]
SnS	Flow cell	1 M KOH	-1.3 V	120*	88	[S13]

\*stands for the current density without iR correction.

Low stands for the current density below 10 mA cm<sup>-2</sup>

**Table S2** The fitting parameters of In-O in In K-edge XANES spectra

Sample	R (Å)	CN	σ <sup>2</sup> (Å <sup>2</sup> )	ΔE (eV)	R factor
fresh	2.17 ± 0.01	5.03 ± 0.29	0.005	3.8	0.00763
CVs	2.16 ± 0.01	3.97 ± 0.28	0.00545	4.61	0.0153
-0.445	2.16 ± 0.01	3.6 ± 0.42	0.00511	3.46	0.0116
-0.845	2.17 ± 0.01	4.93 ± 0.49	0.0042	3.85	0.0271
-1.045	2.17 ± 0.01	5.00 ± 0.55	0.00419	4.1	0.01216
-1.245	2.175 ± 0.01	4.64 ± 0.54	0.00366	3.39	0.03983
-1.445	2.167 ± 0.01	4.88 ± 0.25	0.00396	2.52	0.00581

## Supplementary References

- [S1] Z. Wang, Y. Zhou, C. Xia, W. Guo, B. You et al., Efficient electroconversion of carbon dioxide to formate by a reconstructed amino-functionalized indium-organic framework electrocatalyst. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **60**(35), 19107-19112 (2021).  
<https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.202107523>
- [S2] I. Grigioni, L.K. Sagar, Y.C. Li, G. Lee, Y. Yan et al., CO<sub>2</sub> electroreduction to formate at a partial current density of 930 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> with inp colloidal quantum dot derived catalysts. *ACS Energy Lett.* **6**(1), 79-84 (2020).  
<https://doi.org/10.1021/acsenerylett.0c02165>

- [S3] W. Luo, W. Xie, M. Li, J. Zhang, A. Züttel, 3D hierarchical porous indium catalyst for highly efficient electroreduction of CO<sub>2</sub>. *J. Mater. Chem. A* **7**(9), 4505-4515 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1039/c8ta11645h>
- [S4] Y. Liang, W. Zhou, Y. Shi, C. Liu, B. Zhang, Unveiling in situ evolved In/In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-heterostructure as the active phase of In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> toward efficient electroreduction of CO<sub>2</sub> to formate. *Sci. Bull.* **65**(18), 1547-1554 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scib.2020.04.022>
- [S5] X. Kang, B. Wang, K. Hu, K. Lyu, X. Han et al., Quantitative electro-reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> to liquid fuel over electro-synthesized metal-organic frameworks. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **142**(41), 17384-17392 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1021/jacs.0c05913>
- [S6] M. Zhu, P. Tian, J. Li, J. Chen, J. Xu et al., Structure-tunable copper-indium catalysts for highly selective CO<sub>2</sub> electroreduction to co or hcooh. *ChemSusChem* **12**(17), 3955-3959 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1002/cssc.201901884>
- [S7] Z. Zhang, F. Ahmad, W. Zhao, W. Yan, W. Zhang et al., Enhanced electrocatalytic reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> via chemical coupling between indium oxide and reduced graphene oxide. *Nano Lett.* **19**(6), 4029-4034 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.nanolett.9b01393>
- [S8] J. Zhang, R. Yin, Q. Shao, T. Zhu, X. Huang, Oxygen vacancies in amorphous InO<sub>x</sub> nanoribbons enhance CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption and activation for CO<sub>2</sub> electroreduction. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **58**(17), 5609-5613 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.201900167>
- [S9] X. Sun, L. Lu, Q. Zhu, C. Wu, D. Yang et al., Mop nanoparticles supported on indium-doped porous carbon: outstanding catalysts for highly efficient CO<sub>2</sub> electroreduction. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **57**(9), 2427-2431 (2018). <https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.201712221>
- [S10] H. Rabiee, L. Ge, X. Zhang, S. Hu, M. Li et al., Shape-tuned electrodeposition of bismuth-based nanosheets on flow-through hollow fiber gas diffusion electrode for high-efficiency CO<sub>2</sub> reduction to formate. *Appl. Catal. B* **286**, 119945 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apcatb.2021.119945>
- [S11] L. Yi, J. Chen, P. Shao, J. Huang, X. Peng et al., Molten-salt-assisted synthesis of bismuth nanosheets for long-term continuous electrocatalytic conversion of CO<sub>2</sub> to formate. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **59**(45), 20112-20119 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.202008316>
- [S12] P. Deng, F. Yang, Z. Wang, S. Chen, Y. Zhou et al., Metal-organic framework-derived carbon nanorods encapsulating bismuth oxides for rapid and selective CO<sub>2</sub> electroreduction to formate. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **59**(27), 10807-10813 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.202000657>
- [S13] J. Zou, C.Y. Lee, G.G. Wallace, Boosting formate production from CO<sub>2</sub> at high current densities over a wide electrochemical potential window on a SnS catalyst. *Adv. Sci.* **8**(15), e2004521 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1002/advs.202004521>