## **Supporting information**

## The particle proximity effect: from model to high surface area fuel cell catalysts

Jozsef Speder<sup>a\*</sup>, Lena Altmann<sup>b</sup>, Marcus Bäumer<sup>b</sup>, Jacob J.K. Kirkensgaard<sup>c</sup>, Kell Mortensen<sup>c</sup>

and Matthias Arenz<sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Nano-Science Center, Department of Chemistry, University of Copenhagen, Universitetsparken 5, DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark

<sup>b</sup>Institute for Applied and Physical Chemistry and Center for Environmental Research and Sustainable Technology, University of Bremen, D-28359 Bremen, Germany <sup>e</sup>Niels Bohr Institute, University of Copenhagen, Universitetsparken 5, DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark

\* corresponding authors: jozsef@chem.ku.dk, m.arenz@chem.ku.dk



Fig. S1. Representative ORR polarization curves of the 10 wt.% Pt/Ketjenblack catalyst recorded with a scan rate of 50 mV s<sup>-1</sup> in argon (solid line) and oxygen saturated (dashed line) 0.1 M  $HClO_4$  electrolyte; rotation rate was 1600 rpm.



Fig. S2. Representative ORR polarization curves of the 30 wt.% Pt/Ketjenblack catalyst recorded with a scan rate of 50 mV s<sup>-1</sup> in argon (solid line) and oxygen saturated (dashed line) 0.1 M  $HClO_4$  electrolyte; rotation rate was 1600 rpm.





Fig. S3. Representative ORR polarization curves of the 60 wt.% Pt/Ketjenblack catalyst recorded with a scan rate of 50 mV s<sup>-1</sup> in argon (solid line) and oxygen saturated (dashed line) 0.1 M  $HClO_4$  electrolyte; rotation rate was 1600 rpm.



Fig. S4. Representative ORR polarization curves of the 90 wt.% Pt/Ketjenblack catalyst recorded with a scan rate of 50 mV s<sup>-1</sup> in argon (solid line) and oxygen saturated (dashed line) 0.1 M  $HClO_4$  electrolyte; rotation rate was 1600 rpm.



Fig. S5. Tafel plots of the ORR activity per Pt surface area extracted from Figs. S1-4.