

## Supporting Information

### Photoelectrochemical devices for solar water splitting – materials and challenges

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#### **(ii) Ultra thin metal films used as co-catalyst as well as a protection layer:**

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#### **(iii) Amorphous TiO<sub>2</sub> as a protection layer:**

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Materials	Type of system	Oxidation co-catalyst	Reduction co-catalyst	Photoanode	Photocathode	Photovoltaic	Device Life time	Electrolyte	STH (%)	Ref
WO <sub>3</sub> //Si Pt	Photoanode/photocathode	-	Pt	WO <sub>3</sub>	Si	----	-	1M HCl	-	47
Co-Pi /BiVO <sub>4</sub> //Cu <sub>2</sub> O/ RuO <sub>2</sub>	Photoanode/photocathode	Co-Pi	RuO <sub>2</sub>	BiVO <sub>4</sub>	Cu <sub>2</sub> O	----	2mins 20% current loss	K <sub>3-x</sub> H <sub>x</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> buffer (pH=6)	0.5%	48
RuO <sub>2</sub> /WO <sub>3</sub>  2jn Si Pt	PV-PEC	RuO <sub>2</sub>	Pt	WO <sub>3</sub>	-----	2jn S	----	0.33M H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	3%	49
WO <sub>3</sub> - DSSC -Pt	PV-PEC	---	Pt	WO <sub>3</sub>	----	DSSC	8h	1M HClO <sub>4</sub>	3.10%	50
Co-Pi 3jn-Si NiMoZn	PV + electrolyser	Co-Pi	NiMoZn	----	----	3jn-Si	3h	0.5MK-Bi +1.5M KNO <sub>3</sub>	4.7%	51
NiB 3jn-Si NiMoZn	PV + electrolyser	Ni-B	NiMoZn	----	----	3 jn-Si	168 h	0.5MKB/0. 5M K <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	9.8%	52

Pt 1jn-GaAs 1jn-GaInP <sub>2</sub> -Pt	PV + electrolyser	Pt	Pt	----	---	1jn-GaAs+1jn-GaInP <sub>2</sub>	9h	2M KOH	16.5%	53
P-Si/SnO <sub>2</sub> /Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> - Pt	Heterojunction PEC	Pt		-----	pSi/SnO <sub>2</sub> /Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> core /Shell/shell nanowire	---	2h	0.25M Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	-----	54
CoO <sub>x</sub> /WO <sub>3</sub> /C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> /-Pt	Heterojunction PEC	CoO <sub>x</sub>	Pt	WO <sub>3</sub> + C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	----	----	300s	0.01M Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	0.11%	55

Table S1: Overview of the reported efficient PEC cells and the corresponding performance

Notation in column 1: (1) cocatalyst/photoelectrode// the other photoelectrode/the other cocatalyst; (2) cocatalyst/photoelectrode|PV cell|-couter electrode; (3) cocatalyst|PV cell|the other cocatalyst; (4) Co-catalysts/ semiconductor1/semiconductor2/-counter electrode. Notation in column 7: "jn" stands for junction.



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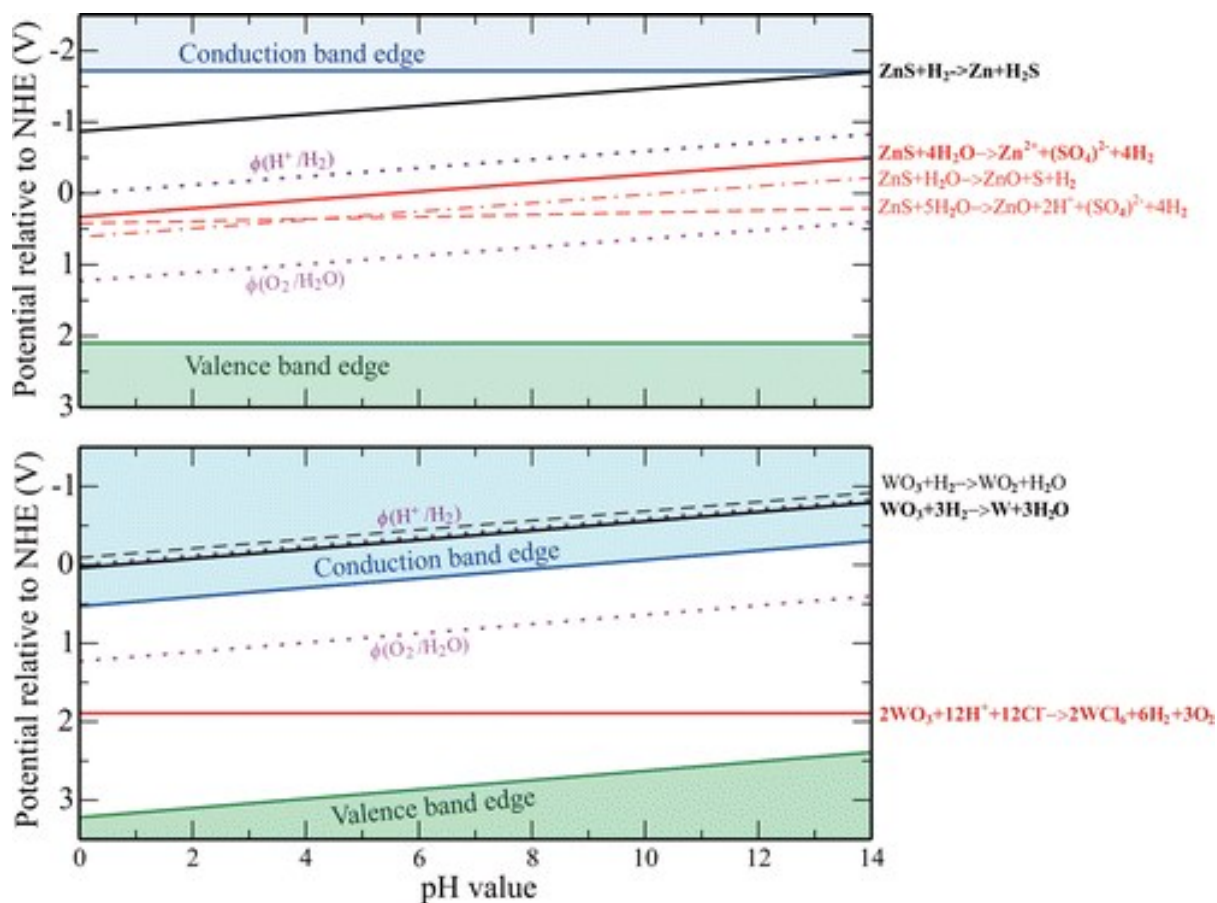


Figure S1: pH value dependence of the reduction and oxidation potentials of ZnS (top) and WO<sub>3</sub> (bottom), with the corresponding reactions labeled near the lines. The dependence of the water redox potentials and the band edges of ZnS and WO<sub>3</sub> are also plotted. The band edges of WO<sub>3</sub> follow the Nernstian relation with the pH value, while those of ZnS are assumed to be fixed as their dependence on pH value is more complicated. Reproduced from reference 54 with permission of the American Chemical Society.

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