

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR

**Molybdenum Disulfide and Au Ultrasmall Nanohybrids as Highly Active Electrocatalysts
for Hydrogen Evolution Reaction**

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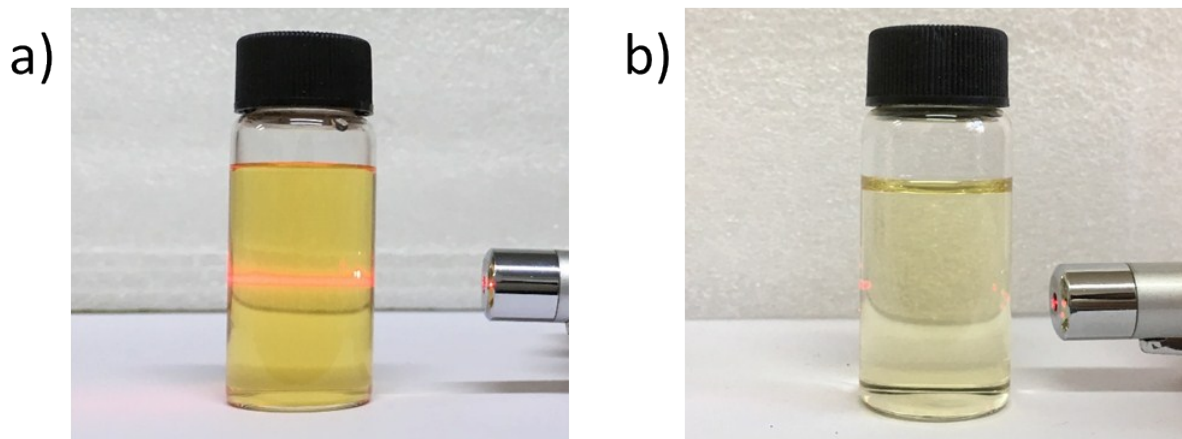


Fig. S1 Optical graphs of (a) MoS₂-Au nanohybrids aqueous solution and (b) AuNCs solution.

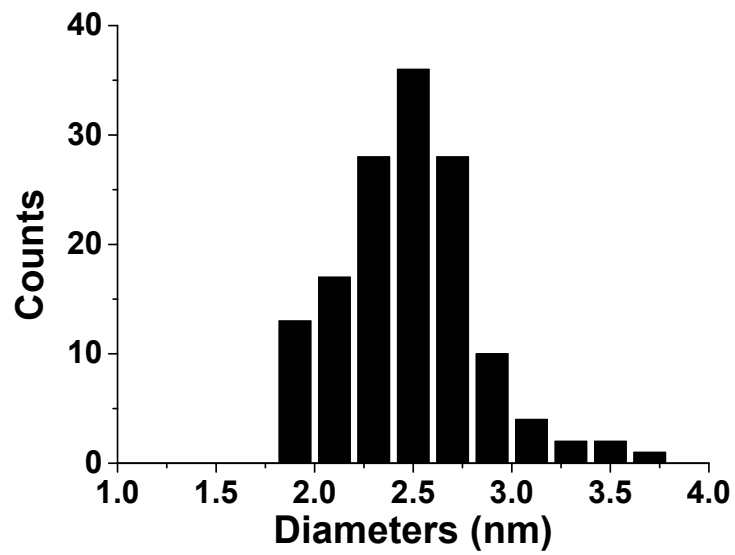


Fig. S2 Size distribution of MoS₂-Au nanohybrids measured by analyzing 141 nanoparticles from TEM image.

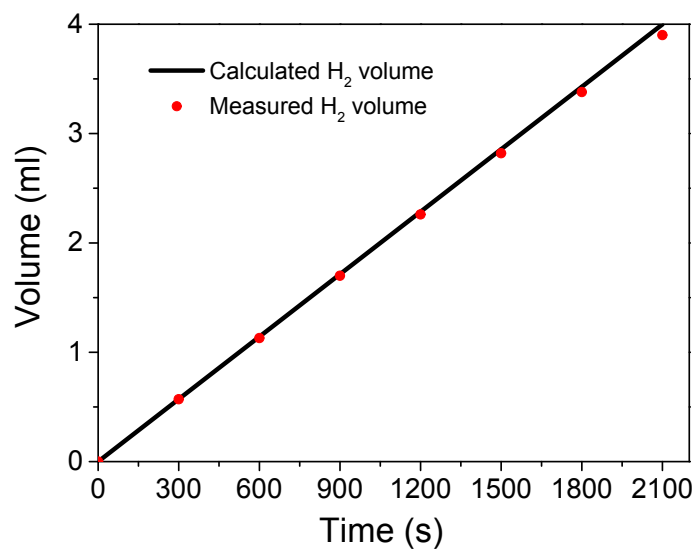


Fig. S3 The experimental and theoretical volumes of H₂ that evolved from the working electrode.

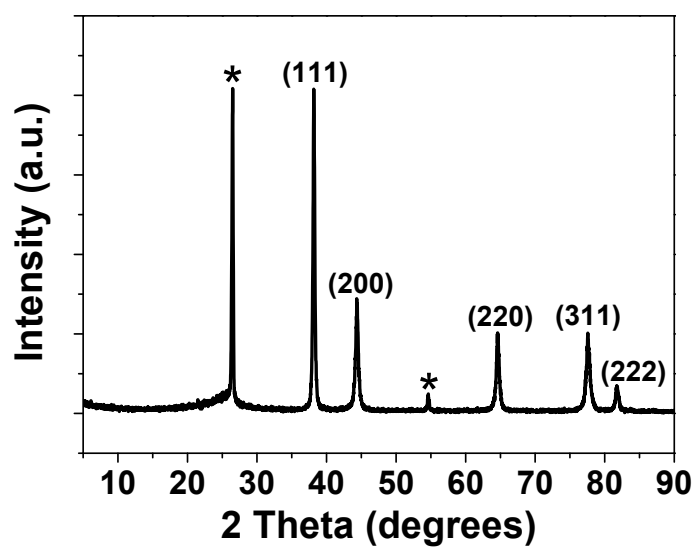


Fig. S4 XRD pattern of the AuNCs films on carbon fibre paper. (The symbols * represent the XRD patterns of carbon fibre paper)

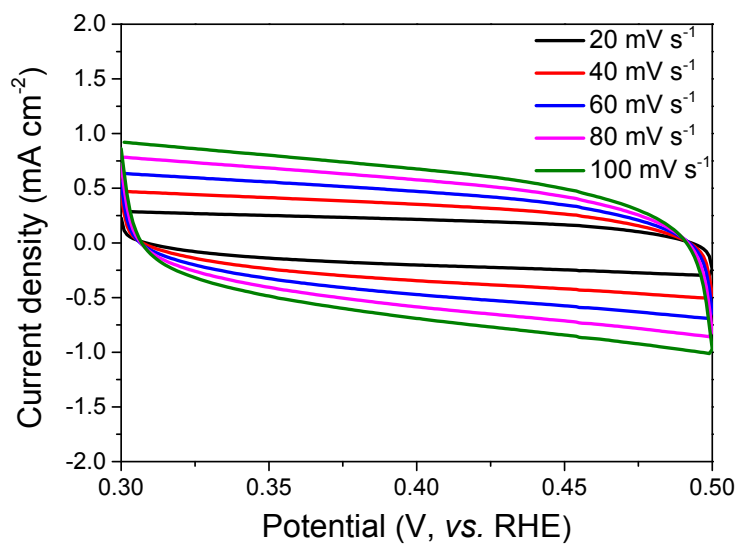


Fig. S5 Cyclic voltammograms of blank carbon fibre paper at various scan rates in 0.5 M H₂SO₄.

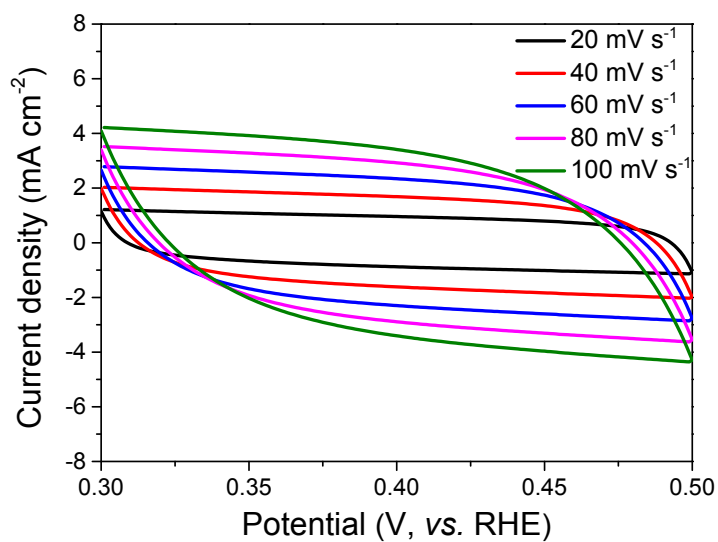


Fig. S6 Cyclic voltammograms of MoS₂-Au nanohybrids modified carbon fibre paper at various scan rates in 0.5 M H₂SO₄.

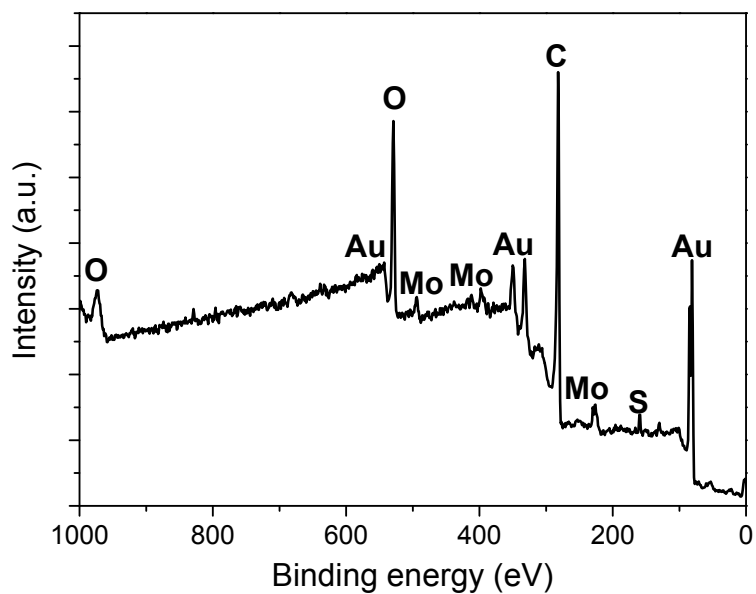


Fig. S7 XPS survey spectrum of MoS₂-Au nanohybrids.

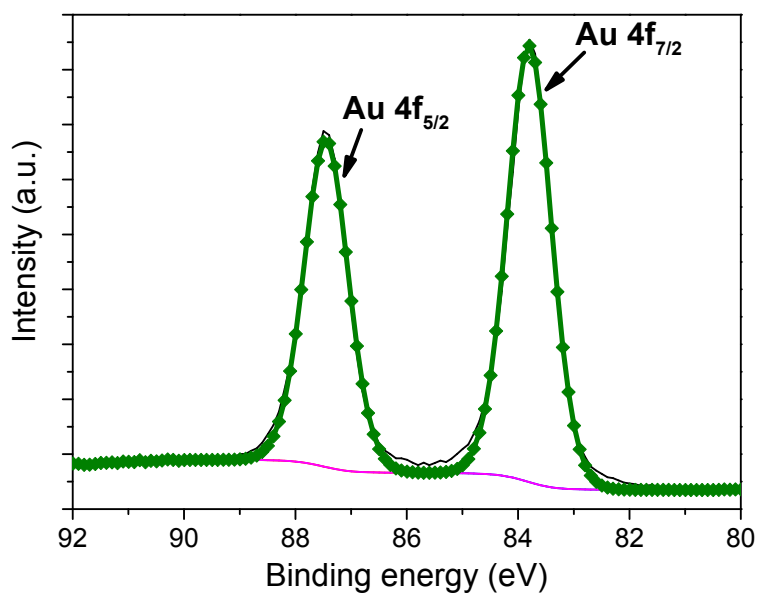


Fig. S8 XPS spectrum of Au 4f region for AuNCs

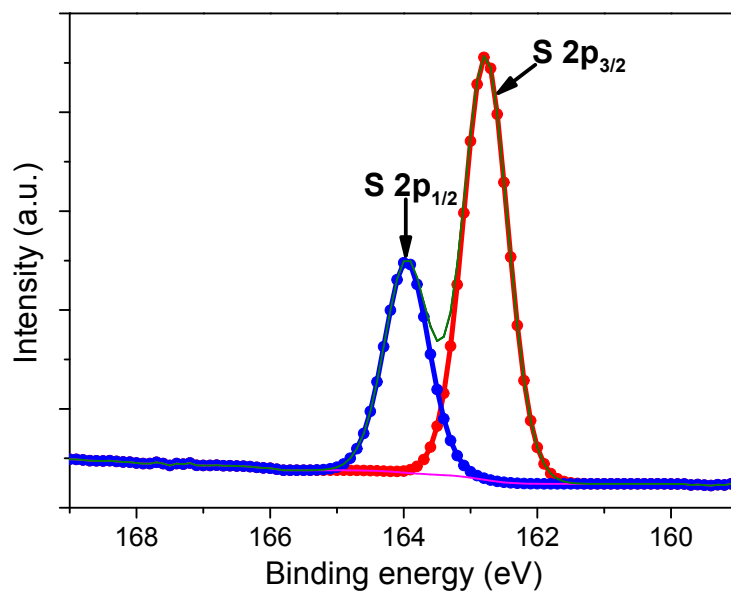


Fig. S9 XPS spectrum of S 2p region for MoS₂ nanoparticles.

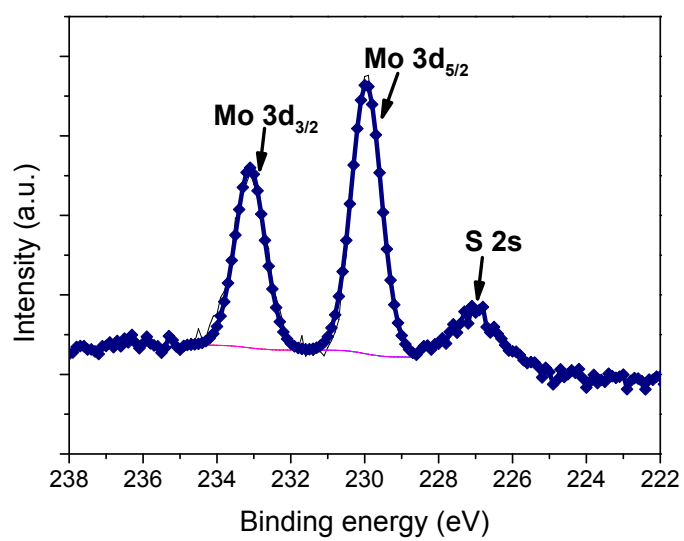


Fig. S10 XPS spectrum of Mo 3d region for MoS₂-Au nanohybrids.

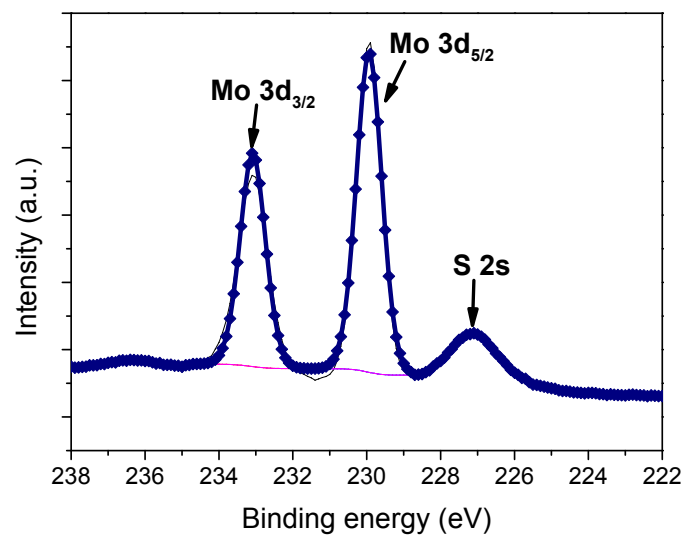


Fig. S11 XPS spectrum of Mo 3d region for MoS₂ nanoparticles.

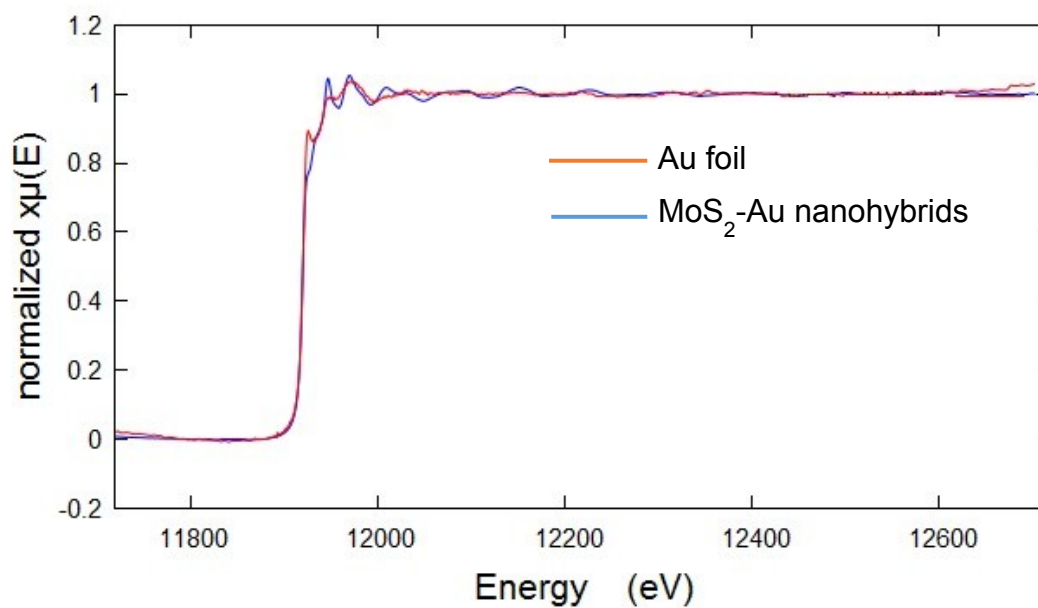


Fig. S12 Normalized Au L3 edge XANES spectra of MoS₂-Au nanohybrids and Au foil.

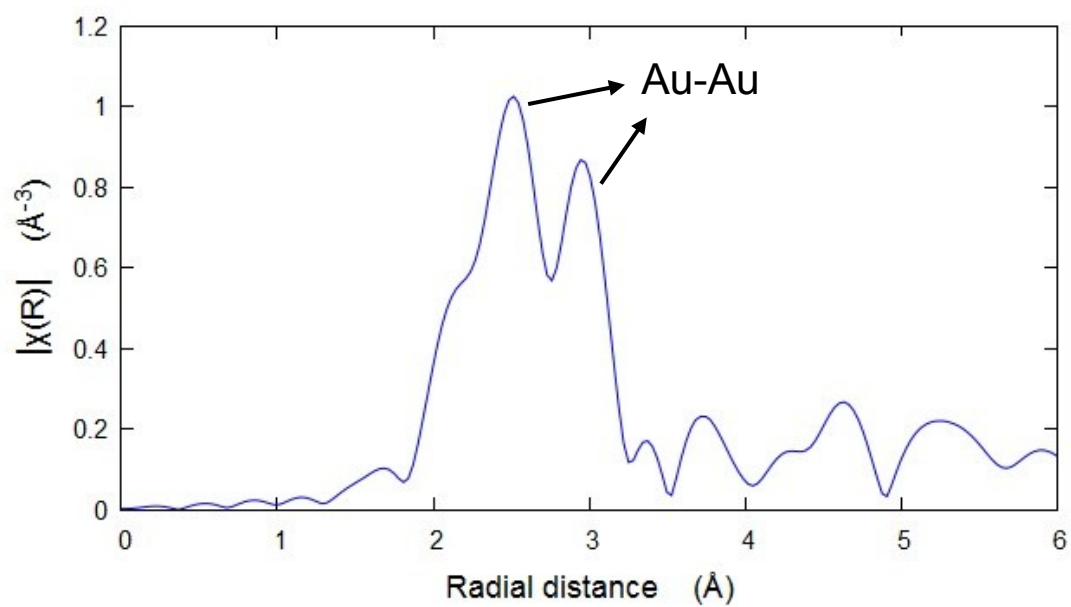


Fig. S13 FT-EXAFS of Au foil in R space.

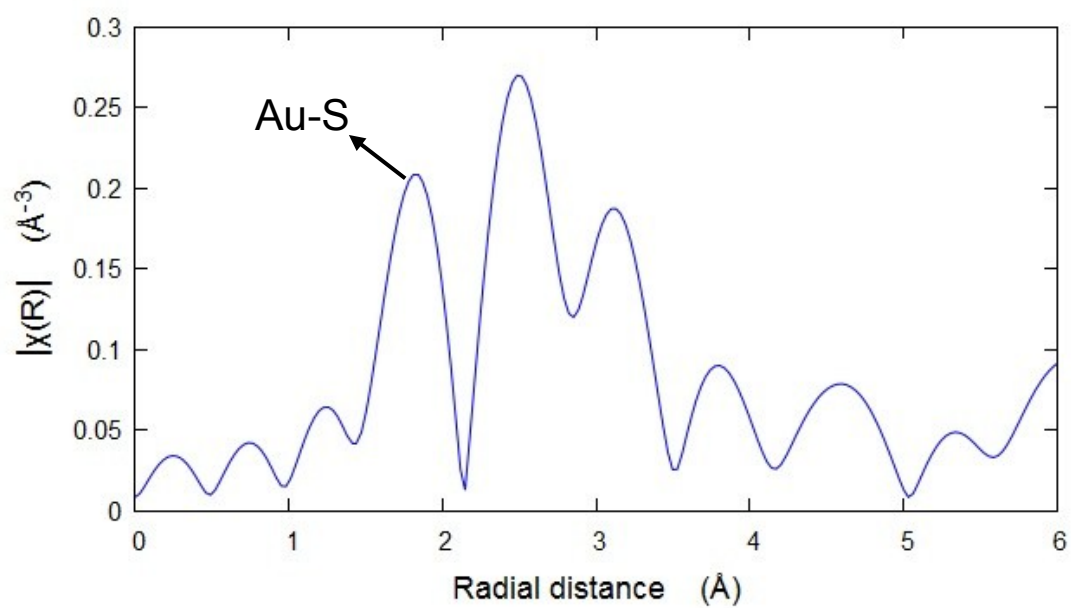


Fig. S14 FT-EXAFS of MoS_2 -Au nanohybrids in R space.

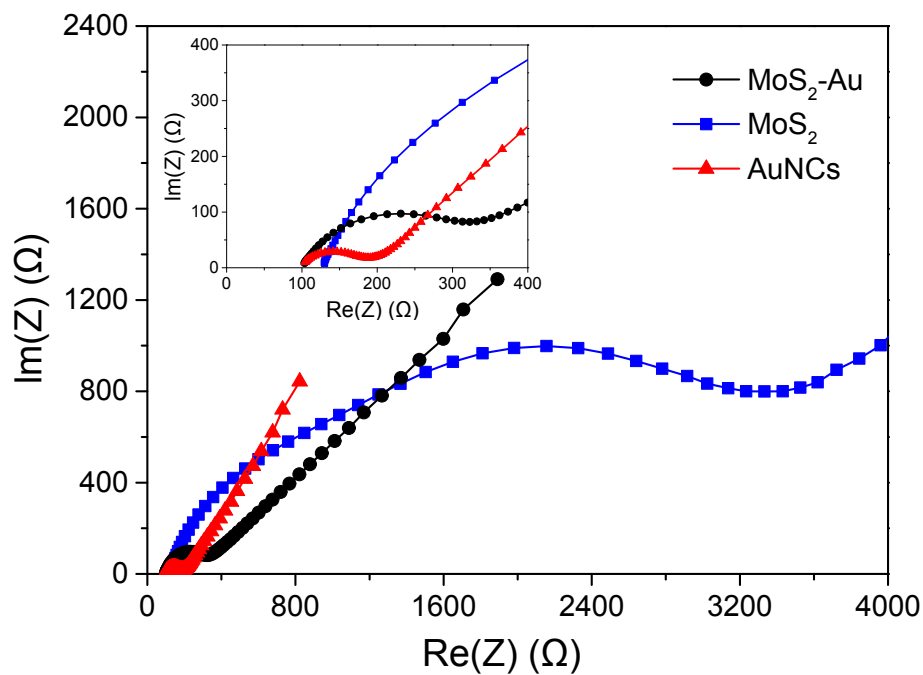


Fig. S15 Electrochemical impedance spectra of MoS₂-Au nanohybrids, MoS₂ nanoparticles and AuNCs modified electrode in 0.1 M KCl–0.01 M phosphate buffer solution (pH = 7.4) containing 2.5 mM K₃Fe(CN)₆ and 2.5 mM K₄Fe(CN)₆.

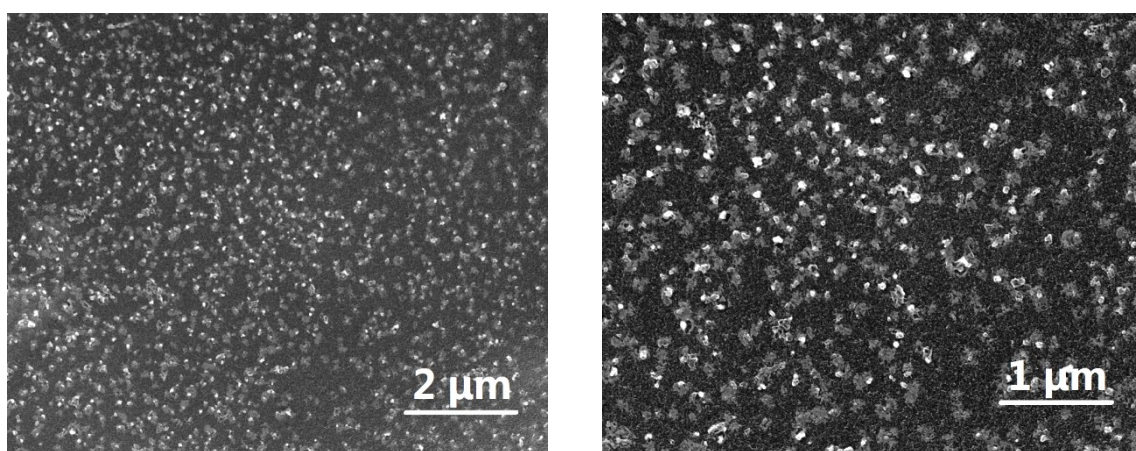


Fig. S16 SEM images of carbon fibre paper modified with MoS₂-Au nanohybrids after electrolysis for 12 h at -0.070 V vs. RHE.