

Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Journal of Materials Chemistry A.  
This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2016

Electronic Supplementary Information

## **MultimetallicNi-Mo/Cunanowires as nonprecious and efficient full water splitting catalyst**

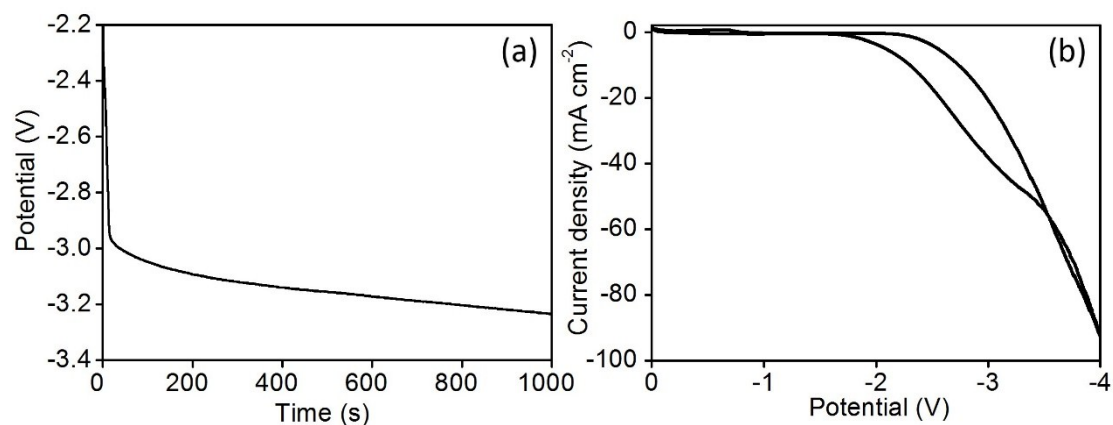
*Shunan Zhao, ‡<sup>a</sup> Jianfei Huang, ‡<sup>b</sup> Yanyan Liu,<sup>a</sup> Jianhua Shen,<sup>a</sup> Hao Wang,<sup>a</sup> Xiaoling  
Yang,<sup>a</sup> Yihua Zhu,<sup>\*a</sup> and Chunzhong Li<sup>\*a</sup>*

<sup>a</sup> Key Laboratory for Ultrafine Materials of Ministry of Education, School of Materials Science  
and Engineering, East China University of Science and Technology, Shanghai 200237, China. E-  
mail: yhzhu@ecust.edu.cn, czli@ecust.edu.cn

<sup>b</sup> Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of California, Santa Barbara, Santa  
Barbara 93106, CA, USA

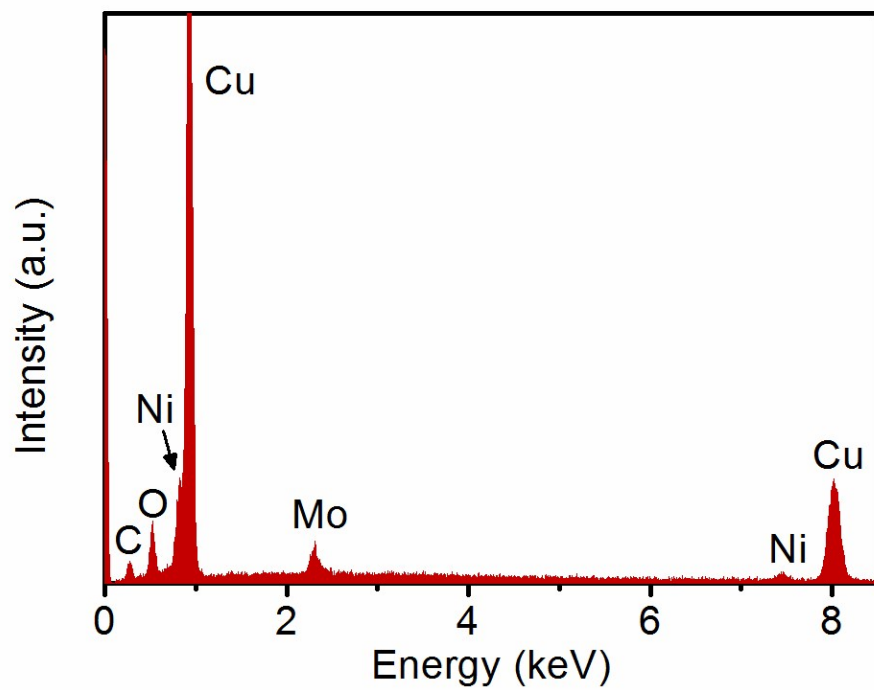
‡ These authors contributed equally.

\* Author Correspondence: Y.H. Zhu, yhzhu@ecust.edu.cn; C.Z. Li, czli@ecust.edu.cn



**Figure S1.** (a) Chronopotentiometric curve and (b) Cyclic voltammetry of Ni-Mo Electrodeposition.

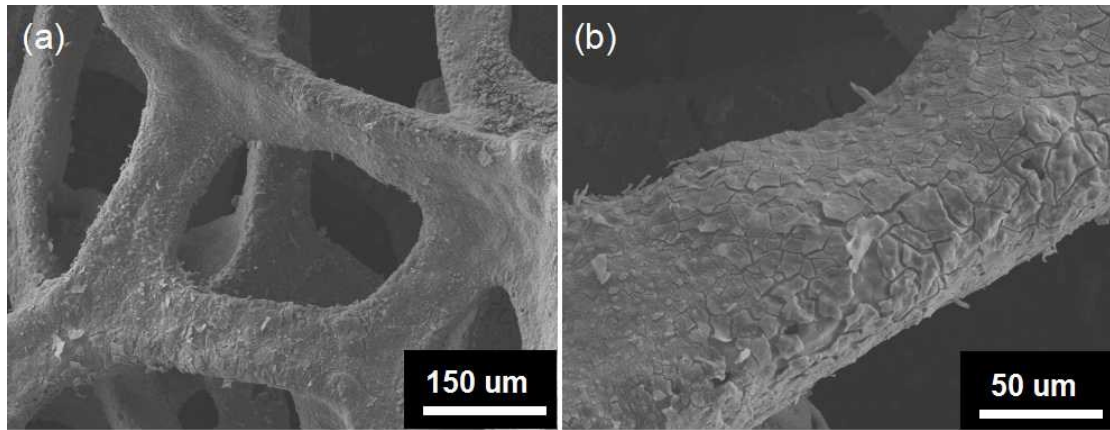
As can be seen from the potential-time curve, only one potential plateau was found. In the CV profile, also only one broad peak was identified at around -3 V. Data from the two electrochemical characterization methods agree well with each other. This indicates under the constant-current electrodeposition condition, the potential was held at more negative potential than that of the only found reduction peak in Figure S1b, leading to simultaneous deposition of Ni and Mo.



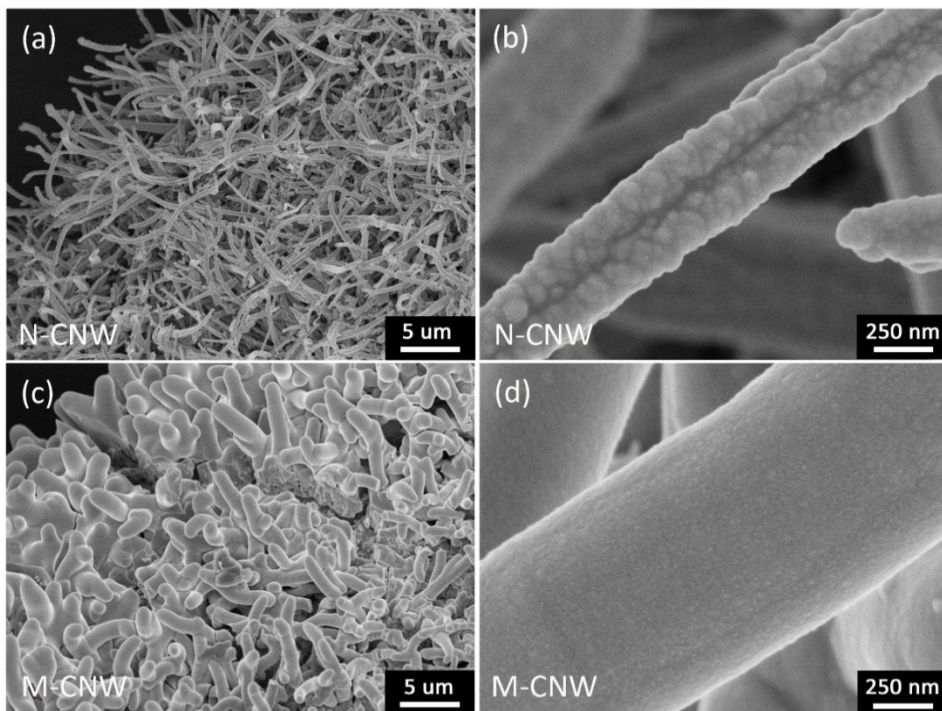
**Figure S2.** The EDS pattern of the as-prepared NM-CNW.

**Table S1.** Atomic percentage of Cu, Ni and Mo in NM-CNW sample (substrate included.)

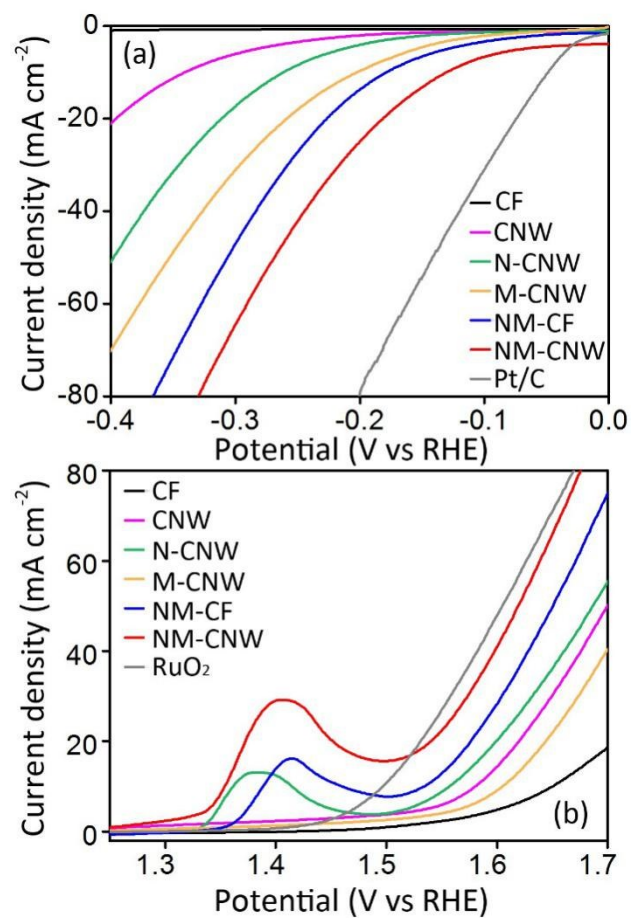
Element	Cu	Ni	Mo
Atomic Percent	97.73%	1.83%	0.44%



**Figure S3.** (a) (b) SEM images of NM-CF with different magnifications.



**Figure S4.** SEM images of (a-b) N-CNW and (c-d) M-CNW.



**Figure S5.** Polarization curves of the samples for (a) HER and (b) OER without iR compensation.

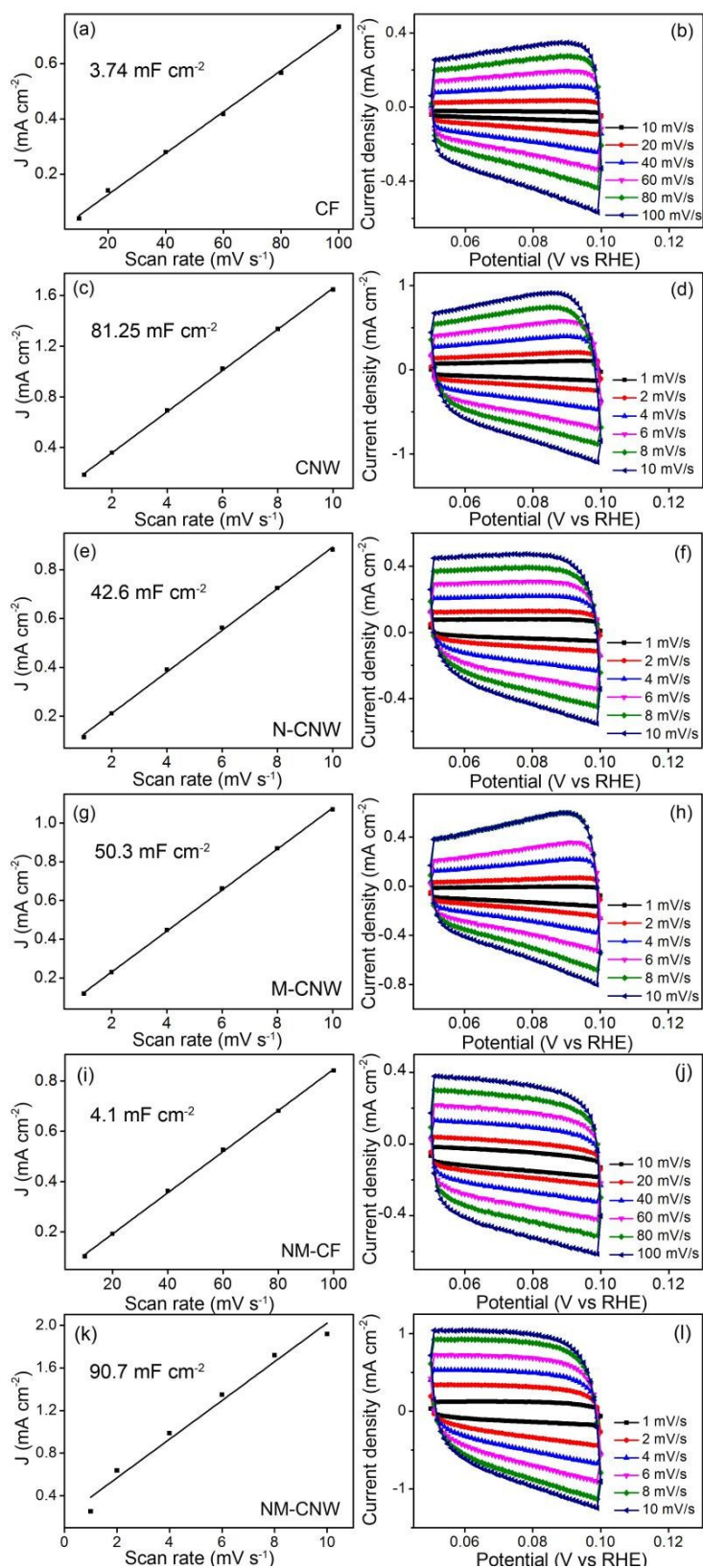
**Table S2.** Comparison of HER activity from different catalysts

Catalyst	Electrolyte	Tafel Slope (mV/dec)	$\eta$ @ 10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup> (mV)	Reference
NiMo-NGTs	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	67	65	S1
Ni-Mn <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /NF	1.0 M KOH	110	91	S2
NiCo <sub>2</sub> S <sub>4</sub> NW/NF	1.0 M KOH	58.9	210	S3
MoC-Mo <sub>2</sub> C	1.0 M KOH	42	120	S4
Co-Ni-B	1.0 M KOH	51	133	S5
Fe-CoP/Ti NA	1.0 M KOH	75	78	S6
MoP <sub>2</sub> NPs/Mo	1.0 M KOH	80	194	S7
Ni <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub> /NF	1.0 M KOH	110	123	S8
NiSe <sub>2</sub> /Ni hybridfoam	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	49	143	S9
Ni <sub>2</sub> P	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	75	~130	S10
NM-CNW	1.0 M KOH	107	115	this work



**Table S3.** Comparison of OER activity from different catalysts

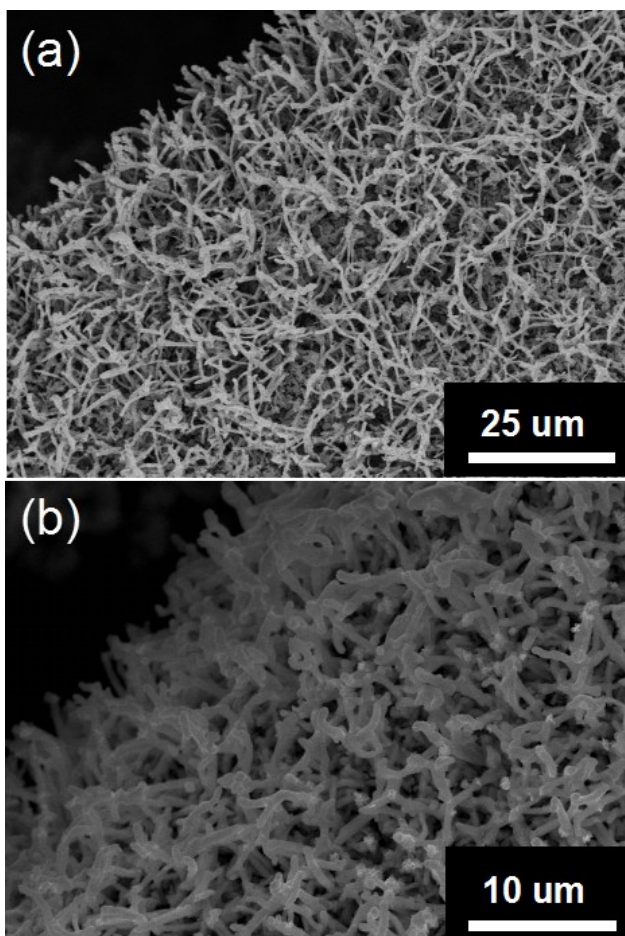
Catalyst	Electrolyte	Tafel Slope (mV/dec)	$\eta$ @20 mA cm <sup>-2</sup> (mV)	Reference
Core-Shell Ni-Co NW	1.0 M KOH	43.6	~315	S11
NiCo <sub>2</sub> S <sub>4</sub> NW/NF	1.0 M KOH	40.1	~305	S3
Ni-Co PBA cubes	1.0 M NaOH	50	~395	S12
MoS <sub>2</sub> /NF	1.0 M NaOH	105	310	S13
Porous MoO <sub>2</sub>	1.0 M KOH	54	280	S14
MoO <sub>2</sub> -CoO	1.0 M KOH	57.82	~290	S15
CoMoO <sub>4</sub> porous flowers	1.0 M KOH	56	~340	S16
NiFe-MMO/CNT	1.0 M KOH	45	~240	S17
CoP <sub>3</sub> NAs/CFP	1.0 M KOH	81	~350	S18
NF@NC- CoFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /CNRA	1.0 M KOH	45	~255	S19
NM-CNW	1.0 M KOH	66	280	this work



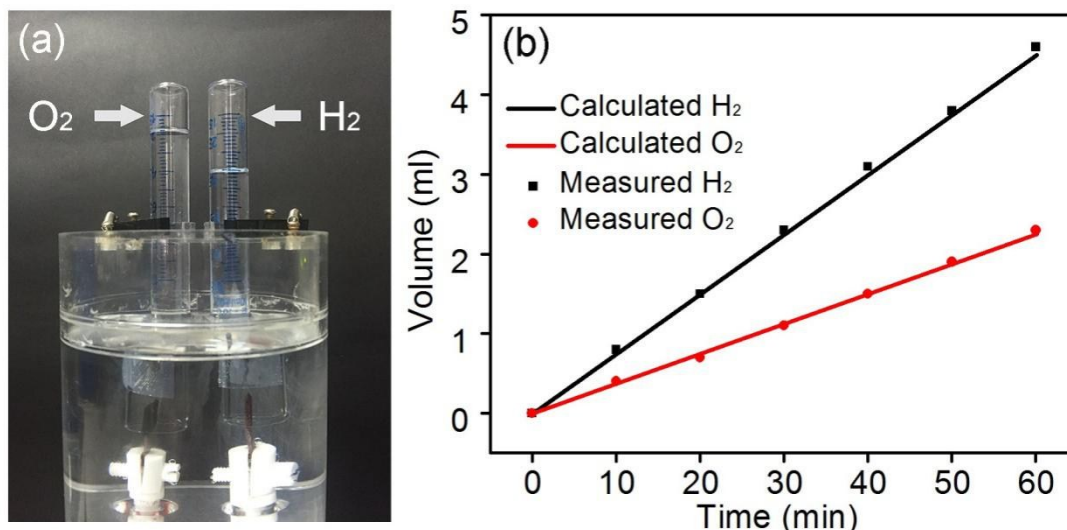
**Figure S6.** The electrochemical double-layer capacitance calculation CV curves measured at different scan rates and corresponding scan rates plots of the (a-b) CF, (c-d) CNW, (e-f) N-CNW, (g-h) M-CNW, (i-j) NM-CF and (k-l) NM-CNW.

### **The electrochemical double-layer capacitance calculation<sup>S14</sup>**

The electrochemically active surface area was estimated from the electrochemical double-layer capacitance. The electrochemical capacitance (C) was obtained from the cyclic voltammetry measured in a non-Faradaic region at different scan rates (v). The calculated value of C is based on the formula:  $C = dQ/dV = i/v$  (i is double-layer current density).



**Figure S7.** SEM images of NM-CNW after 12 h continuous (a) HER and (b) OER stability tests.



**Figure S8.** (a) The optical image of experimental set-ups of water displacement for collection of the evolved gas (b) generated H<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> volumes over time versus theoretical quantities assuming a roughly 100% Faradaic efficiency for the overall water splitting of NM-CNW|NM-CNW at a constant current density of 10 mA cm<sup>-2</sup>.

#### Faradaic efficiency calculation<sup>S20</sup>

Faradaic efficiency of water splitting catalyzed by NM-CNW was calculated by comparing the amount of the evolved gas with the theoretical amount of gas which is calculated by the charge passed through the electrode:

$$\text{Faradaic efficiency}_{\text{H}_2} = \frac{V_{\text{experiment}}}{V_{\text{theoretical}}} = \frac{V_{\text{experiment}}}{\frac{2}{4} \times \frac{Q}{F} \times V_m} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Faradaic efficiency}_{\text{O}_2} = \frac{V_{\text{experiment}}}{V_{\text{theoretical}}} = \frac{V_{\text{experiment}}}{\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{Q}{F} \times V_m} \quad (2)$$

where  $Q$  is the summation of the charge passed through the electrodes,  $F$  is the Faraday constant (96485 C mol<sup>-1</sup>), the number 4 means 4 moles of electrons per mole of H<sub>2</sub>O, the number 2 means 2 moles of H<sub>2</sub> per mole of H<sub>2</sub>O, the number 1 means 1 moles of O<sub>2</sub> per mole of H<sub>2</sub>O and  $V_m$  is the molar volume of gas (24.1 L mol<sup>-1</sup>, 293 K, 101 kPa).

## References

- S1 T. Wang, Y. R. Guo, Z. X. Zhou, X. H. Chang, J. Zheng and X. G. Li, *ACS Nano*, DOI: 10.1021/acsnano.6b06259.
- S2 X. Li, P. F. Liu, L. Zhang, M. Y. Zu, Y. X. Yang and H. G. Yang, *Chem. Commun.* 2016, **52**, 10566.
- S3 A. Sivanantham, P. Ganesan and S. Shanmugam, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 2016, **26**, 4661.
- S4 H. L. Lin, Z. P. Shi, S. N. He, X. Yu, S. N. Wang, Q. S. Gao and Y. Tang, *Chem. Sci.*, 2016, **7**, 3399.
- S5 S. Gupta, N. Patel, R. Fernandes, R. Kadrekar, A. Dashora, A. K. Yadav, D. Bhattacharyya, S. N. Jha, A. Miotello and D. C. Kothari, *Applied Catalysis B: Environmental*, 2016, **192**, 126.
- S6 C. Tang, R. Zhang, W. B. Lu, L. B. He, X. E. Jiang, A. M. Asiri and X. P. Sun, *Adv. Mater.*, DOI: 10.1002/adma.201602441.
- S7 Z. H. Pu, I. S. Amiin, M. Wang, Y. S. Yang and S. C. Mu, *Nanoscale*, 2016, **8**, 8500.
- S8 C. Tang, Z. H. Pu, Q. Liu, A. M. Asiri, Y. L. Luo and X. P. Sun, *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, 2015, **40**, 4727.
- S9 H. Q. Zhou, Y. M. Wang, R. He, F. Yu, J. Y. Sun, F. Wang, Y. C. Lan, Z. F. Ren, S. Chen, *Nano Energy*, 2016, **20**, 29.
- S10 J. S. Moon, J. H. Jang, E. G. Kim, Y. H. Chung, S. J. Yoo, Y. K. Lee, *Journal of Catalysis* **2015**, 326, 92.
- S11 S. H. Bae, J. E. Kim, H. Randriamahazaka, S. Y. Moon, J. Y. Park and I. K. Oh, *Adv. Energy Mater.*, DOI:10.1002/aenm.201601492.
- S12 L. Han, X. Y. Yu and X. W. Lou, *Adv. Mater.*, 2016, **28**, 4601.
- S13 K. Yan and Y. R. Lu, *small*, 2016, **12**, 2975.
- S14 Y. S. Jin, H. T. Wang, J. J. Li, X. Yue, Y. J. Han, P. K. Shen and Y. Cui, *Adv. Mater.*, 2016, **28**, 3785.

- S15 B. B. Li, Y. Q. Liang, X. J. Yang, Z. D. Cui, S. Z. Qiao, S. L. Zhu, Z. Y. Lia and K. Yin, *Nanoscale*,2015, **7**, 16704.
- S16 M. Q. Yu, L. X. Jiang and H. G. Yang, *Chem. Commun.*,2015, **51**, 14361.
- S17 Y. M. Li, H. Y. He, W. Fu, C. Z. Mu, X. Z. Tang, Z. Liu, D. Z. Chi and X. Hu, *Chem. Commun.*,2016, **52**, 1439.
- S18 T. L. Wu, M. Y. Pi, D. K. Zhang and S. J. Chen, *J. Mater. Chem.A*,2016, **4**, 14539.
- S19 X. F. Lu, L. F. Gu, J. W. Wang, J. X. Wu, P. Q. Liao and G. R. Li, *Adv. Mater.*, DOI: 10.1002/adma.201604437.
- S20 J. Wang, H. X. Zhong, Z. L. Wang, F. L. Meng and X. B. Zhang, *ACS Nano*,2016, **10**, 2342.