## Nanoscale

## ARTICLE

Sub-nanometer Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> Clusters Anchored on TiO<sub>2</sub>(B) Nano-sheets: Pt Replaceable Co-catalysts for H<sub>2</sub> Evolution

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TiO<sub>2</sub>(B) b

a larger magnification.

TiO<sub>2</sub>(B) Co1

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## Supporting Information

Figure S1. TEM Bright field (BF) image of samples, (a) pure TiO<sub>2</sub>(B) before Co loading, (b) a control experiment performed under identical synthesis conditions of Co10, without TiO<sub>2</sub>(B) nanosheets, produced big aggregates of Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles, (c) Co25, (d) Co50, (e) HAADF image of Co5, (f) BF image of Co25 with

Co5 Co10 Co25 Co50 Co3O4

Figure S2. The TiO<sub>2</sub>(B) samples with various Co loading dosages.

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+Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) available: The experimental details, the additional characterization of the used catalysts including TEM, XPS and UPS. See DOI: 10.1039/x0xx00000x





Figure S3. (a) UPS spectra of  $TiO_2(B)$  nanosheets, and pure  $Co_3O_4$  aggregates. (b) XPS valence edges of samples  $TiO_2(B)$ , Co10, Co25 and pure  $Co_3O_4$ .

