## Supporting Information

The enhanced orygen reduction reaction performance on PtSn nanowires: the

importance of segregation energy and morphological effect

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|  |            | Pt    | PtSn <sub>o*</sub> | PtSn  |
|--|------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| $\mathbf{OH1} \cdot \mathbf{O}_{2} \ast \downarrow \mathbf{U}^{+} \downarrow \mathbf{O}_{2} \rightarrow \mathbf{OOU} \ast$ | $\Delta E$ | -0.04 | -0.46              | -0.18 |
| <b>OHI:</b> $O_2^{**} + H + e^{-} \rightarrow OOH^{*}$   | Ea         | 0.71  | 0.64               | 0.51  |
| $\mathbf{OU2} \mathbf{O} \ast \mathbf{U}^+ \mathbf{U}^- \mathbf{OU} \ast$  | $\Delta E$ | -0.02 | -0.94              | -0.51 |
| $\mathbf{OH2.0} + \mathbf{H} + \mathbf{e} \rightarrow \mathbf{OH}^{*}$   | Ea         | 0.78  | 0.30               | 0.46  |
| $\mathbf{OU2} \cdot \mathbf{OU} * \sqcup \mathbf{U}^+ \sqcup \mathbf{v}^- \longrightarrow \mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{O}^*$   | $\Delta E$ | -0.45 | -0.42              | -0.35 |
| <b>OHS:</b> $OH^{+}H^{+}H^{-} \rightarrow H_{2}O^{+}$  | Ea         | 0.46  | 0.54               | 0.61  |
| $001 \cdot 001 * 001 * 001 *$  | $\Delta E$ | -1.43 | -1.73              | -2.12 |
| $\mathbf{OOI:} \mathbf{OOI:} \mathbf{OOI:} \rightarrow \mathbf{O}^* + \mathbf{OII}^*$                                      | Ea         | 0.13  | 0.18               | 0.09  |
| $O_* \rightarrow O_* \pm O_*$  | $\Delta E$ | -1.54 | -1.21              | -2.17 |
| $O_2^* \rightarrow O^* + O^*$  | Ea         | 0.85  | 1.05               | 0.72  |

**Table S1** Computed  $\Delta E$  and *Ea* in eV of the five elementary steps on the (111) surface of Pt,<sup>a</sup> PtSn<sub>o\*</sub> and PtSn. The corresponded structures are shown in Fig. S1 and the related minimum energy pathway are compared in Fig. 2.

<sup>a</sup> Previous work: S. P. Lin, K. W. Wang, C. W. Liu, H. S. Chen, J. H. Wang, *Phys. Chem. C*, **2015**, *119*, 15224.

| Samples | L/D decay<br>(%) <sup>a</sup> | MA<br>(mA/mg <sub>Pt</sub> ) | [(111)+(220)]<br>/(200) <sup>b</sup> | ECSA<br>(m <sup>2</sup> /g <sub>Pt</sub> ) | SA<br>(mA/cm <sup>2</sup> ) | ORR decay<br>during ADT<br>(%) |
|---------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Pt7     | 49.5                          | 112                          | 3.13                                 | 47   | 0.24                        | 83                             |
| PtSn1   | -                             | 95                           | 2.83                                 | 40   | 0.24                        | 77                             |
| PtSn5   | 35.1                          | 100                          | 3.09                                 | 35   | 0.29                        | 55                             |
| PtSn7   | 24.2                          | 112                          | 3.22                                 | 31   | 0.37                        | 42                             |
| PtSn9   | 19.2                          | 119                          | 3.46                                 | 27   | 0.44                        | 24                             |

Table S2 The L/D decay, MA, ECSA, SA, and ORR decay of various catalysts.

<sup>a</sup> L/D decay: (L/D<sub>as-prepared</sub>- L/D<sub>after ADT</sub>)/L/D<sub>as-prepared</sub>\*100 <sup>b</sup> The area ratio of [(111)+(220)]/(200) peaks in XRD patterns

| Sample       | H <sub>Ts</sub> | shell | CN <sup>a</sup> | <b>R<sup>b</sup></b> [Å ] | $\sigma^{2}(x10^{-3})^{c}$ [Å <sup>2</sup> ] | $\Delta E_0^d [eV]$ | R factor <sup>e</sup> |
|--------------|-----------------|-------|-----------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------|-----------------------|
| PtSn1 0.315  |                 | Pt-Pt | 6.4             | 2.76                      | 6.2  | 9.7                 | 0.006                 |
|              | 0.3156          | Pt-O  | 0.9             | 2.04                      |  |                     |                       |
|              |                 | Pt-Sn | 0.5             | 2.91                      |  |                     |                       |
| PtSn5 0.312  |                 | Pt-Pt | 7.2             | 2.76                      | 5.8  | 9.8                 | 0.007                 |
|              | 0.3129          | Pt-O  | 0.7             | 2.02                      |  |                     |                       |
|              |                 | Pt-Sn | 0.3             | 2.95                      |  |                     |                       |
| PtSn7 0.3024 |                 | Pt-Pt | 7.3             | 2.76                      | 5.9  | 9.8                 | 0.006                 |
|              | 0.3024          | Pt-O  | 0.6             | 2.00                      |  |                     |                       |
|              |                 | Pt-Sn | 0.3             | 2.94                      |  |                     |                       |
| PtSn9        |                 | Pt-Pt | 7.6             | 2.75                      | 6.1  | 9.0                 | 0.005                 |
|              | 0.3002          | Pt-O  | 0.5             | 2.02                      |  |                     |                       |
|              |                 | Pt-Sn | 0.2             | 2.86                      |  |                     |                       |

Table S3 The EXAFS fitting results of as-prepared PtSn catalysts for Pt  $L_{\rm III}$  edge.

| Sample   | shell  | CN <sup>a</sup> | <b>R<sup>b</sup></b> [Å ] | $\sigma^{2}(x10^{-3})^{c}$ [Å <sup>2</sup> ] | $\Delta E_0^d [eV]$ | R factor <sup>e</sup> |
|--|--|-----------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------|-----------------------|
|  | Sn-Sn  | 0.2             | 2.01                      |  |                     |                       |
| PtSn1  | Sn-O   | 4.4             | 2.05                      | 4.2  | 5.4                 | 0.002                 |
|  | Sn-Pt  | 4.0             | 2.88                      |  |                     |                       |
| PtSn5  | Sn-Sn  | 0.2             | 2.04                      |  |                     |                       |
|  | Sn-O   | 5.7             | 2.06                      | 4.4  | 5.3                 | 0.004                 |
|  | Sn-Pt  | 3.7             | 2.94                      |  |                     |                       |
| PtSn7  | Sn-Sn  | 0.1             | 2.05                      |  |                     |                       |
|  | Sn-O   | 6.0             | 2.07                      | 4.1  | 5.2                 | 0.001                 |
|  | Sn-Pt  | 4.7             | 2.87                      |  |                     |                       |
| PtSn9  | Sn-Sn  | 0.1             | 2.05                      |  |                     |                       |
|  | Sn-O   | 6.4             | 2.06                      | 4.0  | 5.4                 | 0.003                 |
|  | Sn-Pt  | 5.0             | 2.89                      |  |                     |                       |
| <sup>a</sup> CN: coordina<br><sup>b</sup> R: bond dista<br><sup>c</sup> σ <sup>2</sup> : Debye–W | CN: coordination number. $^{d}\Delta E_{0}$ : inner potential correction.R: bond distance. $^{e}$ R factor: residual error. $\sigma^{2}$ : Debye–Waller factor. $^{e}$ R factor: residual error. |                 |                           |  |                     |                       |

Table S4 The EXAFS fitting results of as-prepared PtSn catalysts for Sn K edge.







**Fig. S1.** Optimized structures for local minimums and transition states of the five elementary steps in ORR on (a) Pt, (b)  $PtSn_{o^*}$  and (c) PtSn. The corresponding energetic results are listed in Table S1 and the related potential energy surfaces are compared in Fig. 1. Cyan, tan, red and white spheres are represented as Pt, Sn, O and H atoms, respectively. The spectator O\* in  $PtSn_{o^*}$  surface is marked by orange sphere.



**Fig. S2** Induced charge of O\* on PtSn<sub>OH\*</sub> (denoted as a spector OH\* on the PtSn) and PtSn. The isosurface of +/- 0.02 |e| are shown in the opaque blue/red lobes. The Pt, Sn and O atoms are represented as transparent cyan, yellow and orange spheres, respectively. Less induced charge in O\*/PtSn<sub>OH\*</sub> interface indates the weaker  $E_{ads}(O^*)$  on PtSn<sub>OH\*</sub> due to the lateral repulsion between the adsorbed O\* and spectator OH\*.



**Fig. S3** HRTEM micrographs of catalysts before and after ADT for PtSn5 (a) and (c), and PtSn7 (b) and (d), respectively.



**Fig. S4** The local TEM micrographs and line scans results for as-prepared PtSn9 (a) and (b), and PtSn9 after ADT (c) and (d), respectively.



Fig. S5 XRD patterns of Pt7 and various PtSn samples.



Fig. S6 XPS spectra of Pt and fitting results for Pt7 and various PtSn samples.



Fig. S7 XPS spectra of Sn and fitting results for various PtSn samples.



Fig. S8 The XANES spectra of as-prepared PtSn samples for Pt  $L_{III}$  edge.



Fig. S9 The EXAFS fitting results of as-prepared PtSn samples for Pt  $L_{III}$  edge.



Fig. S10 The EXAFS fitting results of as-prepared PtSn samples for Sn K edge.