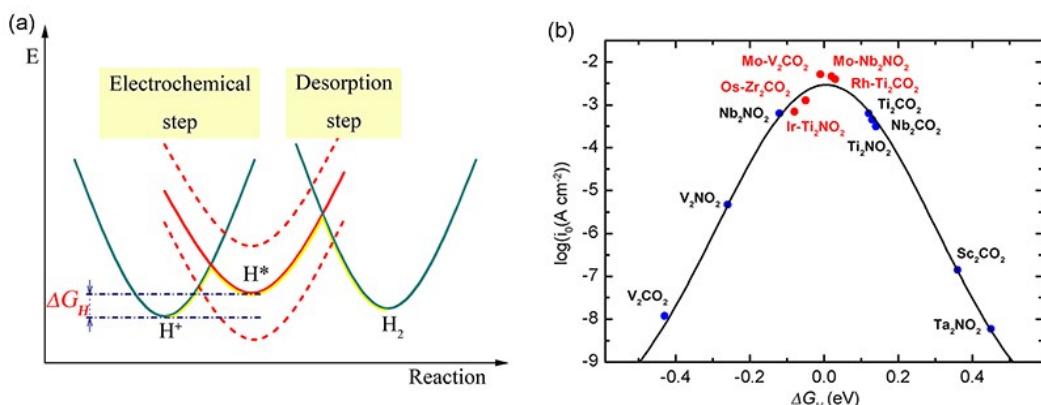


## Supporting Information

### 1. HER pathway



**Figure S1.** (a) Schematic illustration for reaction pathway in hydrogen evolution reaction. (b) The HER volcano plots of MXenes with 1/9 H coverage following the method by Nørskov *et al.*<sup>1</sup>

### 2. Scheme to calculate Gibbs free energy for adsorbed hydrogen

We calculate the  $\Delta G_H$  of oxygen-terminated MXenes ( $M_2XO_2$ ) at the same hydrogen coverage. The hydrogen stability is depended on the difference of binding energy.<sup>1-3</sup>

$$\Delta E_H = E_{(system + H)} - E_{(system)} - \frac{1}{2}E_{(H_2)} \quad (1)$$

$E_{(system + H)}$  is the energy of the  $M_2XO_2$  with one hydrogen atom adsorbed on it,  $E_{(system)}$  and  $E_{(H_2)}$  are the total energies of the  $M_2XO_2$ , and the gaseous hydrogen molecule, respectively. The Gibbs free energy for adsorbed hydrogen is according to the following formula.<sup>1-3</sup>

$$\Delta G_H = \Delta E_H + \Delta E_{ZPE} - T\Delta S_H \quad (2)$$

Here  $\Delta E_{ZPE}$  is the differential zero-point energy between the adsorbed state and the gas phase state.  $\Delta S_H$  is approximately equal to the entropy of gas phase  $H_2$  at standard conditions (300K, 1bar).<sup>3,4</sup>

### 3. HER activities for pristine MXenes

**Table S1.** The most stable adsorption site of O atom and the charge of it ( $e_O$ ), the calculation  $\Delta G_H$  at different hydrogen coverage. The active site is indicated in red.

System	Adsorption site of O atom	Charge of O <sup>-</sup> ion (e)	Structure	1/9 H coverage $\Delta G_H$ (eV)	1/4 H coverage $\Delta G_H$ (eV)
Ti <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Fcc	-1.10		0.12	0.22
Nb <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Fcc	-1.10		0.13	0.16
Zr <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Fcc	-1.25		0.81	0.86
Ta <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Fcc	-1.16		0.63	0.72
V <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Fcc	-0.97		-0.43	-1.22
Hf <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Fcc	-1.24		1.08	1.14
Sc <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Fcc+Hcp	-1.29		0.36	0.47
Y <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Fcc+Hcp	-1.31		0.87	0.92
Ti <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Fcc	-1.10		0.14	0.20
Nb <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Hcp	-1.12		-0.12	-0.15
Zr <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Fcc	-1.27		0.65	0.80
Ta <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Hcp	-1.18		0.45	0.58
V <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Fcc	-1.00		-0.26	-1.56
Hf <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Fcc	-1.25		0.99	1.19
Sc <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Fcc	-1.11		-0.95	-1.49
Y <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Fcc	-1.30		-0.70	-1.23

## 4. The adsorption properties of transition metal atom

**Table S2.** The adsorption energy between MXenes and single transition metal atom ( $\Delta E_{TM-ads}$ ), the more negative the value, the stronger the interaction. "-" means that it is difficult for cadmium and mercury to be adsorbed on MXenes, the interatomic distances between them and the MXenes layer are too far ( $>3 \text{ \AA}$ ).

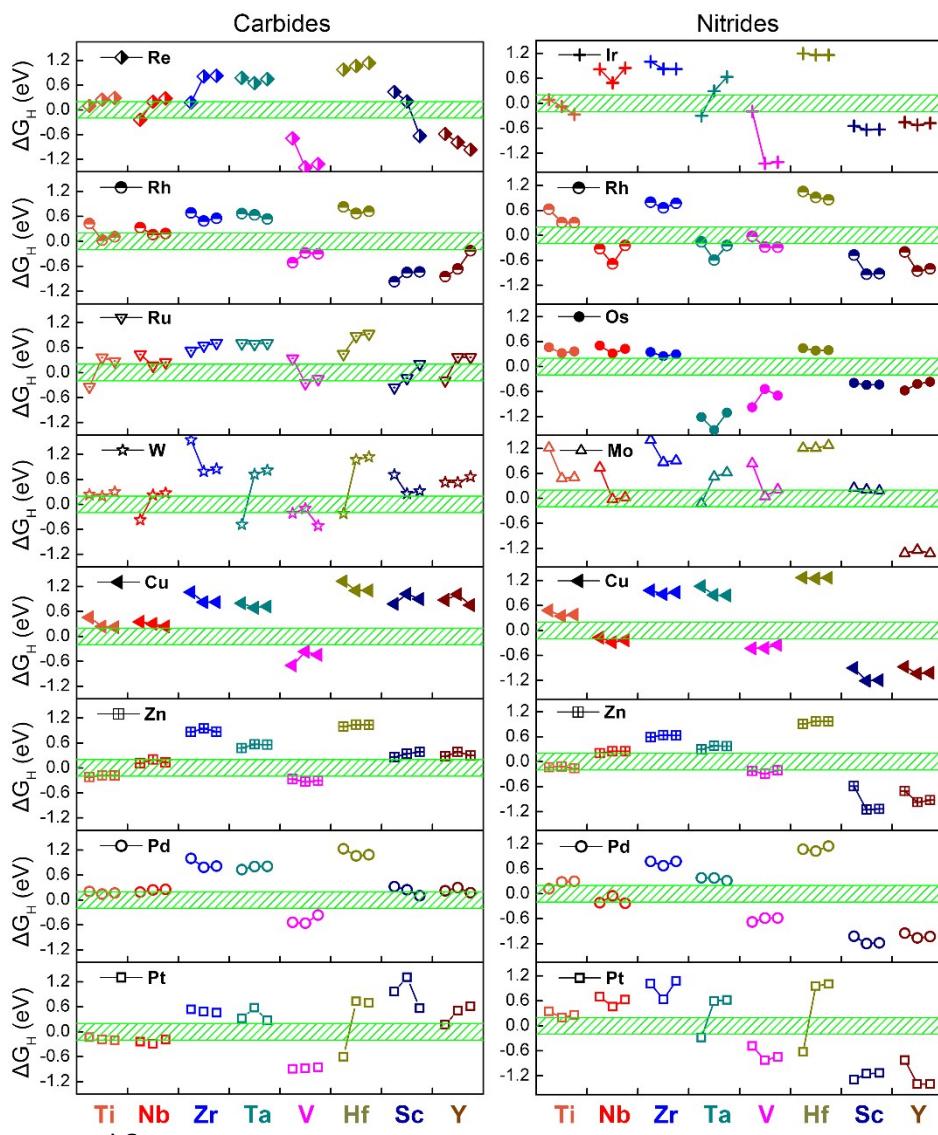
System	$\Delta E_{TM-ads}$														
	Pt	Pd	W	Mo	Os	Ru	Ir	Rh	Ag	Au	Re	Cu	Zn	Cd	Hg
Ti <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.74	-1.37	-7.16	-7.47	-4.76	-3.98	-3.29	-2.72	-0.88	-0.35	-6.24	-0.71	-0.03	-	-
Nb <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.75	-1.34	-7.08	-7.20	-4.63	-4.08	-3.78	-2.73	-0.85	-0.35	-6.07	-0.76	-0.01	-	-
Zr <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.32	-1.05	-5.39	-5.91	-3.64	-3.44	-2.68	-2.25	-0.62	-0.10	-4.63	-0.40	0.08	-	-
Ta <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.48	-1.23	-5.67	-6.10	-3.71	-3.59	-3.70	-2.52	-0.63	-0.12	-4.81	-0.31	0.07	-	-
V <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.84	-1.46	-8.67	-8.36	-5.67	-4.63	-3.43	-2.84	-1.03	-0.70	-7.27	-1.08	-0.09	-	-
Hf <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.28	-0.96	-4.99	-5.64	-3.53	-3.44	-2.72	-2.36	-0.43	-0.02	-4.32	-0.57	0.12	-	-
Sc <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.29	-1.20	-4.76	-5.19	-4.10	-2.58	-2.99	-0.96	-0.55	-0.04	-4.4	-0.89	0.04	-	-
Y <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.26	-1.19	-6.67	-3.56	-4.53	-2.58	-3.33	-1.15	-0.56	-0.03	-4.34	-0.89	0.05	-	-
Ti <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	-3.05	-1.57	-7.99	-8.34	-5.65	-4.37	-4.31	-2.96	-0.95	-0.52	-6.96	-0.89	-0.38	-	-
Nb <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	-3.26	-1.47	-7.26	-7.41	-5.20	-4.48	-4.37	-3.08	-0.91	-0.45	-6.34	-0.91	-0.33	-	-
Zr <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	-2.85	-1.25	-5.83	-6.24	-4.38	-4.23	-4.08	-2.90	-0.75	-0.20	-5.11	-0.62	-0.10	-	-
Ta <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	-2.77	-1.18	-5.94	-6.31	-4.46	-4.19	-4.18	-2.87	-0.72	-0.23	-5.26	-0.53	-0.17	-	-
V <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	-3.33	-1.94	-8.19	-8.42	-6.34	-4.78	-4.47	-3.20	-1.16	-0.76	-7.45	-1.26	-0.67	-	-
Hf <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	-2.10	-1.21	-5.18	-5.72	-3.99	-3.94	-3.98	-2.83	-0.57	-0.14	-4.56	-0.66	-0.05	-	-
Sc <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	-2.29	-1.72	-8.10	-6.38	-5.83	-4.84	-4.47	-3.49	-1.19	-0.65	-7.21	-1.22	-0.69	-	-
Y <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	-2.25	-1.69	-5.43	-8.26	-6.68	-5.58	-4.56	-3.52	-1.00	-0.77	-7.29	-1.56	-0.53	-	-

## 5. HER activities for TM-modified MXenes

**Table S3.** The  $\Delta G_H$  of materials after surface modified by single transition metal atom. The  $S_0$ ,  $S_1$ ,  $S_2$  represents the different H adsorption sites, as shown in Figure 2.

System	Site	$\Delta G_H/\text{eV}$												
		Pt	Pd	W	Mo	Os	Ru	Ir	Rh	Ag	Au	Re	Cu	Zn
$\text{Ti}_2\text{CO}_2$	$S_0$	-0.13	0.21	0.23	1.09	0.36	-0.34	-0.09	0.43	0.31	-0.64	0.10	0.46	-0.22
	$S_1$	-0.19	0.14	0.20	0.21	0.14	0.36	-0.33	0.03	0.24	0.11	0.25	0.24	-0.18
	$S_2$	-0.21	0.17	0.30	0.30	0.21	0.27	-0.24	0.11	0.25	0.07	0.29	0.22	-0.18
$\text{Nb}_2\text{CO}_2$	$S_0$	-0.24	0.19	-0.37	0.78	0.12	0.44	0.26	0.33	0.33	-0.21	-0.24	0.35	0.11
	$S_1$	-0.30	0.24	0.22	0.27	0.15	0.17	0.04	0.16	0.26	0.13	0.20	0.30	0.20
	$S_2$	-0.19	0.26	0.27	0.37	0.25	0.25	0.12	0.19	0.28	0.12	0.28	0.24	0.14
$\text{Zr}_2\text{CO}_2$	$S_0$	0.54	1.00	1.55	1.55	-0.05	0.53	0.15	0.68	0.85	-0.66	0.18	1.06	0.86
	$S_1$	0.49	0.79	0.79	0.83	0.68	0.65	0.18	0.49	0.84	0.65	0.81	0.82	0.95
	$S_2$	0.46	0.81	0.85	0.88	0.34	0.71	0.11	0.55	0.82	0.46	0.83	0.82	0.87
$\text{Ta}_2\text{CO}_2$	$S_0$	0.32	0.73	-0.48	0.98	0.05	0.70	0.69	0.67	0.78	0.36	0.78	0.80	0.48
	$S_1$	0.58	0.80	0.72	0.77	-0.38	0.68	0.61	0.63	0.73	0.60	0.65	0.69	0.57
	$S_2$	0.27	0.81	0.82	0.87	-0.03	0.70	0.60	0.54	0.74	0.66	0.75	0.72	0.56
$\text{V}_2\text{CO}_2$	$S_0$	-0.89	-0.54	-0.22	-0.31	0.45	0.34	-0.29	-0.51	-0.17	-0.31	-0.69	-0.70	-0.27
	$S_1$	-0.88	-0.56	-0.10	-0.09	-0.33	-0.26	-0.53	-0.28	-0.20	-0.29	-1.40	-0.36	-0.34
	$S_2$	-0.85	-0.36	-0.52	-0.01	-0.09	-0.16	-0.46	-0.30	-0.17	-0.29	-1.32	-0.44	-0.31
$\text{Hf}_2\text{CO}_2$	$S_0$	-0.60	1.23	-0.22	1.01	0.35	0.44	0.22	0.83	0.84	0.31	0.98	1.33	0.99
	$S_1$	0.73	1.06	1.07	1.11	0.91	0.88	0.31	0.67	1.07	0.86	1.07	1.10	1.04
	$S_2$	0.69	1.09	1.14	1.16	0.42	0.93	0.21	0.72	1.05	0.44	1.14	1.11	1.04
$\text{Sc}_2\text{CO}_2$	$S_0$	0.97	0.32	0.71	1.17	0.12	-0.36	-0.27	-0.97	-0.38	-0.34	0.44	0.78	0.26
	$S_1$	1.31	0.25	0.26	0.99	0.40	-0.14	0.07	-0.75	-0.58	-0.07	0.21	1.02	0.34
	$S_2$	0.56	0.10	0.32	-0.33	0.34	0.21	-0.02	-0.73	-0.76	-0.07	-0.63	0.90	0.39
$\text{Y}_2\text{CO}_2$	$S_0$	0.17	0.22	0.53	0.60	0.39	-0.19	0.03	-0.85	0.22	-0.35	-0.58	0.88	0.28
	$S_1$	0.51	0.30	0.53	-0.53	0.61	0.39	0.25	-0.66	-0.04	-0.14	-0.79	1.01	0.39
	$S_2$	0.61	0.18	0.67	-0.39	0.67	0.37	0.44	-0.22	-0.29	-0.09	-0.97	0.75	0.30
$\text{Ti}_2\text{NO}_2$	$S_0$	0.35	0.12	0.10	1.21	0.46	0.72	0.09	0.63	0.42	-1.19	0.32	0.48	-0.13
	$S_1$	0.20	0.28	0.46	0.48	0.32	0.33	-0.08	0.31	0.38	0.22	0.37	0.35	-0.11
	$S_2$	0.26	0.30	0.49	0.50	0.37	0.35	-0.27	0.31	0.40	0.21	0.45	0.38	-0.16
$\text{Nb}_2\text{NO}_2$	$S_0$	0.70	-0.22	-0.16	0.74	0.50	0.41	0.82	-0.32	0.07	0.33	0.10	-0.17	0.21
	$S_1$	0.46	-0.05	-0.06	-0.02	0.32	0.25	0.49	-0.68	-0.03	0.28	-0.05	-0.28	0.25
	$S_2$	0.63	-0.23	0.02	0.02	0.43	0.31	0.85	-0.24	0.04	0.38	0.07	-0.23	0.25
$\text{Zr}_2\text{NO}_2$	$S_0$	1.01	0.78	1.46	1.40	0.35	0.87	1.00	0.80	0.58	-0.33	0.74	0.96	0.59
	$S_1$	0.64	0.67	0.87	0.87	0.25	0.82	0.83	0.66	0.85	0.57	0.82	0.87	0.64
	$S_2$	1.08	0.78	0.94	0.91	0.30	0.79	0.82	0.77	0.74	0.69	0.86	0.92	0.63
$\text{Ta}_2\text{NO}_2$	$S_0$	-0.28	0.38	-0.95	-0.12	-1.21	-0.35	-0.30	-0.16	0.60	-0.71	-0.04	1.06	0.29
	$S_1$	0.59	0.38	0.39	0.52	-1.52	-0.84	0.29	-0.59	0.54	0.79	-0.82	0.85	0.38
	$S_2$	0.62	0.31	0.53	0.62	-1.11	-0.38	0.63	-0.25	0.57	0.82	-0.73	0.84	0.37

$\text{V}_2\text{NO}_2$	$S_0$	-0.49	-0.68	-0.98	0.84	-0.98	0.21	-0.19	-0.02	0.57	-0.68	-0.77	-0.43	-0.22
	$S_1$	-0.83	-0.58	-1.13	0.05	-0.54	-0.12	-1.45	-0.28	-0.43	-0.73	-0.23	-0.43	-0.29
	$S_2$	-0.75	-0.58	-0.08	0.21	-0.70	-0.03	-1.41	-0.28	-0.33	-0.66	-0.68	-0.35	-0.21
$\text{Hf}_2\text{NO}_2$	$S_0$	-0.63	1.07	1.04	1.21	0.44	1.09	1.20	1.05	1.02	-0.31	0.81	1.27	0.90
	$S_1$	0.95	1.02	1.22	1.21	0.39	1.09	1.16	0.91	1.13	0.90	0.77	1.25	0.97
	$S_2$	1.00	1.15	1.30	1.27	0.40	1.03	1.16	0.85	1.10	1.04	0.38	1.27	0.97
$\text{Sc}_2\text{NO}_2$	$S_0$	-1.30	-1.02	1.19	0.25	-0.39	-0.73	-0.55	-0.47	-1.39	-1.15	0.74	-0.90	-0.59
	$S_1$	-1.15	-1.20	-0.58	0.21	-0.44	-0.88	-0.63	-0.93	-1.20	-1.27	-0.07	-1.21	-1.15
	$S_2$	-1.14	-1.18	-0.66	0.18	-0.43	-0.88	-0.63	-0.92	-1.21	-1.24	-0.08	-1.20	-1.14
$\text{Y}_2\text{NO}_2$	$S_0$	-0.82	-0.95	-0.65	-1.32	-0.57	-0.57	-0.45	-0.40	-0.69	-0.88	-1.32	-0.87	-0.70
	$S_1$	-1.40	-1.06	0.77	-1.24	-0.42	-0.73	-0.52	-0.86	-1.02	-1.12	-0.60	-1.04	-0.97
	$S_2$	-1.40	-1.03	0.33	-1.32	-0.37	-0.67	-0.48	-0.80	-1.04	-1.12	-1.11	-1.02	-0.93

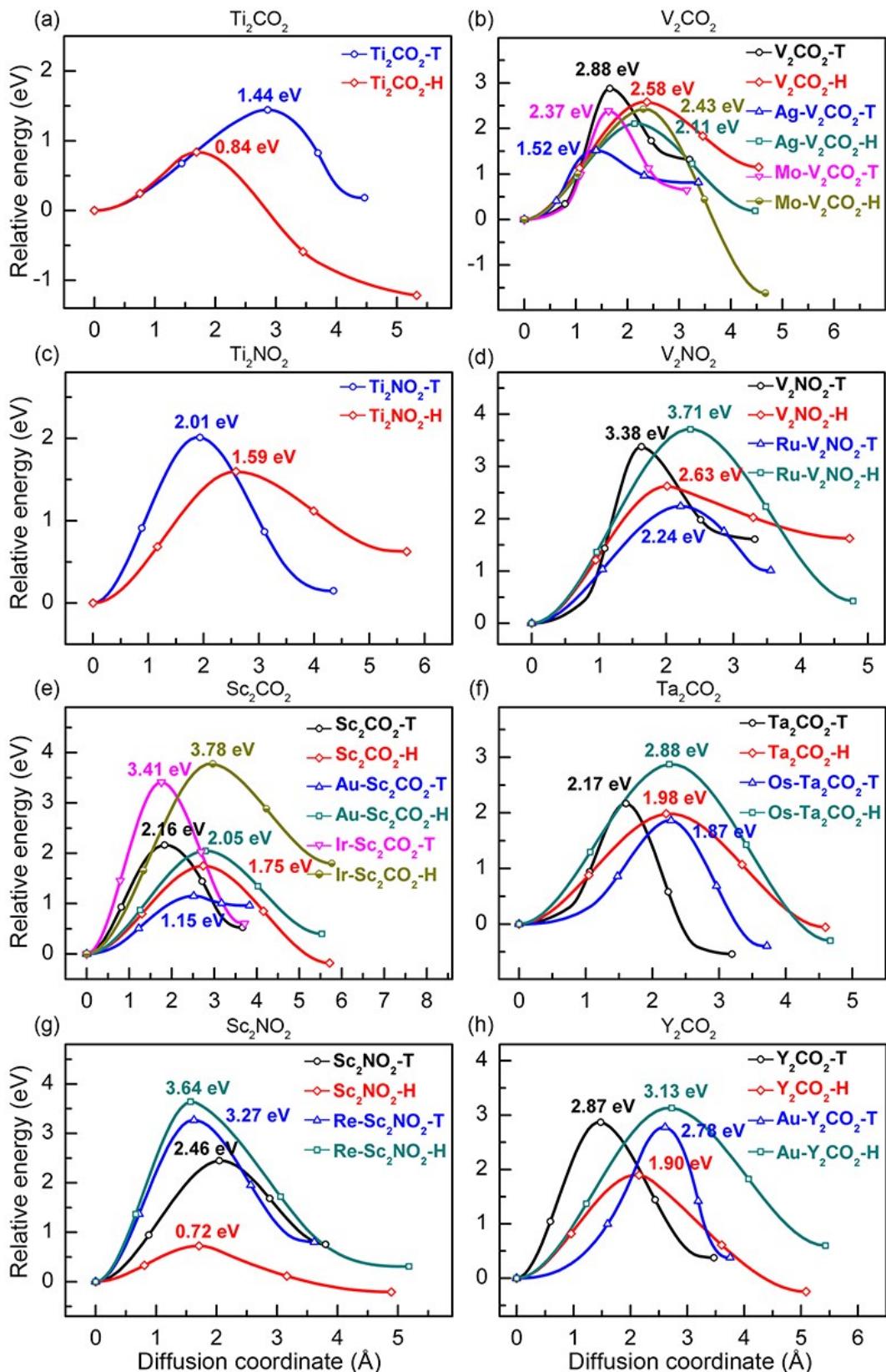


**Figure S2.** The  $\Delta G_H$  of various metal modified MXenes. The left and right panels exhibit carbides and nitrides respectively. The green shaded area marks the HER active energy range with the  $\Delta G_H$  in the region between -0.2 and 0.2 eV. Furthermore, the  $\Delta G_H$  values for the three H adsorption sites ( $S_0$ ,  $S_1$ ,  $S_2$ ) of each material are plotted in the order of  $S_0$ - $S_1$ - $S_2$ .

## 6. Activation energy barrier for HER on MXenes

Here, we show the activation barriers for the TM-M<sub>2</sub>XO<sub>2</sub> combination beyond the ones shown in the main text.

It has been demonstrated that the simulation on H-reaction can be influenced by the water environment.<sup>5,6</sup> Therefore, for rationally simulating the activation energy barrier of H-reaction, we add the H<sub>2</sub>O molecules on the surface of MXenes one side with one H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> ion, according to the ordinary distance between water and the length of hydrogen bond in water. A number of initial water molecule conformations are used while the most stable one 1/8 (H<sub>2</sub>O/Å<sup>2</sup>) is used for the barrier simulation.



**Figure S3.** The transition energy barriers of materials with catalytic activity in modified MXenes (a)  $\text{Ti}_2\text{CO}_2$ , (b)  $\text{V}_2\text{CO}_2$ , Ag- and Mo-modified  $\text{V}_2\text{CO}_2$ , (c)  $\text{Ti}_2\text{NO}_2$ , (d)  $\text{V}_2\text{NO}_2$  and Ru-modified  $\text{V}_2\text{NO}_2$ , (e)  $\text{Sc}_2\text{CO}_2$ , Au- and Ir-modified  $\text{Sc}_2\text{CO}_2$ , (f)  $\text{Ta}_2\text{CO}_2$  and Os-modified  $\text{Ta}_2\text{CO}_2$ , (g)  $\text{Sc}_2\text{NO}_2$  and Re-modified  $\text{Sc}_2\text{NO}_2$ , (h)  $\text{Y}_2\text{CO}_2$  and Au-modified  $\text{Y}_2\text{CO}_2$ . The “-T” represents the Tafel reaction while the “-H” typifies the Heyrovsky reaction in the figure.

## 7. The Bader charge and its effect on energy barrier and $\Delta G_H$

**Table S4.** Bader charge of O ion in different MXenes were calculated by Bader charge scheme.  $e_S$  represents the charge of O ion on stable site,  $e_T$  represents the charge of O ion on transition site. The value with “-” means the ion gain electron comparing with isolated atom state while the value with “+” means the ion loss electron.  $\Delta e$  represents the charge difference between  $e_S$  and  $e_T$  ( $\Delta e' = e_S - e_T$ ) in the table. O-H is the distance between the H atom and the O atom.

System	Reaction	Barrier (eV)	O <sup>-</sup> ion charge (e)			O-H (Å)	H <sup>+</sup> ion charge (e)		
			$E_A$	$e_S$	$e_T$		$e_S$	$e_T$	$\Delta e'$
Ti <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>1.44</b>	-1.30	-1.16	<b>0.14</b>	2.06	+0.65	+0.30	<b>0.35</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>0.84</b>	-1.26	-1.16	<b>0.10</b>	3.64	+0.64	+0.34	<b>0.30</b>
Nb <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>1.82</b>	-1.29	-1.11	<b>0.18</b>	2.21	+0.63	+0.24	<b>0.39</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>1.37</b>	-1.27	-1.14	<b>0.13</b>	3.01	+0.63	+0.29	<b>0.34</b>
Zr <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>1.62</b>	-1.38	-1.23	<b>0.15</b>	2.62	+0.67	+0.29	<b>0.38</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>1.00</b>	-1.37	-1.25	<b>0.12</b>	3.19	+0.65	+0.33	<b>0.32</b>
Ir-Zr <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>0.55</b>	-1.35	-1.26	<b>0.09</b>	3.70	+0.64	+0.34	<b>0.30</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>1.03</b>	-1.39	-1.26	<b>0.13</b>	3.06	+0.66	+0.31	<b>0.35</b>
Ta <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>2.17</b>	-1.32	-1.16	<b>0.16</b>	2.43	+0.66	+0.30	<b>0.36</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>1.98</b>	-1.35	-1.20	<b>0.15</b>	3.13	+0.63	+0.29	<b>0.34</b>
Os-Ta <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>1.87</b>	-1.24	-1.15	<b>0.09</b>	3.78	+0.63	+0.30	<b>0.33</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>2.88</b>	-1.33	-1.16	<b>0.17</b>	2.35	+0.66	+0.26	<b>0.40</b>
V <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>2.88</b>	-1.23	-0.98	<b>0.25</b>	1.91	+0.65	+0.20	<b>0.45</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>2.58</b>	-1.24	-1.01	<b>0.23</b>	2.29	+0.64	+0.20	<b>0.44</b>
Mo-V <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>2.37</b>	-1.23	-1.04	<b>0.19</b>	3.02	+0.63	+0.24	<b>0.39</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>2.46</b>	-1.28	-1.07	<b>0.21</b>	2.64	+0.65	+0.23	<b>0.42</b>
Ag-V <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>1.52</b>	-1.26	-1.10	<b>0.16</b>	3.73	+0.65	+0.31	<b>0.34</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>2.11</b>	-1.32	-1.14	<b>0.18</b>	3.40	+0.62	+0.24	<b>0.38</b>
Sc <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>2.16</b>	-1.35	-1.23	<b>0.12</b>	2.91	+0.59	+0.19	<b>0.40</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>1.75</b>	-1.38	-1.29	<b>0.09</b>	3.53	+0.64	+0.29	<b>0.35</b>
Ir-Sc <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>3.41</b>	-1.33	-1.16	<b>0.17</b>	2.44	+0.61	+0.18	<b>0.43</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>3.78</b>	-1.34	-1.13	<b>0.21</b>	2.18	+0.61	+0.14	<b>0.47</b>
Au-Sc <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>1.15</b>	-1.34	-1.28	<b>0.06</b>	3.70	+0.56	+0.24	<b>0.32</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>2.05</b>	-1.33	-1.23	<b>0.10</b>	3.12	+0.61	+0.22	<b>0.39</b>
Y <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>2.87</b>	-1.38	-1.27	<b>0.11</b>	2.79	+0.60	+0.15	<b>0.45</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>1.90</b>	-1.37	-1.31	<b>0.06</b>	3.76	+0.59	+0.22	<b>0.37</b>
Au-Y <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>2.78</b>	-1.37	-1.28	<b>0.09</b>	3.28	+0.60	+0.16	<b>0.44</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>3.13</b>	-1.35	-1.19	<b>0.16</b>	2.37	+0.58	+0.11	<b>0.47</b>
Ti <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>2.10</b>	-1.34	-1.16	<b>0.18</b>	2.21	+0.69	+0.26	<b>0.43</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>1.59</b>	-1.27	-1.15	<b>0.12</b>	3.41	+0.62	+0.30	<b>0.32</b>
Nb <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>2.92</b>	-1.26	-1.07	<b>0.19</b>	2.14	+0.63	+0.22	<b>0.41</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>2.22</b>	-1.24	-1.07	<b>0.17</b>	2.32	+0.61	+0.24	<b>0.37</b>
W-Nb <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>2.06</b>	-1.26	-1.11	<b>0.15</b>	2.52	+0.62	+0.27	<b>0.35</b>

	Heyrovsky	<b>3.18</b>	-1.31	-1.10	<b>0.21</b>	2.01	+0.65	+0.20	<b>0.45</b>
Ag-Nb <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>0.47</b>	-1.31	-1.23	<b>0.08</b>	3.82	+0.66	+0.38	<b>0.28</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>0.91</b>	-1.36	-1.25	<b>0.11</b>	3.58	+0.62	+0.31	<b>0.31</b>
Re-Nb <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>2.03</b>	-1.25	-1.13	<b>0.12</b>	3.04	+0.61	+0.28	<b>0.33</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>2.88</b>	-1.30	-1.11	<b>0.19</b>	2.21	+0.66	+0.26	<b>0.40</b>
V <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>3.38</b>	-1.24	-1.00	<b>0.24</b>	2.36	+0.66	+0.21	<b>0.45</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>2.63</b>	-1.22	-1.02	<b>0.20</b>	2.88	+0.63	+0.21	<b>0.42</b>
Ru-V <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>2.24</b>	-1.18	-1.00	<b>0.18</b>	3.07	+0.63	+0.24	<b>0.39</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>3.71</b>	-1.25	-0.99	<b>0.26</b>	1.94	+0.65	+0.15	<b>0.50</b>
Sc <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>2.46</b>	-1.36	-1.25	<b>0.11</b>	2.81	+0.63	+0.26	<b>0.37</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>0.72</b>	-1.36	-1.30	<b>0.06</b>	3.63	+0.59	+0.28	<b>0.31</b>
Re-Sc <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	Tafel	<b>3.27</b>	-1.36	-1.17	<b>0.19</b>	2.69	+0.63	+0.21	<b>0.42</b>
	Heyrovsky	<b>3.64</b>	-1.34	-1.13	<b>0.21</b>	2.04	+0.62	+0.17	<b>0.46</b>

**Table S5.**  $e_O$  is the charge on O<sup>-</sup> ion, the  $\Delta e$  is the charge difference of O<sup>-</sup> ion before and after the addition of single transition metal atom ( $\Delta e = e_O - e_{TM-O}$ ), meanwhile, the difference of  $\Delta G_H$  defined as  $\Delta G_{H-TM-O} - \Delta G_{H-O}$ .

System	Site	$e_O$ (e)		$\Delta e$ (e)	$\Delta G_H$ /eV	$\Delta G_H$ difference between TM-modified and pristine system
		Without H absorbed	With H absorbed			
Zr <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>		-1.25			0.81	
Ir-Zr <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.16		-0.09	0.15	-0.66
	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>	-1.18		-0.07	0.18	-0.63
	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>	-1.18		-0.07	0.11	-0.70
Re-Zr <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.18		-0.07	0.18	-0.63
Ta <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>		-1.16			0.63	
Os-Ta <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.08		-0.08	0.05	-0.58
	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>	-1.11		-0.05	-0.38	-1.01
	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>	-1.10		-0.06	-0.03	-0.66
V <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>		-0.97			-0.43	
W-V <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>	-1.04		0.07	-0.10	0.33
Mo-V <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.03		0.06	-0.31	0.12
	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>	-1.02		0.05	-0.09	0.34
	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>	-1.01		0.04	-0.01	0.42
Os-V <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>	-1.01		0.04	-0.09	0.34
Ru-V <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>	-1.00		0.03	-0.16	0.27
Ag-V <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.07		0.10	-0.17	0.26
	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>	-1.05		0.08	-0.20	0.23
	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>	-1.06		0.09	-0.17	0.26
Sc <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>		-1.29			0.36	
Os-Sc <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.15		-0.14	0.12	-0.24

Ru-Sc <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.20	-0.09	-0.14	-0.50
Pt-Sc <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>	-1.26	-0.03	-0.10	-0.46
Ir-Sc <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.12	-0.17	-0.27	-0.63
	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>	-1.20	-0.09	0.07	-0.29
	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>	-1.16	-0.13	-0.02	-0.38
Au-Sc <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.25	-0.04	-0.34	-0.70
	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>	-1.24	-0.05	-0.07	-0.43
	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>	-1.28	-0.01	-0.07	-0.43
Y <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>		-1.31		0.87	
Pt-Y <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.25	-0.06	0.17	-0.70
Pd-Y <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>	-1.28	-0.03	0.18	-0.69
Ru-Y <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.25	-0.06	-0.19	-1.06
Ir-Y <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.18	-0.13	0.03	-0.84
Ag-Y <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>	-1.28	-0.03	0.04	-0.83
Au-Y <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.27	-0.04	-0.35	-1.22
	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>	-1.28	-0.03	-0.14	-1.01
	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>	-1.29	-0.02	-0.09	-0.96
Ta <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>		-1.18		0.45	
Mo-Ta <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.16	-0.02	-0.12	-0.57
Rh-Ta <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.15	-0.03	-0.16	-0.61
Re-Ta <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.10	-0.08	-0.04	-0.49
V <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>		-1.00		-0.26	
W-V <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>	-1.06	0.06	-0.08	0.18
Mo-V <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>	-1.09	0.09	0.05	0.31
Ir-V <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.01	0.01	-0.19	0.07
Rh-V <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.00	0.00	-0.02	0.24
Ru-V <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.07	0.07	0.21	0.47
	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>	-1.03	0.03	-0.12	0.14
	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>	-1.05	0.05	-0.03	0.23
Sc <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>		-1.11		-0.95	
Mo-Sc <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>	-1.19	0.08	0.18	1.13
Re-Sc <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>0</sub>	-1.18	0.07	0.74	1.69
	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>	-1.15	0.04	-0.07	0.88
	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>	-1.16	0.05	-0.08	0.87

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