## Synergistically coupling ultrasmall PtCu nanoalloys with highly porous CoP nanosheets as enhanced electrocatalyst for electrochemical hydrogen evolution

Jiaojiao Gao,<sup>1</sup> Xiaowei Tang,<sup>2</sup> Peng Du,<sup>1</sup> Huanglong Li,<sup>\*3</sup> Qunhui Yuan,<sup>\*1</sup> Guoqiang

Xie,1 Hua-Jun Qiu\*1

<sup>1</sup>School of Materials Science and Engineering, Harbin Institute of Technology, Shenzhen 518055,

China

<sup>2</sup>Mathematical School, Qilu Normal University, Jinan 250200, China

<sup>3</sup>Department of Precision Instrument, Tsinghua University, Beijing 100084, China

Email: qiuhuajun@hit.edu.cn (H.J.Q.);

li\_huanglong@mail.tsinghua.edu.cn (H.L.)

yuanqunhui@hit.edu.cn (Q.Y.)

J.G. and X.T. contribute equally to this work.



Fig S1. EDS spectrum of (a) AlCoPtCu precursor alloy, (b) freshly dealloyed  $PtCu/Co(OH)_2$ , (c)  $PtCu/Co_3O_4$ , and (d) PtCu/CoP.



**Fig S2.** (a) SEM and (b, c) TEM images of the PtCu/Co(OH)<sub>2</sub>. (d) SEM and (e, f) TEM images of the PtCu/Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>.



Fig S3. XPS spectra of (a) Co 2p, (b) Pt 4f, (c) Cu 2p and (d) O 1s of PtCu/Co(OH)<sub>2</sub> and PtCu/Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>.



Fig S4. SEM images of the (a) CoP, (b) Pt/CoP, (c) Cu/CoP.



**Fig S5.** Typical CV curves of (a) PtCu/CoP, (b) PtCu/Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (c) PtCu/Co(OH)<sub>2</sub>, (d) CoP and (e) commercial Pt/C catalysts in 0.5 M  $H_2SO_4$  with different scan rates (5, 10, 20, 40 and 80 mV s<sup>-1</sup>). (f) The current densities at 0.79 V with respect to scan rates for above five catalysts.



**Fig S6.** Typical CV curves of (a) PtCu/CoP, (b) PtCu/Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (c) PtCu/Co(OH)<sub>2</sub>, (d) CoP and (e) commercial Pt/C catalysts in 1.0 M KOH with different scan rates (5, 10, 20, 40 and 80 mV s<sup>-1</sup>). (f) The current density at 0.15 V with respect to scan rate for above five catalysts.

Catalysts	Tafel slope	η@10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	References
	(mV dec <sup>-1</sup> )	(mV)	
Pd/Cu-Pt	25	22.8	Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2017, 56, 16047
			-16051
ALD 50 Pt/NGNs	29	40	Nat. Commun. 2016, 7, 13638
Ru@GnP	30	13	Adv. Mater. 2018, 30, 1803676
PdP <sub>2</sub> @CB	29.5	27.5	Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2018, 57, 14862
			-14867
Ru@CN	30	22	Nat. Nanotech. 2017, 12, 441-446
Au@PdAg	30	26.2	J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2016, 138, 1414–
			1419
PtCoFe@CN	32	45	ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces, 2017, 9,
			3596–3601
400-SWNT/Pt	38	27	ACS Catal. 2017, 7, 3121–3130
PdCu@Pd NCs	35	68	ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces 2017, 9,
			8151-8160
Pt-MoS <sub>2</sub>	40	53	Nat. Commun. 2013, 4, 1444
PtCu/CoP	28	15	This work

Table S1. Comparison of the PtCu/CoP with some recently reported HER electrocatalysts in 0.5  $M H_2SO_4$  solution.

Catalysts	Tafel slope	η@10 mA	References
	(mV dec <sup>-1</sup> )	cm <sup>-2</sup> (mV)	
Pt/NiO@Ni/NF	40	34	ACS Catal. 2018, 8, 8866-8872
RuP <sub>2</sub> @NPC	69	52	Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2017, 56, 11559
			-11564
Ru@GnP	28	22	Adv. Mater. 2018, 30, 1803676
PdP <sub>2</sub> @CB	42.1	35.4	Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2018, 57, 14862
			-14867
N,P-doped Mo <sub>2</sub> C@C	71	47	ACS Nano 2016, 10, 8851–8860
H-NiCoP NWAs/NF	38.6	44	Small 2018, 14, 1800421
CoP-400-E15	86	73	Adv. Energy Mater. 2018, 8, 1802445
	66	115	J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2018, 140, 2610-
CoP/NCNHP			2618
	59	157	J. Mater. Chem. A 2017, 5, 10561-
Co <sub>2</sub> P/Co-Foil			10566
MoP@C	54	49	Adv. Energy Mater. 2018, 8, 1801258
PtCu/CoP	49	40	This work

**Table S2**. Comparison of the PtCu/CoP with some recently reported HER electrocatalysts in 1.0 M

 KOH solution.