

Supporting Information

Supercapattery-driven electrolyzer both empowered by the same superb electrocatalyst

Thangavel Kavinkumar, Selvaraj Seenivasan, Amarnath T. Sivagurunathan and Do-Heyoung Kim*

School of Chemical Engineering, Chonnam National University, 77 Yongbong-ro, Gwangju 61186, Republic of Korea.

*Corresponding author's email: kdhh@chonnam.ac.kr

Tel. (office): +82-62-530-1894

Experimental section

Synthesis of CuCo₂O₄ nanoneedles: Typically, CoCl₂·6H₂O (2 mM), CuCl₂·6H₂O (1 mM), and urea (20 mM) were dissolved in 40 mL of deionized (DI) water under stirring. Cleaned NF was immersed in the as-prepared reaction mixture. The above solution was then transferred into a 100 mL Teflon autoclave and maintained at 120 °C for 10 h. Finally, the resulting CuCo₂O₄-coated NF was annealed at 300 °C under a N₂ atmosphere. The obtained CuCo₂O₄ was rinsed with DI water and ethanol and then dried at 70 °C for further use.

Synthesis of the Encapsulated CuCo₂O₄/MoNi: Typically, 1 mmol Ni(NO₃)₂·6H₂O, 1 mmol Na₂MoO₄·2H₂O, and 7.5 mmol urea were mixed in 40 mL of DI water under stirring. Then, a piece of NF coated with the CuCo₂O₄ was then immersed in the reaction mixture. Then, it was

transferred to a 100 mL Teflon-lined autoclave and kept at 150°C for 3 h. Then, the product was washed with DI water and ethanol and dried at 60°C. The CuCo₂O₄/MoNi were obtained by annealing the above prepared sample in a H₂/Ar (5:95) atmosphere at 500 °C for 2 h.

Preparation of NiO encapsulated CuCo₂O₄/MoNi: Thin NiO layers were deposited over the CuCo₂O₄/MoNi architecture on NF via 420 deposition cycles using a laboratory-built flow-type ALD reactor.¹ During deposition, the temperature was maintained at 175 °C.

Characterizations

XRD data of the samples were recorded by a Rigaku X-ray diffractometer X-ray diffractometer with CuK α radiation. The morphologies and microstructures of the samples were investigated by FE-SEM (JEOL JSM-7500F) and TEM (TECNALI G2 F20 TEM system). XPS was performed on an ESCALAB-MKII, VG Scientific Co. system. The Brunauer-Emmett-Teller (BET, ASAP2010, Micromeritics) was done to measure surface area of the prepared products.

Water splitting measurements

Electrocatalytic properties of the as-prepared samples on the NF were carried out in a three-electrode cell, where SCE and Pt foil were employed as the reference and counter, electrodes using the electrochemical workstation (WonATech WBCS30000), respectively. Additionally, 5 mg of Pt/C (or RuO₂) and 10 μ L of Nafion were dispersed in 1 mL of a water/alcohol mixture solution (3:1) using ultrasonication to prepare an ink. Finally, 50 μ L of the catalyst ink was coated on NF and dried at 60°C. Additionally, LSV measurements were performed at 2 mV s⁻¹ for the OER and HER in a 1 M KOH. The EIS measurement were conducted using a Parstat 3000 workstation (0.01 Hz to 100 kHz with a 10 mV amplitude). A gas

chromatography (074-594-P1E Micro GC Fusion, INFICON) was used to analyze the amount of the gaseous products. All potentials were calibrated to the RHE using Eq. 1; η was obtained using Eq. 2 and the Tafel slope was obtained using Eq. 3:

$$E_{\text{RHE}} = E_{\text{SCE}} + 0.059 \text{pH} + 0.247, \quad (1)$$

$$\eta = E_{\text{RHE}} - 1.23, \quad (2)$$

$$\eta = b \log j + a. \quad (3)$$

Supercapattery measurements

The electrochemical capacitive properties of the as-prepared heterostructure electrodes were carried out in 2 M KOH aqueous solution using a three-electrode cell. The as-fabricated materials on NF, Pt foil and SCE were employed as the working, counter and reference electrodes, respectively. The mass loading of the NiO@CuCo₂O₄/MoNi/MoO₂ heterostructure and AC were measured to be 4.3 and 5.4 mg cm⁻², respectively. In the supercapattery cell, the NiO@CuCo₂O₄/MoNi/MoO₂ heterostructure electrode used as the cathode and AC as the anode with 2M KOH/PVA gel as the electrolyte.

Specific capacitance (C_s , F g⁻¹) and specific capacity (C_m , C g⁻¹) from GCD test was calculated by using the relation,^{2, 3}

$$C_s = \frac{2i/V dt}{m (V_f - V_i)^2} \quad (4)$$

$$C_m = C_s \times \Delta V \quad (5)$$

where, m (g), i (A), $(V_f - V_i)$, and $\int V dt$ are the mass of the active materials coated on NF, applied current, functional potential frame, and the integral area of discharge curve, respectively.

The energy density (E) and power density (P) of the supercapattery were calculated according to the following formulas:

$$E = \frac{I \int V dt}{3.6} \quad (6)$$

$$P = \frac{3600 \times E}{t} \quad (7)$$

Where I (A g⁻¹) and t (s) are the current density, and discharge time of the supercapattery cell, respectively.

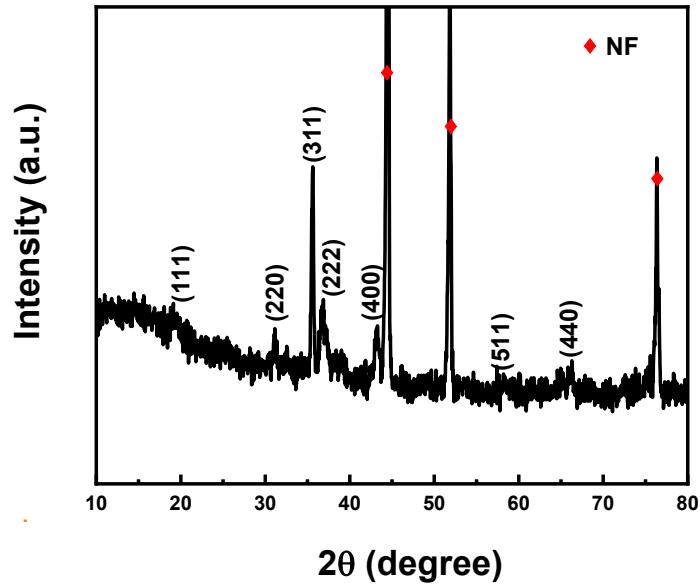


Figure S1. XRD pattern of the CuCo_2O_4 nano-needle from the NF substrate.

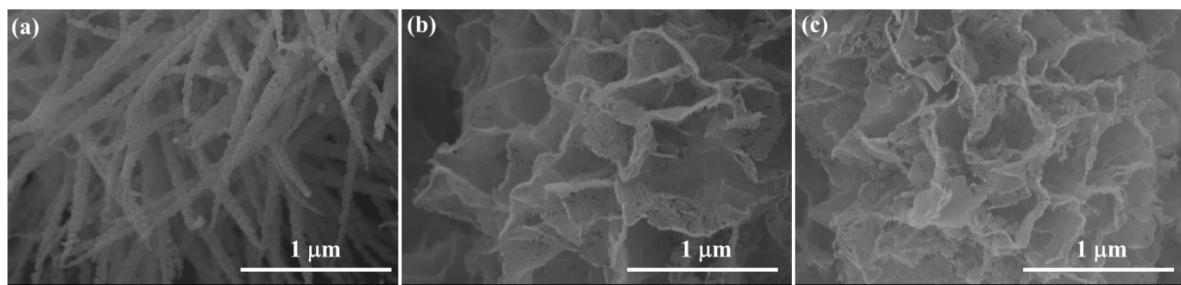


Figure S2. FE-SEM images of a) CuCo_2O_4 , b) MoNi, and c) $\text{CuCo}_2\text{O}_4/\text{MoNi}$.

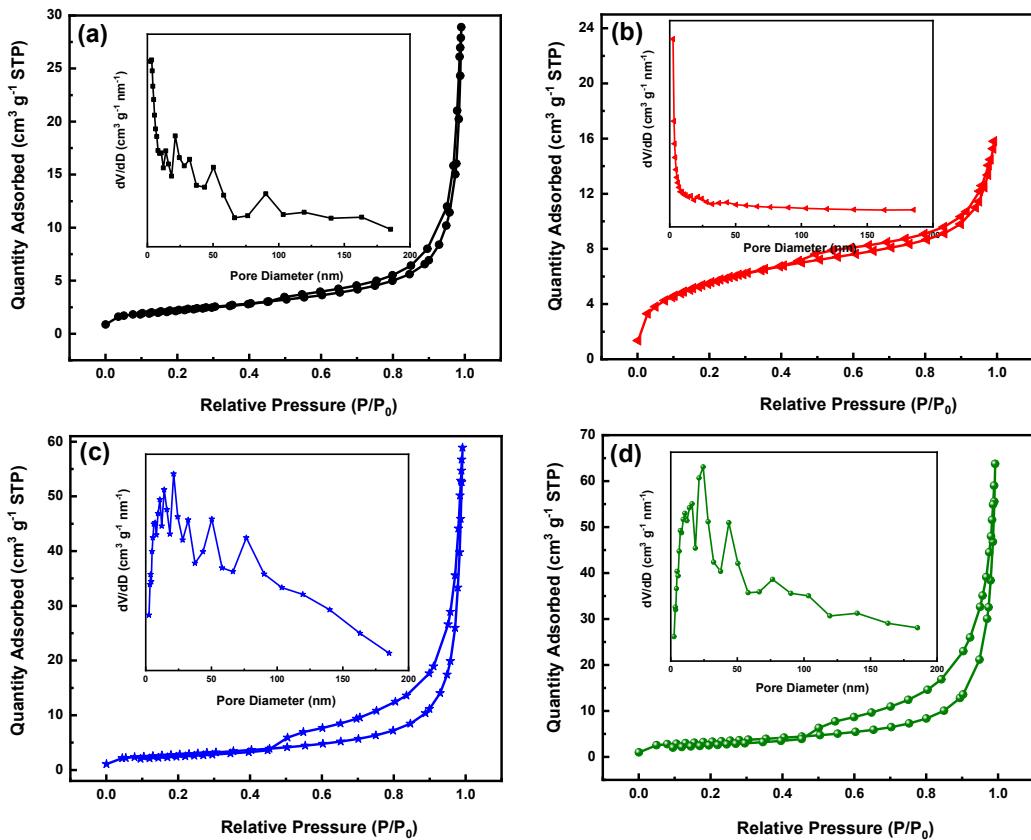


Figure S3. N₂ adsorption-desorption isotherms of a) CuCo₂O₄, b) MoNi, c) CuCo₂O₄/MoNi and d) NiO@CuCo₂O₄/MoNi heteronanostructure. Inset shows corresponding pore size distribution profiles.

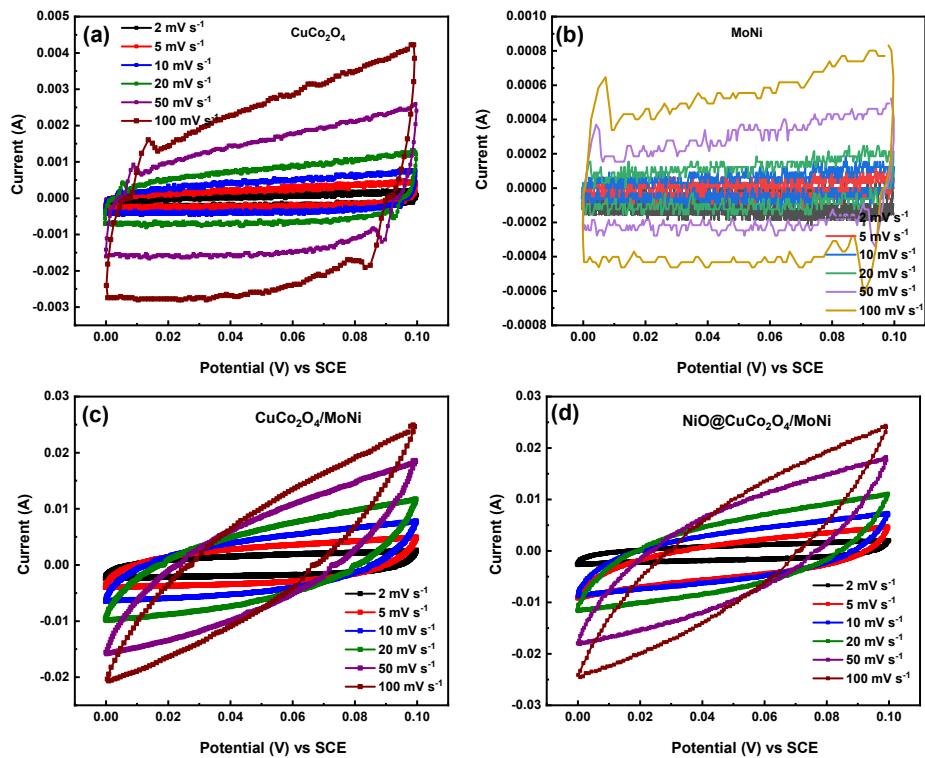


Figure S4. CV profiles of a) CuCo₂O₄, b) MoNi, c) CuCo₂O₄/MoNi and d) NiO@CuCo₂O₄/MoNi at different sweep rates in 1 M KOH.

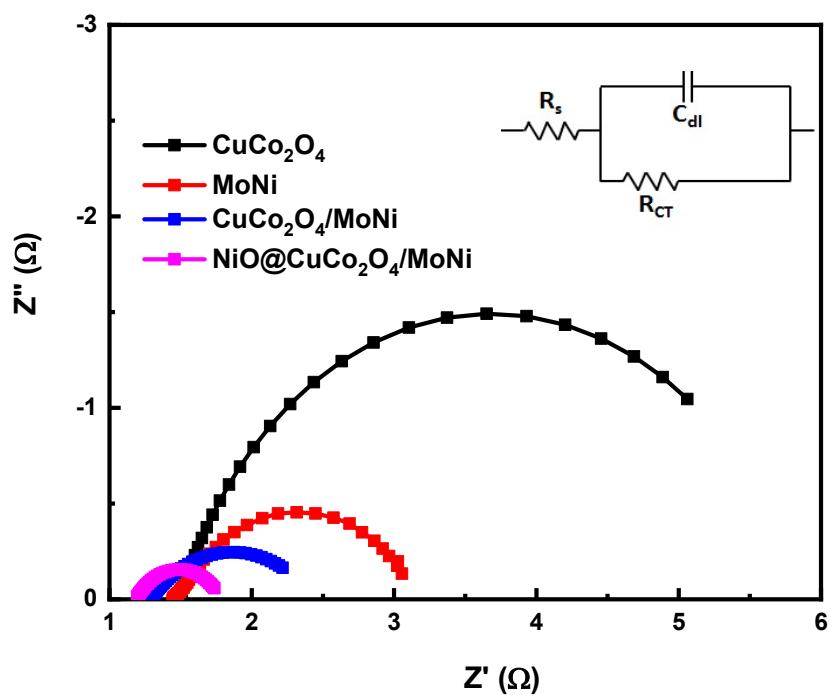


Figure S5. Nyquist plots for the as-prepared samples at -0.2 V. The inset shows the electrochemical equivalent circuit.

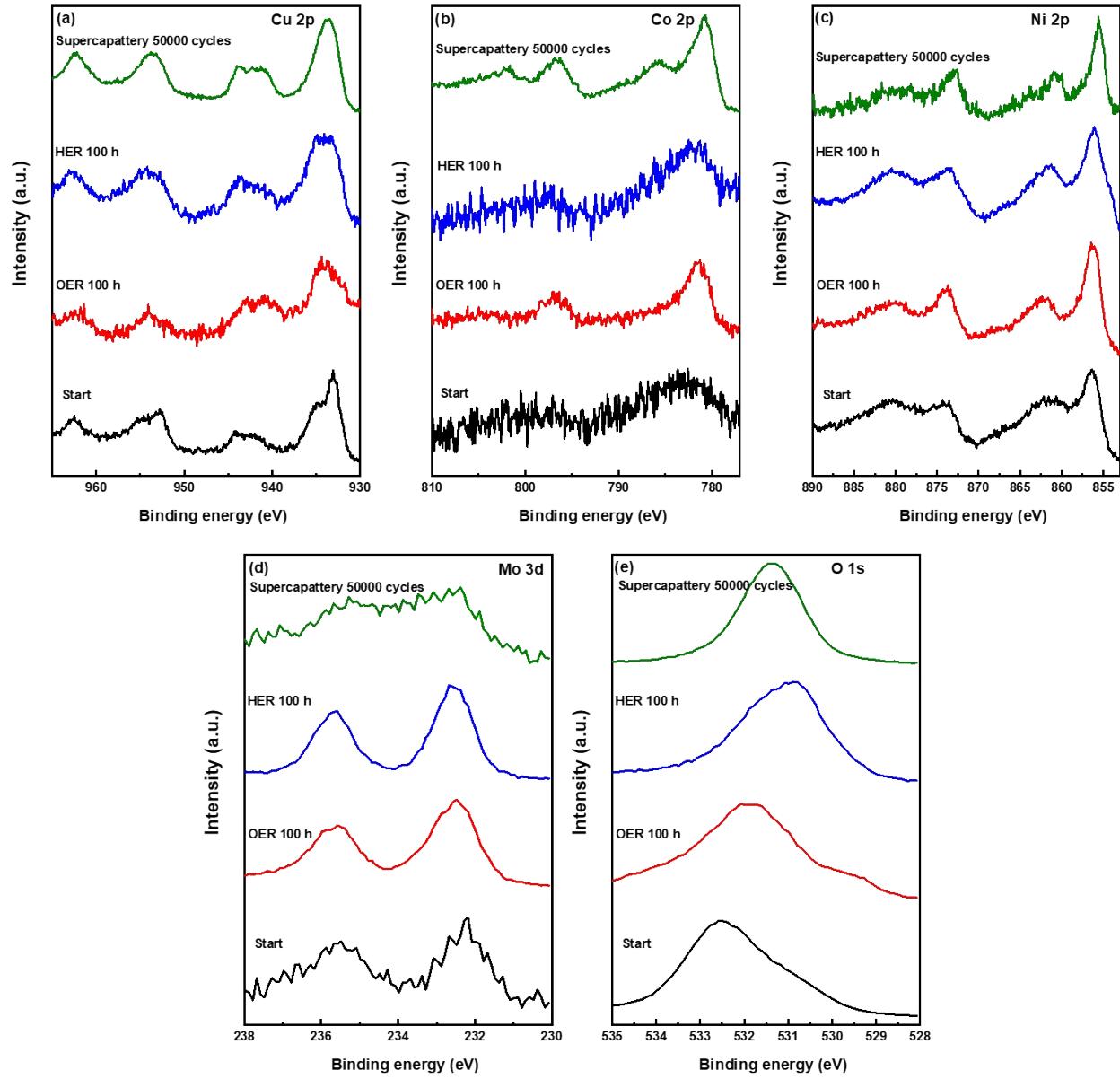


Figure S6. XPS spectra of a) Cu 2p, b) Co 2p, c) Ni 2p, d) Mo 3d and e) O 1s for NiO@CuCo₂O₄/MoNi heterostructure before and after OER, HER, and supercapattery test.

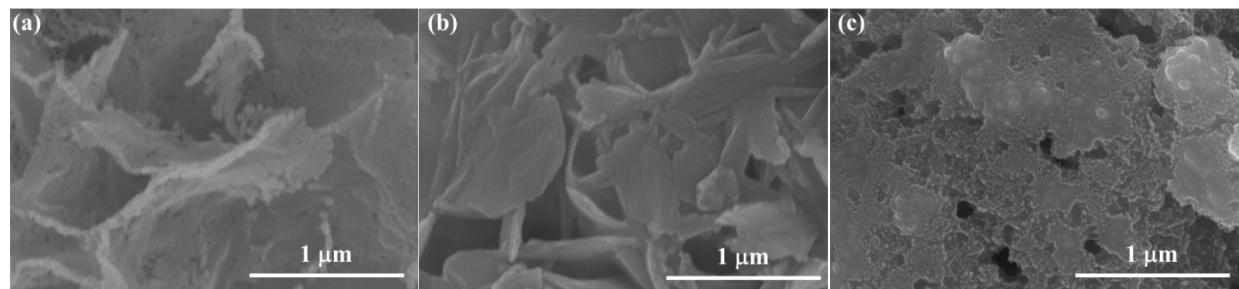


Figure S7. FE-SEM images of the NiO@CuCo₂O₄/MoNi heterostructure after a) OER, b) HER, and c) supercapattery test.

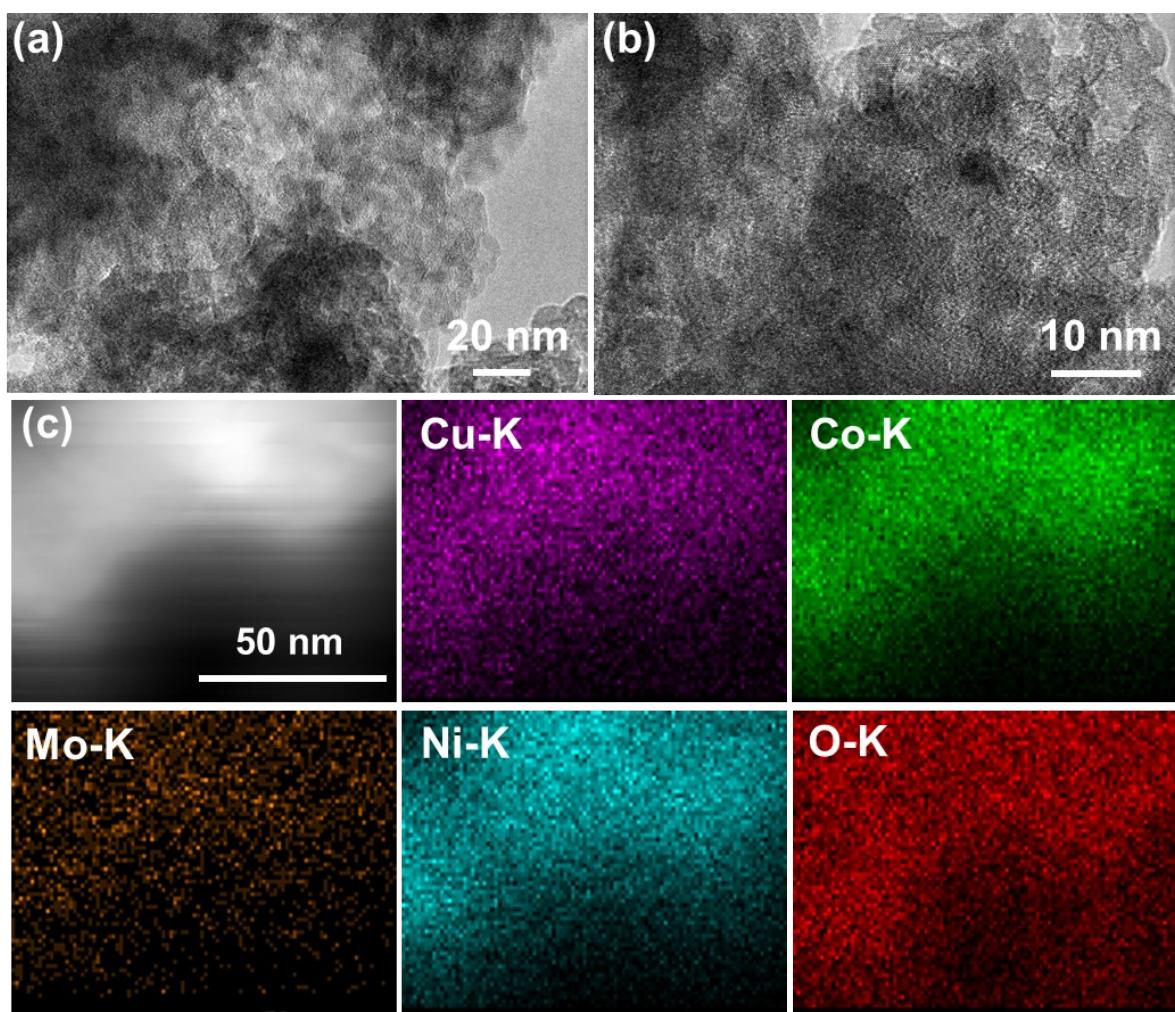


Figure S8. HR-TEM images of the NiO@CuCo₂O₄/MoNi heterostructure after a, b) HER test and c) the corresponding elemental mapping of NiO@CuCo₂O₄/MoNi heterostructure.

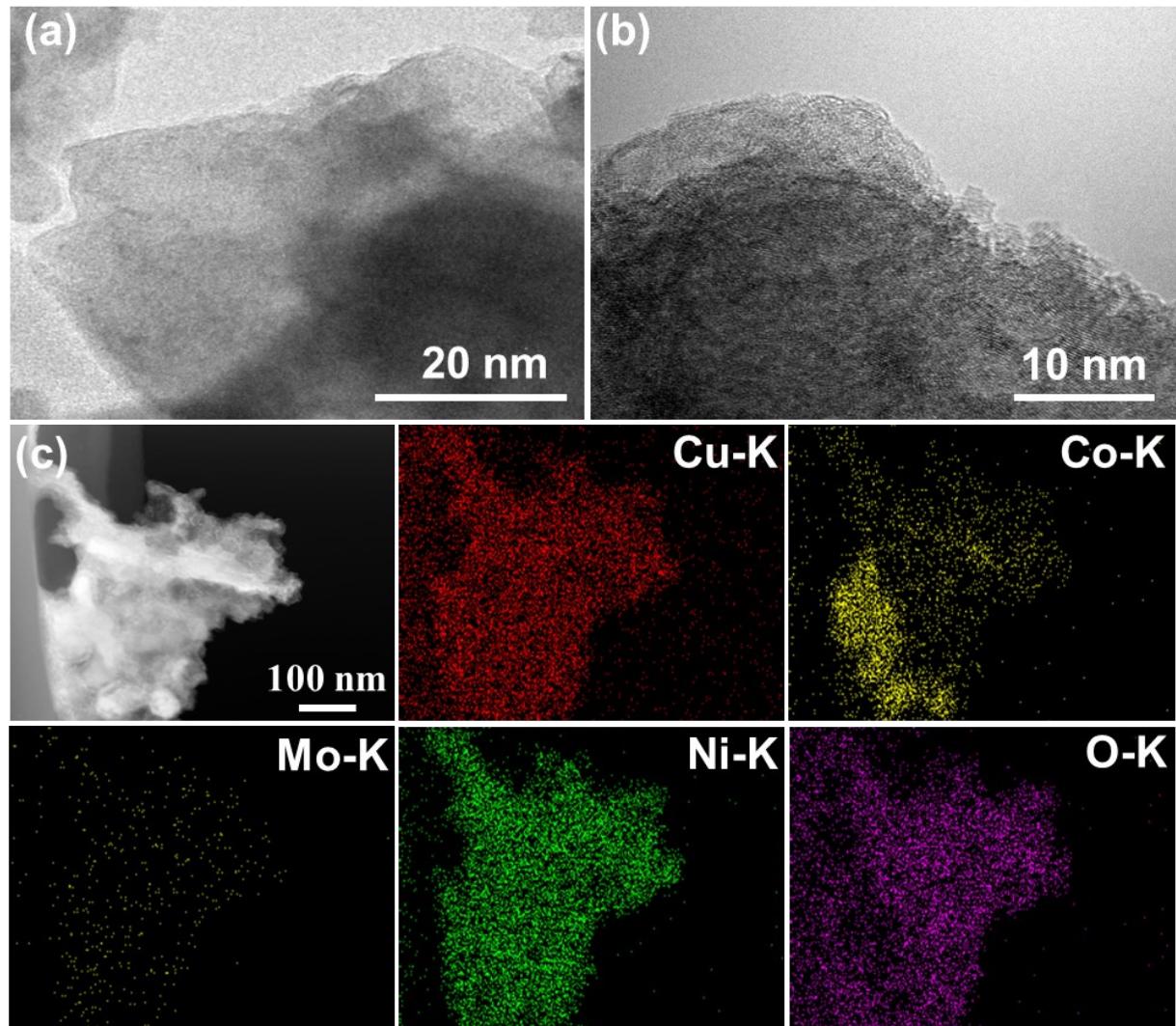


Figure S9. HR-TEM images of the NiO@CuCo₂O₄/MoNi heterostructure after a, b) OER test and c) the corresponding elemental mapping of NiO@CuCo₂O₄/MoNi heterostructure.

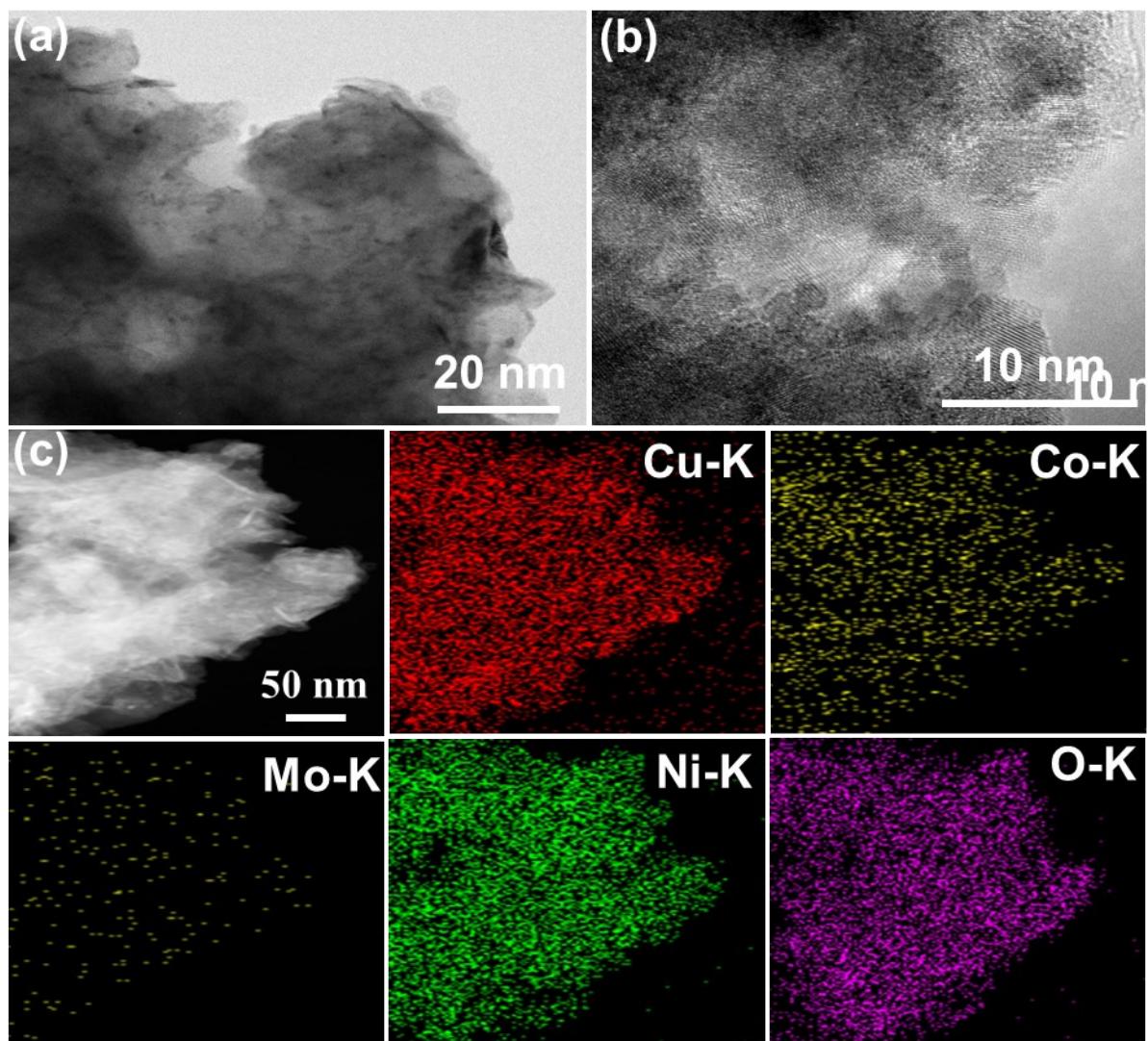


Figure S10. HR-TEM images of the NiO@CuCo₂O₄/MoNi heterostructure after a, b) 50000 cycling test and c) the corresponding elemental mapping of NiO@CuCo₂O₄/MoNi heterostructure.

Table S1. Comparison of HER performances of NiO@CuCo₂O₄/MoNi heterostructure with other reported electrocatalysts.

Catalyst	Electrolyte	Overpotential at 50 mA cm ⁻² (mV)	Tafel slope (mV dec ⁻¹)	Ref.
NiO@CuCo ₂ O ₄ /MoNi heterostructure	1 M KOH	61.0	44.2	This work
NiMoOx/NiMoS	1 M KOH	~63	-	⁴
MoS ₂ /Ni ₃ S ₂	1 M KOH	~175	-	⁵
NiCo ₂ O ₄ @NiMoO ₄	1 M KOH	300	94.0	⁶
NiCo ₂ O ₄ @Ni _{0.796} CoLDH	1 M KOH	115	56.4	⁷
FeOOH/NiCo ₂ O ₄	1 M KOH	146	41.3	⁸
Ni(OH) ₂ @CuS	1 M KOH	95	42.0	⁹
H-Fe-CoMoS	1 M KOH	138	98.0	¹⁰
Co/Co ₂ Mo ₃ O ₈	1 M KOH	~110	-	¹¹
NiFe-LDH/NiCo ₂ O ₄	1 M KOH	192	59.0	¹²
Ni ₃ N/Pt	1 M KOH	83	-	¹³
Mo-NiCoP	1 M KOH	121	-	¹⁴
NiCo ₂ O ₄ @CoMoO ₄	1 M KOH	121	77.0	¹⁵

Table S2. Comparison of OER performances of NiO@CuCo₂O₄/MoNi heterostructure with other reported electrocatalysts.

Catalyst	Electrolyte	Overpotential at 100 mA cm ⁻² (mV)	Tafel slope (mV dec ⁻¹)	Ref.
NiO@CuCo ₂ O ₄ /MoNi heterostructure	1 M KOH	370	69.1	This work
NiCo ₂ O ₄ @CoMoO ₄	1 M KOH	~490	-	¹⁵
NiCo ₂ O ₄ @NiMoO ₄	1 M KOH	~420	-	¹⁶
Fe ₂ O ₃ @CuO NTs	1 M KOH	~380	-	¹⁷
Ni@Co-Ni-P	1 M KOH	380	65	¹⁸
Co ₃ O ₄ /NiCo ₂ O ₄	1 M KOH	495	88	¹⁹
NiCoFe phosphate NSs-C	1 M KOH	~350	-	²⁰
Ni ₂ P@NF-6	1 M KOH	590	297	²¹
p-Cu _{1-x} NNi _{3-y} /FeNiCu	1 M KOH	~350	-	²²
NiCoP NWAs/NF	1 M KOH	~320	-	²³

Table S3. Comparison of water splitting performance of NiO@CuCo₂O₄/MoNi heterostructure with other reported bi-functional electrocatalysts based on transition metals.

Catalyst	Electrolyte	Voltage (V)	Ref.
NiO@CuCo ₂ O ₄ /MoNi heterostructure	1 M KOH	1.54 V @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	This work
E-Mo-NiCoP	1 M KOH	1.61 V @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	¹⁴
FeCo ₂ S ₄	1 M KOH	1.56 V @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	²⁴
NiSe/Ni ₃ Se ₂	1 M KOH	1.6 V @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	²⁵
NiS-Ni ₂ P ₂ S ₆	1 M KOH	1.64 V @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	²⁶
NiFe/NiCo ₂ O ₄	1 M KOH	1.67 V @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	²⁷
NiCo ₂ O ₄ /NiCoP	1 M KOH	1.66 V @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	²⁸
Ni ₃ S ₂	1 M KOH	1.57 V @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	²⁹
Ni/NiO	1 M KOH	1.71 V @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	³⁰
CoxPO ₄ /CoP	1 M KOH	1.91 V @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	³¹
Co ₉ S ₈ -CoSe ₂	1 M KOH	1.66 V @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	³²
MoP@Ni ₃ P/NF	1 M KOH	1.67 V @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	³³

Table S4. Summary of electrochemical performance of transition metal oxide heteronanostructure reported in literature.

Material	Fabrication method	Current Collector	Electrolyte	$C_s \text{ F g}^{-1}$ (Current density A g^{-1})	Stability (Cycles)	Ref.
NiO@CuCo ₂ O ₄ /MoNi heterostructure	Hydrothermal/ ALD	NF	2 M KOH	3527.7 F g ⁻¹ (1587.5 C g ⁻¹) (1 A g ⁻¹)	84.2% (50000)	This work
Cu ₂ O@Mn(OH) ₂	Solvent process	NF	2 M KOH	647.2 F g ⁻¹ (0.5 A g ⁻¹)	71.5% (3000)	³⁴
CuCo ₂ O ₄ /MnCo ₂ O ₄	Hydrothermal	NF	2 M KOH	1434 F g ⁻¹ (0.5 A g ⁻¹)	98.4% (5000)	³⁵
CuCo ₂ O ₄ @Ni(OH) ₂	Hydrothermal and Electrodeposition	NF	6 M KOH	1902.0 F g ⁻¹ (2 A g ⁻¹)	87.6% (50000)	³⁶
CuCo ₂ O ₄ /NiMoO ₄	Hydrothermal	NF	3 M KOH	2215.0 F g ⁻¹ (1 A g ⁻¹)	98% (8000)	³⁷

CoMoS@Co(OH) ₂	Hydrothermal and calcination	Carbon cloth	3M KOH	1711.0 F g ⁻¹ (20 mA cm ⁻²)	90.3% (5000)	³⁸
CuCo ₂ O ₄ @Co(OH) ₂	Hydrothermal	NF	1 M KOH	375.0 F g ⁻¹ (1 A g ⁻¹)	85.8% (10000)	³⁹
CuCo ₂ O ₄ /CuO nanowire	Hydrothermal	NF	2 M KOH	642.0 F g ⁻¹ (1 A g ⁻¹)	88% (5000)	⁴⁰
NiO/NiCo ₂ O ₄ /Co ₃ O ₄	sol-gel process and calcination	NF	2M KOH	1600.0 F g ⁻¹ (2.5 A g ⁻¹)	94.9% (1000)	⁴¹
Co ₃ O ₄ @CoNi-LDH	Hydrothermal	NF	2M KOH	2676.9 F g ⁻¹ (0.5 A g ⁻¹)	67.7% (10000)	⁴²
CuCo ₂ O ₄ @Ni(OH) ₂	Hydrothermal and Chemical deposition	Carbon fiber cloth	2 M KOH	2160.0 F g ⁻¹ (5 A g ⁻¹)	92% (5000)	⁴³
CuCo ₂ O ₄ NWs@NiMoO ₄	Hydrothermal	NF	6 M KOH	2207.0 F g ⁻¹ (1.25 A g ⁻¹)	95.6% (5000)	⁴⁴
CuCo ₂ O ₄ /NiO nanotrees	Hydrothermal and	NF	1 M NaOH	2219.0 F g ⁻¹	95.3%	⁴⁵

	Chemical bath deposition		(1 A g ⁻¹)	(10000)	
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Table S5. Comparison of energy storage performance of various Cu and Co-based HSCs.

HSC devices	Cell voltage (V)	Electrolyte	C _s /F g ⁻¹ (Current density A g ⁻¹)	Stability (Cycles)	Energy density (W h kg ⁻¹)	Power density (W kg ⁻¹)	Ref.
NiO@CuCo ₂ O ₄ /MoNi heterostructure//AC	1.6	KOH	226.7 F g ⁻¹ (362.8 C g ⁻¹) (1 A g ⁻¹)	90.4% (25000)	80.6	692.8	This work
CuCo ₂ O ₄ /CuO//RGO/Fe ₂ O ₃	1.6	KOH	93.0 F g ⁻¹ (0.25 A g ⁻¹)	83.0% (5000)	33.0	200.0	⁴⁰
Co ₃ O ₄ @CoNi-LDH//AC	1.5	KOH	195.9 F g ⁻¹ (1 A g ⁻¹)	103.5% (5000)	61.2	750	⁴²
CuCo ₂ O ₄ /MnCo ₂ O ₄ //graphene	1.6	KOH	118.4 F g ⁻¹ (0.5 A g ⁻¹)	88.4% (10000)	42.1	400.0	³⁵
CuCo ₂ O ₄ /NiMoO ₄ //AC	1.5	KOH	~140.0 F g ⁻¹ (1 A g ⁻¹)	89% (5000)	44.8	374.2	³⁷
CuCo ₂ O ₄ @NiMoO ₄ //AC	1.6	KOH	128.2 F g ⁻¹	80.2 %	40.0	-	⁴⁴

			(1 A g ⁻¹)	(5000)			
CNTs@NCDHNS//rGO-Fe ₂ O ₃	1.6	KOH	108.7 F g ⁻¹ (1 A g ⁻¹)	~93.5% (1000)	54.6	1130.0	⁴⁶
NiCo-LDH/NiMoSx// Fe ₂ O ₃ /rGO	1.6	KOH	203.9 F g ⁻¹ (3 mA cm ⁻²)	91.5% (10000)	72.6	522.7	⁴⁷
CuCo ₂ O ₄ /NiO//AC	1.6	NaOH	155.0 F g ⁻¹ (1 A g ⁻¹)	91.5% (5000)	51.8	866.0	⁴⁵
CuCo ₂ O ₄ @MnMoO ₄ //graphene	1.6	KOH	165.7 F g ⁻¹ (1 A g ⁻¹)	92 .5% (6000)	58.9	670.0	⁴⁸
CuCo ₂ O ₄ @PPy//Carbon	1.4	KOH	208.0 F g ⁻¹ (2 A g ⁻¹)	92 % (5000)	52.0	748.0	⁴⁹
CuCo ₂ O ₄ @Ni(OH) ₂ //AC	1.6	KOH	108.5 F g ⁻¹ (1 A g ⁻¹)	93.7% (5000)	38.6	800.0	³⁶
CuCo ₂ S ₄ /CuCo ₂ O ₄ //graphene	1.6	KOH	90.4 F g ⁻¹ (1 A g ⁻¹)	73.0% (5000)	33.2	800.0	⁵⁰

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