## Supporting Information

## Strategically Designed Trimetallic Catalyst with Minimal Ru Addresses Both Water Dissociation and Hydride Poisoning Barriers in Alkaline HER

Hashikaa Rajan<sup>a</sup>, Sengeni Anantharaj<sup>\*b</sup>, Jin-Kuk Kim <sup>\*a</sup>, Min Jae Ko<sup>\*a,c</sup> and Sung Chul Yi<sup>\*a,d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Chemical Engineering, Hanyang University, 222 Wangsimni ro, Seongdong-gu, Seoul 04763, Republic of Korea

<sup>b</sup>Laboratory for Electrocatalysis and Energy, Department of Chemistry, College of Engineering and Technology, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur, Tamil Nadu 603203, India

<sup>c</sup>Department of Battery & Engineering, Hanyang University, 222 Wangsimni-ro, Seongdong-gu, Seoul 04763, Republic of Korea.

<sup>d</sup>Department of Hydrogen and Fuel cell technology, Hanyang University, 222 Wangsimni-ro, Seongdong-gu, Seoul 04763, Republic of Korea.

\* Correspondence should be addressed to: <u>ananthas@srmist.edu.in</u>, <u>jinkukkim@hanyang.ac.kr</u>, <u>mjko@hanyang.ac.kr</u>, and <u>scyi@hanyang.ac.kr</u>



Figure S1: XRD patterns of CoMoRu/CC and bare CC.



**Figure S2**. Influence of electrodeposition time on the morphology CoMoRu on CC (a, i-iii) 15 min, (b, i-iii) 20 min and (c, i-iii) 25 min and (d, i-iii) 30 min.



Figure S3: XPS wide (survey) scan of CoMoRu/CC showing the presence of all the expected elements.



Figure S4: XPS narrow scan of Ru 3p in CoMoRu/CC



**Figure S5.** Plot of the different scan rates (10, 50, 100, 150, 200 mV s<sup>-1</sup>) against the differences in double layer charging current



Fig. S6 SEM, EDS mapping and spectrum of CoMoRu/CC after 24 h chronoamperometry



**Figure S7:** (a) CA responses used to build the SCV curve. (b-c) SCV curve of CoMoRu/CC without and with iR drop compensation, respectively.



Figure S8: Tafel line of CoMoRu/CC extracted from iR drop compensated SCV responses.

## List of references cited in Figure 5c<sup>1-9</sup>

- W. Dong, H. Zhou, B. Mao, Z. Zhang, Y. Liu, Y. Liu, F. Li, D. Zhang, D. Zhang and W. Shi, *Int. J. Hydrogen Energy*, 2021, 46, 10773–10782.
- 2 S. Anantharaj, S. Chatterjee, K. C. Swaathini, T. S. Amarnath, E. Subhashini, D. K. Pattanayak and S. Kundu, *ACS Sustain. Chem. Eng.*, 2018, **6**, 2498–2509.
- B. Zhou, J. Li, X. Zhang and J. Guo, J. Alloys Compd., 2021, 862, 158391.
- 4 L. Peng, Y. Liang, S. Wu, Z. Li, H. Sun, H. Jiang, S. Zhu, Z. Cui and L. Li, *J. Alloys Compd.*, 2022, **911**, 165061.
- 5 W. Pang, A. Fan, Y. Guo, D. Xie and D. Gao, *ACS Omega*, 2021, **6**, 26822–26828.
- 6 Y. Xue, Z. Zuo, Y. Li, H. Liu and Y. Li, *Small*, 2017, **13**, 1700936.
- H. Schäfer, D. M. Chevrier, P. Zhang, J. Stangl, K. Müller-Buschbaum, J. D. Hardege, K. Kuepper, J. Wollschläger, U. Krupp, S. Dühnen, M. Steinhart, L. Walder, S. Sadaf and M. Schmidt, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 2016, 26, 6402–6417.
- 8 M. Wang, L. Zhang, J. Pan, M. Huang and H. Zhu, *Nano Res.*, 2021, 14, 4740–4747.
- 9 X. Xu, X. Yu, K. Guo, L. Dong and X. Miao, *Catalysts*, 2023, **13**, 198.