

## Supporting Information

1  
2  
3

4 Bimetallic nanozymes synergize to regulate the behavior of oxygen  
5 intermediates and substrate HMF adsorption

6  
7 Lei Shi<sup>a</sup>, Qiang Li<sup>c</sup>, Shuang Liu<sup>a</sup>, Xinyang Liu<sup>a</sup>, Shucheng Yang<sup>a</sup>, Chunxia Chen<sup>\*a</sup>, Zhijun Li<sup>\*b</sup>, Song  
8 Liu<sup>\*a</sup>

9 <sup>a</sup> Chemical Engineering and Resource Utilization, Northeast Forestry University, Harbin 150040,  
10 China.

11 <sup>b</sup> Key Laboratory of Functional Inorganic Materials Chemistry (Ministry of Education), School of  
12 Chemistry and Materials Science, Heilongjiang University, Harbin 150080, P. R. China.

13 <sup>c</sup> Inner Mongolia Institute of Synthetic chemistry, Hohhot 010010, China.

## 14 Experimental Section

### 15 Materials and Chemicals

16 **Reagents and Materials.** Cobalt nitrate hexahydrate ( $\text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ), Nickel nitrate  
17 hexahydrate ( $\text{Ni}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ), hydrochloric acid (HCl), potassium hydroxide (KOH),  
18 and ethanol were bought from Tianjin Kermel Chemical Reagent Company. Sodium  
19 hypophosphite ( $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ), Potassium hydroxide (KOH), sodium hydroxide  
20 (NaOH), sodium carbonate ( $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ), dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) and 3,3',5,5'-  
21 Tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) were purchased from Macklin Co., Ltd. (Shanghai,  
22 China). 5-hydroxymethylfurfural (HMF), 2,5-furandicarboxylic acid (FDCA), 5-  
23 hydroxymethyl-2-furancarboxylic acid (HMFCFA), and 5-formyl-2-furancarboxylic  
24 acid (FFCA) were purchased from Alfa-Aesar. 2,5-diformylfuran (DFF) was purchased  
25 from Tokyo Chemical Industry Co., Ltd. 5 wt% Nafion solution was purchased from  
26 the Sigma Co., Ltd. Nickel foam was purchased from Suzhou Sinero Technology Co.,  
27 Ltd. Nafion 117 membrane was purchased from Wuhan GaossUnion technology Co.,  
28 Ltd.

### 29 Preparation of Mimic Enzymes.

30 As shown in Figure 1a, 40 mL of 1 M salt solution was slowly added under stirring into  
31 a reactor containing 200 mL of water. The reaction pH was maintained at a constant  
32 value of 10 by the simultaneous addition of an alkaline solution (2 M NaOH, 0.5 M  
33  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ). After 24 h, the reaction was stopped, and the slurry was centrifuged, washed  
34 three times with deionized water, and dried at room temperature. Then, a part of the  
35 coprecipitation medium and clean nickel foam was transferred into a 40 mL capacity  
36 Teflon-lined stainless steel autoclave and heated at 120 °C under autogenous pressure  
37 for 24 h. After the hydrothermal treatment, the autoclave was allowed to cool down to  
38 room temperature, and the resulting precipitate was recovered by centrifugation. The  
39 loaded nickel foam was washed several times through water and ethanol and then dried  
40 at room temperature.

### 41 Synthesis of CoNiP, CoP, and NiP

42 Briefly,  $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_2$  and Pre-CoNi were placed upstream and downstream in a corundum

1 tube of the tube furnace, respectively. Then, CoNiP was obtained by calcining the Pre-  
2 CoNi at 350 °C for 2 hours (rising temperature rate =2 °C min<sup>-1</sup>) under a nitrogen flow.  
3 Meanwhile, CoP and NiP were prepared via a similar phosphorization method to  
4 CoNiP. Only the corresponding precursors were changed.

5 **Mimic Enzyme Activity Assay.** The oxidase-like activity of samples was evaluated by  
6 direct catalytic oxidation of TMB. In the typical procedure, 400 μL of TMB solution (5  
7 mM DMSO) was added into 3mL of acetate buffer (1 M, pH=4.5), then injecting 50 μL  
8 of catalyst aqueous solution (1 mg/mL). Subsequently, the color reaction was  
9 monitored by determining the absorbance with a UV-vis spectrometer.

#### 10 **Characterization.**

11 Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and transmission electron microscopy (TEM)  
12 images were collected by using a Zeiss Gemini 300 microscope and a JEM 2100 F  
13 microscope, respectively. Elemental mappings were detected through energy-  
14 dispersive X-ray (EDX) spectroscopy. Powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns were  
15 recorded on a Thermo Ultima IV X-ray diffractometer. X-ray photoelectron  
16 spectroscopy (XPS) was analyzed via Thermo Scientific Escalab 250Xi. Electron  
17 paramagnetic resonance

18 (EPR) spectra were recorded on a Bruker EMXplus-6/1 spectrometer. An  
19 electrochemical workstation (CHI660E) was employed to analyze electrochemical  
20 impedance spectroscopy (EIS), cyclic voltammograms, and Tafel polarization curves  
21 in the 1 M KOH, wherein Ag/AgCl electrode and platinum electrodes acted as reference  
22 electrode and counter electrode, respectively.

#### 23 **The steady-state kinetic analyses**

24 The kinetic analysis was carried out according to the Michaelis–Menten equation as  
25 follows:

$$26 \frac{1}{V} = \left( \frac{K_m}{V_{max}} \right) * \left( \frac{1}{[S]} \right) + \frac{1}{V_{max}}$$

27 where  $K_m$  is the Michaelis constant,  $V_{max}$  is the maximum reaction velocity, and  $[S]$   
28 is the TMB concentration.

#### 29 **Electrochemical Measurements**

30 We conducted electrochemical measurements on a CHI 660E electrochemical  
31 workstation. Electrochemical data were collected at room temperature in an H-type cell  
32 (50 mL), in which the two chambers were separated by a Nafion 117 proton exchange  
33 membrane. The electrochemical tests were carried out with the three-electrode  
34 configuration, the as-synthesized catalyst on Ni foam ( $\approx 1.0 \times 1.0$  cm) was directly used  
35 as the working electrode, a silver/silver chloride (Ag/AgCl) and a platinum sheet (area:  
36 2 cm<sup>2</sup>) were used as the reference electrode and counter electrode, respectively. 1.0 M  
37 KOH (pH=13.8) with or without different concentrations of HMF were used as the  
38 electrolytes. Linear sweep voltammetry (LSV) was collected until the test results were  
39 kept stable at a scan rate of 5 mV s<sup>-1</sup>. All potentials in this study were referred to the  
40 reversible hydrogen electrode (RHE) according to the following equation:

$$41 E_{RHE} = E_{Ag/AgCl} + 0.197 \text{ V} + 0.0592 \cdot \text{pH} \quad (1)$$

42 Estimation of the electrochemical surface area: The electrochemical surface area

1 (ECSA) of the electrocatalyst was estimated from the electrochemical double-layer  
2 capacitance ( $C_{dl}$ ), which was investigated via cyclic voltammetry (CV) cycles. The CV  
3 was performed in 1.0 M KOH containing 5 mM HMF at various scan rates of 20, 40,  
4 60, 80, and 100  $\text{mV s}^{-1}$  in a non-faradaic potential window. Electrochemical impedance  
5 spectroscopy (EIS) tests were measured over a frequency range from  $10^{-2}$  to  $10^6$  Hz  
6 with an AC amplitude of 10 mV. The tests were carried out with the typical three-  
7 electrode configuration at 1.4 V vs. RHE.

## 8 **Products analysis**

9 The HMF, intermediates (HMFCa, FFCA, HMF, and DFF), and oxidation  
10 product (FDCA) were analyzed by high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC,  
11 Agilent 1290 Infinity II) with an ultraviolet (UV)–visible detector (wavelength: 265  
12 nm) and a Shim-pack GWS C18 (5  $\mu\text{m}$ , 4.6  $\times$  150 mm) column. The used electrolyte  
13 was 1 M KOH solution containing 40 mL 5 mM HMF. The mobile phase was 75%  
14 ammonium formate together with 25% methanol. The flow rate was 0.2  $\text{mL min}^{-1}$ .  
15 Before applying a constant potential, 50  $\mu\text{L}$  analyte was mixed with 950  $\mu\text{L}$  water. This  
16 mixture with a volume of 3  $\mu\text{L}$  was then injected into the HPLC. The column  
17 temperature was maintained at 35  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and each separation lasted for 25 min.

18 The conversion of HMF and the selectivity, faradaic efficiency (FE), and yield rate of  
19 FDCA were calculated according to Equations (2-4), respectively.

$$20 \text{ HMF conversion (\%)} = [n(\text{HMF consumed}) / n(\text{HMF initial})] \times 100 \quad (2)$$

$$21 \text{ Product yield (\%)} = [n(\text{product}) / n(\text{HMF initial})] \times 100 \quad (3)$$

$$22 \text{ Faradaic efficiency (\%)} = [n(\text{FDCA formed}) / (Q / (6 \times F))] \times 100 \quad (4)$$

23 Where  $Q$  is the total transferred charge,  $F$  represents the Faraday constant (96485 C  
24  $\text{mol}^{-1}$ ), and  $n$  is the mole number of reactant.

## 25 **In Situ Raman Spectroscopy**

26 *In situ* Raman experiments were carried out on a Cu belt. The electrolytic cell for in  
27 situ Raman Spectrum comprises a Teflon shell, Cu belt, Pt wire, and Ag/AgCl  
28 electrodes. All the electrochemical tests were carried out using the three-electrode  
29 configuration connected to an electrochemical workstation (CHI-660E). The counter  
30 electrode was a platinum wire for HER. The electrolyte is 1 M KOH with or without  
31 HMF for the HMF electrooxidation and OER testing.

## 32 **Density functional theory (DFT) Calculation**

33 The generalized gradient approximation (GGA)<sup>1</sup> with the Perdew–Burke–  
34 Ernzerhof exchange–correlation functional was employed to carry out the density  
35 functional theory (DFT) computations of the researched systems within the frame of  
36 Vienna ab initio simulation package (VASP).<sup>2, 3</sup> The DFT-D3 is used to describe van  
37 der Waals forces (vdW)<sup>4, 5</sup> correction was included to correct the dispersion  
38 interactions. The projector-augmented plane wave (PAW)<sup>6, 7</sup> was used for the  
39 description of the electronic interactions, and the kinetic energy cutoff was set as 500  
40 V for the plane wave expansion. We build a 2  $\times$  2-supercell of the CoNiP one molecule

1 thick, the 20 Å vacuum layer was constructed to avoid interactions between the layers  
 2 (Figure S11). The full relaxation of the geometric structures was adopted  $7 \times 7 \times 1$   
 3 Monkhorst-Pack grid k-points and their density of states (DOSs) was computed. The  
 4 convergence threshold is set as  $10^{-5}$  eV in energy and  $0.02$  eV Å<sup>-1</sup> in force.

5 The reaction-free energy ( $\Delta G$ ) calculations were performed using the Computational  
 6 Hydrogen Electrode (CHE) model. In this method, the chemical potential of ( $H^+ + e^-$ ) is  
 7 equal to half the chemical potential of  $H_2$ . The  $\Delta G$  for each step is given by the equation:

8

9

$$\Delta G = \Delta E - T\Delta S + ZPE - |e|U.$$

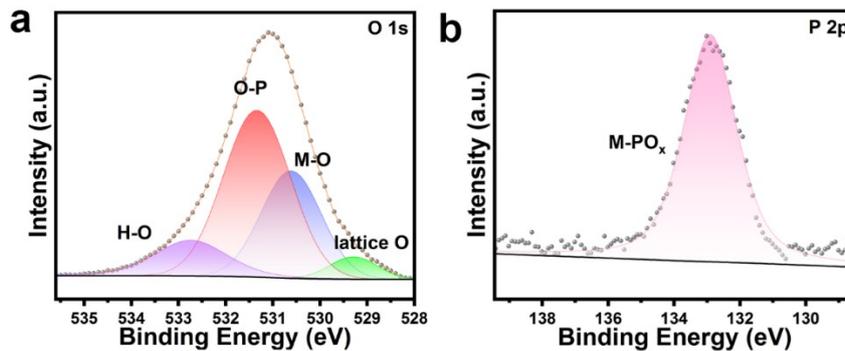
10 where  $\Delta E$ , ZPE, and  $\Delta S$  correspond to the change in the total energy directly obtained  
 11 from DFT calculation and the differences of zero-point energy and entropy before and  
 12 after adsorption, respectively. T is set to 298.15K.

13 The adsorption energy of  $H_2O$  on the doped surface was calculated using the  
 14 following formula:

15

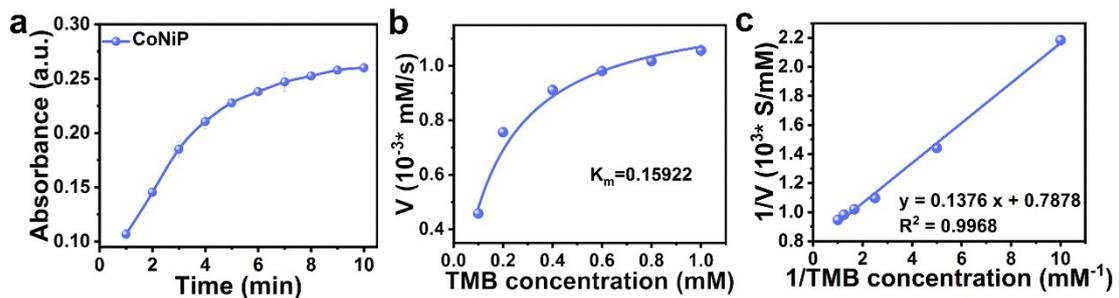
$$\Delta E_{\text{ads}} = E_{*H_2O} - E_* - E_{H_2O}$$

16 where  $E_{*H_2O}$  is the total energy of the adsorbed  $H_2O$  on the catalyst,  $E_*$  is the energy of  
 17 the catalyst itself, and  $E_{H_2O}$  is the total energy of  $H_2O$ .



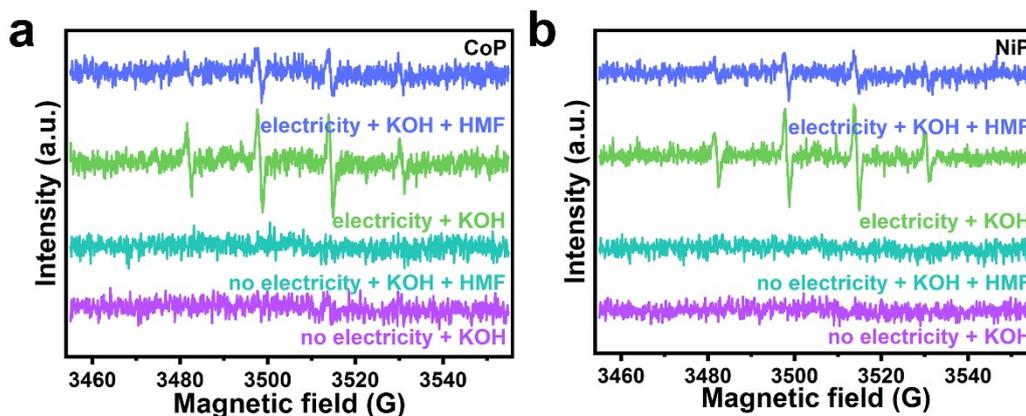
18

19 Fig. S1 XPS spectra of the CoNiP: (a) O 1s, (b) P 2p.



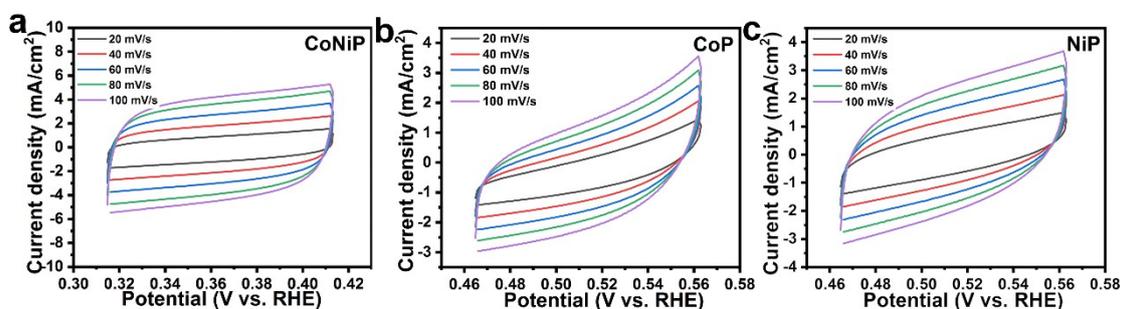
20

- 1 Fig. S2 The steady-state kinetic analysis of CoNiP enzyme-like catalysts after stored  
 2 at room temperature for 30 days.



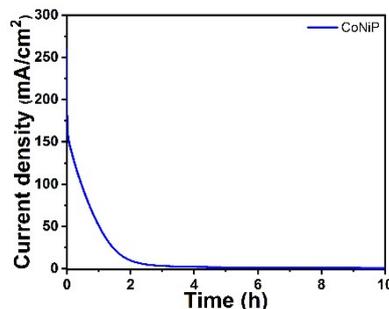
3

- 4 Fig. S3 EPR spectra of CoNiP over different reaction conditions.



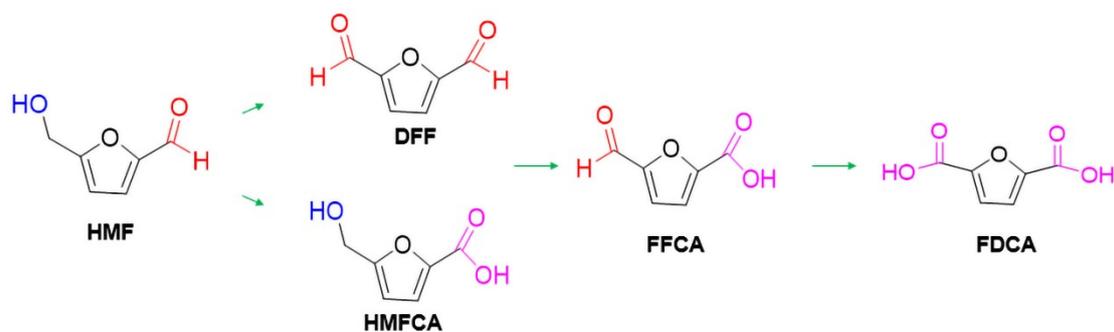
5

- 6 Fig. S4 Cyclic voltammograms of (a) CoNiP, (b) CoP, (c) NiP.



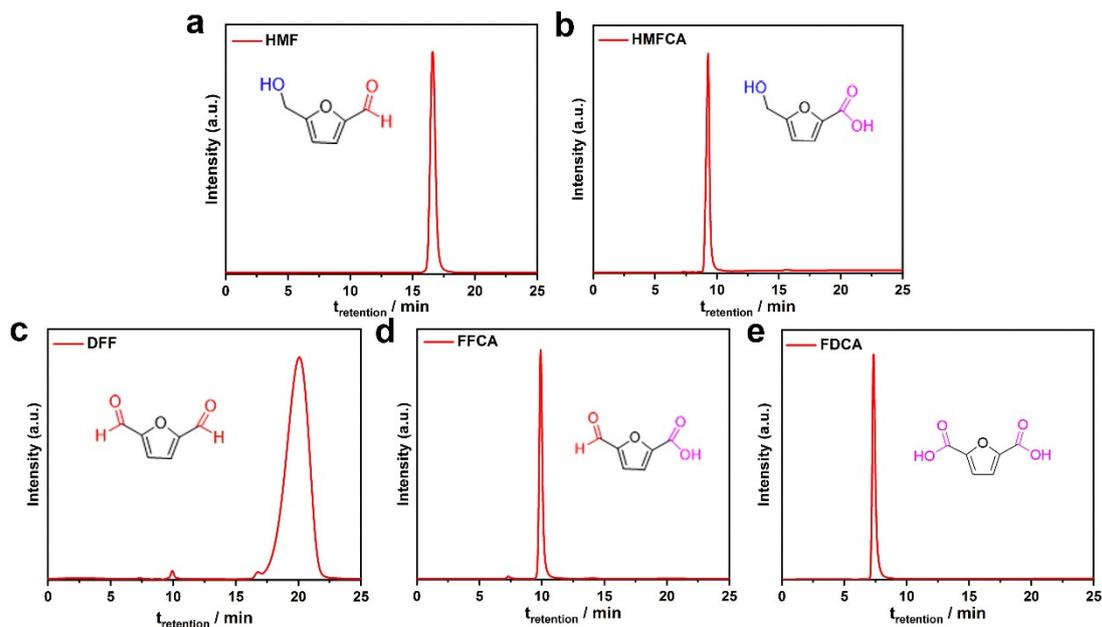
7

- 8 Fig. S5 Corresponding current changes over time of the chronoamperometry test of  
 9 CoNiP at 1.4 V in 1.0 M KOH with 5 mM HMF.



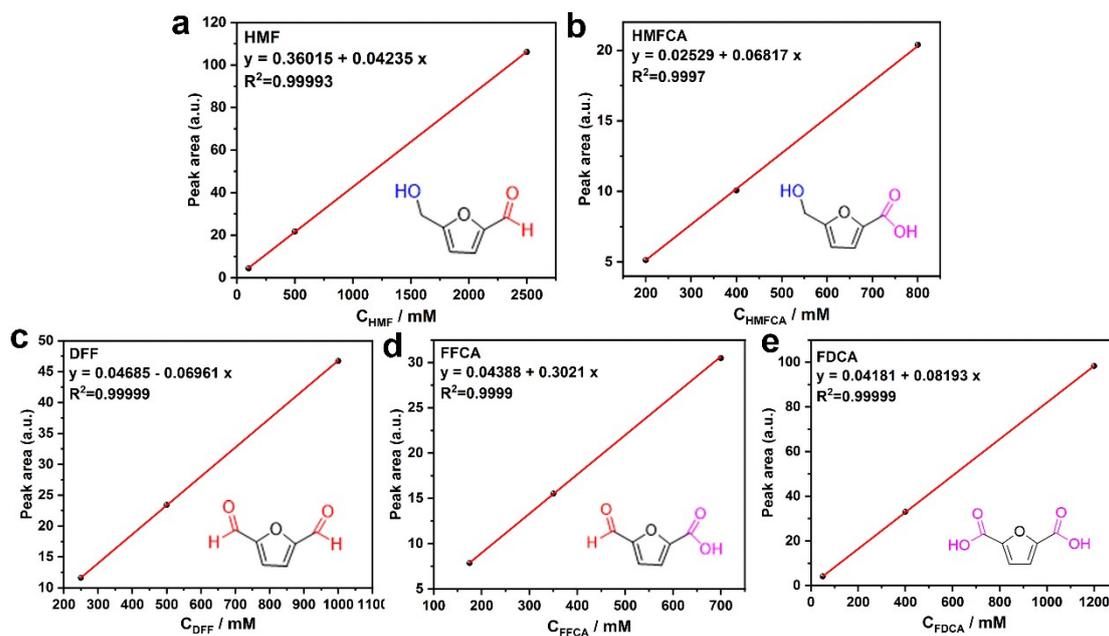
10

- 11 Fig. S6 Two pathways of HMF oxidation reactions.



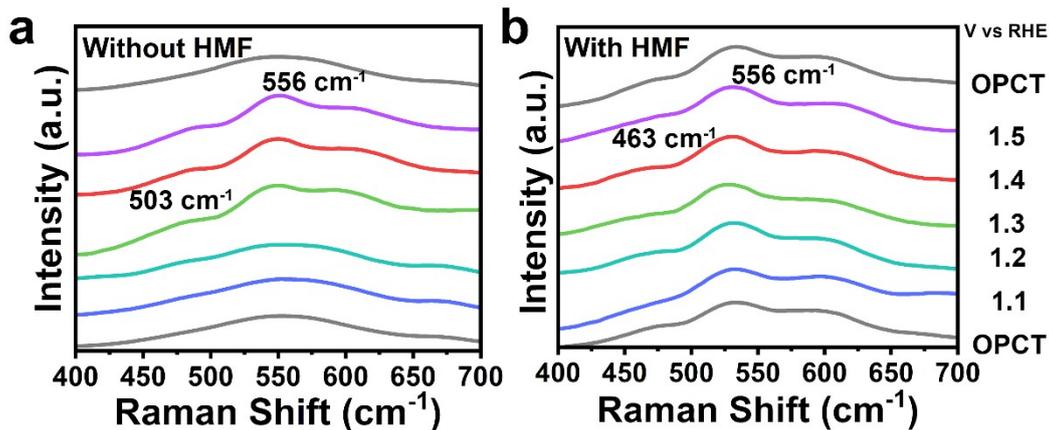
1

2 Fig. S7 HPLC traces of the HMF and intermediates (HMFCFA, DFF, and FFCA) and  
 3 final oxidation product FDCA. The mobile phase was 75% ammonium formate together  
 4 with 25% methanol. The flow rate was 0.2 mL min<sup>-1</sup>. The column temperature was  
 5 maintained at 35 °C, and each separation lasted for 25 min.

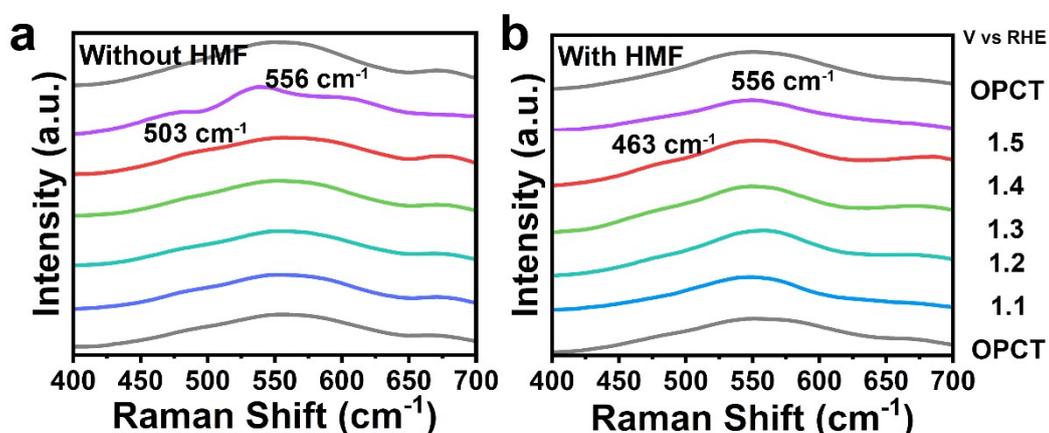


6

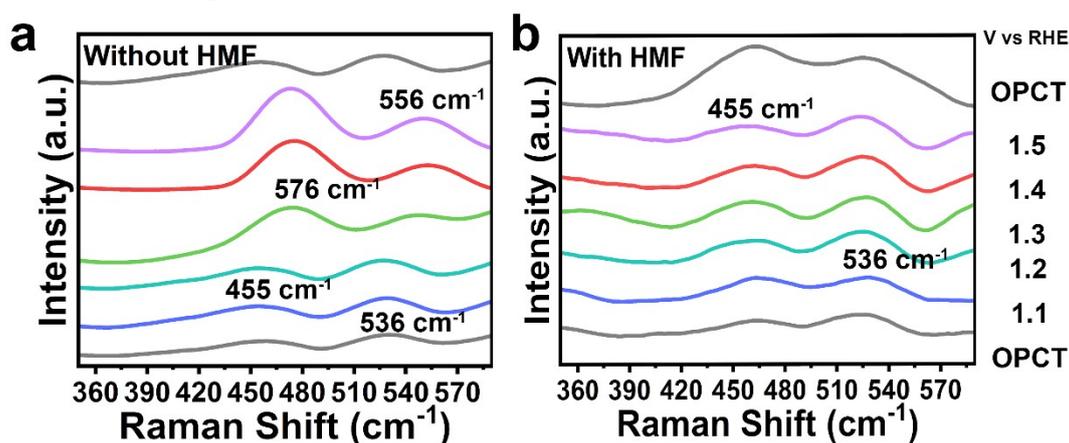
7 Fig. S8 HPLC standard curves of (a) HMF, (b) DFF, (c) HMFCFA, (d) FFCA, (e)  
 8 FDCA.



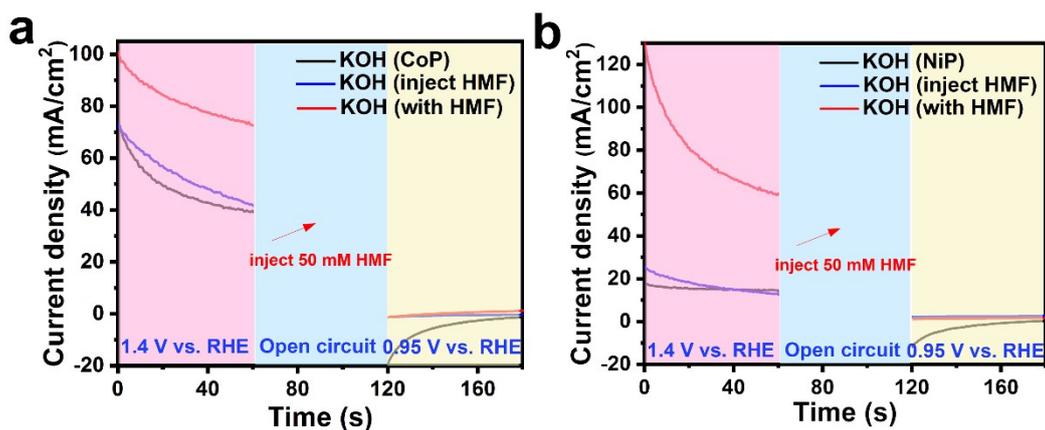
1  
 2 Fig. S9 *In situ* Raman spectra of CoNiP in 1 M KOH (a) without and (b) with 10 mM  
 3 HMF in different potentials.



4  
 5 Fig. S10 *In situ* Raman spectra of CoP in 1 M KOH (a) without and (b) with 10 mM  
 6 HMF in different potentials.

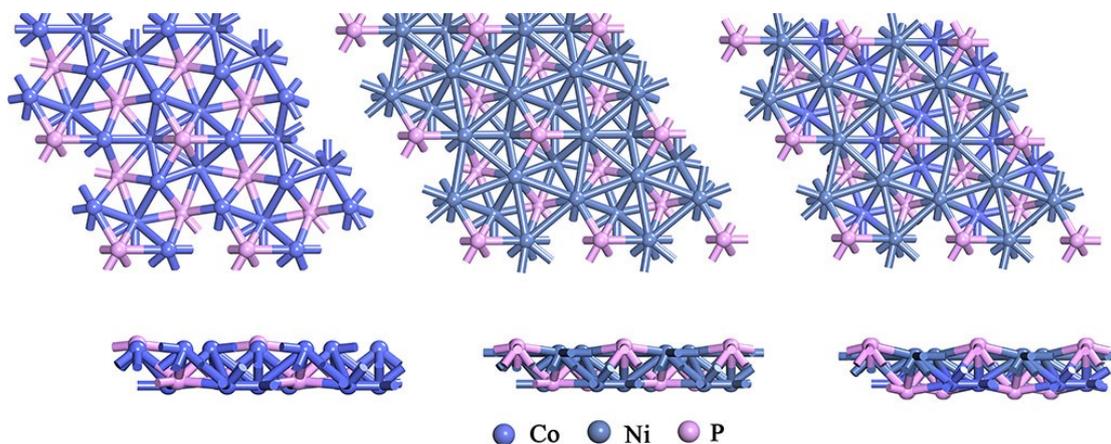


7  
 8 Fig. S11 *In situ* Raman spectra of NiP in 1 M KOH (a) without and (b) with 10 mM  
 9 HMF in different potentials.



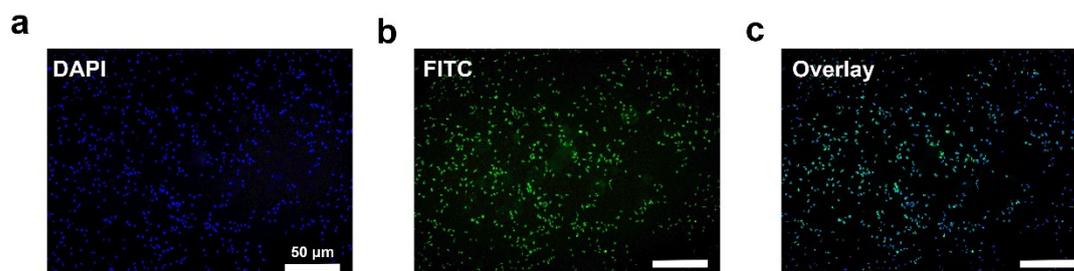
1

2 Fig. S10 Multi-potential step curves of the CoP and NiP.



3

4 Fig. S11 Calculation of the constructed models for CoNiP, CoP, and NiP.



5

6 Fig. S12 CLSM images of HeLa cells incubated with DAPI and FITC-decorated  
7 CoNiP for 0.5 h.

8

9 Table S1. The relative energies (eV) for the H<sub>2</sub>O doped at different sites of CoP, NiP and CoNiP.

Catalysis	S <sub>Co</sub>	S <sub>Ni</sub>	S <sub>Co-P</sub>	S <sub>Ni-P</sub>
CoP	-244.72	-	-244.72	-
NiP	-	-215.19	-	-215.19
CoNiP	-	-258.56	-	-258.04

10

11 1. K. B. John P. Perdew, \* Matthias Ernzerhof, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 1996, **77**, 3865.

12 2. G. Kresse and J. Hafner, *Phys. Rev. B.*, 1993, **47**, 558-561.

13 3. G. Kresse and J. Hafner, *Phys. Rev. B.*, 1994, **49**, 14251-14269.

- 1 4. M. C. V. X. Wu, S. Nayak, V. Lotrich, G. Scoles, *J. Chem. Phys.* , 2001, **115**, 8748-
- 2 8757.
- 3 5. S. Grimme, *J. Comput. Chem.*, 2006, **27**, 1787-1799.
- 4 6. P. E. Blöchl, *Phys. Rev. B.*, 1994, **50**, 17953-17979.
- 5 7. D. J. G. Kresse, *Phys. Rev. B.*, 1999, **59**, 1758.
- 6