Supporting Information

Oxygen Evolution Reaction on the NiFe-LDH/(Ni, Fe)OOH: Theoretical Insights into the effects of electronic structure and spin-state evolution

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1. Supplementary Figures:



Figure S1. Atomic model structure of β -Ni(OH)₂ unit Cell, (a) top view, (b) side view. The pink, red and gray sphere present H, O and Ni, respectively.



Figure S2. Atomic model structure of single layer $Ni(OH)_2$ (3×3 supercell), (a) top view, (b) side view. The pink, red and gray sphere present H, O and Ni, respectively.



Figure S3. Atomic model structure of (a) 001, (b) 100, and (c) 110 surfaces of Ni(OH)₂. The pink, red and gray sphere present H, O and Ni, respectively.



Figure S4. Atomic structures of (a) 0, (b) 1, (c)2 and (d)3 substitutional Fe ions on Ni(OH)₂ surface. The pink, red, gray and golden sphere present H, O, Ni and Fe, respectively.



Figure S5. Proposed OER pathways with *OH, *O and *OOH intermediates (a) on Fe active site, (b) on Ni active site. The pink, red, gray and golden sphere present H, O, Ni and Fe, respectively.



Figure S6. Atomic model structure of (a) NiFe(OH)₂, (b) NiFe(OH)₂ - 3H, (c)
NiFe(OH)₂ - 6H, (d) NiFe(OH)₂ - 9H and (e) NiFe(OH)₂ - 12H. The pink, red, gray and golden sphere present H, O, Ni and Fe, respectively.



Figure S7. Atomic model structure of catalyst * and intermediates *OH, *O, and
*OOH adsorption on the (a) Fe and (b) Ni site of Ni(OH)₂ surface. The pink, red, gray and golden sphere present H, O, Ni and Fe, respectively.



Figure S8. Atomic model structure of catalyst * and intermediates *OH, *O, and
*OOH adsorption on the (a) Fe and (b) Ni site of Ni(OH)₂ - 3H surface. The pink, red, gray and golden sphere present H, O, Ni and Fe, respectively.



Figure S9. Atomic model structure of catalyst * and intermediates *OH, *O, and
*OOH adsorption on the (a) Fe and (b) Ni site of Ni(OH)₂ - 6H surface. The pink, red, gray and golden sphere present H, O, Ni and Fe, respectively.



Figure S10. Atomic model structure of catalyst * and intermediates *OH, *O, and
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Figure S11. Atomic model structure of catalyst * and intermediates *OH, *O, and
*OOH adsorption on the (a) Fe and (b) Ni site of Ni(OH)₂ - 12H surface. The pink, red, gray and golden sphere present H, O, Ni and Fe, respectively.



Figure S12. Proposed OER pathways with *OH, *O and *OOH intermediates on Ni active site. Gibbs free energy diagram for the OER at Ni site on the surface of (a) NiFe(OH)₂, (b) NiFe(OH)₂ - 3H, (c) NiFe(OH)₂ - 6H, (d) NiFe(OH)₂ - 9H, (e) NiFe(OH)₂ - 12H .(f) The computed overpotential as a function of the number of lost H on the NiFe-LDH surface.



Figure S13. Proposed OER pathways with OH*, O* and OOH* intermediates on Fe active site of (a) NiFe(OH)₂ and (b) NiFe(OH)₂ - 12H surface. Black line: No spin flip after adsorption intermediates; orange line: Fe spin flip after adsorption OH and OOH.



Figure S14. Calculated charge density differences between NiFe(OH)₂ - 3H and OOH, the iso-surface is 0.01 electron/Å³ (yellow: charge accumulation; blue: charge depletion). The pink, red, gray and golden sphere present H, O, Ni and Fe, respectively.



Figure S15. Spin density: (a) before and (b) after the Fe spin flip in the NiFe(OH)₂ -3H adsorbing OOH, with the latter being energetically more favorable. The isosurface is 0.02 electron/Å³. (red: spin up; green: spin down). The pink, red, gray and golden sphere present H, O, Ni and Fe, respectively.



Figure S16. Computed PDOS of Fe-3d and O-2p (end O of OOH group) of OOH adsorption on (a) NiFe(OH)₂ - 6H, (b) NiFe(OH)₂ - 9H. S8

2. Supplementary Tables:

Table S1. The properties of $Ni(OH)_2$ (00)	01), (100), and (110) surfaces.
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Surface	Surface energy	Coordination number	
	(γ, eV)	(surface Ni)	
(001)	0.023	6	
(100)	0.042	5	
(110)	0.055	4	

Table S2: The calculated energies for different amounts of substitutional Fe ions are presented. E_{fer} and E_{anti} represent the total energies of the ferromagnetic and antiferromagnetic states, respectively.

Amount of Fe ions	E _{fer} /eV	E _{anti} /eV	E _{anti} - E _{fer} /eV
0	-605.34	-605.35	-0.01
1	-609.07	-609.09	-0.02
2	-613.67	-614.44	-0.77
3	-619.06	-619.08	-0.02