

# **Achieving Self-supported Nanoporous Cu Catalysts with Good Conductivity for Hydrogen Evolution via Dealloying Amorphous Ribbons**

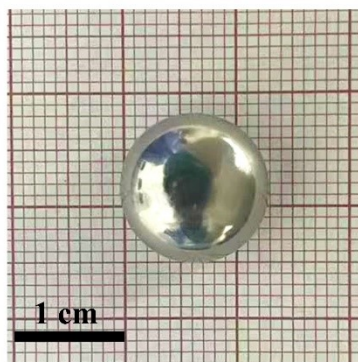
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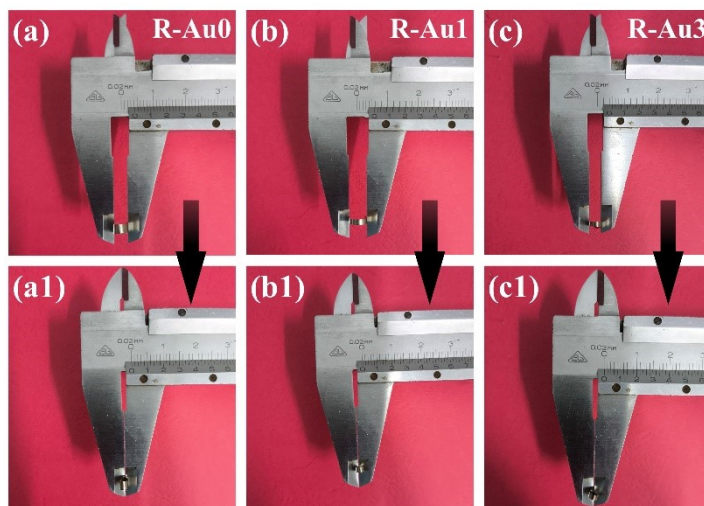
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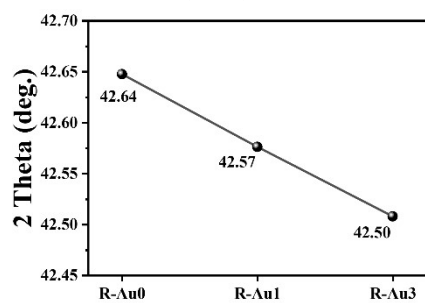
*c. State Grid Shandong Electric Power Research Institute, Jinan, 250002, China.*



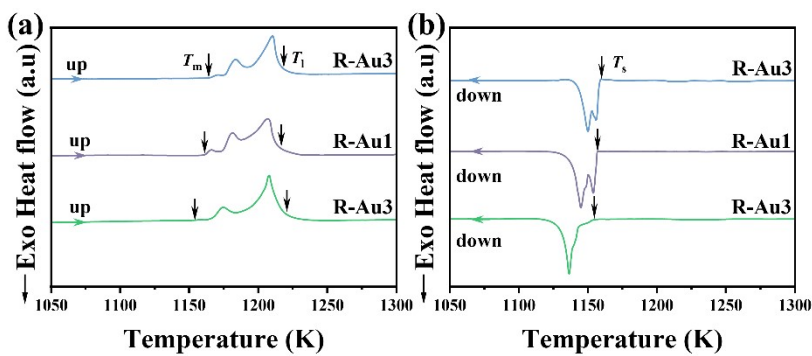
**Figure S1** The photograph of  $\text{Cu}_{57}\text{Au}_3\text{Ti}_{40}$  alloy ingot.



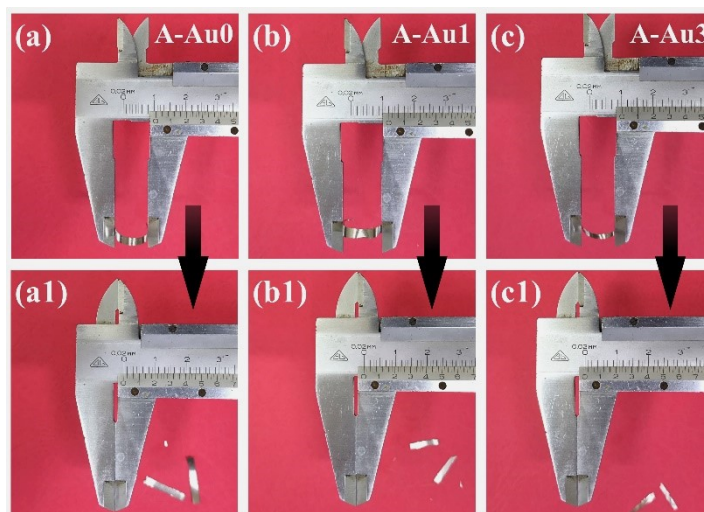
**Figure S2** The photograph of R-Au0 ribbon (a, a1), R-Au1 ribbon (b, b1), R-Au3 ribbon (c, c1).



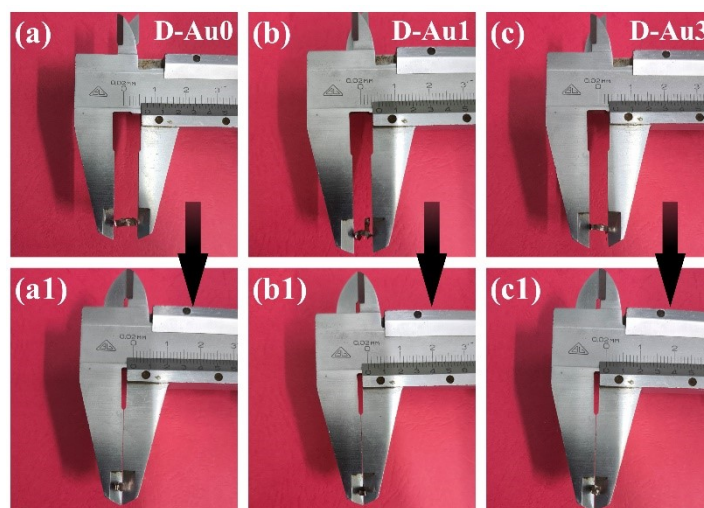
**Figure S3** Diffuse scattering peak position of the as-spun ribbons.



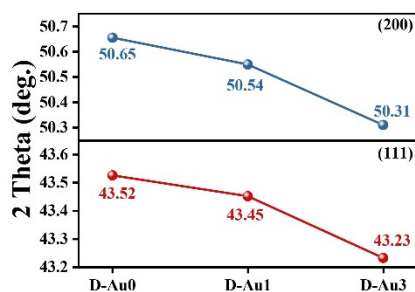
**Figure S4** DSC curves of as-spun ribbons in the high-temperature region: (a) heating stage, (b) cooling stage.



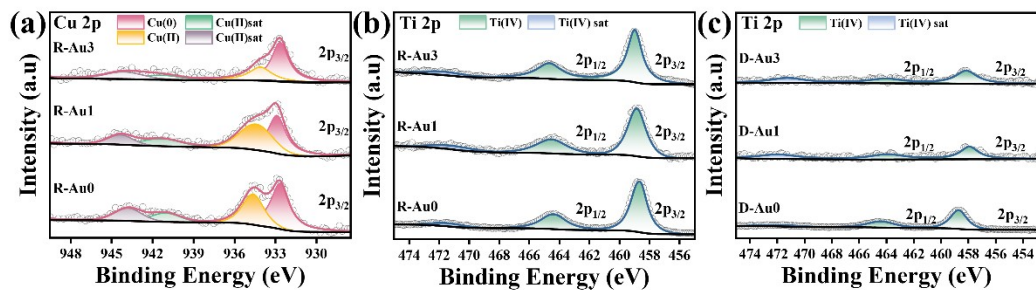
**Figure S5** The photograph of A-Au0 ribbon (a, a1), A-Au1 ribbon (b, b1), A-Au3 ribbon (c, c1).



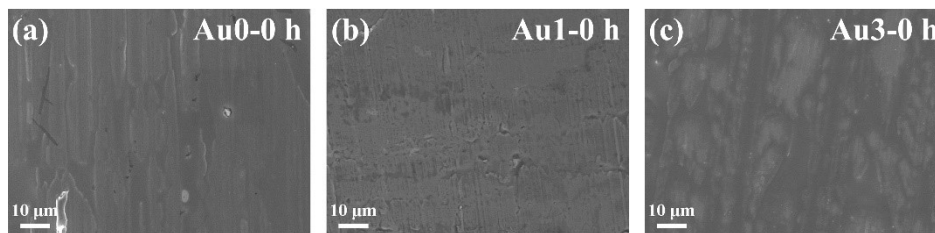
**Figure S6** The photograph of D-Au0 ribbon (a, a1), D-Au1 ribbon (b, b1), D-Au3 ribbon (c, c1).



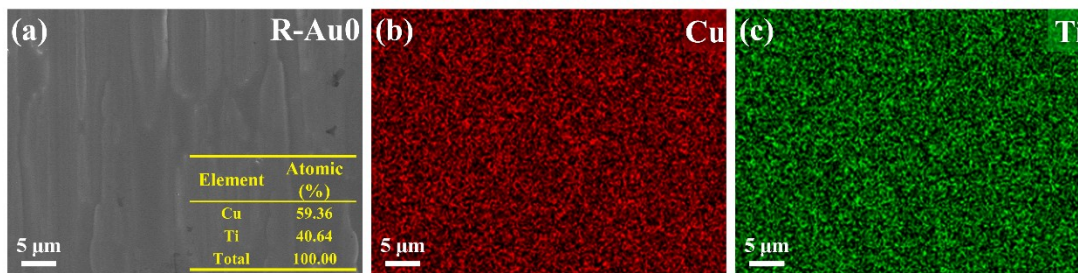
**Figure S7** Diffuse scattering peak position of the as-dealloyed ribbons.



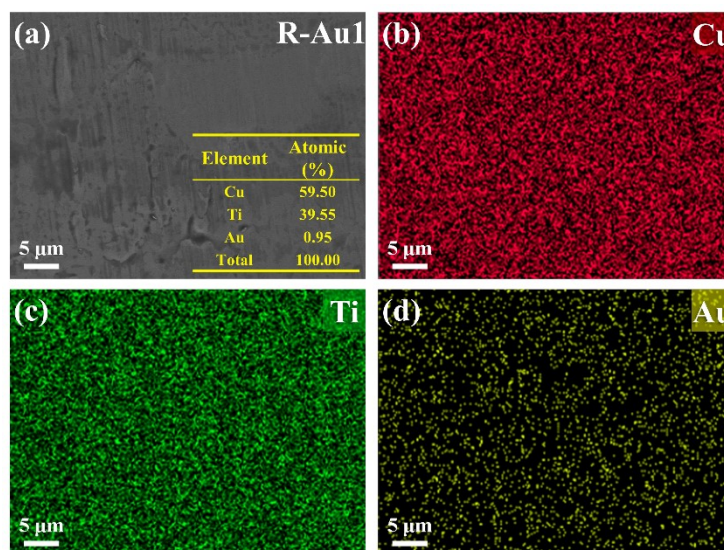
**Figure S8** (a) Cu 2p and (b) Ti 2p spectra of the as-spun ribbons, (c) Ti 2p spectra of the as-dealloyed ribbons.



**Figure S9** Plan-view SEM images of R-Au0 (a), R-Au1 (b), R-Au3 (c) before dealloying.



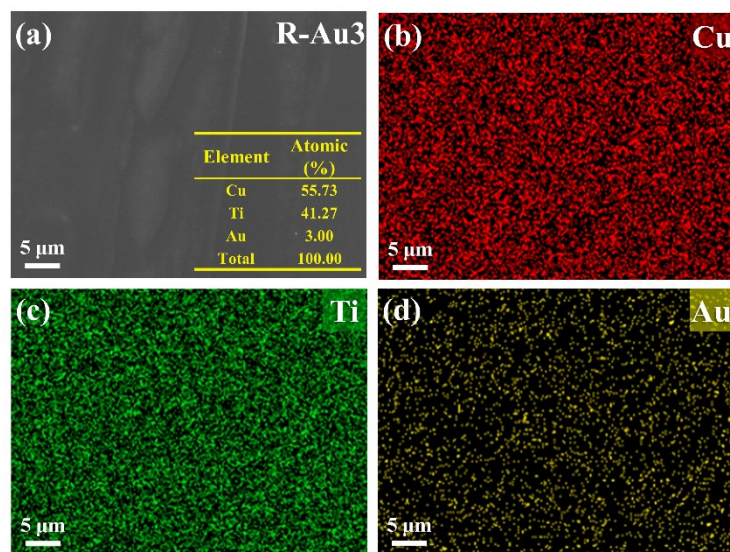
**Figure S10** (a) Plain-view SEM image and EDX result of the plane, (b,c) corresponding elemental mapping images of R-Au0.



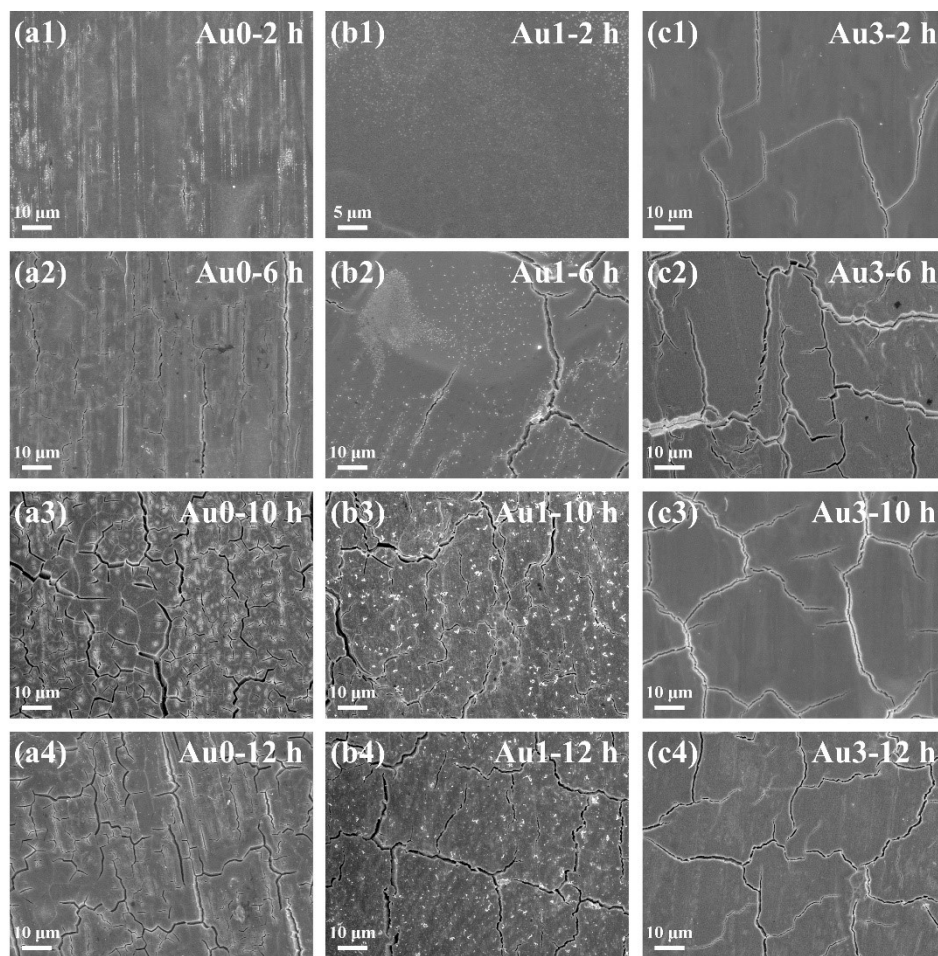
**Figure S11** (a) Plain-view SEM image and EDX result of the plane, (b-d) corresponding elemental



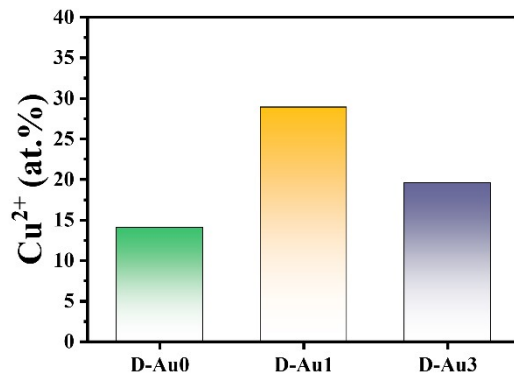
mapping images of R-Au1.



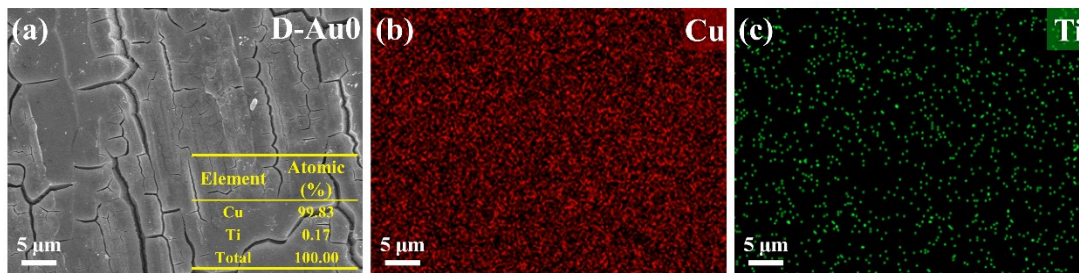
**Figure S12** (a) Plain-view SEM image and EDX result of the plane, (b-d) corresponding elemental mapping images of R-Au3.



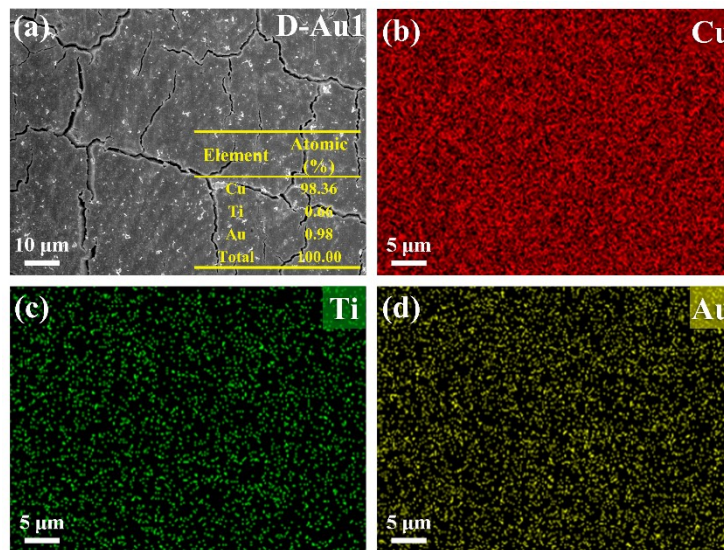
**Figure S13** Plan-view SEM images of R-Au0 (a1-a4), R-Au1 (b1-b4) and R-Au3 (c1-c4) for different dealloying time.



**Figure S14** The content of Cu<sup>2+</sup> (at.%) in as-dealloyed ribbons.

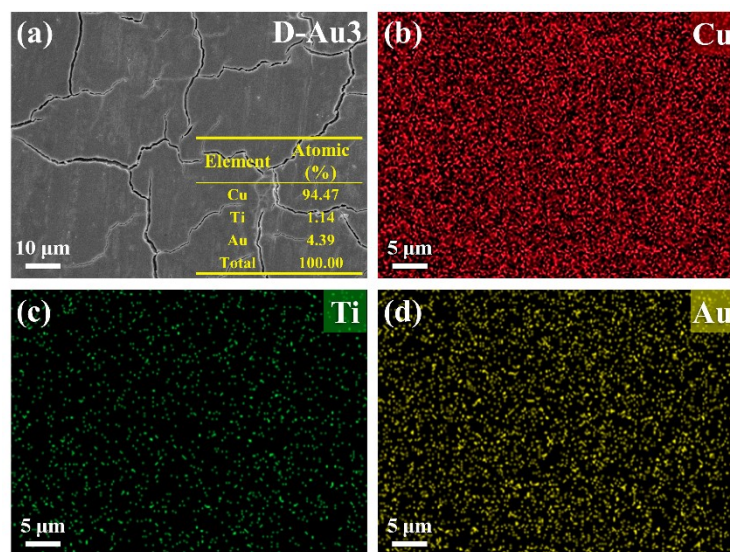


**Figure S15** (a) Plain-view SEM image and EDX result of the plane, (b,c) corresponding elemental mapping images of D-Au0.

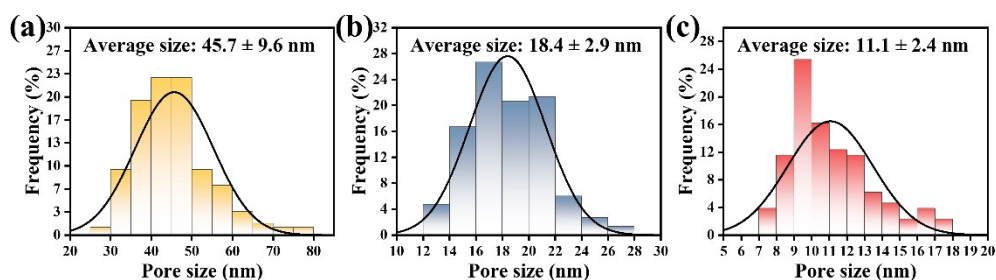


**Figure S16** (a) Plain-view SEM image and EDX result of the plane, (b-d) corresponding elemental mapping images of D-Au1.

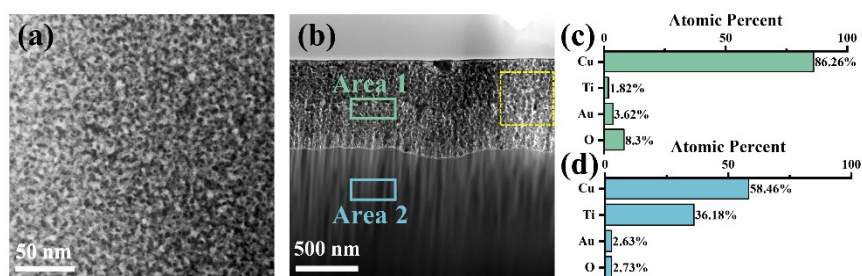




**Figure S17** (a) Plain-view SEM image and EDX result of the plane, (b-d) corresponding elemental mapping images of D-Au3.

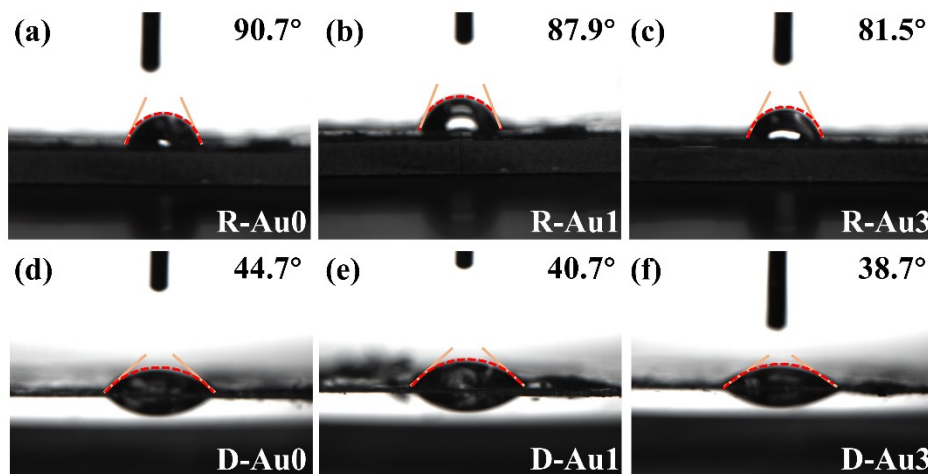


**Figure S18** Pore size distribution of (a) D-Au0, (b) D-Au1, and (c) D-Au3 ribbon.

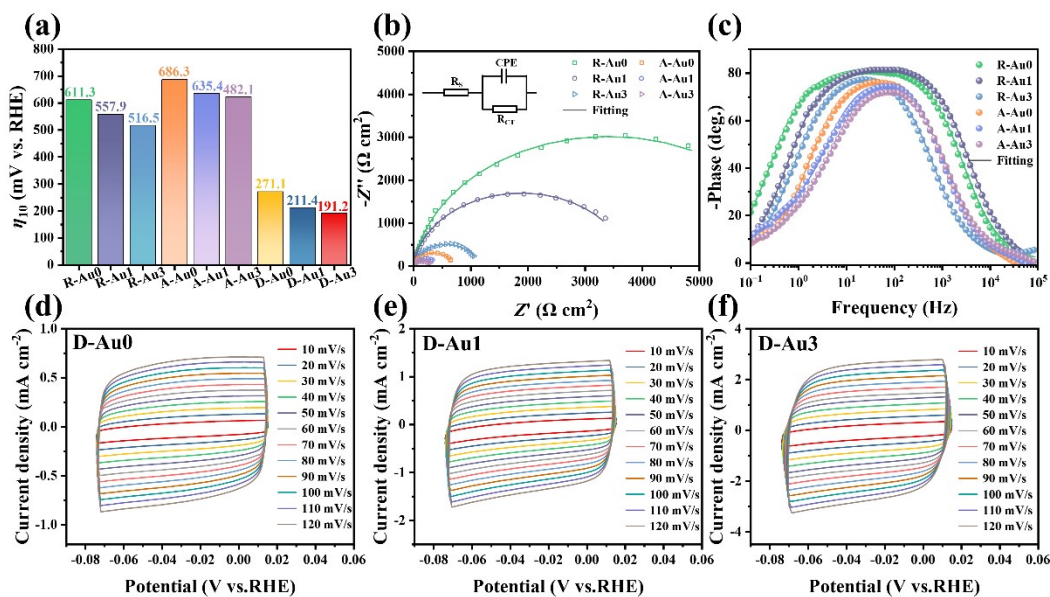


**Figure S19** (a)TEM image of R-Au3 ribbon, (b) cross-sectional SEM image of D-Au3 ribbon, EDX result of area 1(c) and area 2(d) in (b).

The area enclosed by the yellow box in Figure S19b is enlarged in Fig 3f.



**Figure S20** Droplet contact angles in 1 M KOH solution of (a) R-Au0, (b) R-Au1, (c) R-Au3, (d) D-Au0, (e) D-Au1, and (f) D-Au3.



**Figure S21** (a) Overpotential  $\eta_{10}$  of all the ribbons, (b) Nyquist plots and (c) Bode phase angle plots of as-spun and as-annealed ribbons, CV curves at different scan rate (10  $\text{mV s}^{-1}$ -120  $\text{mV s}^{-1}$ ) for (d) D-Au0, (e) D-Au1, and (f) D-Au3 ribbon.

Turnover frequency (TOF) in this work was calculated based on the method of Liu et al.<sup>1</sup> and Tian et al.<sup>2</sup>. In the HER region, the TOF per active sites can be calculated via the following equation:



$$\begin{aligned}
\text{TOF} &= \frac{jA_{\text{geo}}}{nxF} \\
&= \frac{\text{\#total hydrogen turnovers per second}}{\text{\#active sites}} \\
&= \frac{jA_{\text{geo}} N_A / 2F}{A_{\text{ECSA}} \cdot \text{\#active sites}} \\
&= j \times \frac{A_{\text{geo}}}{A_{\text{ECSA}}} \times \frac{1}{\text{\#surface sites}} \times \frac{N_A}{2F} \\
&= j \times \frac{A_{\text{geo}}}{A_{\text{ECSA}}} \times \frac{1}{\text{\#surface sites}} \times 3.12 \times 10^{15}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $j$  is the geometric current density (mA/cm<sup>2</sup>),  $A_{\text{geo}}$  is the geometric area of catalytic surface (cm<sup>2</sup>),  $N_A$  is the Avogadro constant ( $N_A = 6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$ ),  $F$  is the Faraday constant ( $F = 96485.3 \text{ C} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$ ),  $A_{\text{ECSA}}$  is the electrochemically active surface area of catalyst (cm<sup>2</sup>), #surface sites is the number of active sites per real surface area (atoms/cm<sup>2</sup>).

Element parameters of Cu, Au as are listed below:

| Element | Crystal structure | Lattice constant | Numbers of atoms/Unit | Volume/Unit (nm <sup>3</sup> ) | #Surface sites (atoms/cm <sup>2</sup> ) |
|---------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Cu      | FCC               | 0.3615           | 4                     | 0.04724                        | $1.93 \times 10^{15}$                   |
| Au      | FCC               | 0.4068           | 4                     | 0.06732                        | $1.53 \times 10^{15}$                   |

$$\text{\#surface sites}_{\text{D-Au0}} = f_{\text{Cu}} \text{\#surface sites}_{\text{Cu}} = 1.928 \times 10^{15}$$

$$\text{\#surface sites}_{\text{D-Au1}} = f_{\text{Cu}} \text{\#surface sites}_{\text{Cu}} + f_{\text{Au}} \text{\#surface sites}_{\text{Au}} = 1.921 \times 10^{15}$$

$$\text{\#surface sites}_{\text{D-Au3}} = f_{\text{Cu}} \text{\#surface sites}_{\text{Cu}} + f_{\text{Au}} \text{\#surface sites}_{\text{Au}} = 1.908 \times 10^{15}$$

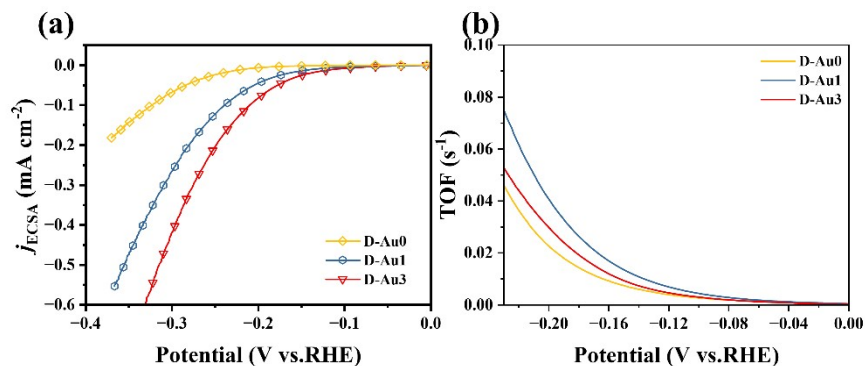
Finally, the TOF can be expressed as a function of current density as follows:

$$\text{TOF}_{\text{D-Au0}} = j \times \frac{0.4}{59.8} \times \frac{3.12 \times 10^{15}}{1.928 \times 10^{15}} = 0.01081j$$

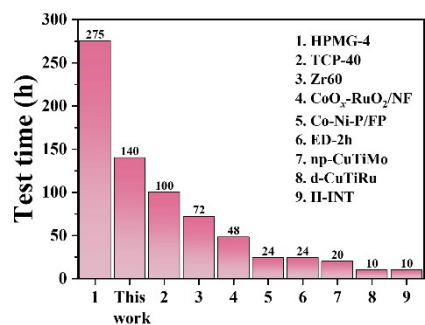
$$\text{TOF}_{\text{D-Au1}} = j \times \frac{0.4}{124.8} \times \frac{3.12 \times 10^{15}}{1.921 \times 10^{15}} = 0.005208j$$

$$\text{TOF}_{\text{D-Au3}} = j \times \frac{0.4}{263.8} \times \frac{3.12 \times 10^{15}}{1.908 \times 10^{15}} = 0.002477j$$

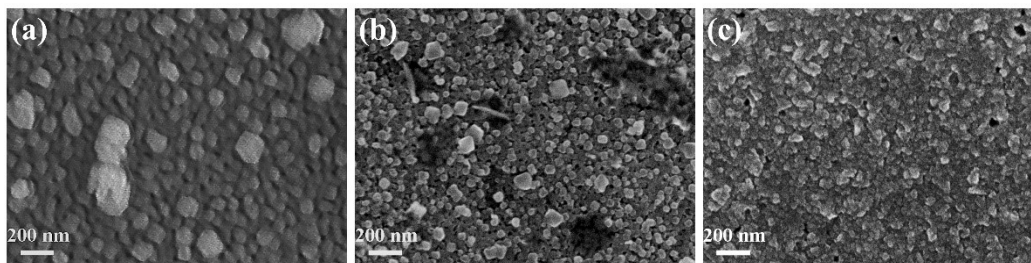
The corresponding TOF curves are as shown in Fig. S22b.



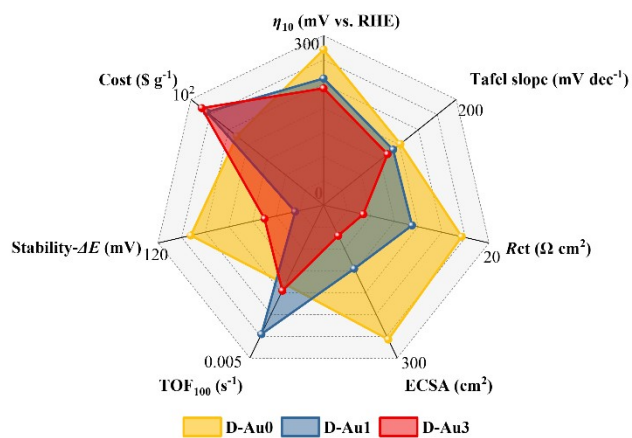
**Figure S22** (a) ECSA-normalized LSV curves of D-Au0, D-Au1, and D-Au3, (b) the calculated TOF curves of as-dealloyed ribbons for HER.



**Figure S23** The comparison with other stability test durations.



**Figure S24** The SEM images of (a) D-Au0, (b) D-Au1, and (c) D-Au3 ribbon after HER stability test.



**Figure S25** The comparison of the performances of the three catalysts (D-Au0, D-Au1, D-Au3).



**Table S1** EDX results in Figure1i (SEM area and point scanning results).

| Element   | Cu (at.%) | Ti (at.%) | Au (at.%) | Total |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Figure 1h | 58.1      | 38.6      | 3.3       | 100   |
| Point 1   | 57.0      | 39.7      | 3.3       | 100   |
| Point 2   | 56.8      | 40.1      | 3.1       | 100   |
| Point 3   | 66.8      | 30.3      | 2.9       | 100   |
| Point 4   | 67.3      | 29.9      | 2.8       | 100   |

**Table S2** Thermal parameters deduced from the as-spun ribbons like crystallization temperature ( $T_x$ ), melting starting temperature ( $T_m$ ), liquidus temperature ( $T_l$ ), solidification temperature ( $T_s$ ), solidification temperature range ( $\Delta T_{l-m} = T_l - T_m$ ), supercooling temperature ( $\Delta T_{l-s} = T_l - T_s$ ), and reduced glass transition temperature ( $T_{rx} = T_{x1}/T_l$ ).

|              | $T_{x1}$ (K) | $T_{x2}$ (K) | $T_m$ (K) | $T_l$ (K) | $T_s$ (K) | $\Delta T_{l-m}$ (K) | $\Delta T_{l-s}$ (K) | $T_{rx}$ |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|----------|
| <b>R-Au0</b> | 684.8        | 694.1        | 1154.1    | 1220.5    | 1154.3    | 66.4                 | 66.2                 | 0.561    |
| <b>R-Au1</b> | 685.6        | 695.9        | 1160.6    | 1217.1    | 1156.1    | 56.5                 | 61.0                 | 0.563    |
| <b>R-Au3</b> | 690.1        | 702.8        | 1163.3    | 1218.7    | 1158.2    | 55.4                 | 60.5                 | 0.566    |

**Table S3** The binding energy of Cu 2p, Ti 2p, Au 4f XPS spectra for as-spun and as-dealloyed ribbons.

| Sample       | Binding Energy (eV) |                  |                  |       |
|--------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|-------|
|              | Cu                  | Cu <sup>2+</sup> | Ti <sup>4+</sup> | Au    |
|              | 2p3/2               | 2p3/2            | 2p3/2            | 4f7/2 |
| <b>R-Au0</b> | 932.7               | 934.6            | 458.6            | -     |
| <b>D-Au0</b> | 932.6               | 935.0            | 458.7            | -     |
| <b>R-Au1</b> | 932.9               | 934.4            | 458.8            | 85.2  |
| <b>D-Au1</b> | 932.5               | 934.8            | 457.9            | 84.6  |
| <b>R-Au3</b> | 932.7               | 934.1            | 459.0            | 84.9  |
| <b>D-Au3</b> | 932.5               | 934.9            | 458.1            | 84.6  |

**Table S4** The peak area of Cu 2p, Ti 2p, Au 4f XPS spectra for as-spun and as-dealloyed ribbons.

| Sample       | Peak Area (counts·eV) |                   |                   |                   |
|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|              | Cu                    | Cu <sup>2+</sup>  | Ti <sup>4+</sup>  | Au                |
|              | 2p3/2                 | 2p3/2             | 2p3/2             | 4f7/2             |
| <b>R-Au0</b> | $7.1 \times 10^3$     | $4.1 \times 10^3$ | $1.5 \times 10^4$ | -                 |
| <b>D-Au0</b> | $5.9 \times 10^4$     | $1.2 \times 10^4$ | $6.9 \times 10^3$ | -                 |
| <b>R-Au1</b> | $7.7 \times 10^3$     | $6.8 \times 10^3$ | $4.9 \times 10^3$ | $1.7 \times 10^2$ |
| <b>D-Au1</b> | $4.5 \times 10^4$     | $2.1 \times 10^4$ | $8.1 \times 10^2$ | $1.9 \times 10^3$ |
| <b>R-Au3</b> | $2.0 \times 10^3$     | $9.2 \times 10^2$ | $5.7 \times 10^3$ | $2.4 \times 10^2$ |
| <b>D-Au3</b> | $6.0 \times 10^4$     | $1.7 \times 10^4$ | $9.9 \times 10^2$ | $2.2 \times 10^3$ |

**Table S5** The comparison with other stability test durations and whether the corresponding change values are reported.

| Materials                              | Time (h) | Indicate the change amount | References |
|----------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------|------------|
| HPMG-4                                 | 275      | No                         | 3          |
| D-CuAu                                 | 140      | Yes                        | This work  |
| TCP-40                                 | 100      | No                         | 4          |
| Zr60                                   | 72       | No                         | 5          |
| CoO <sub>x</sub> -RuO <sub>2</sub> /NF | 48       | No                         | 6          |
| Co-Ni-P/FP                             | 24       | No                         | 7          |
| ED-2h                                  | 24       | No                         | 8          |
| np-CuTiMo                              | 20       | No                         | 9          |
| d-CuTiRu                               | 10       | No                         | 2          |
| H-INT                                  | 10       | No                         | 1          |

**Table S6** The comparison of overpotential, conductance and costs of this work with other typical HER catalysts in 1 M KOH.

| Materials                                                                                     | Overpotential<br>$\eta_{10}$ (mV) | Conductance<br>(S·cm <sup>-2</sup> ) | Costs (\$·g <sup>-1</sup> ) | References |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| D-CuRu                                                                                        | 35                                | 0.7143                               | 1.249                       | 2          |
| D-CuPt                                                                                        | 63                                | 0.0641                               | 3.954                       | 4          |
| Rh <sub>26.1</sub> Ru <sub>28.7</sub> Pt <sub>8.6</sub> Pd <sub>16.3</sub> Ir <sub>20.3</sub> | 65                                | 0.0236                               | 104.082                     | 10         |
| Ir <sub>25</sub> Ni <sub>33</sub> Ta <sub>42</sub>                                            | 232                               | 0.0175                               | 52.283                      | 1          |
| Cu <sub>20</sub> W <sub>80</sub>                                                              | 181                               | 0.0097                               | 0.022                       | 11         |
| NiB@Cu                                                                                        | 221.2                             | 0.0082                               | 0.009                       | 12         |
| NP-NiP                                                                                        | 320                               | 0.0042                               | 0.013                       | 13         |
| Fe <sub>40</sub> Ni <sub>20</sub> Co <sub>20</sub> P <sub>15</sub> C <sub>5</sub>             | 355                               | 0.0010                               | 0.010                       | 14         |
| (FeCoNi) <sub>70</sub> Cu <sub>30</sub>                                                       | 94                                | 0.0004                               | 0.014                       | 15         |
| D-Au3                                                                                         | 191.2                             | 0.0917                               | 10.425                      | This work  |

## References

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