

# Supporting Information

## Coordination Engineering of Ru-N-C Based OER Catalysts

### Guided by the $\Delta G_{*OH}$ Descriptor: A Theoretical Study

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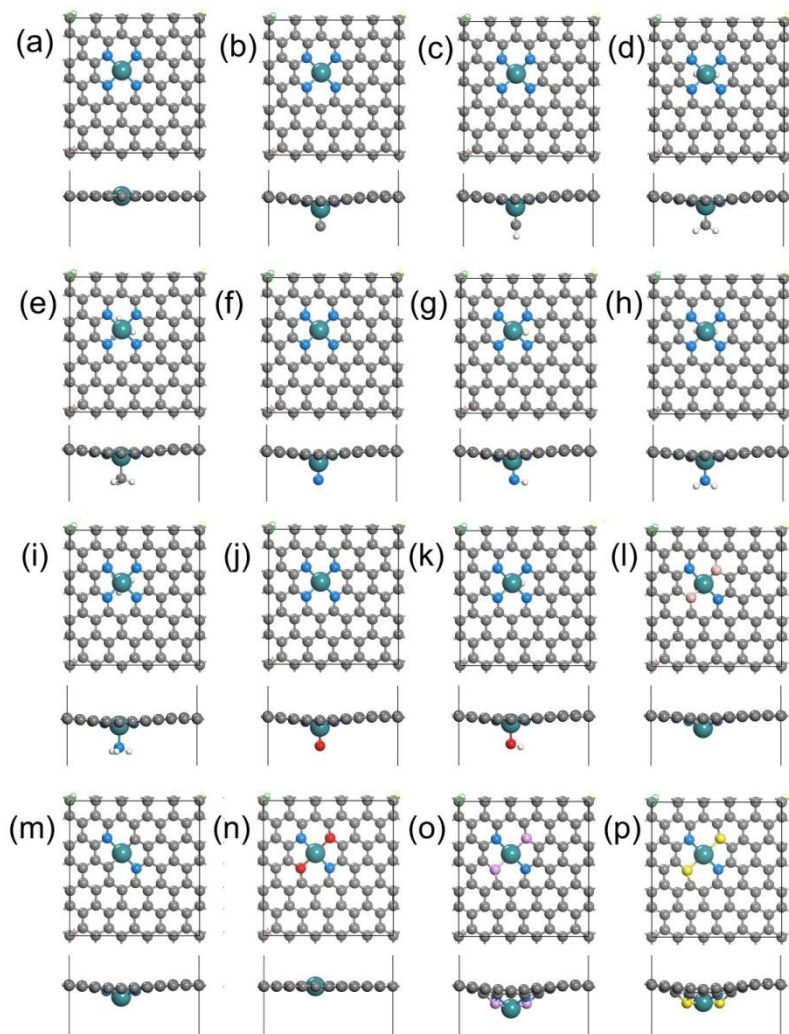


Figure S1. The optimized structures of (a) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>, (b) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>, (c) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>CH-C<sub>10</sub>, (d) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>, (e) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>, (f) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>N-C<sub>10</sub>, (g) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>NH-C<sub>10</sub>, (h) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>, (i) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>NH<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>, (j) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>O-C<sub>10</sub>, (k) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>OH-C<sub>10</sub>, (l) Ru-N<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>, (m) Ru-N<sub>2</sub>C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>, (n) Ru-N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>, (o) Ru-N<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>, (p) Ru-N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>.

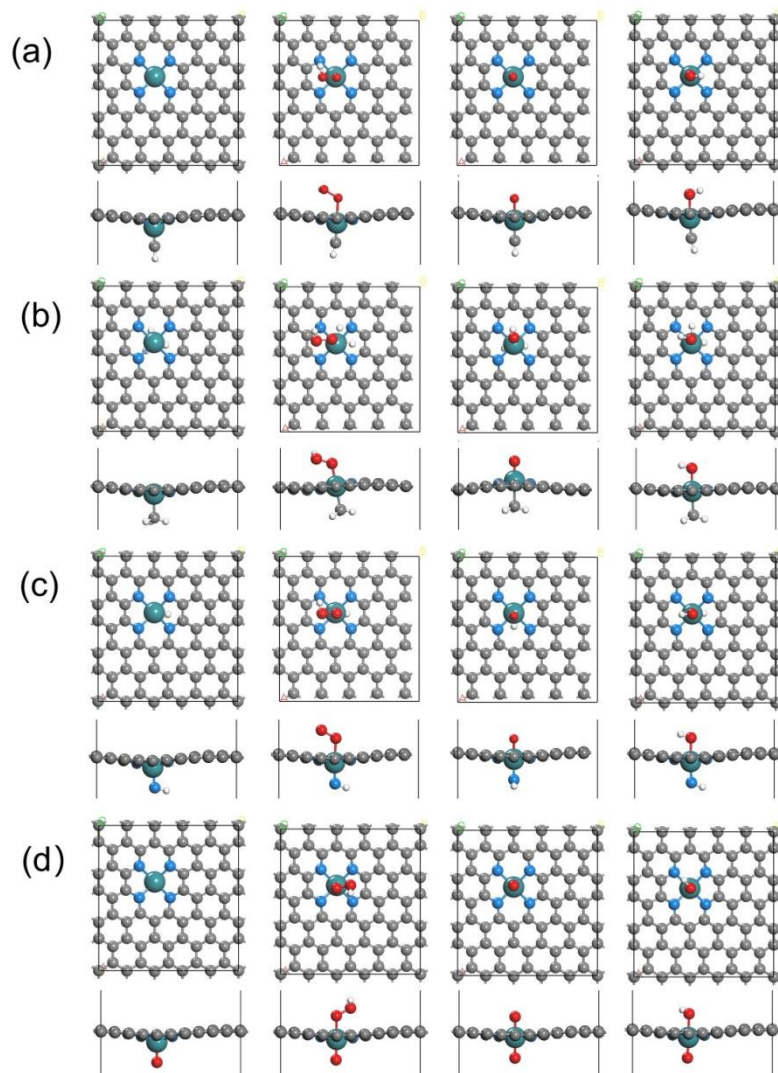


Figure S2 The optimized structures of  $^*OOH$ ,  $^*O$  and  $^*OH$  on (a)  $Ru-N_4CH-C_{10}$ , (b)  $Ru-N_4CH_3-C_{10}$ , (c)  $Ru-N_4NH-C_{10}$ , (d)  $Ru-N_4O-C_{10}$ .

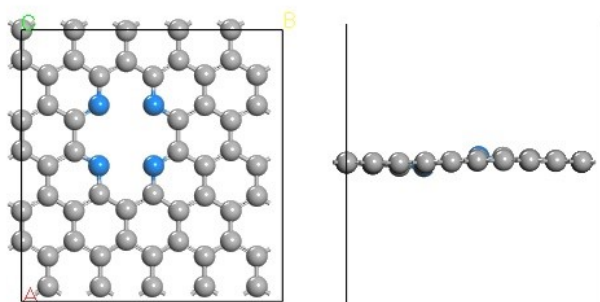


Figure S3 The optimized structures of N doped Graphene.

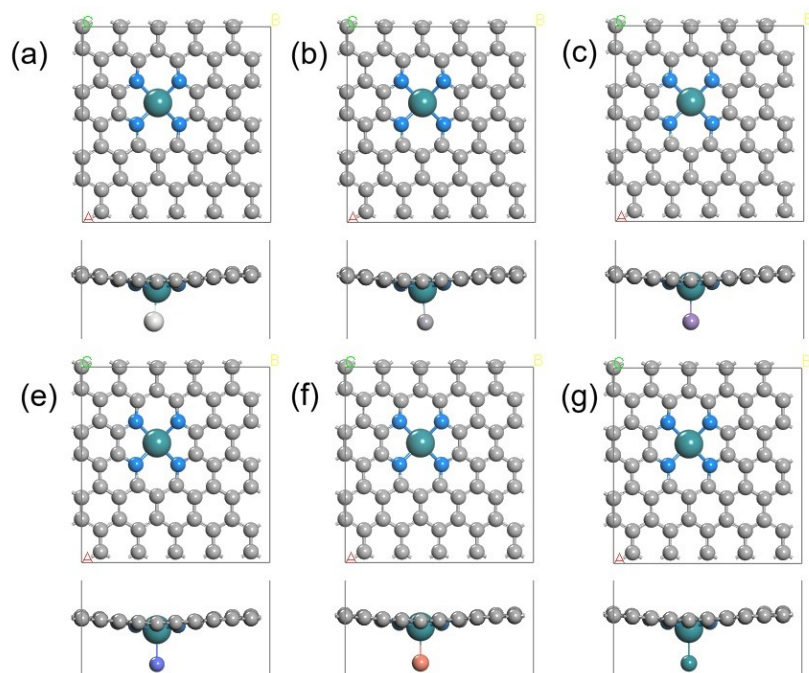


Figure S4 The optimized structures of (a) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>Sc-C<sub>10</sub>, (b) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>V-C<sub>10</sub>, (c) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>Mn-C<sub>10</sub>, (d) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>Co-C<sub>10</sub>, (d) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>Cu-C<sub>10</sub>, (d) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>Ru-C<sub>10</sub>.

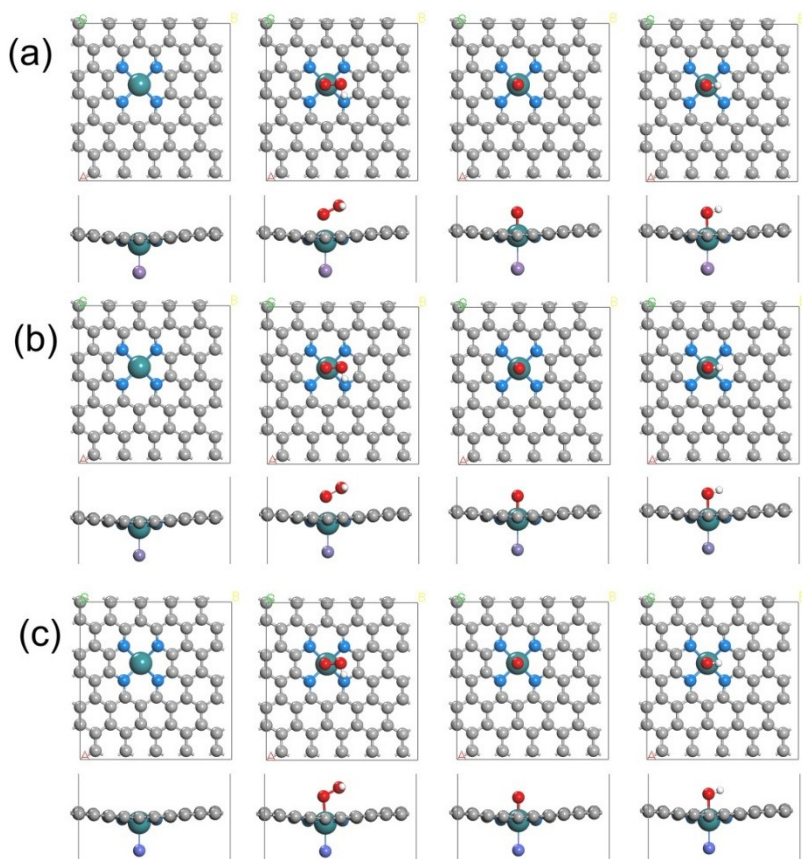


Figure S5 The optimized structures of \*OOH, \*O and \*OH on (a) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>Mn-C<sub>10</sub>, (b) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>Fe-C<sub>10</sub>, (c) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>Co-C<sub>10</sub>.

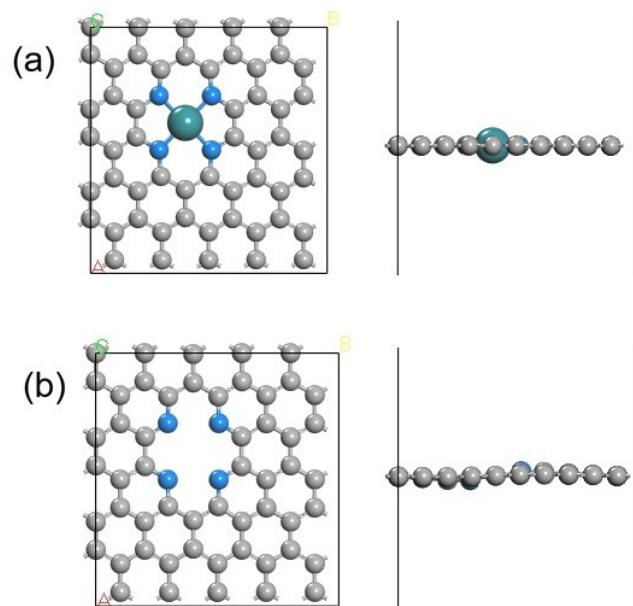


Figure S6 The optimized structures of (a) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>M-C<sub>10</sub> with removed M, (b) N doped Graphene

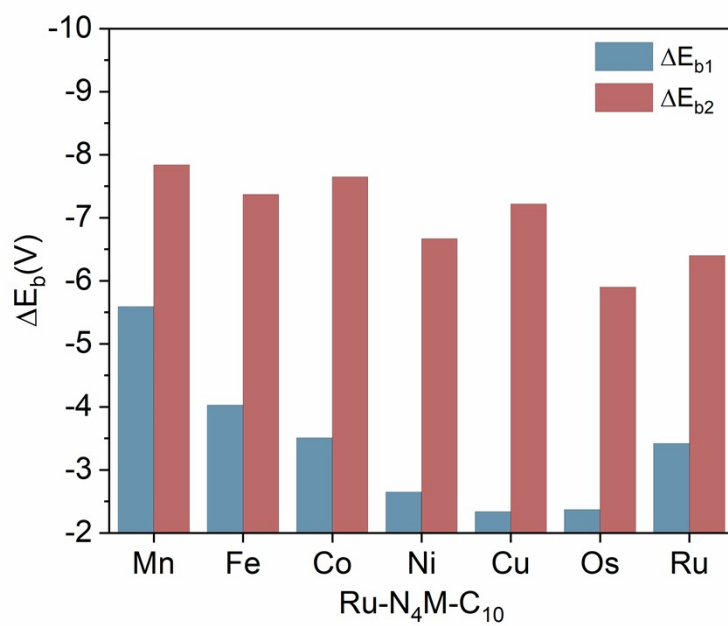


Figure S7 The binding energy comparison of Rh-N<sub>4</sub>M-C<sub>10</sub> OER (M=Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Os, Ru) catalysts.

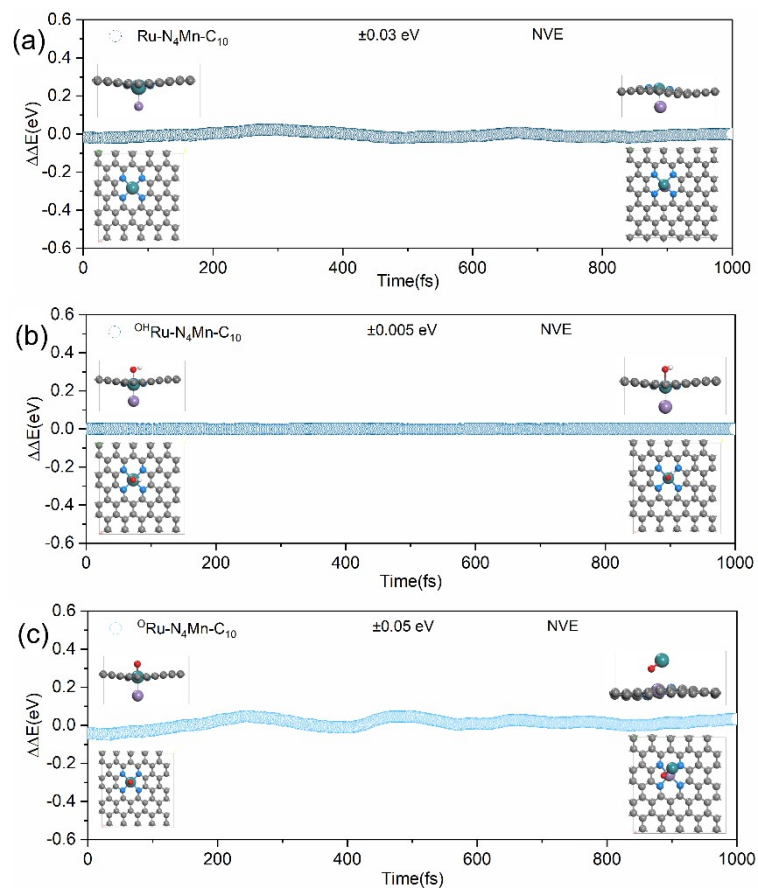


Figure S8. Dynamic stability of (a) Ru-N<sub>4</sub>Mn-C<sub>10</sub>, (b) <sup>OH</sup>Ru-N<sub>4</sub>Mn-C<sub>10</sub> and (c) <sup>O</sup>Ru-N<sub>4</sub>Mn-C<sub>10</sub> from AIMD simulations

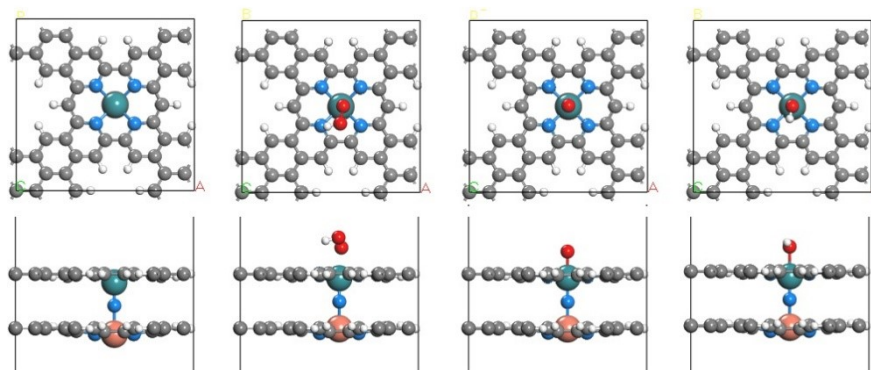


Figure S9 The optimized structures of <sup>\*</sup>OOH, <sup>\*</sup>O and <sup>\*</sup>OH on Ru-CuN<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>.

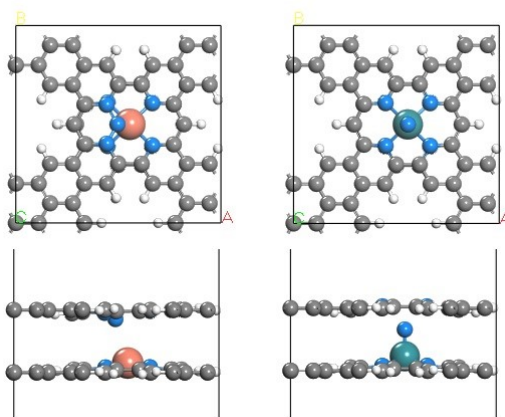


Figure S10 The optimized structures of (a) Ru-CuN<sub>4</sub>M-C<sub>10</sub> and (b) Ru-CuN<sub>4</sub>M-C<sub>10</sub> with removed Ru

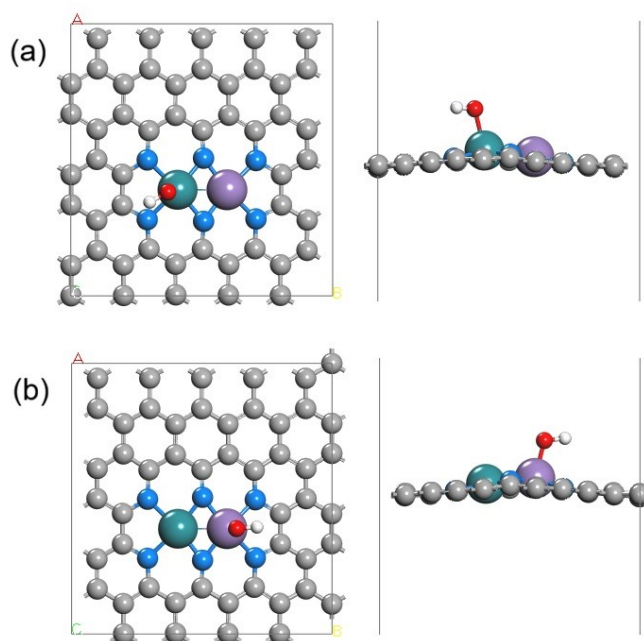


Figure S11 The optimized structures of \*OH on (a) Ru site and (b) Mn site of RuMn-N<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>.

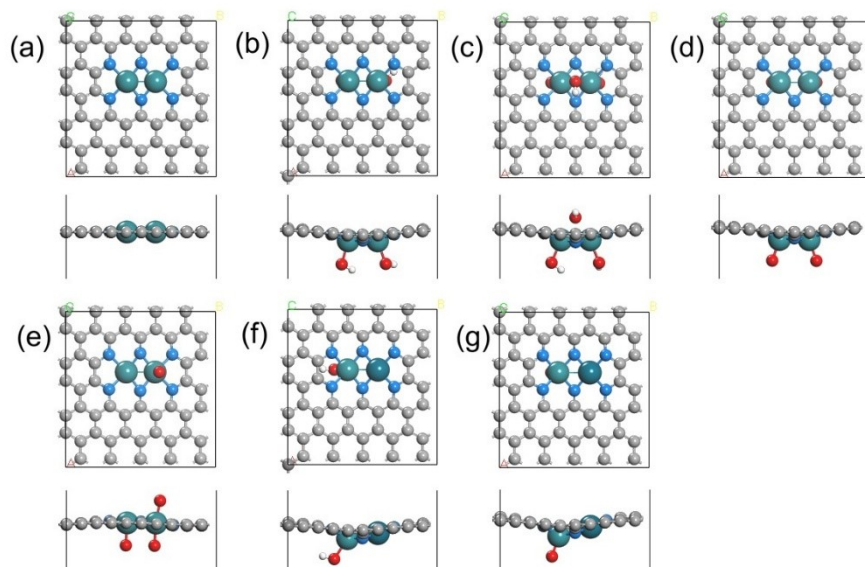


Figure S12 The optimized structures of (a) RuRu-NC, (b) RuRu-O1, (c) RuRu-O2, (d) RuRu-O3, (e) RuRu-O4, (f) RuIr-O1R and (g) RuIr-O3R.

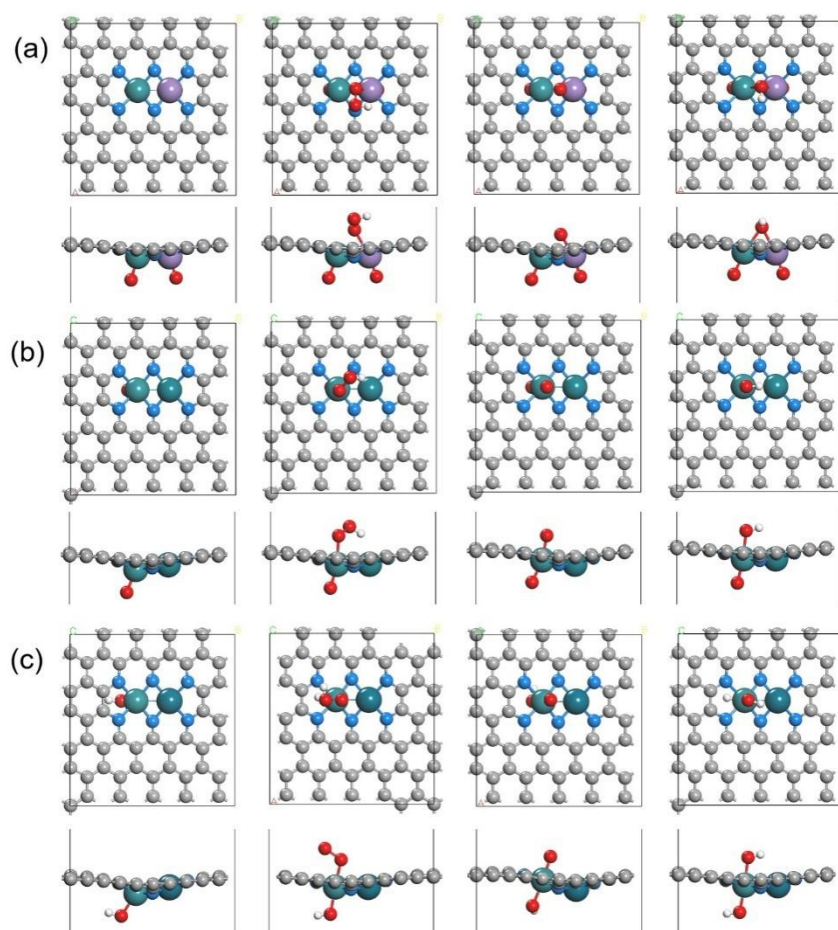


Figure S13 The optimized structures of  $^*OOH$ ,  $^*O$  and  $^*OH$  on (a) RuMn-NC-O3, (b) RuRh-NC-O3R and (c) RuPd-NC-O3R.

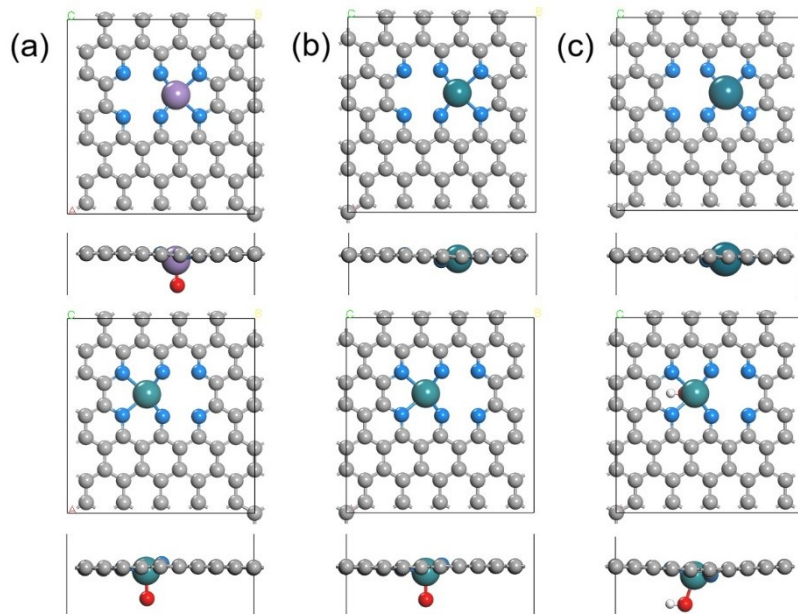


Figure S14 The optimized structures of (a) RuMn-NC-O3, (b) RuRh-NC-O1R, (c) RuPd-NC-O1R with removed Ru<sup>x</sup> and M<sup>x</sup>.

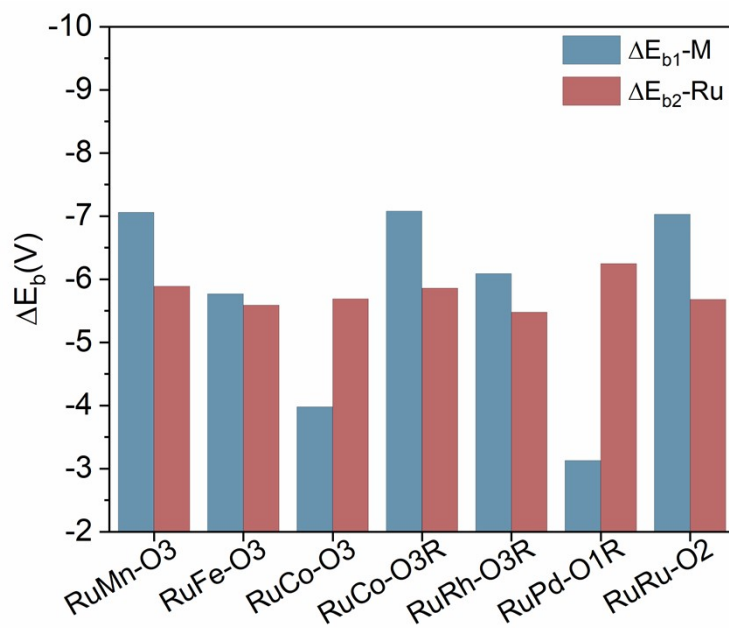


Figure S15 The binding energy comparison of RuMn-NC-O3, RuFe-NC-O3, RuCo-NC-O3, RuCo-NC-O3R, RuRh-NC-O3R, RuPd-NC-O1R, RuRu-NC-O2.

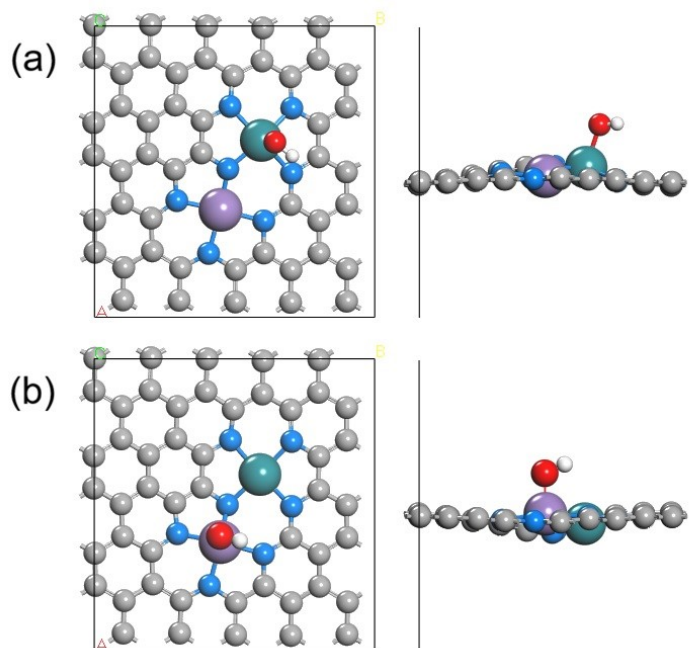


Figure S16 The optimized structures of  $^*OH$  on (a) Ru site and (b) Mn site of  $RuN_4-MnN_4$ .

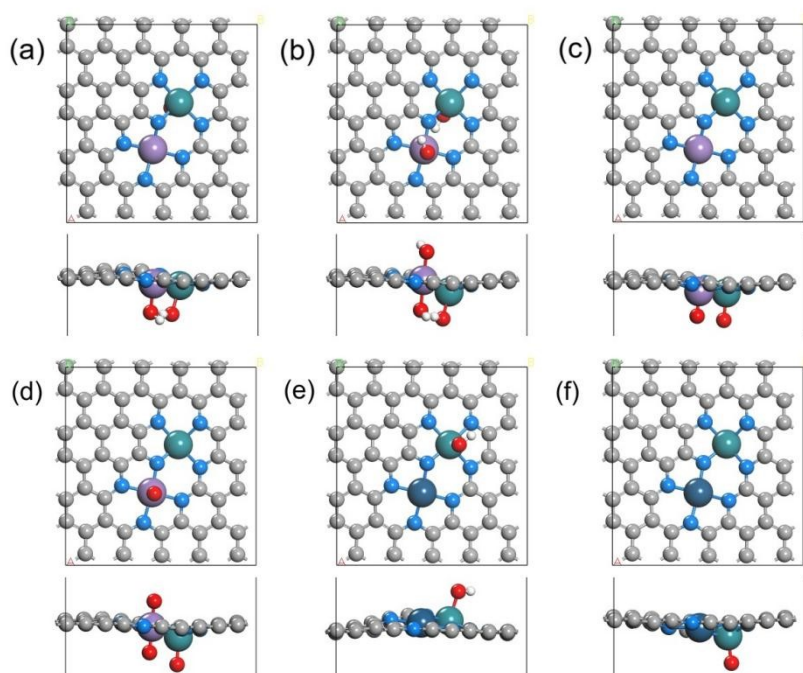


Figure S17 The optimized structures of (a) RuMn-O1, (b) RuMn-O2, (c) RuMn-O3, (d) RuMn-O4, (e) RuMn-O1R, (f) RuMn-O3R.

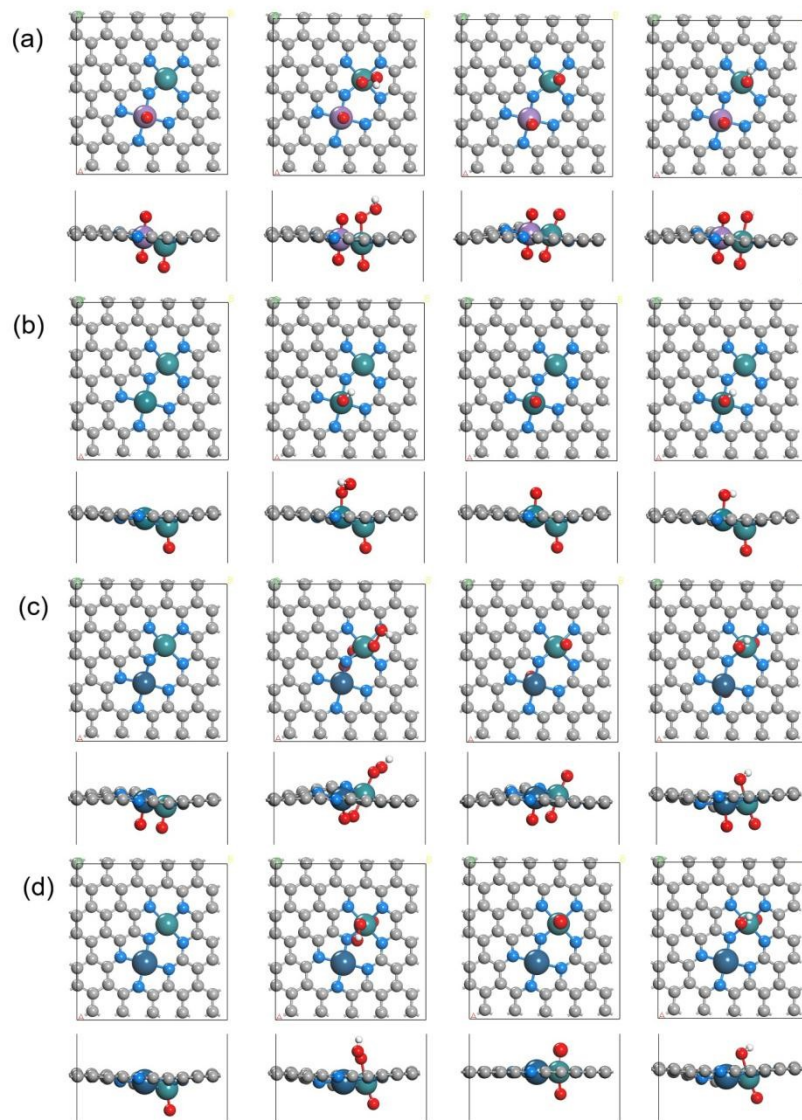


Figure S18 The optimized structures of  $^*OOH$ ,  $^*O$  and  $^*OH$  on (a) RuMn-O4, (b) RuRh-O3R(Rh), (c) RuIr-O3 and (d) RuPt-O3R.

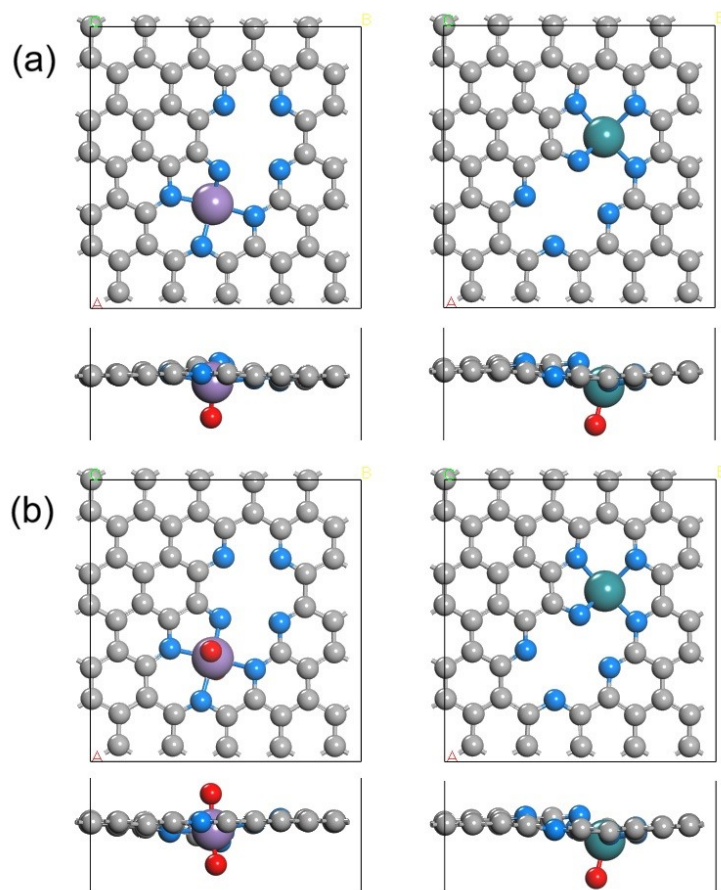


Figure S19 The optimized structures of (a) RuMn-O3 and (b) RuMn-NC-O4 with removed Ru<sup>x</sup> and Mn<sup>x</sup>.

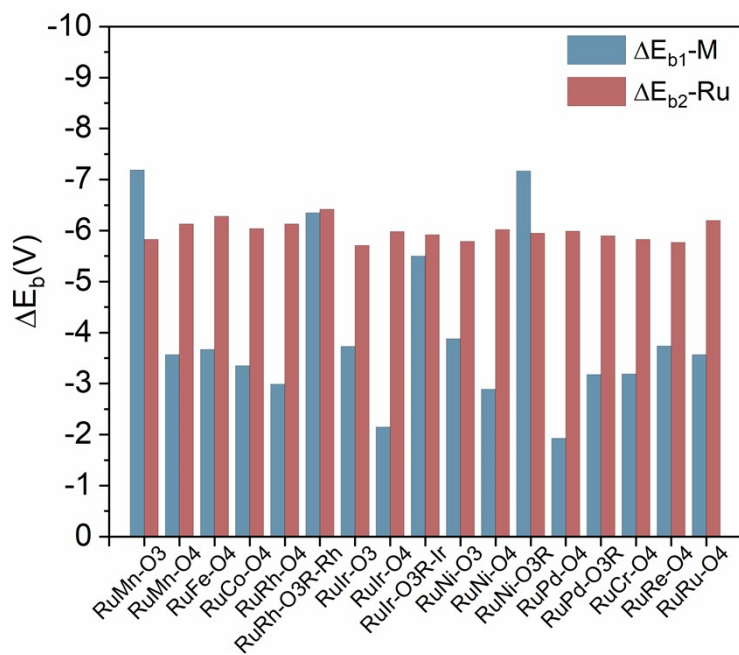


Figure S20 The binding energy comparison of RhM-On.

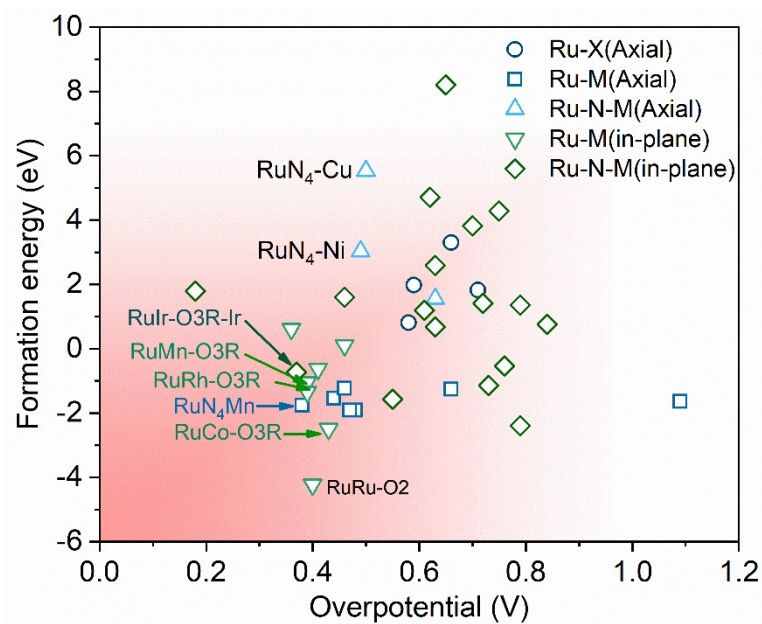


Figure S21. Overpotential vs. formation energy for various Ru-based catalysts

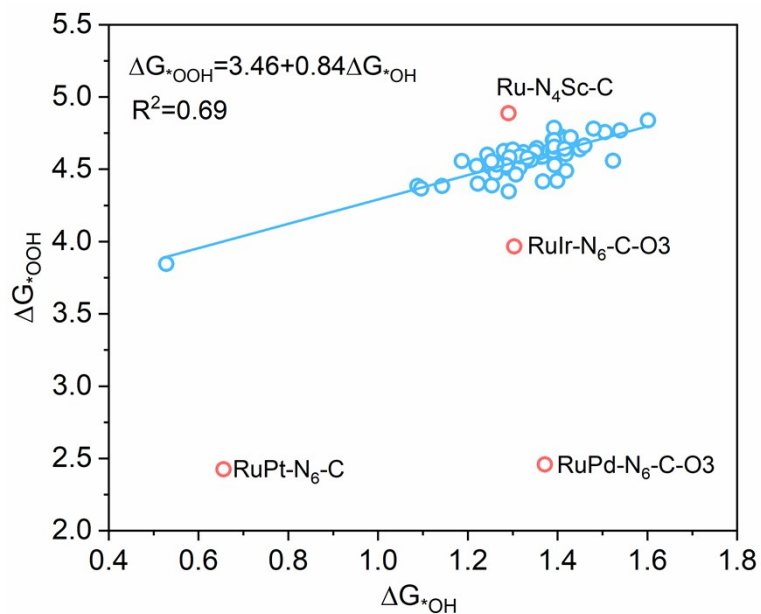


Figure S22. Linear relationship between  $\Delta G^*_{OOH}$  and  $\Delta G^*_{OH}$  for representative Ru-based catalysts

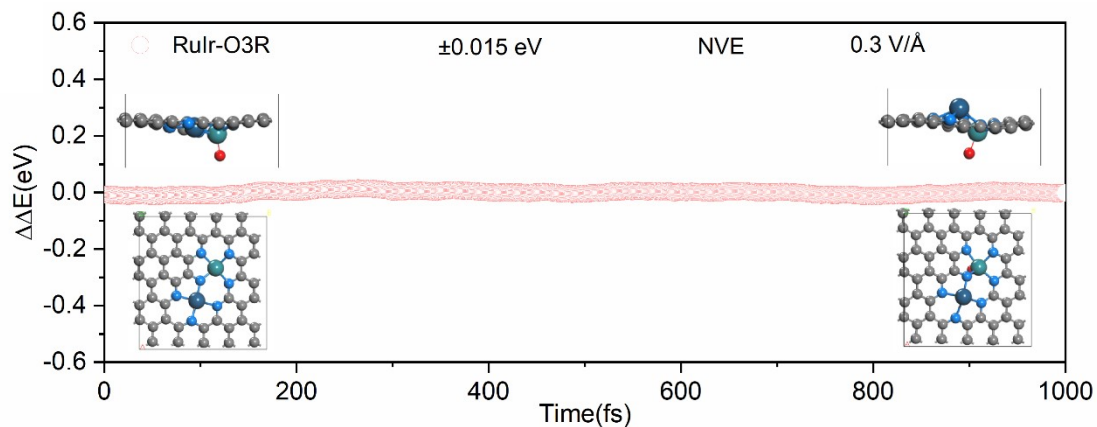


Figure S23. Dynamic stability of RuIr-O3R from AIMD simulations

Table S1. The zero point energies and entropic corrections of oxygenates at 298.15 K

Species	ZPE <sup>a</sup>	TS <sup>a</sup>	ZPE <sup>b</sup>	TS <sup>b</sup>	ZPE <sup>c</sup>	TS <sup>c</sup>	ZPE <sup>d</sup>	TS <sup>d</sup>
O*	0.07	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.084	0.05	0.07	0.05
OH*	0.36	0.00	0.36	0.06	0.386	0.07	0.36	0.11
OOH*	0.39	0.00	0.40	0.08	0.457	0.16	0.45	0.18
O <sub>2</sub>	-	-	0.11	0.64	-	-	-	-
H <sub>2</sub>	0.27	0.41	0.27	0.41	0.27	0.41	0.27	0.41
H <sub>2</sub> O	0.56	0.67	0.56	0.67	0.56	0.67	0.56	0.67

<sup>a</sup>Ling, Chongyi, et al. "Nanosheet Supported Single-Metal Atom Bifunctional Catalyst for Overall Water Splitting." *Nano Letters* 17.8 (2017): 5133-5139.

<sup>b</sup>Zhou, Si, et al. "Nitrogen doped graphene on transition metal substrates as efficient bifunctional catalysts for oxygen reduction and oxygen evolution reactions." *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* 9.27 (2017): 22578-22587.

<sup>c</sup>Li, Mingtao, et al. "N-doped graphene as catalysts for oxygen reduction and oxygen evolution reactions: Theoretical considerations." *Journal of Catalysis* 314 (2014): 66-72.

<sup>d</sup>The present work.