

Supplementary Materials

Manuscript Title: Synergistic anionic and cationic co-doping in cobalt hydroxide for enhanced hydrogen production coupled with urea electrooxidation

Manuscript Author:

Shahid Khan[#], Yafei Feng[#], Yanxu Chen[#], Mingyu Cheng, Nazir Ahmad, Yifan Li, Genqiang Zhang^{*}

Hefei National Research Center for Physical Sciences at the Microscale, CAS Key Laboratory of Materials for Energy Conversion, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei 230026, Anhui, China.

[#]These authors contributed equally to this work,

***Correspondence to:** Genqiang Zhang, Hefei National Research Center for Physical Sciences at the Microscale, CAS Key Laboratory of Materials for Energy Conversion, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei 230026, Anhui, China. E-mail: gqzhangmse@ustc.edu.cn

批注 [01]: Please provide the title for the corresponding author such as "Prof." or "Dr.".

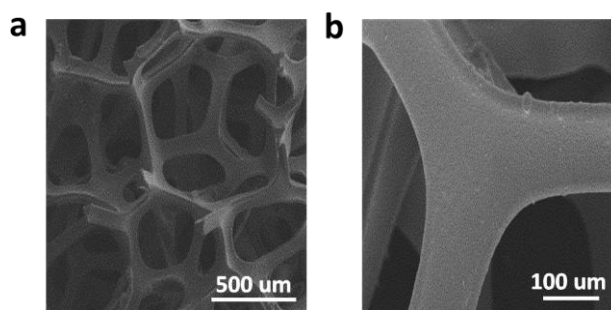


Figure S1. (a-b) SEM images of bare Ni foam.

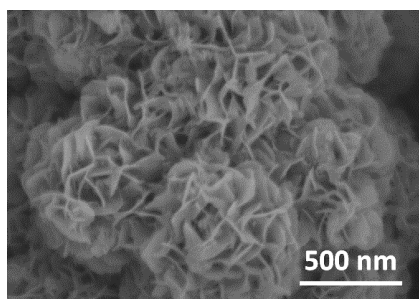


Figure S2. High-magnification SEM image (500 nm scale) of S,W-Co(OH)₂/NF showing the detailed nanosheet morphology.

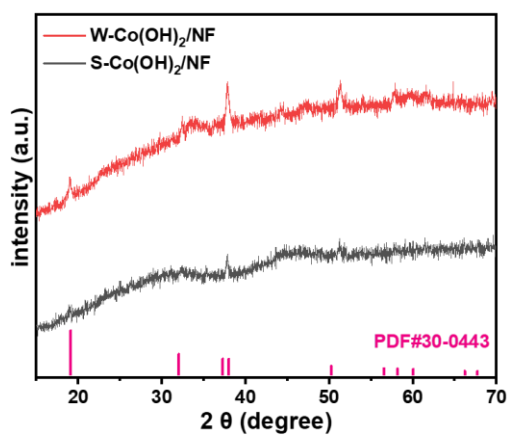


Figure S3. XRD pattern of S-Co(OH)₂/NF and W-Co(OH)₂/NF.

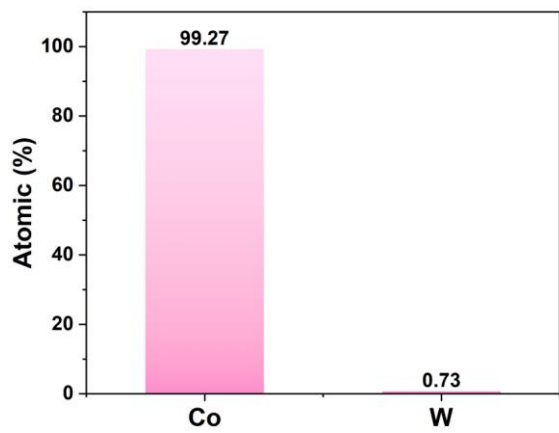


Figure S4. ICP results of S,W-Co(OH)₂/NF

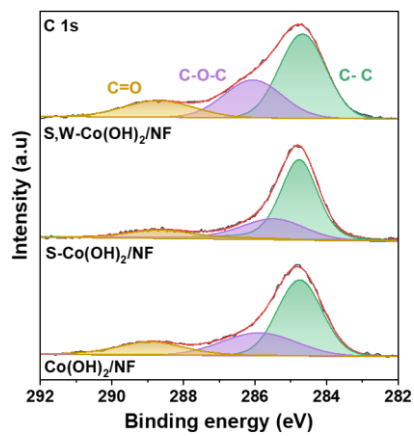


Figure S5. C 1s XPS spectrum of Co(OH)₂/NF, S-Co(OH)₂/NF and S,W-Co(OH)₂/NF

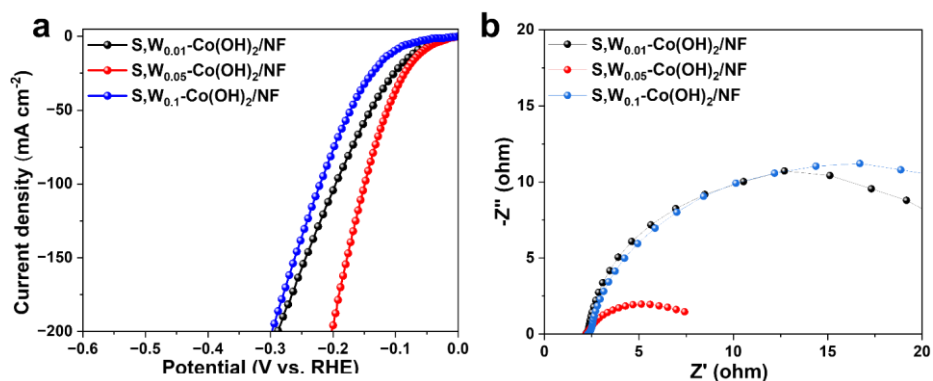


Figure S6. (a) HER Polarization curves and (b) corresponding Nyquist plots for S,W_x-Co(OH)₂/NF synthesized at different concentrations of W. (X=0.01, 0.05, and 0.1).

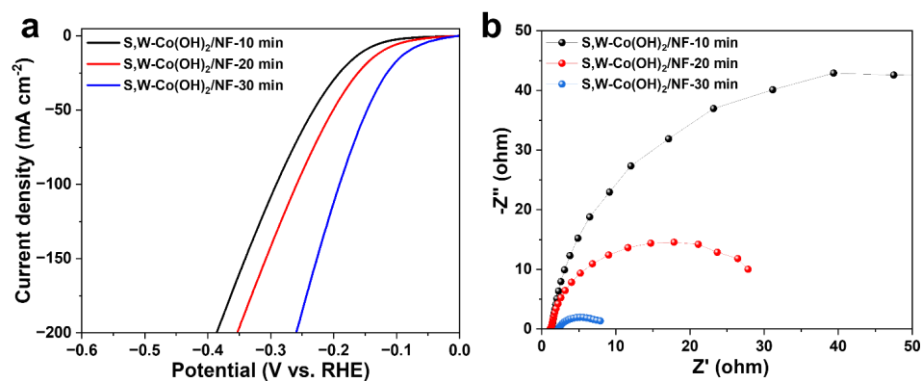


Figure S7. (a) HER polarization curves and (b) corresponding Nyquist plots for S,W-Co(OH)₂/NF synthesized at different electrodeposition times.

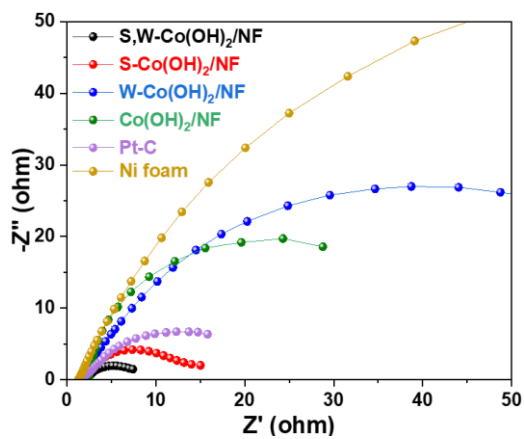


Figure S8. Nyquist plots of various catalysts for the HER process at -0.98 V vs. RHE.

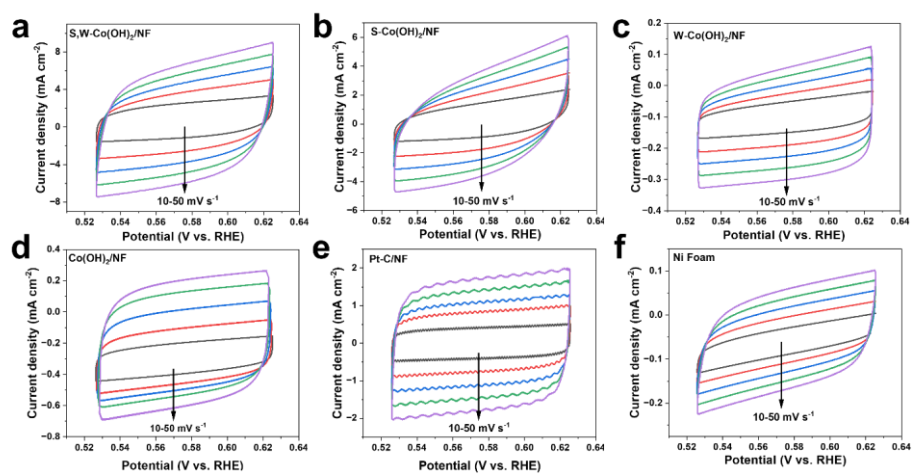


Figure S9. The CV curves of the catalysts were measured with the scan rate from 10 to 50 mV s^{-1} in 1.0 M KOH.

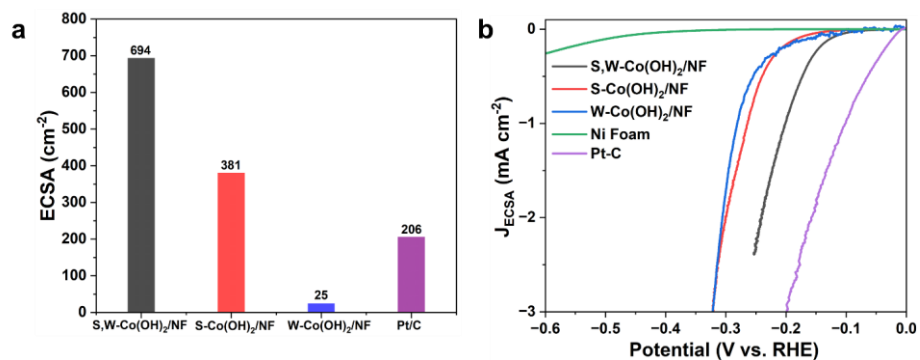


Figure S10. (a) The evaluation of ECSA for different catalysts and (b) corresponding ECSA normalized HER polarization curves.

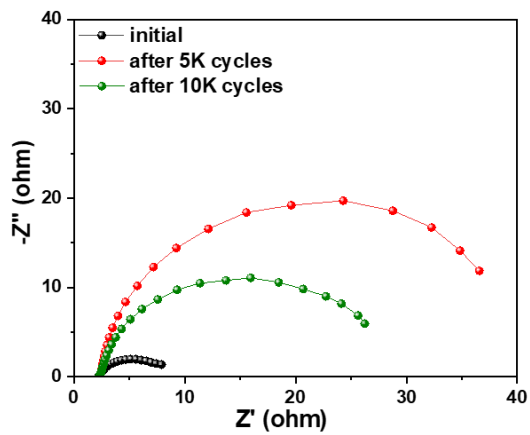


Figure S11. Nyquist plots for HER after X-cycles (X= 5000 and 1000 CV cycles).

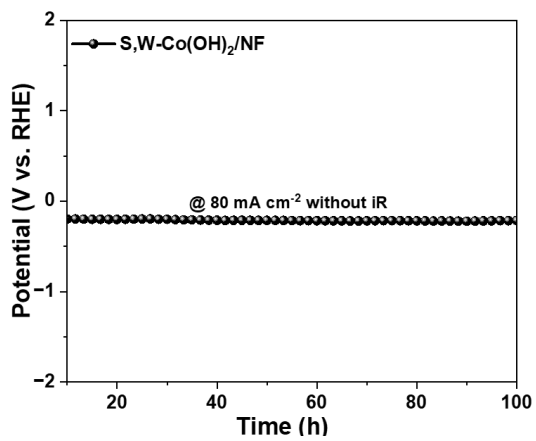


Figure S12. Galvanostatic measurement of long-term stability for HER.

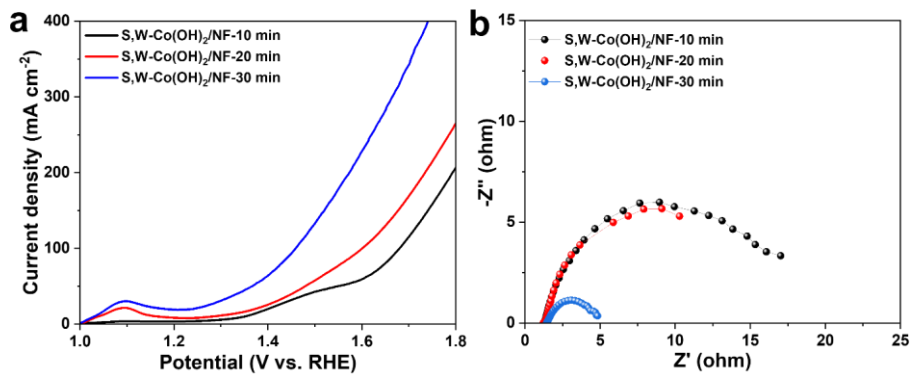


Figure S13. (a) UOR polarization curves and (b) corresponding Nyquist plots for S,W-Co(OH)₂/NF synthesized at different electrodeposition times.

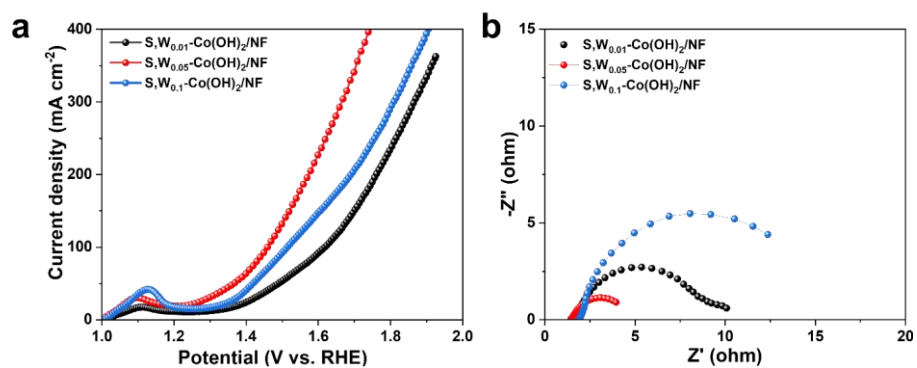


Figure S14. (a) UOR Polarization curves and (b) corresponding Nyquist plots for S,W_x-Co(OH)₂/NF synthesized at different contents of W. (X=0.01, 0.05, and 0.1).

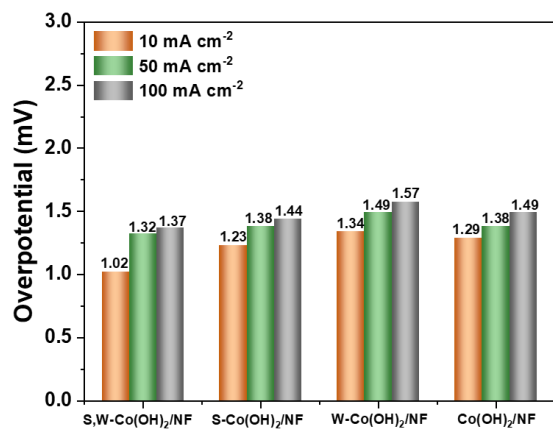


Figure S15. UOR overpotential comparison at 10,50 and 100 mA cm⁻².

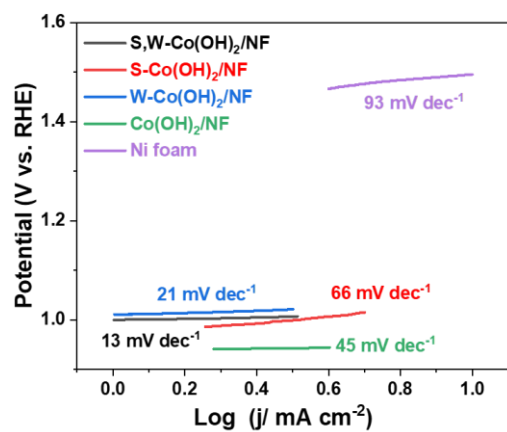


Figure S16. Corresponding Tafel plots of various catalysts for UOR.

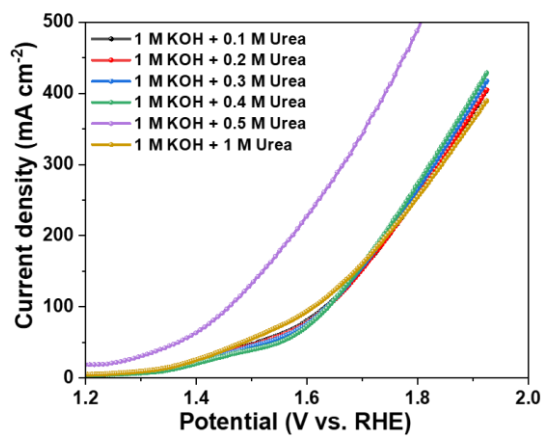


Figure S17. LSV analysis of S,W-Co(OH)₂/NF with different concentrations of urea.

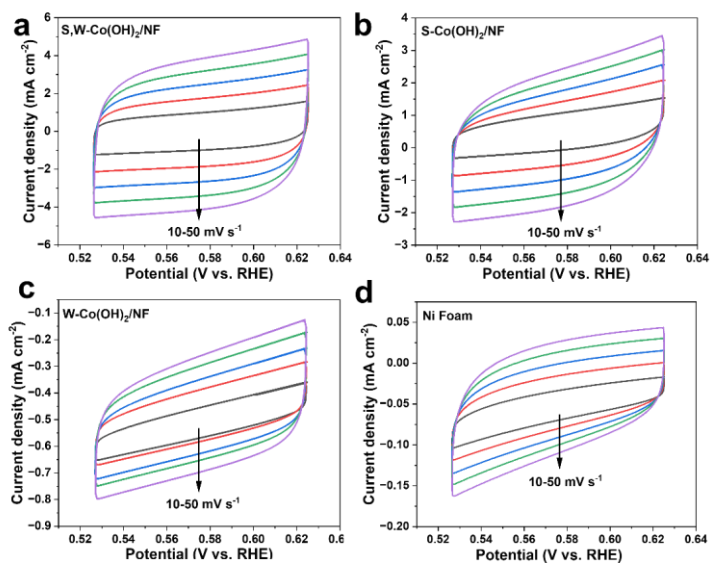


Figure S18. The CV curves of the catalysts were measured with the scan rate from 10-50 mV s⁻¹ in 1.0 M KOH + 0.5 M urea.

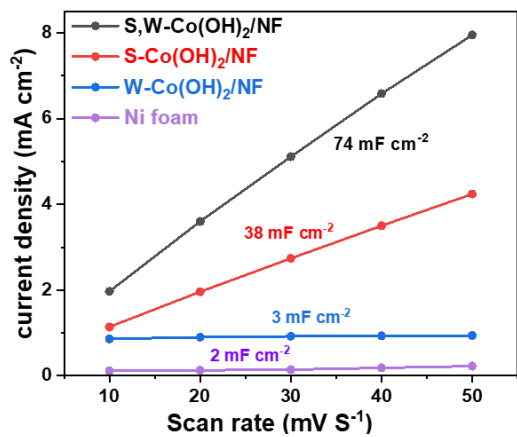


Figure S19. The corresponding C_{dl} values at a potential of 0.57 V vs. RHE.

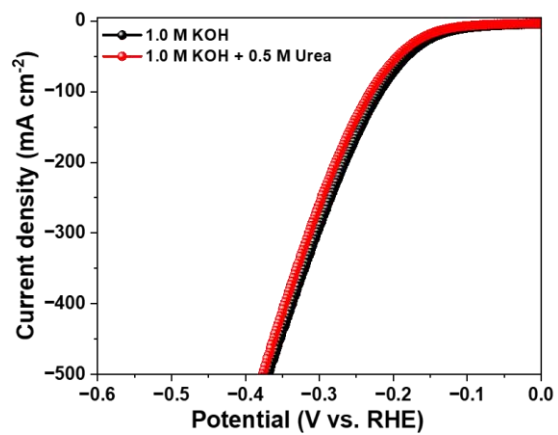


Figure S20. HER polarization curves of S,W-Co(OH)₂/NF electrode in 1 M KOH with or without 0.5 M urea.

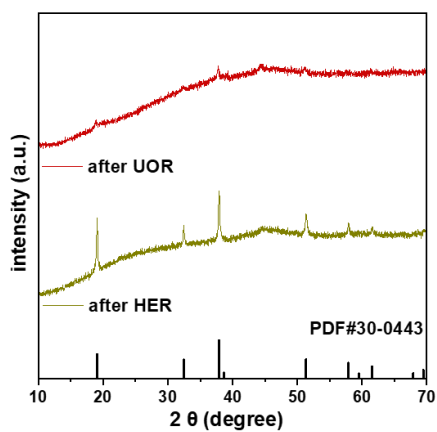


Figure S21. XRD pattern of S,W-Co(OH)₂/NF Post-HER and Post-UOR.

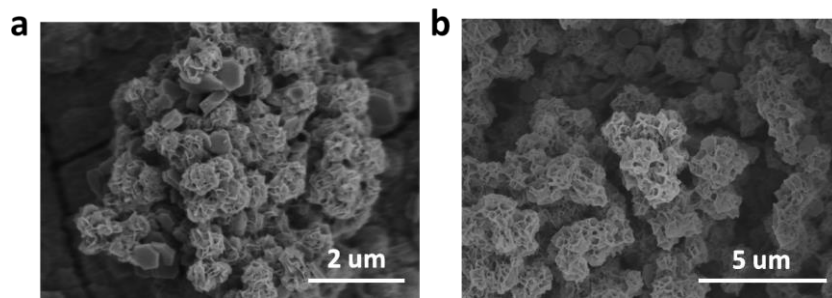


Figure S22. SEM images of S,W-Co(OH)₂/NF. (a) Post-HER and (b) Post-UOR Performance test.

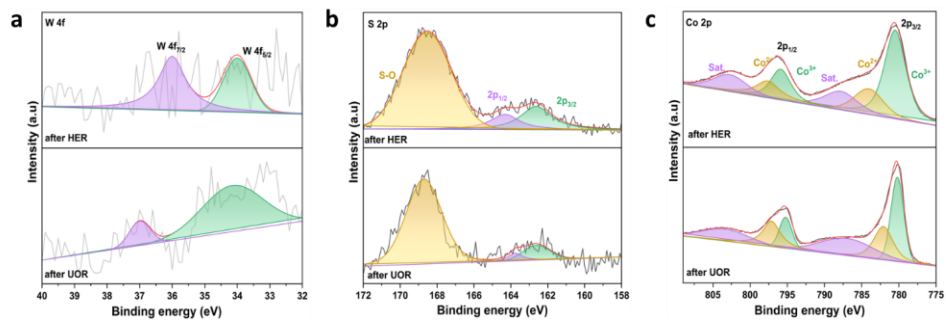


Figure S23. The XPS spectra of S,W-Co(OH)₂/NF after performance test, (a) W 4f (b) S 2p, and Co 2p.

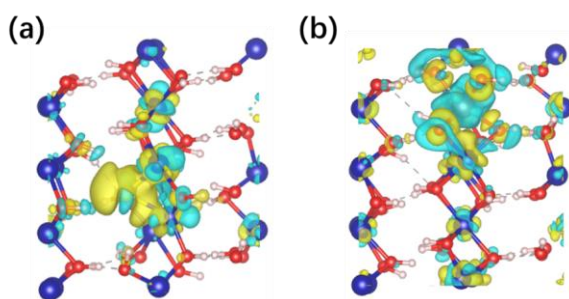


Figure S24. Differential charge density of (a) S-Co(OH)₂ and (b) W-Co(OH)₂.

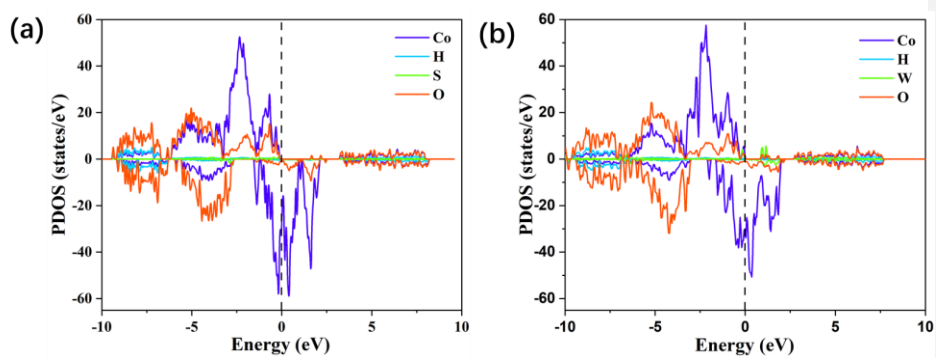


Figure S25. Calculated DOS of (a) S-Co(OH)₂ and (b) W-Co(OH)₂.

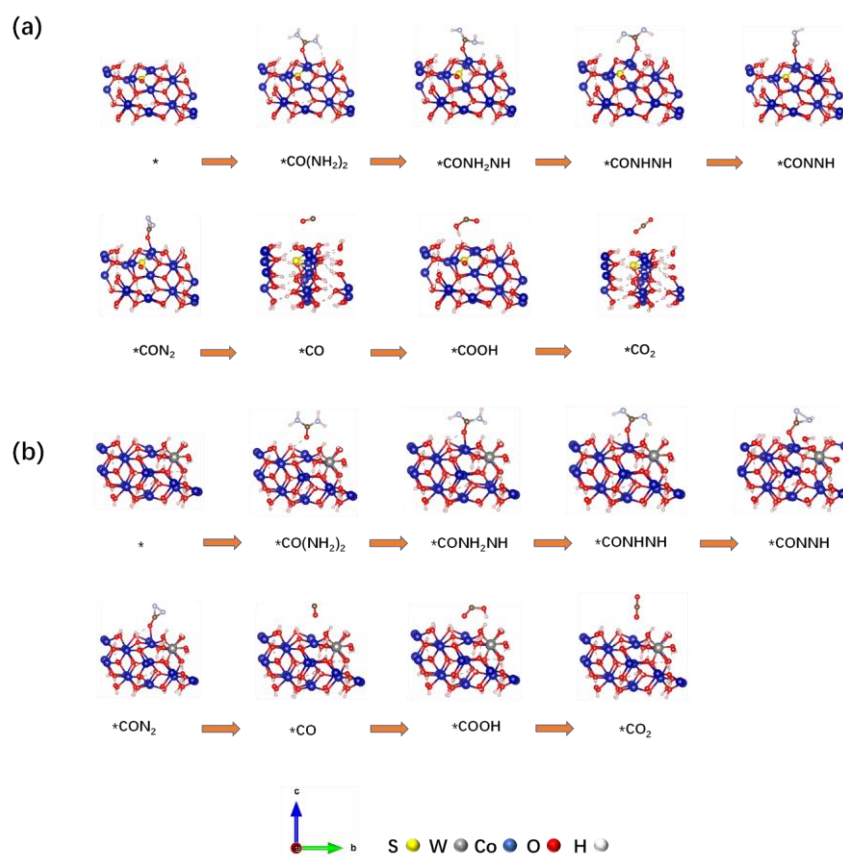


Figure S26. Optimization models for adsorption of different intermediate of $\text{Co}(\text{NH}_2)_2$ reaction on (a) S- $\text{Co}(\text{OH})_2$ and (b) W- $\text{Co}(\text{OH})_2$.

Table S1. ICP data.

Sample	Co (%)	W (%)
Bulk S,W- $\text{Co}(\text{OH})_2$	99.27%	0.73%

Post-HER S,W-Co(OH) ₂	99.45%	0.55%
Post-UOR S,W-Co(OH) ₂	99.22%	0.78%

Table S2. Comparison of the HER performance of S,W-Co(OH)₂/NF with the reported catalysts in 1.0 M KOH solution

Materials	Electrolyte	η_{10} (mV)	Stability duration / mA cm ⁻²	Ref.
S,W-Co(OH)₂/NF	1.0 M KOH	70	100 h / 80	This work
Co _x Mo _y S-CC	1.0 M KOH	85	24 h / 10	[1]
Ni ₃ P ₄ /CePO ₄ /NF	1.0 M KOH	94	10 h / 20	[2]
NiCoFeP/C	1.0 M KOH	149	10 h / 10	[3]
Fe _{0.86} Ni _{0.14} -PO _x /CC	1.0 M KOH	125	100 h / 10	[4]
V-Co ₂ P ₄ O ₁₂ /CC	1.0 M KOH	109	190 h / 10	[5]
Ni ₃ S ₂ /NiCo LDH	1.0 M KOH	156	12 h / 100	[6]
N-Co ₉ S ₈ /Ni ₃ S ₂	1.0 M KOH	111	20 h / 20	[7]
NiS/MoS ₂	1.0 M KOH	128	10 h / 100	[8]
Ni ₃ S ₂ /VG@NiCo LDHs	1.0 M KOH	110	24 h / 20	[9]
FQD/CoNi-LDH	1.0 M KOH	150	25 h / 10	[10]

Table S3. The comparison of UOR performance between S,W-Co(OH)₂/NF and other reported materials.

Materials	Electrolyte	E₁₀ (V)	Stability duration / mA cm⁻²	Ref.
S,W-Co(OH)₂/NF	1.0 M KOH+0.5 M Urea	1.02	100 h / 80	This work
N-Co ₉ S ₈ /Ni ₃ S ₂	1.0 M KOH+0.5 M Urea	1.27	20 h / 20	[7]
NiFeCo LDH/NF	1.0 M KOH+0.33 M Urea	0.38	50 h / 10	[11]
S-Co ₂ P@Ni ₂ P	1.0 M KOH+0.5 M Urea	1.31	20 h / 50	[12]
V-Co ₂ P ₄ O ₁₂ /CC	1.0 M KOH+0.33 M Urea	1.29	230 h / 10	[5]
Ni _{0.864} Co _{0.136} LDH	1.0 M KOH + 0.5 M Urea	1.30	35 h / 70	[13]
NiCoP/CC	1.0 M KOH+0.5 M Urea	1.30	30 h / 20	[14]
CoNi@CNCoNiMoO	1.0 M KOH+0.5 M Urea	1.29	120 / 500	[15]
FeCuCoNiZnLDH/C	1.0 M KOH+0.33 M Urea	1.32	70 h / 20	[16]
C				
NiSe ₂ /MoSe ₂	1.0 M KOH+0.33 M Urea	1.33	10 h / 10	[17]

Table S4. Comparison of different catalysts for urea-assisted electrolysis.

Materials	Electrolyte	E₁₀ (mV)	Stability duration / mA cm⁻²	Ref.
S,W-Co(OH)₂/NF	1.0 M KOH+0.5 M Urea	1.19	24 h / 100	This work
V-FeNi ₃ N/Ni ₃ N	1.0 M KOH+0.5 M Urea	1.46	15 h / 100	[18]

NiFe/NiFeCH/CC	1.0 M KOH+0.5 M Urea	1.39	30 h / 10	[19]
CoNiFeS-OH/NF	1.0 M KOH+0.5 M Urea	1.46	10 h / 10	[20]
NiCo ₂ S ₄ NS/CC	1.0 M KOH+0.5 M Urea	1.49	20 h / 10	[21]
Ni ₃ S ₂ -Ni ₃ P/NF	1.0 M KOH + 0.5 M Urea	1.43	100 h / 16	[22]
NiCo ₂ S ₄	1.0 M KOH+0.5 M Urea	1.45	10 h / 10	[23]
NiS/MoS ₂	1.0 M KOH+0.5 M Urea	1.46	25 h / 10	[24]
FQD/CoNi-LDH	1.0 M KOH+0.5 M Urea	1.45	50 h / 10	[10]
Ni ₃ N/Ni _{0.2} Mo _{0.8} N	1.0 M KOH+0.33 M Urea	1.34	500 h / 10	[25]
Ni ₃ S ₂ -H ₂ Ni ₃ S ₂ - Ar	1.0 M KOH+0.33 M Urea	1.50	20 h / 20	[26]

References

1. Li, P., et al., Insights into the Mo-doping effect on the electrocatalytic performance of hierarchical Co_xMo_yS nanosheet arrays for hydrogen generation and urea oxidation. *ACS applied materials & interfaces*, 2020. **12**(36): p. 40194-40203. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1021/acsami.0c10489>
2. Liang, Y., et al., Crystalline Ni₅P₄/amorphous CePO₄ core/shell heterostructure arrays for highly-efficient electrocatalytic overall water splitting. *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science*, 2024. **655**: p. 565-575. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcis.2023.11.036>
3. Wei, X., et al., Carbon-incorporated porous honeycomb NiCoFe phosphide nanospheres derived from a MOF precursor for overall water splitting. *Chemical Communications*, 2019. **55**(73): p. 10896-10899. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1039/C9CC06042A>

4. Wang, L., et al., Interface engineering of porous nickel-iron phosphates with enriched oxygen vacancies as an efficient bifunctional electrocatalyst for high current water splitting. *Electrochimica Acta*, 2023. **443**: p. 141932. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.electacta.2023.141932>
5. Chang, X.W., et al., Tuning morphology and electronic structure of cobalt metaphosphate via vanadium-doping for efficient water and urea splitting. *Advanced Functional Materials*, 2024. **34**(21): p. 2313974. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1002/adfm.202313974>
6. Jia, L., et al., Ni₃S₂/Cu–NiCo LDH heterostructure nanosheet arrays on Ni foam for electrocatalytic overall water splitting. *Journal of Materials Chemistry A*, 2021. **9**(48): p. 27639-27650. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1039/D1TA07523A>
7. Xie, H., et al., Construction of nitrogen-doped biphasic transition-metal sulfide nanosheet electrode for energy-efficient hydrogen production via urea electrolysis. *Small*, 2023. **19**(17): p. 2207425. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1002/sml.202207425>
8. Zheng, Y., et al., POM derived UOR and HER bifunctional NiS/MoS₂ composite for overall water splitting. *Journal of Solid State Chemistry*, 2020. **292**: p. 121644. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jssc.2020.121644>
9. Zhang, X., et al., Bridging NiCo layered double hydroxides and Ni₃S₂ for bifunctional electrocatalysts: The role of vertical graphene. *Chemical Engineering Journal*, 2021. **415**: p. 129048. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cej.2021.129048>
10. Feng, Y., et al., Decorating CoNi layered double hydroxides nanosheet arrays with fullerene quantum dot anchored on Ni foam for efficient electrocatalytic water splitting and urea electrolysis. *Chemical Engineering Journal*, 2020. **390**: p. 124525. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cej.2020.124525>
11. Babar, P., et al., Bifunctional 2D electrocatalysts of transition metal hydroxide nanosheet arrays for water splitting and urea electrolysis. *ACS Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering*, 2019. **7**(11): p. 10035-10043. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1021/acssuschemeng.9b01463>
12. Yuan, W., et al., Interface engineering of S-doped Co₂P@ Ni₂P core-shell heterostructures for efficient and energy-saving water splitting. *Chemical Engineering Journal*, 2022. **439**: p. 135743. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cej.2022.135743>

13. Zheng, Z., et al., Collaborative optimization of thermodynamic and kinetic for Ni-based hydroxides in electrocatalytic urea oxidation reaction. *Applied Catalysis B: Environmental*, 2024. **340**: p. 123214. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.apcatb.2023.123214>
14. Sha, L., et al., The construction of self-supported thorny leaf-like nickel-cobalt bimetal phosphides as efficient bifunctional electrocatalysts for urea electrolysis. *Journal of Materials Chemistry A*, 2019. **7**(15): p. 9078-9085. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1039/C9TA01876E>
15. Qian, G., et al., Strong electronic coupling of CoNi and N-doped-carbon for efficient urea-assisted H₂ production at a large current density. *Carbon Energy*, 2023. **5**(12): p. e368. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1002/cey2.368>
16. Hao, M., et al., Lattice-disordered high-entropy metal hydroxide nanosheets as efficient precatalysts for bifunctional electro-oxidation. *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science*, 2023. **642**: p. 41-52. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcis.2023.03.042>
17. Yin, C., et al., Heterostructured NiSe₂/MoSe₂ electronic modulation for efficient electrocatalysis in urea assisted water splitting reaction. *Chinese Journal of Catalysis*, 2023. **51**: p. 225-236. DOI: [https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S1872-2067\(22\)64178-5](https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S1872-2067(22)64178-5)
18. Wang, J., et al., Vanadium-doping and interface engineering for synergistically enhanced electrochemical overall water splitting and urea electrolysis. *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces*, 2021. **13**(48): p. 57392-57402. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1021/acsami.1c16789>
19. Wang, X., et al., Cauliflower-like NiFe alloys anchored on a flake iron nickel carbonate hydroxide heterostructure towards superior overall water and urea electrolysis. *Nanoscale*, 2023. **15**(2): p. 779-790. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1039/D2NR05789A>
20. Fang, C., et al., In situ growth of S-incorporated CoNiFe (oxy) hydroxide nanoarrays as efficient multifunctional electrocatalysts. *Inorganic Chemistry Frontiers*, 2022. **9**(14): p. 3643-3653. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1039/D2QI00654A>
21. Zhu, W., et al., Traditional NiCo₂S₄ phase with porous nanosheets array topology on carbon cloth: a flexible, versatile and fabulous electrocatalyst for overall water and urea electrolysis. *ACS Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering*, 2018. **6**(4): p. 5011-5020. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1021/acssuschemeng.7b04665>
22. Liu, J., et al., Heterostructured Ni₃S₂-Ni₃P/NF as a bifunctional catalyst for overall urea-water electrolysis for hydrogen generation. *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces*, 2021. **13**(23): p. 26948-26959. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1021/acsami.1c04662>

23. Song, W., et al., Construction of self-supporting, hierarchically structured caterpillar-like NiCo₂S₄ arrays as an efficient trifunctional electrocatalyst for water and urea electrolysis. *Nanoscale*, 2021. **13**(3): p. 1680-1688. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1039/D0NR07964A>
24. Gu, C., et al., NiS/MoS₂ Mott-Schottky heterojunction-induced local charge redistribution for high-efficiency urea-assisted energy-saving hydrogen production. *Chemical Engineering Journal*, 2022. **443**: p. 136321. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cej.2022.136321>
25. Li, R.-Q., et al., Hierarchical Ni₃N/Ni_{0.2}Mo_{0.8}N heterostructure nanorods arrays as efficient electrocatalysts for overall water and urea electrolysis. *Chemical Engineering Journal*, 2021. **409**: p. 128240. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cej.2020.128240>
26. Zhang, Y., et al., Coaxial Ni-S@N-doped carbon nanofibers derived hierarchical electrodes for efficient H₂ production via urea electrolysis. *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces*, 2021. **13**(3): p. 3937-3948. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1021/acsami.0c19873>