Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for RSC Advances. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2017

**Supporting Information** 

## Composition-Controlled Synthesis of Ni2-xCoxP Nanocrystals as

## Bifunctional Catalysts for Water Splitting

Qingshuang Liang, Keke Huang, Xiaofeng Wu, Xiyang Wang, Wei Ma, Shouhua Feng\*

State Key Laboratory of Inorganic Synthesis and Preparative Chemistry, College of Chemistry, Jilin University, Changchun 130012, P. R. China.

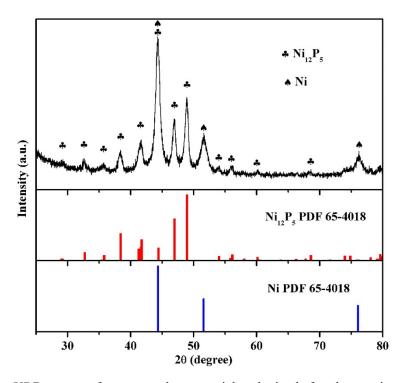


Figure S1. The XRD pattern of as-prepared nanoparticles obtained after the reaction at 250  $^{\circ}$ C for 2h without adding of NaBH<sub>4</sub>.

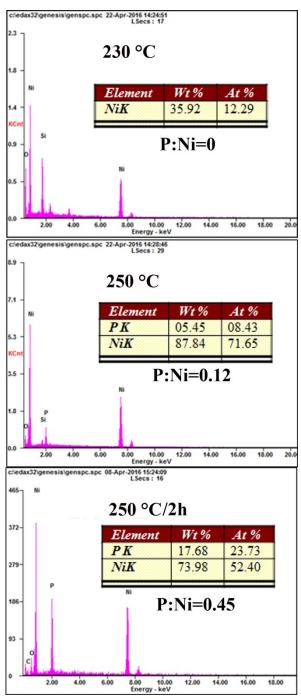


Figure S2. EDS results of nanoparticles isolated from the reaction at different temperatures without adding of  $NaBH_4$ .

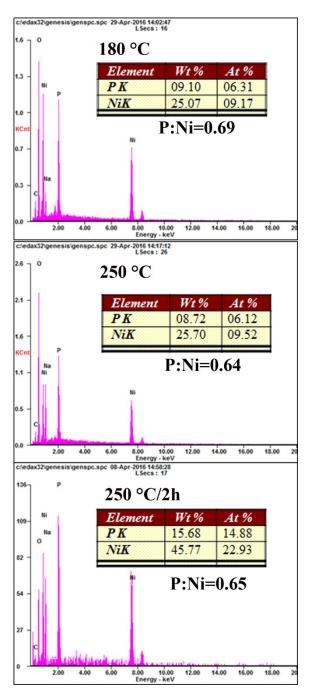


Figure S3. EDS results of nanoparticles isolated from the reaction at different temperatures with the adding of  $NaBH_4$ .

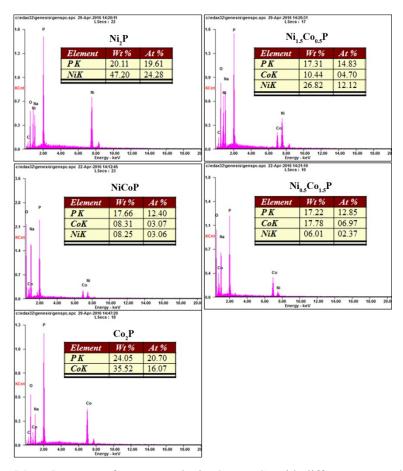
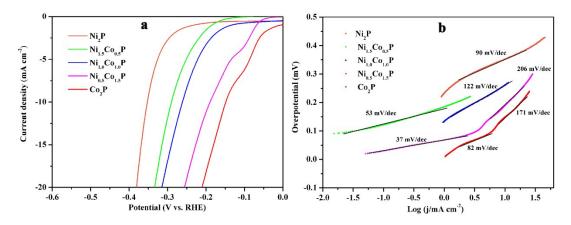


Figure S4 EDS spectra of as-prepared Ni<sub>2-x</sub>Co<sub>x</sub>P NCs with different compositions.



 $\label{eq:figureS5} FigureS5.~(a) The polarization curves of Ni_{2-x}Co_xP~NCs~with~different~Co/Ni~ratios~in~1.0~M~KOH~for~HER.~(b)~Corresponding~Tafel~plots.$ 

Table S1: Surface compositions for  $Ni_{2-x}Co_xP$  nanoparticle compositions as assessed from XPS data.

Nominal Bulk	Surface	Surface Co/Ni Mole	Surface P/(Ni+Co)
Composition	Composition	Ratio	Mole Ratio
Ni <sub>2</sub> P	Ni <sub>0.27</sub> P		3.7
Ni <sub>1.5</sub> Co <sub>0.5</sub> P	Ni <sub>0.23</sub> Co <sub>0.12</sub> P	0.52	2.9
NiCoP	Ni <sub>0.17</sub> Co <sub>0.33</sub> P	1.94	2
Ni <sub>0.5</sub> Co <sub>1.5</sub> P	Ni <sub>0.05</sub> Co <sub>0.2</sub> P	4	4
Co <sub>2</sub> P	Co <sub>0.3</sub> P		3.3