## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

## Impacts of Anions on Oxygen Reduction Reaction Kinetics on Platinum and Palladium Surfaces in Alkaline Solutions

Shangqian Zhu, Xiaomeng Hu, Minhua Shao\*

Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, The Hong Kong University of

Science & Technology, Clear Water Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong

\* kemshao@ust.hk



**Figure S1.** Cyclic voltammograms for the deposited a) Pt and b) Pd thin film electrodes in an Ar-saturated 0.1 M HClO<sub>4</sub> solution at a scan rate of 10 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S2.** Comparisons of cyclic voltammograms for Pt/C supported on a glassy carbon electrode in O<sub>2</sub>-saturated 0.1 M NaOH solutions a) with and b) without 0.1 mM Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> at a scan rate of 10 mV s<sup>-1</sup>, rotation speed = 1600 rpm.



**Figure S3.** Comparisons of cyclic voltammograms for Pt/C supported on a glassy carbon electrode in O<sub>2</sub>-saturated 0.1 M NaOH solutions a) with and b) without 0.1 mM Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> at a scan rate of 10 mV s<sup>-1</sup>, rotation speed = 1600 rpm.



**Figure S4.** Comparisons of initial cyclic voltammograms for Pt/C supported on a glassy carbon electrode in Ar-saturated 0.1 M NaOH (black dashed line) and 0.1 M NaOH + 0.1 M sodium citrate solution with initial potential kept at 0.23 V for 300 s (black line), scan rate =  $50 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ .



**Figure S5.** Comparisons of initial cyclic voltammograms for Pd/C supported on a glassy carbon electrode in Ar-saturated 0.1 M NaOH (black dashed line) and 0.1 M NaOH + 0.1 M sodium citrate solution with initial potential kept at 0.39 V for 300 s (black line), scan rate =  $50 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ .



**Figure S6.** ATR-IR spectra of an Ar-saturated 0.1 M NaOH + 0.1 M sodium citrate solution obtained on a ZnSe hemispherical prism, employing the single-beam spectrum of an Ar-saturated 0.1 M NaOH solution as the reference spectrum.



**Figure S7.** Comparisons of cyclic voltammograms for a Pt disk electrode in a) Arsaturated 0.1 M NaOH (black line) and 0.1 M NaOH + 33 mM sodium citrate solutions with initial potential kept at 0.3 V for 0 s (red line) and 300 s (blue line), b) an Arsaturated 0.1 M NaOH (black line) and 0.1 M NaOH + 0.1 mM sodium citrate solution with initial potential kept at 0.3 V for 0 s (red line) and 300 s (blue line), scan rate = 50 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.