

**Supplementary Information**

**Efficient bifunctional vanadium doped Ni<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub> nanorod array  
for overall water splitting**

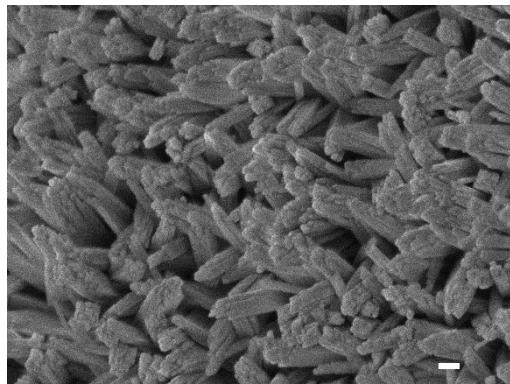
Jinxue Guo,<sup>a</sup> Ke Zhang,<sup>a</sup> Yanfang Sun,<sup>b</sup> Qingyun Liu,<sup>c</sup> Lin Tang,<sup>a</sup> Xiao Zhang,<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>*State Key Laboratory Base of Eco-chemical Engineering, College of Chemistry and Molecular  
Engineering, Qingdao University of Science & Technology, Qingdao 266042, China*

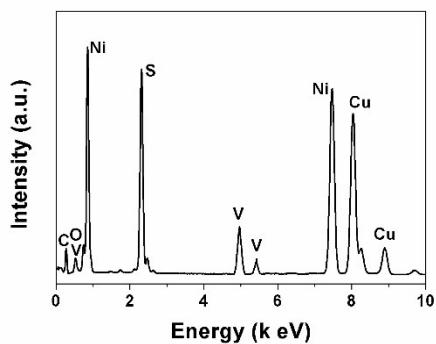
<sup>b</sup>*College of Science and Technology, Agricultural University of Hebei, Cangzhou 061100, China*

<sup>c</sup>*College of Chemistry and Environmental Engineering, Shandong University of Science and  
Technology, Qingdao 266590, China*

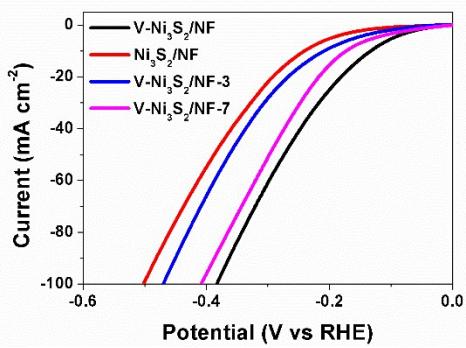
\*Corresponding author. E-mail: zhx1213@126.com (X. Zhang)



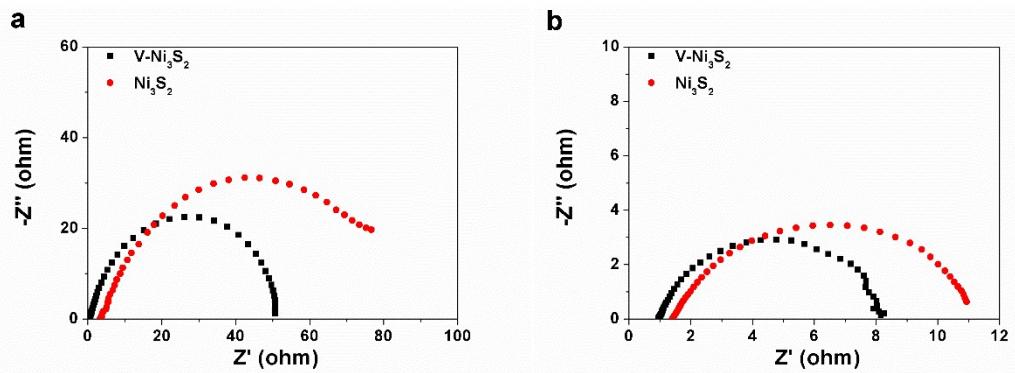
**Fig. S1** SEM image of pristine  $\text{Ni}_3\text{S}_2/\text{NF}$ , showing morphology of nanorod array. Scale bar: 100 nm.



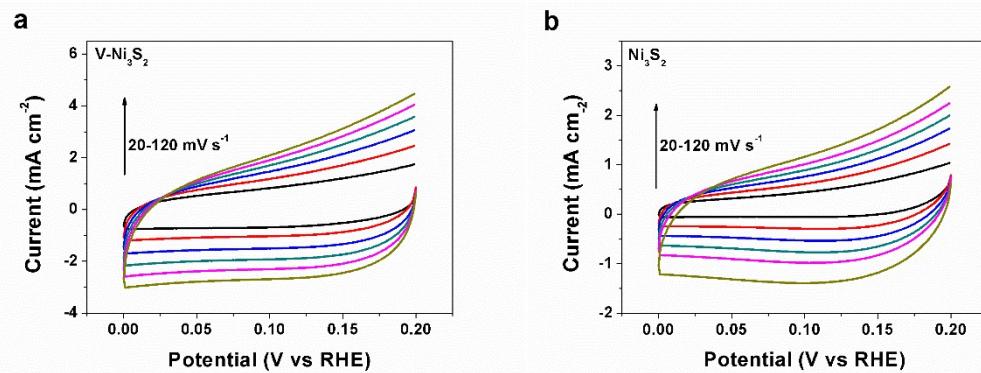
**Fig. S2** EDX spectrum of  $\text{V-Ni}_3\text{S}_2$  nanorod.



**Fig. S3** The HER polarization curves of  $\text{V-Ni}_3\text{S}_2/\text{NF}$ ,  $\text{Ni}_3\text{S}_2/\text{NF}$ ,  $\text{V-Ni}_3\text{S}_2/\text{NF}-3$ , and  $\text{V-Ni}_3\text{S}_2/\text{NF}-7$  in 1 M KOH.



**Fig. S4** The Nyquist plots of V-Ni<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub> nanorod/NF and Ni<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>/NF electrodes obtained at (a) open circuit potential and (b) 40 mV for HER in 1 M KOH.



**Fig. S5** CV curves of (a) V-Ni<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub> nanorod and (b) Ni<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub> obtained in 1 M KOH.

**Table S1** Electrocatalytic performances of the designed V-Ni<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub> nanorod array electrode compared with the reported state-of-the-art bifunctional electrocatalysts for HER, OER, and overall water splitting in alkaline media.

Samples	$\eta_{\text{HER}}$ at 10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup> (mV)	$\eta_{\text{OER}}$ at 10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup> (mV)	Cell voltage for overall water splitting at 10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup> (V)	Ref.
V-Ni <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub> /NF	133	148	1.421	This work
(Fe,Co,Ni) <sub>9</sub> S <sub>8</sub> -MoS <sub>2</sub> nanotube array	58	184	1.429	[1]
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/Ni/NF	98	200	1.49	[2]
MoS <sub>2</sub> -Ni <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub> /NF	98	249	1.5	[3]
Co <sub>0.7</sub> Fe <sub>0.3</sub> P/CNT	76	243	1.5	[4]
MoS <sub>2</sub> /Ni <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub> @NF	110	218	1.56	[5]
NiCoP/N-rGO	115	310/40	1.57/20	[6]
NiFe	120	220	1.57	[7]
LDH@NiCoP/NF				
NiCoP/NF	32	280	1.58	[8]
Ni <sub>2-x</sub> Co <sub>x</sub> P	138	270	1.59	[9]
Co-Pi/CoP/Ti	68	310	1.6	[10]
NiCo <sub>2</sub> S <sub>4</sub> nanowire/NF	210	260	1.63	[11]
(Ni,Co) <sub>0.85</sub> Se	169	287/20	1.65	[12]
Cu@CoFe LDH	171	240	1.681	[13]
NiFe LDH	210	240	1.7	[14]
Ni <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub> nanosheet	223	260	1.76/13	[15]

## References

- [1] H. Li, S. Chen, Y. Zhang, Q. Zhang, X. Jia, Q. Zhang, L. Gu, X. Sun, L. Song and X. Wang, *Nat. Commun.*, 2018, **9**, 2452.
- [2] B. You, N. Jiang, M. Sheng, M. Bhushan and Y. Sun, *ACS Catal.*, 2016, **6**, 714-721.

- [3] Y. Yang, K. Zhang, H. Lin, X. Li, H. C. Chan, L. Yang and Q. Gao, *ACS Catal.*, 2017, **7**, 2357-2366.
- [4] X. Zhang, X. Zhang, H. Xu, Z. Wu, H. Wang and Y. Liang, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 2017, **27**, 1606635.
- [5] J. Zhang, T. Wang, D. Pohl, B. Rellinghaus, R. Dong, S. Liu, X. Zhuang and X. Feng, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, 2016, **55**, 6702-6707.
- [6] X. Zhang, J. Li, Y. Sun, Z. Li, P. Liu, Q. Liu, L. Tang and J. Guo, *Electrochim. Acta*, 2018, **282**, 626-633.
- [7] H. Zhang, X. Li, A. Hahnel, V. Naumann, C. Lin, S. Azimi, S. L. Schweizer, A. W. Maijenburg and R. B. Wehrspohn, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 2018, **28**, 1706847.
- [8] H. Liang, A. N. Gandi, D. H. Anjum, X. Wang, U. Schwingenschlögl and H. N. Alshareef, *Nano Lett.*, 2016, **16**, 7718-7725.
- [9] J. Li, M. Yan, X. Zhou, Z. Q. Huang, Z. Xia, C. R. Chang, Y. Ma and Y. Qu, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 2016, **26**, 6785-6796.
- [10] L. Ai, Z. Niu and J. Jiang, *Electrochim. Acta*, 2017, **242**, 355-363.
- [11] A. Sivanantham, P. Ganesan and S. Shanmugam, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 2016, **26**, 4661-4672.
- [12] K. Xiao, L. Zhou, M. Shao and M. Wei, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2018, **6**, 7585-7591.
- [13] L. Yu, H. Zhou, J. Sun, F. Qin, D. Luo, L. Xie, F. Yu, J. Bao, Y. Li, Y. Yu, S. Chen and Z. Ren, *Nano Energy*, 2017, **41**, 327-336.
- [14] J. Luo, J. Im, M. Mayer, M. Schreier, M. Nazeeruddin, N. Park, S. Tilley, H. Fan and M. Grätzel, *Science*, 2014, **345**, 1593-1596.
- [15] L. L. Feng, G. Yu, Y. Wu, G. D. Li, H. Li, Y. Sun, T. Asefa, W. Chen and X. Zou, *J. Am. Chem.*

*Soc.*, 2015, **137**, 14023-14026.