

## Supporting information

### Edge engineering on layered WS<sub>2</sub> toward the electrocatalytic reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>: a first principles study

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**Table S1** DFT calculated energy, zero-point energy, entropy, and Gibbs free energy of the gas phase molecules considered in this work

Molecule	E/eV	ZPE/eV	-TS/eV	G/eV
CO <sub>2</sub>	-22.95	0.31	-0.66	-23.30
CO	-14.77	0.13	-0.61	-15.25
H <sub>2</sub> O	-14.22	0.58	-0.67	-14.31
H <sub>2</sub>	-6.77	0.27	-0.40	-6.90

Here, the Gibbs free energy change of intermediates are given by **Equations S1 and S2**:<sup>1</sup>

$$\Delta G(\text{COOH}^*) = G(\text{COOH}^*) - G^* - G(\text{CO}_2) - 1/2G(\text{H}_2) + \Delta G(\text{PH}) \quad (\text{S1})$$

$$\Delta G(\text{CO}^*) = G(\text{CO}^*) + G(\text{H}_2\text{O}) - G^* - G(\text{CO}_2) - G(\text{H}_2) + \Delta G(\text{PH}) \quad (\text{S2})$$

The solvation correction is given by **Equations S3 and S4**:

$$\Delta G_{\text{corr}}(\text{COOH}^*) = \Delta G(\text{COOH}^*) + \Delta E_{\text{sol}}(\text{COOH}) \quad (\text{S3})$$

$$\Delta G_{\text{corr}}(\text{CO}^*) = \Delta G(\text{CO}^*) + \Delta E_{\text{sol}}(\text{CO}) \quad (\text{S4})$$

The solvation correction to adsorbate energy could be applied to both COOH\* (-0.25 eV) and CO\* (-0.1 eV).<sup>2</sup>

**Table S2** DFT calculated cohesive energy of different models

Models	$\Delta G(\text{COOH}^*)/\text{eV}$	$\Delta G(\text{CO}^*)/\text{eV}$
WS <sub>2</sub> -3W	-0.75	-1.15
WS <sub>2</sub> -4W	-0.70	-1.19

We compared the semi-infinite strip model with 3 W atoms (WS<sub>2</sub>-3W) in a direction with the semi-infinite strip model with 4 W atoms (WS<sub>2</sub>-4W) in a direction. The calculated values of  $\Delta G(\text{COOH}^*)$  and  $\Delta G(\text{CO}^*)$  show that the WS<sub>2</sub>-3W model is similar to the previous studies in literature.<sup>3, 4</sup> In the WS<sub>2</sub>-3W model, the distance between the adsorption intermediate of adjacent lattices is 9.54 Å, which can avoid the contact between the adjacent lattices.

**Table S3** DFT calculated cohesive energy of different models

Models	cohesive energy (eV/atom)
WS <sub>2</sub>	5.56
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Zn	5.39
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Zn	5.17
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Zn	4.96
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Fe	5.49
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Fe	5.41
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Fe	5.33
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Co	5.52
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Co	5.46
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Co	5.39
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Ni	5.52
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Ni	5.47
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Ni	5.41

**Table S4** DFT calculated adsorption energy of the intermediates COOH and CO onto different models

Models	Concentration	Adsorption site	$\Delta E_{ads}(COOH^*)/eV$	$\Delta E_{ads}(CO^*)/eV$
WS <sub>2</sub>	0	W	-4.17	-2.45
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Zn-1	1/3	W	-3.79	-2.49
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Zn-2	1/3	Zn	-1.78	-0.22
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Zn-1	2/3	W	-3.79	-1.80
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Zn-2	2/3	Zn	-1.91	-0.23
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Zn-2	1	Zn	-1.89	-0.39
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Fe-1	1/3	W	-3.98	-2.81
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Fe-2	1/3	Fe	-2.59	-2.01
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Fe-1	2/3	W	-4.11	-2.22
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Fe-2	2/3	Fe	-2.66	-2.24
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Fe-2	1	Fe	-2.50	-1.78
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Co-1	1/3	W	-3.99	-2.14
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Co-2	1/3	Co	-2.58	-1.76
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Co-1	2/3	W	-4.02	-2.04
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Co-2	2/3	Co	-2.66	-1.92
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Co-2	1	Co	-2.48	-2.03
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Ni-1	1/3	W	-4.06	-2.26
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Ni-2	1/3	Ni	-2.35	-0.97
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Ni-1	2/3	W	-3.99	-2.10
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Ni-2	2/3	Ni	-2.24	-0.93
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Ni-2	1	Ni	-2.32	-1.22

**Table S5** The calculated Gibbs free energy change at 298.15 K for the adsorption of the intermediates COOH and CO onto different models

Models	Concentration	Adsorption site	$\Delta G(\text{COOH}^*)/\text{eV}$	$\Delta G(\text{CO}^*)/\text{eV}$	$\Delta G(\text{H}^*)/\text{eV}$
WS <sub>2</sub>	0	W	-0.75	-1.15	-0.47
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Zn-1	1/3	W	-0.38	-1.19	-0.43
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Zn-2	1/3	Zn	1.62	1.05	1.62
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Zn-1	2/3	W	-0.37	-0.51	0.17
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Zn-2	2/3	Zn	1.50	1.06	0.18
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Zn-2	1	Zn	1.52	0.88	1.75
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Fe-1	1/3	W	-0.56	-1.50	-0.49
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Fe-2	1/3	Fe	0.82	-0.69	0.84
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Fe-1	2/3	W	-0.68	-0.93	-0.12
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Fe-2	2/3	Fe	0.75	-0.91	-0.10
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Fe-2	1	Fe	0.91	-0.46	0.93
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Co-1	1/3	W	-0.58	-0.83	-0.43
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Co-2	1/3	Co	0.83	-0.43	0.77
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Co-1	2/3	W	-0.60	-0.75	-0.02
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Co-2	2/3	Co	0.75	-0.60	0.67
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Co-2	1	Co	0.93	-0.71	0.87
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Ni-1	1/3	W	-0.65	-0.95	-0.65
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Ni-2	1/3	Ni	1.06	0.34	1.10
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Ni-1	2/3	W	-0.57	-0.81	0.04
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Ni-2	2/3	Ni	1.18	0.38	1.14
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Ni-2	1	Ni	1.09	0.09	1.10

**Table S6** Bond lengths in the considered models

Models	Concentration	Adsorption site	COOH*/Å			CO*/Å
			d <sub>M-C</sub>	d <sub>M-O1</sub>	d <sub>M-O2</sub>	d <sub>W-C</sub>
WS <sub>2</sub>	0	W	2.05	2.24	3.30	2.00
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Zn-1	1/3	W	2.04	2.19	3.31	1.92
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Zn-2	1/3	Zn	2.04	2.94	2.83	2.11
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Zn-1	2/3	W	2.07	2.22	3.32	2.03
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Zn-2	2/3	Zn	2.03	2.91	2.83	2.09
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Zn-2	1	Zn	2.04	2.91	2.84	2.08
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Fe-1	1/3	W	2.03	2.18	3.30	1.91
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Fe-2	1/3	Fe	1.91	2.65	2.89	1.74
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Fe-1	2/3	W	2.05	2.24	3.30	2.01
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Fe-2	2/3	Fe	1.93	2.70	2.89	1.75
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Fe-2	1	Fe	1.96	2.71	2.91	1.77
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Co-1	1/3	W	2.03	2.16	3.30	2.01
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Co-2	1/3	Co	1.92	2.81	2.78	1.75
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Co-1	2/3	W	2.06	2.23	3.30	2.03
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Co-2	2/3	Co	1.93	2.82	2.78	1.75
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Co-2	1	Co	1.92	2.74	2.83	1.74
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Ni-1	1/3	W	2.04	2.18	3.31	2.00
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Ni-2	1/3	Ni	1.95	2.83	2.78	1.81
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Ni-1	2/3	W	2.06	2.22	3.30	2.01
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Ni-2	2/3	Ni	1.96	2.84	2.78	1.82
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Ni-2	1	Ni	1.95	2.82	2.76	1.81

**Table S7** Solvent corrected  $\Delta G_{corr}(COOH^*)$  values (in eV) at different PH in the considered models

Models	PH														
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
WS <sub>2</sub>	-1.00	-0.94	-0.88	-0.82	-0.76	-0.71	-0.65	-0.59	-0.53	-0.47	-0.41	-0.35	-0.29	-0.23	-0.17
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Zn-1	-0.63	-0.57	-0.51	-0.45	-0.39	-0.33	-0.27	-0.22	-0.16	-0.10	-0.04	0.02	0.08	0.14	0.20
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Zn-2	1.37	1.43	1.49	1.55	1.61	1.67	1.73	1.79	1.85	1.90	1.96	2.02	2.08	2.14	2.20
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Zn-1	-0.62	-0.56	-0.50	-0.44	-0.38	-0.32	-0.26	-0.20	-0.14	-0.08	-0.02	0.04	0.09	0.15	0.21
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Zn-2	1.25	1.31	1.37	1.43	1.49	1.55	1.60	1.66	1.72	1.78	1.84	1.90	1.96	2.02	2.08
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Zn-2	1.27	1.33	1.39	1.45	1.51	1.56	1.62	1.68	1.74	1.80	1.86	1.92	1.98	2.04	2.10
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Fe-1	-0.81	-0.75	-0.69	-0.63	-0.58	-0.52	-0.46	-0.40	-0.34	-0.28	-0.22	-0.16	-0.10	-0.04	0.02
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Fe-2	0.57	0.63	0.69	0.75	0.81	0.87	0.92	0.98	1.04	1.10	1.16	1.22	1.28	1.34	1.40
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Fe-1	-0.93	-0.88	-0.82	-0.76	-0.70	-0.64	-0.58	-0.52	-0.46	-0.40	-0.34	-0.28	-0.22	-0.16	-0.11
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Fe-2	0.50	0.56	0.62	0.68	0.74	0.80	0.86	0.92	0.97	1.03	1.09	1.15	1.21	1.27	1.33
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Fe-2	0.66	0.72	0.78	0.84	0.90	0.96	1.02	1.08	1.14	1.20	1.25	1.31	1.37	1.43	1.49
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Co-1	-0.83	-0.77	-0.71	-0.65	-0.59	-0.53	-0.47	-0.41	-0.35	-0.29	-0.24	-0.18	-0.12	-0.06	0.00
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Co-2	0.58	0.64	0.70	0.76	0.82	0.88	0.94	1.00	1.06	1.12	1.18	1.23	1.29	1.35	1.41
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Co-1	-0.85	-0.79	-0.73	-0.67	-0.61	-0.55	-0.49	-0.43	-0.37	-0.31	-0.26	-0.20	-0.14	-0.08	-0.02
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Co-2	0.50	0.56	0.62	0.67	0.73	0.79	0.85	0.91	0.97	1.03	1.09	1.15	1.21	1.27	1.33
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Co-2	0.68	0.74	0.79	0.85	0.91	0.97	1.03	1.09	1.15	1.21	1.27	1.33	1.39	1.45	1.51
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Ni-1	-0.90	-0.84	-0.78	-0.72	-0.66	-0.60	-0.54	-0.48	-0.42	-0.36	-0.31	-0.25	-0.19	-0.13	-0.07
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Ni-2	0.81	0.87	0.93	0.99	1.05	1.10	1.16	1.22	1.28	1.34	1.40	1.46	1.52	1.58	1.64
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Ni-1	-0.82	-0.76	-0.70	-0.64	-0.58	-0.52	-0.46	-0.40	-0.34	-0.28	-0.23	-0.17	-0.11	-0.05	0.01
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Ni-2	0.93	0.99	1.04	1.10	1.16	1.22	1.28	1.34	1.40	1.46	1.52	1.58	1.64	1.70	1.76
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Ni-2	0.84	0.90	0.96	1.02	1.08	1.14	1.20	1.26	1.32	1.38	1.44	1.49	1.55	1.61	1.67

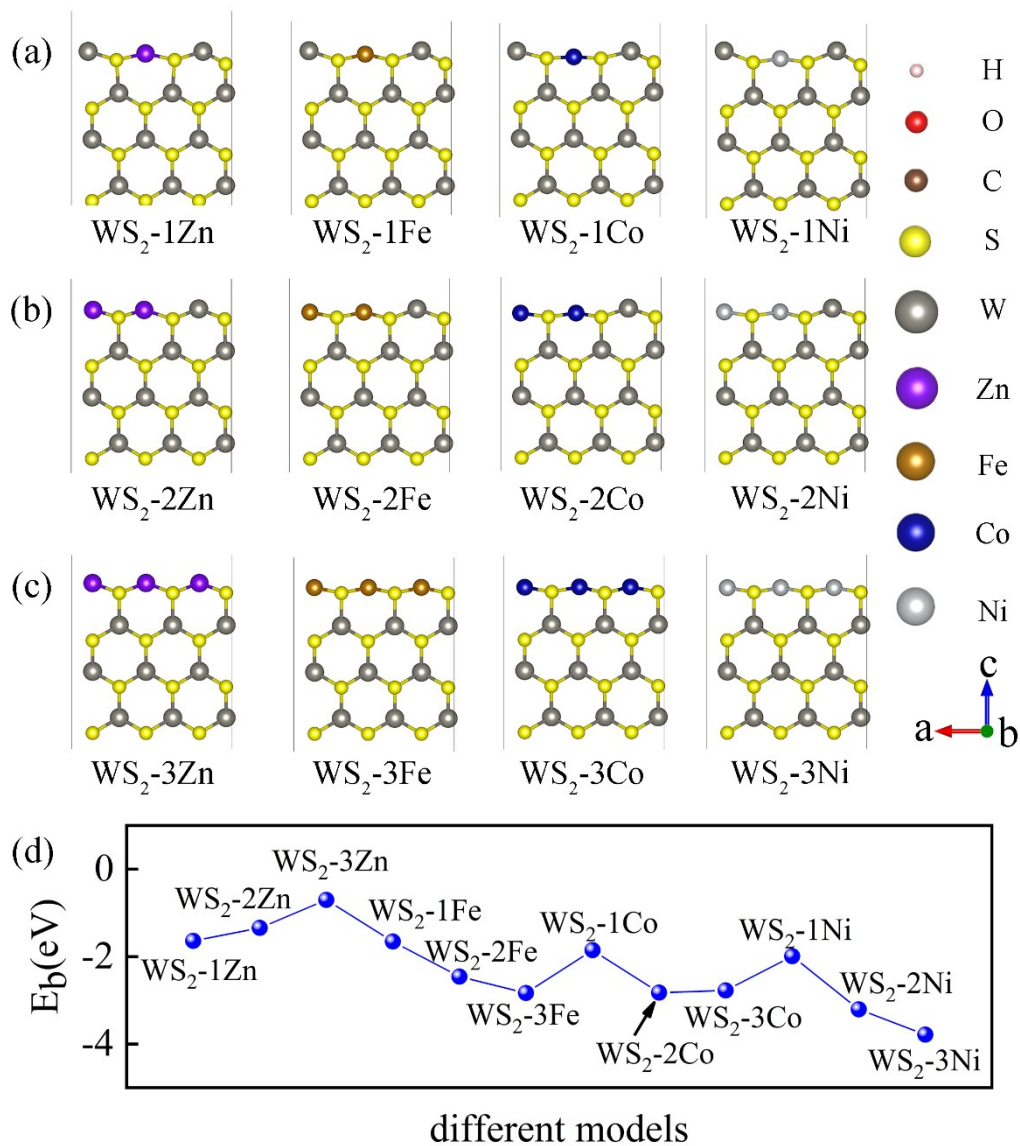
**Table S8** Solvent corrected  $\Delta G_{corr}(CO^*)$  values (in eV) at different PH in the considered models

Models	PH														
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
WS <sub>2</sub>	-1.25	-1.19	-1.13	-1.07	-1.02	-0.96	-0.90	-0.84	-0.78	-0.72	-0.66	-0.60	-0.54	-0.48	-0.42
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Zn-1	-1.29	-1.23	-1.17	-1.11	-1.05	-0.99	-0.93	-0.87	-0.81	-0.76	-0.70	-0.64	-0.58	-0.52	-0.46
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Zn-2	0.95	1.01	1.07	1.13	1.19	1.25	1.31	1.37	1.42	1.48	1.54	1.60	1.66	1.72	1.78
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Zn-1	-0.61	-0.55	-0.49	-0.44	-0.38	-0.32	-0.26	-0.20	-0.14	-0.08	-0.02	0.04	0.10	0.16	0.22
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Zn-2	0.96	1.02	1.08	1.14	1.20	1.26	1.32	1.37	1.43	1.49	1.55	1.61	1.67	1.73	1.79
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Zn-2	0.78	0.84	0.90	0.96	1.02	1.08	1.14	1.20	1.26	1.32	1.38	1.43	1.49	1.55	1.61
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Fe-1	-1.60	-1.54	-1.48	-1.43	-1.37	-1.31	-1.25	-1.19	-1.13	-1.07	-1.01	-0.95	-0.89	-0.83	-0.77
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Fe-2	-0.79	-0.73	-0.67	-0.61	-0.55	-0.49	-0.43	-0.37	-0.31	-0.25	-0.20	-0.14	-0.08	-0.02	0.04
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Fe-1	-1.03	-0.97	-0.91	-0.85	-0.79	-0.73	-0.67	-0.61	-0.55	-0.49	-0.43	-0.37	-0.32	-0.26	-0.20
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Fe-2	-1.01	-0.95	-0.89	-0.83	-0.77	-0.71	-0.66	-0.60	-0.54	-0.48	-0.42	-0.36	-0.30	-0.24	-0.18
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Fe-2	-0.56	-0.51	-0.45	-0.39	-0.33	-0.27	-0.21	-0.15	-0.09	-0.03	0.03	0.09	0.15	0.21	0.26
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Co-1	-0.93	-0.88	-0.82	-0.76	-0.70	-0.64	-0.58	-0.52	-0.46	-0.40	-0.34	-0.28	-0.22	-0.16	-0.10
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Co-2	-0.53	-0.48	-0.42	-0.36	-0.30	-0.24	-0.18	-0.12	-0.06	0.00	0.06	0.12	0.18	0.24	0.29
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Co-1	-0.85	-0.79	-0.73	-0.67	-0.61	-0.55	-0.49	-0.44	-0.38	-0.32	-0.26	-0.20	-0.14	-0.08	-0.02
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Co-2	-0.70	-0.64	-0.58	-0.52	-0.46	-0.40	-0.34	-0.28	-0.23	-0.17	-0.11	-0.05	0.01	0.07	0.13
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Co-2	-0.81	-0.75	-0.69	-0.63	-0.57	-0.51	-0.45	-0.39	-0.33	-0.27	-0.21	-0.15	-0.09	-0.03	0.02
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Ni-1	-1.05	-0.99	-0.94	-0.88	-0.82	-0.76	-0.70	-0.64	-0.58	-0.52	-0.46	-0.40	-0.34	-0.28	-0.22
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Ni-2	0.24	0.30	0.36	0.42	0.47	0.53	0.59	0.65	0.71	0.77	0.83	0.89	0.95	1.01	1.07
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Ni-1	-0.91	-0.85	-0.79	-0.73	-0.67	-0.61	-0.55	-0.49	-0.43	-0.37	-0.31	-0.25	-0.20	-0.14	-0.08
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Ni-2	0.28	0.34	0.40	0.46	0.52	0.58	0.64	0.70	0.76	0.82	0.88	0.93	0.99	1.05	1.11
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Ni-2	0.00	0.06	0.12	0.18	0.24	0.29	0.35	0.41	0.47	0.53	0.59	0.65	0.71	0.77	0.83

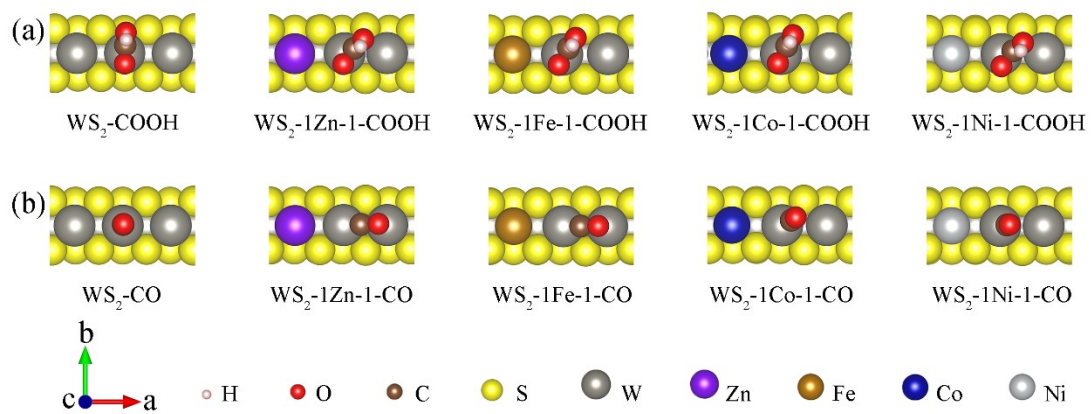


**Table S9** Solvent corrected  $U_L$  values (in V) at different PH in the considered models

Models	PH														
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
WS <sub>2</sub>	-1.25	-1.19	-1.13	-1.07	-1.02	-0.96	-0.90	-0.84	-0.78	-0.72	-0.66	-0.60	-0.54	-0.48	-0.42
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Zn-1	-1.29	-1.23	-1.17	-1.11	-1.05	-0.99	-0.93	-0.87	-0.81	-0.76	-0.70	-0.64	-0.58	-0.52	-0.46
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Zn-2	-1.37	-1.43	-1.49	-1.55	-1.61	-1.67	-1.73	-1.79	-1.85	-1.90	-1.96	-2.02	-2.08	-2.14	-2.20
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Zn-1	-0.61	-0.55	-0.49	-0.44	-0.38	-0.32	-0.26	-0.20	-0.14	-0.08	-0.02	-0.04	-0.09	-0.15	-0.21
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Zn-2	-1.25	-1.31	-1.37	-1.43	-1.49	-1.55	-1.60	-1.66	-1.72	-1.78	-1.84	-1.90	-1.96	-2.02	-2.08
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Zn-2	-1.27	-1.33	-1.39	-1.45	-1.51	-1.56	-1.62	-1.68	-1.74	-1.80	-1.86	-1.92	-1.98	-2.04	-2.10
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Fe-1	-1.60	-1.54	-1.48	-1.43	-1.37	-1.31	-1.25	-1.19	-1.13	-1.07	-1.01	-0.95	-0.89	-0.83	-0.77
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Fe-2	-0.79	-0.73	-0.69	-0.75	-0.81	-0.87	-0.92	-0.98	-1.04	-1.10	-1.16	-1.22	-1.28	-1.34	-1.40
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Fe-1	-1.03	-0.97	-0.91	-0.85	-0.79	-0.73	-0.67	-0.61	-0.55	-0.49	-0.43	-0.37	-0.32	-0.26	-0.20
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Fe-2	-1.01	-0.95	-0.89	-0.83	-0.77	-0.80	-0.86	-0.92	-0.97	-1.03	-1.09	-1.15	-1.21	-1.27	-1.33
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Fe-2	-0.66	-0.72	-0.78	-0.84	-0.90	-0.96	-1.02	-1.08	-1.14	-1.20	-1.25	-1.31	-1.37	-1.43	-1.49
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Co-1	-0.93	-0.88	-0.82	-0.76	-0.70	-0.64	-0.58	-0.52	-0.46	-0.40	-0.34	-0.28	-0.22	-0.16	-0.10
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Co-2	-0.58	-0.64	-0.70	-0.76	-0.82	-0.88	-0.94	-1.00	-1.06	-1.12	-1.18	-1.23	-1.29	-1.35	-1.41
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Co-1	-0.85	-0.79	-0.73	-0.67	-0.61	-0.55	-0.49	-0.44	-0.38	-0.32	-0.26	-0.20	-0.14	-0.08	-0.02
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Co-2	-0.70	-0.64	-0.62	-0.67	-0.73	-0.79	-0.85	-0.91	-0.97	-1.03	-1.09	-1.15	-1.21	-1.27	-1.33
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Co-2	-0.81	-0.75	-0.79	-0.85	-0.91	-0.97	-1.03	-1.09	-1.15	-1.21	-1.27	-1.33	-1.39	-1.45	-1.51
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Ni-1	-1.05	-0.99	-0.94	-0.88	-0.82	-0.76	-0.70	-0.64	-0.58	-0.52	-0.46	-0.40	-0.34	-0.28	-0.22
WS <sub>2</sub> -1Ni-2	-0.81	-0.87	-0.93	-0.99	-1.05	-1.10	-1.16	-1.22	-1.28	-1.34	-1.40	-1.46	-1.52	-1.58	-1.64
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Ni-1	-0.91	-0.85	-0.79	-0.73	-0.67	-0.61	-0.55	-0.49	-0.43	-0.37	-0.31	-0.25	-0.20	-0.14	-0.08
WS <sub>2</sub> -2Ni-2	-0.93	-0.99	-1.04	-1.10	-1.16	-1.22	-1.28	-1.34	-1.40	-1.46	-1.52	-1.58	-1.64	-1.70	-1.76
WS <sub>2</sub> -3Ni-2	-0.84	-0.90	-0.96	-1.02	-1.08	-1.14	-1.20	-1.26	-1.32	-1.38	-1.44	-1.49	-1.55	-1.61	-1.67

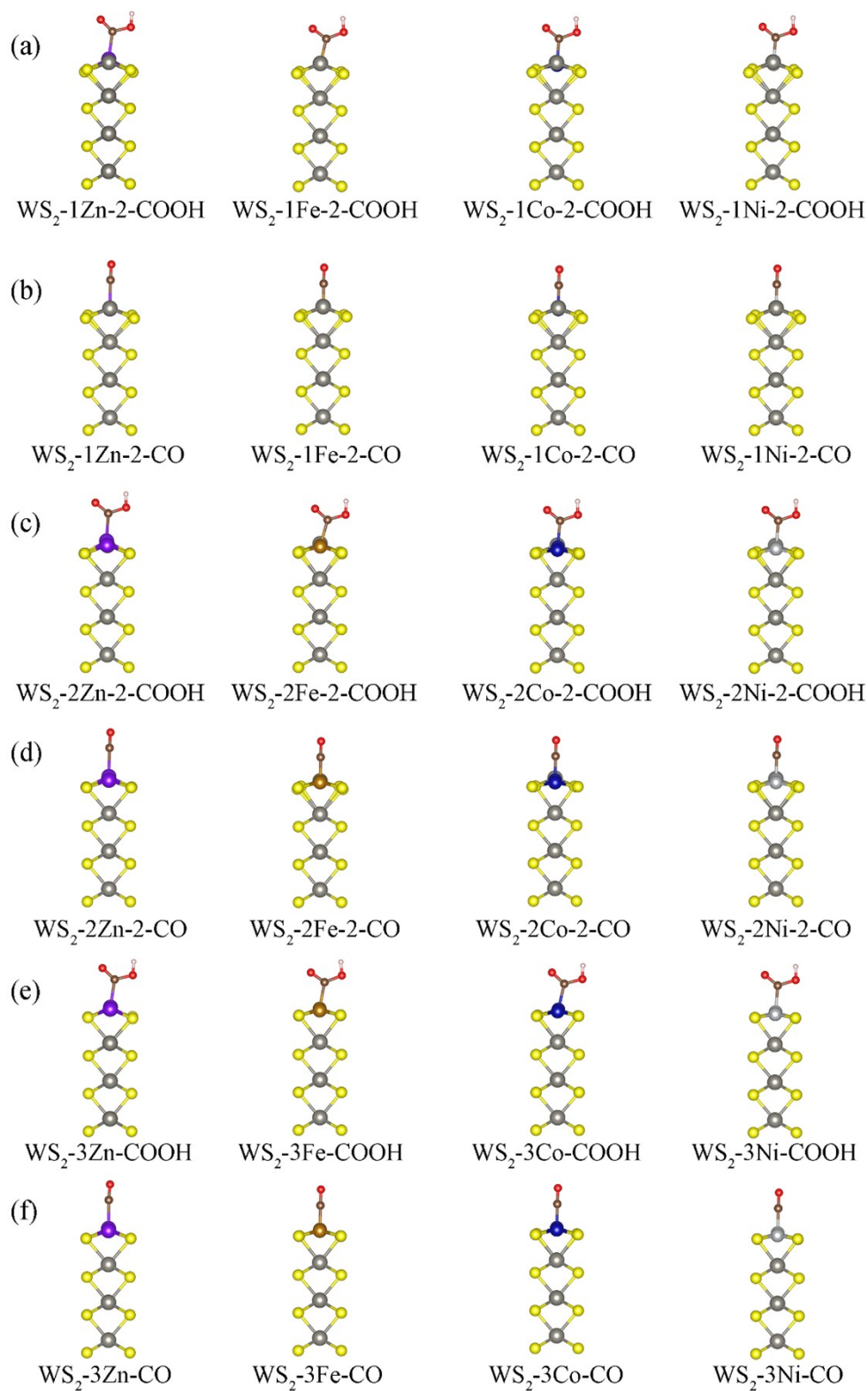


**Figure S1** Optimized stable structures of (a) WS<sub>2</sub>-1TM models, (b) WS<sub>2</sub>-2TM models and (c) WS<sub>2</sub>-3TM models. (d) Binding energy of WS<sub>2</sub>-xTM. The binding energy ( $E_b$ ) is calculated by the following formula:  $E_b = E(\text{WS}_2\text{-xTM}) - \mu_{\text{TM}} - E(\text{WS}_2\text{-V}_W)$ , where  $E(\text{WS}_2\text{-xTM})$  and  $E(\text{WS}_2\text{-V}_W)$  are the energy of WS<sub>2</sub>-xTM model and the energy of WS<sub>2</sub> with W vacancy, respectively, and  $\mu_{\text{TM}}$  is the energy of each TM atom in its bulk phase.

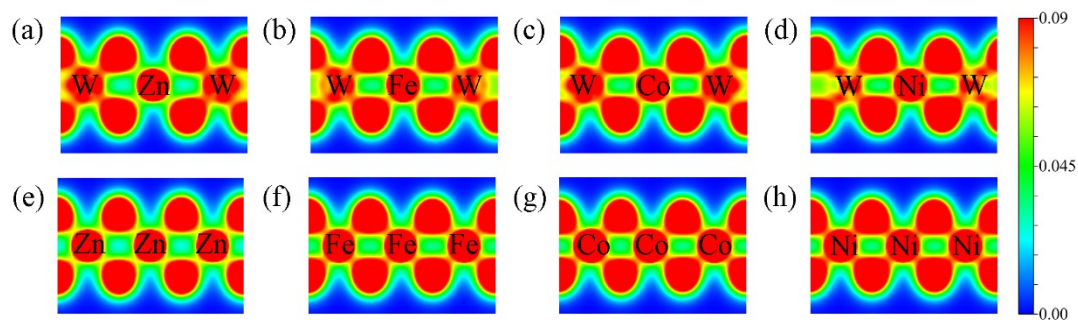


**Figure S2** Stable structures of  $\text{WS}_2$  and  $\text{WS}_2$ -1TM-1 models absorbed with reaction intermediates

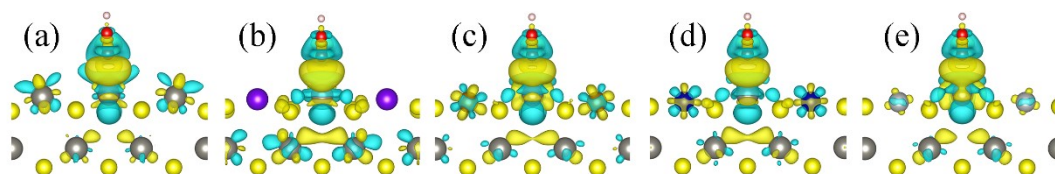
(a)  $\text{COOH}^*$  and (b)  $\text{CO}^*$ , respectively



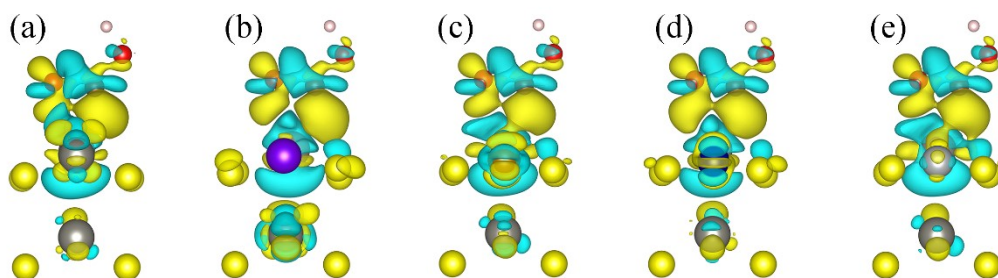
**Figure S3** Stable structures of  $WS_2-1TM-2$  models absorbed with reaction intermediates (a)  $COOH^*$  and (b)  $CO^*$ , respectively; stable structures of  $WS_2-2TM-2$  models absorbed with reaction intermediates (c)  $COOH^*$  and (d)  $CO^*$ , respectively; and stable structures of  $WS_2-3TM$  models absorbed with reaction intermediates (e)  $COOH^*$  and (f)  $CO^*$ , respectively



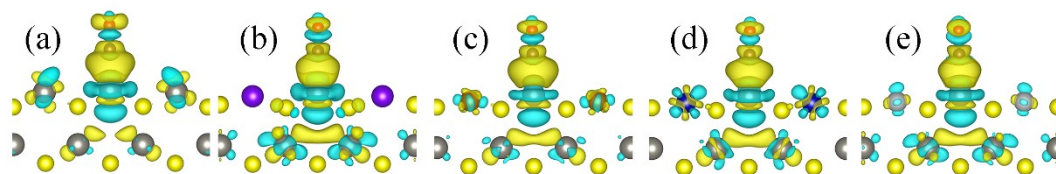
**Figure S4** Charge density for (a) WS<sub>2</sub>-1Zn, (b) WS<sub>2</sub>-1Fe, (c) WS<sub>2</sub>-1Co, (d) WS<sub>2</sub>-1Ni, (e) WS<sub>2</sub>-3Zn, (f) WS<sub>2</sub>-3Fe, (g) WS<sub>2</sub>-3Co and (h) WS<sub>2</sub>-3Ni models.



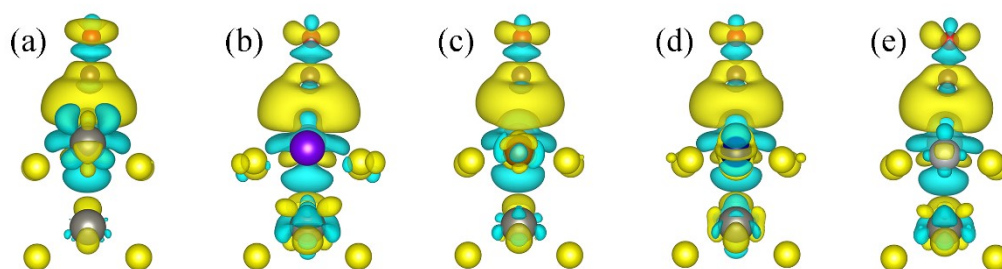
**Figure S5** The side view of charge density difference for the adsorption of COOH\* on (a) bare WS<sub>2</sub>, (b) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Zn-1, (c) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Fe-1, (d) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Co-1 and (e) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Ni-1 models. The charge accumulation/depletion is shown in yellow/cyan with the isosurface of  $0.002 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3 \cdot \text{c}$ . The gray, blue, yellow, brown, red and white balls in the ball-and-stick models represent the W, Zn, S, C, O and H atoms, respectively.



**Figure S6** The main view of charge density difference for the adsorption of COOH\* on (a) bare WS<sub>2</sub>, (b) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Zn-1, (c) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Fe-1, (d) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Co-1 and (e) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Ni-1 models. The charge accumulation/depletion is shown in yellow/cyan with the isosurface of  $0.002 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3 \cdot \text{c}$ . The gray, blue, yellow, brown, red and white balls in the ball-and-stick models represent the W, Zn, S, C, O and H atoms, respectively.

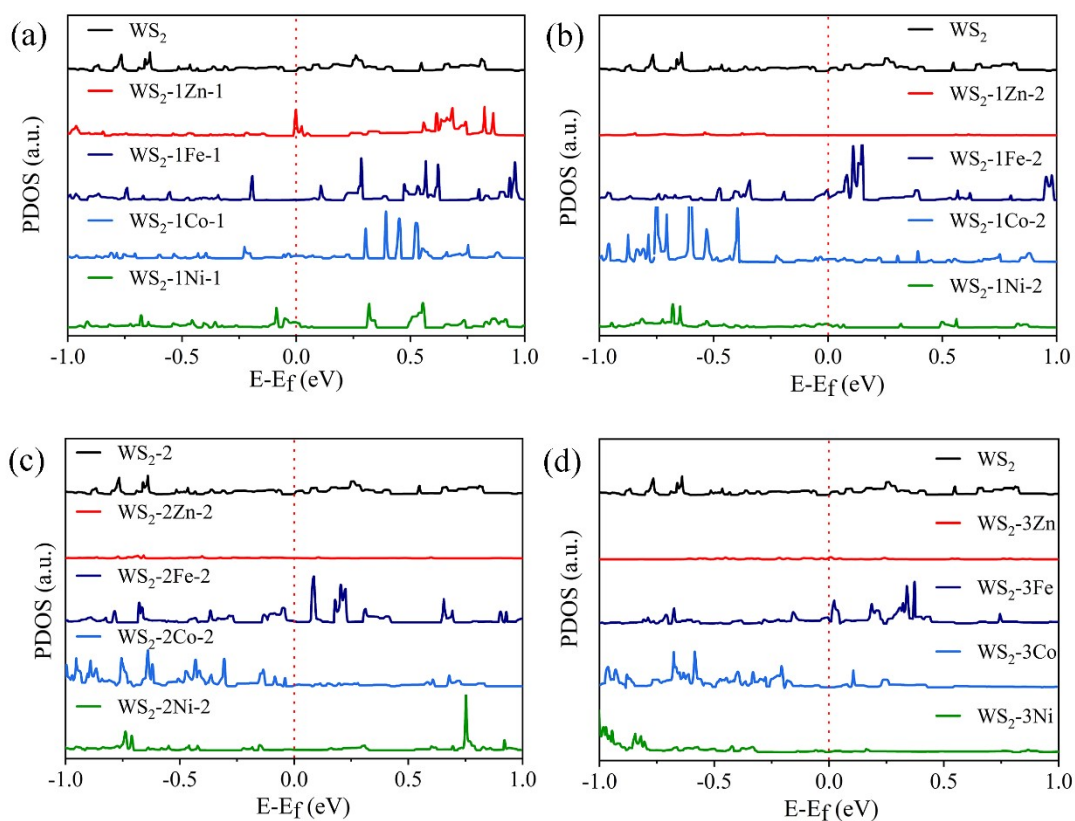


**Figure S7** The side view of charge density difference for the adsorption of CO\* on (a) bare WS<sub>2</sub>, (b) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Zn-1, (c) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Fe-1, (d) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Co-1 and (e) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Ni-1 models. The charge accumulation/depletion is shown in yellow/cyan with the isosurface of 0.002 e/Å<sup>3</sup> · c. The gray, blue, yellow, brown, red and white balls in the ball-and-stick models represent the W, Zn, S, C, O and H atoms, respectively.

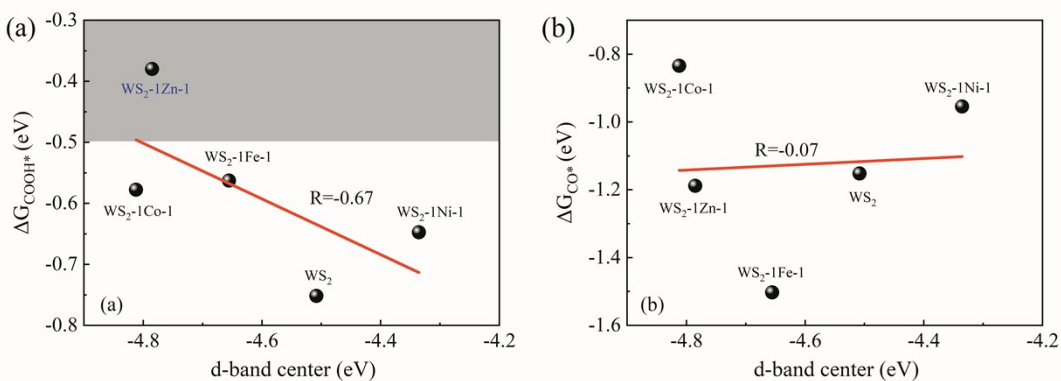


**Figure S8** The main view of charge density difference for the adsorption of CO\* on (a) bare WS<sub>2</sub>, (b) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Zn-1, (c) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Fe-1, (d) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Co-1 and (e) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Ni-1 models. The charge accumulation/depletion is shown in yellow/cyan with the isosurface of 0.002 e/Å<sup>3</sup> · c. The gray, blue, yellow, brown, red and white balls in the ball-and-stick models represent the W, Zn, S, C, O and H atoms, respectively.

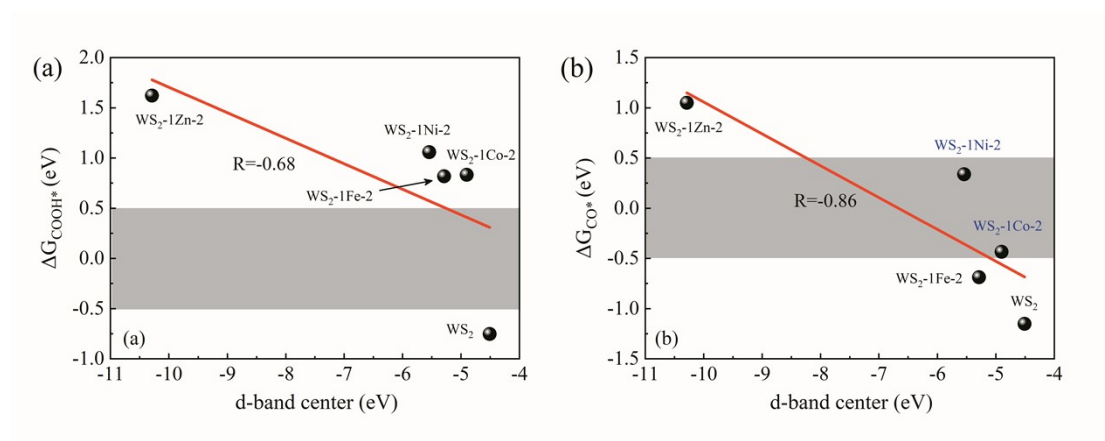




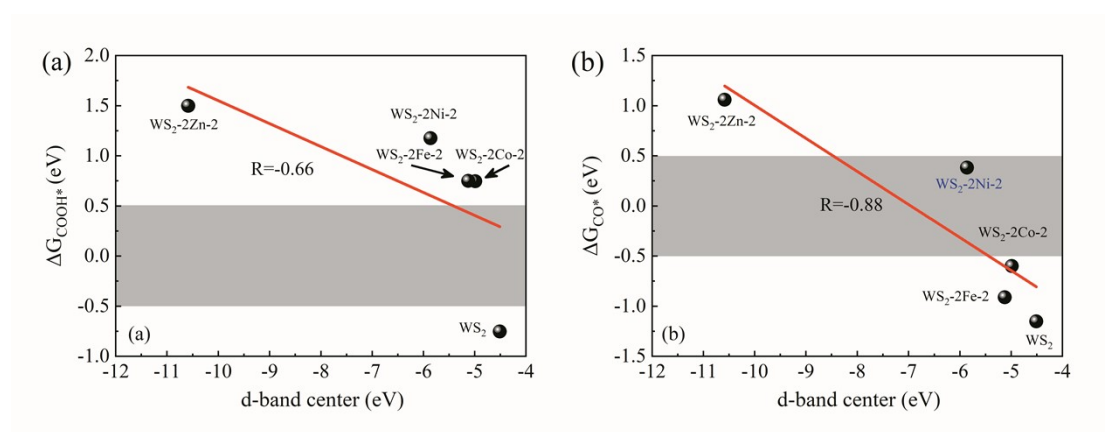
**Figure S9** Projected state density of d-orbit of adsorption site in (a)  $\text{WS}_2$ -1TM-1, (b)  $\text{WS}_2$ -1TM-2, (c)  $\text{WS}_2$ -2TM-2, and (d)  $\text{WS}_2$ -3TM models.



**Figure S10** Relationship between the Gibbs free energy change and d-band centers of W sites in  $\text{WS}_2$ -1TM models in the case of absorption intermediate (a)  $\text{COOH}^*$  and (b)  $\text{CO}^*$ , respectively. The R shows the correlation between Gibbs free energy and d-band centers. The gray region indicates the models with better electrocatalytic performance ( $-0.5 < \Delta G < 0.5$  eV).

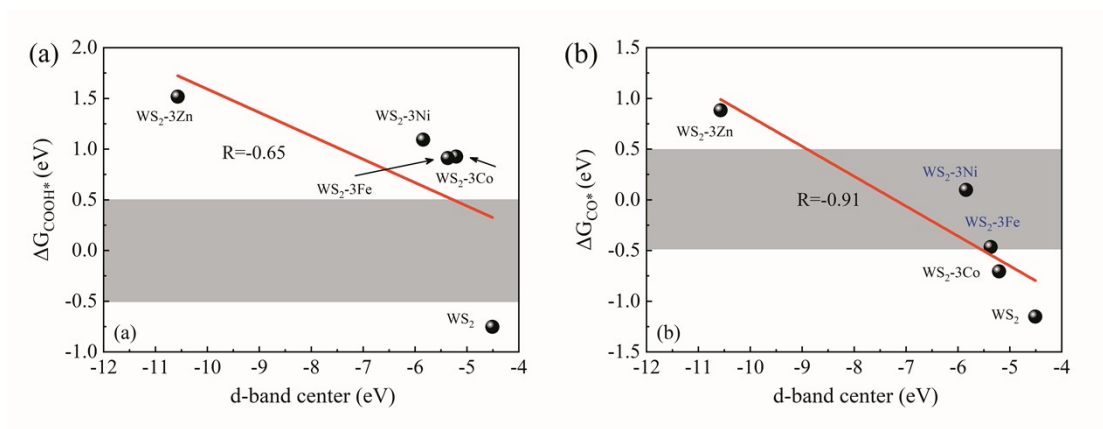


**Figure S11** Relationship between the Gibbs free energy change and d-band centers of TM sites in WS<sub>2</sub>-1TM models in the case of absorption intermediate (a) COOH\* and (b) CO\*, respectively. The R shows the correlation between Gibbs free energy and d-band centers. The gray region indicates the models with better electrocatalytic performance ( $-0.5 < \Delta G < 0.5$  eV).

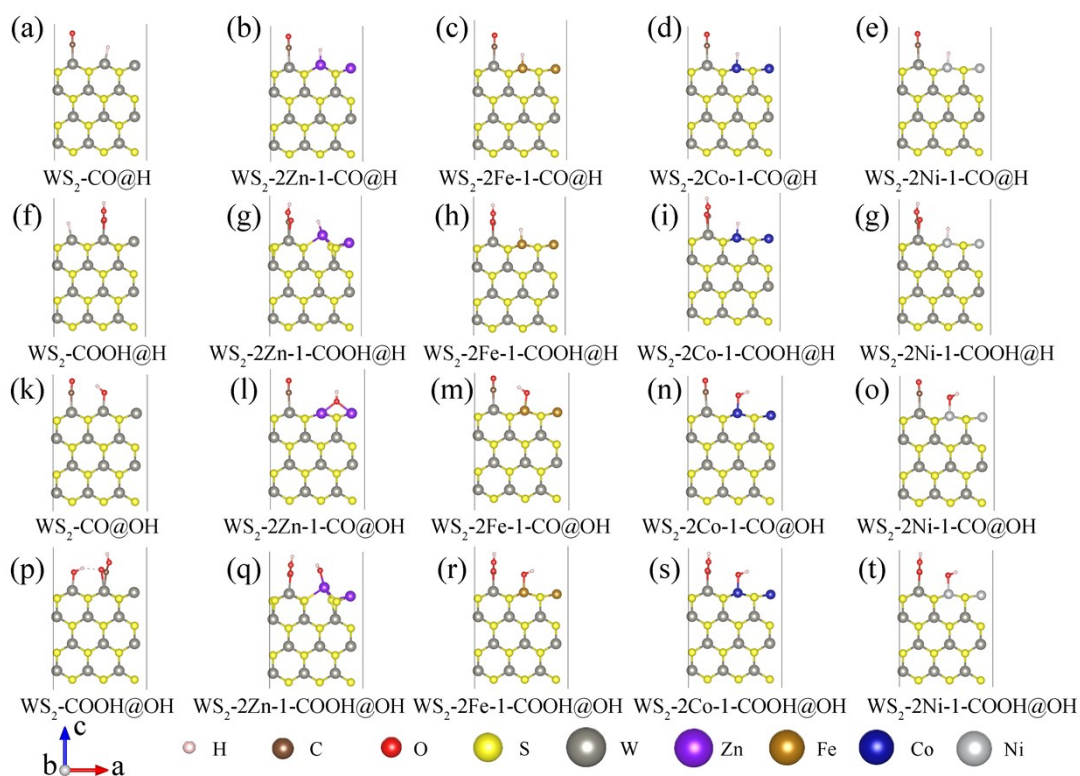


**Figure S12** Relationship between the Gibbs free energy change and d-band centers of TM sites in WS<sub>2</sub>-2TM models in the case of absorption intermediate (a) COOH\* and (b) CO\*, respectively. The R shows the correlation between Gibbs free energy and d-band centers. The gray region indicates the models with better electrocatalytic performance ( $-0.5 < \Delta G < 0.5$  eV).



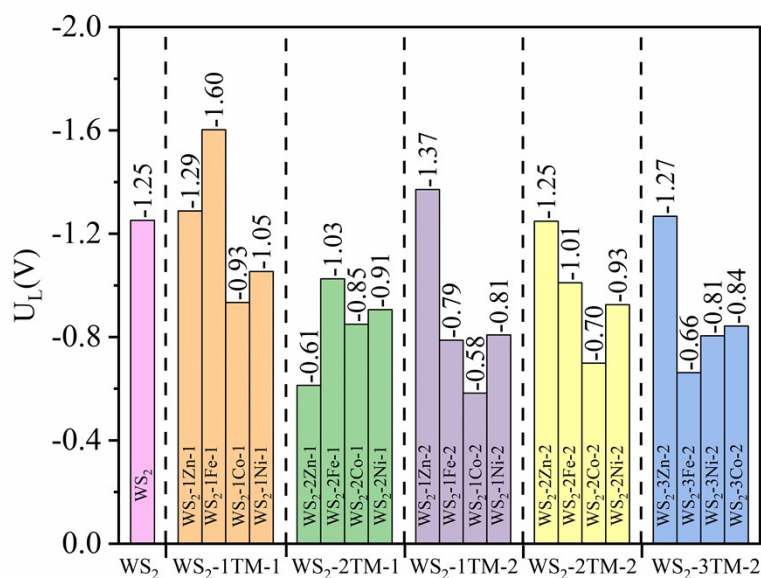


**Figure S13** Relationship between the Gibbs free energy change and d-band centers of TM sites in  $WS_2$ -3TM models in the case of absorption intermediate (a)  $COOH^*$  and (b)  $CO^*$ , respectively. The R shows the correlation between Gibbs free energy and d-band centers. The gray region indicates the models with better electrocatalytic performance ( $-0.5 < \Delta G < 0.5$  eV).

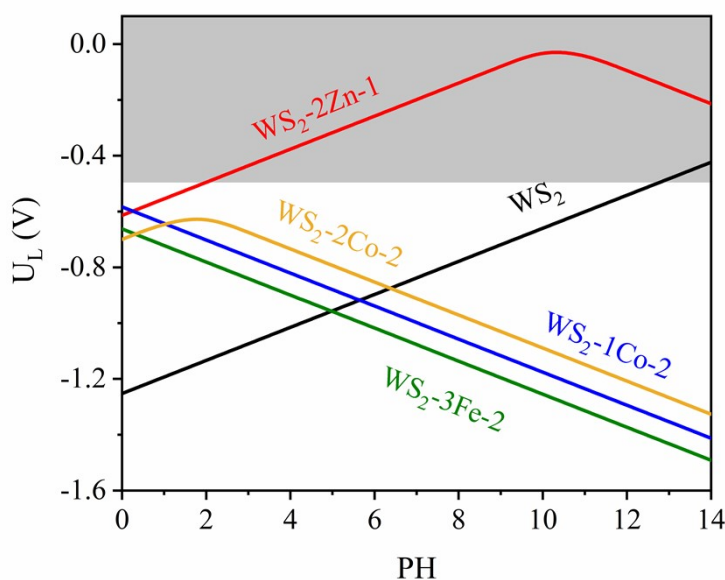


**Figure S14** Stable structures of (a)  $WS_2$ , (b)  $WS_2-2Zn-1$ , (c)  $WS_2-2Fe-1$ , (d)  $WS_2-2Co-1$  and (e)  $WS_2-2Ni-1$  models absorbed with reaction intermediates  $CO^*$  and  $H^*$ , respectively. Stable structures of (f)  $WS_2$ , (g)  $WS_2-2Zn-1$ , (h)  $WS_2-2Fe-1$ , (i)  $WS_2-2Co-1$  and (j)  $WS_2-2Ni-1$  models absorbed with reaction intermediates  $COOH^*$  and  $H^*$ , respectively. Stable structures of (k)  $WS_2$ ,

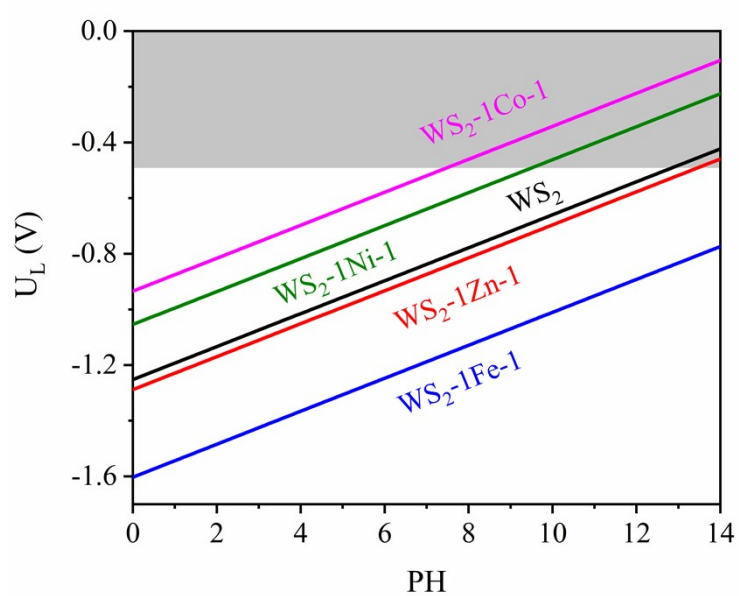
(l) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Zn-1, (m) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Fe-1, (n) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Co-1 and (o) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Ni-1 models absorbed with reaction intermediates CO\* and OH\*, respectively. Stable structures of (p) WS<sub>2</sub>, (q) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Zn-1, (r) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Fe-1, (s) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Co-1 and (t) WS<sub>2</sub>-2Ni-1 models absorbed with reaction intermediates COOH\* and OH\*, respectively.



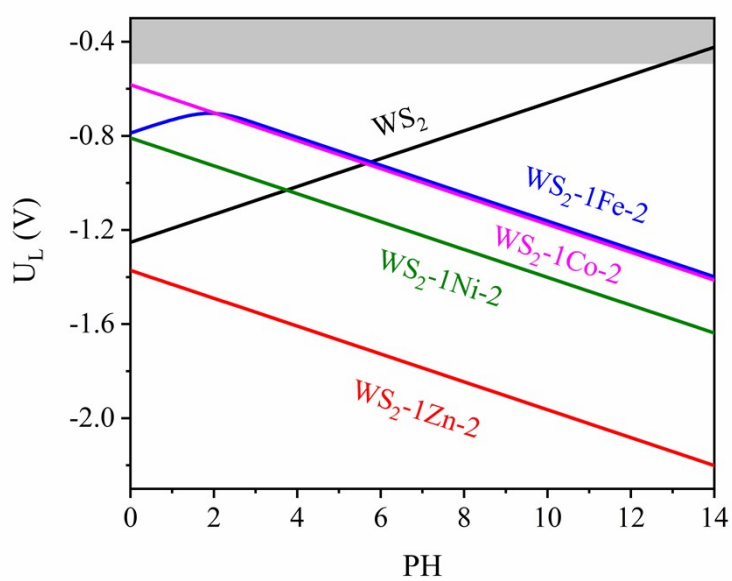
**Figure S15** The calculated values of limiting potential ( $U_L$ ) after solvation modification for the CO<sub>2</sub>RR to CO on different models at PH=0.



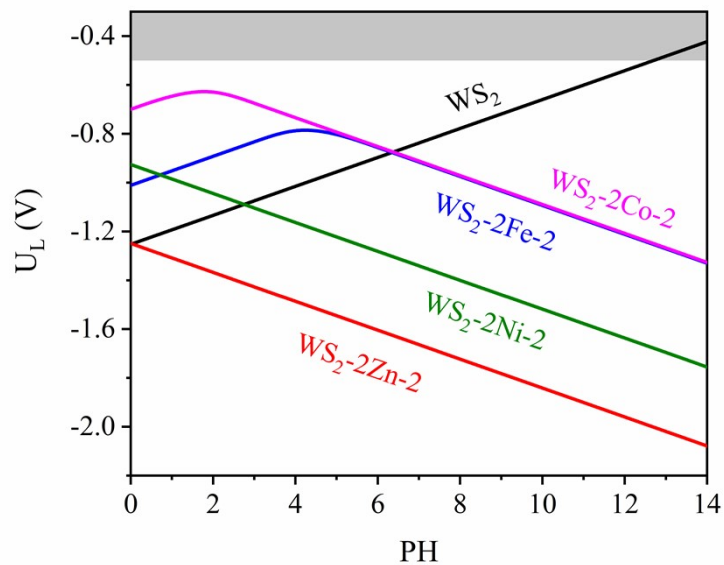
**Figure S16** The calculated values of limiting potential ( $U_L$ ) after solvation modification for the CO<sub>2</sub>RR to CO on WS<sub>2</sub>, WS<sub>2</sub>-1Co-2, WS<sub>2</sub>-2Co-2, WS<sub>2</sub>-2Zn-1 and WS<sub>2</sub>-3Fe-2 models at different PH.



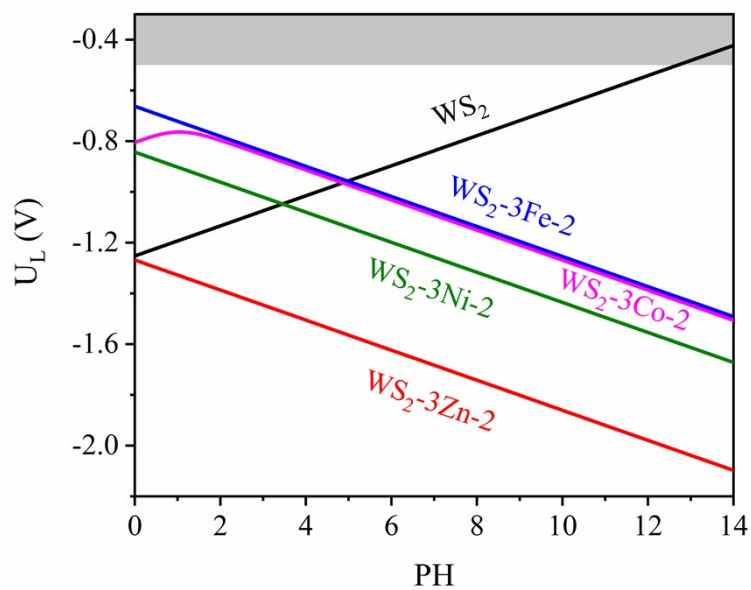
**Figure S17** The calculated values of limiting potential ( $U_L$ ) after solvation modification for the CO<sub>2</sub>RR to CO on WS<sub>2</sub>-1TM-1 models at different PH.



**Figure S18** The calculated values of limiting potential ( $U_L$ ) after solvation modification for the CO<sub>2</sub>RR to CO on WS<sub>2</sub>-1TM-2 models at different PH.



**Figure S19** The calculated values of limiting potential ( $U_L$ ) after solvation modification for the  $\text{CO}_2\text{RR}$  to  $\text{CO}$  on  $\text{WS}_2\text{-2TM-2}$  models at different pH.



**Figure S20** The calculated values of limiting potential ( $U_L$ ) after solvation modification for the  $\text{CO}_2\text{RR}$  to  $\text{CO}$  on  $\text{WS}_2\text{3TM-2}$  models at different pH.

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