

Supplementary Information

A processable Prussian blue analogue-mediated route to promote alkaline electrocatalytic water splitting over bifunctional copper phosphide

Jiahui Chen,^{a,b} Yunming Li,^{*c} Huangqing Ye,^d Pengli Zhu,^e Xian-Zhu Fu,^{*a} and Rong Sun^e

^a College of Materials Science and Engineering, Shenzhen University, Shenzhen 518060, China

^b College of Physics and Optoelectronic Engineering, Shenzhen University, Shenzhen 518060, China

^c School of New Energy Science and Engineering, Xinyu University, Xinyu 338004, China

^d SZU-NUS Collaborative Innovation Center for Optoelectronic Science & Technology, Institute of Microscale Optoelectronics, Shenzhen University, Shenzhen 518060, China.

^e Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shenzhen 518055, China

* Corresponding authors:

E-mail: 395591748@qq.com (Y. Li)

E-mail: xz.fu@szu.edu.cn (X. -Z. Fu)

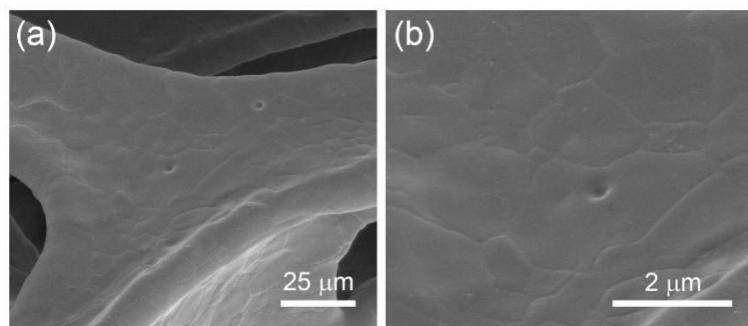


Fig. S1 SEM images of the copper foam in different magnifications.

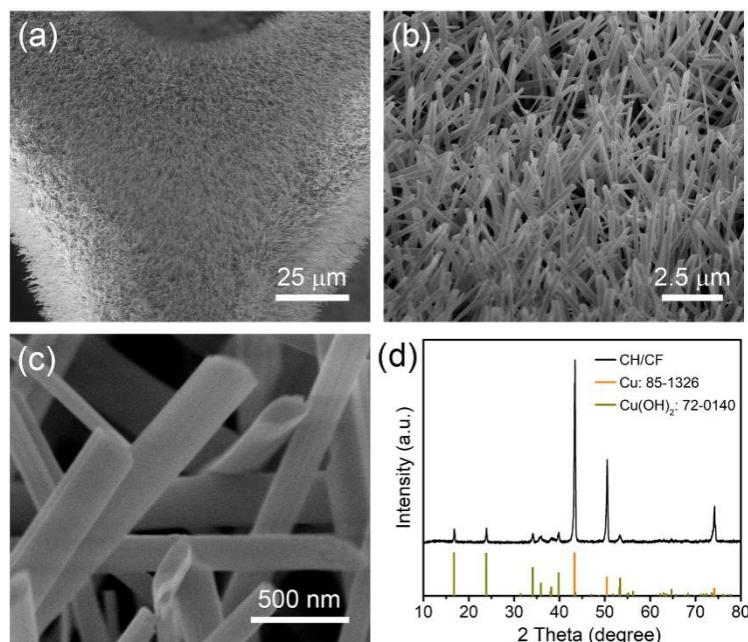


Fig. S2 (a-c) SEM images of CH/CF in different magnifications and (d) XRD pattern of CH/CF.

Table S1 Optimization of the synthetic parameters of CH@PBA/CF.

| Samples | H ₂ O | 0.1 M HCl | K ₃ [Co(CN) ₆] | Reaction times |
|-------------|------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| CH@PBA/CF-1 | 40 mL | 1 mL | 100 mg | 4 h |
| CH@PBA/CF-2 | 40 mL | 0.5 mL | 100 mg | 4 h |
| CH@PBA/CF-3 | 40 mL | 1.5 mL | 100 mg | 4 h |
| CH@PBA/CF-4 | 40 mL | 1 mL | 100 mg | 2 h |
| CH@PBA/CF-5 | 40 mL | 1 mL | 100 mg | 6 h |

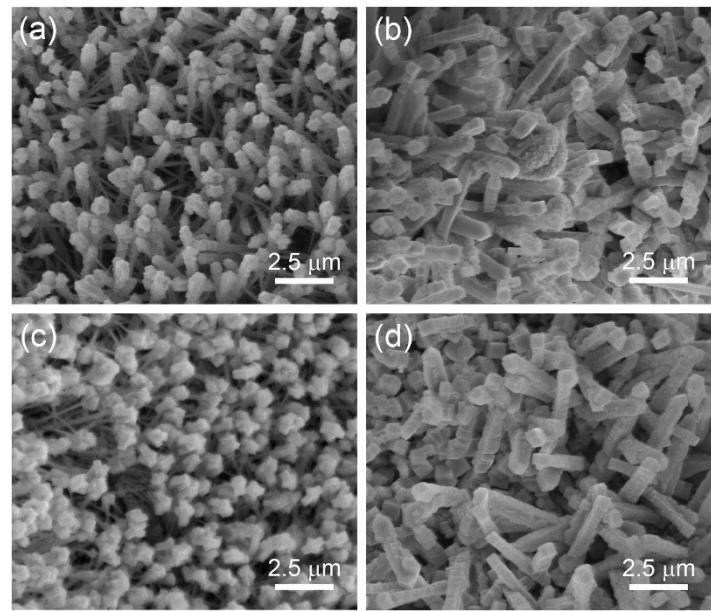


Fig. S3 SEM images of samples obtained by using different synthetic parameters in Table S1: (a) CH@PBA/CF-2, (b) CH@PBA/CF-3, (c) CH@PBA/CF-4 and (d) CH@PBA/CF-5.

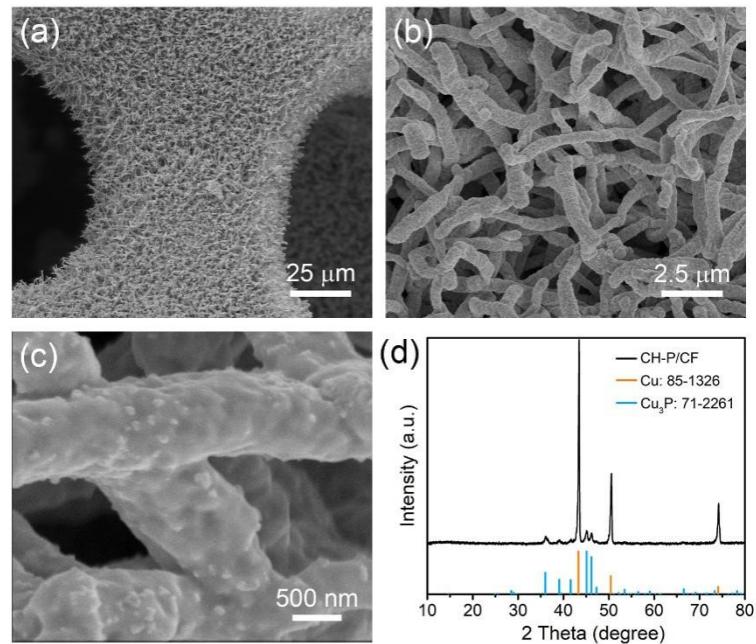


Fig. S4 (a-c) SEM images of CH-P/CF in different magnifications and (d) XRD pattern of CH-P/CF.

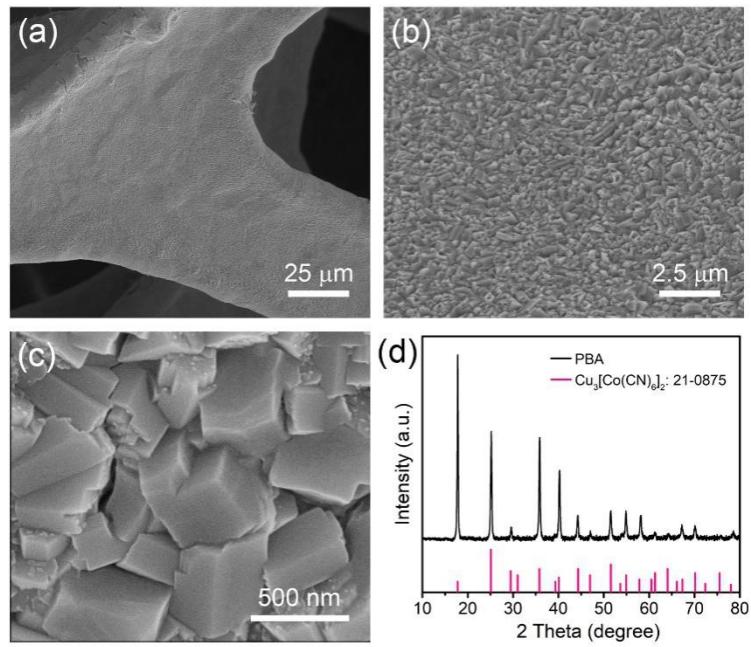


Fig. S5 (a-c) SEM images of PBA/CF in different magnifications and (d) XRD pattern of PBA powder scrapped from the copper foam.

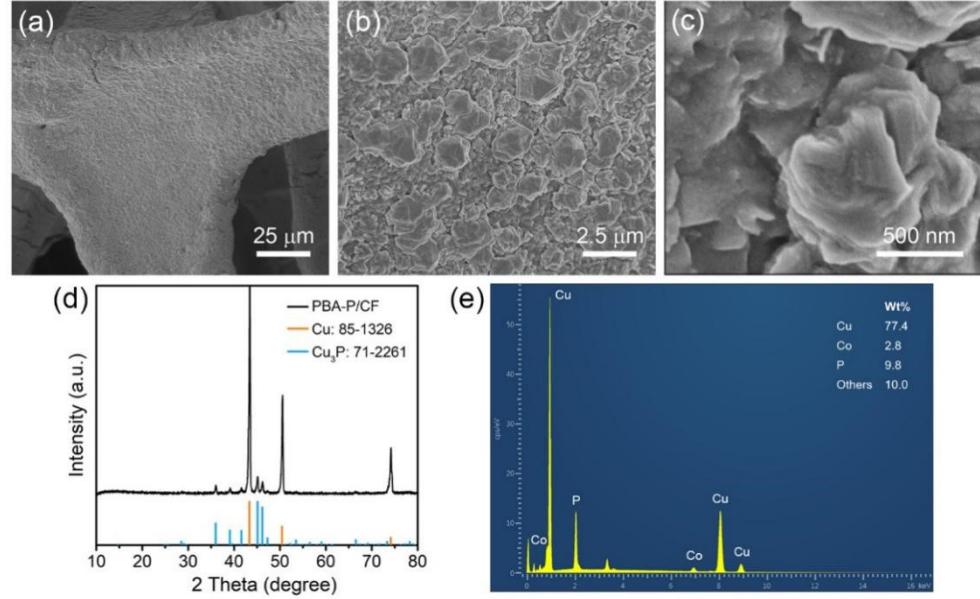


Fig. S6 (a-c) SEM images in different magnifications, (d) XRD pattern and (e) SEM EDS spectrum of PBA-P/CF.

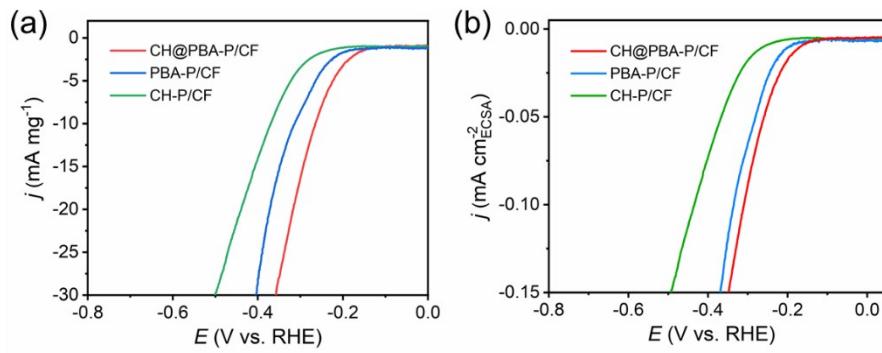


Fig. S7 The LSV curves normalized to (a) mass loading and (b) ECSA.

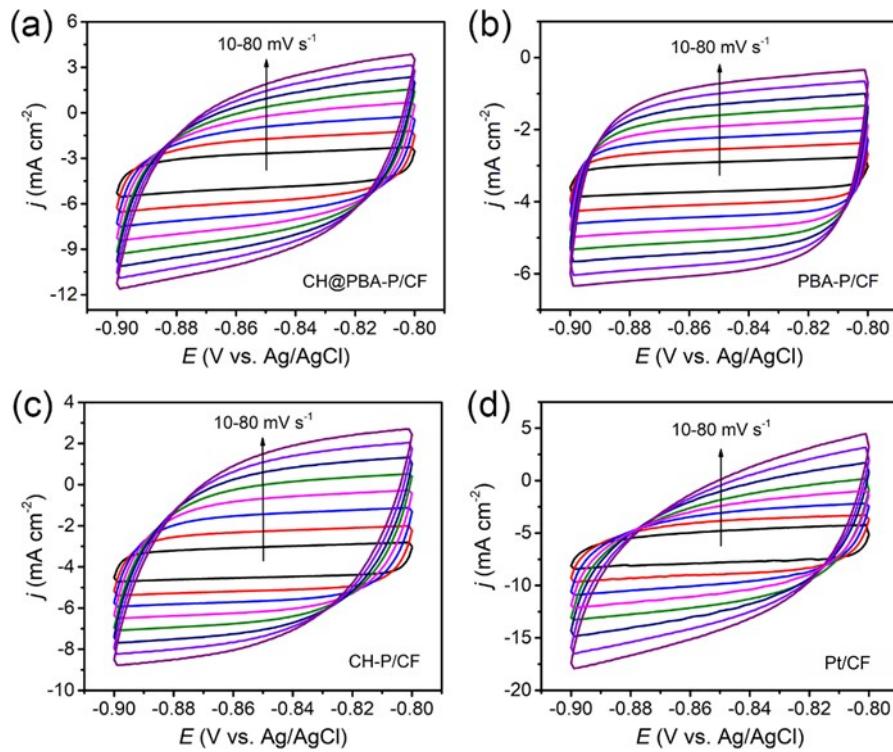


Fig. S8 Cyclic voltammetry curves of the electrocatalysts in the region of -0.8~0.9 V vs. Ag/AgCl at various scan rates: (a) CH@PBA-P/CF, (b) PBA-P/CF, (c) CH-P/CF and (d) Pt/CF.

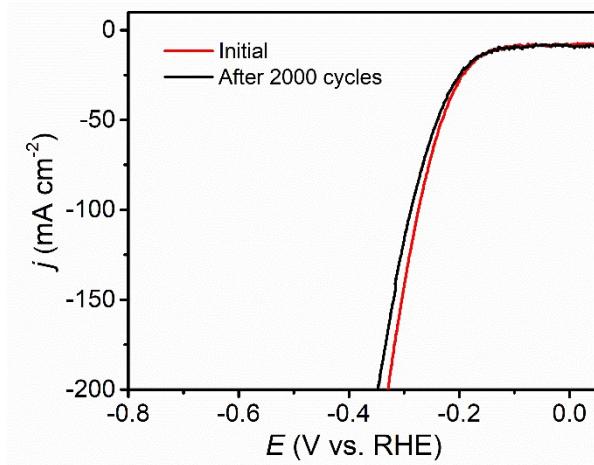


Fig. S9 The LSV curves before and after 1000 CV cycles in 1 M KOH.

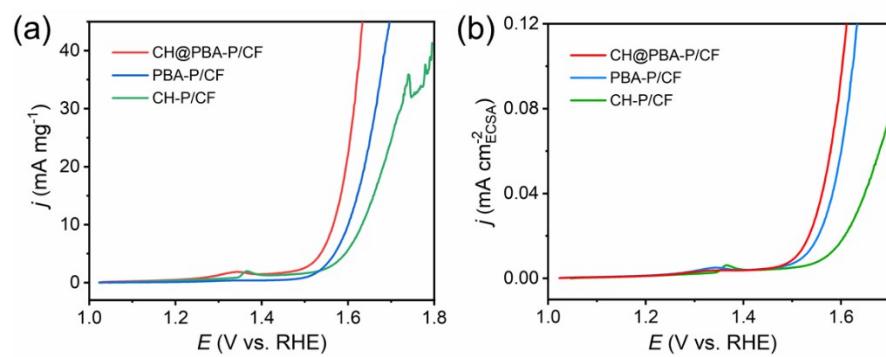


Fig. S10 The LSV curves normalized to (a) mass loading and (b) ECSA.

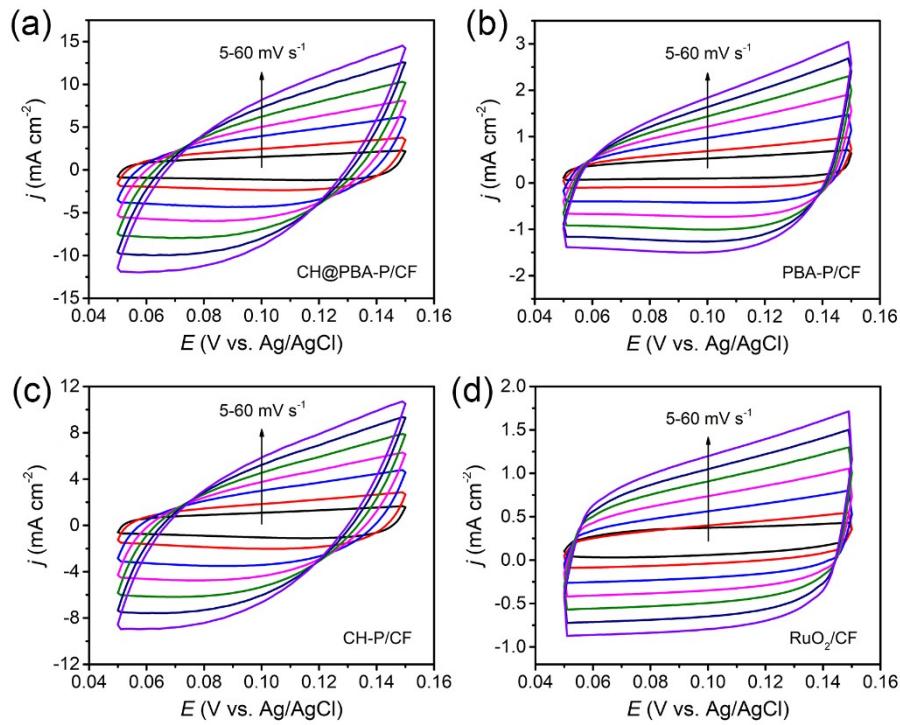


Fig. S11 Cyclic voltammetry curves of the electrocatalysts in the region of 0.05~0.15 V vs. Ag/AgCl at various scan rates: (a) CH@PBA-P/CF, (b) PBA-P/CF, (c) CH-P/CF and (d) RuO₂/CF.

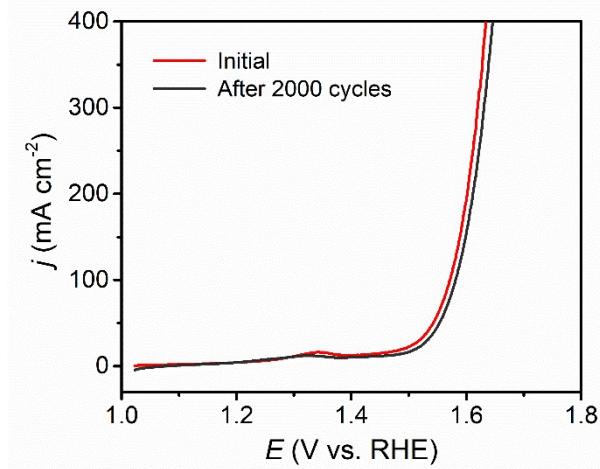


Fig. S12 The LSV curves before and after 1000 CV cycles in 1 M KOH.

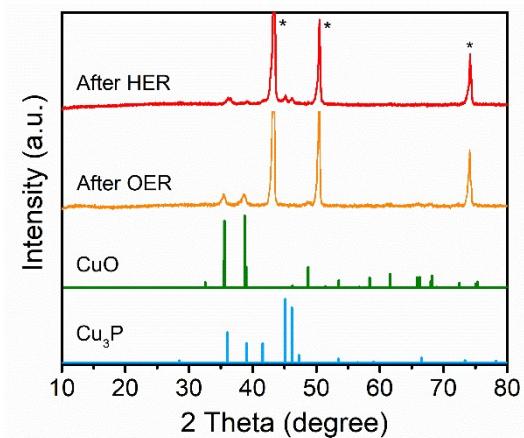


Fig. S13 XRD patterns of CH@PBA-P/CF after chronoamperometry measurements for overall water splitting.

Table S2 Comparison of the catalytic activity of CH@PBA-P/CF with other reported copper-based electrocatalysts.

| Catalysts | Substrate* | HER (mV) | | OER (mV) | | References |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------|
| | | η_{50} | η_{100} | η_{50} | η_{100} | |
| CH@PBA-P/CF | CF | 231 | 274 | 312 | 341 | This work |
| CuNiS | NF | 151 | 225 | 398 | 426 | 1 |
| CoMoS | NF | 213 | 238 | 350 | 395 | 2 |
| Mn/Ni-doped Cu ₂ S | Monolith | 136 | 160 | 317 | 330 | 3 |
| CuNi@NiFeCu | CP | 185 | ~200 | 285 | 297 | 4 |
| Cu ₃ P/Ni ₂ P | CF | ~180 | ~220 | 330 | 400 | 5 |
| Co-Cu-P | NF | 153 | 182 | 343 | 365 | 6 |
| CuNiFeCrCo | NF | ~170 | 180 | ~295 | 315 | 7 |
| Cu ₂ S/Co(OH) ₂ | CF | 241 | / | 268 | / | 8 |
| Cu ₂ S@CoS | CF | 235 | / | 275 | / | 9 |
| Cu-Co-P | Cu foil | 288 | / | 425 | / | 10 |
| Cu ₃ P@NiFeMOF | CF | 350 | / | 345 | / | 11 |
| NiCu/NiCuN@NC | NF | / | 149 | / | 295 | 12 |
| Cu ₃ N/CuO | NF | / | 280 | / | 425 | 13 |
| CuNiS | CP | / | ~300 | / | ~410 | 14 |
| CoNiS@CuO | CF | / | ~175 | / | 314 | 15 |
| NiCu | Cu foil | / | 167 | / | ~390 | 16 |

Note: * CF = copper foam, NF = nickel foam, CP = carbon paper.

Reference

- 1 D. Chinnadurai, R. Rajendiran and P. Kandasamy, *J. Colloid Interface Sci.*, 2022, **606**, 101-112.
- 2 A. Sajeev, V. K. Mariappan, D. Kesavan, K. Krishnamoorthy and S.-J. Kim, *Mater. Adv.*, 2021, **2**, 455-463.
- 3 H. Yuan, S. Zheng, S. Sang, J. Yang, J. Sun, Z. Ma and X. Wang, *Int. J. Hydrogen Energy*, 2022, **47**, 11827-11840.

- 4 D. Cao, H. Xu and D. Cheng, *Appl. Catal. B: Environ.*, 2021, **298**, 120600.
- 5 H. Liu, J. Gao, X. Xu, Q. Jia, L. Yang, S. Wang and D. Cao, *Chem. Eng. J.*, 2022, **448**, 137706.
- 6 Y. Liu, Y. Yang, B. Chen, X. Li, M. Guo, Y. Yang, K. Xu and C. Yuan, *Inorg. Chem.*, 2021, **60**, 18325-18336.
- 7 B. Nourmohammadi Khiarak, M. Mojaddami, Z. Zamani Faradonbeh, A. O. Zekiy and A. Simchi, *Energy Fuels*, 2022, **36**, 4502-4509.
- 8 D. Wang, J. Li, Y. Zhao, H. Xu and J. Zhao, *Electrochim. Acta*, 2019, **316**, 8-18.
- 9 Q. Zhou, T.-T. Li, J. Wang, F. Guo and Y.-Q. Zheng, *Electrochim. Acta*, 2019, **296**, 1035-1041.
- 10 R. N. Wasalathanthri, S. Jeffrey, R. A. Awani, K. Sun and D. M. Giolando, *ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng.*, 2019, **7**, 3092-3100.
- 11 E. Li, Q. Mou, Z. Xu, J. Ma, X. Liu, G. Cheng, P. Zhao and H. Li, *Catal. Lett.*, 2022, DOI: 10.1007/s10562-021-03865-5.
- 12 J. Hou, Y. Sun, Z. Li, B. Zhang, S. Cao, Y. Wu, Z. Gao and L. Sun, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 2018, **28**, 1803278.
- 13 C. Panda, P. W. Menezes, M. Zheng, S. Orthmann and M. Driess, *ACS Energy Lett.*, 2019, **4**, 747-754.
- 14 D. Cao and D. Cheng, *Chem. Commun.*, 2019, **55**, 8154-8157.
- 15 J. Yang, H. Xuan, G. Zhang, R. Wang, J. Yang, X. Liang, Y. Li and P. Han, *Appl. Surf. Sci.*, 2021, **570**, 151181.
- 16 J. Niu, Y. Yue, C. Yang, Y. Wang, J. Qin, X. Zhang and Z.-S. Wu, *Appl. Surf. Sci.*, 2021, **561**, 150030.