

# Electronic Supplementary Material

## In-situ growth of phosphorized ZIF-67-derived amorphous CoP/Cu<sub>2</sub>O@CF electrocatalyst for efficient hydrogen evolution reaction

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### Theoretical Calculations

All DFT calculations are implemented using the Vienna ab initio Simulation Package (VASP) [1-3]. The electronic exchange and correlation are represented by the generalized gradient-corrected Perdew–Burke–Ernzerhof functional method (GGA-PBE) [4,5]. A plane-wave cutoff energy of 400 eV was used for the electronic wave function in all computations. The Brillouin zone was sampled by (2×2×1) and (4×4×1) Monkhorst-Pack k-point mesh for geometries relaxed and electronic structure calculations respectively [6]. In order to avoid the interaction between adjacent layers, a vacuum layer of 20 Å was established in the z-axis direction, and the force convergence criterion for structural optimization was set to 0.02 eV/Å. The dipole moment correction and the spin polarization setting were turned on. The van der Waals forces in the structure were considered and the correction was achieved using Grimme's DFT-D3 method [7]. The charge calculation was implemented using the Bader charge method developed by Henkelman and coworkers [8].

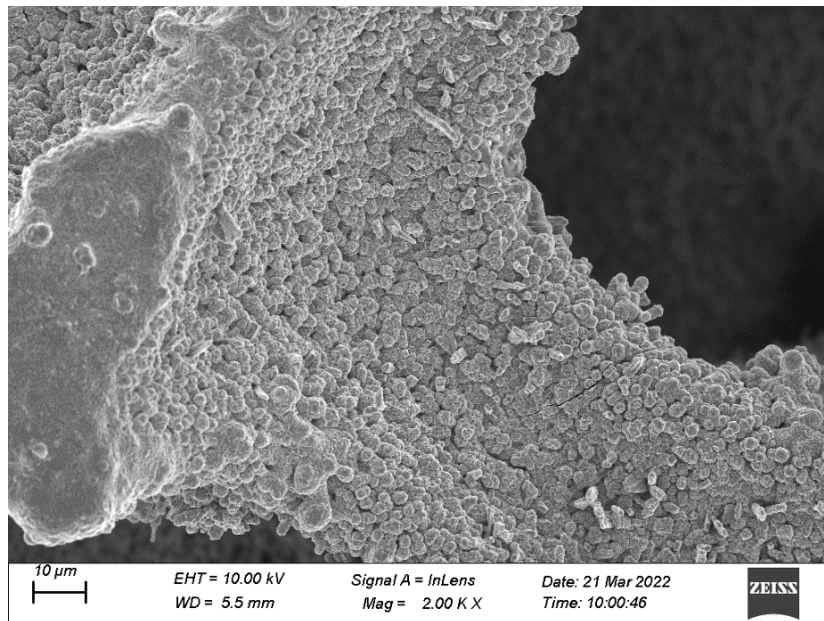


Fig.S1 Low magnification SEM images of CoP/Cu<sub>2</sub>O@CF.

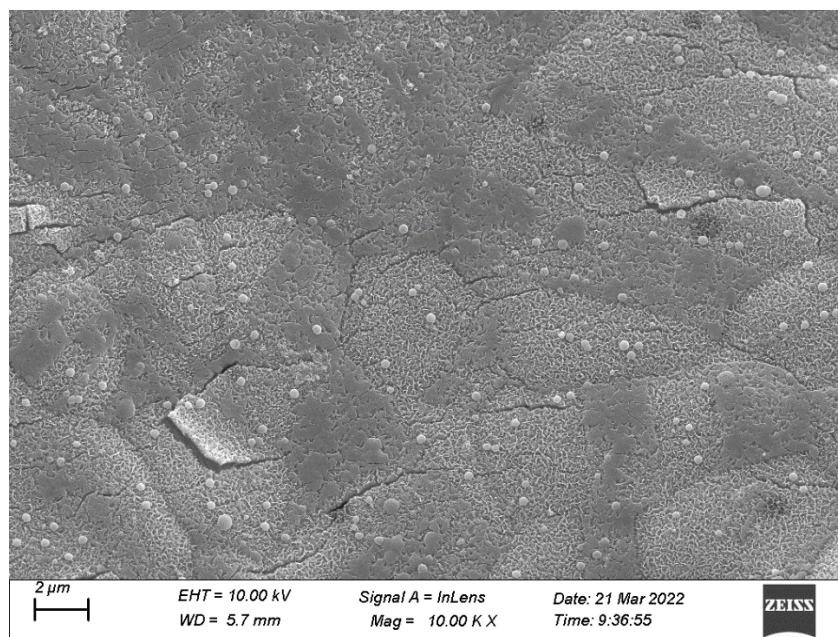


Fig.S2 SEM images of ZIF@CF.

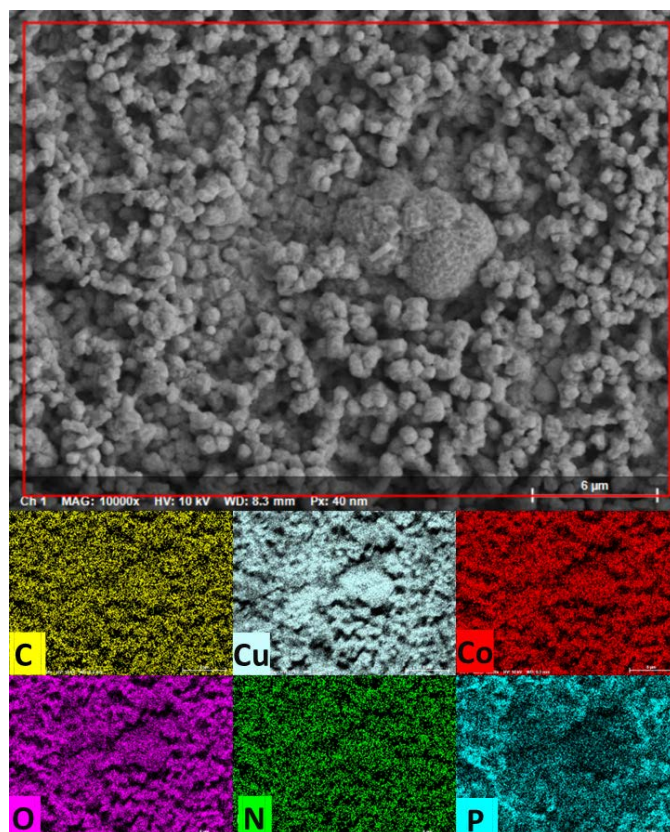


Fig.S3 elemental mapping images of CoP/Cu<sub>2</sub>O@CF.

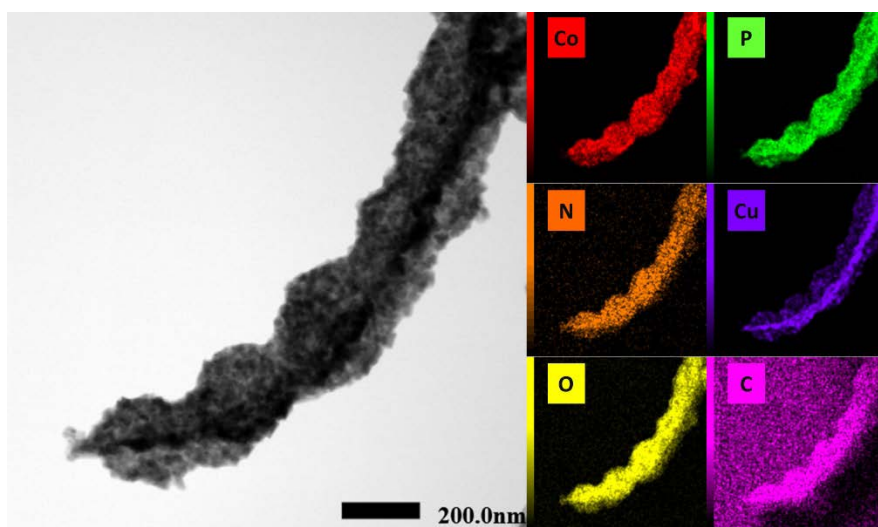


Fig.S4 TEM images and elemental mapping images of CoP/Cu<sub>2</sub>O@CF.

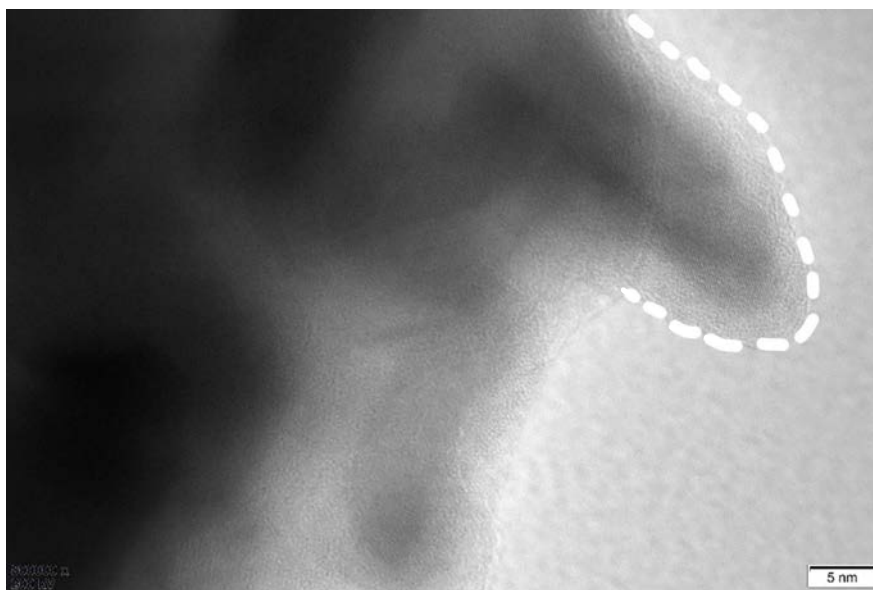


Fig.S5 HRTEM image of CoP/Cu<sub>2</sub>O@CF.

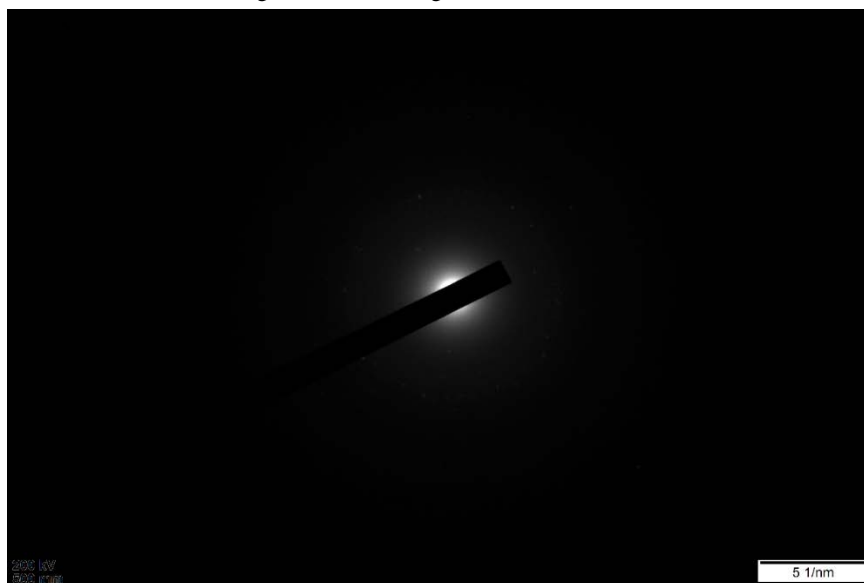


Fig.S6 SEAD pattern of CoP/Cu<sub>2</sub>O@CF.

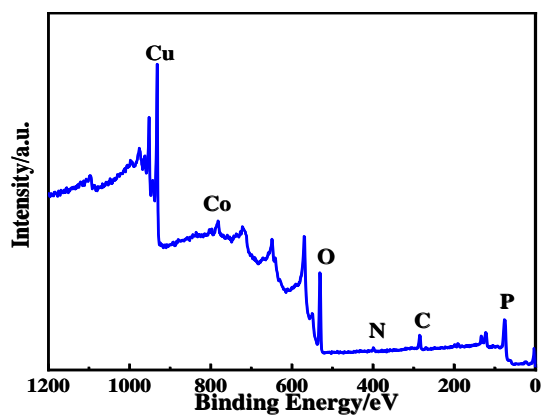


Fig.S7 Survey scan XPS plot of CoP/Cu<sub>2</sub>O@CF.

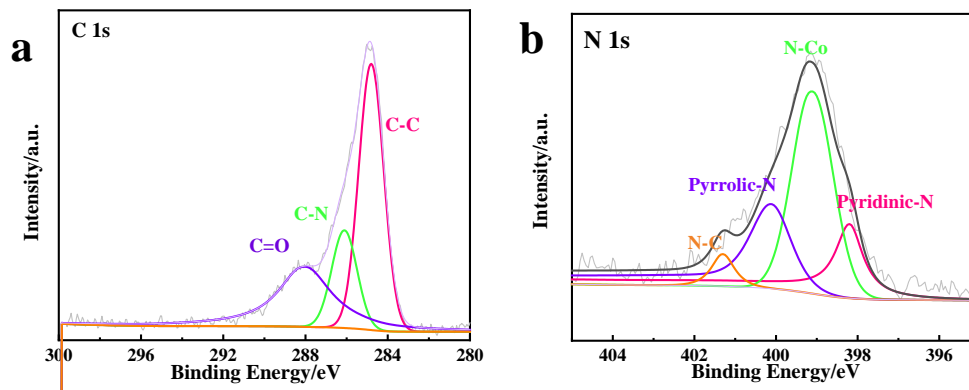


Fig.S8 CoP/Cu<sub>2</sub>O@CF XPS Spectra of (a)C 1s, (b)N 1s.

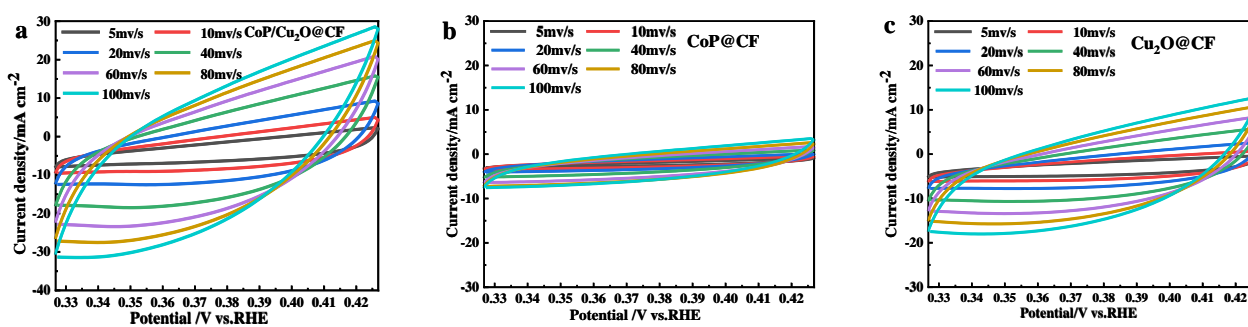


Fig.S9 CV curves of CoP/Cu<sub>2</sub>O@CF, CoP@CF and Cu<sub>2</sub>O@CF in the non-faradaic region at different scan rates.

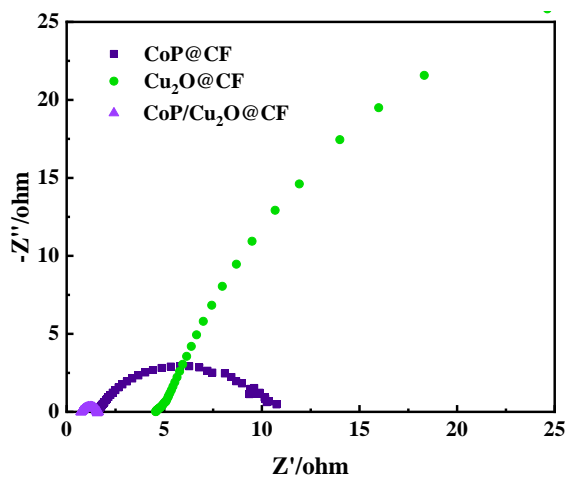


Fig.S10 Nyquist plots of the catalysts normalized by ECSA in 1 mol L<sup>-1</sup> KOH solution.

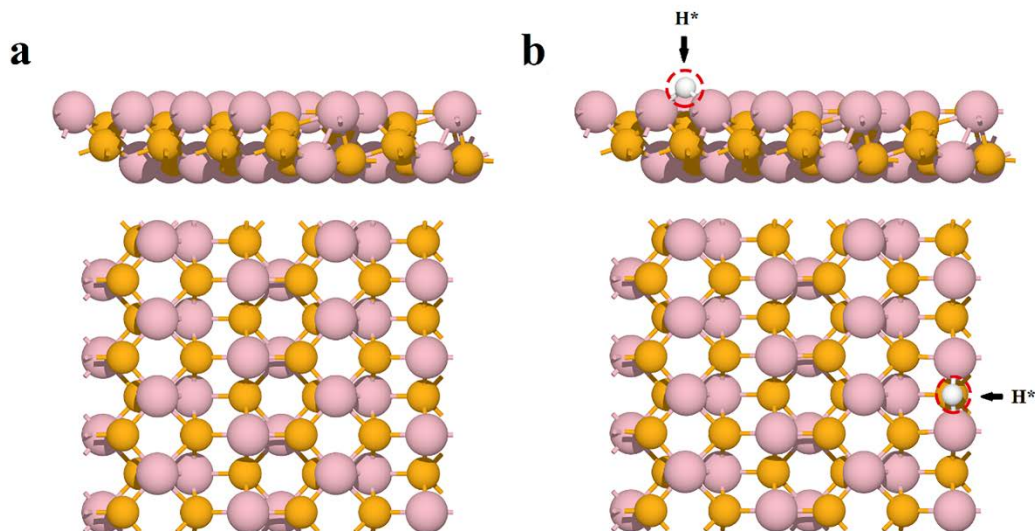


Fig.S11 Structure of cobalt phosphide (011) surface (a) and structure of hydrogen adsorption at the bridge site (b).

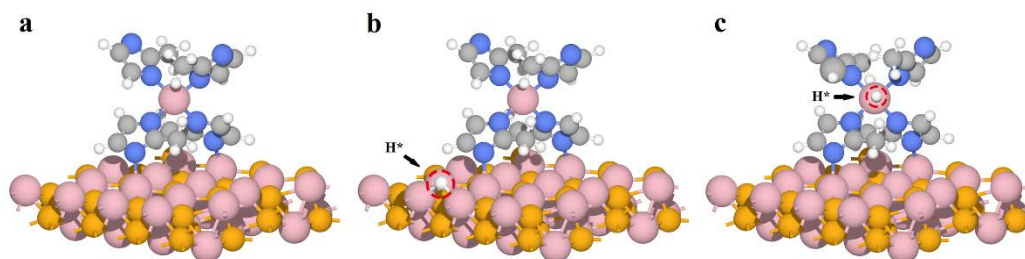


Fig.S12 Structure of CoP/ZIF before hydrogen adsorption (a), structure of hydrogen adsorbed at the bridge site of cobalt atoms (b), and adsorbed at cobalt atom in ZIF-67 (c).

Table S1 Correlation factor ( $R^2$ ) of the linear plot of capacitive current vs. scan rate, double layer capacitance ( $C_{dl}$ ), calculated ECSA of the prepared materials over CF, and the specific surface of the electrode estimated by multiplying the geometrical surface to ECSA ( $A_{Elect.} = A_{Geom} \times ECSA$ ,  $A_{Geom} = 0.25 \text{ cm}^2$ ).

Materials	$R^2$	$C_{dl}/\text{mF cm}^{-2}$	ECSA	$A_{Elect}/\text{cm}^2$
CoP/Cu <sub>2</sub> O@CF	0.94331	0.1572	3.93	0.9825
CoP@CF	0.98236	0.0892	2.23	0.5575
Cu <sub>2</sub> O@CF	0.98129	0.0295	0.737	0.1843

## References

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