Supporting Information for:

# **Dopants fixation of Ruthenium for boosting acidic oxygen evolution stability and activity**

Hao etal.



**Supplementary Figure 1. DOS plots for the established models.** DOS plots for (a) W in  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-\delta}$ , (b) Er in  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ , and (c) W and Er in  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$ . (d) DOS plots of Ru 4d and O 2p states in  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-\delta}$  and  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ .



Supplementary Figure 2. The Bader charge around Ru sites and O atoms. Bader charge of (a) RuO<sub>2</sub>, (b)  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-\delta}$ , (c)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ , (d)  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$  (Red: O; pink: Ir; yellow: Er; light blue: W).



**Supplementary Figure 3**. **The lattice oxygen oxidation simulation**. (a) The simulation of the oxygen between W and Ru participating in the reaction. (b) The simulation of the oxygen between Er and Ru participating in the reaction.



**Supplementary Figure 4**. **DFT calculation for RuO2**. (a) Theoretical calculations of acidic OER on the established model of RuO<sub>2</sub>. (b) The Free energies of RuO<sub>2</sub> calculated at U=0, 1.23, 1.4 V, respectively. The thick line in the figure's caption means PDS (Red: O; pink: Ir; white: H).



Supplementary Figure 5. DFT calculation for different loacions of Ru active sites in W<sub>0.2</sub>Ru<sub>0.8</sub>O<sub>2-</sub><sup>δ</sup>. Theoretical calculations of acidic OER on the established model of (a)  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2.5}$ -1, (c)  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2.5}$ -1, (e)  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-5}$ -3. The Free energies of (b)  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-5}$ -1, (d)  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-5}$ -1, (f)  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-5}$ -3 calculated at U=0, 1.23, 1.4 V, respectively. The thick line in the figure's caption means PDS (The number 1, 2, 3 represents the various established models with various doping locations in RuO<sub>2</sub>, Red: O; pink: Ir; light blue: W; white: H).



**Supplementary Figure 6**. **DFT calculation for different loacions of Ru active sites in Er<sub>0.1</sub>Ru<sub>0.9</sub>O<sub>2-</sub>** $\delta$ . Theoretical calculations of acidic OER on the established model of (a) Er<sub>0.1</sub>Ru<sub>0.9</sub>O<sub>2- $\delta$ </sub>-1, (c)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -2, (e)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -3. The Free energies of (b)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -1, (d)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -2, (f)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2.8}$ -3 calculated at U=0, 1.23, 1.4 V, respectively. The thick line in the figure's caption means PDS. (The number 1, 2, 3 represents the various established models with various doping locations in  $RuO<sub>2</sub>$ , Red: O; pink: Ir; yellow: Er; white: H).



**Supplementary Figure 7. DFT calculation for different loacions of Ru active sites in Er<sub>0.1</sub>Ru<sub>0.9</sub>O<sub>2-δ</sub>.** Theoretical calculations of acidic OER on the established model of (g)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2.5}$ -5 and (i)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -6. The Free energies of (h)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -5 and (j)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -6 calculated at U=0, 1.23, 1.4 V, respectively. The thick line in the figure's caption means PDS. (The number 4 and 5 represent the various established models with various doping locations in RuO<sub>2</sub>, Red: O; pink: Ir; yellow: Er; white: H).



**Supplementary Figure 8. DFT calculation for W and Er in the second layer of RuO<sub>2</sub>. Theoretical** calculations of acidic OER on the established model of (a)  $W_{0,2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2.5}-4$ , (c)  $Er_{0,1}Ru_{0,9}O_{2.5}-6$ , (e)  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}-2$ , respectively. The Free energies of (b)  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-\delta}-4$ , (d)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}-6$ , (f)  $W_{0,2}Er_{0,1}Ru_{0,7}O_{2\delta}$ -2 calculated at U=0, 1.23, 1.4 V, respectively. The thick line in the figure's caption means PDS. (The number 2, 4, 6 represent the various established models with various doping locations in RuO2, Red: O; pink: Ir; yellow: Er; light blue: W; white: H).



**Supplementary Figure 9**. **DFT calculation of the neighboring intermediates on the energetics**. Theoretical calculations of the neighboring intermediates on the energetics for the established models (a)  $RuO_2$ , (b)  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-\delta}$ -1, (c)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -1, and (d)  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$ -1, respectively (Red: O; pink: Ir; yellow: Er; light blue: W; white: H).



**Supplementary Figure 10**. **DFT calculation of the neighboring intermediates on the energetics**. The neighboring intermediates on the established models (a)  $RuO<sub>2</sub>$ , (c)  $W<sub>0.2</sub>Ru<sub>0.8</sub>O<sub>2-δ</sub>$ -1. Theoretical calculations of the neighboring intermediates on the energetics for the established models (b)  $RuO_2$ , (d)  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2.8}$ -1 at U=0, 1.23, 1.4 V, respectively. The thick line in the figure's caption means PDS. (Red: O; pink: Ir; light blue: W; white: H).



**Supplementary Figure 11**. **DFT calculation of the neighboring intermediates on the energetics**. The neighboring intermediates on the established models (a)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -1, (c)  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$ -1. Theoretical calculations of the neighboring intermediates on the energetics for the established models (b)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -1, (d)  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$ -1 at U=0, 1.23, 1.4 V, respectively. The thick line in the figure's caption means PDS. (Red: O; pink: Ir; yellow: Er; light blue: W; white: H).



**Supplementary Figure 12**. **Volcano relationship between overpotential and ΔG2**. Overpotential-ΔG<sup>2</sup> volcano relation for these established structures toward OER. The other symbols represent the other established models.



**Supplementary Figure 13. XRD patterns for these samples.** XRD patterns for C-RuO<sub>2</sub> and the synthesized RuO<sub>2-δ</sub>, W<sub>0.2</sub>Ru<sub>0.8</sub>O<sub>2-δ</sub>, Er<sub>0.1</sub>Ru<sub>0.9</sub>O<sub>2-δ</sub>, and W<sub>0.2</sub>Er<sub>0.1</sub>Ru<sub>0.7</sub>O<sub>2-δ</sub> nanosheets.



Supplementary Figure 14. TEM characterization of  $RuO_{2-\delta}$ . (a) TEM image, (b) high-magnification TEM image, (c) HR-TEM image, (d) HAADF-TEM image and elemental maps for  $RuO<sub>2-δ</sub>$  nanosheets.



**Supplementary Figure 15. TEM characterization of**  $W_{0,1}Ru_{0,9}O_{2-\delta}$ **.** (a) TEM image, (b) high-magnification TEM image, (c) HAADF-TEM image and elemental maps, (d) HR-TEM image, (e) SAED image for  $W_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2\cdot\delta}$  nanosheets.



**Supplementary Figure 16. TEM characterization of**  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ **.** (a) TEM image, (b) high-magnification TEM image, (c) HAADF-TEM image and elemental maps, (d) HR-TEM image, (e) SAED image for  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$  nanosheets.



**Supplementary Figure 17. TEM characterization of**  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-\delta}$ **.** (a) TEM image, (b) high-magnification TEM image, (c) HAADF-TEM image and elemental maps, (d) HR-TEM image, (e) SAED image for  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2\cdot\delta}$  nanosheets.



**Supplementary Figure 18. TEM characterization of**  $W_{0,3}Ru_{0,7}O_{2-\delta}$ **.** (a) TEM image, (b) high-magnification TEM image, (c) HAADF-TEM image and elemental maps, (d) HR-TEM image, (e) SAED image for  $W_{0.3}Ru_{0.7}O_{2\cdot\delta}$  nanosheets.



**Supplementary Figure 19. TEM characterization of**  $W_{0,3}Ru_{0,7}O_{2-\delta}$ **.** (a) TEM image, (b) high-magnification TEM image, (c) HAADF-TEM image and elemental maps, (d) HR-TEM image, (e) SAED image for  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.2}Ru_{0.6}O_{2-\delta}$  nanosheets.



Element	Sample amount	Conversion content	at. $\%$	
w	$15 \text{ mg}$	3603.3		
	$15 \text{ mg}$	8233		

Supplementary Table 2. ICP analysis for  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-\delta}$ .

Element	Sample amount	Conversion content	at. $\%$
W	$15 \text{ mg}$	4679.6	
	$15 \text{ mg}$	12318.6	

Supplementary Table 3. ICP analysis for  $W_{0.3}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$ .

Element	Sample amount	Conversion content	at. $\%$	
W	$15 \text{ mg}$	5423.3	29.5	
Ru	$15 \text{ mg}$	7125.4		

Supplementary Table 4. ICP analysis for  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ .

Element	Sample amount	Conversion content	at. $\%$
H۳	$15 \text{ mg}$	2656.2	10.1
Rп	15 mg	14398.6	89 Q

Supplementary Table 5. ICP analysis for  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$ .

Element	Sample amount	Conversion content	at. $\%$
W	$15 \text{ mg}$	4079.6	15.5
Er	$15 \text{ mg}$	1856.6	7.8
Ru	$15 \text{ mg}$	11118.6	76.7

Supplementary Table 6. ICP analysis for  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.2}Ru_{0.6}O_{2-\delta}$ .





**Supplementary Figure 20. The wide XPS spectra.** The wide XPS spectra for (a) RuO<sub>2-δ</sub>, (b)  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-\delta}$ , (c)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ , and (d)  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$  nanosheets.

Sample	Shell	$N^a$	$R(A)^b$	$\sigma^2 (A^2)^c$	$\Delta E_0(\text{eV})^d$	$R$ factor
Ru foil	Ru-Ru	12	2.68	0.0037	0.3	0.0094
	$Ru-O$	6.0	1.98	0.0036		
RuO <sub>2</sub>	Ru-Ru	1.8	3.12	0.0013	$-2.5$	0.0009
	$Ru-O$	4.2	3.37	0.0036		
	Ru-Ru	3.8	3.56	0.0013		
	$Ru-O$	6.0	1.97	0.0037	$-3.0$	0.0044
	Ru-Ru	1.2	2.68	0.0027		
$RuO2-δ$	Ru-Ru	1.4	3.11	0.0027		
	$Ru-O$	2.7	3.36	0.0011		
	Ru-Ru	4.2	3.56	0.0027		
	$Ru-O$	5.6	1.97	0.0036		
	Ru-Ru	1.2	2.71	0.0028		
$W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru$ $0.7O_{2-\delta}$	Ru-Ru	1.5	3.11	0.0025		
	$Ru-O$	2.9	3.38	0.0016	$-1.9$	0.0026
	Ru-Ru	2.4	3.56	0.0025		
	Ru-W/Er	1.0	3.55	0.0029		

Supplementary Table 7. EXAFS fitting parameters of Ru K-edge for various samples  $(S_0^2=0.829)$ .

<sup>*a</sup>N*: coordination numbers; <sup>*b*</sup>*R*: bond distance; <sup>*c*</sup> $σ$ <sup>2</sup>: Debye-Waller factors; <sup>*d*</sup>  $ΔE_0$ : the inner potential</sup> correction. *R* factor: goodness of fit.  $S_0^2$  was set to 0.829, according to the experimental EXAFS fit of Ru foil reference by fixing CN as the known crystallographic value.



**Supplementary Figure 21**. **Electrocatalytic measurement for these samples**. (a) Polarization curves, (b) Corresponding Tafel slopes calculated from (a), (c)  $C_{dl}$  plots inferred from CV curves for C-RuO<sub>2</sub>, RuO<sub>2</sub>,  $W_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-8}$ ,  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-8}$ ,  $W_{0.3}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-8}$ ,  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-8}$ ,  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-8}$ , and  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.2}Ru_{0.6}O_{2-8}$ nanosheets, (d) Mass and specific activities were compared at  $η = 275$  mV for C-RuO<sub>2</sub>, W<sub>0.1</sub>Ru<sub>0.9</sub>O<sub>2-δ</sub>,  $\text{Er}_{0.1}\text{Ru}_{0.9}\text{O}_{2-\delta}$ , and  $\text{W}_{0.2}\text{Er}_{0.1}\text{Ru}_{0.7}\text{O}_{2-\delta}$  nanosheets applying in 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> electrolyte.



Supplementary Figure 22. The error bars after 500<sup>th</sup> LSV curves of each sample. The overpotentials at 10 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> from repeated LSV curves for these prepared materials. The overpotentials of 100<sup>th</sup>, 300<sup>th</sup>, and 500<sup>th</sup> LSV curves minuses the overpotential of the 1<sup>st</sup> LSV curve at 10 mA·cm<sup>-2</sup>. Then, the average of the difference was considered as the error.



**Supplementary Figure 23. CV for bare CP.** (a) CV curves of the bare CP, (b) the calculated C<sub>dl</sub> from CV

curves.



**Supplementary Figure 24. CV and calculated**  $C_{dI}$  **for**  $RuO_{2-\delta}$  **and**  $C-RuO_2$ **. Non-Faradaic scan for** double-layer capacitance. Cyclic voltammetry of (a) the prepared RuO<sub>2-δ</sub> nanosheets, (b) C<sub>dl</sub> of the prepared RuO<sub>2-δ</sub> calculated from (a), (c) CV curves for C-RuO<sub>2</sub>, and (d) *C*<sub>dl</sub> of C-RuO<sub>2</sub> calculated from (c).



**Supplementary Figure 25**. **CV curves for these prepared samples on CP**. Non-Faradaic scan for double-layer capacitance. CV curves (Scan rate: mV·s<sup>-1</sup>) of (a)  $W_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ , (b)  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-\delta}$ , (c)  $W_{0.3}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$ , (d)  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ , (e)  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$ , and (f)  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.2}Ru_{0.6}O_{2-\delta}$  nanosheets.



**Supplementary Figure 26**. **CV curves for these prepared samples on GC**. Non-Faradaic scan for double-layer capacitance. CV curves (Scan rate: mV·s<sup>-1</sup>) of (a)  $W_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ , (b)  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-\delta}$ , (c)  $W_{0,3}Ru_{0,7}O_{2-\delta}$ , (d)  $Er_{0,1}Ru_{0,9}O_{2-\delta}$ , (e)  $W_{0,2}Er_{0,1}Ru_{0,7}O_{2-\delta}$ , and (f)  $W_{0,2}Er_{0,2}Ru_{0,6}O_{2-\delta}$  nanosheets loaded on glassy carbon (GC) electrodes.



Supplementary Figure 27. CV curves for RuO<sub>2-</sub><sup>8</sup> on CP. Non-Faradaic scan for double-layer capacitance. (a) CV curves (Scan rate: mV·s<sup>-1</sup>) of RuO<sub>2-δ</sub> loading on glassy carbon (GC) electrodes, (b) C<sub>dl</sub>  $\emph{for RuO}_{2\text{-} \delta}, \ \ W_{0.2} Ru_{0.8} O_{2\text{-} \delta}, \ \ W_{0.3} Ru_{0.7} O_{2\text{-} \delta}, \ \ \text{Er}_{0.1} Ru_{0.9} O_{2\text{-} \delta}, \ \ W_{0.2} Er_{0.1} Ru_{0.7} O_{2\text{-} \delta}, \ \ \text{and} \ \ W_{0.2} Er_{0.2} Ru_{0.6} O_{2\text{-} \delta}.$ nanosheets loading on glassy carbon (GC) electrodes.

Samples	$C_{\rm dl}$ (mF·cm <sup>-2</sup> )	$R_f$	Surface area $(m^2 \cdot g^{-1})$	Mass activity $(A \cdot g^{-1}_{ox})$	Specific activity $(mA \cdot cm^{-2}_{ox})$
$W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$	243.9	4065	1231.8	1518.6	1.23
$W_{0.2}Er_{0.2}Ru_{0.6}O_{2-\delta}$	175.2	2920	884.8	688.8	0.78
$Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$	98	1633.3	494.9	567.4	1.15
$W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-\delta}$	64.6	1076.7	326.3	377.9	1.16
$W_{0.3}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$	80.2	1336.7	405.1	268.24	0.66
$W_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$	42.5	708.3	214.6	187.5	0.78
RuO <sub>2</sub>	33	550	166.7	164.2	0.98
$C-RuO2$	21	350	106.1	53.3	0.50

Supplementary Table 8. Comparison of the surface area, mass activity, and specific activity for the prepared electrocatalysts with C-RuO<sub>2</sub>.

 $R_f$  was calculated by  $C_{dl}$  dividing the capacitance of these electrocatalysts with smooth surface (0.06 mF  $\text{cm}^{-2}$ ). Surface area was calculated via R<sub>f</sub> multiplying the electrode geometrical area and normalized by the loading mass of electrocatalysts.

The mass and specific activities were obtained from the current densities at  $\eta = 275$  mV.

			Overpotentials at	
Catalysts	Electrolyte	Stability	the	Reference
	solution	(h)	corresponding $j$	
Co-RuIr	$0.1$ M HClO <sub>4</sub>	25	$\eta_{10} = 235$ mV	$\mathfrak{I}$
$CaCu3Ru4O12$	$0.5 M H_2SO_4$	24	$\eta_{10} = 171$ mV	$\sqrt{2}$
$Cr_{0.6}Ru_{0.4}O_2$	$0.5 M H_2SO_4$	10	$\eta_{10} = 178$ mV	$\mathfrak{Z}$
$Ru_1-N_4$	$0.5 M H_2SO_4$	30	$\eta_{10} = 267$ mV	$\ensuremath{\mathnormal{\mathcal{A}}}$
$Ru_1$ - $Pt_3Cu$	$0.1$ M HClO <sub>4</sub>	28	$\eta_{10} = 220 \text{ mV}$	$\sqrt{2}$
Cu-doped $RuO2$	$0.5 M H_2SO_4$	$\,8\,$	$\eta_{10} = 188$ mV	6
$Y_2Ru_2O_{7-\delta}$	$0.1$ M HClO <sub>4</sub>	$\,8\,$	$\eta_{10} = 190$ mV	$\boldsymbol{7}$
Ru@IrO <sub>x</sub>	$0.05 M H_2SO_4$	$\sqrt{2}$	$\eta_{10} = 282 \text{ mV}$	$\boldsymbol{\mathcal{S}}$
$3C-SrIrO3$ (or			$\eta_{10} = 270 - 290$	$\boldsymbol{9}$
IrO <sub>x</sub> /SrIrO <sub>3</sub> )	$0.5 M H_2SO_4$	20	$\rm mV$	
$6H-SrIrO3$	$0.5 M H_2SO_4$	30	$\eta_{10} = 248 \text{ mV}$	${\it 10}$
La <sub>2</sub> LiIrO <sub>6</sub>	$0.5 M H_2SO_4$		$\eta_{10} = 350$ mV	II
$Ru_{0.5}Ir_{0.5}$ oxide	$0.1$ M HClO <sub>4</sub>		$\eta_5 = 320 \text{ mV}$	12
$Sr0.90Na0.10RuO3$	$0.1$ M HClO <sub>4</sub>	$~80$ cycles	$\eta_{10} = 170$ mV	13
$CB[6]$ -Ir <sub>2</sub>	$0.5 M H_2SO_4$	20	$\eta_{10} = 270$ mV	14
$Rh_{22}Ir_{78}/VX$	$0.5 M H_2SO_4$	8	$\eta_{10} = 292$ mV	15
$np-Ir_{70}Ni_{15}Co_{15}$	$0.1$ M HClO <sub>4</sub>	24	$\eta_{10} = 220$ mV	16
RuO <sub>2</sub>	$0.5 M H_2SO_4$	1000 cycles	$\eta_1 = 230$ mV	$\it 17$
$W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$	$0.5 M H_2SO_4$	500	$\eta_{10} = 168$ mV	This work

Supplementary Table 9. Comparison of some representative OER catalysts reported under acidic

conditions.



**Supplementary Figure 28. Faraday efficiency test.** The volume of O<sub>2</sub> generated by W<sub>0.2</sub>Er<sub>0.1</sub>Ru<sub>0.7</sub>O<sub>2-δ</sub> toward acidic OER. The red represents the fitting line, the square points represents the volume of  $O_2$  every 20 min.



**Supplementary Figure 29. The stability of**  $W_{0,2}Er_{0,1}Ru_{0,7}O_{2-\delta}$  **on GC. (a) The stability of**  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$  on GC at 10 mA cm<sup>-2</sup>. (b) The stability of  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$  on GC at 1.4 V.



# **ICP analysis of the concentration of each element in solution after OER**.

Supplementary Table 10. ICP analysis for  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2.5}$  in the process of OER stability testing in 0.5 M  $H_2SO_4$  at 10 mA $\cdot$ cm<sup>-2</sup>.

Element	After 100 h	After 300 h	After 500 h
Ru	$6.0$ ppb	8 ppb	$11$ ppb
W	$1.1$ ppb	$1.5$ ppb	$1.9$ ppb
Er	$0.4$ ppb	$0.6$ ppb	$1.1$ ppb

Supplementary Table 11. The mass of the Ru, W, and Er in  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$  after OER stability testing in  $0.5 \text{ M H}_2\text{SO}_4$  at  $10 \text{ mA} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$ .

Element	After 100 h	After 300 h	After 500 h
Ru	$0.24 \mu g$	$0.32 \mu g$	$0.44 \mu g$
W	$0.04 \mu g$	$0.06 \mu g$	$0.08 \mu g$
Er	$0.02 \mu g$	$0.03 \mu g$	$0.04 \mu g$

Supplementary Table 12. The percentage of the dissolved Ru, W, and Er in  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2.5}$  after OER stability compared with  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$  before OER.



Supplementary Table 13. The mass of the dissolved Ru in  $RuO<sub>2-δ</sub>$  after OER stability testing in 0.5 M





Supplementary Table 14. The mass of the dissolved Ru and W in  $W_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2.5}$  after OER stability testing in 0.5 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  at 10 mA $\cdot$ cm<sup>-2</sup>.

Element	After 50 h	After 100 h
Ru	$0.11 \mu g$	$0.22 \mu g$
W	$0.03 \mu g$	$0.05 \mu g$

Supplementary Table 15. The mass of the dissolved Ru and W in  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2.5}$  after OER stability testing

in 0.5 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  at 10 mA $\cdot$ cm<sup>-2</sup>.



Supplementary Table 16. The mass of the dissolved Ru and W in  $W_{0,3}Ru_{0,7}O_{2-\delta}$  after OER stability testing

in 0.5 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  at 10 mA $\cdot$ cm<sup>-2</sup>.



Supplementary Table 17. The mass of the dissolved Ru and Er in  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$  after OER stability testing

in 0.5 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  at 10 mA $\cdot$ cm<sup>-2</sup>.



Supplementary Table 18. The mass of the dissolved Ru, W, and Er in  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.2}Ru_{0.7}O_{2.5}$  after OER stability

testing in 0.5 M  $H_2SO_4$  at 10 mA·cm<sup>-2</sup>.





**Supplementary Figure 31**. **XANES and EXAFS spectra for these samples**. (a) Ru K-edge spectra for Ru foil, C-RuO<sub>2</sub>, W<sub>0.2</sub>Er<sub>0.1</sub>Ru<sub>0.7</sub>O<sub>2-δ</sub> before and after OER, respectively. (b) FT-EXAFS spectra of Ru K-edge for Ru foil, C-RuO<sub>2</sub>,  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2.5}$ before and after OER, respectively.

Sample	Shell	$N^a$	$R(A)^b$	$\sigma^2 (A^2)^c$	$\Delta E_0(\text{eV})^d$	$R$ factor
Ru foil	Ru-Ru	12	2.68	0.0037	0.3	0.0094
	$Ru-O$	6.0	1.98	0.0036		
	Ru-Ru	1.8	3.12	0.0013	$-2.5$	
RuO <sub>2</sub>	$Ru-O$	4.2	3.37	0.0036		0.0009
	Ru-Ru	3.8	3.56	0.0013		
	$Ru-O$	5.6	1.97	0.0037	$-1.9$	0.0026
	Ru-Ru	1.2	2.71	0.0029		
$W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru$ $0.7O_{2-\delta}$	Ru-Ru	1.5	3.11	0.0026		
before	$Ru-O$	2.9	3.38	0.0015		
<b>OER</b>	Ru-Ru	2.4	3.56	0.0023		
	Ru-W/Er	1.0	3.55	0.0027		
	$Ru-O$	5.7	1.98	0.0031		
$W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru$	Ru-Ru	1.7	3.12	0.0029		
$_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$ after	$Ru-O$	3.0	3.38	0.0018	$-2.1$	0.0022
<b>OER</b>	Ru-Ru	2.6	3.57	0.0024		
	Ru-W/Er	1.1	3.56	0.0030		

Supplementary Table 19. EXAFS fitting parameters at the Ru K-edge for various samples.

<sup>*a</sup>N*: coordination numbers; <sup>*b*</sup>*R*: bond distance; <sup>*c*</sup><sub>*σ*</sub><sup>2</sup>: Debye-Waller factors; <sup>*d*</sup> Δ*E*<sub>0</sub>: the inner potential</sup> correction. *R* factor: goodness of fit.  $S_0^2$  was set to 0.829, according to the experimental EXAFS fit of Ru foil reference by fixing CN as the known crystallographic value.



 $Supplementary Figure 32. TEM characterization of  $W_{0,2}Er_{0,1}Ru_{0,7}O_{2-\delta}$  after OER. (a) TEM image. (b)$ HR-TEM images for the prepared  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$  nanosheets. (c) HR-TEM images for the prepared  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$  nanosheets.



**Supplementary Figure 33. XRD pattern after OER.** XRD pattern of W<sub>0.2</sub>Er<sub>0.1</sub>Ru<sub>0.7</sub>O<sub>2-δ</sub> after OER stability was compared with that before testing.

#### **Supplementary Note 1: The models for adsorbate evolution way toward OER**

Besides the models for adsorbate evolution way toward OER, the corresponding model structures of lattice oxygen oxidation way toward OER were also established. The simulation of the two lattice oxygen atoms in  $W_{0,2}Er_{0,1}Ru_1O_{2,\delta}$  participating in the reaction was established. It is expected that the blue -OH is first adsorbed on O, which was connected with Ru active site. Then, one  $O_2$  is generated to run away and leave an oxygen vacancy. After the optimization, -OH cannot exist stably at this position and is transferred to Ru, W or Er (Supplementary Figure 2). Therefore, the lattice oxygen in  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_1O_{2-\delta}$  will not participate in the reaction here. This result also proves that introducing W and Er would suppress the lattice oxygen participating in the reaction, in turn decreasing the dissolution rate in acidic electrolyte.

#### **Supplementary Note 2: The compariosn for various doping locations of W in RuO2**

Theoretical calculations for different doping styles of W in  $RuO<sub>2</sub>$  were established and calculated. According to calculation and comparison, it can be seen that the energy barrier of PDS in  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2.8}$ -1 was the smallest in these models (Supplementary Figure 5).

# **Supplementary Note 3: The comparison for various doping locations of Er in RuO2**

Theoretical calculations for different doping styles of Er in  $RuO<sub>2</sub>$  were established and calculated. The active sites in  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -1,  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -3, and  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -5 were on Er (Supplementary Figure 6, 7). Additionally, the active sites in  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -2 and  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -4 were on Ru. When the active sites were on Ru, the O atoms adjacent Er were greatly distorted due to the defect location. Thus, the energy barriers of PDS for  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -2 and  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -4 were much larger than that for  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ -1,  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2.5}$ -3, and  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2.5}$ -5. According to calculation and comparison, it can be seen that the energy barrier of PDS in  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2.8}$ -1 was the smallest in these models.

#### **Supplementary Note 4: The comparison for the subsequent layer doping in RuO2**

The models for Ru atoms replaced by Er or W in the subsequent layer were supplemented. Compared with the replaced atoms on the surface, the energy barriers for  $W_{0,2}Ru_{0,8}O_{2,8}-4$ ,  $Er_{0,1}Ru_{0,9}O_{2,8}-6$ , and  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2.5}$ -2 exhibited higher energy barrier of PDS than that for the established models of  $W_{0.2}Ru_{0.8}O_{2-\delta}$ ,  $Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_{2-\delta}$ , and  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$  (Supplementary Figure 8).

## **Supplementary Note 5: The influence of neighboring intermediates around active sites**

At  $U > 1.23$  V vs. RHE, the surface of the prepared and established models for these RuO<sub>2</sub>-based materials is not bare anymore. And there should be neighboring intermediates around active sites, which have influence on the energetics of the elementary processes in the OER. Thus, we tried our best to simulate the neighboring intermediates appearing around the active sites. Firstly, –OH could be adsorbed on the active site, which was calculated in Supplementary Figure 4-8. Simultaneously, neighboring intermediates were ignored in Supplementary Figure 4-8. In the second step, one H could be taken off from the active sites. Simultaneously, the OER reaction could also be occurred on the active sites closing to the active site, which has been adsorbed –OH (Supplementary Figure 11). According to calculation, the energy barrier for PDS decreased, compared with the traditional models. Therefore, the results also indicated that the neighboring intermediates around active sites could contribute to enhancing the activity. Moreover, the free energy were calculated for the established models at  $U = 0$ , 1.23, and 1.4 V, respectively. Due to the influence of the neighboring intermediates around active sites, we only calculate limited models. In the maintext and Supplementary Figure 3-8, the calculated free-binding energies ignored the influence of the neighboring intermediates on the energetics.

#### **Supplementary Note 6: The LSV error bars**

The error bars of the current density measurement for these prepared electrocatalysts were also calculated. Firstly, each error bar represents the error among each repeated LSV curve for each sample at 10 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> after 500<sup>th</sup> cycle. It can be seen from Figure S21, the LSV curves revealed that the catalysts almost kept stable after 500<sup>th</sup> cycle (Scan rate: 5 mV·s<sup>-1</sup>). The mean value of the overpotentials at 10 mA·cm<sup>-2</sup> for these LSV curves were calculated from the  $1<sup>st</sup>$ ,  $100<sup>th</sup>$ ,  $300<sup>th</sup>$ , and  $500<sup>th</sup>$  circle. Simultaneously, the LSV curves shown in our main-text were all obtained after stable operation. In this part, we need to emphasize that the overpotentials at 10 mA cm–2 from the LSV curves need to be *i*R corrected. The value of R for correction was the same value. Sometimes, according to strict procedures, after testing each LSV curve, it is necessary to test its impedance value.

The calculated method for the error bars was illustrated as follows:

Firstly, the overpotentials of  $100^{th}$ ,  $300^{th}$ , and  $500^{th}$  LSV curves minus the overpotential of the 1<sup>st</sup> LSV curve at 10 mA·cm<sup>-2</sup>. Then, the average of the difference was considered as the error (Supplementary Figure 22).

### **Supplementary Note 6: ECSA for bare carbon paper**

ECSA for bare carbon paper (CP) was estimated by CV curves (Supplementary Figure 23). According to calculation, the ECSA for bare CP occupies 0.036% of the ECSA for the prepared  $RuO<sub>2-δ</sub>(a)CP$ (Supplementary Figure 24). Simultaneously, the ECSA for the prepared  $RuO<sub>2-δ</sub>$  is the smallest one among these prepared electrocatalysts. Therefore, the influence of the carbon paper on enhancing the ECSA for

these prepared electrodes could be ignored.

### **Supplementary Note 7: ECSA for electrocatalysts on GC**

The CV curves and ECSA for these prepared electrocatalysts loading on glassy carbon (GC) electrodes were also tested (Supplementary Figure 26, 27). The detailed data of  $C_{dl}$  for these prepared electrodes was shown in Supplementary Figure 27. According to Supplementary Figure 27, it can be seen that the C<sub>dl</sub> of electrocatalysts on GC was almost consistent with that the electrocatalysts on carbon paper (Supplementary Figure 21 and Figure 6c).

# **Supplementary Note 8: Stability of electrocatalysts on GC**

The stability of the prepared  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2.5}$  on glassy carbon (GC) electrode has been tested and added into supplementary information. As shown in Supplementary Figure 29,  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2.5}$  on glassy carbon (GC) electrode could run stably at least 100 h with a rising overpotential of 39 mV. Besides the chronopotentometric at 10 mA cm<sup>-2</sup>, the stability of the prepared  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2.5}$  on GC was also tested using chronopotentometric at 1.4 V vs RHE. As shown in Supplementary Figure 29, the stability of  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2-\delta}$  using chronopotentometric at 1.4 V vs RHE was also as good as the test at 10 mA cm<sup>-2</sup>.

Simultaneously, it could be seen that the stability of  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2.5}$  on GC electrode was very close to the stability of  $W_{0.2}Er_{0.1}Ru_{0.7}O_{2.5}$  on carbon paper in the main-text.

# **Supplementary References**

- 1. Shan J., Ling T., Davey K., Zheng Y., Qiao S.Z. Transition-Metal-Doped RuIr Bifunctional Nanocrystals for Overall Water Splitting in Acidic Environments. *Adv. Mater.* **31**, 1900510 (2019).
- 2. Miao X., Zhang L., Wu L., Hu Z., Shi L., Zhou S. Quadruple perovskite ruthenate as a highly efficient catalyst for acidic water oxidation. *Nat. Commun.* **10**, 3809 (2019).
- 3. Lin Y.*, et al.* Chromium-ruthenium oxide solid solution electrocatalyst for highly efficient oxygen evolution reaction in acidic media. *Nat. Commun.* **10**, 162 (2019).
- 4. Cao L.*, et al.* Dynamic oxygen adsorption on single-atomic Ruthenium catalyst with high performance for acidic oxygen evolution reaction. *Nat. Commun.* **10**, 4849 (2019).
- 5. Yao Y.*, et al.* Engineering the electronic structure of single atom Ru sites via compressive strain boosts acidic water oxidation electrocatalysis. *Nat*. *Catal.* **2**, 304-313 (2019).
- 6. Su J.*, et al.* Assembling Ultrasmall Copper-Doped Ruthenium Oxide Nanocrystals into Hollow Porous Polyhedra: Highly Robust Electrocatalysts for Oxygen Evolution in Acidic Media. *Adv. Mater.*, e1801351 (2018).
- 7. Kim J.*, et al.* High-Performance Pyrochlore-Type Yttrium Ruthenate Electrocatalyst for Oxygen Evolution Reaction in Acidic Media. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **139**, 12076-12083 (2017).
- 8. Shan J., et al. Charge-Redistribution-Enhanced Nanocrystalline Ru@IrO<sub>x</sub> Electrocatalysts for Oxygen Evolution in Acidic Media. *Chem* **5**, 445-459 (2019).
- 9. A highly active and stable IrOx/SrIrO3 catalyst for the oxygen evolution reaction. *Science* **353**, 1011 (2016).
- 10. Yang L., *et al.* Efficient oxygen evolution electrocatalysis in acid by a perovskite with face-sharing IrO<sub>6</sub> octahedral dimers. *Nat. Commun.* **9**, 5236 (2018).
- 11. Grimaud A.*, et al.* Activation of surface oxygen sites on an iridium-based model catalyst for the oxygen evolution reaction. *Nat. Energy* **2**, 16189 (2016).
- 12. Using Surface Segregation To Design Stable Ru‐Ir Oxides for the Oxygen Evolution Reaction in Acidic Environments. *Angew. Chem.* **126**, 14240-14245 (2014).
- 13. Retuerto M.*, et al.* Na-doped ruthenium perovskite electrocatalysts with improved oxygen evolution activity and durability in acidic media. *Nat. Commun.* **10**, 2041 (2019).
- 14. You H.*, et al.* Highly Active and Stable Water Splitting in Acidic Media Using a Bifunctional

Iridium/Cucurbit[6]uril Catalyst. *ACS Energy Lett.* **4**, 1301-1307 (2019).

- 15. Guo H.*, et al.* Rational Design of Rhodium–Iridium Alloy Nanoparticles as Highly Active Catalysts for Acidic Oxygen Evolution. *ACS Nano* **13**, 13225-13234 (2019).
- 16. Zhao Y.*, et al.* 3D nanoporous iridium-based alloy microwires for efficient oxygen evolution in acidic media. *Nano Energy* **59**, 146-153 (2019).
- 17. Audichon T., Napporn T.W., Canaff C., Morais C., Comminges C., Kokoh K.B. IrO2 Coated on RuO2 as Efficient and Stable Electroactive Nanocatalysts for Electrochemical Water Splitting. *J. Phys. Chem. C* **120**, 2562-2573 (2016).