

Supporting Information

Nanoporous ultra-high-entropy alloys containing fourteen elements for water splitting electrocatalysis

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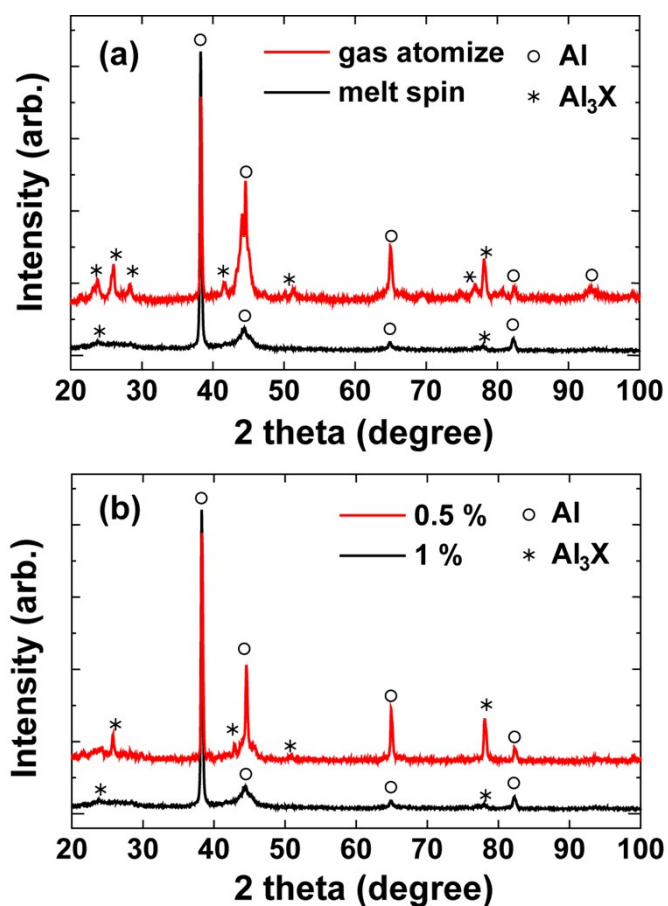


Figure S1. (a) XRD patterns of as-made precursor alloy $\text{Al}_{89}\text{Ag}_1\text{Au}_1\text{Co}_1\text{Cu}_1\text{Fe}_1\text{Ir}_1\text{Ni}_1\text{Pd}_1\text{Pt}_1\text{Rh}_1\text{Ru}_1$ quenched via gas atomization for powder form or melt spinning for ribbon form. (b) XRD patterns of as-made precursor alloys $\text{Al}_{89}\text{Ag}_1\text{Au}_1\text{Co}_1\text{Cu}_1\text{Fe}_1\text{Ir}_1\text{Ni}_1\text{Pd}_1\text{Pt}_1\text{Rh}_1\text{Ru}_1$ (denoted as 1%) and $\text{Al}_{94.5}\text{Ag}_{0.5}\text{Au}_{0.5}\text{Co}_{0.5}\text{Cu}_{0.5}\text{Fe}_{0.5}\text{Ir}_{0.5}\text{Ni}_{0.5}\text{Pd}_{0.5}\text{Pt}_{0.5}\text{Rh}_{0.5}\text{Ru}_{0.5}$ (denoted as 0.5%), quenched using the melt spinning technique.

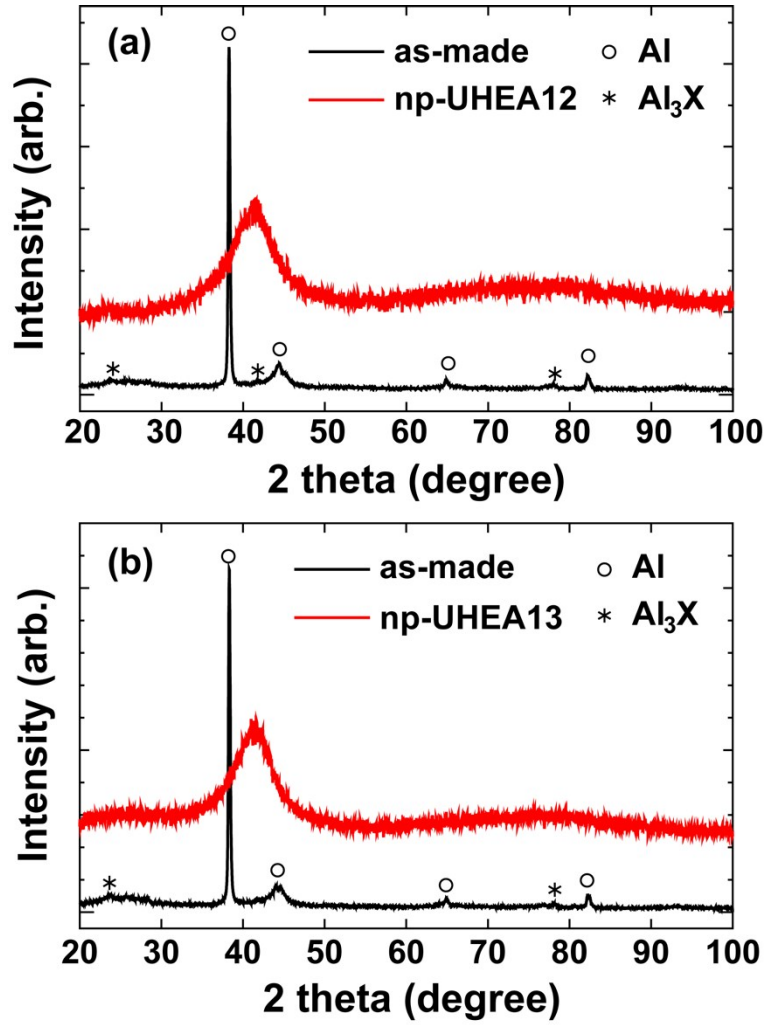


Figure S2. XRD patterns of (a) np-UHEA12 and as-made precursor alloy $\text{Al}_{89}\text{Ag}_1\text{Au}_1\text{Co}_1\text{Cu}_1\text{Fe}_1\text{Ir}_1\text{Ni}_1\text{Pd}_1\text{Pt}_1\text{Rh}_1\text{Ru}_1$ quenched by melt spinning, and (b) np-UHEA13 and $\text{Al}_{88}\text{Ag}_1\text{Au}_1\text{Co}_1\text{Cu}_1\text{Fe}_1\text{Ir}_1\text{Mo}_1\text{Ni}_1\text{Pd}_1\text{Pt}_1\text{Rh}_1\text{Ru}_1$ quenched by melt spinning.

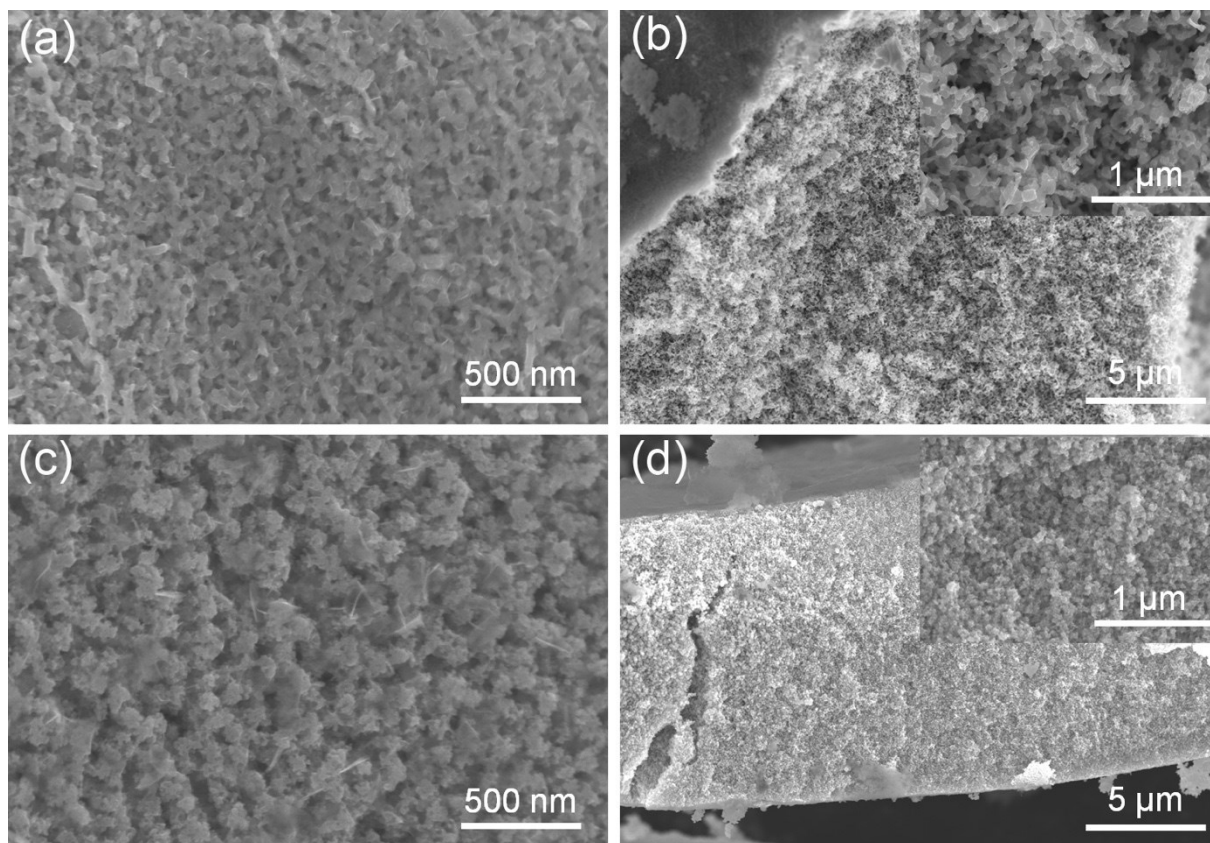


Figure S3. SEM images from (a, c) top-view and (b, d) cross-section regions of (a, b) np-UHEA12 and (c, d) np-UHEA13 showing the uniform nanoporous structure formed via dealloying.

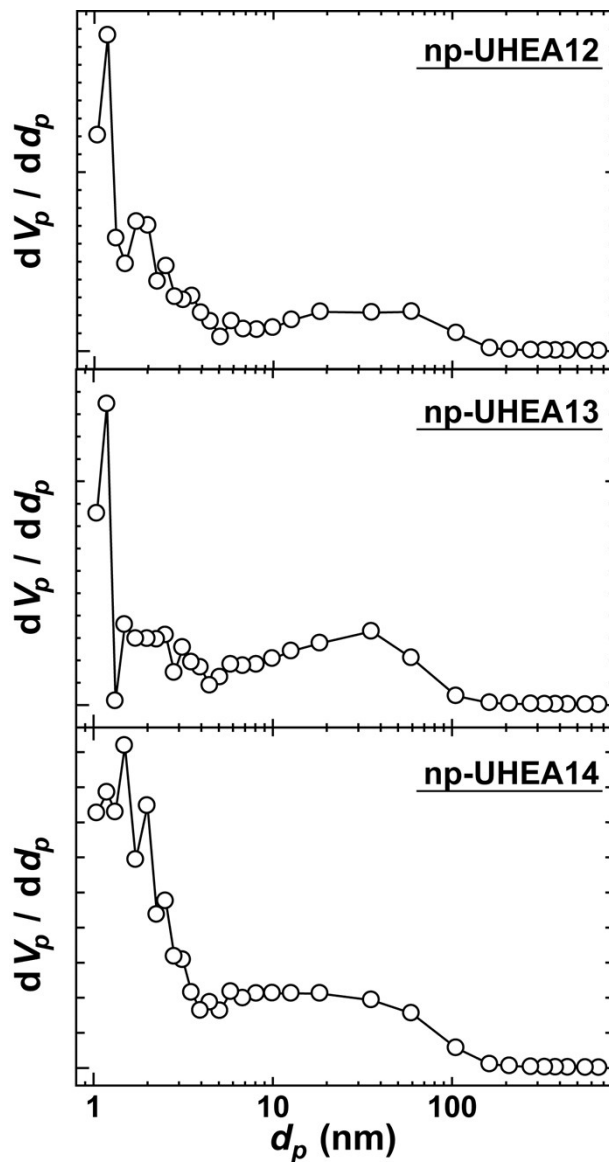


Figure S4. BJH pore size distributions of np-UHEA12, np-UHEA13, and np-UHEA14 showing similar hierarchical distributions with a high population of ~2–5 nm-sized particles and a broad peak for ~30–40 nm particles, consistent with the TEM observations.

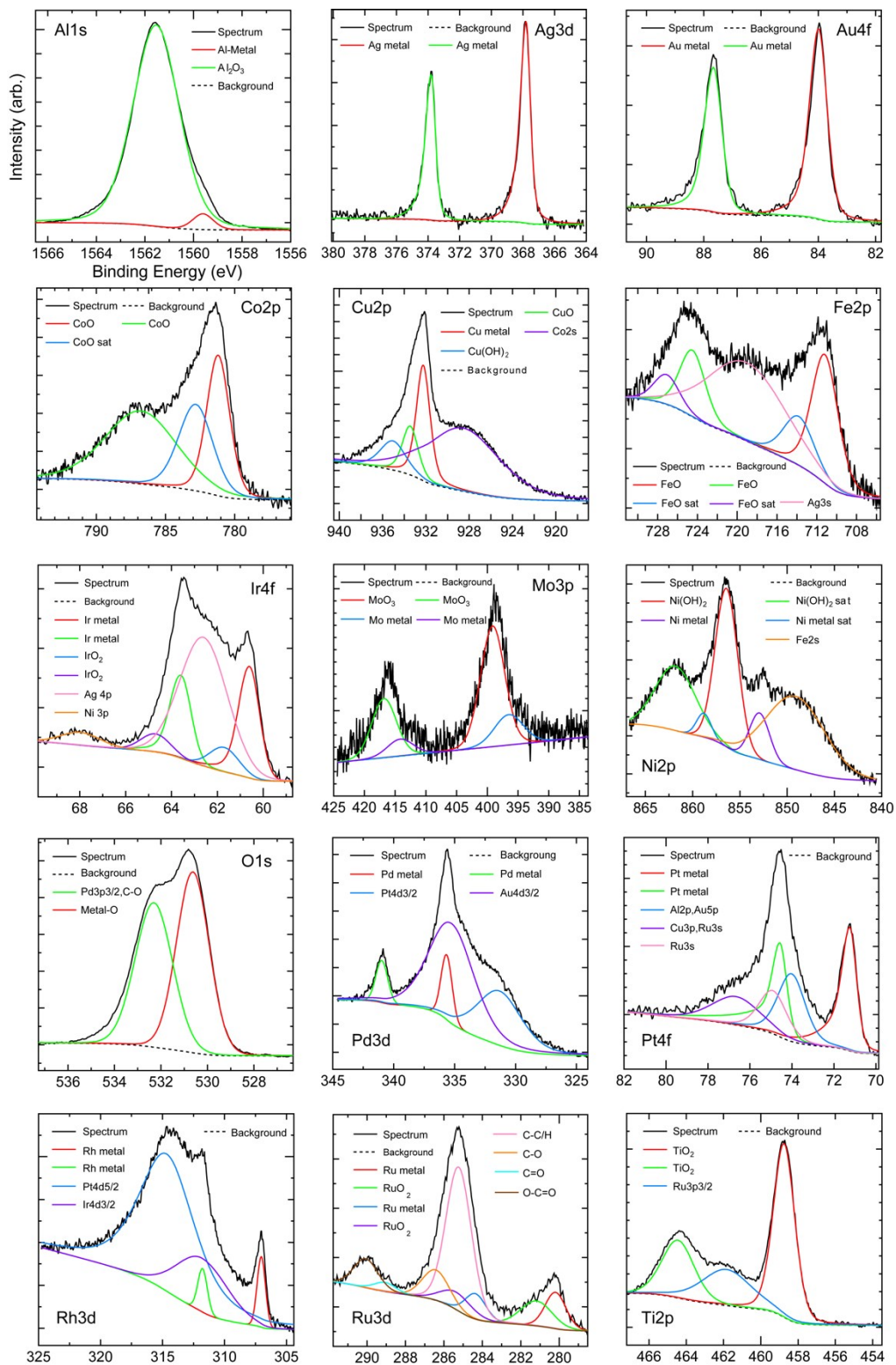


Figure S5. XPS spectra and deconvoluted states for each element in np-UHEA14.

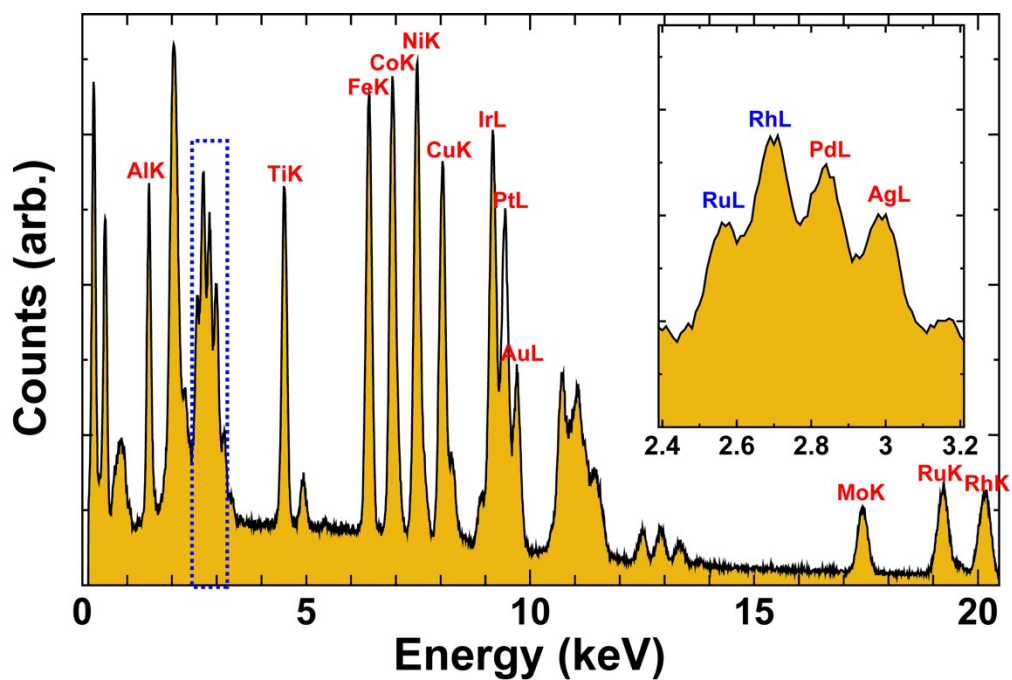


Figure S6. Typical EDS spectrum acquired for np-UHEA14. The selected ROI is also displayed for clarification. The 14 marked lines in red were used to display EDS mapping. A carbon-coated nylon mesh without metal elements was used to suppress the background intensities.

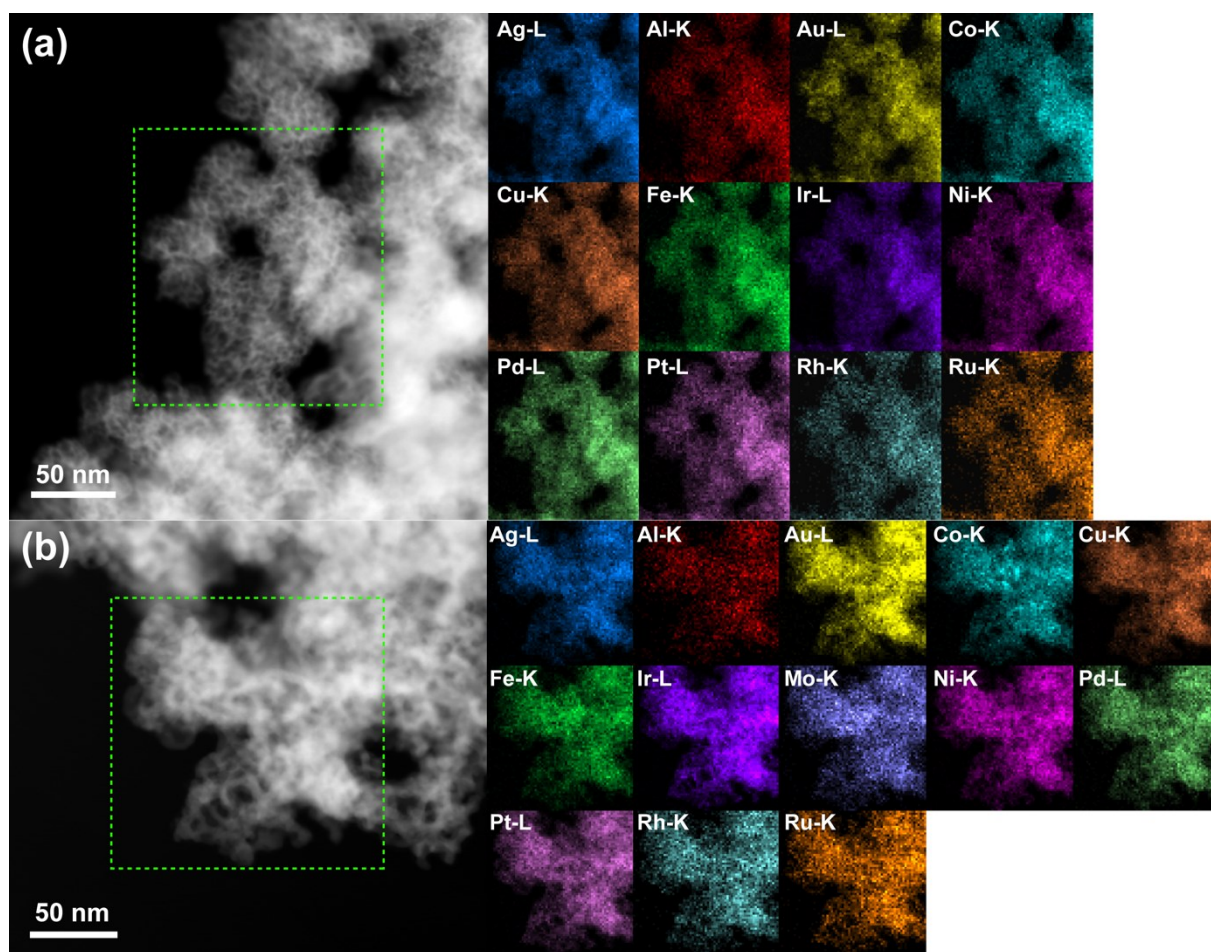


Figure S7. STEM-EDS mapping of (a) np-UHEA12 and (b) np-UHEA13. Selected ROIs are shown. Each element is uniformly distributed in both samples.

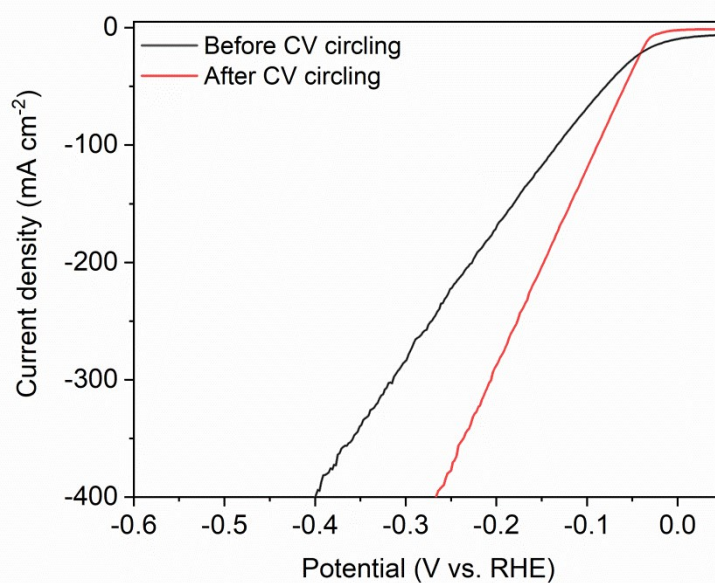


Figure S8. The HER properties of np-UHEA14 before and after CV circling at a sweep rate of 100 mV s^{-1} in the range of 1.1– 1.6 V vs. the reversible hydrogen electrode (RHE) in the electrolyte.

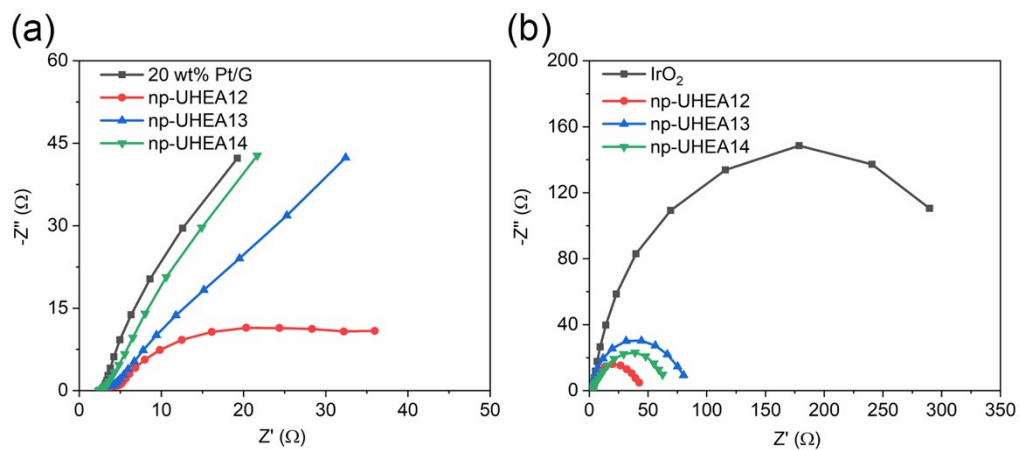


Figure S9. Nyquist plots of np-UHEAs, Pt/G, and IrO₂ collected at (a) 0.0 V vs. RHE and (b) at 1.5 V vs. RHE in 0.5 M H₂SO₄.

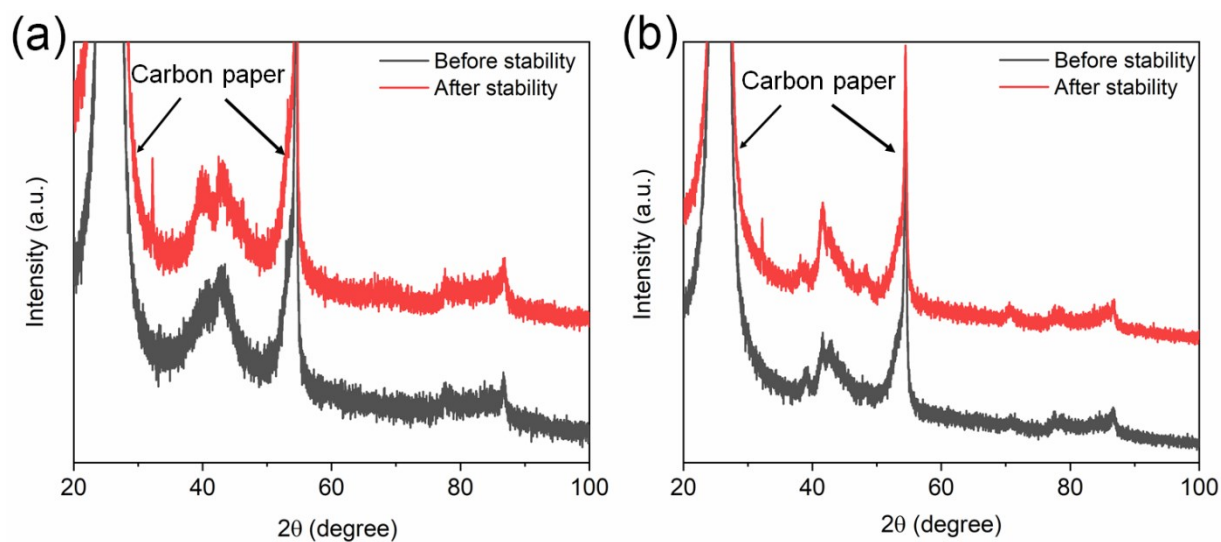


Figure S10. Comparison of XRD spectra of samples before and after the stability test in 0.5 M H₂SO₄, (a) np-UHEA-14 for HER, (b) np-UHEA-12 for OER.

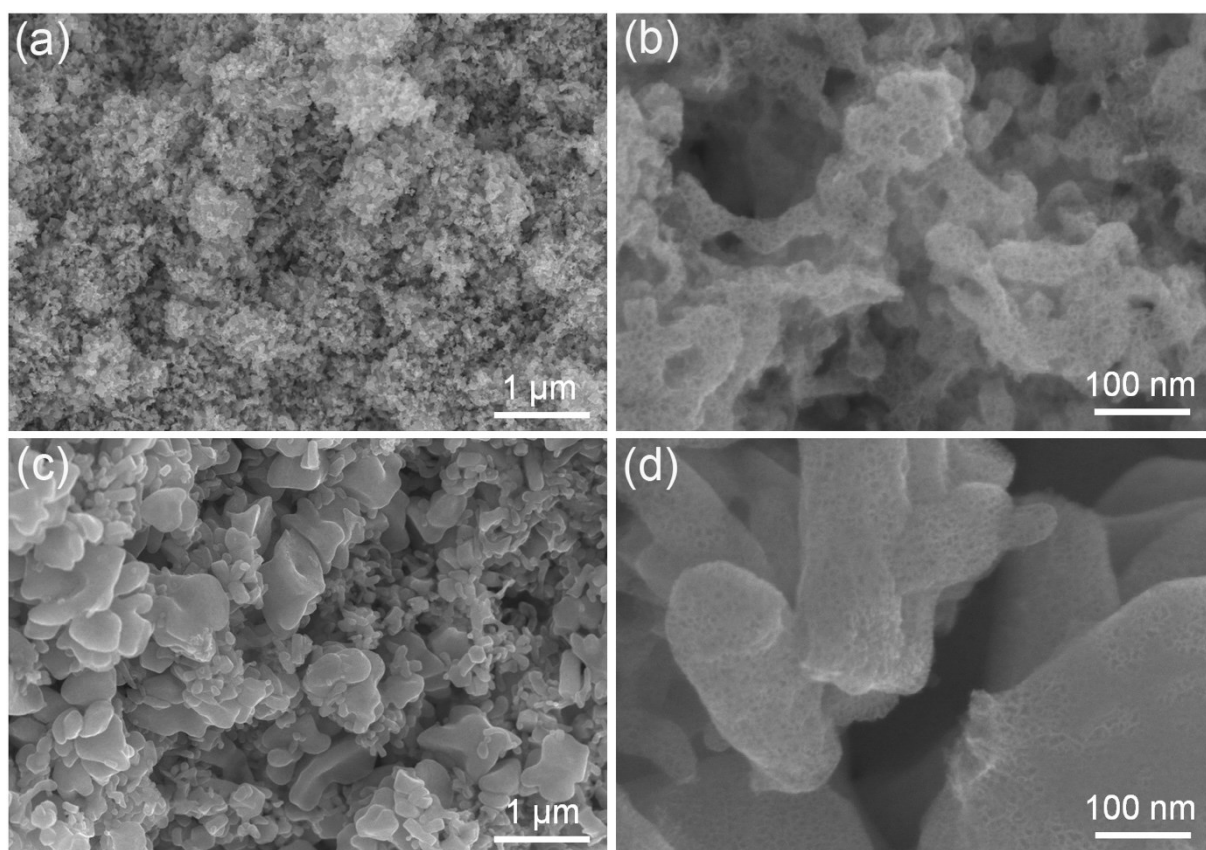


Figure S11. SEM images of np-UHEAs after 10 h of chronopotentiometric measurements at a current density of 10 mA cm⁻² in 0.5 M H₂SO₄. (a, b) np-UHEA14 for HER and (c, d) np-UHEA12 for OER.

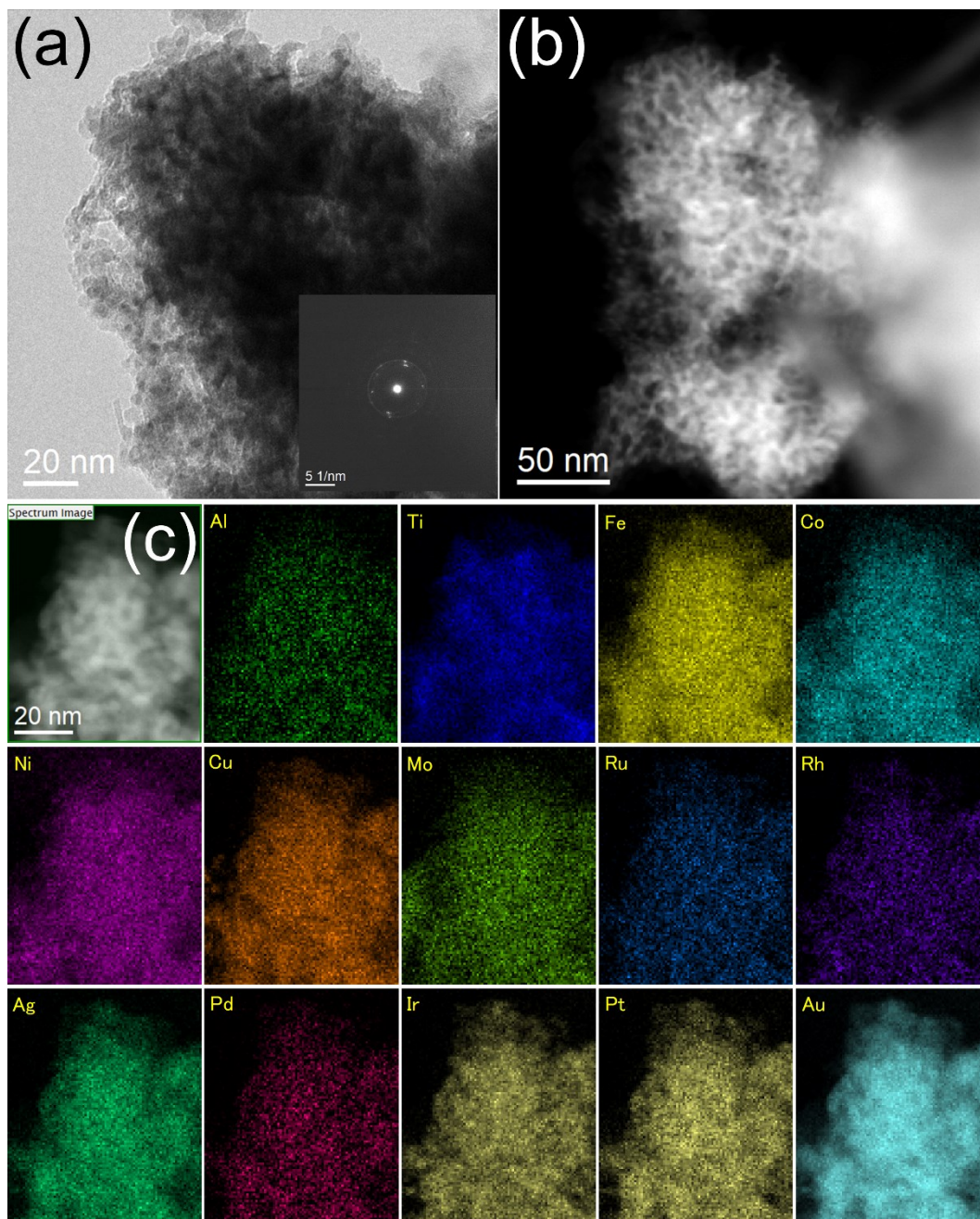


Figure S12. (a) TEM (inset SAED), (b) STEM, and (c) EDS mappings of np-UHEA14 after the stability test for HER in 0.5 M H₂SO₄. Each element remained uniformly distributed after the stability test.

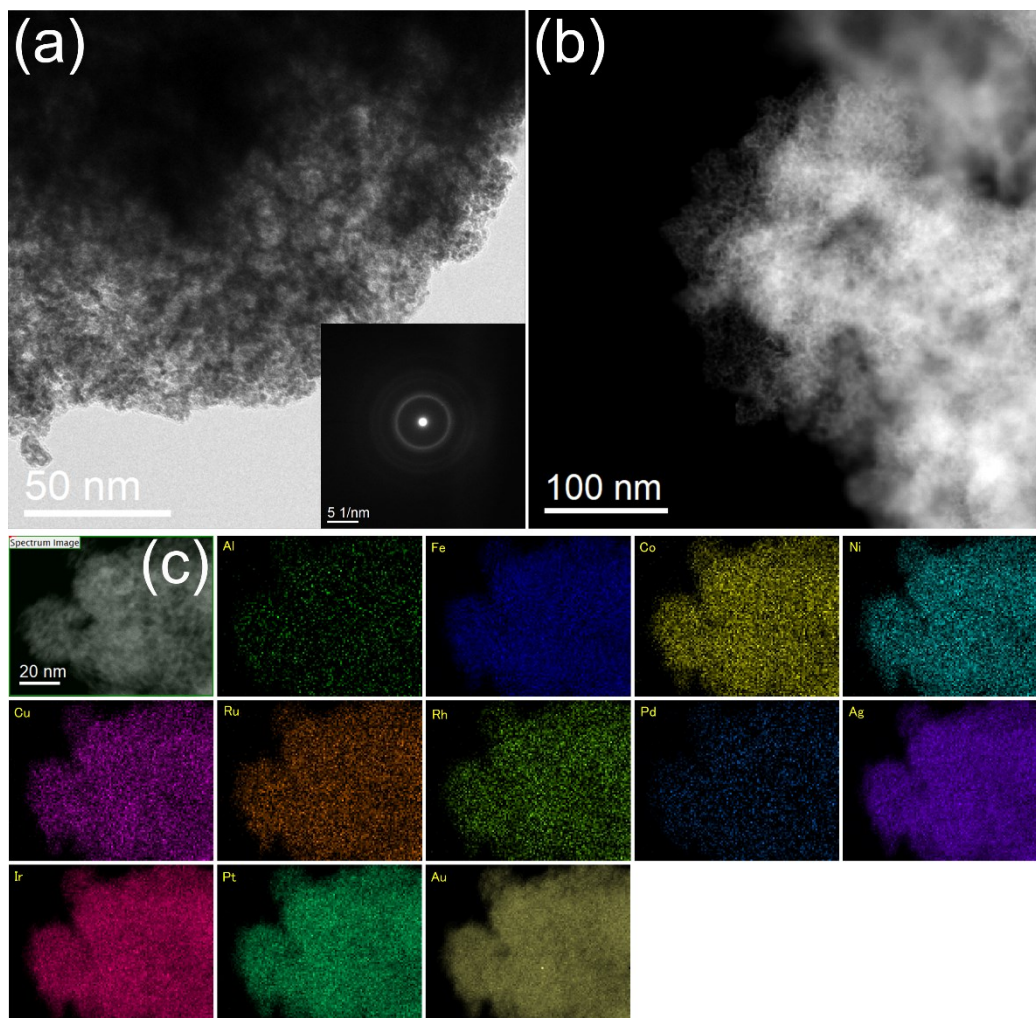


Figure S13. (a) TEM (inset SAED), (b) STEM, and (c) EDS mappings of np-UHEA12 after stability test for OER in 0.5 M H₂SO₄. Each element remained uniformly distributed after the stability test.

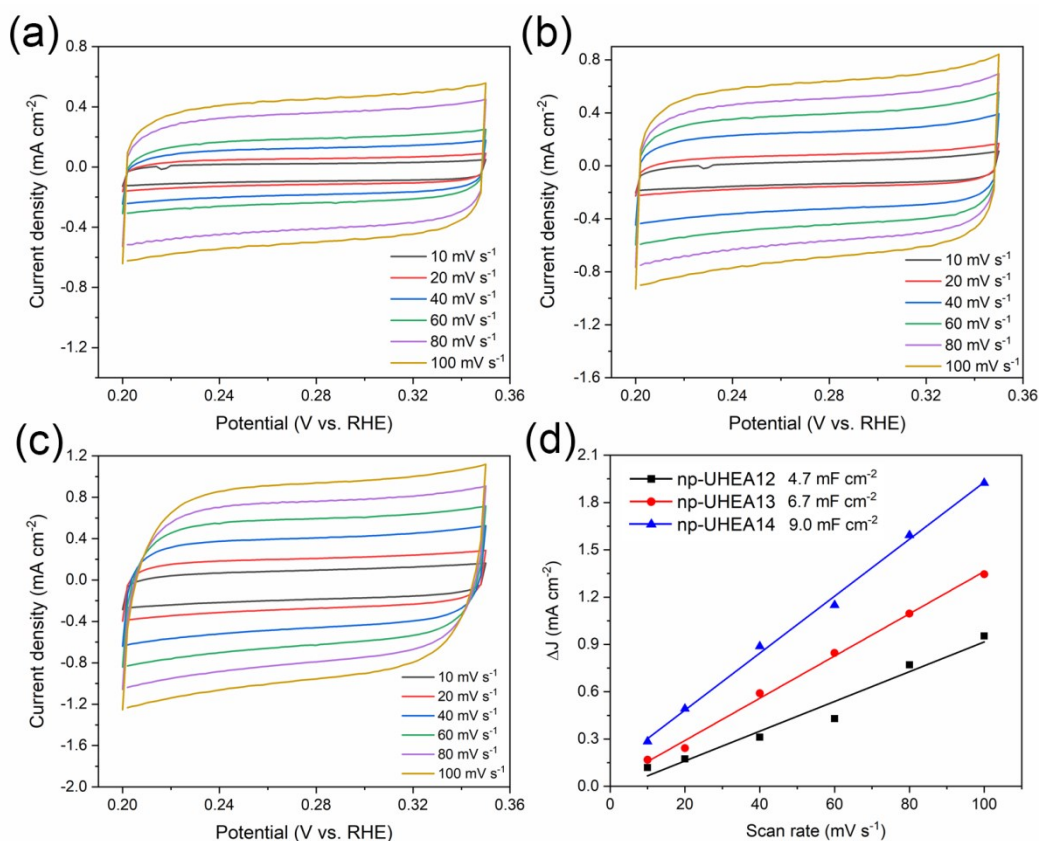


Figure S14. Charging currents measured in the non-faradaic potential range of 0.20–0.35 V (vs. RHE) at varying scan rates (10, 20, 40, 60, 80, and 100 mV s⁻¹) for (a) np-UHEA12, (b) np-UHEA13, and (c) np-UHEA14. (d) Charging currents measured at 0.25 V vs. RHE plotted as a function of the scan rate. The double layer capacitance of the system is calculated from the slopes of the linear fit to the data.

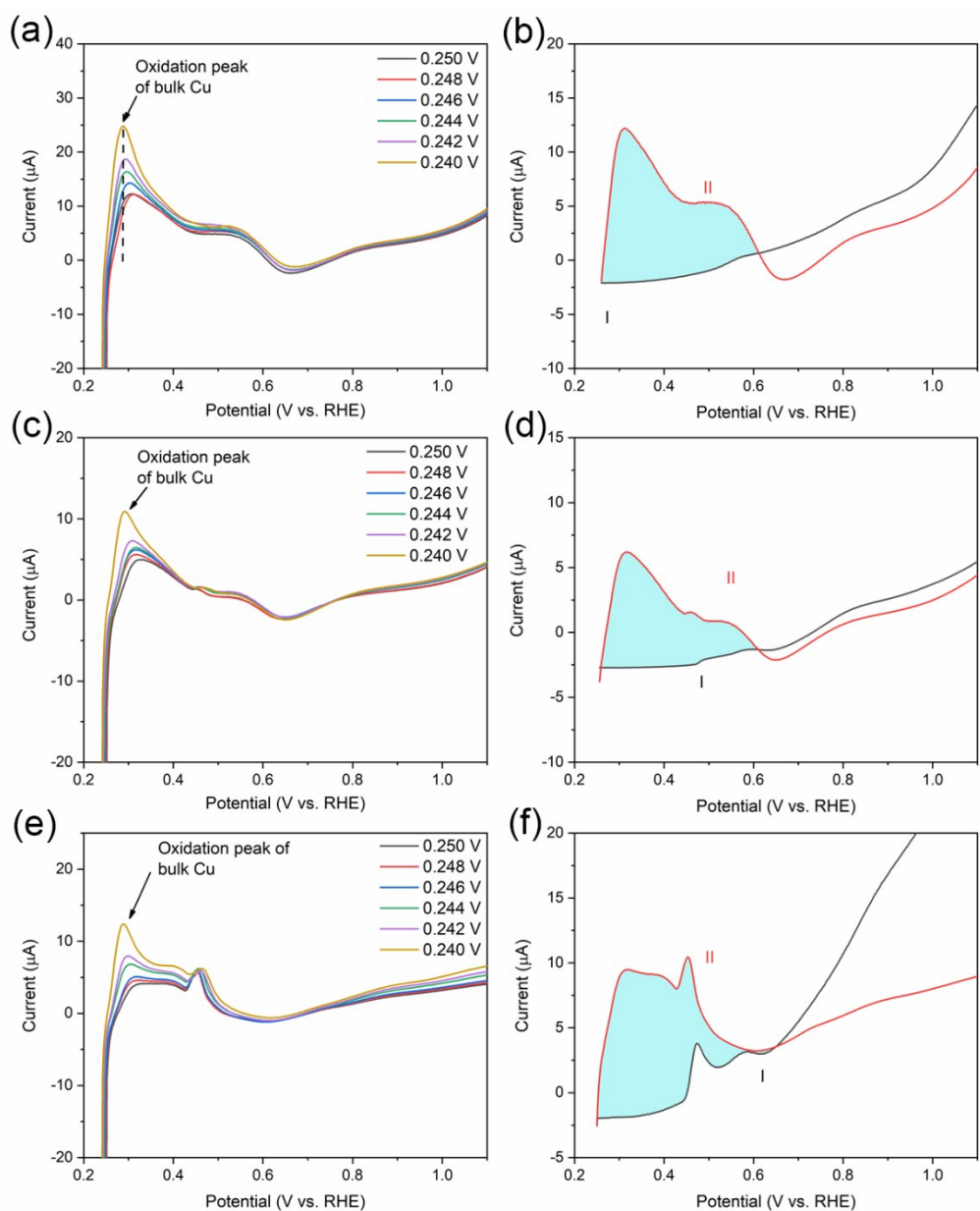


Figure S15. Electrochemical surface area (ECSA) measurements of np-UHEAs. Cu-UPD in 0.5 M H_2SO_4 in the presence of 5 mM CuSO_4 on (a) np-HEA, (c) np-UHEA13, and (e) UHEA14, the electrode was polarized at varying potentials for 100 s to form the UPD layers. Cu-UPD in 0.5 M H_2SO_4 in the (I) absence and (II) presence of 5 mM CuSO_4 on (b) np-UHEA12, (d) np-UHEA13, and (f) np-UHEA14 catalysts.

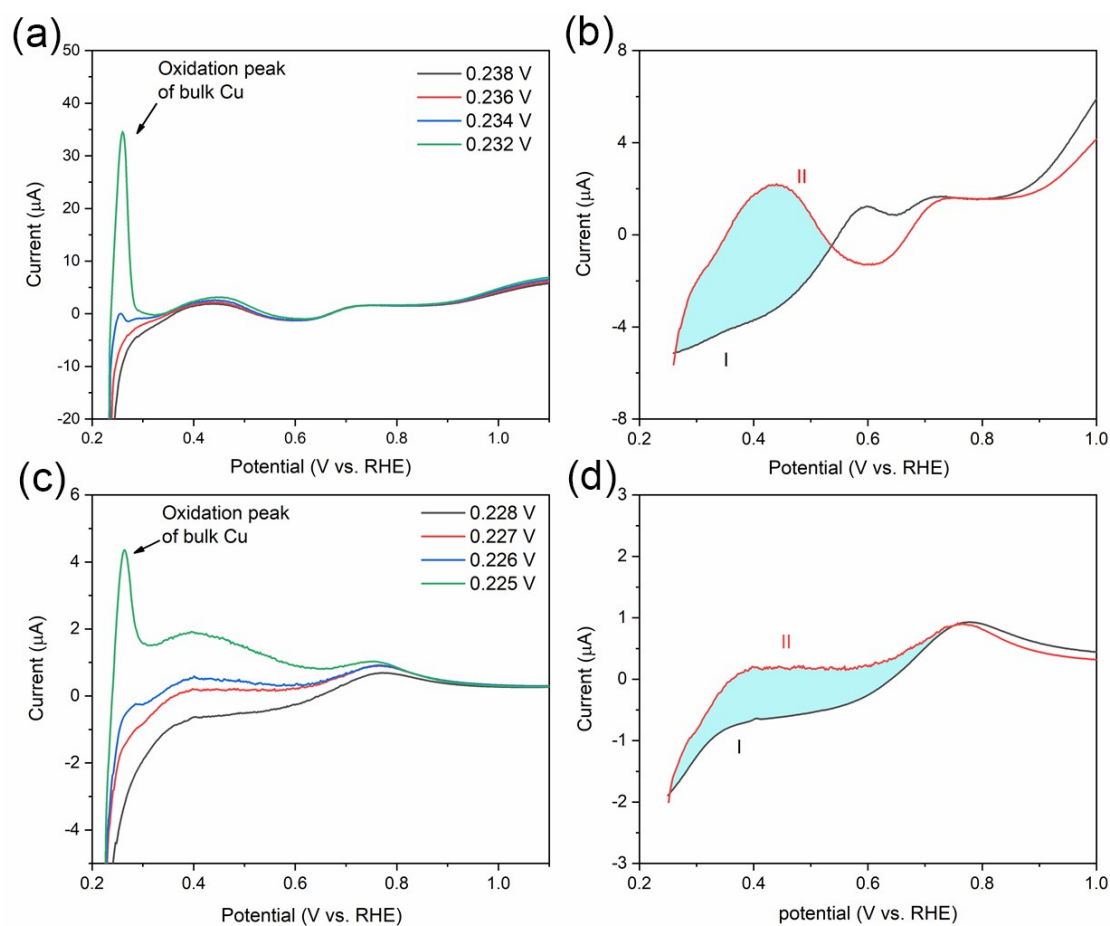


Figure S16. ECSA measurements of commercial Pt/G and IrO₂ catalysts. Cu-UPD in 0.5 M H₂SO₄ in the presence of 5 mM CuSO₄ on (a) commercial Pt/G and (c) commercial IrO₂. The electrode was polarized at varying potentials for 100 s to form the UPD layers. Cu-UPD in 0.5 M H₂SO₄ in the (I) absence and (II) presence of 5 mM CuSO₄ on (b) commercial Pt/G and (d) commercial IrO₂ catalysts.

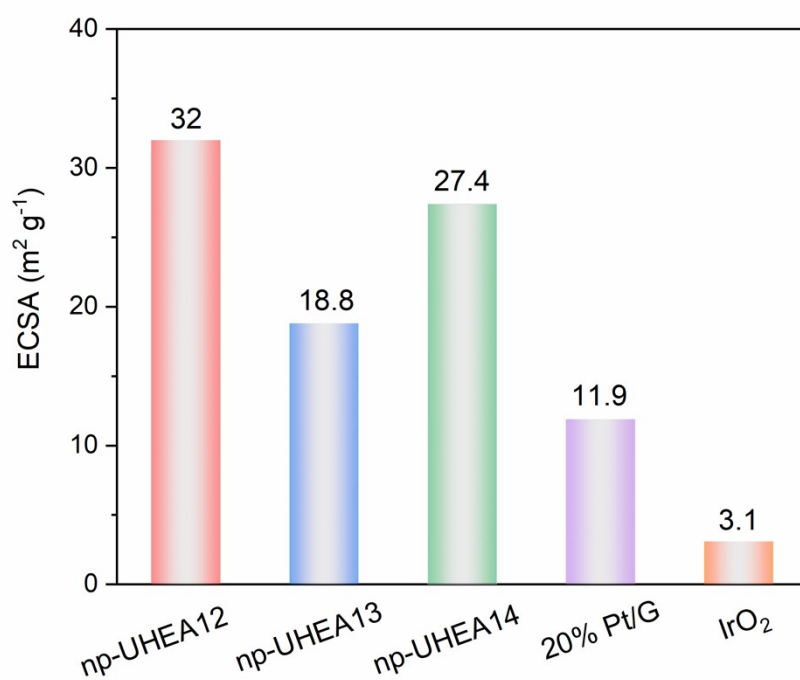


Figure S17. ECSAs of the catalysts measured employing the Cu-UPD method.

Table 1. Summary of electrocatalytic OER and HER performances of HEA-based catalysts.

Reaction	Catalyst name	Number of compositions	Electrolyte	Overpotential (mV @10 mA cm ⁻²)	Tafel slope (mV dec ⁻¹)	Mass activity (A mg ⁻¹)	Durability test	Ref.
OER	np-UHEA12	12	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	258	84.2		40,000 s @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	This work
	np-AlNiCoIrMo	5	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	233	55.2	0.115 @1.5 V _{RHE}	11.5 mV increased @ 60 mA cm ⁻² after 7,000 cycles	S1
	np-AlNiCoIrV	5	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄		59.8			S1
	np-MoNiCoFeAl	5	1.0 M KOH	~240	46		~90% after 2,000 cycles, 50 h @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	S2
	CoCrFeMnNi NPs	5	0.1 M NaOH		150	0.104 @ 1.7 V _{RHE} including carbon black		S3
	PtLaNiCoFe HEMG-NP	5	0.1 M KOH	377	150		1 h @ 1.6 V _{RHE}	S4
	HEAN@NPC/CC-450	5	1.0 M KOH	263	43		24 h @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	S5
	Graphene-FeCoNiCuCr HEA nanocomposite	5	1.0 M KOH	330	80	380 mA mg ⁻¹ @ 1.75 V _{RHE}	7 h @ 25 mA cm ⁻²	S6
	AlNiCoRuMo nanowires	5	1.0 M KOH	245	54.5	~300 mA mg ⁻¹ _{Ru} @ 1.5 V _{RHE}	100 h @1.48 V _{RHE}	S7
HER	np-UHEA14	14	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	32	30.1	2.44 A mg ⁻¹ _{Pt}	40,000 s @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	This work
	np-IrMoNiCoAl	5	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	18.5	33.2		~ 50 h @ 1.52 V _{RHE}	S1
	np-AuPtPdNiCuAl	6	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄		28	6.9 @ -0.07 V _{RHE} 2.5 A mg _{Pt+Pd+Au} ⁻¹ @ -0.07 V _{RHE}	~ 100% after 2,000 cycles	S8
	MoNiCoFeCr-1150	5	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	107	41		8 h @ 100 mA cm ⁻²	S9
			1.0 M KOH	172	66			
	Al ₈₀ Ni ₆ Co ₃ Mn ₃ Y ₅ Au ₃	6	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	70	39		20 h @10 mA cm ⁻²	S10
	AuPtPdRhRu NPs/C-700 °C	5	1.0 M KOH	190 @ 30 mA cm ⁻²	62		8 h @ 100 mA cm ⁻²	S11
	PdFeCoNiCu/C	5	1.0 M KOH	18	39	6.51 A mg _{Pd} ⁻¹ @ -0.07 V _{RHE}	15 days @ 18 mV	S12
	FeCoPdIrPt@GO HEA-NPs	5	1.0 M KOH	42	82	9.1 mA μg _{Pt} @ 100 mV _{RHE}	150 h @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	S13
	Pt ₁₈ Ni ₂₆ Fe ₁₅ Co ₁₄ Cu ₂₇ /C	5	1.0 M KOH	11	30	10.96 A mg ⁻¹ _{Pt} @ -0.07 V _{RHE}	~ 100% after 10,000 cycles	S14
AlNiCoRuMo nanowires	5	1.0 M KOH	24.5	30.3	~230 mA mg ⁻¹ _{Ru} @ -0.025 V	100 h @ -0.025 V _{RHE}	S7	

IrPdPtRhRu HEA NPs	5	1.0 M KOH	17			~ 100% after 3,000 cycles	S15
FeCoNiAlTi HEI	5	1.0 M KOH	88.2	40.1		40 h @ 100 mA cm ⁻²	S16

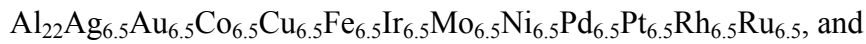
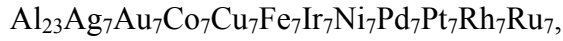
Table S2. Comparison of the performances of bifunctional electrocatalysts for overall water splitting in acidic environments.

Catalysts	Electrolytes	HER η (mV @ 10 mA cm ⁻²)	OER η (mV @ 10 mA cm ⁻²)	Overall water splitting cell voltage (V@ 10 mA cm ⁻²)	Durability test of water splitting.	Ref.
More than 12 elements np-UHEAs	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	32 (np-UHEA14)	258 (np-UHEA12)	1.522	40,000 s @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	This work
np-AlNiCoIrMo	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	18.5	233	1.48	48 h @ 1.52 V	[S1]
Ir-SA@Fe@NCNT	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	26	250	1.51	12 h @ 1.51 V	[S17]
M-doped RuO ₂ NWs (M = Co, Ni, Fe)	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	78 (Ni-doped RuO ₂ NWs)	200 (Ni-doped RuO ₂ NWs)	1.537	12 h @ 1.537 V	[S18]
IrCoNi PHNCs	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	68	309	1.6 @4.66 mA cm ⁻²	1000 CV circles	[S19]
Ir ₆ Ag ₉ NTs	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	20	285	1.55	1000 CV cycles	[S20]
IrNi _{0.57} Fe _{0.82} NPs	0.5 M HClO ₄	24	284	1.64	20000 s @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	[S21]
Ir/GF	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	7	290	1.55	10 h @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	[S22]
IrCoNi PHNCs	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	68	309	1.56 @2 mA cm ⁻²	1000 CV cycles	[S23]
RuCu NSs/C	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	19	236	1.49	14 h @ 5 mA cm ⁻²	[S24]
Li-IrSe ₂	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	55	220	1.44	24 h @ 20 mA cm ⁻²	[S25]
IrNi NFs	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	40	330	1.6	1,000 CV cycles	[S26]
Ru-SA/Ti ₃ C ₂ T _x	0.1 M HClO ₄	70	290	1.56	32 h @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	[S27]
Co-RuIr	0.1 M HClO ₄	24	235	1.52	24 h @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	[S28]
IrCo _{0.65} NDs	0.1 M HClO ₄	17	281	1.593	20,000 s @ 10 mA cm ⁻²	[S29]
PdCu/Ir/C	0.5 M H ₂ SO ₄	21	344	1.583	2,000 CV cycles	[S30]

Comment on nominal composition of np-UHEAs

Acquiring the nominal composition of the np-UHEAs via ICP analysis was challenging because the samples were not completely soluble, even in aqua regia, and some substances remained undissolved as alloys or oxides. Here, we list the weight fractions of the measured elements without the unavailable elements Ag, Ir, Rh, and Ru, as is. We acknowledge that the sum of all weight percentages is not 100%. Although we cannot exclude the possibility that undetected volume among measured elements may exist as unsolved substances in aqua regia, the values of weight percent/atomic weight, except for Al, were found to be largely equal.

Therefore, we assumed the nominal composition of np-UHEAs as follows:



$\text{Al}_{20.7}\text{Ag}_{6.1}\text{Au}_{6.1}\text{Co}_{6.1}\text{Cu}_{6.1}\text{Fe}_{6.1}\text{Ir}_{6.1}\text{Mo}_{6.1}\text{Ni}_{6.1}\text{Pd}_{6.1}\text{Pt}_{6.1}\text{Rh}_{6.1}\text{Ru}_{6.1}\text{Ti}_{6.1}$ (%) for np-UHEA12, np-UHEA13, and np-UHEA14, respectively. The corresponding mixed configuration entropies $S = -R \sum x_i \ln(x_i)$ were 2.39, 2.47, and 2.54, respectively.

Table S3. ICP analysis of np-UHEA12.

Element	Weight percent	Weight percent/ atomic weight
Al	5.6	0.237591
Au	11.6	0.067416
Cu	3.8	0.068457
Co	3.6	0.069928
Fe	3.4	0.069697
Ni	3.4	0.066313
Pd	6.3	0.067764
Pt	11.9	0.069825

Table S4. ICP analysis of np-UHEA13.

Element	Weight percent	Weight percent/ atomic weight
Al	5.9	0.218681
Au	11.3	0.057372
Cu	3.7	0.058231
Co	3.3	0.055999
Fe	3.1	0.055516
Mo	2.6	0.027095
Ni	3.4	0.057932
Pd	6.1	0.05732
Pt	11.2	0.057411

Table S5. ICP analysis of np-UHEA14.

Element	Weight percent	Weight percent/ atomic weight
Al	4.9	0.181616
Au	10.3	0.052295
Cu	3.4	0.05351
Co	3	0.050908
Fe	2.6	0.046562
Mo	3.8	0.0396
Ni	3	0.051116
Pd	5.6	0.052622
Pt	9.8	0.050235
Ti	2.5	0.052228

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