

Supporting information

Toward the Continuous Production of Multigram Quantities of Highly Uniform Supported Metallic Nanoparticles and Their Application for Synthesis of Superior Intermetallic Pt-Alloy ORR Electrocatalysts

Luka Pavko^{a,b,‡}, Matija Gatalo^{a,c,‡,}, Gregor Križan^d, Janez Križan^d, Konrad Ehelebe^{e,f}, Francisco Ruiz-Zepeda^a, Martin Šala^g, Goran Dražić^a, Moritz Geuß^{e,f}, Pascal Kaiser^{e,f}, Marjan Bele^a, Mitja Kostelec^{a,b}, Tina Đukić^{a,b}, Nigel Van de Velde^a, Ivan Jerman^a, Serhiy Cherevko^e, Nejc Hodnik^a, Boštjan Genorio^b, Miran Gaberšček^{a,*}*

^a Department of Materials Chemistry, National Institute of Chemistry, Hajdrihova 19, 1001 Ljubljana, Slovenia

^b Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Technology, University of Ljubljana, 1001 Ljubljana, Slovenia

^c ReCatalyst d.o.o., Hajdrihova 19, 1001 Ljubljana, Slovenia

^d Ami d.o.o., Trstenjakova 5, 2250 Ptuj, Slovenia

^e Helmholtz-Institute Erlangen-Nürnberg for Renewable Energy (IEK-11), Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH, Egerlandstr.3, 91058 Erlangen, Germany

^f Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg, Egerlandstr. 3, 91058 Erlangen, Germany

^g Department of Analytical Chemistry, National Institute of Chemistry, Hajdrihova 19, 1001 Ljubljana, Slovenia

[‡] these authors contributed equally to this work

* to whom correspondence should be addressed: matija.gatalo@ki.si, miran.gaberscek@ki.si

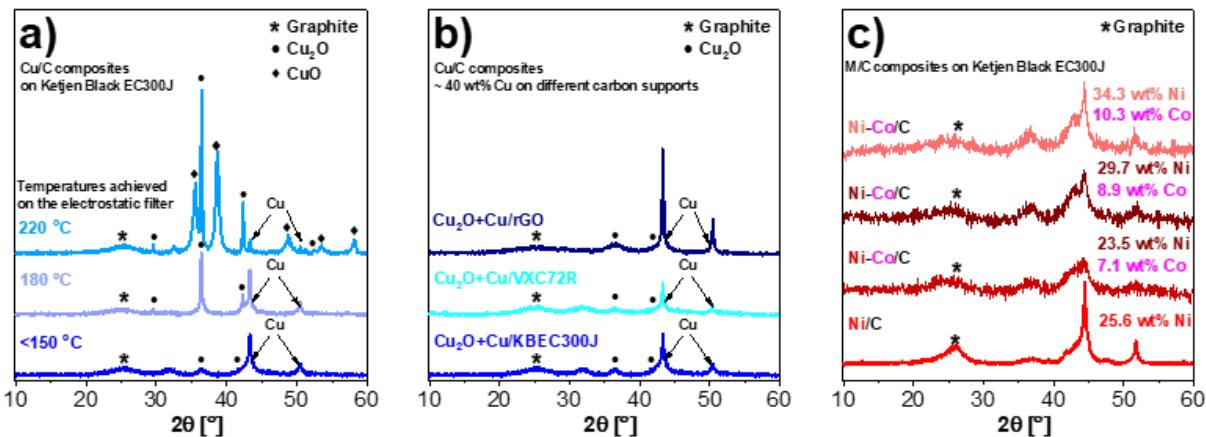


Figure S1. (a) XRD spectra comparison of Cu/C composites obtained at various temperatures at the electrostatic filter of the pulse combustion reactor. (b) XRD spectra comparison of Cu/C composites on various carbon-based supports prepared *via* the pulse combustion method. (c) XRD spectra comparison of Ni-Co composites (mix of two metals) with various metal loadings over carbon prepared *via* the pulse combustion method.¹

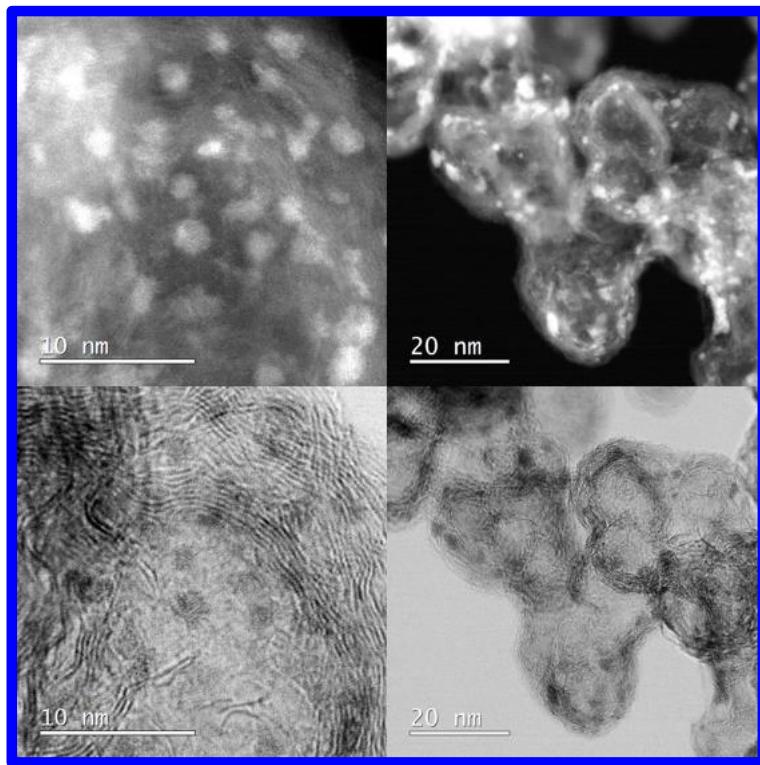


Figure S2. ADF and BF STEM images of Cu+Cu₂O/C (C = Ketjen Black EC300J) composite prepared *via* the pulse combustion method.¹

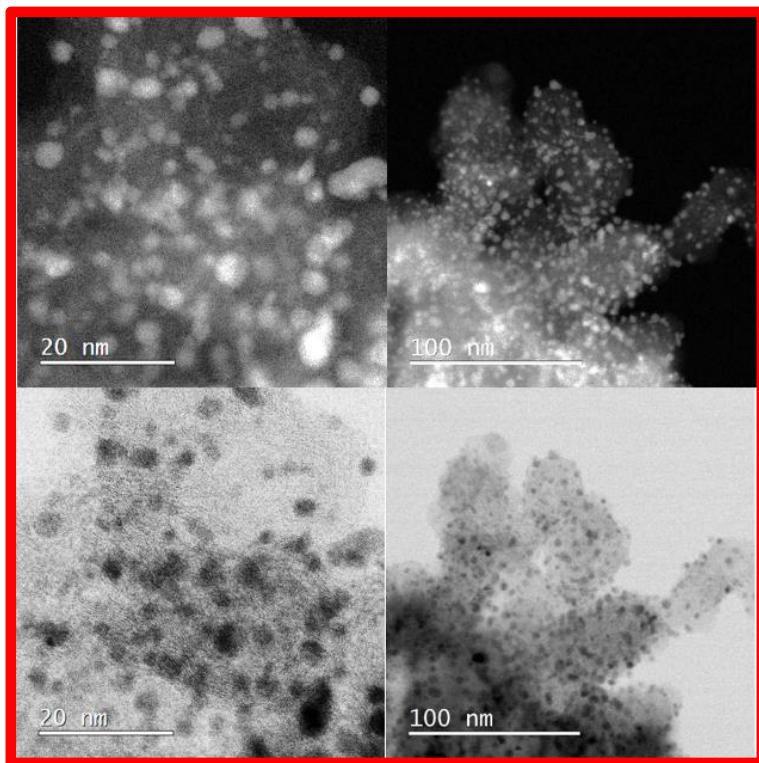


Figure S3. ADF and BF STEM images of Ni+NiO/C (C = Ketjen Black EC300J) composite prepared *via* the pulse combustion method.¹

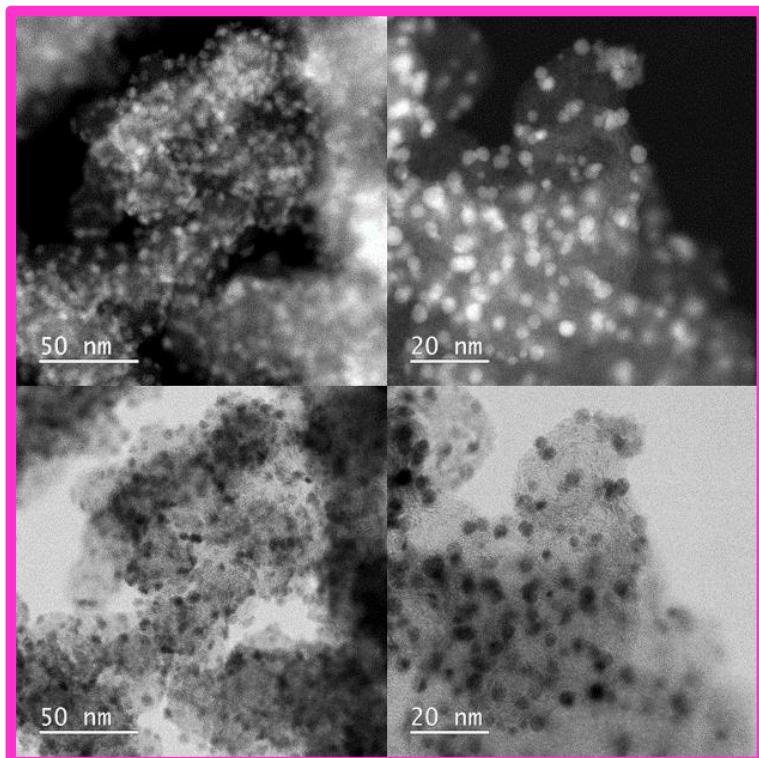


Figure S4. ADF and BF STEM images of Co+CoO/C (C = Ketjen Black EC300J) composite prepared *via* the pulse combustion method.¹

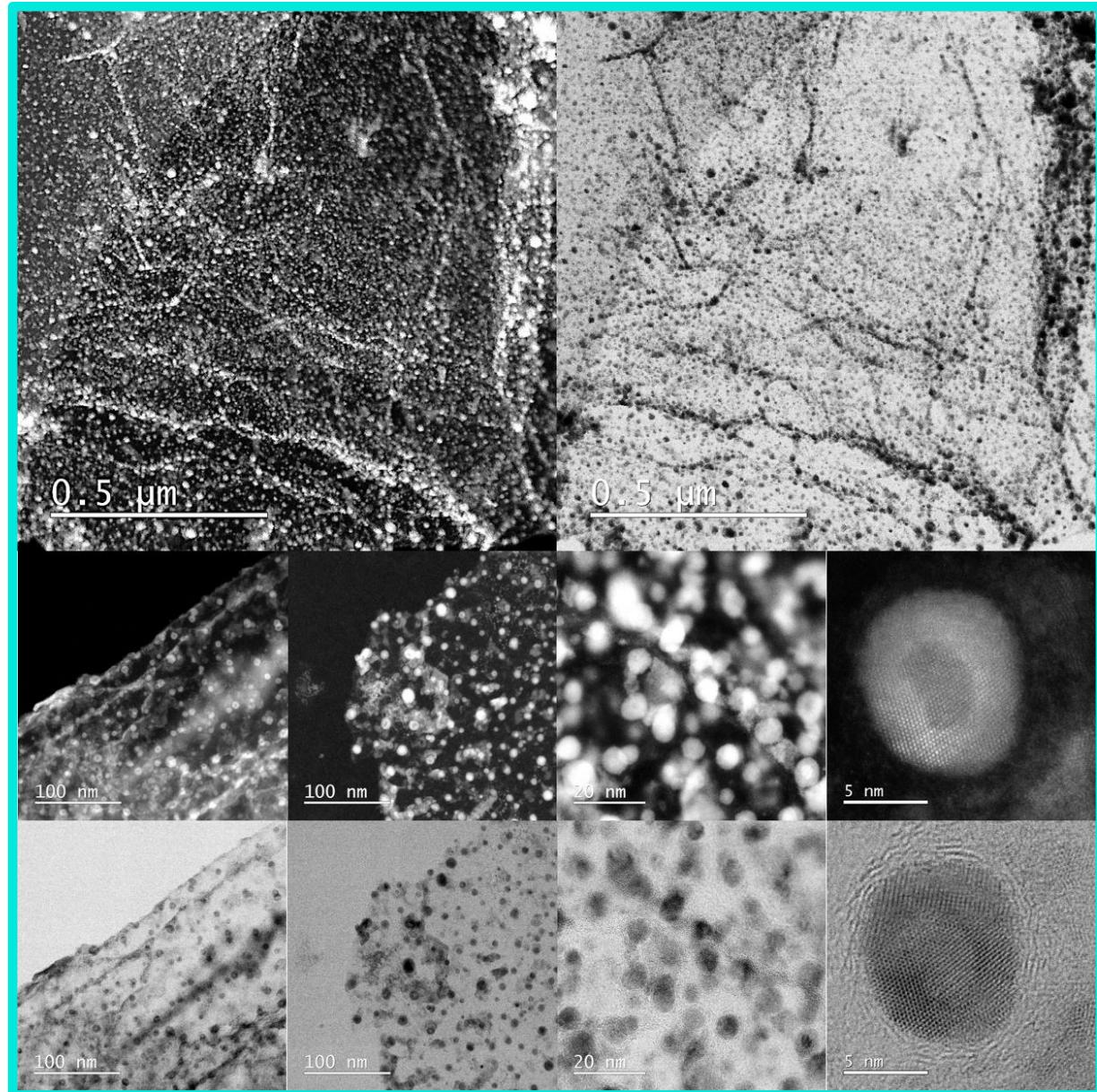


Figure S5. ADF and BF STEM images of Cu+Cu₂O/rGO composite prepared *via* the pulse combustion method.¹

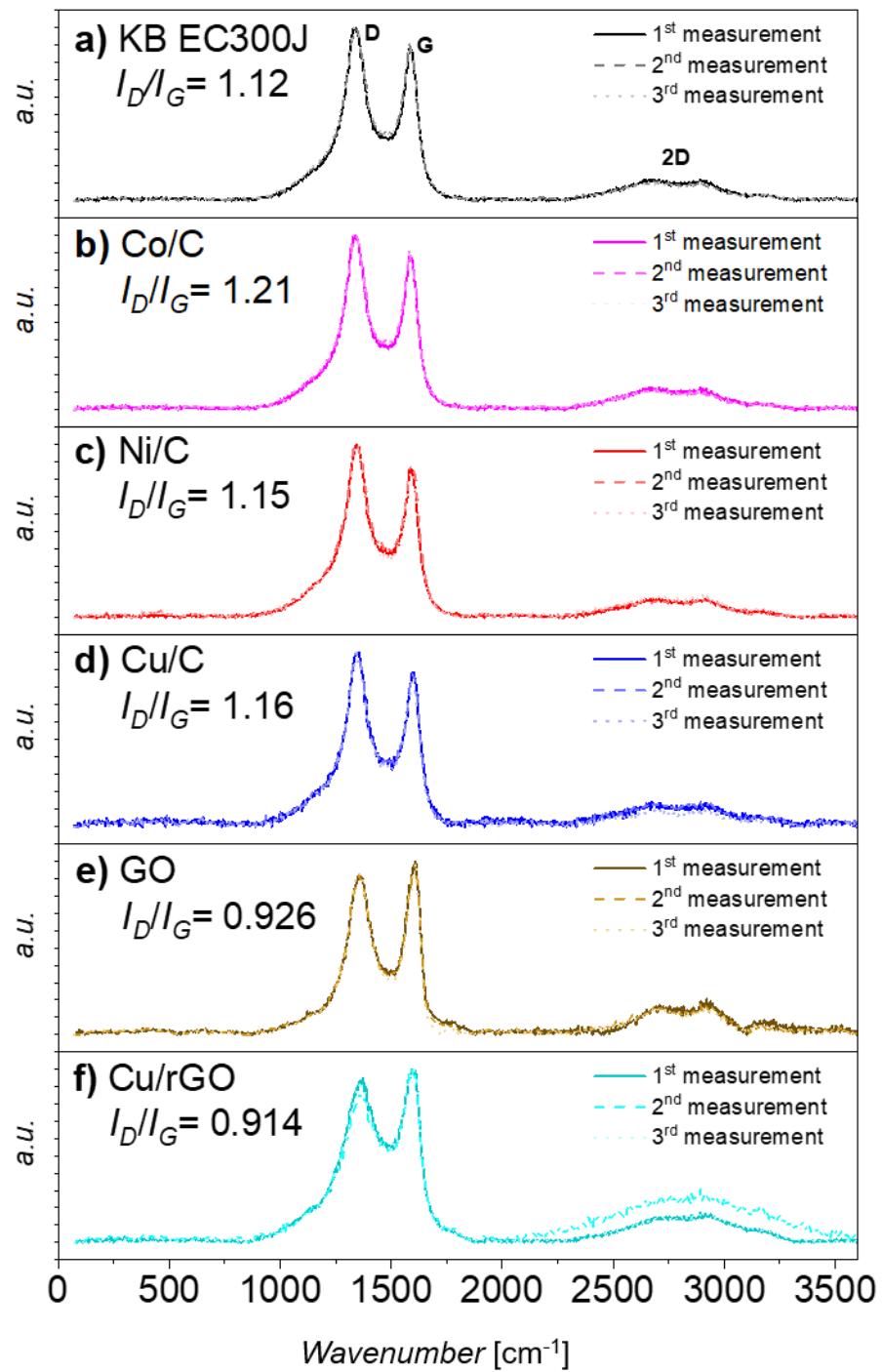


Figure S6. (a-f) Comparison of Raman spectra of starting carbon-based supports (Ketjen Black EC300J and GO) and corresponding M/C (M = Co, Ni and Cu) & M/rGO composites prepared *via* the pulse combustion method at 3 different locations for reproducibility.

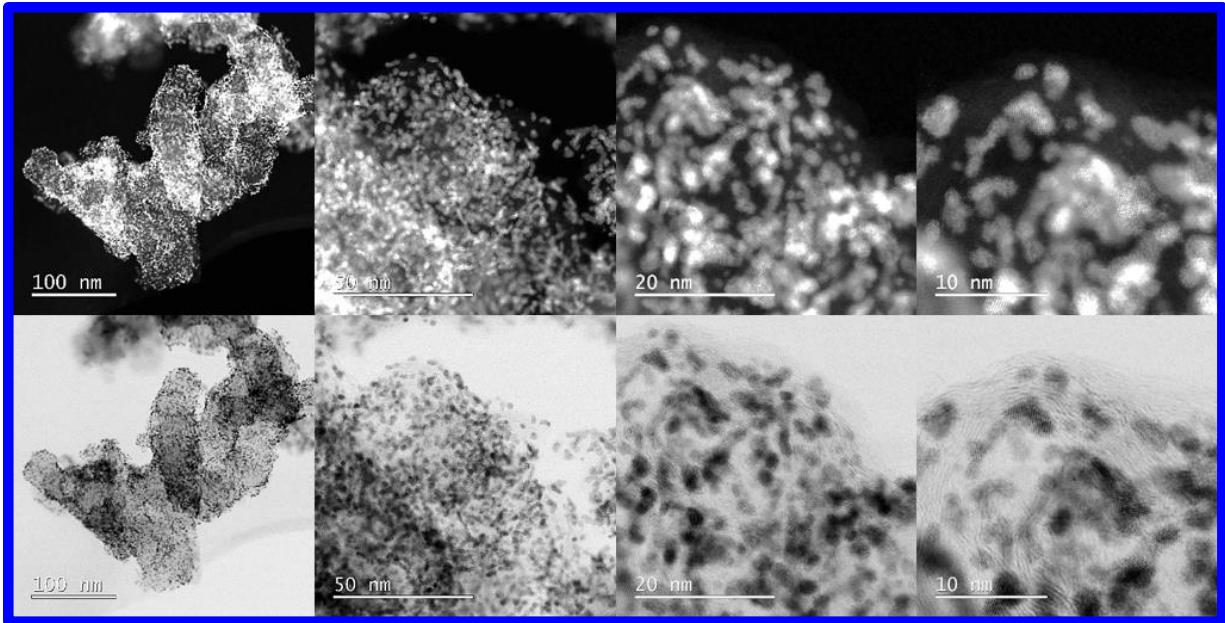


Figure S7. ADF and BF STEM images of PtCu+CuO/C (C = Ketjen Black EC300J) after Pt NP deposition step *via* GD method.¹

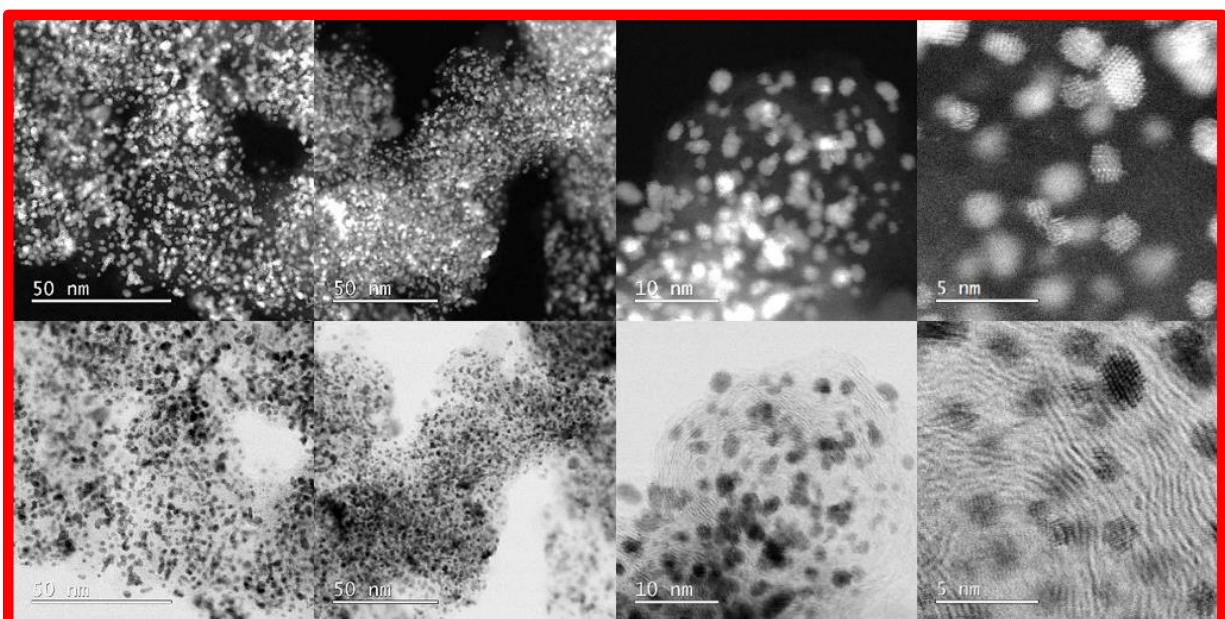


Figure S8. ADF and BF STEM images of Pt+Ni/C (C = Ketjen Black EC300J) after Pt NP deposition step *via* GD method.¹

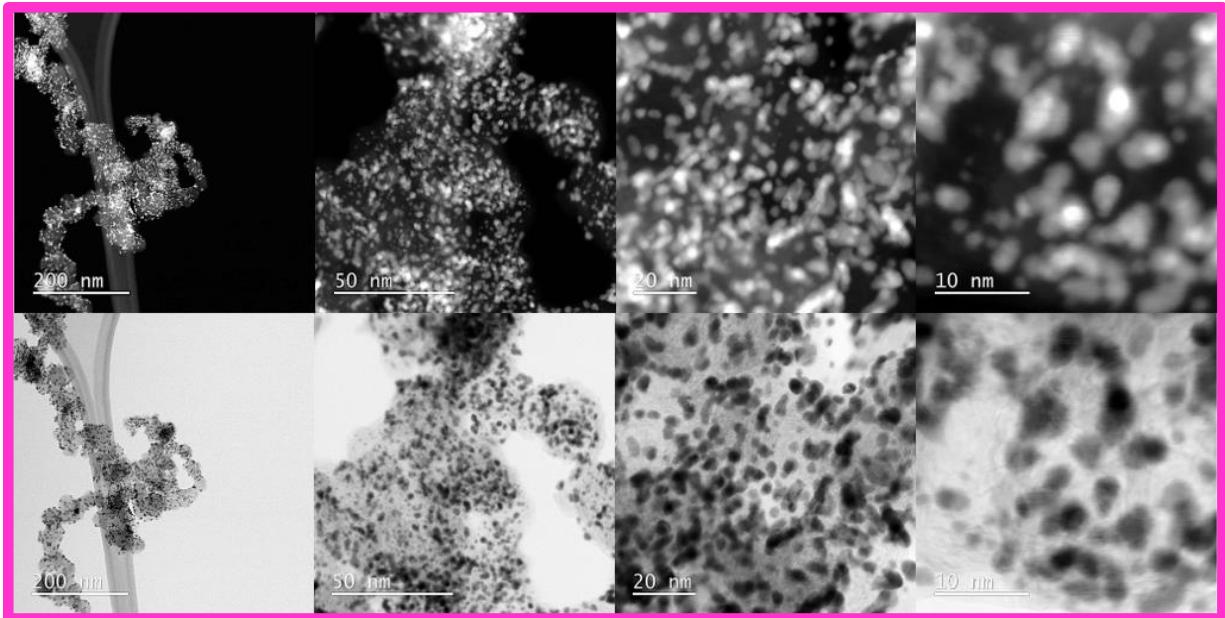


Figure S9. ADF and BF STEM images of Pt+Co/C (C = Ketjen Black EC300J) after Pt NP deposition step *via* GD method.¹

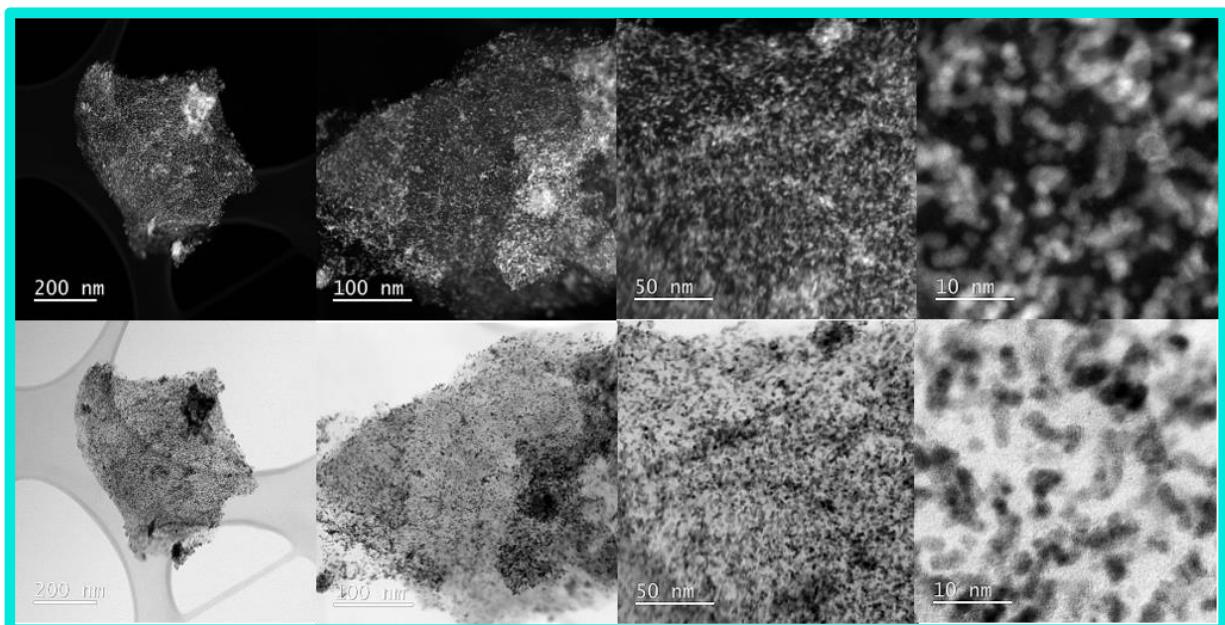


Figure S10. ADF and BF STEM images of PtCu+CuO/rGO after Pt NP deposition step *via* GD method.¹

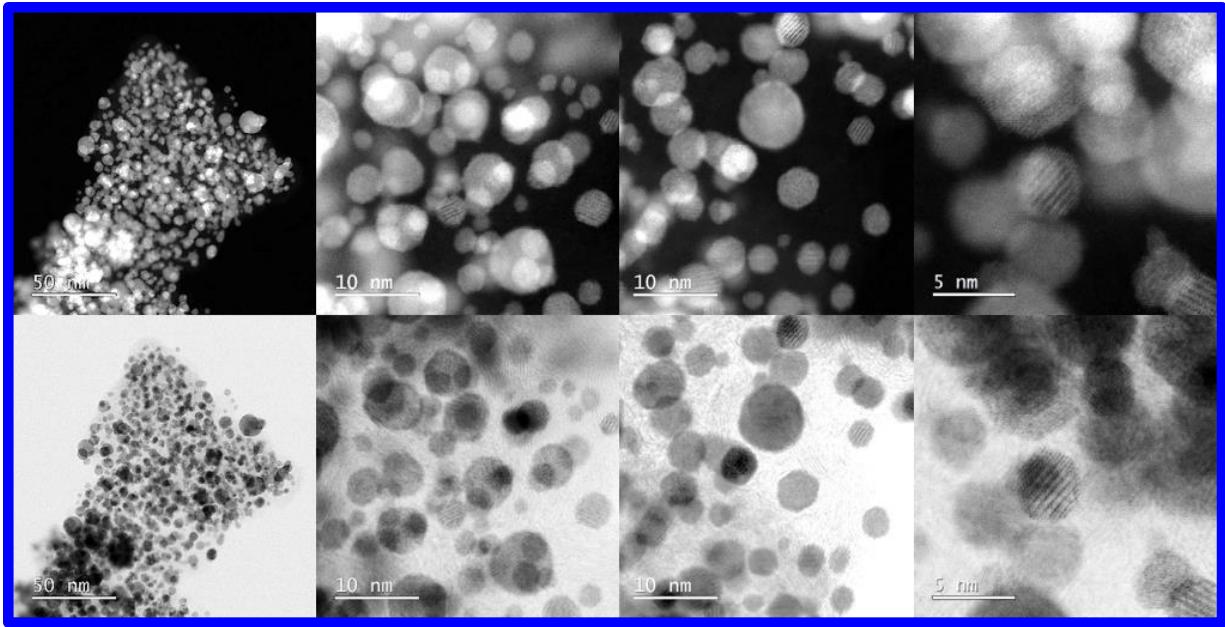


Figure S11. ADF and BF STEM imaging of d-int-Pt-Cu/C electrocatalyst.

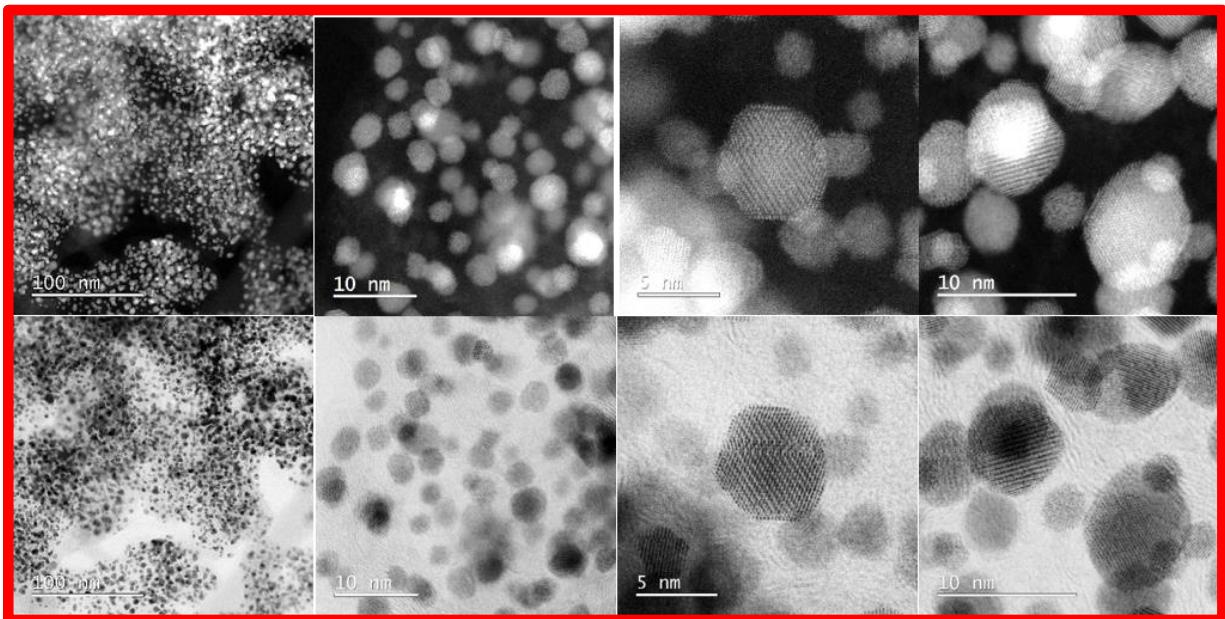


Figure S12. ADF and BF STEM imaging of d-int-Pt-Ni/C electrocatalyst.

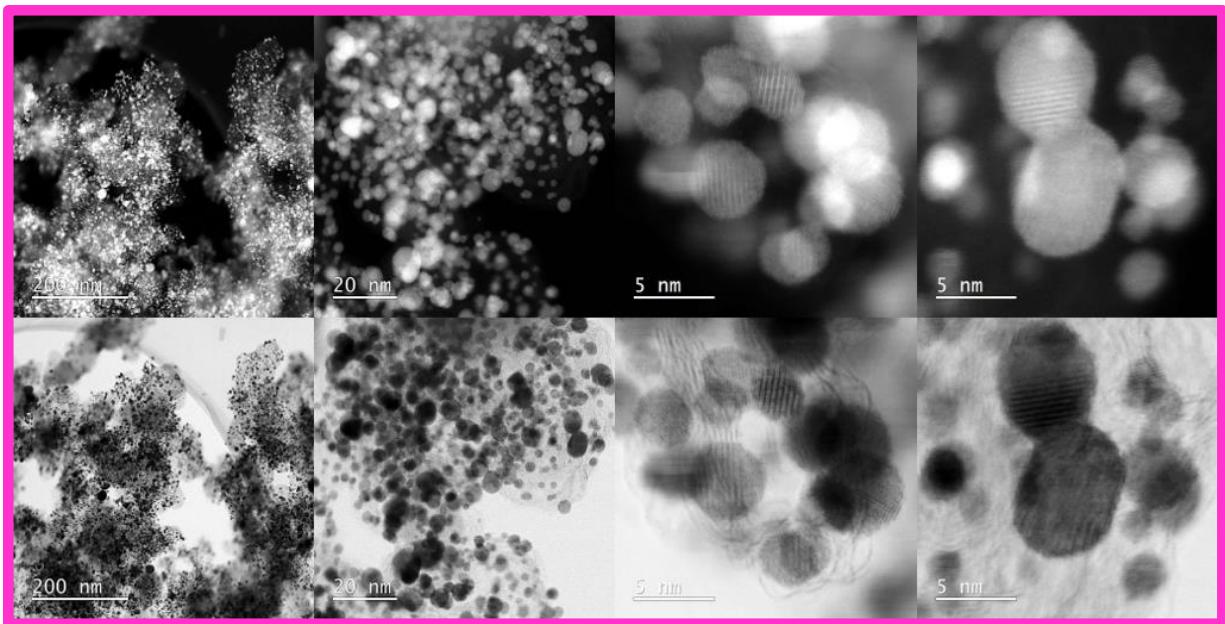


Figure S13. ADF and BF STEM imaging of d-int-Pt-Co/C electrocatalyst.

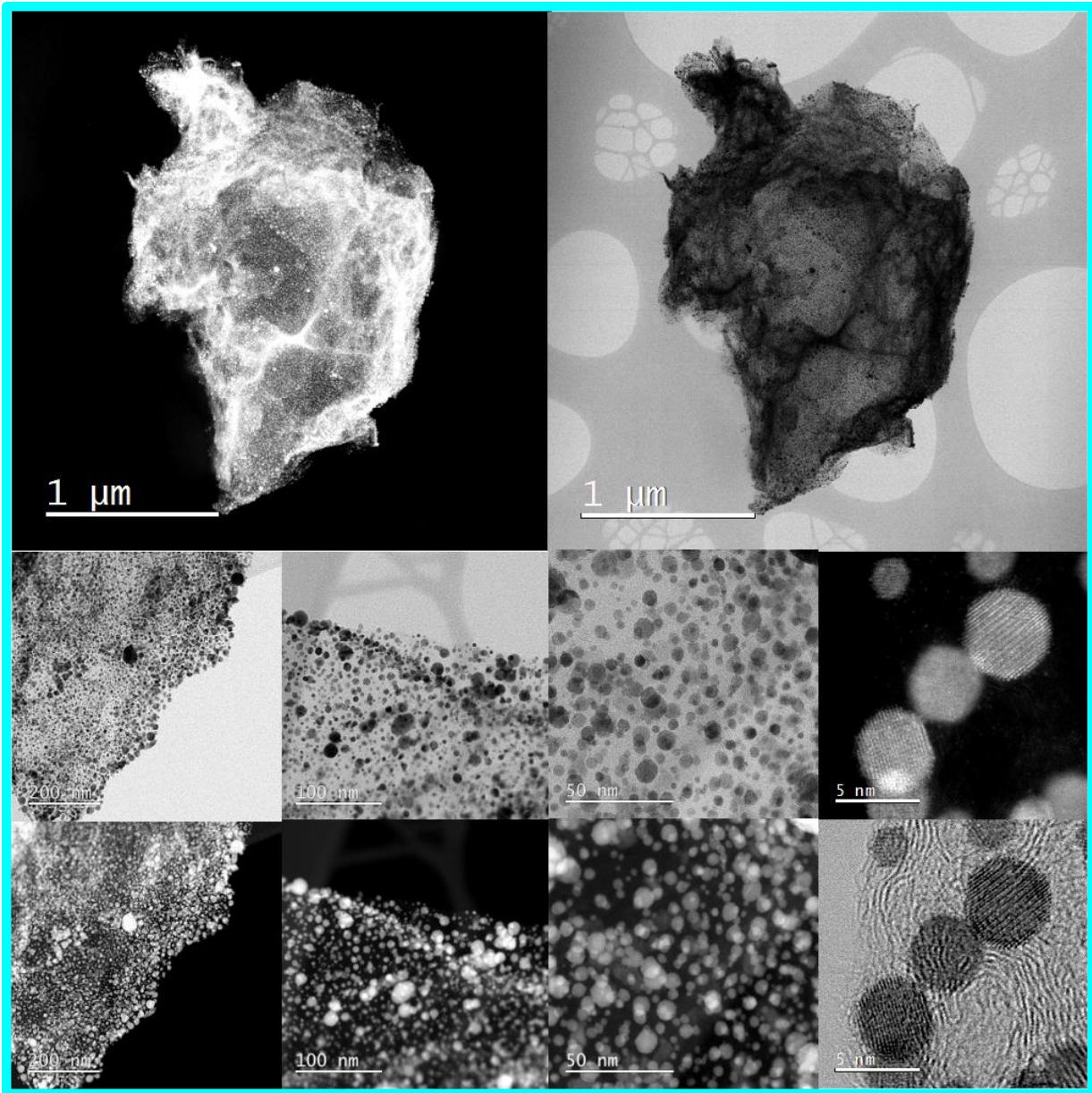


Figure S14. ADF and BF STEM imaging of d-Pt-Cu/C-rGO electrocatalyst.

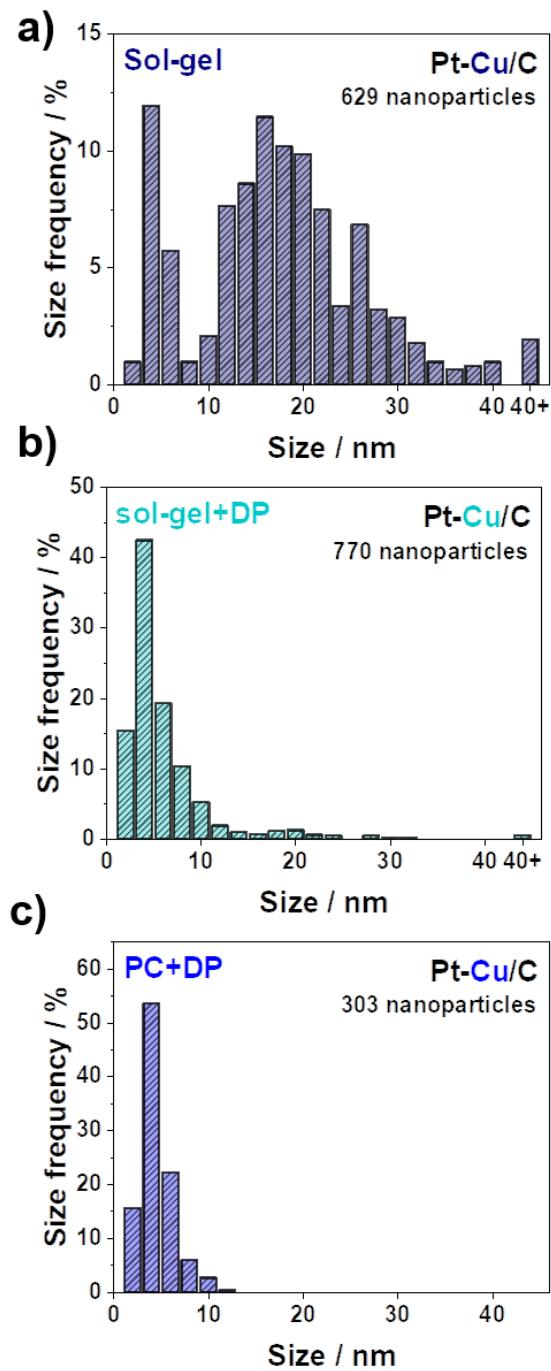


Figure S15. Particle size distribution improvement in the dispersion of Pt-M NPs over carbon upon transitioning from (a) sol-gel method for preparation of M/C composites with conventional galvanic displacement for deposition of Pt NPs,²⁻⁵ (b) combining sol-gel for preparation of M/C composites with DP method for Pt NP deposition^{1,6} and (c) utilizing the synergy between PC methodology for the production of M/C composites in combination with DP method for Pt NP deposition (this work).^{1,6}

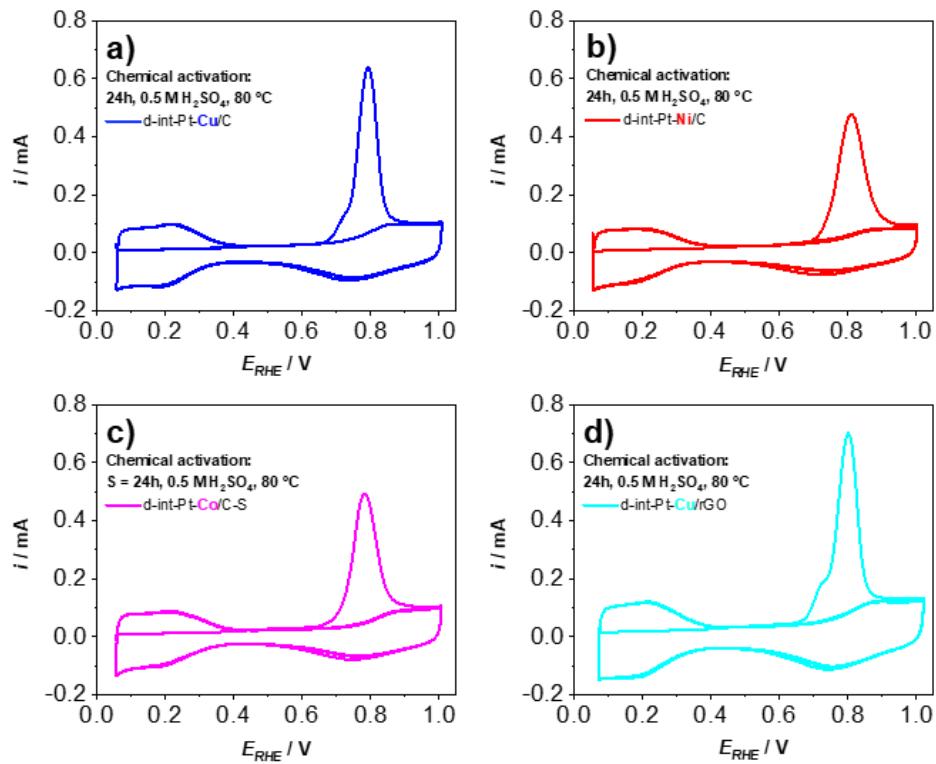


Figure S16. CO-electrooxidation CVs (0.05-1.0 V_{RHE}, 20 mV s⁻¹, no rotation, 0.1 M HClO₄, Ar saturated after CO_g adsorption) of **(a)** d-Pt-Cu/C-S, **(b)** d-Pt-Ni/C-S, **(c)** d-Pt-Co/C-S and **(d)** d-Pt-Cu/rGO-S electrocatalysts.

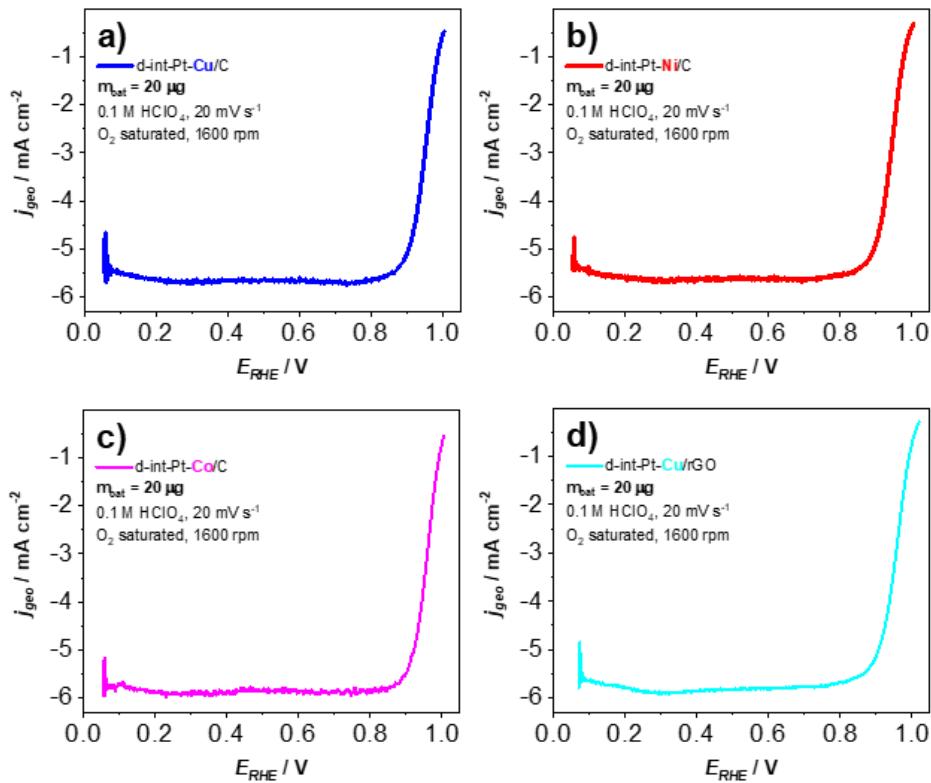


Figure S17. ORR polarization curves (0.05 - $1.0 \text{ V}_{\text{RHE}}$, 20 mV s^{-1} , 1600 rpm , iR and background corrected, 0.1 M HClO_4 , O_2 saturated) of (a) d-Pt-Cu/C-S, (b) d-Pt-Ni/C-S, (c) d-Pt-Co/C-S and (d) d-Pt-Cu/rGO-S electrocatalysts.

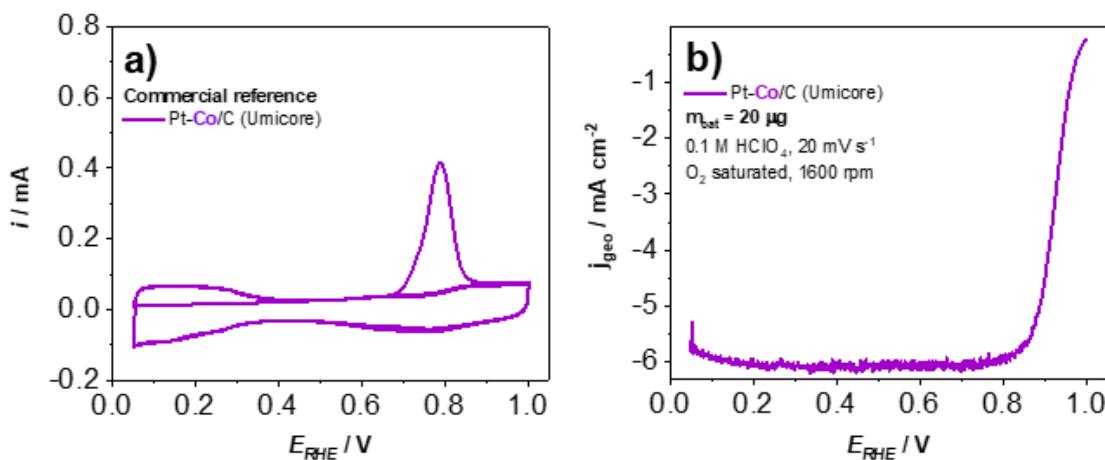


Figure S18. CO-electrooxidation CV (0.05 - $1.0 \text{ V}_{\text{RHE}}$, 20 mV s^{-1} , no rotation, 0.1 M HClO_4 , Ar saturated after CO_g adsorption) and ORR polarization curve (0.05 - $1.0 \text{ V}_{\text{RHE}}$, 20 mV s^{-1} , 1600 rpm , iR and background corrected, 0.1 M HClO_4 , O_2 saturated) of Pt-Co/C electrocatalyst from Umicore (Elyst Pt30 0690) with 27 wt% Pt and approximately 3 wt% Co.

REFERENCES

- (1) Gatalo, M.; Bele, M.; Ruiz-Zepeda, F.; Šest, E.; Šala, M.; Kamšek, A. R.; Maselj, N.; Galun, T.; Jovanović, P.; Hodnik, N.; Gaberšček, M. A Double-Passivation Water-Based Galvanic Displacement Method for Reproducible Gram-Scale Production of High-Performance Platinum-Alloy Electrocatalysts. *Angew. Chemie* **2019**, *131* (38), 13400–13404. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ange.201903568>.
- (2) Zhang, J.; Sasaki, K.; Sutter, E.; Adžić, R. R. Stabilization of Platinum Oxygen-Reduction Electrocatalysts Using Gold Clusters. *Science* **2007**, *315* (5809), 220–222.
- (3) Zhang, J.; Vukmirović, M. B.; Xu, Y.; Mavrikakis, M.; Adžić, R. R. Controlling the Catalytic Activity of Platinum-Monolayer Electrocatalysts for Oxygen Reduction with Different Substrates. *Angew. Chemie* **2005**, *117* (14), 2170–2173. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ange.200462335>.
- (4) Gong, K.; Su, D.; Adžić, R. R. Platinum-Monolayer Shell on AuNi0.5Fe Nanoparticle Core Electrocatalyst with High Activity and Stability for the Oxygen Reduction Reaction. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2010**, *132* (41), 14364–14366. <https://doi.org/10.1021/ja1063873>.
- (5) Sasaki, K.; Naohara, H.; Choi, Y.; Cai, Y.; Chen, W.-F.; Liu, P.; Adžić, R. R. Highly Stable Pt Monolayer on PdAu Nanoparticle Electrocatalysts for the Oxygen Reduction Reaction. *Nat. Commun.* **2012**, *3*, 1115. <https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms2124>.
- (6) Gatalo, M.; Hodnik, N.; Gaberšček, M.; Bele, M. Method for Preparation of a Supported Noble Metal-Metal Alloy Composite, and the Obtained Supported Noble Metal-Metal Alloy Composite. PCT/EP2020/057334, 2020.