

# **Supporting Information (SI):**

## **Anion Exchange Membrane Water Electrolyzers**

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## 1 TABLES FOR HER ACTIVITY MEASUREMENTS

**Table S1. HER data for Pt/C catalysts measured in 1 M KOH**

This Table contains HER data used for Figures 10 and 12 in the paper. The majority of the data were extracted from non-steady state measurements.

Catalyst	Supplier	Loading (mg <sub>Pt</sub> /cm <sup>2</sup> )	$\eta^1$ (mV)	$j_{\text{mass}}^1$ (A/mg <sub>Pt</sub> )	“T.S.” <sup>2</sup> (mV/dec)	$\eta$ region <sup>3</sup> (mV)	Ref
20 wt.% Pt/C	Alfa- Aesar	0.0051	110	1.961	134	75-125	<sup>1</sup>

20 wt.% Pt/C	Fuel Cell Store	0.01	61	1	-	-	2
20 wt.% Pt/C	Alfa- Aesar	0.0204	77	0.49	46	20-40	3
Pt/C	-	0.255	49	0.039	39	20-40	4
Pt/C	-	0.2	49	0.05	39	0-50	5
Pt/C	-	0.283	40	0.035	39	0-20	6
40 wt.% Pt/C	-	0.204	53	0.049	30	-	7
20 wt.% Pt/C	Alfa- Aesar	-	70	1.122	117	0-90	8
20 wt.% Pt/C	Alfa- Aesar	0.59	16	0.085	43	12-25	9
Pt/C	-	0.285	372	0.035	-	0-50	10
20 wt.% Pt/C	-	0.0216	-	0.463	-	-	11
20 wt.% Pt/C	Johnson- Matthew	0.0153	-	0.653	-	-	12
20 wt.% Pt/C	-	0.14	-	0.071	46	30-50	13
Pt/C	-	-	-	-	-	0-20	14
PtNW	home- made	0.0175	-	0.571	-	-	11

PtBP	home-made	0.0186	-	0.538	43	20-40	<sup>2</sup>
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<sup>1</sup>: measured at 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup><sub>geom.</sub>

<sup>2</sup>: “T.S.” stands for “Tafel-slope”. The values are as reported. Quotation marks are used as the majority of the reported “Tafel-slopes” were measured at a  $\eta$  region, i.e., below  $\eta < RT/F$  as indicated in column 7 in the Table.

<sup>3</sup>:  $\eta$  region used by the authors to extract the “Tafel-slope”.

### Table S2. HER data for Pt-Co and Pt-Ni based catalysts measured in 1 M KOH

This Table contains HER data used for Figure 12 in the paper. The majority of the data were extracted from non-steady state measurements.

Catalyst	Loading (mg <sub>Pt</sub> /cm <sup>2</sup> )	$\eta^1$ (mV)	$j_{\text{mass}}^1$ (A/mg <sub>Pt</sub> )	$j_{\text{mass}}^{1,2}$ (A/mg <sub>cat</sub> )	“T.S.” <sup>3</sup> (mV/dec)	$\eta$ region <sup>4</sup> (mV)	Ref.
PtCo-Co/TiM	0.043	28	0.233	-	35	10-50	<sup>13</sup>
PtCo(OH) <sub>2</sub> /CC	0.39	32	0.026	-	70	-	<sup>15</sup>
Pt NW/SL-Ni(OH) <sub>2</sub>	0.016	59	0.625	-	-	-	<sup>11</sup>
Pt NP/SL-Ni(OH) <sub>2</sub>	0.0218	78	0.459	-	-	-	<sup>11</sup>
5Pt/Ni-SP	0.204	32	0.049	-	30	-	<sup>7</sup>

Pt <sub>3</sub> Ni <sub>3</sub> NWs/C-air	0.015	40	0.667	0.512	-	-	12
Pt <sub>3</sub> Ni <sub>3</sub> NWs/C-air <sup>5</sup>	0.015	45	0.667	0.512	-	-	12
Pt <sub>3</sub> Ni <sub>2</sub> - NWs-S/C	0.015	42	0.667	0.512	-	-	16
Pt <sub>3</sub> Ni <sub>2</sub> - NWs-S/C <sup>5</sup>	0.015	42	0.667	0.512	-	-	16
hcp-Pt-Ni alloys	0.00764	65	1.309	-	78	0-70	8
PtNi-O	0.0051	40	1.961	-	79	60-100	<sup>1</sup>
PtNi	0.0051	42	1.961	-	85	50-80	<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>: measured at 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup><sub>geom.</sub>

<sup>2</sup>:  $j_{\text{mass}}$  per total catalyst mass, i.e., A/mg<sub>cat</sub>

<sup>3</sup>: “T.S.” stands for “Tafel-slope”. The values are as reported. Quotation marks are used as the majority of the reported “Tafel-slopes” were measured at a  $\eta$  region, i.e., below  $\eta < RT/F$  as indicated in column 7 in the Table.

<sup>4</sup>:  $\eta$  region used by the authors to extract the “Tafel-slope”.

<sup>5</sup>: 0.1 M instead of 1 M KOH was used.

**Table S3. HER data for Pt/C and Pt-Ni catalysts measured in 1 M KOH and at  $\eta$  of 70 mV**

This Table contains HER data used for Figure 12b in the paper. The majority of the data were extracted from non-steady state measurements.

Catalyst	Supplier	$j_{\text{mass}}$ (A/m <sub>Pt</sub> )	$j_{\text{int}}$ (A/cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>Pt</sub> )	ECSA (m <sup>2</sup> /g <sub>Pt</sub> )	Ref
20 wt.% Pt/C	Alfa-Aesar	52.5	0.28	70.9	<sup>1</sup>
Pt/NW	home-made	40.7	0.46	40.7	<sup>11</sup>
Pt <sub>3</sub> Ni <sub>3</sub> NWS/C-air	home-made	27.6	3	22.8	<sup>12</sup>
Pt <sub>3</sub> Ni <sub>2</sub> -NWS-S/C	home-made	22.8	1.1	27.6	<sup>12</sup>
hcp-Pt-Ni alloys	home-made	27.3	11.1	27.3	<sup>8</sup>
PtNi-O	home-made	49.4	14.8	48.8	<sup>1</sup>
PtNi	home-made	48.8	10.8	49.4	<sup>1</sup>

**Table S4. HER data for Ru-based catalysts measured in 1 M KOH**

This Table contains HER data used for Figure 13 in the paper. The majority of the data were extracted from non-steady state measurements.

Catalyst	Loading (mg <sub>PtGM</sub> /cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	Loading (mg <sub>cat</sub> /cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	$\eta^1$ (mV)	$j_{\text{mass}}^1$ (A/cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>ge</sub> om)	“T.S.” <sup>2</sup> (mV/dec)	$\eta$ region <sup>3</sup> (mV)	Ref.
Pt <sub>1</sub> Ru <sub>1.54</sub> NP/BP	0.0148	-	22	0.676	19	10-20	<sup>2</sup>

20 wt.% PtRu (Fuel Cell Store)	0.01	-	40	0.2	-	-	3
Ru@CN	-	0.273	32	0.037	53	-	17
Ru <sub>2</sub> P	-	0.233	52	0.043	69	-	18
Ru@C <sub>2</sub> N	-	0.285	17	0.035	38	0-50	10
Ru/C-300	-	0.59	14	0.017	33	-	9
Ru-NC-700	-	0.2	12	0.05	14	0-20	5
Co-substituted Ru nano-sheet	-	0.153	13	0.065	29	10-40	19
RuCo@NC	-	0.275	28	0.036	31	-	20
RuCoP	-	0.3	23	0.033	37	6-20	21
RuCo@NC-600	-	0.255	34	0.039	36	20-40	4
Ru <sub>1</sub> Ni <sub>1</sub> -NCNFs	-	0.612	35	0.016	30	-	22
NiRu@N-C	-	0.273	32	0.037	64	-	23
NiRu@MW CNTs	-	0.283	14	0.035	32	0-20	6
R-NiRu	-	-	16		40	0-50	14
Ru/C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> /C	-	0.2	80	0.05	-	-	4

RuNi nano-sheets	0.027	-	15	0.372	28	0-20	<sup>24</sup>
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<sup>1</sup>: measured at 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup><sub>geom.</sub>

<sup>2</sup>: “T.S.” stands for “Tafel-slope”. The values are as reported. Quotation marks are used as the majority of the reported “Tafel-slopes” were measured at a  $\eta$  region, i.e., below  $\eta < RT/F$  as indicated in column 7 in the Table.

<sup>3</sup>:  $\eta$  region used by the authors to extract the “Tafel-slope”.

**Table S5. HER data for other, mainly non-PGM catalysts measured in 1 M KOH**

The majority of the data were extracted from non-steady state measurements.

Catalyst	Loading (mg <sub>cat</sub> /cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom.</sub> )	$\eta^1$ (mV)	$j_{\text{mass}}^1$ (A/cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom.</sub> )	“T.S.” <sup>2</sup> (mV/dec)	Ref.
IrCo@NC-500	0.285	45	0.0351	80	<sup>25</sup>
Co/Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> -nano-sheets	0.85	100	0.0118	44	<sup>26</sup>
CoP films	2.71	94	0.0037	42	<sup>27</sup>
CoP/Carbon Cloth	0.92	250	0.0109	51	<sup>28</sup>
MoC <sub>x</sub>	0.8	151	0.0125	59	<sup>11</sup>
Mo <sub>2</sub> C@NC	0.28	60	0.0357	60	<sup>29</sup>
MoP	0.86	140	0.0116	54	<sup>30</sup>
Mo <sub>2</sub> C NP	0.102	176	0.098	58	<sup>31</sup>



Mo <sub>2</sub> C	1.4	190	0.00714	54	32
Ni <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub> /Ni foam	1.6	223	0.00625	-	33
Ni <sub>5</sub> P <sub>4</sub> pellet	177	49	0.0000566	98	34
Ni <sub>2</sub> P pellet	177	69	0.0000564	118	34
NiO@Ni	2	105	0.005	-	35
np-Ni <sub>3</sub> N	0.16	68	0.0625	32	3

<sup>1</sup>: measured at 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup><sub>geom</sub>.

<sup>2</sup>: “T.S.” stands for “Tafel-slope”. The values are as reported. Quotation marks are used as the majority of the reported “Tafel-slopes” were measured at a  $\eta$  region, i.e., below  $\eta < RT/F$  as indicated in column 7 in the Table.

## 2 TABLES FOR OER ACTIVITY MEASUREMENTS

**Table S6. OER data for Ir-oxide catalysts measured in 1 M KOH**

This Table contains HER data used for Figure 19 in the paper. The majority of the data were extracted from non-steady state measurements.

Catalyst	Supplier	Loading (mg <sub>cat</sub> /cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	$\eta^1$ (V)	$j_{\text{mass}}^1$ (A/cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	“T.S.” <sup>2</sup> (mV/dec)	Ref.
IrO <sub>x</sub> (SA-100)	Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo	0.2	0.281	0.05	51	36
IrO <sub>x</sub>	Proton Onsite	0.01	0.393	1.01	47	37
IrO <sub>2</sub>	-	0.07	0.338	0.143	47	38

IrO <sub>2</sub> <sup>3</sup>	-	-	0.427	-	49	39
IrO <sub>2</sub>	-	-	0.32	-	-	40
IrO <sub>2</sub>	Sigma- Aldrich	0.51	0.378	0.02	98	41
IrO <sub>2</sub>	-	0.32	0.297	0.031	63	42
IrO <sub>2</sub>	Commercial	0.142	0.338	0.07	49	43
IrO <sub>2</sub>	-	0.2	-	0.05	54	44
IrO <sub>2</sub>	Sigma- Aldrich	0.7	0.32	0.014	76	45
IrO <sub>2</sub>	-	0.15	0.256	0.067	70	46
IrO <sub>2</sub> <sup>4</sup>	-	0.204	0.467	0.049	80	47
IrO <sub>2</sub>	Commercial	0.14	0.39	0.071	79	48
IrO <sub>2</sub>	Alfa Aesar	0.2	0.339	0.05	59	49
IrO <sub>2</sub>	Commercial	0.15	0.34	0.067	78	50
IrO <sub>2</sub>	Sigma- Aldrich	1	0.338	0.01	50	51
IrO <sub>2</sub>	Alfa Aesar	2.2	0.219	0.005	89	52
IrO <sub>2</sub>	-	0.14	0.47	0.071	61	53
IrO <sub>2</sub>	-	0.28	0.39	0.036	78	54

<sup>1</sup>: measured at 10 mA/cm<sub>geom</sub><sup>2</sup>.

<sup>2</sup>: “T.S.” stands for “Tafel-slope”. The values are as reported. Quotation marks are used as the majority of the measurements used non-steady state methods for the evaluation.

<sup>3</sup>: 1 M NaOH was used as electrolyte.

<sup>4</sup>: 0.1 M KOH was used as electrolyte.

**Table S7. OER data for NiFe-based catalysts measured in 1 M KOH**

The majority of the data were extracted from non-steady state measurements.

Catalyst	Loading (mg <sub>cat</sub> /cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	$\eta^l$ (V)	$j_{\text{mass}}^{1,2}$ (A/cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	“T.S.” <sup>3</sup> (mV/dec)	Ref.
NiFe/C	0.36	0.22	0.0278	30	55
FeNi/NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> @NC-800	0.131	0.316	0.0763	91	56
FeNi@N-CNT	2	0.3	0.005	48	57
Ni <sub>0.9</sub> Fe <sub>0.1</sub> /NC	2	0.27	0.005	45	58
Fe-Ni nano- particles	0.029	0.311	0.3448	65	59
NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> QDs	0.21	0.262	0.0476	37	60
Ni <sub>2/3</sub> Fe <sub>1/3</sub> -rGO	0.25	0.21	0.04	40	61
Ni <sub>2/3</sub> Fe <sub>1/3</sub> -GO	0.25	0.23	0.04	42	61
Ni <sub>2/3</sub> Fe <sub>1/3</sub> -NS	0.25	0.31	0.04	-	61
Ni <sub>3</sub> FeN-NPs	0.35	0.28	0.0286	46	62
Ni <sub>2</sub> Fe <sub>1</sub> -O	0.15	0.244	0.0667	39	50
Ni-Fe-Se cages	0.1	0.24	0.1	24	63
Glassy Ni <sub>40</sub> Fe <sub>40</sub> P <sub>20</sub>	1	0.27	0.01	35	51

Crystallized Ni <sub>40</sub> Fe <sub>40</sub> P <sub>20</sub>	1	0.288	0.01	41	51
FeNiP-NP	4.12	0.18	0.0024	76	64
n-NiFe LDH /NGF <sup>4</sup>	0.25	0.337	0.04	45	65
FeNi-rGO LDH	0.25	0.206	0.04	39	66
FeNi LDH	0.25	0.232	0.04	48	66
Fe <sub>6</sub> Ni <sub>10</sub> O <sub>x</sub>	0.1	0.286	0.01	48	67
NiFeMn-LDH	0.2	0.262	0.05	47	68
Ni <sub>1</sub> Fe <sub>2</sub> -250	0.17	0.31	0.059	42	69
NiFe LDH/C <sup>4</sup>	0.1	0.36	0.1	51	70
Fe-Ni hydroxide/GM C	0.147	0.32	0.068	57	71
Na <sub>0.08</sub> Ni <sub>0.9</sub> Fe <sub>0.1</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.13	0.26	0.077	44	72
NaNi <sub>0.9</sub> Fe <sub>0.1</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.13	0.29	0.077	44	72
NiFe LDH@ Cu foam	2.2	0.199	0.005	28	46
NiFe-B	0.07	0.347	0.143	67	38
NiFe-NS	0.07	0.302	0.143	40	38
NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	0.8	0.51	0.0125	-	73

NiFe-MoO <sub>x</sub> NS	0.2	0.276	0.05	55	74
NiFeO <sub>x</sub> /CoN <sub>y</sub> -C	0.196	0.31	0.051	60	75
S-NiFe- 700@C	0.286	0.281	0.035	53	76
3D NiFe LDH/Ni foam <sup>d</sup>	1	0.249	0.01	50	77
Ni-Fe/Au	0.14	0.331	0.071	58	53
Ni-Fe/2D- ErGO	0.14	0.278	0.071	42	53
Ni-Fe film <sup>d</sup>	0.027	0.28	0.374	40	78
NiFe- LDH/CNT	0.25	0.247	0.04	31	79
NiFe- LDH/CNT <sup>d</sup>	0.25	0.308	0.04	35	79
NiFe LDH/oGSH <sup>d</sup>	0.25	0.35	0.04	54	80
(Ni-Fe)- LDH/3D- ErGO (8:2)	0.14	0.259	0.071	39	53
Ni <sub>0.9</sub> Fe <sub>0.1</sub> O <sub>x</sub>	0.0012	0.336	8.55	30	39

RGO-Ni-Fe LDH <sup>4</sup>	0.2	0.25	0.05	33	81
NiFeMo	0.28	0.28	0.036	40	82
NiFe	0.28	0.315	0.036	40	82
NiFe/NF <sup>4</sup>	0.032	0.24	0.312	33	83
NiFe/NF	0.032	0.215	0.312	28	83
NiFeO <sub>x</sub> /CFP	1.6	0.23	0.006	32	84
NiFeO <sub>x</sub> /CFP <sup>4</sup>	1.6	0.25	0.006	-	84
NiFe LDH <sup>5</sup>	0.05	0.26	0.2	21	85
24:0-RT NiFe- LDH <sup>4</sup>	0.1	0.27	0.1	34	86
Ni <sub>0.75</sub> Fe <sub>0.25</sub> OO H – GCE	0.21	0.286	0.048	-	87
Ni <sub>0.71</sub> Fe <sub>0.29</sub> (OH) ) <sub>x</sub> <sup>4</sup>	0.317	0.296	0.032	58	88
Ni <sub>0.89</sub> Fe <sub>0.11</sub> (OH) ) <sub>x</sub> <sup>4</sup>	0.402	0.348	0.025	78	88
HPGC@NiFe LDHs	0.285	0.265	0.035	56	89
Ni <sub>0.75</sub> Fe <sub>0.25</sub> HO- np	0.135	0.23	0.074	24	90
NiFe-LDH	0.2	0.247	0.05	37	36

FeNi-rGO hybrids	0.25	0.195	0.04	39	66
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<sup>1</sup>: measured at 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup><sub>geom</sub>.

<sup>2</sup>:  $j_{\text{mass}}$  is per total catalyst mass

<sup>3</sup>: “T.S.” stands for “Tafel-slope”. The values are as reported. Quotation marks are used as the majority of the measurements used non-steady state methods for the evaluation.

<sup>4</sup>: 0.1 M KOH.

<sup>5</sup>: 1 M NaOH.

#### Table S8. OER data for NiCo-based catalysts measured in 1 M KOH

The majority of the data were extracted from non-steady state measurements. The majority of papers do not specify if Fe-free chemicals and electrolytes were used for the synthesis and extraction of OER data.

Catalyst	Loading (mg <sub>cat</sub> /cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	$\eta^1$ (V)	$j_{\text{mass}}^{1,2}$ (A/cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	“T.S.” <sup>3</sup> (mV/dec)	Ref.
NiCo <sub>2.7</sub> (OH) <sub>x</sub>	0.2	0.35	0.05	65	<sup>91</sup>
Ni <sub>2</sub> Co <sub>1</sub> @Ni <sub>2</sub> C o <sub>1</sub> O <sub>x</sub>	0.4	0.32	0.025	-	<sup>92</sup>
NiCoP/rGO	0.15	0.27	0.06667	45	<sup>93</sup>
NiCo diselenide/CC	2.8	0.258	0.00357	42	<sup>94</sup>
NiCo-B	0.07	0.385	0.143	65	<sup>38</sup>
NiCo <sub>2</sub> S <sub>4</sub>	0.07	0.337	0.143	64	<sup>95</sup>

NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	0.07	0.377	0.143	91	95
NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> @C <sup>4</sup>	1	0.267	0.01	63	96
NiCo LDH nano-sheets	0.17	0.367	0.059	53	97
Ni-Co-OH <sup>4</sup>	0.82	0.337	0.0122	40	98
NiCoP/NF	1.6	0.28	0.0062	75	99
Ni <sub>0.7</sub> Co <sub>0.3</sub> /NC	0.1	0.337	0.1	37	100
Ni <sub>0.5</sub> Co <sub>0.5</sub> /NC	0.1	0.3	0.1	>120	100
Ni <sub>0.4</sub> Co <sub>0.6</sub> /NC	0.1	0.328	0.1	>120	100
Ni <sub>0.3</sub> Co <sub>0.7</sub> /NC	0.1	0.342	0.1	>120	100
Ni <sub>0.2</sub> Co <sub>0.8</sub> /NC	0.1	0.349	0.1	>120	100
CoNi hydroxide	0.2	0.324	0.05	-	49
CoNi LDH/CoO nano-sheets	0.265	0.3	0.038	-	101
CoNi LDH/CoO/GO nano-sheet	0.265	0.315	0.038	-	101
NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	0.4	0.36	0.025	55	102
Ni <sub>0.69</sub> Co <sub>0.31</sub> -P	3.5	0.266	0.00286	47	103
NiCoO <sub>2</sub> <sup>4</sup>	0.8	0.39	0.0125	42	73
Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> @Ni	0.83	0.265	0.012	65	104



NiCo-NS	0.07	0.334	0.14286	41	38
Ni <sub>3.5</sub> Co <sub>5.5</sub> S <sub>8</sub>	0.21	0.333	0.04762	49	105
Co <sub>4</sub> Ni <sub>1</sub> P NTs	0.19	0.245	0.05263	61	106

<sup>1</sup>: measured at 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup><sub>geom</sub>.

<sup>2</sup>:  $j_{\text{mass}}$  is per total catalyst mass.

<sup>3</sup>: “T.S.” stands for “Tafel-slope”. The values are as reported. Quotation marks are used as the majority of the measurements used non-steady state methods for the evaluation.

<sup>4</sup>: 1 M NaOH.

#### Table S9. OER data for NiCoFe-based catalysts measured in 1 M KOH

The majority of the data were extracted from non-steady state measurements. The majority of papers do not specify if Fe-free chemicals and electrolytes were used for the synthesis and extraction of OER data.

Catalyst	Loading (mg <sub>cat</sub> /cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	$\eta^1$ (V)	$j_{\text{mass}}^{1,2}$ (A/cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	“T.S.” <sup>3</sup> (mV/dec)	Ref.
FeCoNi-2 CP	1	0.288	0.01	-	107
FeCoNi-2	0.32	0.325	0.031	60	107
NiCoFe LTHs/CFC	0.4	0.239	0.025	32	108
O–NiCoFe– LDH <sup>4</sup>	0.12	0.34	0.083	93	109
FeNi <sub>8</sub> Co <sub>2</sub> LDH	0.25	0.224	0.04	42	110
Co-Ni-Fe511	0.12	0.288	0.083	55	30

Co-Fe-P- 1.7/Ni foam	1	0.244	0.01	-	111
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<sup>1</sup>: measured at 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup><sub>geom.</sub>

<sup>2</sup>:  $j_{\text{mass}}$  is per total catalyst mass.

<sup>3</sup>: “T.S.” stands for “Tafel-slope”. The values are as reported. Quotation marks are used as the majority of the measurements used non-steady state methods for the evaluation.

<sup>4</sup>: 0.1 M KOH.

### Table S10. OER data for Ni-based catalysts measured in 1 M KOH

The majority of the data were extracted from non-steady state measurements. The majority of papers do not specify if Fe-free chemicals and electrolytes were used for the synthesis and extraction of OER data.

Catalyst	Loading (mg <sub>cat</sub> /cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	$\eta^1$ (V)	$j_{\text{mass}}^1$ (A/cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	“T.S.” <sup>2</sup> (mV/dec)	Ref.
Ni(OH) <sub>2</sub> /NF	2.9	0.17	0.0034	>120	112
Ni@NC-800	0.31	0.28	0.032	45	113
Ni <sub>2.7</sub> Zn(OH) <sub>x</sub>	0.05	0.29	0.2	43	114
Ni(OH) <sub>2</sub>	0.14	0.331	0.071	-	115
NiO	0.14	0.364	0.071	-	115
Ni	0.14	0.377	0.071	-	115
NiO	0.2	0.43	0.05	81	116
Ni(OH) <sub>2</sub>	0.2	0.36	0.05	111	116
NiO-(i) <sup>3</sup>	0.8	0.43	0.012	62	52

NiO/Ni-350	0.5	0.345	0.02	53	117
Ni/NC	0.1	0.42	0.1	>120	100

<sup>1</sup>: measured at 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup><sub>geom.</sub>

<sup>2</sup>: “T.S.” stands for “Tafel-slope”. The values are as reported. Quotation marks are used as the majority of the measurements used non-steady state methods for the evaluation.

<sup>3</sup>: 1 M NaOH was used as electrolyte.

### Table S11. OER data for Co-based catalysts measured in 1 M KOH

The majority of the data were extracted from non-steady state measurements. The majority of papers do not specify if Fe-free chemicals and electrolytes were used for the synthesis and extraction of OER data.

Catalyst	Loading (mg <sub>cat</sub> /cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom.</sub> )	$\eta^1$ (V)	$j_{\text{mass}}^{1,2}$ (A/cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom.</sub> )	“T.S.” <sup>3</sup> (mV/dec)	Ref.
NC@CuCo <sub>2</sub> N <sub>x</sub> /CF	2	0.23	0.005	84	44
Cu <sub>0.3</sub> Co <sub>2.7</sub> P/N C	4	0.19	0.025	44	118
Cu <sub>0.5</sub> Co <sub>2.5</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	0.5	0.285	0.02	79	41
CuCo <sub>2</sub> S <sub>4</sub>	0.7	0.31	0.0143	86	45
Cu@CoS <sub>x</sub> /CF	3.9	0.16	0.003	61	119
Co <sub>2</sub> P NW	0.17	0.26	0.059	52	120
CoP NWs	0.17	0.32	0.059	64	120
CoP NS/C	0.71	0.277	0.014	70	121

CoP NR/C	0.71	0.32	0.014	86	121
Sandwich-like CoP/C	0.36	0.33	0.028	53	122
CoP-MNA	6.2	0.29	0.002	65	123
Co <sub>2</sub> P@N, P- PCN/CNTs	0.36	0.28	0.028	72	124
CoP <sub>2</sub> /RGO	0.285	0.3	0.035	96	125
CoPh/NG	2.5	0.262	0.004	54	46
CoPh/NG GC	0.15	0.31	0.067	98	46
CoPs/NG	2.5	0.289	0.004	68	46
CoPh/G	2.5	0.292	0.004	-	46
CoP/TM	2.1	0.31	0.005	87	126
Co-P foam	1.52	0.3	0.007	46	127
Co <sub>2</sub> P/CNT- 900	1	0.292	0.01	68	128
Co <sub>5</sub> Mn- LDH/MWCNT	0.283	0.3	0.035	74	129
Mn-Co oxyphosphide multi-shelled particles	0.25	0.32	0.04	52	130
Mn@CoMnO NPs	0.3	0.246	0.033	46	131

CoMn LDH	0.142	0.324	0.07	43	43
Co <sub>0.5</sub> Mn <sub>0.5</sub> WO <sub>4</sub> <sup>4</sup>	0.2	0.4	0.05	84	47
gelled FeCoW	0.21	0.191	0.048	-	87
Co <sub>6</sub> Mo <sub>6</sub> C <sub>2</sub> /NC RGO	0.14	0.26	0.071	50	48
CoMoS <sub>4</sub> /β- Co(OH) <sub>2</sub>	1	0.342	0.01	105	132
CoS- Co(OH) <sub>2</sub> @Mo S <sub>2+x</sub>	0.2	0.38	0.05	68	133
ZnCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> spindle	0.24	0.389	0.042	60	134
Zn <sub>x</sub> Co <sub>3-x</sub> O <sub>4</sub> - 3:1 RP arrays	1	0.32	0.01	51	135
ZnO- CoO <sub>x</sub> /CPEC	0.45	0.276	0.022	59	136
NG-CoSe <sub>2</sub> <sup>4</sup>	0.2	0.366	0.05	40	137
CoSe <sub>2</sub> /CF	2.9	0.297	0.003	41	138
a-CoSe/Ti	3.8	0.292	0.003	-	139
peapod-like Co(S <sub>0.71</sub> Se <sub>0.29</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	1	0.283	0.01	68	140
Co <sub>2</sub> B/CoSe <sub>2</sub>	0.4	0.32	0.025	56	141

Co <sub>1-x</sub> S/N-S- G <sup>4</sup>	0.5	0.371	0.02	58	142
N-Co <sub>9</sub> S <sub>8</sub> /G <sup>4</sup>	0.2	0.409	0.05	83	143
Co <sub>9</sub> S <sub>8</sub> /CNS/C NT	0.24	0.267	0.042	48	144
Co <sub>9</sub> S <sub>8</sub> /CNS	0.24	0.294	0.042	51	144

<sup>1</sup>: measured at 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup><sub>geom</sub>.

<sup>2</sup>: j<sub>mass</sub> is per total catalyst mass.

<sup>3</sup>: “T.S.” stands for “Tafel-slope”. The values are as reported. Quotation marks are used as the majority of the measurements used non-steady state methods for the evaluation.

<sup>4</sup>: 0.1 M KOH.

### Table S12. OER data for FeCo-based catalysts measured in 1 M KOH

The majority of the data were extracted from non-steady state measurements.

Catalyst	Loading (mg <sub>cat</sub> /cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	η <sup>1</sup> (V)	j <sub>mass</sub> <sup>1</sup> (A/cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	“T.S.” <sup>2</sup> (mV/dec)	Ref.
CoFe LDH-F	0.2	0.3	0.05	40	145
Co-Fe-P-1.7	0.424	0.26	0.024	58	111
CoFePO	2.2	0.274	0.005	52	146
Fe-Co-2.3Ni-B	0.3	0.274	0.033	38	147
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> Co <sub>9</sub> S <sub>8</sub> /rGO-2	0.25	0.32	0.04	55	148

Co <sub>0.7</sub> Fe <sub>0.3</sub> P/CN Ts	0.5	0.243	0.02	36	149
CoFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /C NRAs	1.03	0.24	0.01	45	150
CoFe-LDH <sup>3</sup>	0.204	0.34	0.049	-	151
Co-Fe LDH/rGO <sup>3</sup>	0.204	0.325	0.049	-	151
NiFeMn-LDH	0.2	0.262	0.05	47	68
Fe-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (32/1) <sup>3</sup>	0.12	0.486	0.083	-	152
CoFe <sub>35</sub> LDH <sup>3</sup>	0.25	0.35	0.04	47	153
V-Co-Fe-343	0.28	0.307	0.036	36	154
Fe <sub>0.4</sub> Co <sub>0.6</sub>	1.2	0.283	0.008	34	155
CoFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> - np/PANIMWC NTs	0.285	0.314	0.035	31	156
Co <sub>3</sub> Fe <sub>7</sub> O <sub>x</sub> /NPC -450	0.36	0.328	0.028	31	157
α-Co <sub>4</sub> Fe(OH) <sub>x</sub>	0.28	0.295	0.036	52	54
Fe <sub>0.5</sub> Co <sub>0.5</sub> @NC /NCNS-800	0.306	0.27	0.033	50	158
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /Co(OH) <sub>2</sub> NSs(Co/Fe 15)	0.111	0.39	0.09	-	159

Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /Co(OH) <sub>2</sub> NSs(Co/Fe 15) <sup>3</sup>	0.111	0.37	0.09	61	159
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> -Co <sub>3</sub> S <sub>4</sub> NS	0.672	0.27	0.015	56	160
G-FeCoW - Au foam	0.21	0.191	0.048	-	87
LDH FeCo - Au foam	0.21	0.279	0.048	-	87
G-FeCo - Au foam	0.21	0.215	0.048	-	87
A-FeCoW - Au foam	0.21	0.232	0.048	-	87
LDH FeCo - GCE	0.21	0.331	0.048	-	87
G-FeCo - GCE	0.21	0.277	0.048	-	87
G-FeCoW - GCE	0.21	0.223	0.048	-	87
A-FeCoW - GCE	0.21	0.301	0.048	-	87
Co <sub>0.54</sub> Fe <sub>0.46</sub> OO H <sup>3</sup>	0.2	0.39	0.05	47	161

<sup>1</sup>: measured at 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup><sub>geom.</sub>



<sup>2</sup>: “T.S.” stands for “Tafel-slope”. The values are as reported. Quotation marks are used as the majority of the measurements used non-steady state methods for the evaluation.

<sup>3</sup>: 0.1 M KOH was used as electrolyte.

**Table S13. OER data for Fe-based catalysts measured in 1 M KOH**

The majority of the data were extracted from non-steady state measurements.

Catalyst	Loading (mg <sub>cat</sub> /cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	$\eta^l$ (V)	$j_{\text{mass}}^l$ (A/cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	“T.S.” <sup>2</sup> (mV/dec)	Ref.
Fe <sub>3</sub> C/Fe@NC NTs-NCNFs	0.56	0.284	0.018	56	162
Fe <sub>0.5</sub> V <sub>0.5</sub>	0.143	0.39	0.07	38	163
Fe(TCNQ) <sub>2</sub> /Fe	0.49	0.36	0.02	110	164
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>3</sup>	0.8	1.24	0.01	-	73

<sup>l</sup>: measured at 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup><sub>geom</sub>.

<sup>2</sup>: “T.S.” stands for “Tafel-slope”. The values are as reported. Quotation marks are used as the majority of the measurements used non-steady state methods for the evaluation.

<sup>3</sup>: 1 M NaOH was used as electrolyte.

**Table S14. OER data for NiP-based catalysts measured in 1 M KOH**

The majority of the data were extracted from non-steady state measurements. The majority of papers do not specify if Fe-free chemicals and electrolytes were used for the synthesis and extraction of OER data.

Catalyst	Loading (mg <sub>cat</sub> /cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	$\eta^1$ (V)	$j_{\text{mass}}^1$ (A/cm <sup>2</sup> <sub>geom</sub> )	“T.S.” <sup>2</sup> (mV/dec)	Ref.
Ni-P/NF	3.2	0.309	0.003	58	165
Ni <sub>2</sub> P	0.14	0.29	0.071	47	115
Ni-P	0.2	0.3	0.05	77	116
C@Ni <sub>8</sub> P <sub>3</sub>	1.9	0.267	0.005	51	166
Ni <sub>x</sub> P <sub>y</sub> -325	0.15	0.32	0.067	107	167
Ni <sub>12</sub> P <sub>5</sub> /NF	3	0.24	0.003	106	168
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/NF	3	0.26	0.003	112	168
Ni <sub>12</sub> P <sub>5</sub> /NF	1	0.295	0.01	-	168
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/NF	1	0.33	0.01	-	168
CP@Ni-P	25.8	0.19	0.0004	73	169
MoS <sub>2</sub> /Ni <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub> Heterostructures	9.7	0.218	0.001	83	170
Ni <sub>2</sub> P@NF-6	5.6	0.142	0.002	109	171
NiCuP	6.7	0.292	0.001	49	172

<sup>1</sup>: measured at 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup><sub>geom</sub>.

<sup>2</sup>: “T.S.” stands for “Tafel-slope”. The values are as reported. Quotation marks are used as the majority of the measurements used non-steady state methods for the evaluation.

Tables 2, 3, 5, 7-14 contain some information provided by Kibgsaard et al.<sup>173</sup> Additional metrics and various catalysts are added in this publication.

### 3 PROTOCOLS TO EVALUATE HER AND OER CATALYSTS

As discussed throughout the review paper, consistent catalytic activity and stability measurements for HER and OER electro-catalysts at conditions mimicking AEMWE operation are needed. Therefore, in the following sections recommendations for measurement procedures are made.

The need for accurate HER and OER catalysts measurements has already been discussed throughout the catalyst section in the review paper. As discussed, steady-state measurements need to be carried out to measure mass activities, intrinsic activities and Tafel-slopes in valid  $\eta$  regions. The measurement of the HER characteristics is more challenging than for the OER as the HER and its corresponding back reaction, namely the oxidation of adsorbed hydrogen (the HOR) are fast electrochemical reactions and the reaction can be kinetically controlled. The end goal of the measurements should be a plot showing the steady-state data as a Tafel plot, i.e.,  $\eta$  vs. the logarithm of the current density and a Table showing metrics relevant to the HER and OER as suggested in the following Table S15.

**Table S15. Template suggesting a format to report HER and OER catalyst metrics<sup>1</sup>**

Catalyst	Catalyst loading <sup>2</sup> ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$ )	$\eta$ at 10 mA/ $\text{cm}^2_{\text{geom}}$ (mV)	$j_{\text{mass}}$ at $\eta = 70$ mV	$j_{\text{int}}$ at $\eta = 70$ mV	Tafel slope <sup>3</sup> (mV/dec)	ECSA <sup>4</sup> / $\text{m}^2$ $\text{g}^{-1}$
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“Catalyst of interest”	....	....	....	....	....	....
“Commercial baseline catalyst” <sup>5</sup>	....	....	....	....	....	....

<sup>1</sup>: The electrolyte solution needs to be given as well as the temperature used for the measurements.

<sup>2</sup>: The catalyst loading needs to be listed. Ideally, the wt.% of the active component of the catalyst, which typically is a metal is measured.

<sup>3</sup>: The Tafel plots need to be extracted in a  $\eta$  region exceeding  $RT/F$ , i.e.,  $> 50$  mV. Some catalysts show more than one Tafel slope. In this case, both slopes and the corresponding  $\eta$  regions need to be published.

<sup>4</sup>: ESCA is the electrochemical surface area. It is not possible to determine the ECSA accurately for every catalysts but trends can be established. The method used to determine or approximate the ECSA value needs to be stated.

<sup>5</sup>: The same data (as for the catalyst of interest) need to be measured and reported for at least one baseline catalyst from a commercial supplier. The supplier of the baseline catalyst needs to be stated. In case of the HER, a commercial Pt/C catalysts (20 or 40 wt.% Pt/C, C being Vulcan XC-72 or Ketjenblack) is recommended. In case of the OER, a commercial unsupported  $\text{IrO}_x$  powder catalyst is recommended.

In addition to reporting the electrochemical characteristics, a full physical characterisation of in-house developed as well as commercial baseline catalysts is needed

using methods as XRD, SEM, TEM and XPS. The study by Mahmood et al., is a good example demonstrating an appropriate variety of physical and analytical characterisation techniques.<sup>10</sup>

### 3.1 Electrode Preparation

In case of catalyst powders, a catalyst ink, from which an aliquot is pipetted onto a flat and inert electrode surface, is typically formed and left to dry on air and room temperature. Afterwards, a thin layer of a (in water or in lower alcohols soluble) ionomer is deposited onto the catalyst layer. Again, this is done by pipetting a small volume of a very dilute ionomer solution across the entire catalyst layer surface. This ionomer layer serves the purpose of holding the catalyst on the electrode surface, i.e., acting as a glue during the electrochemical measurements. Often, a solution of approx. 0.025 wt.% Nafion in H<sub>2</sub>O is used and typically 5-10  $\mu$ Ls are pipetted onto e.g., a 0.196 cm<sup>2</sup><sub>geom</sub> (0.25 mm diameter) circular electrode surface area of a rotating disc electrode (RDE). Reports exist (specifically in the case of the HER) of ionomers altering the catalyst activity (see section 6 in the review paper) hence, the ionomer is not added to the ink and very dilute ionomer solution are used to minimise any possible interactions. In case of doubt, catalytic activity results can be compared to results obtained from electrodes made using different ionomers, e.g., without sulfonic acid or phenolic groups or using different amounts of ionomers. It is of high importance that a thin ionomer (glue) layer is applied on top of the thin catalyst layer to ensure rapid product and reactant flow from and to the catalyst sites. This has been extensively discussed for the evaluation of the O<sub>2</sub> reduction reaction (ORR), which is mass

transport controlled.<sup>174</sup> Mass-transport limitations are of lower concern for the OER in thin layer electrodes, however, the guidelines established for the ORR should be followed.

The catalyst needs to be uniformly distributed on an inert electrode surface of known area. RDEs are well suited as electrodes for thin layer measurements as they have smooth and defined surface areas. In case, of the HER measurements, rotating the electrodes is also needed to rule out mass transport limitations. For the HER, glassy carbon electrodes and for the OER, gold or even glassy carbon and smooth nickel electrodes can be used. It needs to be kept in mind that these electrodes can exhibit HER and OER activities. Therefore, establishing the background catalytic activities (i.e., HER or OER currents) of the electrode substrates is essential prior to any activity measurement. The catalyst loading (measured in  $\text{mg}/\text{cm}^2_{\text{geom}}$ ) influences the activity, although not in a uniform manner. Therefore, measurements of the activity at different catalyst loadings are needed to ensure that a catalyst loading range, which yields a constant mass activity as explained by Anantharaj et al.<sup>175</sup> is used. For example, catalyst loadings in the range of 5 to 15  $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2_{\text{geom}}$  are typical for very active OER catalysts. The amount of the active component in the catalyst, specifically for supported catalysts, needs to be identified.

For accurate measurements, a real ink needs to be formed, which can be challenging. A known amount of catalyst, which depends on the activity of the catalyst, is weight into water or a lower alcohol-based solution of known volume and sonicated for 30 to 60 min. Catalysts can also be directly formed on the electrode. Again, in order to determine the catalyst activity, the catalyst loading and the ECSA need to be known for the determination of the mass and the intrinsic activities, respectively.

### 3.2 Electrolyte

Most commonly 1 M KOH is used as electrolyte for thin layer catalyst activity measurements. Some reports exist for NaOH or 0.1 M KOH electrolytes, however for consistency, it is recommended to carry out the measurements in 1 M KOH. If another electrolyte is of interest as feed for single cell AEMWE measurements, it is recommended to carry out activity measurements in 1 M KOH as well as in the other electrolyte for the catalysts of interest as well as the baseline catalyst. The alkali electrolyte cannot be stored in glass. In case, of Fe-free measurements, high purity KOH needs to be used. Fe can be removed from KOH using either a chemical or an electrochemical method.<sup>176,177</sup>

### 3.3 Counter and Reference Electrodes

High surface area counter electrodes need to be used in order to avoid dissolution of the counter electrode and avoid erroneous capacitive contribution. In case of the HER, a high surface area electrode such as a carbon rod is recommended. Pt cannot be used for the HER, as it has a high HER activity and dissolves upon potential cycling into the Pt-oxide formation region. This can lead to deposition of Pt onto the working electrode, i.e., onto the catalyst of interest, thus resulting in erroneous HER activity measurements.

A Hg/HgO or reversible hydrogen electrode (RHE) needs to be used for the measurements in alkaline electrolytes. The reference electrode needs to be calibrated before and after each experiment. Reference electrodes such as Ag/AgCl combinations are not suitable as the AgCl is transformed into silver-hydroxide in alkaline solutions. The reference electrode will need to be placed close to the working electrode surface to reduce the IR-drop, however a distance of two times the diameter of the reference electrode needs

to be maintained to ensure uniform potential and current distribution. Ideally, a Luggin capillary is used and can be made out of e.g., Teflon tubing. The IR drop should be less than a few mV, otherwise an IR drop correction need to be applied.

### 3.4 Activity Measurements

The electrochemical steps recommended for the performance assessment are as follows: Carbonates are removed by N<sub>2</sub> or Argon bubbling through the alkaline electrolyte in order to prevent a drop in the pH. The HER, is carried out in saturated H<sub>2</sub> electrolyte, while the OER is carried out in a saturated O<sub>2</sub> electrolyte at a constant temperature such as 20 °C. Carrying out CVs at least before and after the Tafel slope measurements is strongly recommended to allow comparison between different electrodes and understand if the catalyst is altered and/or physically detached during the measurements. Removal of H<sub>2</sub> or O<sub>2</sub> gas bubbles from the electrode surface is needed to ensure that the electrode surface is not blocked. Some research group rotate the RDE with the purpose to remove gas bubbles. However, rotating a horizontal surface has the opposite effect and gas bubbles will be pulled to the center of the electrode.

Steady-state Tafel plots can be obtained by gradually stepping the working electrode potential in 10 or 25 mV steps and measuring the current after a 5 min. period. Repeats of the current measurements on the same electrode need to be included to ensure that the catalyst is not altered during the experiment. At least three electrodes need to be measured. The procedures of measuring HER and OER activities in this manner are described in the literature by e.g., Lyons et al.<sup>178</sup>



## 4 PROTOCOL TO EVALUATE HER AND OER CATALYST STABILITY

A few protocols to measure HER and OER catalysts stability have been suggested with the goal to increase the accuracy of the measurements. Many stability measurements are solely based on electrochemical experiments.<sup>179</sup> Electrochemical stability measurements should last at least a few (10-24) h, but run for several hundreds of hours for catalysts of high interest. Measurements over longer periods allow to probe the catalyst stability when the catalyst has reached a thermodynamically stable state under relevant conditions. Care needs to be taken in selecting the substrate on which the catalyst is deposited and studied. A substrate needs to be stable under the conditions of interest and not display significant catalytic activity for the reaction of interest. A common substrate for HER studies outside of an AEMWE cell (e.g., using an H-cell) is glassy carbon, while gold, fluorine-doped tin-oxides and sometimes also glassy carbon is used as substrate for the OER. Nickel metal could be a substrate for OER catalyst stability studies. It needs to be remembered that nickel on its own has some OER activity, which could be enhanced during the stability study by Fe incorporation and/or possible surface alterations.

### 4.1 Stability Measurements

CVs should be performed before and after the stability tests. OER and HER stability measurements can be performed at 1.6 V and at -0.1 V vs. RHE, respectively. However, measurements at additional potentials and the addition of cycling the potential within a narrow region also provide meaningful information (see Tables S16 and S17) and<sup>73,180</sup>. Measurements at a constant potential (chrono-amperometric) provide thermodynamic control, while potential cycling experiments reflect changing conditions and fluctuations,

which can occur in a CL during AEMWE operation. In addition, experiments from a specific  $\eta$  value to open-circuit conditions (transient experiments) are also recommended to mimic start-up and shut-down operation (Table S18). The bare electrode substrate should also be tested using the same experimental conditions to establish the baseline. The stability measurements need to be carried out at constant temperature conditions. Higher temperatures such as 60-80 °C can be a benefit as it could reflect accelerated tests and also real operating conditions but the stability of other components such as the ionomer needs to be considered.

**Table S16. Suggested testing conditions and template for reporting catalyst stability measurements by chrono-amperometry**

<b>E at <math>\eta</math> / V</b>	<b>Activity initial (A/mg<sub>cat</sub>)</b>	<b>Activity final (A/mg<sub>cat</sub>)</b>	<b>Activity changes (%)</b>	<b>ECSA initial (m<sup>2</sup>/g<sub>cat</sub>)</b>	<b>ECSA final (m<sup>2</sup>/g<sub>cat</sub>)</b>	<b>ECSA changes (%)</b>
0.1	....	....	....	....	....	....
0.2	....	....	....	....	....	....
0.3	....	....	....	....	....	....
0.5	....	....	....	....	....	....
0.7	....	....	....	....	....	....

**Table S17. Suggested testing conditions and template for reporting catalyst stability measurements by potential cycling within a small voltage range**

<b>Potential cycle<sup>1</sup> (V)</b>	<b>Activity initial (A/mg<sub>cat</sub>)</b>	<b>Activity final (A/mg<sub>cat</sub>)</b>	<b>Activity changes (%)</b>	<b>ECSA initial (m<sup>2</sup>/g<sub>cat</sub>)</b>	<b>ECSA final (m<sup>2</sup>/g<sub>cat</sub>)</b>	<b>ECSA changes (%)</b>
0.1-0.2	....	....	....	....	....	....
0.1-0.3	....	....	....	....	....	....
0.1-0.4	....	....	....	....	....	....
0.1-0.5	....	....	....	....	....	....
0.1-0.7	....	....	....	....	....	....

<sup>1</sup>: The values in column 1 are given as  $\eta$ .

**Table S18. Suggested testing conditions and template for reporting catalyst stability measurements mimicking start-up an shut-down conditions: Transient cycling**

<b>Transient cycle<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Activity initial (A/mg<sub>cat</sub>)</b>	<b>Activity final (A/mg<sub>cat</sub>)</b>	<b>Activity changes (%)</b>	<b>ECSA initial (m<sup>2</sup>/g<sub>cat</sub>)</b>	<b>ECSA final (m<sup>2</sup>/g<sub>cat</sub>)</b>	<b>ECSA changes (%)</b>
1	....	....	....	....	....	....
2	....	....	....	....	....	....
N <sub>th</sub> <sup>2</sup>	....	....	....	....	....	....

<sup>1</sup>: A transient cycle consist of a potential step and holding at a defined  $\eta$  value of e.g., 0.1, 0.2 or 0.3 V followed by exposure for a defined period of time to open-circuit conditions.

Between 10 to a 100 transient cycles are recommended.

<sup>2</sup>: N<sub>th</sub> equals the transient cycle number.

The electrochemical stability measurements need to be coupled with an analytical technique such as ICP-MS/OES to quantify metal ion dissolution during the course and/or at end of the stability test. Calibration for the ICP-MS/OES is needed. KOH electrolyte samples require acidification using HNO<sub>3</sub> prior to the ICP-MS/OES measurement to ensure that metal ions in the electrolyte are completely dissolved. The catalysts need be thoroughly characterized before and after the stability measurements, as also suggested in section 3 above. Details for the selection of counter and reference electrodes are also given in section 3 above.

## 5 ECSA MEASUREMENTS FOR HER/OER ACTIVITY REPORTING

As mentioned throughout the catalysts section of the review paper consistent measurements of HER and OER activities that allow comparison and validation among studies are needed. Intrinsic activities are important to understand a catalyst, thus the knowledge of the ECSA of a catalyst is crucial. Unfortunately, reliable ECSA methods for many of the catalysts discussed in the review paper are not available. Therefore, the ECSA methods and its challenges are briefly discussed below.

For Pt and Pt-based catalyst, the ECSA can be determined from the H<sub>ads/des</sub> charge as described in the literature.<sup>181</sup> For polycrystalline Pt, the H<sub>ads/des</sub> charge is converted to the Pt surface area using a conversion factor of 210 C/cm<sup>2</sup><sub>Pt</sub>.<sup>181</sup>

In case of catalyst sites in the metallic state, CO<sub>ads</sub> stripping voltammetry can also be used. CO does not adsorb as a monolayer on catalyst sites present in the oxide form and similarly the under potential deposition (upd) method of metals like the Cu<sub>upd</sub> is specific to catalyst in the metallic state.<sup>181</sup>

Other electrochemical methods have been used to estimate ECSA values such as  $C_{dl}$  measurements and charges observed for the oxidation and/or reduction of the catalyst sites. These methods can be of value to establish trends but they often do not yield accurate ECSA values.<sup>182</sup>

Some researchers have applied different methods to extract ECSA values and for some catalysts similar ECSA values extracted from different methods have been reported. An example is a study for Ru nano-particle catalysts embedded in a functionalised carbon matrix (as already mentioned in section 3.2 in the review paper), where the agreement between the  $H_{ads/des}$ ,  $CO_{ads}$  and  $Cu_{upd}$  methods allowed the extraction of the number of metallic Ru sites in the catalyst.<sup>10</sup> Anderson et al. also used such methods to obtain estimates of ECSA values for powder catalysts by extrapolating from ECSA values determined for the corresponding bulk metal electrodes.<sup>180</sup>

In summary, accurate ECSA values and therefore, also accurate intrinsic catalytic activities can be extracted for some catalysts, while for a large number of catalysts only trends can be determined.

## 6 SUMMARY OF AEMS EVALUATED IN AEMWE SINGLE CELLS

**Table S19. Summary of the various developed to date AEMs with their performances in AEMWE single cells**

Backbone	Ref	Membrane Electrode Assembly				AEMWE Cell Performance				
		Membrane	Anode Catalyst loading mg/cm <sup>2</sup>	Cathode Catalyst loading mg/cm <sup>2</sup>	Ionomer	Voltage (V)	Current density (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> )	T (°C)	Electrolyte	Time (h)
<b>Polyphenylene based AEMs</b>										
Polyphenylene	183	ATM-PP	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 3	Pt black, 3	F-PAE	2.2-2.5	200	50	H <sub>2</sub> O	2000
	184	Quaternized PP	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 0.6	Pt Ru/C, 0.3	BPN	1.8	150	80	H <sub>2</sub> O	-
	185	HTMA-DAPP	Ni-Fe, 3	Pt-Ru/C, 2	TMA-70 or TMA-53	1.8	2700	85	H <sub>2</sub> O	-
		HTMA-DAPP	Ni-Fe, 3	Pt-Ru/C, 2	TMA-70	~1.6-2.5	200	60	H <sub>2</sub> O	14
		HTMA-DAPP	Ni-Fe, 3	Pt-Ru/C, 2	TMA-53	~1.75-2.1	200	60	H <sub>2</sub> O	170
	186	HTMA-DAPP	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 0.75	Pt-Ru/C, 0.36	HTMA-DAPP	2.0	400	60	H <sub>2</sub> O	-
	187	HTMA-DAPP	Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 3	Pt/C, 3	Aemion	1.9-2.1	500	50	1 wt.% K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	750
	188	PTP-90	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2.5	Pt/C, 0.5	-	2.2	1000	75	1 M NaOH	-
		PTP-90	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2.5	Pt/C, 0.5	-	2.13-2.28	400	55	1 M NaOH	120
	189	BPN1-100	PGM, 2	PGM, 2	AS-4	2.0-2.13	200	50	H <sub>2</sub> O	6
		TPN1-100	PGM, 2	PGM, 2	AS-4	2.15-2.21	200	50	H <sub>2</sub> O	6
190	PAP-TP-85	Fe <sub>x</sub> Ni <sub>y</sub> OOH-20F, 4.8	Pt/C, 0.94	PAP-TP-85 and PAP-TP-85 MQN	1.74	1500	80	1 M KOH	-	

		PAP-TP-85	Fe <sub>x</sub> Ni <sub>y</sub> OOH-20F, 4.8	Pt/C, 0.94	PAP-TP-85 and PAP-TP-85 MQN	1.8	1020	90	H <sub>2</sub> O	-
		PAP-TP-85	Fe <sub>x</sub> Ni <sub>y</sub> OOH-20F, 4.8	Pt/C, 0.94	PAP-TP-85 and PAP-TP-85 MQN	1.62-1.68	200	80	H <sub>2</sub> O	>160
		PAP-TP-85	Fe <sub>x</sub> Ni <sub>y</sub> OOH-20F, 4.8	Pt/C, 0.94	PAP-TP-85 and PAP-TP-85 MQN	1.71-1.81	500	80	H <sub>2</sub> O	70
<b>Polyfluorene</b>	<sup>191</sup>	PFTP-13	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2	Pt/C, 0.5	PFTP-8/PFBP-14	2.0	7680	80	1 M KOH	-
		PFTP-13	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2	Pt/C, 0.5	PFTP-8/PFBP-14	~2.1	500	60	1 M KOH	~1100
		PFTP-8	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2	Pt/C, 0.5	PFTP-8/PFBP-14	2.0	4880	80	1 M KOH	-
		x-PFTP	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2	Pt/C, 0.5	PFTP-8/PFBP-14	2.0	3600	80	1 M KOH	-
		PFTP-13	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2	Pt/C, 0.5	PFTP-8/PFBP-14	2.0	1800	80	H <sub>2</sub> O	-
		PFTP-13	Ni-Fe, 20	Ni-Fe, 20	-	2.0	1600	80	1 M KOH	-
		PFTP-13	Ni-Fe, 20	Ni-Fe, 20	-	~1.5	500	60	1 M KOH	~1000
<b>Poly arylene ether based AEMs</b>										
<b>Polyarylene ether</b>	<sup>192</sup>	PPO-TMA <sup>+</sup> OH <sup>-</sup>	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2.5	Pt black, 2.5	PPO-TMA <sup>+</sup> OH <sup>-</sup>	1.6-1.7	100	50	H <sub>2</sub> O	5
		PPO-ABCO <sup>+</sup> OH <sup>-</sup>	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2.5	Pt black, 2.5	PPO-ABCO <sup>+</sup> OH <sup>-</sup>	1.8-2.0	100	50	H <sub>2</sub> O	5
	<sup>193</sup>	PPO24-BIM	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 3	Pt/C, 1.5	PTFE	1.8	300	50	0.5 M KOH	900 cycles
	<sup>194</sup>	qPPO-TMA	NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 8	Pt/C,0.3	qPPO	2.0	1000	70	10 wt.% KOH	-

		qPPO-TMA	NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 8	Pt/C,0.3	qPPO	1.79-1.84	300	50		400
	195	LSCPi	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 8	Pt/C, 0.4	PTFE	1.8	300	50	H <sub>2</sub> O	-
		LSCPi	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 8	Pt/C, 0.4	PTFE	1.74-2.3	200	50	H <sub>2</sub> O	35
<b>Poly arylene ether ketone</b>	196	PAEK-APMP	Ni foam, -	Ni foam,-	-	2.0	~25	60	10 wt.% KOH	-
<b>Poly sulfone</b>	197	xQAPs	Ni-Fe, -	Ni-Mo, 40	xQAPS	1.8-1.85	400	70	H <sub>2</sub> O	8
	198	PSf-DABCO	NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 5	NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 1.5	PTFE	2.0	180	50	10 wt.% KOH	-
	199	PSF-TMA <sup>+</sup> OH <sup>-</sup>	Pb <sub>2</sub> Ru <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6.5</sub> , 2.5	Pt black, 2.5	PSF-TMA <sup>+</sup> OH <sup>-</sup>	1.8	400	50	H <sub>2</sub> O	-
		PSF-TMA <sup>+</sup> OH <sup>-</sup>	Pb <sub>2</sub> Ru <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6.5</sub> , 2.5	Pt black, 2.5	PSF-TMA <sup>+</sup> OH <sup>-</sup>	1.51-2.33	200	50	H <sub>2</sub> O	6
<b>Polybenzimidazole based AEMs</b>										
200		p-PBI	Ti <sub>n</sub> O <sub>2n</sub> -1-supported nano Pt, 0.2	Ti <sub>n</sub> O <sub>2n</sub> -1-supported nano Pt, 0.2	-	2.0	100	80	H <sub>2</sub> O	-
201		linear, crosslinked, and thermal cured PBI	Ni, -	Ni, -	-	2.0	100 -210	80	30 wt.% KOH	-
202		linear, crosslinked, and thermal cured PBI	Ni, -	Ni, -	-	1.8	<100	80	30 wt.% KOH	-
		C-ABPBI	Ni Foam, -	Ni Foam, -	-	2.0	335	70	3 M KOH	-



203										
	C-ABPBI	Ni Foam, -	Ni Foam, -	-	2.0	180	50	1.9 M KOH	-	
	L-ABPBI	Ni Foam, -	Ni Foam, -	-	2.0	280	70	3 M KOH	-	
	L-ABPBI	Ni Foam, -	Ni Foam, -	-	2.0	155	50	1.9 M KOH	-	
204	PBI based AEM	Ni-Fe-O <sub>x</sub> , 5	Ni-Fe-Co, 5	Sustainion® XB-7	2.09- 2.08	1000	60	1 M KOH	100	
	PBI based AEM	Ni-Fe-O <sub>x</sub> , 5	Ni-Fe-Co, 5	Sustainion® XB-7	1.89- 1.88	600	60	1 M KOH	100	
205	m-PBI	NiAl, -	NiAlMo, -	-	1.8	1700	80	24 wt.% KOH	-	
206	HMT-PMBI	NiAlMo, 42.7	NiAlMo, 42.7	-	2.086	2000	60	1 M KOH	-	
	HMT-PMBI	NiAl, 47.9	NiAlMo, 42.7	-	2.1	1000	60	1 M KOH	154	
207	HMT-PMBI	Pt, 0.5	Pt, 0.5	HMT-PMBI (Cl <sup>-</sup> )	2.2-2.5	25	60	1 M KOH	195 (+50 h conditioning)	
208	m-PBI	Ni Foam, -	Ni Foam, -	-	2.4	1500	80	20 wt.% KOH	-	
209	Mes-PBI	None noble metals, -	None noble metals, -	-	2.0	200	80	25 wt.% KOH	~80	
<b>Polyolefin-based AEMs</b>										
<b>Polyethylene</b>	<sup>210</sup>	LDPE-g-VBC- DABCO	Proprietary non PGM, ACTA SpA catalyst	Proprietary non PGM, ACTA SpA catalyst	AS4	2.08- 2.25	460	45	1 wt.% K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	500
	<sup>211</sup>	Aminated poly (LDPE-co-VBC)	Cu <sub>x</sub> Mn <sub>0.9-x</sub> Co <sub>2</sub> .1O <sub>4</sub> , 3	Pt/C, 1	Develop- mental ionomer	1.82	100	40	1 M KOH	-

	212	LDPE-g-VBC-TMA	NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 10	Pt/C, 0.4	PSEBS-CM-TMA	1.65	100	60	0.1 M KOH	-
		LDPE-g-VBC-TMA	NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 10	Pt/C, 0.4	PSEBS-CM-TMA	1.72	100	20	1 M NaOH	-
Polystyrene	213	PSEBS-CM-TMA/PTFE	NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 8	Pt/C, 0.3	PSEBS-CM-TMA or PTFE	1.76 - 1.84	300	50	10 wt.% KOH	800
	214	SEBS-Pi	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2	Pt/C, 2	CMSEBS	2.08	400	50	5.6 wt.% KOH	105
	215	PSEBS-CM-DABCO	NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 10	NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 10	PSEBS-CM-DABCO	2.0	120	40	10 wt.% KOH	-
		PSEBS-CM-DABCO	NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 10	NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 10	PSEBS-CM-DABCO	2.26	300	50	10 wt.% KOH	160
		PSEBS-CM-DABCO	NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 10	NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 10	PSEBS-CM-DABCO	2.0	150	40	15 wt.% KOH	-
	216	poly (ST-co-VBC)	Ni, -	Ni, -	-	2.5	100	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	~ 1.3
	187	SES-TMA, 53 μm	Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 3	Pt/C, 3	Aemeon	1.9-2.0	500	50	1 wt.% K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	~ 500
217	mm-qPVBz/Cl <sup>-</sup>	Cu <sub>0.7</sub> CO <sub>2.3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 3	Nano Ni, 2	QPVB/Cl <sup>-</sup>	1.99	100	55	H <sub>2</sub> O	-	
Polytetrafluoroethylene	218	Cranfield-membrane	Cu <sub>0.7</sub> CO <sub>2.3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 3	Nano Ni, 2	QPDTB	1.9	100	22	H <sub>2</sub> O	-
		Cranfield-membrane	Cu <sub>0.7</sub> CO <sub>2.3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 3	Nano Ni, 2	QPDTB	1.8	50	20-30	H <sub>2</sub> O	~5
	219	Cranfield-membrane	Li <sub>0.21</sub> CO <sub>2.79</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 2.5	Nano Ni, 2	QPDTB-OH <sup>-</sup>	2.05	300	45	H <sub>2</sub> O	-
	Cranfield-membrane	Li <sub>0.21</sub> CO <sub>2.79</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 2.5	Nano Ni, 2	QPDTB-OH <sup>-</sup>	2.15	300	30	H <sub>2</sub> O	10	

Polycarbazole	220	QPC-TMA	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2	Pt/C, 0.4	QPC-TMA	1.9	3500	70	1 M KOH	-
		QPC-TMA	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2	Pt/C, 0.4	QPC-TMA	1.6	780	70	1 M KOH	<3
<b>Composite AEMs</b>										
	221	PBI /FAA-3 – 20% PF-41	IrO <sub>2</sub> 3.5	Pt/C, 1.5	PTFE	2.0	200	60	20 wt.% KOH	100
	222	C-PVA-ABPBI 4:1	Ni foam, -	Ni foam, -	-	2.0	450	50	15 wt.% KOH	-
			Ni foam, -	Ni foam, -	-	~2.10	200	50	15 wt.% KOH	1
			Ni foam, -	Ni foam, -	-	2.0	900	70	15 wt.% KOH	-
			Ni foam, -	Ni foam, -	-	~1.95	200	70	15 wt.% KOH	1
		L-PVA-ABPBI 4:1	Ni foam, -	Ni foam, -	-	2.0	220	50	15 wt.% KOH	-
			Ni foam, -	Ni foam, -	-	~2.55	200	50	15 wt.% KOH	1
			Ni foam, -	Ni foam, -	-	2.0	290	70	15 wt.% KOH	-
			Ni foam, -	Ni foam, -	-	~2.25	200	70	15 wt.% KOH	1
	L-PVA-PBI 4:1	Ni foam, -	Ni foam, -	-	2.0	180	50	15 wt.% KOH	-	

		Ni foam, -	Ni foam, -	-	~2.3	200	50	15 wt.% KOH	1
		Ni foam, -	Ni foam, -	-	2.0	430	70	15 wt.% KOH	-
		Ni foam, -	Ni foam, -	-	~2.15	200	70	15 wt.% KOH	1
223	Dowex Marathon A+ LDPE blend and press-molded between poly(ethylene terephthalate) films	NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 8	Pt/C, 0.3	qPPO	1.70-1.75	300	70	1 M KOH	100
		NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 8	Pt/C, 0.3	qPPO	1.97-2.0	300	70	0.5 M Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	100
		NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 8	Pt/C, 0.3	qPPO	~1.8	300	50	1.95 M KOH	100h
224	PTFE/QPDTB	Cu <sub>0.6</sub> Mn <sub>0.3</sub> Co <sub>2.1</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 3	Pt/C, 0.1	qPDTB-OH <sup>-</sup>	1.61-1.75	100	22	H <sub>2</sub> O	175
225	PISPVA46	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2.01	Pt/C, 0.5	Nafion EW1100	2.0	547.7	60	0.5 M KOH	-
	PISPVA46	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2.01	Pt/C, 0.5	Nafion EW1100	1.8	354.1-224	60	0.5 M KOH	80
226	120 μm PSU/PVP(25:75)	Ni foam, -	Proprietary cathode, -	-	2.0	500	80	20 wt.% KOH	700
227	PFSA/PVP	Ni, -	Ni, -	-	2.0	~100	80	30 wt. % KOH	-
228	LDPE-PEG-PPG-ANEX	NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 10	Ni, -	MEA-qPPO	1.85	135	50	10 wt. % KOH	-
	LDPE-PEG-PPG-ANEX	NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 10	Ni, -	PTFE	2.02-2.05	225	50	10 wt. % KOH	135
<b>Commercial AEM</b>									
229	A-201 Tokuyama	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2.9	Pt black, 3.2	As-4	1.8	399	50	1 M KOH	-
		IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2.6	Pt black, 2.4	A-Radel	2.0-2.15	200	50	H <sub>2</sub> O	>535

230	A-201 Tokuyama	CuCoO <sub>x</sub> (Acta 3030), 36	Ni/(CeO <sub>2</sub> -La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )/C (Acta 4030), 7.4	PTFE	1.75	470	43	1 M KOH	-
	A-201 Tokuyama	CuCoO <sub>x</sub> (Acta 3030), 36	Ni/(CeO <sub>2</sub> -La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )/C (Acta 4030), 7.4	PTFE	1.93	470	43	1 wt.% K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> /KH CO <sub>3</sub>	1000
	A-201 Tokuyama	CuCoO <sub>x</sub> (Acta 3030), 36	Ni/(CeO <sub>2</sub> -La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )/C (Acta 4030), 7.4	PTFE	1.85	470	43	1 wt.% K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	1000
231	A-201 Tokuyama	Ni/CP, 0.017	Ni/CP, 0.017	-	1.9	150	50	1 M KOH	-
232	A-201 Tokuyama	IrO <sub>2</sub> , -	Pt/C, -	PTFE	1.8	299	50	0.5 M KOH	-
	A-201 Tokuyama	IrO <sub>2</sub> , -	Pt/C, -	PTFE	2.2	~800	50	0.5 M KOH	100 cycles
233	A-201 Tokuyama	IrO <sub>2</sub> , -	Pt/C, -	PTFE	1.8	1070	50	0.5 M KOH	-
	A-201 Tokuyama	IrO <sub>2</sub> , -	Pt/C, -	PTFE	2.2	~1500	50	0.5 M KOH	1600 cycles
234	A-201 Tokuyama	CuCoO <sub>x</sub> (Acta 3030), 30	Ni/(CeO <sub>2</sub> -La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )/C (Acta 4030), 7.4	Ionomer I <sub>2</sub> /Teflon AF	1.98-2.08	500	60	1 wt.% K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	200
	FAA-3-PP-75	CuCoO <sub>x</sub> (Acta 3030), 30	Ni/(CeO <sub>2</sub> -La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )/C (Acta 4030), 7.4	Ionomer I <sub>2</sub> /Teflon AF	2.05 - 2.43	500	60	1 wt.% K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	200
235	A-901 Tokuyama	Acta 3030® (CuCoO <sub>x</sub> ), 30	Acta 4030® (Ni/(CeO <sub>2</sub> -La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )/C), 7.4	Ionomer I <sub>2</sub> /Teflon AF	1.94	400	50	1 wt.% K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	-
	A-901 Tokuyama	Acta 3030® (CuCoO <sub>x</sub> ), 30	Acta 4030® (Ni/(CeO <sub>2</sub> -	Ionomer I <sub>2</sub> /Teflon AF	2.13 - 2.17 V	500	50	1 wt.% K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	180

			La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )/C), 7.4						
236	FAA3-PK-130	Ce <sub>0.2</sub> MnFe <sub>1.8</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 3.5	Ni, 3.5	FAA3-PK-130	1.8	300	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	>100
237	FAA-3-PK-130	NiFe-BTC- GNPs/NF, 2.5	NiMO <sub>4</sub> /MoO <sub>2</sub> /NF, 2.5	FAA-3-PK- 130	1.85	540	70	H <sub>2</sub> O	-
	FAA-3-PK-130	NiFe-BTC- GNPs/NF, 2.5	NiMO <sub>4</sub> /MoO <sub>2</sub> /NF, 2.5	FAA-3-PK- 130	1.85	~450	50	H <sub>2</sub> O	72
238	FAA3-50	NiMn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 3	Pt/C, 0.5	FAA-3	2.0	530	80	1 M KOH	-
	FAA3-50	NiMn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 3	Pt/C, 0.5	FAA-3	1-1.8	~300	50	1 M KOH	1000
239	FAA-3-50	g-CN-CNF- 800, 6	Pt/C, 0.4	Nafion	1.9	734	60	1 M KOH	-
240	FAA 3-PE	Ir black, 3	NiMo/X72, 5	Fumion FAA- 3-SOLUT-10	1.9	1000	50	1 M KOH	-
	FAA 3-PE	Ir black, 3	Pt/C, 1	Fumion FAA- 3-SOLUT-10	1.8	1000	50	1 M KOH	-
241	Fumasep FAA-3- PE-30	Cu <sub>0.81</sub> Co <sub>2.19</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , -	Pt/C, 1	-	1.68	100	30	0.1 M KOH	100
242	FAA3-50	NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 1.2	Pt/C, 1	FAA3-50	1.8	303	50	6 M KOH	-
		NiMn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 0.5	Pt/C, 1	FAA3-50	1.8	181	50	6 M KOH	-
243	FAA-3-50	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 4	Pt /C, 0.4	FAA-3-Br	1.9	1500	70	1 M KOH	-
244	Selemion AMV	GO-NiO, -	Ni/Zn/S, -	-	1.9	513	80	5.36 M KOH	20
245	Selemion AMV	NiO, -	Pt, -	Proprietary ionomer	1.9	400	80	1 M KOH	-
246, 247, 248	Sustainion X37- 50	NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 2	NiFeCo, 3 or 2	Sustainion X37-50 or Nafion	1.9	1000	60	1 M KOH	~2000
249	Sustainion® X37- 50	NiMo-NH <sub>3</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> , 3	Fe-NiMo- NH <sub>3</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> , 3	Nafion	1.57	1000	80	1 M KOH	-
	Sustainion® X37- 50	NiMo-NH <sub>3</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> , 3	Fe-NiMo- NH <sub>3</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> , 3	Nafion	1.69	500	20	1 M KOH	25

	Sustainion® X37-50	NiMo-NH <sub>3</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> , 3	Fe-NiMo-NH <sub>3</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> , 3	Nafion	1.52	50	20	1 M KOH	25
	Sustainion® X37-50	NiMo-N <sub>2</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> , 3	Fe-NiMo-N <sub>2</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> , 3	Nafion	1.68	1000	80	1 M KOH	-
	Sustainion® X37-50	NiMo-NH <sub>3</sub> , 3	Fe-NiMo-NH <sub>3</sub> , 3	Nafion	1.62	1000	80	1 M KOH	-
36	Sustainion® X37-50	NiFe-LDH, 2.5	Pt/C, 1.3	Nafion	1.59	1000	80	1 M KOH	-
250	Sustainion® Grade T	NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 1.8	Raney Ni, 14.5	-	1.8	837	60	1 M KOH	-
	Sustainion® Grade T	NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 1.8	Raney Ni, 14.5	-	1.83	1000	60	1 M KOH	12180
	Sustainion™ X37-50	NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 1.8	Raney Ni, 2.7	-	1.8	744	60	1 M KOH	-
	Sustainion™ X37-50	NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 1.8	Raney Ni, 2.7	-	1.85	1000	60	1 M KOH	~10100
251	X37-50 Grade T	CE-CCO, 3.8	Pt,1	-	1.8	1390	45	1 M KOH	
	X37-50 Grade T	CE-CCO, 3.8	Pt,1	-	1.66-1.74	500	45	1 M KOH	64
41	X37-50 Grade T	CCO-11, 10	Pt,1	PTFE	1.63-1.69	400	45	1 M KOH	100
	X37-50 Grade T	Cu <sub>0.5</sub> Co <sub>2.5</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , 10	Pt,1	PTFE	1.8	1300	45	1 M KOH	-
252	X37-50 Grade T	Ni <sub>0.75</sub> Fe <sub>2.25</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , -	Pt, 1	PVDF	1.9	2000	45	1 M KOH	-
	X37-50 Grade T	Ni <sub>0.75</sub> Fe <sub>2.25</sub> O <sub>4</sub> , -	Pt, 1	PVDF	1.6-1.8	500	45	1 M KOH	21
	X37-50 Grade T	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 4	Pt, 1	Nafion	1.8	870	45	1 M KOH	-
191	PTFE-Sustainion	Ni-Fe, 20	Ni-Fe, 20	PFTP-8/PFBP	2.0	620	60	1 M KOH	-

	PTFE-Sustainion	Ni-Fe, 20	Ni-Fe, 20	PFTP-8/PFBP	1.9-2.1 V	500	60	1 M KOH	240
	PFTP -13	Pt/C,0.5	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2	PFTP-8/PFBP-14	2	7680	80	1 M KOH	-
	PFTP -13	Pt/C,0.5	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2	PFTP-8/PFBP-14	2.2	500	60	1 M KOH	1100
	PFTP -8	Pt/C,0.5	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2	PFTP-8/PFBP-14	2.0	4880	80	1 M KOH	-
	x- PFTP	Pt/C,0.5	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2	PFTP-8/PFBP-14	2.0	3600	80	1 M KOH	-
	PFTP -13	Pt/C,0.5	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 2	PFTP-8/PFBP-14	2.0	1800	80	H <sub>2</sub> O	-
	PFTP -13	Ni-Fe, 20	Ni-Fe, 20	-	2.0	1600	80	1 M KOH	-
	PFTP -13	Ni-Fe, 20	Ni-Fe, 20	-	1.5	500	60	1 M KOH	1000
253	a Zirfon Perl 500 UTP (AGFA)	SS316L	Raney Ni	-	1.75	300	75	6 M KOH	720
254	Aemion™AF1-HNN8-50	Ir black, 3.5-3.8	Pt/C, 1	FAA-3	1.82	2000	60	1 M KOH	-
		Ir black, 3.5-3.8	Pt/C, 1	Aemion™, API-HNN8	1.73-1.76V	500	50	0.1 M KOH	~17
	Aemion™AF1-HNN8-25	Ir black, 3.5-3.8	Pt/C, 1	Aemion™, API-HNN8	1.68-1.73V	500	50	0.1 M KOH	~17
121	YAB membrane, Foma Co.	CoP NS, 5	CoP NS, 5	PTFE	1.74-1.78V	300	50	1 M KOH	~24
255	Commercial AEM	IrO <sub>2</sub> , 3	Pt black, 3	-	1.87	200	35	1 wt.% KHCO <sub>3</sub>	~190
		Pb <sub>2</sub> Ru <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6.5</sub> , 3	Pt black, 3	-	1.75	200	35	1 wt.% KHCO <sub>3</sub>	~190
<b>Other AEMs</b>									



256	AEM with quaternary ammonium	$\text{Cu}_{0.7}\text{Co}_{2.3}\text{O}_4$ , 3	Pt/C, 1	-	1.8	1000	25	1 M KOH	-
257	Membrane from ITM power plc	$\text{NiFe}(\text{OH})_2$ , -	Pt, -	-	2.10 V to 2.25 V	1000	60	4 M NaOH	~240
258	in-house prepared APE	$\text{Ni}_{0.7}\text{Co}_{0.3}\text{O}_x$ , 2	Pt/C, 1	AS-4	1.94 V to 2.05 V	100	50	1 wt.% $\text{KHCO}_3$	550

## 7 ADDITIONAL DATA TO STATE OF THE ART AEMWE SINGLE CELL TESTS

Table S20 provides additional experimental and operational information for the AEMWE single cell tests discussed in section 6. Table S20 complements Table S6 in the review paper. The study numbers shown in the two tables are identical.

**Table S20. Experimental and operational data for State of the Art AEMWE single cell tests**

This table provides supporting information to Table 6 presented in the review paper.

Study	Anode: PTL	Cathode: GDL	T [°C]	Feed mode	Ref.
1	Ti	Carbon paper	50	n/a	259
2	Ni foam	Carbon paper	80	Anode	190
3	NiMPL-PTL (stainless steel)	NiMPL-PTL (stainless steel)	60	Both	260
4	Ti foam	Carbon paper, untreated	50	cathode (first 2 h) then anode only	229
5	Platinized Ti	Carbon paper (SGL BC 29)	60	Anode	185
6	Platinized Ti	Carbon paper (SGL BC29)	80	Cathode	184
7	Ni foam	carbon paper (SGL 29AA)	80	Anode	261
8	Stainless steel (400 μm), on sintered Ti plate for back support	carbon paper (Toray 090)	55	anode and cathode	262
9	Ni foam	Ni foam	60	Anode	204
10a	stainless steel	Ni fiber paper	60	anode and cathode	250
10b	stainless steel	Ni fiber paper	60	anode and cathode	250
11	Ni foam	Ni foam	60	Anode	191
12	stainless steel	carbon paper	70	Anode and cathode	263

13	Ni	Ni	60	anode and cathode	246
14	Ni foam	carbon paper (SGL 29AA)	80	Anode	261
15	Titanium felt	carbon paper (SGL 38 BC)	60	Anode	191
16	stainless steel	stainless steel	60	anode and cathode	206
17	Ni foam	Ni foam	60	Anode	191
18	Ni foam	Ni foam	50	n/a	223
19	Ni foam	Ni foam	50	n/a	215
20	Ni foam	Ni foam	50	n/a	194
21	Ni foam (pore size 580 nm)	Ni foam (pore size 580 nm)	50	anode and cathode	213
22	Porous Ni	C-cloth coated with hydrophobic MPL <sup>1</sup> , on Ni	43	Anode	230
23	Porous Ti, Pt plated	PTFE treated carbon paper	50	Anode	258
24a	Ni foam	carbon paper	60	Anode	234
24b	Ni foam	carbon paper	60	Anode	234

<sup>1</sup>: MPL: Microporous layer

## 8 PROTOCOL FOR SINGLE CELL AEMWE TESTING

In the absence of defined testing protocols it is difficult to reliably reproduce and compare single cell AEMWE performance data between studies. Furthermore, the lack of baseline materials for AEM systems contributes to the complexity of comparing results across studies. Therefore, in this section a testing protocol to evaluate the performance and durability measurements of single cell AEMWEs is proposed.

The conditioning of the membrane usually entails soaking the membrane in 1-3 M KOH for 24- 48 h according to the manufacturers guidelines.<sup>264</sup> This allows for the exchange of the counter ion (typically I<sup>-</sup> or Cl<sup>-</sup>) with OH<sup>-</sup> before assembling the cell. Complete OH<sup>-</sup> exchange may require the use of different hydroxide concentrations

depending on how strongly the hydrated ions interact with the charged end-groups of the AEM.<sup>265</sup> A similar behaviour is expected for the ionomers in the catalyst layer, but these ionomers are seldomly pre-doped before electrolyzer operation and a steady improvement in cell voltage, in the “conditioning” phase of electrolyzer operation, may well be attributed to the exchange of ionomer with KOH.<sup>266,262,267</sup>

The MEA also needs to be preconditioned in the AEMWE cell prior to performance measurements. First a stable cell temperature is established, while circulating pure water or supporting electrolyte to the anode and/or cathode. Usually after one hour, conditioning is applied as follows: i) Either by current stepping (typically 100 mA/cm<sup>2</sup> to 1A/cm<sup>2</sup>, in 100 mA steps, for holding time 2-5 min. at each step) or by ii) applying a constant voltage (typically in the range of 1.6-2 V) until the current is stabilized. A steady state is typically reached after 30-60min. This step also allows to identify possible pinholes in the MEA, before starting with the performance assessment of the electrolyzer cell.

Lindquist et al. recently showed the impact of insufficient cell conditioning on the low-current-density performance of polarization curves (up to 200 mV) obtained before and after conditioning for commercial PiperION in water feed.<sup>262</sup>

Some studies have been found to condition AEMWE cells in alkaline electrolyte, followed by purging with pure water and measuring performance thereafter.<sup>185,261</sup> Lindquist et al. found that insufficient purging with water after conditioning in KOH could result in an enhanced performance attributed to residual KOH.<sup>262</sup> They recorded linear sweep voltammograms (LSVs) accompanied with conductivity measurements of the effluent electrolyte to conduct the study.

**Table S21. Conditioning and testing protocols for AEMWE single cells summarized from the literature**

Pre-cell conditioning of membrane	KOH doping, exchanging of I <sup>-</sup> /Br <sup>-</sup> /Cl <sup>-</sup> groups	
Activation of catalyst	Investigated studies on GDL scale <sup>190</sup>	
Pre-conditioning of cell	<p>i) Current steps, e.g. 100 mA/cm<sup>2</sup> to 1 A/cm<sup>2</sup>, in 100 mA steps, for holding time 2-5 min at each step.<sup>262</sup></p> <p>ii) Constant current of 0.2 A/cm<sup>2</sup> applied for 30 min, while recording iV-curves before and after to compare steady state for recorded cell voltage.<sup>260</sup></p>	<p>Compare polarization curves before and after cell conditioning step to confirm conditioning is complete.</p> <p>Once steady cell voltage is achieved for applied current steps, conditioning is considered effective.</p> <p>If still unstable or the measured voltage difference between iV-curves is &gt; 50 mV, the conditioning step could be repeated. Once the cell voltage keeps increasing it could be a sign the cell is unstable and either membrane or ionomer degradation has started.</p>

Performance assessment	Polarization curves (voltage measured at current density increments) are recorded, supported with EIS	$j_{max}$ measured up to the cut-off cell voltage of 2.2-2.4 V. This is to limit the probability of oxidation/corrosion of cell components at higher cell potentials. (PEWME at 1.8 and 2.0 V). <sup>268</sup>
Short and long term stability	Galvanostatic, constant current applied for a minimum of 100 hours. H <sub>2</sub> O feed: 0.2-0.5 A/cm <sup>2</sup> KOH/K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> : 0.3, 0.5 or 1 A/cm <sup>2</sup>  Alternatively, intermittent operation (e.g. voltage cycling) allows for cycling between a high and low cell voltages with varying rest times. <sup>269,238</sup>	The voltage degradation rate over time is calculated ( $\mu$ V/h) for comparison between studies
Post-characterization/ex-situ tests	Most commonly performed to assess the degradation of electrode materials. This includes SEM-EDX measurements, XRD or XPS to establish a change in structure or intensity of characteristic signals as compared to pristine samples. <sup>190,262</sup>	

## ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

List of abbreviations and symbols used throughout the manuscript and SI:

a: intercept in Tafel plot

A: surface area

ads: adsorbed

AEI: anion exchange ionomer

AEM: anion exchange membrane

AEMFC: anion exchange membrane fuel cell

AEMWE: anion exchange membrane water electrolyzer

AEP: anion exchange polymers

AFM: atomic force microscopy

ALD: atomic layer deposition

AMS: aqueous model system

ASU: 6-azonia-spiro [5.5] undecane

at.: atomic

b: Tafel-slope value [mV/dec]

BP: bipolar plates

BPM: bipolar membranes

BPN: quaternized biphenylene ionomer

BTMA: benzyltrimethylammonium

$C_{dl}$ : double layer capacitance

CL: catalyst layer

$\text{cm}^2_{\text{geom}}$ : geometrical electrode surface area in  $\text{cm}^2$ ;

$\text{CO}_{\text{ads}}$ : adsorbed CO

CV: cyclic voltammogram

CVD: chemical vapor deposition

$\text{Cu}_{\text{upd}}$ : underpotential deposition of Copper

$E_{\text{act}}$ : activation energy

CAPEX: capital investment cost

CCM: catalyst coated membrane

CEM: cation exchange membrane

CCS: catalyst coated substrate

CNT: carbon nanotubes

DABCO: 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane

dec: decade

DFT: density functional theory

dl: double layer

DMP: N,N-dimethylpiperidinium

$E_{\text{act}}$ : activation energy

$E_{\text{an}}$ : anode potential

$E_{\text{cat}}$ : cathode potential

$E_{\text{Cell}}$ : cell potential

$E^{\circ}$ : reversible potential

$E^{\circ}_{\text{rev}}$ : standard reversible potential

$E^{\circ}_{\text{th}}$ : thermoneutral voltage



ECSA: electrochemical surface area

EIS: electrochemical impedance spectroscopy

EO: ethylene oxide

EQCM: electrochemical quartz crystal microbalance

ES: energy storage

F: Faraday's constant [96485 C/mol]

FC: fuel cell

FE-SEM: field emission scanning electron microscope

GC: gas chromatography

GDE: gas diffusion electrode

GDL: gas diffusion layer

$H_{\text{ads/des}}$  : adsorbed/desorbed molecular hydrogen

HBE: hydrogen binding energy

HER: hydrogen evolution reaction

HOR: hydrogen oxidation reaction

HFR: high frequency resistance

HHV: high heating value

IC: initial capital cost (initial cost of the water electrolyzers)

ICP-MS: inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry

ICP-OES: inductively coupled optical emission spectrometry

IEC: ion exchange capacity

IM: imidazolium

IPNs: interpenetrating polymer networks

IR: voltage drop (current multiplied by the resistance)

iV: current-potential curves

j: current density

$j_{\text{crt}}$ : critical current density

$j_{\text{int}}$ : intrinsic current density

$j_{\text{mass}}$ : mass current density

$j_{\text{max}}$ : maximum current density

$j_0$ : exchange current density

$j_{0\text{-int}}$ : intrinsic exchange current density

$j_{0\text{-mass}}$ : mass exchange current density

LDH: layered double helix

LSVs: linear sweep voltammograms

LT: lifetime

MEA: membrane electrode assembly

$M_{\text{H}_2}$ : molecular hydrogen weight

MMT: million metric tons

MPL: micro-porous layer

MS: mass-spectrometry

n: number of catalyst atoms

NC: nano-carbons

$n_e$ : number of electrons

np: nano-particles

$N_{\text{th}}$ : transient cycle number

OER: oxygen evolution reaction

OPEX: operating investment cost

ORR: oxygen reduction reaction

P: Pressure

PBI: polybenzimidazole

pc: polycrystalline

PEMWE: proton exchange membrane water electrolyser

PES: polyethersulfone

PFOTFPh: poly(fluorene-alt-tetrafluorophenylene)

PGM: platinum group metal

PTFE: polytetrafluoroethylene

PTL: porous transfer layer

PNB: polynorbornene

PPO: polypropylene oxide

PSF: polysulfone

QA: quaternary amines

QP: quaternary phosphonium

R: gas constant [ $8.314 \text{ kg}\cdot\text{m}^2\cdot\text{s}^{-2}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ] or resistance

$R_{\text{Cell}}$ : cell resistance

RDE: rotating ring disc electrode

RH: relative humidity

RHE: reversible hydrogen electrode

SHE: standard hydrogen electrode

S: geometrical electrode surface area

SEM: scanning electron microscopy

SFC: scanning flow cell

SI: supporting information

SMR: steam methane reforming

SoA: State of the Art

SS: stainless steel

T: Temperature

T<sub>g</sub>: glass temperature

TEM: transmission electron microscopy

TM: transmission metal

TOF: turn over frequency

T.S.: Tafel-slope

upd: under-potential deposition

WE: water electrolyzer

wt.: weight

W<sub>u</sub>: water uptake

XRD: x-ray diffraction

XPS: X-ray photon spectroscopy

Symbols:

\*: surface adsorbed species

$\lambda$ : number of water molecules per OH<sup>-</sup>

$\eta$ : overpotential

$\Omega$ : resistance / ohm

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