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Gold Nanoclusters Grown on MoS₂ Nanosheets by Pulsed Laser Deposition: An Enhanced Hydrogen Evolution Reaction

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Abstract: Au nanoparticles were decorated on a 2H MoS₂ surface to form an Au/MoS₂ composite by pulse laser deposition. Improved HER activity of Au/MoS₂ is evidenced by a positively shifted overpotential (−77 mV) at a current density of −10 mA cm^{−2} compared with pure MoS₂ nanosheets. Experimental evidence shows that the interface between Au and MoS₂ provides more sites to combine protons to form an active H atom. The density functional theory calculations found that new Au active sites on the Au and MoS₂ interface with improved conductivity of the whole system are essential for enhancing HER activity of Au/MoS₂.

Keywords: molybdenum disulfide; Au nanoparticles; pulse laser deposition; hydrogen evolution reaction; density functional theory



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1. Introduction

Electrocatalytic water splitting is a promising technique to produce hydrogen, which is a green energy source; however, highly active platinum-based catalysts are expensive, which severely impedes the development of electrocatalytic hydrogen evolution reaction (HER) techniques [1]. During previous decades, alternatives, such as metal alloys [2], transition metal carbides [3], nitrides [4], borides [5], phosphides [6] and chalcogenides [7], have been extensively explored to replace Pt-based HER catalysts. Among them, molybdenum disulfide (MoS₂) receives unusual attention because of its low cost, earth-abundance and intrinsic HER activity [8]. Researchers have proven that the edge site of 2H MoS₂ is the active site for electrochemical HER; but limited edge sites make natural 2H MoS₂ show lower catalytic activity [9]. In addition, semi-conductive 2H MoS₂ has poor electron conduction in HER processes, impeding its expression of activity.

To overcome the drawbacks above, strategies to improve HER activity of MoS₂ have been implemented by exposing more edges or adhering MoS₂ onto conductive substrates [10,11]. For example, various metal nanoparticles such as Pt and Pd have been incorporated into MoS₂ nanosheets, which effectively improves MoS₂ activity [12]. Remarkably, MoS₂ decorated with Au nanoparticles is especially effective for HER due to strong Au-S interaction and the excellent stability of Au particles [13,14]. Au nanoparticles were selectively decorated on the edges and line defects of MoS₂ basal planes by a spontaneous redox reaction, and the Au nanoparticles improved the charge transport of MoS₂, thus enhancing the HER catalytic efficiency [15]. Zhang et al. prepared ultra-small MoS₂-Au nanohybrids by a solvothermal method, which showed enhanced HER catalytic activity. A synergistic effect between Au and MoS₂ promoted the activity of edge sites and enhanced the conductivity [16]. Zhao et al. constructed a composite of Au₂₅ clustered with thiolate and selenolate ligands on MoS₂ nanosheets, which exhibited enhanced HER activity. The dual interfacial effect, namely interfacial electronic interactions between gold nanoclusters

and MoS₂ nanosheets, and the interface between metal core and surface ligands, improved the charge transfer and electronic interactions [17]. Obviously, the interface of catalysts plays a vital role in tuning the catalytic performance.

In this work, ligand-free Au nanoparticles were decorated on a 2H MoS₂ surface to form a composite (Au/MoS₂) by pulse laser deposition (PLD). The 2H MoS₂ nanosheets possess a large, exposed surface which provides ideal support for landing Au nanoparticles. The optimized Au/MoS₂ composite with Au (111) nanoparticles on a 2H MoS₂ basal plane showed improved HER activity. Based on the density functional theory (DFT) calculation, it was found that Au nanoparticles modulate the electronic structure of MoS₂ and improve electron conductivity of the whole system. Significantly, the interfacial effect of the Au/MoS₂ interface is critical for enhancing HER activity of Au/MoS₂.

2. Results and Discussion

The morphology of prepared samples was studied by field emission scanning electron microscopy (FESEM) and transmission electron microscopy (TEM) as shown in Figure 1. Tiny Au nanoparticles were deposited on Ti foil as a control sample by PLD in Figure 1a. Large, ultrathin MoS₂ nanosheets were prepared by a hydrothermal process as shown in Figure 1b. The obtained 3D morphology of MoS₂ nanosheets gives several structural advantages: the open flower-like structure provides a large surface area to load more Au particles; the initial laminated nanosheets produced the active edge sites as much as possible. Figure 1c shows the Au/MoS₂ with a Au deposition time of 5 min on MoS₂ nanosheets, which shows a very uniform distribution of Au particles (~3 nm). Figure 1d shows a TEM image of MoS₂ nanosheets, in which MoS₂ shows the obvious layer structure with a layer space of 0.65 nm. Figure 1e shows a TEM image of Au nanoparticles on the MoS₂ nanosheets and Figure 1f is the HRTEM image of the Au anchored on the MoS₂ nanosheets, which shows lattice spacing of 0.243 nm corresponding to the (111) plane of Au and 0.23 nm to the (103) of MoS₂. This elaborate interfacial structure benefits from the pulsed laser process. To be specific, when the Au plasma plume interacts with the S atom layer on the MoS₂ basal plane, the high supersaturation of Au vapor starts to nucleate. Subsequently, larger Au islands are formed through recrystallization between deposition pulses. Due to the lowest surface energy of the Au (111) plane, it has become the final prior orientation on the MoS₂ surface [18].

The crystal structure of the prepared nanocomposites was investigated by XRD measurement as shown in Figure 2a. The XRD spectra of the MoS₂ nanosheets reflect the peaks at 14.2° (002) and 33.6° (100), which is indexed to 2H-MoS₂ (JCPDS: 37-1492). In the case of Au/MoS₂, there is not any additional peak for the Au crystals, showing the nano feature of the Au particles. Raman spectroscopy is further used to expose the structural difference between MoS₂ and Au/MoS₂ as shown in Figure 2b. The pristine MoS₂ nanosheets show two peaks at 379 cm⁻¹ and 408 cm⁻¹, which correspond to active E_{2g}¹ and A_{1g} modes of Mo-S bonding. The E_{2g}¹ mode represents the in-plane vibrations between the Mo layer and two S layers, and the A_{1g} mode corresponds to the out-of-plane lattice vibration with S atoms moving in the opposite direction [19]. After introducing the Au nanoparticles into the MoS₂ nanosheets, the A_{1g} mode of MoS₂ shows a blue shift because of the strengthened vertical vibration of S atoms by the interaction between Au and MoS₂. The large dielectric constant of Au could enhance the screening of the electron-electron interactions and weaken the planar interionic interactions, leading to a very slightly red shift of the E_{2g}¹ peak of Au/MoS₂, which softens the Mo-S phonon mode of MoS₂ and decreases the intensity of Mo-S chemical bonds [20].

In Figure 3, XPS spectra were used to characterize the bonding between Au and MoS₂. Two peaks at 229.2 eV and 232.3 eV for MoS₂ and Au/MoS₂ are attributed to the Mo 3d_{5/2} and Mo 3d_{3/2}, respectively. The S 2p_{3/2} and S 2p_{1/2} peaks of MoS₂ show the binding energy of 162.0 eV and 163.3 eV in Figure 3b [13]. The significant change of Au/MoS₂ is that the doublet peaks of S 2p become fuzzy and a new doublet at the lower binding energy in Figure 3c reveals the formation of an Au-S bond between Au and MoS₂ [16].

The peaks in Figure 3d at 84.3 eV and 88.0 eV correspond to the Au $4f_{7/2}$ and Au $4f_{5/2}$ for Au/MoS₂, respectively. Compared with the pure Au element at 84.0 eV, the slightly higher Au $4f_{7/2}$ binding energy means a charge transfer between Au and S, which is in keeping with the S 2p spectrum of Au/MoS₂ and further certifies the formation of an Au-S bond [21]. All this certified that the Au nanoparticles anchor more strongly with MoS₂, and the electron transfer between them would benefit hydrogen adsorption in the electrocatalytic process [22].

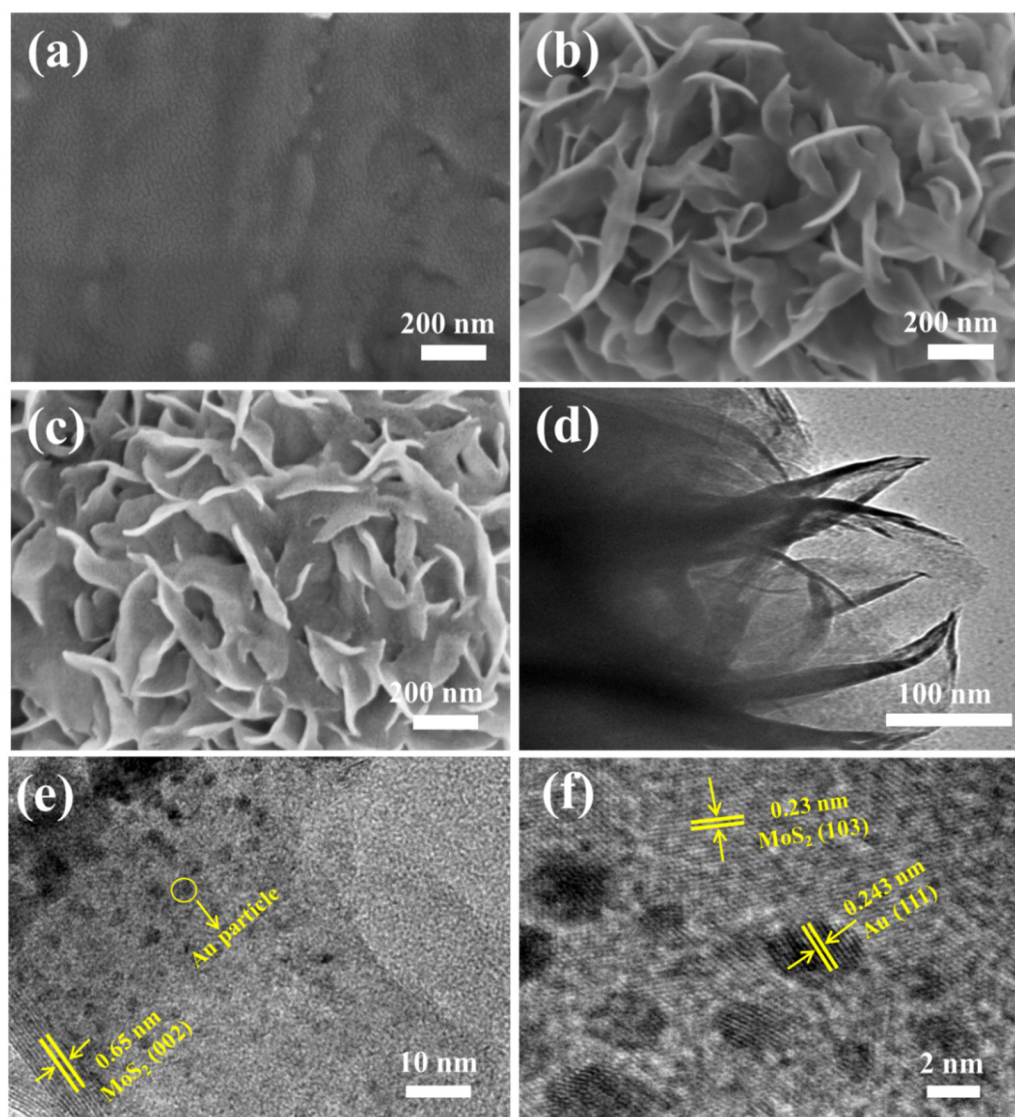


Figure 1. (a) FESEM images of the Au/Ti, (b) MoS₂/Ti and (c) Au/MoS₂/Ti; (d) TEM images of the MoS₂, (e) Au/MoS₂ and (f) HRTEM image of Au/MoS₂.

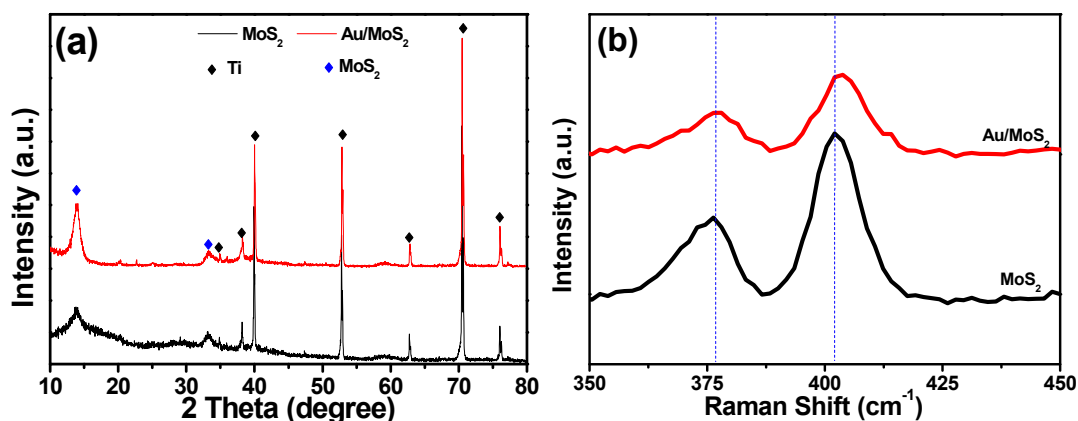


Figure 2. (a) X-ray diffraction patterns and (b) Raman spectra of MoS₂ and Au/MoS₂, respectively.

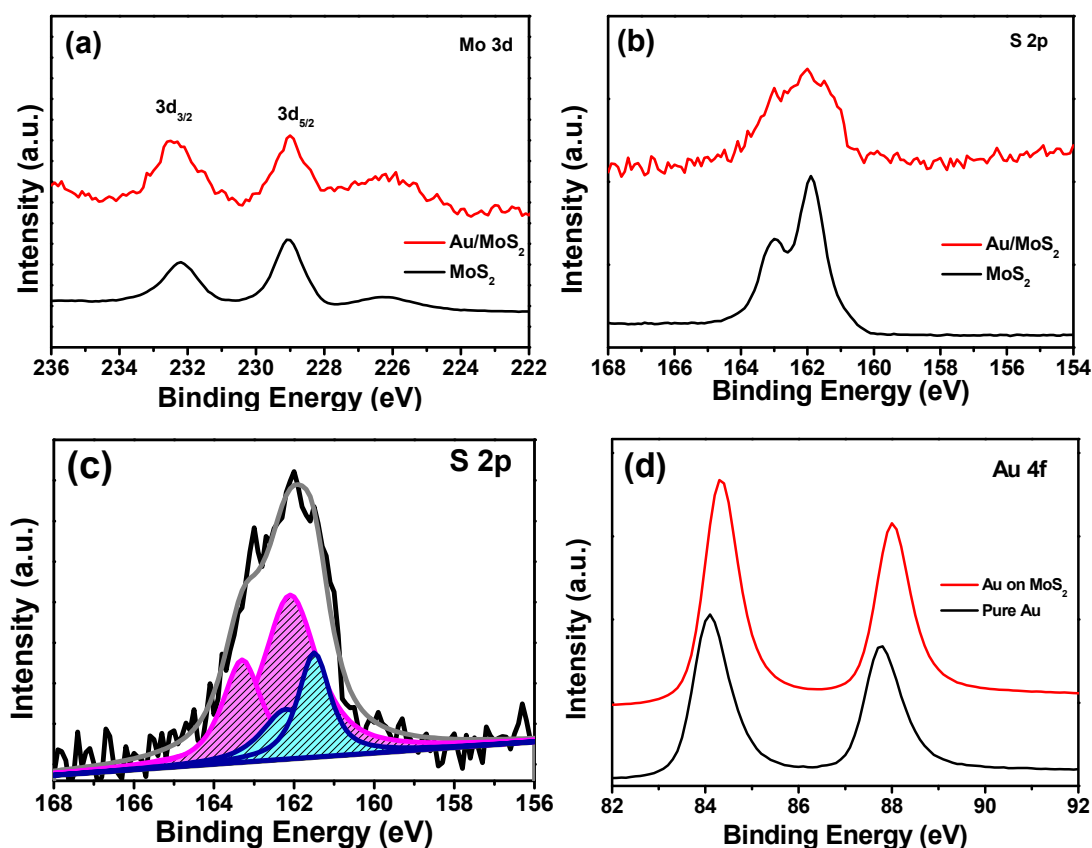


Figure 3. The XPS analysis of MoS₂ and Au/MoS₂: (a) Mo 3d, (b) S 2p, (c) S 2p and (d) Au of Au/MoS₂.

To evaluate the HER performance of the prepared catalysts, a three-electrode system was used in 0.5 M H₂SO₄ conditions. In Figure 4a, to reach a current density of 10 mA cm⁻² for H₂ evolution, Au/Ti shows an overpotential of 352 mV and MoS₂ shows 313 mV. In sharp contrast, Au/MoS₂ gives a lower overpotential of 236 mV than Au and MoS₂ at the same catalytic current density, indicating the advantage of the interaction between MoS₂ and Au. All the Tafel plots show a value smaller than the 120 mV dec⁻¹ but larger than the 30 mV dec⁻¹ in Figure 4b, suggesting the Volmer–Heyrovsky mechanism, where the combination between electron and proton to bond another hydrogen atom to form the hydrogen molecule is the rate-determining step. The exchange current density (j_0) is an inherent feature of HER catalysts and is usually obtained by an extrapolation method [23]. The j_0 of Au, MoS₂ and Au/MoS₂ is 0.62, 5.98 and 28.92 $\mu\text{A cm}^{-2}$, respectively. It is obvious that Au/MoS₂ has an excellent j_0 compared to other catalysts, showing that the Au/MoS₂

surface has superior intrinsic activity for electrochemical HER, because the addition of Au on the MoS₂ surface improves the structure of the initial MoS₂.

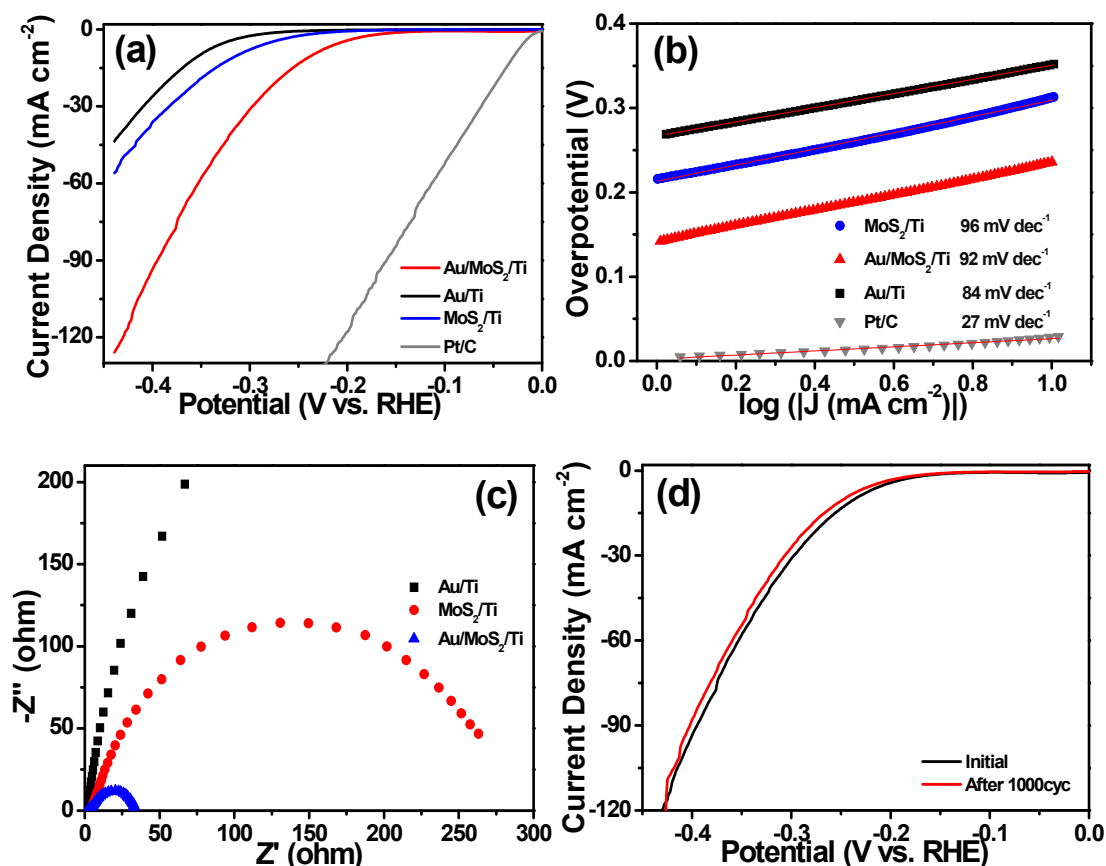


Figure 4. (a) Polarization curves and (b) Tafel curves of Au, MoS₂, Au/MoS₂ and commercial Pt/C electrocatalysts; (c) Nyquist plots of Au, MoS₂ and Au/MoS₂; (d) the LSV curves of Au/MoS₂ before and after 1000 cycles.

For further certification of the catalysts, ac impedance spectroscopy was conducted using frequencies from 10 kHz to 0.1 Hz. As shown in Figure 4c, Au/MoS₂ exhibits smaller charge transfer resistance than Au and MoS₂ according to the smaller diameter of the semi-circle in the middle frequency, suggesting very fluent electron transfer in hydrogen formation. Besides HER activity, Au/MoS₂ also gives excellent HER stability during the HER process in Figure 4d. By testing cyclic voltammetry ranging from 0 to −0.425 V (vs. RHE) in 0.5 M H₂SO₄ solution, there was no distinct change of catalytic current after 1000 cycles, showing good stability of Au/MoS₂.

To further evaluate the influence of Au on HER performance in the Au/MoS₂ system, the content of Au on the MoS₂ surface was adjusted by controlling the depositing time. As seen in Figure 5, the morphology of Au/MoS₂ had an obvious change with the increase of deposition time. Specifically, the Au nanoparticles were hardly observed in the sample (1 min) Au/MoS₂ and (3 min) Au/MoS₂ (Figure 5a,b), but the indistinct trail of Au appeared in the sample with 5 min Au loading. Further extending the deposition time to 10 min, the MoS₂ nanosheets were covered with Au film as shown in Figure 5c. The analysis of element distribution of 5 min Au/MoS₂ in Figure 5f from the domain of Figure 5e shows uniform distribution of Au on the MoS₂ surface. Figure 5g,h show the element percentage of Au in the corresponding area, and the atom percentage of Au is 1.53 at. % for (5 min) Au/MoS₂, which is lower than that of 10 min Au sample (3.35 at. %) but higher than that of 3 min (1.11 at. %) and 1 min (0.87 at. %), showing the controlled content of Au by PLD progress.

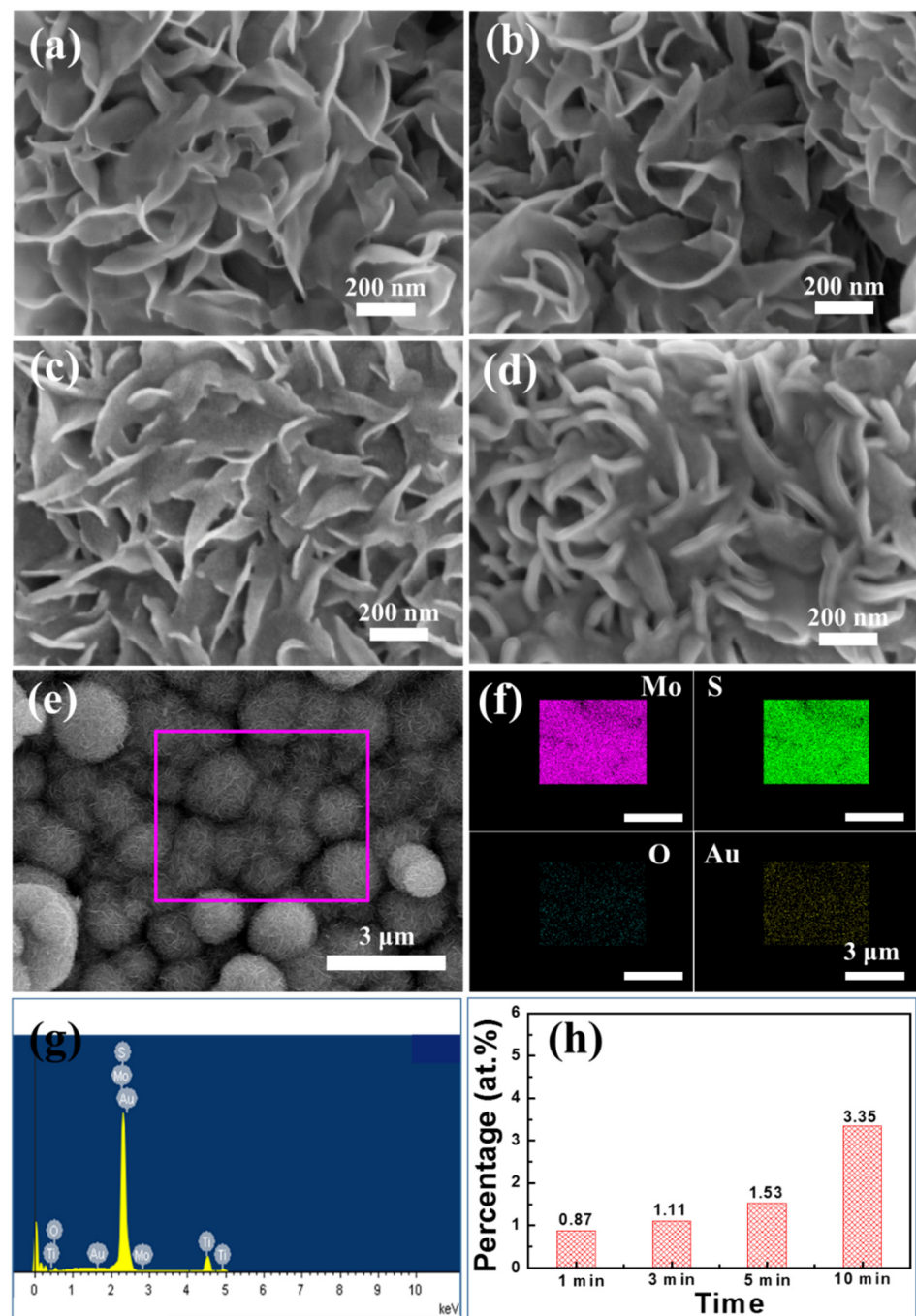


Figure 5. FESEM images of Au/MoS₂ with different content of Au on the surface of MoS₂ nanosheets: (a) Au-1/MoS₂, (b) Au-3/MoS₂, (c) Au-5/MoS₂ and (d) Au-10/MoS₂; (e,f) FESEM-mapping element distribution and (g) FESEM-EDS element content of Au-5/MoS₂ and (h) Au content on Au/MoS₂.

The electrochemical HER activity of different Au deposition time samples is shown in Figure 6a, in which the activity of Au/MoS₂ had an obvious change as Au content increased. Specifically, the best performance was when deposition time was 5 min, but when extending deposition time to 10 min the activity of the sample decreased. The value of the Tafel slope of Au/MoS₂ in these conditions still showed the Volmer–Heyrovsky mechanism in Figure 6b. Figure 6c shows the EIS results, the charge transfer resistance of samples decreased as the Au amount on MoS₂ increased, suggesting a positive effect of Au on MoS₂ activity. However, larger resistance appears with more Au deposition (10 min) on the substrate, which shows a saturation of Au distribution. Coverage of the whole

MoS₂ surface results in the disappearance of the interface between Au and MoS₂, thus losing the corresponding active sites and decreasing the activity. The electrochemically active surface area (ECSA) derived from the double-layer capacitance (C_{dl}) is usually utilized to reflect the exposure of active sites of catalysts, and the C_{dl} is calculated by conducting the cyclic voltammetry curves in different scan rates in Figure 6d. The 5 min Au/MoS₂ catalyst had a larger C_{dl} of 11.1 mF cm⁻² than the other films, showing there was greater exposure of active sites. Decreased overpotential, lower charge-transfer resistance and many more exposed active sites in the 5 min Au/MoS₂ sample imply the interfacial importance between Au and MoS₂ for HER.

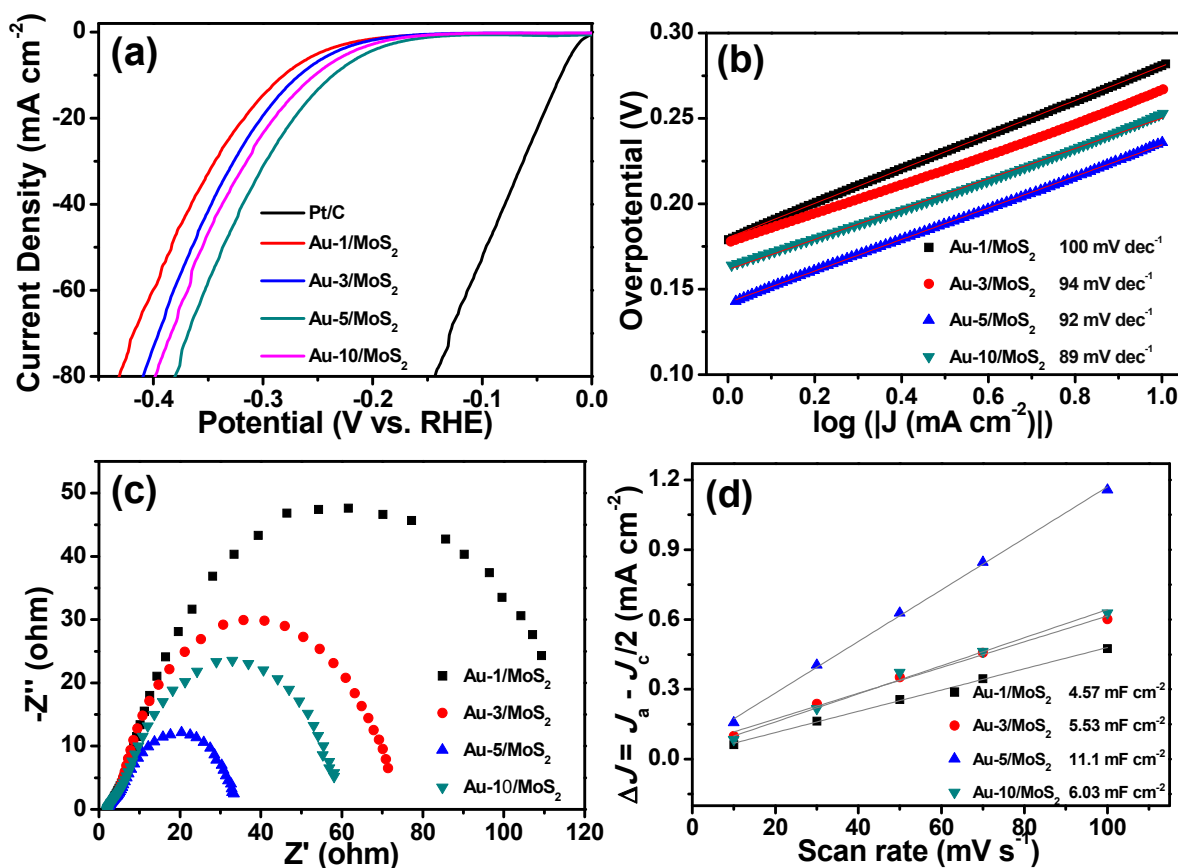


Figure 6. Polarization curves (a), Tafel curves (b), Nyquist plots (c) and the double-layer capacitance (C_{dl}) (d) of Au/MoS₂ with different content of Au on the surface of MoS₂ nanosheets.

The interaction between the Au nanoparticle and the 2H MoS₂ basal plane were calculated by DFT calculation. For comparison the perfect 2H MoS₂ and Au/MoS₂ nanoribbon (Figure 7a) were calculated. The ΔG_{H^*} values of MoS₂ (2.21 eV) and Au/MoS₂ (0.19 eV on the Au atoms) are shown in Figure 7b. The lower ΔG_{H^*} of the Au/MoS₂ models explains the reason for improved HER performance by the Au/MoS₂ catalyst, in which the combination of new Au sites on the interface and the initial edge sites on MoS₂ provided more active sites for HER. Figure 7c shows the band structure of MoS₂, which had a wide bandgap of 1.62 eV, implying its semiconductor nature [24]. After combining Au with the MoS₂ basal plane, the bandgap of Au/MoS₂ gets smaller (0.25 eV) as shown in Figure 7d, showing that the improved ΔG_{H^*} is from the change of electronic structure in the catalyst. A narrower bandgap also indicates that Au had a strong interaction with the MoS₂ basal plane, thereby accelerating electron conductivity in Au/MoS₂ [25]. Definitely, the more d-orbital electrons of Au than that of S made some electronic states close to the Fermi level, suggesting more occupied states in the valence band of Au/MoS₂. Figure 7e shows the total density of states (TDOS) of MoS₂ and Au/MoS₂. Compared with the pristine MoS₂, the TDOS of Au/MoS₂ has an obvious left shift, indicating an increase in the number of

electrons for the MoS₂ [25]. The partial density of states (PDOS) of Au/MoS₂ is shown in Figure 7f, it was found that the 5d orbital of Au atom formed a hybrid with the 3p orbital of S atoms and the 4d orbital of adjacent Mo atoms, which promoted rapid charge transfer on the systems [26]. Finally, the lower ΔG_{H^*} , a smaller bandgap and sufficient interface of Au/MoS₂ made the number of active sites increase and the whole conductivity improve, thus enhancing the HER activity of Au/MoS₂.

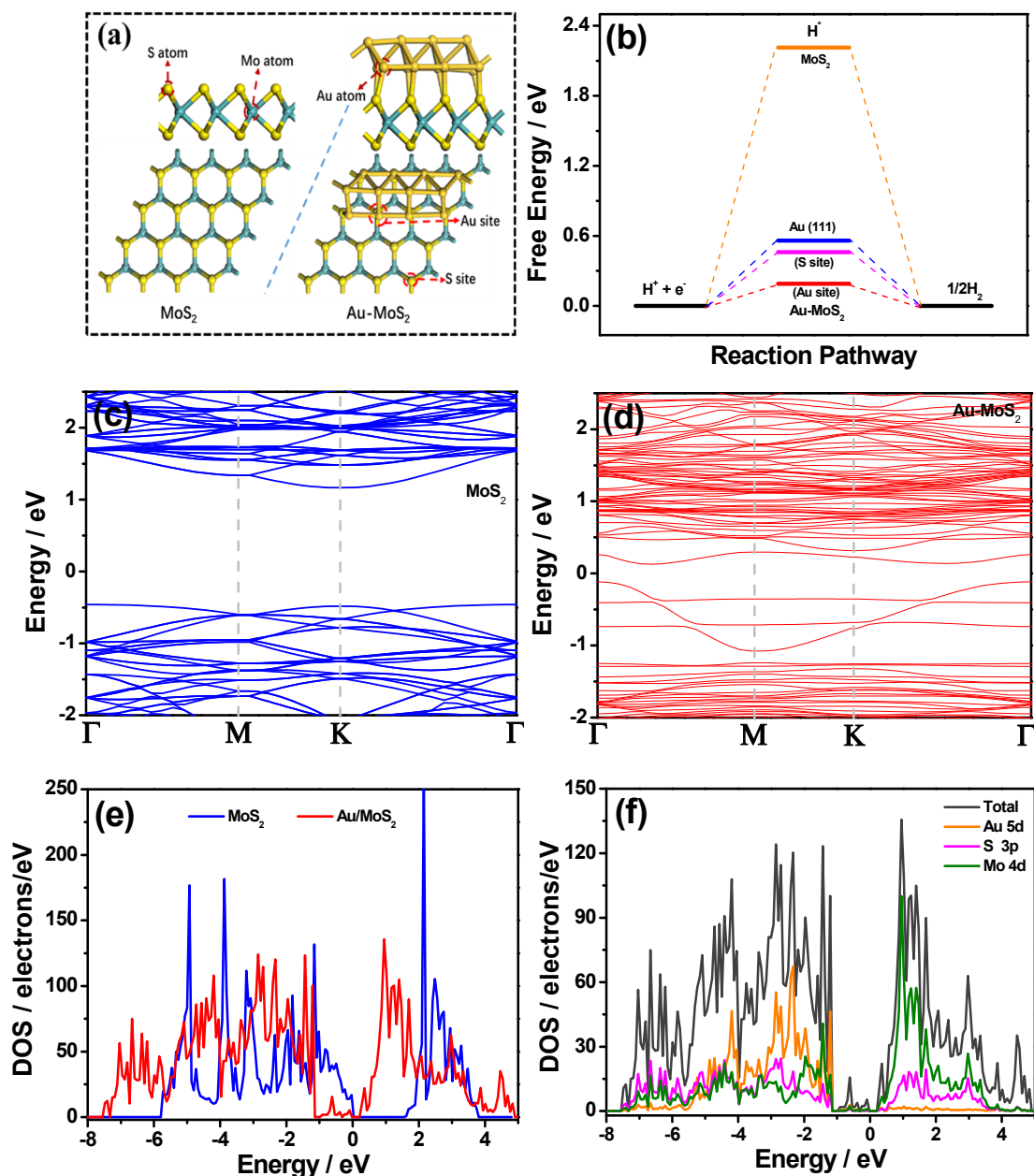


Figure 7. (a) The model of MoS₂ and Au/MoS₂, (b) the calculated free energy diagram for hydrogen evolution of Au-MoS₂ catalysts; (c,d) band structure of MoS₂ and Au/MoS₂, (e) TDOS of MoS₂ and Au/MoS₂ and (f) PDOS of Au/MoS₂.

It should be mentioned that more active Au sites were located on the interface between Au and MoS₂ rather than the top Au atom of the Au nanoribbons, implying the importance of the Au/MoS₂ interfacial structure. The function of the interface could also be proven by our Au/MoS₂ samples with different Au loading. The 1 min and 3 min Au/MoS₂ samples showed relatively low activity because the Au nanoparticles were too few to provide sufficient interfacial sites to adsorb H atoms, while the 5 min Au/MoS₂ catalyst exhibited high activity (Figure 6). Complete coverage of Au (10 min) on the MoS₂ surface blocked

the active Au sites, leading to a reduction in HER activity. Both experiments and theoretical calculations confirmed that the interface between Au and MoS₂ provided more sites to combine protons to form the active H atom. In addition, the interfacial structure was also beneficial in promoting the Heyrovsky reaction in the Volmer–Heyrovsky mechanism, because the proton from the solution and the electron from the electrode could easily combine with the H atom adsorbing on the interfacial Au sites [27].

The study of Au/MoS₂ addresses that tunable Au on MoS₂ nanosheets is a potential system for examining the potential HER mechanism between Au and MoS₂. Firstly, Au/MoS₂ has improved activity compared with pure MoS₂; secondly, the Au/MoS₂ interface could be adjusted by changing the depositing time, which further adjusts HER activity. Finally, the interfacial structure between Au and MoS₂ is important for advancing HER activity, as proved by a lower bandgap of Au/MoS₂ and more active interfacial Au sites with a lower ΔG_{H^*} based our DFT calculations.

3. Materials and Methods

3.1. Preparation of MoS₂ Nanosheets on Ti Foil

The MoS₂ nanosheets were synthesized by a facile hydrothermal reaction. At first, the Ti foil (0.5 mm., Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd.) was treated by acetone and deionized water under ultrasonic conditions. Then, the MoS₂ nanosheets were grown on the substrate. A 30 mL mixed water solution containing NaMoO₄·2H₂O (120 mg) (A.R., Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd.) and CH₄N₂S (190 mg) (A.R., Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd.) was used as the reactant to prepare the MoS₂ in an oven at 200 °C for 20 h [12]. After that, the obtained sample was taken out and rinsed with water and ethanol repeatedly before drying in air at 60 °C.

3.2. Deposition of Au Nanoparticles on MoS₂ Nanosheets

The Au nanoparticles on the MoS₂ surface were deposited by pulsed laser deposition (PLD). Before the deposition process, a stainless steel chamber was pumped to a base pressure of 1×10^{-4} Pa by using a molecular turbo pump. The Au target (purity > 99.99%, Alfa Aesar) was ablated by a focused Nd: YAG laser beam with a wavelength of 1064 nm at 10 Hz at 25 °C. The laser energy set in the laser device was 330 mJ cm^{-2} , and the spot area in the deposition was about 1 mm^2 on the target. The distance between the Au target and the substrates was set to 3 cm. The pressure in the deposition was maintained at 1.2×10^{-3} Pa. Compared with the initial pressure of 1×10^{-4} Pa, the Au plasma pressure was about 1.1×10^{-4} Pa. The quantity of Au on the MoS₂ substrates was controlled by different deposition times, which were 1 min, 3 min, 5 min and 10 min. For better identification of these samples, the labels of Au-1/MoS₂, Au-3/MoS₂, Au-5/MoS₂ and Au-10/MoS₂ were used in the description to distinguish the deposition time of the Au. The most effective Au/MoS₂ sample was equal to Au-5 on the MoS₂ nanosheets. Each sample had three parallel contrasts as shown in Figure S1.

3.3. Material Characterization

The microscopic morphology and element ingredients of all synthesized samples were characterized by field emission scanning electron microscopy (FESEM; Hitachi S-4800, Tokyo, Japan), energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS, Tokyo, Japan), and high-resolution transmission electron microscopy (TEM; JEOL, JEM-2100, Tokyo, Japan). X-ray photoelectron spectra (XPS, Kratos Axis Ultra DLD, America), Raman spectroscopy (514 nm laser, Rainshaw Invia, UK) and X-ray diffraction (XRD, Bruker Focus D8 with Cu K α radiation, Germany) were utilized to characterize the crystal structure, composition and valence state of the samples.

3.4. Electrochemical Measurements

The electrochemical properties were evaluated in a three-electrode system by a CHI760D electrochemical workstation (Chenhua Co., Shanghai, China). Au/MoS₂/Ti

served as a working electrode, a graphitic rod (diameter: 3 mm) as a counter electrode and a saturated calomel electrode (SCE) as a reference electrode in 0.5 M H₂SO₄ electrolyte at room temperature. The Pt/C reference catalyst was prepared by dispersing 5 mg of commercial 10 wt% Pt/C in 0.5 mL of ethanol with 10 μL of 5 wt% Nafion solution with the dip-coating process on a glassy-carbon electrode. A reversible hydrogen electrode (RHE): $E(RHE) = E(Hg/Hg_2Cl_2) + 0.059 \text{ pH} + 0.242 \text{ V}$ was used as a standard to evaluate the performance of different catalysts. The EIS were conducted over a frequency domain from 10 kHz to 0.1 Hz at an amplitude of 5 mV.

3.5. Calculation Method

To understand the active sites of Au/MoS₂ in HER, we carried out first-principle calculations on MoS₂ with a different model, which was based on density functional theory (DFT) employing projector-augmented wave potentials (PAW) [28]. All calculations were carried out with Perdew–Burke–Ernzerhof (PBE) in the Vienna Ab initio Simulation Package (VASP) [29]. A plane wave cutoff of 500 eV was used and the Brillouin zone of the surface calculation was $3 \times 3 \times 1$ Monkhorst–Pack mesh. The convergence criteria was 1×10^{-5} eV for energy, and total forces on each atom were 0.02 eV/Å in ionic relaxation. A quasi-one-dimensional Au nanoribbon with a thickness of two layers and a width of two atoms on planar MoS₂ was used [30].

The Gibbs free energy for hydrogen adsorption ΔG_{H^*} was used to theoretically recognize the HER activity of the catalysts, in which appropriate hydrogen binding on the catalysts was usually reflected by an optimal value of 0 eV. It is defined as [31]

$$\Delta G_{H^*} = \Delta E_H + \Delta ZPE - T\Delta S_H \quad (1)$$

where ΔE_H is the binding energies of the nanoribbon and hydrogen atom, defined as

$$\Delta E_H = E_{slab-H} - E_{slab} - \frac{1}{2}E_{H_2} \quad (2)$$

where E_{slab-H} is the total energy for the catalyst which absorbed a hydrogen atom, E_{slab} is the total energy for the intrinsic catalyst and $E_{(H_2)}$ is the energy of a gas phase hydrogen molecule. ΔE_{ZPE} , the difference in zero-point energy between the adsorbed and gas phase, is calculated to be 0.04 eV for H/MoS₂. ΔS_H , the entropy difference between the adsorbed state and the gas phase standard state, can be approximately expressed as $\Delta S_H \approx -1/2S^0_{H_2}$ due to the negligible vibrational entropy in the adsorbed state, where $S^0_{H_2}$ is the entropy of the gas phase H₂ at standard conditions. So $-T\Delta S_H \approx -1/2S^0_{H_2} = 0.20 \text{ eV}$ [32]. Hence,

$$\Delta G_{H^*} = \Delta E_H + 0.24 \quad (3)$$

4. Conclusions

In conclusion, Au nanoparticles were decorated on a 2H MoS₂ surface to form a composite (Au/MoS₂) by pulse laser deposition. The optimized Au/MoS₂ composite with Au (111) nanoparticles on a 2H MoS₂ basal plane shows improved HER activity. The DFT calculation shows that the addition of new Au sites optimizes hydrogen adsorption free energy in Au/MoS₂. In addition, the interfacial structure between Au and MoS₂ provides favorable conditions to promote formation of hydrogen. At the same time, improved conductivity of the whole electrode ensures fluent electron transfer. Finally, Au/MoS₂ shows a lower overpotential of 236 mV compared with 313 mV of MoS₂ at the current density of 10 mA cm⁻².

Supplementary Materials: The following are available online, Figure S1: The LSV curves of the Au/MoS₂ with different Au deposition time in the parallel experiment; Figure S2: The CV curves of the Au/MoS₂/Ti with different Au deposition time; Table S1: The atom percentage (at. %) of Au, Mo and S element in the Au/MoS₂/Ti with different Au deposition time.

Author Contributions: Formal analysis, Investigation, Methodology, Writing—original draft, Y.J., R.W.; DFT calculation, Q.W.; Conceptualization, Project administration, Supervision, Validation, Writing—review & editing, X.W. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

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Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Sample Availability: Samples and compounds in this study are available from the authors.

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