## NiRu nanoparticles encapsulated in nitrogen-doped carbon matrix as a highly efficient electrocatalyst for hydrogen evolution reaction

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Figure S1. (a and b) TEM images of Ni-based MOFs and (c and d) Ni@NC.



Figure S2.TEM images of (a and b) NiRu<sub>2</sub>@NC-600, (c and d) NiRu<sub>1</sub>@NC-600, and NiRu<sub>2</sub>@NC-800.



**Figure S3.** The XRD patterns of electrocatalysts obtained at different carbonization temperatures.



Figure S4. XPS spectrum of NiRu<sub>2</sub>@NC-600.



Figure S5. HER polarization curves of Ni@NC in (a) 0.5 M  $H_2SO_4$  and (b) 1.0 M KOH.



Figure S6. The XRD pattern of NiRu@NC-600 after 1000 cycles in 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.



Figure S7. TEM images of NiRu@NC-600 after 1000 cycles in 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.



Figure S8. Nyquist curves for the catalysts in (a)  $0.5 \text{ M H}_2\text{SO}_4$  and (b) 1.0 M KOH.



Fig S9. Polarization curves of NiRu<sub>2</sub>@NC-600 at different rotation rates.

Samples	The initial amount of RuCl <sub>3</sub> (mg)	Ru content (atom %)
NiRu <sub>1</sub> @NC-600	10	5.46 %
NiRu <sub>2</sub> @NC-600	15	6.03 %
NiRu <sub>3</sub> @NC-600	20	6.85 %

**Table S1.** The relation of Ru in the NiRu<sub>x</sub>@NC-600 with initial addition content of RuCl<sub>3</sub> in the solution.

 Table S2. Summary electrochemical performance of NiRu@NC samples.

Sample	Overpotential		Tafel slope	
	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	1.0 M KOH	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	1.0 M KOH
	(mV)	(mV)	(mV dec <sup>-1</sup> )	(mV dec <sup>-1</sup> )
NiRu <sub>2</sub> @NC-500	154	103	90.1	92.78
NiRu <sub>2</sub> @NC-600	87	53	45.54	37.95
NiRu <sub>2</sub> @NC-700	143	86	73.66	81.51
NiRu <sub>2</sub> @NC-800	240	287	103.64	132.79
NiRu <sub>1</sub> @NC-600	283	222	144.64	143.03
NiRu <sub>3</sub> @NC-600	253	96	142.25	81.59