

Supplementary Material

Experimental Details

1. Synthesis of g-C₃N₄

For a typical run, 5 g melamine was transferred into a quartz boat and kept in air tube furnace at 550 °C for 4 h at a heating rate of 6 °C·min [1].

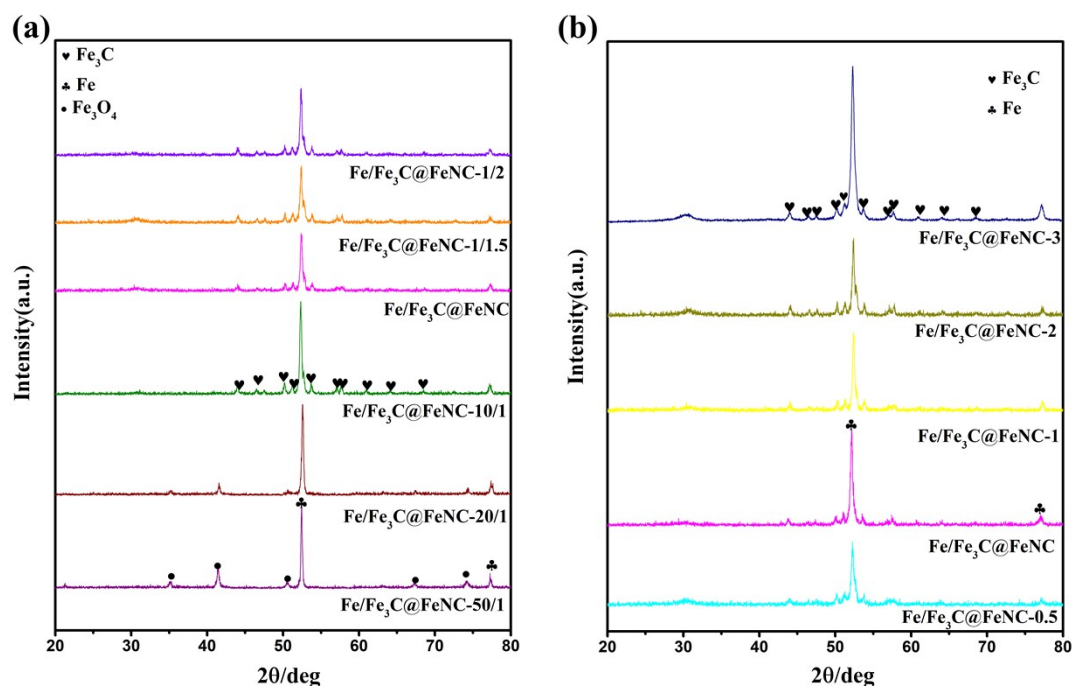


Fig. S1. (a) XRD patterns of the Fe-N-C samples prepared by different mass ratios of Fe₂O₃@PDA and g-C₃N₄ from 50/1 to 1/2, (b) XRD patterns of Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC obtained by different pyrolysis durations from 0.5 h to 3 h.

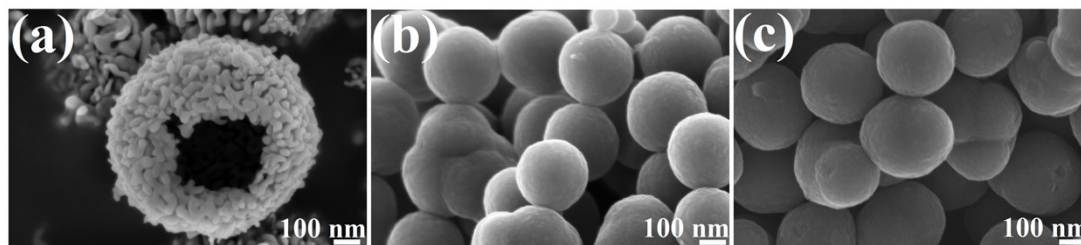


Fig. S2. SEM images of (a) Fe₂O₃, (b) NC-P, (c) NC

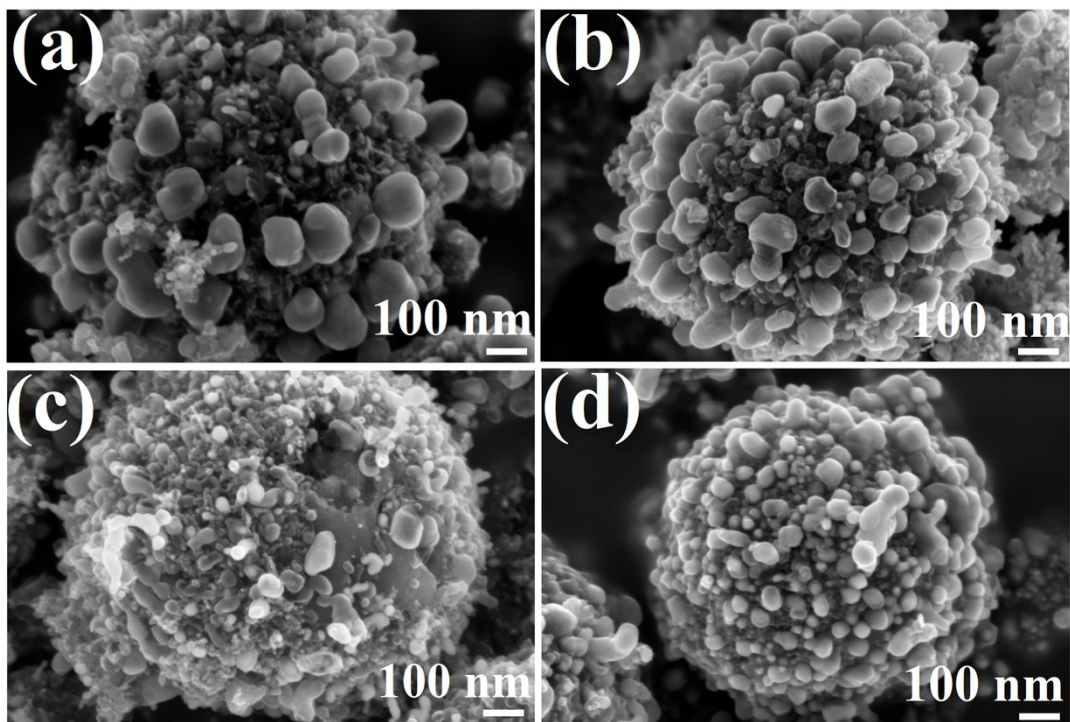


Fig. S3. SEM images of (a) Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC-0.5, (b) Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC-1, (c) Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC-2, (d) Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC-3.

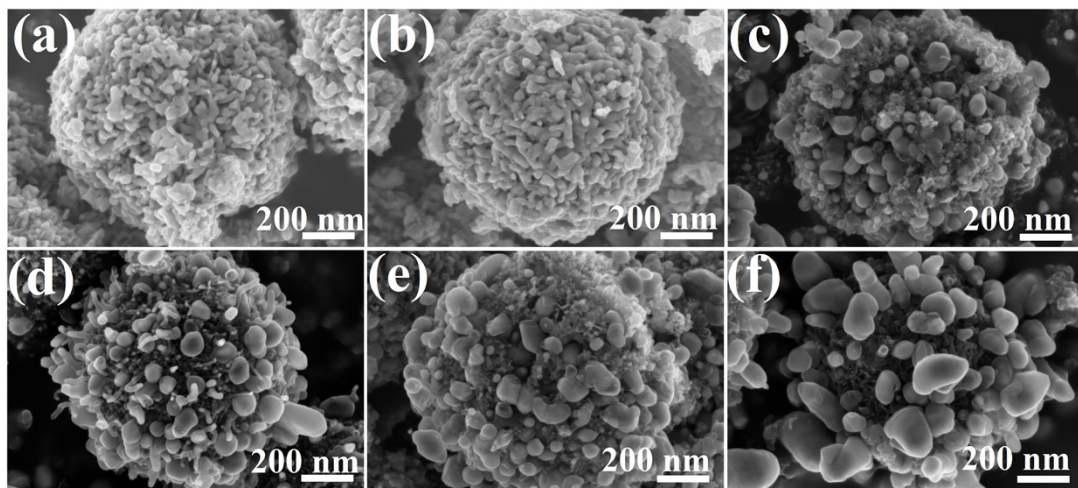


Fig. S4. SEM images of (a) Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC-50/1, (b) Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC-20/1, (c) Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC-10/1, (d) Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC, (e) Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC-1/1.5, (f) Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC-1/2.

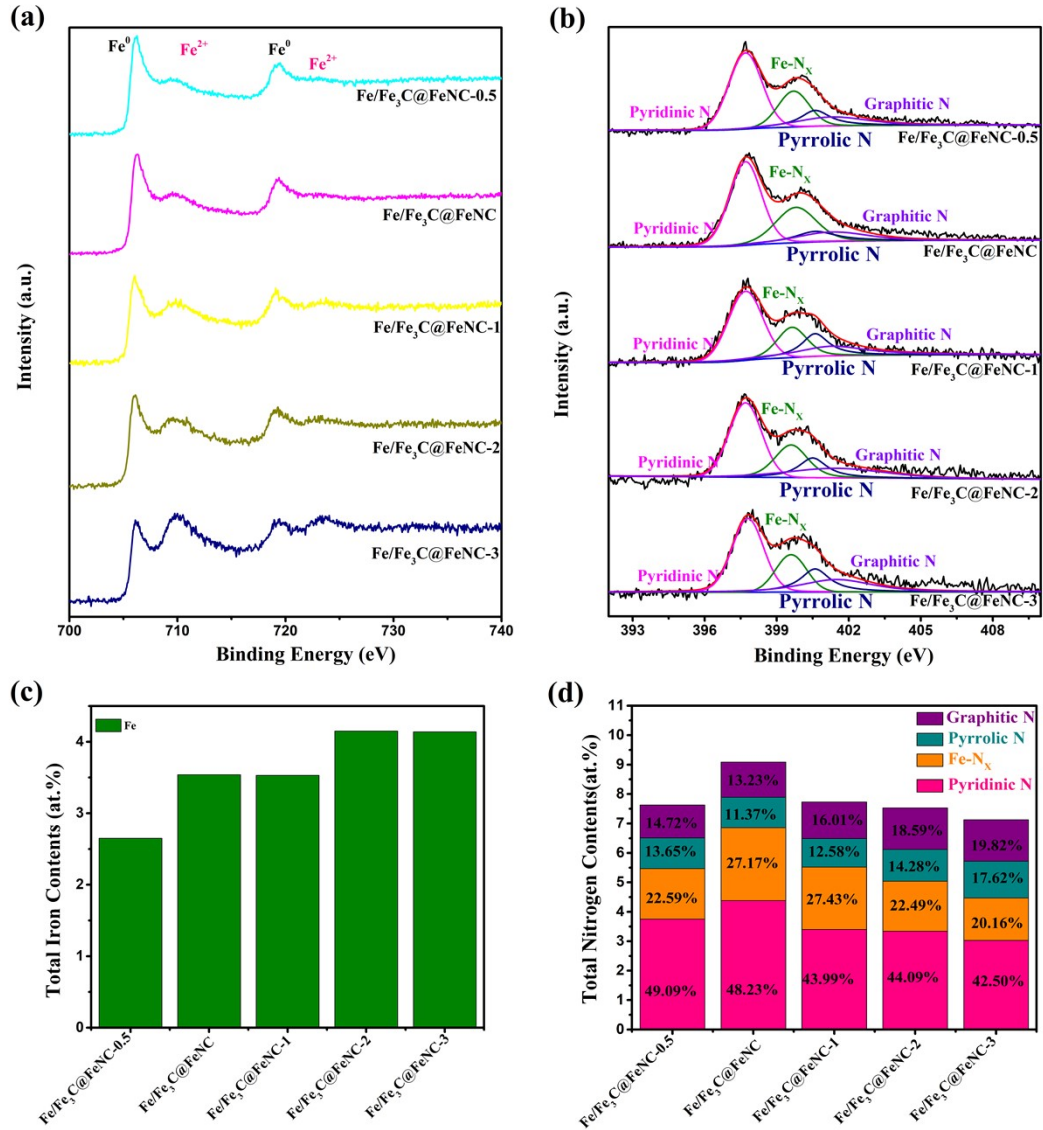


Fig. S5. (a) High-resolution Fe 2p spectrum and (b) high-resolution N 1s spectrum for different pyrolysis durations from 0.5 h to 3 h, (c) The contents of Fe and (d) the contents of total and function N for different pyrolysis durations from 0.5 h to 3 h according to XPS.

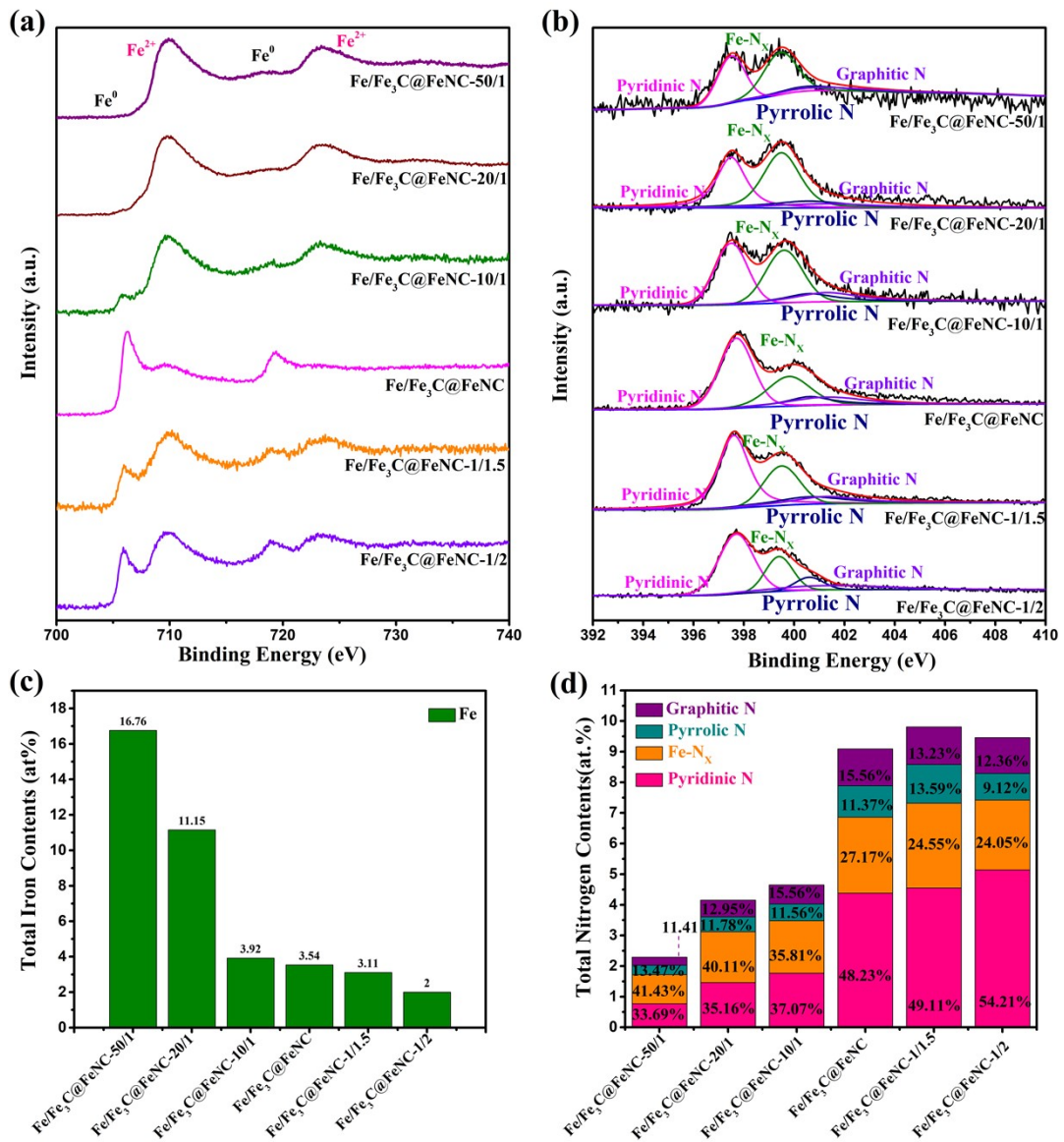


Fig. S6. (a) High-resolution Fe 2p spectrum and (b) high-resolution N 1s spectrum different mass ratios of Fe₂O₃@PDA and g-C₃N₄ from 50/1 to 1/2, (c) The contents of Fe (d) the contents of total and function N for different mass ratios of Fe₂O₃@PDA and g-C₃N₄ from 50/1 to 1/2 according to XPS.

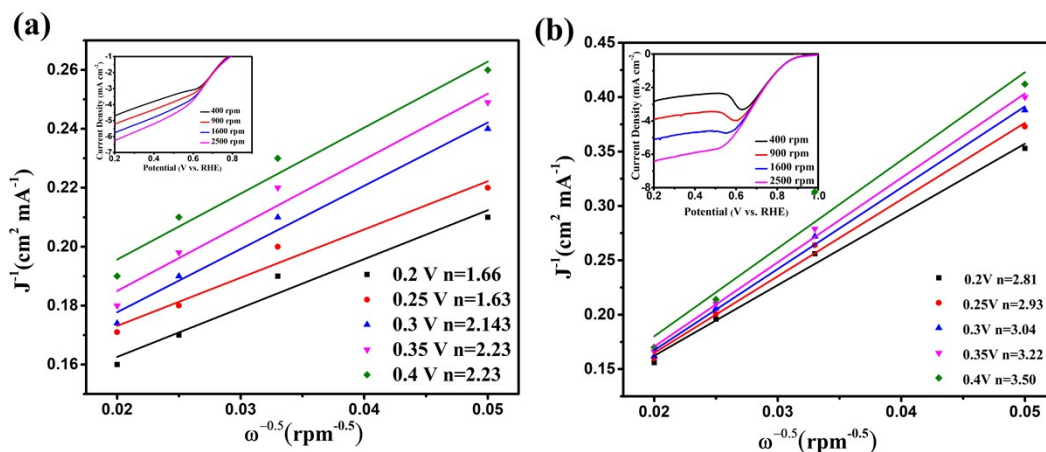


Fig. S7. K-L plots and electron transfer number at various potential of (a) NC, (b)

Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC-nP-1/1.

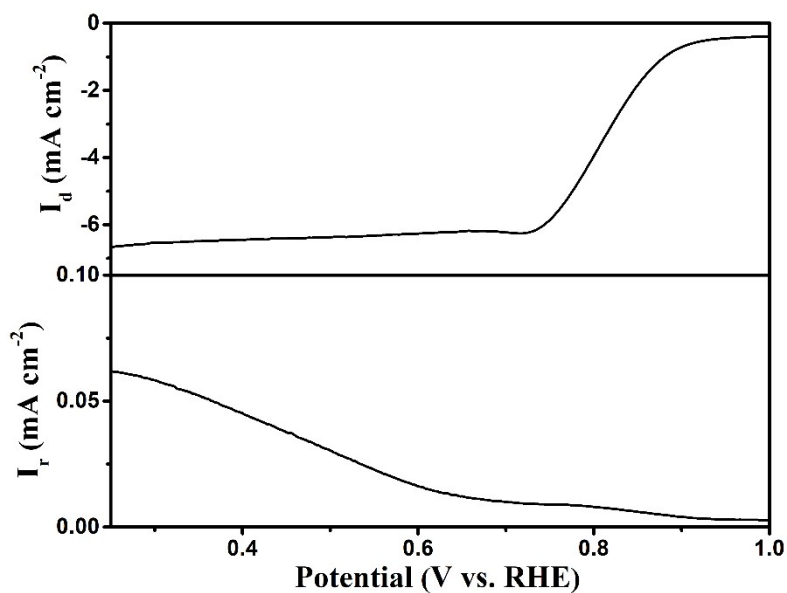


Fig. S8. RRDE voltammograms recorded with Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC in O₂-saturated 0.1 M KOH solution.

Scan rate: 10 mV s⁻¹ rotation rate 1600 rpm.

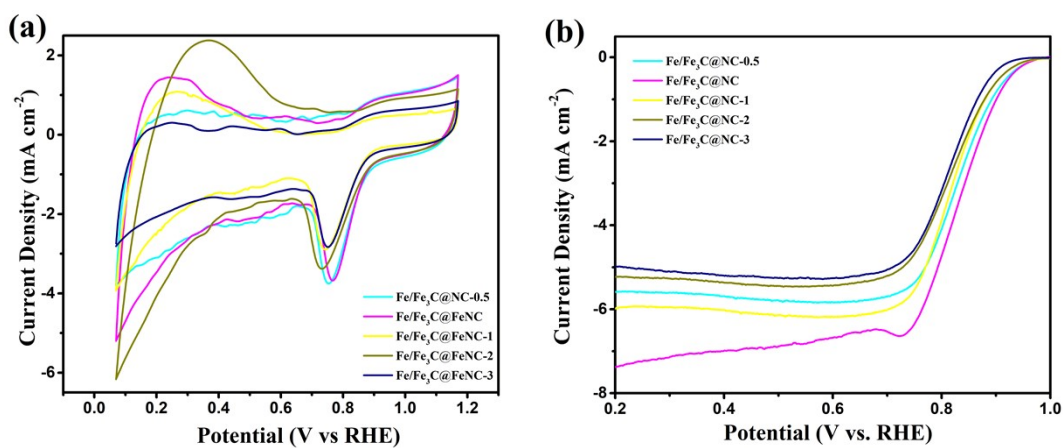


Fig. S9. (a) The CV curves, (b) LSV curves of different pyrolysis durations from 0.5 h to 3 h.

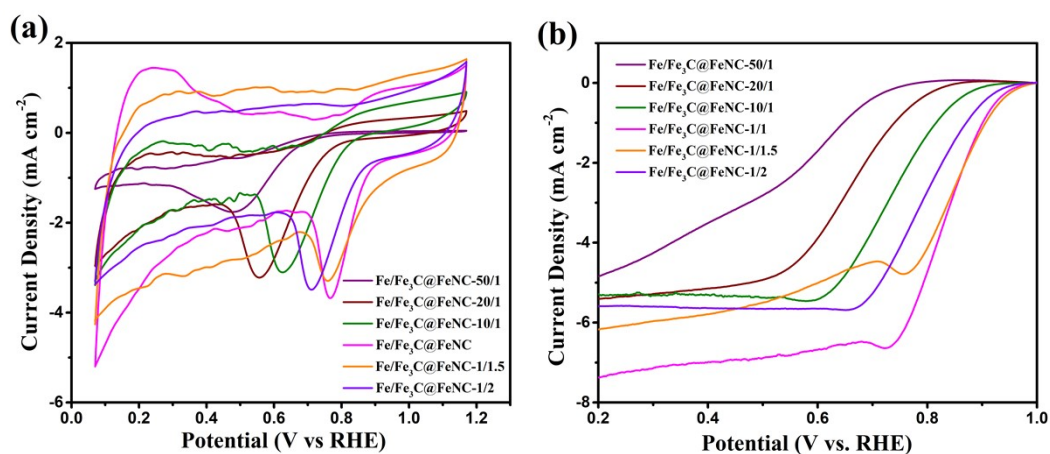


Fig. S10. (a) The CV curves, (b) LSV curves of different mass ratios of Fe_2O_3 @PDA and $\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4$ from 50/1 to 1/2.

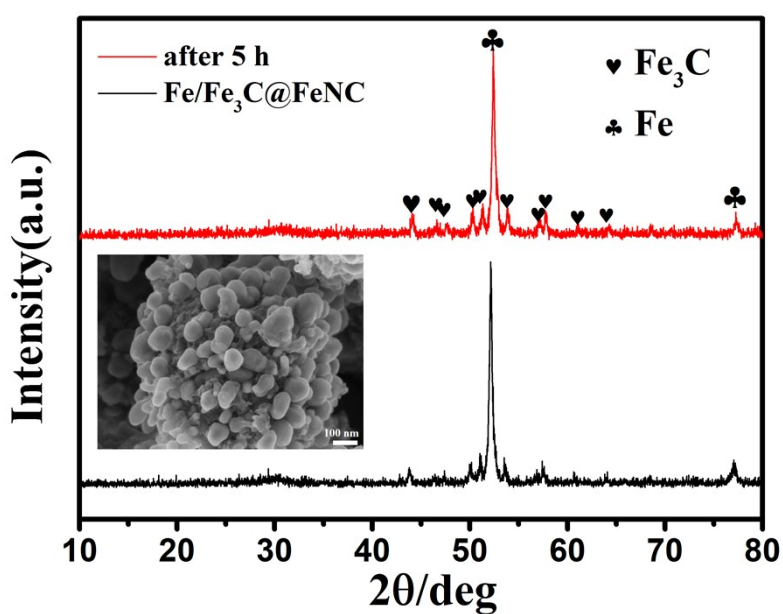


Fig. S11. XRD patterns of different $\text{FeFe}_3\text{C@FeNC}$ and after 5 h cycle, and SEM image of after 5 h cycle

(inset).

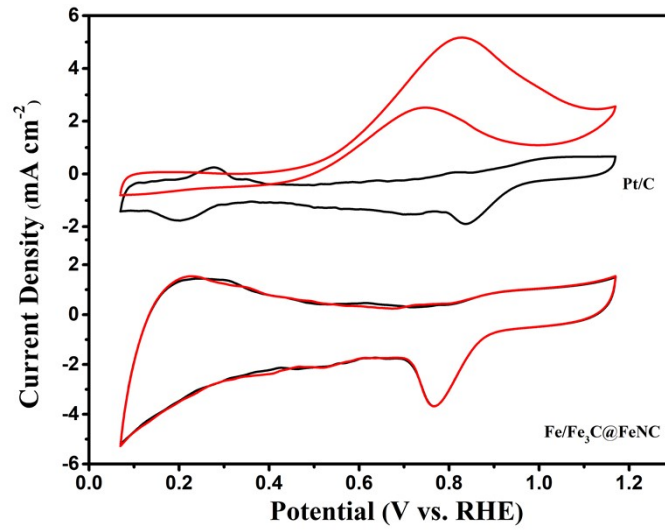


Fig. S12. Methanol tolerance tests of Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC and commercial Pt/C.

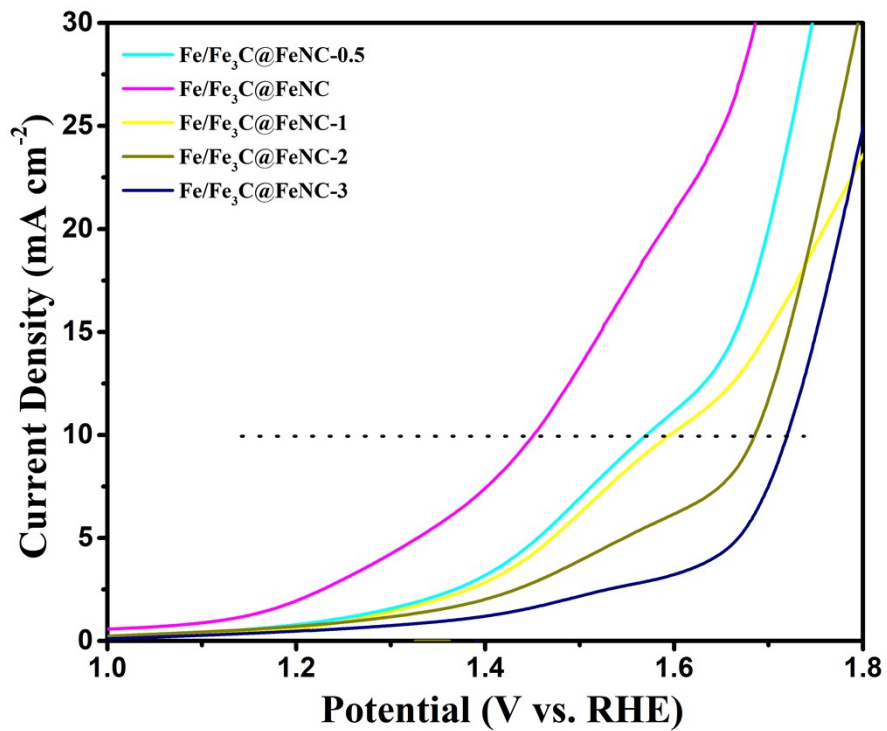


Fig. S13. LSV curves of different pyrolysis durations from 0.5 h to 3 h.

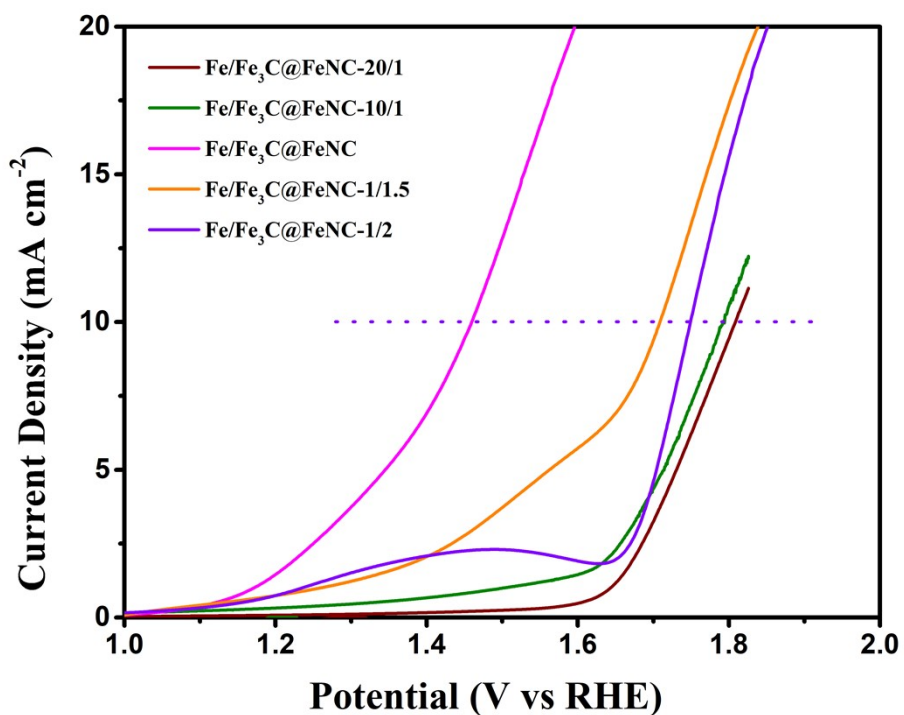


Fig. S14. LSV curves of different mass ratios of $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@PDA$ and $g\text{-C}_3\text{N}_4$ from 20/1 to 1/2.

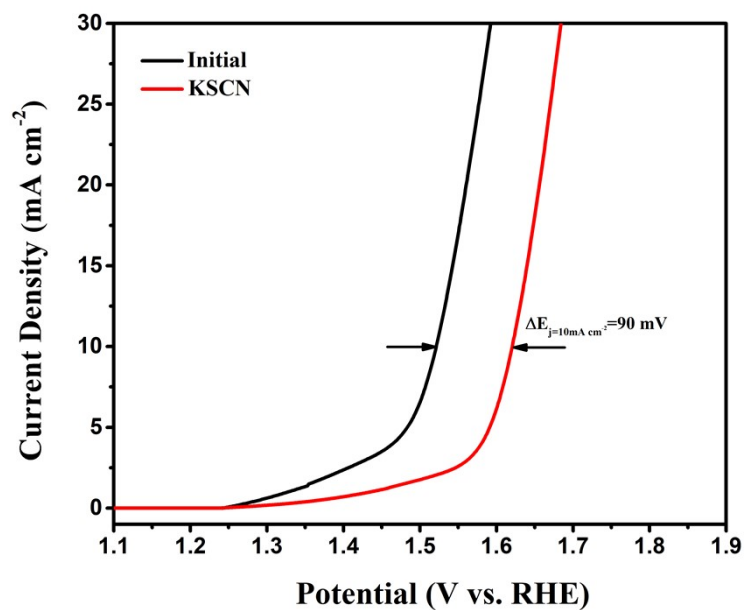


Fig. S15. LSV curves of SCN^{-1} poisoned and initial $\text{Fe/Fe}_3\text{C@FeNC}$.

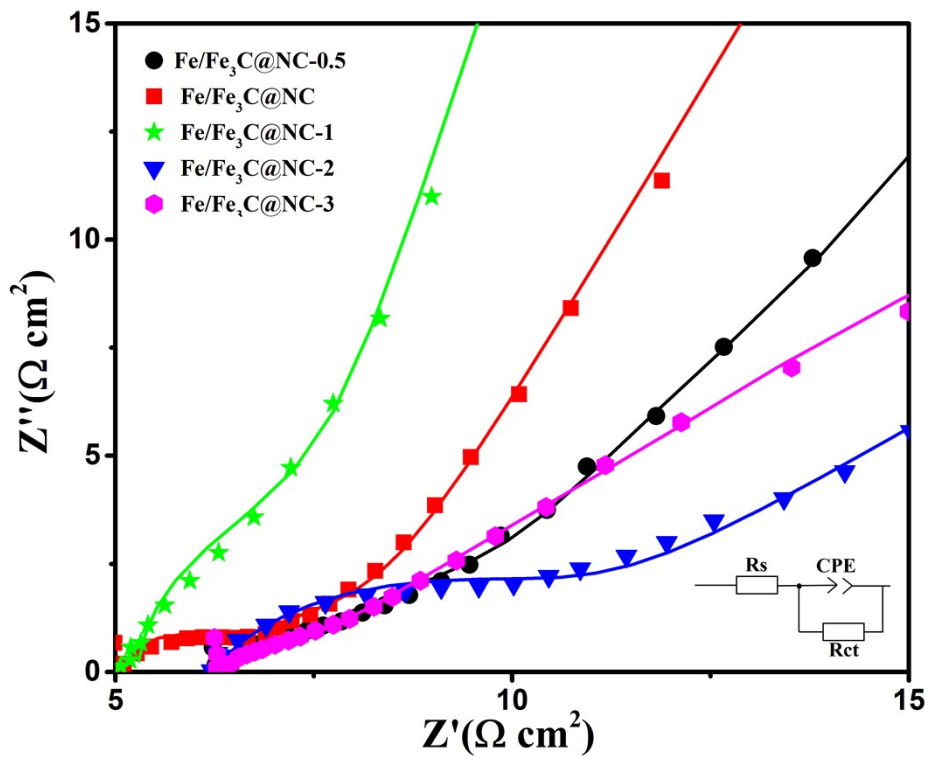


Fig. S16. Nyquist plots of the different pyrolysis durations from 0.5 h to 3 h.

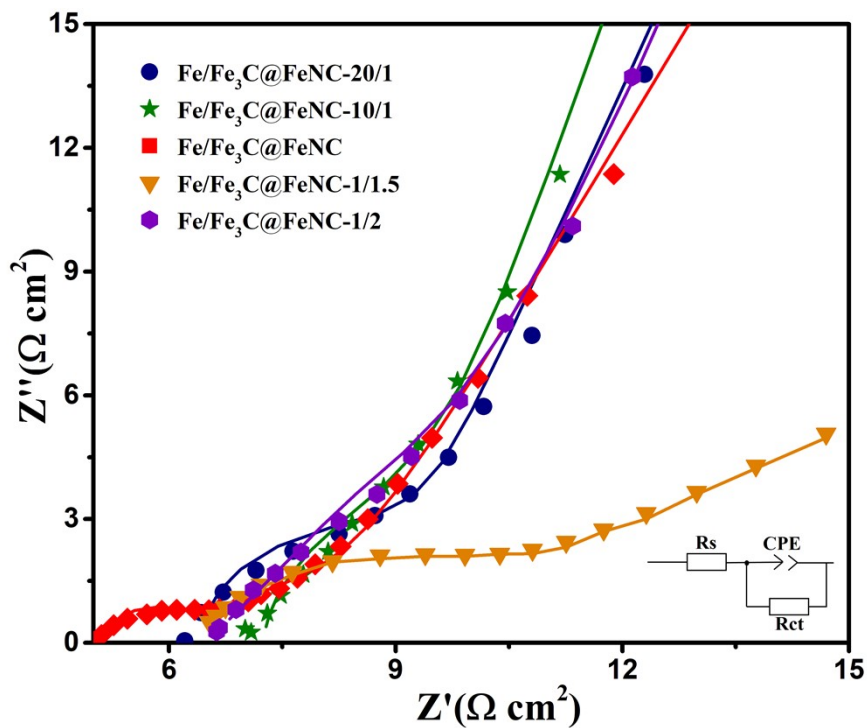


Fig. S17. Nyquist plots of the different mass ratios of Fe_2O_3 @PDA and $\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4$ from 20/1 to 1/2.

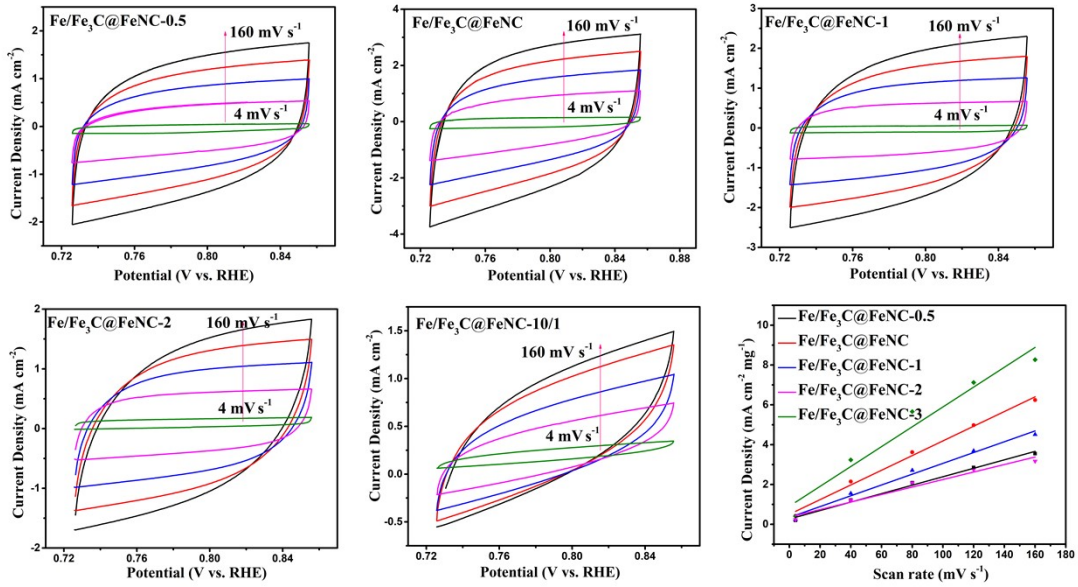


Fig. S18. (a-e) CV curves at different scan rates for different pyrolysis durations from 0.5 h to 3 h.

(f) Dependence of current density on scan rate.

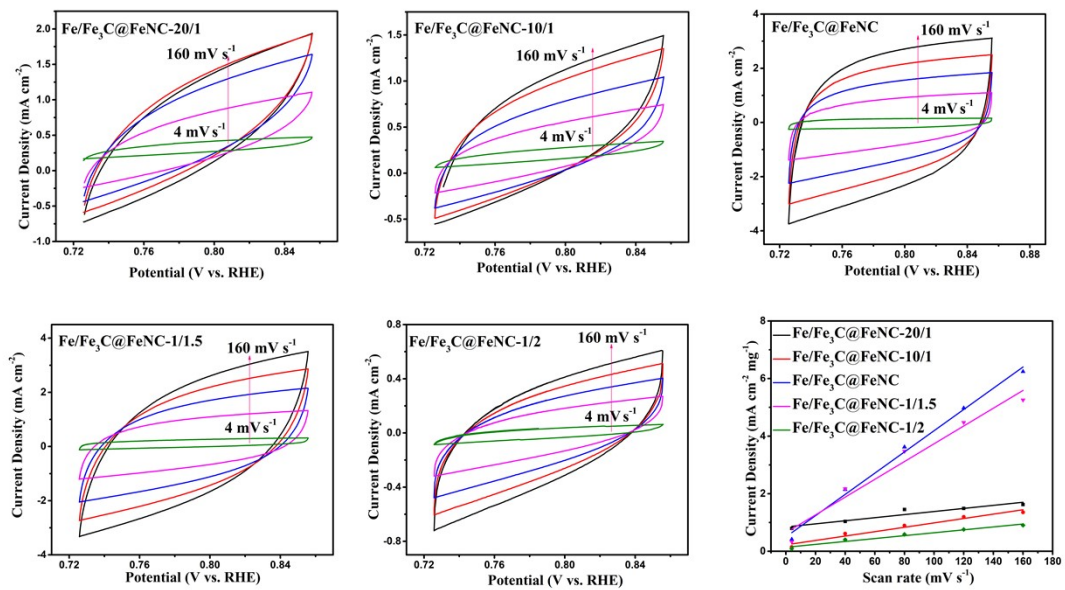


Fig. S19. (a-e) CV curves at different scan rates for different mass ratios of Fe₂O₃@PDA and g-C₃N₄ from 20/1 to 1/2. (f) Dependence of current density on scan rate.

Table S1. ORR and OER performance of Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC in this work and some other Fe-N-C electrocatalysts.

Electrocatalyst	ORR			OER	ΔE (mV)	Reference
	$E_{1/2}$ (V)	j_L (mA cm ⁻²)	Stability retention rate (%)/Time	η (mV) at $j=10$ mA cm ⁻²		
Fe/Fe ₃ C@FeNC	0.832	7.7	94/18000	220	610	This work
Co-Fe-P-Se/NC	0.76	-	60.4/7200	270	740	[2]
FePPc@CB	0.908	7.44	73/40000	388	680	[3]
Fe ₃ O ₄ @FeNC	0.890	6.9	90/40000	-	-	[4]
Fe@C-NG/NCNTs	0.840	-	78.4/40000	450	840	[5]
N-Co ₃ O ₄ @NC-2	0.77	5.87	97.6/15000	320	780	[6]
Fe ₃ O ₄ /N-MCS-2	0.702	5.16	91.6/80000	-	-	[7]
Fe ₃ C/Fe ₂ O ₃ @NGNs	0.82	5.64	99.17/15000	460	868	[8]
FeS/Fe ₃ C@NS-C-900	0.78	6.83	90/20000	270	720	[9]
Fe-N-DSC	0.739	-	95.9/30000	-	-	[10]
Co ₂ P@NPC-1	0.828	5.117	88/20000	327	729	[11]

Table S2. Elemental values of fitted equivalent circuit based on EIS spectra for OER.

Catalyst	R_{ct} ($\Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$)	R_s ($\Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$)	$CPE-T$ ($\Omega^{-1} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-n}$)	$CPE-P$
Fe/Fe ₃ C@FeNC-0.5	1.18	6.01	0.00015	0.88
Fe/Fe ₃ C@FeNC	0.61	5.23	1.84E-6	0.87
Fe/Fe ₃ C@FeNC-1	1.67	5.45	6.74E-6	0.88
Fe/Fe ₃ C@FeNC-2	3.79	6.20	6.24E-5	0.86
Fe/Fe ₃ C@FeNC-3	0.56	6.32	5.04E-6	0.87
Fe/Fe ₃ C@FeNC-20/1	2.22	6.18	1.02E-6	0.88
Fe/Fe ₃ C@FeNC-10/1	1.52	6.21	8.66E-6	0.89
Fe/Fe ₃ C@FeNC-1.5/1	9.67	6.25	0.00040	0.86
Fe/Fe ₃ C@FeNC-1/2	87.27	6.47	0.00014	0.88

Table S3. The performance of ZABs by recently reported bifunctional electrocatalysts and Fe/Fe₃C@FeNC in this work.

Electrocatalyst	Open-circuit voltage (V)	Maximum power density (mW cm ⁻²)	Specific capacity (mAh g ⁻¹)	Energy density (Wh kg ⁻¹)	Reference
Fe/Fe ₃ C@FeNC	1.414	134.6	856.2	1094	This work
FeNi-N-C/N- CNT	1.46	273	755	924	[12]
Fe ₃ O ₄ @NHCS-2	1.42	133	701	-	[13]
Fe ₂ O ₃ @NC-450	1.267	156.6	-	-	[14]
Fe ₃ C/Fe ₂ O ₃ @NGNs	1.46	139.8	722	805	[8]
Co-Fe-P-Se/NC	1.3	104	708	805	[2]
FePPc@CB	1.367	90	1391	1317	[3]
FeS/Fe ₃ C@NS-C-900	1.455	192.2	750	-	[9]
FeNi ₃ @NC	1.14	139	756	915	[15]
nNiFe LDH/3D MPC	1.51	97	573	-	[16]
Co/Co-N-C	1.434	122.5	700.6	897.1	[17]

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