

Supporting Information

In-situ growth of N-doped bamboo-like carbon nanotubes embedded with FeNi nanoparticles on carbon cloth as self-standing cathode for rechargeable zinc-air battery

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1. Supplementary Figures and Tables

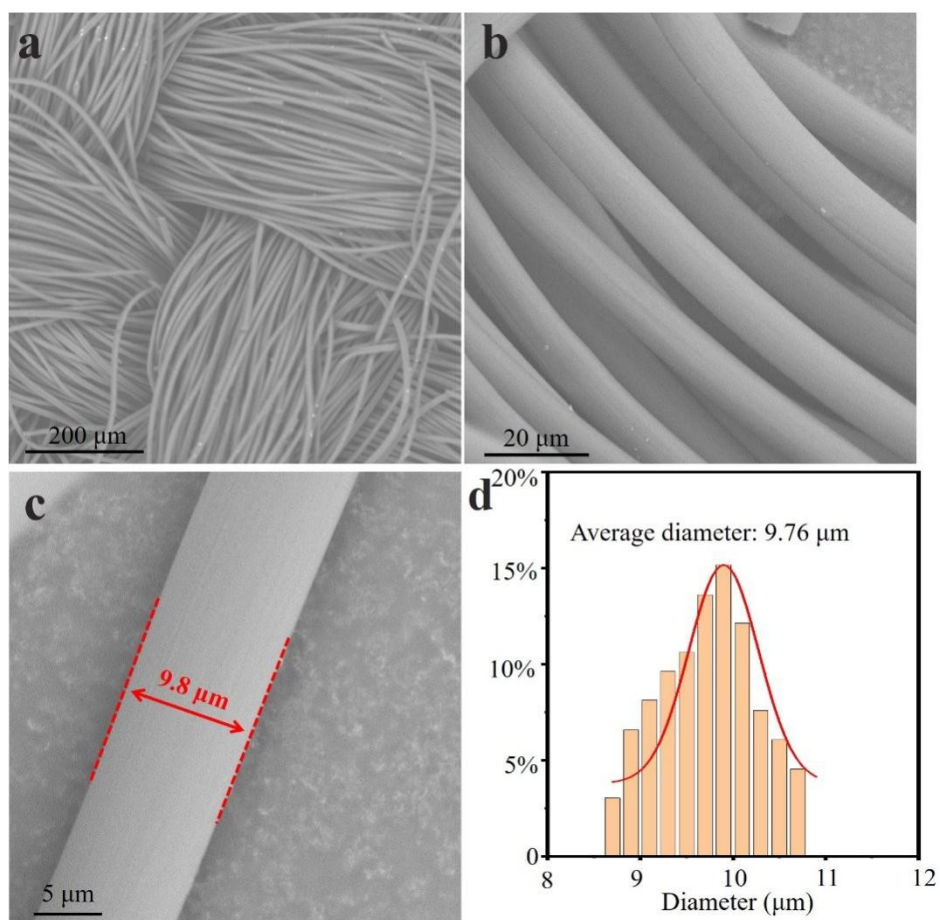


Fig S1. (a-c) SEM images of pristine CC. (d) Diameter distribution of carbon filaments in the CC.

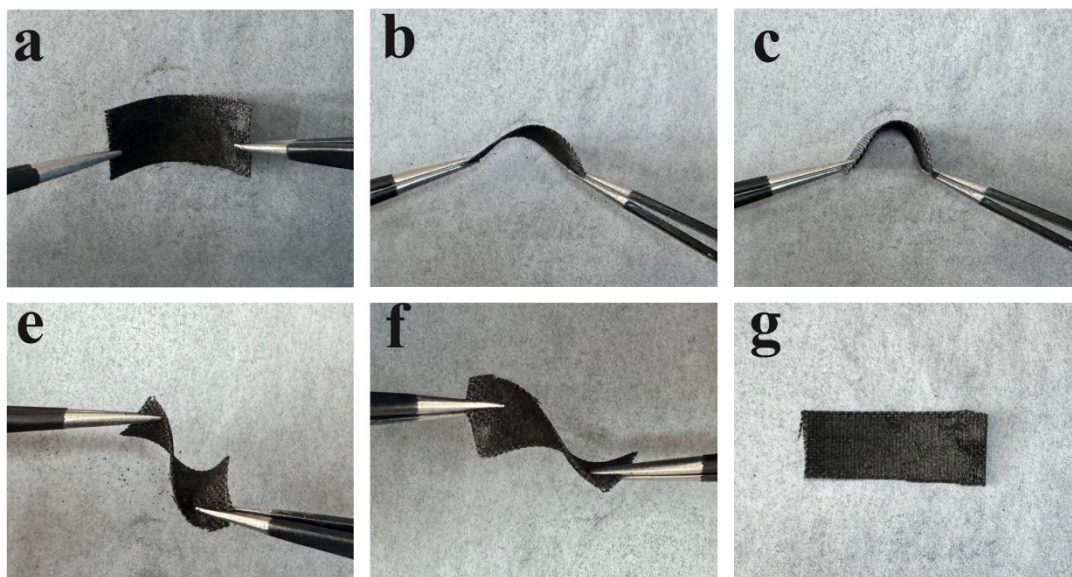


Fig S2. (a-f) Photographs of as-prepared FeNi@NBCNTs/CC under different stress states. (g) Photographs of FeNi@NBCNTs/CC after removing the external stress.

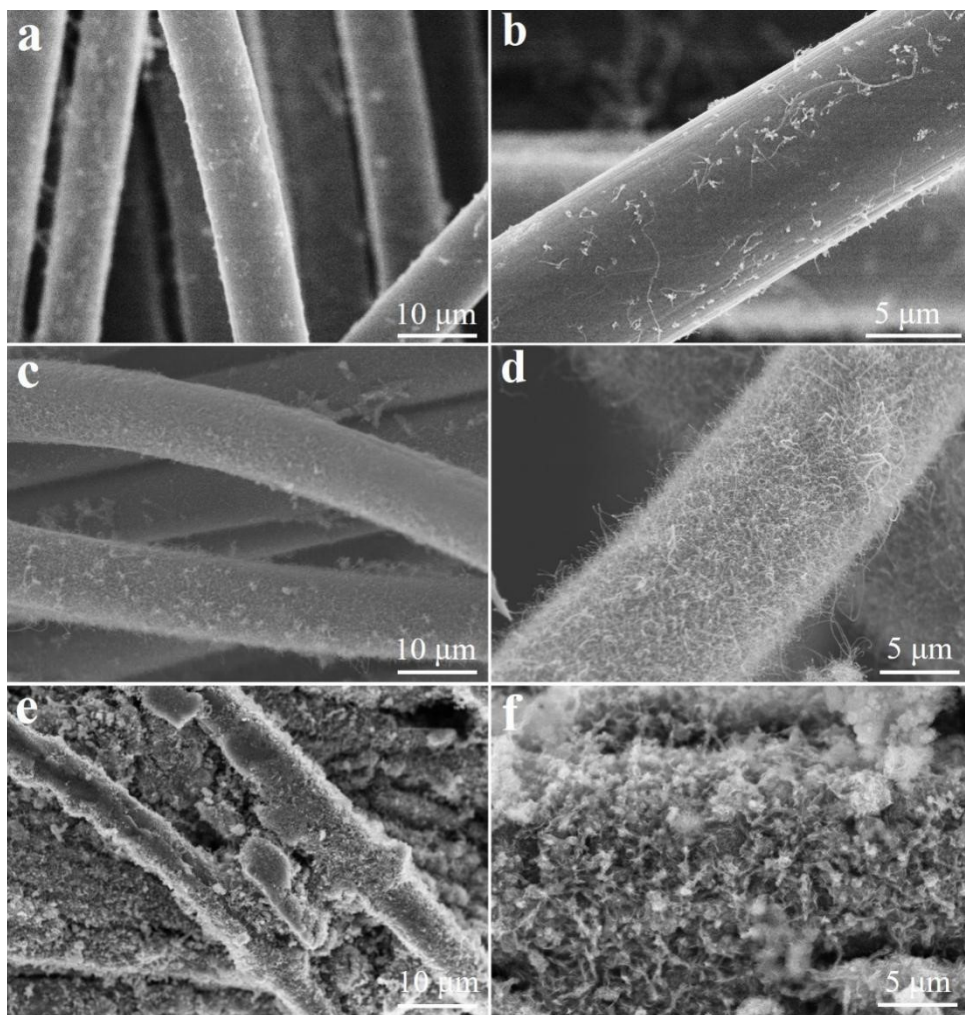


Fig S3. SEM images of FeNi@NBCNTs/CC synthesized at different concentrations of $\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3$ and $\text{Ni}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ in the precursor solution. (a, b) 1 mM $\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3$ and 1 mM $\text{Ni}(\text{NO}_3)_2$. (c, d) 2 mM $\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3$ and 2 mM. (e, f) 4 mM $\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3$ and 4 mM $\text{Ni}(\text{NO}_3)_2$.

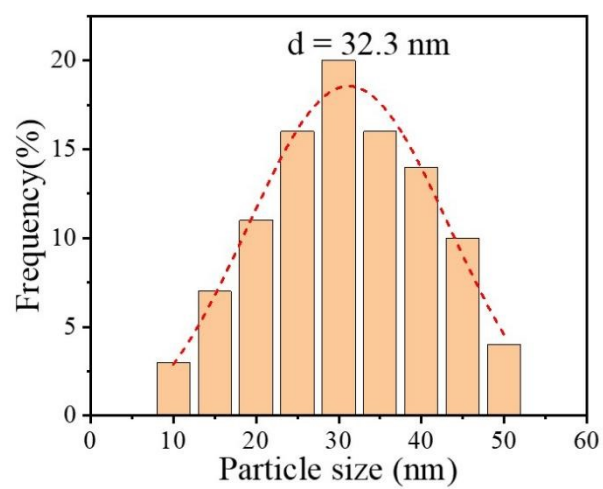


Fig S4. Particle size distribution of FeNi nanoparticles encapsulated within carbon nanotubes

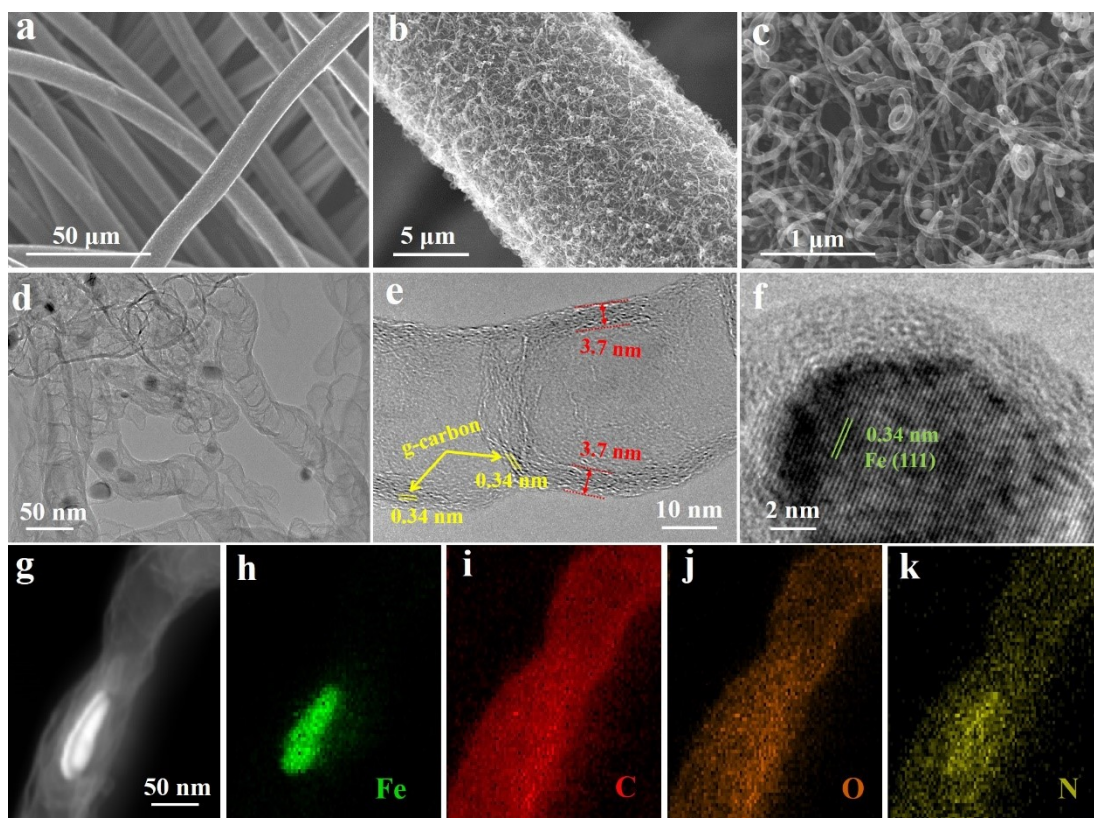


Fig S5. (a-c) SEM images of Fe@NBCNTs/CC. (d) TEM image of Fe@NBCNTs. (e) TEM image for a piece of NBCNTs. (f) TEM image of a Fe nanoparticle. (g-k) HAADF-STEM elemental mapping images of Fe@NBCNTs, showing the presence of Fe, C, N and O elements.

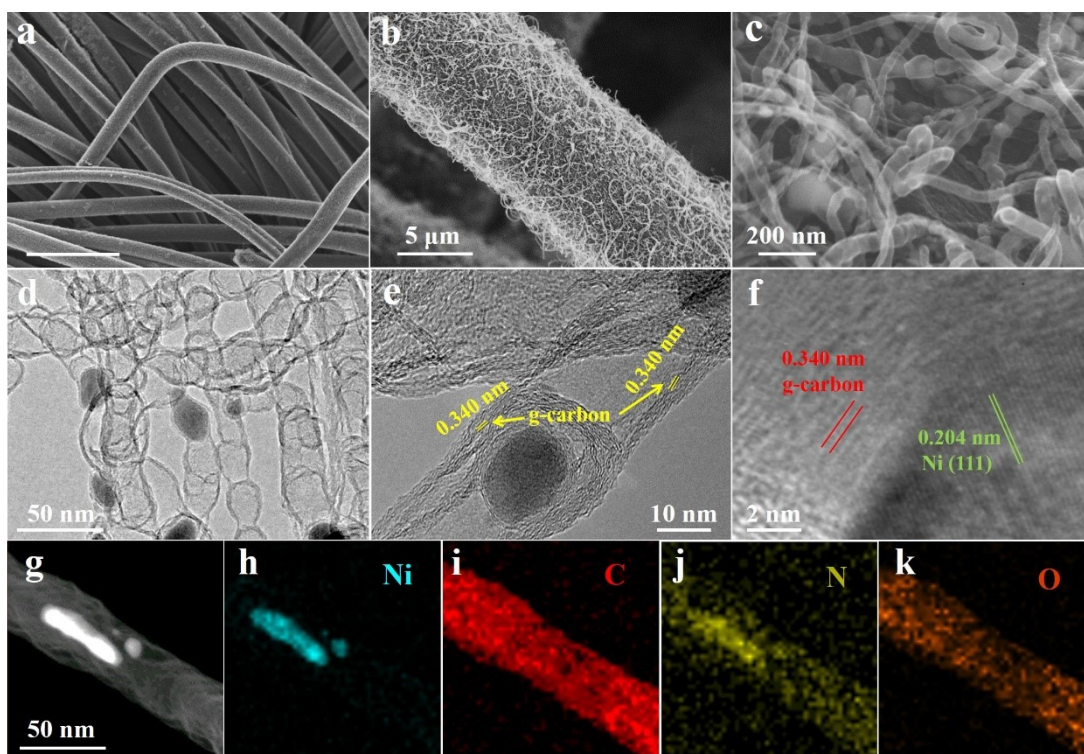


Fig S6. (a-c) SEM images of Ni@NBCNTs/CC. (d) TEM image of Ni@NBCNTs. (e) TEM image for a piece of NBCNTs. (f) TEM image of a Ni nanoparticle. (g-k) HAADF-STEM elemental mapping images of Ni@NBCNTs, showing the presence of Ni, C, N and O elements.

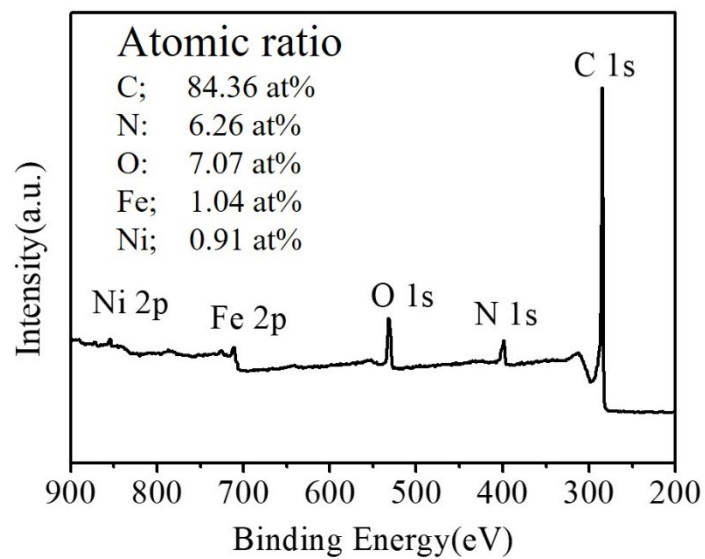


Fig S7. XPS survey spectrum of FeNi@NBCNTs/CC.

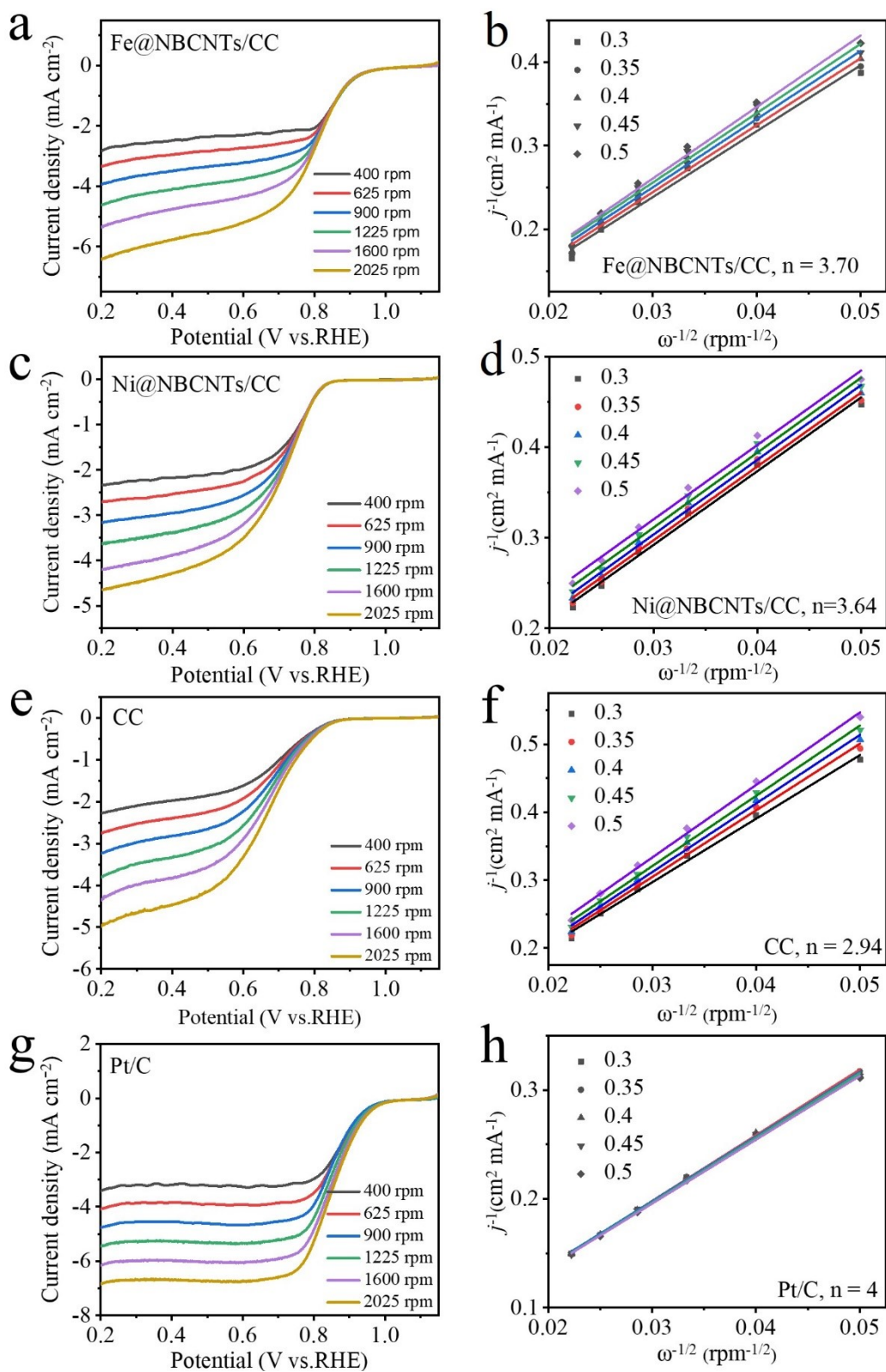


Fig S8. ORR polarization curves (left) at various rotation rates and the corresponding Koutecky-Levich plots (right) obtained at different potentials from (a, b) Fe@NBCNTs/CC, (c, d) Ni@NBCNTs/CC, (e, f) CC and (g, h) Pt/C.

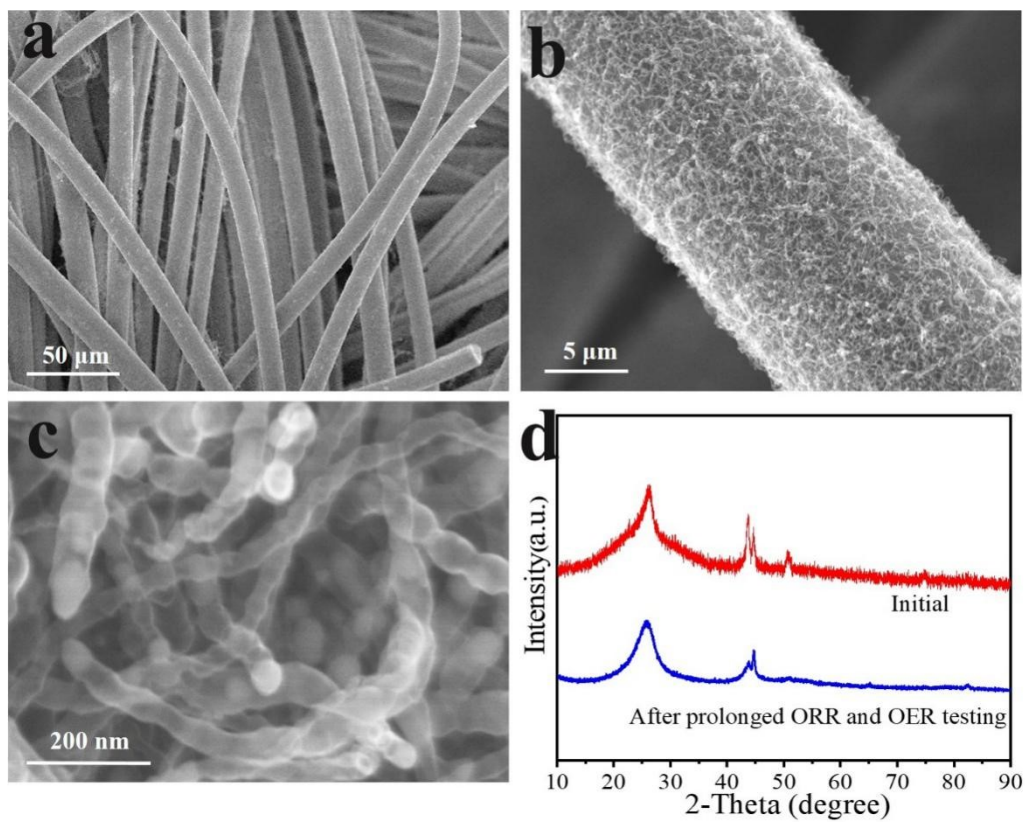


Fig S9. SEM images (a-c) and XRD patterns (d) of FeNi@NBCNTs/CC after long-term ORR and OER stability tests.

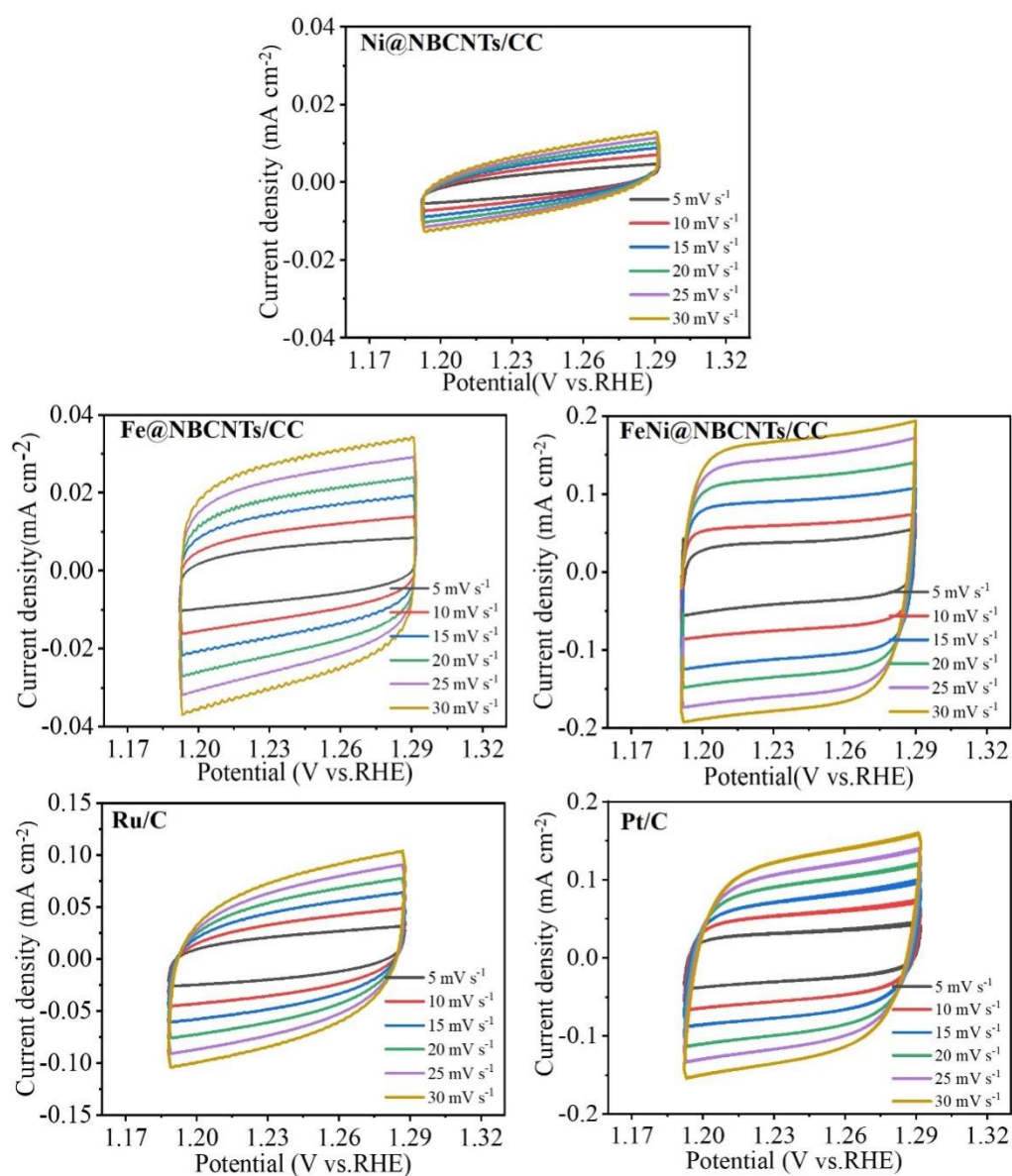


Fig S10. The CV curves recorded at various scan rates ranging from 5 to 30 mV s⁻¹



Fig S11. Photograph of liquid RZAB of Pt/C+Ru/C cathode with an open-circuit voltage of 1.436 V.



Fig S12. Photograph of flexible RZAB of Pt/C+Ru/C cathode with an open-circuit voltage of 1.343 V.

Table S1. Thorough comparison of performances of recently reported bifunctional oxygen electrocatalysts.

Catalyst	ORR $E_{1/2}$ vs RHE	OER $E_{j=10}$ vs RHE	$\Delta E = (E_{j=10} - E_{1/2})$ vs RHE	Peak power density	Capacity	Stability	Reference
FeNi@NBCNTs/C C	0.90V	1.52V	0.62	171.8mW cm ⁻²	792.6mAhgZn ⁻¹	425h@10mA cm ⁻²	This work
CoNC-50	0.84V	1.65V	0.81	125.2mW cm ⁻²	790.8mAhgZn ⁻¹	50h@5mA cm ⁻²	[1]
CP-N-C@900	0.86V	1.65V	0.79	279.5mW cm ⁻²	726.3mAhgZn ⁻¹	120h@5mA cm ⁻²	[2]
Co-NC+CNT	0.855V	1.695V	0.84	225mW cm ⁻²	906.0mAhgZn ⁻¹	200h@5mA cm ⁻²	[3]
P-CoNi@NSCs	0.81V	1.6V	0.79	87.9mW cm ⁻²	745.0mAhgZn ⁻¹	430h@10mA cm ⁻²	[4]
Fe ₂ -N /CNTs-850	0.855V	1.668V	0.814	122.5mW cm ⁻²	764.6mAhgZn ⁻¹	160h@3mA cm ⁻²	[5]
Fe ₁₂ Ni ₂₃ Cr ₁₀ Co ₃₀ Mn ₂₅ /CNT	0.81V	1.514V	0.704	128.6mW cm ⁻²	760mAhgZn ⁻¹	256@5mA cm ⁻²	[6]
CMS ₂ -NiCo ₂ O ₄ -3	0.82V	1.622V	0.802	175.5mW cm ⁻²	801.1mAhgZn ⁻¹	167@5mA cm ⁻²	[7]
Co ₉ S ₈ @NiFe- LDH	0.74V	1.62V	0.88	148mW cm ⁻²	780.5mAhgZn ⁻¹	200h@10mA cm ⁻²	[8]
FeNi/NS-C	0.83V	1.585V	0.755	144mW cm ⁻²	821.0mAhgZn ⁻¹	1000h@5mA cm ⁻²	[9]
Co/N-HPCs-800	0.86V	1.597V	0.737	159.67mW cm ⁻²	787.94mAhgZn ⁻¹	30h@5mA cm ⁻²	[10]
Co-NC@Nb-TiOx	0.86V	1.71V	0.85	123.46mW cm ⁻²	780.4mAhgZn ⁻¹	225h@5mA cm ⁻²	[11]
CoSx@srGO/CNT	0.81V	1.56V	0.75	66.45mW cm ⁻²	583mAhgZn ⁻¹	1000min@10m A cm ⁻²	[12]

MnS/Ni ₃ S ₄	0.83V	1.56V	0.73	158.2mW cm ⁻²	712.3mAhgZn ⁻¹	390h@5mA cm ⁻²	[13]
Cox Niy /NC (2:1)	0.85V	1.539V	0.689	143mW cm ⁻²	807mAhgZn ⁻¹	100h@10mA cm ⁻²	[14]
FeCo/N-CNTs-800	0.891V	1.61V	0.719	200.4mW cm ⁻²	763.54mAhgZn ⁻¹	445h@10mA cm ⁻²	[15]
NiFe ₂ O ₄ /FeNC	0.83V	1.54V	0.71	140mW cm ⁻²	781.8mAhgZn ⁻¹	100h@10mA cm ⁻²	[16]
glu-NiFe	0.85V	1.67V	0.82	127mW cm ⁻²	812.2mAhgZn ⁻¹	18h@5mA cm ⁻²	[17]
MC@NC-0.3	0.82V	1.59V	0.77	153mW cm ⁻²	776mAhgZn ⁻¹	300h@10mA cm ⁻²	[18]
FeCo-NC@Co2P-NC	0.862V	1.536V	0.674	159.3mW cm ⁻²	881.3mAhgZn ⁻¹	140h@10mA cm ⁻²	[19]
CoFe-Co _{5,47} N	0.79V	1.634V	0.844	178mW cm ⁻²	709.3mAhgZn ⁻¹	1000h@10mA cm ⁻²	[20]

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