

**Achieving electroreduction of CO₂ to CH₃OH with high selectivity by
pyrite-nickel sulfide nanocomposite**

Supporting information

Siqi Zhao, Sijie Guo, Cheng Zhu, Jin Gao, Hao Li, Hui Huang, Yang Liu*, Zhenhui Kang**

Jiangsu Key Laboratory for Carbon-Based Functional Materials & Devices, Institute of Functional Nano & Soft Materials (FUNSOM), Soochow University, 199 Ren'ai Road, Suzhou, 215123, Jiangsu, PR China. E-mail: zhkang@suda.edu.cn; Tel: +86 512 65880957

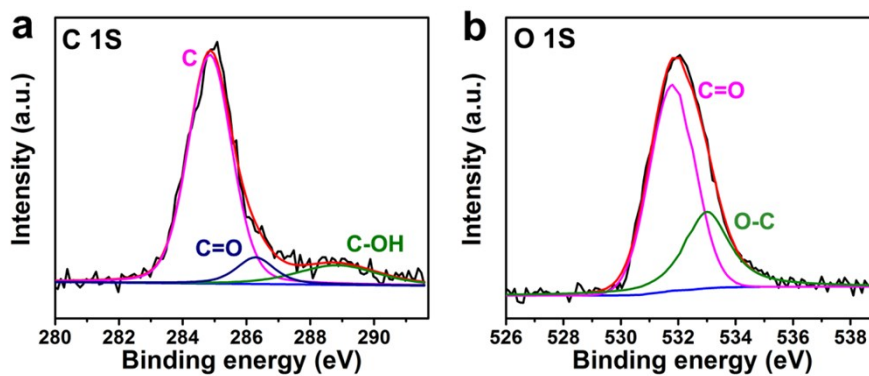


Figure S1. The high-resolution XPS spectra of (a) C 1s and (b) O 1s.

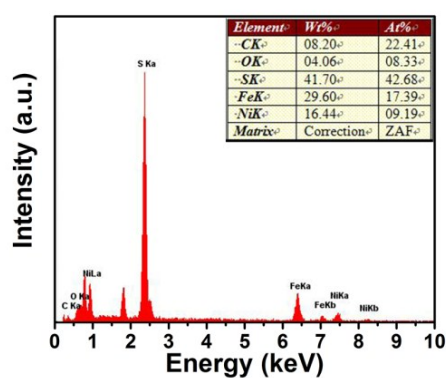


Figure S2. The EDX spectrum of FeS₂/NiS nanocomposite.

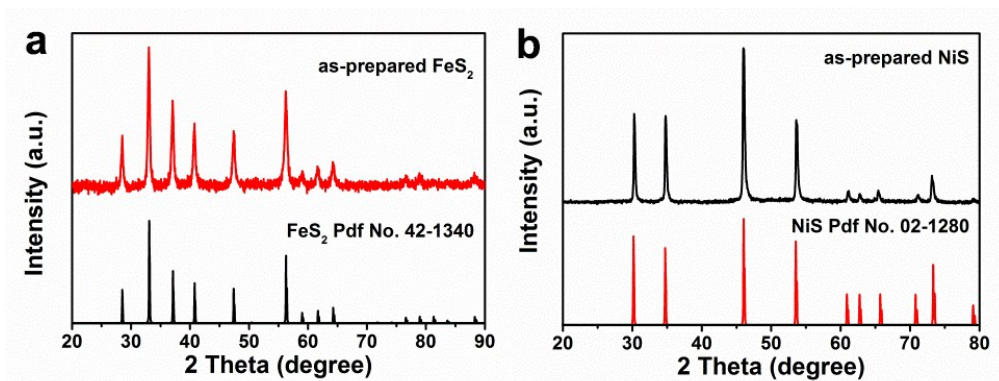


Figure S3. The large-angle XRD patterns of (a) FeS₂ and (b) NiS nanocrystals.

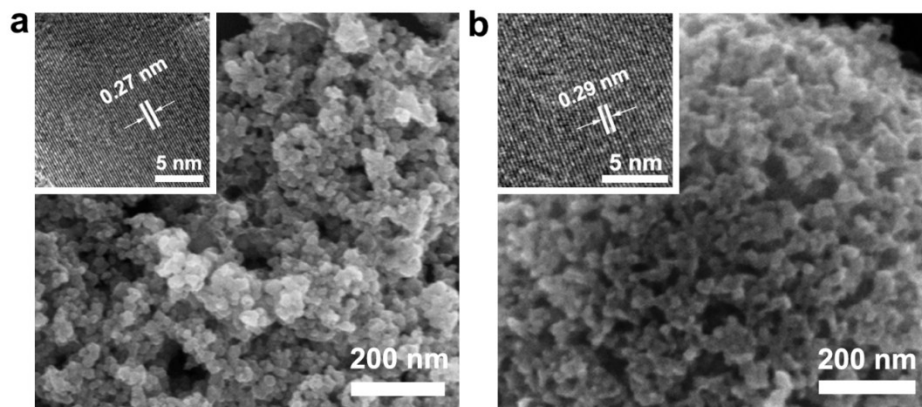


Figure S4. (a) The SEM image of FeS₂ nanocrystals and the HRTEM image of FeS₂ nanocrystals (inset). (b) The SEM image of NiS nanocrystals and the HRTEM image of NiS nanocrystals (inset).

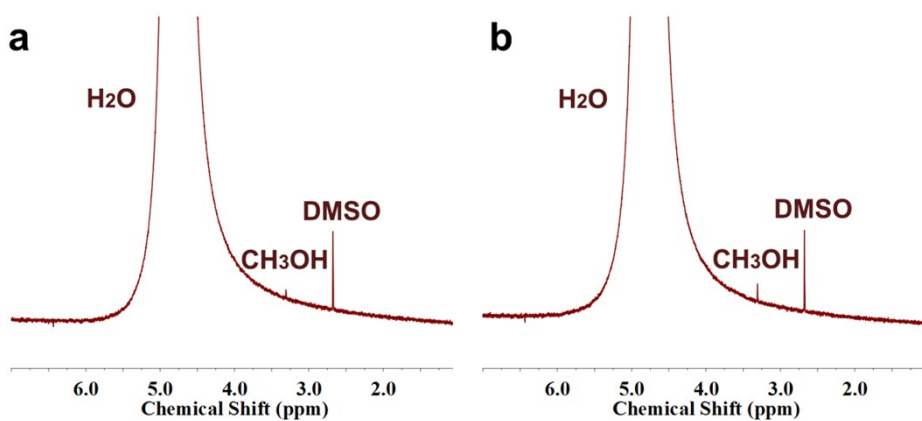


Figure S5. ¹H-NMR spectra of the electrolytes after (a) 2 h and (b) 4 h CO₂ electroreduction at -0.6 V vs. RHE for the FeS₂/NiS nanocomposite.

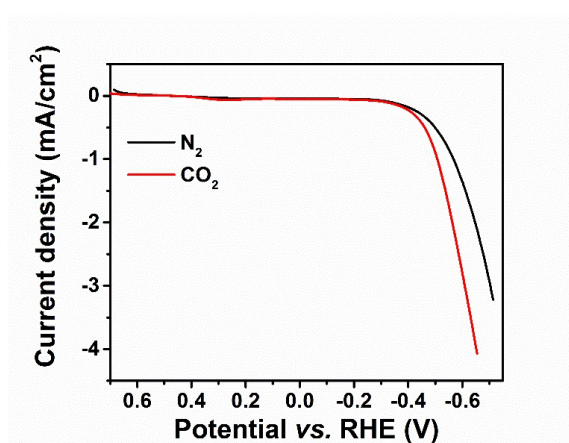


Figure S6. LSVs for physical mixture of FeS₂ and NiS nanocrystals in 0.5 M KHCO₃ aqueous solution under N₂ (blue trace) and CO₂ (red trace) atmosphere.

Table S1. Summary of electrode/electrocatalysts for selectively reducing CO₂ to CH₃OH.

No.	Electrode/electrocatalysts	Electrode Potential (V)	Faradaic Efficiency (%)	Ref.
1	FeS ₂ /NiS nanocomposite	-1.3 V vs. SCE	64	This work
2	Ru	-0.54 V vs. SCE	42	1
3	Ru/Cu	-0.8 V vs. SCE	41.3	2
4	Cu	-1.1 vs. SCE	40	3
5	RuO ₂ -TiO ₂	-0.95 vs. SCE	30	4
6	Platinum plate electrode KFe ^{II} [Fe ^{II} (CN) ₆]		>80	5
7	Electrodeposited cuprous oxide film	-1.1 vs. SCE	38	6
8	RuO ₂ -TiO ₂ nanotube (NT) composite electrodes		60.5	7
9	p-GaP	-1.4 V vs. SCE	60	8
10	p-InP		70	9
11	p-GaAs	-1.3 V vs. SCE	55	9

Reference:

1. K. W. Frese and S. Leach, *J. Electrochem. Soc.*, 1985, 132, 259–260.
2. J. P. Popic, M. L. Avramovic and N. B. Vukovic, *J. Electroanal. Chem.*, 1997, 421, 105–110.
3. J. W. Li and G. Prentice, *J. Electrochem. Soc.*, 1997, 144, 4284–4288.
4. A. Bandi and H. M. Kühne, *J. Electrochem. Soc.*, 1992, 139, 1605–1610.
5. K. Ogura and H. Uchida, *J. Electroanal. Chem.*, 1987, 220, 333–337.
6. M. Le, M. Ren, Z. Zhang, P. T. Sprunger, R. L. Kurtz and J. C. Flake, *J. Electrochem. Soc.*, 2011, 158, E45–E49.
7. J. P. Qu, X. G. Zhang, Y. G. Wang and C. X. Xie, *Electrochim. Acta*, 2005, 50, 3576–3580.
8. M. Halmann, *Nature*, 1978, 275, 115–116.
9. B. A. Parkinson and P. F. Weaver, *Nature*, 1984, 309, 148–149.