

Supporting Information

Enhancing Electrocatalytic Hydrogen Evolution Efficiency: Tuning Catalyst Support Pore Size to Optimize Hydrogen Adsorption-Desorption Kinetics

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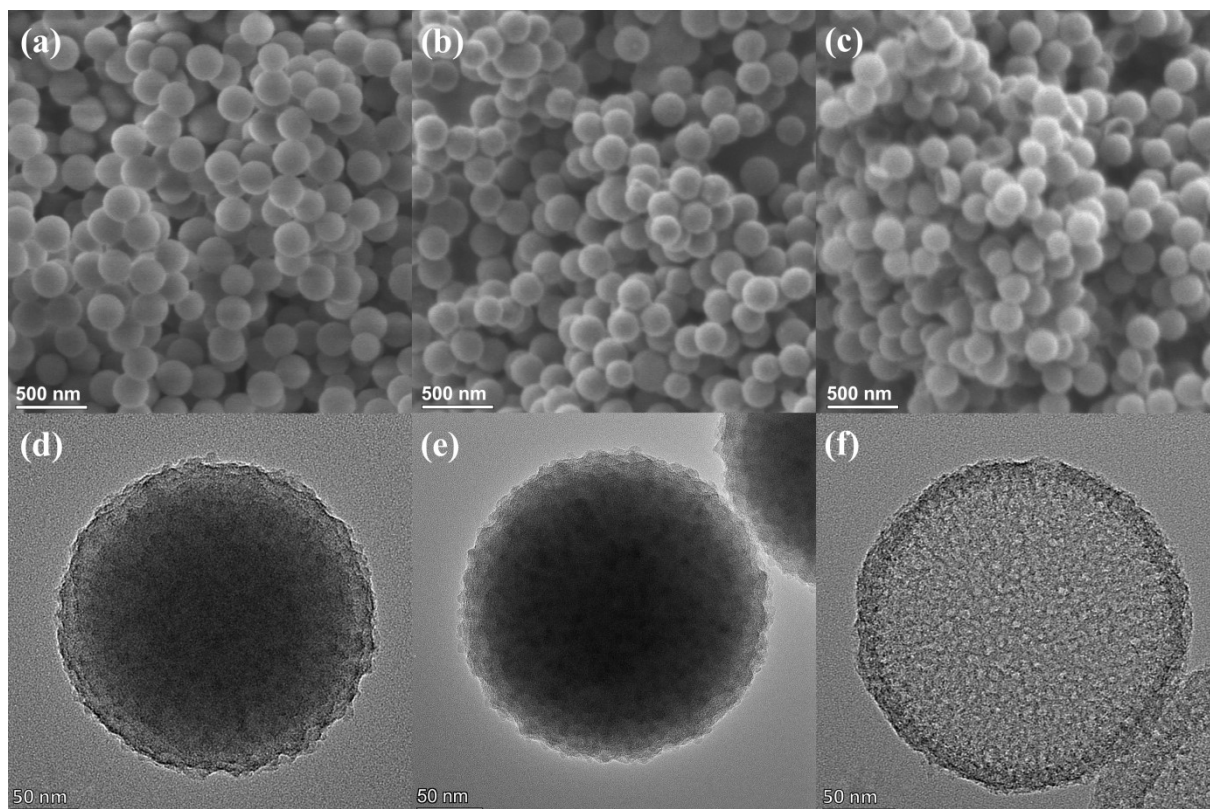


Figure S1. SEM images of (a) SiO₂@SiO₂/RF-1, (b) SiO₂@SiO₂/C-1, and (c) HMCS-1. TEM images of (d) SiO₂@SiO₂/RF-1, (e) SiO₂@SiO₂/C-1, and (f) HMCS-1.

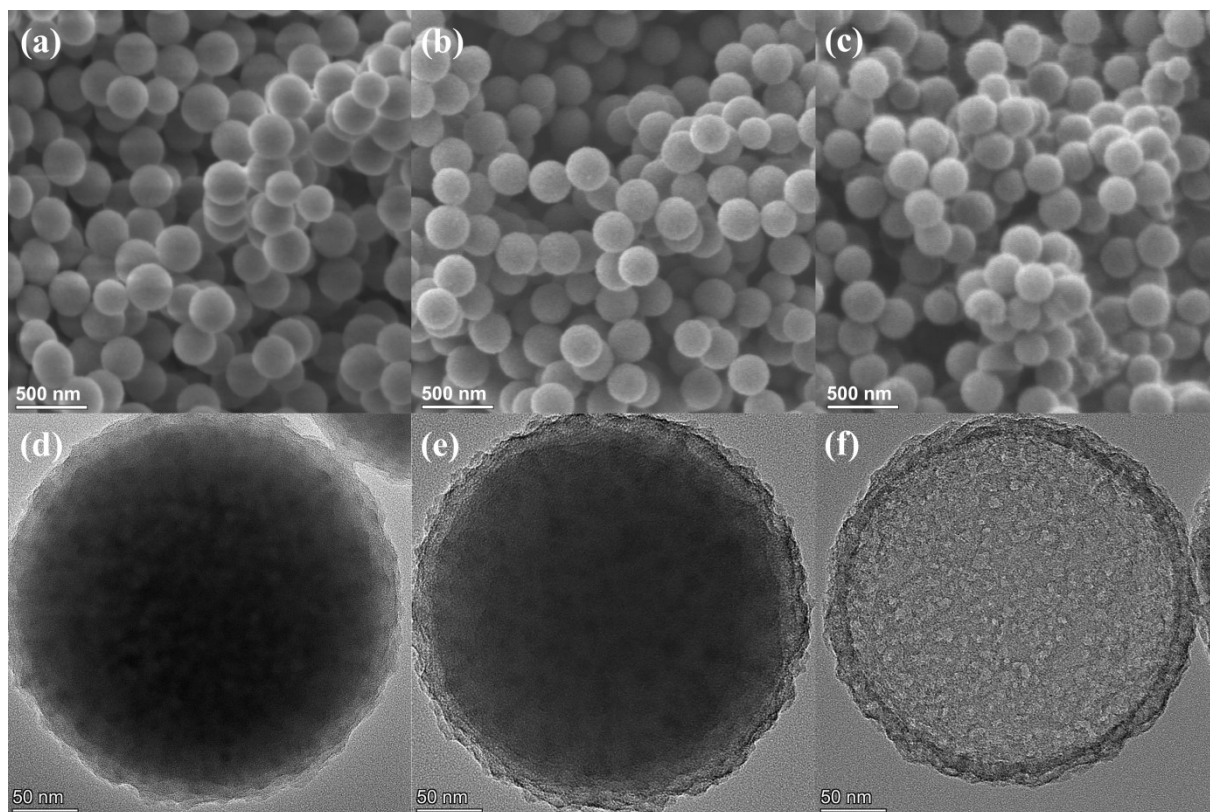


Figure S2. SEM images of (a) SiO₂@SiO₂/RF-2, (b) SiO₂@SiO₂/C-2, and (c) HMCS-2. TEM images of (d) SiO₂@SiO₂/RF-2, (e) SiO₂@SiO₂/C-2, and (f) HMCS-2.

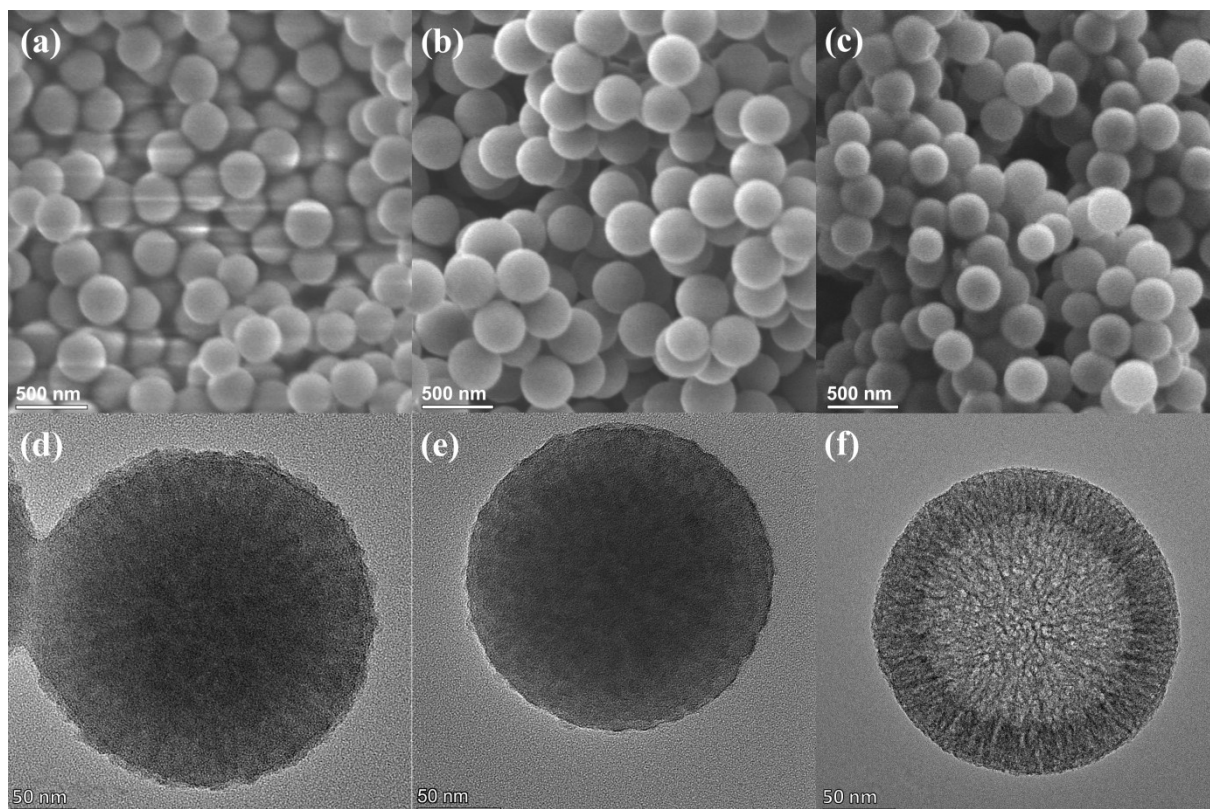


Figure S3. SEM images of (a) SiO₂@SiO₂/RF-3, (b) SiO₂@SiO₂/C-3, and (c) HMCS-3. TEM images of (d) SiO₂@SiO₂/RF-3, (e) SiO₂@SiO₂/C-3, and (f) HMCS-3.

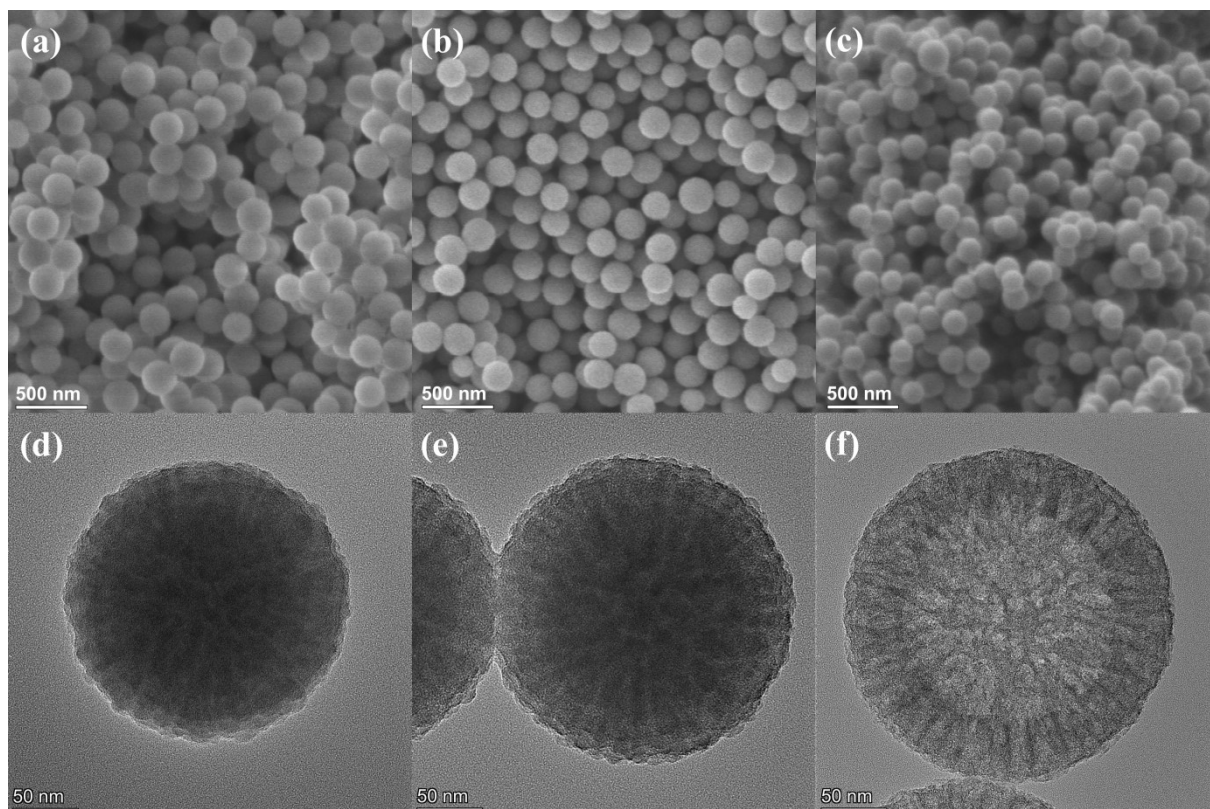


Figure S4. SEM images of (a) SiO₂@SiO₂/RF-4, (b) SiO₂@SiO₂/C-4, and (c) HMCS-4. TEM images of (d) SiO₂@SiO₂/RF-4, (e) SiO₂@SiO₂/C-4, and (f) HMCS-4.

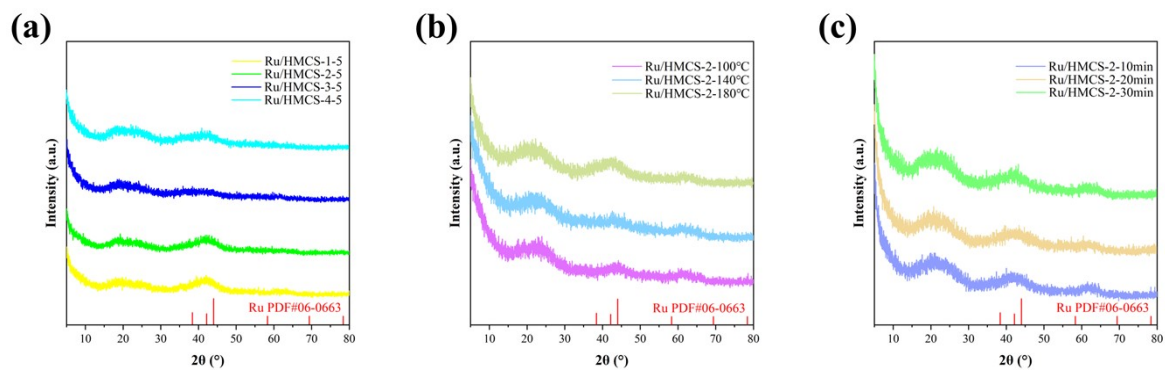


Figure S5. XRD patterns of Ru/HMCS-1-5, Ru/HMCS-2-5, Ru/HMCS-3-5 and Ru/HMCS-4-5 (a); Ru/HMCS-2-100°C, Ru/HMCS-2-140°C and Ru/HMCS-2-180°C (b); Ru/HMCS-2-10min, Ru/HMCS-2-20min and Ru/HMCS-2-30min (c).

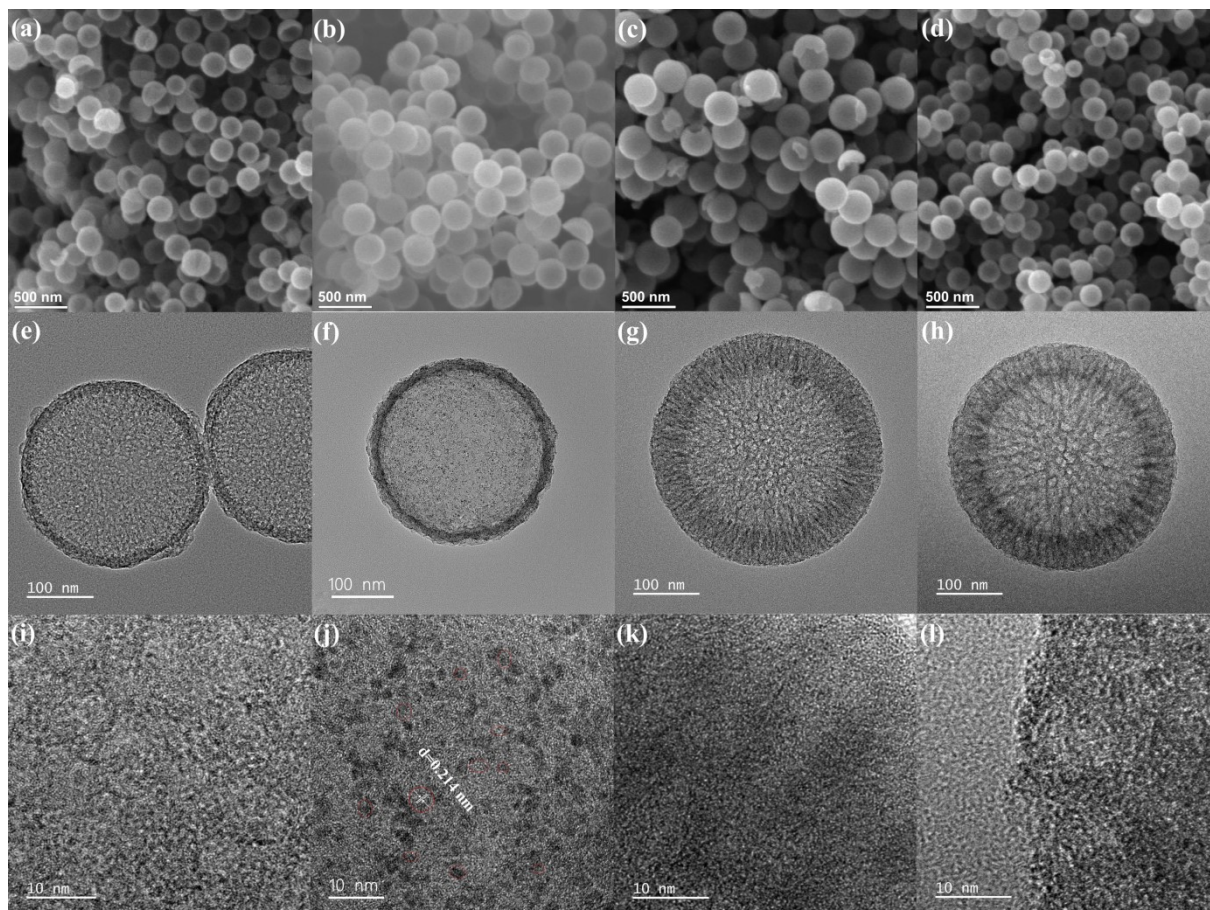


Figure S6. SEM images of (a) Ru/HMCS-1-5, (b) Ru/HMCS-2-5, (c) Ru/HMCS-3-5, and (d) Ru/HMCS-4-5. TEM images of (e) Ru/HMCS-1-5, (f) Ru/HMCS-2-5, (g) Ru/HMCS-3-5, and (h) Ru/HMCS-4-5. HRTEM images of (i) Ru/HMCS-1-5, (j) Ru/HMCS-2-5, (k) Ru/HMCS-3-5 and (l) Ru/HMCS-4-5.

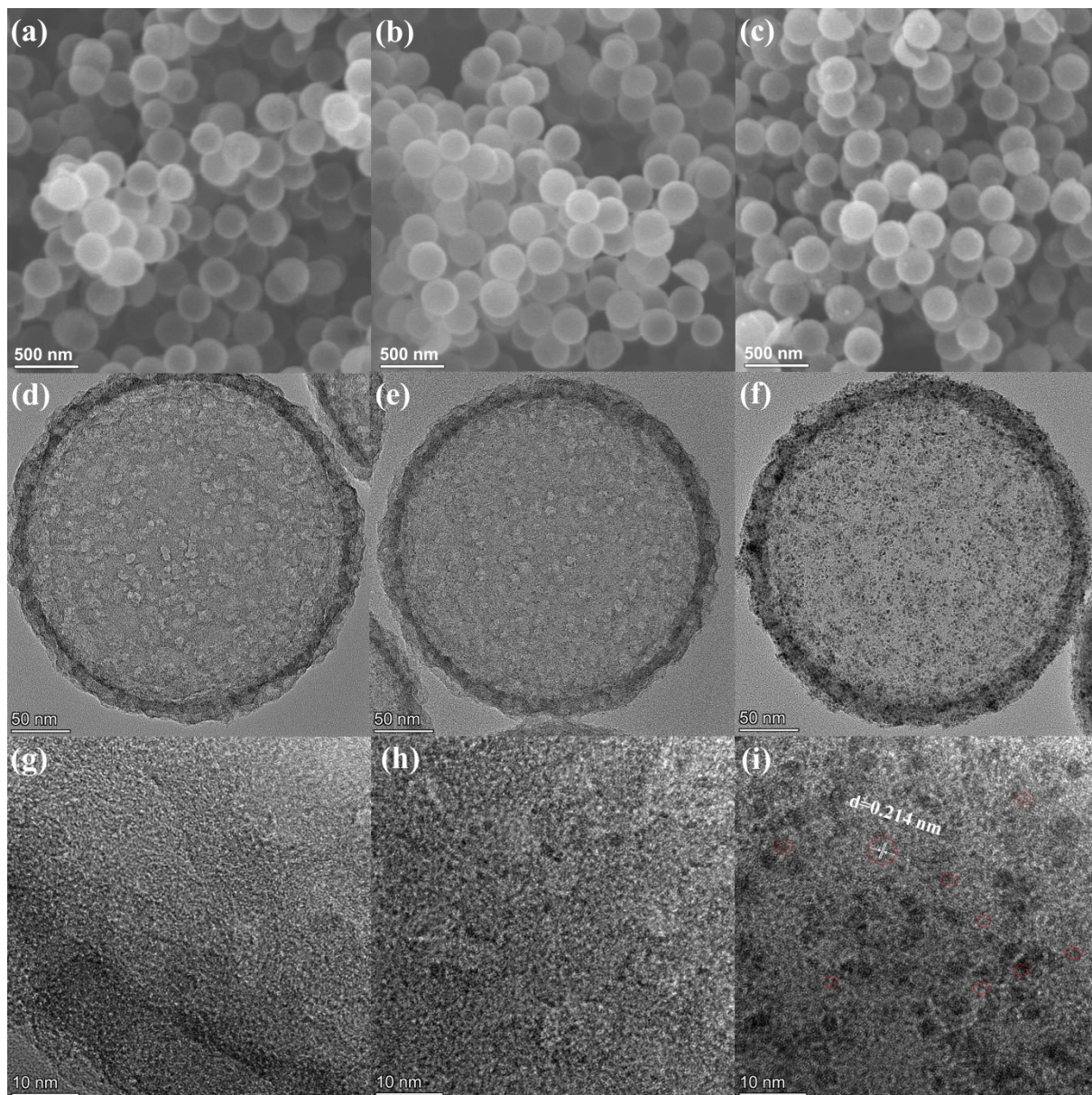


Figure S7. SEM images of Ru/HMCS-2-0 (a), Ru/HMCS-2-1 (b), and Ru/HMCS-2-7 (c). TEM images of Ru/HMCS-2-0 (d), Ru/HMCS-2-1 (e), and Ru/HMCS-2-7 (f). HRTEM images of Ru/HMCS-2-0 (g), Ru/HMCS-2-1 (h), and Ru/HMCS-2-7 (i).

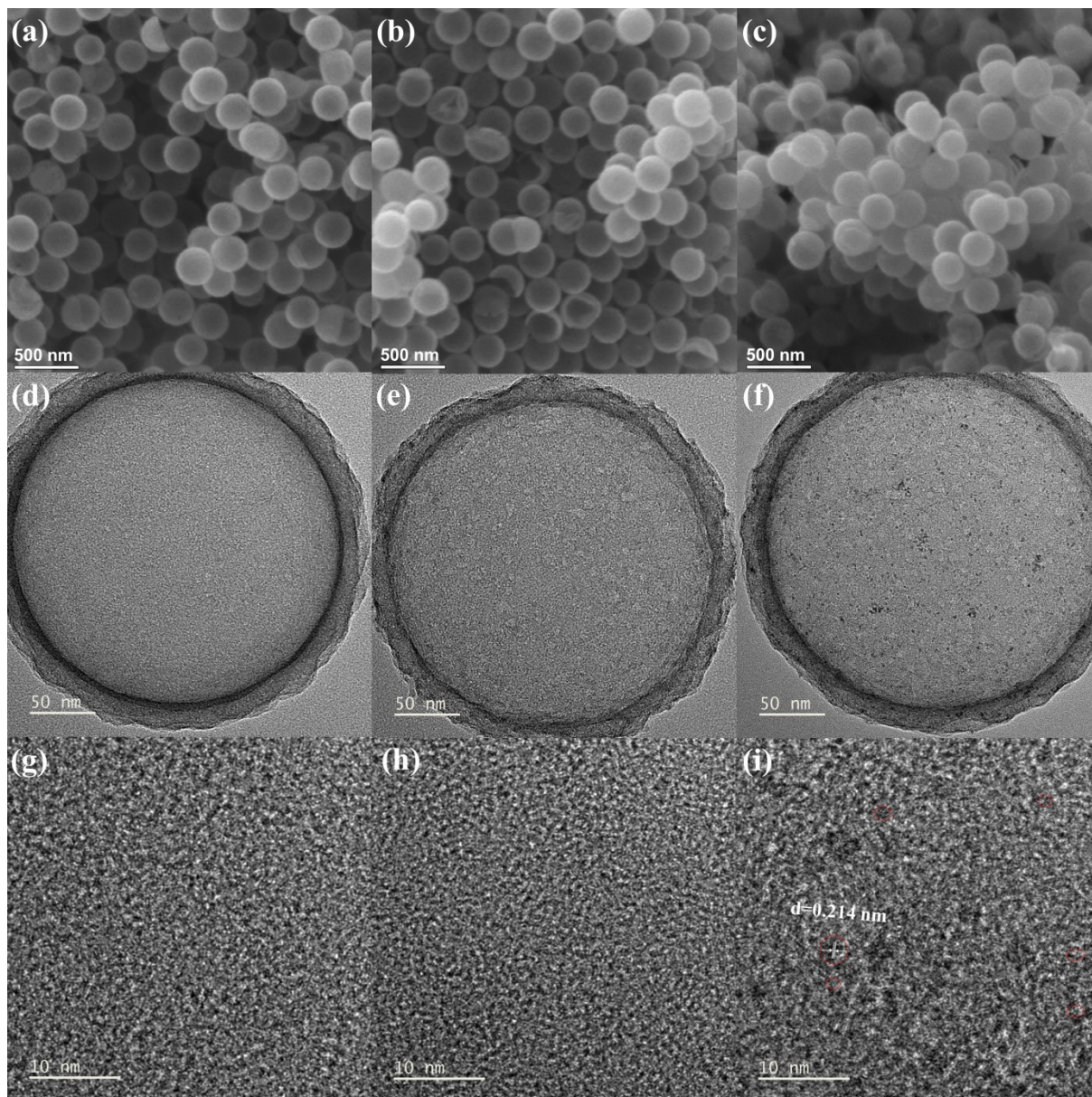


Figure S8. SEM images of Ru/HMCS-2-100°C (a), Ru/HMCS-2-140°C (b), and Ru/HMCS-2-180°C (c). TEM images of Ru/HMCS-2-100°C (d), Ru/HMCS-2-140°C (e), and Ru/HMCS-2-180°C (f). HRTEM images of Ru/HMCS-2-100°C (g), Ru/HMCS-2-140°C (h), and Ru/HMCS-2-180°C (i).

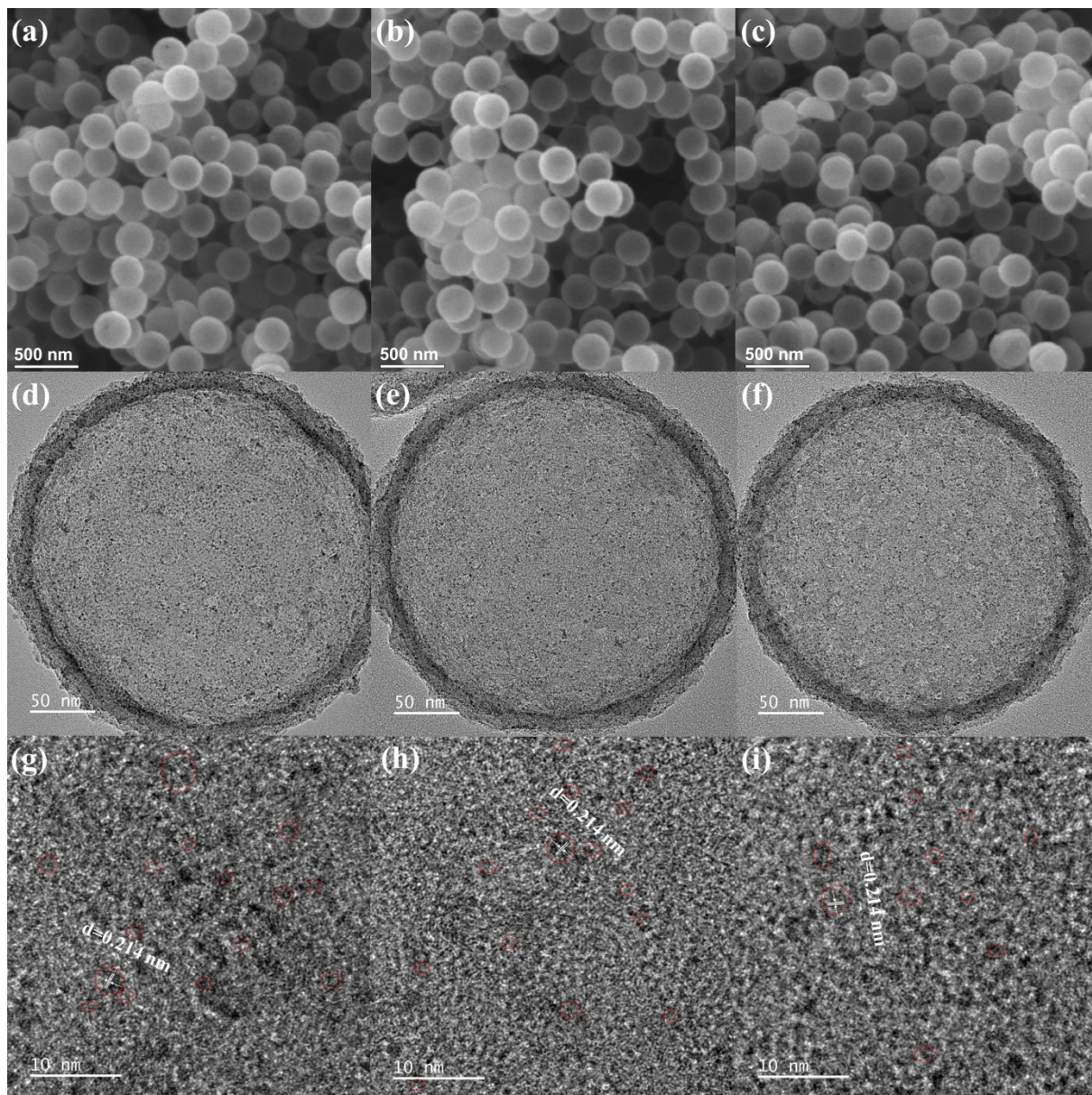


Figure S9. SEM images of Ru/HMCS-2-10min (a), Ru/HMCS-2-20min (b), and Ru/HMCS-2-30min (c). TEM images of Ru/HMCS-2-10min (d), Ru/HMCS-2-20min (e), and Ru/HMCS-2-30min (f). HRTEM images of Ru/HMCS-2-10min (g), Ru/HMCS-2-20min (h), and Ru/HMCS-2-30min (i).

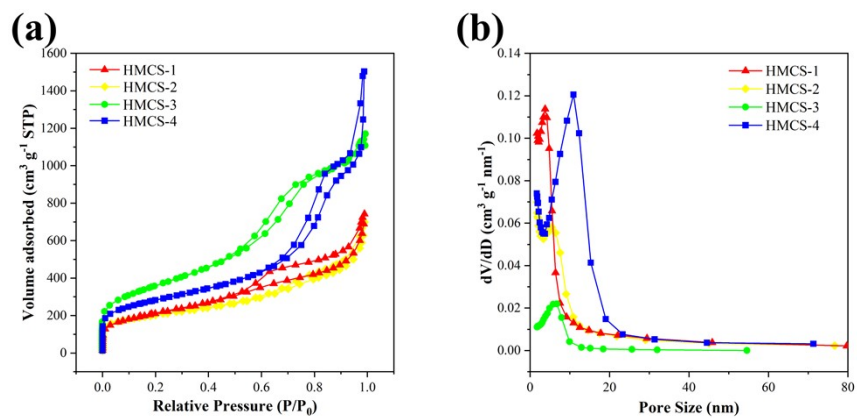


Figure S10. (a) N₂-adsorption/desorption isotherms and (b) pore size distribution of HMCSs.

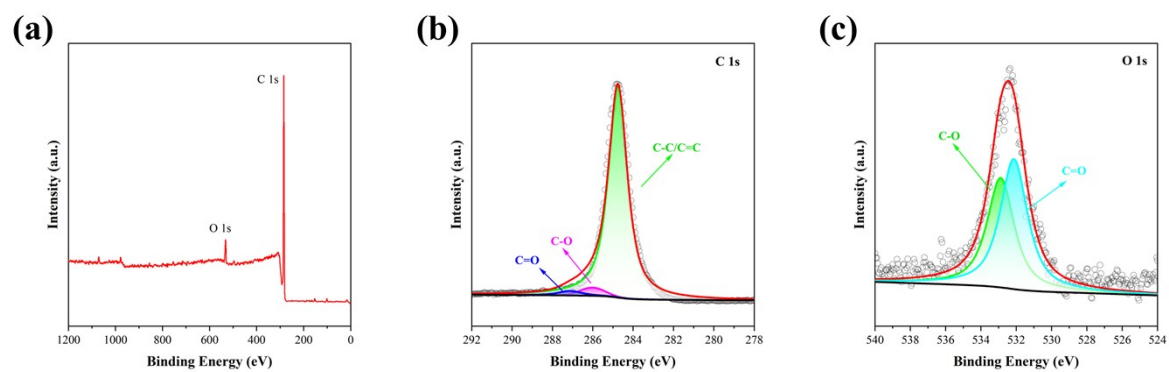


Figure S11. (a) XPS survey spectrum of HMCS-2. High-resolution XPS spectra of C 1s (b) and O 1s (c) for HMCS-2.

Table S1. The Ru content of the samples by ICP-OES.

Catalyst	Ru (wt%)
Ru/HMCS-1-5	2.83
Ru/HMCS-2-5	3.12
Ru/HMCS-3-5	2.51
Ru/HMCS-4-5	2.34
Ru/HMCS-2-1	1.15
Ru/HMCS-2-3	2.42
Ru/HMCS-2-7	5.78
Ru/HMCS-2-100°C	1.98
Ru/HMCS-2-140°C	2.04
Ru/HMCS-2-180°C	2.23
Ru/HMCS-2-10min	2.25
Ru/HMCS-2-20min	2.97
Ru/HMCS-2-30min	4.33

Table S2. Electrocatalytic Performance for the HER of Ru/HMCS and commercial Pt/C catalysts

Catalyst	η_{10} (mV)	Tafel slope (mV dec ⁻¹)	C_{dl} (mF cm ⁻²)	ECSA (cm ²)
Ru/HMCS-1-5	30.9	47.00	25.80	45.60
Ru/HMCS-2-5	22.0	48.34	33.74	59.64
Ru/HMCS-3-5	29.8	47.57	24.24	42.84
Ru/HMCS-4-5	23.7	43.55	29.66	52.42
Ru/HMCS-2-1	36.5	66.39	38.39	67.85
Ru/HMCS-2-3	18.9	39.54	39.66	70.10
Ru/HMCS-2-7	21.1	43.67	40.48	71.55
Ru/HMCS-2-100°C	83.3	158.45	25.43	44.95
Ru/HMCS-2-140°C	67.9	122.59	26.93	47.60
Ru/HMCS-2-180°C	46.9	121.68	37.29	65.91
Ru/HMCS-2-10min	32.2	70.68	41.02	72.50
Ru/HMCS-2-20min	37.3	101.39	39.43	69.69
Ru/HMCS-2-30min	31.2	78.17	37.29	65.91
20 wt.%Pt/C	31.9	57.03	50.30	88.91
40 wt.%Pt/C	21.2	41.21	55.62	98.31

Table S3. Fitted EIS results of Ru/HMCS catalysts

Catalyst	R_s (Ω)	R_{ct} (Ω)
Ru/HMCS-1-5	14.75	46.24
Ru/HMCS-2-5	17.91	18.59
Ru/HMCS-3-5	22.21	38.32
Ru/HMCS-4-5	15.79	39.49
Ru/HMCS-2-1	14.76	64.26
Ru/HMCS-2-3	13.83	18.13
Ru/HMCS-2-7	13.75	8.72
Ru/HMCS-2-100°C	15.81	113.6
Ru/HMCS-2-140°C	34.54	95.02
Ru/HMCS-2-180°C	32.9	78.59
Ru/HMCS-2-10min	21.18	86.79
Ru/HMCS-2-20min	16.82	55.21
Ru/HMCS-2-30min	15.97	29.42

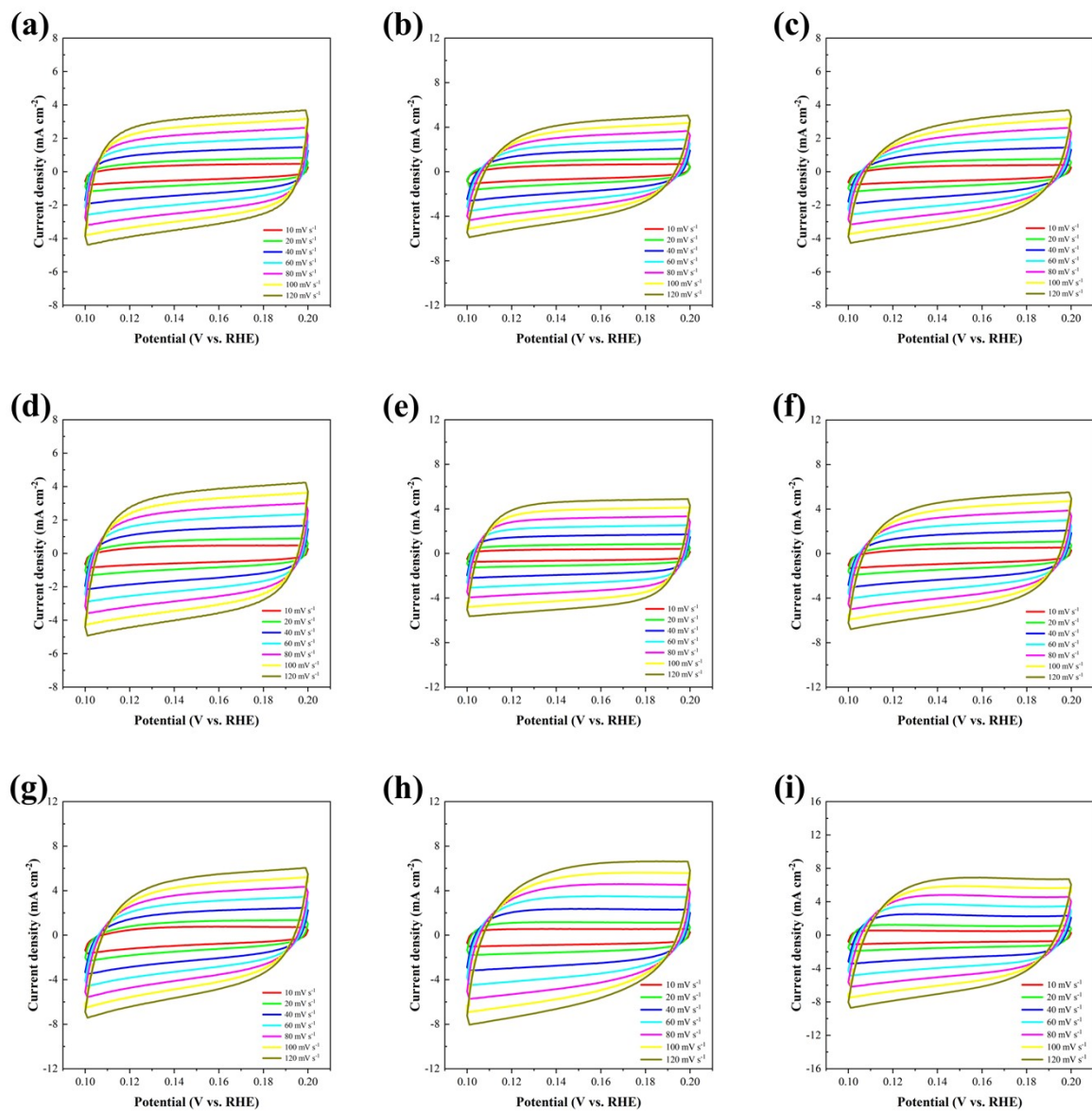


Figure S12. Cyclic voltammetry curves of Ru/HMCS-1-5 (a), Ru/HMCS-2-5 (b), Ru/HMCS-3-5 (c), Ru/HMCS-4-5 (d), Ru/HMCS-2-1 (e), Ru/HMCS-2-3 (f), Ru/HMCS-2-7 (g), 20 *wt.*%Pt/C (h) and 40 *wt.*%Pt/C (i) (10–120 mV s^{-1} , in 1.0 M KOH solution).

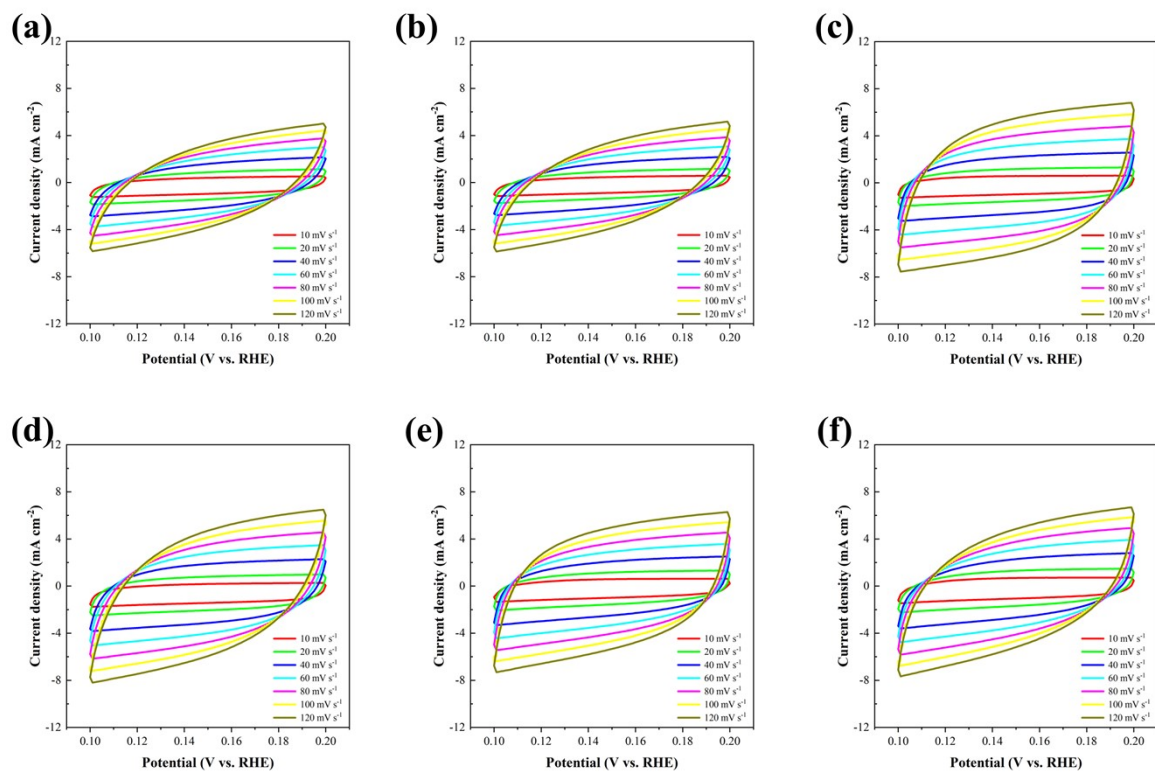


Figure S13. Cyclic voltammograms of Ru/HMCS-2-100°C (a), Ru/HMCS-2-140°C (b), Ru/HMCS-2-180°C (c), Ru/HMCS-2-10min (d), Ru/HMCS-2-20min (e) and Ru/HMCS-2-30min (f) (10–120 mV s^{-1} , in 1.0 M KOH solution).

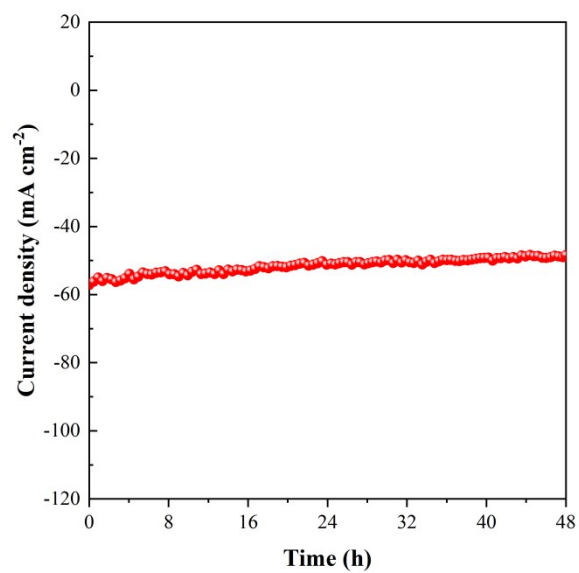


Figure S14. Chronoamperometric measurement of Ru/HMCS-2-3 in 1.0 M KOH.

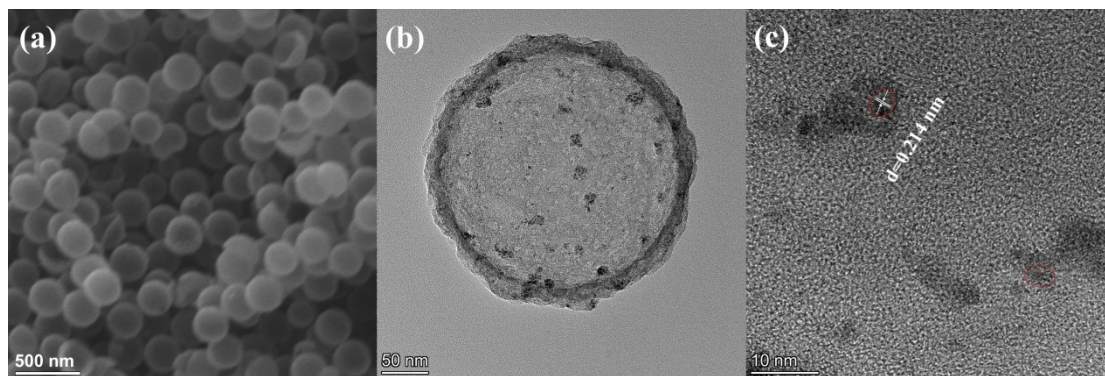


Figure S15. Characterizations of Ru/HMCS-2-3 catalyst after 48 h chronoamperometric measurement. (a) SEM image, (b) TEM image, and (c) HRTEM image.

Table S4. Comparison of HER activity of Ru/HMCS-2-3 catalyst with recently reported representative Ru-based catalysts in 1.0 M KOH solution.

Catalyst	Ru content (wt.%)	η_{10} (mV)	Tafel slope (mV dec ⁻¹)	R_{ct} (Ω)	Ref.
Ru/HMCS-2-3	2.42	18.9	39.54	18.1	This work
Ru ₉₀ Ni ₁₀ /rGOP	94	6	26	1.4	[1]
Ru/C-20A	85.5	13	35	—	[2]
UP-RuNi _{SA} /C	—	9	37.6	0.10	[3]
Ru/NC	5.83	24	29	—	[4]
Ru _{NP} /Ru _{SA} @CFN-800	12	33	37.16	31.91	[5]
CNT-V-Fe-Ru	17.84	38	41	24.6	[6]
NMC Ru _{SA} +NC	2.0	5	136	—	[7]
α -Ru@Co-DHC	—	40	62	—	[8]
Ru _{1+NP} /N-C-700°C	7.57	39	27.6	29.97	[9]
Ru/Co-N-C-800°C	0.36	17	27.8	—	[10]
Ru/3d-OMC	—	20	40.5	—	[11]
Ru S/DA	—	58	90	—	[12]
Ru _{L,n} -NC	7.1	14.8	22.4	—	[13]
Ru _{NP} @RuN _x -OFC/NC	17.84	19	35.35	10.81	[14]
Ru ₅₅ @CN	1.728	36	39	—	[15]
Ru _{SA} +NP/DC	11.8	18.8	35.8	—	[16]
NiRu _{0.13} -BDC	—	34	32	—	[17]
Ru/Co@OG	6.9	13	22.8	—	[18]
Ru ₁ CoP/CDs-1000	13.69	51	73.4	—	[19]
Ru/g-C ₃ N ₄ -C-TiO ₂	12.4	107	83	58	[20]
Ru/p-NC	1.0	10	17	4.7	[21]
Ru/MoO ₂	21.26	16	32	24.59	[22]

Ru/g-C ₃ N ₄ -2	3.27	34	27	35.2	[23]
Ru-CoP/NC	——	22	50	——	[24]
Ru ADC	——	18	41	——	[25]
ECM@Ru	0.68	83	58	15.1	[26]
Ru-N/BC	0.46	51	44	20.3	[27]
Ru-NPs/SAs@N-TC	0.457	97	58	——	[28]
Ru-NMCNs-500	3.04	39	35.2	8.86	[29]
Ru@CNT-500	0.068	36.69	28.82	——	[30]
5%Ru-MoS ₂ /CNT	5 (<i>at. %</i>)	50	62	——	[31]
RuS _x /S-GO	44.31	58	56	——	[32]

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