

Supporting Information

From Toxic Pollutant to Catalyst: One-Pot Synthesis of Fe₃O₄-Ni-DBP/NF for Efficient Overall Water Splitting

Qingyuan Song ^{a,b}, Jinshou Yao ^a, LiuJun Jin ^{a,*}, Peiyang Gu ^a, Ye Wang ^c, Ping

Liu ^{a,*}, Congping Chen ^c, Guohong Dai ^{c,d*}

^a School of Petrochemical Engineering, Changzhou University, Changzhou,

213164, PR China

^b School of Safety Science and Engineering, Changzhou University, Changzhou,

213164, Jiangsu, PR China

^c School of Mechanical Engineering and Rail Transit, Changzhou University,

Changzhou, 213164, Jiangsu, PR China

^d School of Mechanical Engineering, Jiangsu University of Technology,

Changzhou, 213164, Jiangsu, PR China

E-mail: jinlj@cczu.edu.cn, pingliu@cczu.edu.cn, dgh@cczu.edu.cn

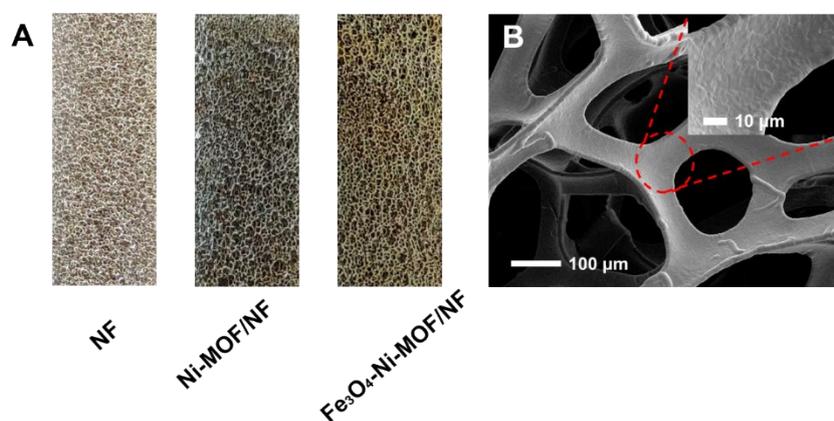


Figure S1. (A) Color changes in the appearance of the NF, Ni-DBP, and Fe₃O₄-Ni-DBP. (B) FE-SEM image of bare NF.

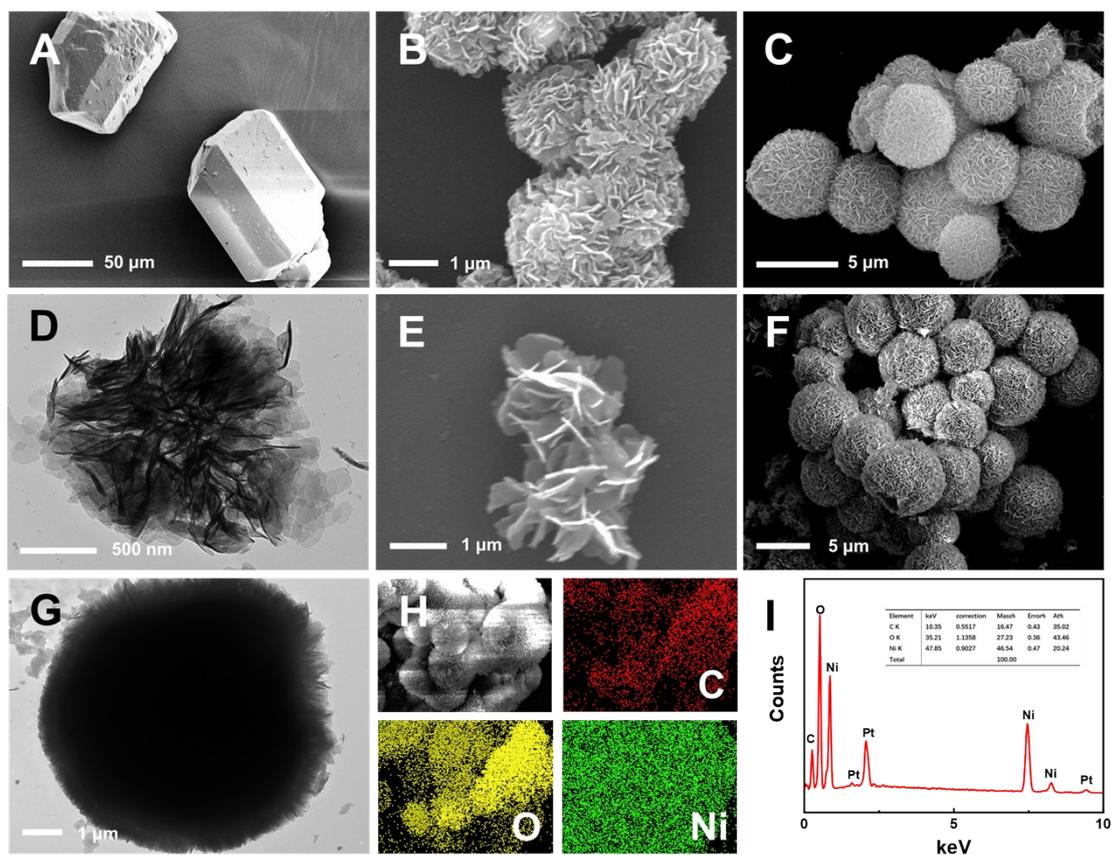


Figure S2. FE-SEM morphologies of (A) 1,2-BDC, (B) Ni-BDC (without PVP), (C) Ni-BDC. (D) TEM morphology of Ni-BDC. SEM morphologies of (E) Ni-DBP (without PVP), (F) Ni-DBP. (G) TEM morphology of Ni-DBP. (H) Elemental mapping analyses of the Ni-DBP. (I) EDS spectrogram of the Ni-DBP.

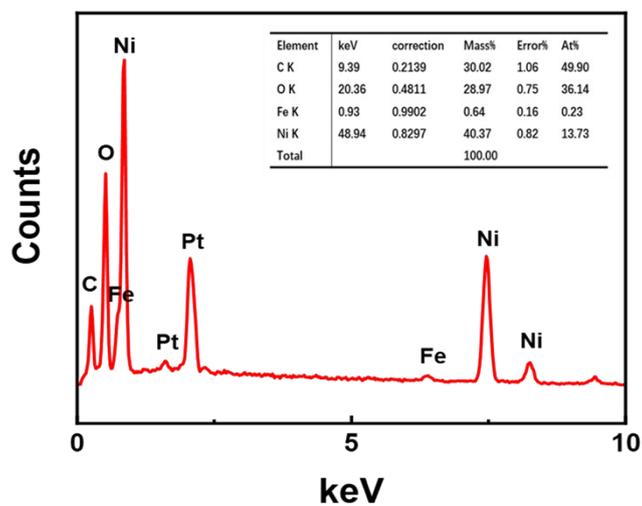


Figure S3. EDS spectrum of the $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-Ni-DBP/NF}$.

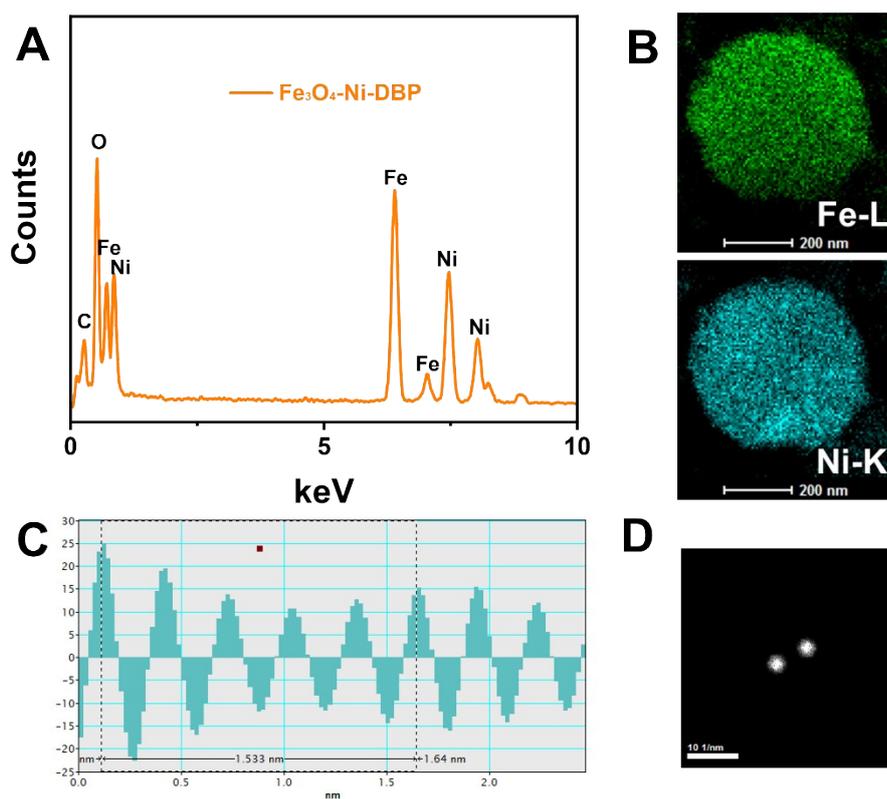


Figure S4. (A) TEM-EDS spectrogram of the $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-Ni-DBP}$. (B) Elemental mapping analyses of the Fe-L and Ni-K for $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-Ni-DBP}$. (C) Height profile and (D) topographic image of the inverse FFT mode.

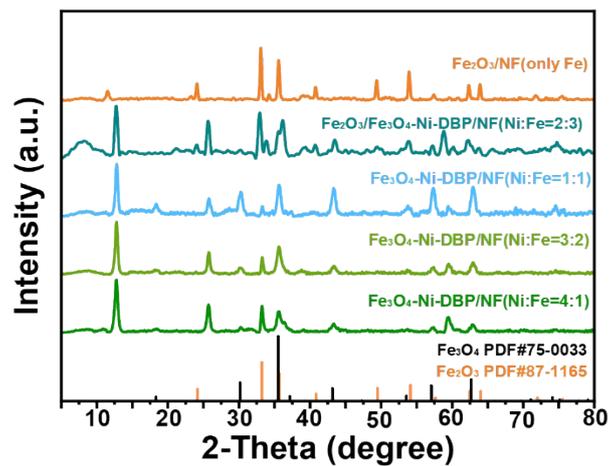


Figure S5. PXRD patterns of $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-Ni-DBP}$ with different metal ratios.

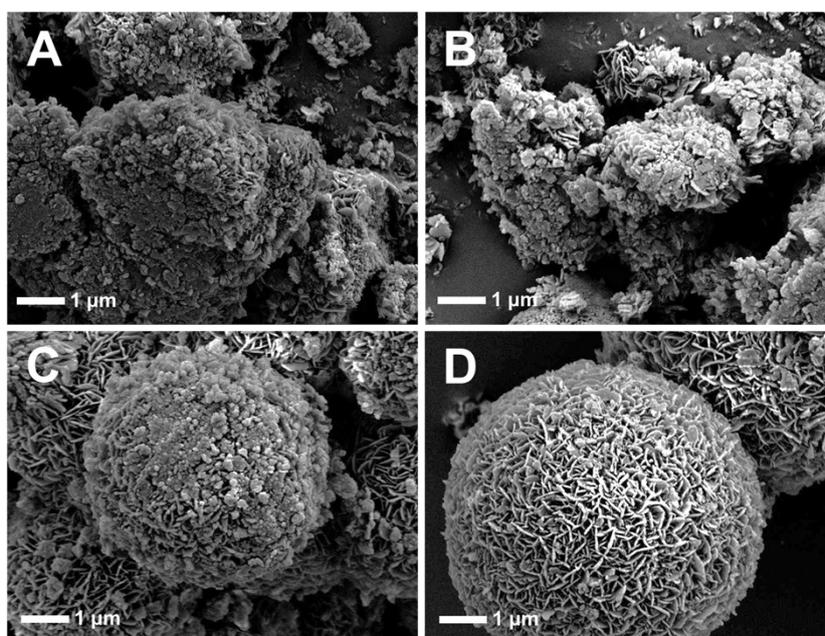


Figure S6. FE-SEM images of (A) $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-Ni-DBP}$ with different metal ratios: (A) Ni:Fe = 1:4, (B) Ni:Fe = 2:3, (C) Ni:Fe = 3:2, and (D) Ni:Fe = 4:1.

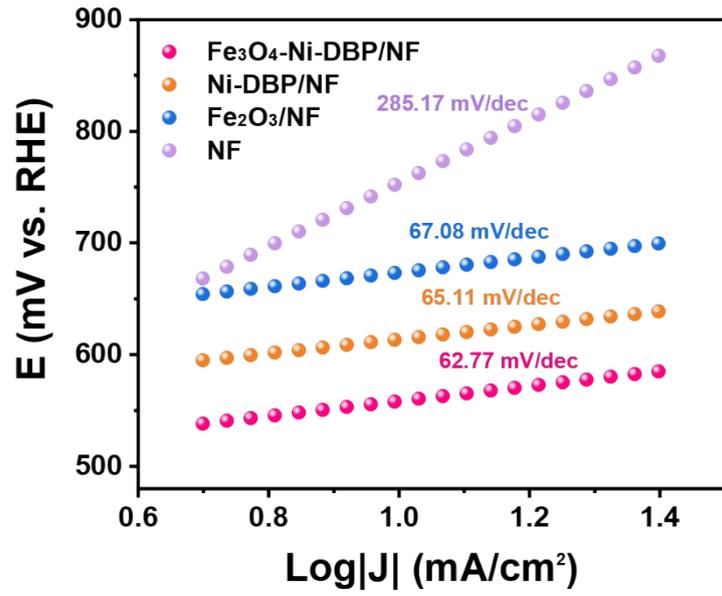


Figure S7. Tafel plot of $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-Ni-DBP/NF}$, Ni-DBP/NF , $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{NF}$, and bare NF for the OER derived from steady-state polarization measurements.

Table S1. OER performance of various electrocatalysts.

Electrocatalysts	OER η_{10}^a (mV)	Tafel Slope (mV/dec)	Reference
Ni/FeO _x NRs@CP	242	80.40	1
WO ₃ NRs@Co-MOF/NF	280	36.00	2
Ni-MOF/NF-SS	253	70.90	3
(Ni, Co) ₂ P/NFs	283	56.40	4
Ni ₃ Se ₂ @NiFe-LDH/NF	222	61.30	5
Mo-CoSe ₂ NS@NF	234	58.00	6
MoS ₂ /NiS ₂ /CoS ₂	230	89.00	7
Fe₃O₄-Ni-DBP/NF	233	55.34	This work

a: The overpotential (mV) required to drive a current density of 10 mA cm⁻² in 1.0 M KOH.

Figure S8. CV(OER) curves of the (A) $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-Ni-DBP/NF}$, (B) Ni-DBP/NF , (C) $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3\text{/NF}$ with varying scan rates (10, 20, 30, 40, 50 mV/s) in 1.0 M KOH. (D) The C_{dl} values of different catalysts.

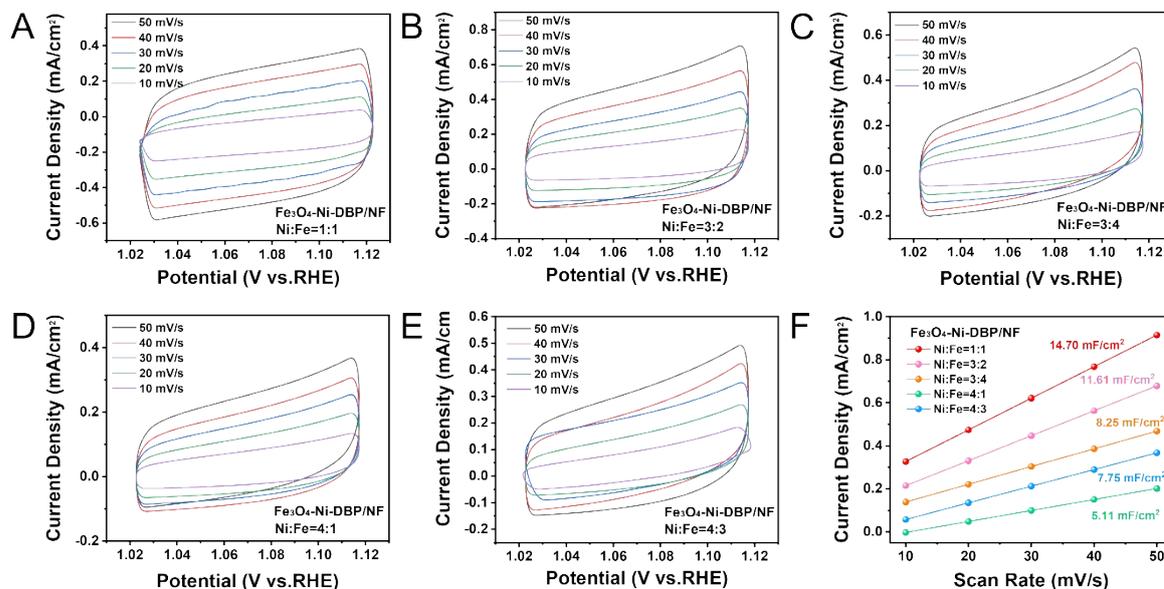


Figure S9. CV(OER) curves of the $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-Ni-DBP/NF}$ with different metal ratios: (A) $\text{Ni:Fe} = 1:1$, (B) $\text{Ni:Fe} = 3:2$, (C) $\text{Ni:Fe} = 3:4$, (D) $\text{Ni:Fe} = 4:1$, (E) $\text{Ni:Fe} = 4:3$ with varying scan rates (10, 20, 30, 40, 50 mV/s) in 1.0 M KOH. (F) The C_{dl} values of different metal ratios.

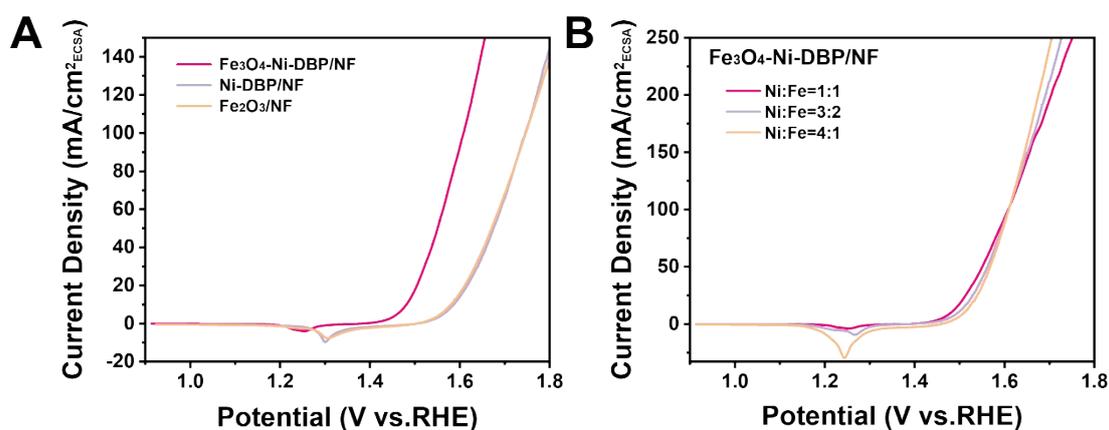


Figure S10. Normalized LSV curves based on ECSA (specific capacitance $C_S = 40 \mu\text{F cm}^{-2}$): (A) different catalysts, (B) different metal ratios.

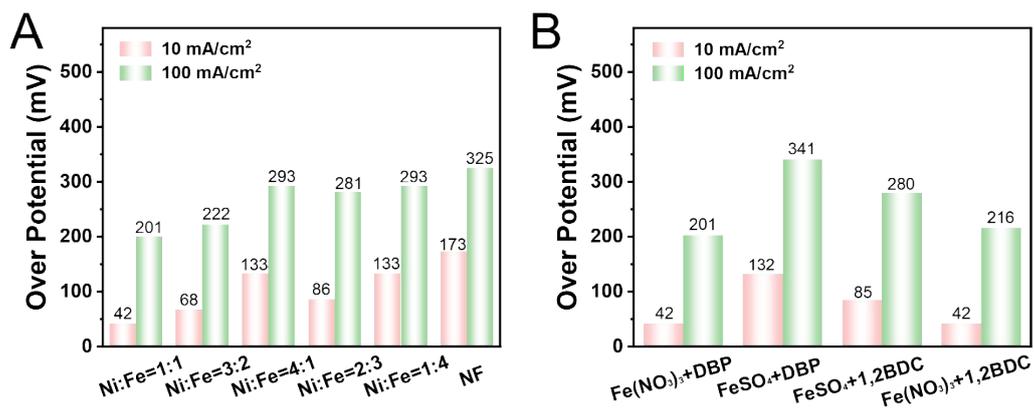


Figure S11. Overpotentials derived from HER polarization curves at 10 mA cm⁻² and 100 mA cm⁻²:

(A) Fe₃O₄-Ni-DBP/NF with different metal ratios, (B) Fe₃O₄-Ni-DBP/NF prepared by different alternative precursors.

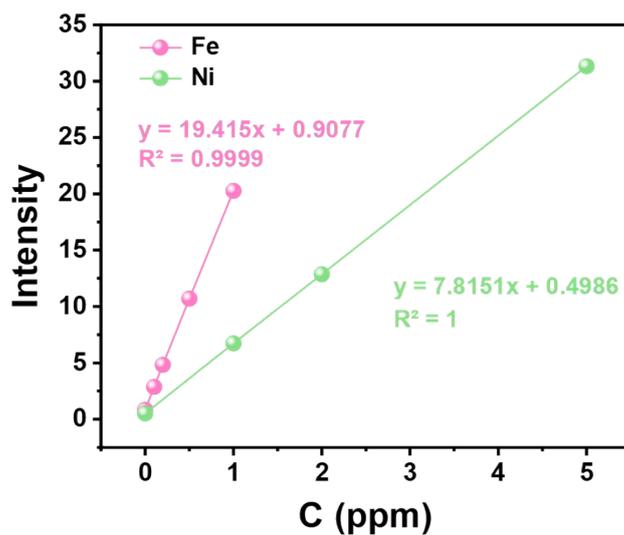


Figure S12. ICP-OES calibration curves of Fe and Ni ions.

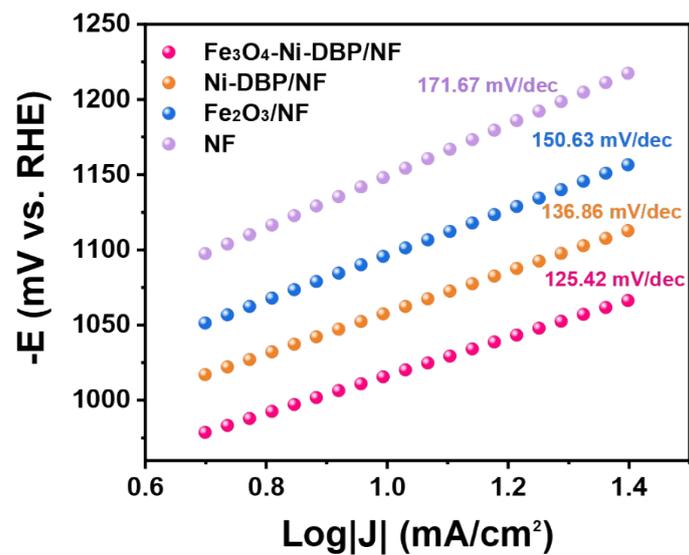


Figure S13. Tafel plot of Fe₃O₄-Ni-DBP/NF, Ni-DBP/NF, Fe₂O₃/NF, and bare NF for the HER derived from steady-state polarization measurements.

Table S2. HER performance of various electrocatalysts.

Electrocatalysts	HER η_{10}^a (mV)	Tafel Slope (mV/dec)	Reference
Mn-MOF/NF	125	113.00	8
(Ni, Co) ₂ P NFs	92	62.30	4
Ni ₃ Se ₂ @NiFe-LDH/NF	68	106.20	5
NiFe-LDH-POM/NF	156	86.00	9
Mo-CoSe ₂ NS@NF	89	69.00	6
MoS ₂ /NiS ₂ /CoS ₂	101	116.00	7
Co ₈ FeS ₈ MXene/NF	108	84.08	10
Fe₃O₄-Ni-DBP/NF	42	39.16	This work

a: The overpotential (mV) required to drive a current density of 10 mA cm⁻² in a 1.0 M KOH.

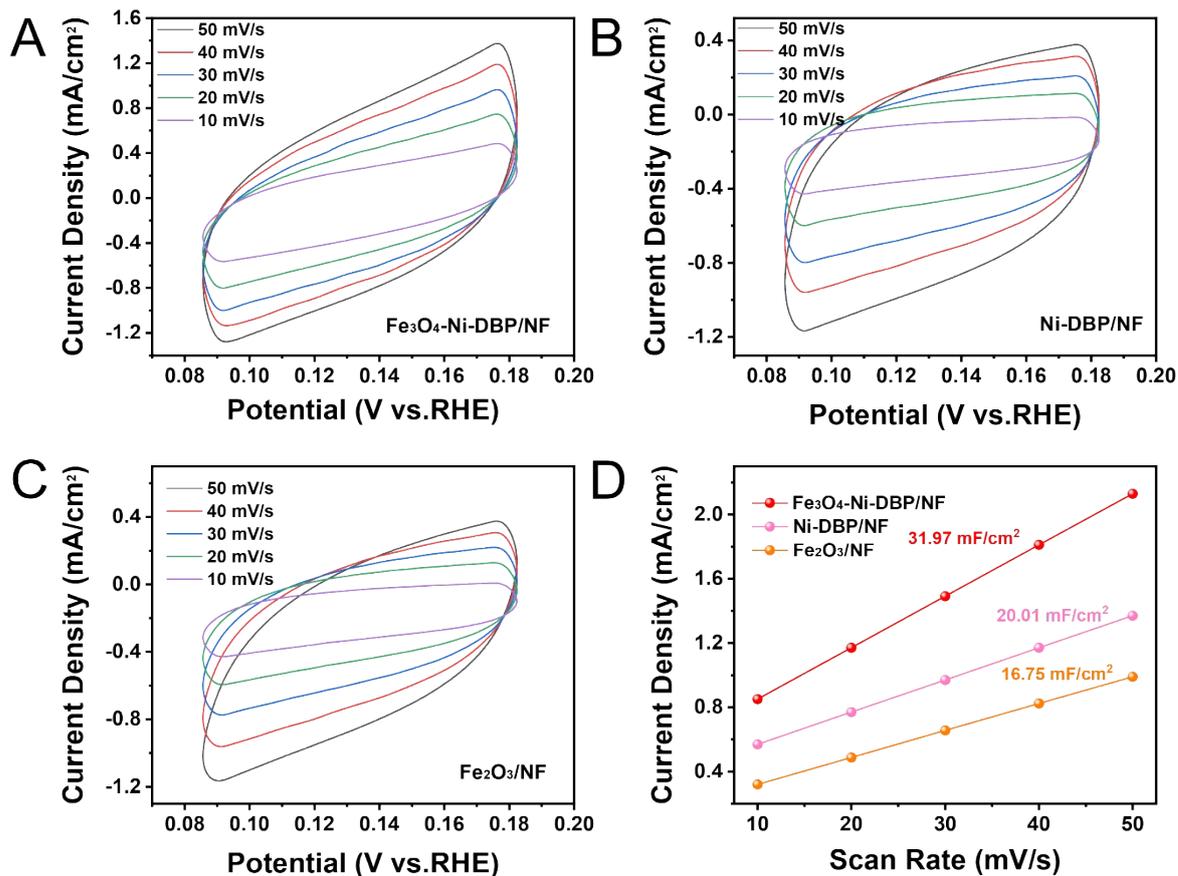


Figure S14. CV(HER) curves of the (A) $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-Ni-DBP/NF}$, (B) Ni-DBP/NF , (C) $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3\text{/NF}$ with varying scan rates (10, 20, 30, 40, 50 mV/s) in 1.0 M KOH. (D) The C_{dl} values of different catalysts.

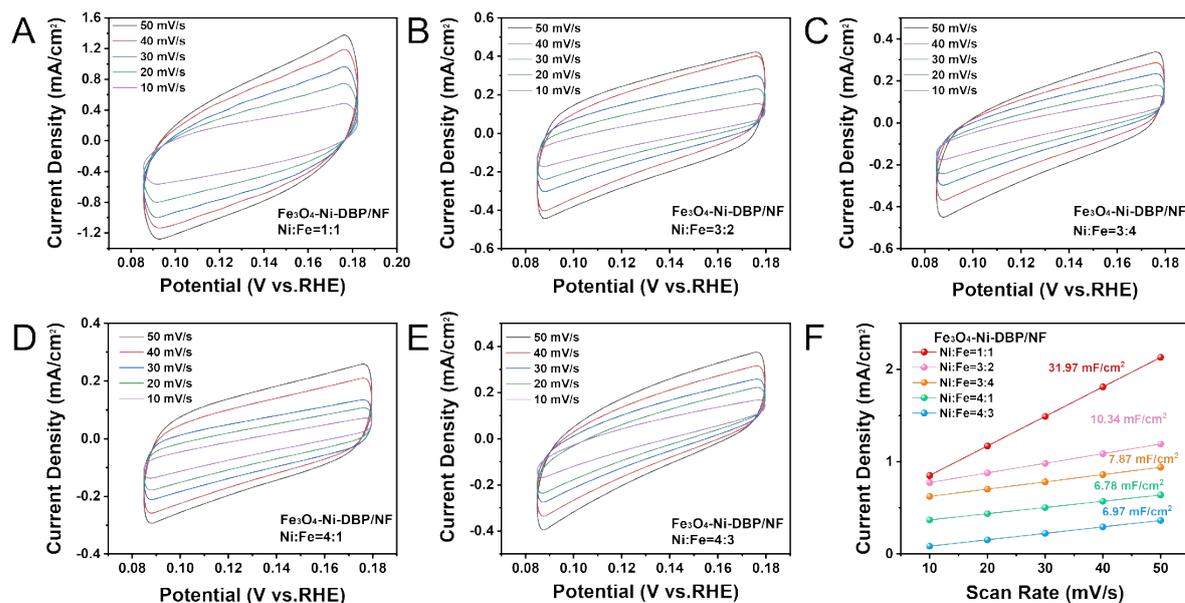


Figure S15. CV(HER) curves of the $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-Ni-DBP/NF}$ with different metal ratios: (A) Ni:Fe = 1:1,

(B) Ni:Fe = 3:2, (C) Ni:Fe = 3:4, (D) Ni:Fe = 4:1, (E) Ni:Fe = 4:3 with varying scan rates (10, 20, 30, 40, 50 mV/s) in 1.0 M KOH. (F) The C_{dl} values of different metal ratios.

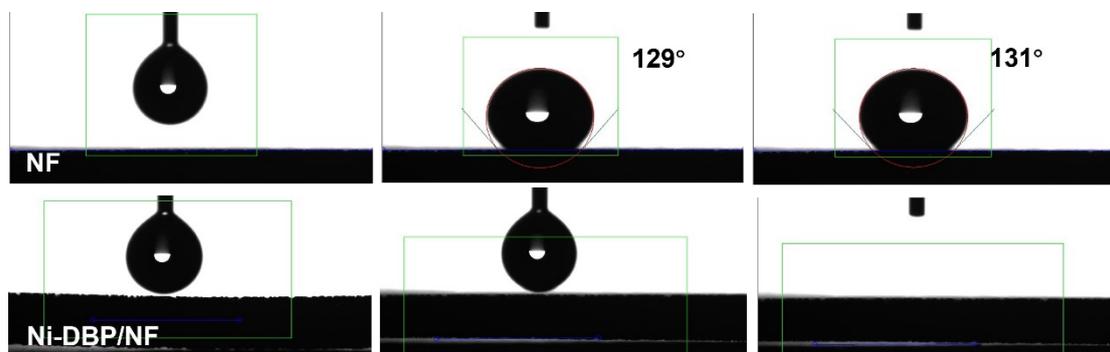


Figure S16. The static water contact angle of NF and Ni-DBP/NF.

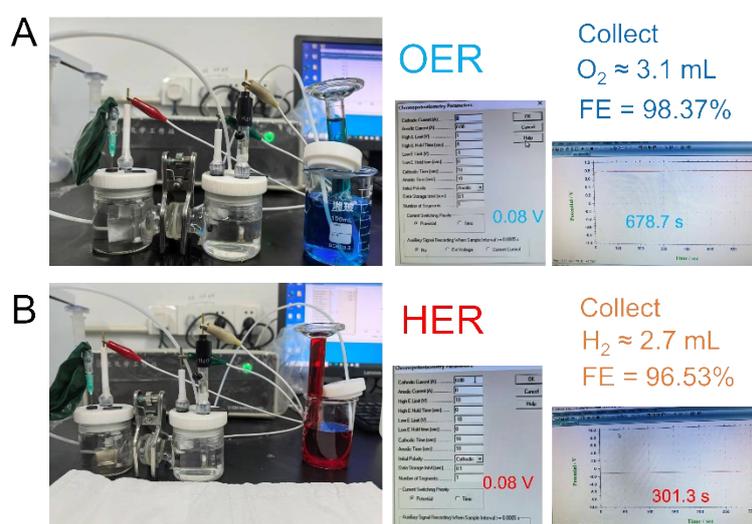


Figure S17. The O_2 (A) and H_2 (B) were collected by the water displacement method.

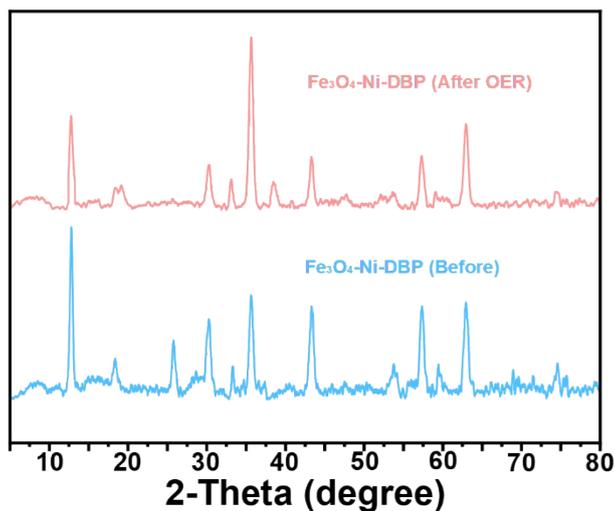


Figure S18. PXRD patterns of $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-Ni-DBP}$ before and after OER in 1.0 M KOH.

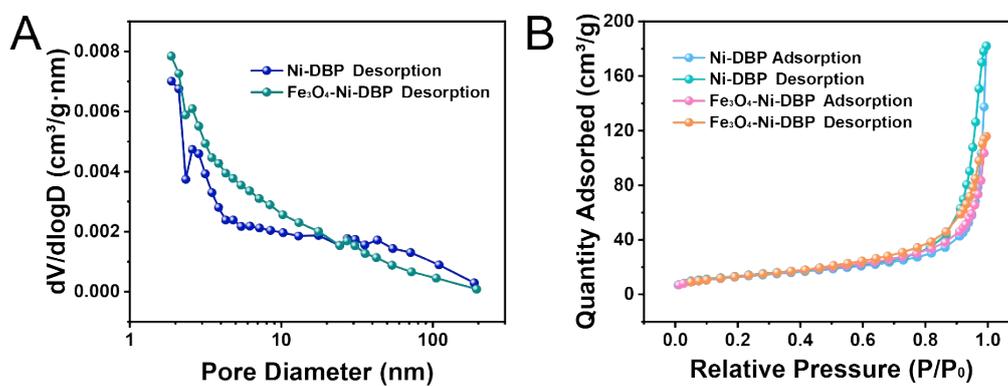


Figure S19. (A) N_2 adsorption-desorption isotherms and (B) cumulative pore-diameter distribution of pristine Ni-DBP/NF and $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-Ni-DBP/NF}$ catalyst after long-term redox cycling.

Table S3 BET surface area, pore volume and average pore diameter of Ni-DBP/NF and Fe₃O₄-

Ni-DBP/NF.

Samples	S_{BET} (m²/g)	Pore volume (cm³/g)	Average pore diameter (nm)
Ni-DBP	47.45	0.28	23.74
Fe ₃ O ₄ -Ni-DBP	49.49	0.18	13.70

Reference

- 1 Shaddad, M. N.; Alharthi, A. I.; Aladeemy, S. A.; Arunachalam, P., Engineering oxygen vacancy on nickel-doped iron oxide nanorods as efficient bifunctional electrocatalysts for oxygen evolution and urea oxidation reaction. *J. Taiwan Inst. Chem. E.* **2025**, *177*, 105928.
- 2 Wei, X.; Wang, Y.; Wang, Y.; Chai, Y.; Liu, N., Improved OER electrocatalytic performance of Co-MOF by forming heterojunction with lower-conductivity WO₃ nanorods or Cr₂O₃ nanoparticles. *Int. J. Hydrogen Energ.* **2024**, *58*, 1240-1248.
- 3 Wu, F.; Jiao, Y.; Ge, J.; Feng, C.; Wu, Z.; Zhu, Y.; Li, Q., Formation of Ni-MOF derived nickel sulfides as efficient electrocatalysts for oxygen evolution reaction through optimizing the sulfur sources selection. *ChemistrySelect* **2024**, *9* (37), e202403487.
- 4 Ji, L.; Wei, Y.; Wu, P.; Xu, M.; Wang, T.; Wang, S.; Liang, Q.; Meyer, T. J.; Chen, Z., Heterointerface engineering of Ni₂P-Co₂P nanoframes for efficient water splitting. *Chem. Mater.* **2021**, *33* (23), 9165-9173.
- 5 Hu, J.; Zhu, S.; Liang, Y.; Wu, S.; Li, Z.; Luo, S.; Cui, Z., Self-supported Ni₃Se₂@NiFe layered double hydroxide bifunctional electrocatalyst for overall water splitting. *J. Colloid. Interf. Sci.* **2021**, *587*, 79-89.
- 6 Huang, J.; Wang, S.; Nie, J.; Huang, C.; Zhang, X.; Wang, B.; Tang, J.; Du, C.; Liu, Z.; Chen, J., Active site and intermediate modulation of 3D CoSe₂ nanosheet array on Ni foam by Mo doping for high-efficiency overall water splitting in alkaline media. *Chem. Eng. J.* **2021**, *417*, 128055.
- 7 Yin, Z.; Liu, X.; Chen, S.; Xie, H.; Gao, L.; Liu, A.; Ma, T.; Li, Y., Interface engineering of the MoS₂/NiS₂/CoS₂ nanotube as a highly efficient bifunctional electrocatalyst for overall water splitting. *Mater. Today Nano* **2022**, *17*, 100156.
- 8 Goswami, A.; Ghosh, D.; Pradhan, D.; Biradha, K., In situ grown Mn(II) MOF upon nickel foam acts as a robust self-supporting bifunctional electrode for overall water splitting: A bimetallic synergistic collaboration strategy. *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces* **2022**, *14* (26), 29722-29734.
- 9 Li, C.; Zhang, Z.; Liu, R., In situ growth of 3D NiFe LDH-POM micro-flowers on nickel foam for overall water splitting. *Small* **2020**, *16* (46), 2003777.
- 10 Gong, Z.; Dai, Z.; Dong, Z.; Liu, Q.; Milichko, V. A.; Liu, H.; Liu, J.; Niu, R.; Gong, J., Green synthesis of luminescent La-MOF nanoparticle from waste poly(ethylene terephthalate) for high-

performance in Fe(III) detection. *Rare Met.* **2024**, *43* (8), 3833-3843.