

## Supplementary Material

### **Constructing a composite catalyst containing amorphous nickel hydroxide/crystalline lanthanum carbonate hydroxide for urea electrolysis**

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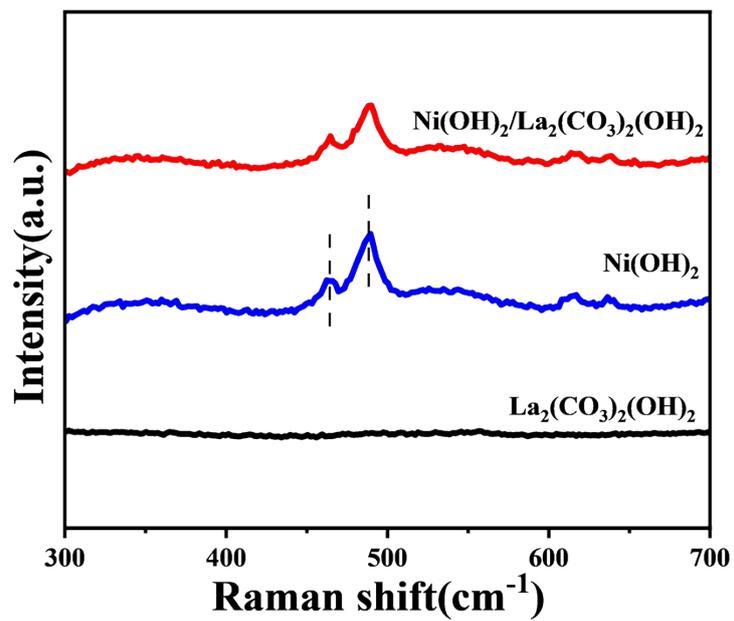


Fig. S1 Raman spectra of  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2$ ,  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2$  and  $\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2$ .

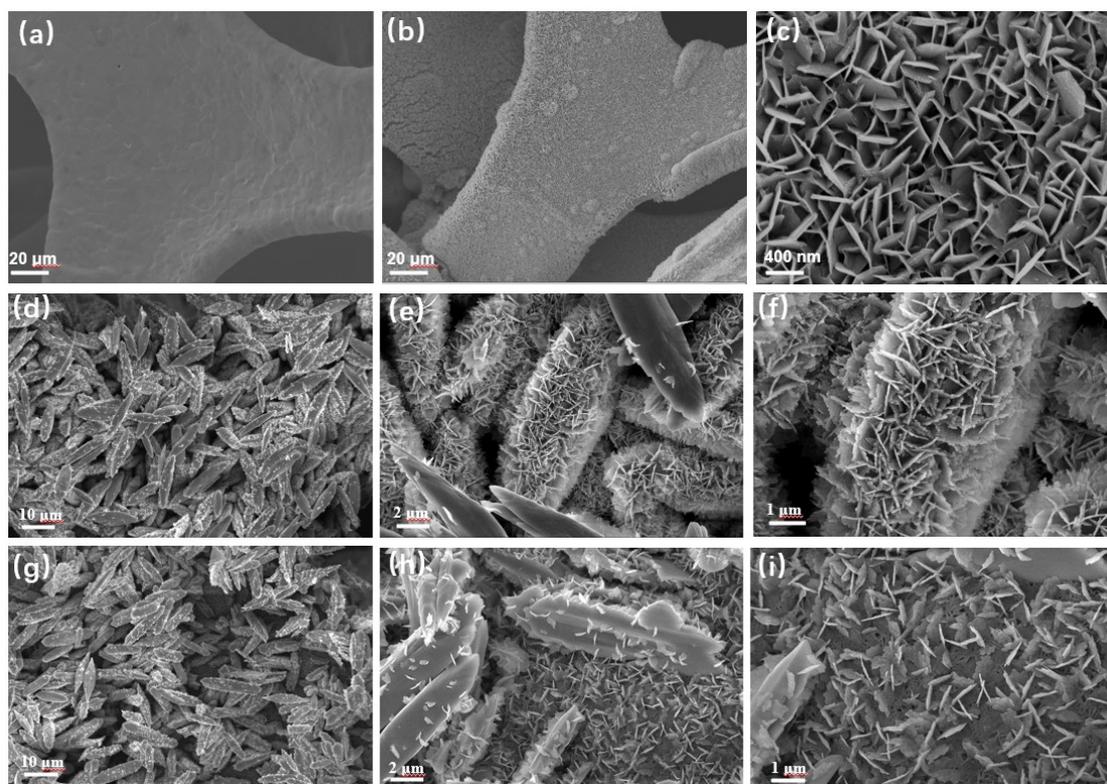


Fig. S2 FE-SEM images of catalysts at different magnifications : (a) NF, (b-c)  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{NF}$ , (d-f)  $\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2/\text{NF}$  and (g-i)  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2/\text{NF}$ .

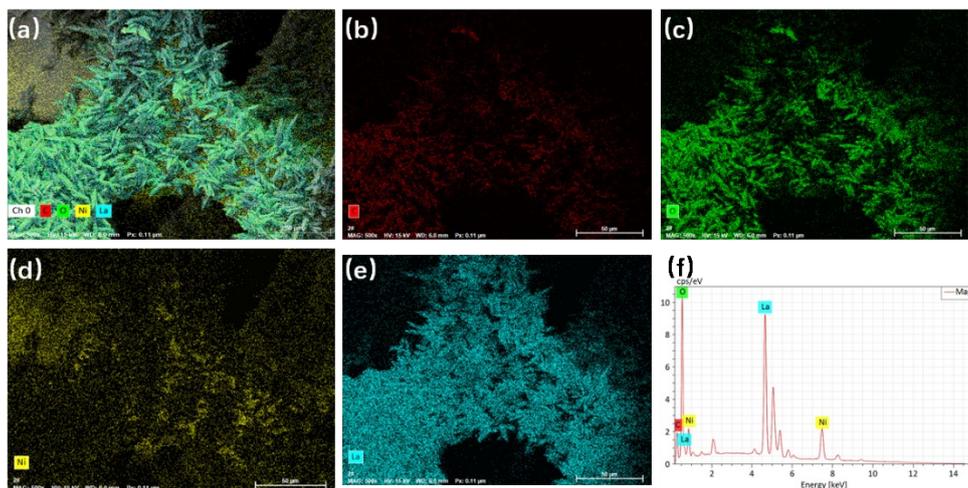


Fig. S3 EDS mapping images of the  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2/\text{NF}$ .

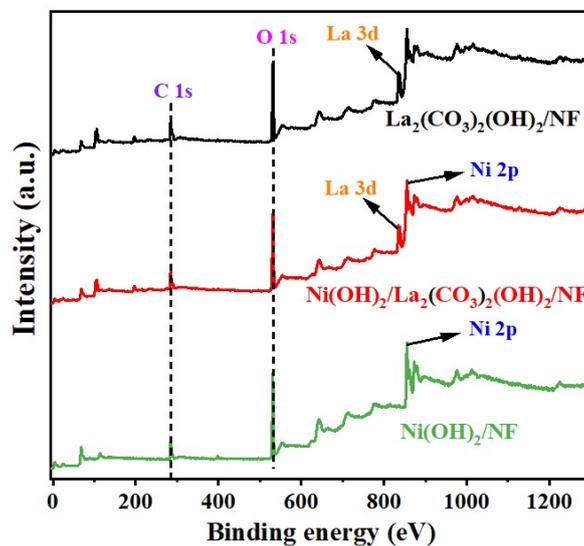


Fig. S4 XPS survey spectra of the  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{NF}$ ,  $\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2/\text{NF}$ , and

$\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2/\text{NF}$

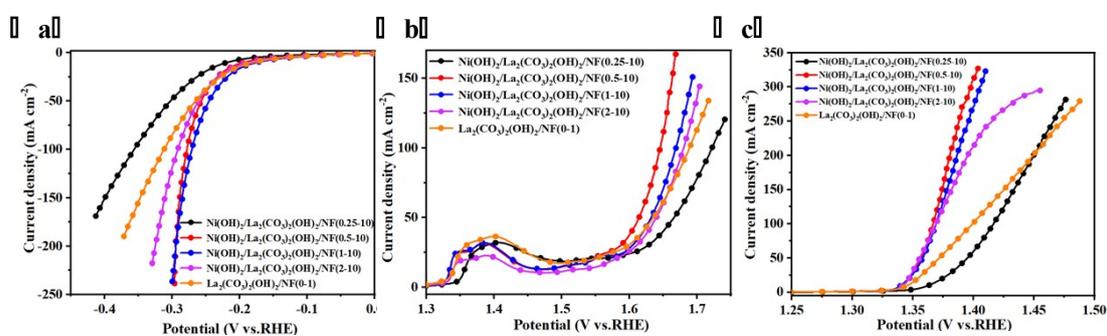
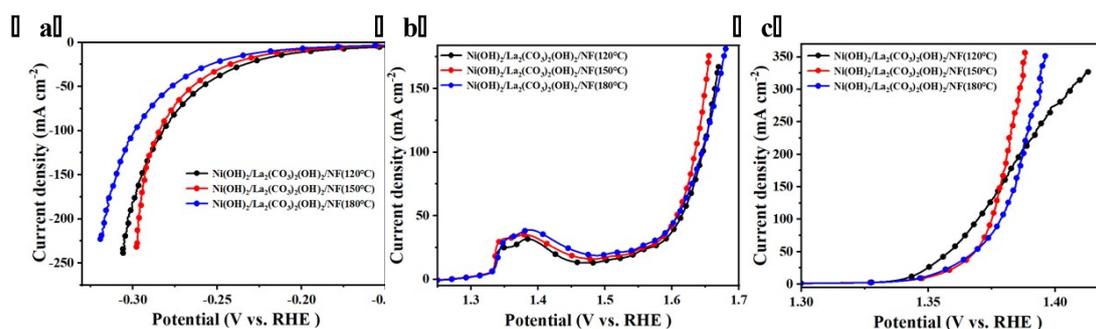
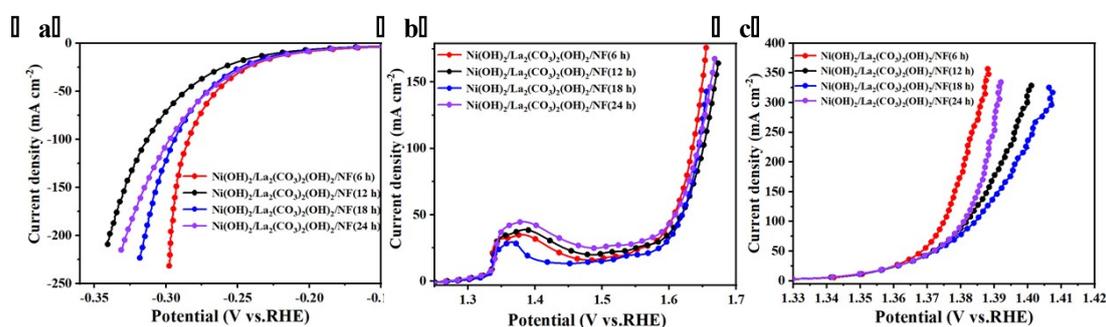


Fig. S5 LSV curves of the  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2/\text{NF}$  under different Ni-to-La ratios: (a) HER,

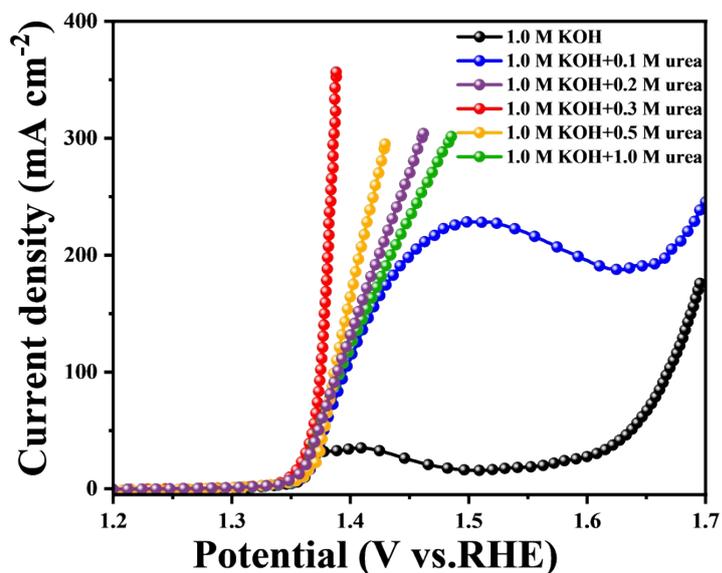
(b) OER and (c) UOR.



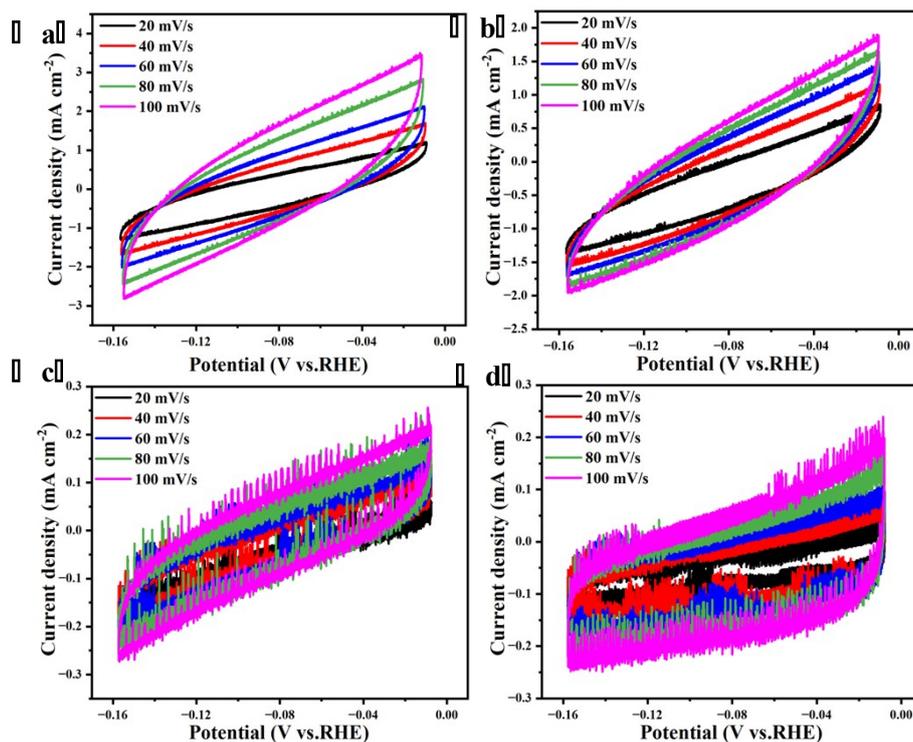
**Fig. S6** LSV curves of the  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2/\text{NF}$  under different hydrothermal temperatures: (a) HER, (b) OER and (c) UOR.



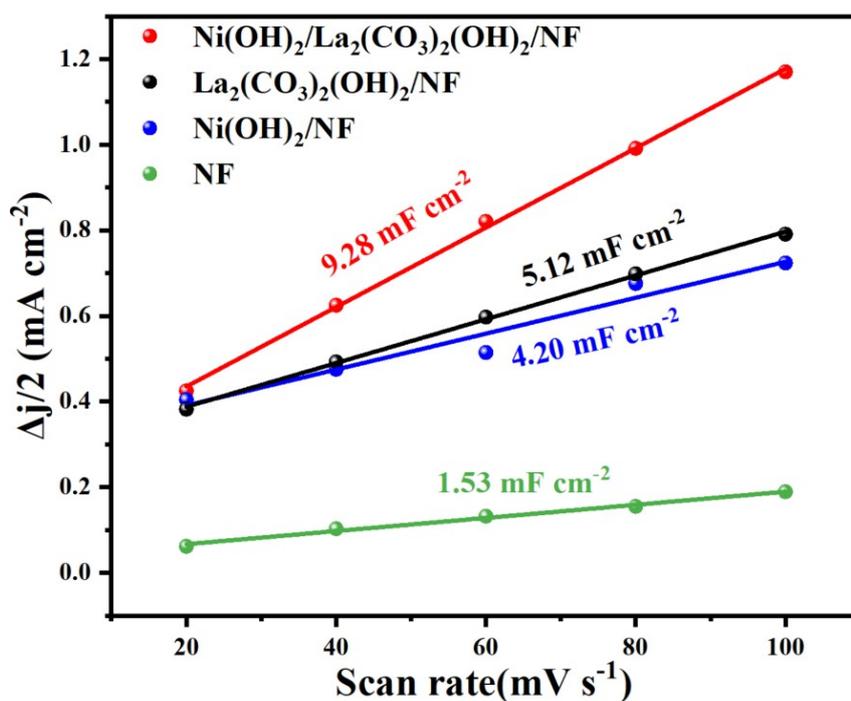
**Fig. S7** LSV curves of the  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2/\text{NF}$  under different hydrothermal time: (a) HER, (b) OER and (c) UOR.



**Fig. S8** LSV curves measured for  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2/\text{NF}$  in 1.0 M KOH with different concentrations ( $X=0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.5,$  and  $1.0$  M) of urea.



**Fig. S9** Cyclic voltammograms were taken in a potential range where no faradic processes were observed to measure the capacitive current from double layer charging. CV curves at different scan rate from  $20 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$  to  $100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ : (a)  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2/\text{NF}$ , (b)  $\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2/\text{NF}$ , (c)  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{NF}$ , and (d) NF.



**Fig. S10** The HER performance of the as-prepared catalysts:  $C_{dl}$

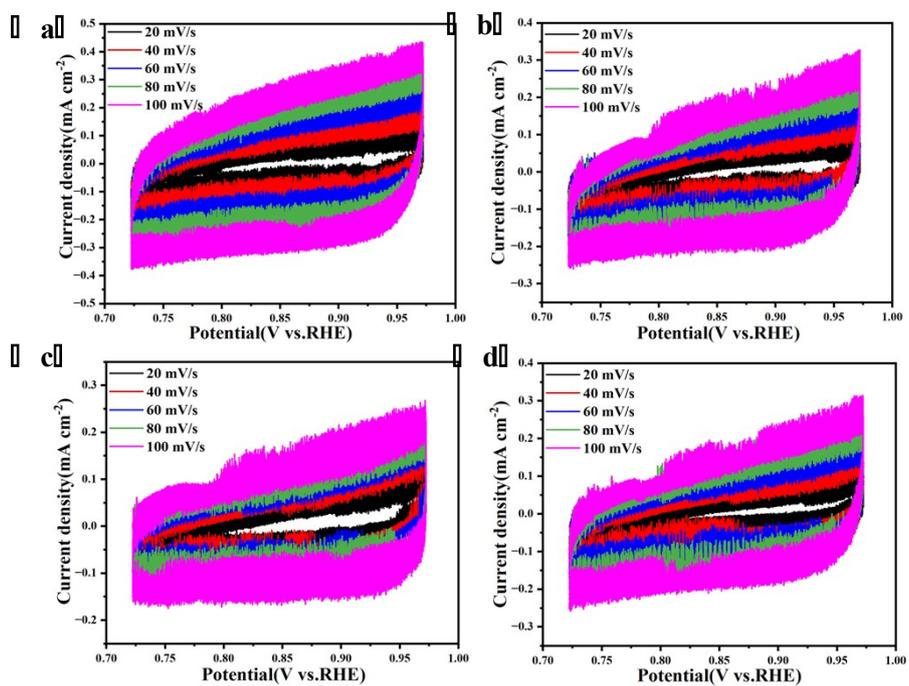


Fig. S11 CV curves at different scan rate from  $20 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$  to  $100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ : (a)

$\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2/\text{NF}$ , (b)  $\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2/\text{NF}$ , (c)  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{NF}$ , and (d) NF.

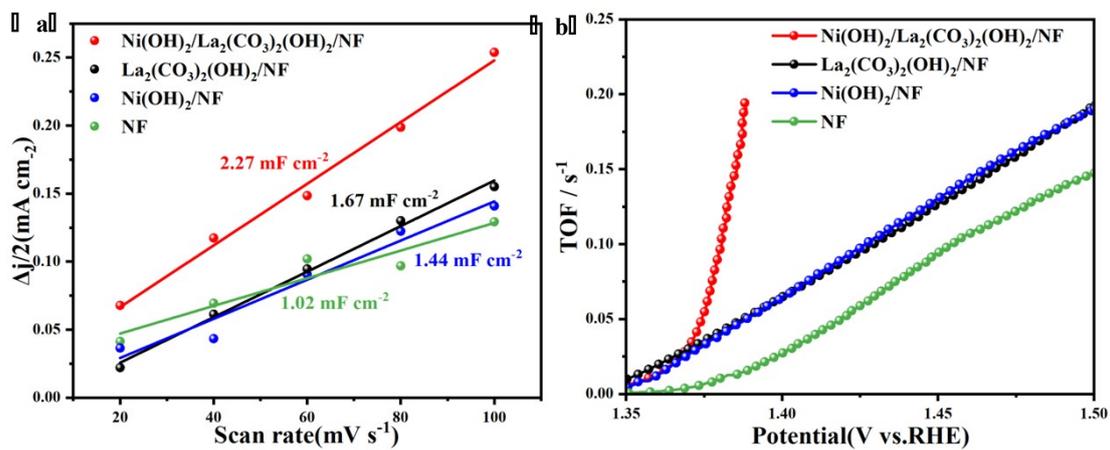


Fig. S12 The UOR performance of the as-prepared catalysts: (a)  $C_{dl}$ , (b) TOF curves.

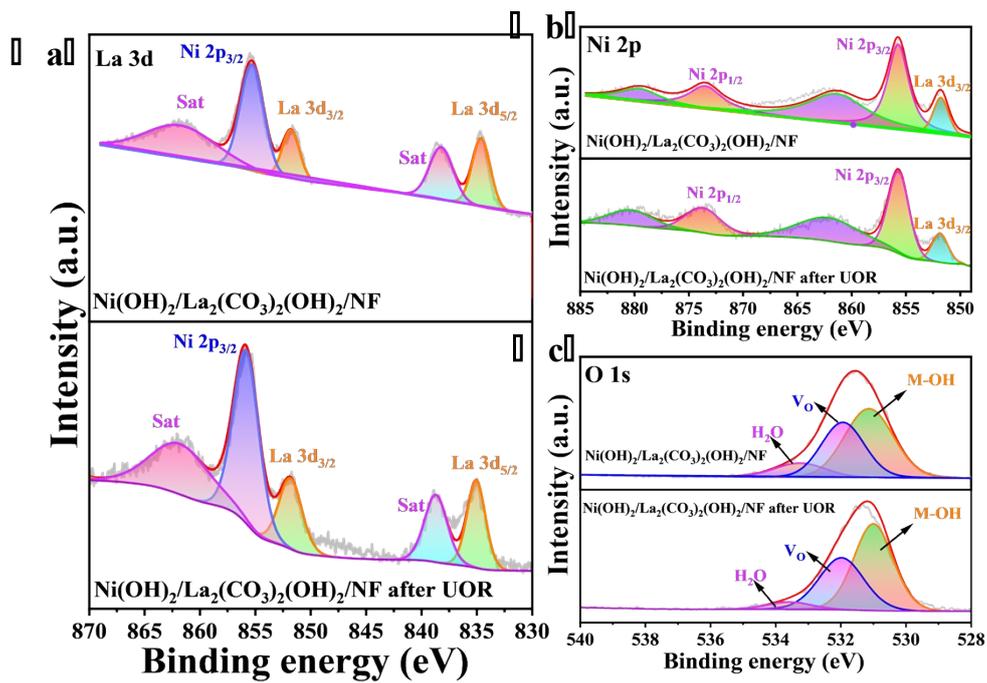


Fig. S13 Comparison of XPS spectra of  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{La}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2/\text{NF}$  catalyst before and after

UOR stability testing.

**Table S1.** comparison of HER performance in alkaline electrolytes used for water splitting.

Electrolysts	Electrolyte	overpotential @10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	References
Ni(OH) <sub>2</sub> /La <sub>2</sub> (CO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (OH) <sub>2</sub> /NF	1 M KOH	0.201 V	This work
Ni(OH) <sub>2</sub> /NF	1 M KOH	0.252 V	[4]
NiCo <sub>2</sub> S <sub>4</sub> /NF	1 M KOH	0.210	[5]
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/CNS	1 M KOH	0.315 V	[6]
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/Ni <sub>12</sub> P <sub>5</sub>	1 M KOH	0.234 V	[7]
Ni <sub>2</sub> P	1 M KOH	0.258 V	[7]
Ni <sub>12</sub> P <sub>5</sub>	1 M KOH	0.270 V	[8]
NiS <sub>2</sub> /NF	1 M KOH	0.255 V	[9]
NiS	1 M KOH	0.474 V	[10]
h-NiS	1 M KOH	0.205	[11]
Ni-CoCHH/NF	1 M KOH	0.248 V	[12]

**Table S2.** comparison of UOR performance in alkaline electrolytes used for water splitting.

Electrolysts	Electrolyte	Potential @10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	References
Ni(OH) <sub>2</sub> /La <sub>2</sub> (CO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (OH) <sub>2</sub> /NF	1 M KOH + 0.3 M urea	1.348 V	This work
1% La:α-Ni(OH) <sub>2</sub>	1 M KOH + 0.33 M urea	1.567V	[13]
Ni/NiP	1 M KOH + 0.33 M urea	1.350V	[14]
Ni/NiS@CP	1 M KOH + 0.33 M urea	1.350V	[15]
Ce-Ni <sub>2</sub> P/NF	1 M KOH + 0.3 M urea	1.406V	[16]
NiFeMo	1 M KOH + 0.33 M urea	1.380V	[17]
Fc-NiCo-BDC	1 M KOH + 0.33 M urea	1.350	[18]
CoFe LDH/MOFs	1 M KOH + 0.33 M urea	1.450V	[19]
Ni-MOF-0.5	1 M KOH + 0.5 M urea	1.381V	[20]
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/Fe <sub>2</sub> P/NF	1 M KOH + 0.5 M urea	1.36V	[21]
N-NiO	1 M KOH + 0.5 M urea	1.390V	[22]

**Table S3.** comparison of overall urea splitting performance in alkaline electrolytes

Electrolysts	Electrolyte	Potential	References
Ni(OH) <sub>2</sub> /La <sub>2</sub> (CO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (OH) <sub>2</sub> /NF	1 M KOH + 0.3 M urea	1.536 V@10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	This work
Ni(OH) <sub>2</sub> /La <sub>2</sub> (CO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (OH) <sub>2</sub> /NF	1 M KOH + 0.3 M urea	1.689 V@100 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	This work
CoS <sub>2</sub> -Ti	1 M KOH + 0.3 M urea	1.590 V@10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	[23]
Ni/C	1 M KOH + 0.3 M urea	1.600 V@10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	[24]
Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /CC	1 M KOH + 0.3 M urea	1.710 V@10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	[25]
Ni@NCNT	1 M KOH + 0.5 M urea	1.560 V@10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	[26]
HC-NiMoS/Ti	1 M KOH + 0.5 M urea	1.590 V@10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	[27]
MnO <sub>2</sub> /MnCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /Ni	1 M KOH + 0.5 M urea	1.550 V@10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	[28]
Ce-Ni <sub>2</sub> P/NF	1 M KOH + 0.3 M urea	1.780 V@100 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	[16]
NiHCF/NF	1 M KOH + 0.33 M urea	1.800 V@100 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	[29]
Ni <sub>0.85</sub> Se/CoSe <sub>2</sub> /NF	1 M KOH + 0.33 M urea	1.758 V@100 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	[30]
CoP/MoO <sub>2</sub> /NF	1 M KOH + 0.5 M urea	1.690 V@100 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	[31]

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