

***Supplementary Information***

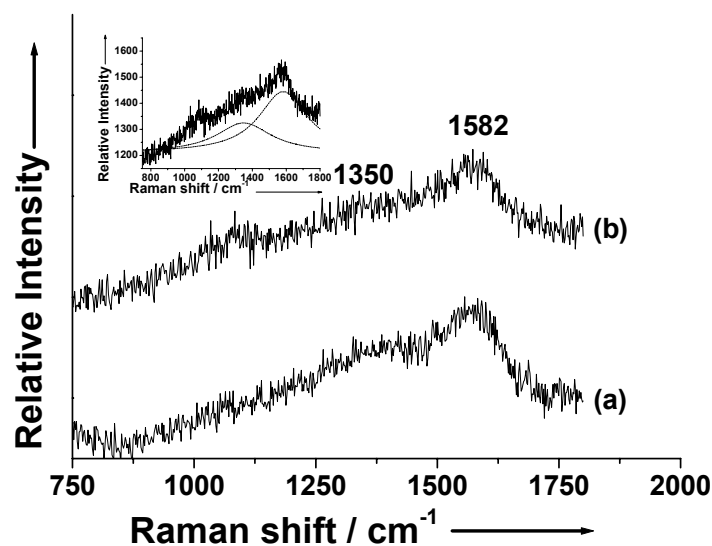
**A facile route to carbon-coated nickel-based metal  
nanoparticles**

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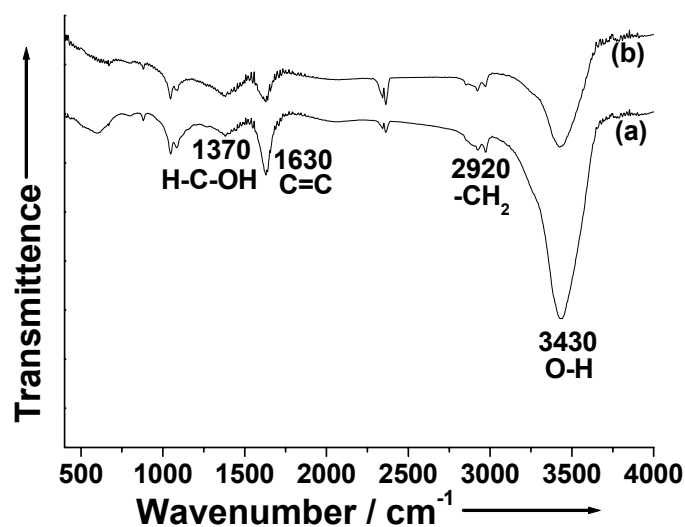
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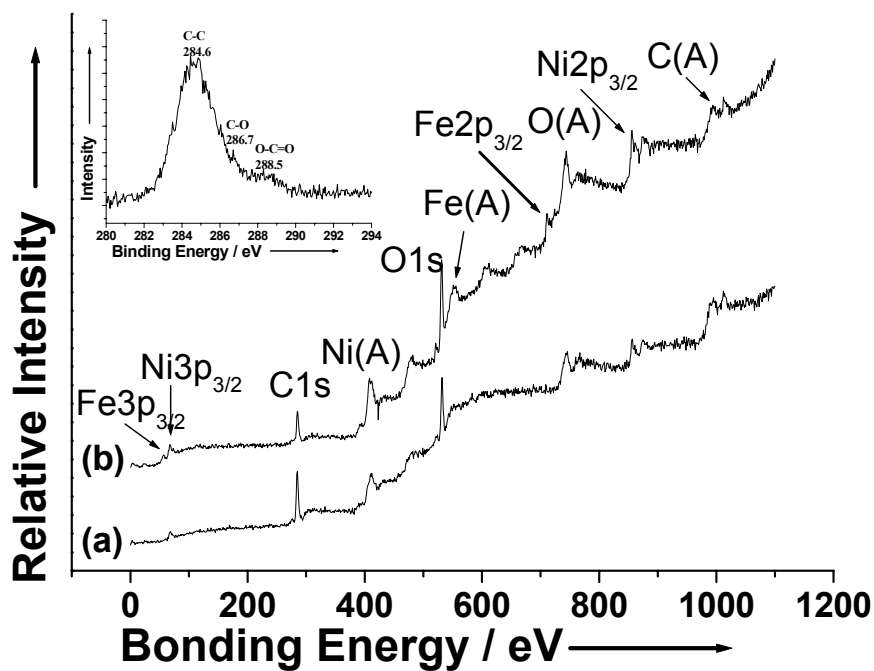
Raman, IR and XPS spectra of Ni/C, FeNi/C core/shell structures; and  
TEM images of the samples obtained in various conditions



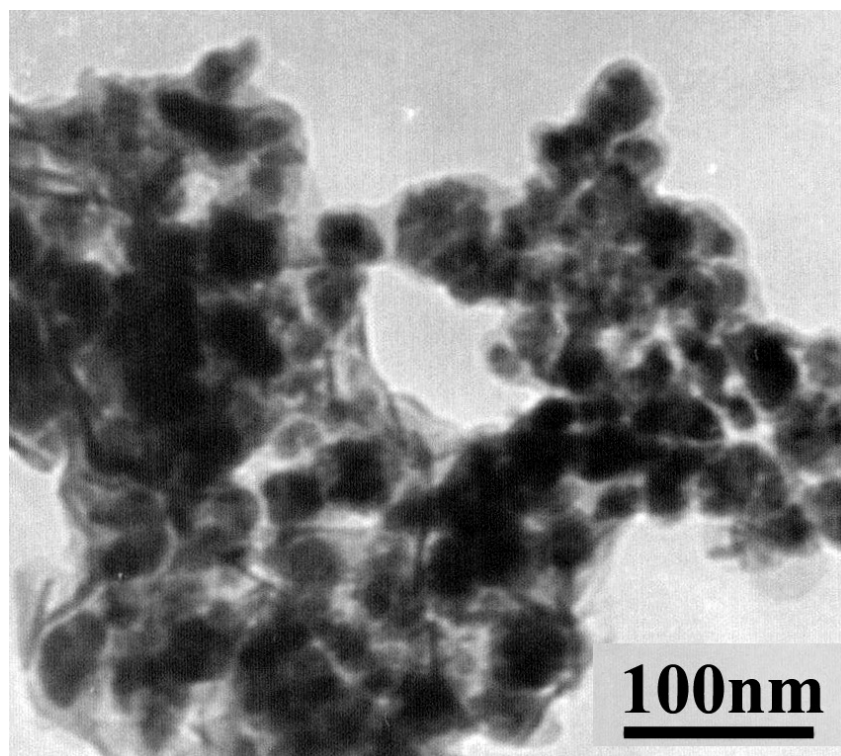
**Figure S1** Raman spectra of Ni/C (a) and FeNi/C (b) core/shell structures.



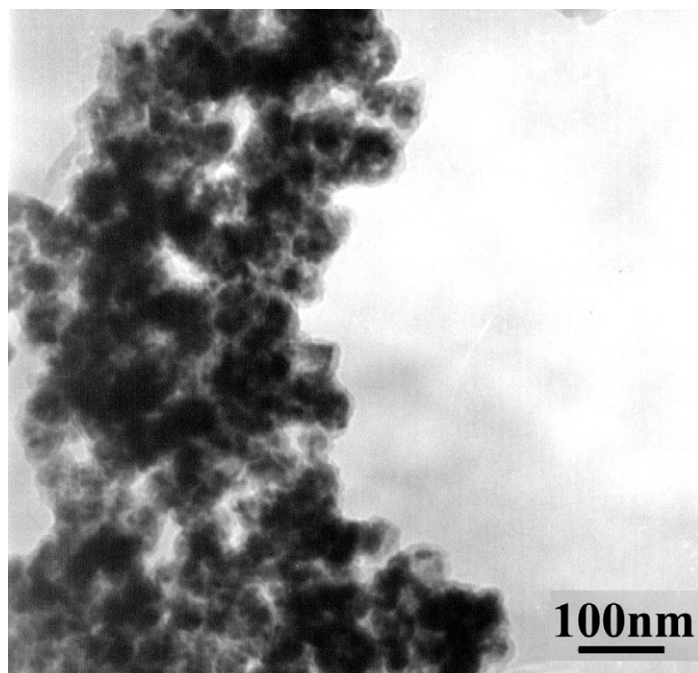
**Figure S2** FTIR spectra of Ni/C (a) and FeNi/C (b) core/shell structures.



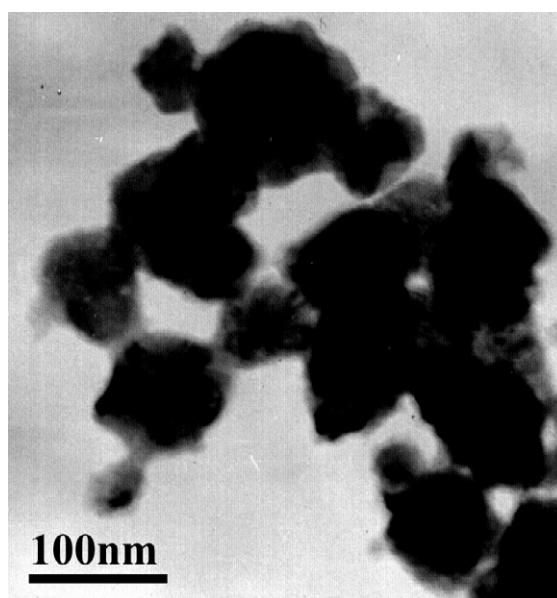
**Figure S3** XPS spectra of Ni/C (a) and FeNi/C (b) core/shell nanostructures, inset is high-resolution XPS spectrum showing the C 1s peaks for Ni/C.



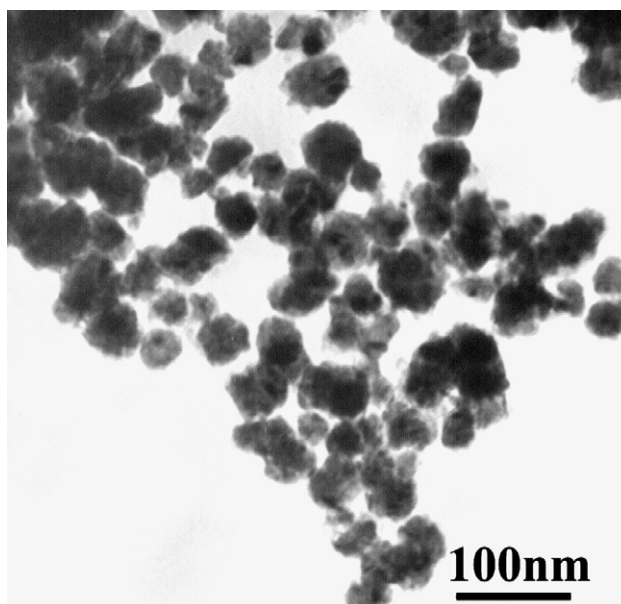
**Figure S4** TEM image of FeNi/C nanostructures obtained with the carbonization process carried out under ultrasonic radiation while keeping other conditions.



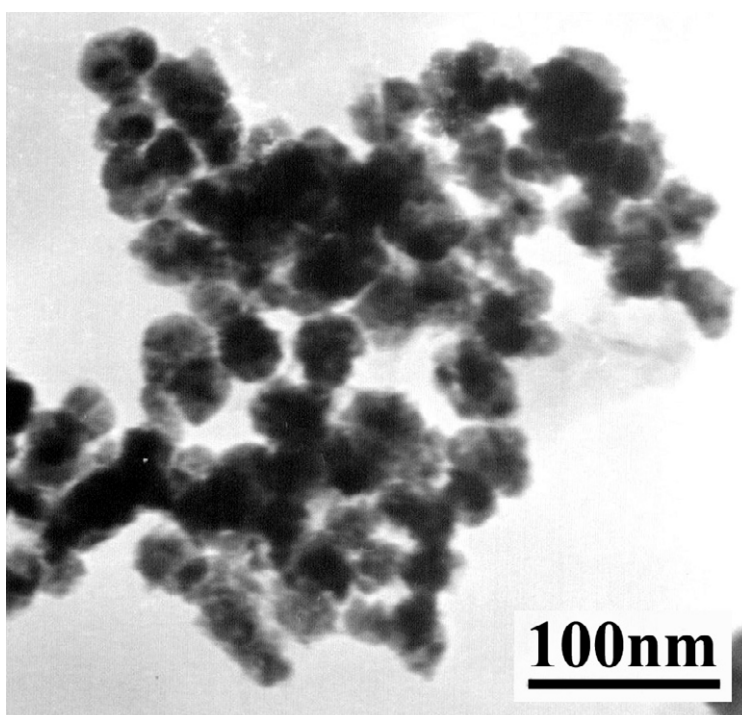
**Figure S5** TEM image of FeNi/C nanostructures obtained with the carbonization in the presence of 0.6 mL water while keeping other conditions.



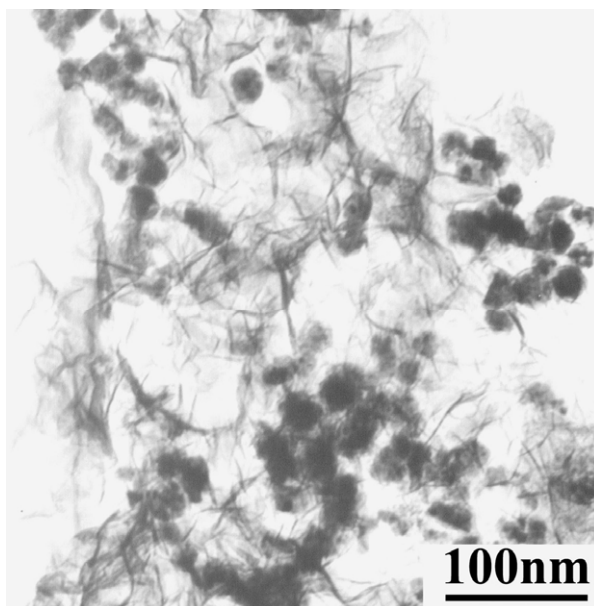
**Figure S6** TEM image of Ni/C nanostructures obtained with the carbonization in the presence of 0.6 mL water while keeping other conditions.



**Figure S7** TEM image of sample obtained by addition of concentrated  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  (98%) in the aqueous FeNi NPs at  $-5\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  followed by keeping it at  $40\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for 2 hours.



**Figure S8** TEM image of sample obtained by the carbonization of FeNi NPs with concentrated  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  (98%) in the presence of sucrose using ethanol as a solvent.



**Figure S9** TEM image of FeNi/C sample obtained using 0.4 mL acetaldehyde as carbon source while keeping other conditions.