



## Supporting Information

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Core–Shell Structured NiFeSn@NiFe (Oxy)Hydroxide Nanospheres from an Electrochemical Strategy for Electrocatalytic Oxygen Evolution Reaction

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## Supporting Information

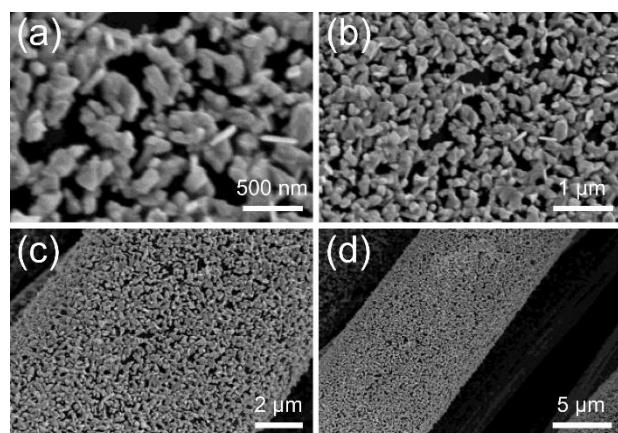
### Core-Shell Structured NiFeSn@NiFe (oxy)hydroxide Nanospheres from an Electrochemical Strategy for Electrocatalytic Oxygen Evolution Reaction

*Mingxing Chen, Shenglin Lu, Xian-Zhu Fu,\* Jing-Li Luo\**

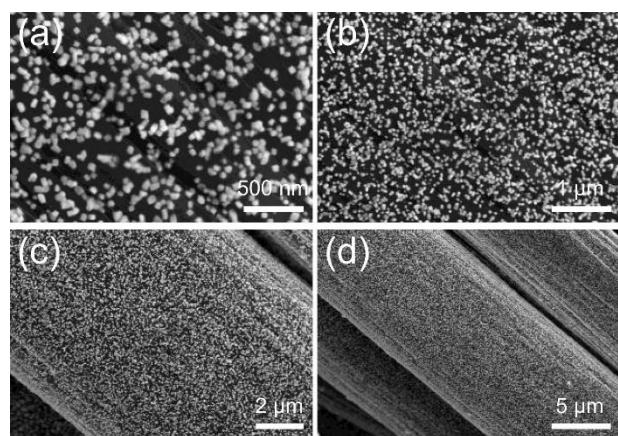
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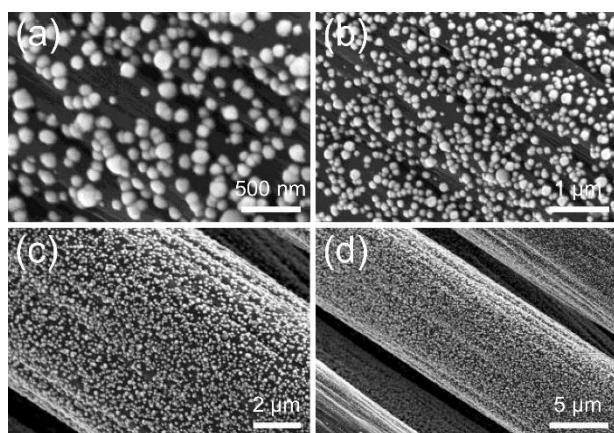
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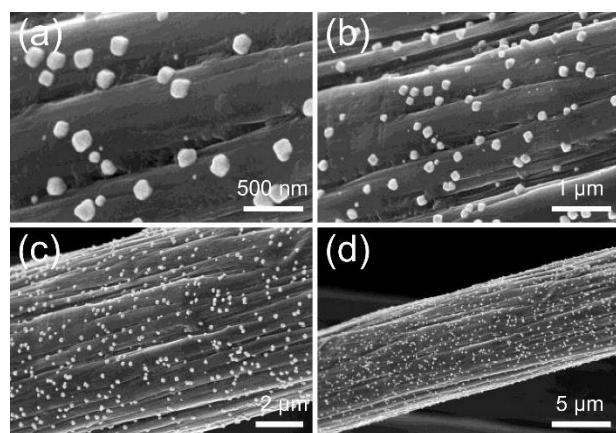
**Figure S1.** SEM images of NiSn.



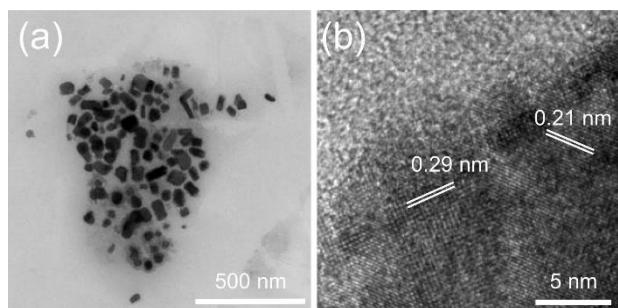
**Figure S2.** SEM images of  $\text{NiFe}_{0.1}\text{Sn}$ .



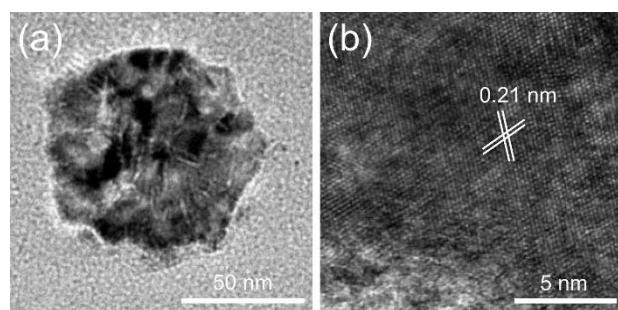
**Figure S3.** SEM images of  $\text{NiFe}_1\text{Sn}$ .



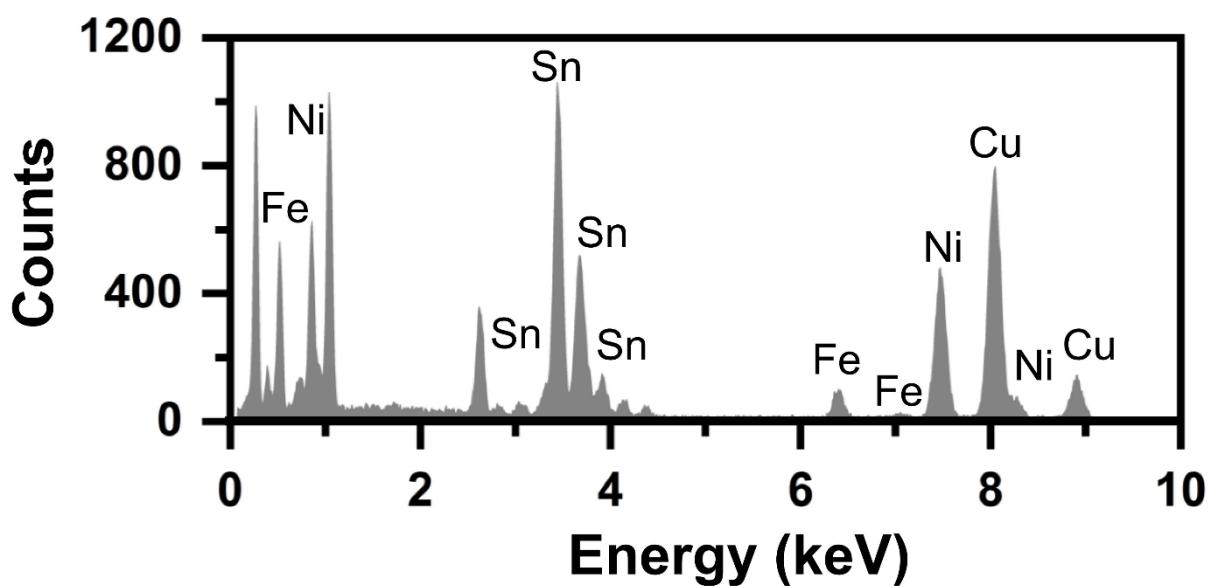
**Figure S4.** SEM images of  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}$ .



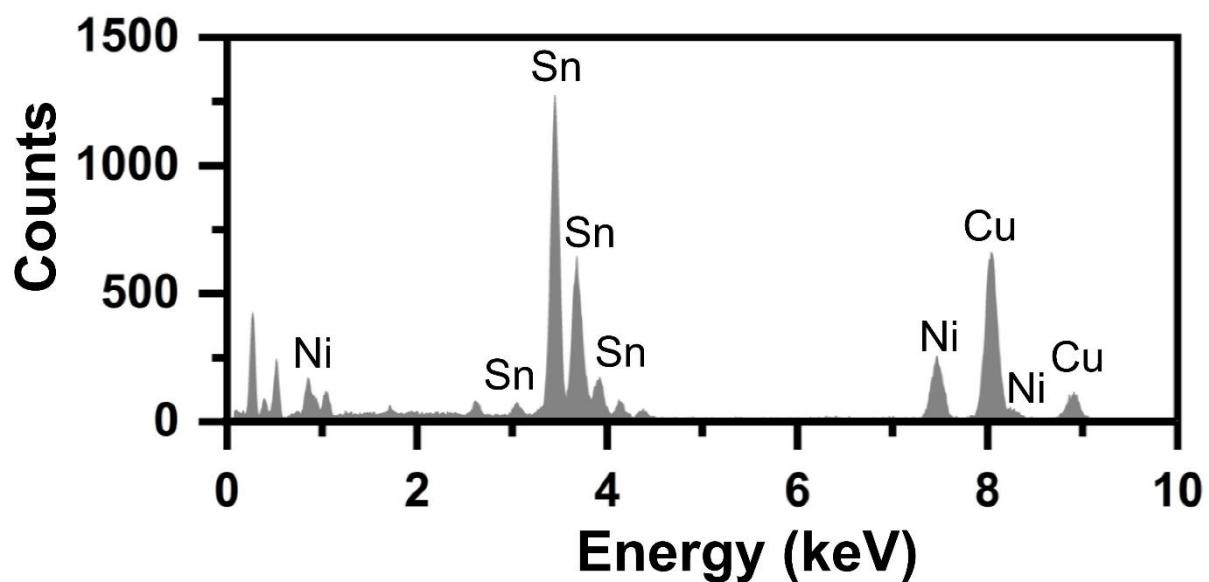
**Figure S5.** (a) TEM and (b) HRTEM images of NiSn.



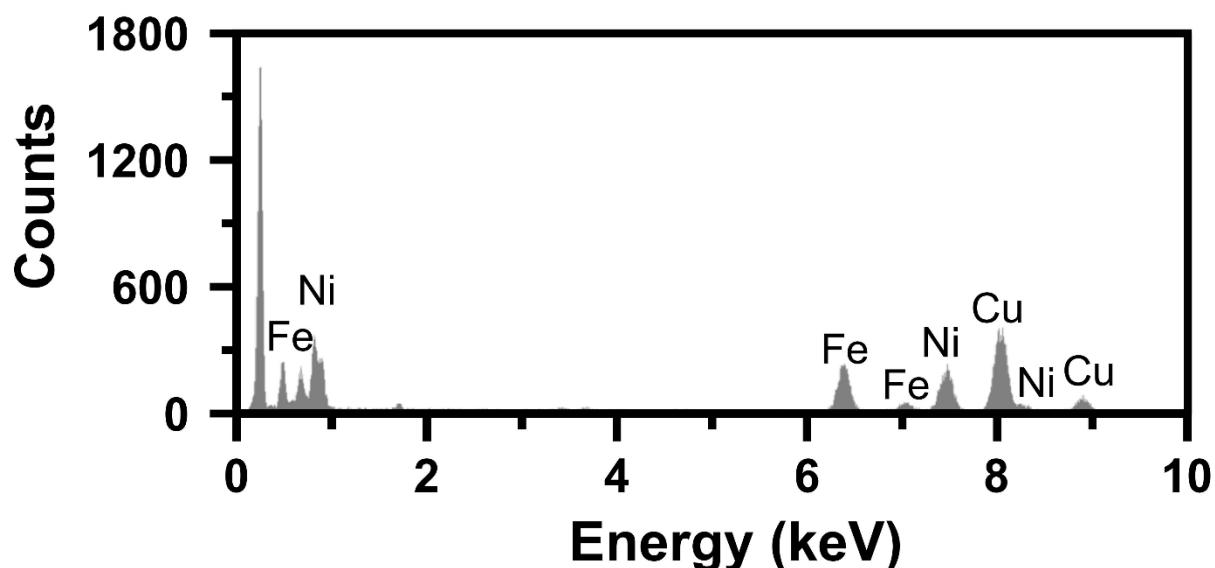
**Figure S6.** (a) TEM and (b) HRTEM images of  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}$ .



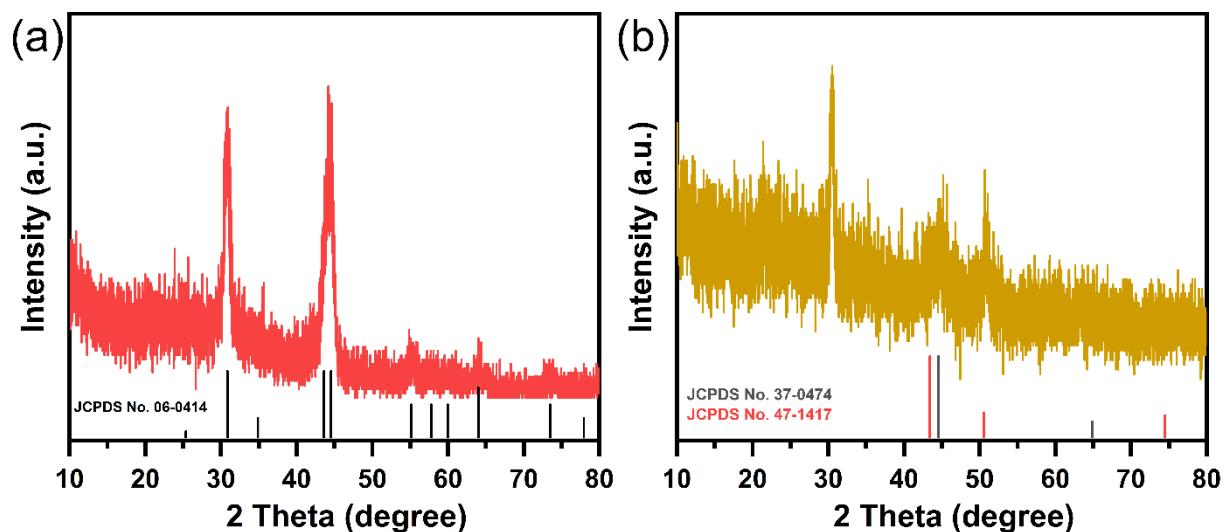
**Figure S7.** EDX spectrum of  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}\text{Sn}$ .



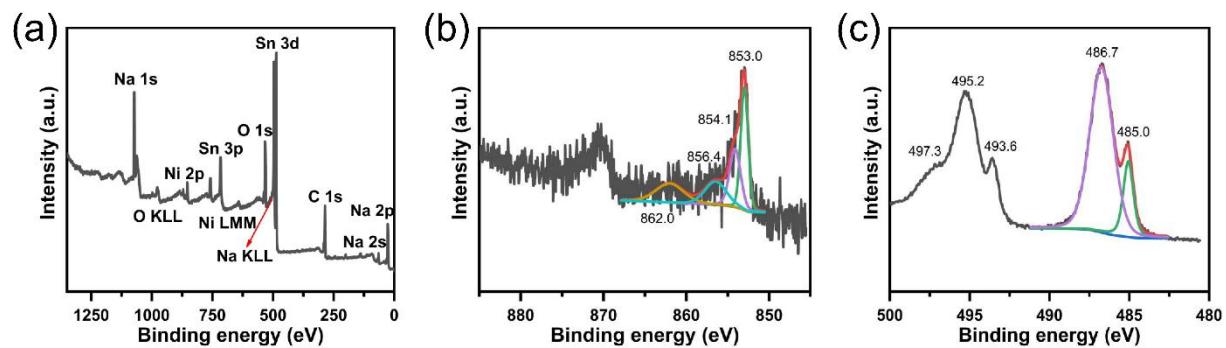
**Figure S8.** EDX spectrum of NiSn.



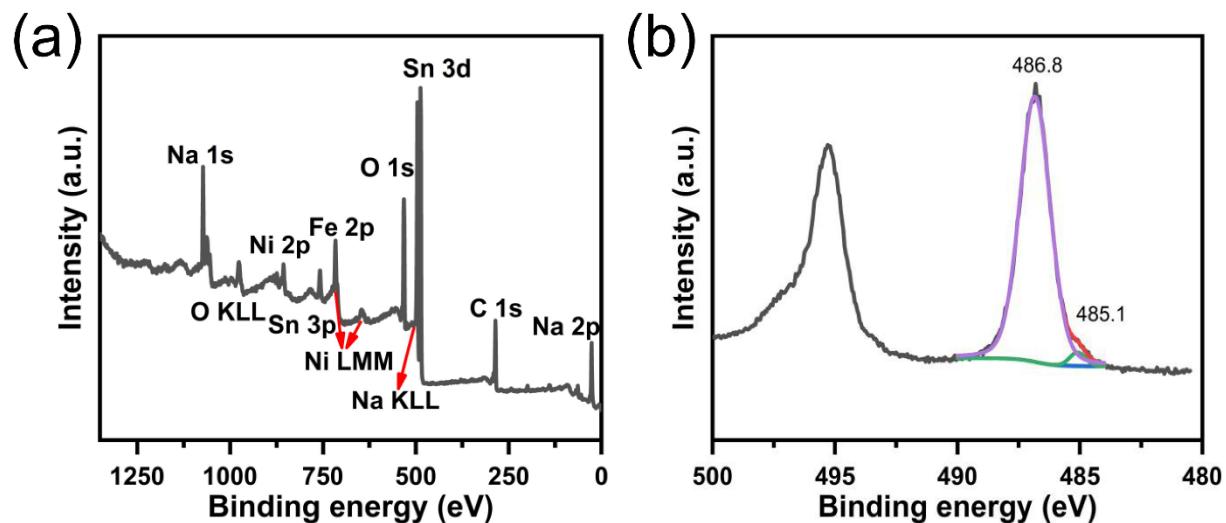
**Figure S9.** EDX spectrum of  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}$ .



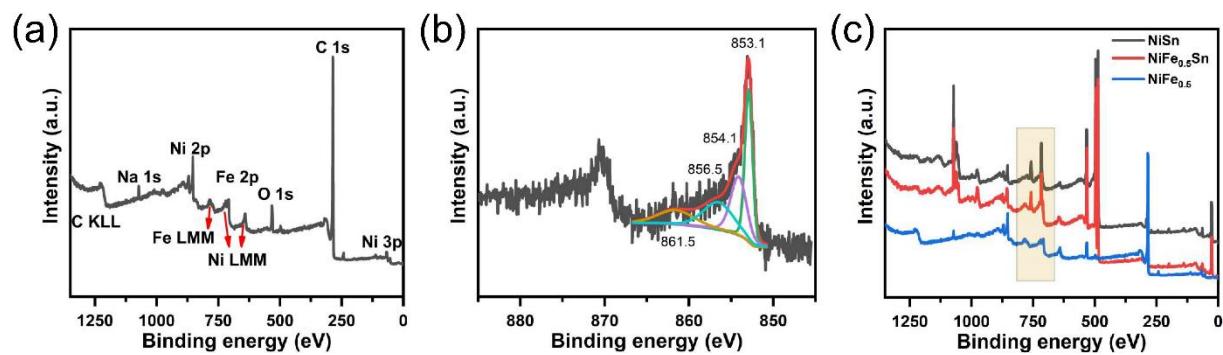
**Figure S10.** XRD patterns of (a) NiSn and (b) NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>.



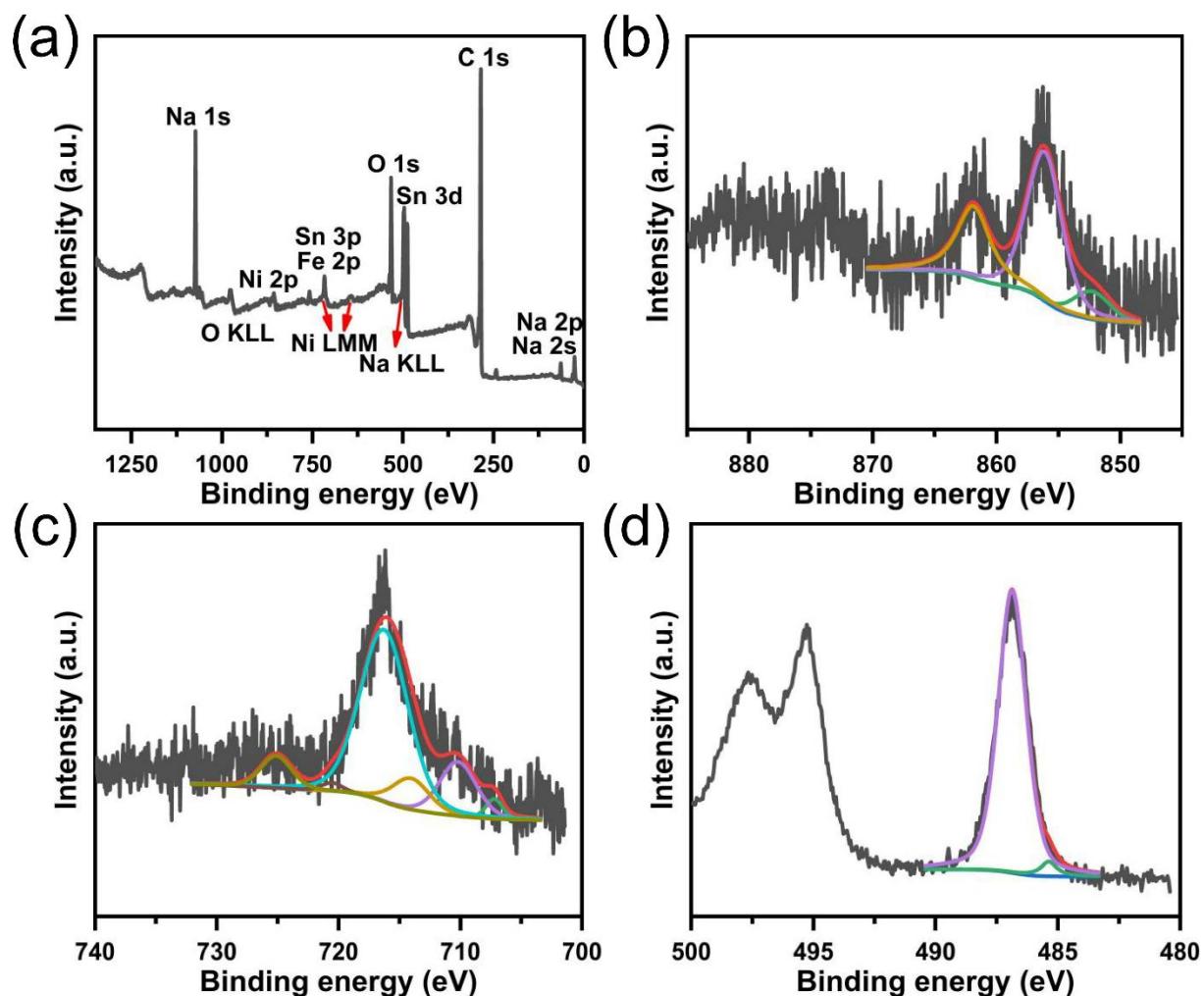
**Figure S11.** (a) XPS survey, (b) Ni 2p and (c) Sn 3d XPS spectra of NiSn.



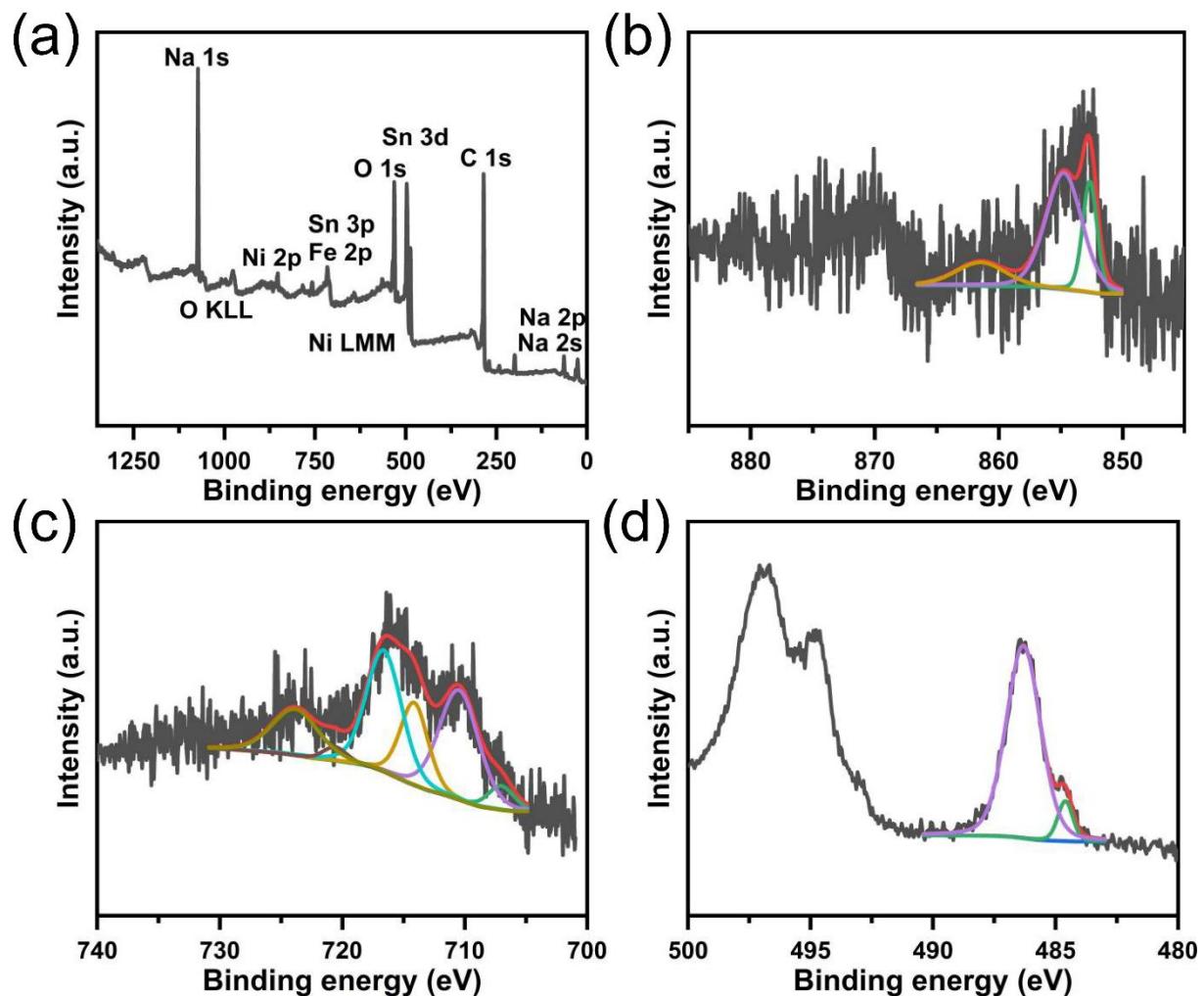
**Figure S12.** (a) XPS survey, (b) Sn 3d XPS spectrum of  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}\text{Sn}$ .



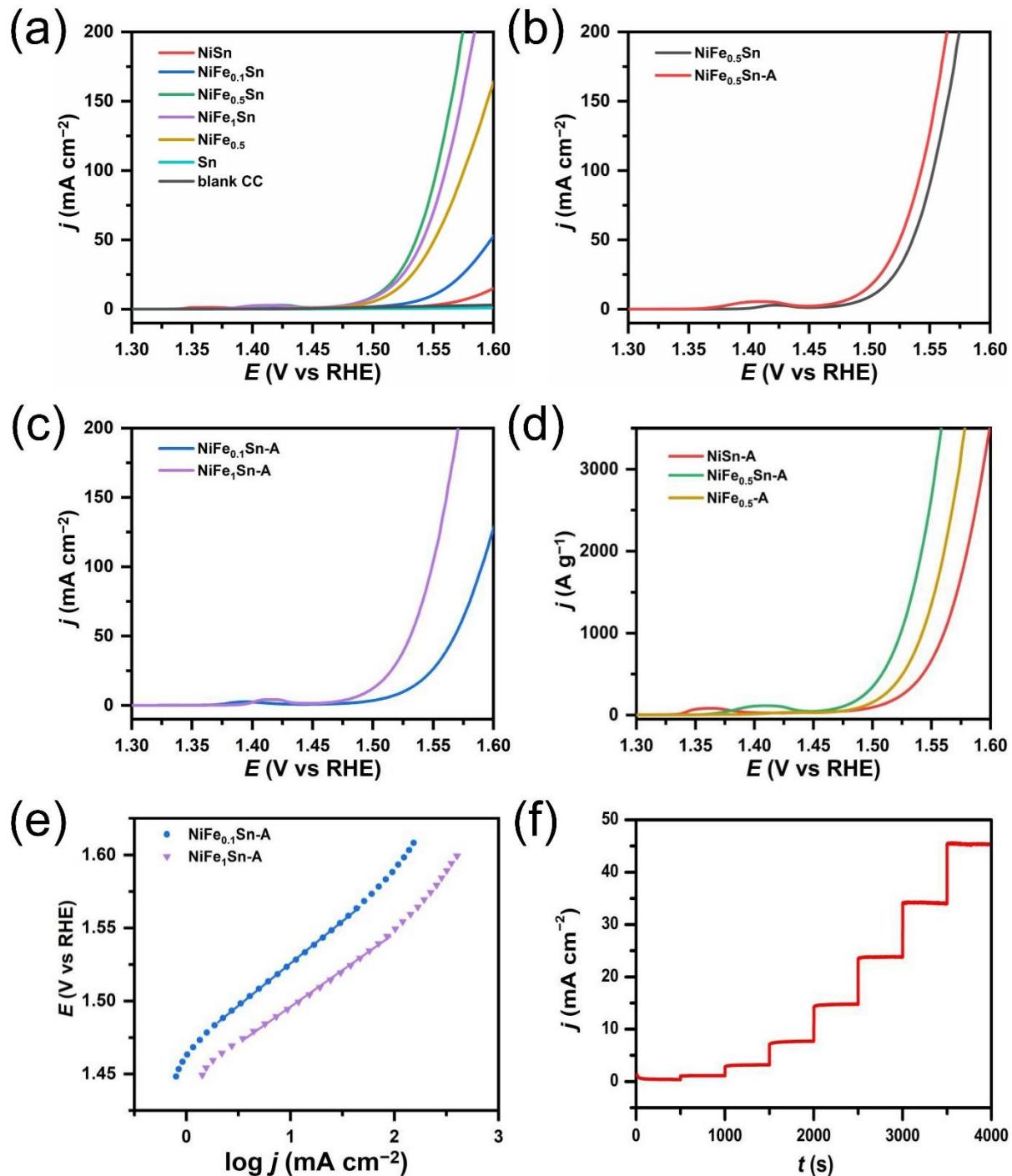
**Figure S13.** (a) XPS survey, (b) Ni 2p XPS spectrum of NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>, (c) XPS surveys of NiSn, NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>Sn and NiFe<sub>0.6</sub>.



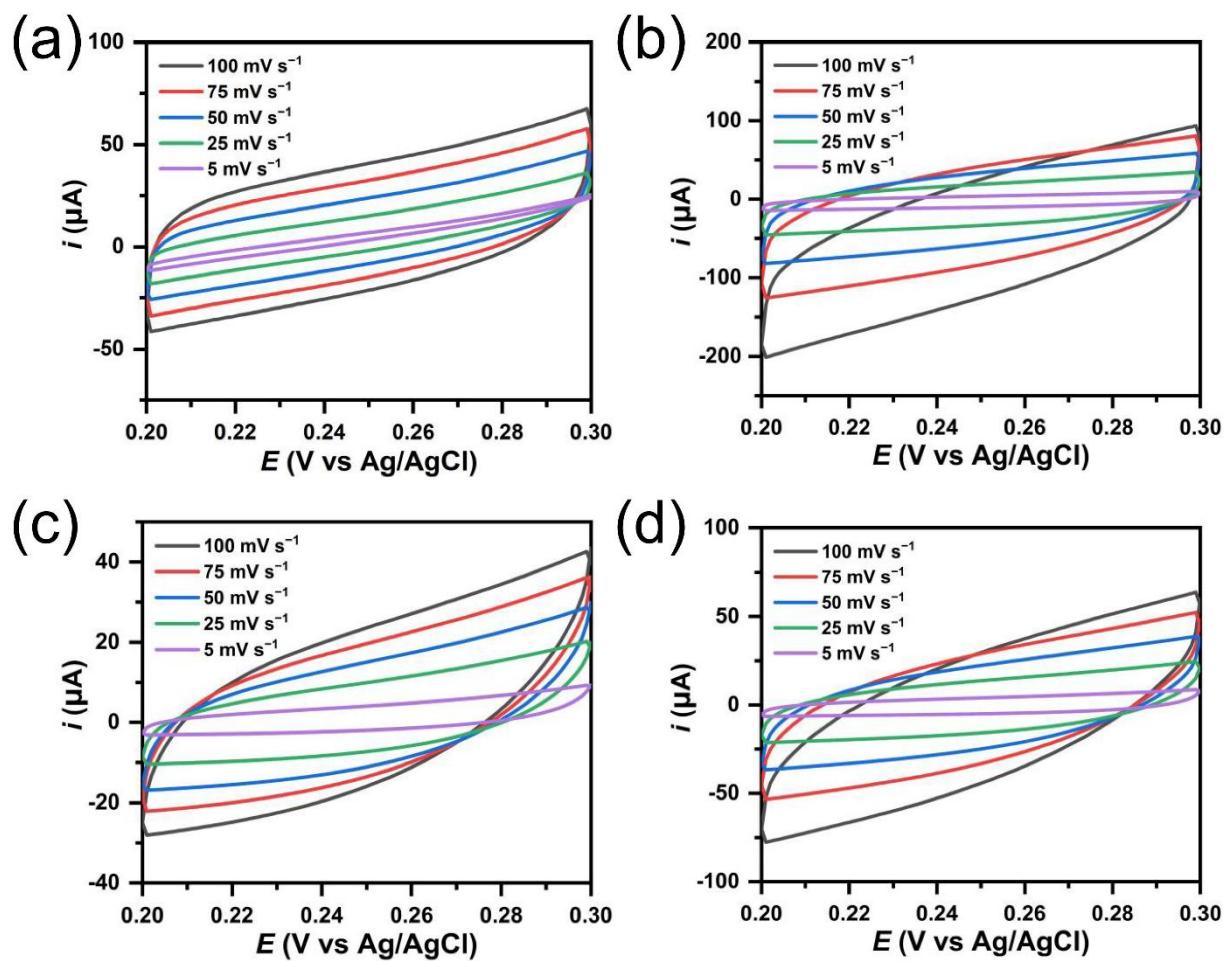
**Figure S14.** (a) XPS survey, (b) Ni 2p, (c) Fe 2p and (d) Sn 3d XPS spectra of  $\text{NiFe}_{0.1}\text{Sn}$ .



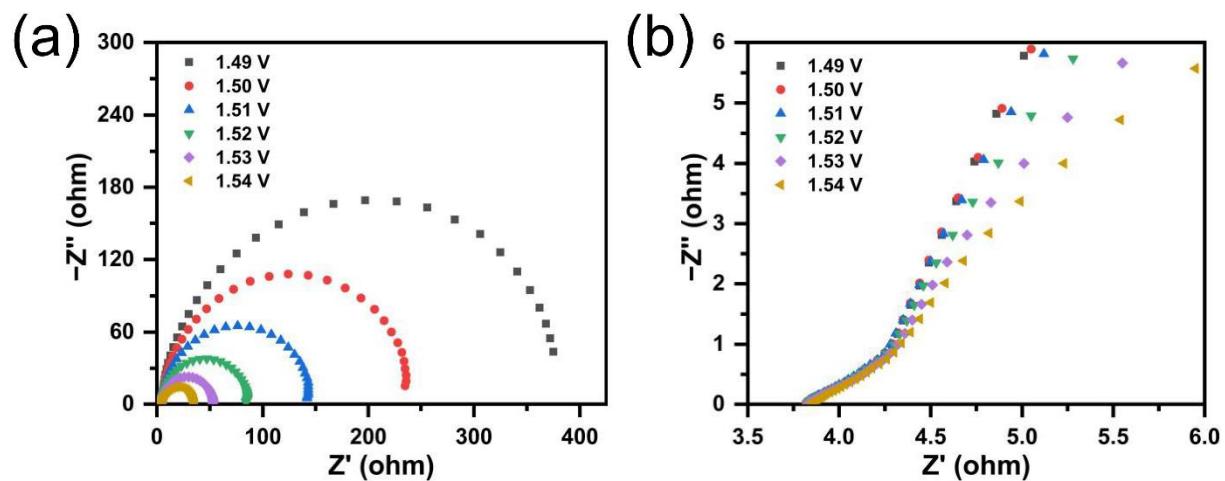
**Figure S15.** (a) XPS survey, (b) Ni 2p, (c) Fe 2p and (d) Sn 3d XPS spectra of NiFe<sub>1</sub>Sn.



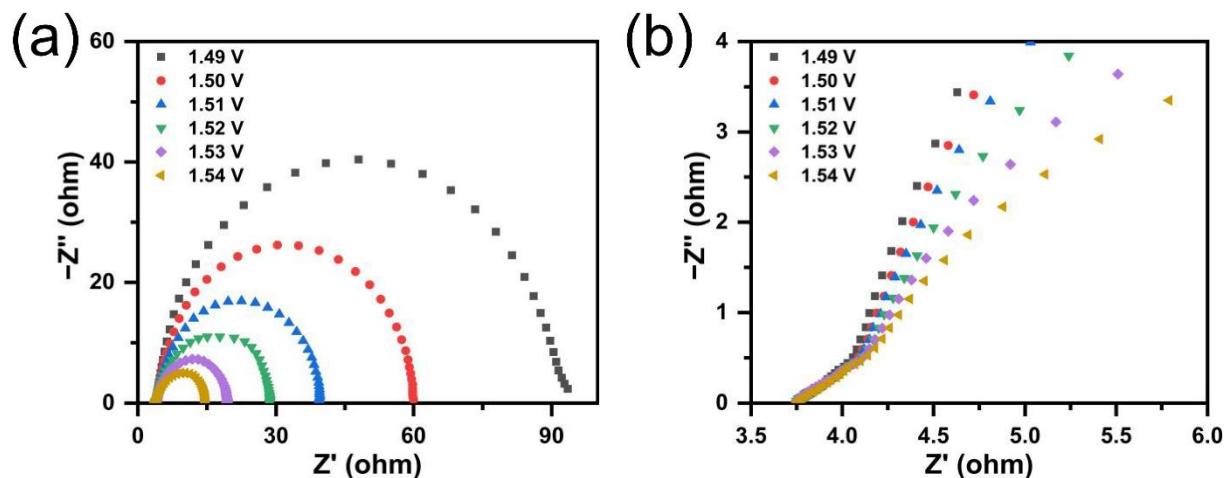
**Figure S16.** Polarization curves of (a)  $\text{NiSn}$ ,  $\text{NiFe}_x\text{Sn}$ ,  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}$ ,  $\text{Sn}$  and blank CC, (b)  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}\text{Sn}$  and  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}\text{Sn-A}$ , (c)  $\text{NiFe}_{0.1}\text{Sn-A}$  and  $\text{NiFe}_1\text{Sn-A}$ , (d) comparison of mass activity of  $\text{NiSn-A}$ ,  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}\text{Sn-A}$  and  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}\text{-A}$ , (e) Tafel plots of  $\text{NiFe}_{0.1}\text{Sn-A}$  and  $\text{NiFe}_1\text{Sn-A}$ , (f) multipotential steps of  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}\text{Sn-A}$  from 1.47 V to 1.61 V without iR compensation.



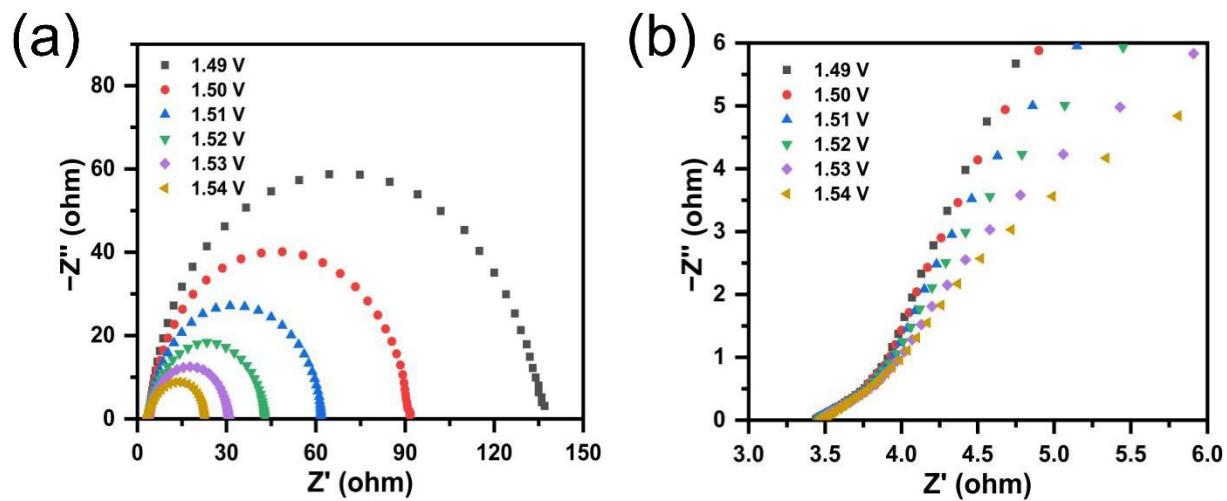
**Figure S17.** CV curves (a, c) before and (b, d) after 2-h anodization of Ni $\text{Fe}_{0.5}\text{Sn}$  and Ni $\text{Fe}_{0.5}$ .



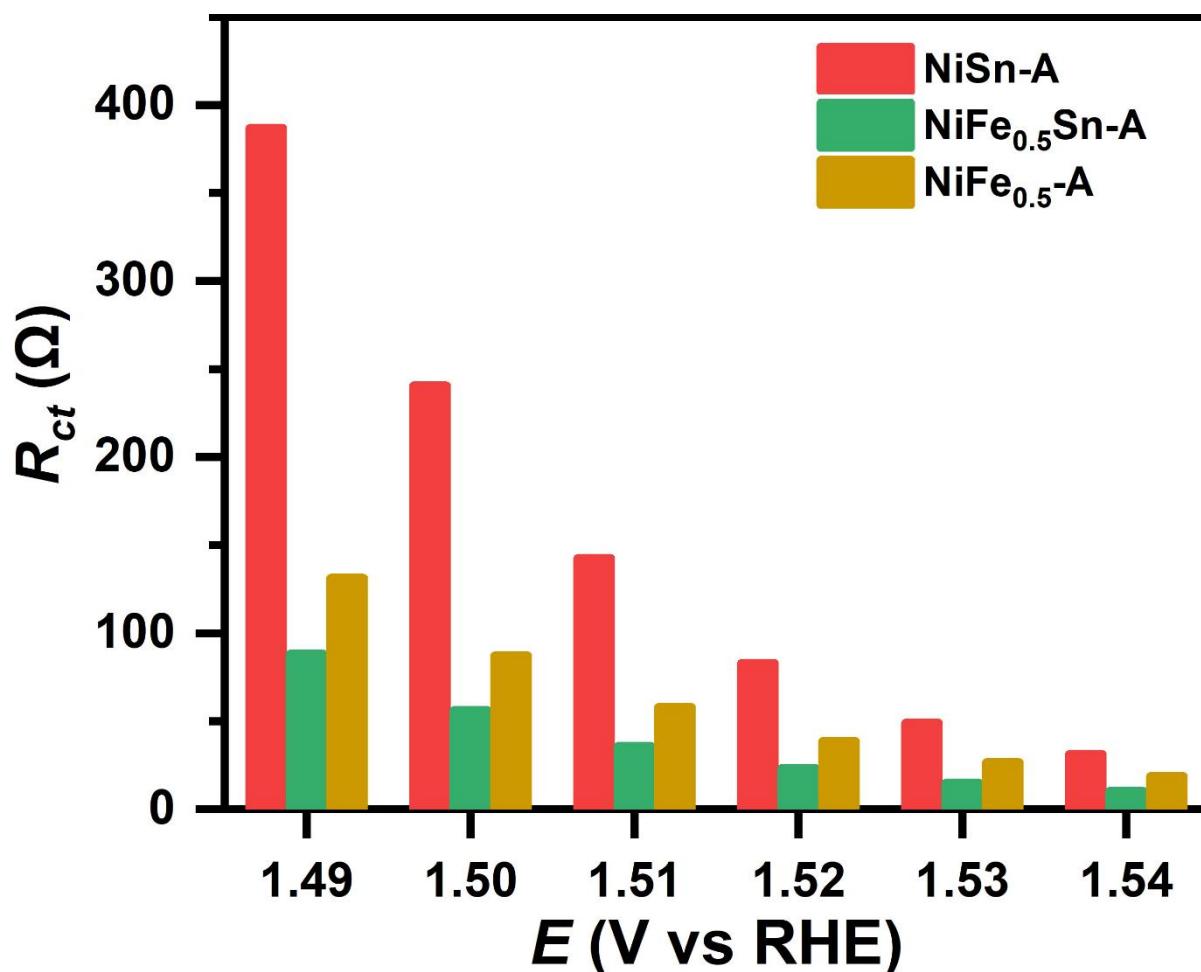
**Figure S18.** (a) Nyquist plots of NiSn-A at different potentials and (b) the corresponding enlarged views.



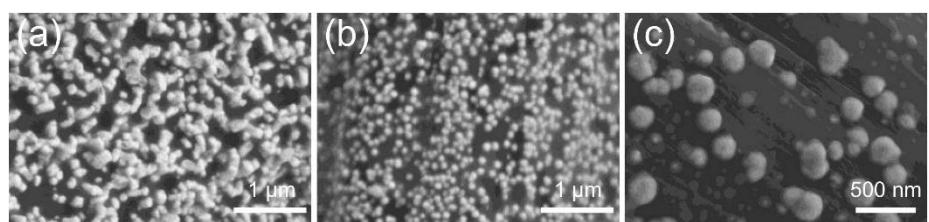
**Figure S19.** (a) Nyquist plots of NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>Sn-A at different potentials and (b) the corresponding enlarged views.



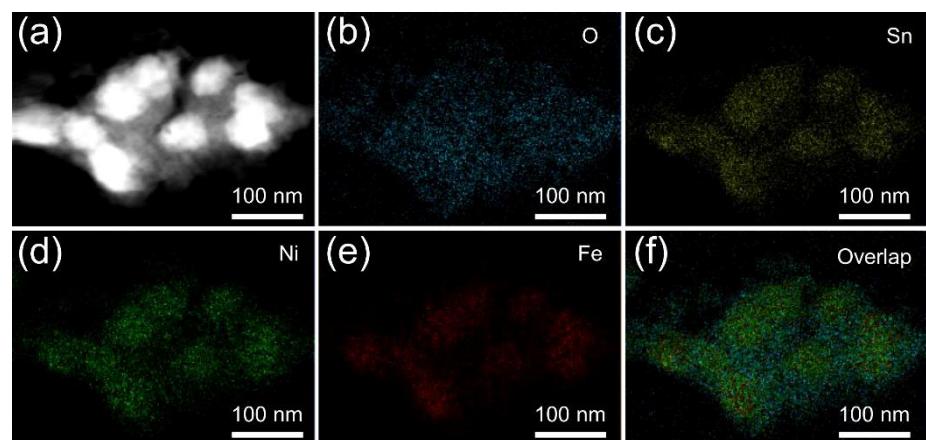
**Figure S20.** (a) Nyquist plots of NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>-A at different potentials and (b) the corresponding enlarged views.



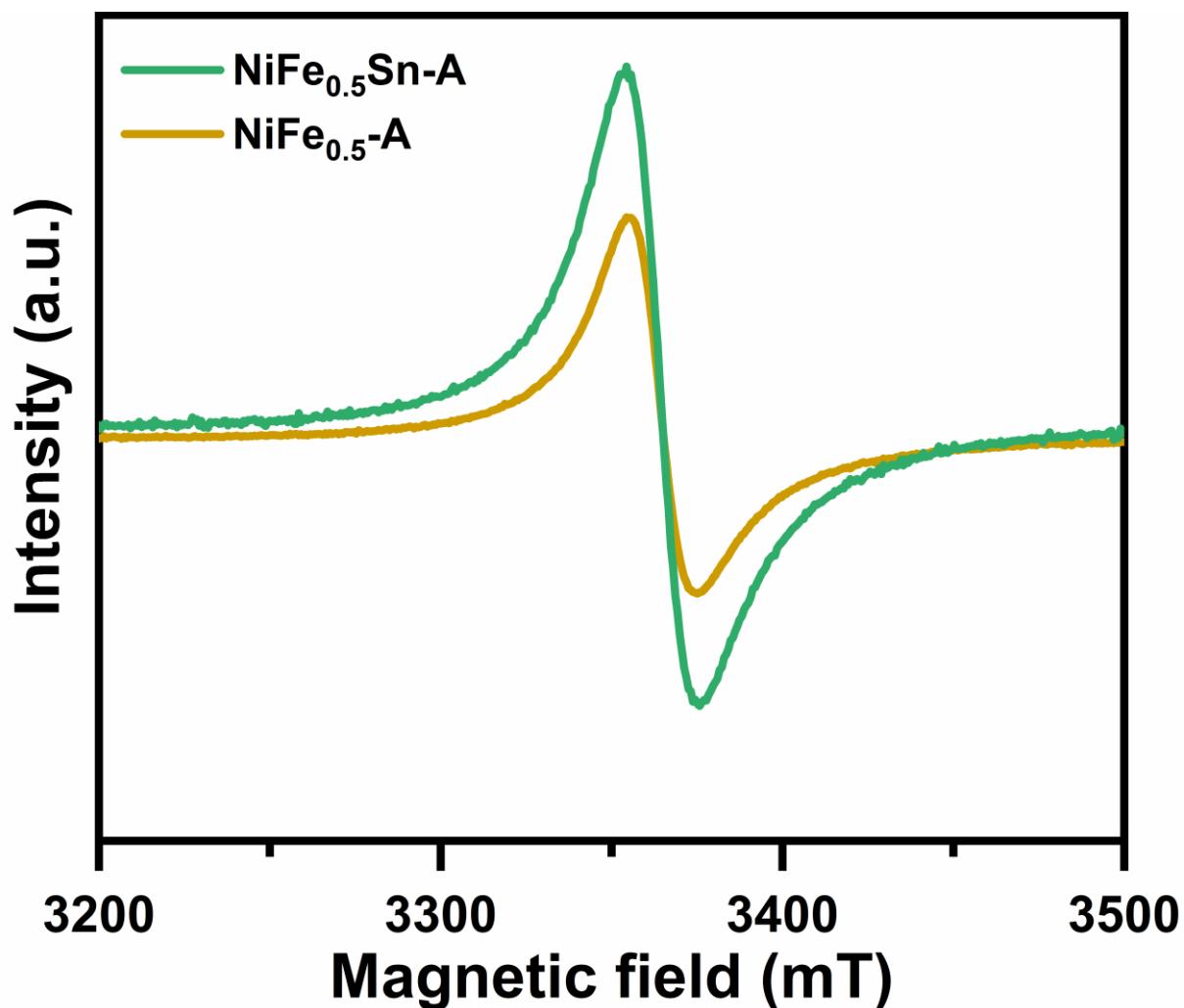
**Figure S21.**  $R_{ct}$  values of NiSn-A, NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>Sn-A and NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>-A at different potentials.



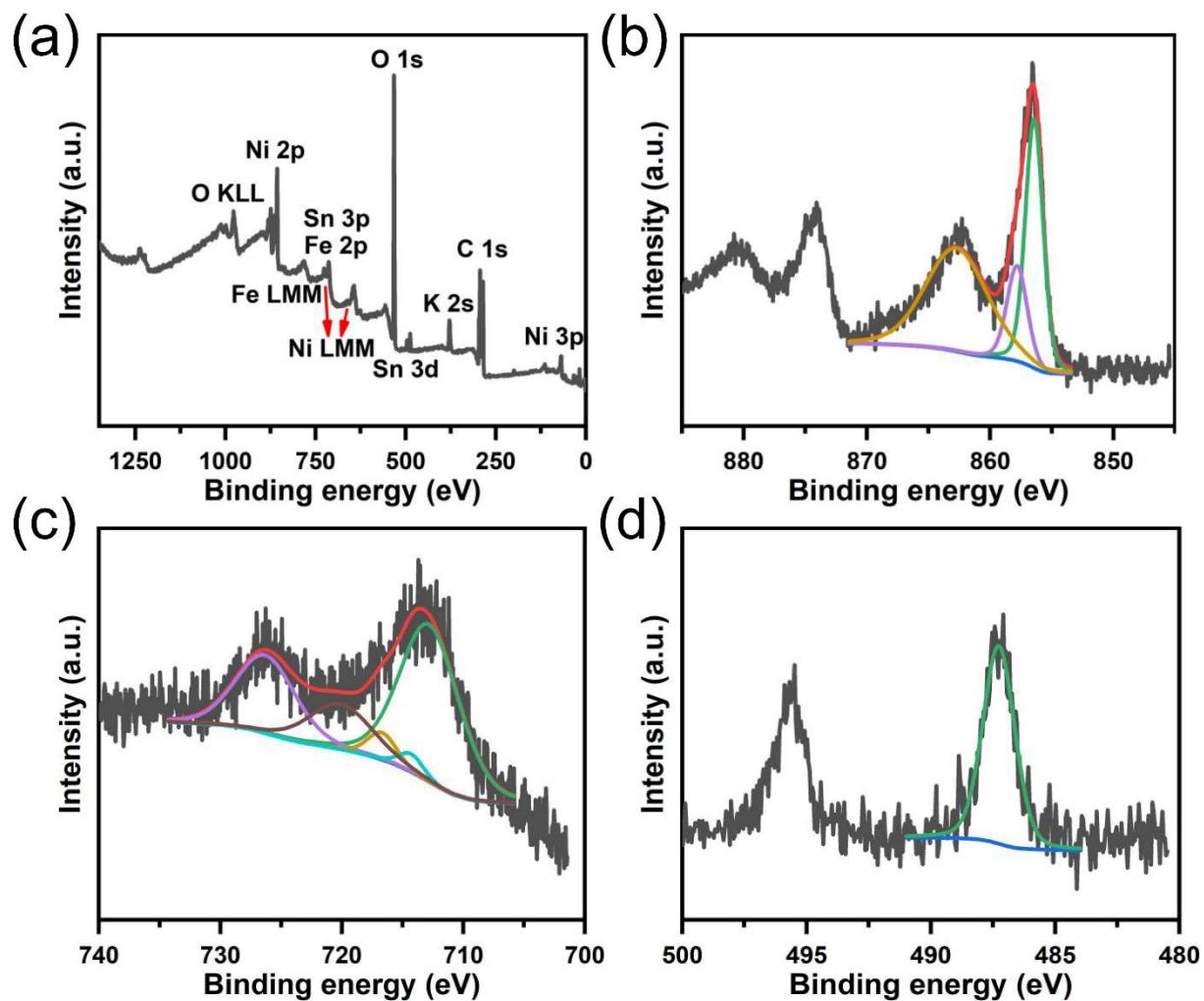
**Figure S22.** SEM images of NiSn-A, NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>Sn-A and NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>-A.



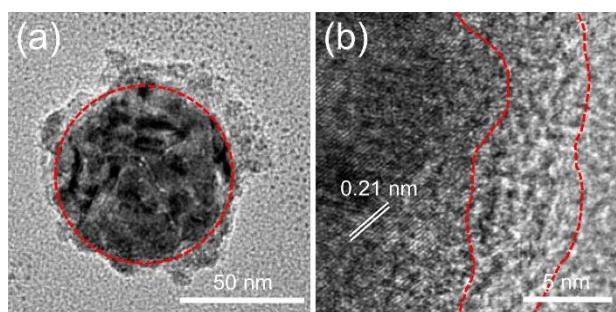
**Figure S23.** TEM elemental mapping of  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}\text{Sn}$ -A.



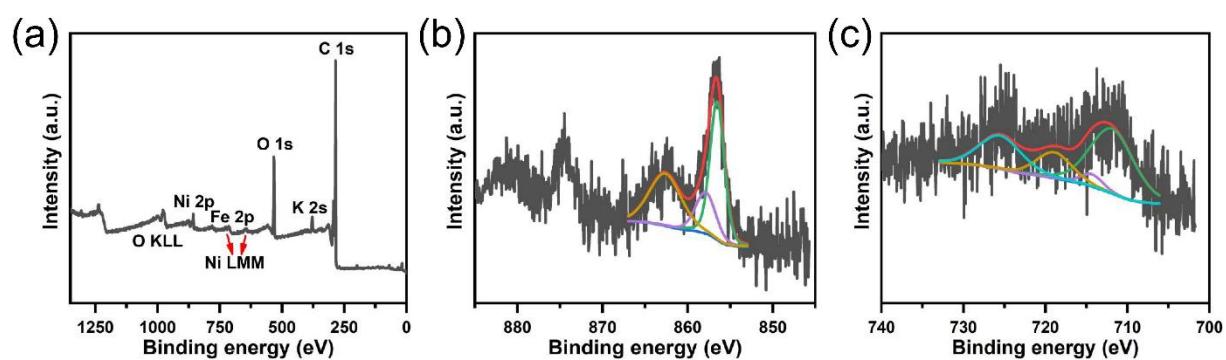
**Figure S24.** X-band EPR spectra of  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}\text{Sn-A}$  and  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}\text{-A}$  acquired at 100 K (microwave frequency = 9.43 GHz).



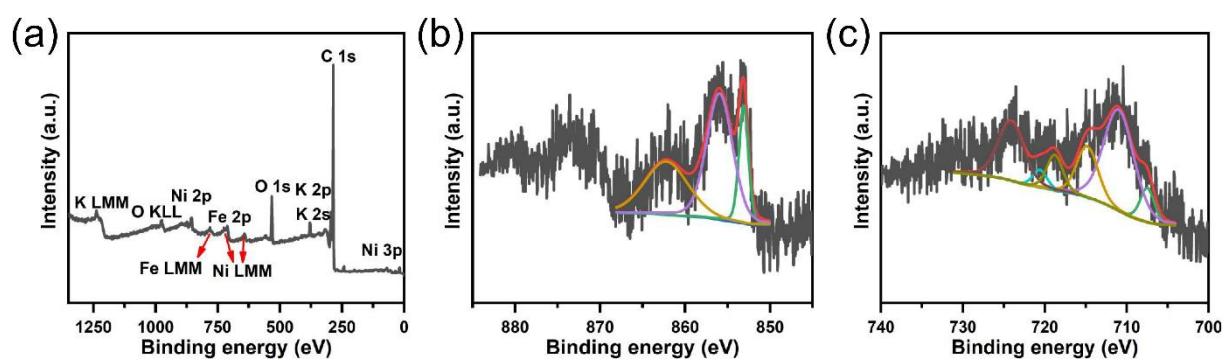
**Figure S25.** (a) XPS survey, (b) Ni 2p, (c) Fe 2p and (d) Sn 3d XPS spectra of NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>Sn-A.



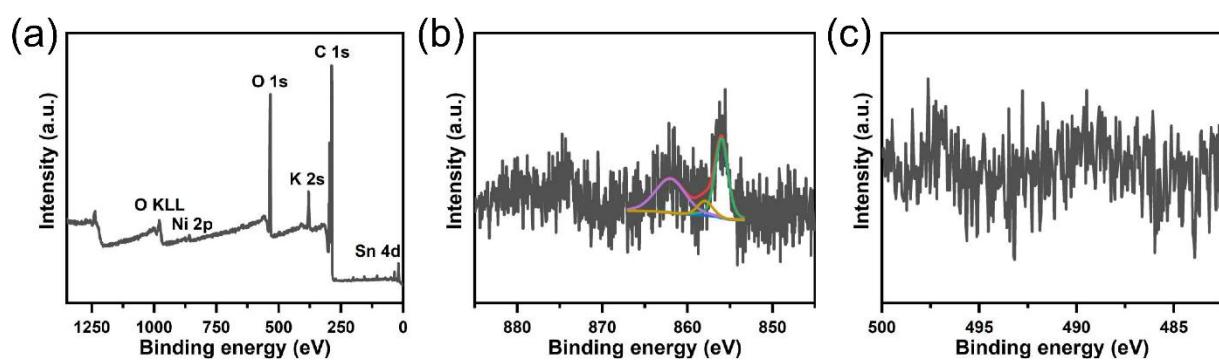
**Figure S26.** (a) TEM and (b) HRTEM images of  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}\text{-A}$ .



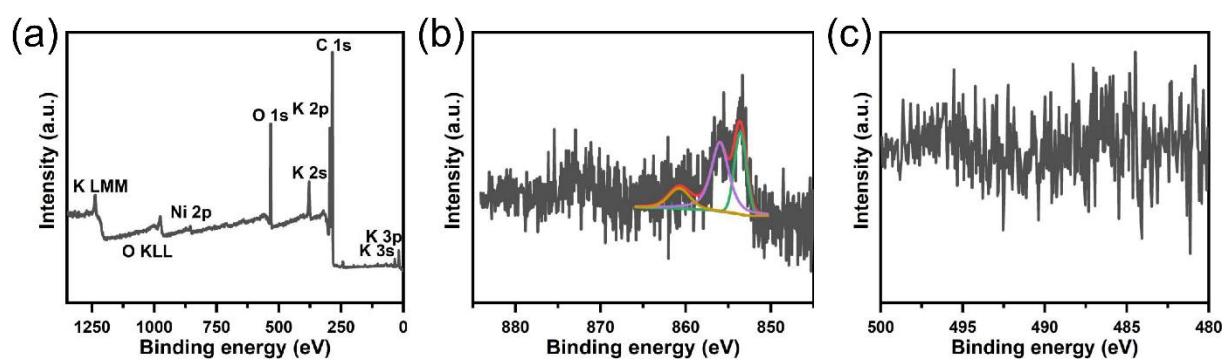
**Figure S27.** (a) XPS survey, (b) Ni 2p and (c) Fe 2p XPS spectra of NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>-A.



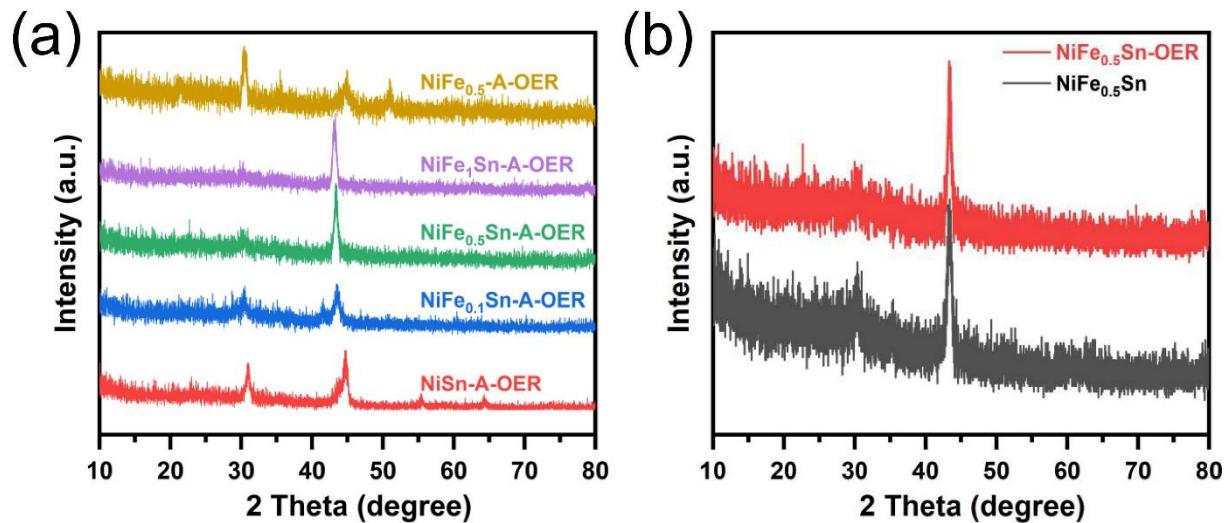
**Figure S28.** (a) XPS survey, (b) Ni 2p and (c) Fe 2p XPS spectra of  $\text{NiFe}_{0.5}\text{-A}$  after  $\text{Ar}^+$  ion etching.



**Figure S29.** (a) XPS survey, (b) Ni 2p and (c) Sn 3d XPS spectra of NiSn-A.



**Figure S30.** (a) XPS survey, (b) Ni 2p and (c) Sn 3d XPS spectra of NiSn-A after  $\text{Ar}^+$  ion etching.



**Figure S31.** (a) XRD patterns of NiSn-A, NiFe<sub>x</sub>Sn-A, NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>-A after the 40000-s OER durability test, (b) the comparison of XRD patterns of NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>Sn and NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>Sn-A after the 40000-s OER durability test.

**Table S1.** Comparison of OER performance in alkaline media for NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>Sn-A with other OER elecrocatalysts.

Catalyst	Loading (mg cm <sup>-2</sup> )	Tafel (mV dec <sup>-1</sup> )	Onset overpotential @ 2.5 mA cm <sup>-2</sup> (mV)	$\eta$ @ 10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup> (mV)	Ref.
NiFe <sub>0.5</sub> Sn-A	0.048	50	227	260	This work
NiSn-A	0.019	59	279	310	This work
NiFe <sub>0.5</sub> -A	0.029	52.7	257	287	This work
Exfoliated NiFe LDH	0.07	40	275	302	<i>Nature Commun.</i> <b>2014</b> , 5, 4477
15 at% Fe holey film	N/A	38	~250	295	<i>ACS Catal.</i> <b>2017</b> , 7, 8406
Ni <sub>65</sub> +Fe <sub>35</sub> (O <sub>x</sub> H <sub>y</sub> )	0.025	37	~270	298	<i>Chem. Commun.</i> <b>2019</b> , 55, 818
Na <sub>0.08</sub> Ni <sub>0.9</sub> Fe <sub>0.1</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.13	40	~230	260	<i>Energy Environ. Sci.</i> <b>2017</b> , 10, 121
NiFeMn-LDH	0.2	47	~230	262	<i>Chem. Commun.</i> <b>2016</b> , 52, 908
NiV-LDH	0.143	50	275	320	<i>Nat. Commun.</i> <b>2016</b> , 7, 11981
CF-ONFs-O	2.33	69.9	N/A	310	<i>Adv. Funct. Mater.</i> <b>2018</b> , 28, 1704177
Ni <sub>0.9</sub> Fe <sub>0.1</sub> /NC	0.2	45	300	330	<i>ACS Catal.</i> <b>2016</b> , 6, 580
nNiFe LDH/NGF	0.25	45	290	337	<i>Adv. Mater.</i> <b>2015</b> , 27, 4516
hcp-NiFe@NC	0.25	41	N/A	226	<i>Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.</i> <b>2019</b> , 58, 6099
Ni <sub>0.75</sub> Fe <sub>0.25</sub> (OH) <sub>x</sub>	0.35	68	260	310	<i>Chem. Commun.</i> <b>2019</b> , 55, 1044

**Table S2.** The loading of Ni and Fe in NiSn, NiFe<sub>0.5</sub>Sn and NiFe<sub>0.5</sub> as determined by ICP-OES.

Catalyst	Ni loading ( $\mu\text{g}$ )	Fe loading ( $\mu\text{g}$ )
NiSn	4.80	0
NiFe <sub>0.5</sub> Sn	7.89	4.07
NiFe <sub>0.5</sub>	3.71	3.61