## Supplementary Information

## Modulating Electronic Structure of Metal-Organic Frameworks by Introducing Atomically Dispersed Ru for Efficient Hydrogen Evolution

Sun et al.



**Supplementary Figure 1.** Crystal structures. (a) crystal structure of  $Ni_2(OH)_2(C_8H_4O_4)$  (named by Ni-BDC), (b) Crystal structure of  $NiRu_{0.13}$ -BDC derived from the known crystal structure of  $Ni_2(OH)_2(C_8H_4O_4)$ .



**Supplementary Figure 2.** SEM images of different catalysts. (a) and (d) Ni-BDC, (b) and (e) NiRu<sub>0.09</sub>-BDC, (c) and f) NiRu<sub>0.21</sub>-BDC.



**Supplementary Figure 3.** HRTEM images of different catalysts. (a) and (b) NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC, (c) and (d) Ni-BDC



**Supplementary Figure 4.** XRD patterns of Ni-BDC, NiRu<sub>0.09</sub>-BDC, NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC and NiRu<sub>0.21</sub>-BDC on nickel foam.



Supplementary Figure 5. XRD patterns of NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC powder.



**Supplementary Figure 6.** XPS spectroscopic studies. (a) C 1*s* and Ru 3*d* spectra of Ni-BDC and NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC. (b) Ru 3*p* spectra of NiRu<sub>0.09</sub>-BDC and NiRu<sub>0.21</sub>-BDC.

**Supplementary Table 1.** The molar ratio of Ni/Ru in NiRu<sub>x</sub>-BDC.

Molar ratio(Ni:Ru)	NiRu <sub>0.09</sub> -BDC	NiRu <sub>0.13</sub> -BDC	NiRu <sub>0.21</sub> -BDC
ICP-MS analysis	1:0.09	1:0.13	1:0.21



**Supplementary Figure 7.** X-ray absorption spectra. (a) The magnified Ru *K*-edge XANES spectra of NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC, Ru foil and RuO<sub>2</sub>, respectively. (b) Ru *K*-edge EXAFS oscillation functions  $k^3\chi$  of NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC, Ru foil, and RuO<sub>2</sub>, respectively. c) EXAFS fitting curve for NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC.

**Supplementary Table 2.** Fitting parameters of Ru K-edge EXAFS curves for NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC.

Sample	Path	$R(\text{\AA})^{[a]}$	N <sup>[b]</sup>	$\sigma^2 (10^{-3} \text{\AA}^2)^{[c]}$
NiRu <sub>0.13</sub> -BDC	Ru-O	2.09±0.02	6	7.59±3.7

[a] R: distance between absorber and backscatter atoms; [b] N: coordination number; [c]  $\sigma^2$ : Debye-Waller factor



**Supplementary Figure 8.** X-ray absoption spectroscopic studies. (a) Ni *K*-edge Fourier transformed EXAFS spectra of Ni-BDC and NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC. (b) Ni *K*-edge EXAFS oscillation functions  $k^3\chi$  of Ni-BDC and NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC, respectively.



**Supplementary Figure 9.** HER performance. (a) The corresponding overpotentials in 1M PBS and (b) in 1 M KOH of Ni-BDC, NiRu<sub>0.09</sub>-BDC, NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC and NiRu<sub>0.21</sub>-BDC at 10 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> and 100 mA cm<sup>-2</sup>. (c) LSV curves of Ni-BDC, NiRu<sub>0.09</sub>-BDC, NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC and NiRu<sub>0.21</sub>-BDC toward HER in 1 M HCl. (d) The corresponding overpotentials of different catalysts in 1M HCl.

Catalyst	Media	Overpotential at 10 mA cm <sup>-</sup> <sup>2</sup> (mV)	Substrate	Reference
	1 M PBS	36	Nickel foam	This work
NiRu <sub>0.13</sub> -BDC	1 M KOH	34	Nickel foam	This work
	1 M HCl	13	Nickel foam	This work
karst NF	1 M PBS	60	Nickel foam	1
CrO <sub>x</sub> /Cu–Ni	1 M PBS	48	Cu foam	2
Ni <sub>0.89</sub> Co <sub>0.11</sub> Se <sub>2</sub> MNSN/ NF	1 M PBS	82	Nickel foam	3
N-Co <sub>2</sub> P/CC	1 M PBS	42	Carbon cloth	4
NiCo <sub>2</sub> P <sub>x</sub> /CF	1 M PBS	63	Carbon fiber	5
Mn-CoP/Ti	1 M PBS	86	Ti mesh	6
PtSA-NT-NF	1 M PBS	24	Nickel foam	7
N-Ni	1 M PBS	64	Nickel foam	8
N,Mn-MoS <sub>2</sub> /NF	1 M PBS	70	Nickel foam	9
NiFeRu-LDH	1 M KOH	29	nickel foam	10
Ni, Zn dual-doped CoO NRs	1 M KOH	53	CFP	11
R-MoS <sub>2</sub> /NF	1 M KOH	71	nickel foam	12
CoSe <sub>2</sub>	1 M KOH	79	nickel foam	13
Ni-N <sub>0.19</sub>	1 M KOH	42	CFP	14
Ni <sub>3</sub> N/Ni foam	1 M KOH	100	nickel foam	15
$V_8C_7$	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	38	nickel foam	16
CoMoNiS-NF-31	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	103	nickel foam	17
FLNPC@MoP-NC/MoP-C	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	74	Carbon Fiber	18
Mo <sub>2</sub> C-MoOx/CC(	1 M HClO <sub>4</sub>	74	Carbon cloth	19
Fe-doped CoP/Ti	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	78	Ti mesh	20

**Supplementary Table 3.** Comparisons of HER activity for  $NiRu_{0.13}$  and other reported state of art elelctrocatalysis.



**Supplementary Figure 10.** Turnover frequency (TOF) of different materials at an overpotential of 100 mV.



**Supplementary Figure 11.** Faradic efficiency measurements. The amount of theoretically calculated and experimentally measured hydrogen at different reaction times on NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC with a current density of 20.5, 15.5, 17.6 mA in 1 M PBS (a), 1 M KOH (b) and 1 M HCl (c), respectively.



**Supplementary Figure 12.** CV plots and double-layer capacitance of different catalysts. CV plots of (a) Ni-BDC, (b) NiRu<sub>0.09</sub>-BDC, (c) NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC and (d) NiRu<sub>0.21</sub>-BDC at different scan rates. (e) Double-layer capacitance of Ni-BDC, NiRu<sub>0.09</sub>-BDC, NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC and NiRu<sub>0.21</sub>-BDC.



**Supplementary Figure 13**. Electrochemical performance of NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC. (a) Electrochemical impedance spectra of different catalysts, (b) chronoamperometry curves of NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC in 1 M PBS.

Catalyst	Solution series resistances R <sub>s</sub>	Charge transfer resistance R <sub>ct</sub>	
	$(\Omega)$	$(\Omega)$	
Ni-BDC	1.42	19.56	
NiRu <sub>0.09</sub> -BDC	1.45	11.41	
NiRu <sub>0.13</sub> -BDC	1.68	0.31	
NiRu <sub>0.21</sub> -BDC	1.67	0.66	

**Supplementary Table 4**. EIS results of Ni-BDC, NiRu<sub>0.09</sub>-BDC, NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC and NiRu<sub>0.21</sub>-BDC



**Supplementary Figure 14**. SEM images of NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC afters stability test. (a) before HER, (b) (c) after 10h, 30h electrocatalytic stability test at an overpotential of 50 mV in 1 M PBS.



**Supplementary Figure 15.** XRD patterns of NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC before HER, after 10h, 30h electrocatalytic stability test at an overpotential of 50 mV in 1 M PBS.



**Supplementary Figure 16.** XPS spectra of NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC after stability test. (a) Full range XPS patterns, (b) Ru 3p, (c) Ni 2p, (d) O 1s and (e) C 1s and Ru 3d XPS spectra of NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC before HER and after 10 h, 30 h electrocatalytic test.



Supplementary Figure 17. Crystal structure models. (a) Ni-BDC, (b) NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC.



Supplementary Figure 18. Calculated total DOS of Ni-BDC and NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC.



Supplementary Figure 19. Calculated partial density of states (PDOS) of Ni-BDC and NiRu<sub>0.13</sub>-BDC.

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