

# TEM in In-CAEM - CAT

Prof. Jordi Arbiol

Scientific Coordinator of In-CAEM



Finançat per:



# In-situ Correlative facility for Advanced Energy Materials (In-CAEM)

In-CAEM aims to develop and commission a singular infrastructure for research in advanced materials in order to address the scientific challenges of the European Green Deal and contribute to the promotion of a more sustainable economy of the European Union.

In-CAEM will enable correlative in-situ experiments combining (S)TEM (Scanning Transmission Electron Microscopy), AFM / STM (Atomic Force Microscopy / Scanning Tunneling Microscopy) and synchrotron radiation beamlines at ALBA.

- Structure ↔ Function.
- Operando & in-situ.
- Multi-modal & multi-lengthscale analysis.
- Advanced data analysis: HPC, deep learning,...

Mix & Match techniques and methodologies to tackle complex problems

Single entry point: ALBA User office

In-CAEM can be regarded as an expansion of the JEMCA advanced microscopy center in development at ALBA and could be a model for the future ALBA Science, Technology and Innovation Park (ASTIP).

Finançat per:



Unió Europea  
Fons Europeu  
Next Generation



GOBIERNO  
DE ESPAÑA



Plan de Recuperación,  
Transformación  
y Resiliencia



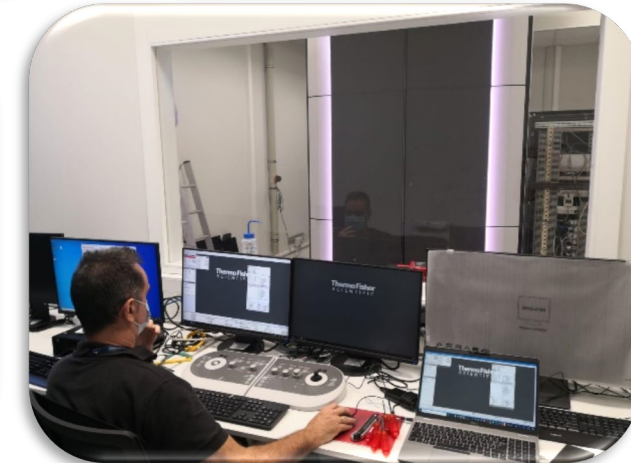
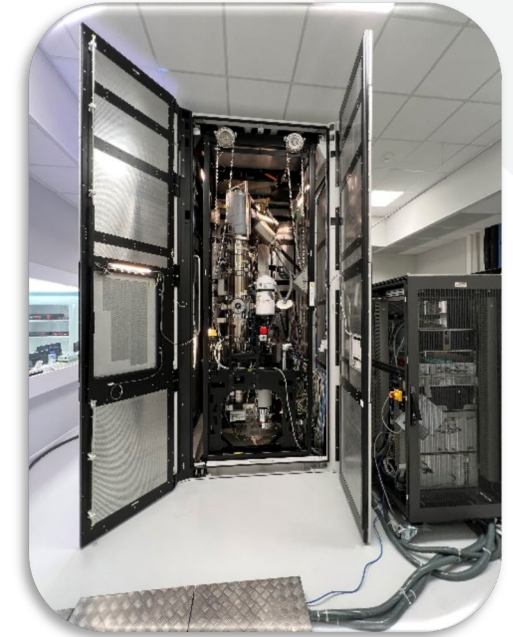
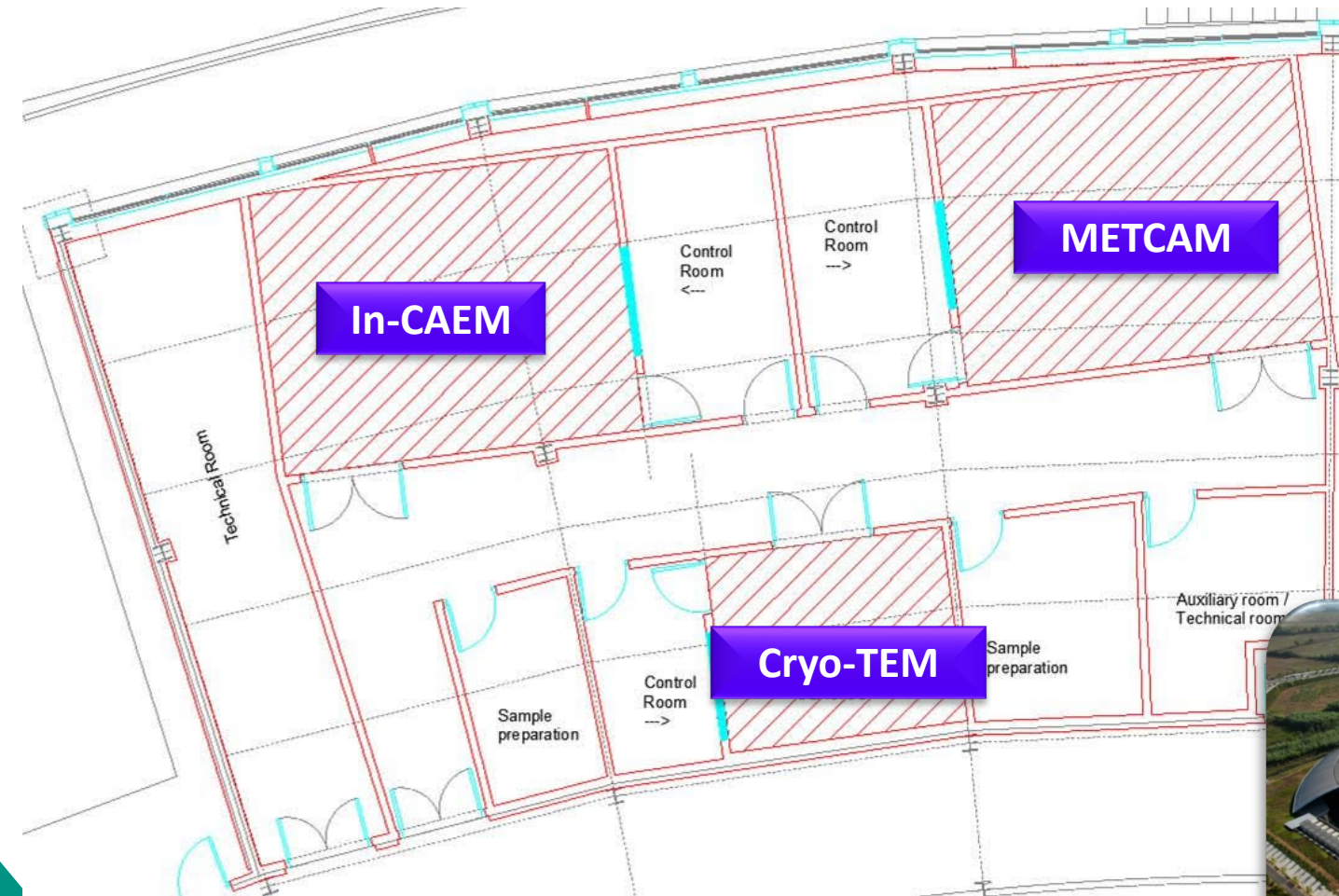
Next Generation  
Catalunya



Generalitat de Catalunya  
Departament de Recerca  
i Universitats



# Joint EM Center at ALBA (JEMCA)



Finançat per:



**JEMCA****METCAM-FIB**

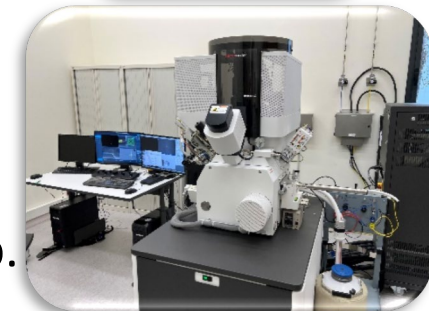
- **METCAM 60-300 keV (S)TEM:**
  - Double corrected and Monochromated
  - HREELS with **direct electron detector \***
  - Super EDX
  - 4D STEM
  - Spatial res. < 50 pm
  - Energy res. < 30 meV



**Private donors/sponsors:**



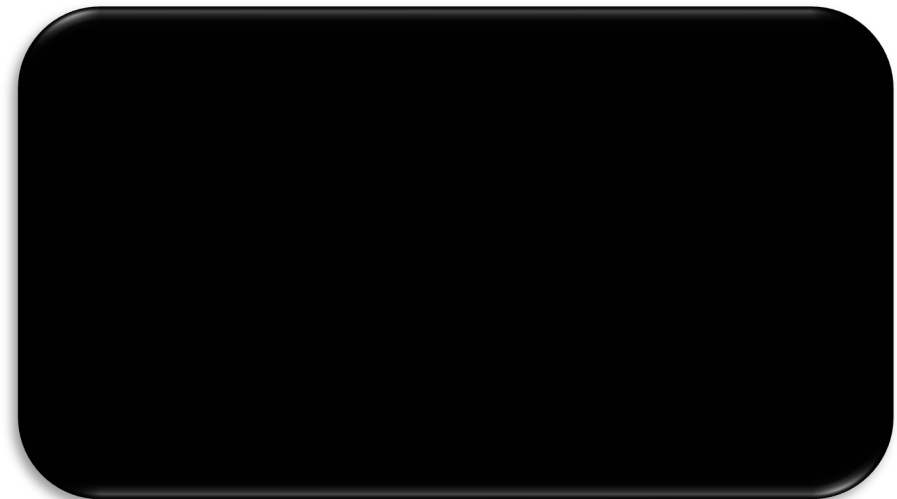
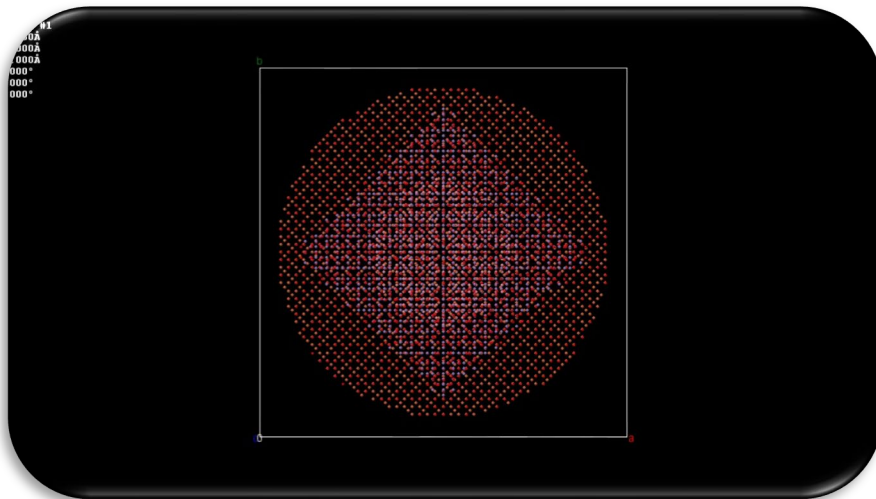
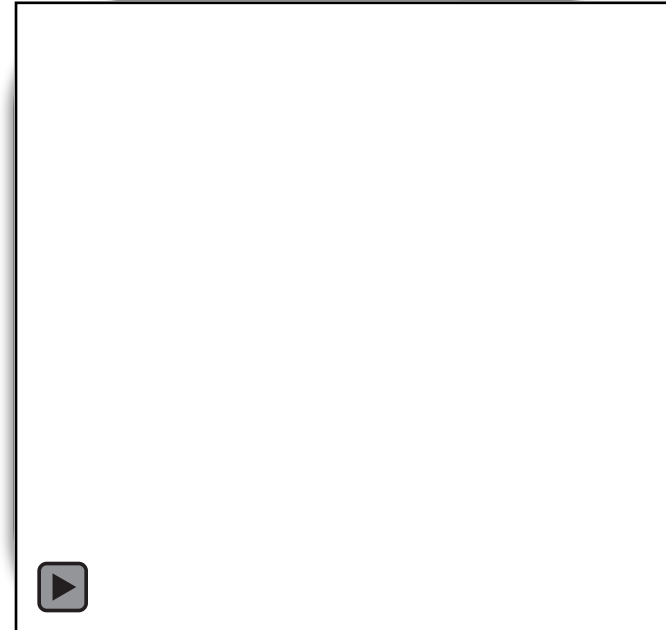
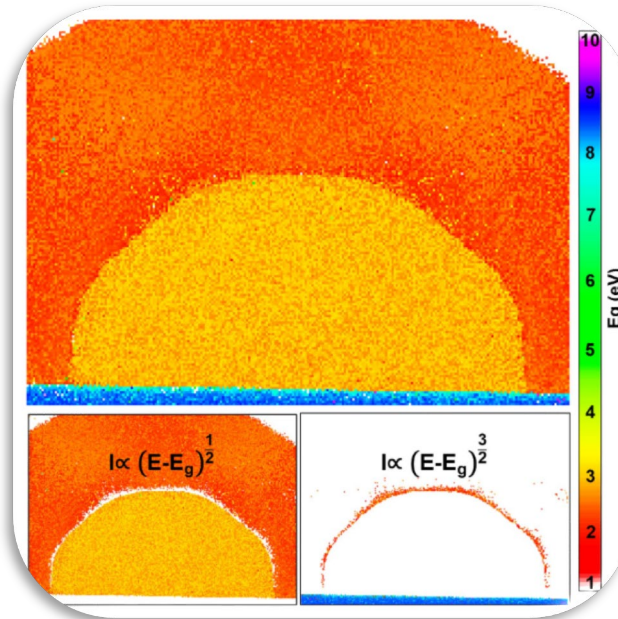
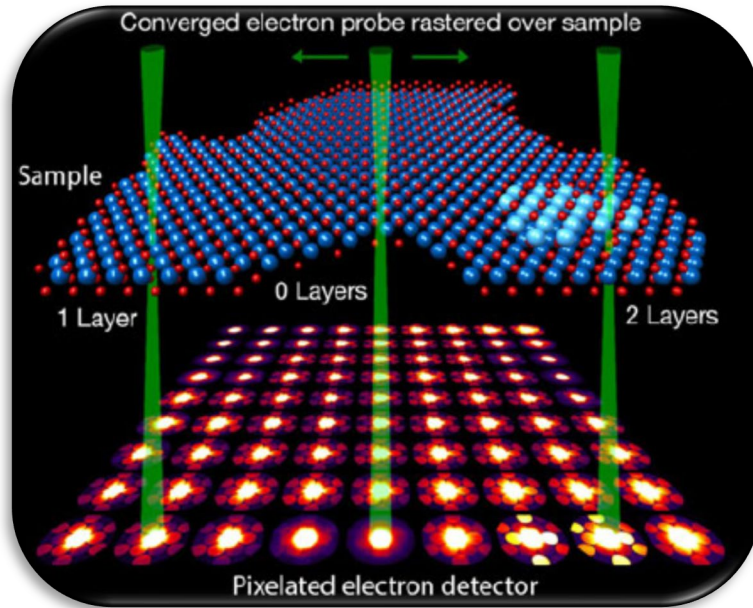
- **FIB for sample prep:**
  - **Cryo-FIB holder \***
  - Highly precise Ion gun
  - FEG HRSEM column
  - C and W deposition
  - Automated sample prep.



**Budget: 4,098 M€ + 0,850 M€ \***



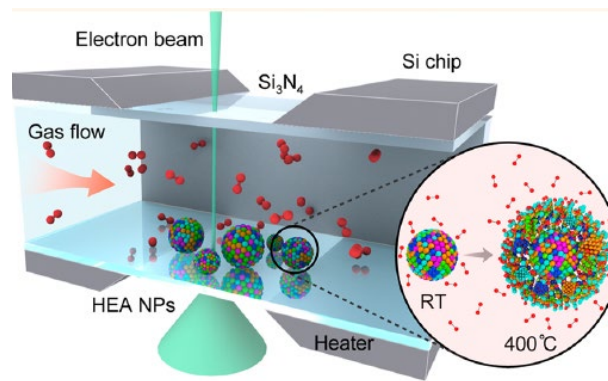
# HR imaging, spectroscopy & diffraction



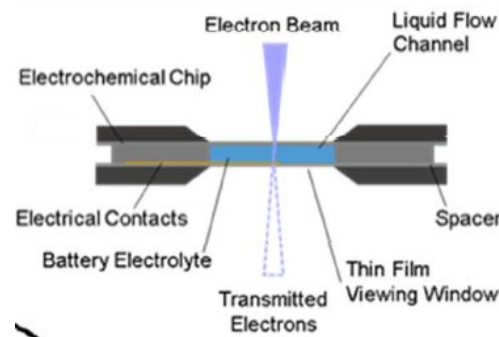


# In-situ (S)TEM

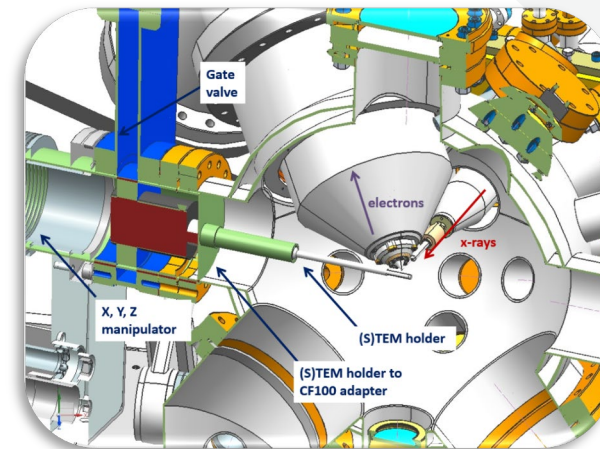
- **(AC)<sup>2</sup> & Monochromated (S)TEM:**
  - 4D STEM
  - EDX
  - EELS
- **Catalysis sample holder system**
  - Controlled gas mixing and flow
  - RGA
  - Controlled T + bias
- **Electrochemistry sample holder system**
  - Liquid Flow
  - In-situ electrodes
  - Potentionstat
- **Liquid nitrogen cooled sample holder**
- **H<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>2</sub>/Ar Plasma cleaner**



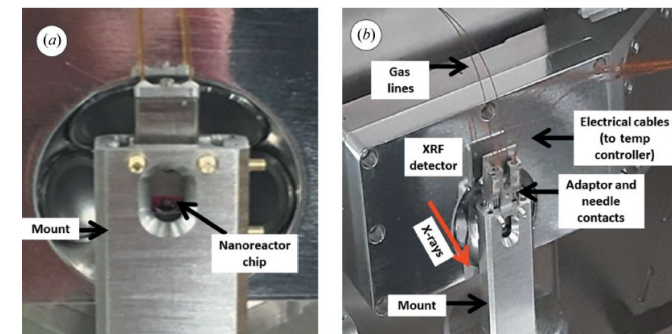
Song et al, ACS Nano (2020)



Singh et al, ACS App. Ener. Mat. (2020)



↔ **ALBA BLs**  
XAS, XRD, ...



Parker et al, JSR (2021)

Finançat per:

# Infrastructure for Correlative Analysis of Energy Materials



In-CAEM will develop a **singular infrastructure** for research in **advanced energy materials** in order to address the scientific challenges of the European Green Deal:

<div>Multi-modal Multi-lengthscale Correlative</div>	}	in situ/operando experiments, combining	{	(Scanning) transmission electron microscopy Scanning probe microscopies Synchrotron X-rays (spectroscopy, diffraction,...) Advanced data analytics (HPC, deep learning, AI,...)
--	---	---	---	--

Open to all the scientific community.

Mix & Match techniques and methodologies to tackle complex problems

Single entry point: ALBA User office

Finançat per:



Unió Europea  
Fons Europeu  
Next Generation



GOBIERNO  
DE ESPAÑA



Plan de Recuperación,  
Transformación  
y Resiliencia



Next Generation  
Catalunya



Generalitat de Catalunya  
Departament de Recerca  
i Universitats

# MULTIMODAL NANOCHARACTERIZATION

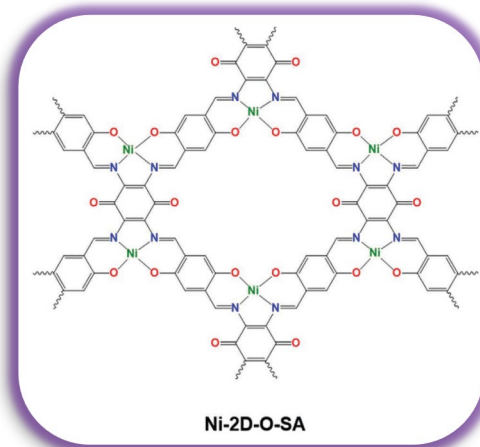
With: **IREC<sup>R</sup>**  
Institut de Recerca en Energia de Catalunya  
Catalonia Institute for Energy Research

## 1. Ni-Fe SACs for CO<sub>2</sub> RR



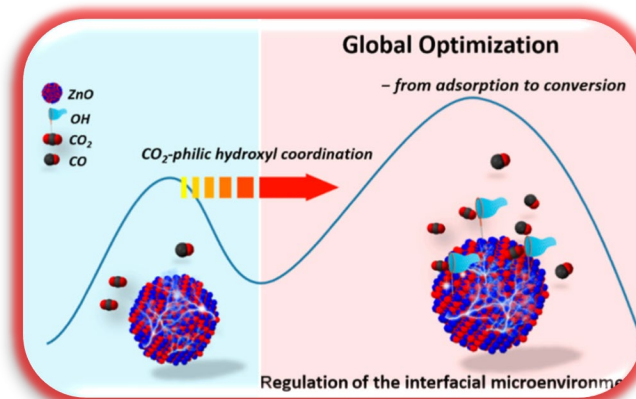
Energy Environ. Science, **14**, 4847 (2021)

## 2. Ni-SACs for Alcohol Oxidation



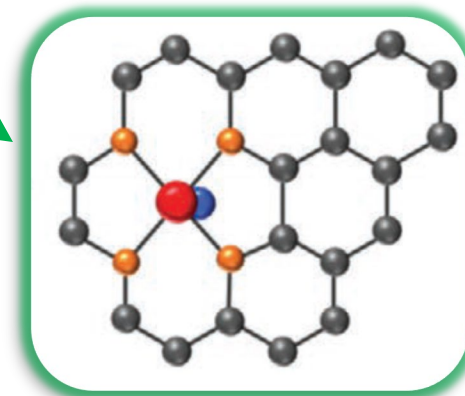
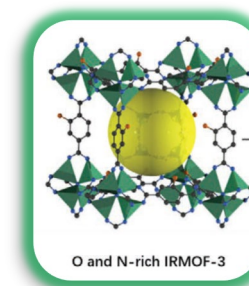
Adv. Funct. Mater., **31**, 2106349 (2021)

## 3. Surface Hydroxylation for CO<sub>2</sub> RR



ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces, DOI: 10.1021/acsami.2c09129 (2022)

## 4. Axial Oxygen Coordinated FeN<sub>4</sub> for CO<sub>2</sub> RR



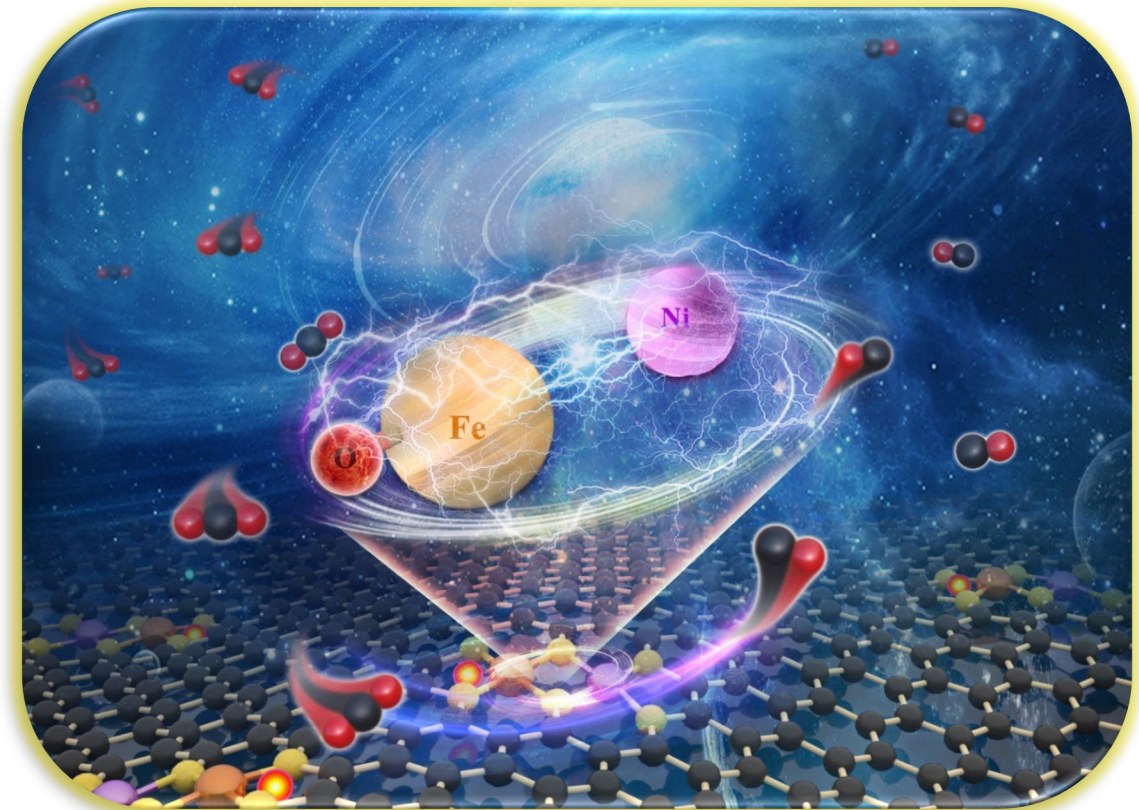
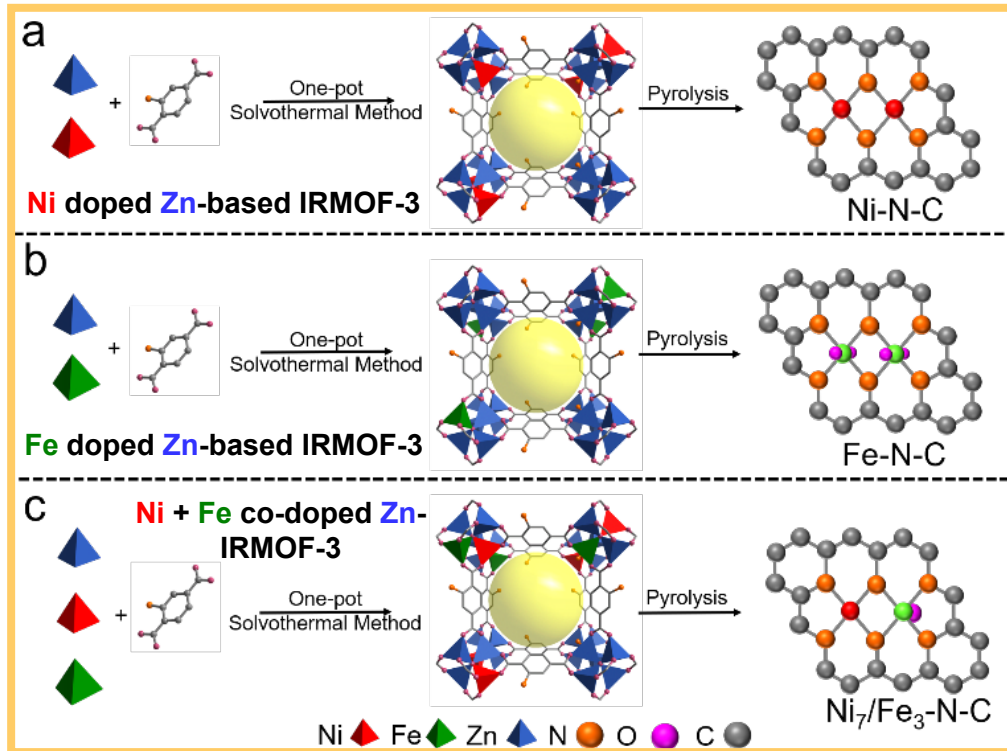
Adv. Funct. Mater., **32**, 2111446 (2022)



# 1. Ni-Fe SACs for CO<sub>2</sub> RR



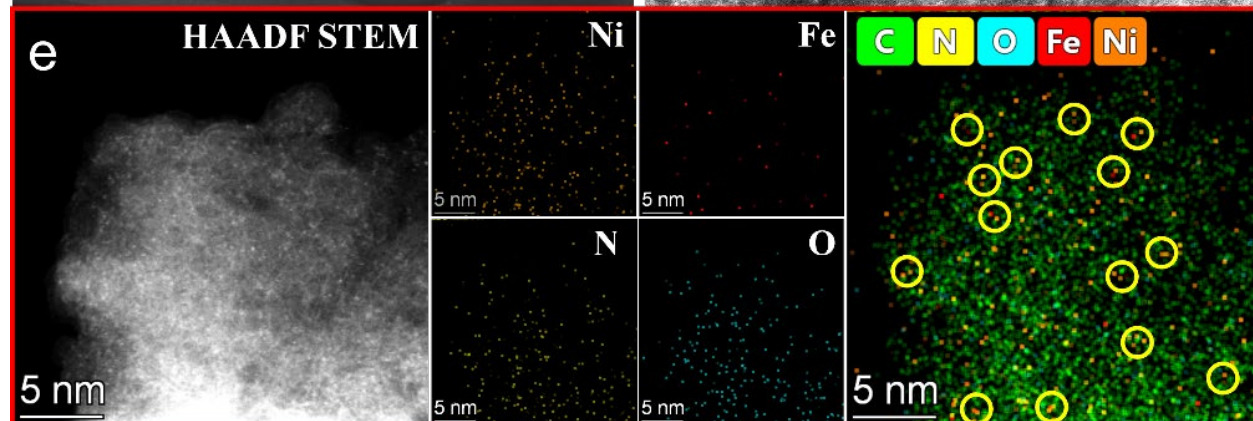
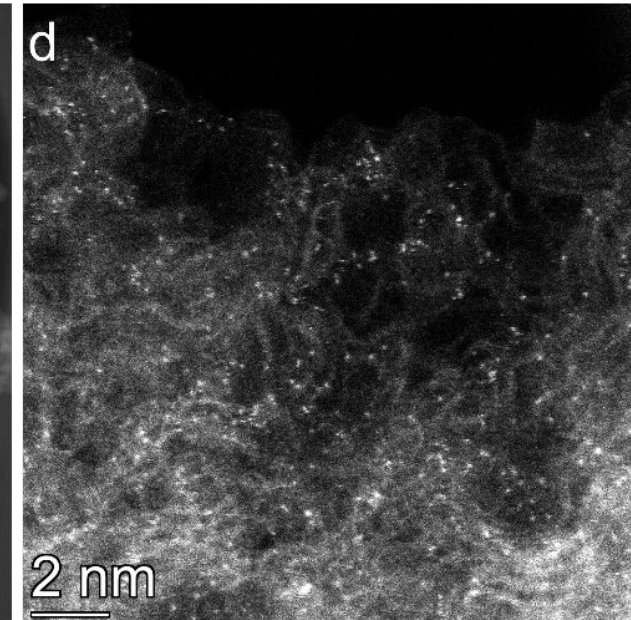
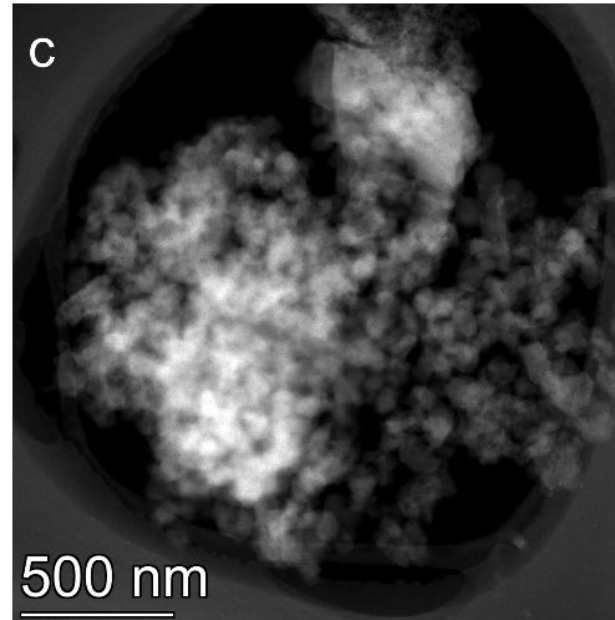
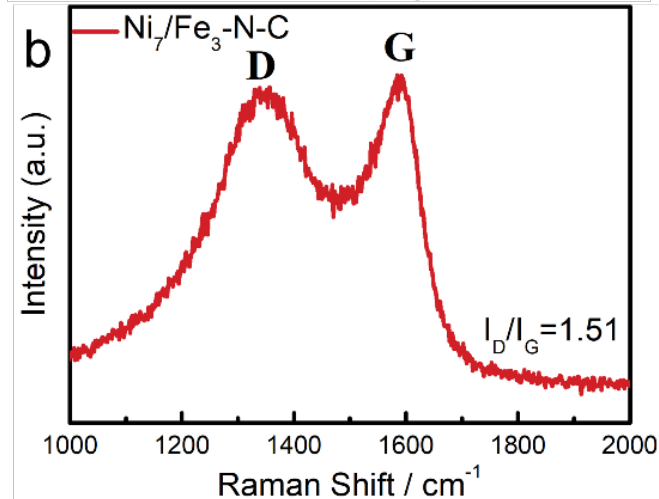
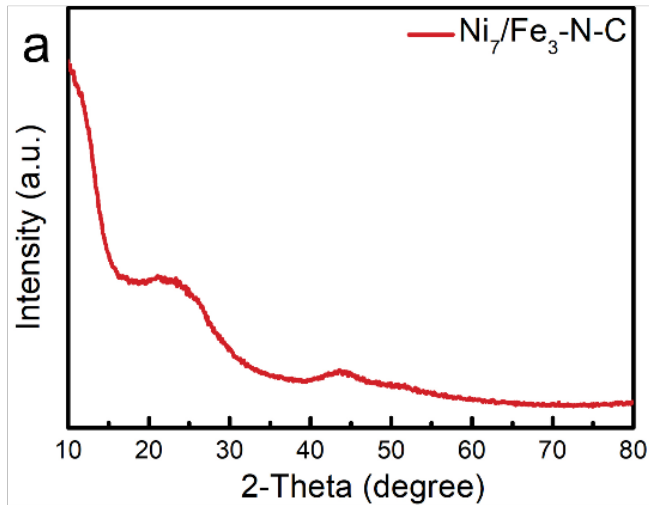
With: **IREC<sup>R</sup>**  
Institut de Recerca en Energia de Catalunya  
Catalonia Institute for Energy Research



Schematic illustration of the preparation process of (a) Ni-N-C, (b) Fe-N-C and (c) Ni<sub>7</sub>/Fe<sub>3</sub>-N-C samples.

*Energy Environ. Science*, **14**, 4847 (2021)

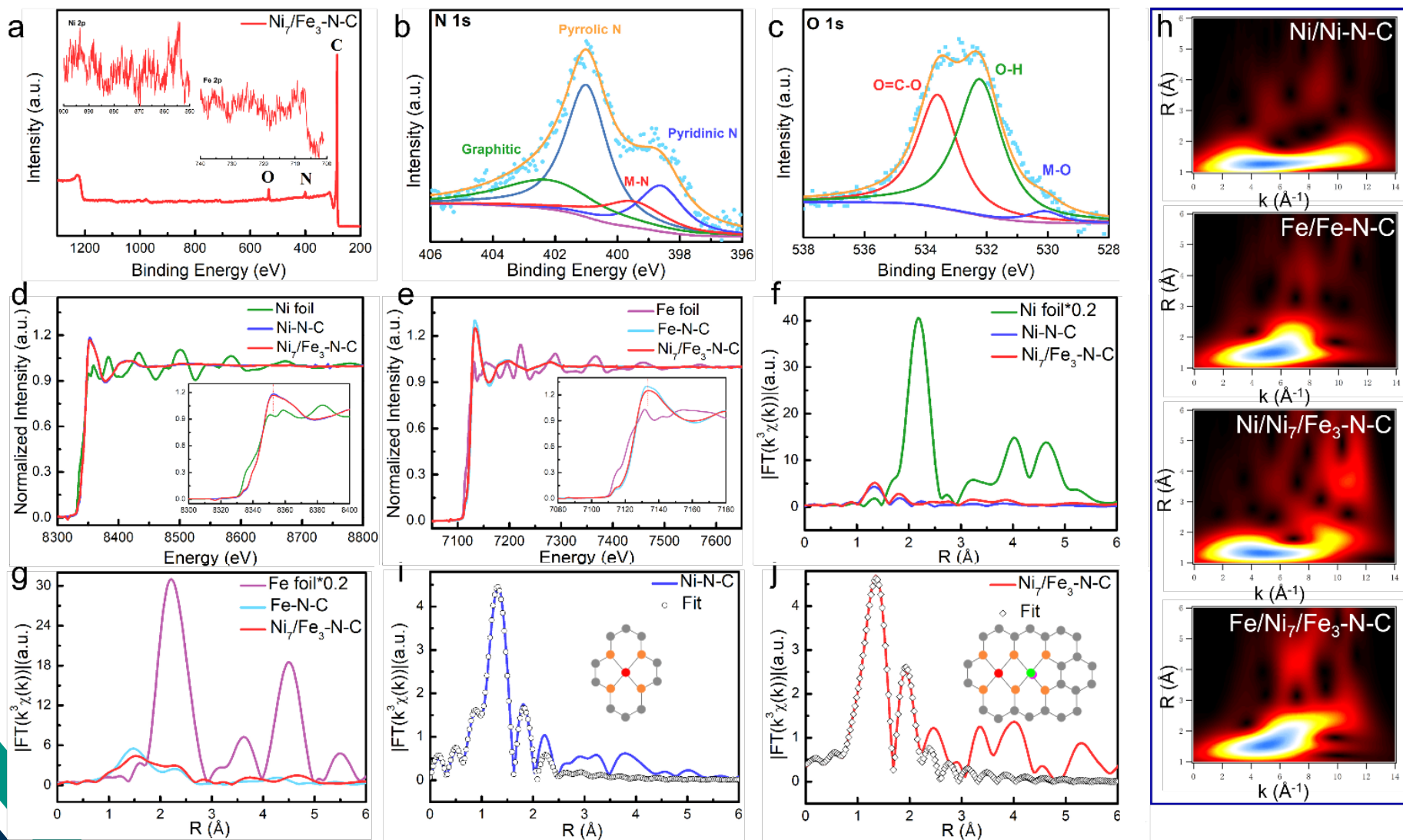
# 1. Ni-Fe SACs for CO<sub>2</sub> RR



**Ni<sub>7</sub>/Fe<sub>3</sub>-N-C Sample Characterization: (a) XRD patterns; (b) Raman spectra; (c) HAADF STEM (d) Atomic res. HAADF STEM images; (e) HAADF STEM image and EDS**



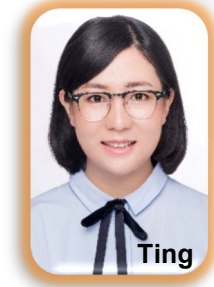
# 1. Ni-Fe SACs for CO<sub>2</sub> RR



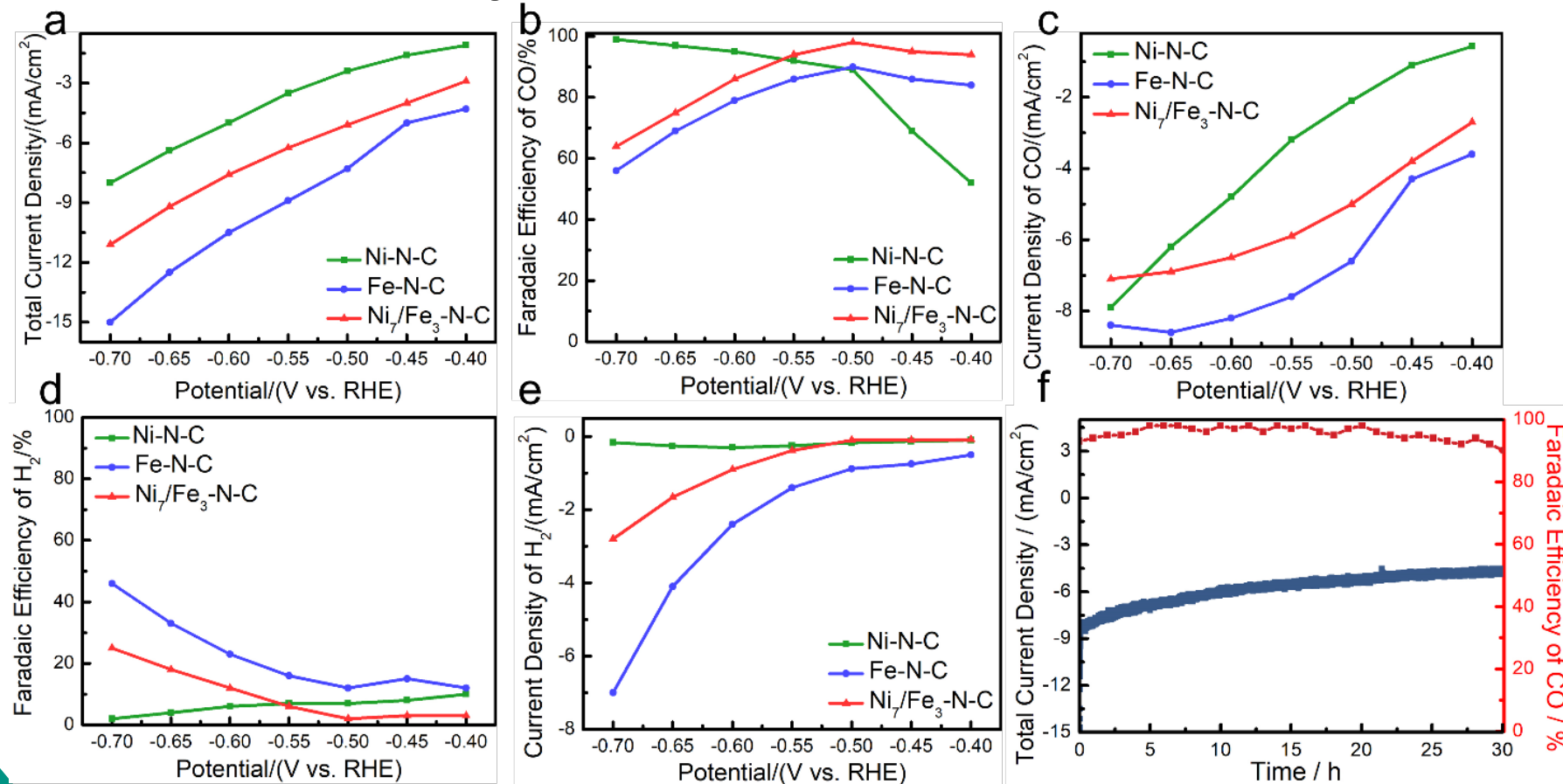
(a) XPS spectra  
(b) HR XPS for N 1s  
(c) HR XPS for O 1s  
(d) XANES Ni K-edge  
(e) XANES Fe K-edge  
(f) EXAFS Ni K-edge  
(g) EXAFS Fe K-edge  
(h) WT-EXAFS

Ni K-edge EXAFS fitting:  
(i) Ni-N-C  
(j) Ni<sub>7</sub>/Fe<sub>3</sub>-N-C  
(Ni, Fe, O, N, C atoms)

# 1. Ni-Fe SACs for CO<sub>2</sub> RR



## Electrocatalytic Performance of CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction

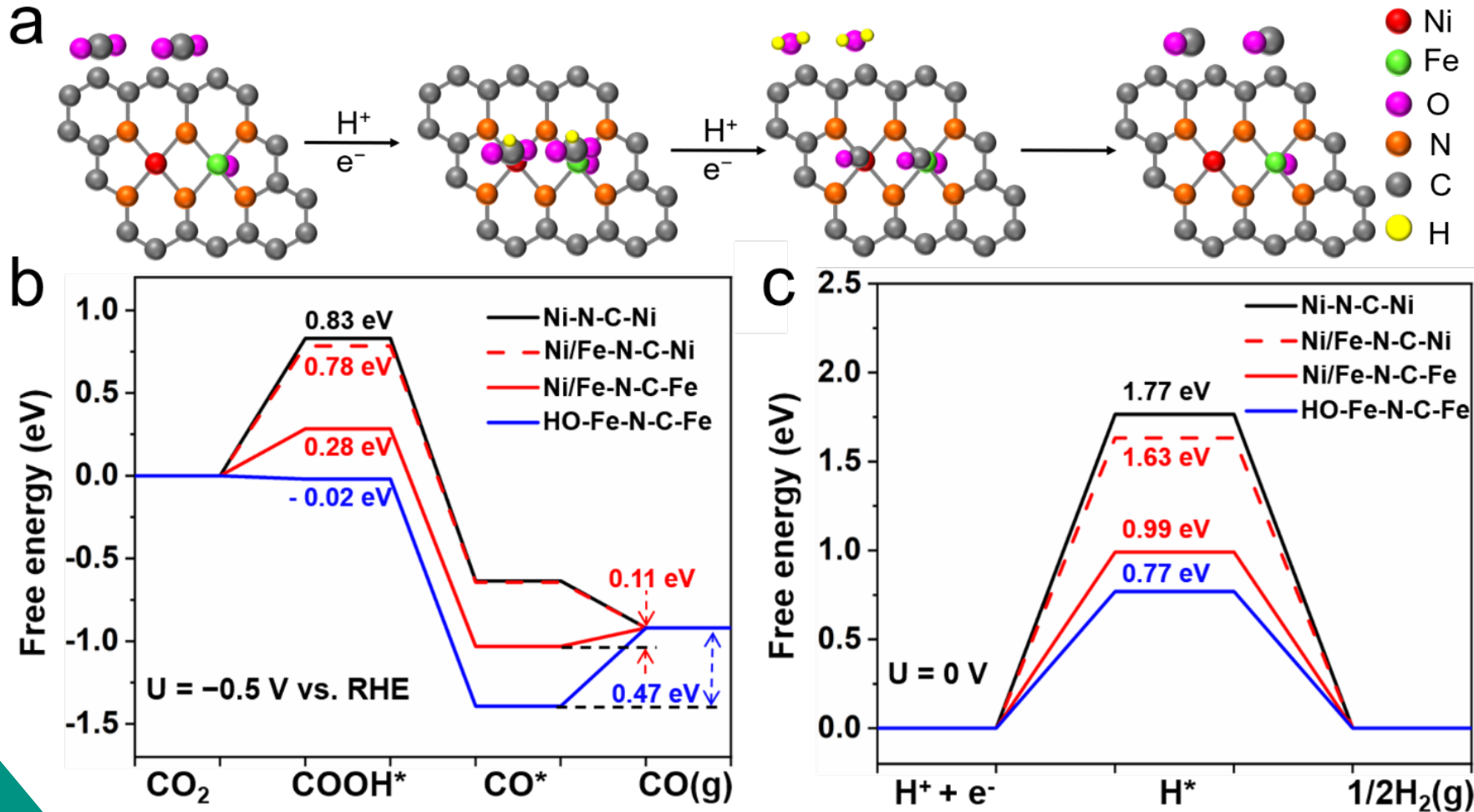


**Maximum of 98% FE for CO production at -0.50 V (vs. RHE)  
with a low overpotential of just 390 mV**

- (a) Total current density
- (b) FE of CO at various potentials
- (c) Current density for CO production
- (d) FE of H<sub>2</sub> at various potentials
- (e) Current density for H<sub>2</sub> production
- (f) Stability test of Ni<sub>7</sub>/Fe<sub>3</sub>-N-C at -0.50 V vs. RHE.

# 1. Ni-Fe SACs for CO<sub>2</sub> RR

## DFT Studies of CO<sub>2</sub> RR



(a) Supposed pathway of CO<sub>2</sub> reduction to CO in DFT calculations

Free energy profiles for:  
(b) CO<sub>2</sub> RR to CO at -0.50 V (vs. RHE)

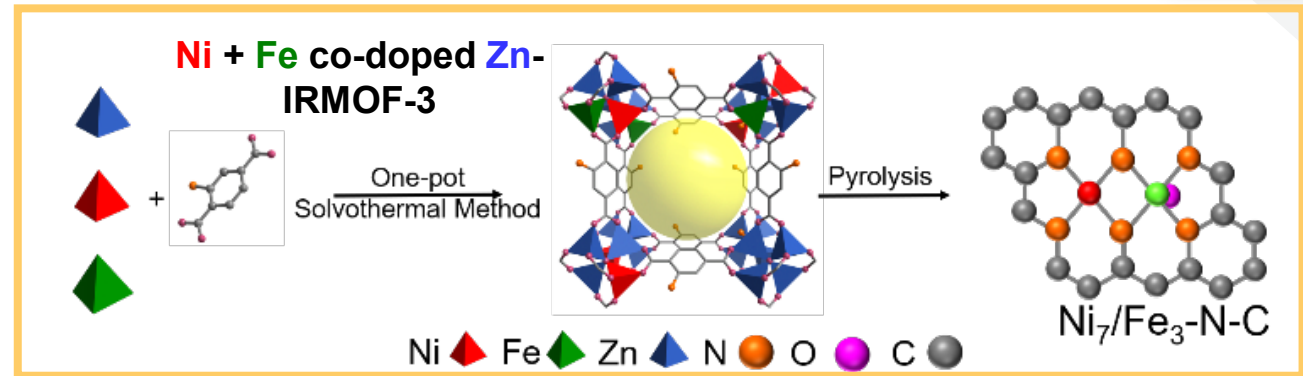
(c) HER at 0 V (vs. RHE) on simulated models



# 1. Ni-Fe SACs for CO2 RR



Ting



The adjacent **Ni** and **Fe** active sites act as a nano-reactor, affecting different reaction steps in comparison to two separate active sites during CO2 RR, thus, enhancing the overall activity.

These bimetallic adjacent sites weaken the bonding energy of CO2 RR intermediates while limiting the competitive HER.

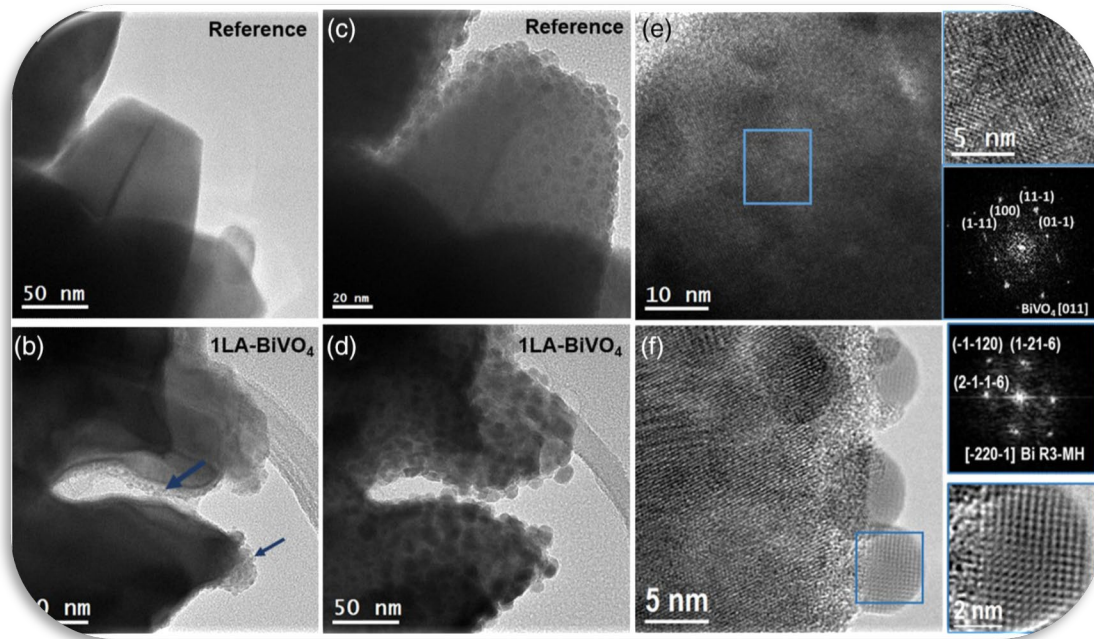


## 5. BiVO<sub>4</sub> photoanodes aging



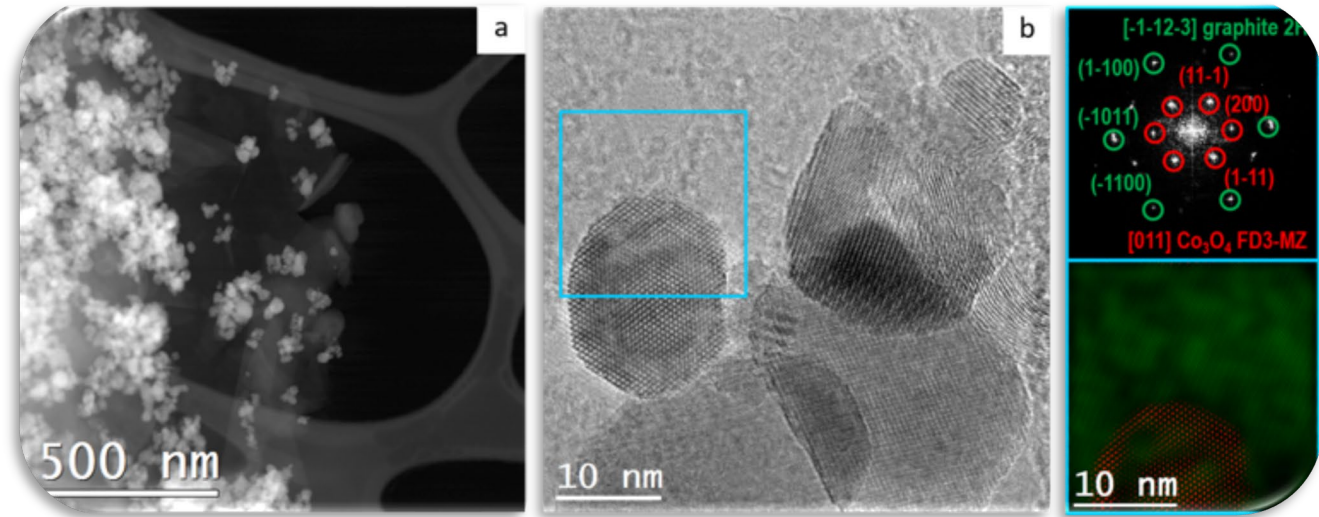
Chiara

**Direct observation of the chemical transformations in BiVO<sub>4</sub> photoanodes upon prolonged light-aging treatments.**



*Solar RRL*, **6**, 2200132 (2022)

**Sustainable oxygen evolution electrocatalysis in aqueous 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> with earth abundant nanostructured Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>**



*Nature Commun.*, **13**, 4341 (2022)



# Thanks for your attention!



## CONTACT:

Prof. Jordi Arbiol

[arbiol@icrea.cat](mailto:arbiol@icrea.cat)

[@jarbiol](https://twitter.com/jarbiol)



See more at: [www.gaen.cat](http://www.gaen.cat)