

## Supporting Information

### Structure and electrochemical properties of carbon nanostructures derived from nickel (II) and iron (II) phthalocyanines

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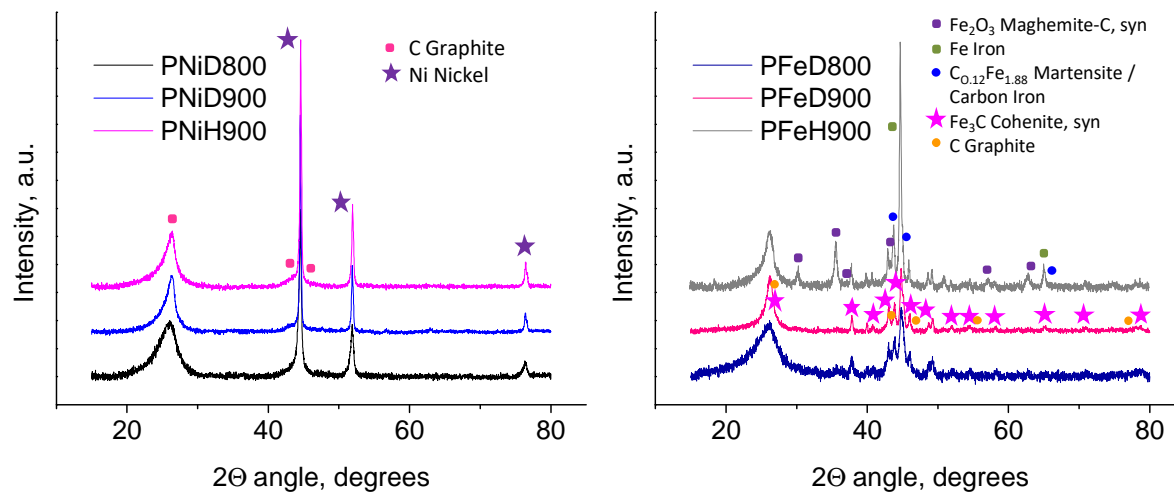
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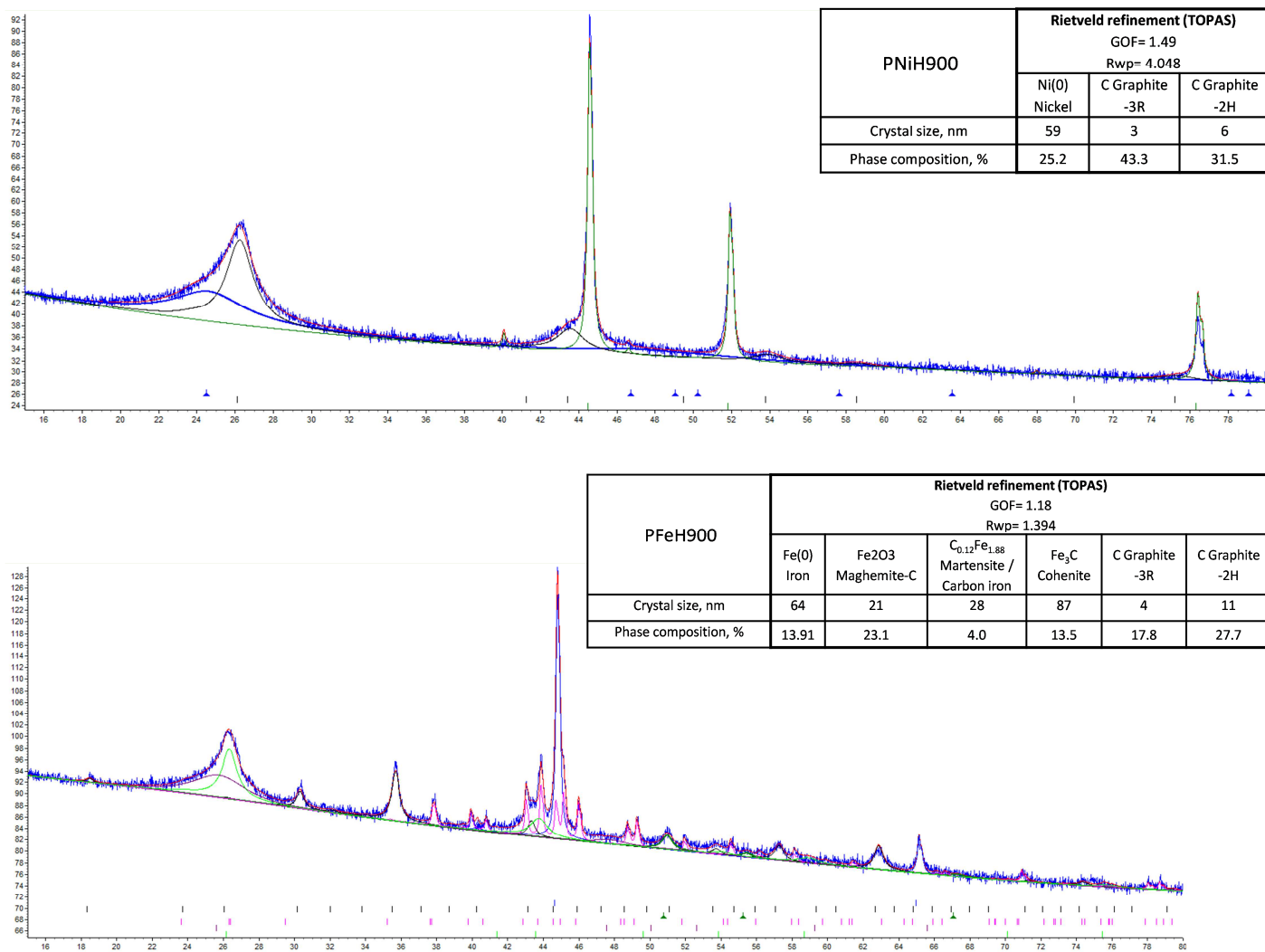
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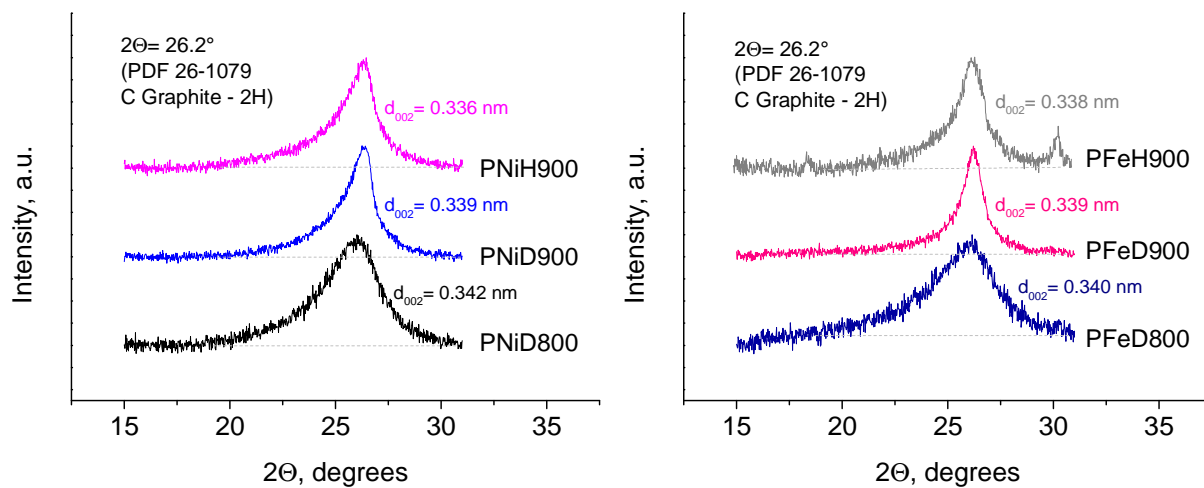
Keywords: metal phthalocyanines, hydrothermal carbonization, catalytic graphitization, supercapacitors.



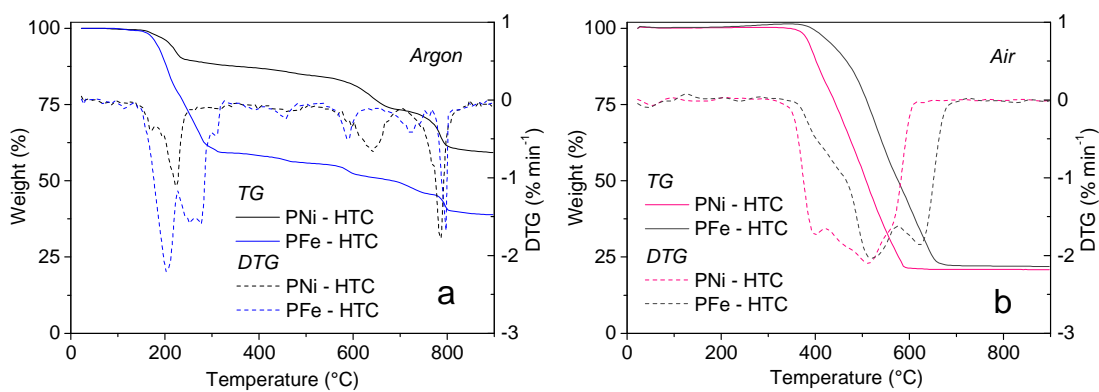
**Figure S1.** X-ray diffraction patterns of the studied carbons: (a) PNi series; (b) PFe series.



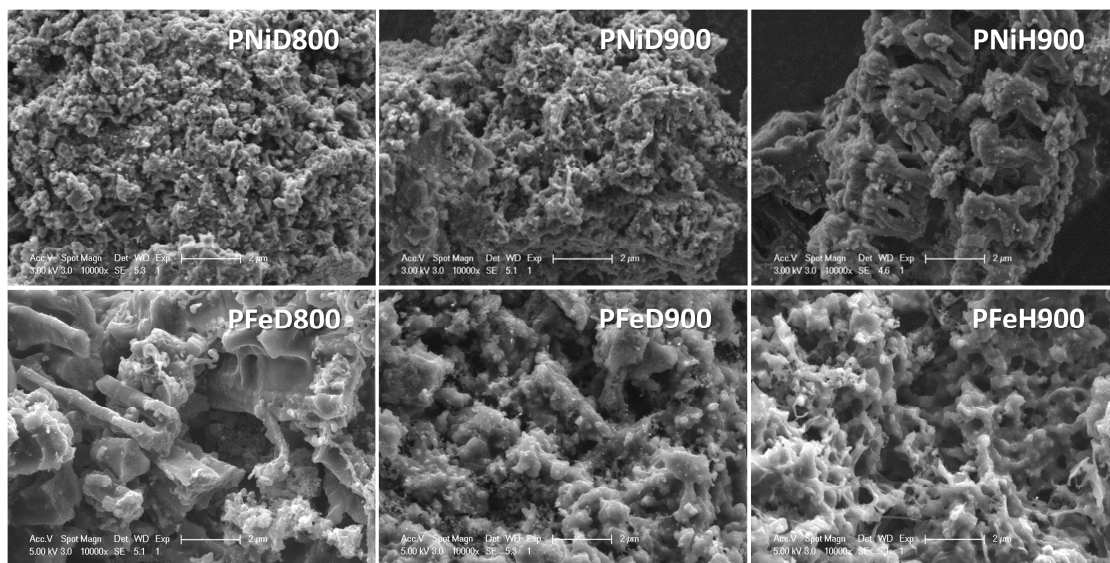
**Figure S2.** Quantification of the crystal phases in PNiH900 and PFeH900 materials through Rietveld's refinement (TOPAS software) of their XRD patterns.



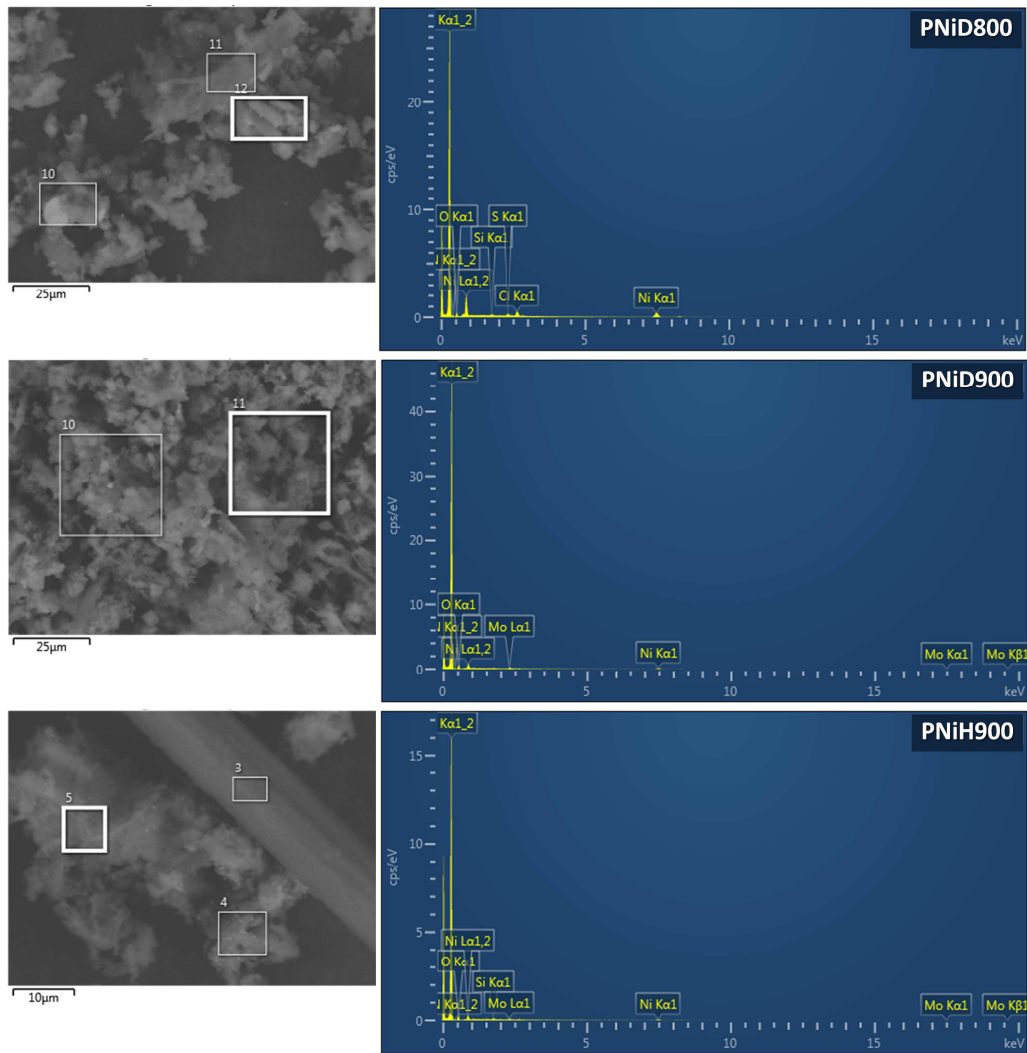
**Figure S3.** Details of the XRD patterns showing the  $d_{002}$  band centred at around  $2\theta = 26.2^\circ$  and assigned to graphitic carbon.



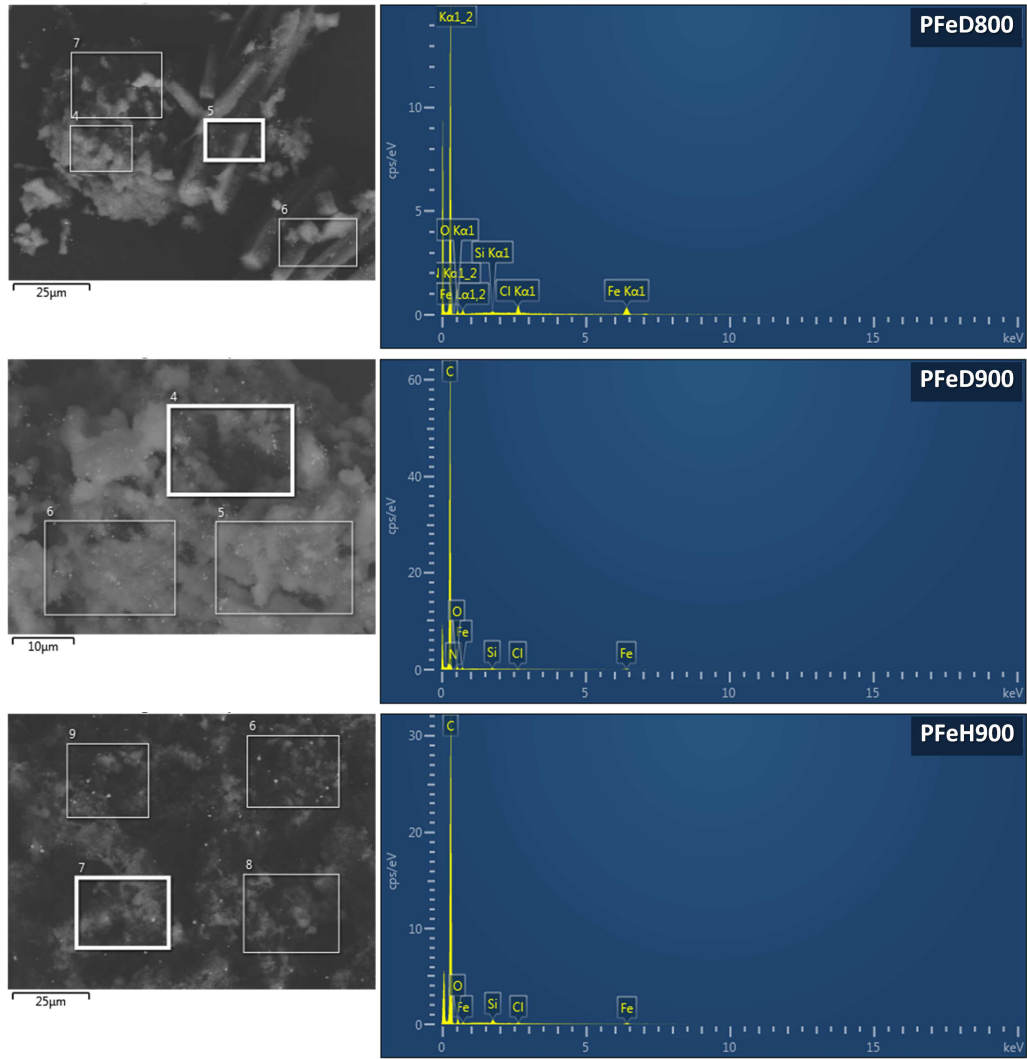
**Figure S4.** TG and DTG curves of the phthalocyanine-derived materials after HTC: (a) in argon flow; and (b) in air flow.



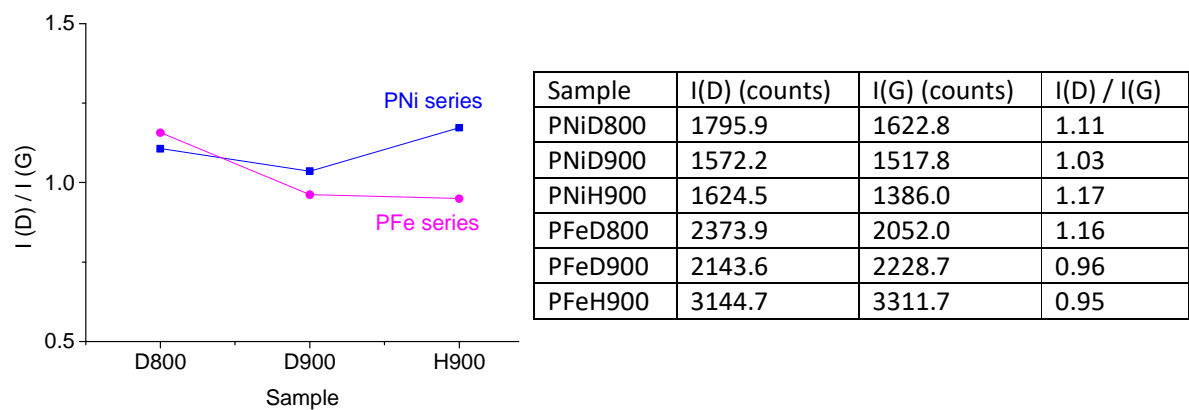
**Figure S5.** SEM pictures of the studied carbon materials.



**Figure S6.** Chemical composition of the PNi-series carbons determined by SEM-EDX.

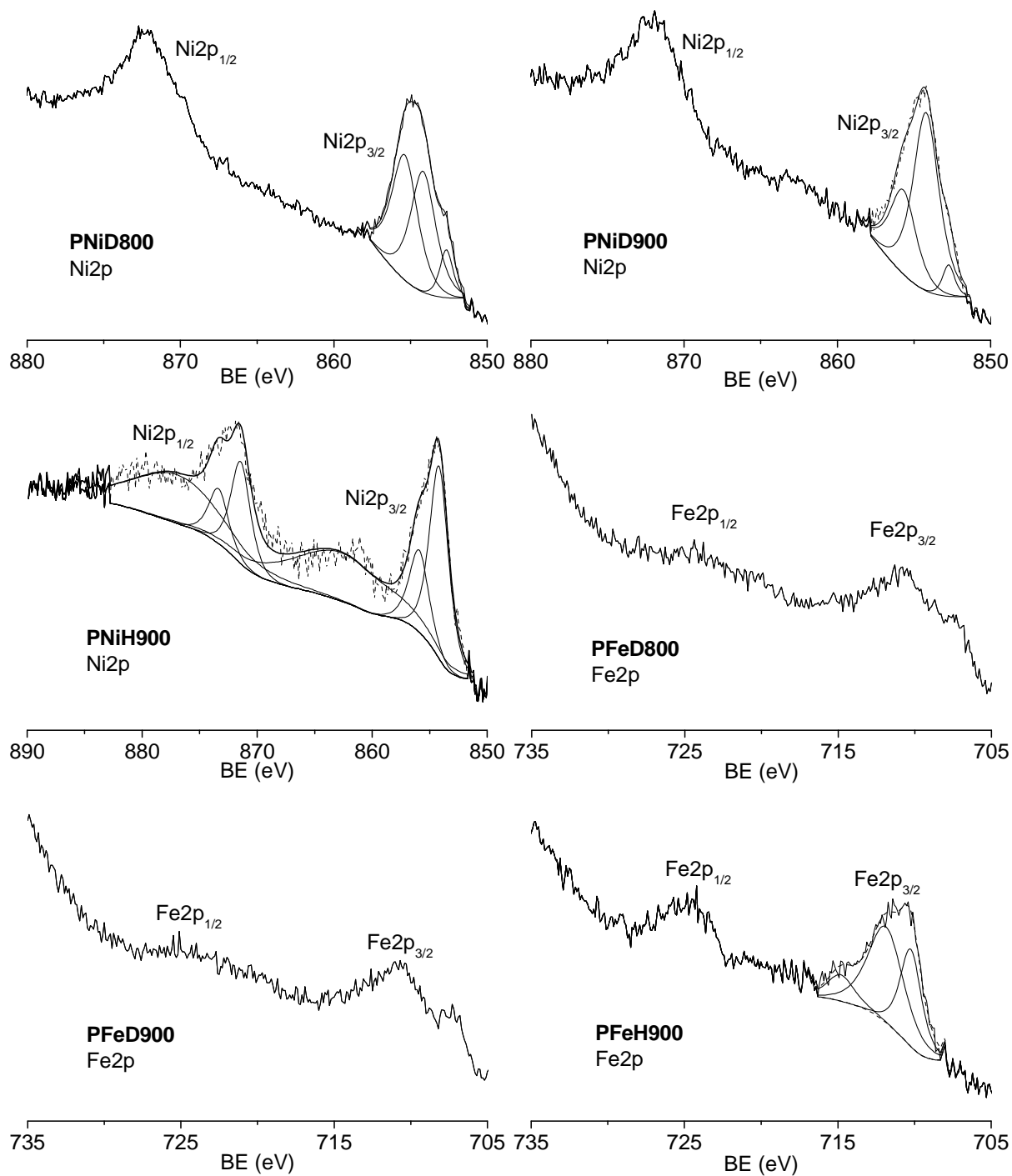


**Figure S7.** Chemical composition of the PFe-series carbons determined by SEM-EDX.

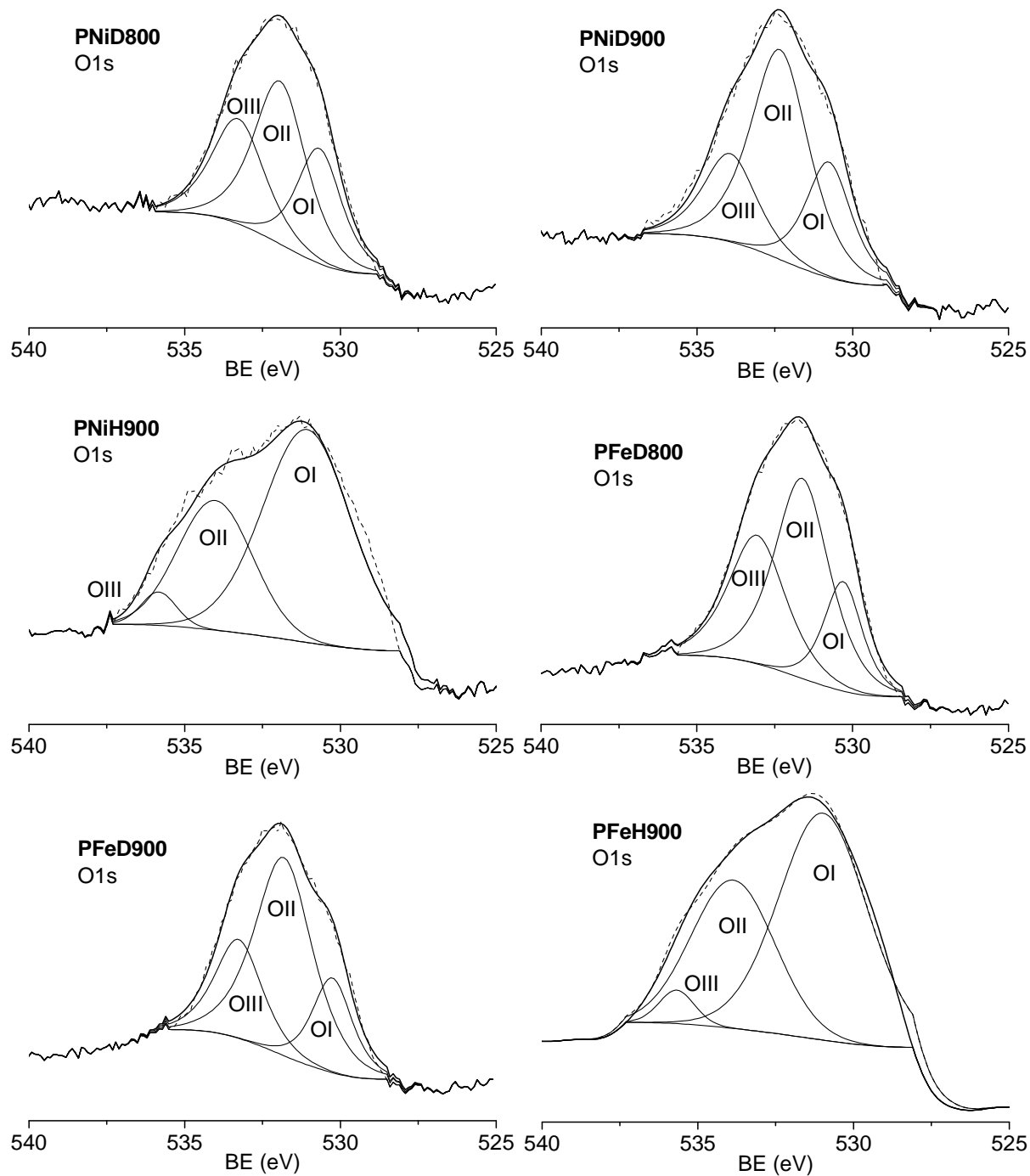


**Figure S8.** Intensities of the D and G bands (left) and intensity ratios,  $I(D) / I(G)$  (right), obtained from the first-order Raman spectra of the carbons.

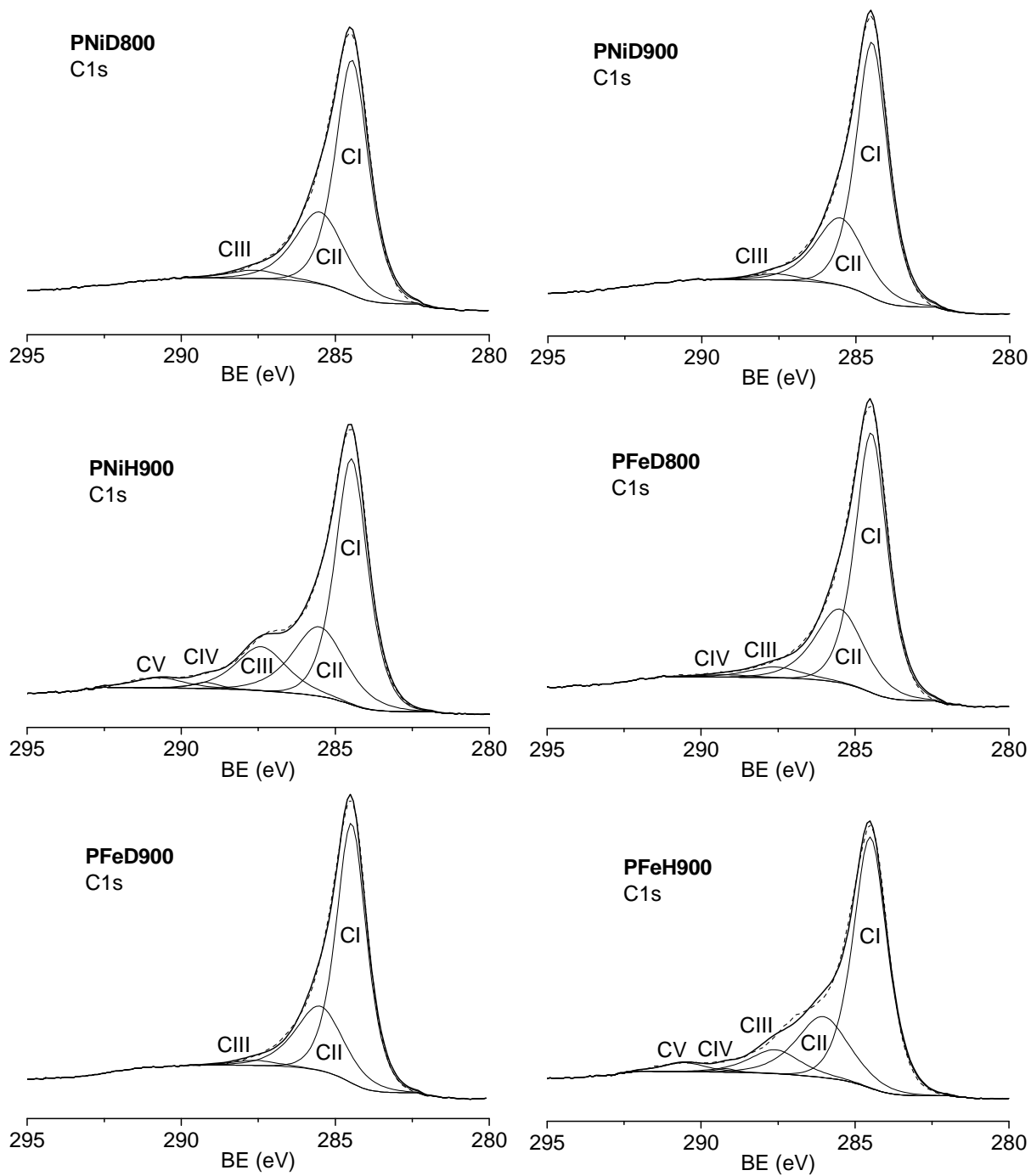




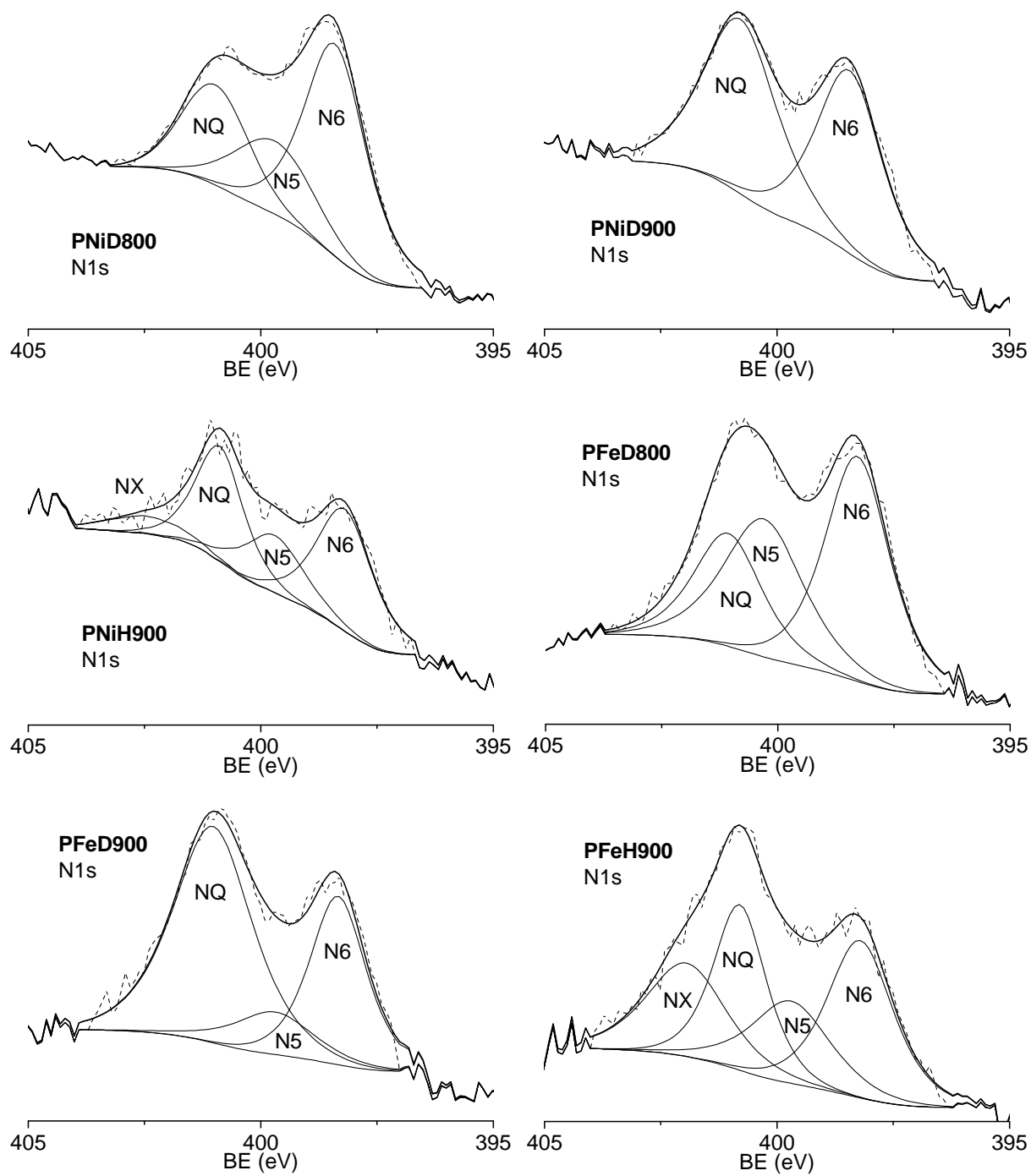
**Figure S9.** Ni2p and Fe2p high-resolution XPS spectra of the materials.



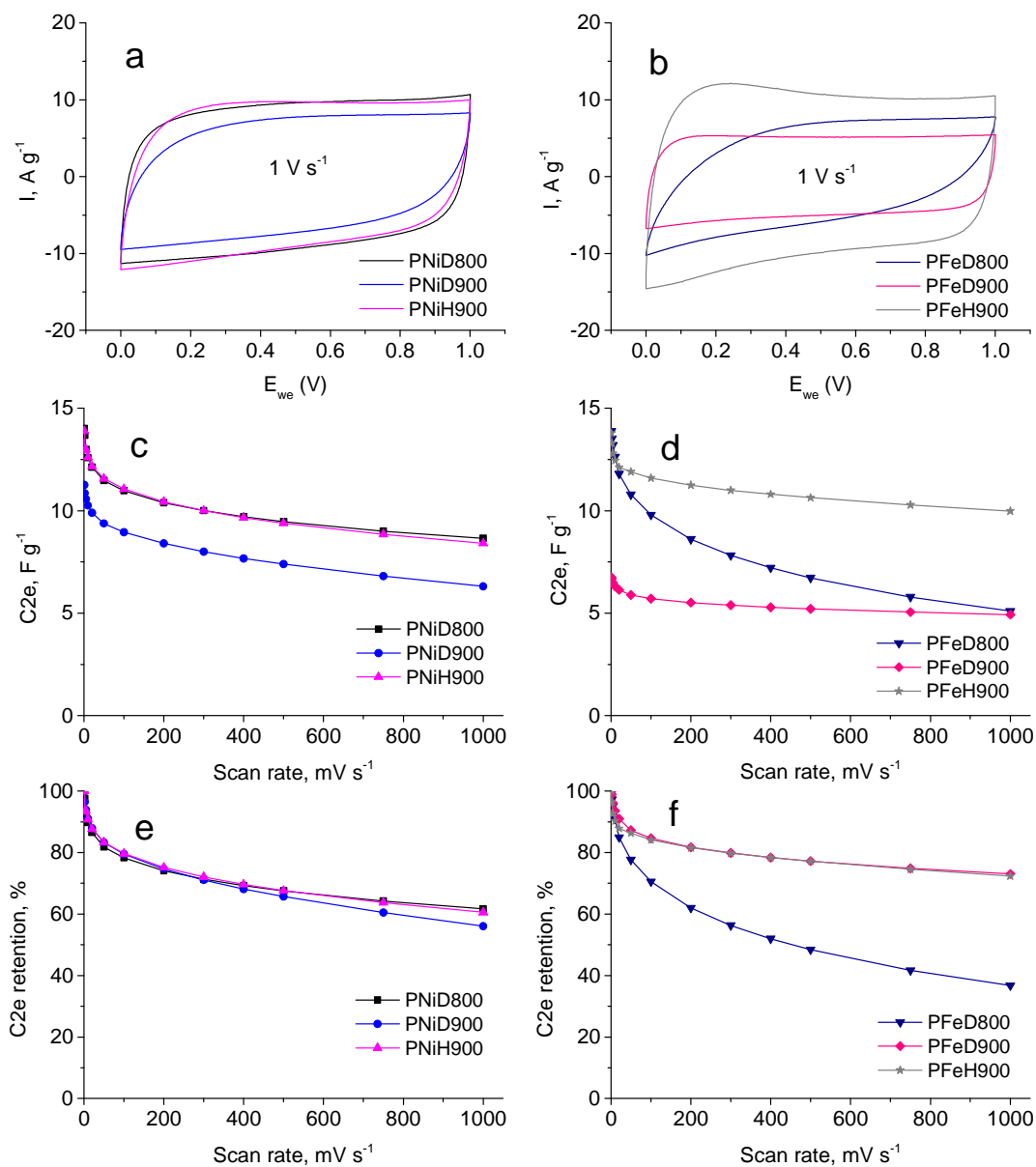
**Figure S10.** O1s high-resolution XPS spectra of the materials.



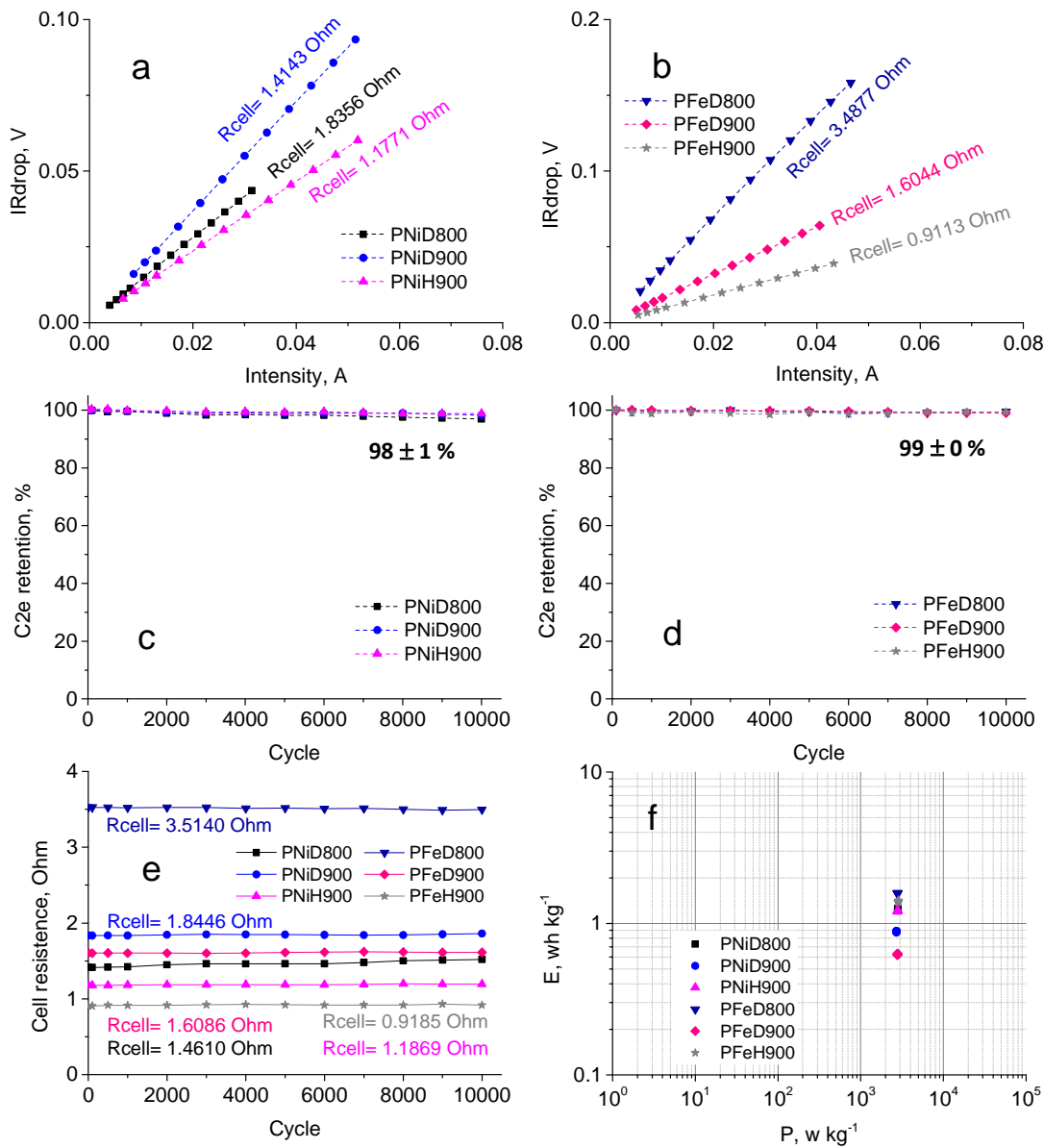
**Figure S11.** C1s high-resolution XPS spectra of the materials.



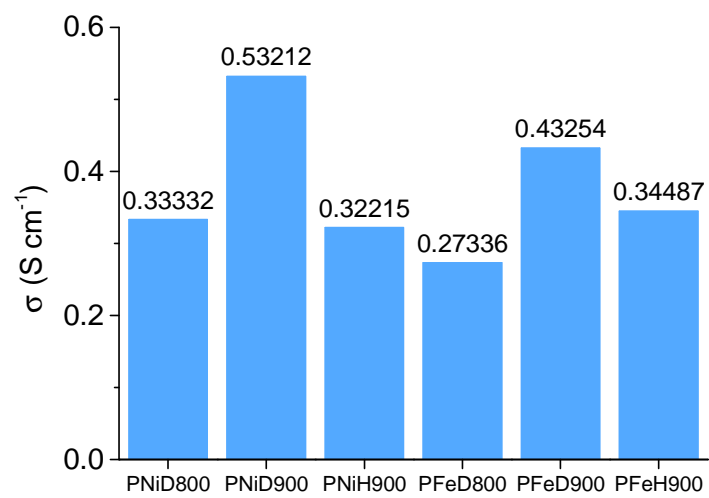
**Figure S12.** N1s high-resolution XPS spectra of the materials.



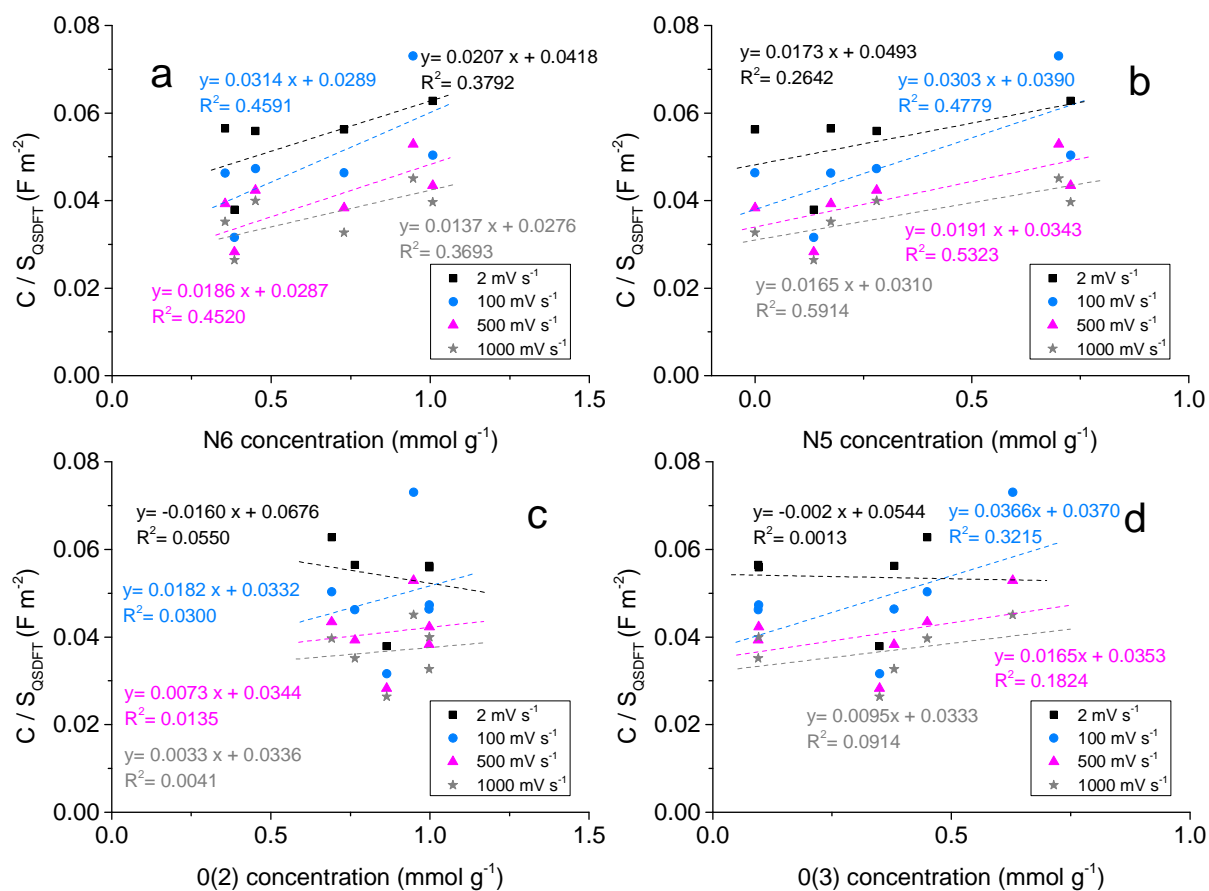
**Figure S13.** (a,b) Cyclic voltammetry results obtained with a two-electrode cell in 2 mol L<sup>-1</sup> H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> electrolyte within the potential window of 0–1V at a scan rate of 1 V s<sup>-1</sup>; (c,d) Specific capacitance values at scan rates ranging from 1 mV s<sup>-1</sup> to 1 V s<sup>-1</sup>; (e,f) Capacitance retentions from 1 mV s<sup>-1</sup> to 1 V s<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S14.** (a,b) Evolution of the ohmic drop,  $IR$  drop, of the cells with the applied intensity, and calculated cell resistance,  $R_{cell}$ ; (c,d) Cyclability of the cells measured at the intensity of  $5 \text{ A g}^{-1}$  up to 10 000 charge-discharge cycles; (e) Evolution of the cell resistance with the number of charge-discharge cycles at the intensity of  $5 \text{ A g}^{-1}$ . The average resistance of the respective cells is given near each trend line; (f) Evolution of energy and power densities throughout 10 000 charge-discharge cycles, applying a current density of  $5 \text{ A g}^{-1}$ .

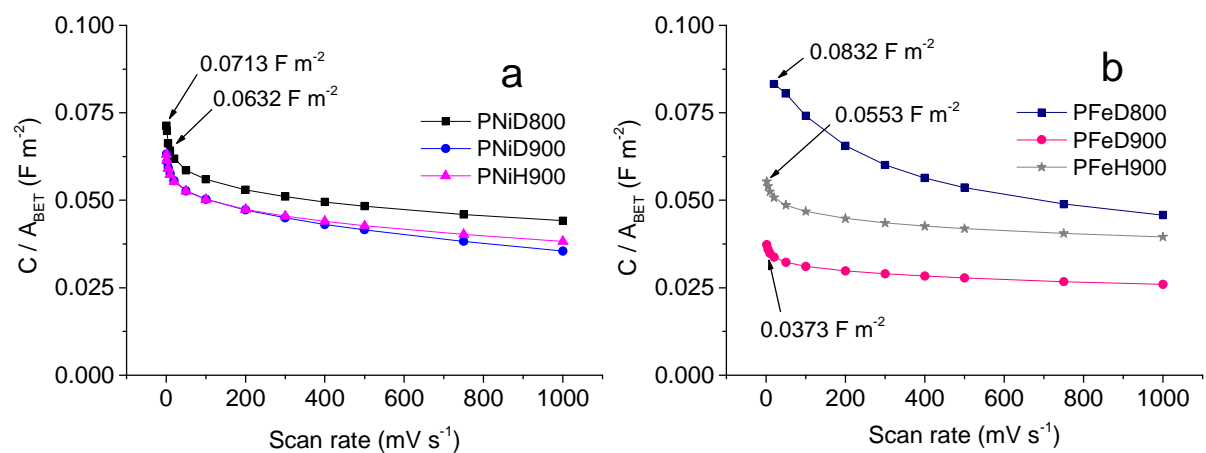


**Figure S15.** Electrical conductivity of the carbon electrodes.

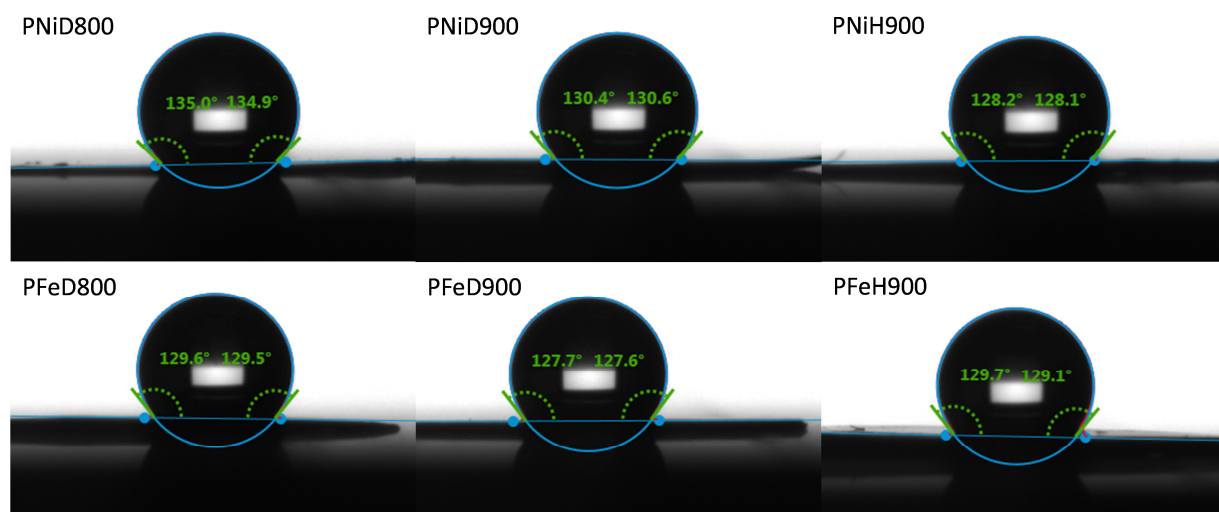


**Figure S16.** Interfacial capacitance,  $C/S_{QSDFT}$ , obtained from CV curves at scan rates between 1 and 1000 mV s<sup>-1</sup> versus surface concentration of: (a) pyridinic nitrogen; (b) pyrrolic nitrogen; (c) carbonyls, quinones and carboxylic acids; and (d) phenols, ethers, esters and anhydrides.





**Figure S17.** Interfacial capacitance,  $C/A_{\text{BET}}$ , of the carbon electrodes: (a) PNi series carbons; (b) PFe series carbons.



**Figure S18.** Initial contact angle of  $2 \text{ mol L}^{-1} \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  with the carbon electrodes.

**Table S1.** Surface chemical composition obtained by XPS and contributions to the peaks obtained from the high-resolution spectra of the materials.\*

Sample	XPS [at.%]					C1s					O1s			N1s				Ni2p <sup>3/2</sup>				Fe2p <sup>3/2</sup>					
	C	N	O	Ni	Fe	CI BE [eV] A [%]	CII BE [eV] A [%]	CIII BE [eV] A [%]	CIV BE [eV] A [%]	CV BE [eV] A [%]	O(1) BE [eV] A [%]	O(2) BE [eV] A [%]	O(3) BE [eV] A [%]	N6 BE [eV] A [%]	N5 BE [eV] A [%]	NQ BE [eV] A [%]	N-X BE [eV] A [%]	II(1) BE [eV] A [%]	II(2) BE [eV] A [%]	II(3) BE [eV] A [%]	Shake- up BE [eV] A [%]	II(1) BE [eV] A [%]	II(2) BE [eV] A [%]	Shake- up BE [eV] A [%]			
PNiD800	93.6	3.6	2.5	0.3	-	284.4 (66.4)	285.5 (30.0)	287.6 (3.6)	-	-	530.6 (26.9)	531.9 (44.3)	533.3 (28.8)	398.4 (39.2)	399.7 (28.3)	401.0 (32.4)	-	852.7 (9.2)	854.2 (43.8)	855.4 (47.0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
PNiD900	94.8	2.1	2.9	0.2	-	284.5 (69.3)	285.5 (28.4)	287.6 (2.3)	-	-	530.7 (23.9)	532.2 (55.1)	533.8 (21.0)	398.4 (48.6)	-	400.8 (51.4)	-	852.7 (5.4)	854.2 (64.2)	855.7 (30.4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
PNiH900	94.6	1.3	3.8	0.3	-	284.5 (55.0)	285.6 (25.0)	287.6 (15.3)	289.2 (1.2)	290.7 (3.5)	531.1 (63.9)	533.6 (32.1)	535.5 (4.0)	398.2 (38.2)	399.8 (18.8)	400.9 (30.3)	402.4 (12.6)	-	854.2 (21.5)	855.9 (9.5)	862.4 (27.2)	-	-	-	-	-	
PFeD800	93.8	3.0	3.1	-	0.1	284.5 (66.1)	285.5 (28.3)	287.6 (4.5)	289.2 (1.0)	-	530.3 (18.7)	531.6 (48.9)	533.1 (32.4)	398.3 (44.2)	400.3 (32.7)	401.1 (23.0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PFeD900	95.8	1.7	2.4	-	0.1	284.5 (70.5)	285.5 (27.5)	289.2 (1.0)	-	-	530.3 (19.0)	531.8 (57.6)	533.3 (23.3)	398.4 (31.8)	399.8 (11.2)	401.0 (57.0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PFeH900	93.2	2.0	4.4	-	0.4	284.5 (63.9)	285.9 (23.8)	287.6 (9.0)	289.2 (0.5)	290.7 (2.9)	531.0 (60.2)	533.7 (36.3)	535.6 (3.5)	398.2 (31.5)	399.8 (19.6)	400.8 (26.5)	402.0 (22.5)	-	-	-	-	710.2 (33.8)	711.8 (54.9)	714.8 (11.4)	-	-	

\*Assignment of the peaks: CI: hydrocarbons, aromatics and aliphatics; CII: Csp<sup>3</sup> and C-O single bonds associated with ethers, phenols and anhydrides; CIII: C=O double bonds in carbonyls and quinones; CIV: C-O single bonds in carboxyls; CV: plasmon losses or shake-up  $\pi$ - $\pi$  satellites. O(1): O-Metal bonds in metal oxides; O(2): C=O double bonds in quinone-type groups, carbonyls and carboxylic acids; O(3): -OH bonds in phenols, C-O-C ether groups and C=O bonds in ester and anhydride groups. N(6): pyridinic nitrogen; N(5): pyrrolic nitrogen; N(Q): quaternary nitrogen; N(X): nitrogen oxides. Ni2p<sup>3/2</sup> II(1): Ni<sup>0</sup>; Ni2p<sup>3/2</sup> II(2): NiO; Ni2p<sup>3/2</sup> III(3): Ni-C complexes. Fe2p<sup>3/2</sup> II(1) and II(2): Fe(III). BE (eV) and A (%) stand for binding energy and relative contribution based on peak areas, respectively.