

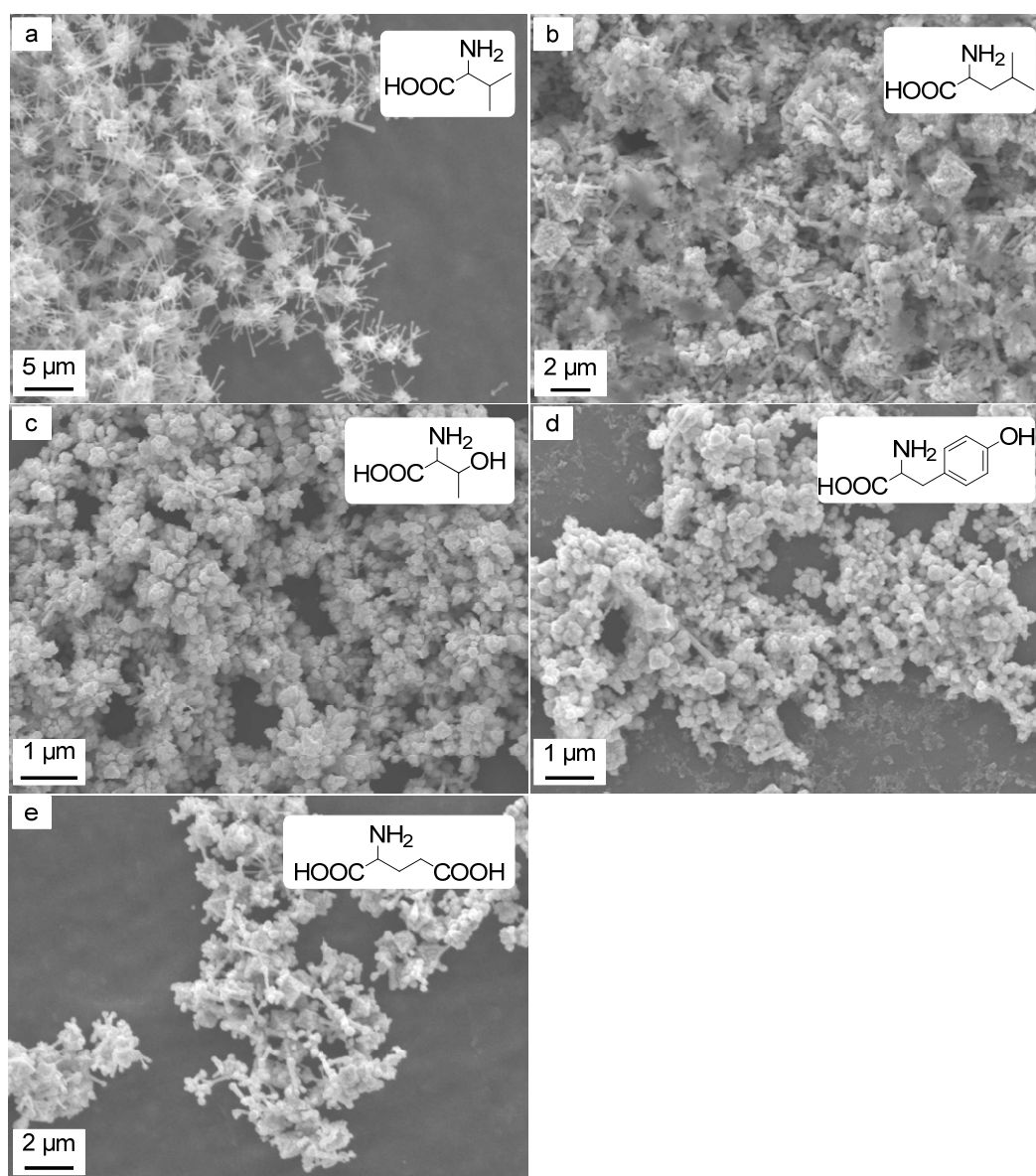
## Electronic Supplementary Information

# Shape-Controllable and Versatile Synthesis of Copper Nanocrystals with Amino Acids as Capping Agents

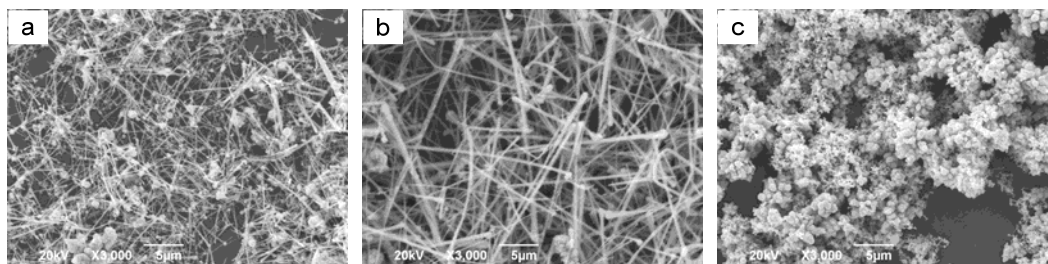
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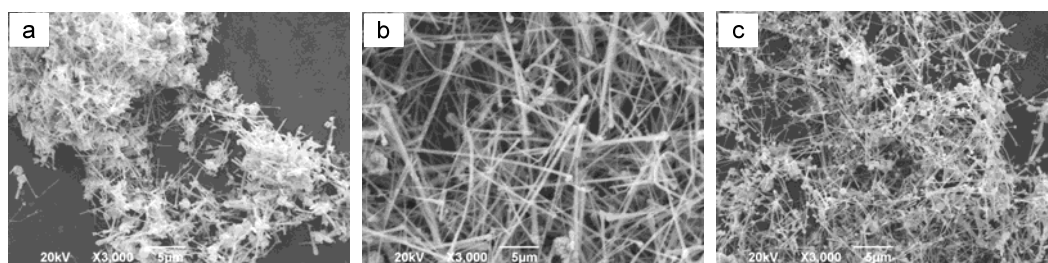
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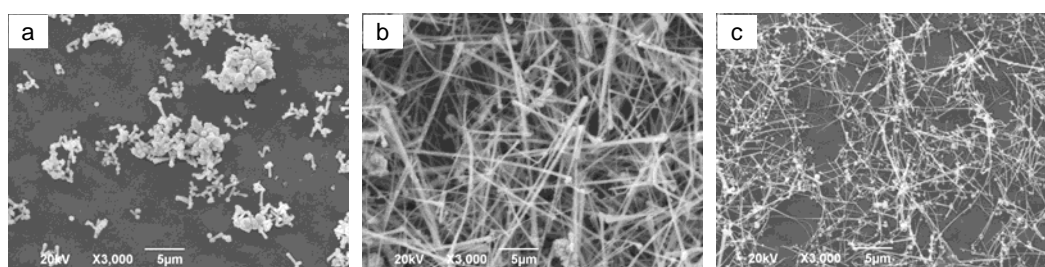
**Fig. S1** SEM images of Cu nanostructures prepared under the conditions of  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  (4.76 mM), NaOH (3000 eq.), amino acids (18.6 eq.) and  $\text{N}_2\text{H}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  (2.75 eq.) at 80 °C with the following different amino acids as the capping agent: (a) valine, (b) leucine, (c) threonine, (d) tyrosine and (e) glutamic acid.



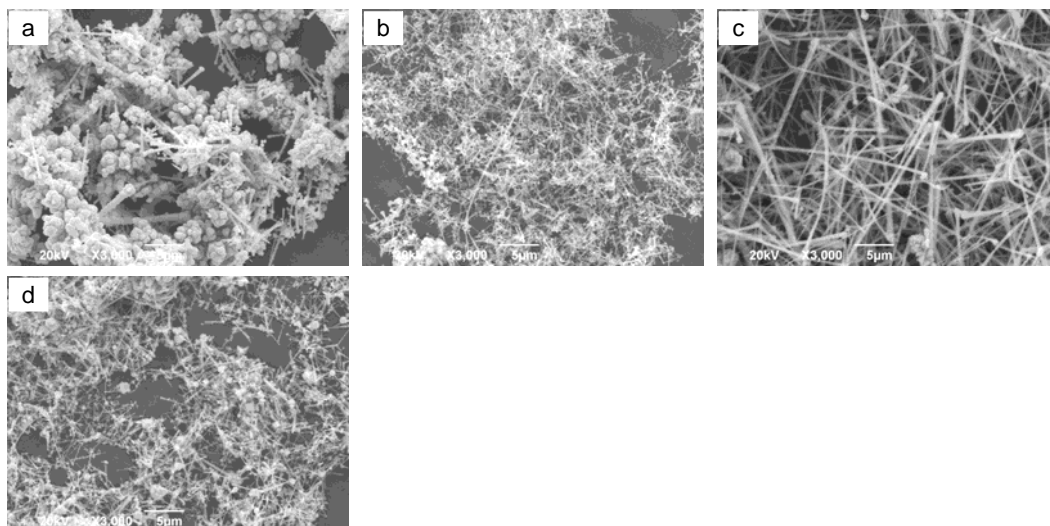
**Fig. S2** SEM images of Cu nanostructures prepared under the conditions of  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  (4.76 mM), NaOH (3000 eq.), and glycine (18.6 eq.) at 80 °C with the different amount of hydrazine: (a) 1.38, (b) 2.75, and (c) 4.14 eq.



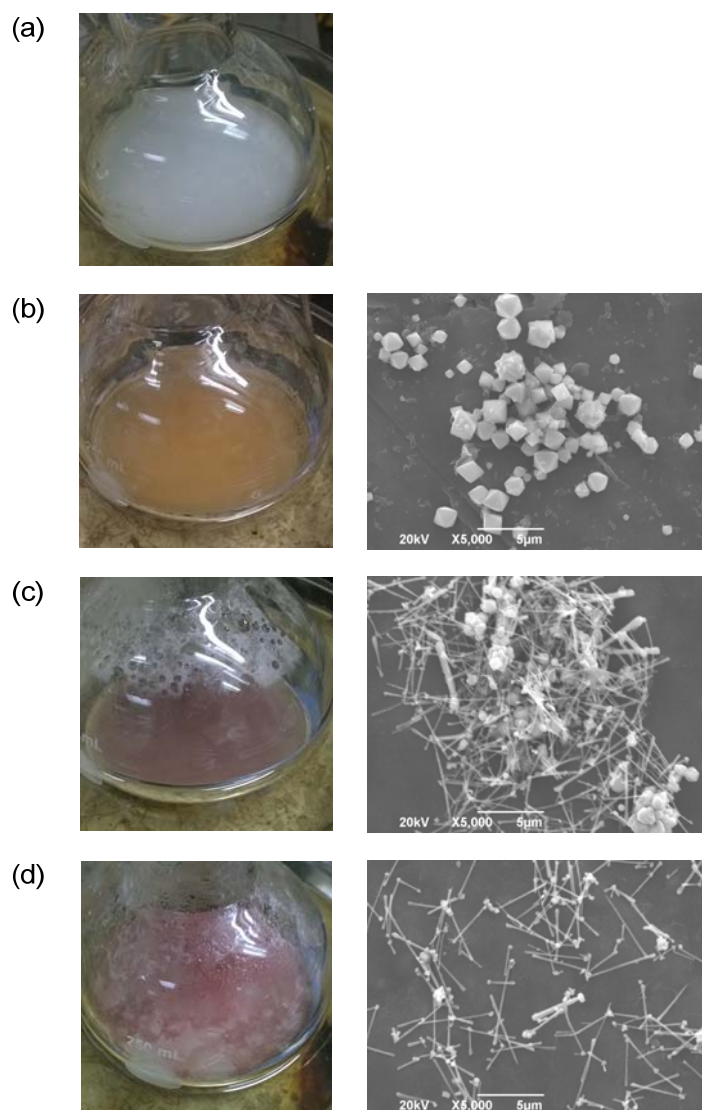
**Fig. S3** SEM images of Cu nanostructures prepared under the conditions of  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  (4.76 mM), glycine (18.6 eq.) and  $\text{N}_2\text{H}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  (2.75 eq.) at 80 °C with the different amount of NaOH: (a) 1500 (b) 3000, and (c) 4500 eq.



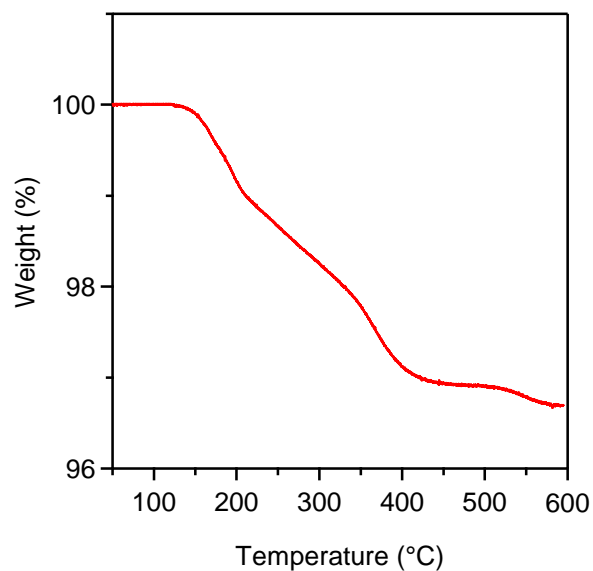
**Fig. S4** SEM images of Cu nanostructures prepared under the conditions of  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  (4.76 mM), NaOH (3000 eq.), and  $\text{N}_2\text{H}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  (2.75 eq.) at 80 °C with the different amount of glycine: (a) 9.30, (b) 18.6, and (c) 27.9 eq.



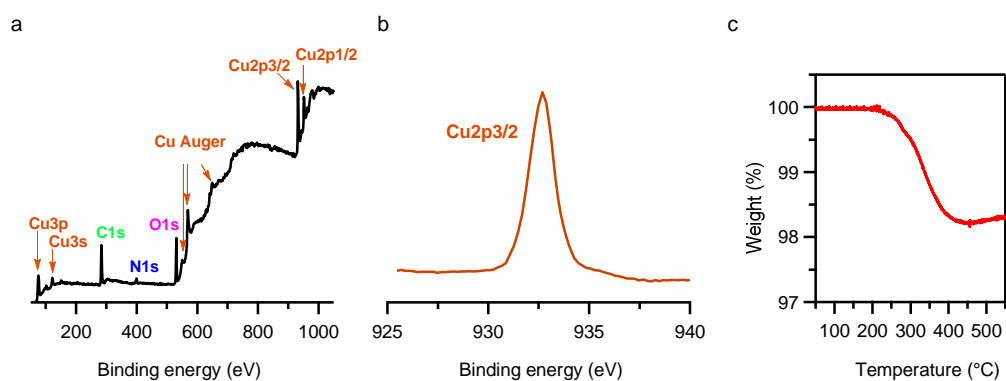
**Fig. S5** SEM images of Cu nanostructures prepared under the conditions of  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  (4.76 mM), NaOH (3000 eq.), glycine (18.6 eq.) and  $\text{N}_2\text{H}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  (2.75 eq.) at different temperature: (a) 60, (b) 70, (c) 80, and (d) 90 °C.



**Fig. S6** Pictures of the reaction flask and the SEM images of Cu nanostructures detected around (a) 3, (b) 10, (c) 17, and (d) 22 min after the addition of hydrazine. Other conditions:  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  (4.76 mM), NaOH (3000 eq.), glycine (18.6 eq.),  $\text{N}_2\text{H}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  (2.75 eq.) and total volume (84 mL) at 80 °C.



**Fig. S7** TGA profile of Gly@CuNW under a N<sub>2</sub> flowing atmosphere at a heating rate of 10 °C min<sup>-1</sup>.



**Fig. S8** (a) Survey XPS spectrum and (b) its magnification at Cu 2p<sub>3/2</sub> peak, and (c) TGA curve of His@CuNP.