

**Facile preparation of copper nitride powders and nanostructured films**  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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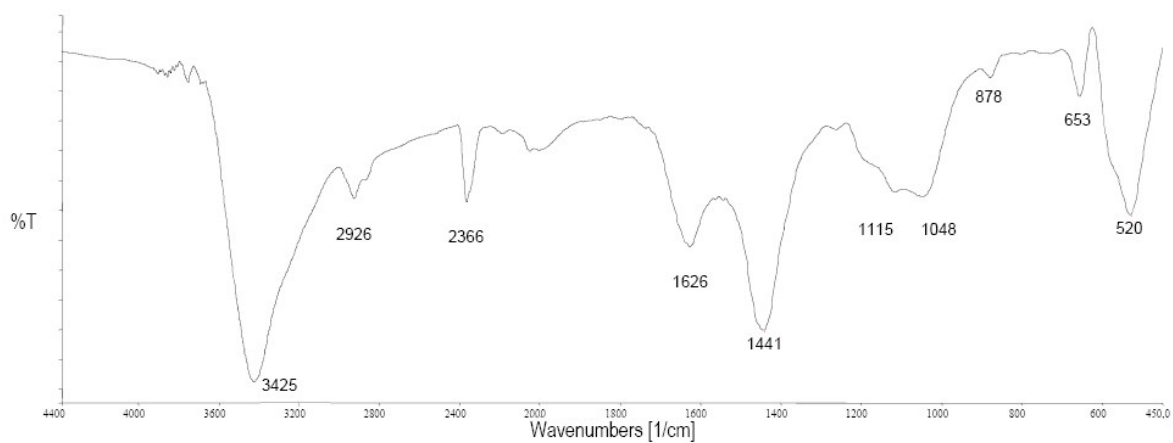
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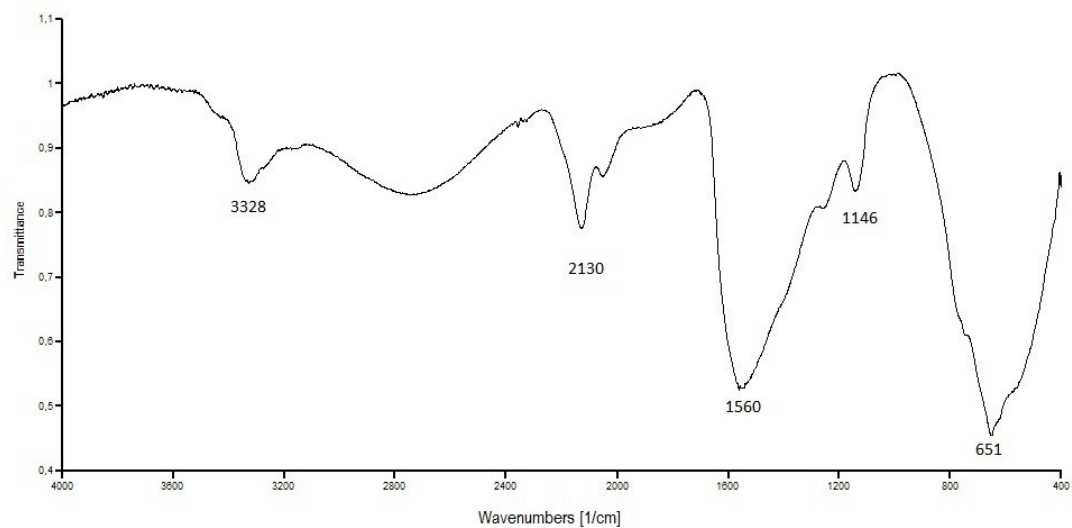
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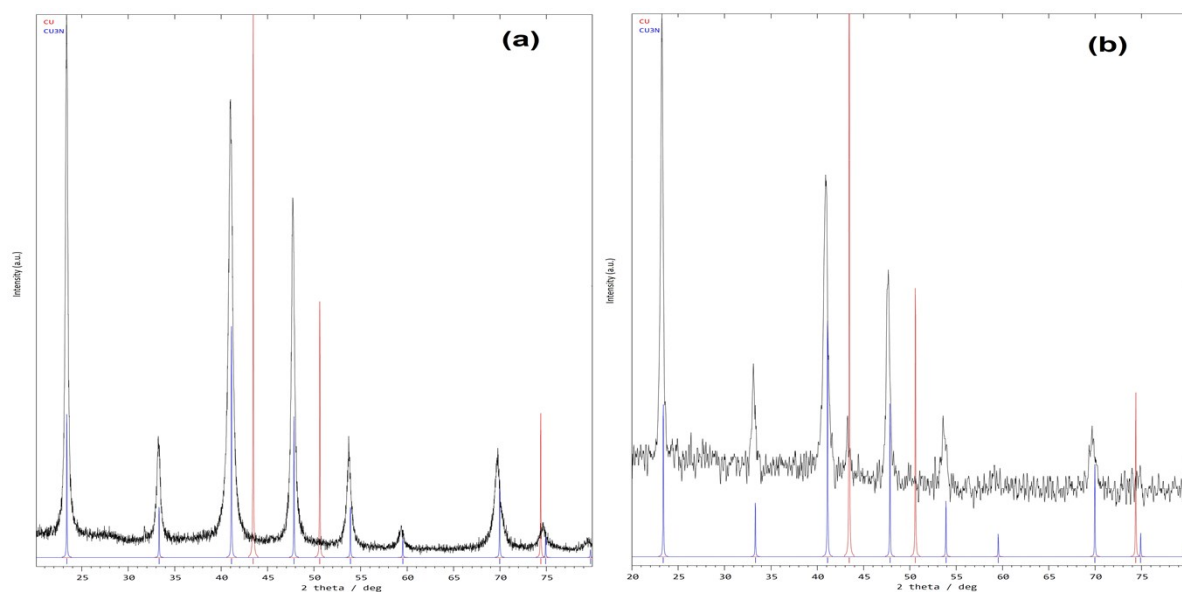
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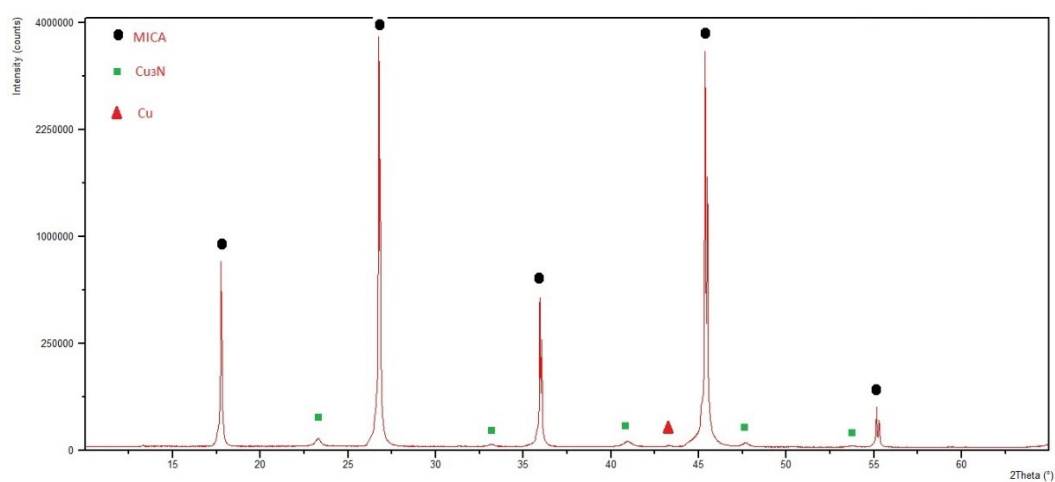
**Figure S1.** FT-IR spectrum of  $\text{Cu}(\text{CF}_3\text{COO})_2$  after ammonolysis at 250 °C (sample 1).



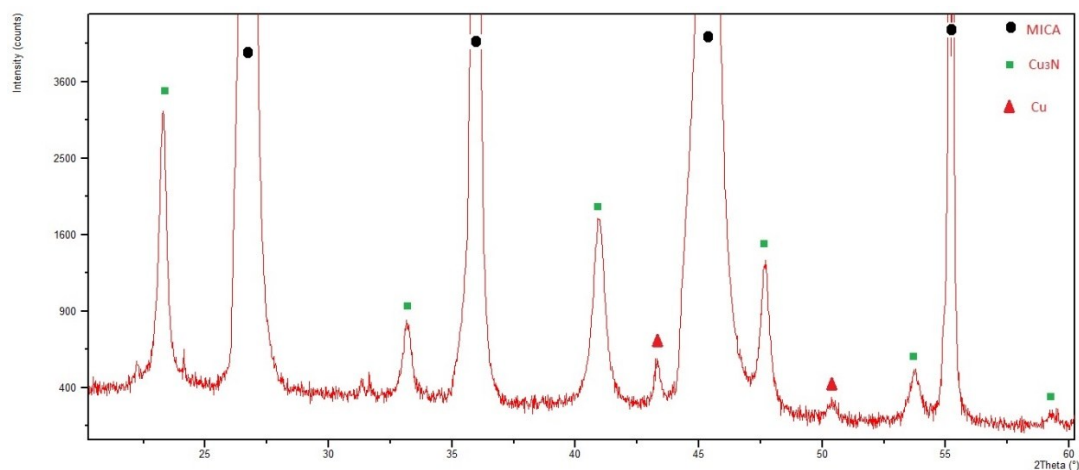
**Figure S2.** FT-IR spectrum of  $\text{Cu}(\text{CF}_3\text{COO})_2$  after ammonolysis at 300 °C (sample 2).



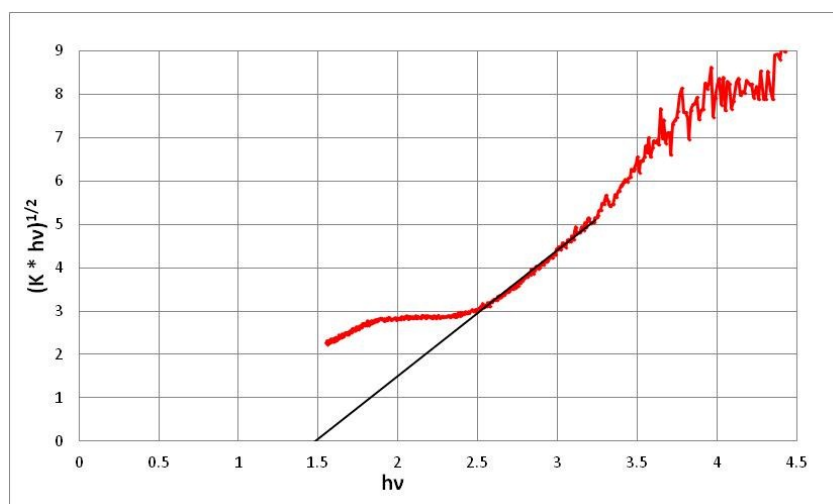
**Figure S3.** Powder X-ray diffraction pattern of (a) **4** (prepared at 310 °C, 300 min), (b) **5** (350 °C, 180 min) and simulated powder patterns for Cu<sub>3</sub>N (blue) and Cu (red).



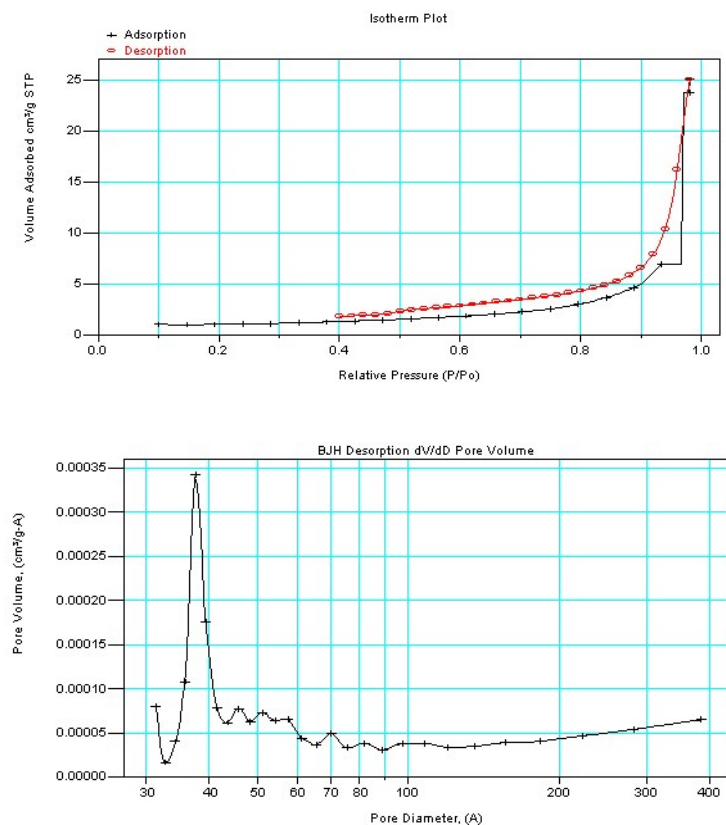
**Figure S4.** Powder X-ray diffraction pattern of Cu(CF<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub> film on mica after ammonolysis at 310 °C.



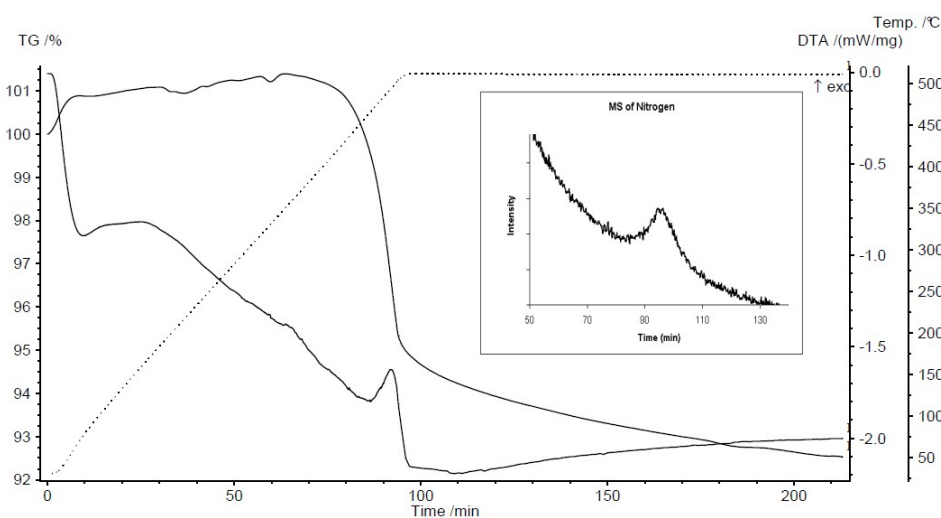
**Figure S5.** Enlarged powder X-ray diffraction pattern of  $\text{Cu}(\text{CF}_3\text{COO})_2$  film on mica after ammonolysis at 310 °C.



**Figure S6.** Band gap determination using plots of modified Kubelka Munk (K-M) function versus light energy (indirect optical transition):  $(K * hv)^{1/2} = f(h\nu)$ , where  $K = (1-R)^2/2R$ , the reflectance transformed according to Kubelka Munk and  $R$  is reflectance (%).



**Figure S7.** Nitrogen adsorption/desorption isotherms and pore size distribution measured for sample **3**.



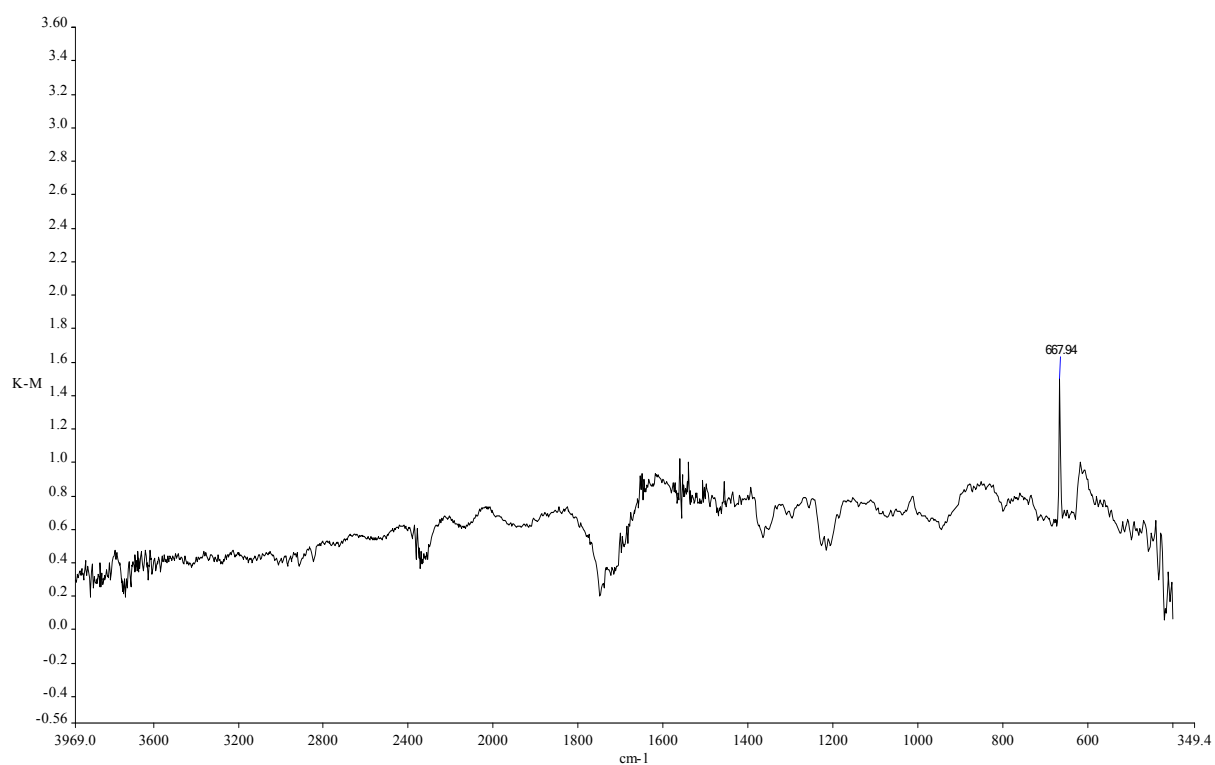
**Figure S8.** TG-DTA curves for Cu<sub>3</sub>N (**3**) heated under flowing argon. A plot of N<sub>2</sub> concentration vs. time from the mass spectrum of the evolved gas is shown in the inset.

**Table S1.** Atomic parameters from the Rietveld refinement for Cu<sub>3</sub>N (**3**).

| Atom | Site                   | Site occupancy factor | U <sub>iso</sub> / Å <sup>2</sup> |
|------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Cu   | 3 <i>d</i> ; (½, 0, 0) | 1                     | 0.015(4)                          |
| N    | 1 <i>a</i> ; (0,0,0)   | 1                     | 0.0085(4)                         |

**Table S2.** Calculated interatomic distances from the Rietveld refinement for Cu<sub>3</sub>N (**3**).

| Atoms | Distance / Å |
|-------|--------------|
| Cu-N  | 1.8894(1)    |
| Cu-Cu | 3.7788(2)    |
| N-N   | 3.7788(2)    |



**Figure S8.** DRIFT spectrum from a  $\text{Cu}(\text{CF}_3\text{COO})_2$  film deposited on Si (60 s, 4000 rpm) after ammonolysis at 300 °C.