

## Supplementary Information

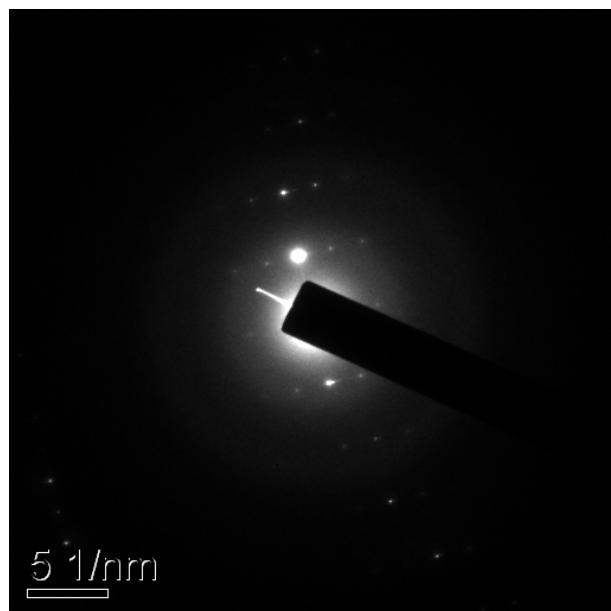
### Shape controlled growth of pyrite FeS<sub>2</sub> crystallites via a polymer-assisted hydrothermal route

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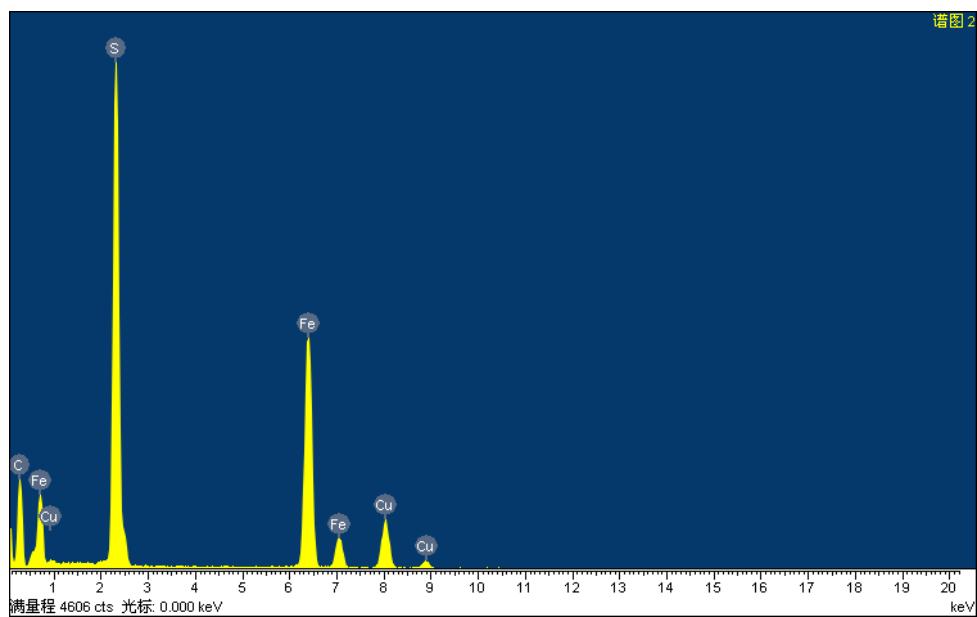
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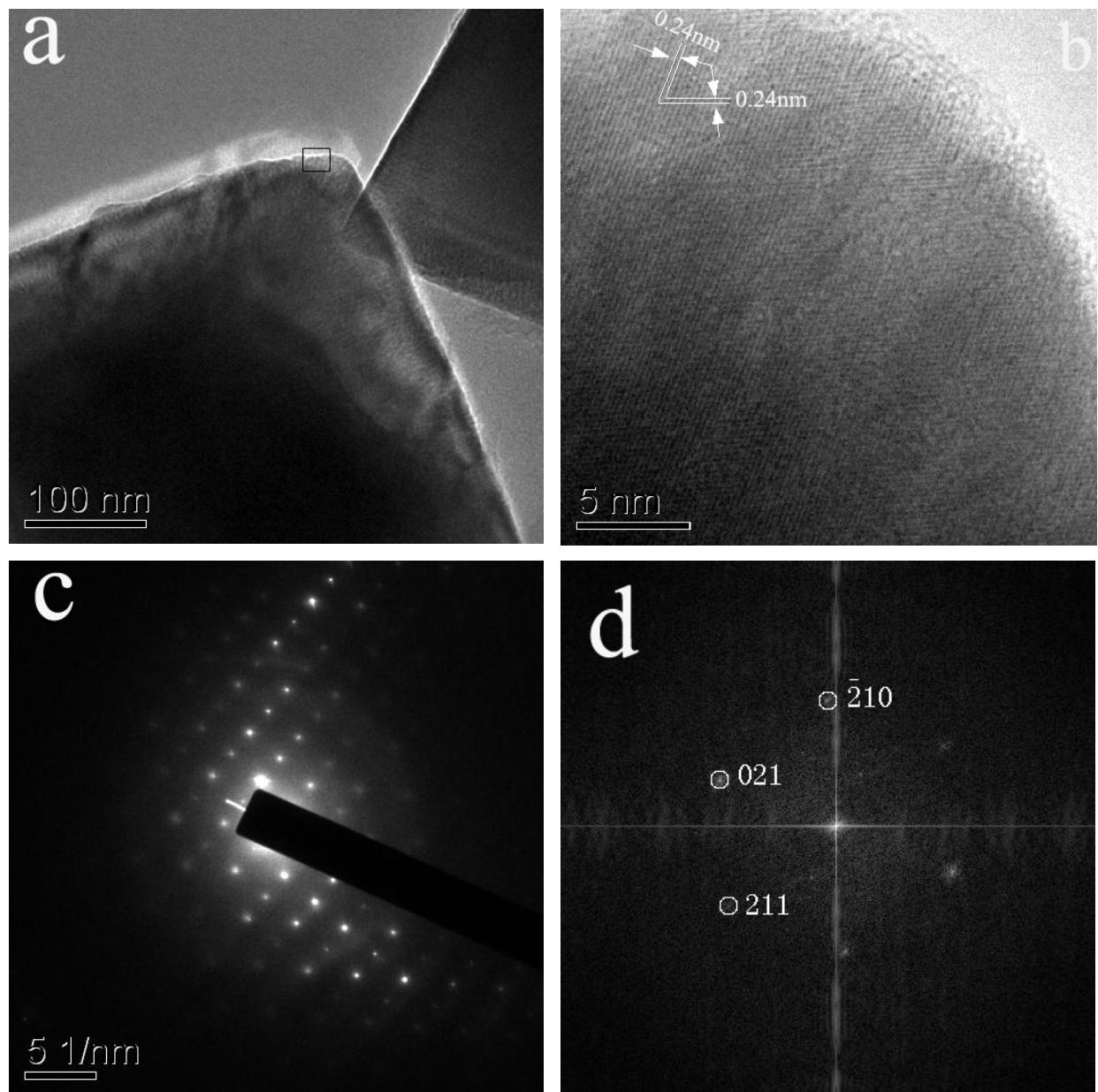
<sup>b</sup>*Graduate School of Chinese Academic of Sciences, Bejing, 10039, People's Republic of China.*



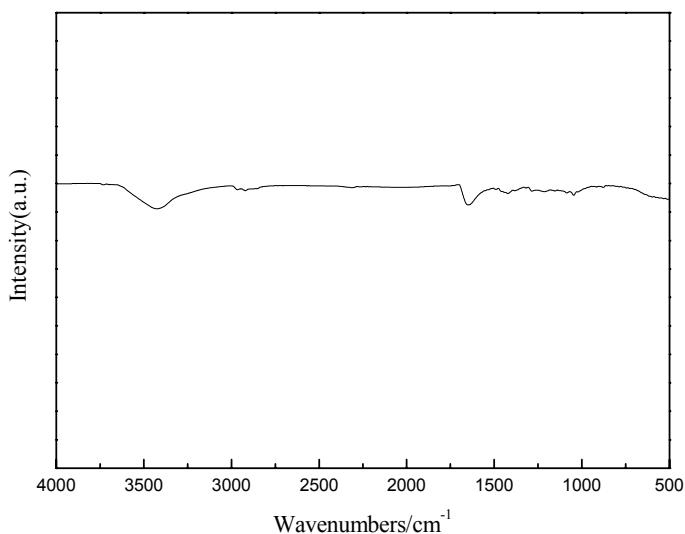
**Fig. S1** Selected-area electron diffraction (SAED) pattern of the FeS<sub>2</sub> microcubes.



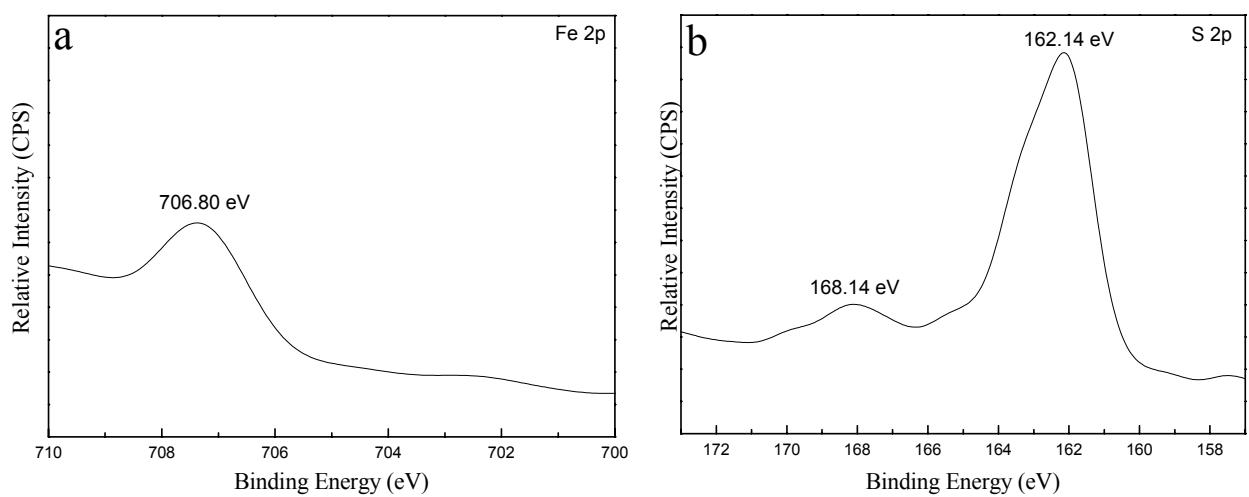
**Fig. S2** Energy-dispersive spectroscopy (EDS) of the FeS<sub>2</sub> microcubes.



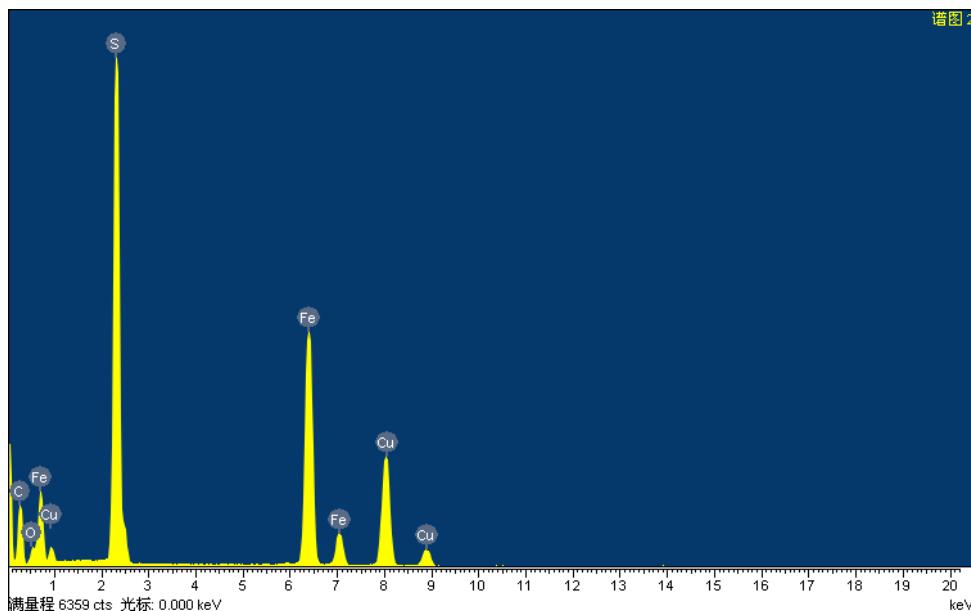
**Fig. S3** (a) TEM image of the FeS<sub>2</sub> micro-octahedron, (b) (HR) TEM image of the edge of the octahedron, taking from the selected area marked by a square in (a), (c) SAED pattern and (d) corresponding FFT taking from (b).



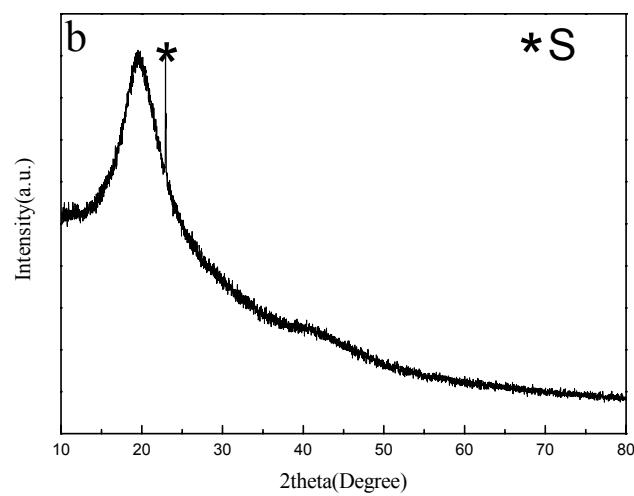
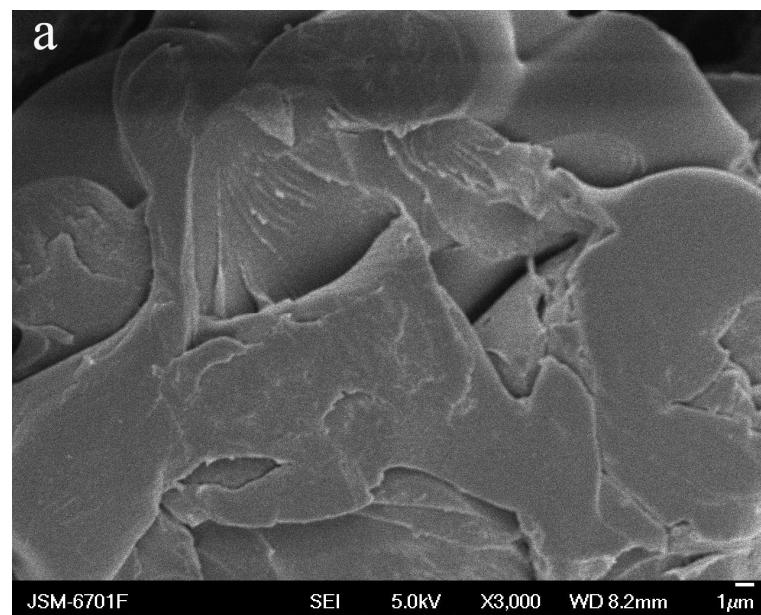
**Fig. S4** FT-IR spectra of the as-obtained FeS<sub>2</sub> micro-octahedrons.



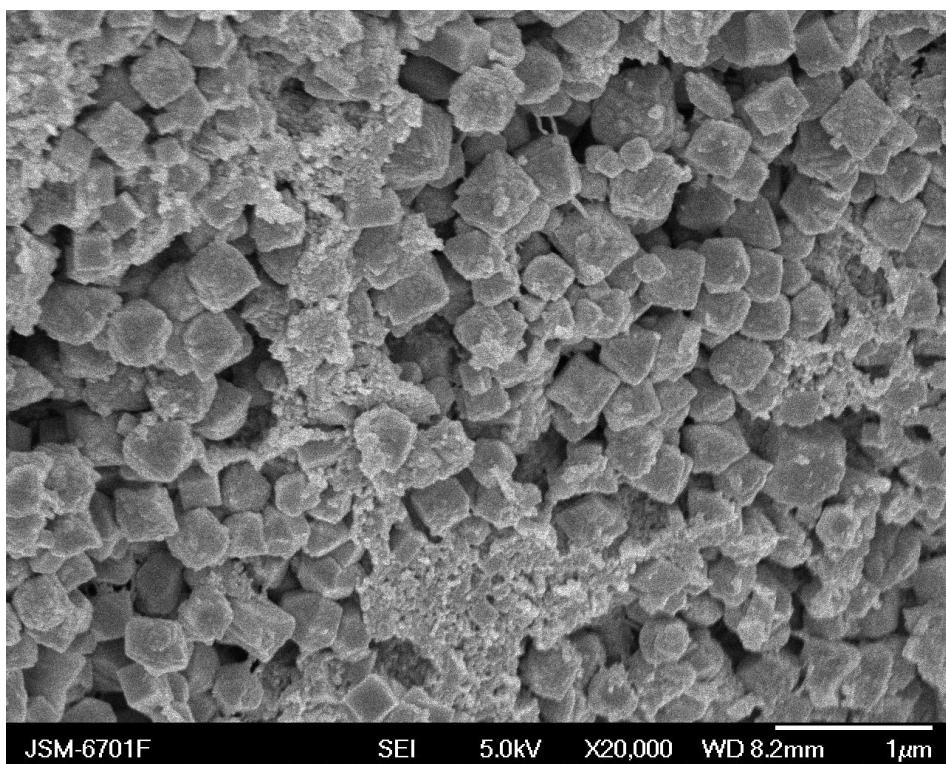
**Fig. S5** XPS studies of the as-obtained FeS<sub>2</sub> micro-octahedrons, (a) iron region and (b) sulfide region.



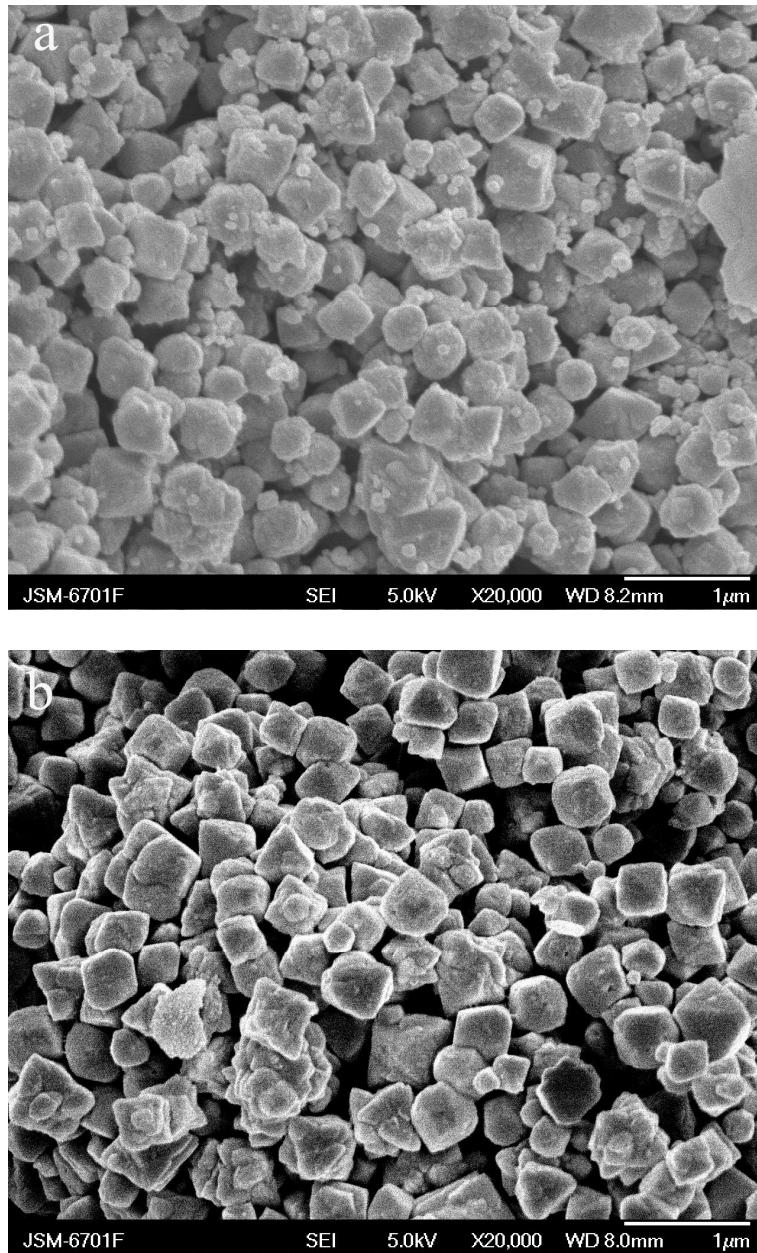
**Fig. S6** Energy-dispersive spectroscopy (EDS) of the  $\text{FeS}_2$  micro-octahedrons.



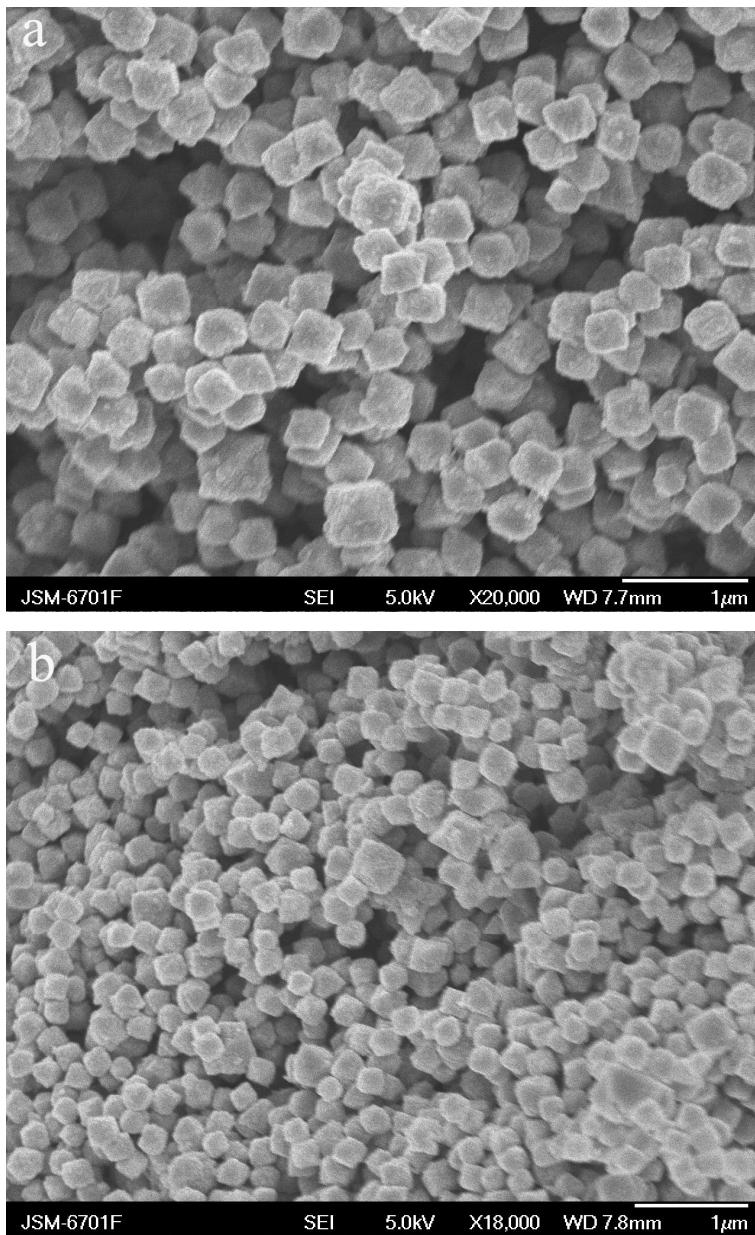
**Fig. S7** FESEM image and XRD pattern of the product in the absence of NaOH.



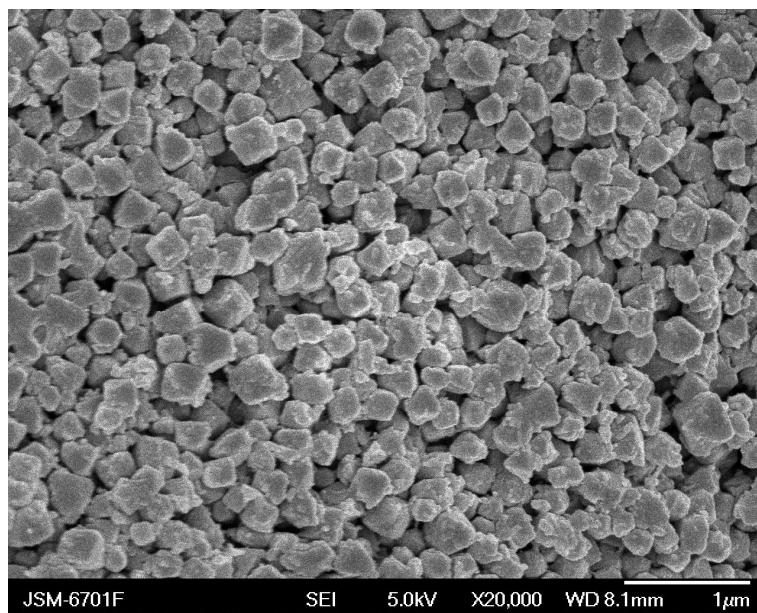
**Fig. S8** FESEM image of the product,  $[NaOH]=0.21\text{ M}$ , PVA=10 mL, PVP=0.20 g.



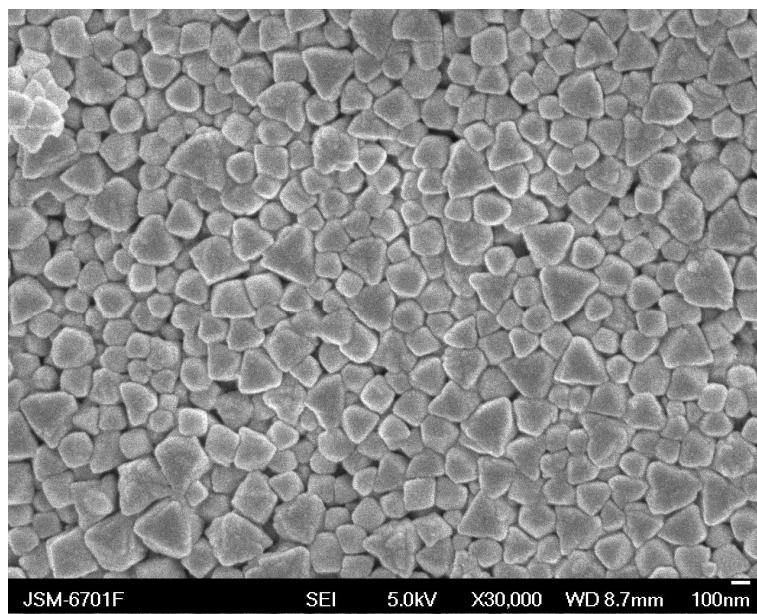
**Fig. S9** FESEM image of the product in the absence of PVA (a) PVP=0.20 g, [NaOH] =0.11 M, and (b) PVP=0.20 g, [NaOH] =0.14 M.



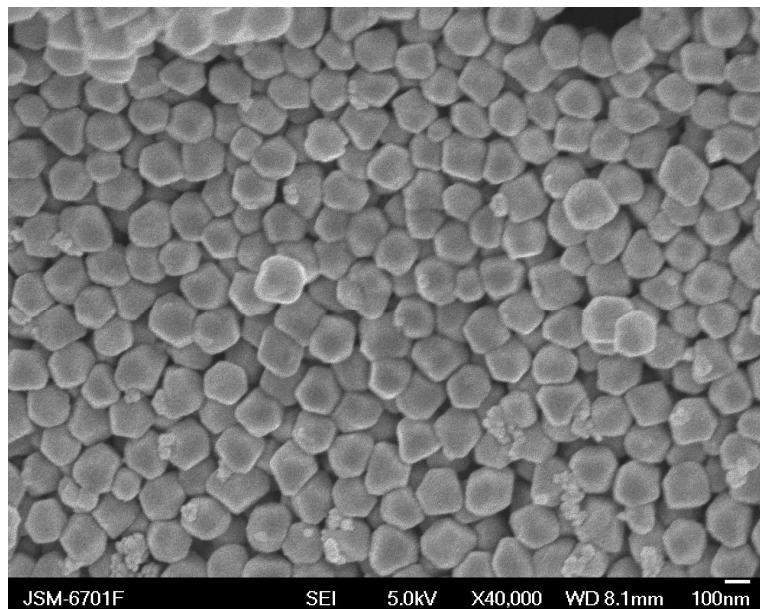
**Fig. S10** FESEM image of the product in the absence of PVP (a) PVA=15 mL, [NaOH] =0.14 M, and (b) PVA=10 mL, [NaOH] =0.14 M.



**Fig. S11** FESEM image of the product, PVP=0.3 g, PVA=10 mL, and [NaOH] =0.14 M.



**Fig. S12** FESEM image of the product, PVP=0.2 g, PVA=8 mL, and [NaOH] =0.14 M.

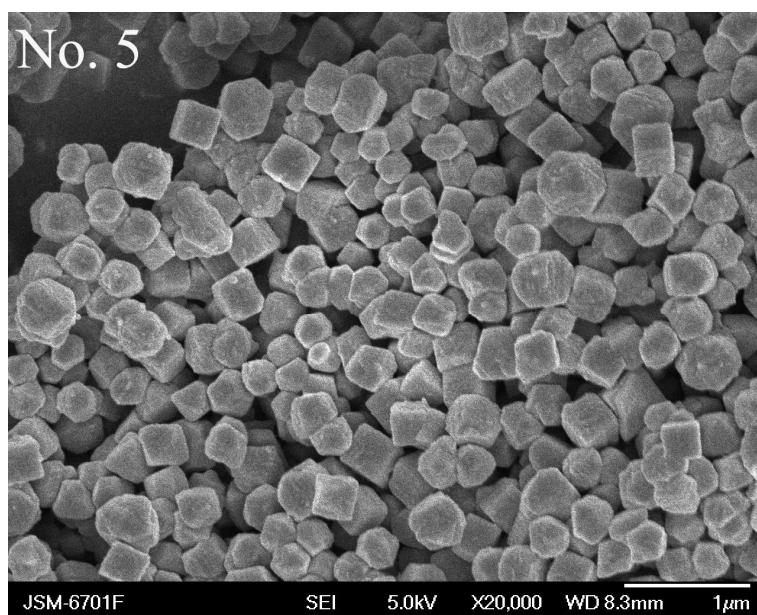
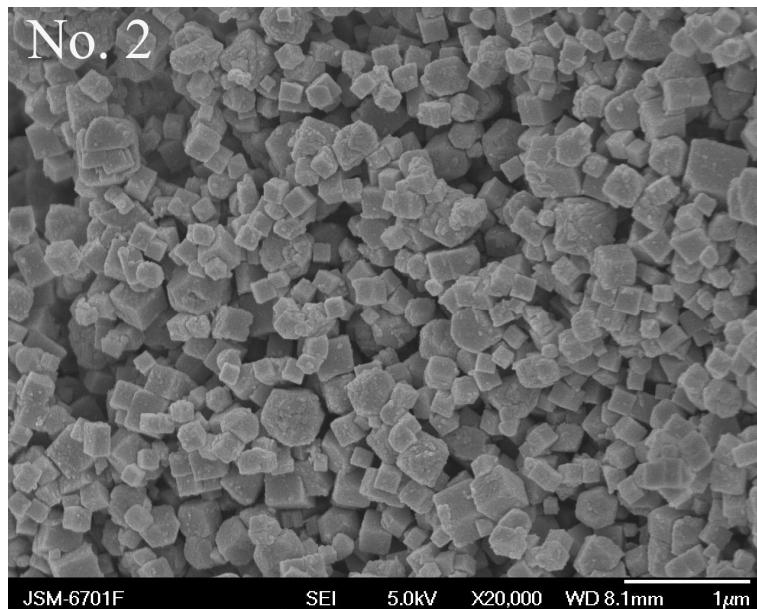


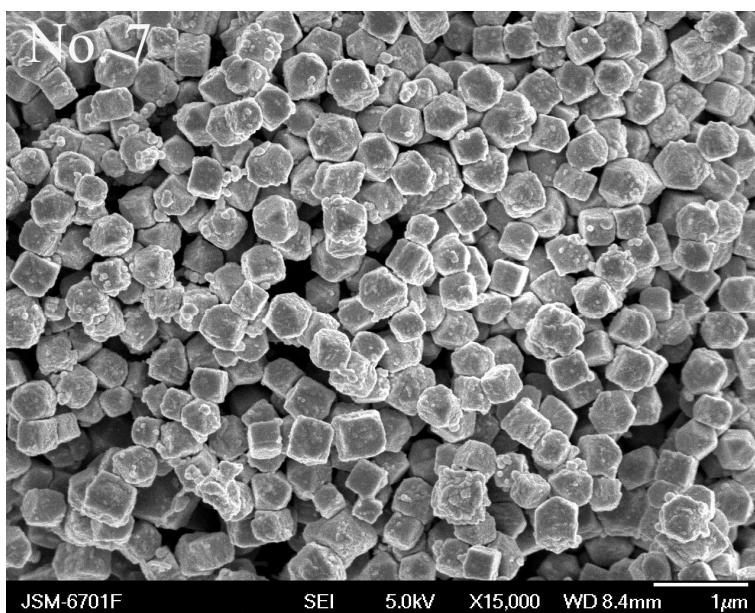
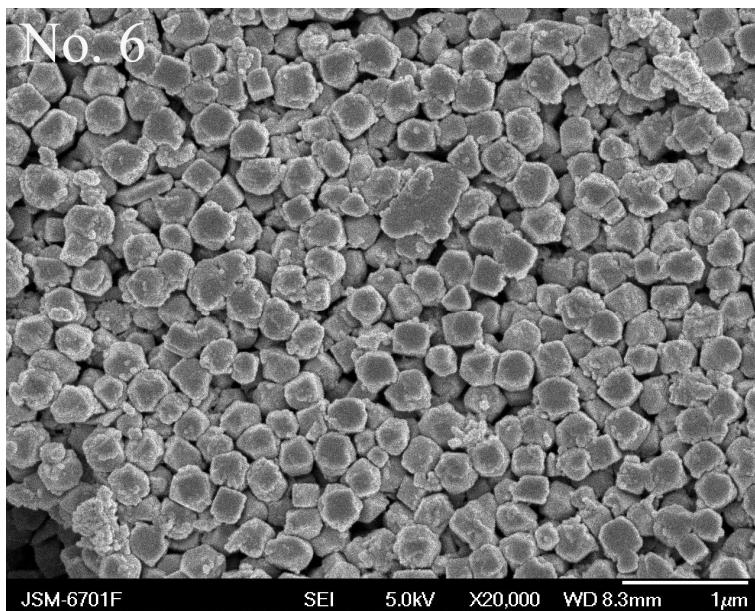
**Fig. S13** FESEM image of the product, PVP=0.2 g, PVA=12 mL, and [NaOH] =0.14 M.

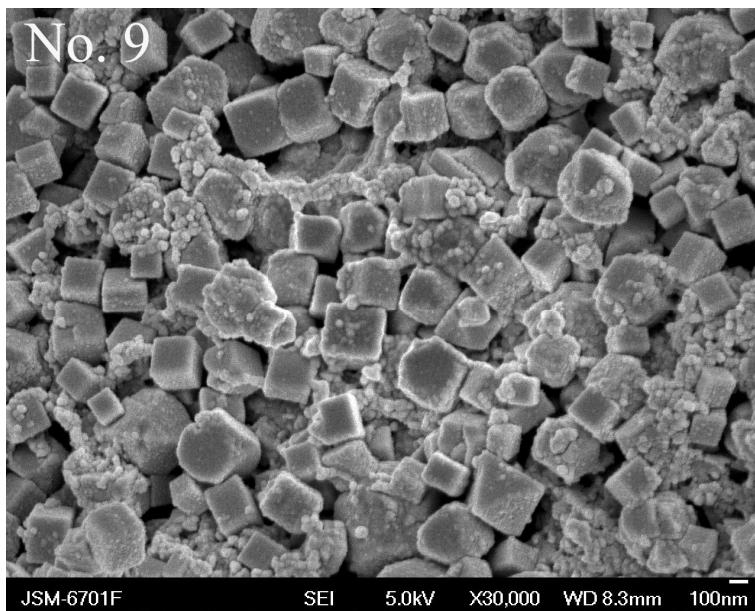
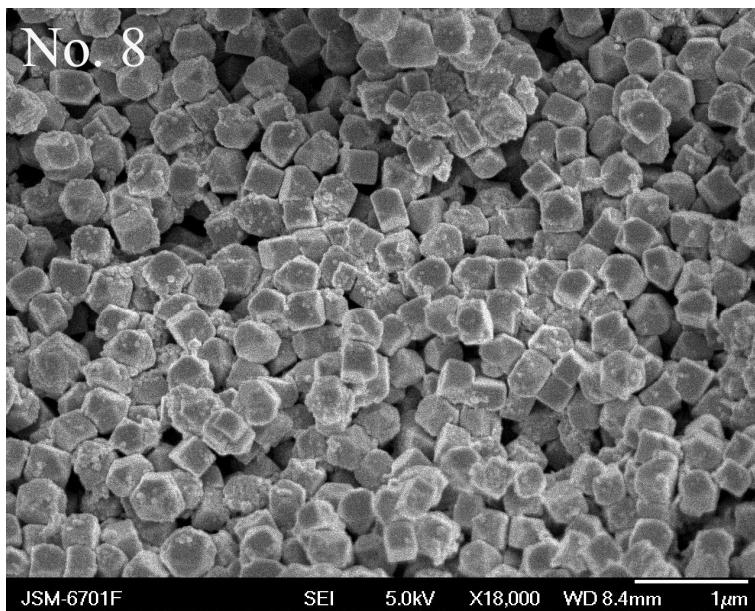
**Table S1** Shapes of the product obtained at 453 K under different NaOH and polymers dosages.

No.	PVA/ mL	PVP/ g	NaOH/ M	Morphologies
1	8	0.2	0.14	octahedrons (a) and irregular particles
2	12	0.2	0.14	octahedrons and polyhedrons (a)
3	10	0.3	0.14	octahedrons (a) and irregular particles
4	10	0.1	0.14	octahedrons with broad size distribution
5	10	0.05	0.14	cubes and irregular particles
6	10	0.1	0.11	cubes and irregular particles (a)
7	8	0.2	0.11	cubes (a) and polyhedrons
8	12	0.2	0.11	cubes (a) and polyhedrons
9	10	0.3	0.11	cubes (a) and irregular particles
10	10	0.2	0.21	cubes and octahedrons
11	8	0.2	0.21	cubes and irregular particles (a)
12	10	0.1	0.21	irregular particles
13	10	0.2	0.12	cubes (a) and cuboctahedron

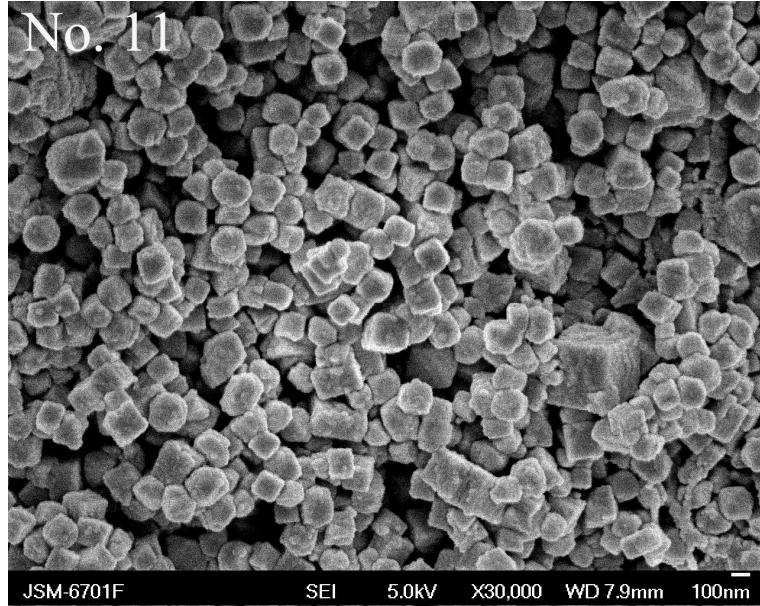
(a): denotes the predominant products.





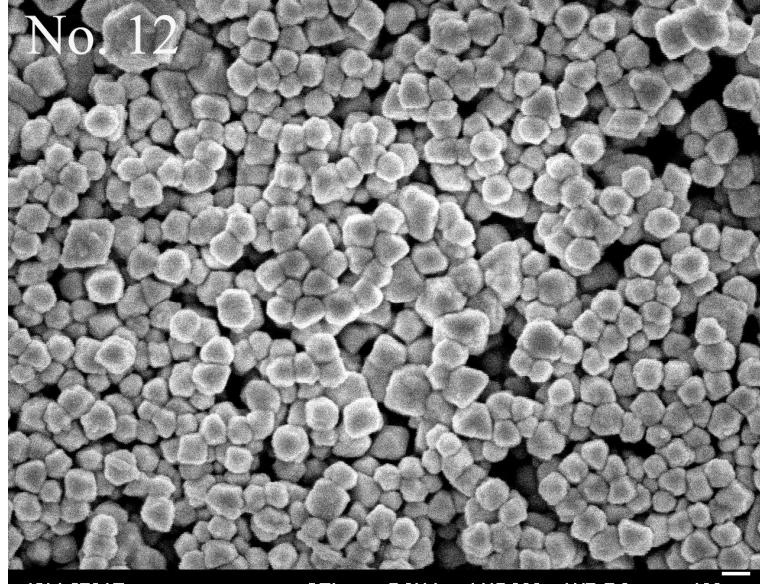


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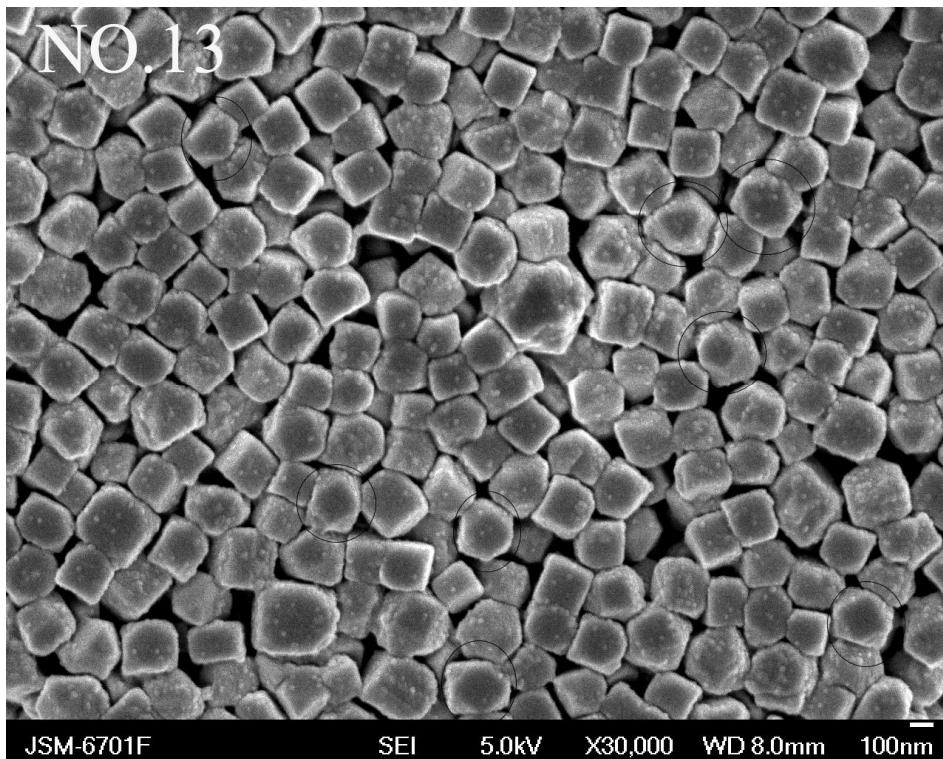


JSM-6701F SEI 5.0kV X30,000 WD 7.9mm 100nm

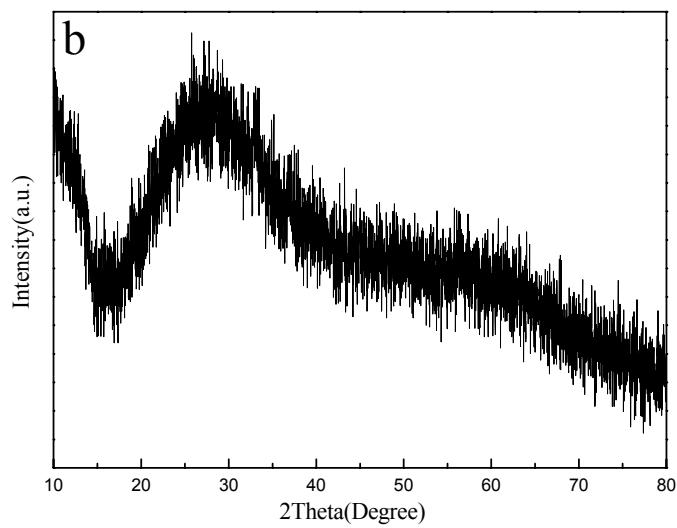
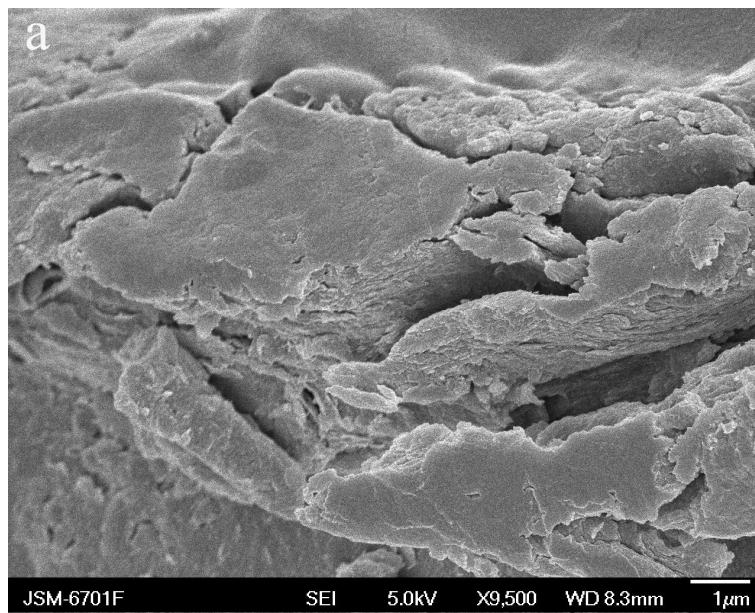
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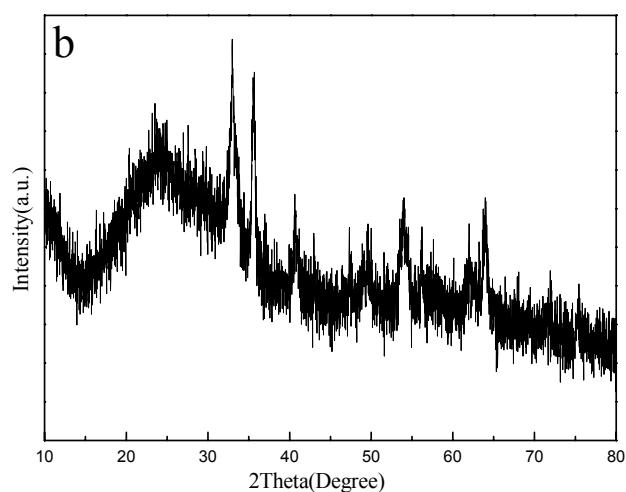
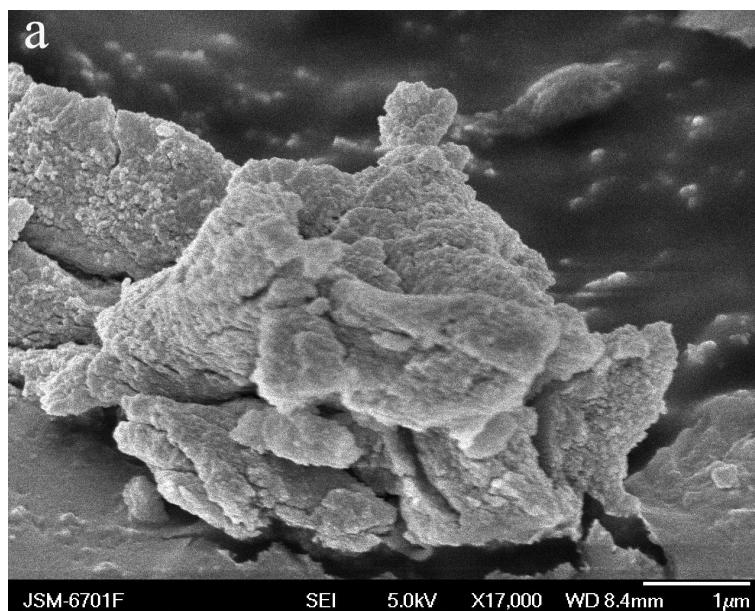
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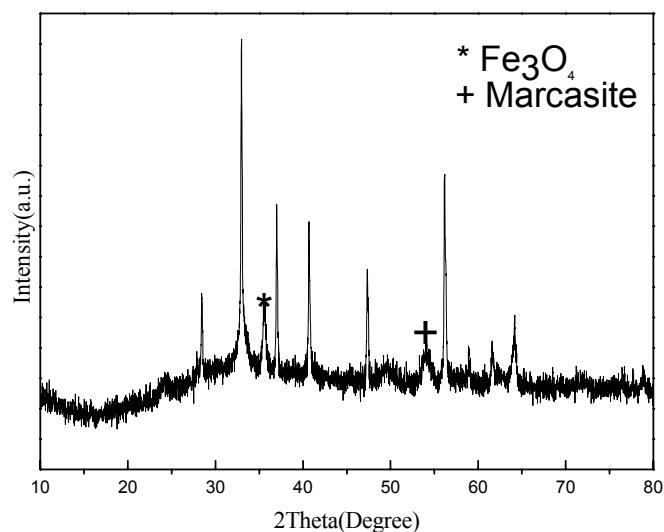
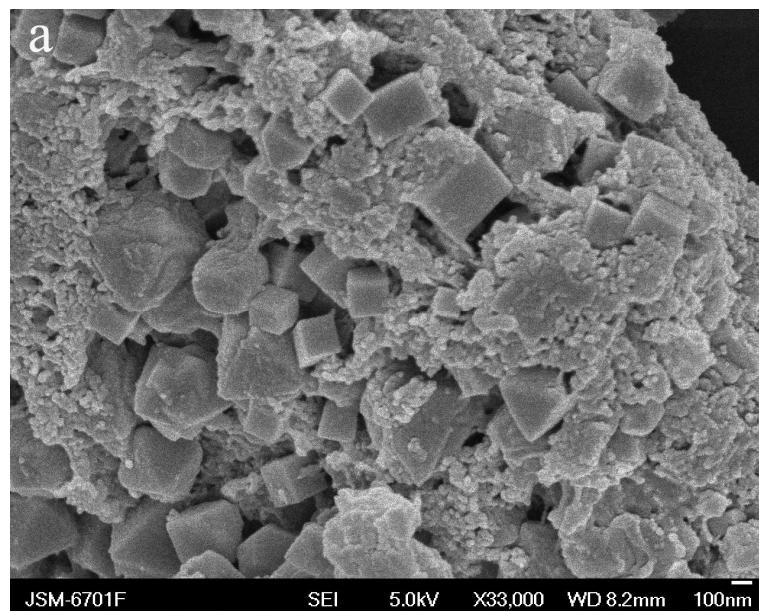
**Note:** some cuboctahedron were marked with a circle, which gave direct evidence that the shape evolution from cube to octahedra.



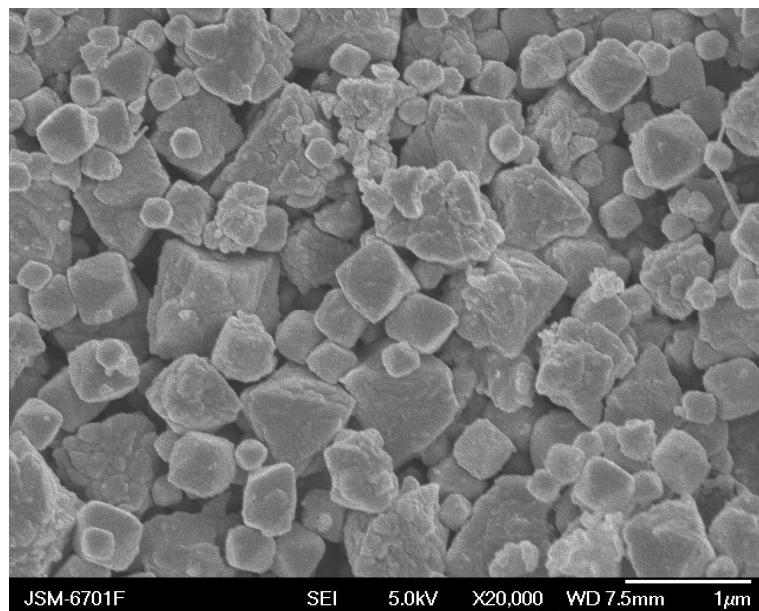
**Fig. S14** FESEM image and XRD pattern of the product, TAA as the sulfur source, PVA=10 mL, PVP=0.20 g, and [NaOH]=0.14 M.



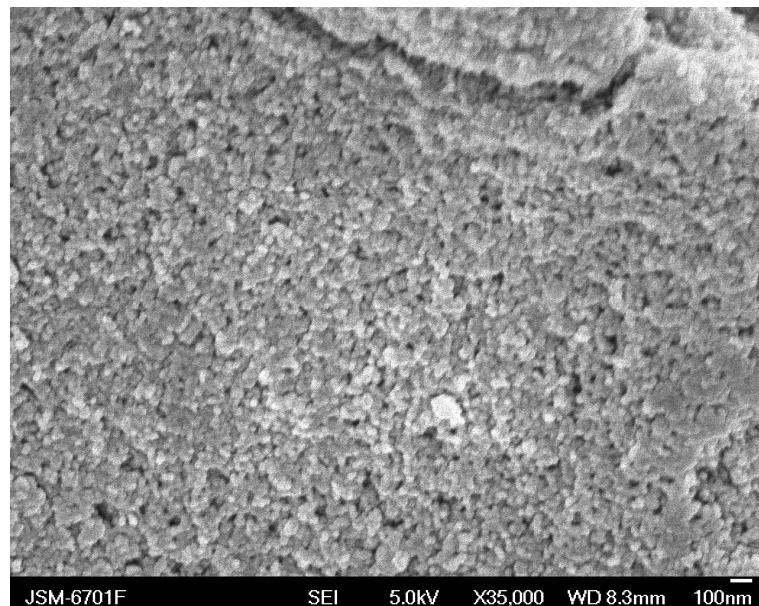
**Fig. S15** FESEM image and XRD pattern of the product, S dosage is 0.10 g, PVA=10 mL, PVP=0.20 g, and  $[NaOH] = 0.14\text{ M}$ .



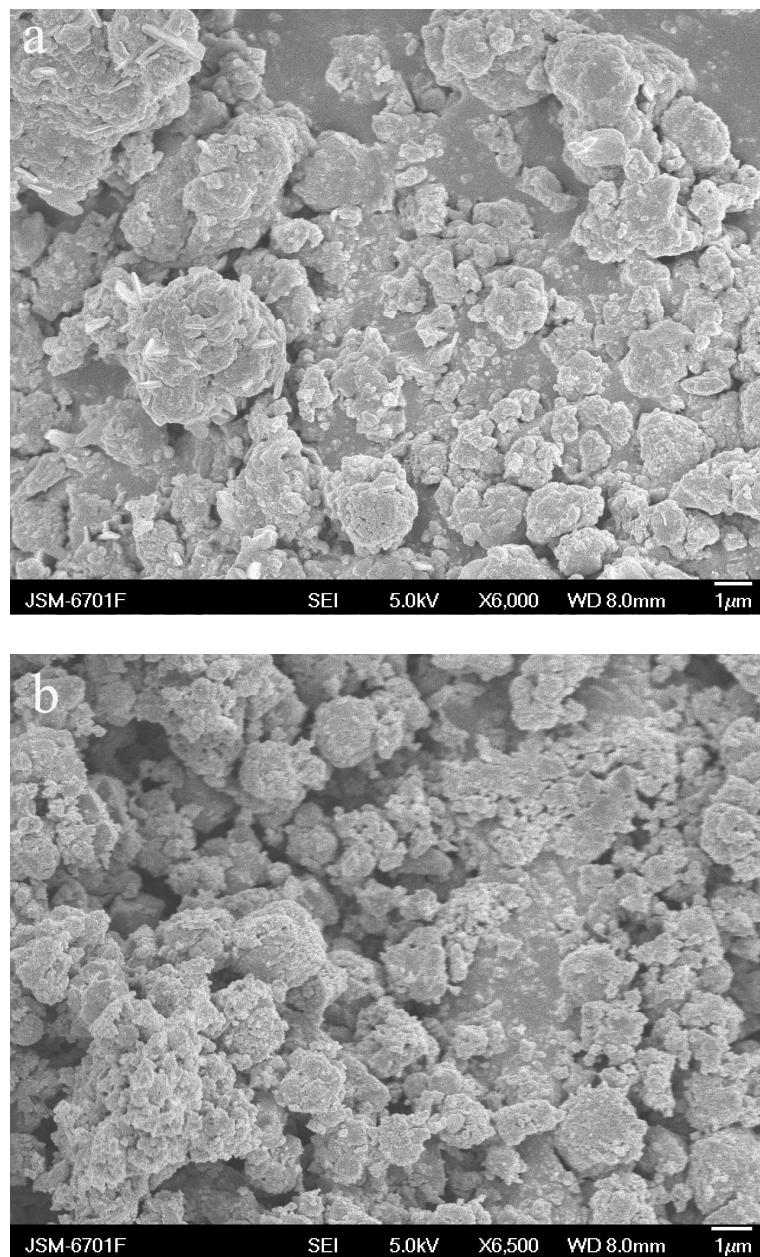
**Fig. S16** FESEM image and XRD pattern of the product, S dosage is 0.16 g, PVA=10 mL, PVP=0.20 g, and  $[\text{NaOH}] = 0.14 \text{ M}$ .



**Fig. S17** FESEM image of the product, PVA=10 mL, PVP=0.2 g and [NaOH] =0.11 M at the temperature of 433 K.



**Fig. S18** FESEM image of the product, PVA=10 mL, PVP=0.20 g, and [NaOH] =0.29 M.



**Fig. S19** FESEM images of the product with employing different surfactants (a) 0.3 g of CTAB, and (b) 0.3 g of SDBS.