

## Supporting Information

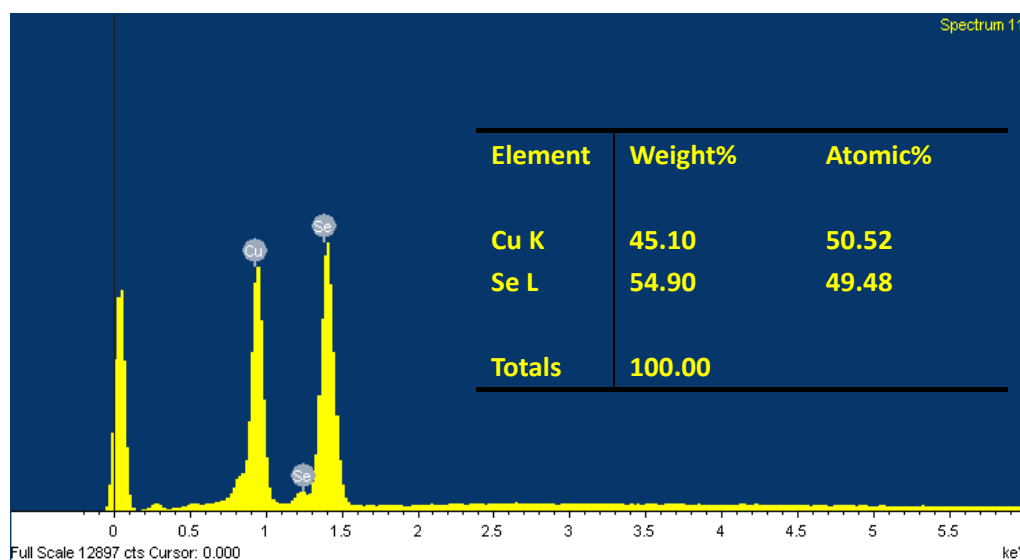
### Hydrothermal synthesis of hexagonal CuSe nanoflakes with sunlight-driven photocatalytic activity

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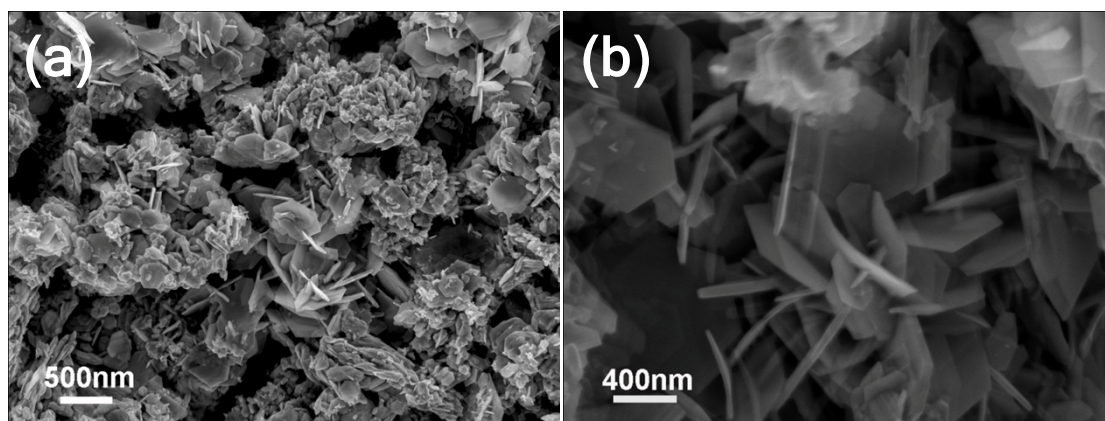
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#### 1 EDS spectrum of the as-synthesized CuSe nanoflakes



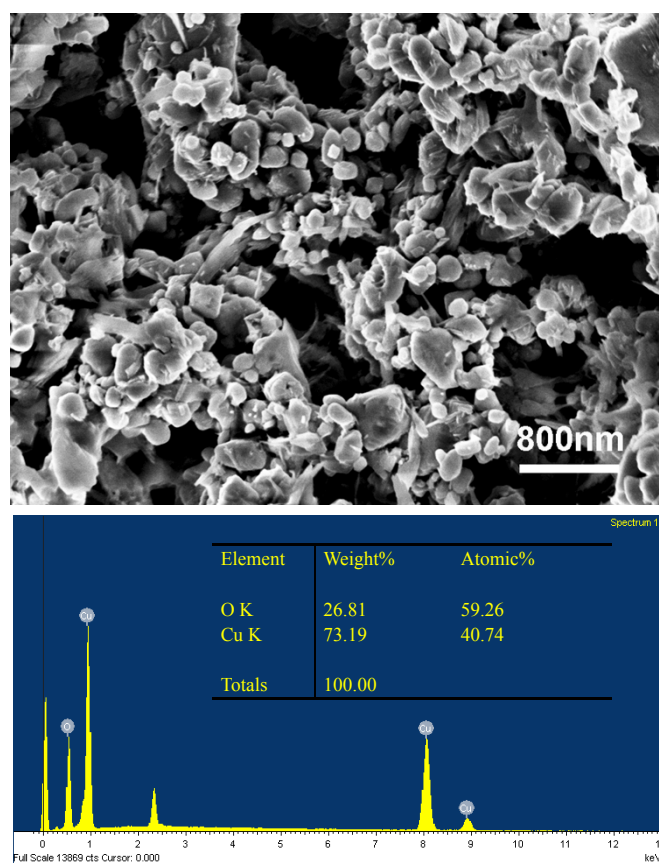
**Fig. S1** EDS spectrum of the as-synthesized CuSe nanoflakes

#### 2 SEM images of CuSe nanostructures synthesized using different Cu<sup>2+</sup> sources

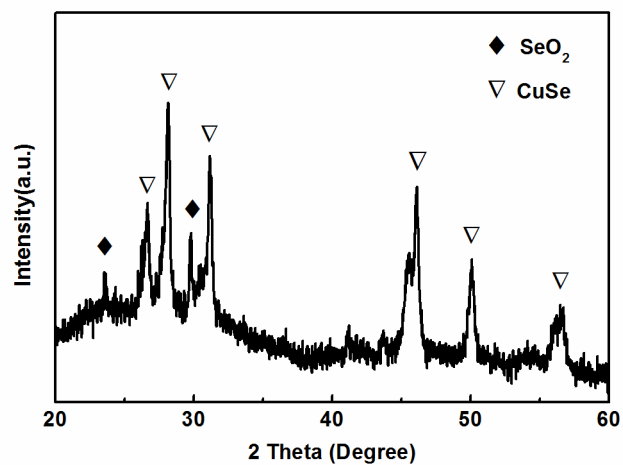


**Fig.S2** SEM images of CuSe nanostructures synthesized using (a)  $\text{CuCl}_2$  and  $\text{Cu}(\text{ac})_2$  as Cu source.

### 3 Characterizations of the intermediate product

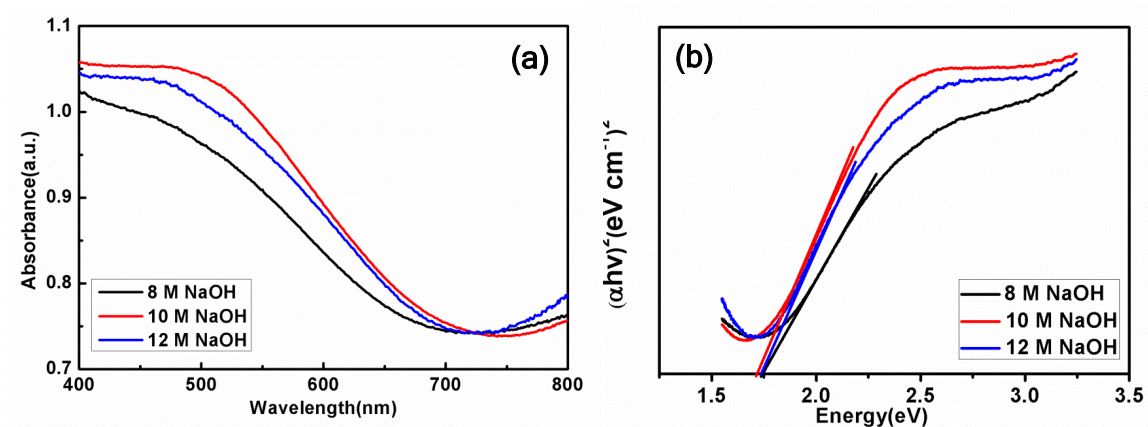


**Fig.S3** SEM image and EDS spectrum of intermediate product obtained by dissolving  $\text{CuCl}$  into concentrated  $\text{NaOH}$  solution without adding Se.

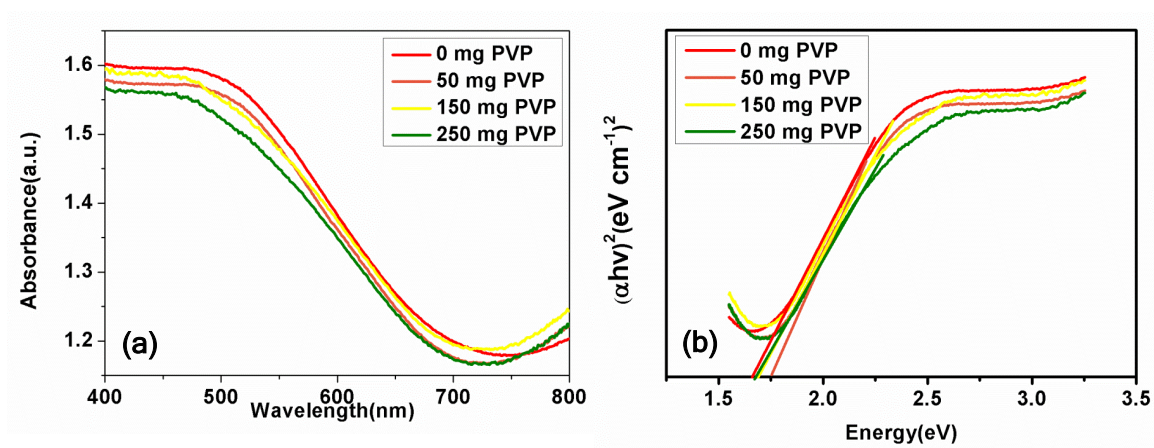


**Fig.S4** XRD spectrum of the intermediate product obtained by dissolving CuCl and Se into concentrated NaOH solution before hydrothermal treatments.

#### 4 Optical properties of CuSe nanostructures synthesized by different NaOH concentrations and PVP.

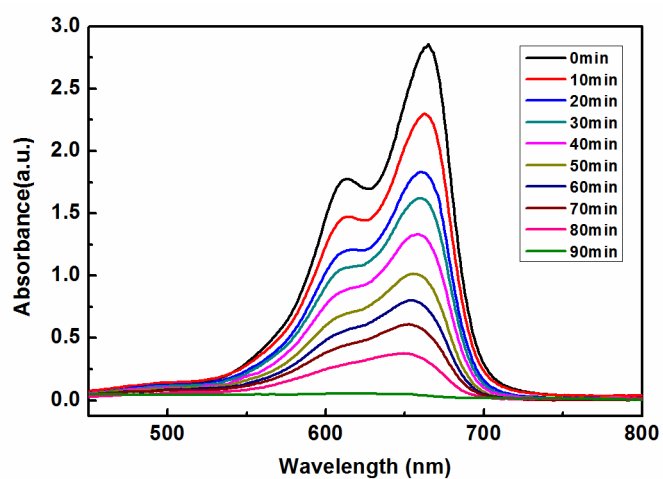


**Fig. S5** (a) UV-vis absorption spectrum and (b) plotted curve of  $(\alpha h\nu)^2$  against  $(h\nu)$  of the hexagonal CuSe nanoflakes with different NaOH concentrations.



**Fig. S6** (a) UV-vis absorption spectra and (b) plotted curve of  $(\alpha h\nu)^2$  against  $(h\nu)$  of the hexagonal CuSe nanoflakes using different PVP.

## 6 The photocatalytic degradations of MB solution in the dark.



**Fig. S7** UV-visible absorption spectra of MB aqueous solution in the presence of hexagonal CuSe nanoflakes and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> in the dark.