

## Supporting Information

### Surface Passivation Enabled-Structural Engineering of I-III-VI<sub>2</sub> Nanocrystal Photocatalyst

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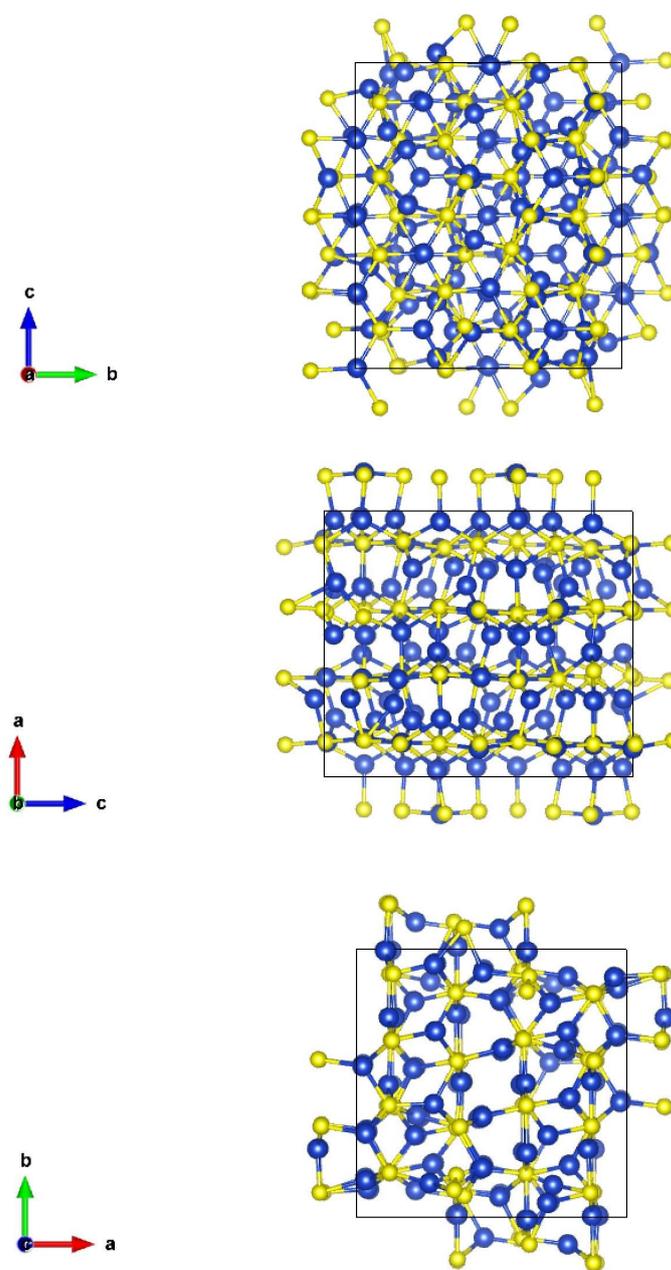
**Table S1.** The elemental composition of the samples obtained from In<sup>3+</sup>-for-Cu<sup>+</sup> cation exchange in Cu<sub>7</sub>S<sub>4</sub> NCs under different reaction conditions. Determined by EDS analysis except otherwise specified.

Sample	Cu (atomic %)	In (atomic %)	S (atomic %)	Cu : In : S (molar ratio)
Pristine NCs <sup>a</sup>	63.6	0	36.4	3.49:///2.00
In:Cu = 4:1	63.21	0	36.78	3.44:///2.00
In:Cu = 2:1	23.23	27.02	48.25	0.96:1.12:2.00
In:Cu = 1:1	26.67	25.26	48.06	1.11:1.05:2.00
In:Cu = 0.5:1	36.43	19.47	44.10	1.65:0.88:2.00
In:Cu = 0.5:1 <sup>b</sup>	27.46	24.04	48.49	1.13:0.99:2.00
In:Cu = 2:1, 0 min, 1 mL of 1-DDT	52.85	7.25	39.90	2.65:0.36:2.00
In:Cu = 2:1, 0 min, 1 mL of t-DDT	26.75	24.98	48.27	1.11:1.04:2.00
In:Cu = 1:1, 5 min, 50 μL of 1-DDT	26.10	25.54	48.36	1.08:1.06:2.00

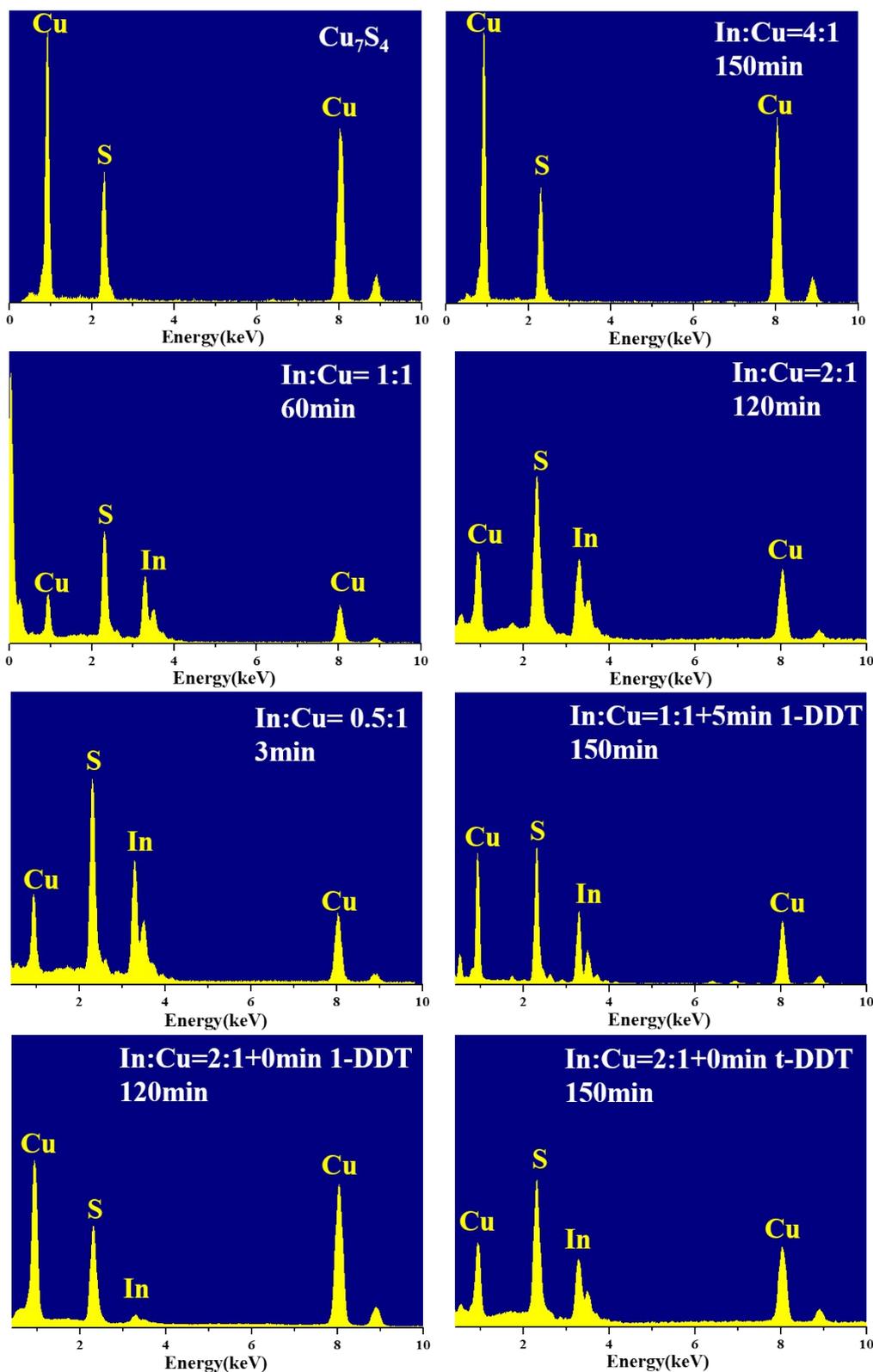
- a. The data are cited from our previous publication (ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces 2019, 11, 27170).
- b. The data were obtained by XPS elemental analysis.

**Table S2.** The elemental composition of the samples obtained from In<sup>3+</sup>-for-Cu<sup>+</sup> cation exchange in Cu<sub>7</sub>S<sub>4</sub> or Cu<sub>2</sub>S NCs (with In<sup>3+</sup> to Cu<sup>+</sup> ratio controlled at 2:1) under different reaction times. Determined by EDS analysis.

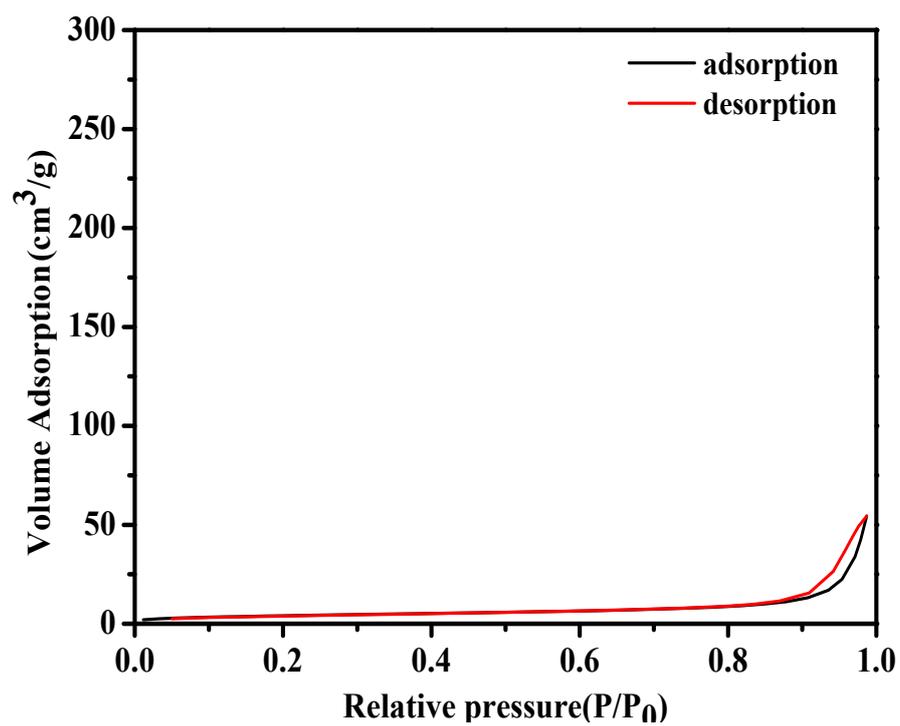
Sample	Cu (atomic %)	In (atomic %)	S (atomic %)	Cu : In : S (molar ratio)
Cu <sub>2</sub> S 30min	55.58	2.99	41.43	2.68:0.14:2.00
Cu <sub>7</sub> S <sub>4</sub> 30min	54.09	3.53	42.37	2.55:0.17:2.00
Cu <sub>2</sub> S 90min	38.16	19.17	42.66	1.79:0.90:2.00
Cu <sub>7</sub> S <sub>4</sub> 90min	27.57	22.73	49.69	1.11:0.91:2.00



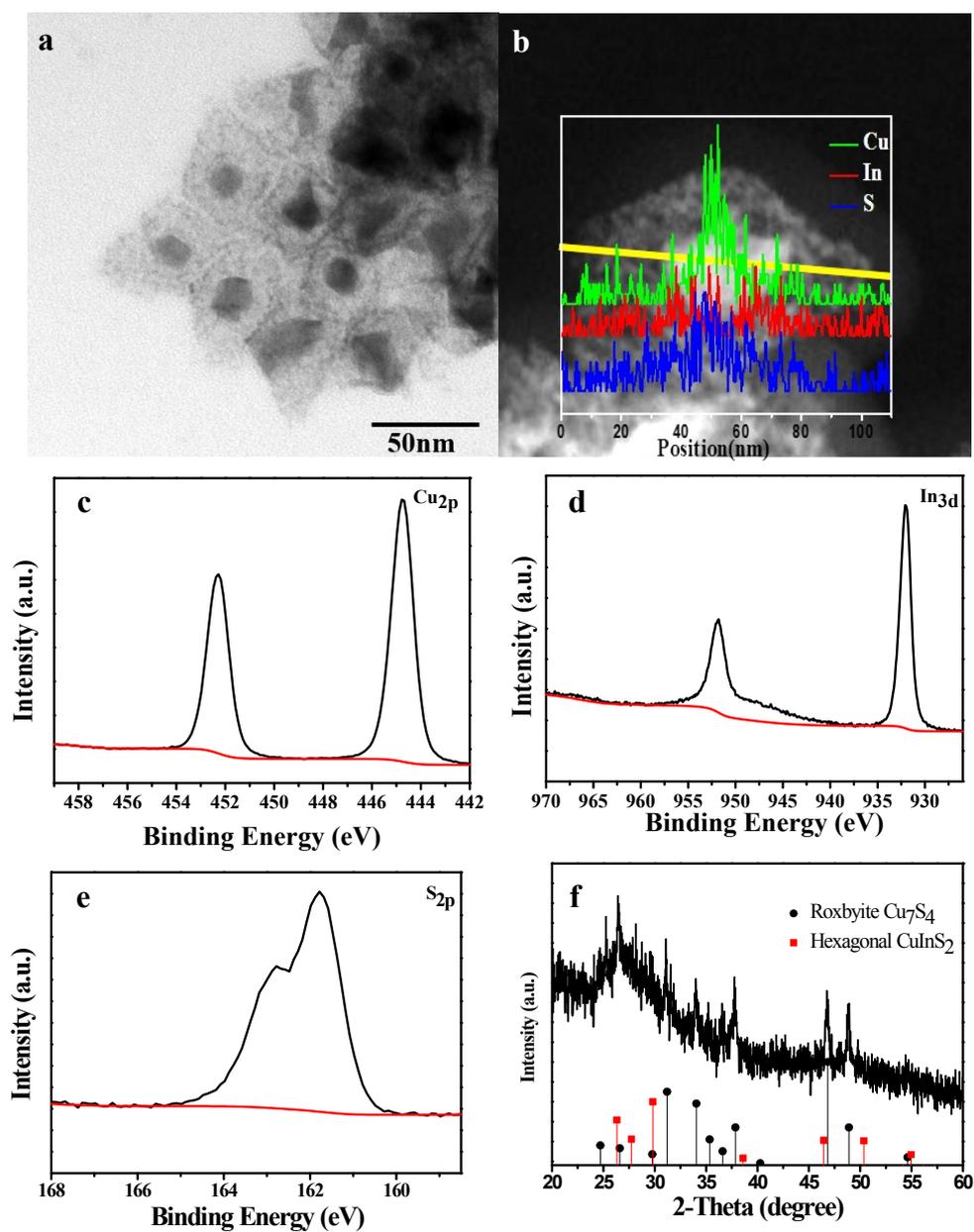
**Figure S1.** Schematic representation of the crystal structure of  $\text{Cu}_7\text{S}_4$  viewed along the  $a$ -axis,  $b$ -axis and  $c$ -axis, respectively. Drawn by VESTA.



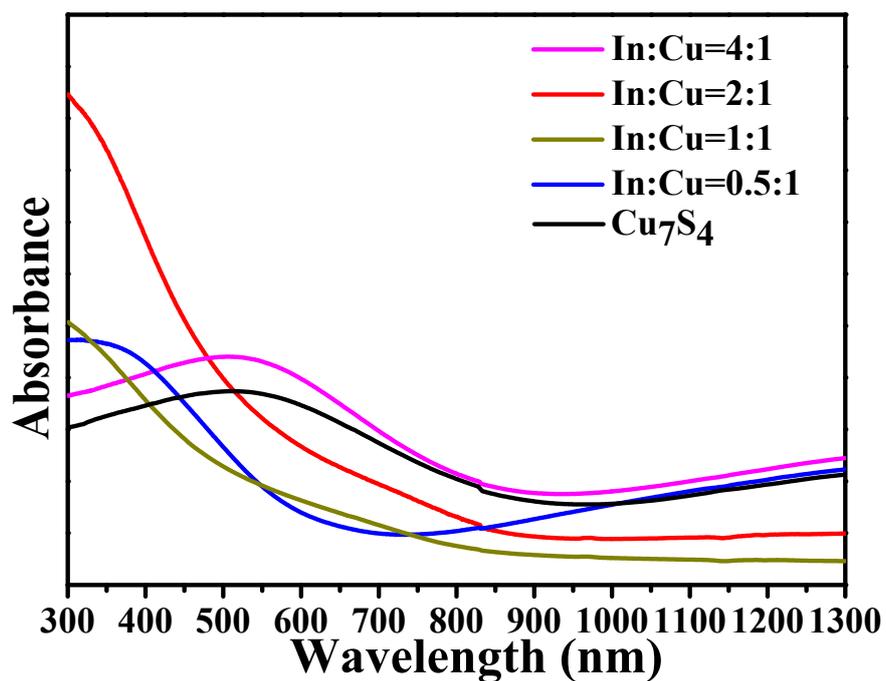
**Figure S2.** The EDS spectra of the pristine  $\text{Cu}_7\text{S}_4$  NCs and the products derived from  $\text{In}^{3+}$ -for- $\text{Cu}^+$  cation exchange in  $\text{Cu}_7\text{S}_4$  NCs under different reaction conditions. The spectra were collected over a transmission electron microscope (FEI Tecnai G2 F20 S-Twin, an acceleration voltage of 200kV) equipped with an X-ray energy-dispersive spectroscopy detector.



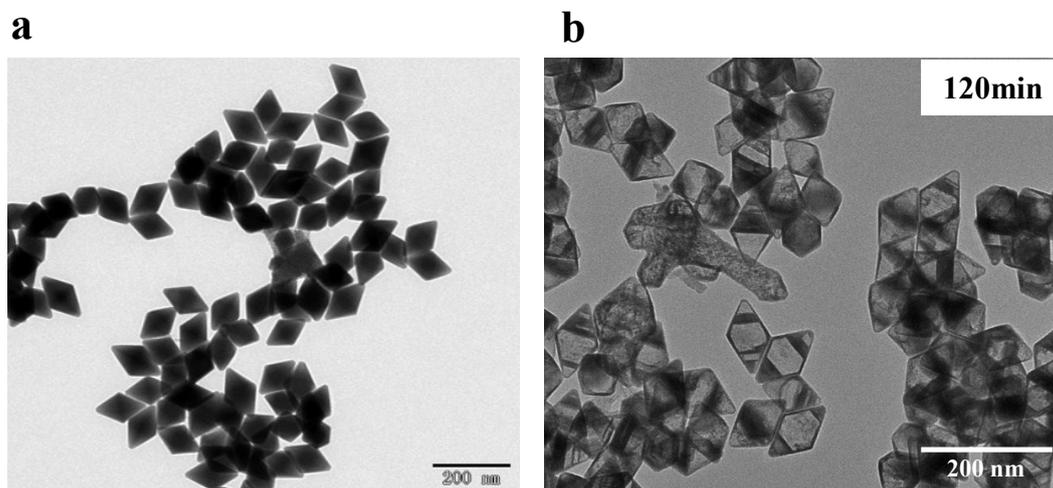
**Figure S3.** The N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms of pristine Cu<sub>7</sub>S<sub>4</sub> NCs.



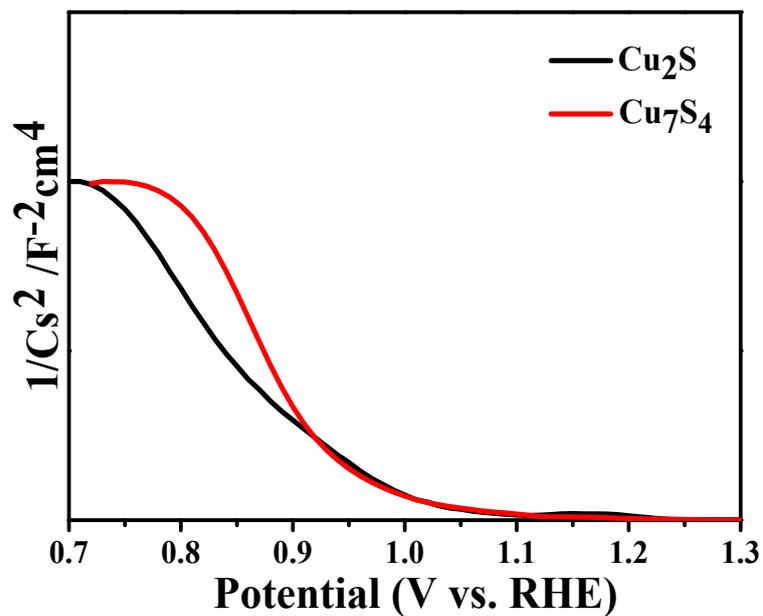
**Figure S4.** (a) The TEM image, (b) HAADF-STEM image (inset: the corresponding EDS line-scan profiles), (c-e) XPS spectra and (f) XRD pattern of the product derived from  $\text{In}^{3+}$ -for- $\text{Cu}^+$  cation exchange in  $\text{Cu}_7\text{S}_4$  NCs with the  $\text{In}^{3+}$  to  $\text{Cu}^+$  ratio controlled at 0.5:1.



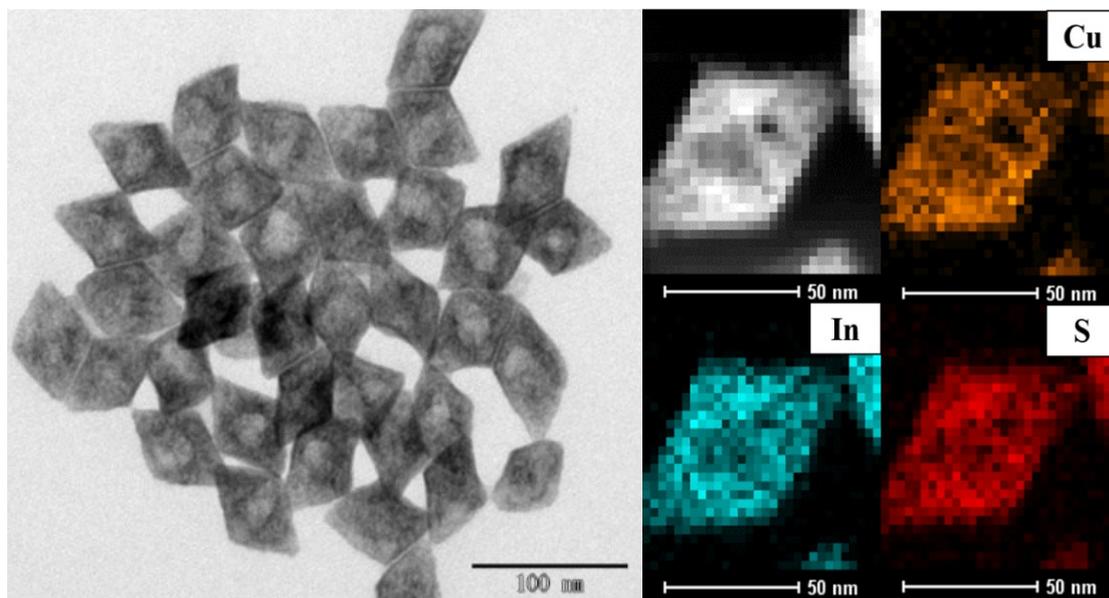
**Figure S5.** The UV-vis-NIR absorption spectra of  $\text{Cu}_7\text{S}_4$  NCs and the products derived from  $\text{In}^{3+}$ -for- $\text{Cu}^+$  cation exchange in  $\text{Cu}_7\text{S}_4$  NCs under different reaction conditions.



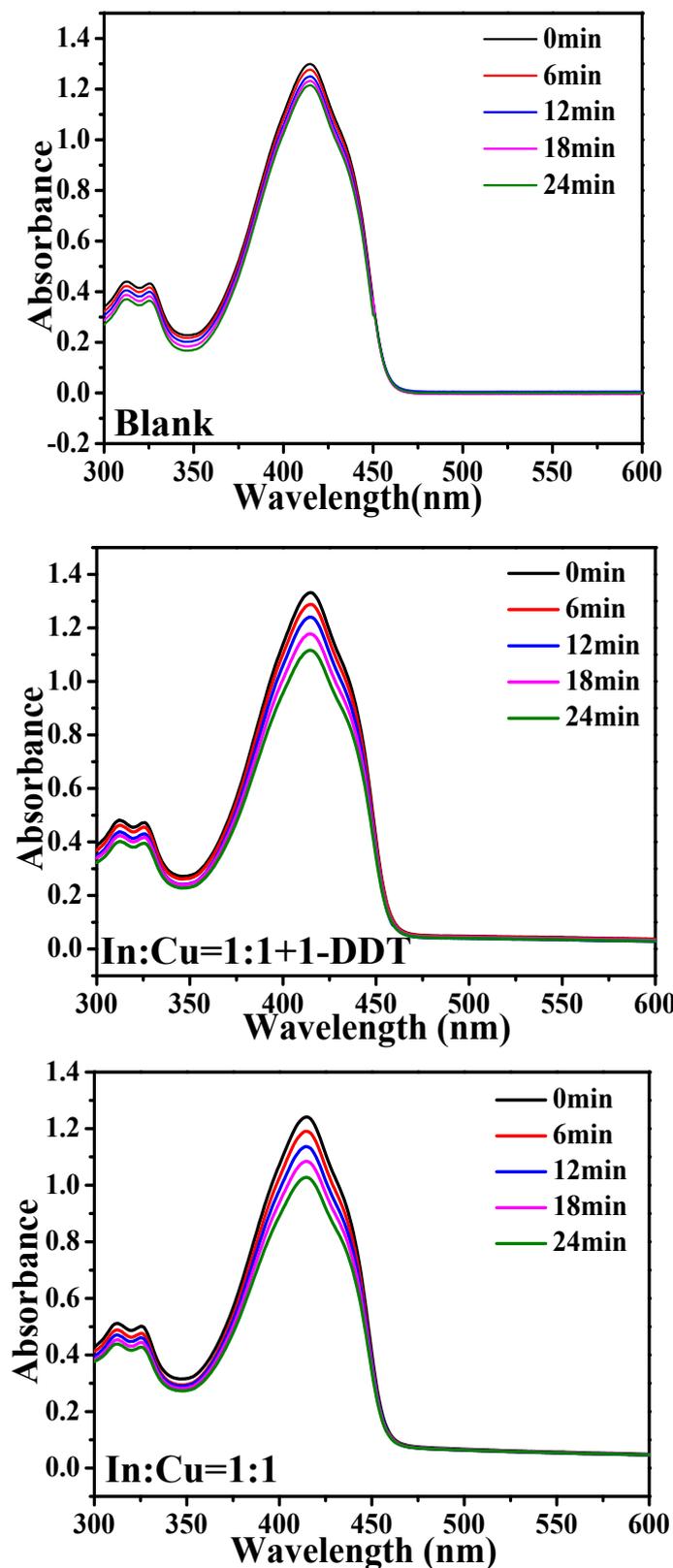
**Figure S6.** The TEM images of (a) pristine  $\text{Cu}_2\text{S}$  NCs and (b) the product (120 min) derived from  $\text{In}^{3+}$ -for- $\text{Cu}^+$  cation exchange in  $\text{Cu}_2\text{S}$  NCs with the  $\text{In}^{3+}$  to  $\text{Cu}^+$  ratio controlled at 2:1.



**Figure S7.** The Mott-Schottky curves of  $\text{Cu}_7\text{S}_4$  and  $\text{Cu}_2\text{S}$  NCs.



**Figure S8.** The TEM image, HAADF-STEM image and the corresponding STEM-EDS elemental maps for the product derived from  $\text{In}^{3+}$ -for- $\text{Cu}^+$  cation exchange in  $\text{Cu}_7\text{S}_4$  NCs under the condition where the  $\text{In}^{3+}$  to  $\text{Cu}^+$  ratio was controlled at 1:1 with the addition of 50  $\mu\text{L}$  of 1-DDT into the system 5 min after initiation of the reaction.



**Figure S9.** Normalized absorbance of the DPBF in the absence (blank) or presence of different  $\text{CuInS}_2$  NCs that are obtained under varied reaction conditions. The decomposing of DPBF experiments were carried out under Xe lamp with 600 nm cutoff filter.