

1

## Supporting Information

### 2 Photoresponsive CuS@Polyaniline nanocomposites: An excellent synthetic 3 bactericide against several multidrug-resistant pathogenic strains

4 Basit Ali Shah<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Asma Sardar<sup>2</sup>, Weiliang Peng<sup>1</sup>, Syed Taj Ud Din<sup>3</sup>, Syed Hamayoun<sup>4</sup>,  
5 Shaobo Li<sup>1</sup>, Bin Yuan<sup>1,5</sup>

6

7 <sup>1</sup>School of Materials Science & Engineering, South China University of Technology (SCUT)  
8 Guangzhou 510640, People's Republic of China

9 <sup>2</sup>Department of Chemistry Hazara University Mansehra, Pakistan

10 <sup>3</sup>Department of Physics, Dongguk University, Seoul 04620, Korea

11 <sup>4</sup>Faculty of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Sciences, Department of Pathology, The University  
12 of Agriculture, Peshawar 25130, Pakistan

13 <sup>5</sup>GuangDong Engineering Technology Research Center of Advanced Energy Storage Materials,  
14 Guangzhou 510640, P. R. China

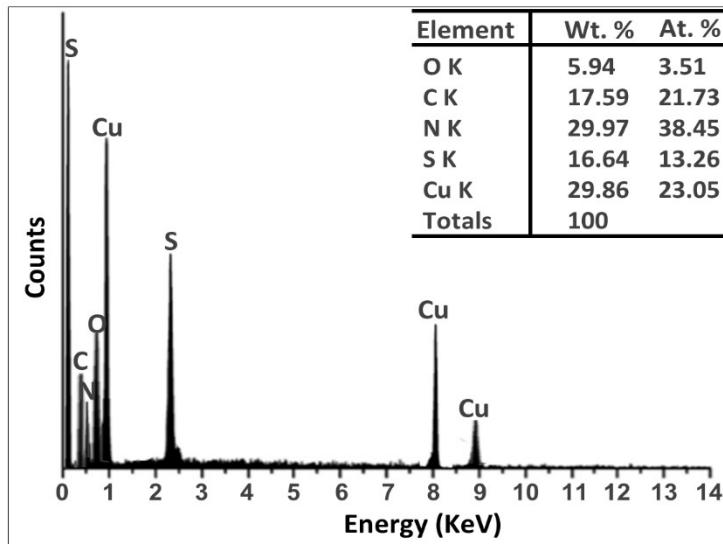
15

16

17 \*Corresponding author: [basitalimrz@gmail.com](mailto:basitalimrz@gmail.com) or [apsheng@scut.edu.cn](mailto:apsheng@scut.edu.cn)

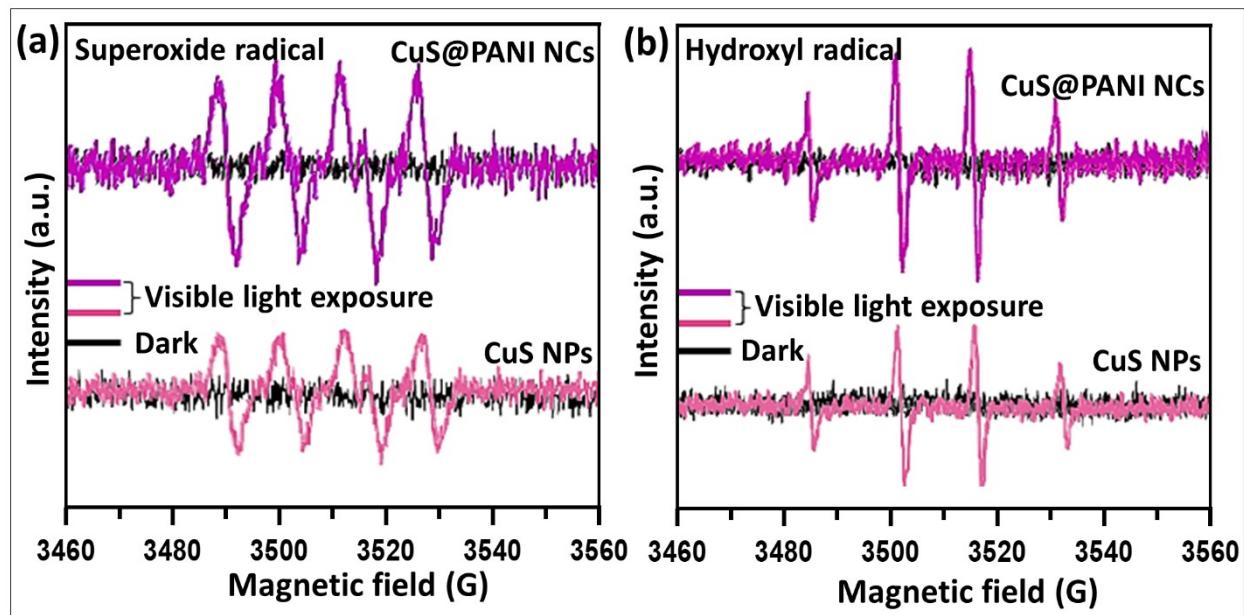
18

19



1

2 Figure S1 EDS spectrum with inset table of atomic/weight elemental percentages of the CuS@PANI NCs



3

4 Figure S2 ESR spectra of (a) DMPO- $\cdot\text{O}_2^-$  and (b) DMPO- $\text{OH}^\bullet$  for CuS and CuS@PANI samples under Dark  
5 conditions and 20 min of visible light irradiations

6

7 Table S1 The relative bactericidal effectiveness of the as-prepared CuS@PANI NCs with reported literatures

Materials	MIC ( $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{mL}^{-1}$ )	Effectiveness	Pathogens
MoS <sub>2</sub> @Polydopamine-Ag <sup>86</sup>	125	> 95 %	<i>S. aureus, E. coli</i>
PEG@CuS/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> <sup>1</sup>	200	> 95 %	<i>S. aureus, E. coli</i>
Polydopamine@SnS/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> <sup>38</sup>	45	> 90 %	<i>A. fumigatus, and A. flavus,</i> <i>E. faecalis, P. aeruginosa.</i>
CuS/protonated g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> <sup>37</sup>	40 %	> 98 %e	<i>S. aureus, E. coli</i>
GO-COOH-CuS-5 <sup>74</sup>	---	> 90 %	<i>E. coli, B. subtitle</i>
CuS@Ti <sub>3</sub> C <sub>2</sub> T <sub>x</sub> <sup>2</sup>	500	> 95 %	<i>S. aureus, E. coli</i>
CuS@Corn stalk/chitin <sup>73</sup>	---	Active	<i>S. aureus, E. coli</i>
CuS-BSA <sup>3</sup>	50 ppm	80 %	<i>S. aureus, E. coli</i>
CuS-BSA/Lysozyme <sup>4</sup>	200	Active	<i>B. subtitle, E. coli</i>
CuS@PANI (This work)	30	Active	<i>S. aureus, S. pneumoniae,</i> <i>E. coli, and P. aeruginosa</i>

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

## 1 References

- 2       1 X. Liu, X. Li, Y. Shan, Y. Yin, C. Liu, Z. Lin, S.S. Kumar, CuS nanoparticles anchored to  
3       g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> nanosheets for photothermal ablation of bacteria, RSC Adv., 2020, **10**, 12183–  
4       12191. <https://doi.org/10.1039/d0ra00566e>
- 5       2 Q. Li, W. Wang, H. Feng, L. Cao, H. Wang, D. Wang, S. Chen, NIR-triggered  
6       photocatalytic and photothermal performance for sterilization based on copper sulfide  
7       nanoparticles anchored on Ti<sub>3</sub>C<sub>2</sub>T<sub>x</sub> MXene, J. Colloid Interface Sci., 2021, **604**, 810–822.  
8       <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcis.2021.07.048>
- 9       3 Y. Zhao, Q. Cai, W. Qi, Y. Jia, T. Xiong, Z. Fan, S. Liu, J. Yang, N. Li and B. Chang, BSA-  
10      CuS nanoparticles for photothermal therapy of diabetic wound infection in vivo, Chemistry  
11      Select, 2018, **3**, 9510–9516. <https://doi.org/10.1002/slct.201802069>
- 12      4 A. Swaidan, S. Ghayyem, A. Barras, A. Addad, S. Szunerits and R. Boukherroub, Enhanced  
13      antibacterial activity of CuS-BSA/lysozyme under near infrared light  
14      irradiation, Nanomaterials (Basel), 2021, **11**, 2156. <https://doi.org/10.3390/nano11092156>