

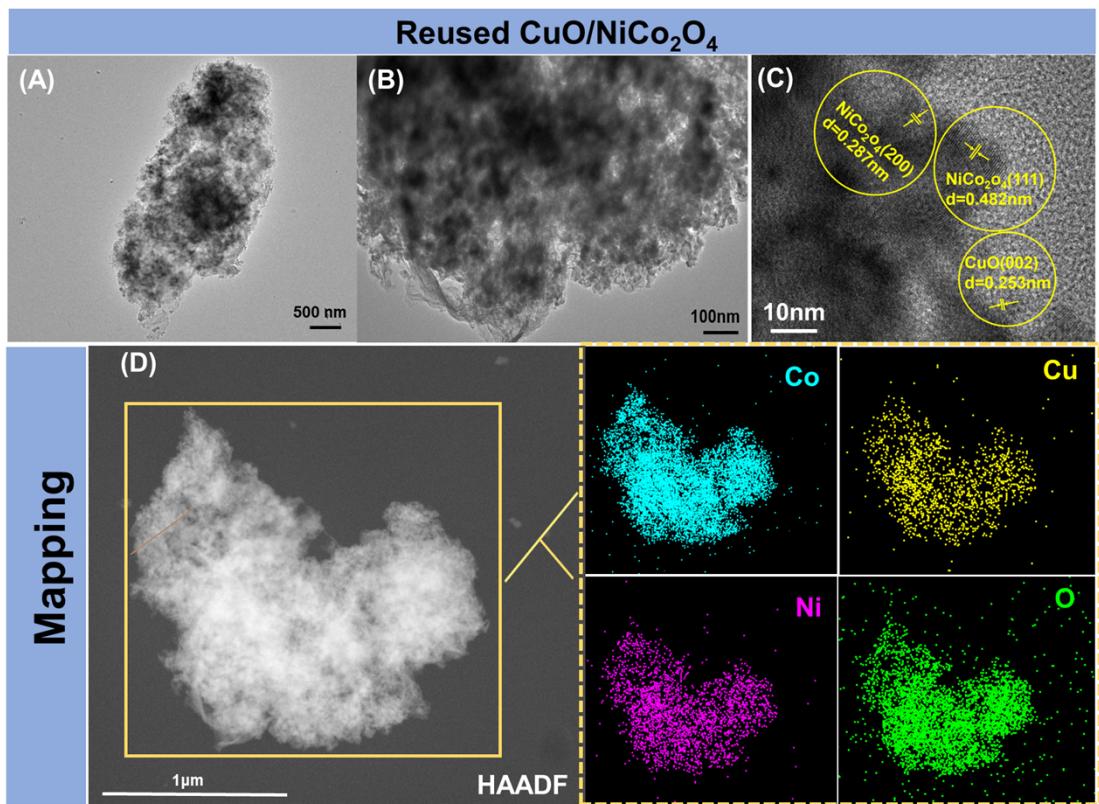
## Support Information

# Bicomponent CuO/NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> Nanocomposites for Dehydrogenation of Ammonia Borane and Tandem Hydrogenation of Halogenated Nitroaromatics

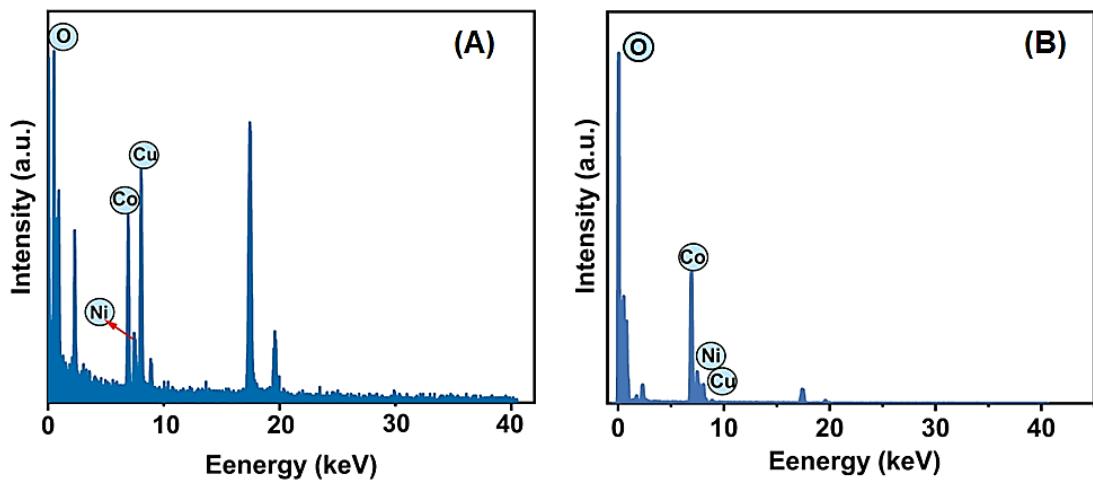
Xusheng Yang<sup>a</sup>, Ping Li<sup>a</sup>, Jiahao Wu<sup>a</sup>, Le Zhou<sup>a</sup>, Bin Xu<sup>a\*\*</sup>, Xiaobin Zhang<sup>b</sup>,  
Xiaoqiang Liu<sup>a</sup>, Pingchuan Pan<sup>b</sup>, Weidong Jiang<sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>†</sup> School of Chemistry and Environmental Engineering, Sichuan University of Science & Engineering,  
Sichuan Zigong 643000, P. R. China;

<sup>¶</sup> Radiation Chemistry Department, Sichuan Institute of Atomic Energy, Sichuan Chengdu 610101, P.  
R. China.



**Fig. S1** TEM images (A-B), HR-TEM image (C), the element mapping (D) of reused CuO/NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>.



**Fig. S2** EDS energy spectra of the fresh CuO/NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (A) and the reused one (B).

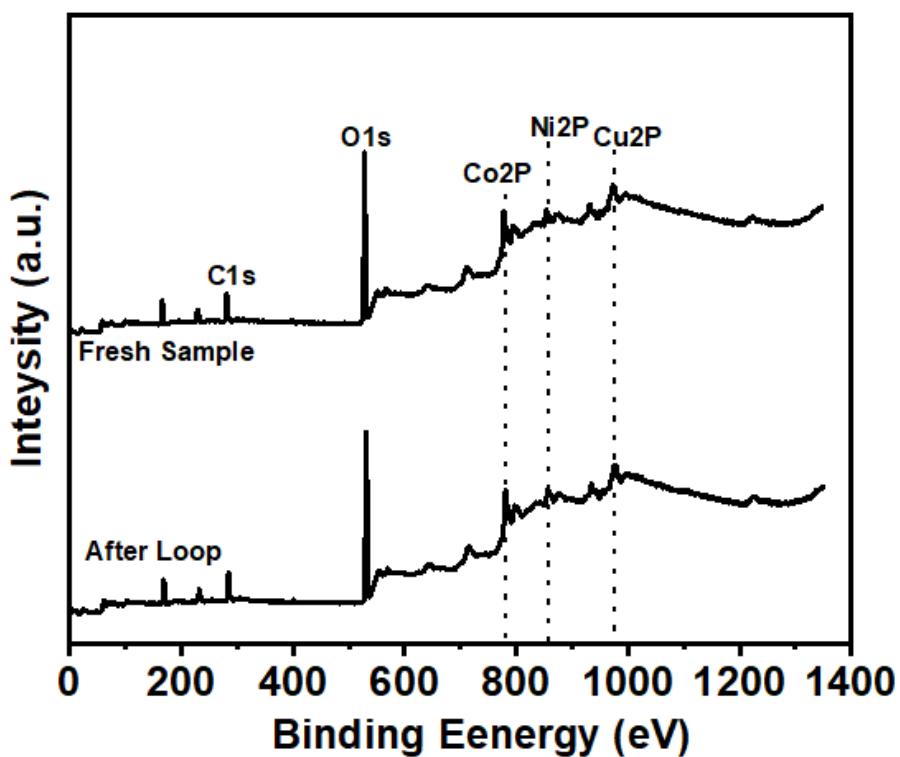
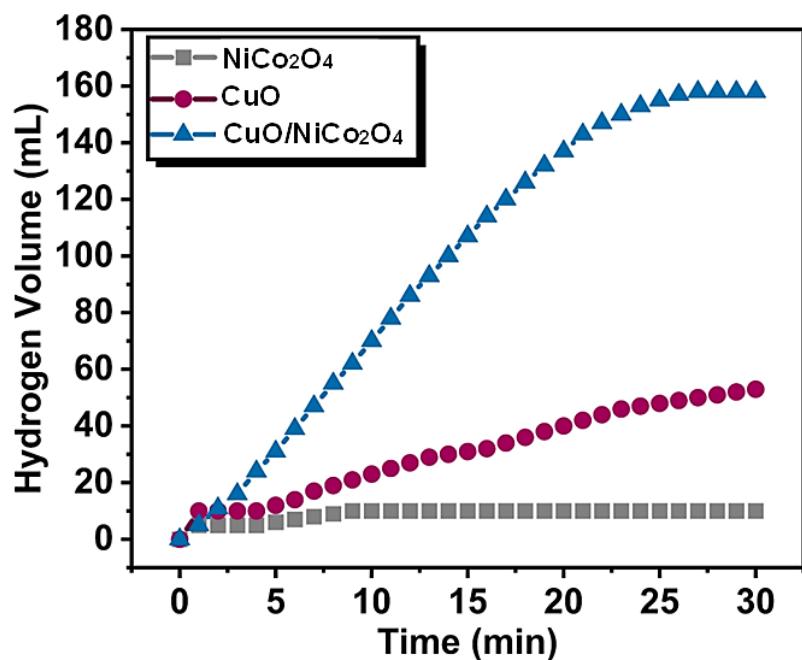
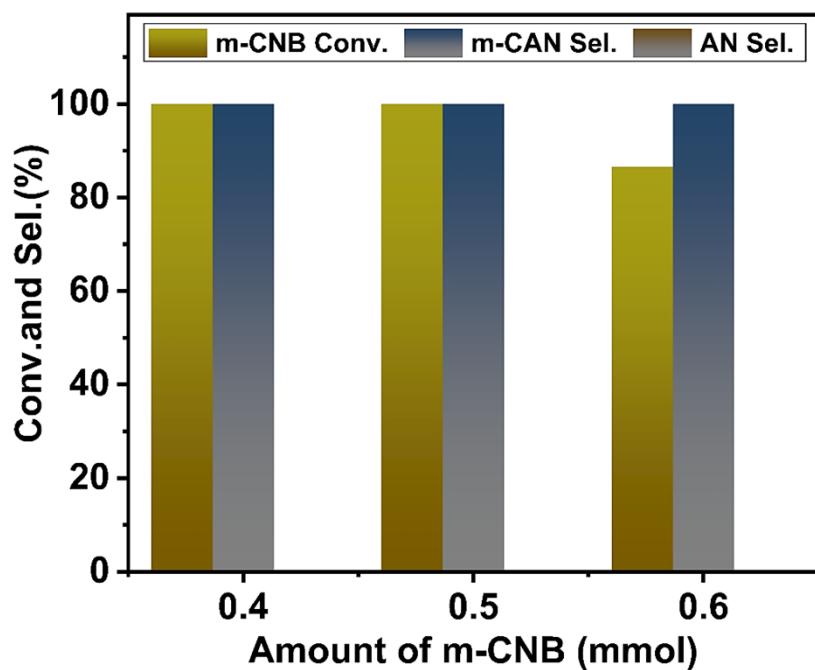


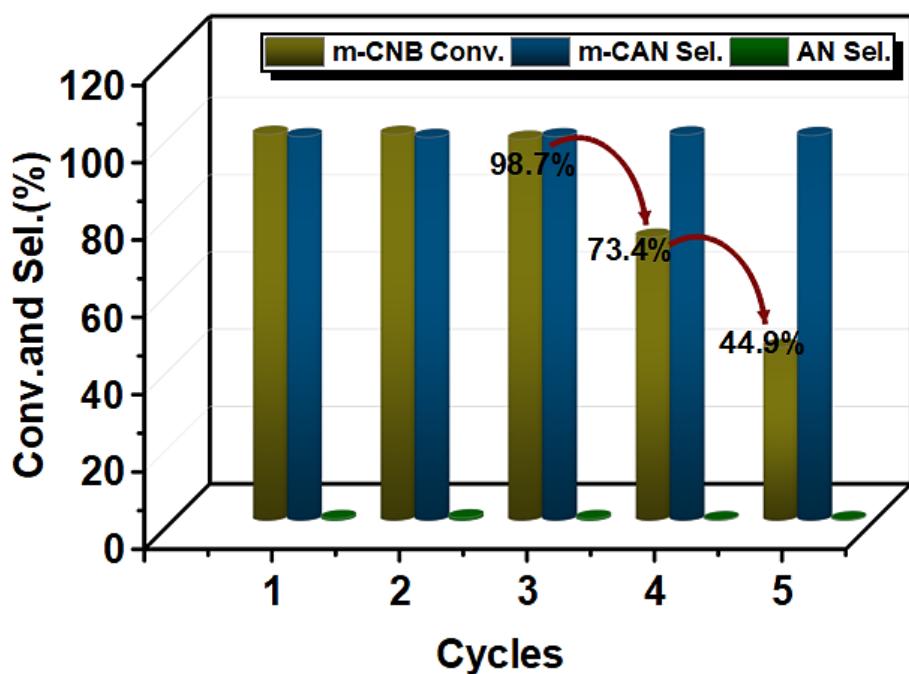
Fig. S3 XPS full spectrum of CuO/NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>.



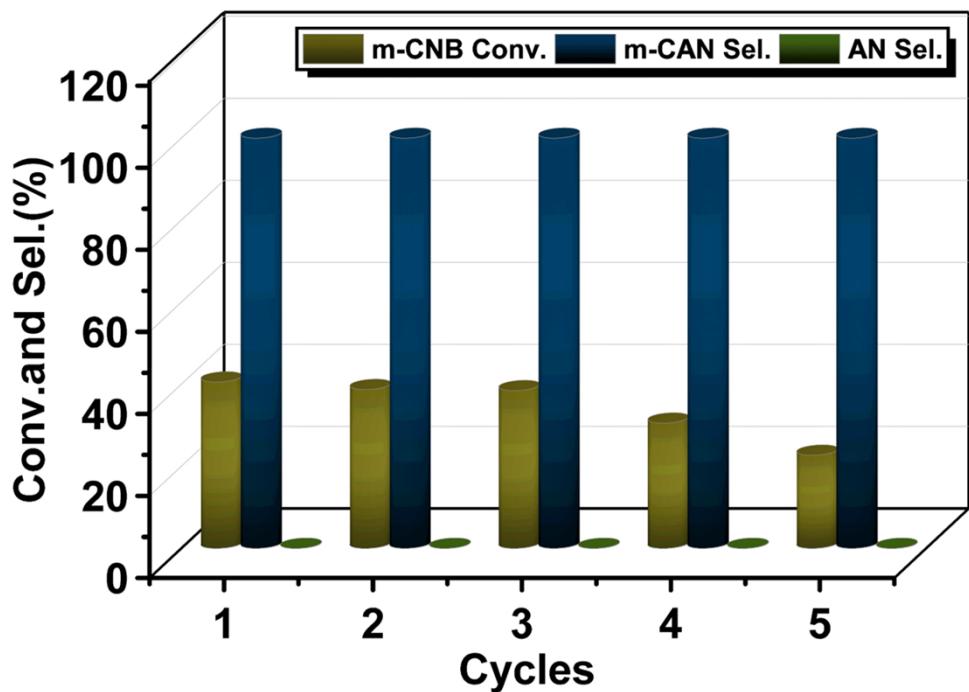
**Fig. S4** Hydrogen production behaviors from AB dehydrogenation catalyzed by CuO/NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and CuO, respectively. Conditions: 25 °C, 30 min, 20 mg Catalyst, 2 mmol AB, 5 mL solvent (CH<sub>3</sub>OH:H<sub>2</sub>O = 3: 2).



**Fig. S5** Effect of the amount of m-CNB on the in situ m-CNB hydrogenation over CuO/NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> in the presence of AB. Conditions: 25°C, 30 min, 20 mg CuO/NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, 2 mmol AB, 5 mL solvent (CH<sub>3</sub>OH:H<sub>2</sub>O = 3: 2).



**Fig. S6** Cyclic experiment of sole CuO. Conditions: 25°C, n<sub>AB</sub>= 2 mmol, n<sub>m-CNB</sub>= 0.5 mmol, m<sub>cat.</sub>= 20 mg, V<sub>solvent</sub>= 5 mL (CH<sub>3</sub>OH : H<sub>2</sub>O = 3:2)



**Fig. S7** Cyclic experiment of  $\text{NiCo}_2\text{O}_4$ . Conditions:  $25^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $n_{\text{AB}} = 2 \text{ mmol}$ ,  $n_{\text{m-CNB}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol}$ ,  $m_{\text{cat.}} = 20 \text{ mg}$ ,  $V_{\text{solvent}} = 5 \text{ mL}$  ( $\text{CH}_3\text{OH} : \text{H}_2\text{O} = 3:2$ )

**Table S1.** Surface compositions of the fresh and reused CuO/NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> sample

Element	Fresh Sample Atomic/%	Reused Sample Atomic/%
O1s	79.98	81.49
Co2p	12.05	11.26
Ni2p	4.48	5.13
Cu2p	3.49	2.12

*Note:* Data listed here are estimated from XPS determination. C 1s atom % is not shown here because it does not belong to bulk catalyst sample.

**Table S2.** Comparison of tandem hydrogenation of m-chloronitrobenzene (m-CNB) catalyzed by different catalysts <sup>a</sup>

Entry	Catalyst	Conv.	Sel.	
			m-CAN	AN
1	<b>NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub></b>	40.7	100	0
2	<b>CuO</b>	99.2	99.7	0.8
3 <sup>b</sup>	<b>NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> + CuO</b>	81.7	100	0
4	<b>CuO/NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub></b>	100	100	0

Reaction conditions: a 25 °C, n<sub>m-CNB</sub> = 0.5 mmol, n<sub>AB</sub> = 2 mmol, m<sub>cat</sub> = 20 mg, 5 mL solvent (CH<sub>3</sub>OH:H<sub>2</sub>O = 3:2); b 25 °C, n<sub>m-CNB</sub> = 0.5 mmol, n<sub>AB</sub> = 2 mmol, m<sub>cat</sub> = 20 mg (NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, 10 mg; CuO, 10 mg), 5 mL solvent (CH<sub>3</sub>OH:H<sub>2</sub>O = 3:2)

**Table S3.** ICP-OES data for fresh and reused CuO/NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> samples.

Entry	Catalyst	Co(wt%)	Ni(wt%)	Cu(wt%)
1	<b>Fresh</b> <b>CuO/NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub></b>	14.6	4.30	35.2
2	<b>Reused</b> <b>CuO/NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub></b>	34.0	18.1	23.7