

## Supplementary Materials

# Mechanistic Insights into the Structure of CoCu Bimetallic Catalysts for CO<sub>2</sub> Hydrogenation to Formate

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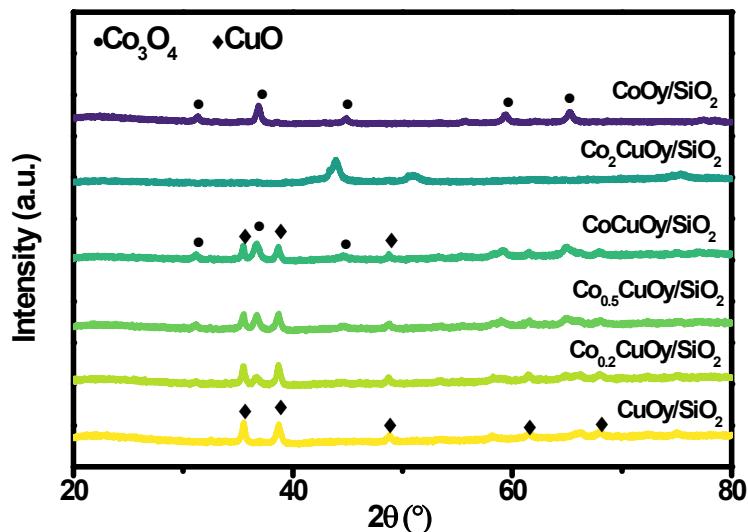
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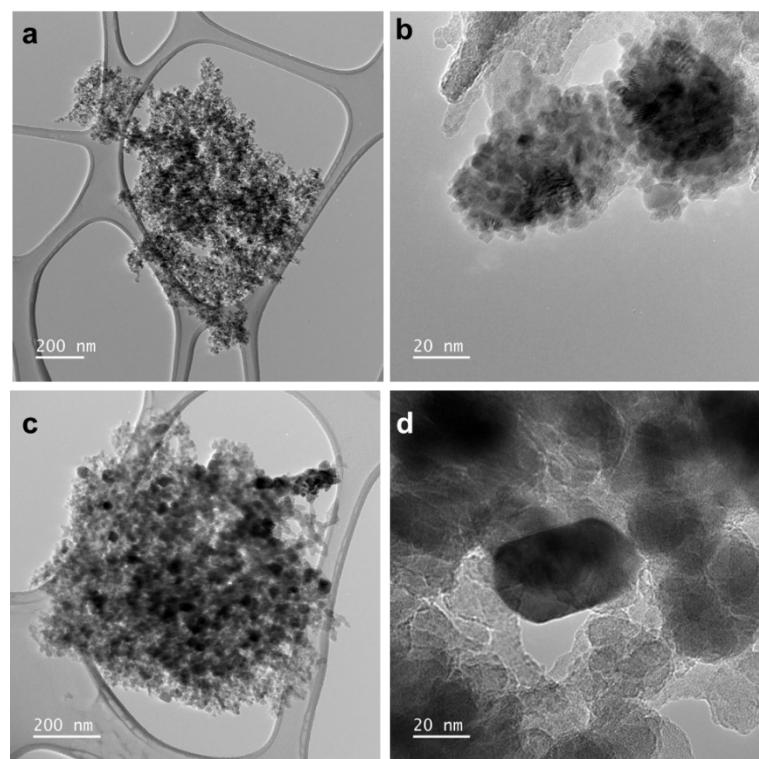
chuwei1965@scu.edu.cn (W Chu);

liu\_yan@isce2.a-star.edu.sg (Y Liu).

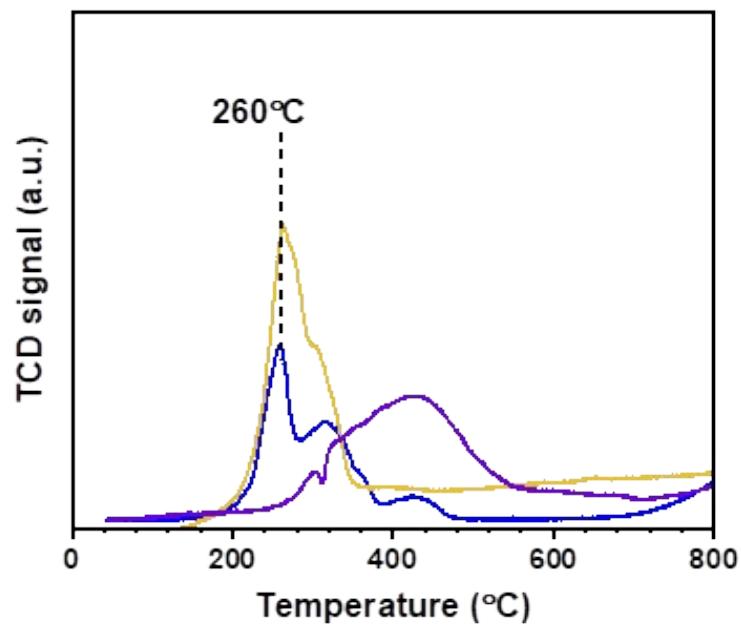
## Supplementary Figures



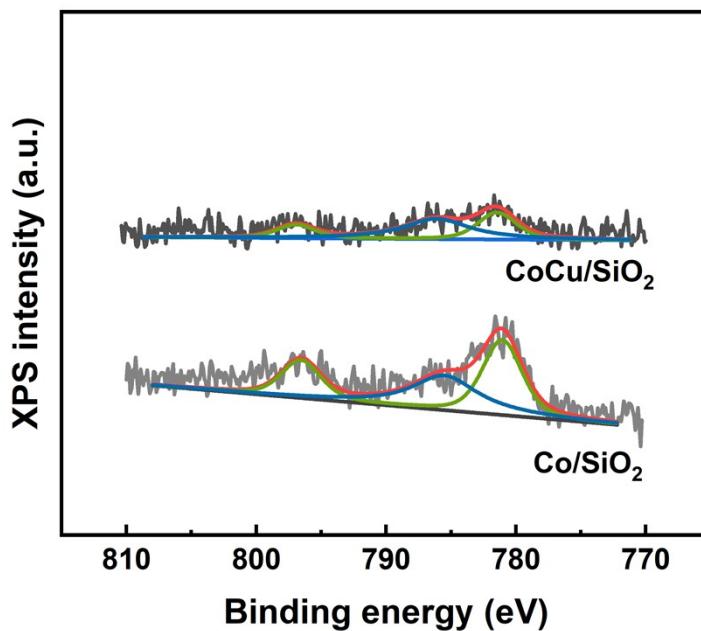
**Fig. S1** XRD pattern of  $\text{Co}_x\text{CuO}_y/\text{SiO}_2$  calcined at 500 °C



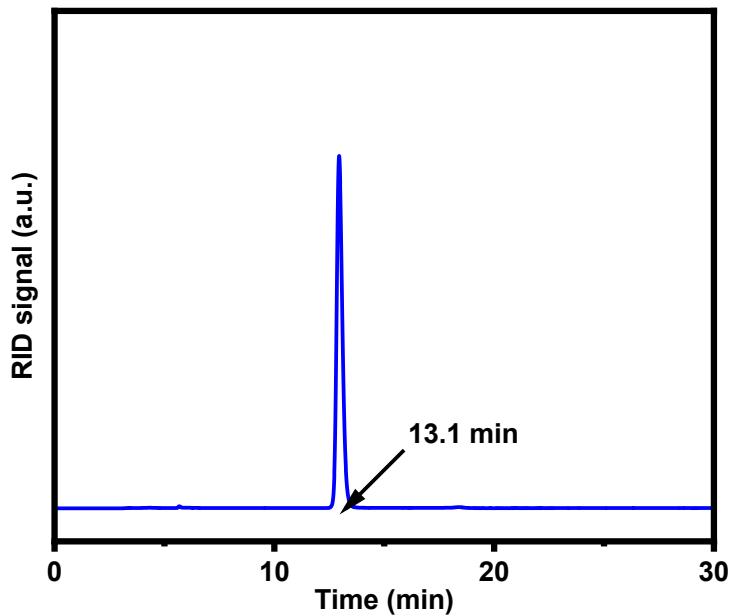
**Fig. S2** TEM images at different magnification for (a, b) Co/SiO<sub>2</sub> and (c, d) Cu/SiO<sub>2</sub>



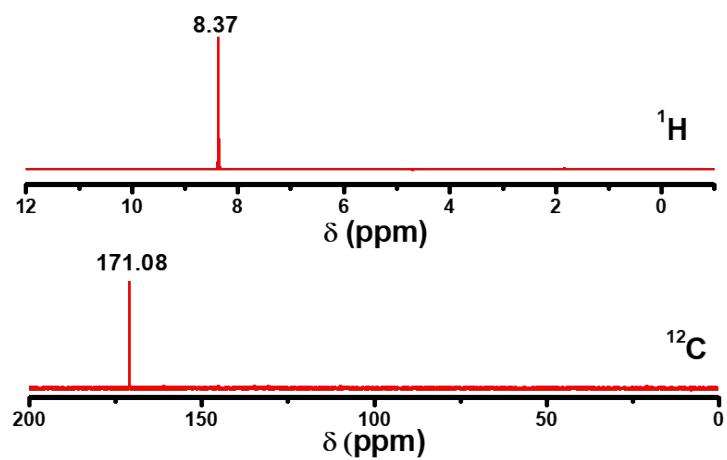
**Fig. S3** The H<sub>2</sub>-TPR profiles of CuO/SiO<sub>2</sub> (blue), Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> (purple) and CoCuO<sub>y</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> (orange) catalysts



**Fig. S4** High-resolution XPS spectra Co 2p spectra for Co/SiO<sub>2</sub> and CoCu/SiO<sub>2</sub>



**Fig. S5** HPLC profile of the liquid product obtained from CO<sub>2</sub> hydrogenation at optimal condition (150 °C, in NaOH, H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> 3:1) over CoCu/SiO<sub>2</sub> catalyst



**Fig. S6** NMR spectra of the liquid product obtained from CO<sub>2</sub> hydrogenation at optimal condition (150 °C, in NaOH, H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> 3:1) over CoCu/SiO<sub>2</sub> catalyst

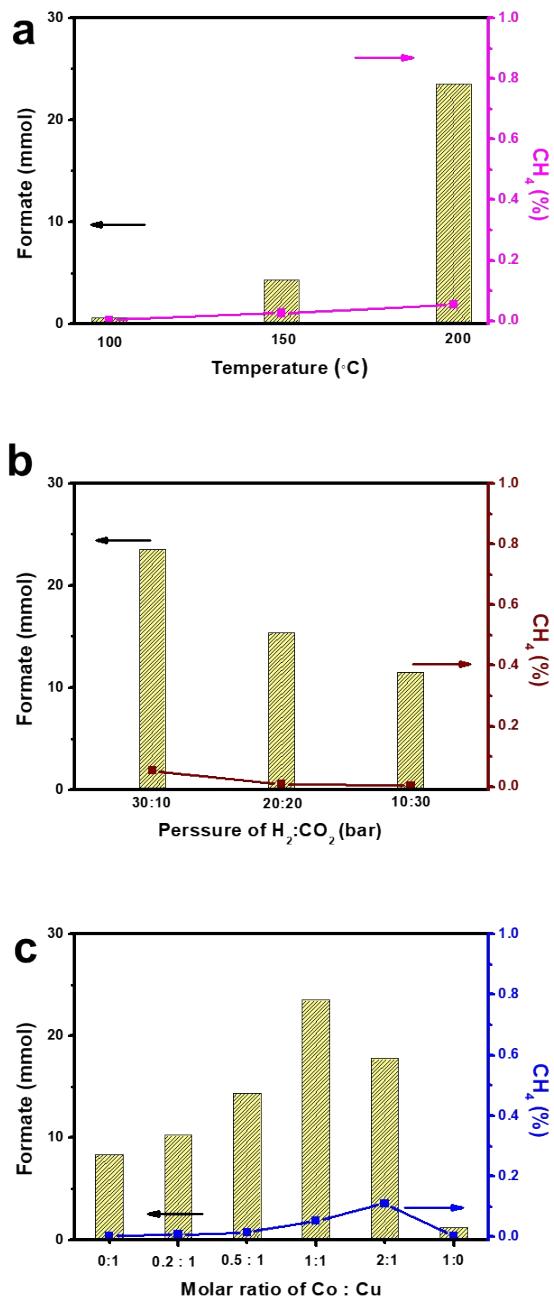


Fig S7. Formate yield and CH<sub>4</sub> content on CoCu/SiO<sub>2</sub> catalyst at different reaction temperature (a), different reaction pressure of H<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> (b), different molar ratio of Co and Cu (c)

## Supplementary Tables

**Table S1** XRF of  $\text{Co}_x\text{Cu}/\text{SiO}_2$  catalysts

Catalyst	Element (%)		Element ratio Co:Cu
	Co	Cu	
$\text{Cu}/\text{SiO}_2$	0	5.44	--
$\text{Co}_{0.2}\text{Cu}/\text{SiO}_2$	1.58	7.12	0.22
$\text{Co}_{0.5}\text{Cu}/\text{SiO}_2$	3.53	7.53	0.47
$\text{CoCu}/\text{SiO}_2$	6.97	8.06	0.86
$\text{Co}_2\text{Cu}/\text{SiO}_2$	11.70	7.54	1.55
$\text{Co}/\text{SiO}_2$	5.78	0	--