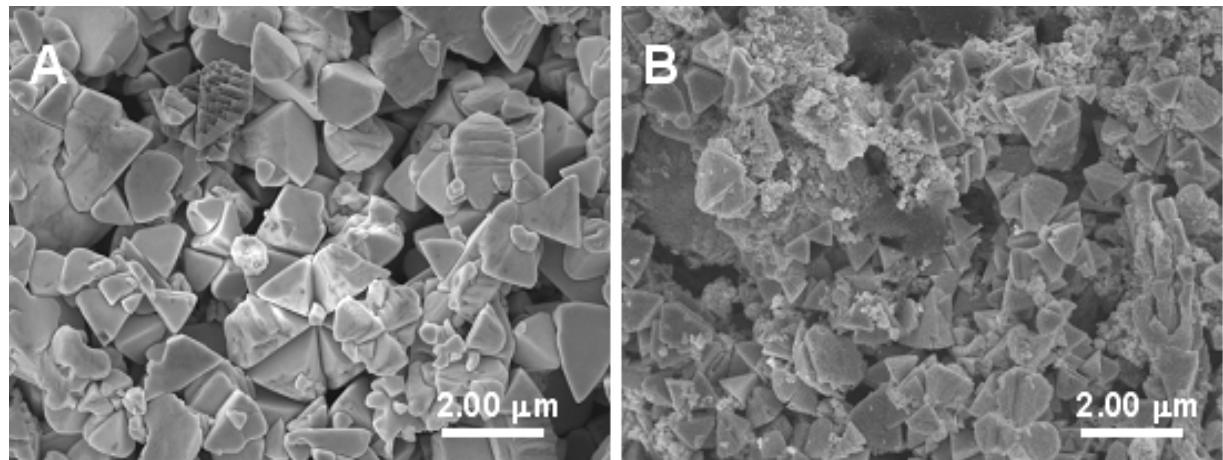
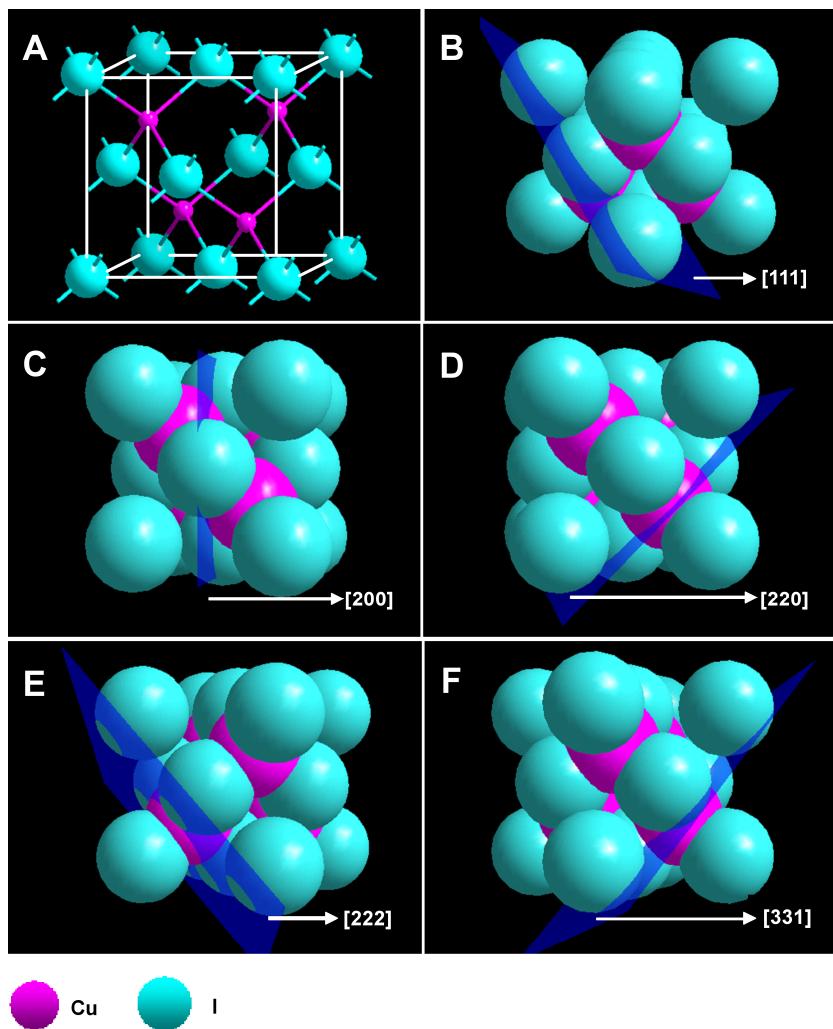


## Electronic Supplementary Information



**Fig. S1.** FESEM image of the product by substituting sodium citrate (A) and L-tryptophan (B) for AA.

In our case, as shown in Scheme 3, it is  $\text{Cu}^+$ , not  $\text{I}^-$  that is pivotal in electron transfer for the coupling reaction. For Marshite structured  $\text{CuI}$ , each ‘ $\text{Cu}$ ’ is surrounded by a tetrahedron of ‘ $\text{I}$ ’, and each ‘ $\text{I}$ ’ has four ‘ $\text{Cu}$ ’ neighbors as illustrated by its unit cell model (Scheme S1A). The  $\text{Cu}$  atoms on the different crystallographic planes of  $\text{CuI}$  are displayed (Scheme S1B to S1F). As mentioned above, the reflection peaks of [111], [220], [222], and [311] planes (especially [111] and [222] planes) are much stronger than the ones in JCPDS 06-0246, which possess active ‘ $\text{Cu}$ ’ atoms, consequently inducing excellent catalytic properties.



**Scheme S1.** (A) The unit cell of the Marshite  $\text{CuI}$ , and (B–F) the atomic arrangement in (111), (200), (220), (222), and (331) planes of the  $\text{CuI}$  structure, respectively.

