

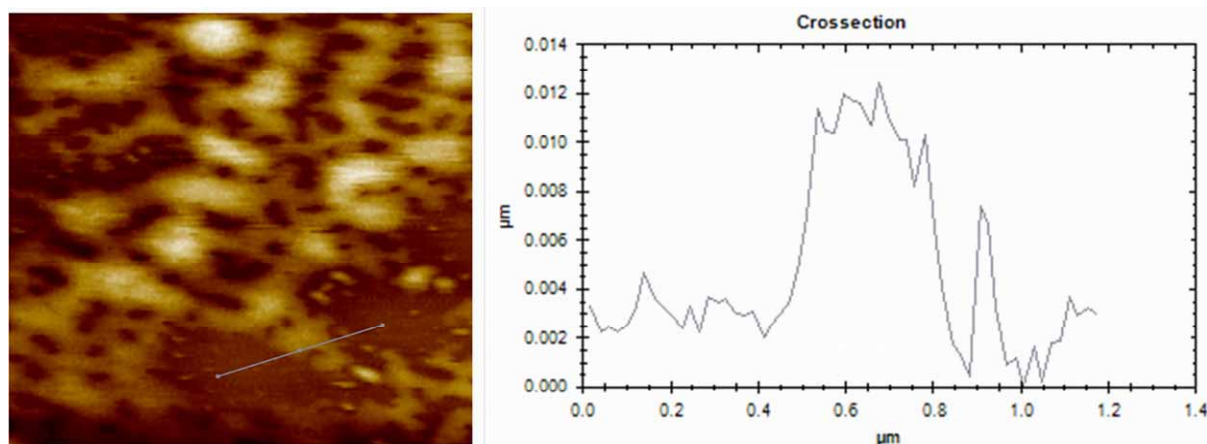


Fig. S1; AFM image of the Co--O layer which was first dried at 40 °C and then oxidized at 200 °C.

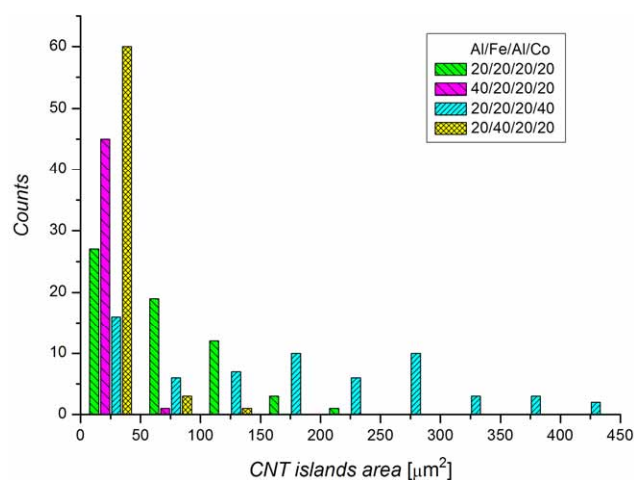


Fig. S2; graph relative to the area of CNT islands for different catalyst configurations.

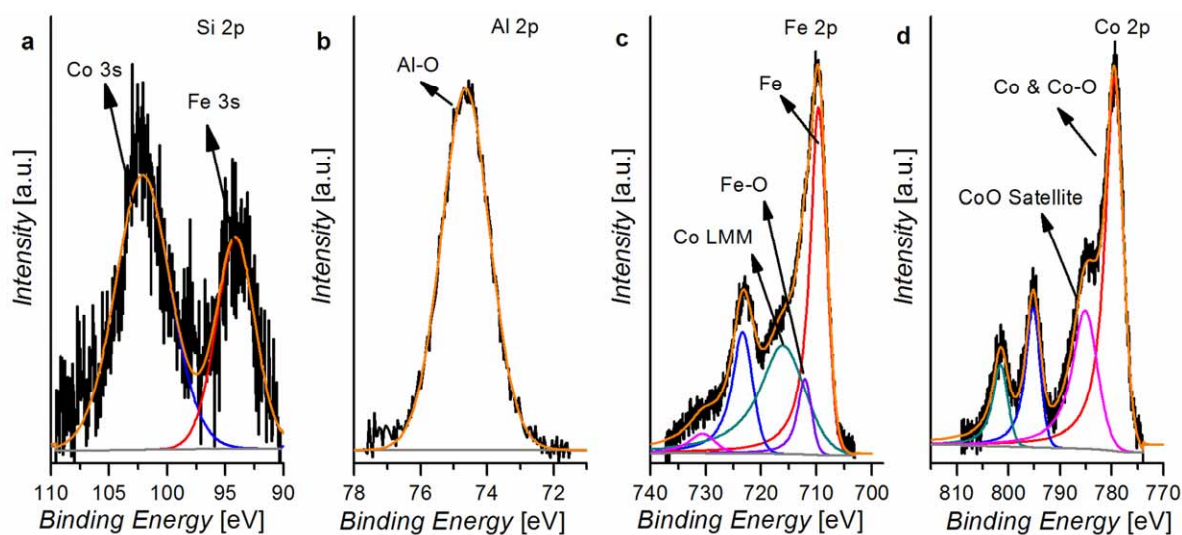


Fig. S3; representative XPS spectra of (a) Si 2p, (b) Al 2p, (c) Fe 2p and (d) Co 2p for a reduced Al/Fe/Al/Co (20/20/20/20) catalyst film (grey line in all figures shows the peak backgrounds and orange line shows the curve fitted).