

Electronic Supplementary Information

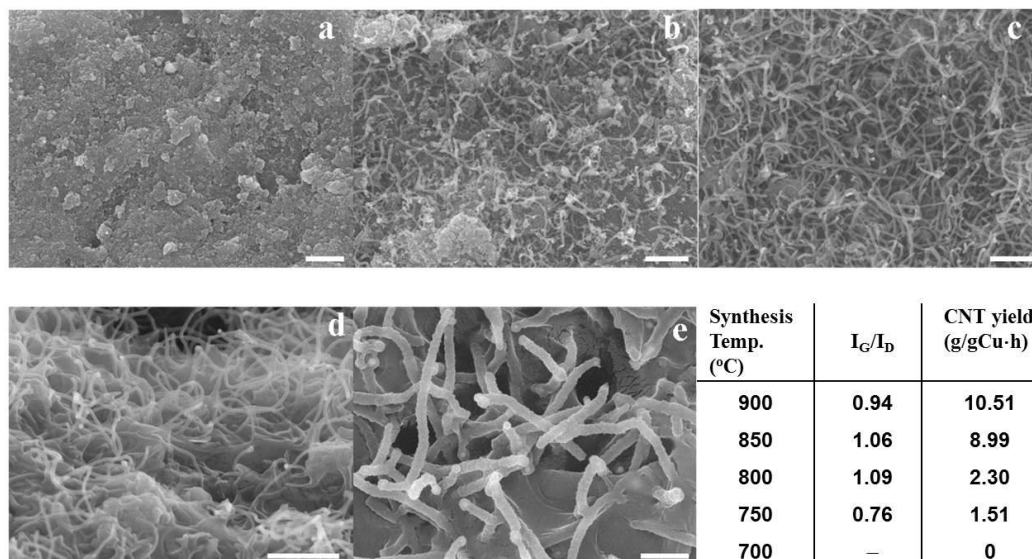


Fig. S1 SEM images of the as-grown CNTs over 10.36 wt% $\text{CuSO}_4/\gamma\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$ catalyst with varying reaction temperatures for 30 min. (a) 700 °C, (b) 750 °C, (c) 800 °C, (d) 850 °C and (e) 900 °C. The table displays the I_G/I_D ratios and the growth yields of the as-grown CNTs with different temperatures. The total flow rate is 100 mL/min. The scale bar in (a)-(e) is 1 μm .

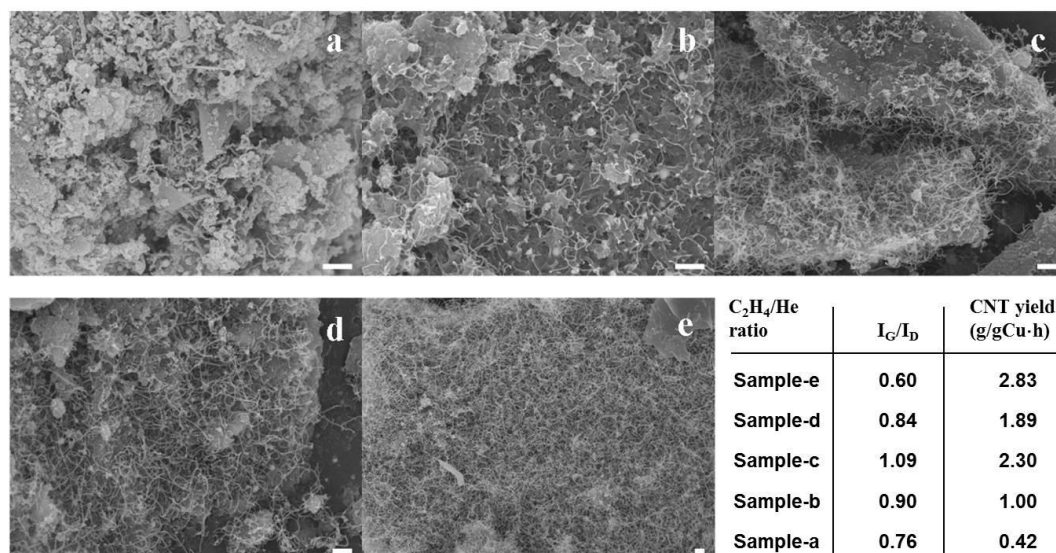


Fig. S2 SEM images of the as-grown CNTs over 10.36 wt% $\text{CuSO}_4/\gamma\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$ catalyst with varying diluted ratios of carbon source at 800 °C for 30 min. (a) $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4/\text{He}=1/3$, (b) $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4/\text{He}=1/6$, (c) $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4/\text{He}=1/9$, (d) $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4/\text{He}=1/12$ and (e) $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4/\text{He}=1/15$. The total flow rate is 100 mL/min. The scale bar in (a)-(e) is 1 μm .

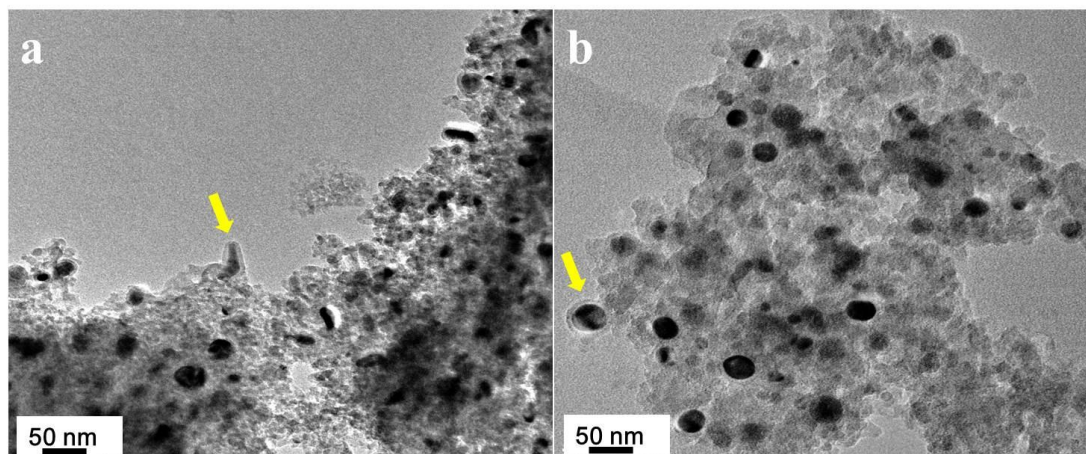


Fig. S3 TEM images of the amorphous carbons grown over (a) 10.25 wt% $\text{Cu}(\text{CH}_3\text{COO})_2/\gamma\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$ and (b) 9.99 wt% $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2/\gamma\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$ catalysts at 800 °C for 30 min with a helium dilute ethylene ($\text{C}_2\text{H}_4/\text{He}=1/9 = 100 \text{ mL/min}$).

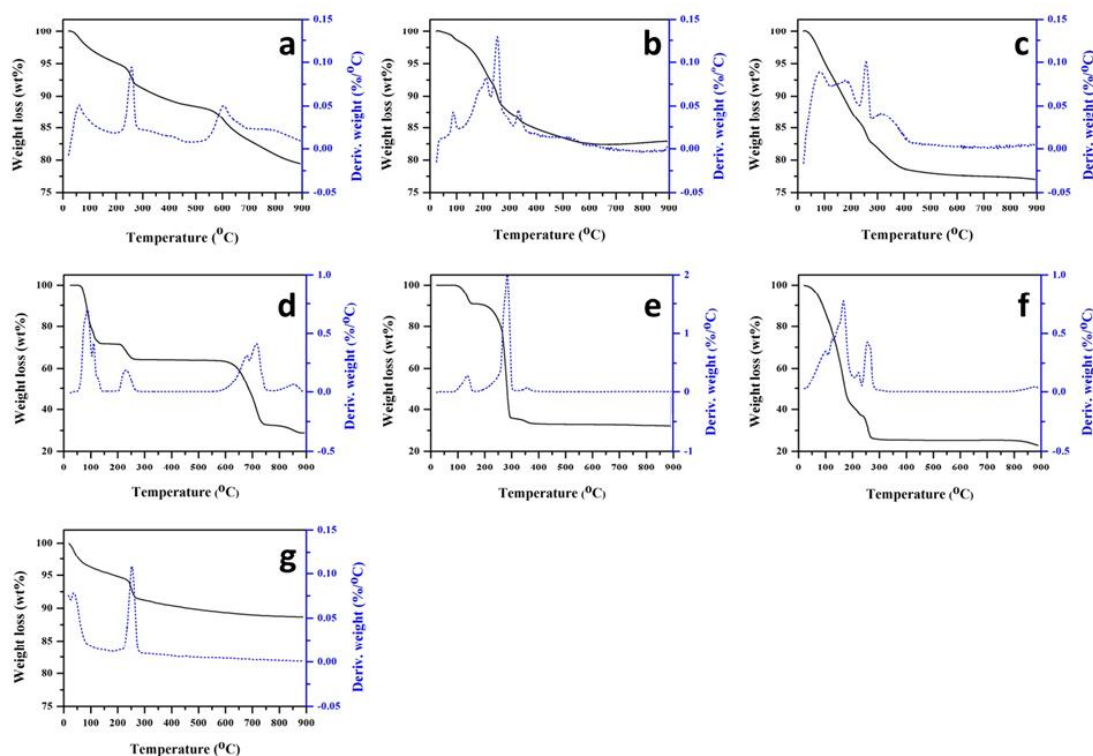


Fig. S4 Thermal decomposition curves of (a) $\text{CuSO}_4/\gamma\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$, (b) $\text{Cu}(\text{CH}_3\text{COO})_2/\gamma\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$, (c) $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2/\gamma\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$, (d) $\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$, (e) $\text{Cu}(\text{CH}_3\text{COO})_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$, (f) $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and (g) $\gamma\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$ using TGA analysis in helium with a flow of 40 mL/min. The Cu contents of (a), (b), (c) are 10.36, 10.25 and 9.99 wt% respectively and determined by ICP-MS.