

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### Understanding the Roles of Metal Sources and Dodecanethiols in the Formation of Metal Sulfide Nanocrystals via a Two-Phase Approach

Miao Wang,<sup>a</sup> Aiwei Tang,<sup>\*ab</sup> Dongxu Zhu,<sup>a</sup> Chunhe Yang,<sup>a</sup> Feng Teng<sup>b</sup>

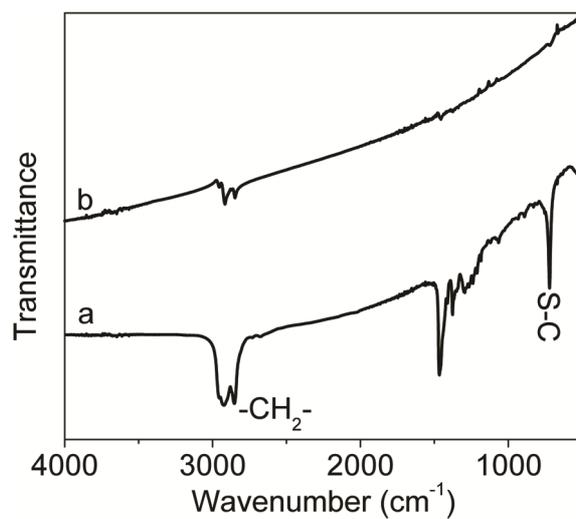
---

<sup>a</sup>Department of Chemistry, school of science, Beijing JiaoTong University, Beijing 100044, PR China. E-mail: awtang@bjtu.edu.cn; Tel: +86-10-51683627

<sup>b</sup>Key Laboratory of Luminescence and Optical Information, Ministry of Education, Beijing JiaoTong University, Beijing 100044, PR China.

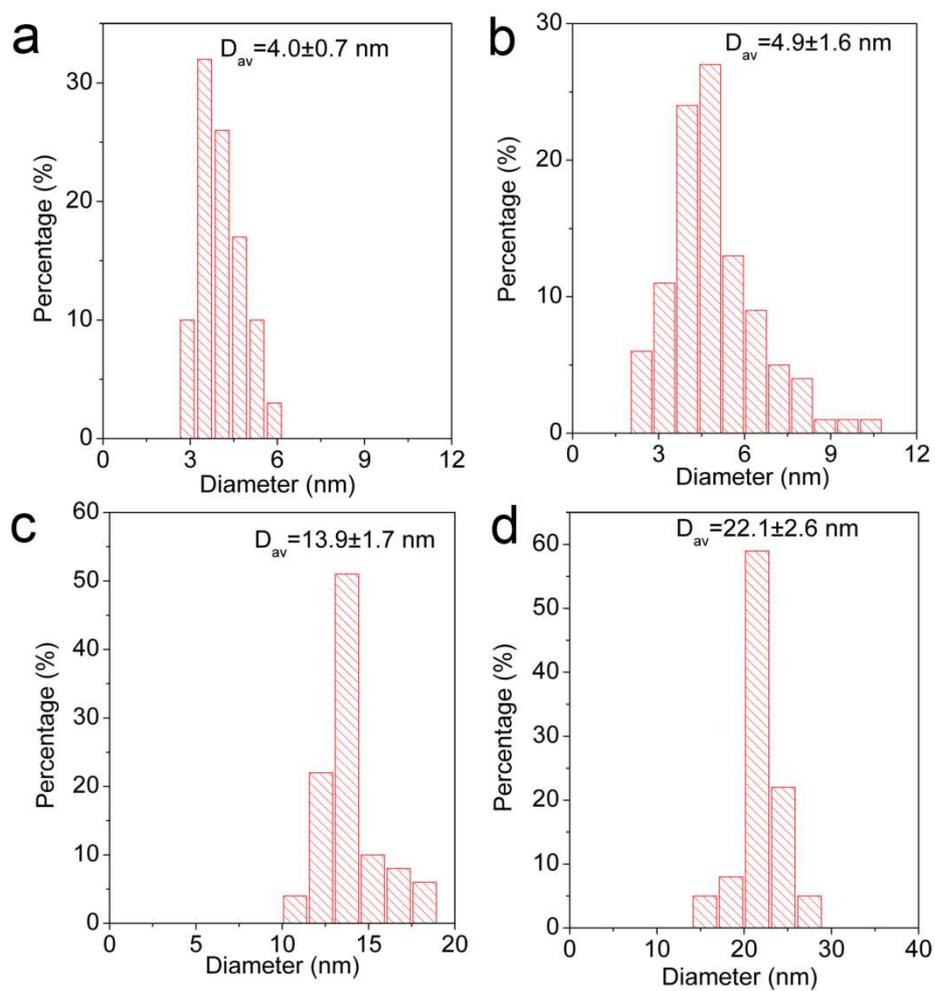
*To whom correspondence should be addressed. E-mail: awtang@bjtu.edu.cn*

**Figure S1**



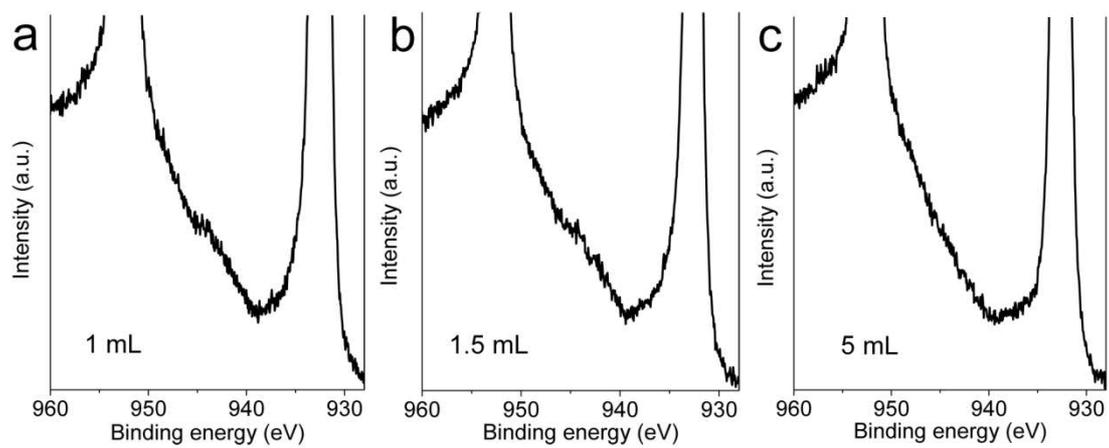
**Fig. S1** FT-IR spectra of (a) the intermediate compound and (b) the corresponding final products synthesized using  $\text{Cu}(\text{NH}_3)_4^{2+}$  as Cu sources in the presence of 5 mL of DDT.

**Figure S2**



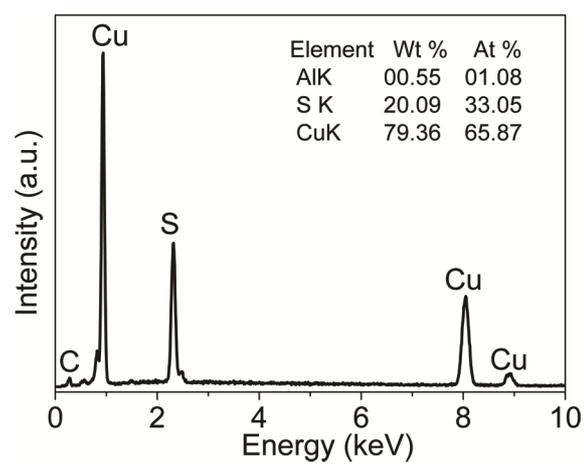
**Fig. S2.** The size distribution histograms of the as-obtained products synthesized using  $\text{Cu}(\text{NH}_3)_4^{2+}$  as Cu sources in the presence of different volumes of DDT: (a) 1 mL; (b) 1.5 mL; (c) 2 mL; (d) 5 mL.

**Figure S3**



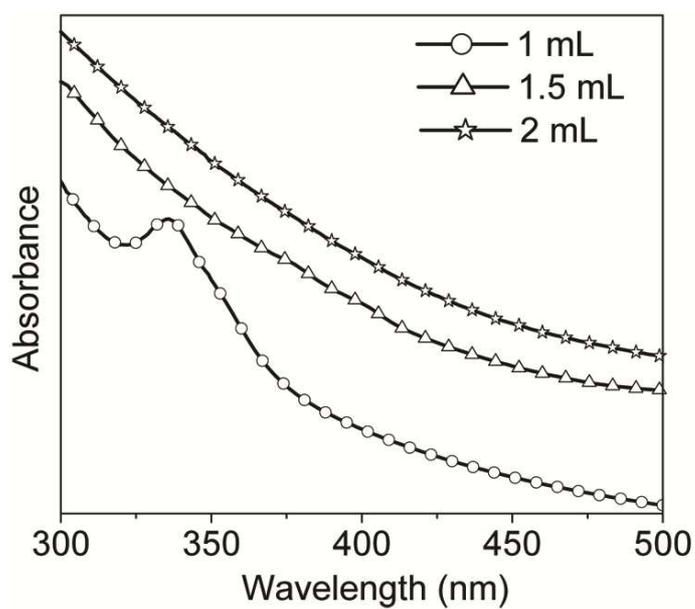
**Fig. S3.** The magnified Cu 2p spectra of the products synthesized in the presence of different volume of DDT: (a) 1 mL; (b) 1.5 mL and (c) 5 mL.

**Figure S4**



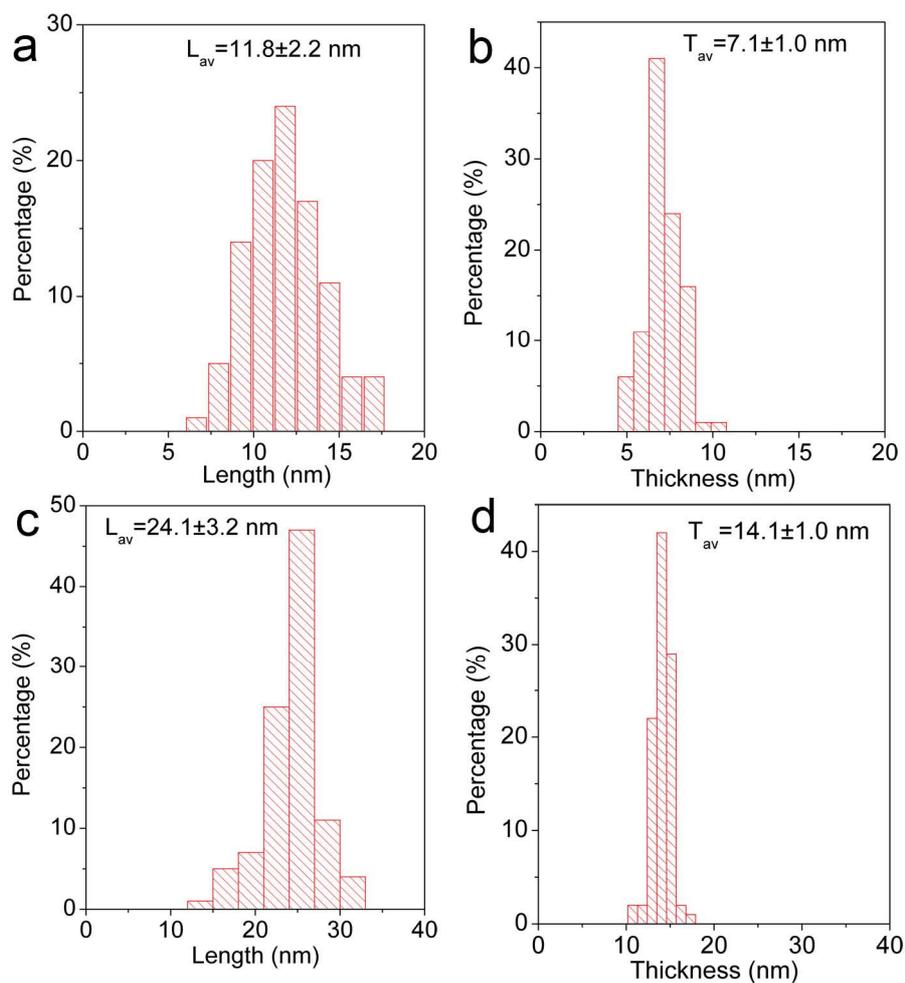
**Fig. S4.** EDS spectrum of the products synthesized in the presence of 5 mL of DDT.

**Figure S5**



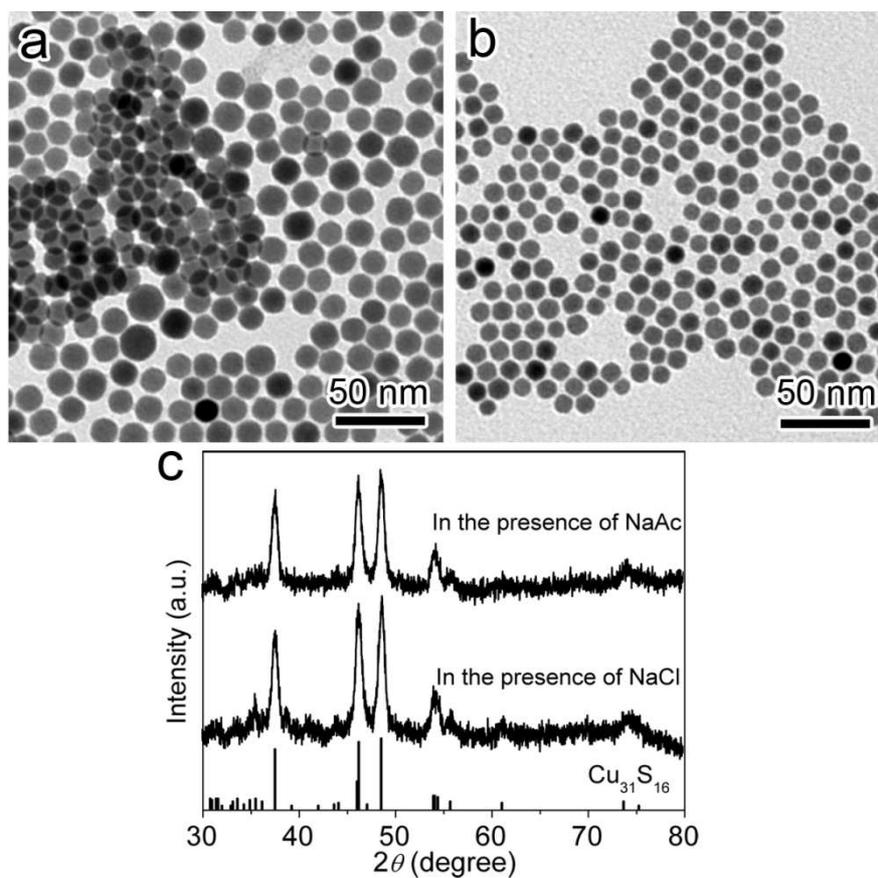
**Fig. S5.** The UV-Vis absorption spectra of the products synthesized in the presence of different volume of DDT: (a) 1 mL; (b) 1.5 mL and (c) 2 mL.

**Figure S6**



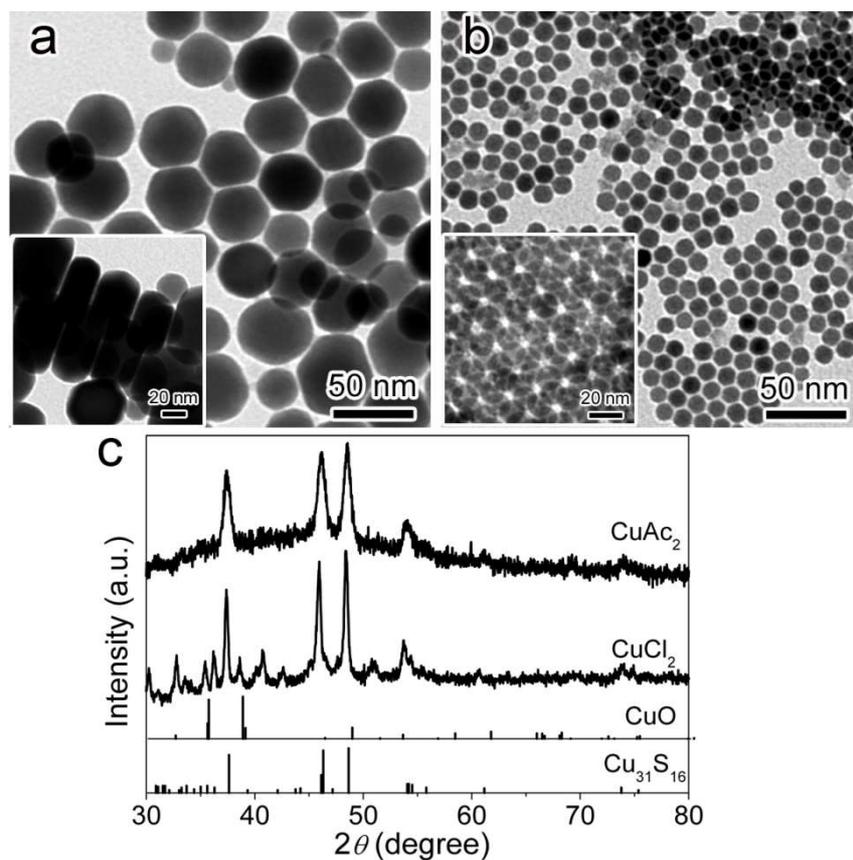
**Fig. S6** The size distribution histograms of the as-obtained products synthesized using  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  as Cu sources in the presence of different volumes of DDT: (a, b) 0.5 mL and (c, d) 1.5 mL; Left panel: length, right panel: thickness.

**Figure S7**



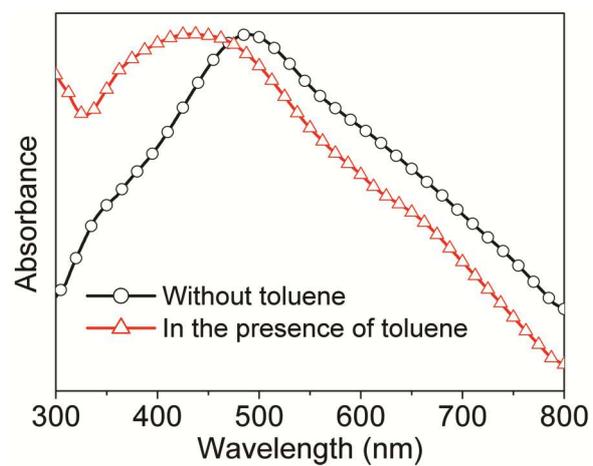
**Fig. S7** TEM images of the products synthesized by using  $\text{Cu}(\text{NH}_3)_4^{2+}$  as Cu sources in the presence of 2 mL of DDT and other added anions (a)  $\text{Cl}^-$ ; (b)  $\text{Ac}^-$ ; (c) the corresponding XRD patterns together with the standard diffraction lines of  $\text{Cu}_{31}\text{S}_{16}$  (JCPDS No. 23-0959).

**Figure S8**



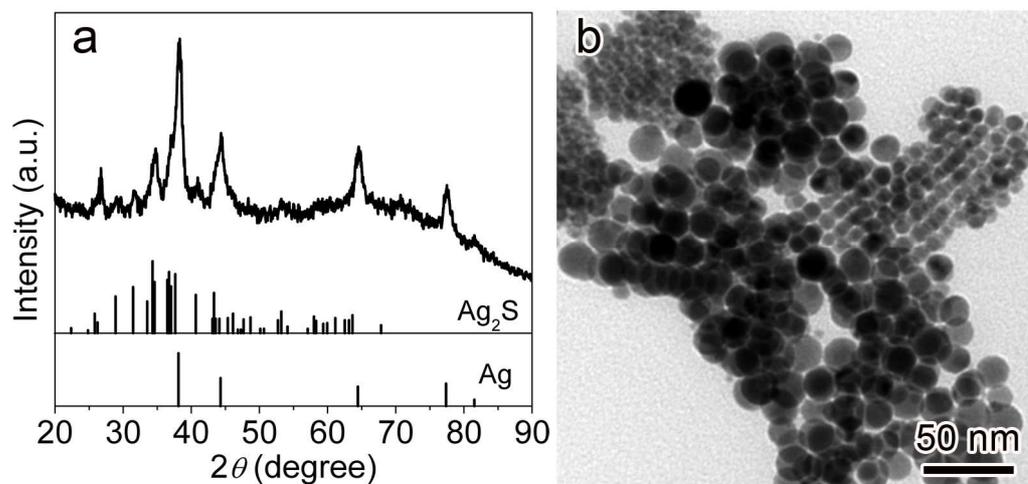
**Fig. S8** TEM images of the products synthesized by using (a)  $\text{CuCl}_2$  and (b)  $\text{CuAc}_2$  as Cu sources in the presence of 2 mL of DDT, and (c) the corresponding XRD patterns together with the standard diffraction lines of  $\text{Cu}_{31}\text{S}_{16}$  (JCPDS No. 23-0959) and  $\text{CuO}$  (JCPDS No. 89-5895)

**Figure S9**



**Fig. S9** Absorption spectra of the products synthesized by reaction of 1 mmol of  $\text{AgNO}_3$  and 2 mL of DDT with and without toluene.

**Figure S10**



**Fig. S10** (a) XRD patterns of the sample synthesized by using  $\text{Ag}(\text{NH}_3)^+$  as Ag sources and 2 mL of DDT, and the bottom lines represent the standard diffraction peaks of monoclinic  $\text{Ag}_2\text{S}$  (JCPDS No. 14-0072) and metallic Ag (JCPDS No.04-0783); (b)the corresponding TEM image, indicating that the products are composed of Ag nanocrystals (large-sized particles) and  $\text{Ag}_2\text{S}$  nanocrystals (small-sized particles).