

**Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) for New Journal of
Chemistry**

**Construction of highly dispersed Au active sites by ice
photochemical polishing for efficient acetylene hydrochlorination**

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Fig. S1 Schematic of the microreactor for acetylene hydrochlorination.

Fig. S2 Acetylene conversion rate (a) and selectivity to VCM (b) over the prepared Au-based catalysts.

Reaction conditions: temperature = 180 °C, GHSV (C₂H₂) = 1200 h⁻¹, and V_{HCl}/V_{C₂H₂} = 1.15.

Fig. S3 Acetylene conversion rate (a) and selectivity to VCM (b) over the prepared Au/AC-F_xI_y catalysts.

Reaction conditions: temperature = 180 °C, GHSV (C₂H₂) = 1200 h⁻¹, and V_{HCl}/V_{C₂H₂} = 1.15.

Fig. S4 Nitrogen adsorption and desorption isotherms of unreacted (a) and reacted (b) Au/AC-F_xI_y catalysts.

Fig. S5 TG/DTG curves of the unreacted and reacted Au/AC-F_xI_y catalysts.

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Fig. S7 TEM images of the unreacted (left) and reacted (right) catalysts: AC (a, b), Au/AC-F₁I₀ (c, d), Au/AC-F_{0.5}I_{0.5} (e, f), Au/AC-F_{1.5}I_{1.5} (g, h), Au/AC-F₂I₂ (i, j), and Au/AC-F₀I₁ (k, l); about 150 particles were measured for the unreacted and reacted samples.

Fig. S8 HAADF-STEM images of the unreacted catalysts: Au/AC-F₁I₁ (a) and Au/AC-F_{1.5}I_{1.5} (b).

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Table S1 The physical properties of different Au-based catalysts.

Table S2 The amount of coke deposition on the catalysts.

Table S3 The average particle size determined from XRPD patterns by Scherrer equation.

Table S4 EXAFS fitting parameters at the Au L₃-edge for various samples ($S_0^2=0.81$)

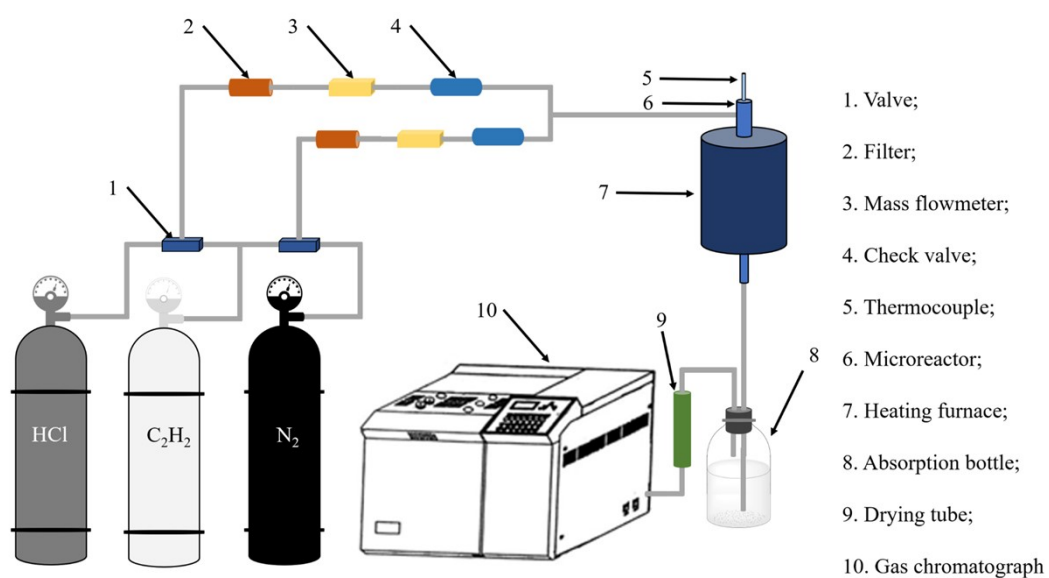


Fig. S1 Schematic of the microreactor for acetylene hydrochlorination.

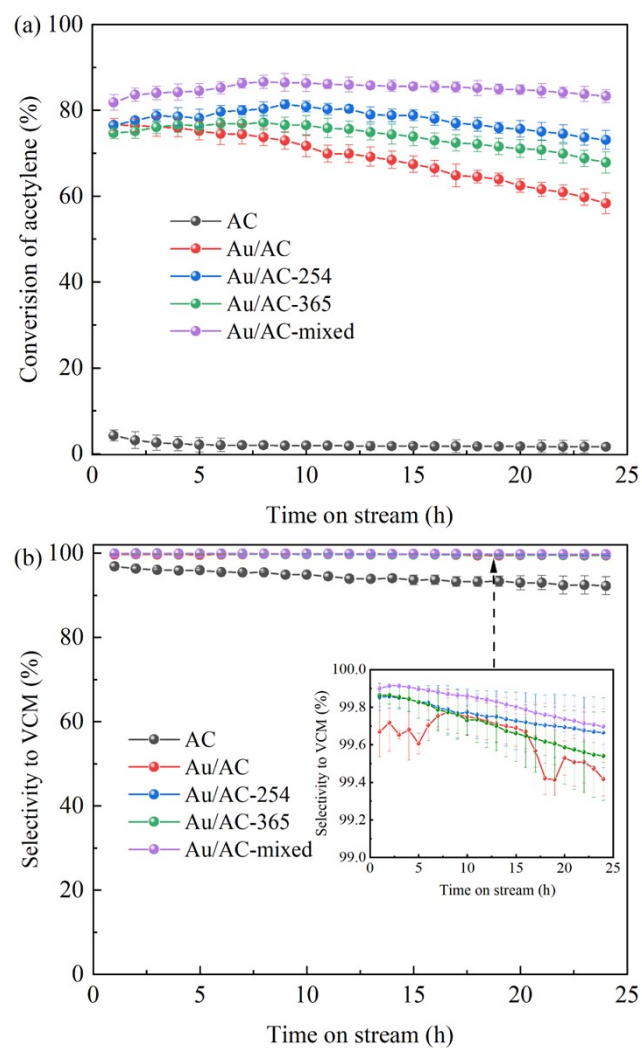


Fig. S2 Acetylene conversion rate (a) and selectivity to VCM (b) over the prepared Au-based catalysts.

Reaction conditions: temperature = 180 °C, GHSV (C₂H₂) = 1200 h⁻¹, and $V_{\text{HCl}}/V_{\text{C}_2\text{H}_2} = 1.15$.

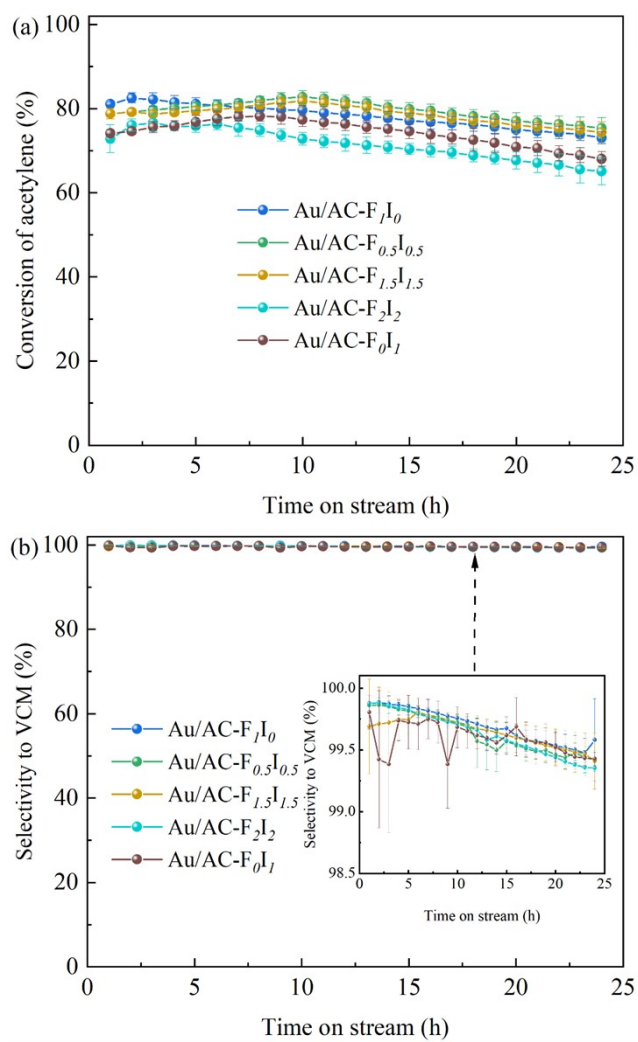


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Reaction conditions: temperature = 180 °C, GHSV (C₂H₂) = 1200 h⁻¹, and V_{HCl}/V_{C₂H₂} = 1.15.

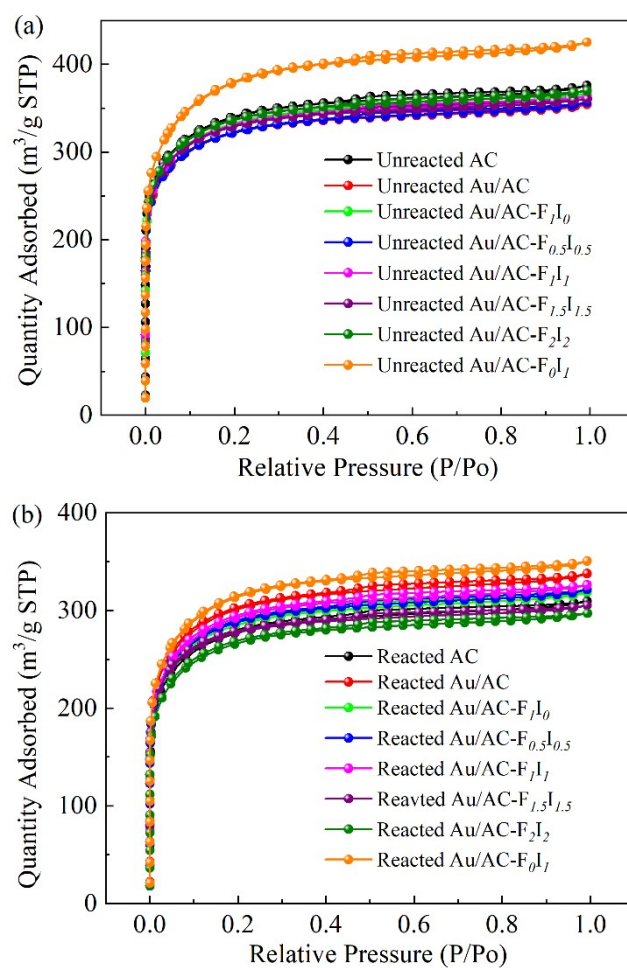


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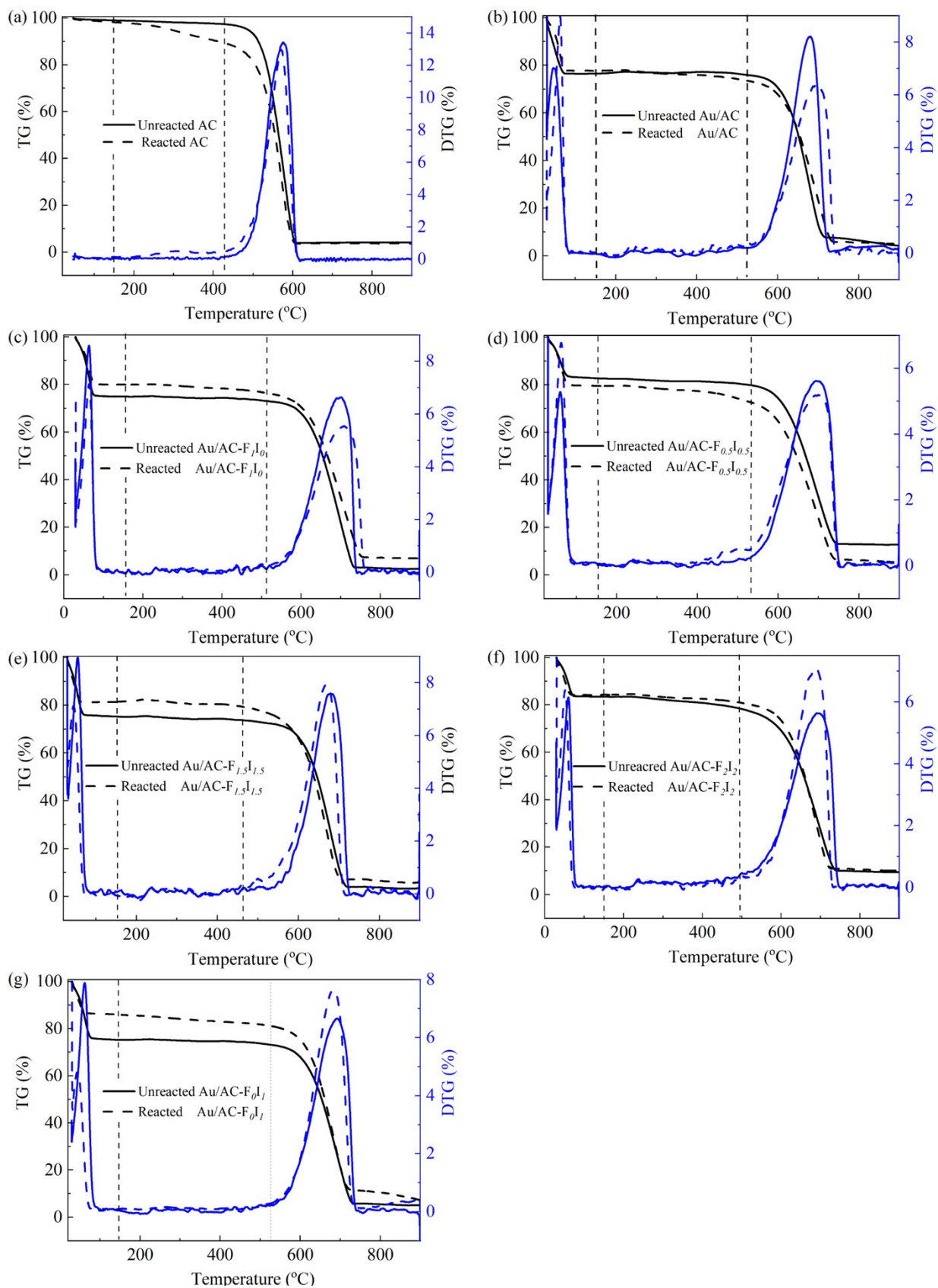


Fig. S5 TG/DTG curves of the unreacted and reacted Au/AC-F_xI_y catalysts.

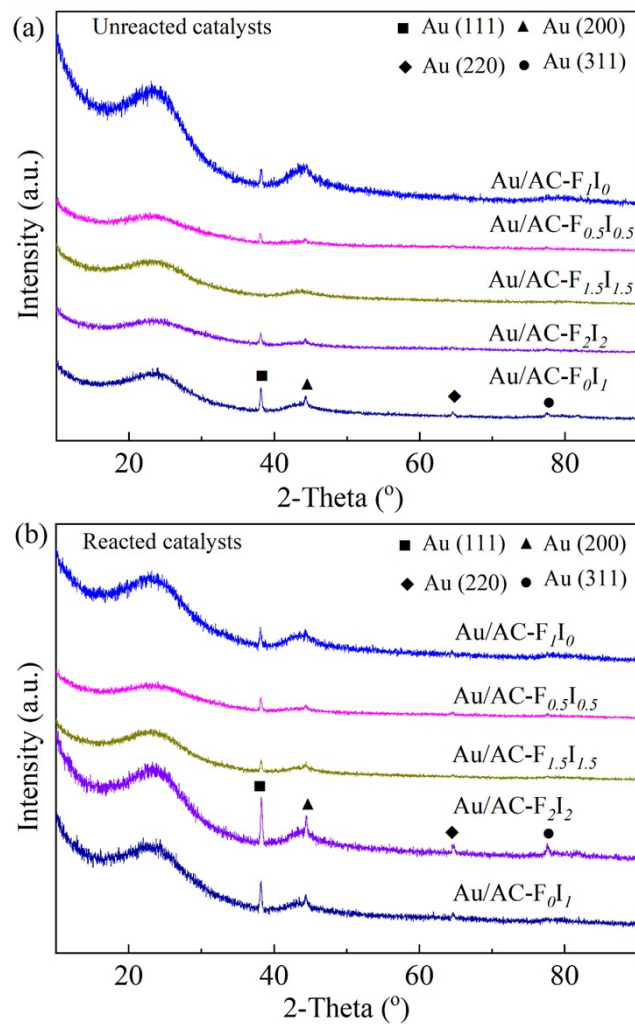


Fig. S6 XRPD patterns of the unreacted (a) and reacted (b) Au/AC-F_xI_y catalysts.

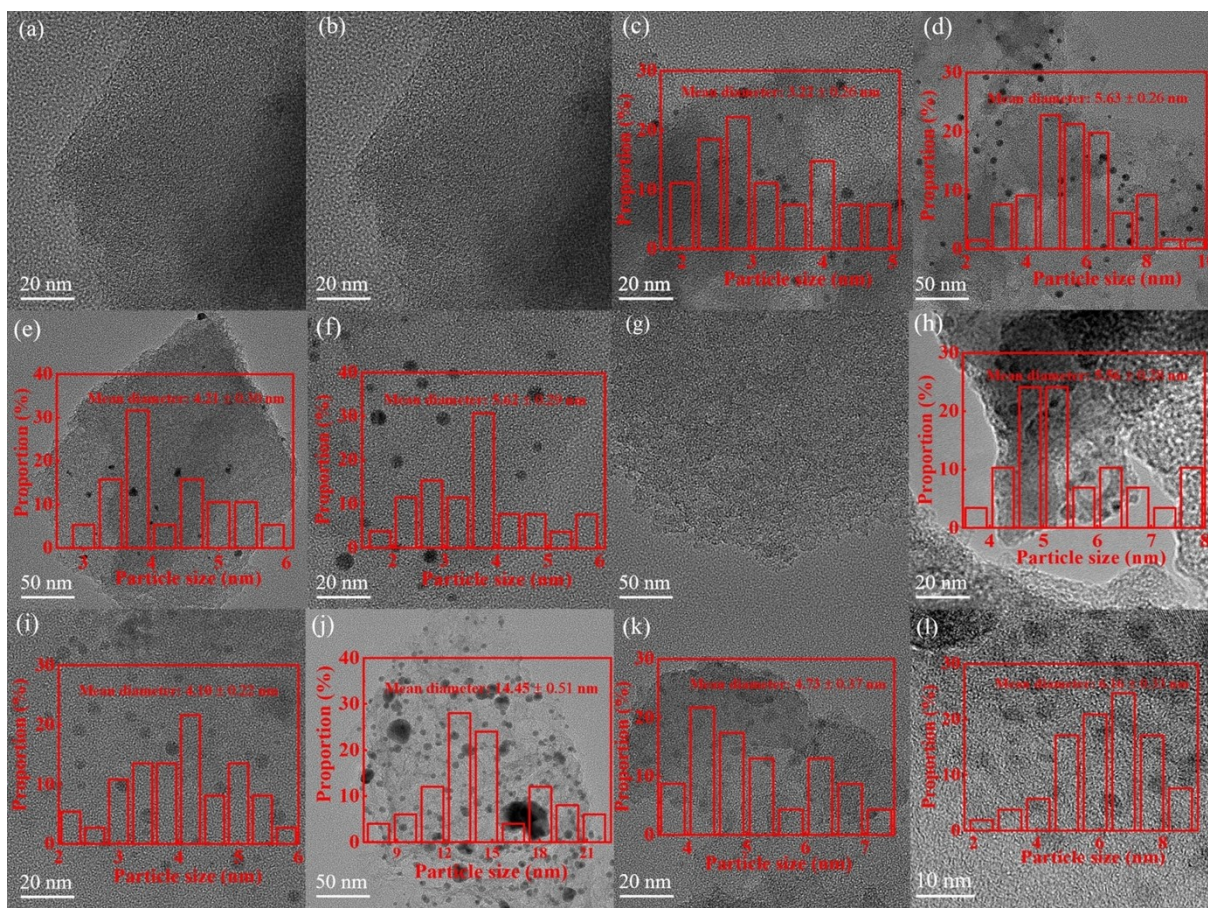


Fig. S7 TEM images of the unreacted (left) and reacted (right) catalysts: AC (a, b), Au/AC-F₁I₀ (c, d), Au/AC-F_{0.5}I_{0.5} (e, f), Au/AC-F_{1.5}I_{1.5} (g, h), Au/AC-F₂I₂ (i, j), and Au/AC-F₀I₁ (k, l); about 150 particles were measured for the unreacted and reacted samples.

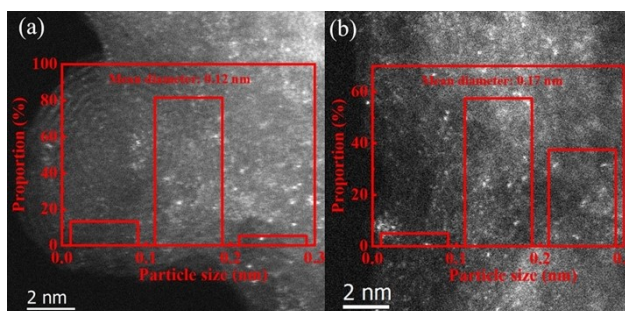


Fig. S8 HAADF-STEM images of the unreacted catalysts: Au/AC-F₁I₁ (a) and Au/AC-F_{1.5}I_{1.5} (b).

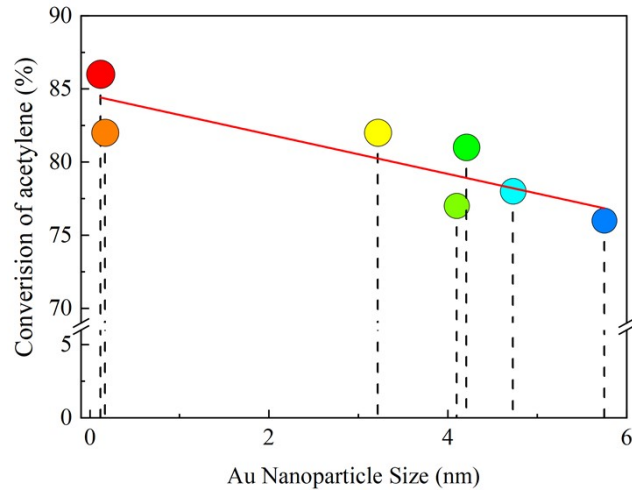


Fig. S9 The constraint relationships between catalytic activity and Au nanoparticle size.

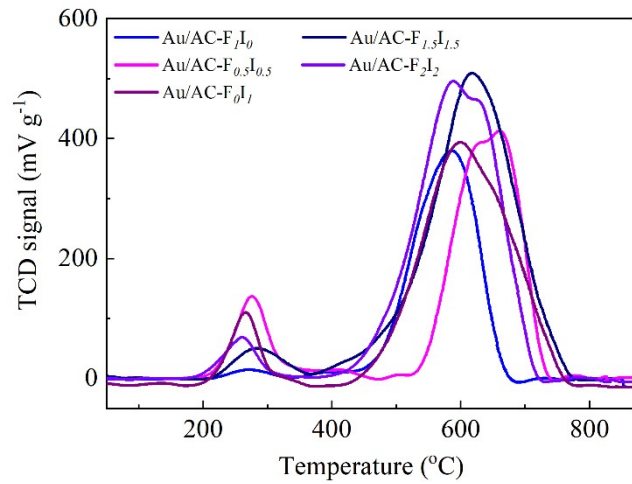


Fig. S10 TPR profiles of the unreacted Au/AC-F_{*I*} catalysts.

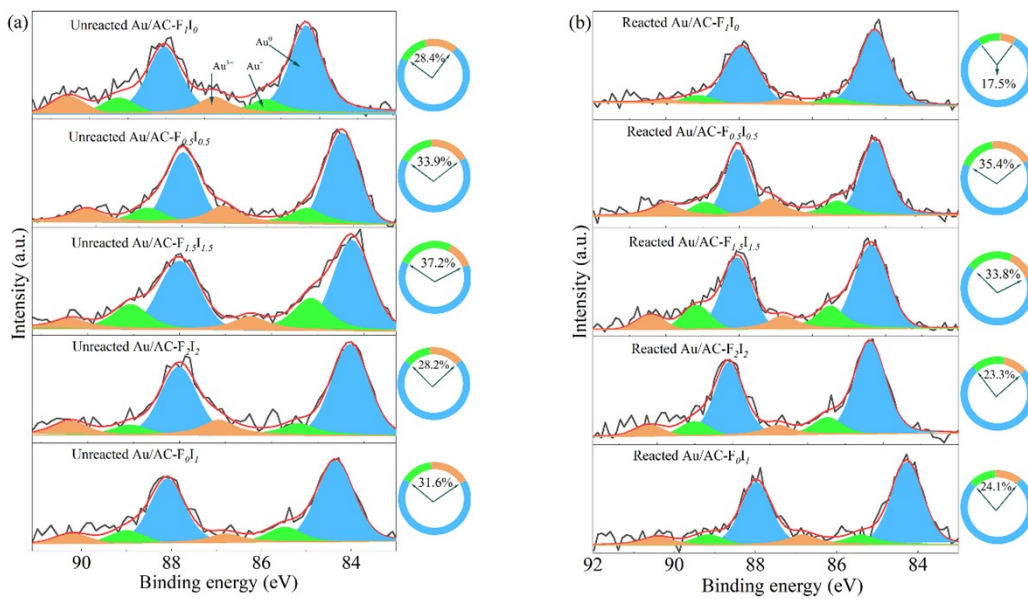


Fig. S11 Au 4f XPS spectra and valence distribution of the unreacted (a) and reacted (b) catalysts.

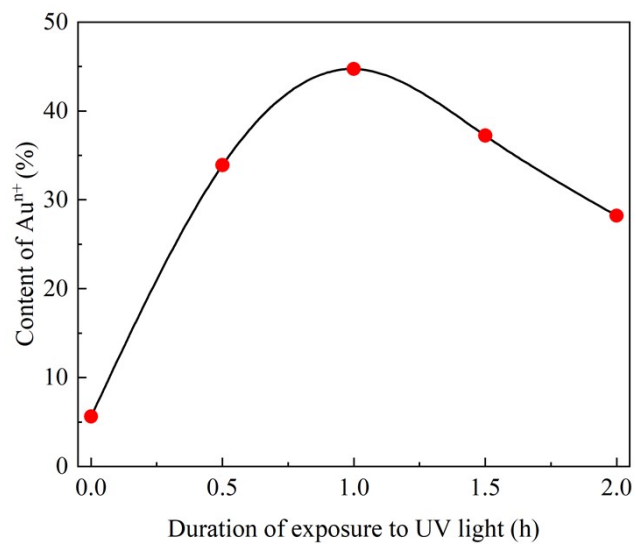


Fig. S12 Changes in the Au³⁺ content of unreacted Au/AC-F_xI_y catalysts after different times of UV light irradiation.

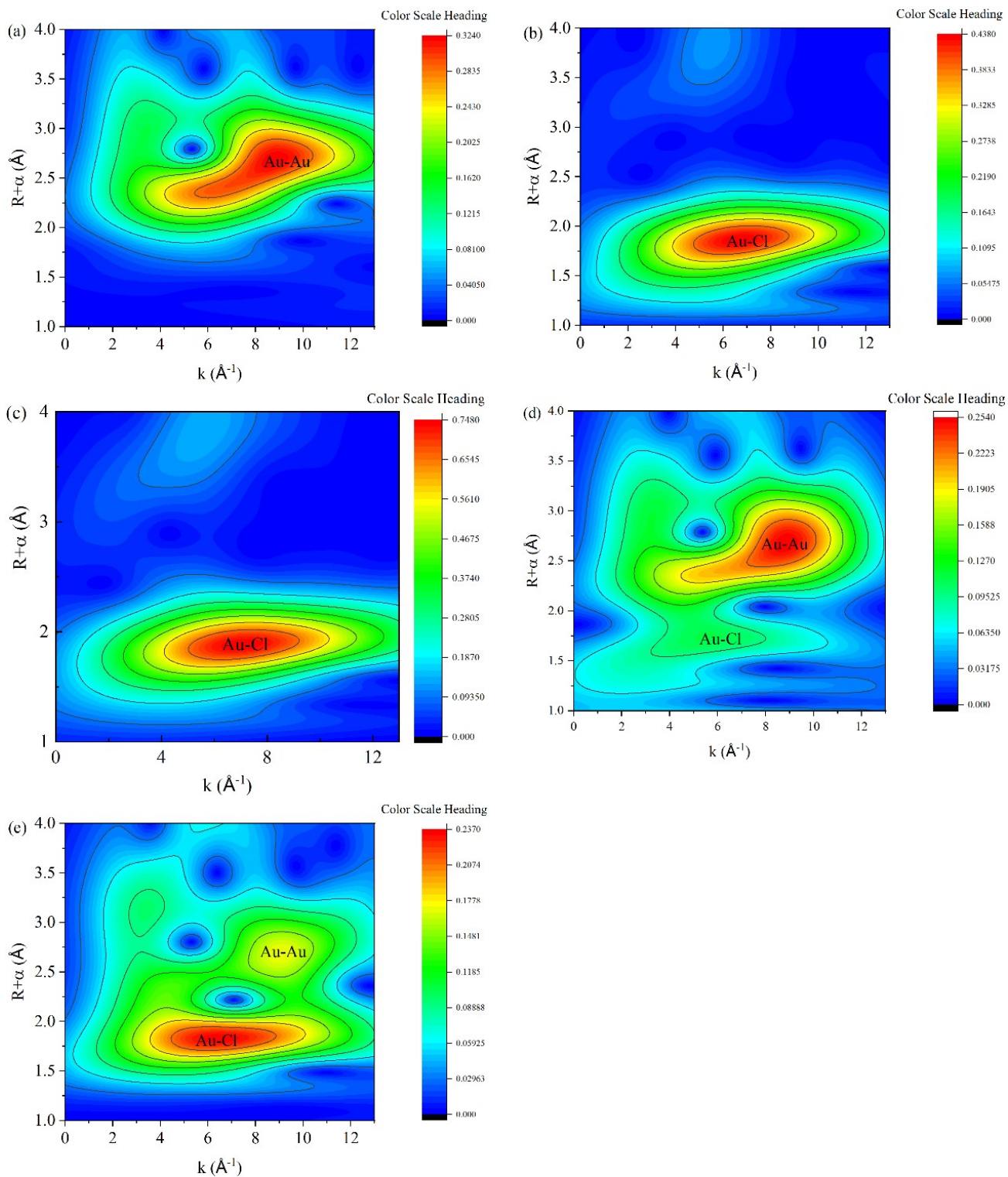


Fig. S13 Wavelet transform plots analysis of Au foil (a), AuCl (b), AuCl₃ (c), Au/AC (d), and Au/AC-F₁I₁ (e).

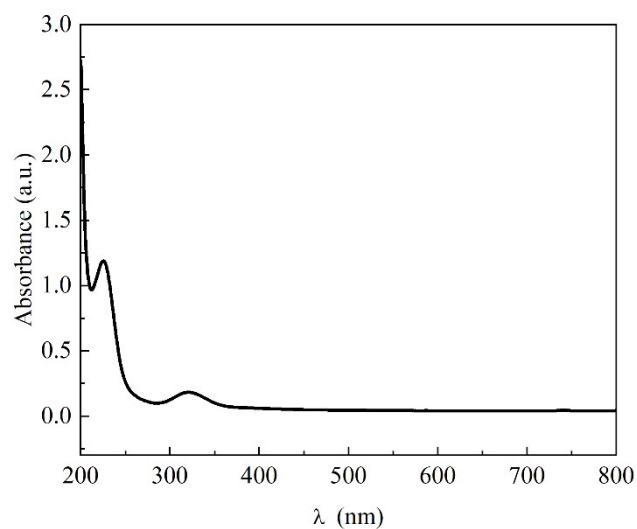


Fig. S14 UV-vis adsorption spectra of the Au solution.

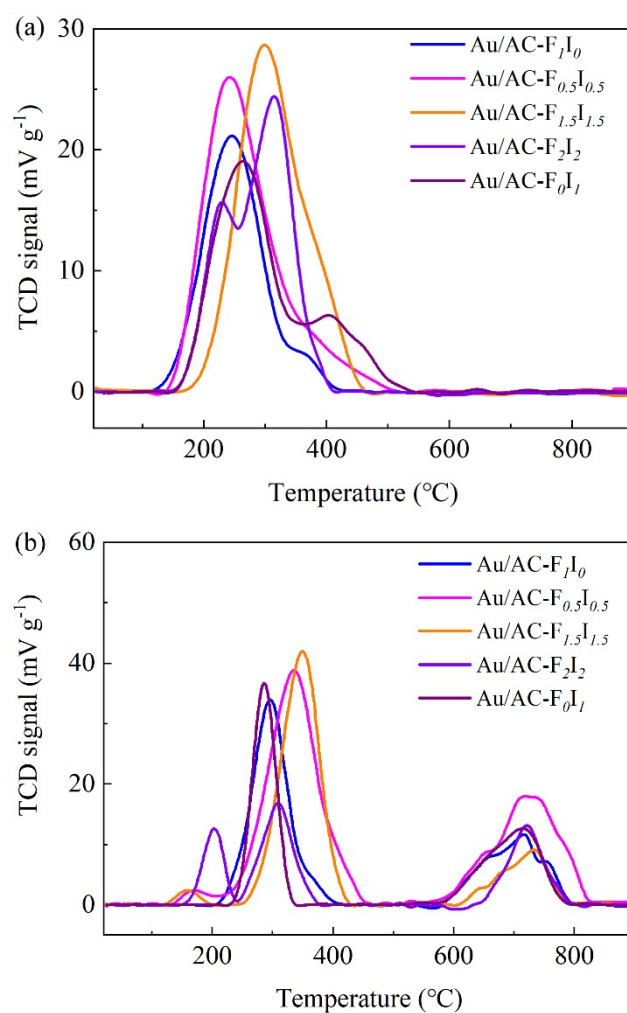


Fig. S15 C₂H₂-TPD (a) and HCl-TPD (b) profiles of the unreacted Au/AC-F_xI_y catalysts.

Table S1 The physical properties of the different Au-based catalysts.

| Samples | $S_{\text{BET}}^{\text{a}}$ ($\text{m}^2 \text{g}^{-1}$) | ΔS_{BET} (%) | $S_{\text{micro.}}^{\text{b}}$ ($\text{m}^2 \text{g}^{-1}$) | $S_{\text{micro.}}/S_{\text{BET}}$ (%) | $S_{\text{ext.}}^{\text{c}}$ ($\text{m}^2 \text{g}^{-1}$) | $S_{\text{ext.}}/S_{\text{BET}}$ (%) | V_{p}^{d} ($\text{cm}^3 \text{g}^{-1}$) | ΔV_{p} (%) | $V_{\text{micro.}}^{\text{e}}$ ($\text{cm}^3 \text{g}^{-1}$) | $V_{\text{ext.}}$ ($\text{cm}^3 \text{g}^{-1}$) | $D_{\text{pore}}^{\text{f}}$ (nm) |
|---|---|--------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|---------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| Unreacted AC | 1143 | 31.8 | 719 | 62.9 | 424 | 37.11 | 0.59 | 35.6 | 0.35 | 0.24 | 2.19 |
| Reacted AC | 779 | | 447 | 57.4 | 332 | 42.6 | 0.38 | | 0.27 | 0.11 | 2.21 |
| Unreacted Au/AC | 987 | 25.9 | 620 | 62.8 | 367 | 37.2 | 0.55 | 23.6 | 0.33 | 0.22 | 2.22 |
| Reacted Au/AC | 731 | | 436 | 59.6 | 295 | 40.4 | 0.42 | | 0.23 | 0.19 | 2.24 |
| Unreacted Au/AC-F ₁ I ₀ | 1020 | 13.7 | 624 | 61.2 | 396 | 38.8 | 0.54 | 13.0 | 0.33 | 0.21 | 2.21 |
| Reacted Au/AC-F ₁ I ₀ | 880 | | 518 | 58.9 | 362 | 41.1 | 0.47 | | 0.28 | 0.19 | 2.24 |
| Unreacted Au/AC-F _{0.5} I _{0.5} | 989 | 10.0 | 613 | 62.0 | 376 | 38.0 | 0.56 | 10.7 | 0.34 | 0.22 | 2.21 |
| Reacted Au/AC-F _{0.5} I _{0.5} | 890 | | 517 | 58.1 | 373 | 41.9 | 0.50 | | 0.28 | 0.22 | 2.23 |
| Unreacted Au/AC-F ₁ I ₁ | 1013 | 4.1 | 639 | 63.1 | 374 | 36.9 | 0.56 | 5.4 | 0.34 | 0.22 | 2.21 |
| Reacted Au/AC-F ₁ I ₁ | 971 | | 611 | 62.9 | 360 | 37.1 | 0.53 | | 0.32 | 0.21 | 2.23 |
| Unreacted Au/AC-F _{1.5} I _{1.5} | 1008 | 7.6 | 639 | 63.4 | 369 | 36.6 | 0.55 | 7.3 | 0.34 | 0.21 | 2.21 |
| Reacted Au/AC-F _{1.5} I _{1.5} | 931 | | 573 | 61.5 | 358 | 38.5 | 0.51 | | 0.29 | 0.22 | 2.22 |
| Unreacted Au/AC-F ₂ I ₂ | 1033 | 20.3 | 646 | 62.5 | 387 | 37.5 | 0.57 | 19.3 | 0.34 | 0.23 | 2.22 |
| Reacted Au/AC-F ₂ I ₂ | 823 | | 472 | 57.4 | 351 | 42.6 | 0.46 | | 0.25 | 0.21 | 2.23 |
| Unreacted Au/AC-F ₀ I ₁ | 1043 | 17.1 | 669 | 64.1 | 374 | 35.9 | 0.55 | 14.5 | 0.32 | 0.23 | 2.21 |
| Reacted Au/AC-F ₀ I ₁ | 865 | | 531 | 61.4 | 334 | 38.6 | 0.47 | | 0.29 | 0.18 | 2.22 |

[a] S_{BET} : BET specific surface area; [b] t-plot micropore area; [c] t-plot external surface area; [d] V_{p} : total pore volume, volume at $p/p_0 = 0.98$;

[e] t-plot micropore volume; [f] Adsorption average pore width (4V/A) by BET.

Table S2 The amount of coke deposition on the catalysts.

| Samples | Amount of coke deposition (%) |
|---|-------------------------------|
| AC | 8.1 |
| Au/AC | 4.2 |
| Au/AC-F ₁ I ₀ | 2.6 |
| Au/AC-F _{0.5} I _{0.5} | 1.3 |
| Au/AC-F ₁ I ₁ | 0.6 |
| Au/AC-F _{1.5} I _{1.5} | 1.2 |
| Au/AC-F ₂ I ₂ | 2.0 |
| Au/AC-F ₀ I ₁ | 2.5 |

Table S3 The average particle size determined from XRPD patterns by Scherrer equation.

| Catalysts | Particle size (nm) | |
|---|--------------------|-------|
| | Fresh | Spent |
| Au/AC | 7.6 | 16.4 |
| Au/AC-F ₁ I ₀ | 4.8 | 7.6 |
| Au/AC-F _{0.5} I _{0.5} | 4.6 | 6.7 |
| Au/AC-F ₁ I ₁ | < 4.0 | < 4.0 |
| Au/AC-F _{1.5} I _{1.5} | < 4.0 | 5.6 |
| Au/AC-F ₂ I ₂ | 4.3 | 17.1 |
| Au/AC-F ₀ I ₁ | 6.8 | 9.4 |

Table S4 EXAFS fitting parameters at the Au L₃-edge for various samples ($S_0^2=0.81$)

| Sample | Shell | N^a | $R(\text{\AA})^b$ | $\sigma^2 \times 10^3 (\text{\AA}^2)^c$ | $\Delta E_0 (\text{eV})^d$ | R factor |
|-------------------------------------|-------|---------|-------------------|---|----------------------------|------------|
| Au foil | Au-Au | 12* | 2.86±0.01 | 8.4±0.5 | 4.1±0.8 | 0.010 |
| AuCl | Au-Cl | 3.0±0.3 | 2.28±0.01 | 3.8±0.6 | 10.2±1.2 | 0.012 |
| AuCl ₃ | Au-Cl | 4.5±0.2 | 2.29±0.01 | 2.4±0.3 | 10.4±0.1 | 0.005 |
| Au/AC | Au-Cl | 0.5±0.1 | 2.26±0.01 | 1.0±0.4 | 6.9±3.0 | 0.006 |
| | Au-Au | 8.1±0.8 | 2.86±0.01 | 7.1±0.6 | 4.4±0.9 | |
| Au/AC-F ₁ I ₁ | Au-Cl | 1.4±0.1 | 2.28±0.01 | 1.7±0.8 | 10.6±1.4 | 0.010 |
| | Au-Au | 5.6±0.8 | 2.86±0.01 | 7.5±0.9 | 4.1±1.2 | |

^a N : coordination numbers; ^b R : bond distance; ^c σ^2 : Debye-Waller factors; ^d ΔE_0 : the inner potential correction. R factor: goodness of fit.