

Electronic Supplementary Information

Large-Scale and Solvent-Free Synthesis of Magnetic Bamboo-Like Nitrogen-Doped Carbon Nanotubes with Nickel Active Sites for Photothermal-Driven CO₂ Fixation

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Chemicals. All chemicals were purchased from commercial supplies and used without further purification. Nickel acetate ($\text{Ni}(\text{CH}_3\text{COO})_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 98%), zinc hydroxide ($\text{Zn}(\text{OH})_2$, 98%), nickel nitrate hexahydrate ($\text{Ni}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 98%), zinc nitrate hexahydrate ($\text{Zn}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 98%) 2-methylimidazole (2-MeIM, 99%), and methanol (CH_3OH , 99%) were received from Tianjin Fuchen Chemical Corporation. Amines (>98%), phenylsilane (PhSiH_3 , 98%), and *N, N*-Dimethylformamide (DMF, 98%) were received from Aladdin. Carbon dioxide and Ar gas were obtained from Tianjin Dongrun Gas Co., Ltd.

Characterizations. The morphology and structure were acquired by field-emission scanning electron microscopy with different accelerating voltages (SEM, FEI Nova NanoSEM450) and transmission electron microscopy (TEM, FEI Talos F200S, 200 kV). The aberration-corrected high-angle annular dark-field scanning transmission electron microscopy (AC-HAADF-STEM) measurements were taken on a Titan Themis Cubed G2 60-300, FEI. X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns were investigated by a Bruker D8-Davinci equipped with $\text{Cu K}\alpha$ radiation source. X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) measurements were conducted on a Thermo Scientific ESCALab-250Xi spectrometer with monochromatic $\text{Al K}\alpha$ radiation, and the binding energies were calibrated using the C 1s peak at 284.6 eV. Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherms were acquired on a surface area and porosity analyzer (Micromeritics ASAP 2020). The content of Ni atoms was investigated by an Optima 7300 DV inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectroscopy (ICP-OES). Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) spectra were performed on a Bruker VECTOR-22 spectrometer. The ^1H -

nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were analyzed and identified by a Bruker 400 spectrometer using CDCl_3 as a solvent and tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. Electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) spectra were collected by a Bruker EMXnano. Raman spectra were recorded on a Renishaw inVia Reflex UV Raman spectrometer with an excitation laser wavelength of $\lambda = 532$ nm. The obtained liquid solution after the reaction was identified by GC-MS. Magnetic hysteresis loops of the materials were measured at room temperature via a vibrating sample magnetometer (VSM, MPMS XL-7).

Computational details. All the calculations are performed in the framework of the density functional theory with the projector augmented plane-wave method, as implemented in the Vienna ab initio simulation package. The generalized gradient approximation proposed by Perdew, Burke, and Ernzerhof is selected for the exchange-correlation potential. The long range van der Waals interaction is described by the DFT-D3 approach. The cut-off energy for plane wave is set to 550 eV. The energy criterion is set to 10^{-6} eV in iterative solution of the Kohn-Sham equation. A vacuum layer of 20 Å is added perpendicular to the sheet to avoid artificial interaction between periodic images. The Brillouin zone integration is performed using a $2 \times 2 \times 1$ k-mesh. All the structures are relaxed until the residual forces on the atoms have declined to less than 0.01 eV/Å.

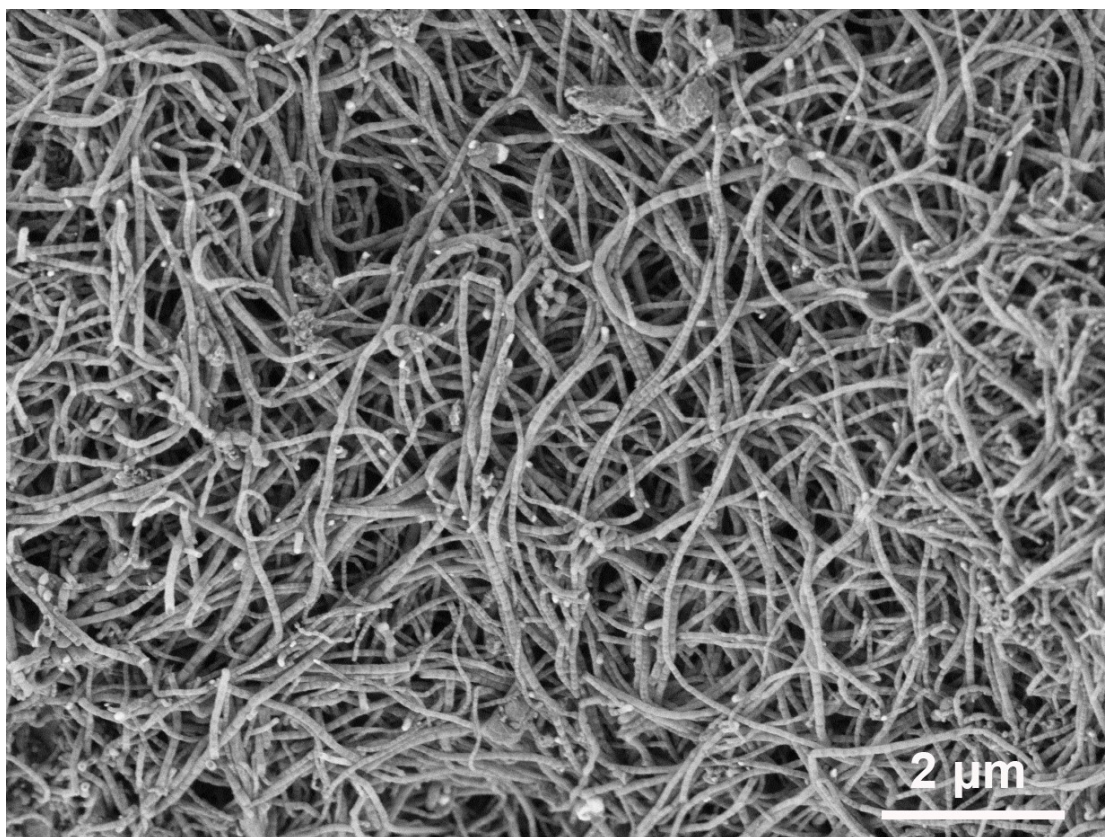


Figure S1. SEM image of Ni-SAs/NPs@BNCNTs (concentric backscattered retractable detector at 1 kV).

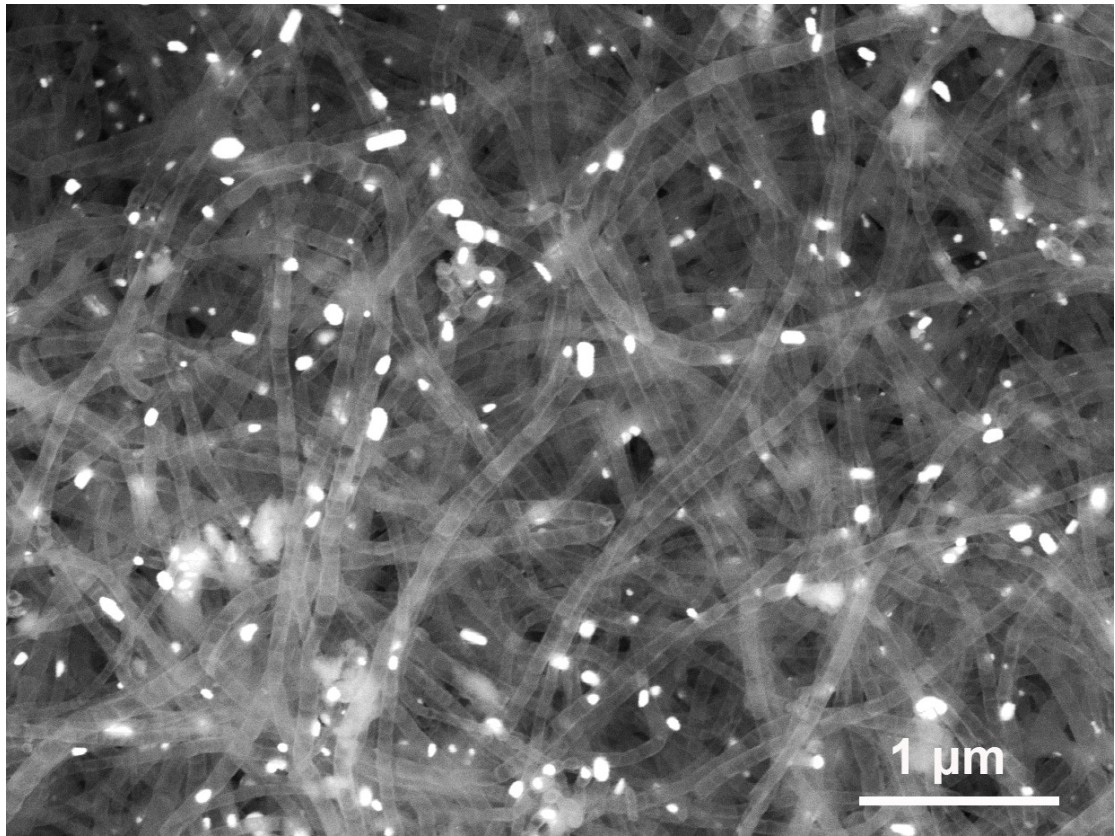


Figure S2. SEM image of Ni-SAs/NPs@BNCNTs (concentric backscattered retractable detector at 5 kV).

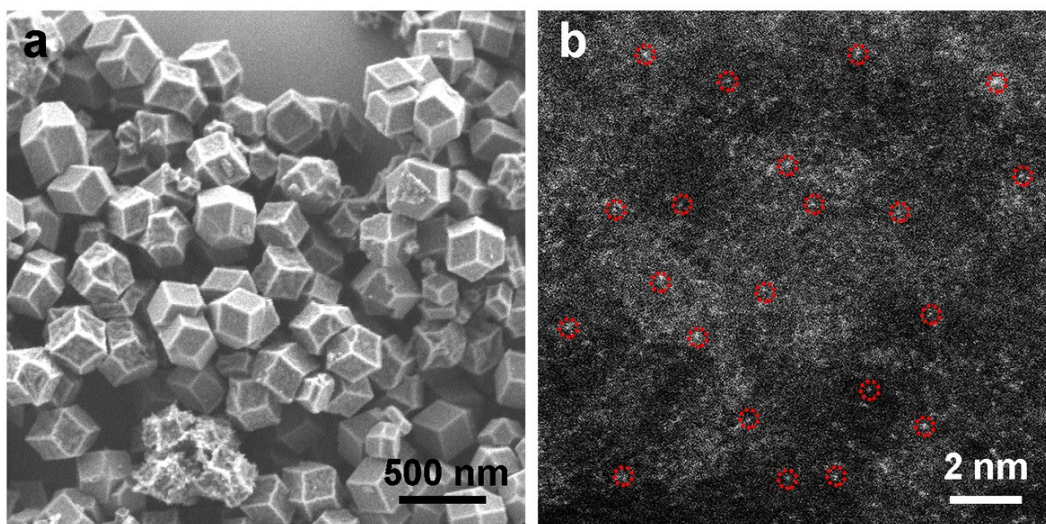


Figure S3. (a) SEM image and (b) aberration-corrected HAADF-STEM image of the Ni-SAs@NC.

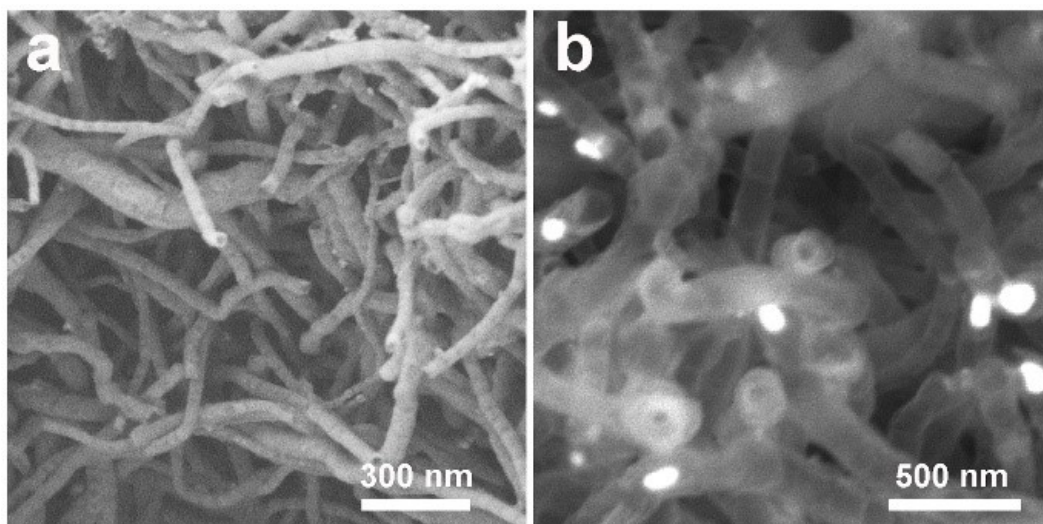


Figure S4. SEM images of the Ni-NPs@BNCNTs (a) concentric backscattered retractable detector at 1 kV and (b) at 5 kV.

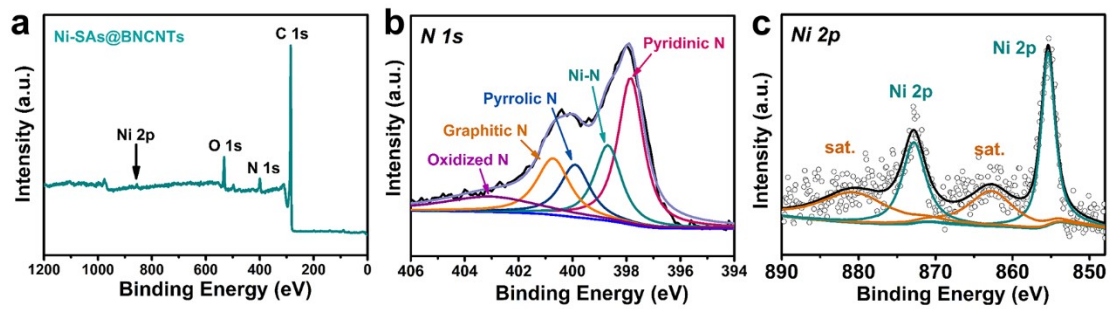


Figure S5. (a) Wide-survey XPS spectrum, (b) high-resolution N 1s XPS spectrum, and (c) high-resolution Ni 2p XPS spectrum of Ni-SAs@BNCNTs.

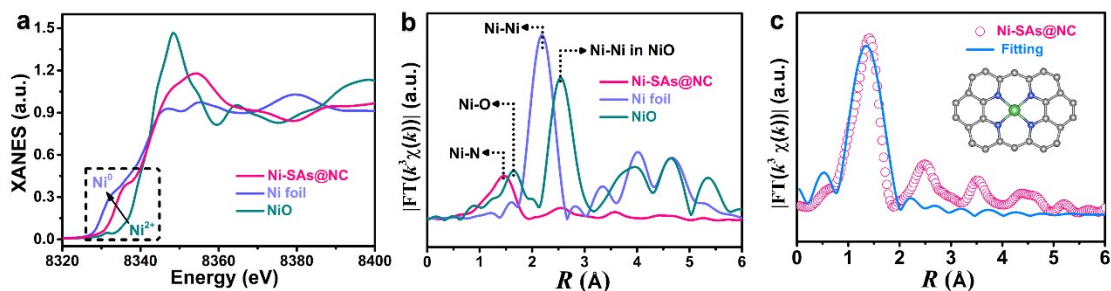


Figure S6. (a) Ni K-edge XANES and (b) Fourier transform (FT) Ni K-edge EXAFS spectra of Ni foil, NiO, and Ni-SAs@NC. (c) FT-EXAFS R-space fitting curve of Ni-SAs@NC. Inset: the model of Ni-SAs@NC.

To uncover the valence state and coordination environment of single-Ni atoms in Ni-SAs@NC, a synchrotron-based X-ray absorption test was performed. The X-ray absorption near-edge structure (XANES) spectra disclose that the energy absorption threshold values of Ni in Ni-SAs@NC lies between those of Ni foil and NiO, indicating the oxidation state of the single-Ni species between 0 and +2 (Figure 6a). Fourier transform-extended X-ray absorption fine structures (FT-EXAFS) of Ni-SAs@NC display Ni-N peaks at 1.4 Å without Ni-O (1.6 Å) or Ni-Ni bonds (2.2 Å), illustrating the single-atomic Ni dispersion (Figure 6b). Additionally, the EXAFS fittings result confirms that Ni-N₄ configuration is the dominant coordination mode of Ni atoms in Ni-SA@BNCNTs (Figure 6c).

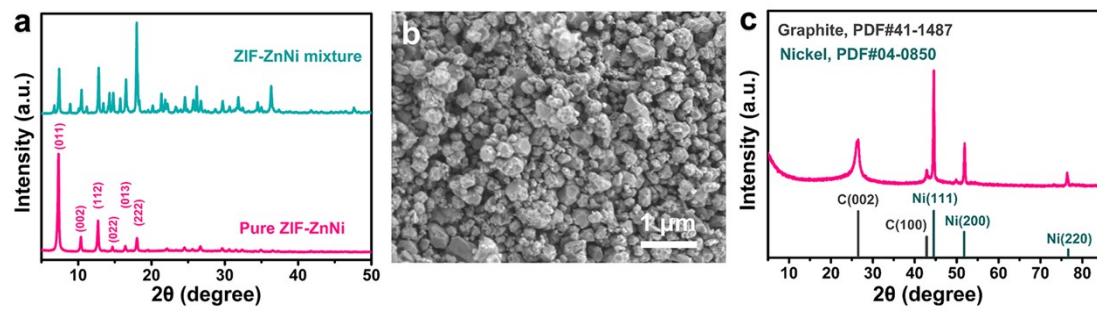


Figure S7. (a) XRD patterns of ZIF-ZnNi mixture and pure ZIF-ZnNi. (b) SEM image of the pure ZIF-ZnNi. (c) XRD pattern of Ni-SAs/NPs@BNCNTs.

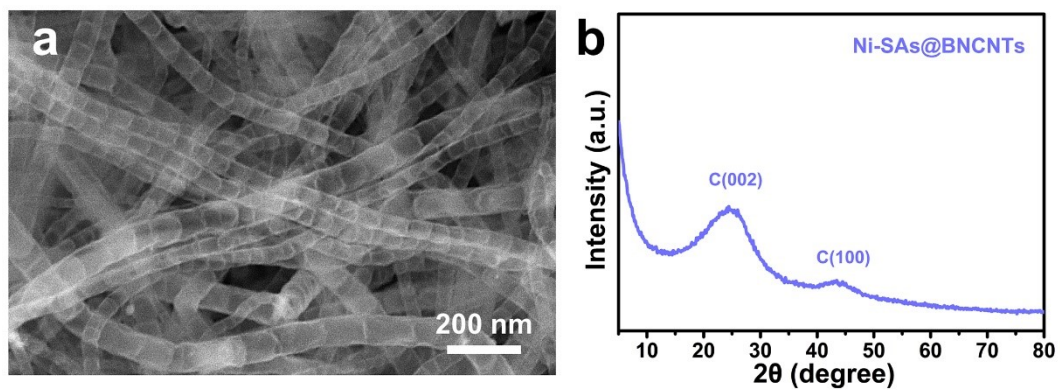


Figure S8. (a) SEM images of Ni-SAs@BNCNTs. (b) XRD pattern of the Ni-SAs@BNCNTs.

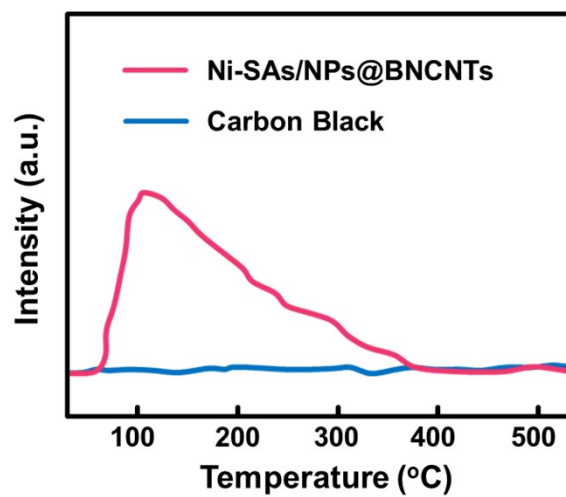


Figure S9. CO₂-TPD profiles of Ni-SAs/NPs@BNCNTs and carbon black.

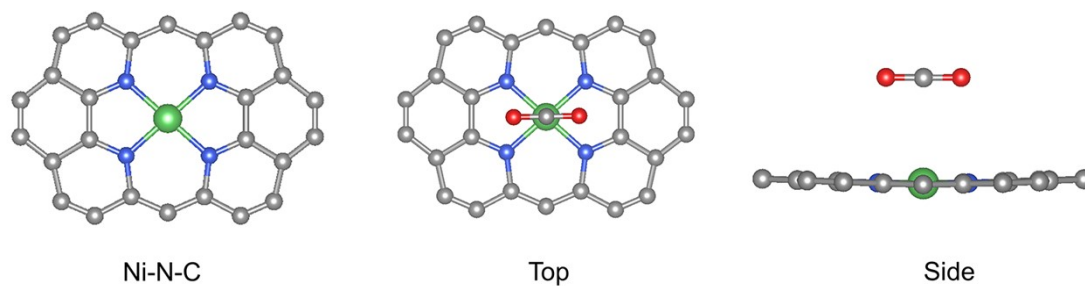


Figure S10. CO₂ adsorption model on Ni-N-C.

Table S1. The effect of photogenerated electrons on the adsorption energy of CO₂.

Adsorption Energy		
Data	Ni-N-C	Ni-N-C and e ⁻
E _b	0.224 eV	-0.072 eV
Ni-C _{CO2} (distance)	3.319 Å	3.285 Å

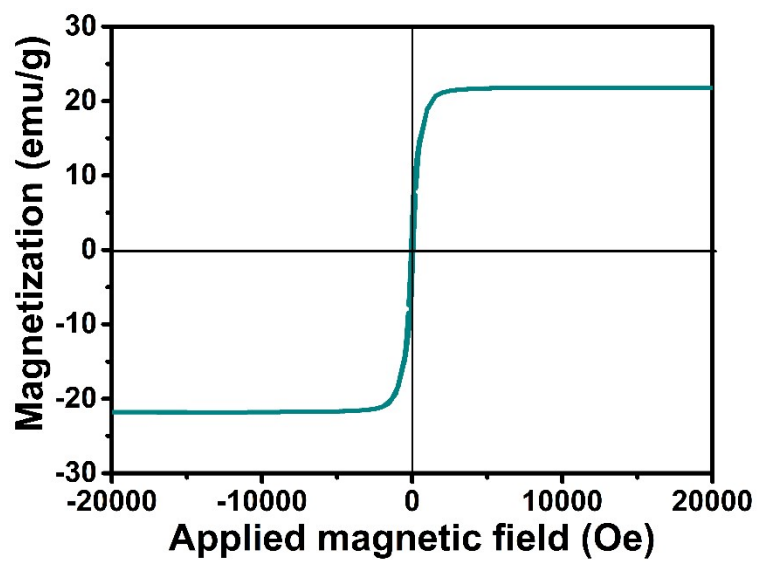


Figure S11. The magnetic hysteresis loop of Ni-NPs/SAs@BNCNTs.

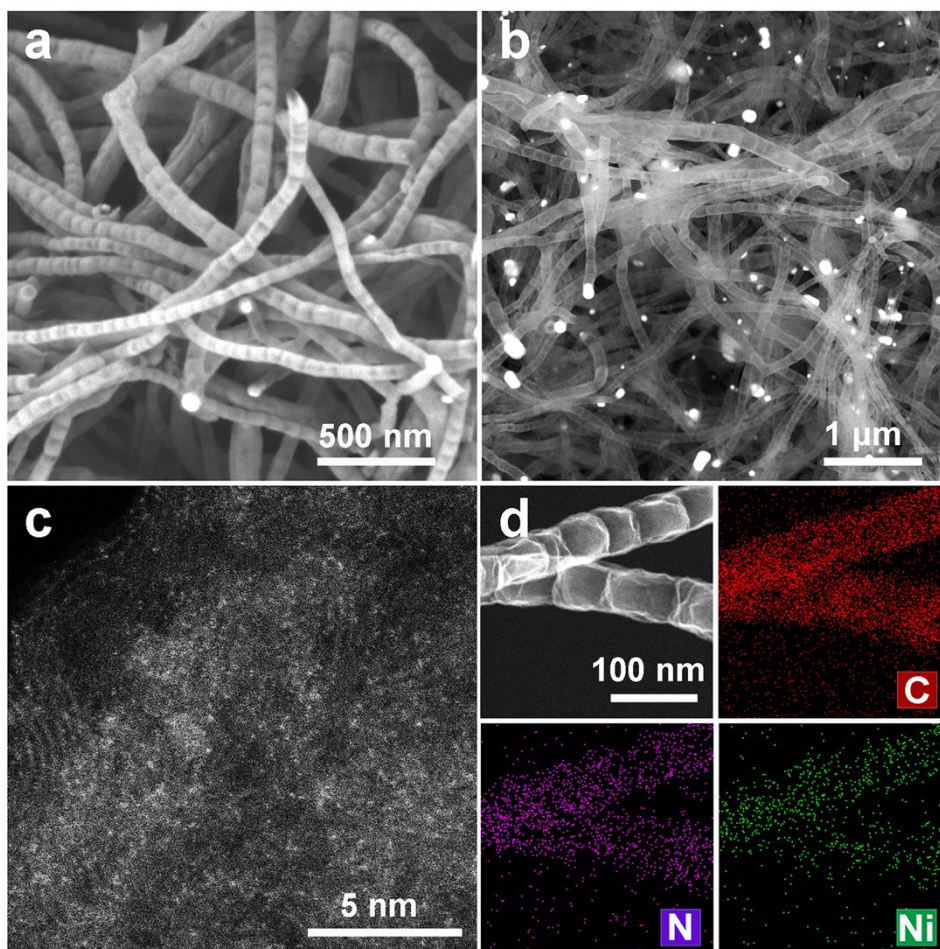


Figure S12. (a) SEM image (at 1 kV), (b) SEM image (at 5 kV), (c) Aberration-corrected HAADF-STEM image, and (d) HAADF-STEM image and corresponding element mappings of Ni-SAs/NPs@BNCNTs after using for 10 times.

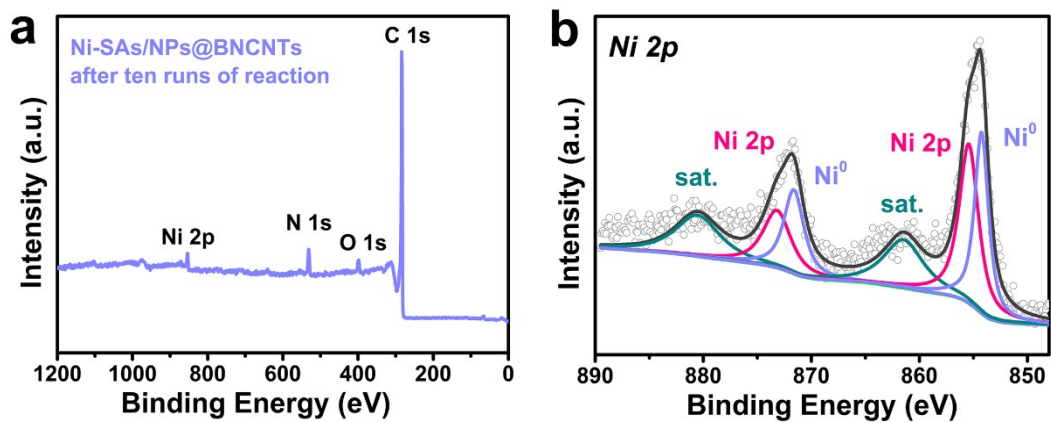


Figure S13. XPS spectra of Ni-SAs/NPs@BNCNTs after using for 10 times (a) survey scan and (b) Ni 2p.

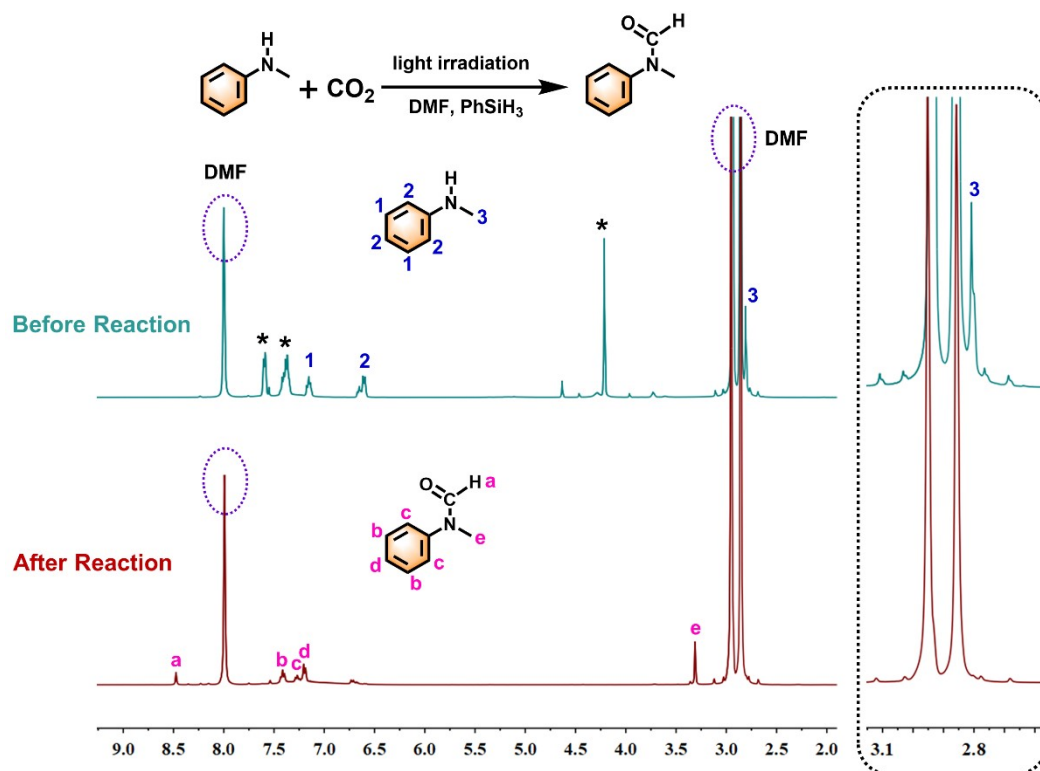


Figure S14. Crude $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectra of N -formylation of N -methylaniline with CO_2 and PhSiH_3 by using Ni-SAs/NPs@BNCNTs . Signals with asterisk are related to PhSiH_3 .

Product (N -methylformanilide). $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 8.48 (s, 1H), δ 7.42 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.28 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), δ 3.33 (s, 3H).

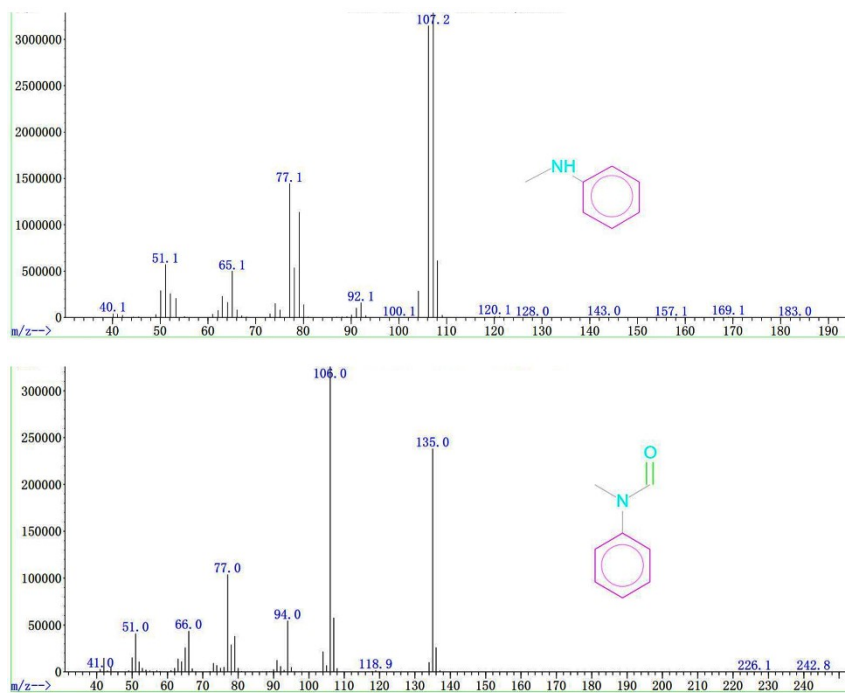


Figure S15. The mass spectra of *N*-methylaniline and *N*-methylformanilide.

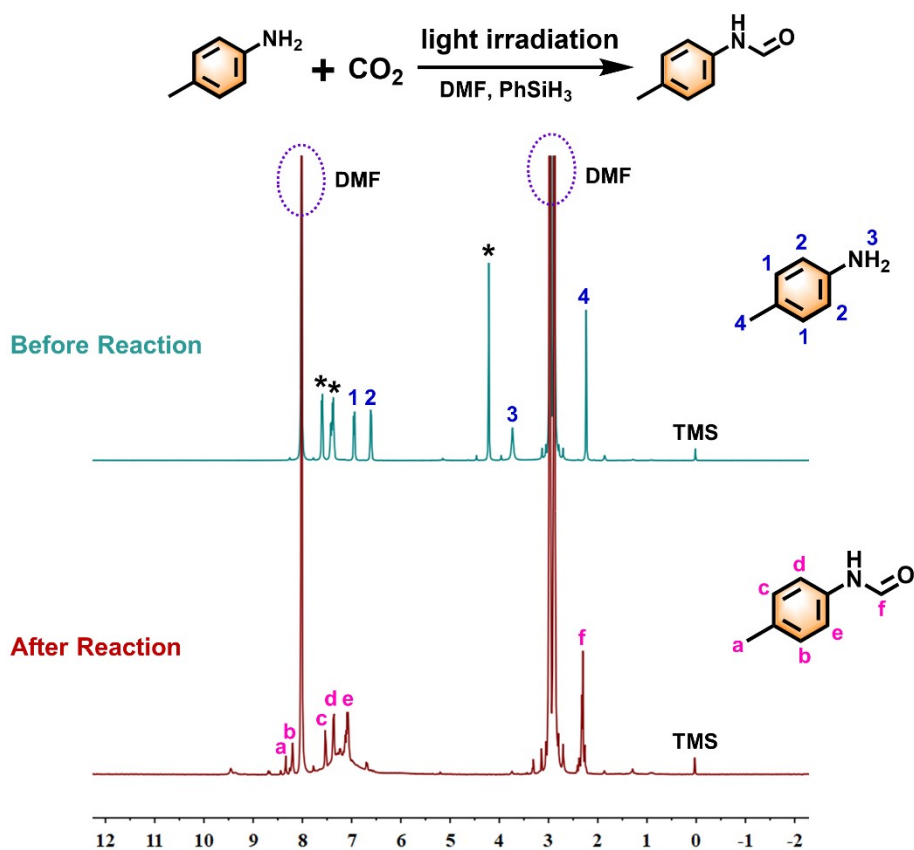


Figure S16. Crude $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectra of *N*-formylation of *p*-toluidine with CO_2 and PhSiH_3 by using Ni-SAs/NPs@BNCNTs. Signals with asterisk are related to PhSiH_3 .

Product (*N-p*-tolylformamide). $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) \square 8.42, 8.15 (d, $J = 11.35$ Hz, and br, total 1H), 7.42 (d, $J = 8.72$, 1H), 7.15 (t, $J = 8.54$, 2H), 6.97 (d, $J = 8.01$, 1H), 2.32 (d, $J = 6.47$, 3H).

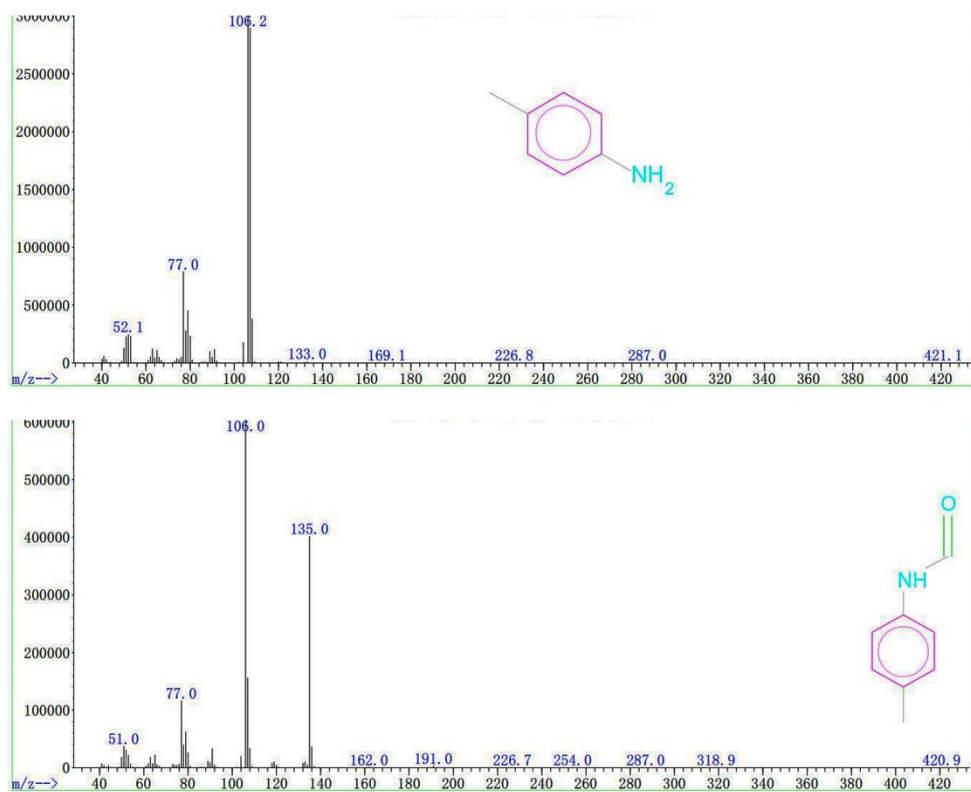


Figure S17. The mass spectra of *p*-toluidine and *N*-*p*-tolylformamide.

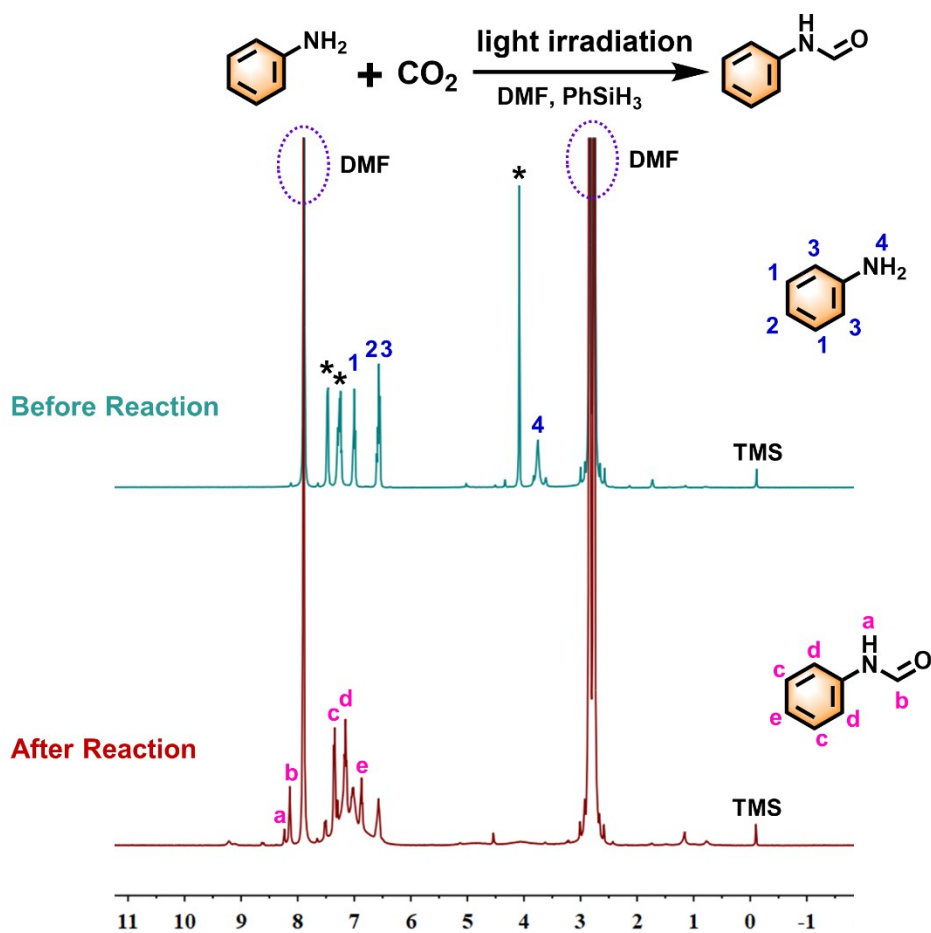


Figure S18. Crude ¹H-NMR spectra of *N*-formylation of aniline with CO₂ and PhSiH₃ by using Ni-SAs/NPs@BNCNTs. Signals with asterisk are related to PhSiH₃.

Product (*N*-phenylformamide). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) □ δ = 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.36 (s, 1H), 7.60-7.48 (m, 1H), 7.43-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.05 (m, 2H).

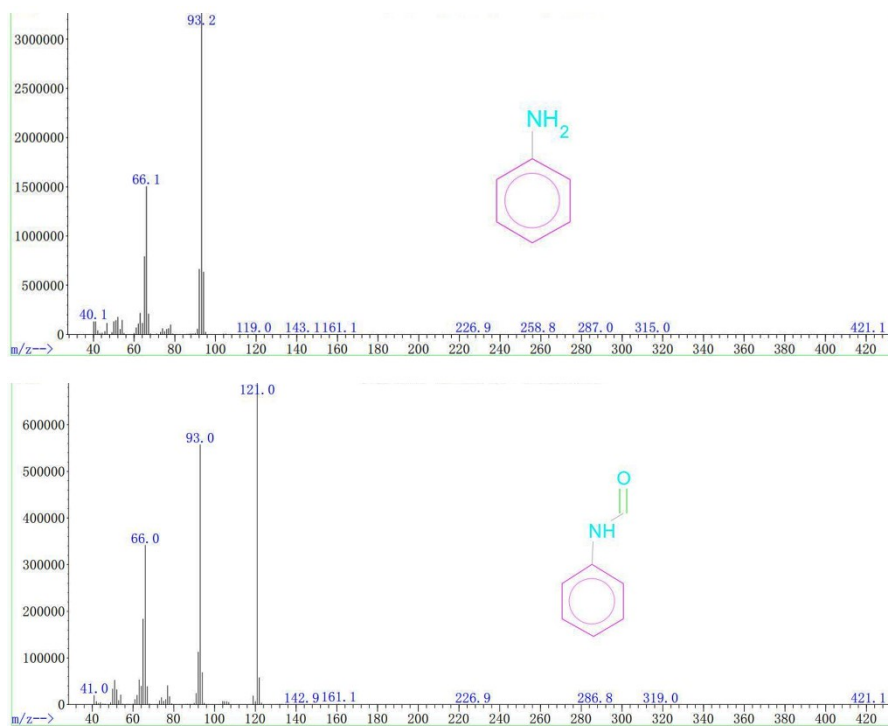


Figure S19. The mass spectra of aniline and *N*-phenylformamide.

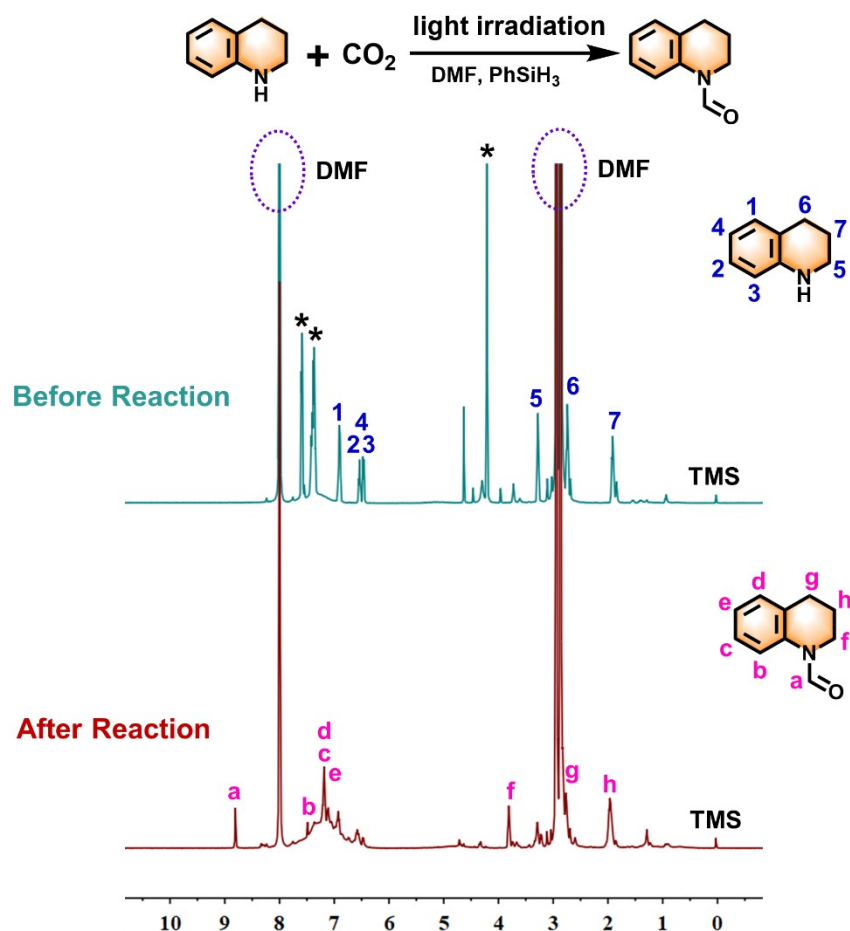


Figure S20. Crude ^1H -NMR spectra of *N*-formylation of aniline with CO_2 and PhSiH_3 by using Ni-SAs/NPs@BNCNTs. Signals with asterisk are related to PhSiH_3 .

Product (3,4-dihydroquinoline-1(2*H*)-carbaldehyde). ^1H -NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) □ major isomer δ 8.76 (s, 1H), 7.24 – 7.04 (m, 4H), 3.81 – 3.78 (m, 2H), 2.80 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 1.97 – 1.91 (m, 2H); minor isomer δ 8.30 (s, 0.09H), 7.42 – 7.30 (m, 0.36H), 3.64 – 3.62 (m, 0.18H), 2.89 (t, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 0.18H), 2.05 – 1.99 (m, 0.18H).

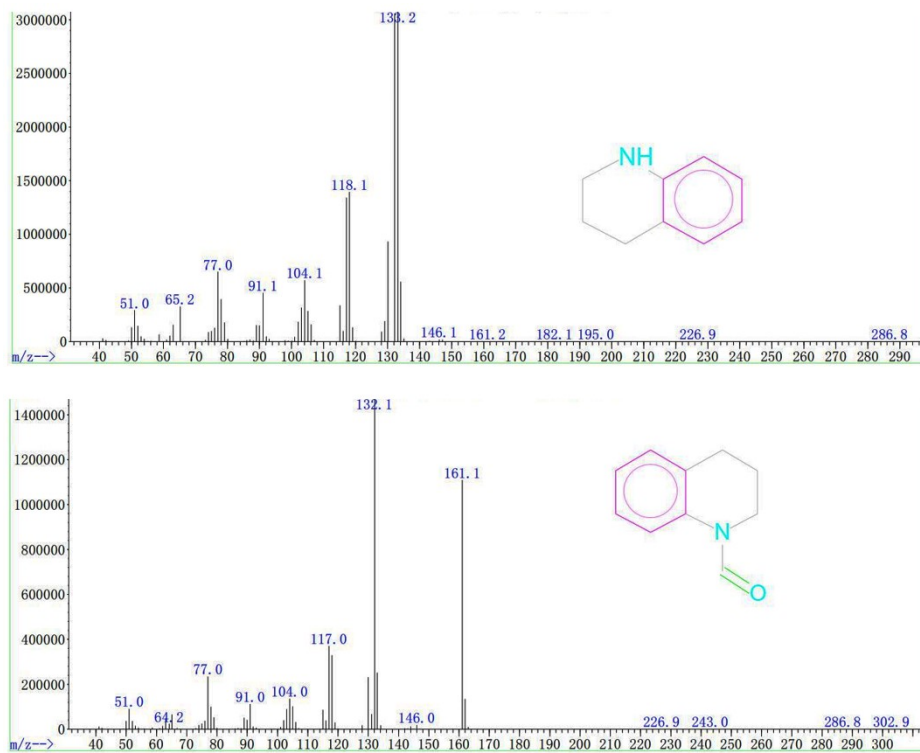


Figure S21. 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline and 3,4-dihydroquinoline-1(2H)-carbaldehyde.

Table S2. Summary of high performance metal-based catalysts for *N*-formylation.

Catalyst	Metal	Hydrosilane	Reaction Conditions			Yield (%)	Reference
			T (°C)	P _{CO2} (MPa)	Time (h)		
PdNPore	Pd	PhSiH ₃	60	1	20	90	<i>Asian J. Org. Chem.</i> 2022, e202200064
Zn powder	Zn	(EtO) ₃ SiH	120	1.5	24	80	<i>Chin. J. Chem.</i> 2020, 38, 1057-1064
Br-PMOF(Ir)	Ir	PhSiH ₃	25	0.1	43	83	<i>Chem. Eur. J.</i> 2022, e202200555
Pd@HMP-1	Pd	diphenylmethylsilane	60	1	20	93	<i>ChemCatChem</i> 2017, 9, 1939-1946
Pd-PS-amtp	Pd	poly(methyl-hydrosiloxane)	50	1	10	96	<i>ChemistrySelect</i> 2019, 4, 3961-3972
ZnO+TBAB	Zn	PhSiH ₃	40	1	2	98	<i>Catal. Commun.</i> 2021, 149, 106195
Pt ₁ /Ti _{3-x} C ₂ T _y	Pt	Et ₃ SiH	140	1	10	97	<i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i> 2019, 141, 4086-4093
Zn-TpPa	Zn	PhSiH ₃	30	0.1	12	97.5	<i>Appl. Catal B-Environ.</i> 2021, 294, 120238
Zn(OAc) ₂ @P(BiPy-DVB)-1	Zn	PhSiH ₃	30	0.1	5	94	<i>J. CO₂ Util.</i> 2022, 65, 102214
ZnPc/g-C ₃ N ₄	Zn	PhSiH ₃	20 W LED	0.1	24	95	<i>Catal. Sci. Technol.</i> 2022, 12, 2688-2702
Cu/BiVO ₄	Cu	PhSiH ₃	20 W LED	0.1	24	64	<i>J. CO₂ Util.</i> 2021, 45, 101402
Ni-SAs/NPs@BNCNTs	Ni	PhSiH₃	0.2 W/cm²	0.1	12	95	This work