

# Highly Efficient and Magnetically Recyclable Non-noble Metal Fly Ash-based Catalysts for 4-Nitrophenol Reduction

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**Table S1.** Comparison of catalytic conditions and apparent first order rate constants for reduction of 4-NPh by FA<sub>mag</sub>@CS@CuFe and similar catalytic systems recently reported.

Catalyst	mass <sup>a</sup> (mg)	V <sup>b</sup> (mL)	C4NPh <sup>c</sup> (mg/mL)	NaBH <sub>4</sub> <sup>d</sup> (mg)	K1 (min <sup>-1</sup> )	ref
FA-Pd-Ag <sup>f</sup>	0.2	1.0	1.4×10 <sup>-3</sup>	37.0	0.7176	[54]
FA-Pd <sup>f</sup>	0.2	1.0	1.4×10 <sup>-3</sup>	37.0	0.5449	[54]
FA-Ag <sup>f</sup>	0.2	1.0	1.4×10 <sup>-3</sup>	37.0	0.5572	[54]
Au-PPy/FA <sup>g</sup>	1.0	8.6	9.7×10 <sup>-2</sup>	68.0	0.473	[55]
CuFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /Ag@COF <sup>h</sup>	2.0	3.0	4.6×10 <sup>-2</sup>	3.4	0.77	[56]
CuFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /Ag <sup>h</sup>	2.0	3.0	4.6×10 <sup>-2</sup>	3.4	0.25	[56]
CuFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> @COF <sup>h</sup>	2.0	3.0	4.6×10 <sup>-2</sup>	3.4	0.15	[56]
ESM/CuFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> <sup>i</sup>	10.0	40.0	2.0×10 <sup>-2</sup>	0.05	0.748	[57]
CuFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /CNC@Ag@ZIF-8 <sup>j</sup>	3.0	3.0	4.6×10 <sup>-2</sup>	3.4	0.64	[58]
CuFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /CNC@Ag <sup>j</sup>	3.0	3.0	4.6×10 <sup>-2</sup>	3.4	0.25	[58]
CuFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /CNC <sup>j</sup>	3.0	3.0	4.6×10 <sup>-2</sup>	3.4	0.08	[58]
98CuFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> -2RGO <sup>k</sup>	0.2	8.0	7.04×10 <sup>-1</sup>	7.56	0.48	[59]
96CuFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> -4RGO <sup>k</sup>	0.2	8.0	7.04×10 <sup>-1</sup>	7.56	1.032	[59]
94CuFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> -6RGO <sup>k</sup>	0.2	8.0	7.04×10 <sup>-1</sup>	7.56	0.618	[59]
92CuFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> -8RGO <sup>k</sup>	0.2	8.0	7.04×10 <sup>-1</sup>	7.56	0.588	[59]
C-dot@CuFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> <sup>l</sup>	0.05	3.0	1.40×10 <sup>-2</sup>	9.45	4.0258	[60]
CuFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> -CDs <sup>m</sup>	0.05	3.0	1.70×10 <sup>-2</sup>	9.5	9.12	[61]
FA <sub>mag</sub> @CS@CuFe	100	30	7.7	56.7	1.9761	This work

<sup>a</sup> catalysts mass; <sup>b</sup> volume total of the reaction mixture; <sup>c</sup> concentration of 4-NPh in the reaction mixture; <sup>d</sup> mass of NaBH<sub>4</sub> in the reaction mixture; <sup>e</sup> apparent first-order kinetic constant of reduction of 4-NPh; <sup>f</sup> FA-Pd-Ag - Coal Fly ash supported Pd-Ag bimetallic nanoparticles, FA-Pd- Coal Fly ash supported Pd nanoparticles, FA-Ag- Coal Fly ash supported Ag nanoparticles; <sup>g</sup> Au-PPy/FA - core-shell composite microspheres with fly ash (FA) and Au nanoparticles embedded in polypyrrole (PPy) chains; <sup>h</sup> CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>/Ag@COF - core-shell structure nanocomposite containing magnetic CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>/Ag nanoparticles and porous COF (covalent organic frameworks), where 1,3,5-tris(4-aminophenyl)benzene and 2,5-dimethoxyterephthaldehyde, was utilized as the COF shell material; <sup>i</sup> ESM/CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> - eggshell membrane-CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanocomposite, the 4-NPh conversion 98.8% during 5.5 min; <sup>j</sup> CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>/CNC@Ag@ZIF-8 - cellulose nanocrystals (CNC) supported magnetic CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Ag@ZIF-8 nanospheres where ZIF-8 framework is Zn(MeIM)<sub>2</sub> where MeIM is 2-methylimidazole, CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>/CNC@Ag nanocomposite consisted of cellulose nanocrystals and CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>/Ag nanoparticles, CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>/CNC - cellulose nanocrystals supported CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles; <sup>k</sup> 98CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-2RGO -reduced graphene oxide (RGO) nanocomposite with 98 wt%CuFe<sub>2</sub> O<sub>4</sub> and 2 wt% RGO, 96CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-4RGO - nanocomposite with 96 wt%CuFe<sub>2</sub> O<sub>4</sub> and 4 wt% RGO, 94CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-6RGO - nanocomposite with 94 wt%CuFe<sub>2</sub> O<sub>4</sub> and 6 wt% RGO, 92CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-8RGO - nanocomposite with 92 wt%CuFe<sub>2</sub> O<sub>4</sub> and 8 wt% RGO; <sup>l</sup> C-dot@CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> - core-shell carbon dot@CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> hybrid material; <sup>m</sup> CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-CDs- Carbon dots coated CuFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanocomposite

Figure S1. Detailed imaging and X-ray microanalysis of the FA<sub>mag</sub>@CS@Cu sample

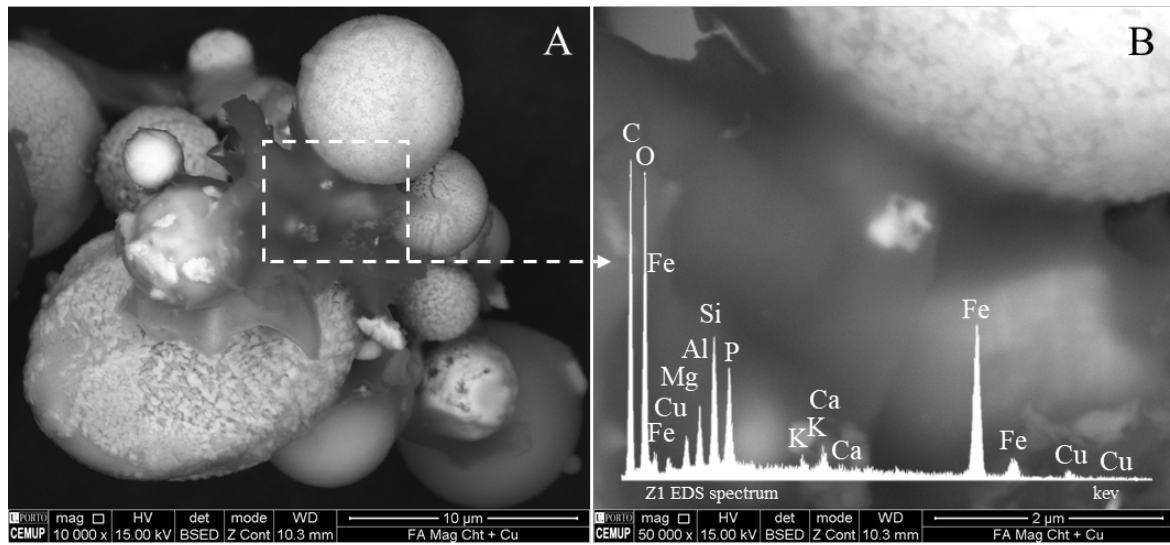
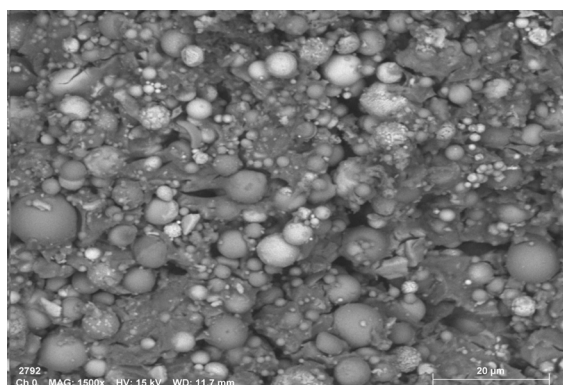
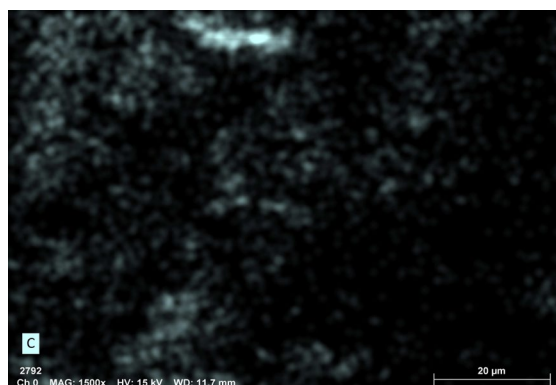


Figure S2. Elemental area-mappings for FA<sub>mag</sub>@CS@Cu sample

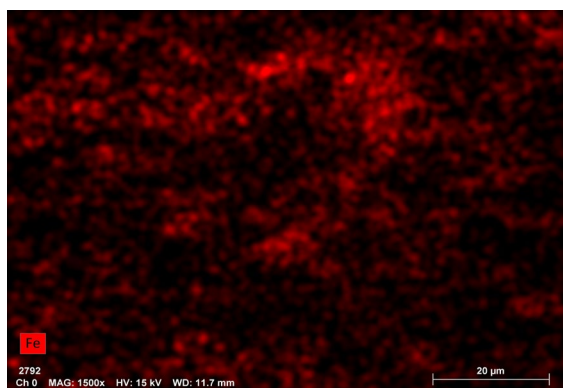
FA<sub>mag</sub>@CS@CuFe



Carbon



Iron



Copper

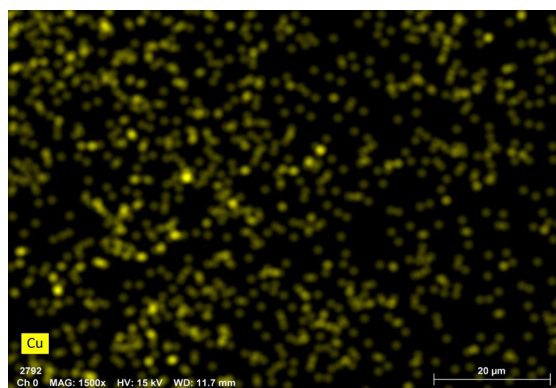


Figure S3. Change of UV-Vis spectrum of 4-NPh during the reduction of 4-NPh by NaBH<sub>4</sub> in the presence of: A - FA<sub>mag</sub>@CS@CuFe, B - CuFe, C - FA<sub>mag</sub>@CS@Cu, D - FA<sub>mag</sub> and E - FA<sub>mag</sub>@CS catalysts (initial 4-NPh concentration  $c = 5.5 \times 10^{-5}$  M, catalyst dosage = 3.3 mg L<sup>-1</sup>, NaBH<sub>4</sub> concentration  $c = 0.05$  M).

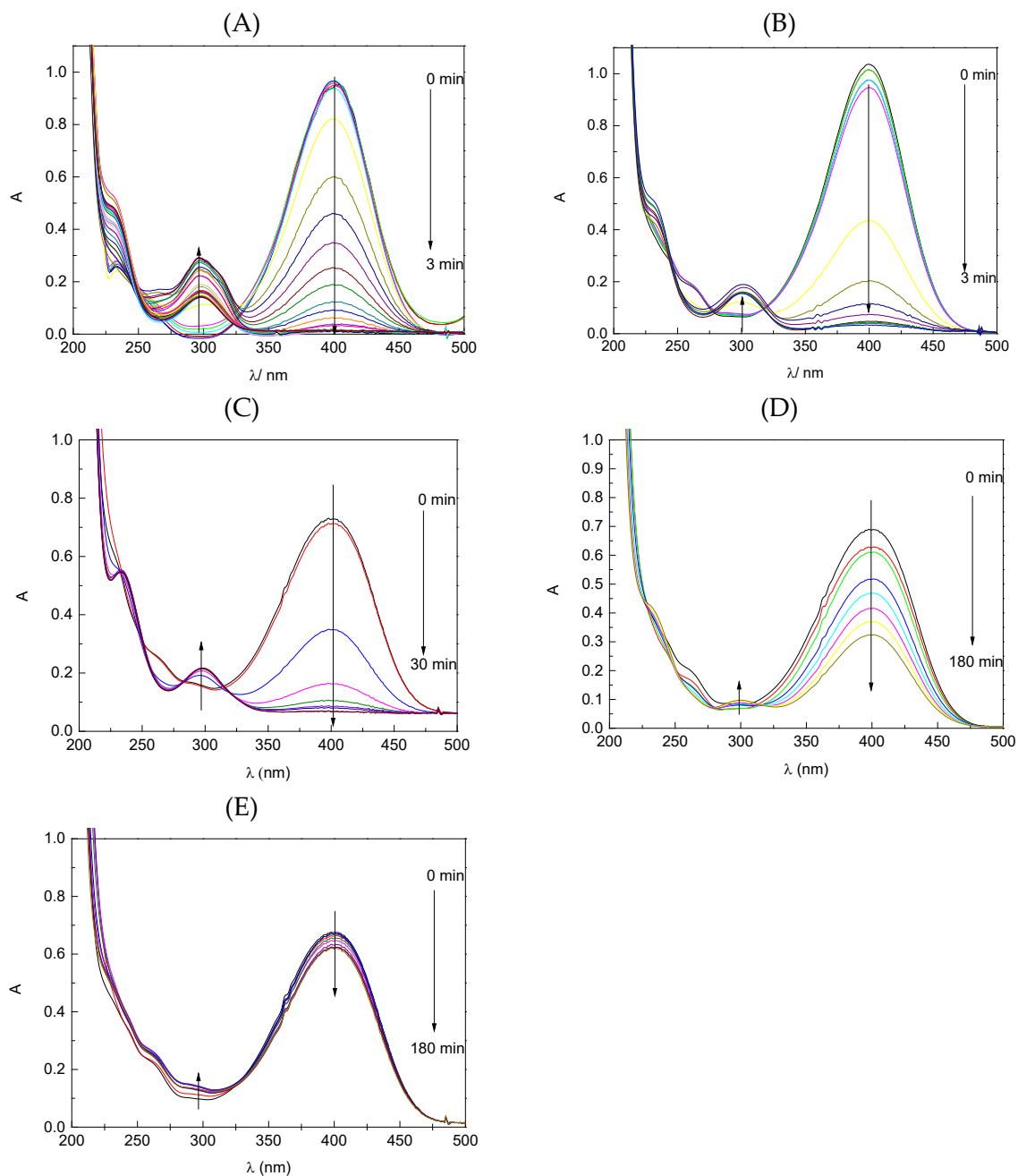


Figure S4. Reproducibility tests of FA<sub>mag</sub> catalyst (initial 4-NPh concentration  $c = 5.5 \times 10^{-5}$  M, catalyst dosage = 3.3 mg L<sup>-1</sup>, NaBH<sub>4</sub> concentration  $c = 0.05$  M).

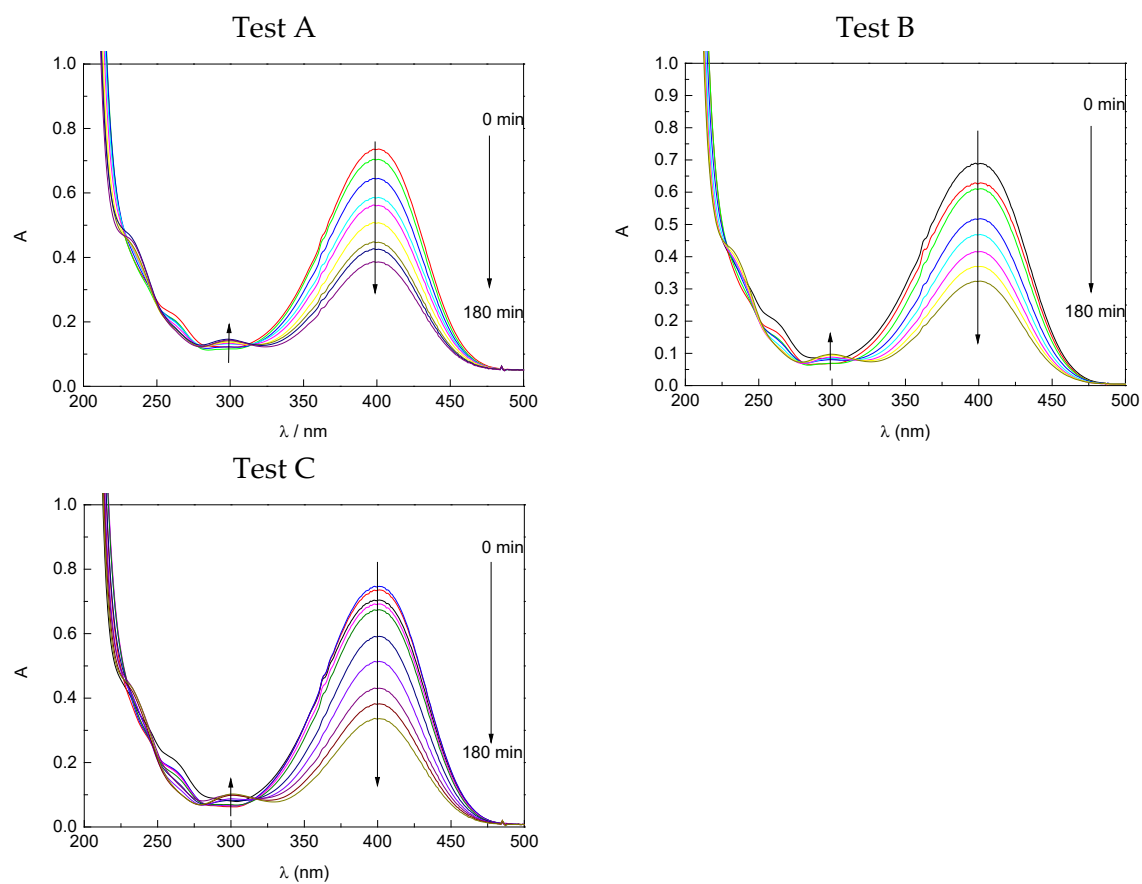


Figure S5. Stability tests of FA<sub>mag</sub>@CS@CuFe catalyst (initial 4-NPh concentration  $c = 5.5 \times 10^{-5}$  M, catalyst dosage = 3.3 mg L<sup>-1</sup>, NaBH<sub>4</sub> concentration  $c = 0.05$  M).

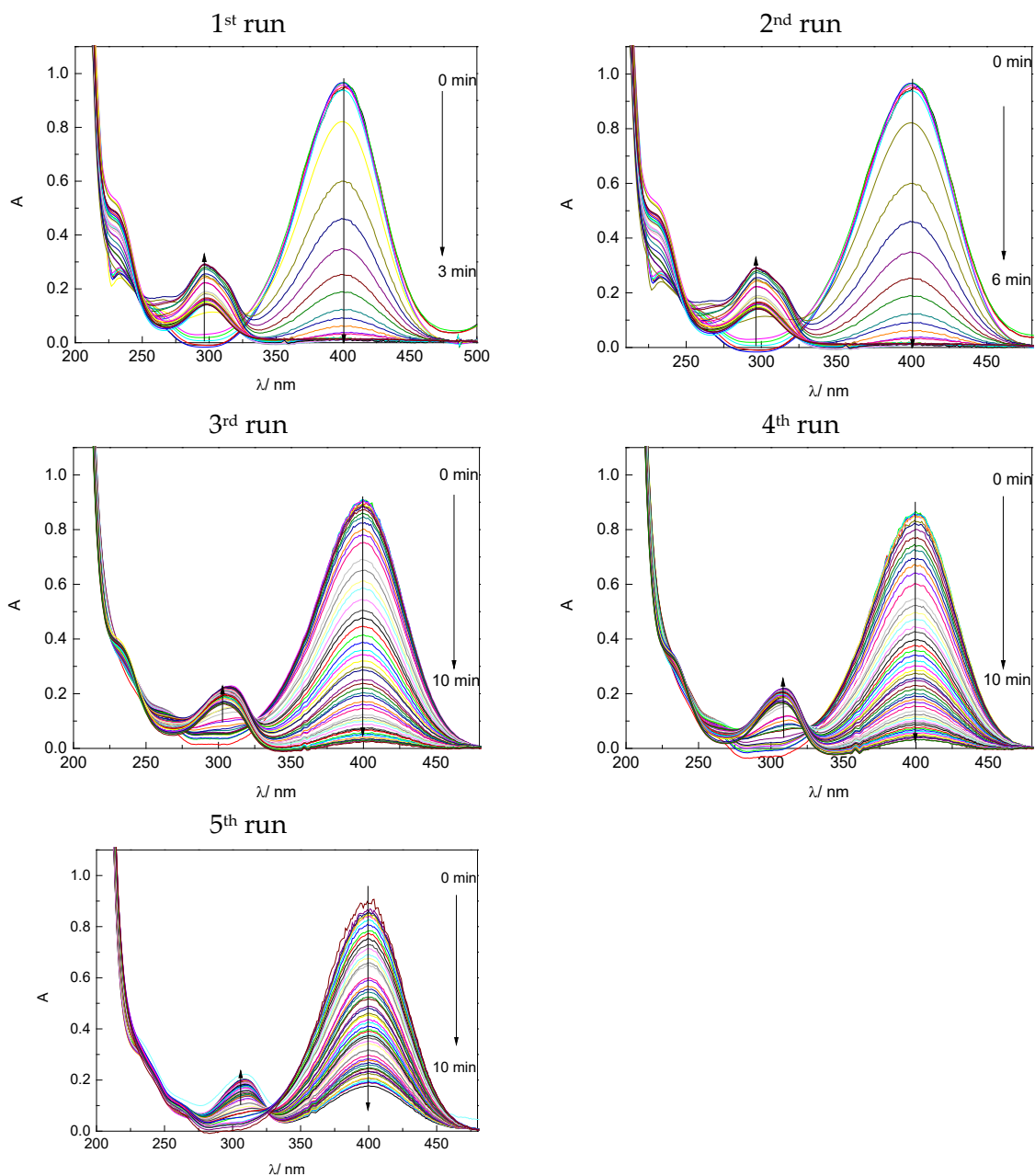


Figure S6. XRD patterns of CuFe nanoparticles, samples FA<sub>mag</sub>, and composite FA<sub>mag</sub>@CS@CuFe, where FA<sub>mag</sub>@CS@CuFe\* is the catalyst after the last catalytic cycle

