

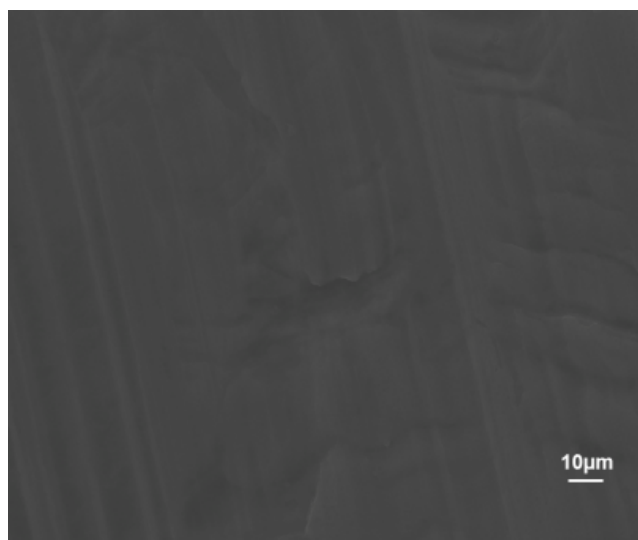
## Supplementary Material

Electrochemical restructuring of copper surfaces using organic additives and its effect on the electrocatalytic reduction of nitrate ions

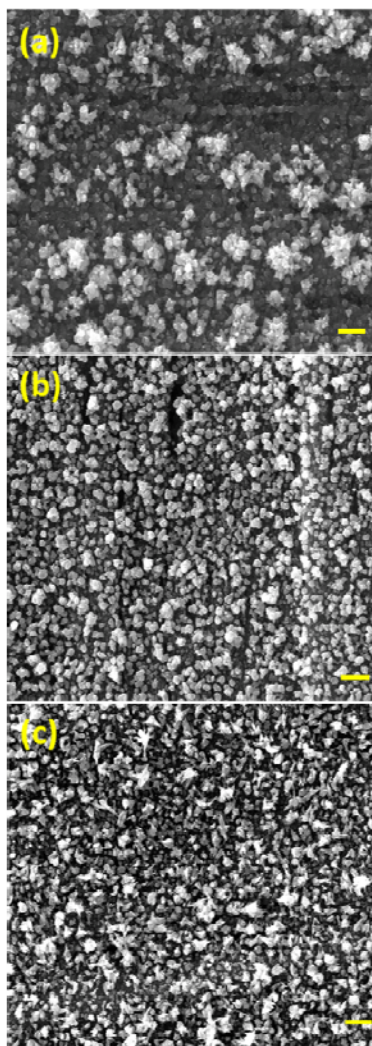
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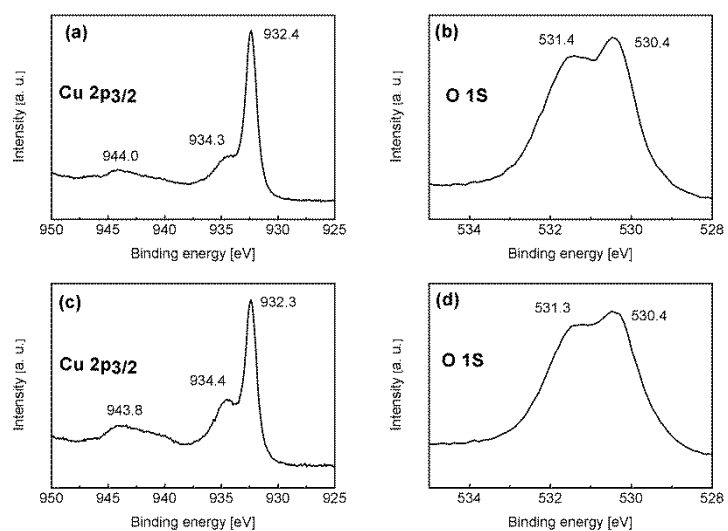
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**Figure S1:** SEM images of an unmodified Cu electrode



**Figure S2:** SEM images of a Cu electrode subjected to 20 potential cycles between -1.5 and 0.5 V at a sweep rate of  $10 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$  in 1 M NaOH containing (a) no additive, (b) 0.1 M benzyl alcohol and (c) 0.1 M phenyl acetic acid. Scale bar is  $5 \mu\text{m}$  in all cases.



**Figure S3:** Cu 2p<sub>3/2</sub> (a, c) and O 1S (b, d) XPS spectra for a Cu electrode subjected to 20 potential cycles between -1.5 and 0.5 V at a sweep rate of 10 mV s<sup>-1</sup> in 1 M NaOH containing 0.1 M benzylalcohol (a, b) and 0.1 M phenylacetic acid (c, d).