

Supporting information

Particularly developed transition from 5D_1 level of Eu^{3+} and its significant contribution to the improved photocatalysis of $(\text{Bi}_3\text{Li})\text{O}_4\text{Cl}_2$ via prolonging decay time of excited state

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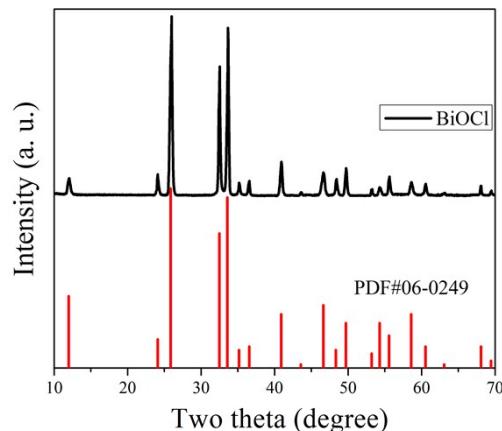
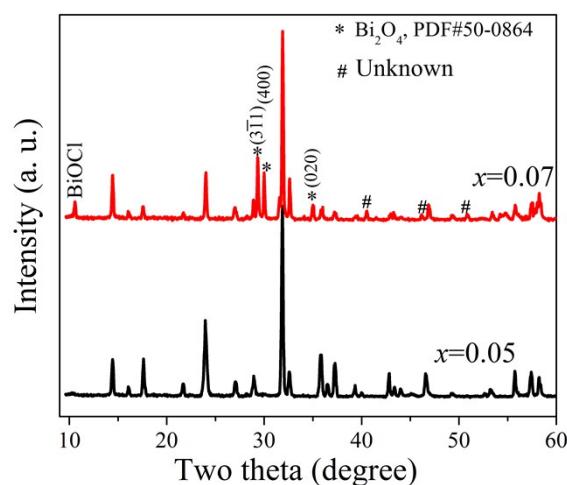


Fig. S1 XRD pattern for the comparative sample of BiOCl compared with standard PDF# 06-0249.



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Fig. S2 XRD patterns of $(\text{Bi}_{3-3x}\text{Eu}_{3x}\text{Li})\text{O}_4\text{Cl}_2$ with $x=0.05$ and 0.07 indicating some impurity

phased appeared when $x>0.05$.

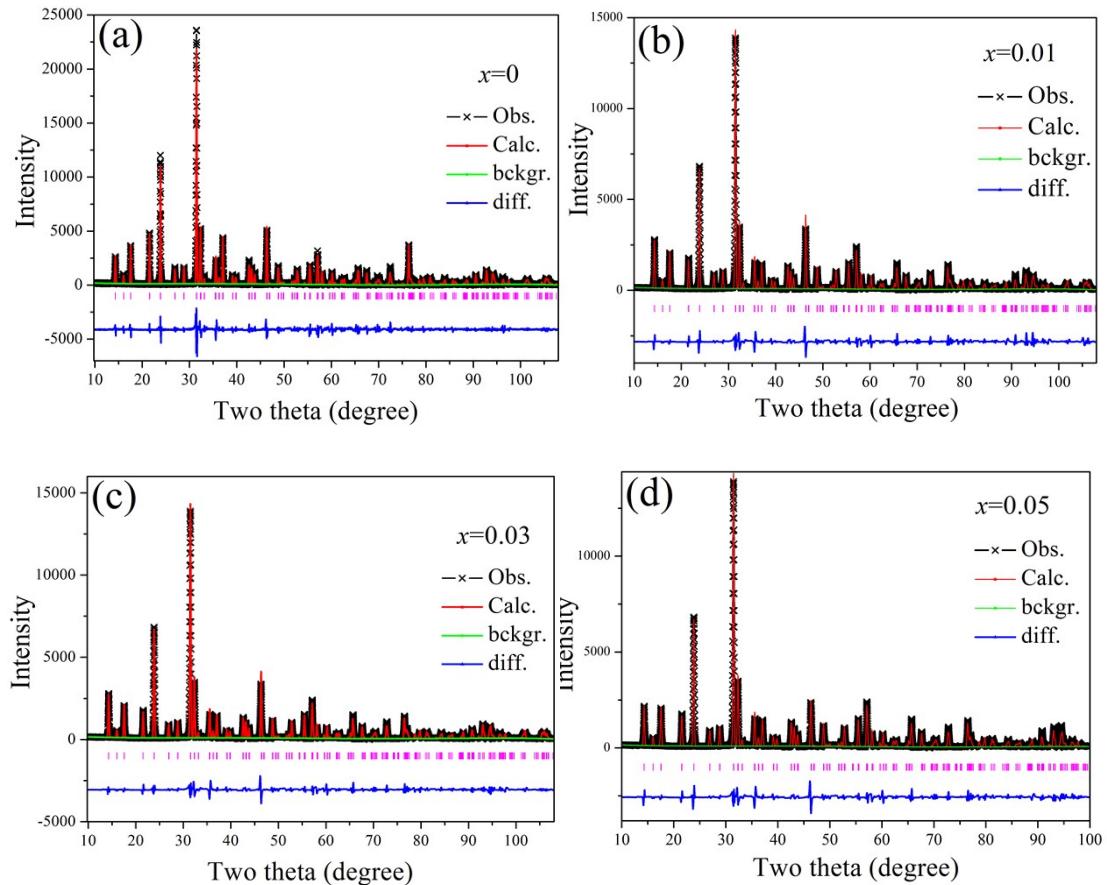


Fig. S3 Representative Rietveld refinements of $(\text{Bi}_{3-3x}\text{Eu}_{3x}\text{Li})\text{O}_4\text{Cl}_2$ with $x=0$ (a), 0.01 (b),

0.03 (c) and 0.05 (d).

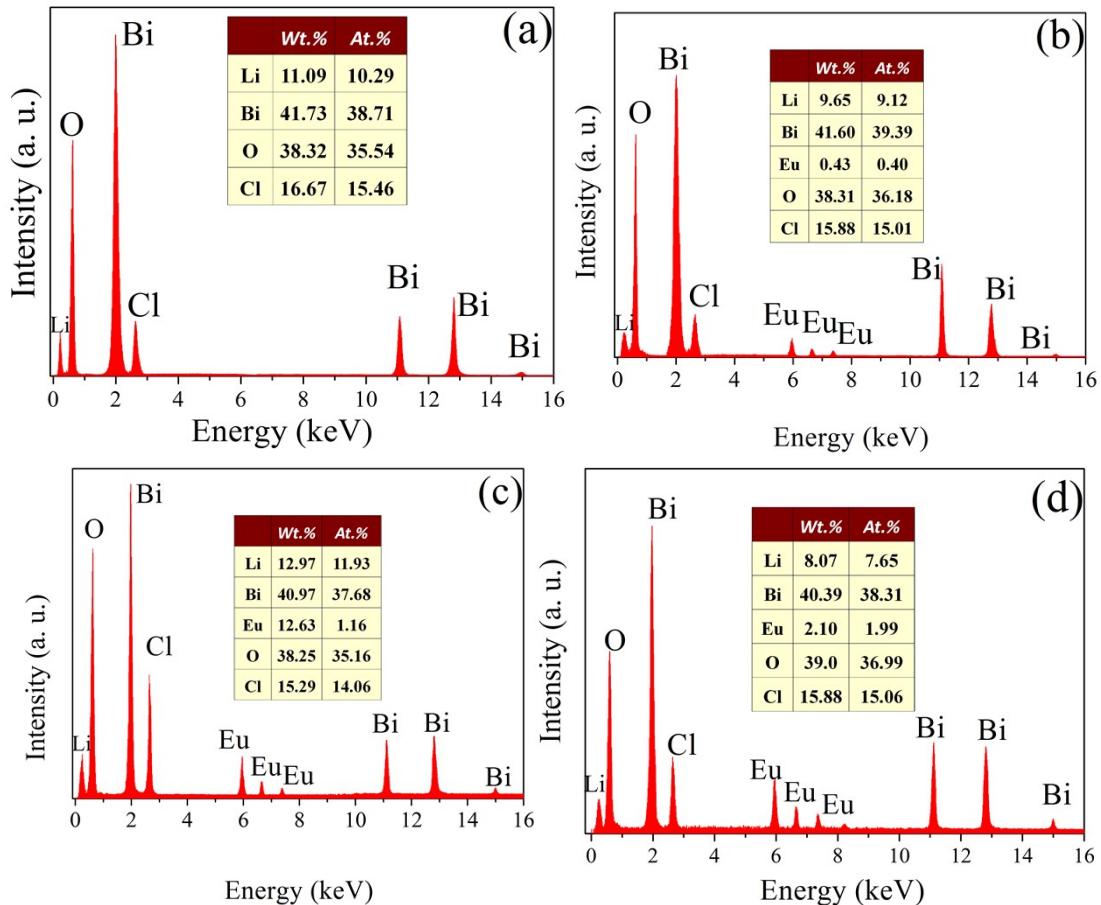


Fig. S4 EDS patterns and the experimental element ratios of $(\text{Bi}_{3-3x})\text{Eu}_{3x}\text{Li})\text{O}_4\text{Cl}_2$, $x=0$ (a), 0.01 (b), 0.01 (c) and 0.05 (d).

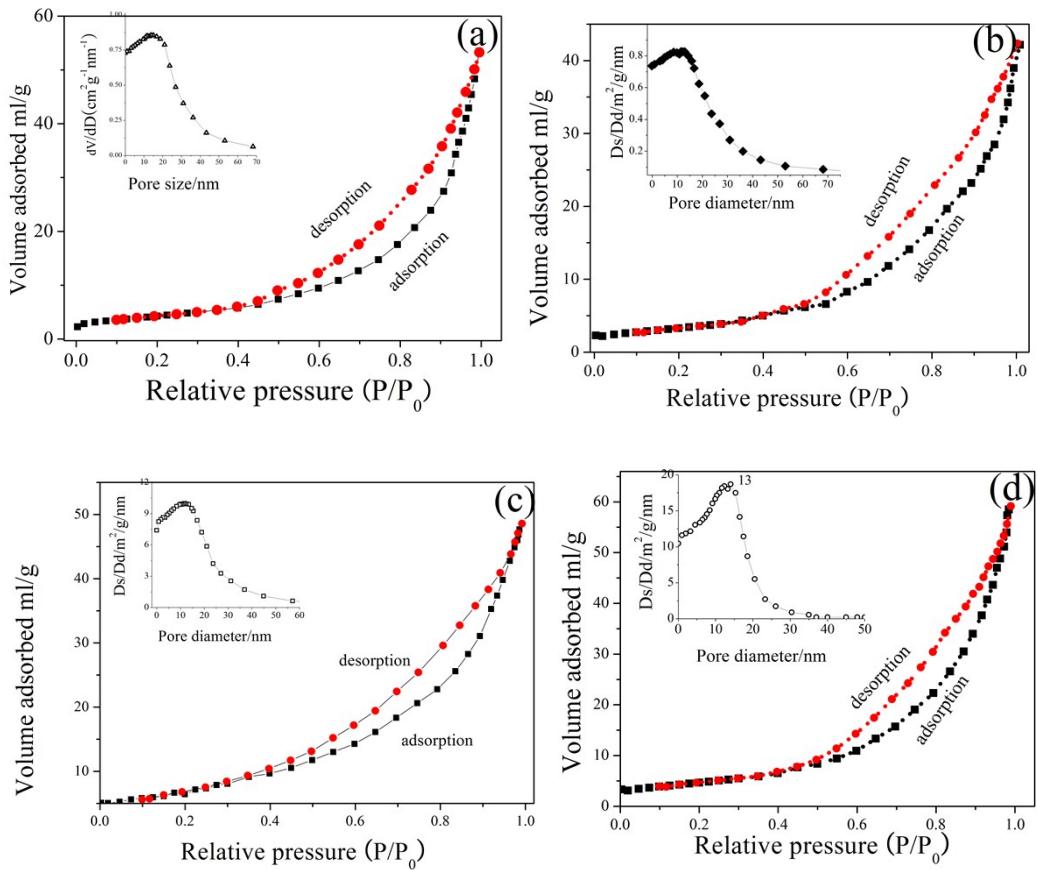


Fig. S5 N_2 sorption isotherms for $(\text{Bi}_{3-3x}\text{Eu}_{3x}\text{Li})\text{O}_4\text{Cl}_2$ with $x=0$ (a), 0.01 (b), 0.03 (c) and 0.05 (d). The insets of the figures show BJH-desorption pore-sizes.

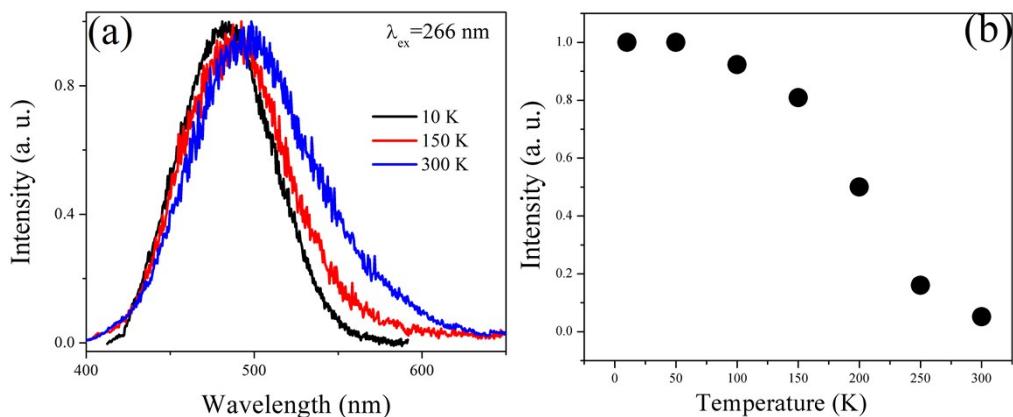


Fig. S6 the normalized representative emission spectra at 10, 150, and 300 K (a) and the temperature dependent intensity (b) of $(\text{Bi}_3\text{Li})\text{O}_4\text{Cl}_2$ ($\lambda_{\text{ex}}=266 \text{ nm}$).

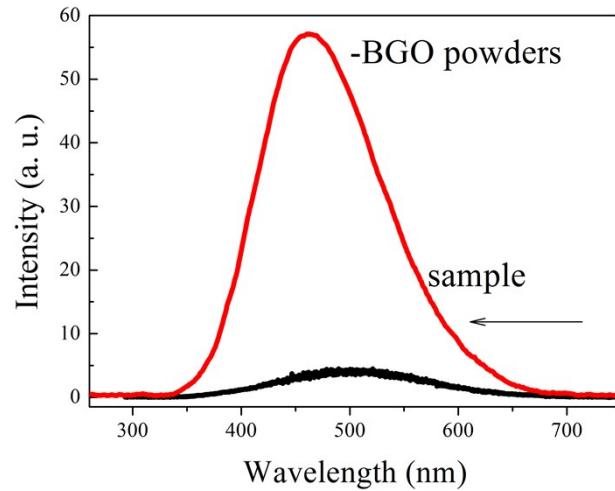


Fig. S7 the comparison of XEL spectra at 300 K between $(\text{Bi}_3\text{Li})\text{O}_4\text{Cl}_2$ and BGO powders.

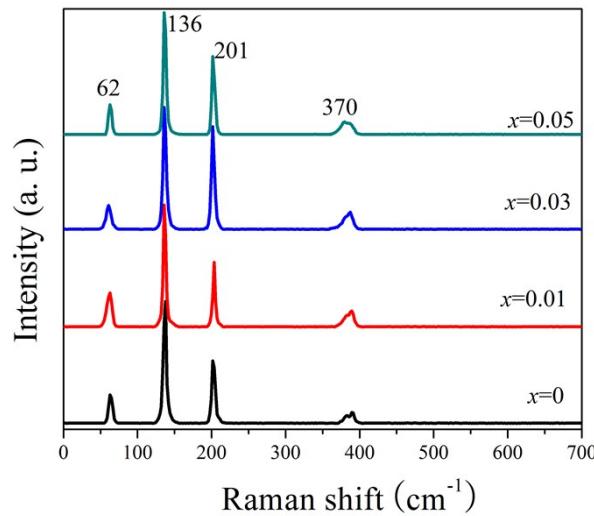


Fig. S8 the Raman spectra of $(\text{Bi}_{3-3x}\text{Eu}_{3x}\text{Li})\text{O}_4\text{Cl}_2$ ($x=0, 0.01, 0.03, 0.05$).

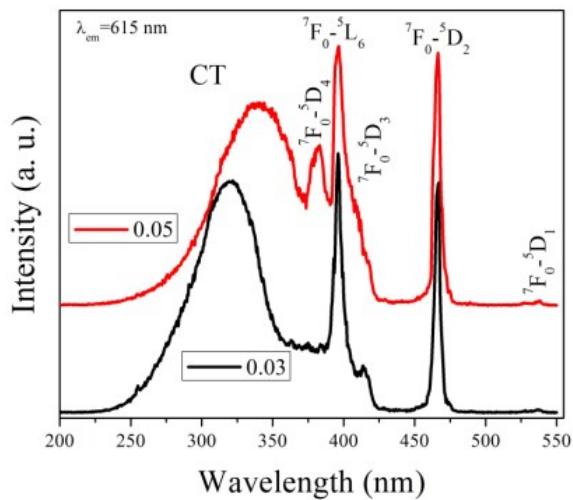


Fig. S9 the normalized values of $(\text{Bi}_{3-x}\text{Eu}_{3x}\text{Li})\text{O}_4\text{Cl}_2$ ($x=0.03, 0.05$) ($\lambda_{\text{em}}=615 \text{ nm}$).

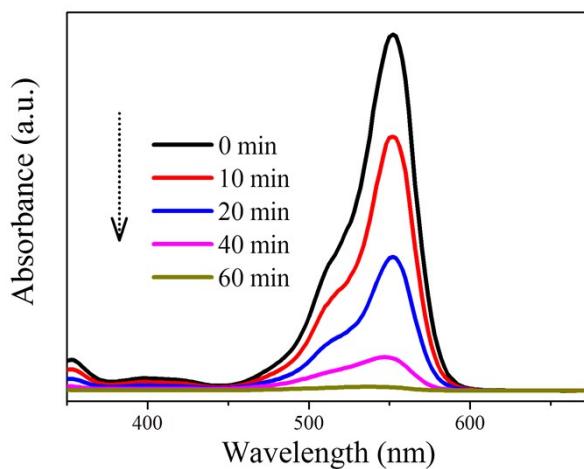


Fig. S10 the typical optical absorption of RhB solutions after photodegradation by $(\text{Bi}_{3-x}\text{Eu}_{3x}\text{Li})\text{O}_4\text{Cl}_2$ ($x=0.05$).

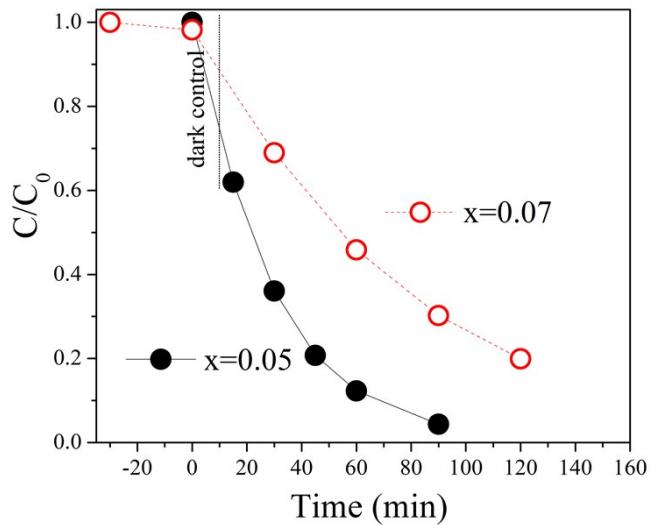


Fig. S11 photo-degradation effects of $(\text{Bi}_{3-3x}\text{Eu}_{3x}\text{Li})\text{O}_4\text{Cl}_2$ compared between $x=0.05$ and 0.07 .

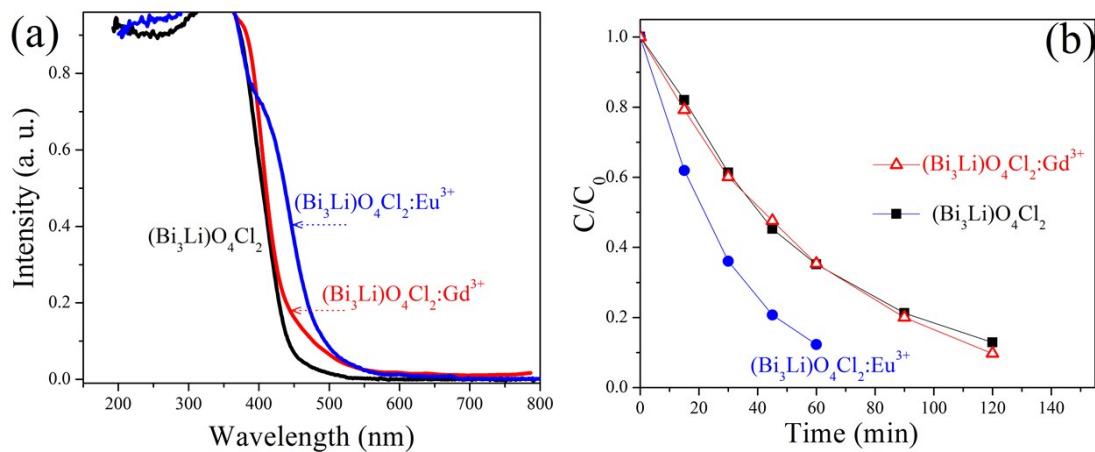


Fig. S12 the comparison of absorption (a) and photodegradation (b) of $(\text{Bi}_{3-3x}\text{Eu}_{3x}\text{Li})\text{O}_4\text{Cl}_2$ ($x=0$, 0.05) and $(\text{Bi}_{3-3x}\text{Gd}_{3x}\text{Li})\text{O}_4\text{Cl}_2$ ($x=0.05$).

0.05) and $(\text{Bi}_{3-3x}\text{Gd}_{3x}\text{Li})\text{O}_4\text{Cl}_2$ ($x=0.05$).