**Electronic Supplementary Information**

Facile hydrothermal synthesis and photocatalytic activity of bismuth tungstate hierarchical hollow spheres with an ultrahigh surface area

Xiao-Jun Dai, Yong-Song Luo, Wei-Dong Zhang, and Shao-Yun Fu

*Technical Institute of Physics and Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100190, China. E-mails: syfu@mail.ipc.ac.cn; ysluo@mail.ipc.ac.cn.

Department of Physics & Electronic Engineering, Xinyang Normal University, Xinyang 464000, China.

International Centre for Materials Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shenyang 110016, China.

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**Fig. S1** (a) Low-magnification SEM image of the irregular Bi$_2$WO$_6$ powders according to the traditional solid-state reaction (SSR) method; (b) high-magnification SEM image of the irregular Bi$_2$WO$_6$ powders.
Fig. S2 XRD patterns for the Bi$_2$WO$_6$ products synthesized at various times.

Fig. S3 XRD patterns of the different morphological Bi$_2$WO$_6$ products produced under different conditions.
Fig. S4 Typical SEM images of the Bi$_2$WO$_6$ products synthesized at different H$_2$O/C$_2$H$_5$OH/CH$_3$COOH volume ratios of (a) 1:0:3, (b) 1:1:0, (c) 1:5:2 and (d) 1:5:7.
**Fig. S5** Nitrogen adsorption-desorption and pore-size distribution isotherm of the prepared (a) Bi$_2$WO$_6$ flowers in the absence of PVP, (b) Bi$_2$WO$_6$ flowers via the addition of NaOH.