Supporting Information

## Hierarchical architecture of WO<sub>3</sub> nanosheets by self-assembly of

## Nanorods for photoelectrochemical application

Tao Zhang, Jinzhan Su\* and Liejin Guo\*

International Research Center for Renewable Energy, State Key Laboratory of Multiphase Flow, Xi'an Jiaotong University, Xi'an, Shaanxi 710049, P. R. China E-mail: j.su@mail.xjtu.edu.cn; lj-guo@mail.xjtu.edu.cn.

## **Results and discussion:**

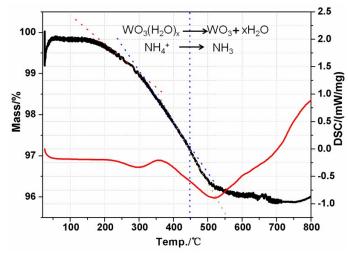


Fig.S1 TGA and DSC thermograms of the as-prepared hierarchical  $WO_3(H_2O)x$  at a heating rate of 10°C /min in air atmosphere.

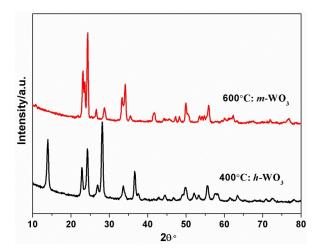


Fig.S2 XRD patterns of the hierarchical  $WO_3$  obtained by different annealing temperatures of  $400^{\circ}$ C and  $600^{\circ}$ C.

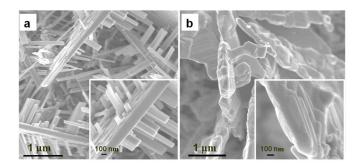


Fig.S3 SEM images of the WO<sub>3</sub> samples obtained by different annealing temperatures of (a)  $400^{\circ}$ C and (b)  $600^{\circ}$ C.

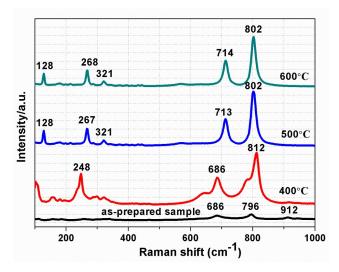


Fig.S4 The Raman spectra of the as-prepared hierarchical sample and obtained WO<sub>3</sub> by annealing different temperatures: 400°C, 500°C and 600°C.

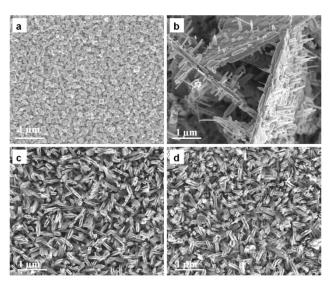


Fig.S5 The SEM images of the  $WO_3$  samples obtained with concentrated hydrochloric acid of (a)2ml, (b)4ml, (c)6ml and (d)8ml added in the precursor, respectively. (All the samples have been annealed with 500°C under air condition)

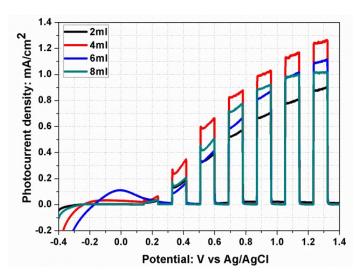


Fig.S6 The PEC performance of the WO<sub>3</sub> samples obtained with concentrated hydrochloric acid (2ml-8ml) added in the precursor, respectively. (All the samples have been annealed with 500°C under air condition)

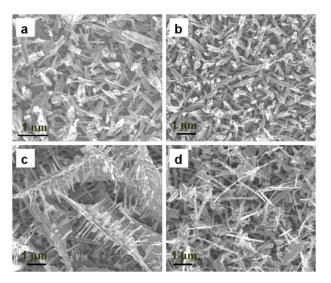


Fig.S7 The SEM images of the WO<sub>3</sub> samples obtained with different amount of capping agent of (a) 0.5mmol, (b) 1.0mmol, (c) 2.0mmol and (d) 3.0mmol added in the precursor, respectively. (All the samples have been annealed with 500°C under air condition)

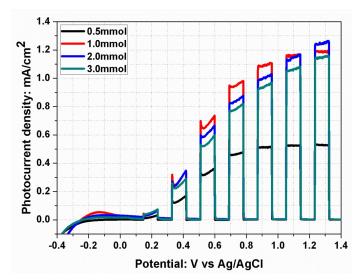


Fig.S8 The PEC performance of the WO<sub>3</sub> samples obtained with different amount of capping agent (0.5mmol-3.0mmol) added in the precursor, respectively. (All the samples have been annealed with 500°C under air condition)