

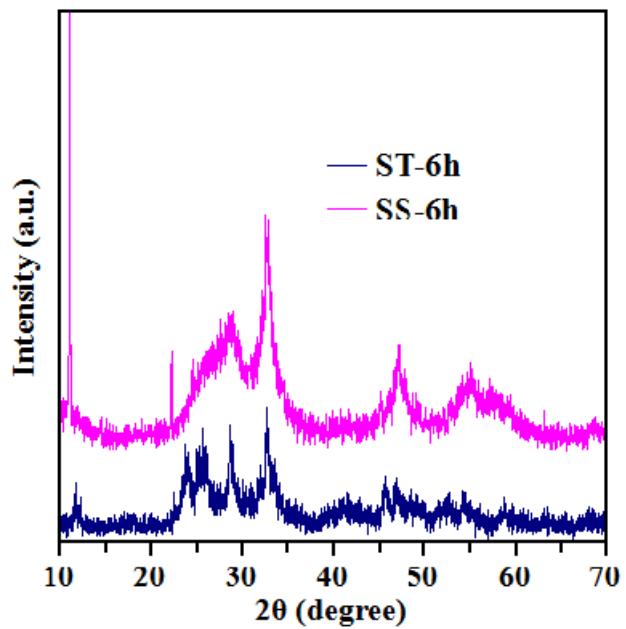
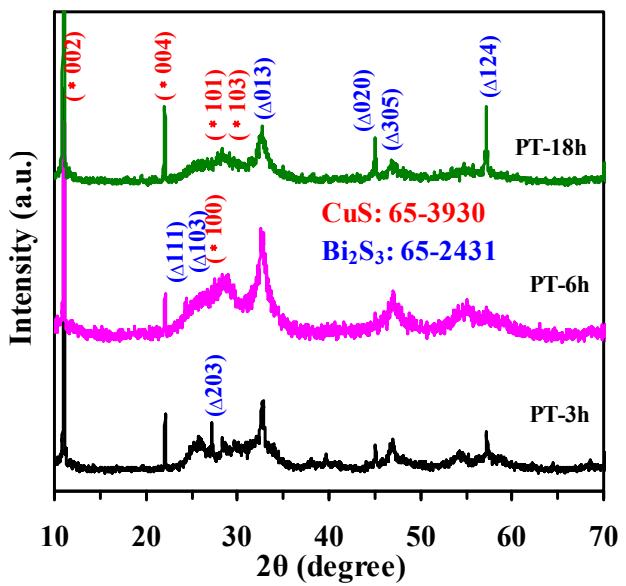
## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

# **CuS-Bi<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> Hierarchical Architectures: Controlled Synthesis and Enhanced Visible-Light Photocatalytic Performance for Dye Degradation**

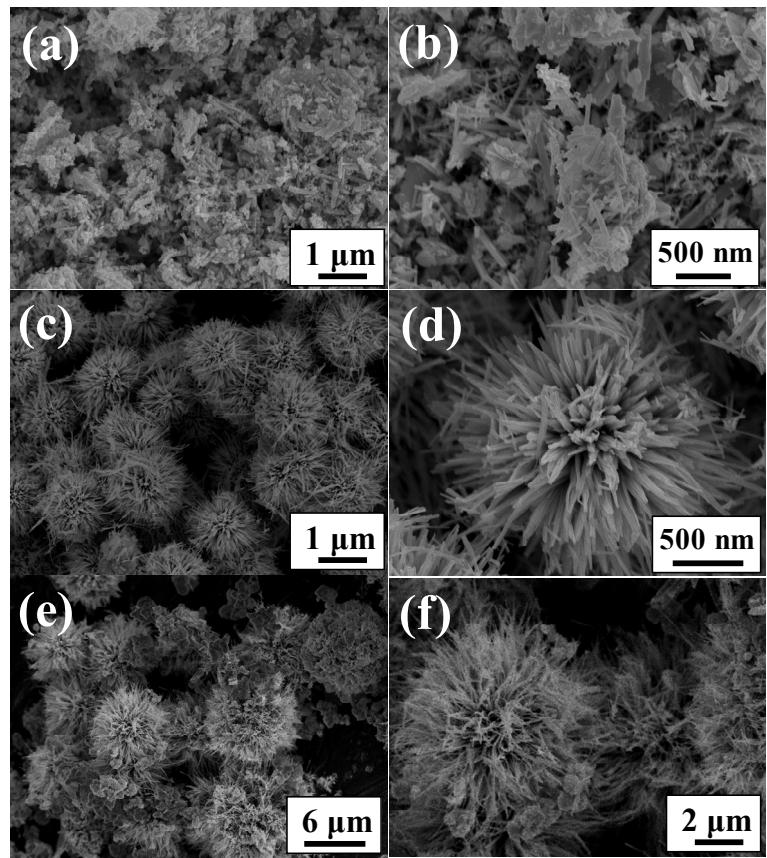
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Sheng-Lian Luo, Chak-Tong Au and Shuang-Feng Yin<sup>\*</sup>

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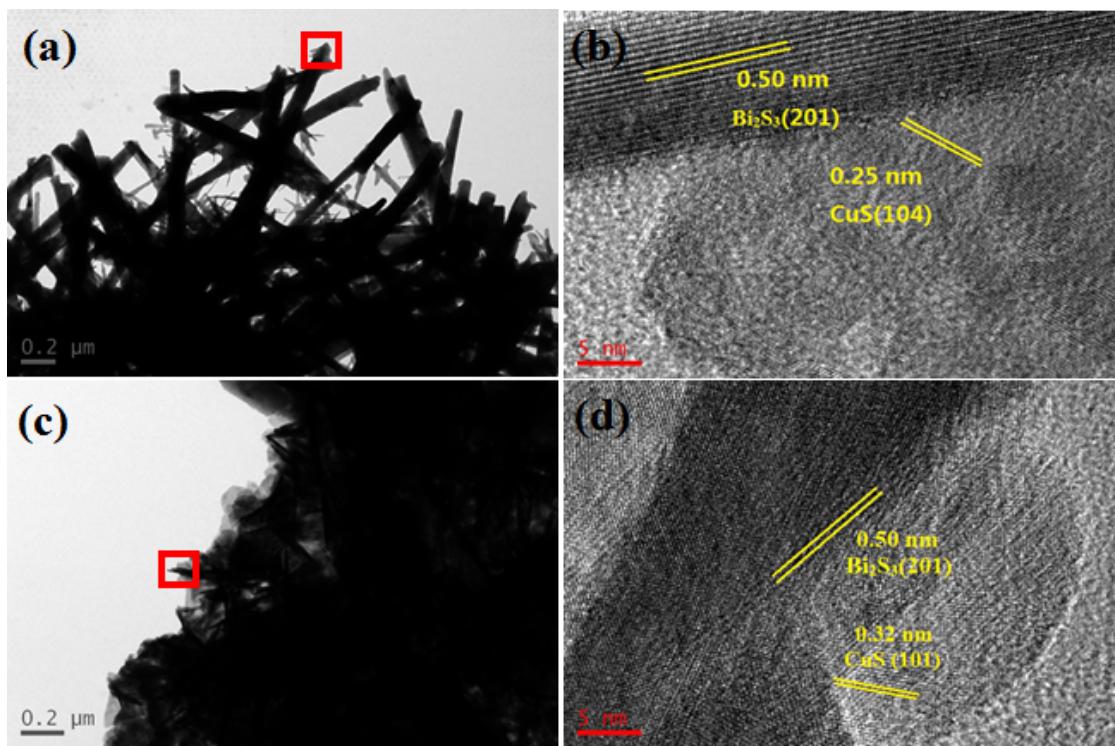
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E-mail address: [sf\\_yin@hnu.edu.cn](mailto:sf_yin@hnu.edu.cn)



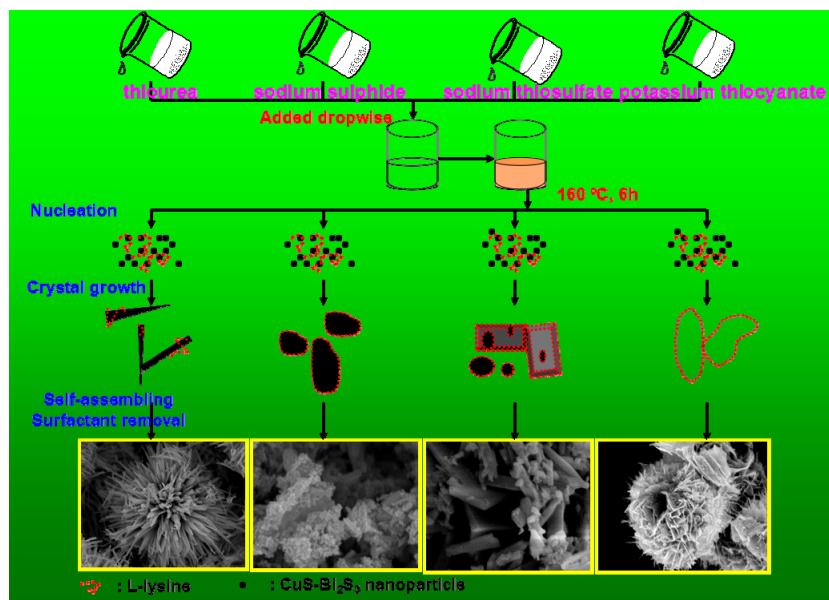
**Figure S1.** XRD patterns of PT-3h, PT-6h, PT-18h, ST-6h and SS-6h.



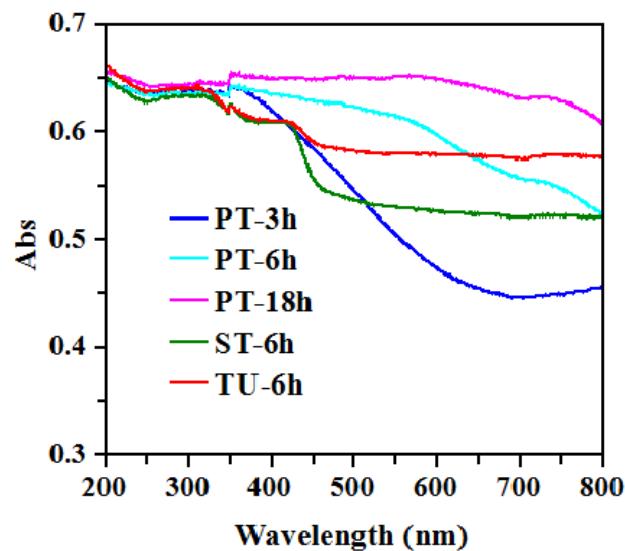
**Figure S2.** SEM images of (a)(b) TU-3h, (c)(d) TU-6h and (e)(f) TU-18h



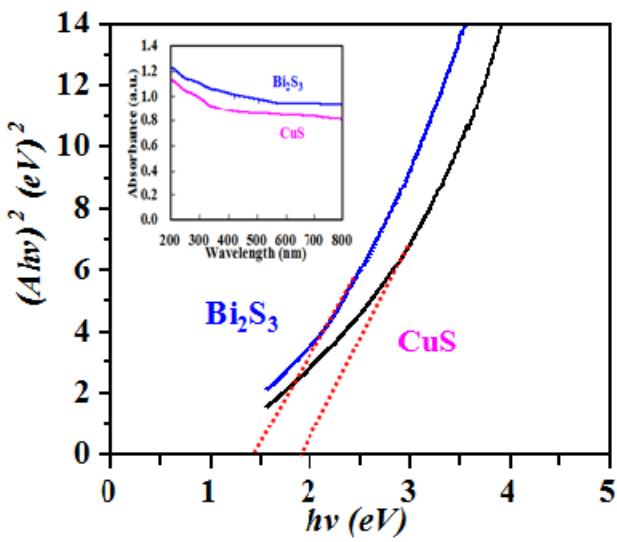
**Figure S3.** TEM and HRTEM images of composite samples prepared using (a)(b) TU (thiourea) and (c)(d) ST (sodium thiosulfate) as sulfur sources



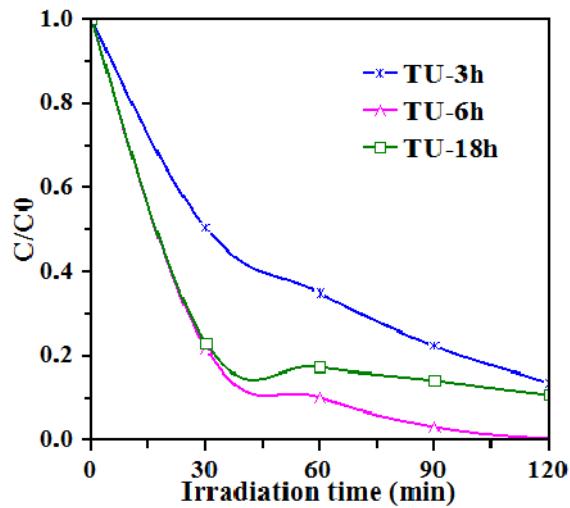
**Figure S4.** Possible growth mechanism for the CuS-Bi<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> composites using TU (thiourea), SS (sodium sulphide), ST (sodium thiosulfate) and PT (potassium thiocyanate) as sulfur sources.



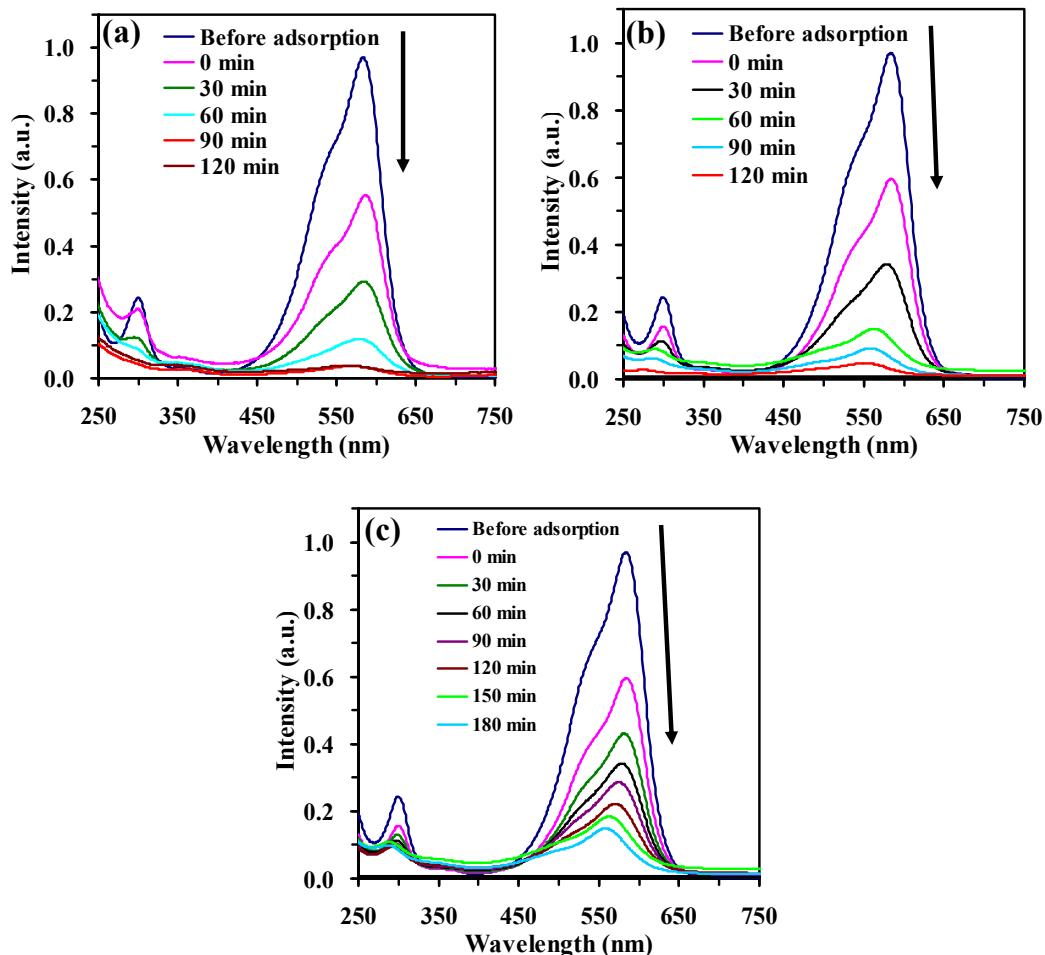
**Figure S5.** UV-vis absorption spectra of PT-3h, PT-6h, PT-18h, ST-6h, and TU-6h



**Figure S6.**  $h\nu$ - $(Ahv)^2$  plot of  $\text{CuS}$ ,  $\text{Bi}_2\text{S}_3$  and their UV-vis absorption spectra (inset)



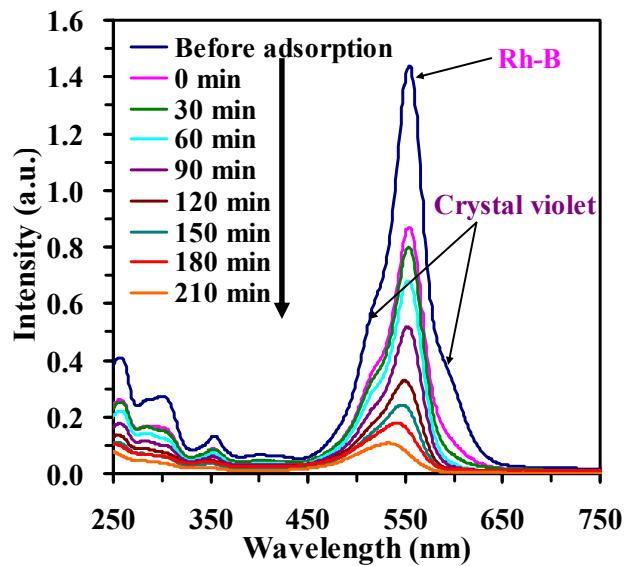
**Figure S7.** Photocatalytic degradation of Rh-B ( $2 \times 10^{-5}$  mol/L) over TU-3h, TU-6h and TU-18h



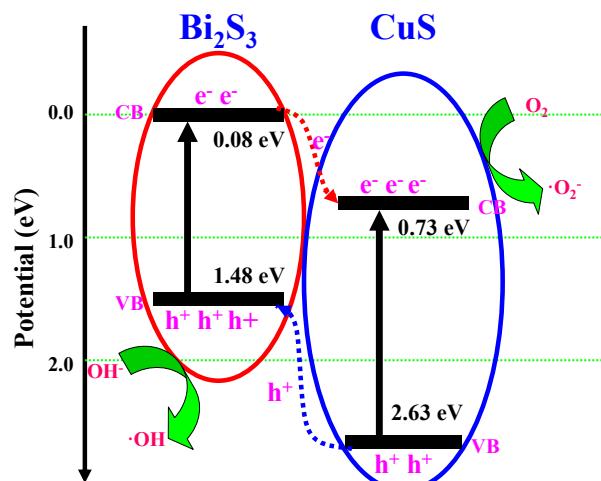
**Figure S8.** UV-vis absorption of crystal violet at different irradiation time over (a) PT-6h, (b) TU-6h and (c)  $\text{Bi}_2\text{S}_3$

**Table S1.** Degradation rate constants for Rh-B and CV on the as prepared samples.

	k ( $\text{min}^{-1}$ )					
	TU-6h	PT-6h	ST-6h	SS-6h	CuS	$\text{Bi}_2\text{S}_3$
Rh-B	0.0388	0.0348	0.0321	0.0016	0.0010	0.0011
CV	0.0398	0.0412	0.0330	0.0197	0.0007	0.0112



**Figure S9.** UV-vis absorption of Rh-B and crystal violet (mixed solution) at different irradiation time over PT-6h



**Figure S10.** Band gap structures of CuS and Bi<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> and the possible process for the separation of charge carriers