

Electronic Supporting Information (ESI) for

Comparative Study on Sandwich-Structured  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Ag}@\text{SnO}_2$  and inverse  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{SnO}_2@\text{Ag}$ : Key Roles of Shell Ordering and Interfacial Contact on Modulating the Photocatalytic Properties

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## ESI-1

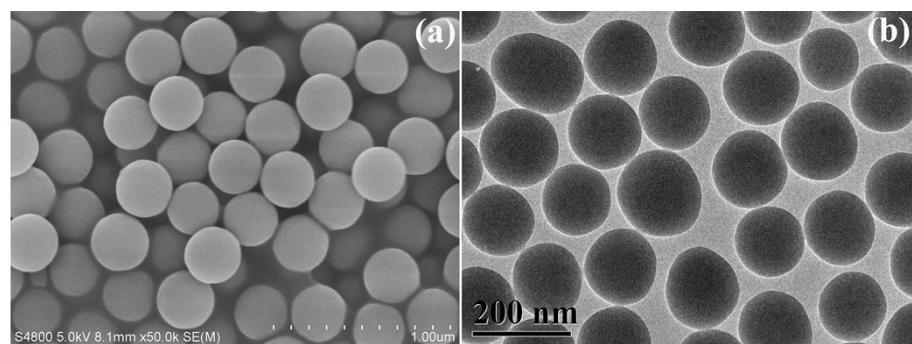


Fig.S1 SEM (a) and TEM (b) of  $\text{SiO}_2$  spheres

## ESI-2

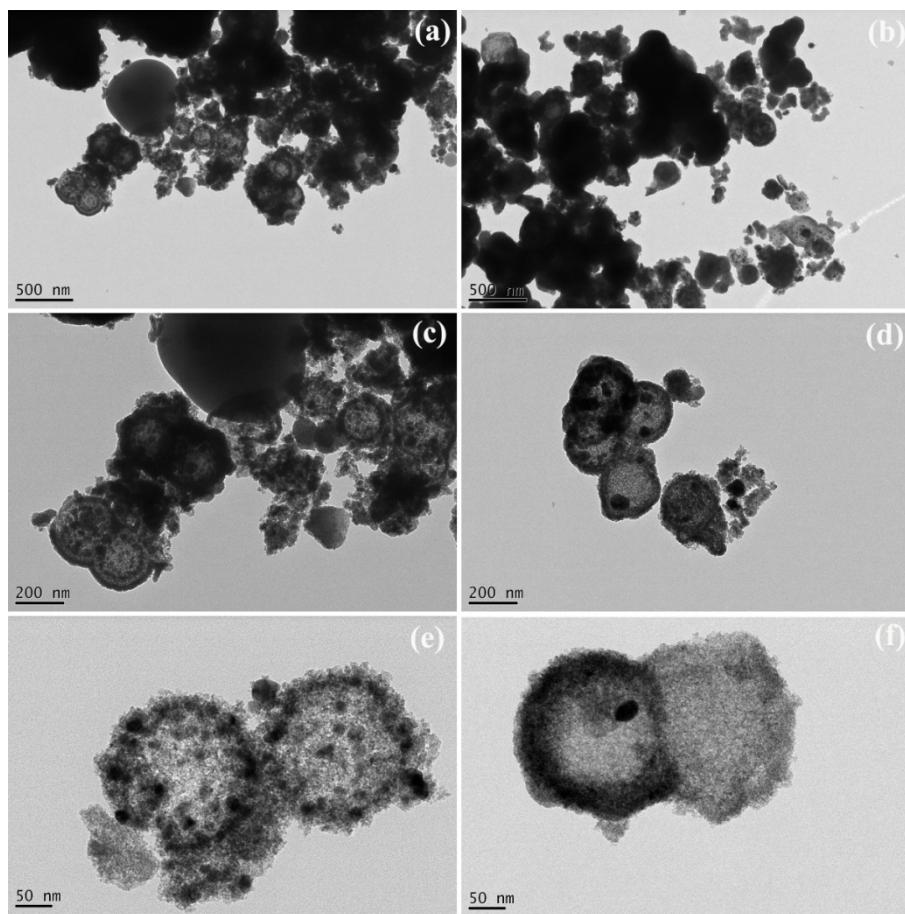


Fig.S2 TEM images of  $\text{SiO}_2@Ag@SnO_2$  with two  $\text{SnO}_2$  layers (a, c, e) and three  $\text{SnO}_2$  layers (b, d, f)

**ESI-3**

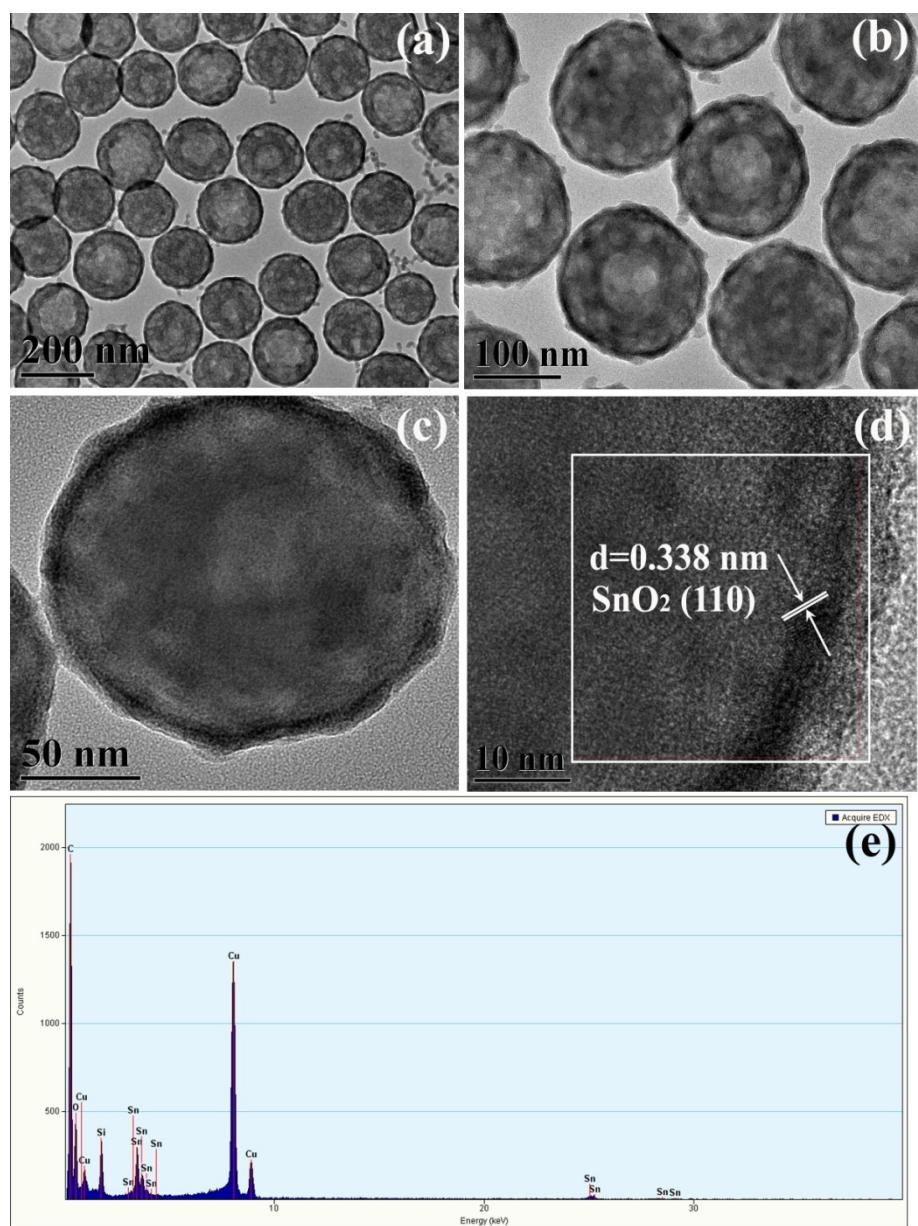


Fig.S3 TEM, HRTEM images and EDS spectrum of  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{SnO}_2$ -1

#### ESI-4

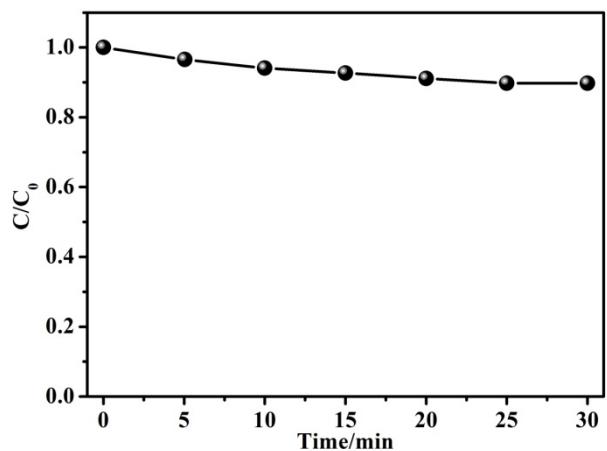


Fig.S4 Photocatalysis profile of RhB without catalyst under UV light irradiation

#### ESI-5

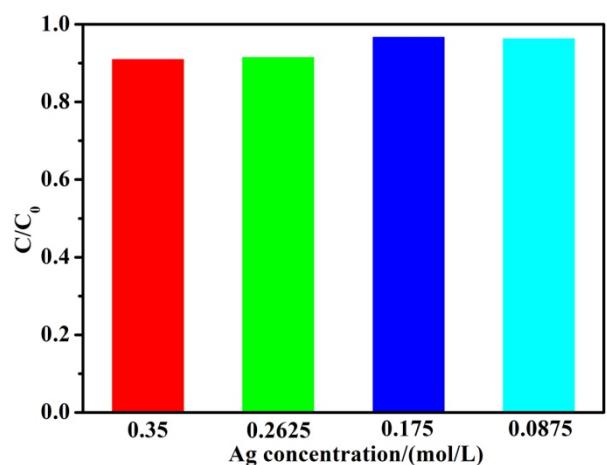


Fig.S5 Photocatalysis profiles of RhB over  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Ag}$  with different Ag

concentrations within 30 min under UV light irradiation

**ESI-6**

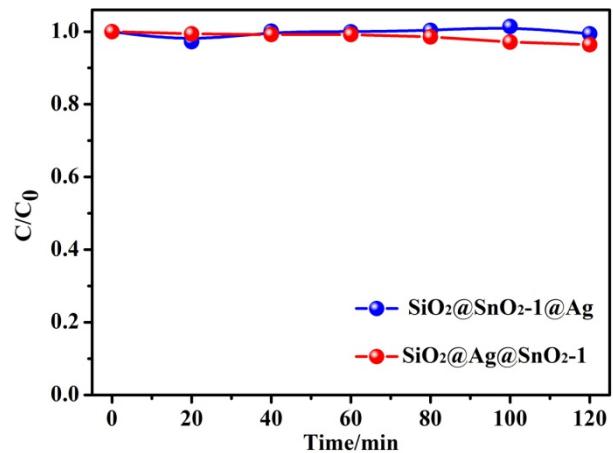


Fig.S6 Photocatalysis profiles of RhB over SiO<sub>2</sub>@SnO<sub>2</sub>-1@Ag and  
SiO<sub>2</sub>@Ag@SnO<sub>2</sub>-1 under visible light irradiation

**ESI-7**

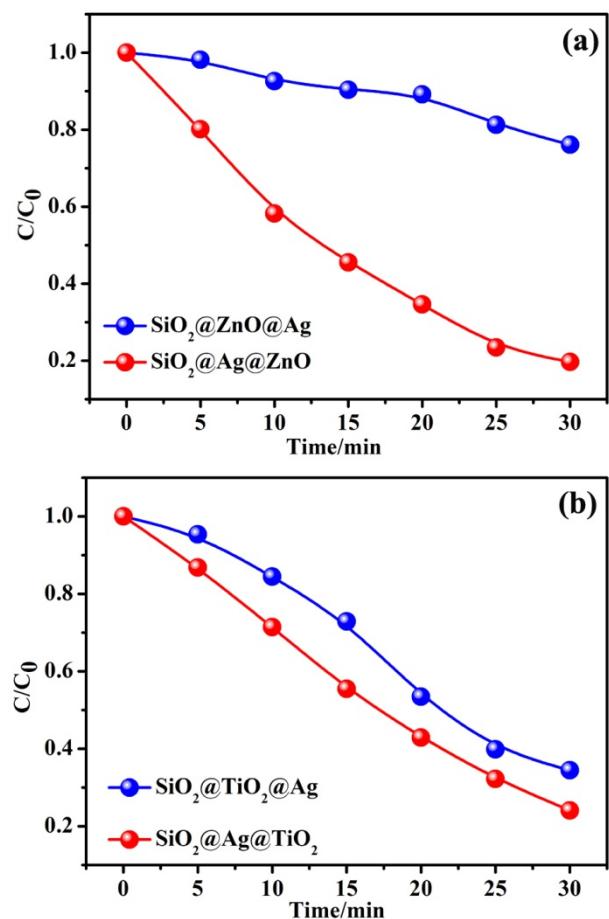


Fig.S7 Photocatalysis profiles of RhB over  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{ZnO}@Ag$  and  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Ag}@ZnO$  (a)

as well as  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{TiO}_2@\text{Ag}$  and  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Ag}@TiO_2$  (b) under UV light irradiation

**ESI-8**

Table 1 Some parameters for various samples

Samples	$S_{\text{BET}}(\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{g}^{-1})$	$V_T(\text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{g}^{-1})$	$k(\text{min}^{-1})$	$R^2$	$k/S(\text{g} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{min}^{-1})$
SiO <sub>2</sub> @Ag	-	-	0.0026	0.9247	
SiO <sub>2</sub> @ SnO <sub>2</sub> -1	-	-	0.0172	0.9941	
SiO <sub>2</sub> @SnO <sub>2</sub> -1@Ag	9.3	0.023	0.0033	0.9939	$3.55 \times 10^{-4}$
SiO <sub>2</sub> @Ag@SnO <sub>2</sub> -1	18.0	0.048	0.1007	0.9991	$5.59 \times 10^{-3}$
SiO <sub>2</sub> @Ag@SnO <sub>2</sub> -2	-	-	0.0991	0.9971	-
SiO <sub>2</sub> @Ag@SnO <sub>2</sub> -3	-	-	0.0805	0.9946	-