## **Electronic Supplementary Information for**

Rhodamine B-sensitized BiOCl hierarchical nanostructure for methyl orange photodegradation

Huiping Zhao§, Yafang Zhang§, Guangfang Li, Fan Tian, Han Tang and Rong Chen\*

School of Chemistry and Environmental Engineering, Key Laboratory for Green Chemical Process of Ministry of Education, Wuhan Institute of Technology, Xiongchu Avenue, Wuhan, 430073, PR China.

§ These authors make equal contribution to this work.

\* Corresponding author. Tel.: (+86)13659815698; Fax: (+86)2787195060.

E-mail address: rchenhku@hotmail.com

Sampl e	Cl precursor	Molar <sup>[a]</sup> (mmol)	Citric acid (g)	Morpholog y	Size	Thickness [b] of structural unit (nm)
<b>S1</b>	NaCl	1	0.2	flower-like	~1.0 <i>µ</i> m	~8
<b>S2</b>	NaCl	1	0	nanoflakes	~120 nm	~20
<b>S</b> 3	NaCl	1	0.05	nanoplates	40~60 nm	~10
S4	CoCl <sub>2</sub>	1	0.2	flower-like	~1.5 <i>µ</i> m	~15

Table S1 Experimental conditions and characteristics for BiOCl nanostructures

[a] The molar of Cl precursor.

[b] The thickness of nanoplate.

Fig. S1



**Fig. S1** SEM images (a~b) and TEM images (c~f) of the as-synthesized BiOCl nanostructures using NaCl at different amounts of citric acid: 0 g (a, c and e, **S2**) and 0.05 g (b, d and f, **S3**).





**Figure S2.** XRD pattern (a), nitrogen adsorption/desorption isotherm (b), SEM image (c) and TEM image (d) of the as-synthesized BiOCl hierarchical nanostructures using CoCl<sub>2</sub> in the presence of 0.2 g citric acid (**S4**).

Fig. S3



**Figure S3.** Photosensitization activity for RhB degradation over as-prepared BiOCl samples (S1~S4) under visible light irradiation ( $\lambda > 420$  nm).

Fig. S4



**Figure S4.** The zeta potential of BiOCl HNs (S1) in the RhB ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M) solution under different pH values (inset is the molecular structure of RhB).





**Figure S5.** Photodegradation efficiency of the RhB-sensitized BiOCl HNs (**S1**) for MO at different pH values.