## CdSe on a Mesoporous Transparent Conducting Oxide Scaffold as a Photocathode

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## **Supplementary Information**



Figure S1. Spectral output of the white LED light strip used for the photochemical and photoelectrochemical experiments.



**Figure S2.** UV/vis comparison of CdSe QDs physisorbed to the surface of a *nano*ITO electrode by immersing the slide in the same CdSe QD solution for 2 h. without having first been dipped in ligand solution. The MPA-CdSe was dipped alternatively in MPA solution followed by the CdSe QD solution.



**Figure S3.** UV/vis comparison (top) of CdSe QDs attached to *nano*ITO via four different bi-functional organic linkers (bottom). The *nano*ITO slides were first dipped in 0.1 M (or saturated) methanolic solutions of the ligand for 10 minutes, followed by a dip in CdSe QD solution in pentane for 10 min. Cycles were repeated 3 times and the resulting UV/vis spectra were normalized to compare LEET broading and shift.



**Figure S4.** UV/vis comparison of CdSe loaded onto planar FTO slides (blue) to CdSe loaded onto *nano*ITO slides (red). Both slides had a 10 mm x 10 mm active area and were dipped 3 times in MPA and CdSe QDs.



**Figure S5.** CVs using either the FTO (blue) or *nano*ITO (red) as the working electrode with a Pt counter electrode and Ag/AgNO<sub>3</sub> reference electrode in a 0.1 M TBAH solution of CH<sub>3</sub>CN. Each slide had a 10 mm x 10 mm geometric surface area and was loaded with propionic acid-derivatized viologen and the charge passed in each case was compared to obtain the surface area ration.



**Figure S6.** Cottrell Plot taken from the current response vs. time in a chronoamperometry experiment. A *nano*ITO slide was used as the working electrode with a Pt auxiliary and pseudo Ag reference with 10 mM Fc in 0.1 M CH<sub>3</sub>CN. A potential 200 mV below the oxidation of  $Fc^{+/0}$  was held for 2 s, then instantaneously stepped to a point 200 mV beyond the  $Fc^{+/0}$  couple with data recorded every 1 ms.



**Figure S7.** Linear portion of the derivative of the Cottrell Plot from Figure S3 which gave a slope for the Anson equation used to calculate the electro-active surface area of the *nano*ITO electrode.



**Figure S8**. CVs of  $[MV]^{2+}$  (blue) and  $[MV-COOH]^{2+}$  (red) in PBS pH = 7.4 buffer showing the first reduction to the radical cation using a GC working electrode, Pt auxiliary electrode, and Ag/AgCl reference electrode (*left*). ChemDraw images of methyl viologen and derivatized viologen (*right*).



**Figure S9.** Photograph of the experimental set-up used to measure the generation of  $MV^{+\bullet}$  over time with LED illumination. The reaction vessel fitted with a septum cap was de-aerated with N<sub>2</sub> and placed in a water bath surrounded by white LED lights to help dissipate heat and act as a UV filter.



**Figure S10.** Cartoon of the relative energy levels of CdSe conduction and valance bands with the  $MV^{2+/+\bullet}$  couple with a thin layer of a p-type semiconductor added to the *nano*ITO slide.



**Figure S11.** UV/vis spectra of the appearance of  $MV^{+\bullet}$  over time in one of the quenching experiments with MPA. The underlying CdSe spectrum was subtracted for clarity.



**Figure S12.** Electrodeposition of  $ZrO_2$  onto exposed (electroactive) *nano*ITO. Conditions: nanoITO-CdSe slide was used as the working electrode with a Pt wire counter electrode and Ag/AgCl reference. Cyclic voltammetry was performed at 20 mV/s for 10 cycles from -1.1 V to 0 V in aqueous solution containing 5.0 mM ZrOCl<sub>2</sub> x 8H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.1 M KCl. Potentials reported vs. Ag/AgCl.



**Figure S13.** Linear sweep voltammagram of 5 mM  $MV^{2+}$  in pH = 7 phosphate buffer with a *nano*ITO-MPA-CdSe slide as a working electrode with the electrodeposited ZrO<sub>2</sub>, Pt wire counter electrode, and Ag/AgCl reference. Scan rate 5 mV/s with a chopped white light cycled on and off every 5 seconds.



**Figure S14.** Linear sweep voltammagram of 5 mM  $MV^{2+}$  in pH = 7 phosphate buffer with a *nano*ITO-Tera-CdSe slide as a working electrode, Pt wire counter electrode, and Ag/AgCl reference. Scan rate 1 mV/s with either white light illumination (red) or in the dark (black).



**Figure S15.** Linear sweep voltammagram of 5 mM  $MV^{2+}$  in pH = 7 phosphate buffer with a *nano*ITO-Tera-CdSe slide as a working electrode, Pt wire counter electrode, and Ag/AgCl reference. Scan rate 5 mV/s with a chopped white light cycled on and off every 5 seconds.