

## ***Supporting Information***

### **Hierarchically Branched $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{TiO}_2$ Nanorod Arrays for Photoelectrochemical Water Splitting: Facile Synthesis and Enhanced Photoelectrochemical Performance.**

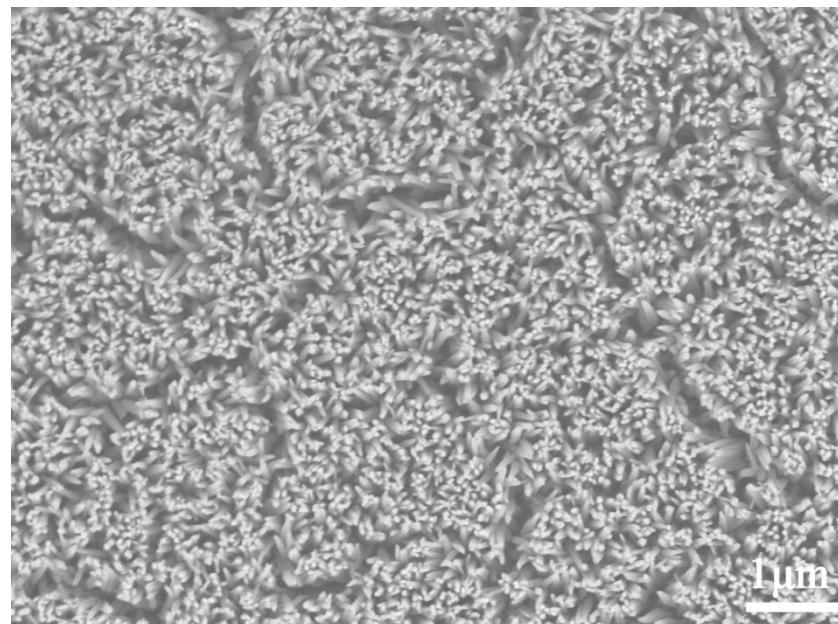
Yuanyang Li,<sup>a,\*</sup> Xiaoliang Wei,<sup>a</sup> Bowen Zhu,<sup>b</sup> Hua Wang,<sup>b</sup> Yuxin Tang,<sup>b</sup> Tze Chien Sum<sup>c</sup> and Xiaodong Chen<sup>b,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>*College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Xi'an University of Science and Technology, Xi'an, 710054, China*

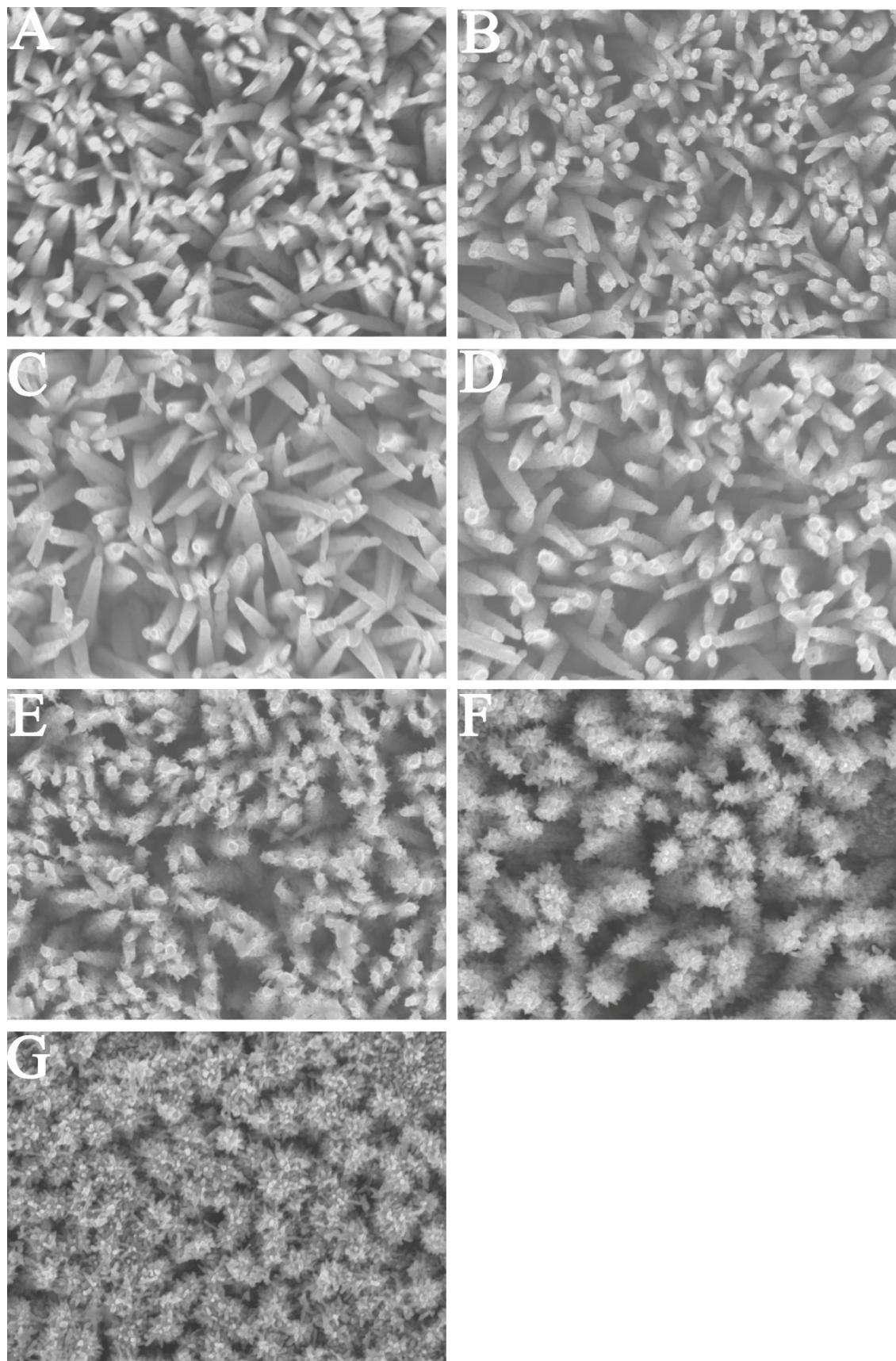
<sup>b</sup>*School of Materials Science and Engineering, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, 639798, Singapore*

<sup>c</sup>*School of Physical & Mathematical Sciences, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, 639798, Singapore*

E-mail: [yuangang\\_li@163.com](mailto:yuangang_li@163.com), [chenxd@ntu.edu.sg](mailto:chenxd@ntu.edu.sg)



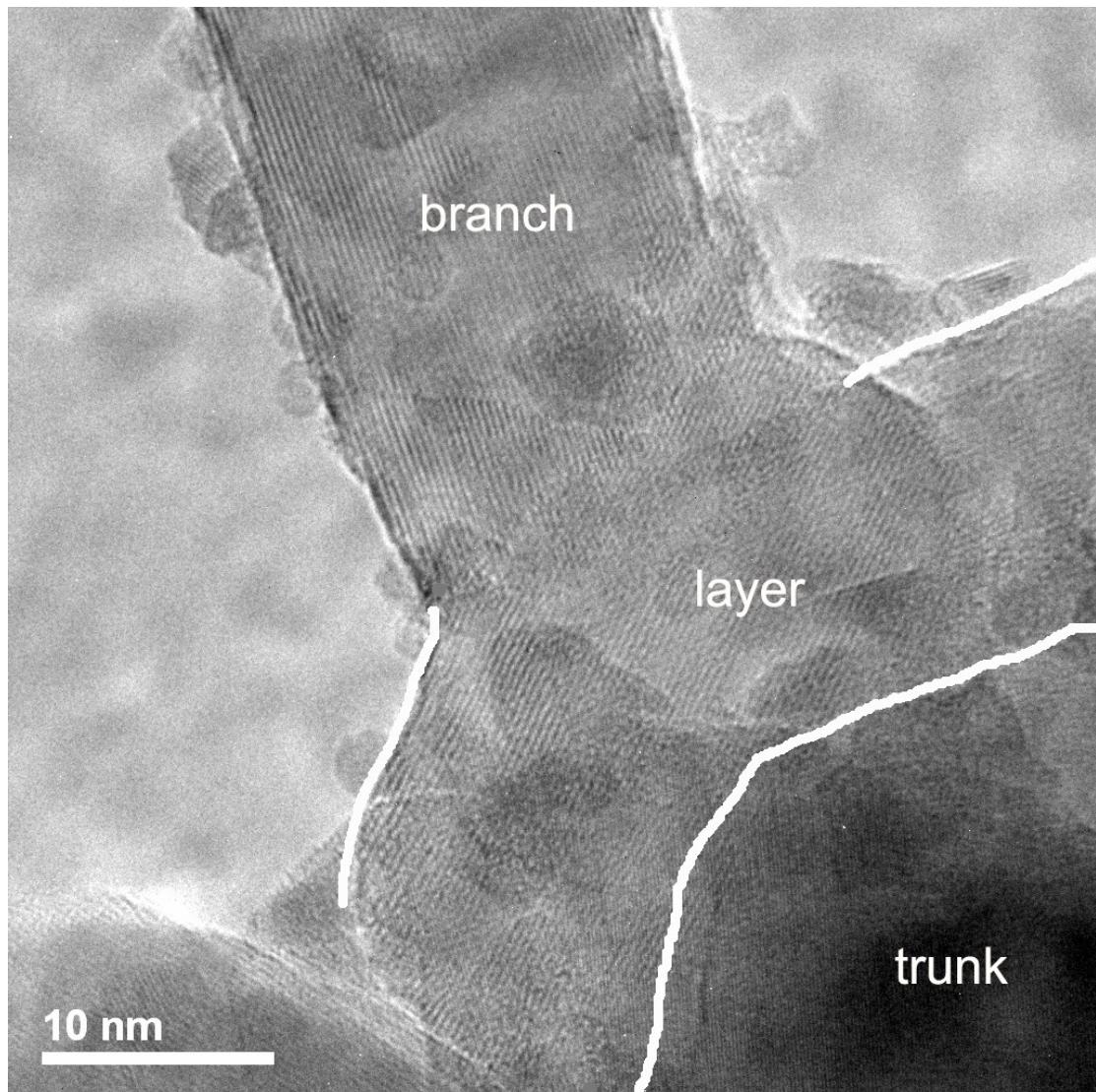
**Fig. S1.** Low-magnification SEM image of pristine  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  NRs.



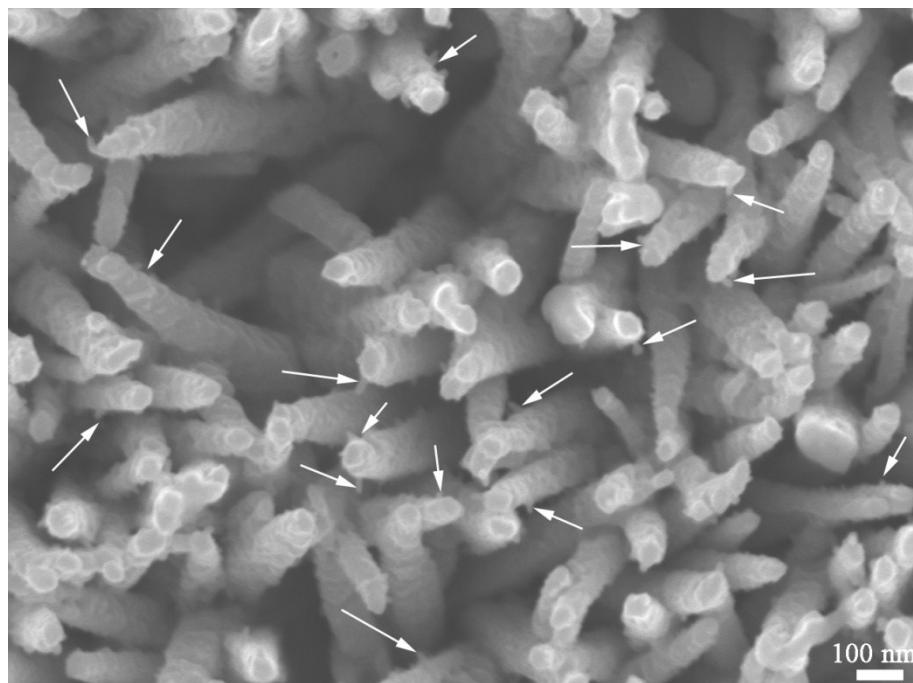
**Fig. S2.** Top-view SEM image of the  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{TiO}_2$  BNRs with different

growth time (A 1h, B 1.5 h, C 2h, D 2.5 h, E 3h, F 3.5 h, G 4h). Scale

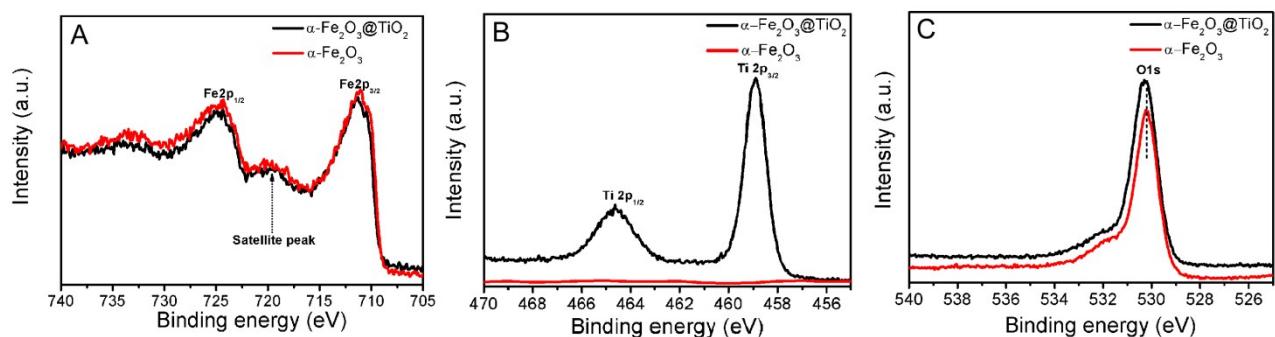
bar=100 nm



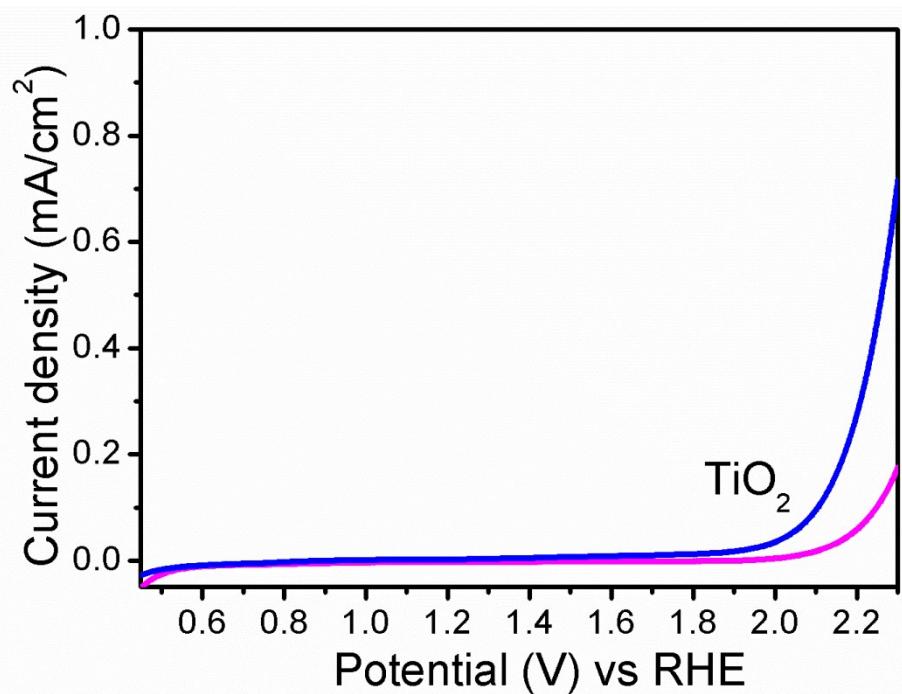
**Fig. S3.** TEM image of the  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{TiO}_2$  BNRs.



**Fig. S4.** Enlarged SEM image of the  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{TiO}_2$  BNRs (some tiny  $\text{TiO}_2$  nanorods marked by the white arrows).

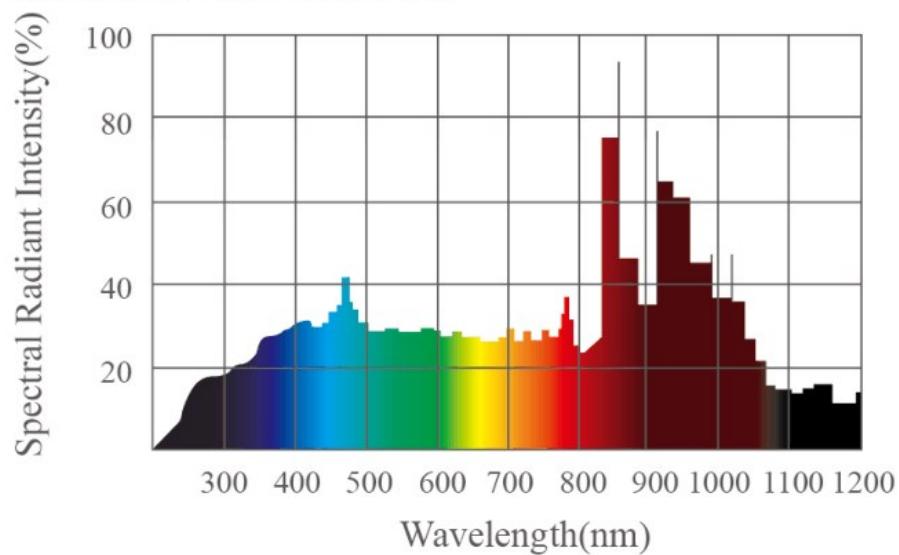


**Fig. S5.** High-resolution XPS spectrum for Fe (A), Ti (B) and O (C) of the  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{TiO}_2$  BNRs.

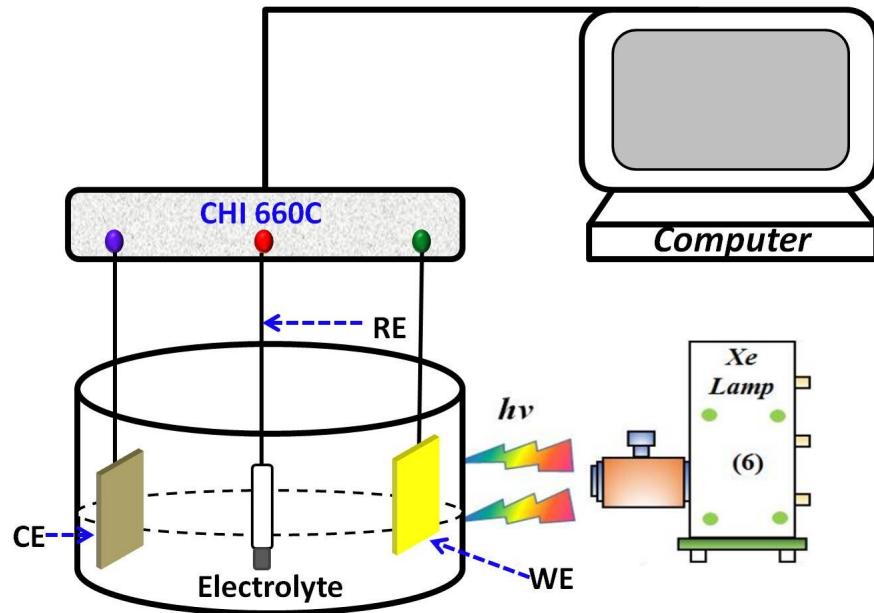


**Fig. S6.** Photocurrent density-potential curves of pristine  $\text{TiO}_2$ .

#### SPECTRAL DISTRIBUTION



**Fig. S7** The spectral distribution of light source.



**Fig. S8** A Schematic illustration for the geometry and design of PEC reactor.