

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### ZnO-Au-SnO<sub>2</sub> Z-scheme Photoanodes for Remarkable

### Photoelectrochemical Water Splitting

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**Table S1.** Fitting results for emission decay profiles of EY in the presence of different samples.

entry	<i>A</i> <sub>1</sub> (%)	<i>τ</i> <sub>1</sub> (ns)	<i>A</i> <sub>2</sub> (%)	<i>τ</i> <sub>2</sub> (ns)	<i>&lt;τ&gt;</i> (ns)	<i>χ</i> <sup>2</sup>	<i>k</i> <sub>ct</sub> (s <sup>-1</sup> )
EY	19.40	16.42	80.60	2.26	11.27	1.006	-
EY/ZnO	16.64	15.01	83.36	1.83	10.01	1.040	0.11×10 <sup>8</sup> (EY → ZnO) <sup>a</sup>
EY/SnO <sub>2</sub>	17.87	15.61	82.13	2.02	10.54	1.021	0.06×10 <sup>8</sup> (EY → SnO <sub>2</sub> ) <sup>a</sup>
EY/Au	19.26	16.29	80.74	2.21	11.19	1.014	0.01×10 <sup>8</sup> (EY → Au) <sup>a</sup>
EY/ZnO-Au	10.61	14.66	89.39	1.66	8.31	1.000	0.20×10 <sup>8</sup> (ZnO → Au) <sup>b</sup>
EY/ZnO-Au-SnO <sub>2</sub> -1	1.82	14.44	98.18	1.35	3.52	1.010	1.78×10 <sup>8</sup> (ZnO → Au → SnO <sub>2</sub> ) <sup>c</sup>
EY/ZnO-Au-SnO <sub>2</sub> -2	0.71	14.42	99.29	1.31	2.26	1.006	3.36×10 <sup>8</sup> (ZnO → Au → SnO <sub>2</sub> ) <sup>c</sup>
EY/ZnO-Au-SnO <sub>2</sub> -3	2.93	14.49	97.07	1.44	4.48	1.013	1.17×10 <sup>8</sup> (ZnO → Au → SnO <sub>2</sub> ) <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>The value was calculated by the expression

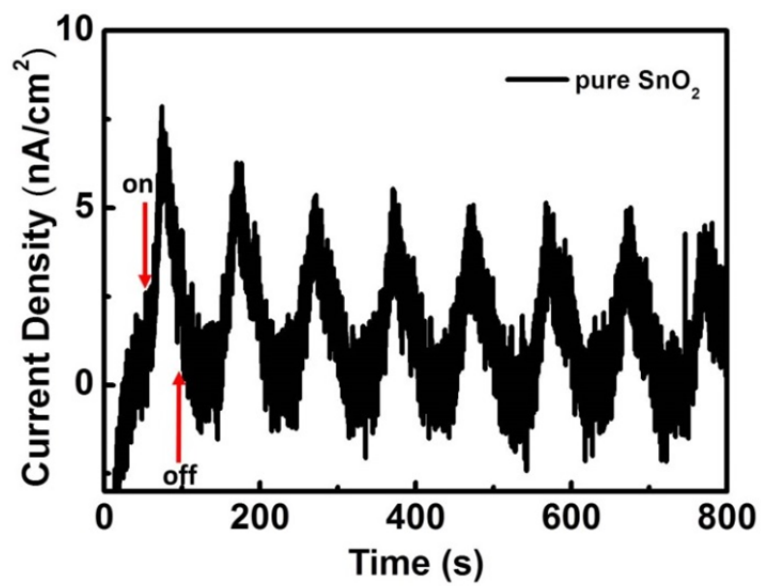
$$k_{ct}(\text{EY} \rightarrow \text{A}) = \frac{1}{\langle \tau \rangle} (\text{EY}/\text{A}) - \frac{1}{\langle \tau \rangle} (\text{EY}), \text{ where A = ZnO, SnO}_2 \text{ or Au.}$$

<sup>b</sup>The value was calculated by the expression

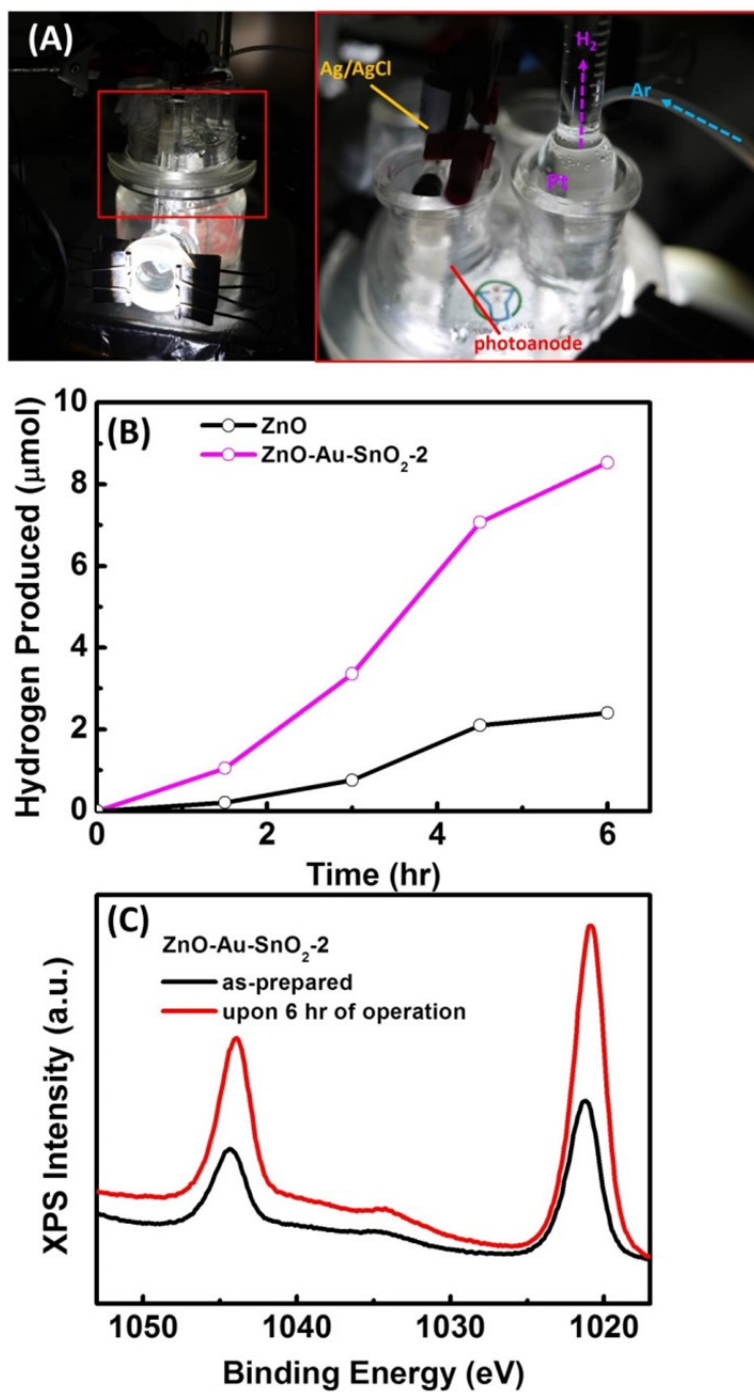
$$k_{ct}(\text{ZnO} \rightarrow \text{Au}) = \frac{1}{\langle \tau \rangle} (\text{EY}/\text{ZnO} - \text{Au}) - \frac{1}{\langle \tau \rangle} (\text{EY}/\text{ZnO}) - k_{ct}(\text{EY} \rightarrow \text{Au}).$$

<sup>c</sup>The value was calculated by the expression

$$k_{ct}(\text{ZnO} \rightarrow \text{Au} \rightarrow \text{SnO}_2) = \frac{1}{\langle \tau \rangle} (\text{EY}/\text{ZnO} - \text{Au} - \text{SnO}_2) - \frac{1}{\langle \tau \rangle} (\text{EY}) - k_{ct}(\text{EY} \rightarrow \text{ZnO}) - k_{ct}(\text{EY} \rightarrow \text{SnO}_2)$$



**Figure S1.** Chronoamperometric *I*-*t* curve of pure SnO<sub>2</sub> collected at 0 V vs. Ag/AgCl under chopped light illumination.



**Figure S2.** (A) PEC cell configuration for hydrogen evolution measurement. (B) Hydrogen production for pristine ZnO and ZnO-Au-SnO<sub>2</sub>-2 recorded in the PEC cell. (C) XPS spectra of ZnO-Au-SnO<sub>2</sub>-2 before and after 6 hr of PEC measurement. The Zn 2p signals were consistent with the presence of ZnO with the binding energy of 1021 and 1044 eV for Zn 2p<sub>1/2</sub> and Zn 2p<sub>3/2</sub>, respectively.