## **Supplementary Information**

## Controlled growth of vertically aligned ultrathin In<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> nanosheet arrays for photoelectrochemical water splitting

Ming Li,<sup>a,b</sup> Xinglong Tu,<sup>a,c</sup> Yanjie Su,<sup>a\*</sup> Jing Lu,<sup>c</sup> Jing Hu,<sup>a</sup> Baofang Cai,<sup>a</sup> Zhihua Zhou,<sup>a</sup> Zhi Yang<sup>a</sup> and Yafei Zhang<sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Key Laboratory for Thin Film and Microfabrication of the Ministry of Education, Department of Micro/Nano Electronics, School of Electronics, Information and Electrical Engineering, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai 200240, China. Email: yanjiesu@sjtu.edu.cn, yfzhang@sjtu.edu.cn; Fax: +86-021-34205665; Tel: +86-021-34205665.

<sup>b</sup> State Key Lab of Transducer Technology, Shanghai Institute of Microsystem and Information Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 865 Changning Road, Shanghai 200050, China

<sup>c</sup> National Engineering Research Center for Nanotechnology, No. 28 East Jiang Chuan Road, Shanghai 200241, China.



**Fig. S1** Optical images of  $In_2S_3$  NSAs grown on FTO substrates with (a) different reaction times and (b)  $In^{3+}$  concentrations.



Fig. S2 Optical image of a home-made photoanode based on In<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> NSAs.



Fig. S3 XRD patterns of  $In_2S_3$  NSAs prepared with varied  $In^{3+}$  concentrations.



**Fig. S4** (a) Transmission spectra, (b) reflection spectra, (c) absorption spectra and (d) energy bandgap determination of the  $In_2S_3$  NSAs prepared with varied  $In^{3+}$  concentrations.



Fig. S5 XRD patterns of FTO substrate, pristine  $In_2S_3$ -2h NSAs and  $In_2S_3/ZnO$ -100 min NSAs.



**Fig. S6** Energy bandgap determination of the ZnO film grown on FTO substrate with the sputtering time of 100 min (thickness: 350 nm).



**Fig. S7** (a) Cross-sectional SEM image, (b) LSV curve and (c) Amperometric I-t curve at 1.23 V vs. RHE under chopped AM 1.5G simulated solar illumination for the ZnO thin film with the deposition time of 100 min.



**Fig. S8** LSV curves of the  $In_2S_3/ZnO-x$  min NSAs at 1.23 V vs. RHE under chopped AM 1.5G simulated solar illumination: (a-d) 10, 20, 50 and 150 min, respectively.



Fig. S9 Absorption spectra of the  $In_2S_3\mathchar`-2h$  and  $In_2S_3\math$ 



Fig. S10 Time-resolved PL spectra of the  $In_2S_3$ -2h and  $In_2S_3/ZnO$ -100 min NSAs.



**Fig. S11** Amperometric I-t curves of the  $In_2S_3$ -2h and  $In_2S_3/ZnO$ -100 min NSAs at 1.23 V vs. RHE under chopped AM 1.5G simulated solar illumination.

Table S1 Fitted parameters of the EIS results of the pristine  $In_2S_3$ -2h NSAs, ZnO-100

min film and  $In_2S_3/ZnO-100$  min NSAs.

Sample	R <sub>s</sub> (Ω cm²)	R <sub>ct</sub> (kΩ cm²)
In₂S₃-2h	16.81	15.95
ZnO-100 min	63.24	224.44
In <sub>2</sub> S <sub>3</sub> /ZnO-100 min	238.7	5.96