

Light induced formation of a surface hetero-junction in photocharged CuWO_4 photoanodes

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Supporting information

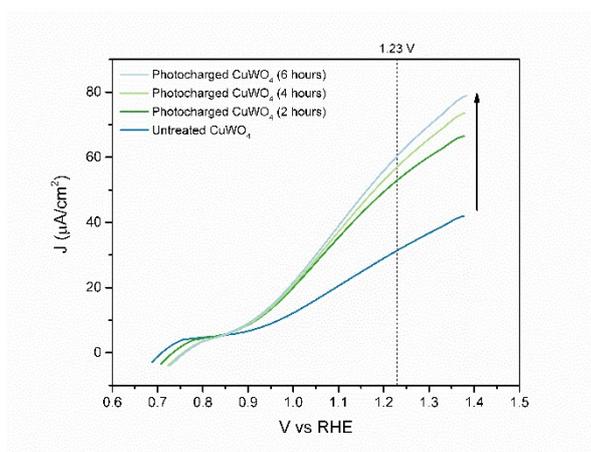


Figure S1 : Photocharging time dependent evolution of performance

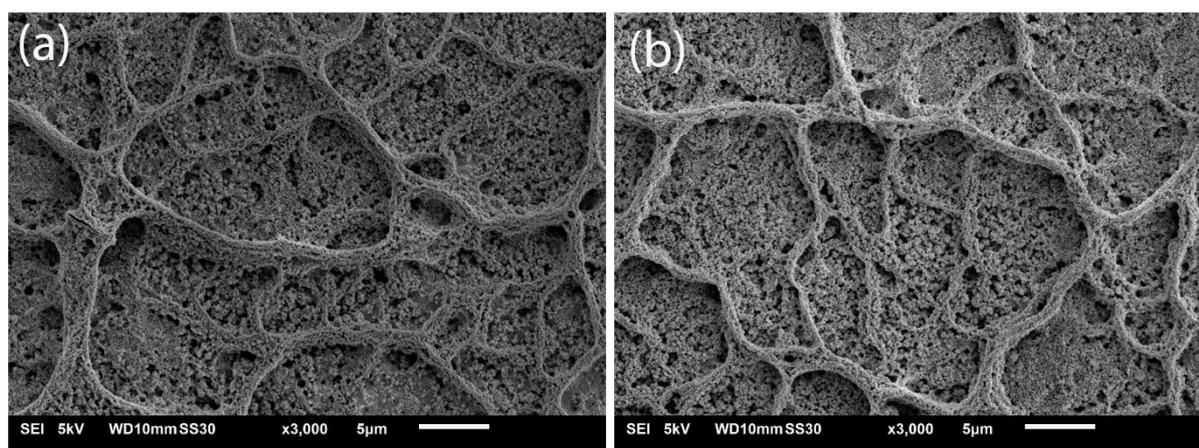


Figure S2 : (a) SEM images of UT – CuWO_4 and (b) PC – CuWO_4

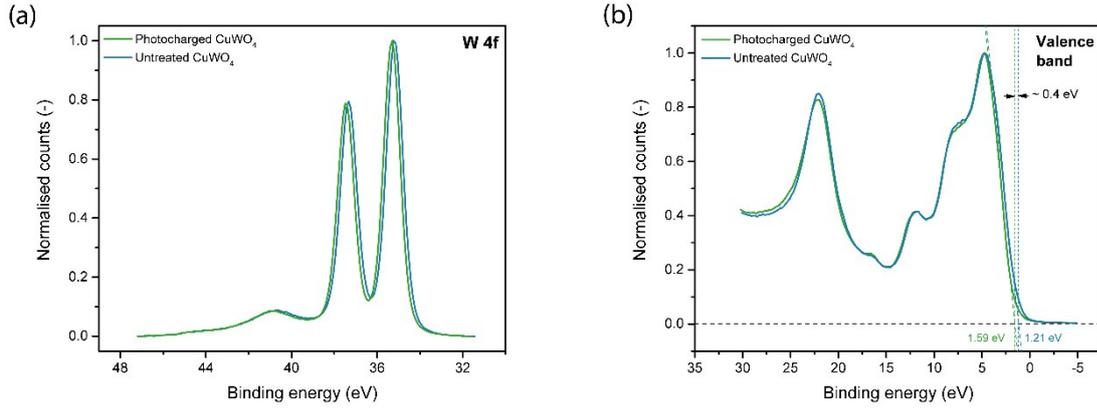


Figure S3 : (a) XPS spectra for W 4f for UT and PC – CuWO₄ (b) Valence band spectra for UT and PC – CuWO₄ sample

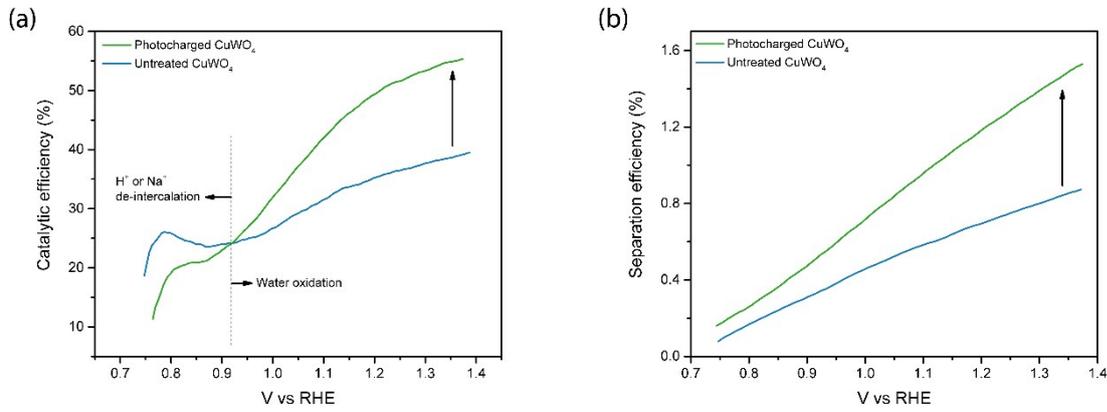


Figure S4 : (a) Catalytic efficiency of UT and PC – CuWO₄ (b) Separation efficiency of UT and PC – CuWO₄

The catalytic and separation efficiencies, as in figure S4 (a-b), were calculated as per the method recommended by Dotan et al. (1),

$$\eta_{cat} = \frac{J_{H_2O}}{J_{hole\ scavenger}} \times 100 \%$$

$$\eta_{sep} = \frac{J_{hole\ scavenger}}{J_{abs}} \times 100 \%$$

Where, J_{H_2O} is the photocurrent in the absence of a hole scavenger, $J_{hole\ scavenger}$ is the photocurrent in the presence of a hole scavenger and J_{abs} (10.43 mA/cm²) (2) is the theoretical absorption current density.

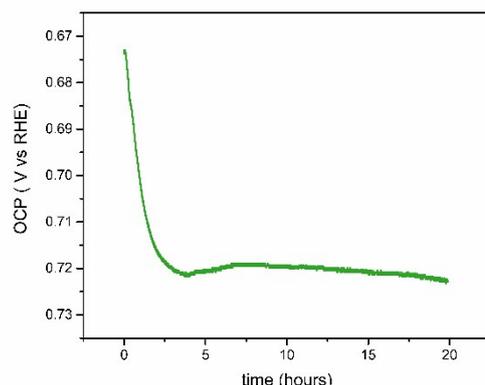


Figure S5 : Open circuit potential (OCP) vs time plot measured during the photocharging process

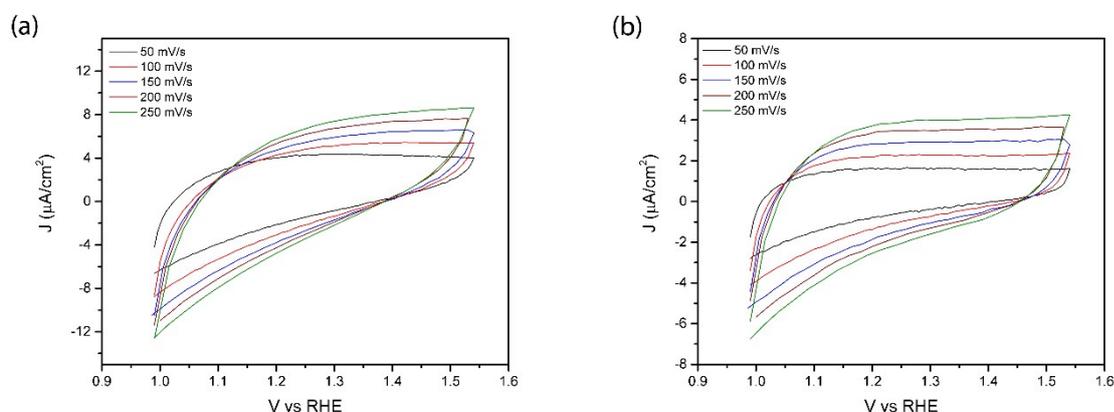


Figure S6 : Cyclic voltammetry scans performed at different scan rates, in the dark, for the ECSA calculation for (a) Untreated CuWO_4 (b) Photocharged CuWO_4

Inductively coupled plasma – optical emission spectroscopy (ICP-OES) was used to analyse the electrolyte solution after the photocharging treatment of the CuWO_4 samples, to see if the copper or tungsten has leached into the solution during the photocharging treatment. A PerkinElmer Optima 5300 DV ICP-OES system was used for these measurements. Reference solutions were made with known concentrations of copper and tungsten in the electrolyte solution used for this study to make a trend line for calibration.

Table S1 : ICP-OES measurement data

Sample	Measured Cu [mg/l]	Measured W [mg/l]
Reference 1 (0 mg/L Cu + 0 mg/L W)	0,005	0,00
Reference 2 (0.26 mg/L Cu + 0.74 mg/L W)	0,055	0,66
Reference 3 (0.51 mg/L Cu + 1.47 mg/L W)	0,085	1,35
Reference 4 (1.02 mg/L Cu + 2.94 mg/L W)	0,159	2,58
10 hour photocharging	<0.05	<0.05
16 hour photocharging	<0.05	<0.05
20 hour photocharging	<0.05	<0.05

References

1. Dotan H, Sivula K, Grätzel M, Rothschild A, Warren SC. Probing the photoelectrochemical properties of hematite (α -Fe₂O₃) electrodes using hydrogen peroxide as a hole scavenger. *Energy Environ Sci.* 2011;4(3):958-64
2. Bohra D, Smith WA. Improved charge separation via Fe-doping of copper tungstate photoanodes. *Phys Chem Chem Phys.* 2015;17(15):9857-66