Supporting information

Au Nanoparticles Doped Co₃O₄-CoFe₂O₄@SiO₂ as Catalyst for Visible-

light-driven Water Oxidation

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Experimental and calculation

Quantum yield calculation

 $E = 52.8 \text{ mW} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$

Photo flux =
$$\frac{P\lambda}{hc} = \frac{52.8 \times 10^{-3} \times 420 \times 10^{-9}}{6.626 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^8} = 1.1156 \times 10^{17} \text{ mol} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$$

= $4.016 \times 10^{20} \text{ mol} \cdot \text{h}^{-1} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$
= $\frac{4.016 \times 10^{20}}{6.022 \times 10^{23}} \times 10^6 \text{ µeinstein} \cdot \text{h}^{-1}$
= $6.6689 \times 10^2 \text{ µeinstein} \cdot \text{h}^{-1}$
= $11.1148 \text{ µeinstein} \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$

The total ζp

rate =
$$\frac{17.81}{6} \mu \text{mol} \cdot \text{min}^{-1} = 2.968 \mu \text{mol} \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$$

 $\zeta p = \frac{\text{rate}}{\text{Io}} = \frac{2.968}{6.6689 \times 10^2} \times 100\% = 26.71\%$



Fig. S1 TG analysis curve of as-synthesized $Co_3[Fe(CN)_6]_2$ under air condition.



Fig. S2 Time courses of O₂ formation in the photocatalytic system using Co_3O_4 -CoFe₂O₄@SiO₂ catalyst with different quantity of TEOS (30 µL (black); 60 µL(red); 100 µL (teal blue)).

Conditions: 300 W Xe lamp (λ≥420 nm), 1.0 mg catalyst, 1.0 mM [Ru(bpy)₃](ClO₄)₂, 5.0 mM Na₂S₂O₈, and 80 mM sodium borate buffer (initial pH 8.0); total reaction volume 10 mL; overall volume ~23 mL; vigorous agitation by a magnetic stirrer.



Fig. S3 Time courses of O_2 formation in the photocatalytic system using Co_3O_4 -CoFe₂O₄@SiO₂@Au catalyst with different percentage composition of Au nano particle (1% (black); 2% (red); 3% (blue)).

Conditions: 300 W Xe lamp (λ≥420 nm), 1.0 mg catalyst, 1.0 mM [Ru(bpy)₃](ClO₄)₂, 5.0 mM Na₂S₂O₈, and 80 mM sodium borate buffer (initial pH 8.0); total reaction volume 10 mL; overall volume ~23 mL; vigorous agitation by a magnetic stirrer.



Fig. S4 Time courses of O_2 formation in the photocatalytic system using Co_3O_4 -CoFe₂O₄@SiO₂@Au at various pH values.

Conditions: 300 W Xe lamp (λ>420 nm), 1.0 mM [Ru(bpy)₃](ClO₄)₂, 5.0 mM Na₂S₂O₈, 80 mM sodium borate buffer at different pH of borate buffer ((pH 7 (black); pH 8 (red); pH 9 (teal blue); pH 10 (pink)); total reaction volume 10 mL; overall volume ~23 mL; vigorous agitation by a magnetic stirrer.



Fig. S5 Time courses of O₂ formation in the photocatalytic system using different photosensitizers (1.0 mM [Ru(bpy)₃](ClO₄)₂ (black); 1.0 mM [Ru(bpy)₃]SO₄ (red); 1.0 mM [Ru(bpy)₃]Cl₂ (blue)).

Conditions: 300 W Xe lamp (λ>420 nm), 1.0 mg catalyst, 5.0 mM Na₂S₂O₈, and 80 mM sodium borate buffer (initial pH 8.0); total reaction volume 10 mL; overall volume ~23 mL; vigorous agitation by a magnetic stirrer.



Fig. S6 Time courses of O₂ formation in the photocatalytic system using different kinds of buffers (pH=8.0, 80 mM borate buffer (black); pH=8.0, 80 mM phosphate buffer (blue); pH=8.0, 80 mM carbonate buffer (red)).

Conditions: 300 W Xe lamp (λ >420 nm), catalysts: 1.0 mg Co₃O₄-CoFe₂O₄@SiO₂@Au, 1.0 mM [Ru(bpy)₃](ClO₄)₂, and 5.0 mM Na₂S₂O₈; total reaction volume 10 mL; overall volume ~23 mL; vigorous agitation by a magnetic stirrer.



Fig. S7 Time courses of O₂ formation in the photocatalytic system using different amounts of Co₃O₄-CoFe₂O₄@SiO₂@Au (0 mg (black); 0.5 mg (red); 1.0 mg (blue); 2.0 mg (pink); 3.0 mg (green)).

Conditions: 300 W Xe lamp (λ>420 nm), 1.0 mM [Ru(bpy)₃](ClO₄)₂, 5.0 mM Na₂S₂O₈, 80 mM sodium borate buffer (initial pH 8.0); total reaction volume 10 mL; overall volume ~23 mL; vigorous agitation by a magnetic stirrer.



Fig. S8 Time courses of O_2 formation in the photocatalytic system using Co_3O_4 -CoFe₂O₄@SiO₂@Au.

Conditions: 300 W Xe lamp (λ>420 nm), 1.0 mg catalyst, 1.0 mM [Ru(bpy)₃](ClO₄)₂, 5.0 mM Na₂S₂O₈, and 80 mM sodium borate buffer (initial pH 8.0); total reaction volume 10 mL; overall volume 23 mL; vigorous agitation using a magnetic stirrer.