**Electronic Supplementary Information** 

## Novel cone-like ZnO mesocrystal with coexposed $(10^{\overline{1}}1)$ and $(000^{\overline{1}})$ facets and enhanced photocatalytic activity

Shuhua Liang,<sup>a\*</sup> Xufeng Gou,<sup>a</sup> Jie Cui,<sup>a</sup> Yongguang Luo,<sup>b</sup> Hongtao Qu,<sup>b</sup> Te Zhang,<sup>b</sup> Zhimao Yang,<sup>c</sup> Qing Yang,<sup>a</sup> and Shaodong Sun<sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Shaanxi Province Key Laboratory for Electrical Materials and Infiltration Technology, School of Materials Science and Engineering, Xi'an University of Technology, Xi'an 710048, ShaanXi, People's Republic of China. E-mail: liangsh@xaut.edu.cn, sdsun@xaut.edu.cn.

<sup>b</sup> Yunnan Chihong Zinc&Germanium Co., Ltd., Qujing 655000, Yunnan, People's Republic of China.

<sup>c</sup> School of Science, State Key Laboratory for Mechanical Behavior of Materials, MOE Key Laboratory for Non-Equilibrium Synthesis and Modulation of Condensed Matter, Center of Suzhou Nano Science and Technology, Xi'an Jiaotong University, Xi'an 710049, ShaanXi, People's Republic of China.



Figure S1. XRD pattern of as-prepared cone-like ZnO mesocrystals (Sample A).



Figure S2. The size distribution diagrams of cone-like ZnO mesocrystals (Sample A).



**Figure S3.** TEM image and SAED pattern of the bolt-like ZnO architecture (Volume of water = 5

mL).



Figure S4. TEM image of ZnO synthesized in pure ethanol system.



Figure S5. TEM images of the products synthesized in different amount of water (Volume of ethanol = 30 mL) at 70 °C.



Figure S6. TEM images of the products synthesized in different amount of water (Volume of ethanol = 30 mL) at 65 °C.



Figure S7. TEM images of the products synthesized in different amount of water (Volume of ethanol = 30 mL) at  $60 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ .



Figure S8. TEM images of the products synthesized in different amount of water (Volume of ethanol = 30 mL) at 55 °C.



**Figure S9.** DSC results of ZnO products (water = 0.5 mL, ethanol = 30 mL) synthesized at different temperature.



**Figure S10.** TEM image of the products synthesized in different amount of water (Volume of ethanol = 30 mL, Temperature = 75 °C) at short reaction time (1 min).



**Figure S11.** The models of the isolated ZnO (0001) surface (a) and the relaxed ZnO (0001) surface with the molecules of  $H_2O$  (b) and  $C_2H_5OH$  (c) adsorbed to it.



Figure S12. The models of the isolated ZnO  $(000^{\overline{1}})$  surface (a) and the relaxed ZnO  $(000^{\overline{1}})$  surface with the molecules of H<sub>2</sub>O (b) and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH (c) adsorbed to it.



**Figure S13.** The models of the isolated ZnO ( $10\overline{1}0$ ) surface (a) and the relaxed ZnO ( $10\overline{1}0$ ) surface with the molecules of H<sub>2</sub>O (b) and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH (c) adsorbed to it.



**Figure S14.** The models of the isolated ZnO  $(10^{\overline{1}}1)$  surface (a) and the relaxed ZnO  $(10^{\overline{1}}1)$  surface with the molecules of H<sub>2</sub>O (b) and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH (c) adsorbed to it.



Figure S15. The size distribution diagrams of Sample A (a) and Sample B (b).



Figure S16. A blank experiment under UV light irradiation.



Figure S17. The cycle experiment of Sample A.



Figure S18. Photocaltalytic results of the Sample A ( $S_{mesocrystal}$ ) and cone-like nanocrystals ( $S_{nanocrystal}$ ).



Figure S19. TEM images of the photodeposition products synthesized in  $H_2PtCl_6$ / triethanolamine and CoCl<sub>2</sub>/NaIO<sub>3</sub> solution, respectively.

*Synthesis.* 0.03 g ZnO powder and a calculated amount of metal precursors (5 wt%) were mixed in 50 mL deionized water. The suspension was then irradiated by a 300W Xe lamp under continuous stirring. After 3 h photo-deposition, the suspension was filtered, washed with deionized water and ethanol for more than three times, and finally dried at 60 °C for overnight.

Sample	Concentration of	Reaction	Reaction	The volume of ethanol	The volume of water
	Zn(CH <sub>3</sub> COO) <sub>2</sub>	temperature	time		
А	0.15 mM	70 °C	15 min	30 mL	0.5 mL
В	0.15 mM	70 °C	15 min	30 mL	1.0 mL
С	0.15 mM	70 °C	15 min	30 mL	2.0 mL
D	0.15 mM	70 °C	15 min	30 mL	3.0 mL
Е	0.15 mM	70 ℃	15 min	30 mL	5.0 mL
F	0.15 mM	70 °C	15 min	30 mL	10 mL
G	0.15 mM	70 ℃	15 min	30 mL	15 mL
J	0.15 mM	70 °C	15 min	30 mL	20 mL

Table S1. The detailed experimental conditions of the products synthesized at 70 °C.

Table S2. The detailed experimental conditions of the products synthesized at 65 °C.

Sample	Concentration of	Reaction	Reaction	The volume of ethanol	The volume of water
	Zn(CH <sub>3</sub> COO) <sub>2</sub>	temperature	time		
А	0.15 mM	65 ℃	15 min	30 mL	0.5 mL
В	0.15 mM	65 °C	15 min	30 mL	1.0 mL
С	0.15 mM	65 °C	15 min	30 mL	2.0 mL
D	0.15 mM	65 °C	15 min	30 mL	3.0 mL
Е	0.15 mM	65 °C	15 min	30 mL	5.0 mL
F	0.15 mM	65 °C	15 min	30 mL	10 mL
G	0.15 mM	65 °C	15 min	30 mL	15 mL
J	0.15 mM	65 °C	15 min	30 mL	20 mL

Sample	Concentration of	Reaction	Reaction	The volume of ethanol	The volume of water
	Zn(CH <sub>3</sub> COO) <sub>2</sub>	temperature	time		
А	0.15 mM	60 ℃	15 min	30 mL	0.5 mL
В	0.15 mM	60 °C	15 min	30 mL	1.0 mL
С	0.15 mM	60 °C	15 min	30 mL	2.0 mL
D	0.15 mM	60 °C	15 min	30 mL	3.0 mL
Е	0.15 mM	60 °C	15 min	30 mL	5.0 mL
F	0.15 mM	60 °C	15 min	30 mL	10 mL
G	0.15 mM	60 °C	15 min	30 mL	15 mL
J	0.15 mM	60 °C	15 min	30 mL	20 mL

Table S3. The detailed experimental conditions of the products synthesized at 60 °C.

Table S4. The detailed experimental conditions of the products synthesized at 55 °C.

Sample	Concentration of	Reaction	Reaction	The volume of ethanol	The volume of water
	Zn(CH <sub>3</sub> COO) <sub>2</sub>	temperature	time		
А	0.15 mM	55 °C	15 min	30 mL	0.5 mL
В	0.15 mM	55 ℃	15 min	30 mL	1.0 mL
С	0.15 mM	55 ℃	15 min	30 mL	2.0 mL
D	0.15 mM	55 ℃	15 min	30 mL	3.0 mL
Е	0.15 mM	55 ℃	15 min	30 mL	5.0 mL
F	0.15 mM	55 ℃	15 min	30 mL	10 mL
G	0.15 mM	55 ℃	15 min	30 mL	15 mL
J	0.15 mM	55 ℃	15 min	30 mL	20 mL

Sautoco	Adsorption energy $E_a$ (eV/molecule)			
Surface	H <sub>2</sub> O (water)	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OH (ethanol)		
(0001)	-0.32	-0.43		
(0001)	-0.49	-0.12		
(1010)	-1.03	-0.35		
$(10\bar{1}1)$	-0.09	-1.13		

Table S5. The adsorption energy  $(E_a)$  for H<sub>2</sub>O and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH molecules adsorbed on the different ZnO surfaces

## **Calculation method**

Our first-principles calculations were based on DFT implemented in the Vienna ab initio simulation package (VASP) code.<sup>1</sup> The projected augmented wave (PAW) method<sup>2</sup> within the generalized gradient approximation of Perdew, Burke, and Ernzerhof (PBE)<sup>3</sup> was used. To separate the interactions between neighboring slabs, the periodic boundary conditions with a relatively large vacuum space of 20 Å were applied. The energy cutoff and convergence criteria for energy and force was set to be 450 eV,  $10^{-4}$  eV, and 0.01 eV/Å, respectively. During the optimization,  $3 \times 3 \times 1 \text{ K-point}^4$  was adopted, while  $5 \times 5 \times 1$  was used for total energy calculations.

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<sup>3</sup> J. P. Perdew, K. Burke, and M. Ernzerhof, Phys. Rev. Lett. 1996, 77, 3865.

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