Supporting Information

## Synthesis of silver sulfide nanoparticles and their photodetector applications

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Fig. S1. Sonochemical synthesis of  $Ag_2S$  NPs. (a) Thermal images of the reaction vial taken by an infrared camera for the synthesis of  $Ag_2S$  NPs. The sonicator in the vial heated the reaction solution up to about 160 °C. The ultrasonic irradiation time usually takes 10 ~ 15 minutes for the synthesis of  $Ag_2S$  NPs. (b) The temperatures of the local hot spot were plotted. The temperature may reach 160 °C after 5 minutes of sonication.



**Fig. S2.** Absorption spectrum of Ag<sub>2</sub>S NPs. 0.01 g of Ag<sub>2</sub>S NPs were dispersed in 10 ml Chloroform and measured using a SolidSpec-3700 UV-Vis-NIR spectrophotometer from Shimadzu.



Fig. S3. XPS spectra of (a)  $Ag_2S$  and (b) Li-doped  $Ag_2S$  NPs.

	Ag (wt%)	Li (wt%)	S (wt%)
Ag <sub>2</sub> S	77.9		11.7
Li-doped Ag <sub>2</sub> S (0.05 mmol)	72.6	0.447	11.5

Fig. S4. Ag-S-Li ratios of the  $Ag_2S$  and Li(0.05mmol)-doped  $Ag_2S$  NPs by ICP-AES.



**Fig. S5.** Calculations for the Li substitutions at the Ag sites in the  $3\times2\times1$  Ag<sub>2</sub>S supercell. Calculated optimized structures for the (a)  $321-\text{Li}_{Ag}-1$ , (c)  $321-\text{Li}_{Ag}-2_{near}$ , and (e)  $321-\text{Li}_{Ag}-2_{far}$ . The gray, yellow, and green balls represent Ag, S, and Li atoms, respectively. Li-Li distances in  $321-\text{Li}_{Ag}-2_{near}$  and  $321-\text{Li}_{Ag}-2_{far}$  are 3.88 Å and 8.01 Å. Calculated band structures and PDOSs for the (b)  $321-\text{Li}_{Ag}-1$ , (d)  $321-\text{Li}_{Ag}-2_{near}$ , and (f)  $321-\text{Li}_{Ag}-2_{far}$ . The Fermi levels of all calculated systems were set to zero.



**Fig. S6.** Calculations for the Li interstitials in the  $3 \times 2 \times 1$  Ag<sub>2</sub>S supercell. Calculated optimized structures for the (a) 321-Li<sub>i</sub>-2<sub>near</sub>, and (c) 321-Li<sub>i</sub>-2<sub>far</sub>. The gray, yellow, and green balls represent Ag, S, and Li atoms, respectively. Li-Li distances in 321-Li<sub>i</sub>-2<sub>near</sub>, and 321-Li<sub>i</sub>-2<sub>far</sub> are 3.48 Å and 8.78 Å. Calculated band structures and PDOSs for the (b) 321-Li<sub>i</sub>-2<sub>near</sub>, and (d) 321-Li<sub>i</sub>-2<sub>far</sub>. The Fermi levels of all calculated systems were set to zero.



**Fig. S7.** Calculations for the pristine and Li doped  $1 \times 1 \times 1$  Ag<sub>2</sub>S. Calculated optimized structures for the (a) 111-pristine, (c) 111-Li<sub>i</sub>-1, and (e) 111-Li<sub>Ag</sub>-1. The gray, yellow, and green balls represent Ag, S, and Li atoms, respectively. Calculated band structures and PDOSs for the (b) 111-pristine, (d) 111-Li<sub>i</sub>-1, and (f) 111-Li<sub>Ag</sub>-1. The Fermi levels of all calculated systems were set to zero.



Fig. S8. Atomic force microscopy (AFM) image of Ag<sub>2</sub>S NPs density on the SiO<sub>2</sub> substrate.



Fig. S9. The transfer curve  $(I_{DS}-V_G)$  of pristine graphene devices at  $V_{DS} = 0.1$  V.



**Fig. S10.** PL emission intensities of Li-doped Ag<sub>2</sub>S NPs (a) UV (365 nm) irradiated for 30 days, (b) RT after 30 days, (c) heat-treated to 70  $^{\circ}$ C for 30 days, and (d) 150  $^{\circ}$ C for 30 days.



**Fig. S11.** Long term air-stability test of photodetectors based on graphene and Ag<sub>2</sub>S NPs and Lidoped Ag<sub>2</sub>S NPs.