

Insights into the Interfacial Carrier Behaviour of Copper Ferrite (CuFe_2O_4) Photoanodes for Solar Water Oxidation

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Morphology

SEM images of nanostructured CuFe_2O_4 photoanode are shown in the left panel of Figure S1. SEM setup (Zeiss Merlin) for these images are 2 kV electron high tension (EHT), 100 pA probe current, 3 mm working distance (WD) and annular secondary electrons detector (In-Lens).

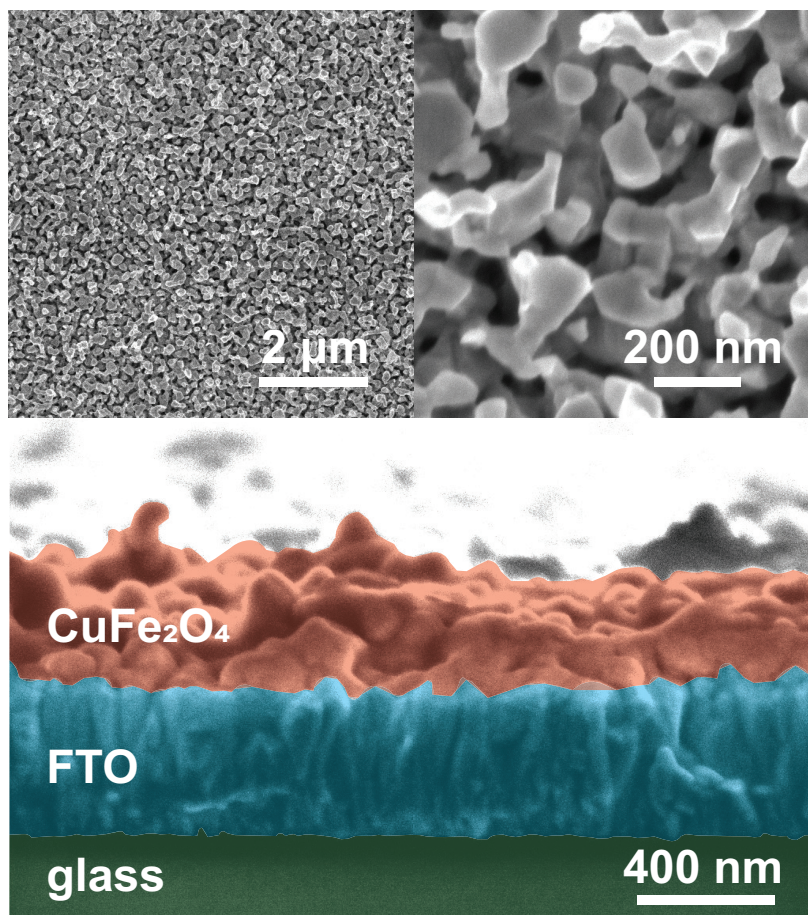


Figure S1: Top-view and cross-sectional SEM image of CuFe_2O_4 photoanode.

Raman spectrum

Raman spectroscopy was performed with a Raman microscopy (HORIBA Jobin Yvon XploRA PLUS) coupled with an optical microscope (Olympus BX41). The assignment of Raman peaks is displayed in Table S1.^{s1-s4}

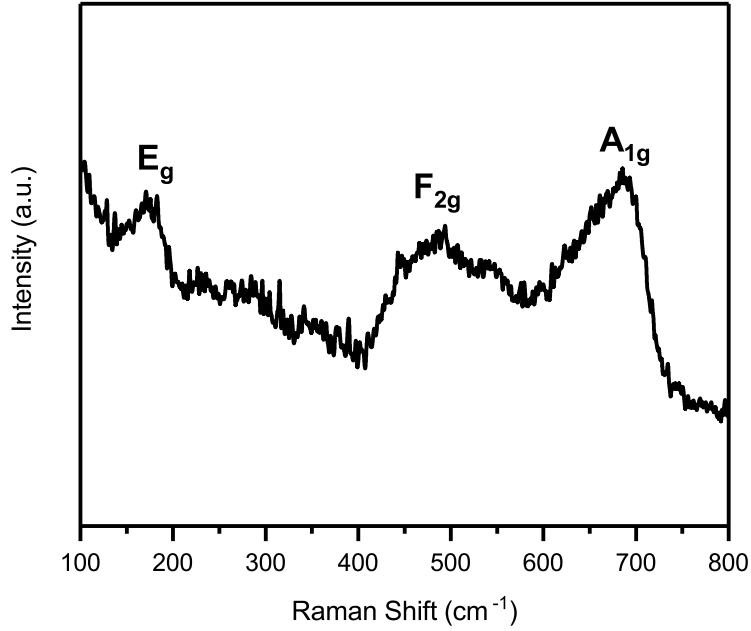


Figure S2: Raman spectrum of CuFe₂O₄ photoanode.

Table S1: Assignment of Raman peaks on CuFe₂O₄.

Assignment	Raman Shift (cm ⁻¹)
E _g	168
F _{2g}	483
A _{1g}	674

UV-Vis absorption spectrum

The UV-Vis absorption spectrum was recorded by a UV-Vis spectrophotometer (Shimadzu UV-3600).

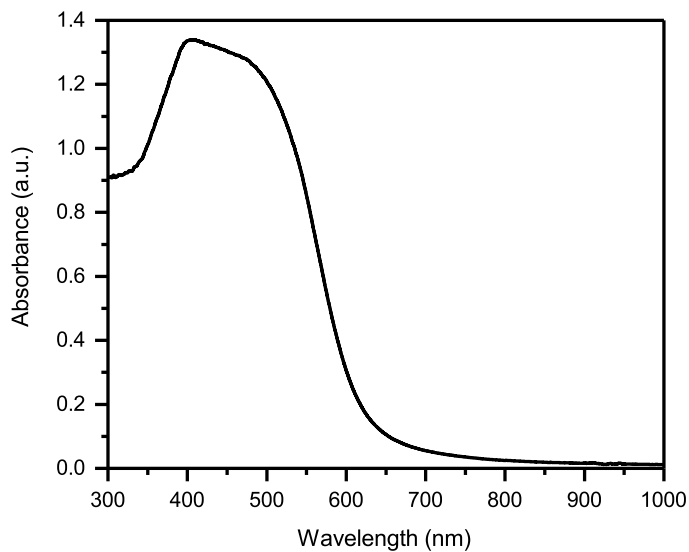


Figure S3: UV-Vis absorption spectrum of CuFe₂O₄ photoanode.

Photocurrent under LED illumination

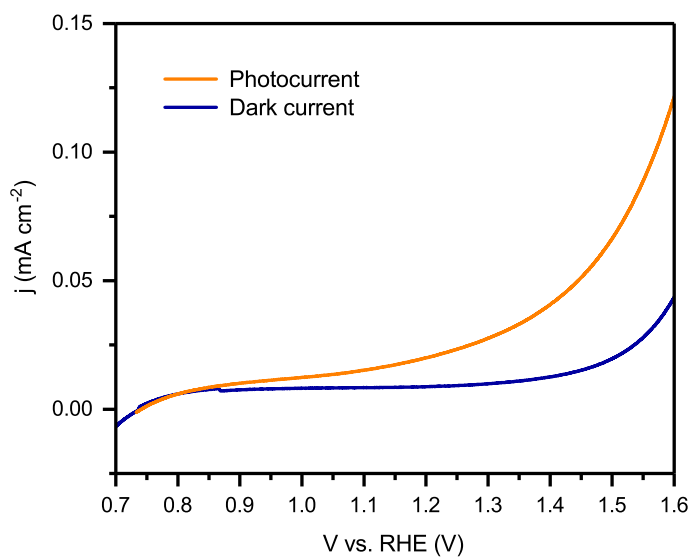


Figure S4: Current-voltage characteristics of CuFe₂O₄ photoanode measured under LED irradiation and dark condition in 1 M NaOH electrolyte.

Mean transit time for photogenerated electrons (τ_d)

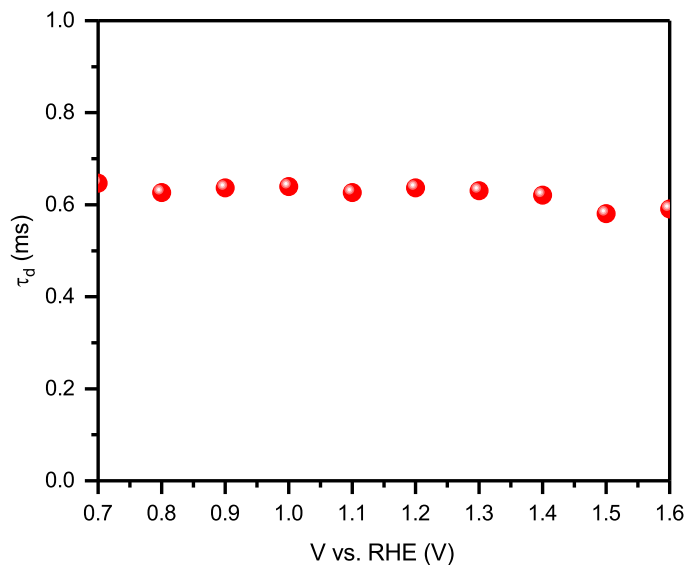


Figure S5: Mean transit time for photogenerated electrons (τ_d) as a function of applied potential.

Substrate-side illumination and electrolyte-side illumination

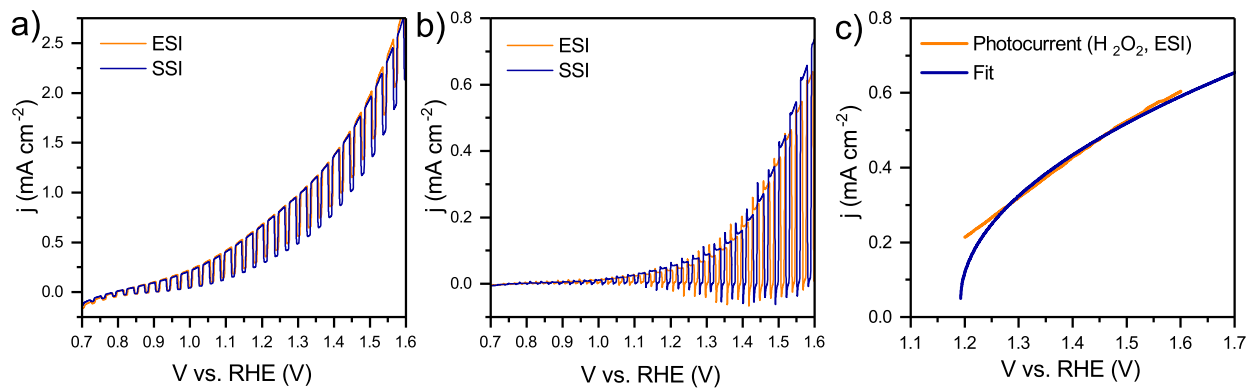


Figure S6: The effect of substrate-side illumination (SSI) and electrolyte-side illumination (ESI) on the photocurrent of CuFe₂O₄ photoanode measured under 452 nm monochromatic illumination (a) with and (b) without H₂O₂. (c) Gartner model fitting of photocurrent.

in situ UV-Vis spectra

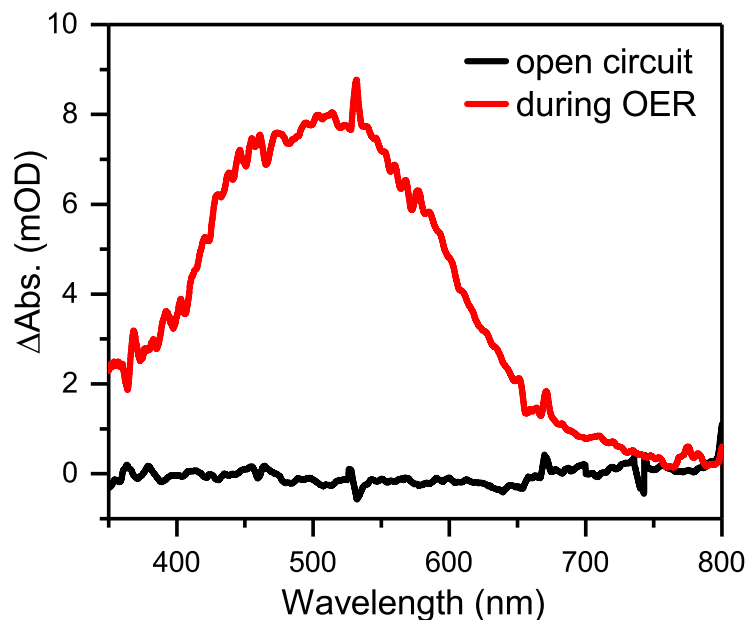


Figure S7: *in situ* UV-Vis absorption spectra of a CuFe_2O_4 photoanode measured under open circuit conditions and during OER under an applied bias of 1.8 V vs RHE.

References

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- (S4) Silva, M.; Silva, F.; Sinfrônio, F.; Paschoal, A.; Silva, E.; Paschoal, C. *Journal of Alloys and Compounds* **2014**, *584*, 573–580.