

## Supporting Information

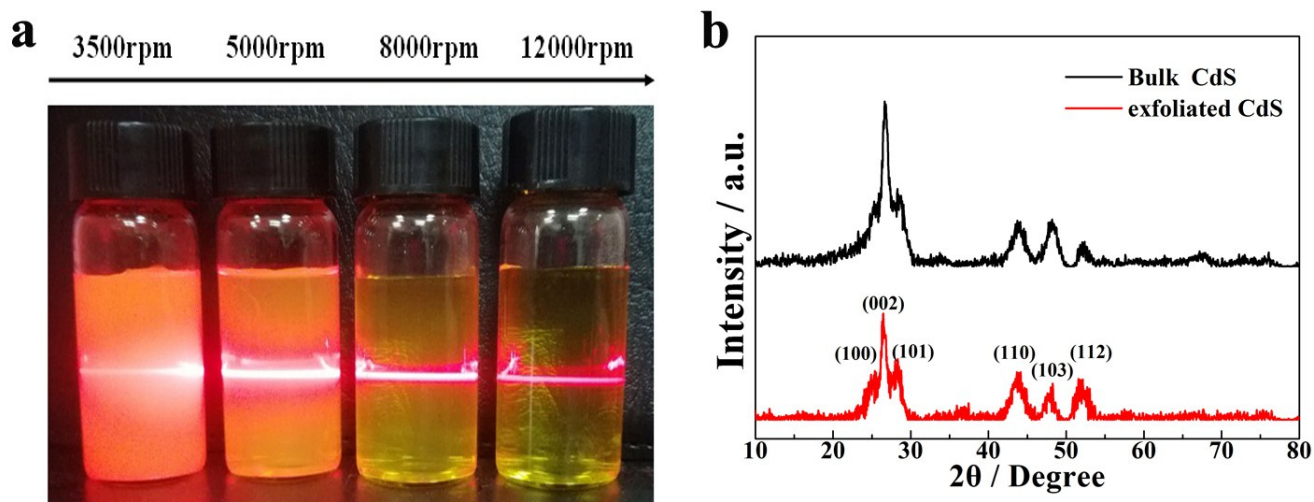
### **Construction of 2D/2D Ni<sub>2</sub>P/CdS heterojunctions with significantly enhanced photocatalytic H<sub>2</sub> evolution performance**

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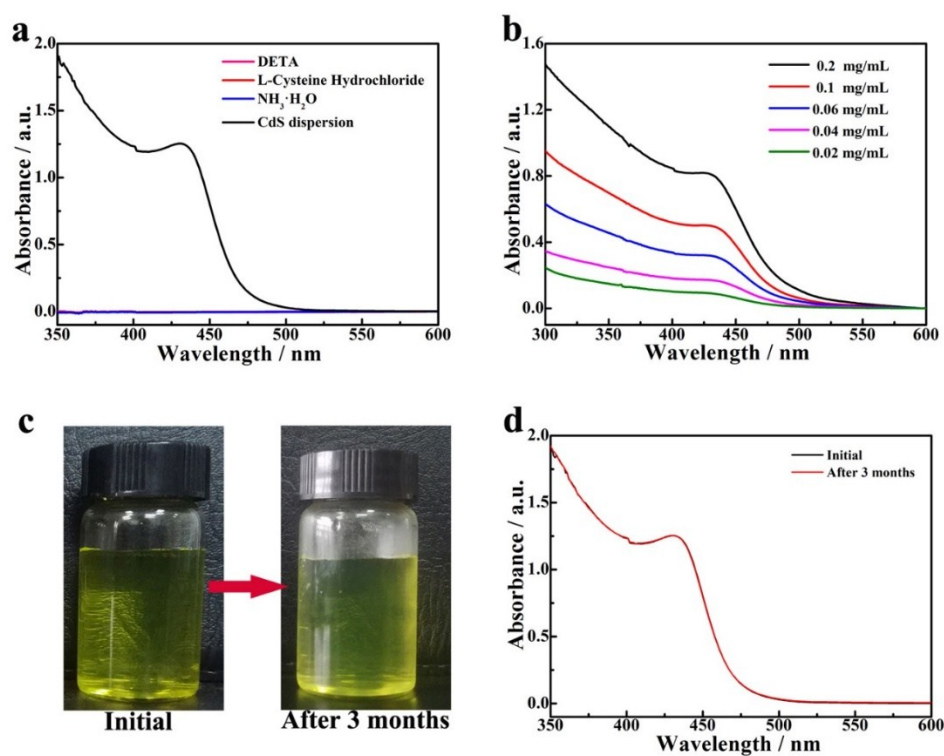
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**Fig. S1.** Photographs of CdS dispersion obtained at different centrifugal speeds and the corresponding Tyndall effect (a); XRD pattern of bulk and exfoliated CdS (b).



**Fig. S2.** UV-vis absorption spectra of exfoliated CdS dispersion, L-cysteine hydrochloride aqueous solution,  $\text{NH}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  solution and DETA aqueous solution (a); UV-vis absorption spectra of exfoliated CdS dispersion with the different concentrations (b); Photographs (c) and UV-vis absorption spectra (d) of initial and stored for 3 months CdS dispersion.

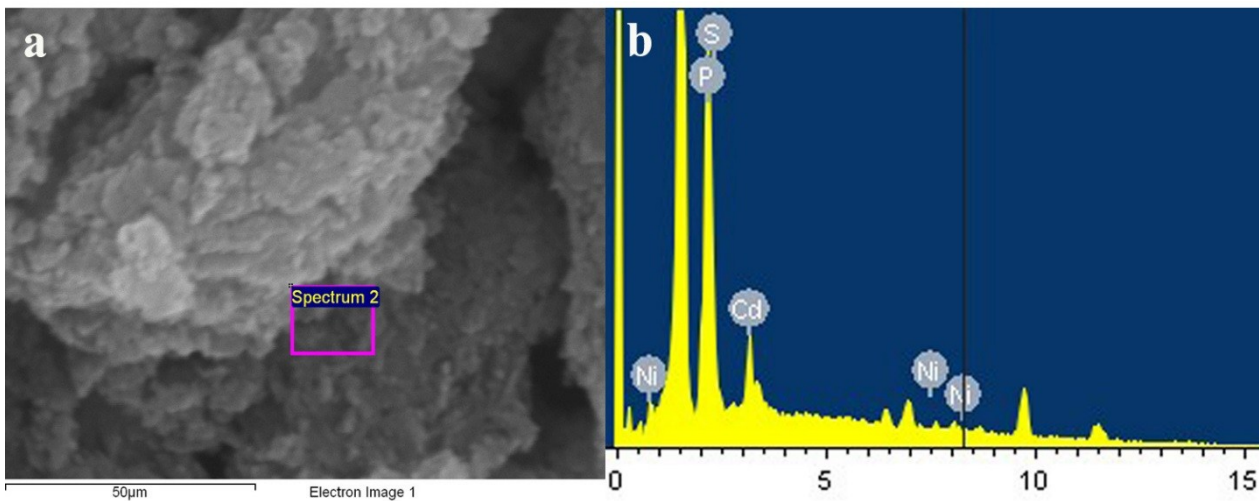


Fig. S3. EDS spectrum of 4wt% Ni<sub>2</sub>P/CdS heterojunction.

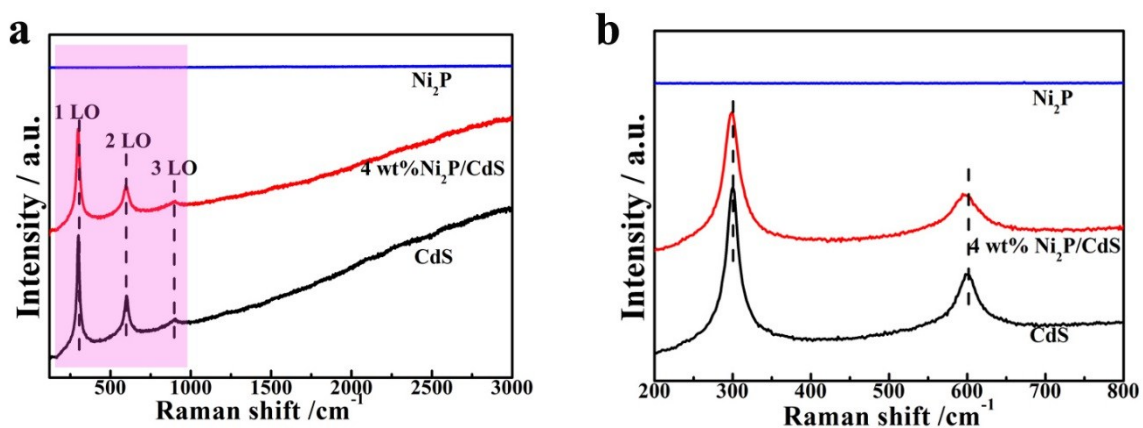


Fig. S4. The Raman spectra of Ni<sub>2</sub>P, CdS and 4wt% Ni<sub>2</sub>P/CdS heterojunction.

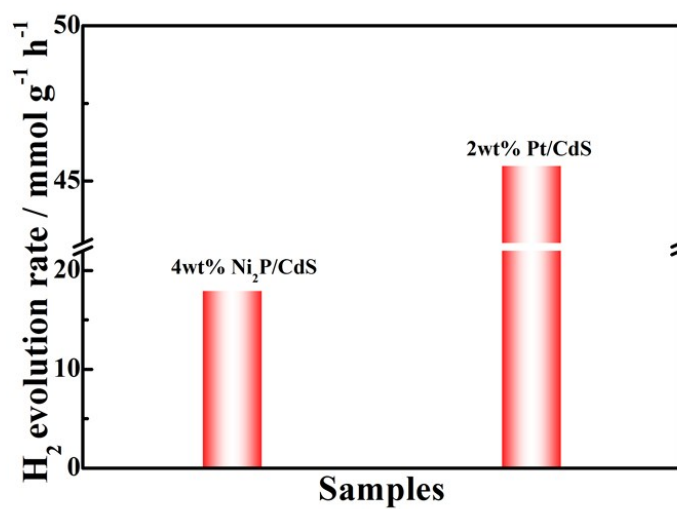


Fig. S5. The H<sub>2</sub> evolution rate of 4wt% Ni<sub>2</sub>P/CdS heterojunction and 2wt% Pt/CdS hybrid.

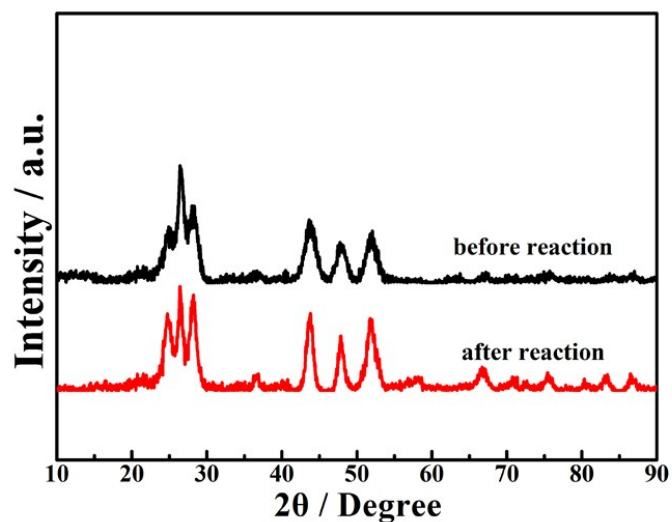


Fig. S6. the XRD pattern of before and after reaction of 4wt% Ni<sub>2</sub>P/CdS heterojunction.

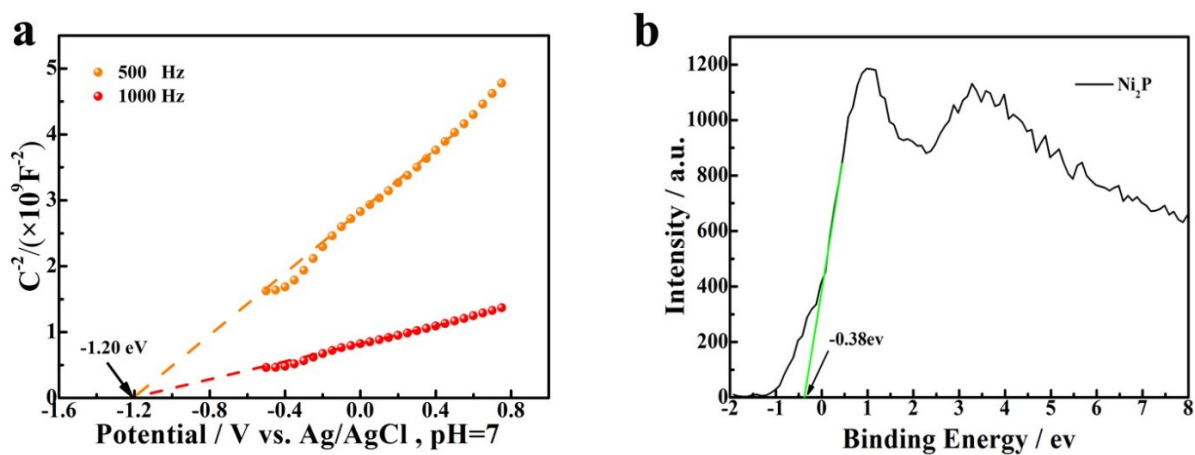


Fig. S7. The Mott-Schottky curves of exfoliated CdS (a) and XPS valence band spectrum of Ni<sub>2</sub>P (b).

**Table S1.** Comparing the photocatalytic H<sub>2</sub> evolution activity with other reported photocatalysts.

Photocatalyst	Light source	Sacrificial reagent	H <sub>2</sub> (mmol g <sup>-1</sup> h <sup>-1</sup> )	Reference
CoP/Zn <sub>0.5</sub> Cd <sub>0.5</sub> S	$\lambda \geq 420$ nm	Lactic acid	14.68	[31]
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/Cd <sub>0.5</sub> Zn <sub>0.5</sub> S	$\lambda \geq 420$ nm	Na <sub>2</sub> S/Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	1.05	[45]
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/CdS	$\lambda \geq 420$ nm	Lactic acid	2.07	[46]
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/Cd <sub>0.5</sub> Zn <sub>0.5</sub> S	$\lambda \geq 400$ nm	Na <sub>2</sub> S-Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	9.12	[47]
CoP/CdS	$\lambda \geq 420$ nm	Na <sub>2</sub> S-Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	13.8	[48]
CoP/Zn <sub>0.5</sub> Cd <sub>0.5</sub> S	AM 1.5G filter	Ascorbic acid	12.18	[49]
MoS <sub>2</sub> /ZnIn <sub>2</sub> S <sub>4</sub>	$\lambda \geq 400$ nm	TEOA	0.89	[50]
WS <sub>2</sub> /CdS	$\lambda \geq 420$ nm	Lactic acid	14.1	[51]
MoS <sub>2</sub> /CdS	$\lambda \geq 420$ nm	Na <sub>2</sub> S/Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	4.65	[52]
MoSe/ZnIn <sub>2</sub> S <sub>4</sub>	$\lambda \geq 420$ nm	Lactic acid	6.45	[53]
MoS <sub>2</sub> /ZnIn <sub>2</sub> S <sub>4</sub>	$\lambda \geq 420$ nm	Lactic acid	6.88	[54]
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/CdS	$\lambda \geq 420$ nm	Lactic acid	17.95	This Work