Electronic Supporting Information for

Visible light driven photo-reduction of Cu²⁺ to Cu₂O to Cu in water for photocatalytic hydrogen production

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Figure S1. (a) and (b): Relationship between hydrogen production at various pH values and irradiation time from system containing CuSO₄ (1.0×10^{-5} M), TEA (1.5 mL) and Fl (1.0×10^{-3} M) in H₂O (28.5 mL) in a 60 mL volume quartz tube. The light source for irradiation is LED with $\lambda > 420$ nm.









Figure S2. (a) and (b): Relationship between hydrogen production at various pH values and irradiation time from system containing CuSO₄ (1.0×10^{-5} M), TEOA (1.5 mL) and Fl (1.0×10^{-3} M) in H₂O (28.5 mL) in a 60 mL volume quartz tube. The light source for irradiation is LED with $\lambda > 420$ nm.



Figure S3. Time course of hydrogen production using various photosensitizers (10⁻³M) with CuSO₄•5H₂O (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M) and TEA (1.5 mL, 5% v/v) at pH 11 (adjusted with 0.1 M HCl) in H₂O (28.5 mL) under $\lambda > 420$ nm LED visible-light irradiation.



Figure S4. Time course of hydrogen production using various photosensitizers (10⁻³M) with CuSO₄•5H₂O (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M) and TEOA (1.5 mL, 5% v/v) at pH 10 (adjusted with 0.1 M HCl) in H₂O (28.5 mL) under $\lambda > 420$ nm LED visible-light irradiation.



Figure S5. Time courses of photocatalytic H_2 evolution systems containing $CuSO_4 \cdot 5H_2O$ (1.0 \times 10⁻⁵ M) and TEA (1.5 mL, 5% v/v) at pH 11 (adjusted with 0.1M HCl) and various concentrations of Fl (0.2, 0.5, 1.0, 2.0 and 4.0 mM) in H₂O (28.5 mL) under visible-light irradiation.



Figure S6. Time courses of photocatalytic H₂ evolution systems containing $CuSO_4 \cdot 5H_2O$ (1.0 \times 10⁻⁵ M) and TEOA (1.5 mL, 5% v/v) at pH 10 (adjusted with 0.1M HCl) and various concentrations of Fl (0.2, 0.5, 1.0, 2.0 and 4.0 mM) in H₂O (28.5 mL) under visible-light irradiation.



Figure S7. XPS results with on C and Cu with collected Cu and Cu₂O.



Figure S8. Hydrogen production induction period measurement from systems containing Cu₂O nanoparticles (30 µ M, 4.4 mg), Fl (2.0 mM) and TEA (5% v/v) at pH 11 in 30ml aqueous solution.



Figure S9. Hydrogen production induction period measurement from systems containing Cu_2O nanoparticles (30 μ M, 4.4 mg), Fl (2.0 mM) and TEOA (5% v/v) at pH 10 in 30ml aqueous solution.



Figure S10. Hydrogen production from systems containing Cu nanoparticles $(30 \ \mu M, 2 \ mg)$, Fl (2.0 mM) in TEOA (5% v/v) or TEA (5% v/v) at pH 10 or pH 11 in 30ml aqueous solution.



Figure S11. Hydrogen production from systems containing Cu₂O nanoparticles $(30 \ \mu M, 4.4 \ mg)$, Fl (2.0 mM) in TEOA (5% v/v) or TEA (5% v/v) at pH 10 or pH 11 in 30ml aqueous solution.



Figure S12. X-ray crystal structure (a) and ORTEP view (b) of $Cu(TEOA)(H_2O)_2$ complex with thermal ellipsoids at the 50% probability level. H atoms are omitted for clarity.





(d)

Figure S13. (a) Particle size distribution at irradiation time of 0 min (a), 2 min (b), 4 min (c), 7 min (d) determined by DLS measurements with CuSO4 (1.0 mM), TEOA (5% v/v) and Fl (1.0 mM).