

Supporting Information

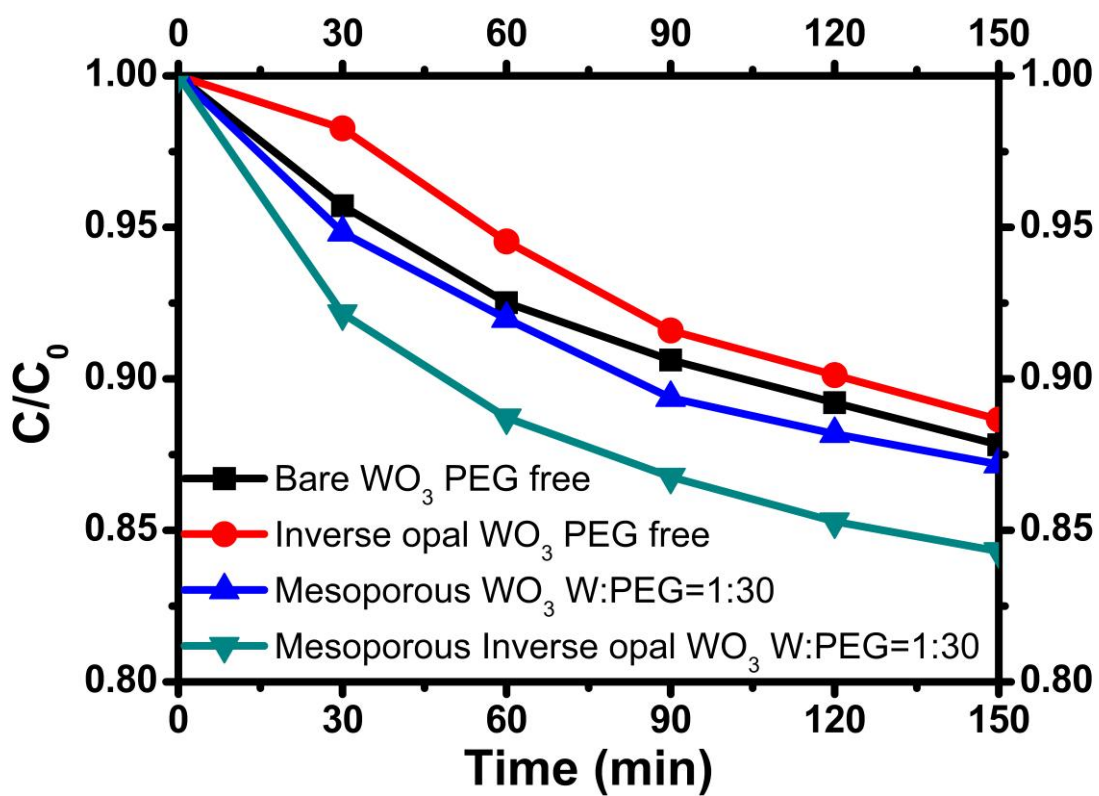
Experimental details:

The morphology of the fabricated samples was observed by field emission scanning electron microscopy (FE-SEM, JSM-7000F, Japan). Linear sweep voltammetry and chronoamperometry were performed to investigate electrochemical responses using a 3-electrode configuration with Pt (counter electrode) and Ag/AgCl (reference electrode) in 1 M sulfuric acid solution (electrolyte), and these techniques were used at a scan rate of 10 mV/s. The samples used photoanode (working electrode) were illuminated under 100 mW/cm² of light irradiance with a xenon lamp based solar simulator (PECCELL, Yokohama, Japan, PEC-L01:100mW/cm²). The power of the xenon lamp was 150 W and the light intensity of the solar simulator was calibrated prior to each sample measurement using a silicon reference cell (Fraunhofer ISE, Certificate No. C-ISE269).

The photo-decomposition reaction was carried out in 20ml of 2×10^{-3} mM rhodamine B (Rh B) aqueous solution (20ml) using the same threeelectrode system, with samples (working electrode), Pt (counter electrode) and Ag/AgCl (reference electrode) under 0.8V of applied bias and 100 mW/cm² of light irradiance from a xenon lamp based solar simulator. The photocatalytic degradation was measured as the time-dependant absorption changes in 550nm UV spectra with a UV-2401 PC, Shimadzu (UV/visible spectrophotometer). The concentration changes were estimated by using a calibration equation with the absorbance data measured from UV/visible spectrophotometer. The equation was obtained by measuring the absorptions of several Rh B solutions with different concentrations and plotting the concentration versus absorption curve

Mesoporous WO_3 inverse opal nanostructured films were prepared by using a polystyrene (PS) colloidal array as a skeleton-forming template and then filling the template with a colloidal complex precursor via spin-casting. The PS template was fabricated on transparent conducting glass substrates (F-doped SnO_2 coated glass, FTO).^[1] Monodispersed PS (with a diameter of 1000nm) colloidal suspension was synthesized and self-assembled on the substrate as described previously.^[2-3] To obtain the precursor solution composed of peroxitungstic acid and organic additive, 0.9 g of tungsten powder (W, Acros, 99.9%) was dissolved in 10 ml of hydrogen peroxide (30% H_2O_2 , Junsei), which was subsequently combined with 25ml of 2-propanol (IPA, Junsei), used as an organic solvent to improve stability. IPA has the ability to slow down the condensation of tungstic acid in the precursor solution^[4] and can make complexes with tungsten oxoanions.^[5] After stirring the solution for 6 hr, different amounts of PEG 300 (Poly ethylene glycol) 300, Aldrich) was added to the solution to alter the morphology of the WO_3 inverse opal structure.

1. K. Shin, J. H. Moon and J. H. Park, *J. Nanosci. Nanotechnol.*, 2011, **11**, 1538.
2. J. C. Lytle and A. Stein, in *Recent Progress in Syntheses and Applications of Inverse Opals and Related Macroporous Materials Prepared by Colloidal Crystal Templating*, Vol. 1 (Eds: C. J. Brinker, G. Cao), World Scientific, Singapore 2006, Ch. 1.
3. J. Wang, S. Ahl, Qin Li, M. Kreiter, T. Neumann, K. Burkert, W. Knolla and U. Jonas, *J. Mater. Chem.*, 2008, **18**, 981.
4. L. Jean and L. Jean, *Canadian Journal of Chemistry*, 1977, **55**, 3758.
5. E. Richardson, *J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem.*, 1959, **12**, 79.
6. C. Santato, M. Ulmann and J. Augustynski, *Adv. Mater.*, 2001, **13**, 511.



Change in concentration, C/C_0 , at 525 nm as a function of the irradiation time during photocatalysis of rhodamine B in aqueous solution.