## Supporting Information for crystal growth by leaps and bounds based on

## self-assembly: Insight from titania

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Fig. S1. TEM images of tiny $\mathrm{TiO}_{2}$ NPs precipitated in non- $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ system ( $\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b}, \mathrm{c}, \mathrm{d}$ ) and spindle-shaped $\mathrm{TiO}_{2} \mathrm{NPs}$ obtained in the reaction system with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}(\mathrm{e}, \mathrm{f}, \mathrm{g}, \mathrm{h})$ under different reaction temperature for 8 h : (a,e) 90 , (b,f) $120,(\mathrm{c}, \mathrm{g}) 150,(\mathrm{~d}, \mathrm{~h}) 180^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.


Fig. S2. XRD patterns of the products obtained in hydrothermal system with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ at $150{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for different duration: (1) 2 , (2) 1 , (3) 0.5 h .


Fig. S3. TEM images of products synthesized with different amount of concentrated $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ in the system under the same reaction temperature of $150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and time of 3 h :(a) 0.05 , (b) 0.1 , (c) 0.25 , (d) 0.5 , (e) 0.75 , (f) 1 ml .


Fig. S4. TEM image of $\mathrm{TiO}_{2}$ NPs obtained under the hydrothermal condition of $150{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 4 h. .


Fig. S5. TEM images of products obtained under the hydrothermal condition of $150{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for $4 \mathrm{~h} . . \mathrm{HNO}_{3}$ (a), HCl (c), $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{COOH}(\mathrm{d})$ and $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ with the equimolar quantity of hydrogen ion and sulfate ion were used instead of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ in the system, comparing the samples formed separately from the systems with $\mathrm{HNO}_{3}$ (b), HCl (d), $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{COOH}$ (f) only.

