## Electronic Supplementary Information for

## Hydrothermal synthesis and selectively photocatalytic properties of

## tetragonal star-like ZrO<sub>2</sub> nanostructures

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**Fig. S1** The RhB and Acid RhB concentration as a function of keeping time before UV irradiation over tetragonal star-like ZrO<sub>2</sub> product.



Fig. S2 XPS spectra of the typical product. (a) Zr3d, (b) O1s.



**Fig. S3** TEM images and XRD patterns (f) of the products obtained by reacting at 240 °C for 6 h with different amount of NaAc: (a) 0, (b)0.0205 g, (c) 0.082 g, (d) 0.164 g, (e) 0.328 g. Insets in a, b, c, d are the corresponding enlarged TEM images.



**Fig. S4** TEM images and XRD patterns (d) of the products obtained by reacting at 240°C for 6 h with different reagents (keeping ZrOCl<sub>2</sub>·8H<sub>2</sub>O unchanged): (a) NaCl, (b) NaNO<sub>3</sub>, (c) CH<sub>3</sub>COOK.



**Fig. S5** The TEM image of the product obtained by 12 h reaction (a) and the XRD patterns of the products obtained by 12 h and 6 h (b).



Fig. S6 Photocatalytic degradation of RhB and Acid RhB with different concentrations.