

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

**Facile synthesis of TiO₂ hollow spheres composed of high
percentage reactive facets for enhanced photocatalytic
activity**

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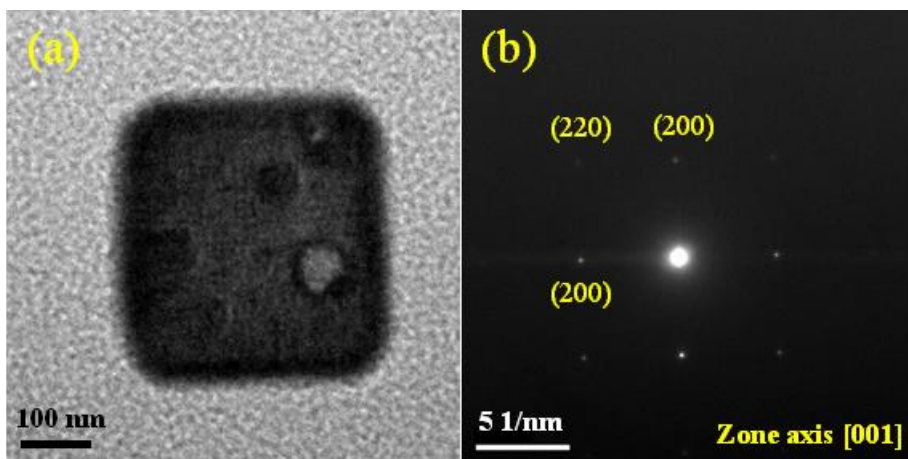


Fig. S1 TEM image and single crystal electron diffraction pattern of TiO_2 nanosheets obtained from $\text{TiO}_2\text{-HS-1}$

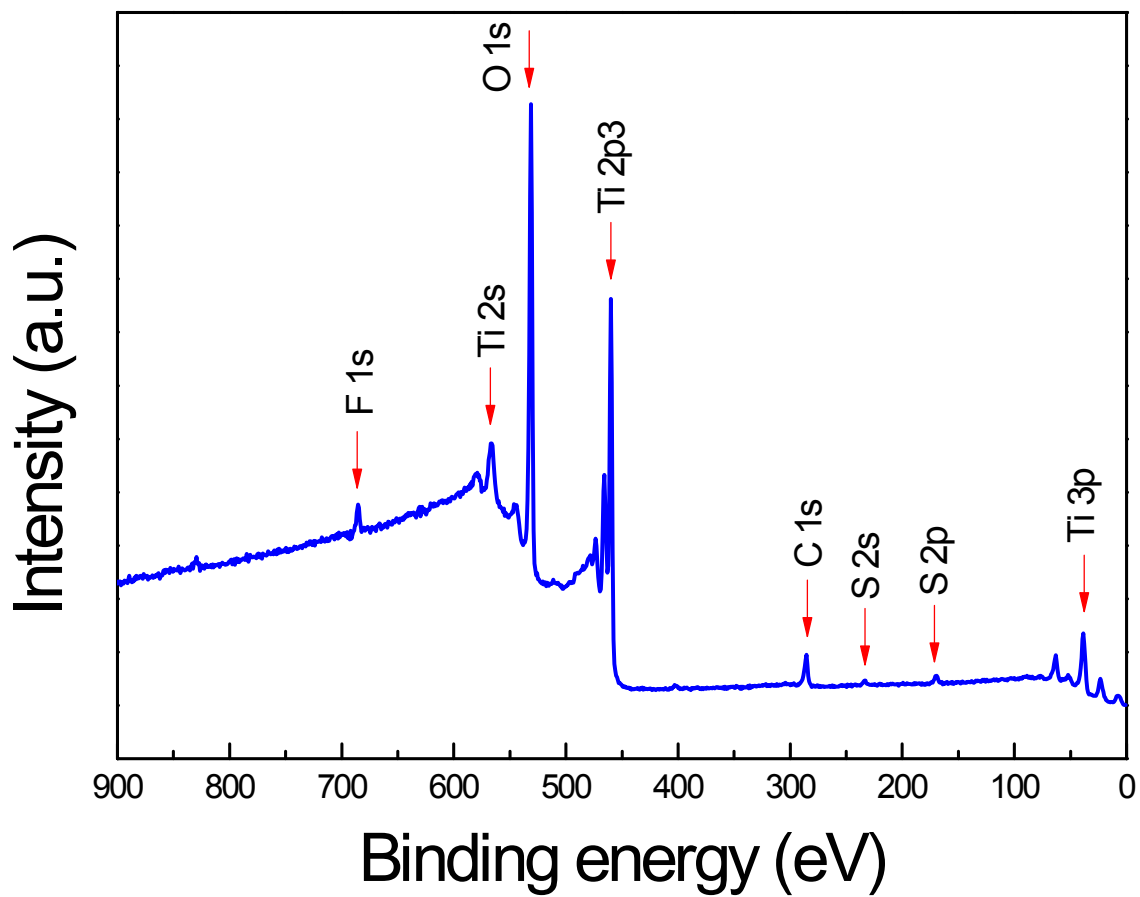


Fig. S2 The survey spectrum of TiO₂-HS-1 hollow spheres

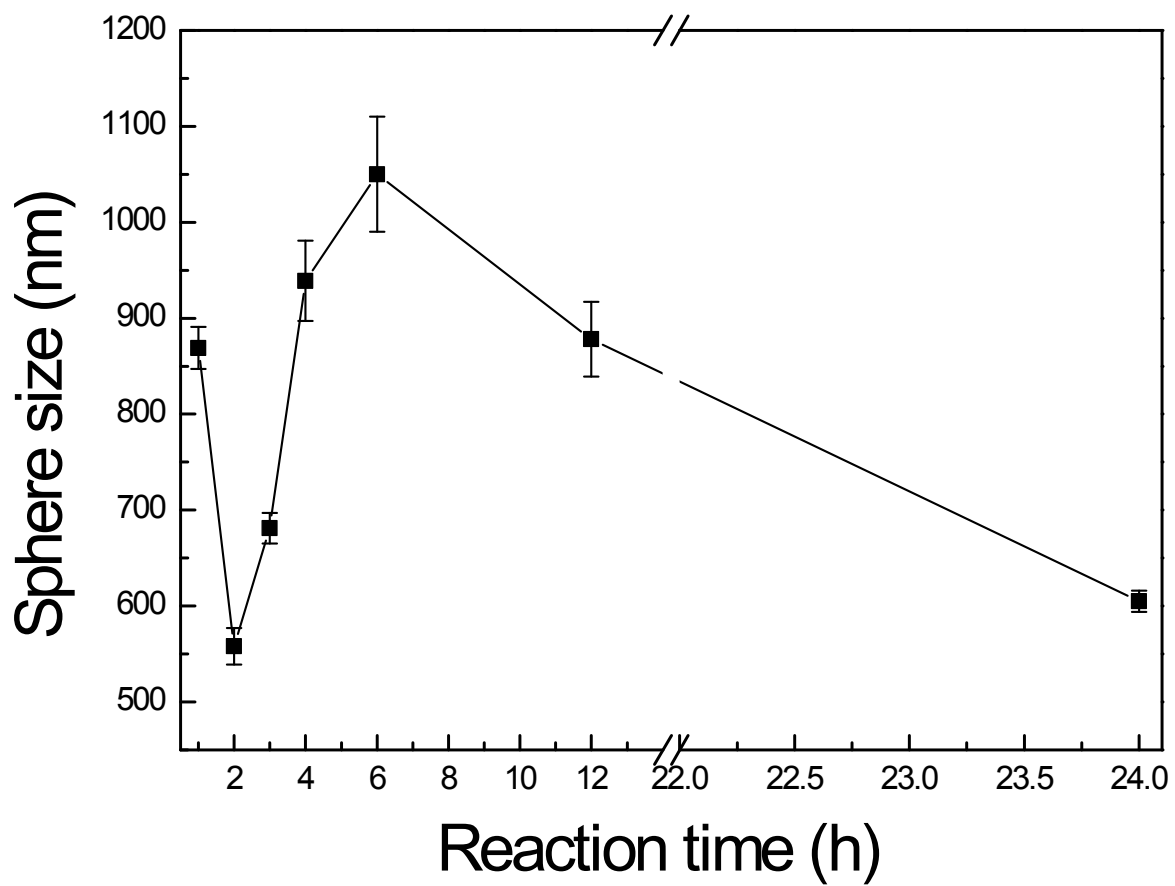


Fig. S3: The size growth of TiO₂-HS-1 sphere as a function of reaction time in hydrothermal synthesis

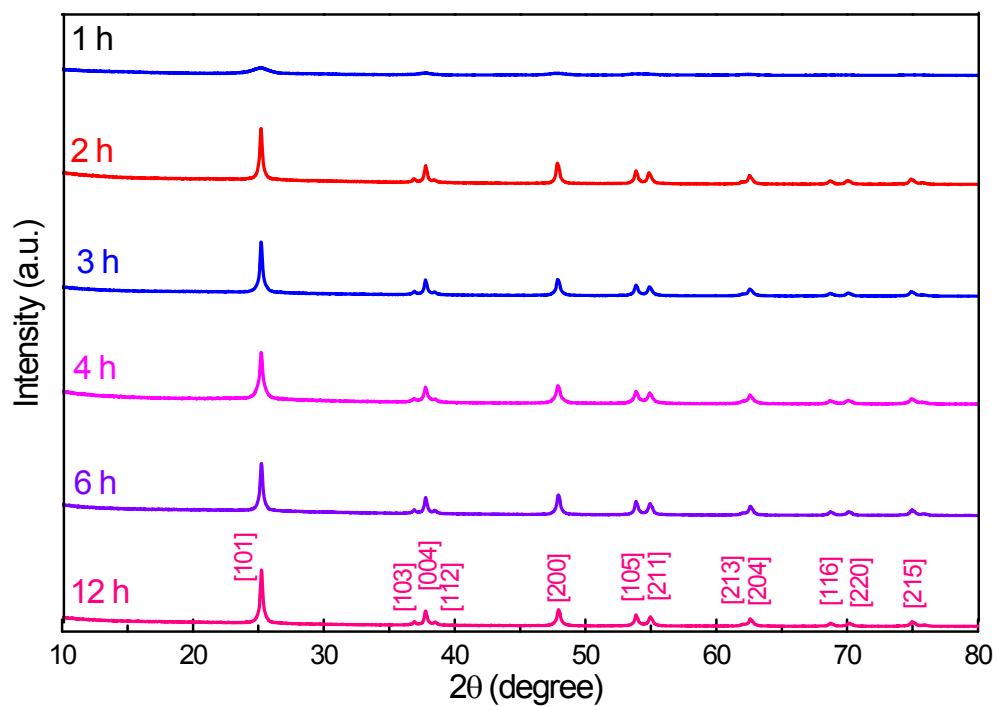


Fig. S4 XRD patterns of TiO₂-HS-1 samples collected at different hydrothermal stages

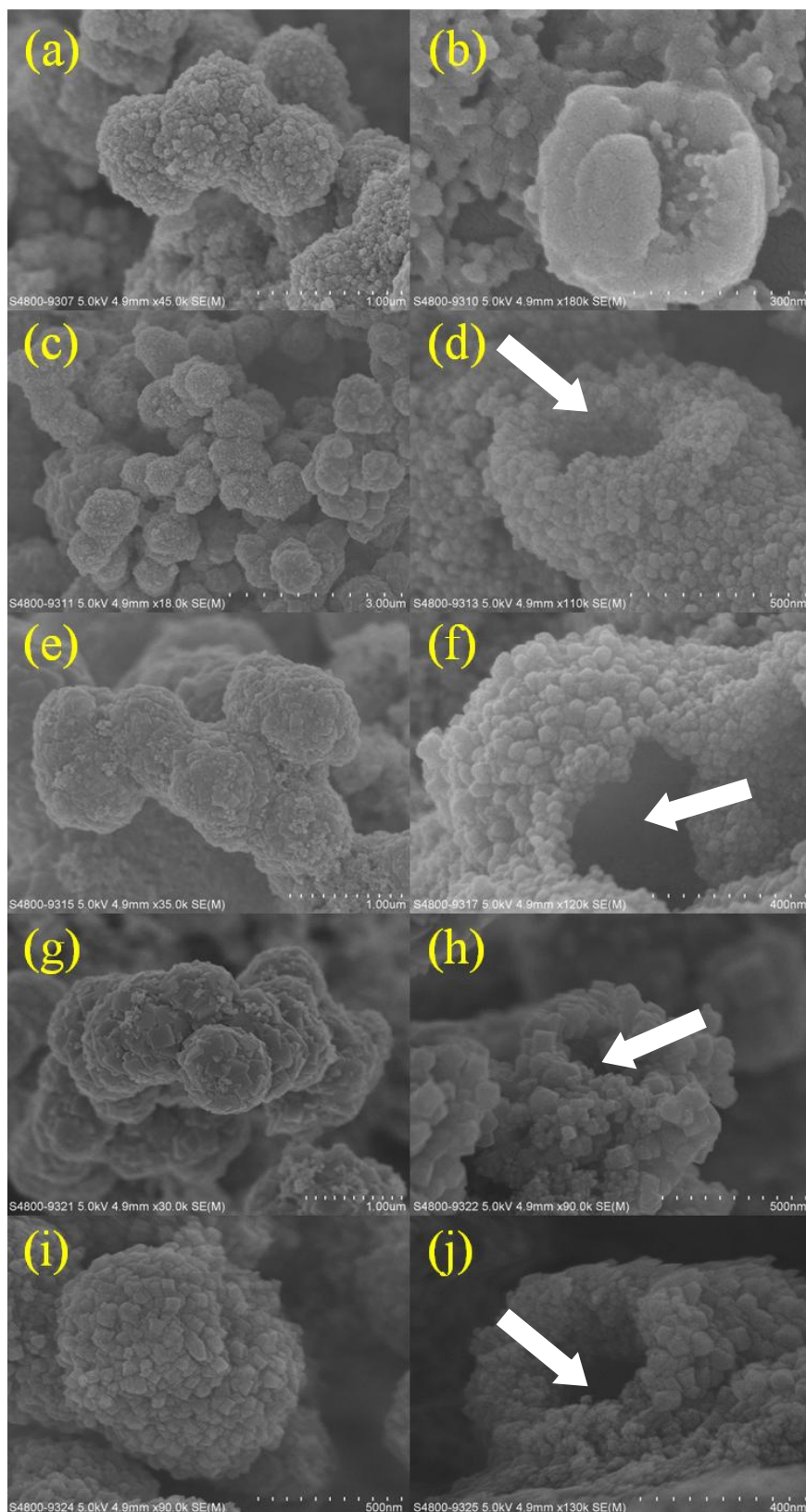


Fig. S5 FE-SEM images of $\text{TiO}_2\text{-HS-2}$ samples collected at different hydrothermal stages (a) and (b): 1 hour; (c) and (d): 2 hours; (e) and (f): 3 hours; (g) and (h): 4 hours; (i) and (j): 6 hours. Arrow: TiO_2 hollow structure

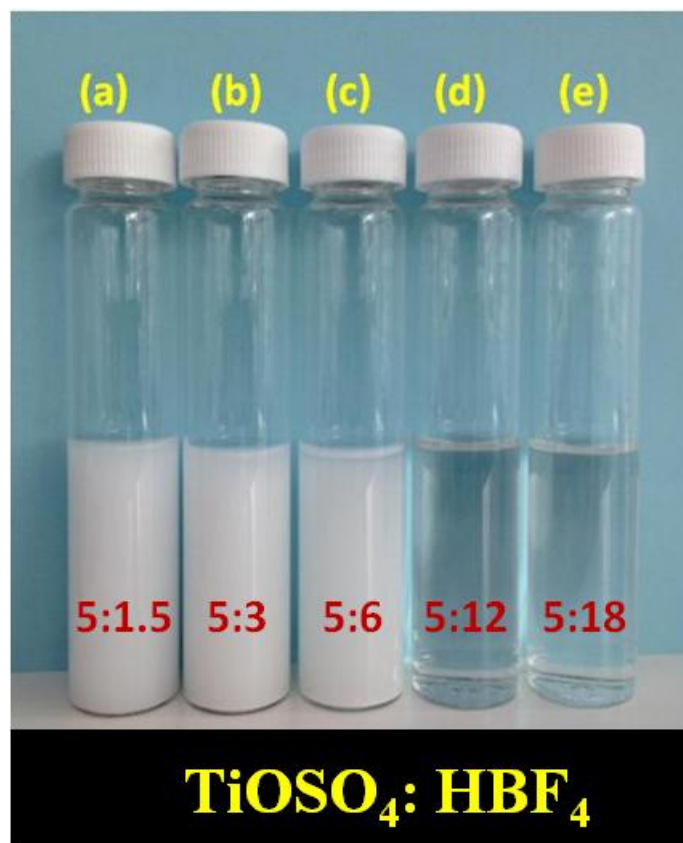


Fig. S6 Digital photos of the as-prepared TiO₂ samples by hydrothermal treatment at 180°C for 24 hours. (a) 0.2 g TiOSO₄+ 0.0625 mL HBF₄+30 mL H₂O, TiOSO₄: HBF₄=5 : 1.5; (b) 0.2 g TiOSO₄+ 0.125 mL HBF₄+30 mL H₂O, TiOSO₄: HBF₄=5 : 3; (c) 0.2 g TiOSO₄+0.25 mL HBF₄+30 mL H₂O, TiOSO₄: HBF₄=5 : 6; (d) 0.2 g TiOSO₄+0.5 mL HBF₄+30 mL H₂O, TiOSO₄: HBF₄=5 : 12; and (e) 0.2 g TiOSO₄+ 0.75 mL HBF₄+30 mL H₂O, TiOSO₄: HBF₄=5 : 18.

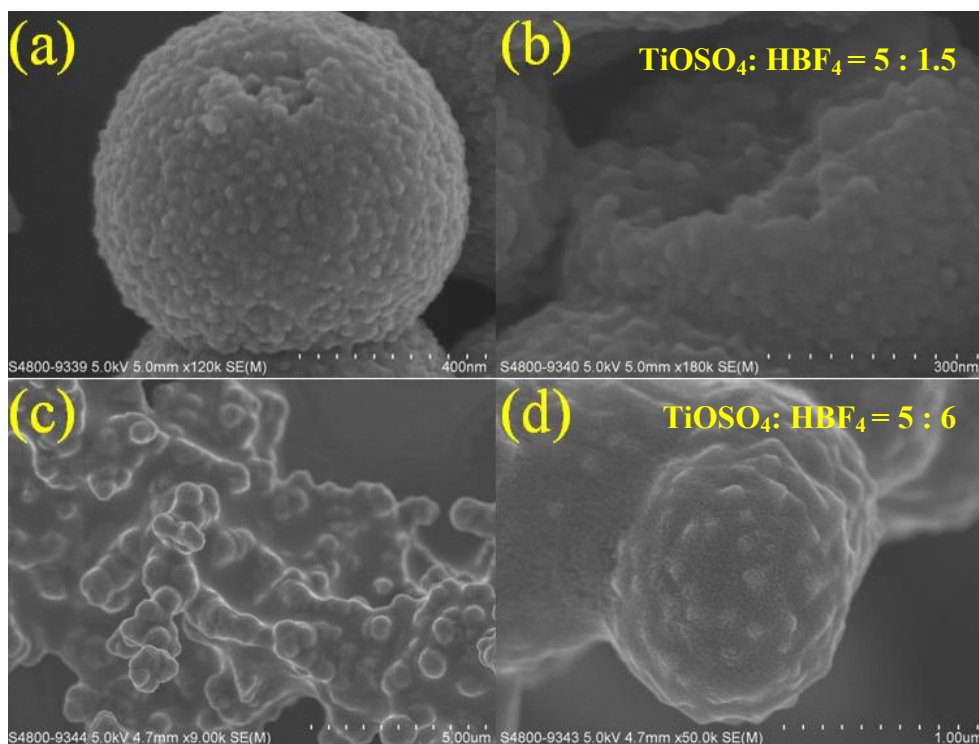


Fig. S7 FE-SEM images of the as-prepared TiO₂ samples with various HBF₄ concentration and hydrothermal treatment at 180°C for 24 hours. (a) and (b) 0.2 g TiOSO₄+ 0.0625 mL HBF₄+30 mL H₂O, TiOSO₄: HBF₄=5 : 1.5; (c) and (d) 0.2 g TiOSO₄+ 0.25 mL HBF₄+30 mL H₂O, TiOSO₄: HBF₄=5 : 6

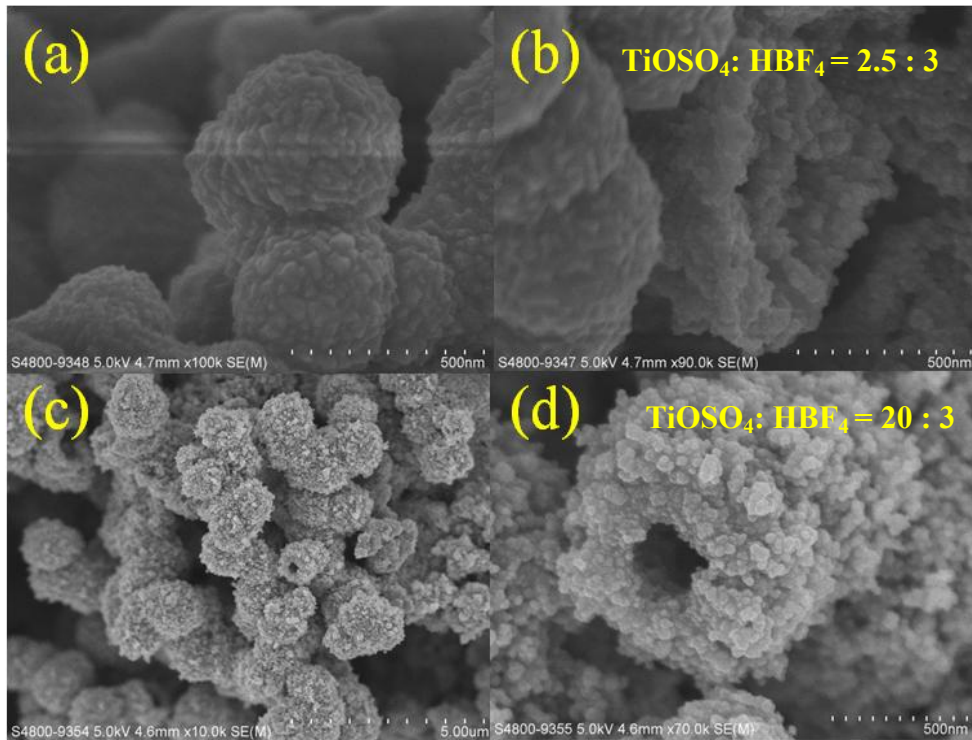


Fig. S8: FE-SEM images of the as-prepared TiO₂ samples with various TiOSO₄ concentration and hydrothermal treatment at 180°C for 24 hours. (a) and (b) 0.1 g TiOSO₄+ 0.125 mL HBF₄+30 mL H₂O, TiOSO₄: HBF₄=2.5 : 3; (c) and (d) 0.8 g TiOSO₄+0.125 mL HBF₄+30 mL H₂O, TiOSO₄: HBF₄=20 : 3

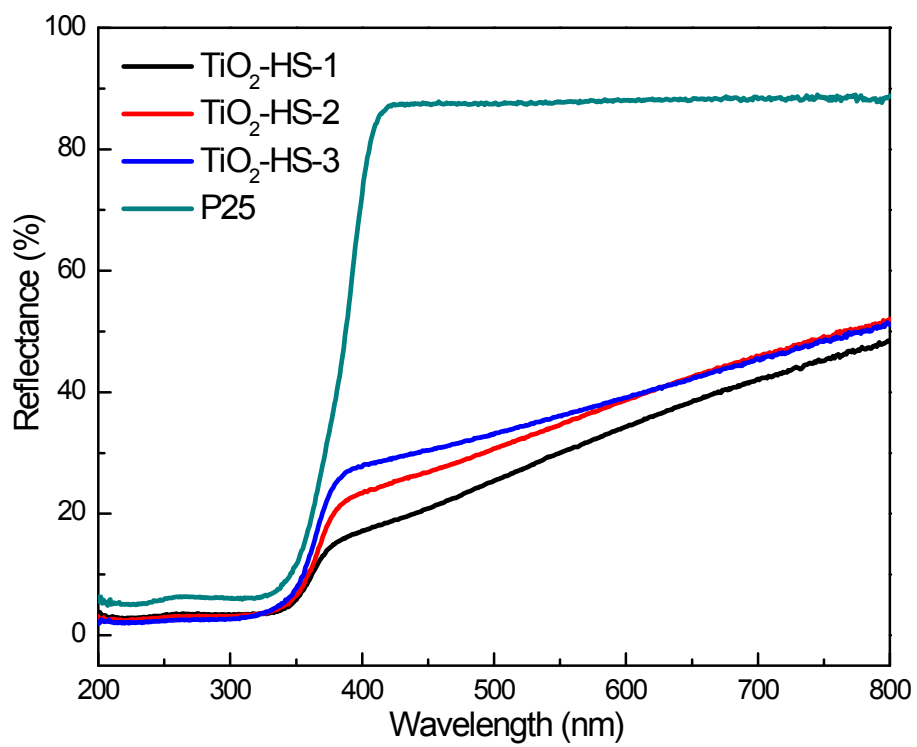


Fig.S9 UV-*vis* diffuse reflectance spectra of TiO₂ samples

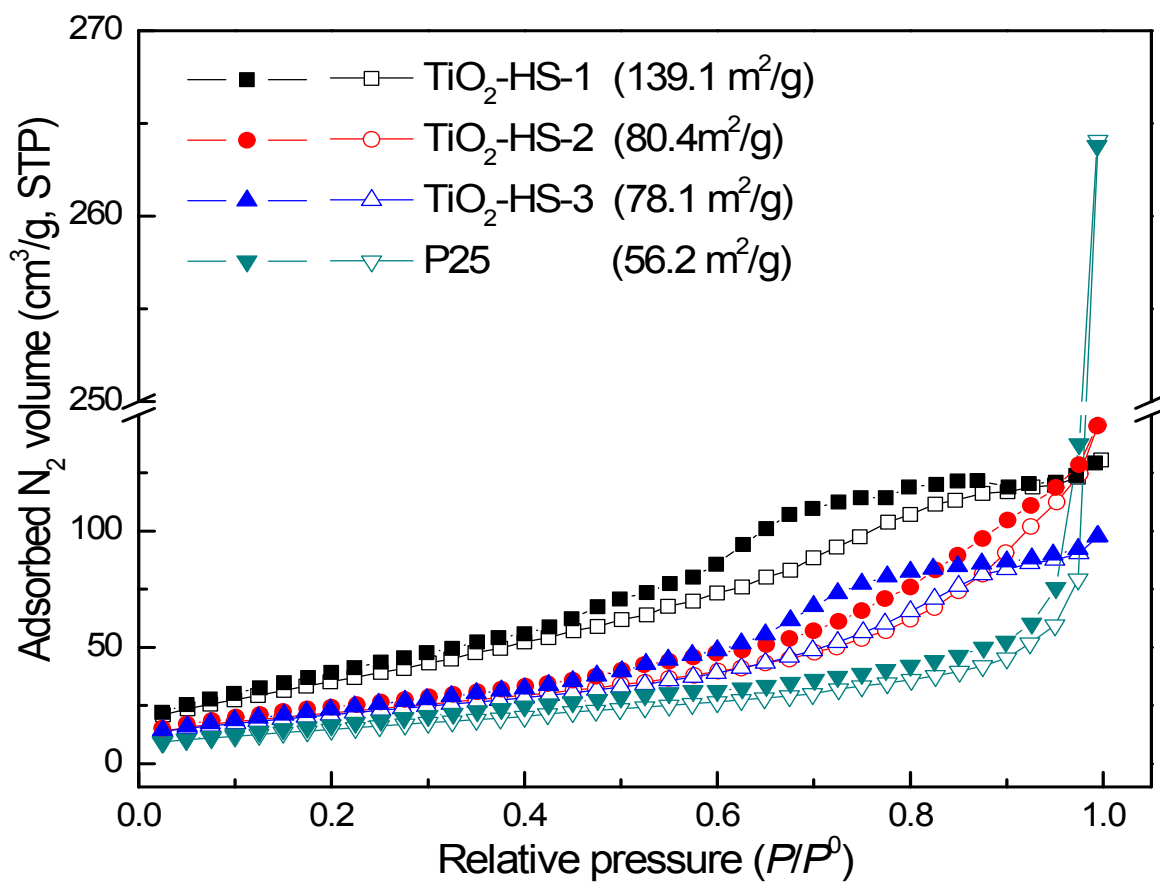


Fig. S10 N₂ adsorption-desorption isotherms and specific surface areas of TiO₂ samples (hollow symbols: N₂ adsorption; solid symbols: N₂ desorption)

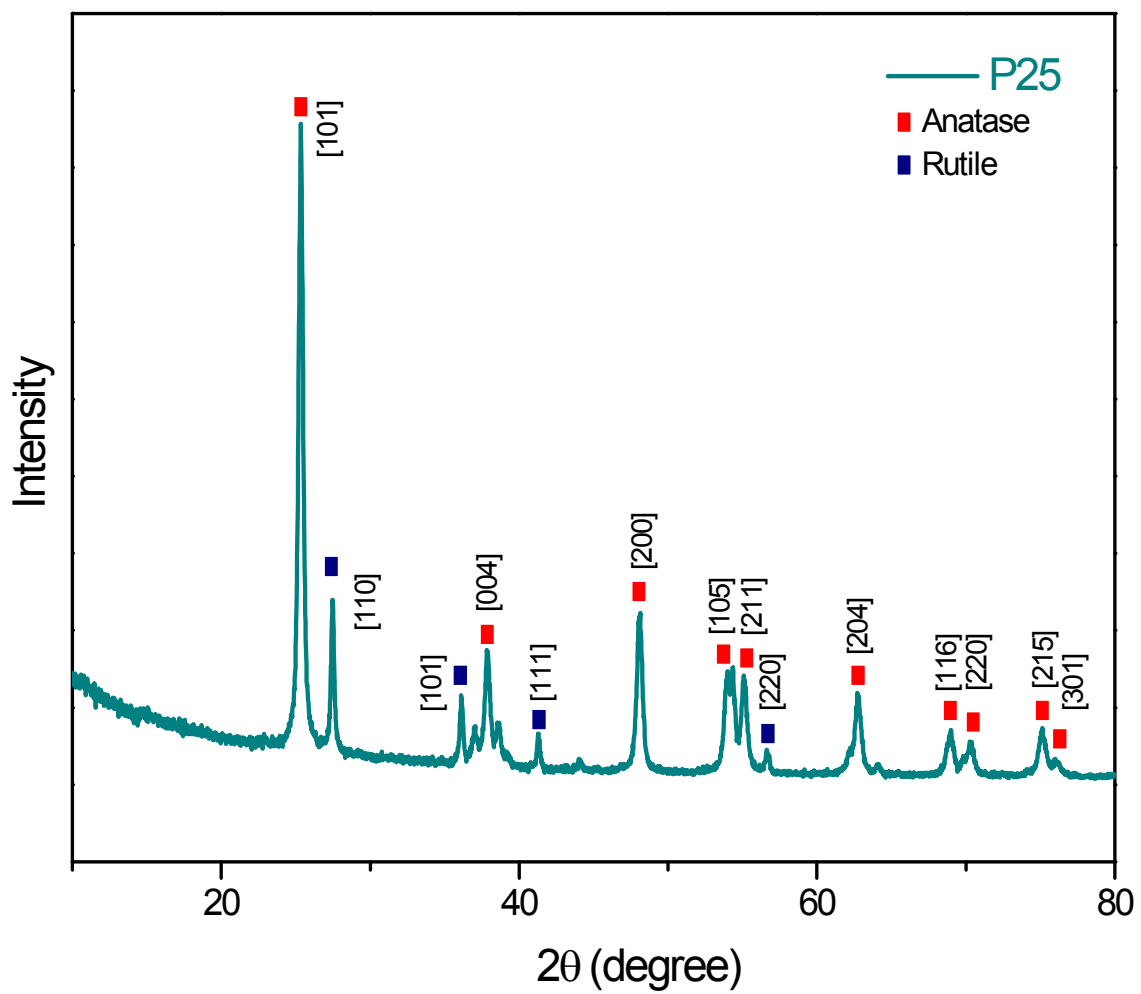


Fig. S11 XRD patterns of Degussa P25 sample