## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Nanostructure-Assisted Charge Transfer in α-Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> Heterojunctions for Efficient and Highly Stable Photoelectrochemical Water Splitting

Nurul Affiqah Arzaee<sup>a\*</sup>, Mohamad Firdaus Mohamad Noh<sup>a</sup>, Nur Suraya Haziqah Mohd Ita<sup>b</sup>, Nurul Aida Mohamed<sup>a</sup>, Siti Nur Farhana Mohd Nasir<sup>a</sup>, Inzamam Nawas Nawas Mumthas<sup>a</sup>, Aznan Fazli Ismail<sup>b,c\*</sup>, Mohd Asri Mat Teridi<sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Solar Energy Research Institute, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, 43600 Bangi, Selangor, Malaysia.

<sup>b</sup>Centre for Frontier Science, Faculty of Science and Technology, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, 43600 Bangi, Selangor, Malaysia.

<sup>c</sup>Nuclear Science Program, Faculty of Science and Technology, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, 43600 UKM Bangi, Selangor, Malaysia.

\*Corresponding author: affiqaharzaee@gmail.com (N.A. Arzaee) Phone: +603-89118580

\*Corresponding author: aznan@ukm.edu.my (A.F. Ismail) Phone: +603-89213919

\*Corresponding author: asri@ukm.edu.my (M.A.M. Teridi) Phone: +603-89118580



Fig. S1 XPS survey spectra of  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> thin films.



Fig. S2 Photocurrent density-voltage (J-V) curves of  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> photoanodes under chopped condition.



Fig. S3 Photocurrent density-voltage (J-V) curves of  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> photoanodes with and without Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> hole scavenger.



Fig. S4 a) XRD patterns and b) top view FESEM images of  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> photoanode after 12h stability test.



Fig. S5 3-dimensional view of AFM image of smooth α-Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> photoanode



Fig. S6 Photocurrent density-voltage (J-V) curves of smooth  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> photoanodes

Table S1 O and Fe atomic ratio evaluated from the XPS data of survey spectra.

Sample	α-Fe2O3	$\alpha$ -Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> /g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>
O (at%)	58.1	59.3
Fe (at%)	41.9	40.7
O/Fe	1.387	1.457