Supporting Information for

Construction of a multi-interfacial-electron transfer scheme for efficient CO₂ photoreduction: A case study using CdIn₂S₄ micro flower spheres modified with Au nanoparticles and reduced graphene oxide

Xin Li^a, Haopeng Jiang^a, Changchang Ma^a, Zhi Zhu^a, Xianghai Song^a, Xiuyan Li^b, Huiqin Wang^c, Pengwei Huo^{a*}, Xiaobo Chen^{d*}

^aInstitute of Green Chemistry and Chemical Technology, School of Chemistry & Chemical Engineering, Jiangsu University, Zhenjiang 212013, PR China

^bKey Laboratory of Functional Materials Physics and Chemistry of the Ministry of Education, Jilin Normal University, Siping 136000, Jilin, China

^cSchool of energy and power engineering, Jiangsu University, Zhenjiang 212013, PR China

^dDepartment of Chemistry, University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas City, MO 64110, USA

^{*} Corresponding author Tel: +86-511-88790885; Fax: +86-511-88790885; E-mail: huopw@mail.ujs.edu.cn

1. DFT analysis

The present first principle DFT calculations are performed with the projector augmented wave (PAW) method [1-2]. The exchange-functional is treated using the generalized gradient approximation (GGA) of Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (PBE) [3] functional. The cut-off energy of the planewave basis is set at 400 eV for optimize calculations of atoms and cell optimization. The vacuum spacing in a direction perpendicular to the plane of the catalyst is at least 10 Å. The Brillouin zone integration is performed using $3 \times 3 \times 1$ Monkhorst-Pack k-point sampling for a primitive cell [4]. The self-consistent calculations apply a convergence energy threshold of 10⁻⁵ eV. The equilibrium lattice constants are optimized with maximum stress on each atom within 0.05 eV/Å. The Hubbard U (DFT+U) corrections for 3d transition metal by setting according to the literature [5]. Finally, the adsorption eneries (Eads) can be calculated by: $Eads=E_{surface+A}$ - $(E_{surface}+E_A)$, where $E_{surface+A}$ is the energy of systems with CO₂ molecular adsorbed, Esurface is the energy of surface stcructure, and the EA is the energy of CO₂ molecular.



Fig. S1. The specific photocatalytic CO_2 reduction system.



Fig. S2. XRD patterns of prepared binary and ternary composite photocatalysts.



Fig. S3. SEM images of 1-CAr, 3-CAr, 5-CAr and 10-CAr.



Fig. S4. TEM image of pure Au NPs.



Fig. S5. The yields of CO and CH_4 in the photocatalytic CO_2 reduction process over all binary and ternary composite photocatalysts.



Fig. S6. Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) results of CO and CH_4 produced by 3-CAr.



Fig. S7. N_2 adsorption-desorption isotherms of pure $CdIn_2S_4,$ 2-CA and 3-CAr.



Fig. S8. CO_2 adsorption ability of pure $CdIn_2S_4$, 2-CA, 3-CAr and 3-Cr.



Fig. S9. The VB of pure $CdIn_2S_4$, 2-CA and 3-CAr.

References

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