## **Supporting Information**

## Highly dispersed MoS<sub>x</sub> nanodot-modified TiO<sub>2</sub> photocatalyst: Vitamin C-mediated synthesis and improved H<sub>2</sub> evolution activity

Jiangyuan He,<sup>a</sup> Wei Zhong,<sup>b</sup> Ying Xu<sup>a\*</sup>, Jiajie Fan,<sup>c</sup> Huogen Yu<sup>a, b\*</sup> and Jiaguo Yu<sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup> School of Chemistry, Chemical Engineering and Life Sciences, Wuhan University of Technology, Wuhan 430070, P. R. China

<sup>b</sup> State Key Laboratory of Silicate Materials for Architectures, Wuhan University of Technology, Wuhan 430070, P. R. China

<sup>c</sup> School of Materials Science and Engineering, Zhengzhou University, Zhengzhou
450002, PR China

<sup>d</sup> State Key Laboratory of Advanced Technology for Material Synthesis and Processing, Wuhan University of Technology, Wuhan 430070, PR China

E-mail: xuy6289@whut.edu.cn; yuhuogen@whut.edu.cn

## SI-1 The AQE calculation

The apparent quantum efficiency (AQE) of the prepared photocatalyst is calculated via the following equation:

$$AQE(\%) = \frac{\text{number of reacted electrons}}{\text{number of incident photons}} \times 100\%$$
$$= \frac{\text{number of evolved H}_2 \text{ molecules} \times 2}{\text{number of incident photons}} \times 100\%$$

The average power of the UV light (four 3-W 365 nm) was 22.4 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>. Hence, the AQE of the  $TiO_2@C/MoS_x(0.7 \text{ wt\%})$  photocatalyst can be calculated to be 3.94%.



**Fig. S1.** The influence of VC amount on the photocatalytic H<sub>2</sub>-evolution activities of  $TiO_2@C/MoS_x(1.0\%)$  photocatalyst: (a) 0 mg, (b) 5 mg, (c) 9 mg, (d) 15 mg, (e) 20 mg, (f) 50 mg.



Fig. S2. FESEM images of different photocatalysts: (a)  $TiO_2$ , (b)  $TiO_2@C$ , (c)  $TiO_2@C/MoS_x(0.7\%)$ , (d)  $TiO_2/MoS_x(0.7\%)$ .



Fig. S3. (A) Raman spectra, (B) The enlarged Raman spectra of different samples: (a) TiO<sub>2</sub>, (b) TiO<sub>2</sub>/MoS<sub>x</sub>(0.7%), (c) TiO<sub>2</sub>@C/MoS<sub>x</sub>(0.7%), (d) TiO<sub>2</sub>@C.



Fig. S4. Photocatalytic  $H_2$ -evolution activities of typical  $TiO_2$  and  $MoS_x$ -modified photocatalysts.