Supporting Information

Atomic-Level Localization of  $\pi$ -Electrons in Defect Engineered Tri-striazine Units for Increased Photocatalytic Hydrogen Generation of Polymeric Carbon Nitride

Mengqi Xue,<sup>a†</sup> Daochuan Jiang,<sup>a†</sup> Haiwei Du,<sup>a</sup> Zhongjun Li,<sup>b,\*</sup> Hong Bi,<sup>a</sup> and Yupeng Yuan<sup>a,c,d\*</sup>

- <sup>a</sup> School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Anhui Province Key Laboratory of Chemistry for Inorganic/Organic Hybrid Functionalized Materials, Anhui University, Hefei, 230601, P. R. China.
- <sup>b</sup> School of Electronic Science and Applied Physics, Hefei University of Technology, Hefei 230009, P. R. China
- <sup>c</sup> Key Laboratory of Structure and Functional Regulation of Hybrid Materials (Anhui University), Ministry of Education, Hefei, 230601, P. R. China
- <sup>d</sup> Energy Materials and Devices Key Lab of Anhui Province for Photoelectric Conversion, Hefei, 230601, P. R. China

\*Corresponding authors

Emails: yupengyuan@ahu.edu.cn (Y. Yuan), and zjli@hfut.edu.cn (Z. Li)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup> These authors contribute equally to this work.

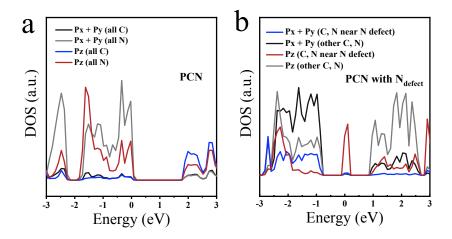


Figure S1. DOS for PCN (a) and  $N_{\text{defect}}$  engineered PCN (b).

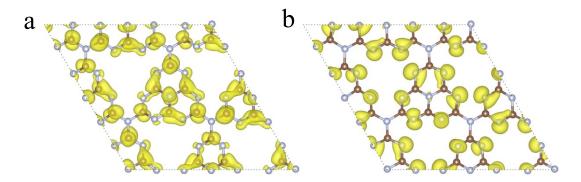


Figure S2. The charge density distributions of LUMO (a) and HOMO (b) orbitals for

pristine PCN.

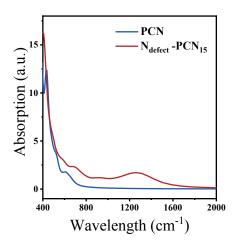


Figure S3. Calculated absorption coefficients for PCN and PCN with N defect.

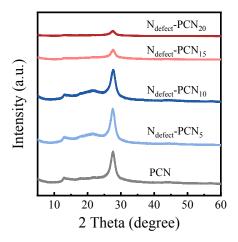


Figure S4. XRD patterns of different samples.

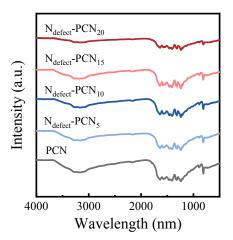


Figure S5. FTIR spectra of different samples.

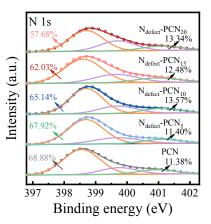


Figure S6. high-resolution XPS spectra of N 1s for PCN,  $N_{defect}$ -PCN<sub>5</sub>,  $N_{defect}$ -PCN<sub>10</sub>,  $N_{defect}$ -PCN<sub>15</sub> and  $N_{defect}$ -PCN<sub>20</sub>.

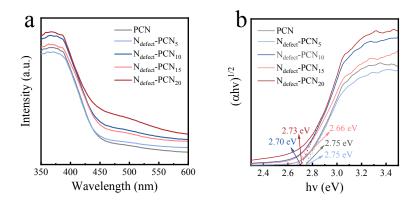


Figure S7. The UV-vis spectra (a) and Tauc plots of PCN,  $N_{defect}$ -PCN<sub>5</sub>,  $N_{defect}$ -PCN<sub>10</sub>,  $N_{defect}$ -PCN<sub>15</sub>, and  $N_{defect}$ -PCN<sub>20</sub>.

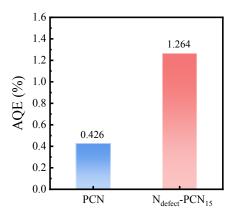


Figure S8. The AQE of PCN and PCN with N defect.

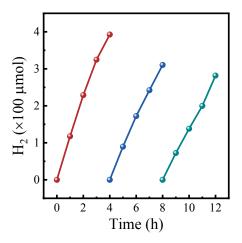


Figure S9. Stability test under consecutive runs of  $N_{defect}$  -PCN<sub>15</sub>.

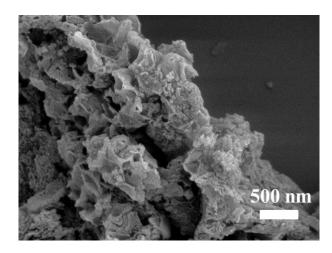


Figure S10. SEM image of  $N_{defect}$ -PCN<sub>15</sub> after stability test.

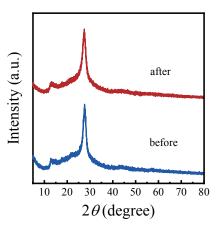


Figure S11. XRD patterns of  $N_{defect}$ -PCN<sub>15</sub> before and after reaction.

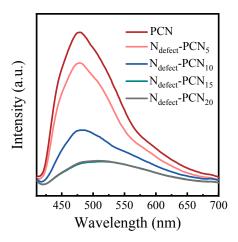


Figure S12. Steady state PL spectra of different samples.