

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

Eosin-Y and Sulfur-Codoped g-C₃N₄ Composite for Photocatalytic Applications: Regeneration of NADH/NADPH and Oxidation of Sulfide to Sulfoxide

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1. Synthesis of EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst

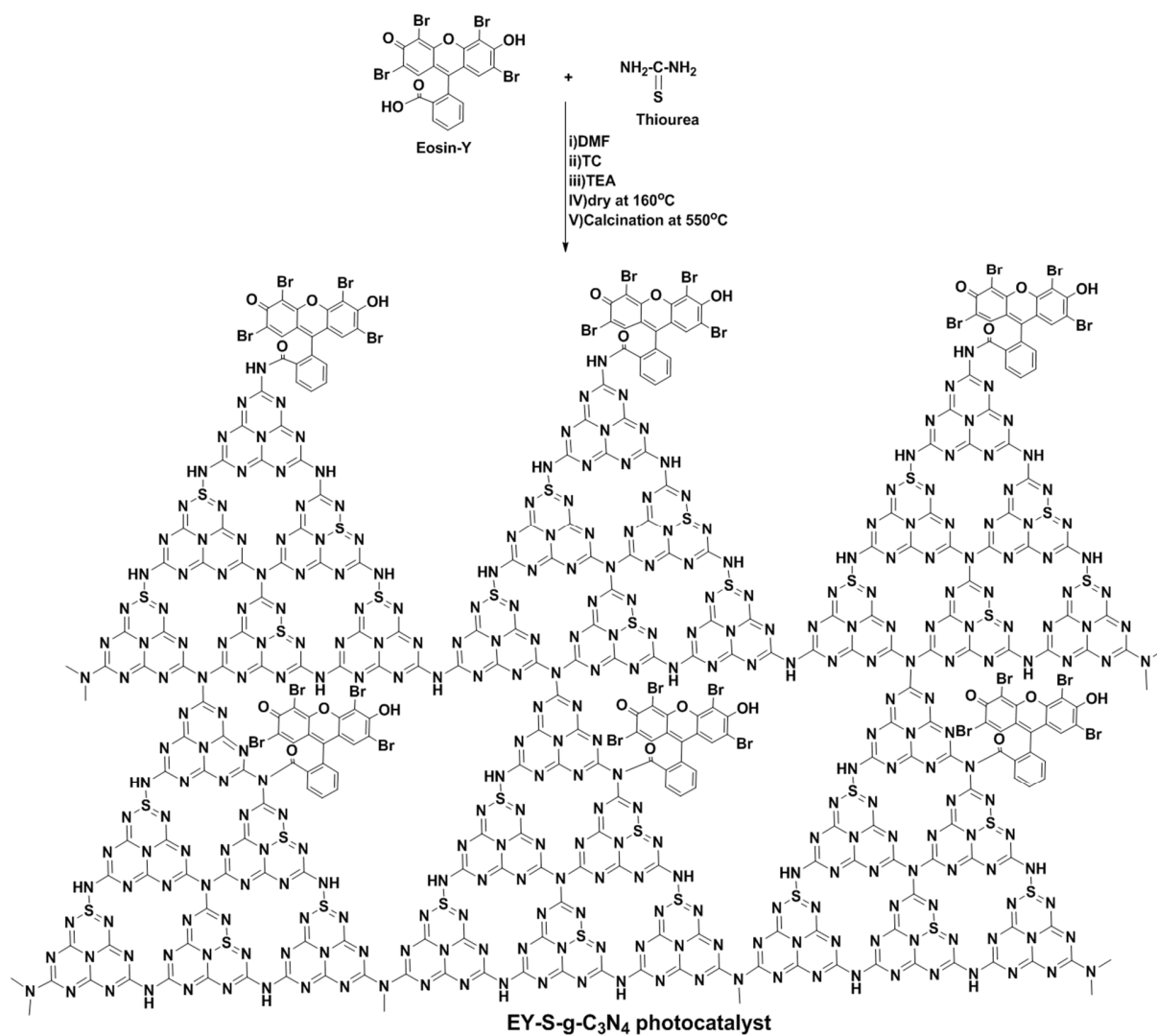


Figure S1. Synthesis of EY and sulfur-codoped EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst.

2. Postulated reaction mechanism in the photoinduced regeneration of NAD(P)H

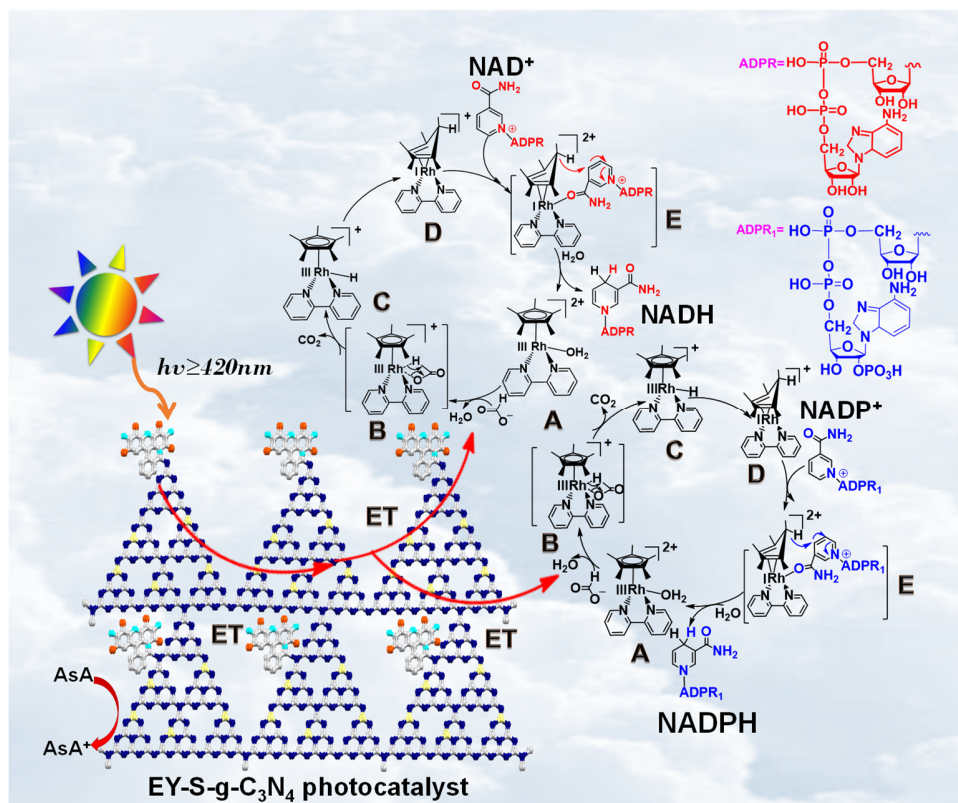


Figure S2. Pictorial representation of sequential electron transfers for the selective production of NAD(P)H. In this reaction, ADPR stands for adenosine diphosphate ribose and ADPR₁ indicates the derivative form of ADPR with one extra phosphate group.

3. Photocatalytic regeneration of 1,4-NAD(P)H investigated by the UV-visible spectroscopic measurements

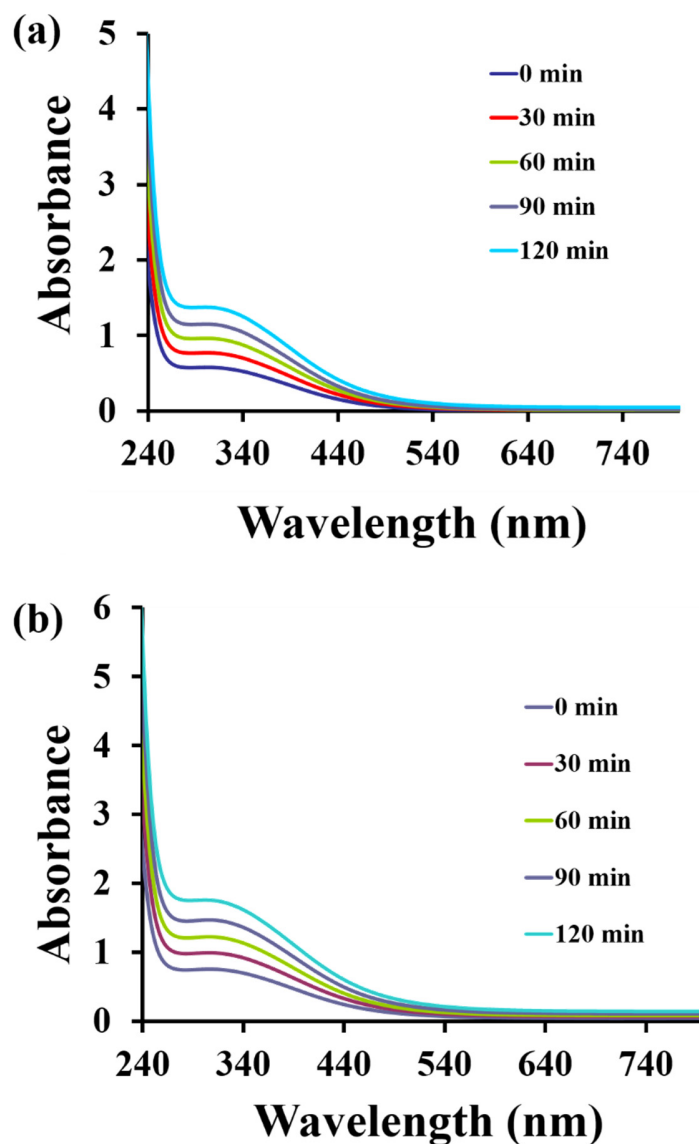


Figure S3. UV-visible spectra recorded for (a) NADH, and (b) NADPH regeneration as a function of reaction time during the irradiation of solar light. The reaction mixture contains 0.1 M phosphate buffer solution, 0.005 g EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst, 0.2mM Rh-complex, 0.2 mM NAD(P)⁺, and 0.1 M ascorbic acid (AsA) under the nitrogen-purged atmosphere at ambient temperature.

4. Reusability test for photocatalytic regeneration of NADH/NADPH from NAD⁺/NADP⁺

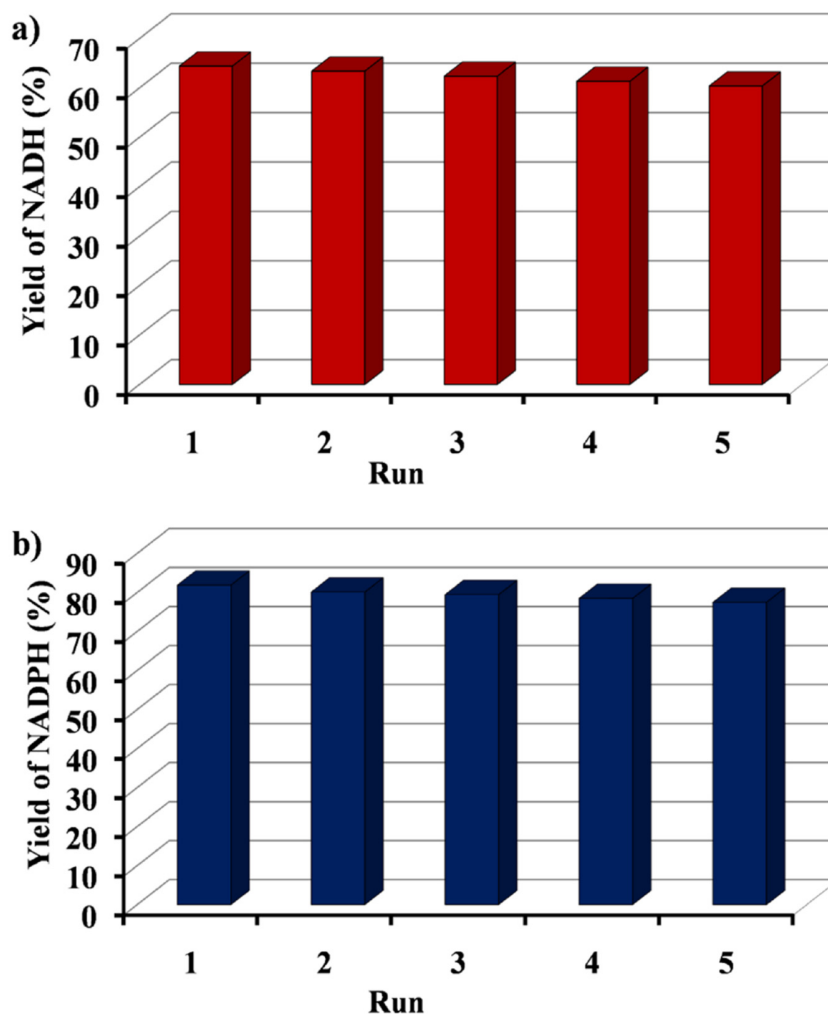


Figure S4. Reusability test (five times) with EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst in solar-light-active photoregeneration of NADH (a), and NADPH (b) respectively. Reaction conditions: 2.3 mL sodium phosphate buffer (pH ~ 7.0, 0.1M), 0.005 g EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst, 0.2mM of NAD⁺/NADP⁺, 0.2 mM of [Cp*Rh(bpy)Cl]Cl and ascorbic acid of 0.1 M under nitrogen atmosphere at ambient temperature (see details in experimental section of the manuscript). The reaction time for NADH/NADPH regeneration was set for 2 hours and yields were calculated for each run and shown here.

5. Reusability test for photocatalytic oxidation of sulfide to sulfoxide

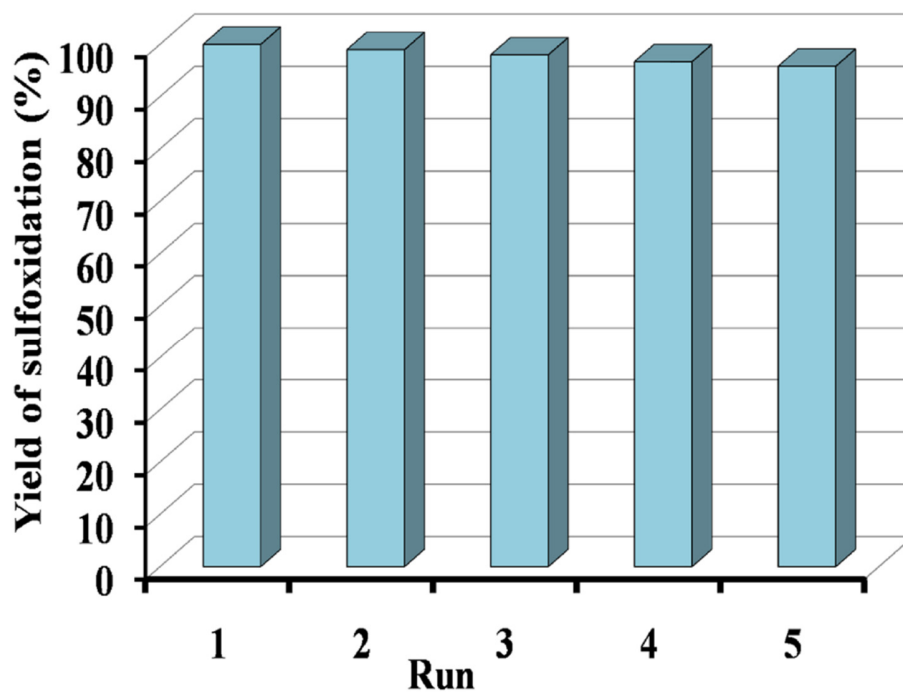


Figure S5. Reusability test of EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst under solar-light irradiations for conversion of bis(4-chlorophenyl) sulfide to bis(4-chlorophenyl) sulfoxide.

6. Characterization of electronic transition using time-dependent density functional theory (TD-DFT)

First, we modelled the partial structure of EY-S-g-C₃N₄ including the 6 heptazine rings and one eosin-Y covalently linked with the terminal part of heptazine ring by employing density functional theory (DFT) calculation. Among the three different doping sites in g-C₃N₄, the local nitrogen (N) atoms, which atom is 2-fold coordinated with two carbon (C) atoms in C₆N₇ unit, were replaced by sulfur (S) atoms in order to form sulfur-doped g-C₃N₄ structure. The molecular geometry of partial moiety of EY-S-g-C₃N₄ were optimized by using the level of B3LYP functional and 6-31G (d) basis set for all atoms. The vibrational frequencies of the optimized structure showed no imaginary vibrational frequencies, confirming that the optimized structure is in the stationary state. To obtain the information about the electronic transitions, we performed the time-dependent DFT calculation with the PBE0 functional and def2-SVP basis set because it has been known that PBE0 functional reasonably describes the absorption spectrum of sulfur-doped g-C₃N₄.¹ Since there are two different conformers in view of orientation of eosin-Y, we compared the electronic transitions for each conformer as shown in Fig. 5. All the DFT calculations were implemented by Gaussian 16 package.²

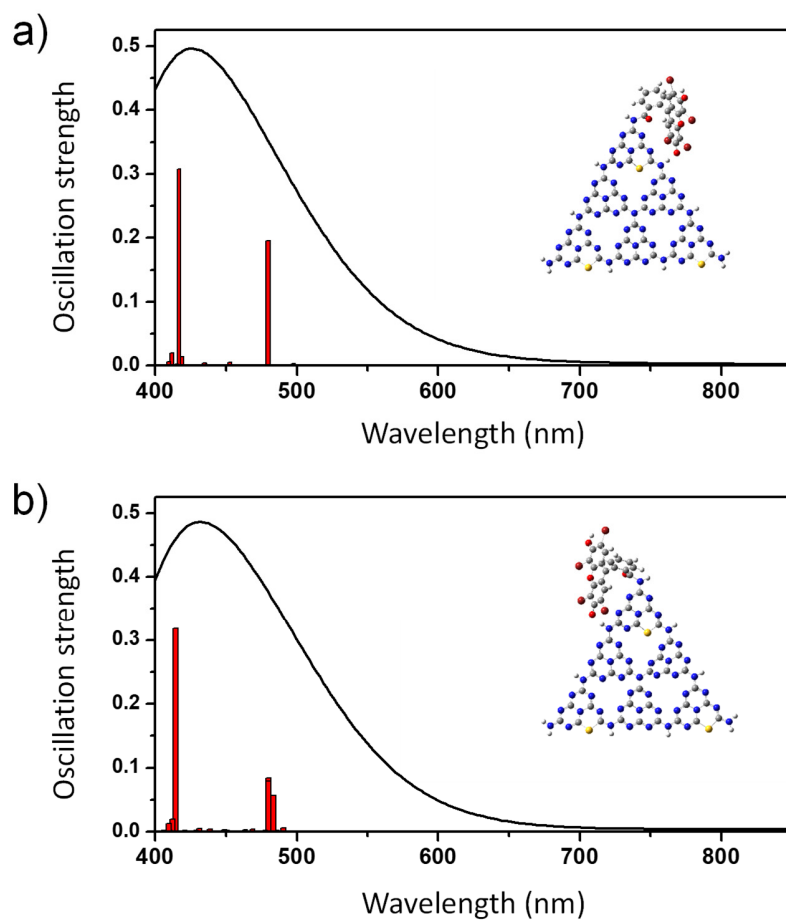


Figure S6. Absorption spectra of EY-S-g-C₃N₄ composite calculated from the two different conformational isomers. Theoretical absorption spectra (black line) of (a) conformational isomer with the eosin group located at the right side and (b) the other isomer with the eosin group located at the left side. The red-colored bars indicate the oscillation strengths at the certain wavelength. The theoretical absorption spectra were broadened by using the Gaussian convolution with the half-width of 0.330 eV.

7. Structural characteristic of as-synthesized S-g-C₃N₄

To characterize the as-synthesized S-g-C₃N₄, we performed the measurements by using power X-ray diffraction and photoluminescence spectroscopy. As shown in Fig. S7a, the data from the measurement of power X-ray diffraction (PXRD) shows the clear Bragg pattern around 27.0°, which corresponds to the interlayer stacking with the *d*-spacing of 3.28 Å. In the small-angle region, the peak around 13.0° is found and can be attributed to the characteristic graphitic structure of carbon nitride. In addition, we also measured the emission spectrum of S-g-C₃N₄ measured at the excitation of 350 nm by using Hitachi F4500 spectrophotometer shown in Fig. S7b. The emission spectrum shows the prominent peak around 440 nm, reflecting the existence of optical bandgap due to the incorporation of sulfur atoms to the graphitic carbon nitride.

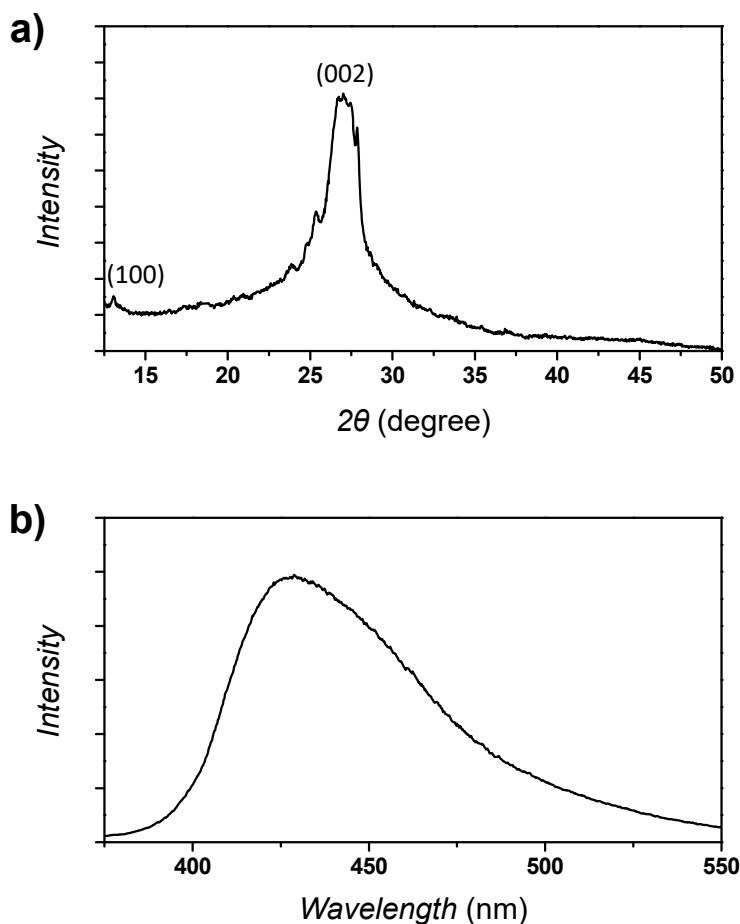


Figure S7. Characterization of sulfur-doped g-C₃N₄ by using powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) and photoluminescence. (a) Results from the measurement of PXRD. (b) Emission spectrum measured at the excitation wavelength of 350 nm.

8. Characterization of structure of EY-S-g-C₃N₄ composite by using the solid-state ¹³C NMR spectroscopy

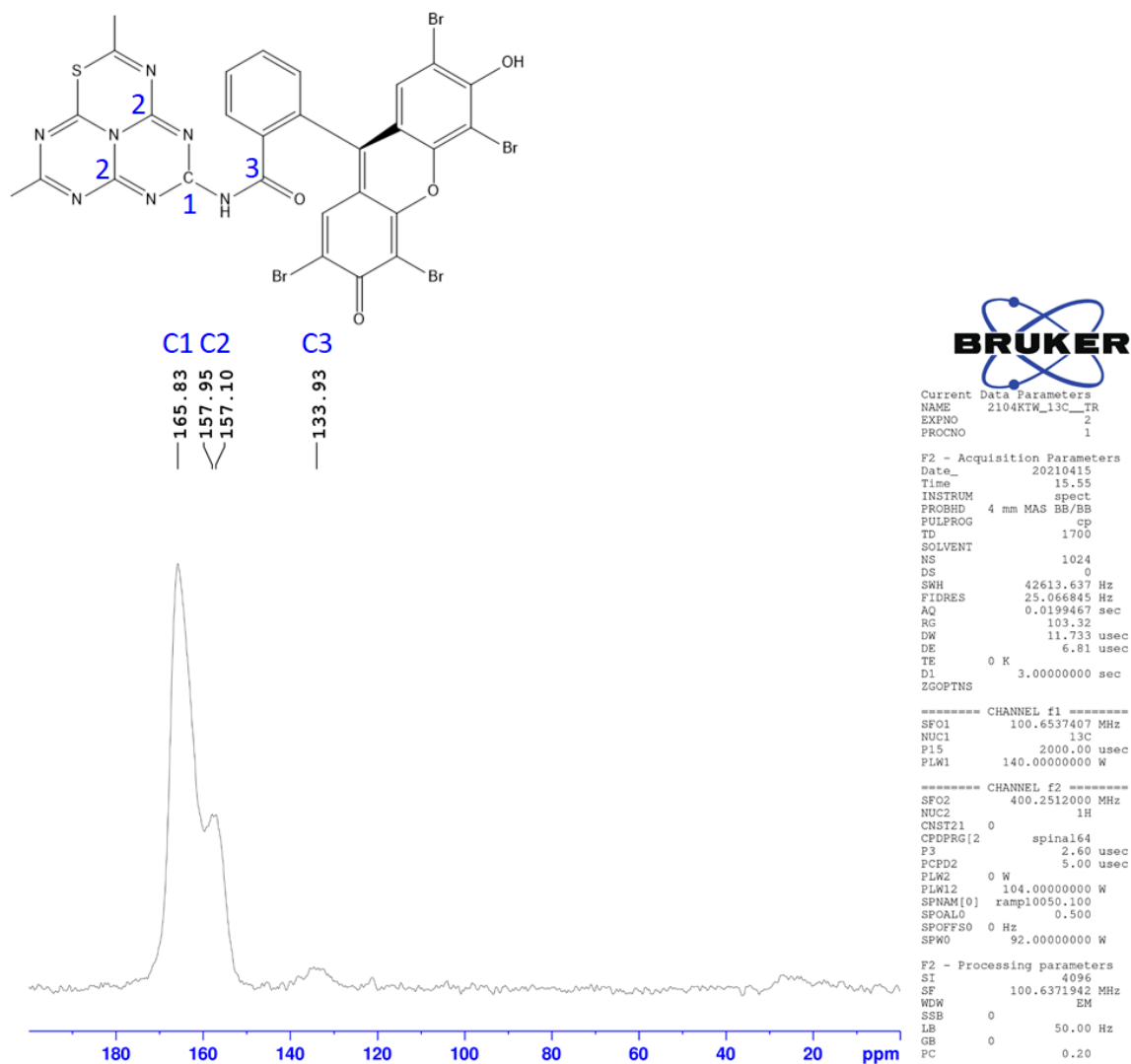


Figure S8. Cross-polarization magic angle spinning solid-state NMR spectrum of EY-S-g-C₃N₄ composite. The appearance of peak at 133.93 ppm can be attributed to the existence of ketonic carbon, which is formed by the covalent ligation between EY moieties and S-g-C₃N₄.

9. Synthesis and ¹H NMR spectrum of rhodium complex

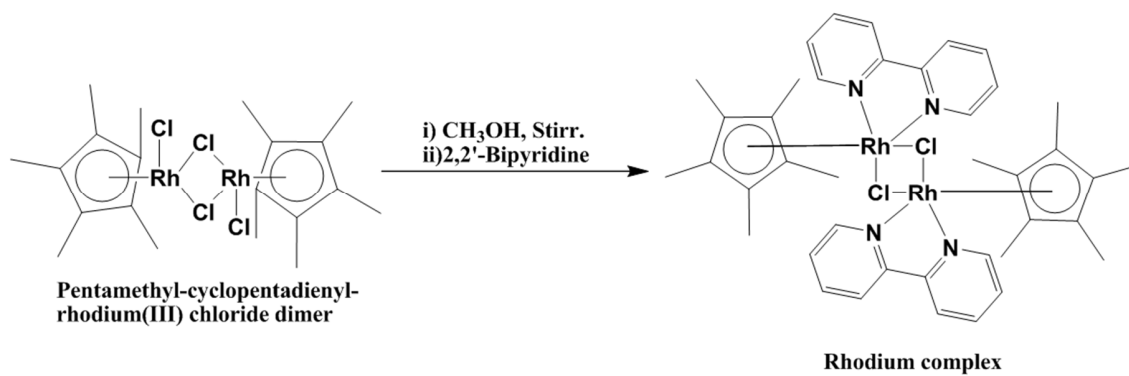


Figure S9. Synthesis of rhodium complex

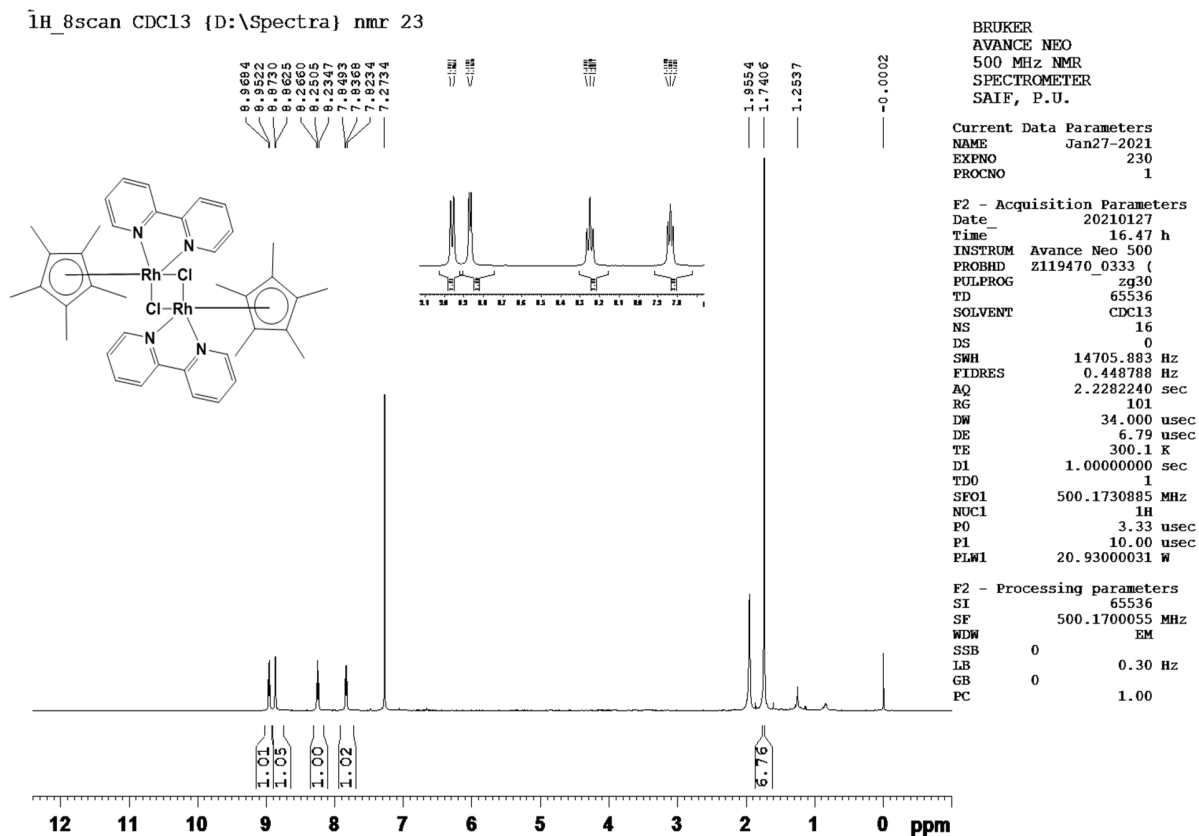


Figure S10. ¹H NMR spectrum of rhodium complex [Cp*Rh(bpy)Cl]Cl. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.74 (s,30H), 8.9 (d,4H), 8.8 (d,4H), 8.2 (t,4H), 7.8 (t,4H).

10. ¹H NMR spectra of bis(4-chlorophenyl) sulfoxide

The bis(4-chlorophenyl) sulfoxide product was prepared from bis(4-chlorophenyl) sulfide (1mmol, 0.255g), EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst (0.005g), and 0.05 M HCl in 4 ml ethyl alcohol. The obtain product was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate- hexane, 1:4).

¹H NMR(500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.58-7.55 (d, J=15 Hz, 2H,ArH), 7.45-7.42 (d, J=15 Hz, 2H, ArH).

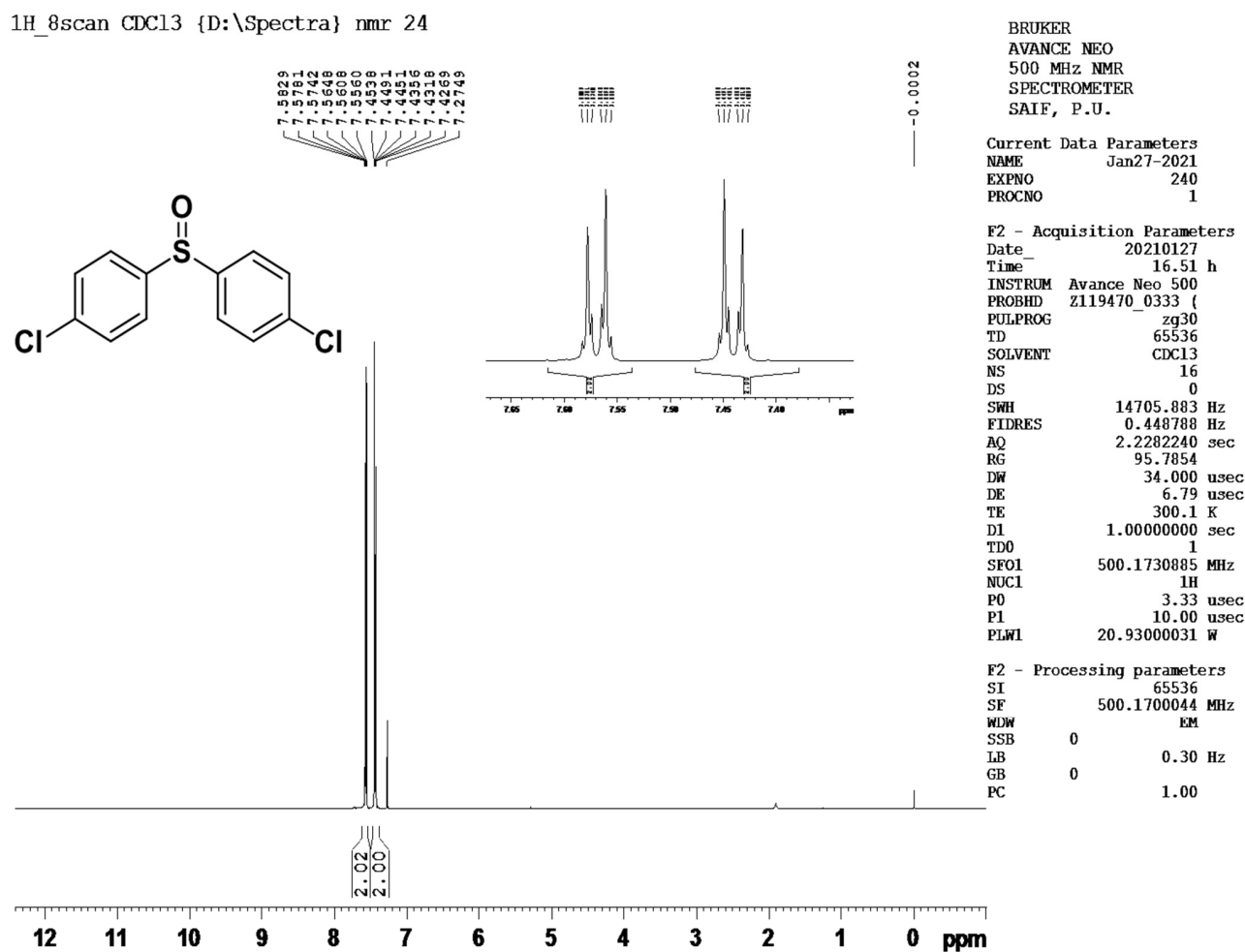


Figure S11. ¹H NMR spectrum of bis(4-chlorophenyl) sulfoxide

11. Mass spectra of bis (4-chlorophenyl) sulfoxide

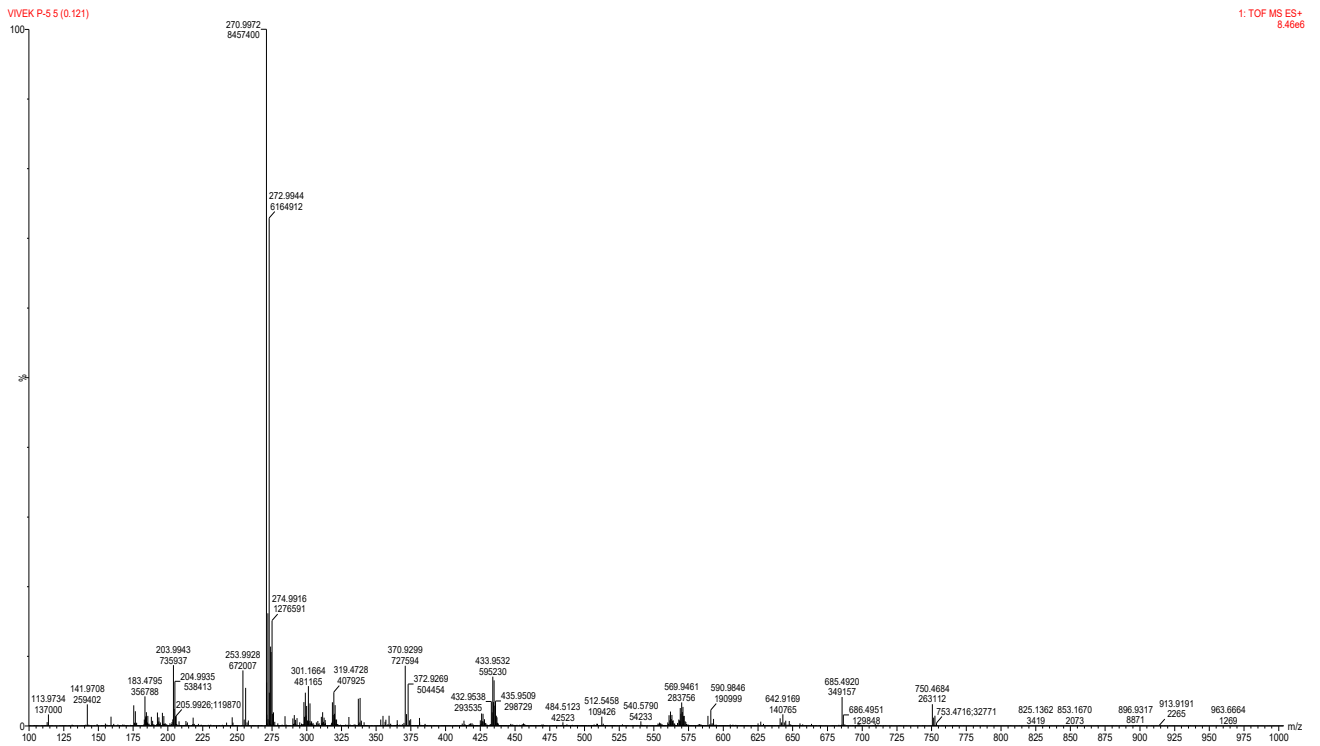


Figure 12a: Mass spectrum of bis (4-chlorophenyl) sulfoxide.

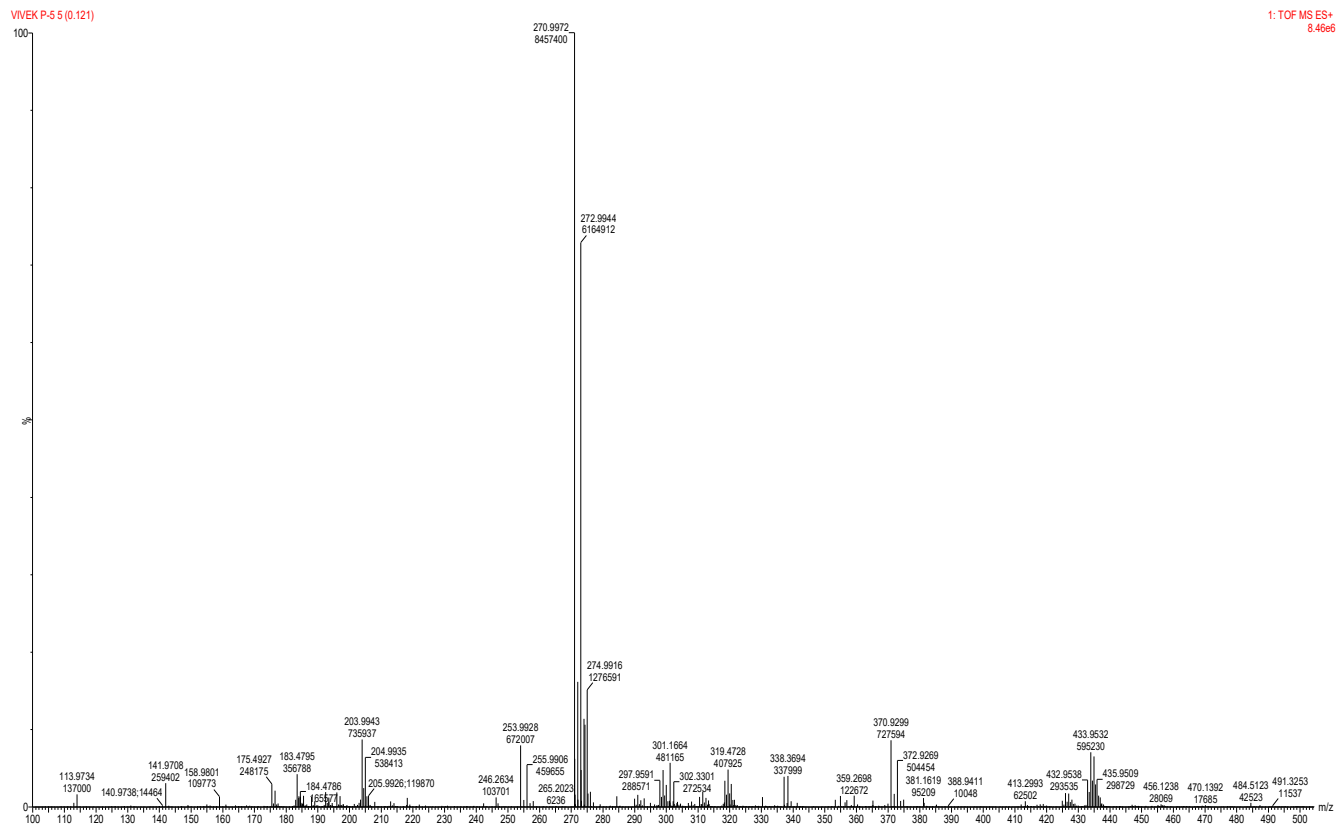


Figure 12b: Mass spectrum of bis (4-chlorophenyl) sulfoxide (expanded form).

12. Zeta potential analysis

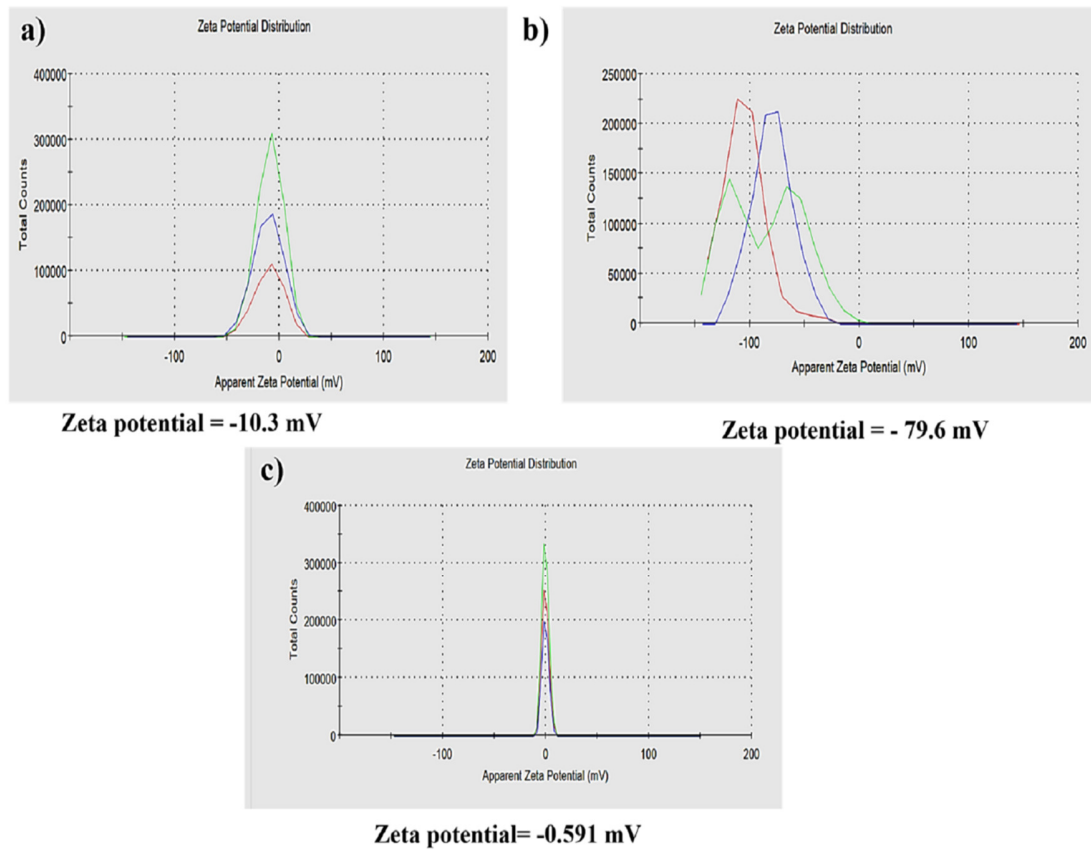


Figure S13. Zeta potential analysis of (a) Eosin-Y with the value of -10.3mV, (b) EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst with -79.6mV, and (c) thiourea with -0.591 mV.

13. Particle size studies

Dynamic light scattering (DLS) techniques were investigating the average particle size of eosin-Y, thiourea and EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst in solution phase with the help of nano-zetasizer (NZZS90). The average particle size of EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst (near about 500 nm) is smaller than eosin-Y (~750 nm) and thiourea (~5500 nm) as shown in Figure S11. As per reported method,^{3,4} smaller size of photocatalyst is highly efficient than the bigger size of photocatalyst due charge carrier excitation and surface-active sites. Therefore, newly designed EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst is more efficient than eosin-Y and thiourea.

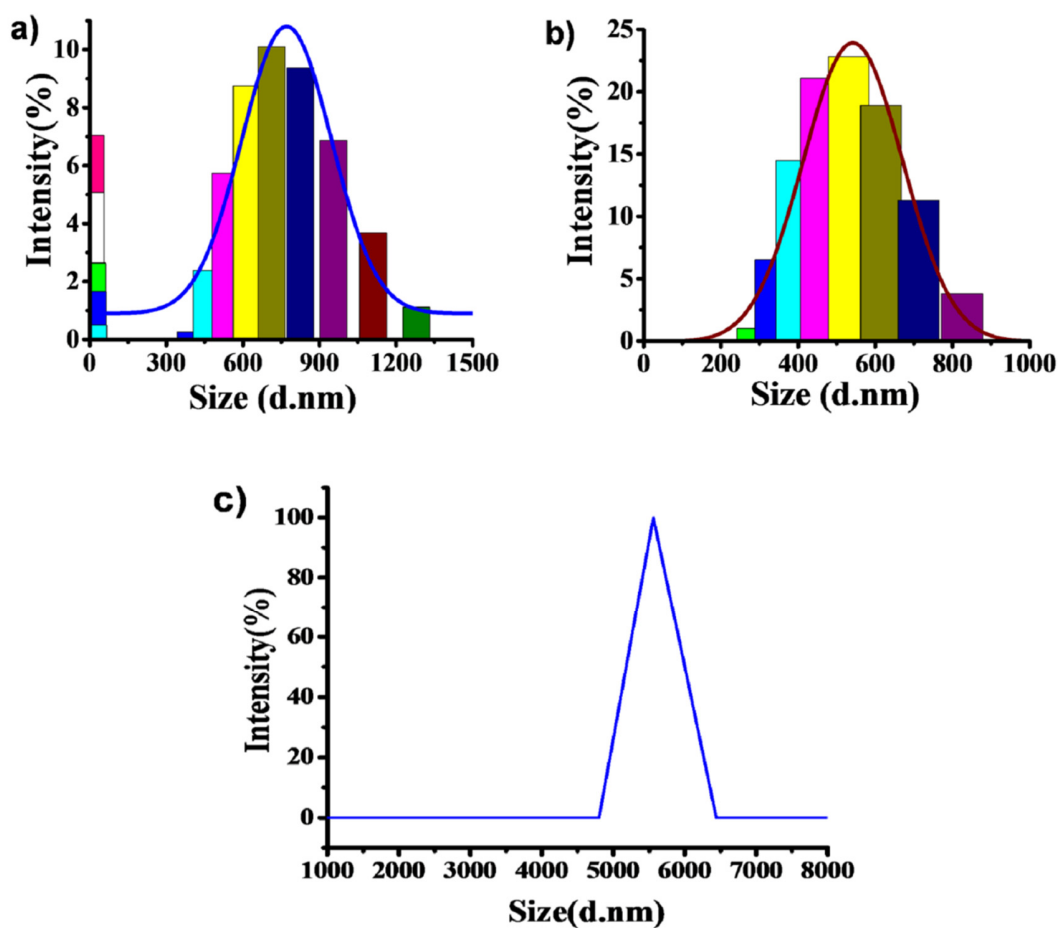


Figure S14. Particle size analysis of (a) Eosin-Y, (b) EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst, and (c) thiourea.

14. Control experiment in the absence of NAD^+

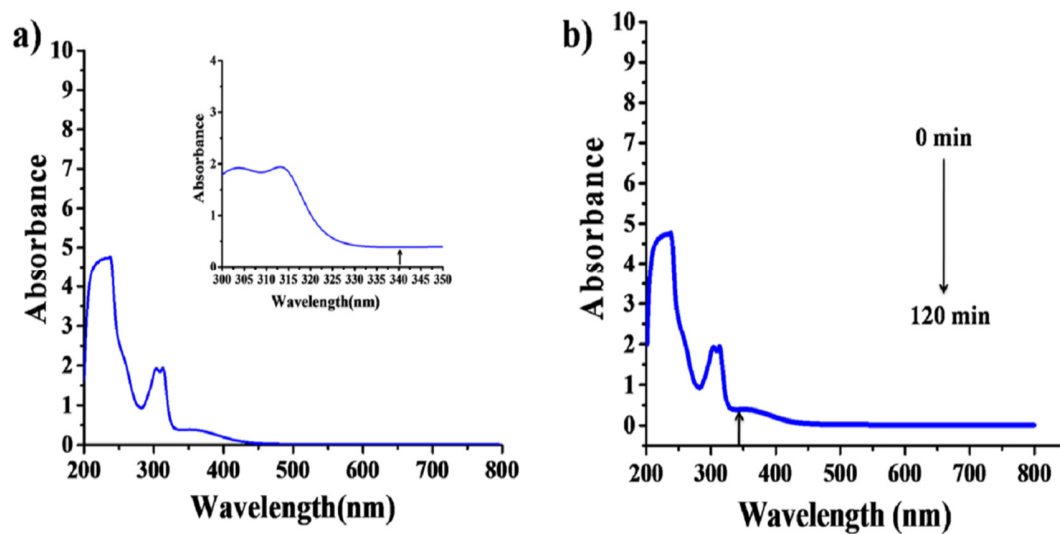


Figure S15. Control experiment for NADH regeneration in absence of NAD^+ under solar light, no absorption peak obtained at 340 nm (b) Control experiment for NADH regeneration in absence of NAD^+ under solar light, no absorption peak obtained at 340 nm in different time interval.

15. XRD and XPS studies

The XRD patterns of EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst and reused EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst are shown in Figure S15. The characteristic peak of EY and S-doped g-C₃N₄ observed at 10.41° and 27.8° which is clearly indicate the existence of EY and sulfur, respectively.⁷⁻⁹ Furthermore, XRD pattern of reused EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst still reveals the same characteristic peaks. These results clearly indicate that the EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst is highly stable, therefore not losses the photocatalytic properties during regeneration of NADH\NADPH and oxidation of bis(4-chlorophenyl) sulfide to bis(4-chlorophenyl) sulfoxide. Stability of photocatalyst also confirmed by X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) analysis.

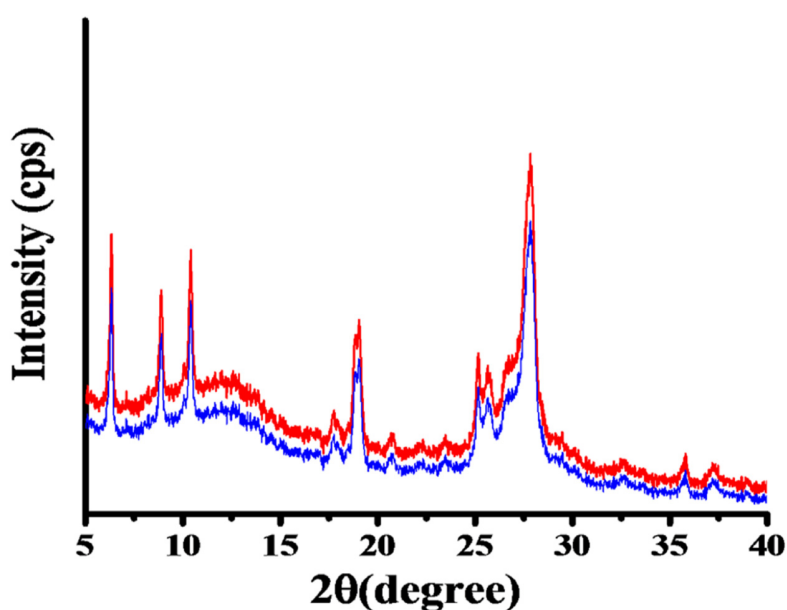


Figure S16. XRD spectra of fresh EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst (red line) and reused EY-S-g-C₃N₄ photocatalyst (blue line).

The restoration of EY-S-g-C₃N₄ was confirmed by XPS (Model: KARTOS AXIS NOVA). The XPS spectrum of EY-S-g-C₃N₄, the intensity of carbon 'C' 1s (Figure S16b) can be attributed three peaks at 283.8 eV (C-C), 284.9 eV (C=N) and 287.9 eV (N-C=N).¹⁰ The spectra of N 1s (Figure S16c) is allocated peak near about at 397.9 eV for nitrogen (N) bonded with two carbon (C=N-C) in an aromatic triazine rings, and the additional peak near about at 401.0 eV sp³-hybridized nitrogen (N-H) of g-C₃N₄ rings, i.e. heptazine rings.¹¹ In addition, the spectra of 'O' 1s (Figure S16d) is designated peak at 529.9 eV after the formation of EY-S-g-C₃N₄ composite indicated the presence of C=O bond along with C-N bond (from N1s peaks).¹² Furthermore, two peaks near about at 160.9 eV and 163.8 eV in S2p spectra (Figure 16e) assigned the binding energy of S²⁻ and N-S bond, which indicates the existence of Sulfur in g-C₃N₄.¹³ Moreover, as shown in Figure S16f the XPS spectra of Br 3d which attributed two peak at binding energy 68.9 eV, 70.3 eV corresponding to Br of eosin-Y.⁸ Additionally, the spectrum (Figure S16a) of EY-S-g-C₃N₄, the intensity of the carbon 'C' 1s peak relative to the nitrogen 'N' 1s peak was reduced with the finding of the oxygen 'O' 1s peak along with Br 3d, and S2p in the XPS survey. This confirmed the creation of an amide bond in place of the carboxyl group and also confirmed the S-doped in g-C₃N₄.¹⁰ Finally, the experimental results revealed the formation of EY-S-g-C₃N₄ composite as a photocatalyst.

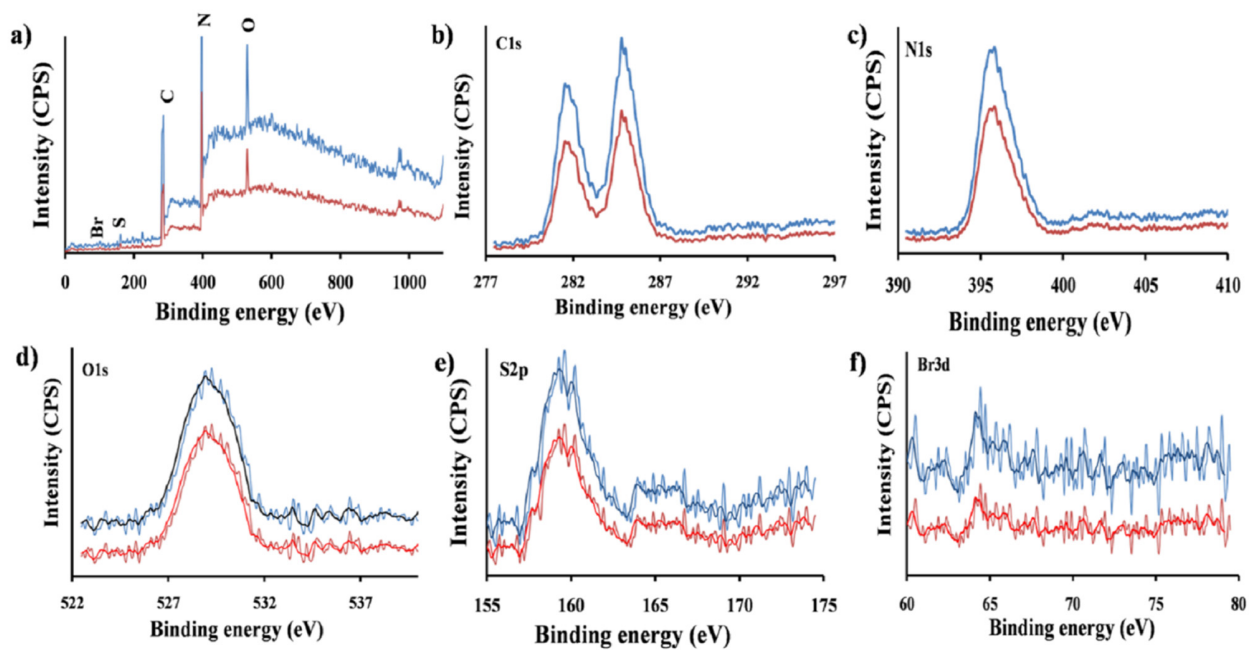


Figure S17. XPS spectra of fresh EY-S-g-C₃N₄ (blue line) and reused EY-S-g-C₃N₄ (red line) photocatalyst. (a) XPS survey spectra of EY-S-g-C₃N₄ and (b, c, d, e, f) C1s, N1s, O1s, S2p, Br3d high resolution XPS spectra of EY-S-g-C₃N₄.

16. References

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