

# **Graphitic carbon nitride metal-free visible light photocatalyst with controllable carbon self-doping towards efficient hydrogen evolution**

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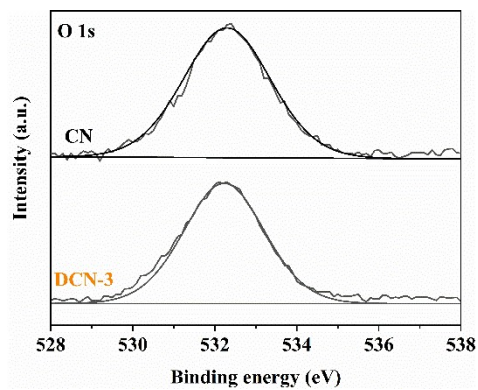
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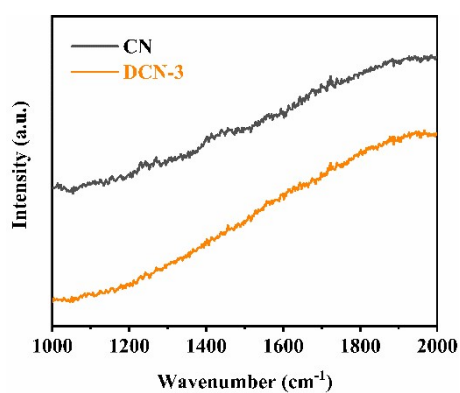
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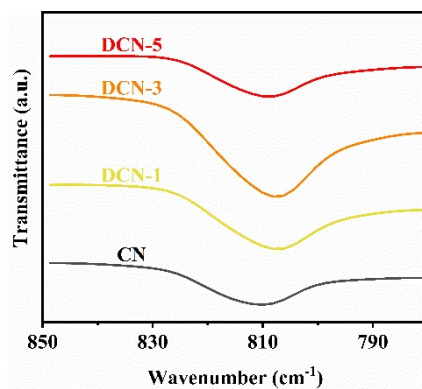
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**Fig. S1.** XPS O1s spectra of CN (top) and DCN-3 (bottom) samples.



**Fig. S2.** Raman spectra of CN and DCN-3 samples.



**Fig. S3.** Magnifying FTIR spectra of CN (black), DCN-1 (yellow), DCN-3 (orange) and DCN-5 (red) samples.

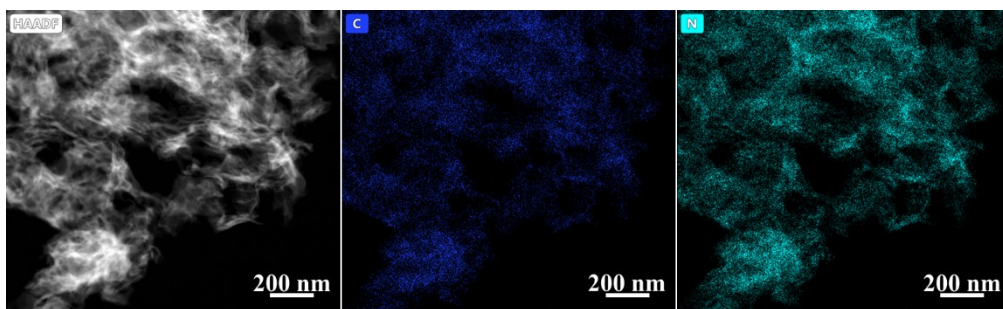


Fig. S4. Corresponding elemental mapping of C and N elements of DCN-3.

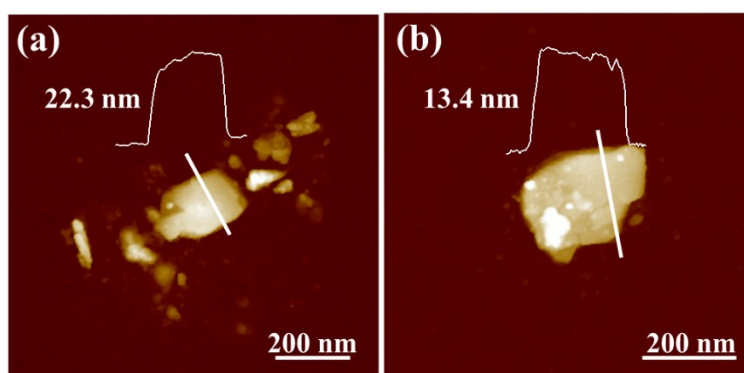


Fig. S5. AFM images of (a) CN and (b) DCN-3.

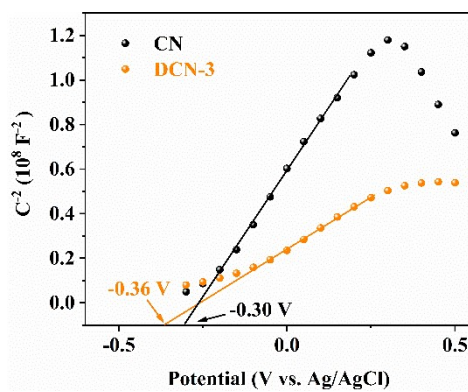
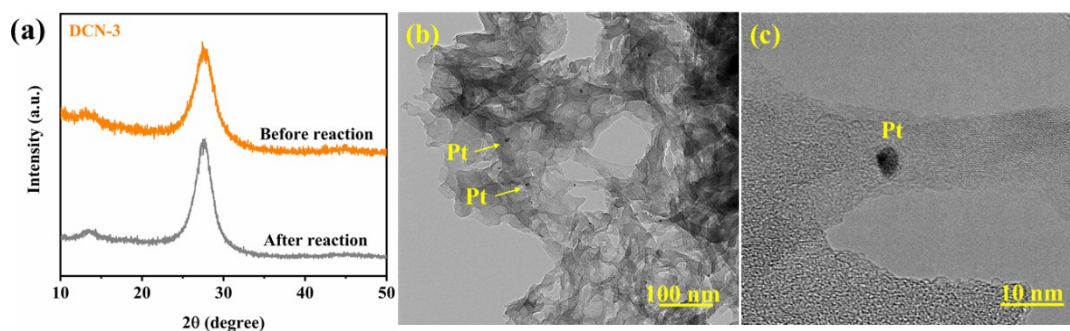


Fig. S6. Mott-Schottky plots of CN and DCN-3.



**Fig. S7.** (a) XRD patterns of DCN-3 before and after photocatalytic stability tests. (b, c) TEM images of DCN-3 after cyclic stability tests for 16 h, the black dots in (b) and (c) show the Pt nanoparticles.

**Table S1.** The element content and C/N atomic ratios based on XPS and elemental analysis results.

	XPS			elemental analysis		
	C	N	C/N	C	N	C/N
CN	47.2	48.3	0.98	35.13	59.91	0.586
DCN-3	53.6	37.9	1.41	35.59	60.21	0.591

**Table S2.** The ratio of peak areas for CN and DCN-3 based on XPS C 1s and N 1s results.

	C 1s			N 1s		
	C-C	C-NH <sub>x</sub>	N-C=N	C-N=C	N-(C) <sub>3</sub>	C-NH <sub>x</sub>
CN	26.8%	7.8%	65.3%	60.9%	31.9%	7.2%
DCN-3	39.4%	7.5%	53.1%	55.5%	36.8%	7.7%

**Table S3.** The average PL lifetimes and relative percentages of photoinduced charge carriers in CN and DCN-3.

sample	$\tau$ (ns)	component	lifetime (ns)	percentage (%)
CN	6.15	$\tau_1$	2.23	73.6
		$\tau_2$	8.89	26.4
DCN-3	5.23	$\tau_1$	1.48	81.9
		$\tau_2$	8.27	18.1

**Table S4.** The comparisons of using different precursors and photocatalytic H<sub>2</sub> evolution performance with some C-doped g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> photocatalysts reported in recent years.

Precursors	Light source	HER ( $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1} \text{g}^{-1}$ )	Enhanced factor	AQE (%)	Ref.
melamine + glucose	$\lambda > 400 \text{ nm}$	305	3.1	/	[1]
urea + malondiamide	$\lambda > 400 \text{ nm}$	2720	3.4	3.17	[2]
dicyandiamide + $\beta$ -cyclodextrin	$\lambda > 400 \text{ nm}$	360	4.8	2.05	[3]
dicyandiamide + uracil	$\lambda > 420 \text{ nm}$	364	21	/	[4]
melamine + methyl- cyclodextrin	$\lambda > 420 \text{ nm}$	125.1	10.4	6.8	[5]
melamine + ethanol	$\lambda > 420 \text{ nm}$	/	1.42	/	[6]
dicyandiamide + dimethylformamide	$\lambda > 400 \text{ nm}$	177.6	5.2	/	[7]
dicyandiamide + glucose	$\lambda > 420 \text{ nm}$	1636	3.0	/	[8]
urea + D-mannitol	$\lambda > 420 \text{ nm}$	3180	5.3	3.26	This work

## References

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