## Supporting Information

# Ligand-induced synthesis of two Cu-based coordination polymers and derived carbon-coated metal oxide heterojunction for enhanced photocatalytic degradation 

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Table S1 Crystallographic data for complexes $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{2}$.

| Complex | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Formula | $\mathrm{C}_{24} \mathrm{H}_{28} \mathrm{CuN}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{6}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{13} \mathrm{H}_{15} \mathrm{CuN}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{5}$ |
| Formula wt | 532.04 | 342.81 |
| Crystal system | Triclinic | Triclinic |
| Space group | $P-1$ | $P-1$ |
| $T(\mathrm{~K})$ | $296(2)$ | $296(2)$ |
| $a(\AA)$ | $8.273(3)$ | $8.4346(7)$ |
| $b(\AA)$ | $9.463(3)$ | $8.6526(8)$ |
| $c(\AA)$ | $16.205(5)$ | $11.0134(10)$ |
| $\alpha\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ | $98.044(9)$ | $69.429(2)$ |
| $\beta\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ | $98.914(9)$ | $67.606(2)$ |
| $\gamma\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ | $100.409(10)$ | $74.800(2)$ |
| $V\left(\AA^{3}\right)$ | $1214.1(7)$ | $688.08(11)$ |
| Z | 2 | 2 |
| $D_{\text {calc }}\left(\mathrm{g} \mathrm{cm}{ }^{-3}\right)$ | 1.455 | 1.655 |
| $F(000)$ | 554 | 352 |
| $\theta_{\text {max }}\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ | 25.14 | 28.05 |
| $R_{\text {int }}$ | 0.0774 | 0.0186 |
| $R_{1}{ }^{\mathrm{a}}[I>2 \sigma(I)]$ | 0.0599 | 0.0354 |
| $\mathrm{w} R_{2}{ }^{\mathrm{b}}($ all data $)$ | 0.1745 | 0.0845 |
| GOF | 1.002 | 1.043 |

$$
{ }^{\mathrm{a}} R_{1}=\Sigma| | \mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{o}}\left|-\left|\mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{c}} \| / \Sigma\right| \mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{o}}\right|,{ }^{\mathrm{b}} w R_{2}=\Sigma\left[w\left(\mathrm{~F}_{\mathrm{o}}^{2}-\mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{c}}^{2}\right)^{2}\right] / \Sigma\left[w\left(\mathrm{~F}_{\mathrm{o}}^{2}\right)^{2}\right]^{1 / 2}
$$

Table S2 Selected bond distances $(\AA)$ and angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ for complex 1.

| $\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1)$ | $1.953(4)$ | $\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(3) \# 3$ | $1.969(4)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(4) \# 1$ | $1.958(4)$ | $\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $2.179(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(2) \# 2$ | $1.969(4)$ | $\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1) \# 2$ | $2.6379(14)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(4) \# 1$ | $89.17(18)$ | $\mathrm{O}(2) \# 2-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $90.28(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(2) \# 2$ | $167.98(14)$ | $\mathrm{O}(3) \# 3-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $89.97(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(4) \# 1-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(2) \# 2$ | $88.82(17)$ | $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1) \# 2$ | $85.76(11)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(3) \# 3$ | $90.95(17)$ | $\mathrm{O}(4) \# 1-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1) \# 2$ | $86.19(11)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(4) \# 1-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(3) \# 3$ | $167.98(14)$ | $\mathrm{O}(2) \# 2-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1) \# 2$ | $82.28(11)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(2) \# 2-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(3) \# 3$ | $88.56(17)$ | $\mathrm{O}(3) \# 3-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1) \# 2$ | $81.83(11)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $101.73(16)$ | $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1) \# 2$ | $169.03(12)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(4) \# 1-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $101.77(16)$ |  |  |
| Symmetry codes: \#1 $x-1, y, z ; \# 2-x,-y+1,-z+2 ; \# 3-x+1,-y+1,-z+2$. |  |  |  |

Table S3 Selected bond distances $(\AA)$ and angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ for complex 2.

| $\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1)$ | $1.9641(18)$ | $\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(2) \# 3$ | $1.9841(18)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(4) \# 1$ | $1.9676(16)$ | $\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $2.2059(19)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(3) \# 2$ | $1.9696(16)$ | $\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1) \# 3$ | $2.6433(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(4) \# 1$ | $90.09(8)$ | $\mathrm{O}(3) \# 2-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $100.02(7)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(3) \# 2$ | $89.63(8)$ | $\mathrm{O}(2) \# 3-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $95.78(7)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(4) \# 1-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(3) \# 2$ | $167.74(7)$ | $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1) \# 3$ | $82.25(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(2) \# 3$ | $167.99(7)$ | $\mathrm{O}(4) \# 1-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1) \# 3$ | $77.64(5)$ |


| $\mathrm{O}(4) \# 1-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(2) \# 3$ | $88.33(8)$ | $\mathrm{O}(3) \# 2-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1) \# 3$ | $90.18(5)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{O}(3) \# 2-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{O}(2) \# 3$ | $89.40(8)$ | $\mathrm{O}(2) \# 3-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1) \# 3$ | $85.78(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $96.17(7)$ | $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{Cu}(1) \# 3$ | $169.68(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(4) \# 1-\mathrm{Cu}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $92.19(7)$ |  |  |

Symmetry codes: \#1 $x+1, y, z ; \# 2-x,-y+1,-z+1 ; \# 3-x+1,-y+1,-z+1$.

Table S4 BET surface area and adsorption average pore width for complexes $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{2}$ and the carbon-coated metal oxide heterojunctions.

| Marterial | BET surface area $\left(\mathrm{m}^{2} \mathrm{~g}^{-1}\right)$ | Adsorption average pore width $(\mathrm{nm})$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Complex 1 | 0.323 | 55.35 |
| Cu@V-1 | 3.755 | 105.65 |
| $\mathbf{C u @ M o - 1}$ | 4.454 | 26.66 |
| Cu@W-1 | 4.465 | 7.85 |
| Complex 2 | 1.908 | 552.08 |
| Cu@V-2 | 18.394 | 6.53 |
| Cu@Mo-2 | 84.181 | 15.36 |
| Cu@W-2 | 58.415 | 19.44 |

Table S5 Organic dyes with different charge types and sizes.
Dye
Methylene Blue
(MB)
Rhodamine B


Table S6 Pseudo-first-order and pseudo-second-order kinetic parameters for the photodegradation of dyes by $\mathbf{C u @ M o - 2 .}$

| Dye | Concentration $\left(\mathrm{mg} \mathrm{L}^{-1}\right)$ | Rate constant $\left(\mathrm{K} \mathrm{min}^{-1}\right)$ | Half-life $\mathrm{t}_{1 / 2}(\mathrm{~min})$ | $\mathrm{R}^{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MB | 10 | 0.0115 | 60.27 | 0.8563 |
| RhB | 10 | 0.0057 | 121.60 | 0.9692 |
| MO | 40 | 0.0029 | 239.02 | 0.9891 |
| CR | 80 | 0.0081 | 85.57 | 0.9892 |



Fig. S1 (a) The PXRD patterns of simulated and fresh sample for complex 1; (b) The PXRD patterns of simulated and fresh sample for complex 2; (c) The TG curve of complexes $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{2}$; (d)The IR spectra of complexes $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{2}$.


Fig. S2 UV-vis spectra of blank experiment for dye photocatalysis (performed in the absence of any catalyst).


Fig. S3 UV-vis spectra of MB (a), RhB (b), MO (c) and CR (d) solutions recorded after different adsorption times with complex 1.


Fig. S4 UV-vis spectra of MB (a), RhB (b), MO (c) and CR (d) solutions recorded after different adsorption times with complex 2.


Fig. S5 UV-vis spectra of MB (a), RhB (b), MO (c) and CR (d) solutions recorded after different adsorption times with $\mathbf{C u @ V}$-1.


Fig. S6 UV-vis spectra of MB (a), RhB (b), MO (c) and CR (d) solutions recorded after different adsorption times with $\mathbf{C u @ M o - 1 .}$


Fig. S7 UV-vis spectra of MB (a), RhB (b), MO (c) and CR (d) solutions recorded after different adsorption times with $\mathbf{C u} @ \mathbf{W}-\mathbf{1}$.


Fig. S8 UV-vis spectra of MB (a), RhB (b), MO (c) and CR (d) solutions recorded after different adsorption times with $\mathbf{C u @ V}$-2.


Fig. S9 UV-vis spectra of MB (a), RhB (b), MO (c) and CR (d) solutions recorded after different adsorption times with $\mathbf{C u} @ \mathbf{W}$-2.


Fig. S10 Tauc's plots of the carbon-coated metal oxide heterojunctions.

## S1. Pseudo-first-order kinetics.

These calculations were performed via equations (S1) and (S2):

$$
\begin{gather*}
\ln \left(C_{0} / C_{t}\right)=k t  \tag{S1}\\
t_{1 / 2}=\frac{\ln 2}{k} \tag{S2}
\end{gather*}
$$

where $C_{0}$ represents the initial concentration of dye $\left(\mathrm{mg} \mathrm{L}^{-1}\right), C_{\mathrm{t}}$ is the residual concentration of dye at time $t(\mathrm{~min}), k$ denotes the pseudo-first-order rate constant $\left(\mathrm{min}^{-1}\right)$, and $t_{1 / 2}(\mathrm{~min})$ represents the half-life period of the reaction.

## S2. Pseudo-second-order kinetics.

These calculations were performed via equations (S3):

$$
\begin{equation*}
t / C_{t}=1 /\left(k C_{t}^{2}\right)+t / C_{0} \tag{S3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $C_{0}$ represents the initial concentration of dye, $C_{\mathrm{t}}$ is the residual concentration of dye at time $t(\mathrm{~min})$, and $k$ denotes the pseudo-second-order rate constant ( $\mathrm{L} \mathrm{mg}^{-1}$ $\min ^{-1}$ ).


Fig. S11 Pseudo-first-order plots with respect to time for $\mathbf{C u} @ \mathbf{M o - 2}$ in aqueous dye solutions.


Fig. S12 Pseudo-second-order plots with respect to time for $\mathbf{C u @ M o - 2}$ in aqueous dye solutions.


Fig. S13 The reproducibility of the photocatalyst Cu@Mo-2 for dyes.

