

Electronic Supplementary Information

Metal Organic Framework (MOF)-5/CuO@ZnIn₂S₄ Core-Shell Z-Scheme Tandem Heterojunctions for Improved Charge Separation and Enhanced Photocatalytic Performance

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Experimental section

Materials

Anhydrous ethanol (EtOH) and N,N-dimethylformamide (DMF) were purchased from Tianjin Kemer Chemical Reagent Co. Zinc nitrate hexahydrate ($\text{ZnNO}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$), terephthalic acid (PTA), polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP), zinc chloride (ZnCl_2), indium trichloride tetrahydrate ($\text{InCl}_3 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$), thioacetamide (TAA), and copper nitrate tetrahydrate ($\text{CuNO}_3 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$) were purchased from Aladdin Industrial. Glycerol (GE) was purchased from Tianjin Guangfu Science and Technology Development Co. 2,4-dichlorophenol (2,4-DCP), phenol, methyl orange (MO) and methylene blue (MB) were all purchased from Tianjin Kemiou Chemical Reagent Company. All chemicals were analytic reagents and used as received. The deionized water was used throughout this study.

Characterizations

X-ray diffraction (XRD) was obtained by a Bruker D8 Advance diffractometer (using Cu $K\alpha$ radiation, $\lambda = 1.54056 \text{ \AA}$, 40 kV, 40 mA). Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) images were obtained with a Philips XL-30-ESEM-FEG instrument operating at 20 kV. Transmission electron microscope (TEM) JEOL JEM-2010 at an accelerating voltage of 200 kV was also used to record the electron micrographs of the samples. X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS, Kratos, ULTRA AXIS DLD) was carried out with monochrome Al $K\alpha$ ($h\nu = 1486.6 \text{ eV}$) radiation. UV-vis diffuse reflection spectra (DRS) were recorded on a UV-vis spectrophotometer (UV-2550, Shimadzu) with an integrating sphere attachment, and BaSO_4 was used as the reference material. The $\cdot\text{OH}$

radicals and $\cdot\text{O}_2^-$ radicals were detected by the fluorescence probe technique with coumarin on a RF-5301PC fluorescence spectrophotometer and a 300 W Xenon lamp. Surface area was estimated by BET method and pore-size distribution was measured from the adsorption branch of the isotherm using the Barrett-Joyner-Halenda (BJH) method. The photoluminescence (PL) spectra were measured with a PE LS 55 spectrofluorophotometer at excitation wavelength of 400 nm. The work function of samples was tested by Scanning Kelvin probe (SKP) (SKP5050 system, Scotland). The temperature of the sample was measured using the Testo 865 infrared thermograph. Incident photon-to-current efficiency (IPCE) measurements were using the Newport 2936-C in a standard three electrode configurations with catalytic used as photoanodes, Pt foil as the counter electrode, and Ag/AgCl ($E_{\text{Ag}/\text{AgCl}}$ is 0.6 eV vs. NHE) reference electrode in home-built crystal equipment containing 1 M KOH solution. The electron spin resonance (ESR) spectra under visible light irradiation were tested with ESR spectrometer (Bruker model A300). The temperature of the sample was measured using the Testo 865 infrared thermograph.

Photocatalytic degradation activity tests

Important pharmaceutical intermediates such as 2,4-DCP and phenol, as well as dyes such as methyl orange and methyl blue, were selected to test the photocatalytic degradation performance. The experiments were carried out in winter in Harbin (44°04' N, 125°42' E) and the room temperature was maintained at $12\pm 2^\circ\text{C}$. In a typical experiment, photocatalyst (30 mg) was added to MO solution (30 mL, 10 mg/L), MB solution (30 mL, 10 mg/L), phenol solution (30 mL, 10 mg/L), and 2,4-DCP solution (30

mL, 10 mg/L). The suspensions were then placed in the dark to ensure adsorption-desorption equilibrium. 300 W xenon lamps were used to irradiate the suspensions and the residual MO, MB, phenol or 2,4-DCP concentrations were analyzed using a T6 UV-Vis spectrophotometer.

Photocatalytic hydrogen evolution

The photocatalytic H₂ evolution experiments were conducted in an online hydrogen generation system. During the photocatalytic hydrogen evolution reaction, the samples (100 mg) were dispersed in 100 mL of methanol/H₂O solution (V_{methanol}:V_{H₂O} = 1:4). Before light irradiation, the reactor and the entire gas circulating system were fully degassed to remove air using a vacuum pump for 30 min. Before the photoreactions, the dispersion was sonicated for 10 min. A 300 W Xe lamp was used as the light source that simulated the full-spectrum source. The photocatalytic H₂ evolution was analyzed using a gas chromatograph (SP7800, TCD, molecular sieves 5 Å, N₂ carrier, Beijing Keruida Limited).

Photothermal and photoelectrochemical measurements

The electrochemical impedance spectroscopy and photocurrents curves were examined by the Princeton workstation, which employed the three-electrode configuration. Na₂S (0.1 M) aqueous solution was used as the electrolyte solution. Pt foil was the counter electrode and Ag/AgCl electrode was used as the reference electrode. In order to prepare working electrode, photocatalyst sample (50 mg) was dispersed in ethanol (35 mL), and then the suspension was sprayed onto the FTO glass, and then the FTO glass was calcined at 200 °C for 2 h in Ar. Furthermore, a 300 W

Xenon lamp was used as the light source. Electro-chemical impedance spectroscopy was measured with amplitude of 5 mV and frequencies varying from 0.01 to 10000 Hz.

The photothermal test of as-prepared samples was carried out as follow. 0.1 g of samples was loaded on a white paper and the initial temperature was controlled at room temperature. The temperature of the sample was measured using the Testo 865 infrared thermograph. A 300 W Xenon lamp was used as a light source.

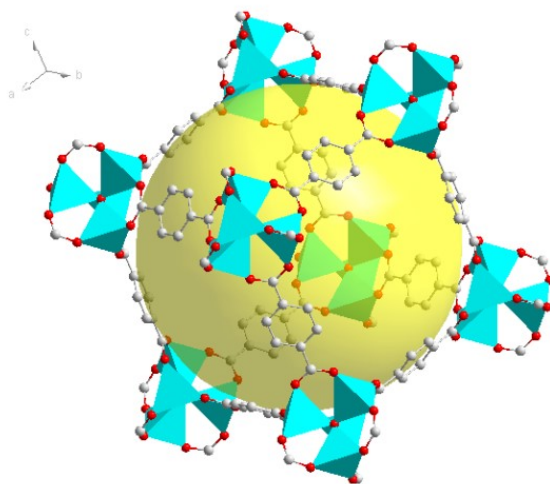


Figure S1. Schematic diagram of the crystal structure of MOF-5. (Cyan represents Zn atoms, red represents O atoms, and gray represents C atoms, with H atoms removed for clarity.)

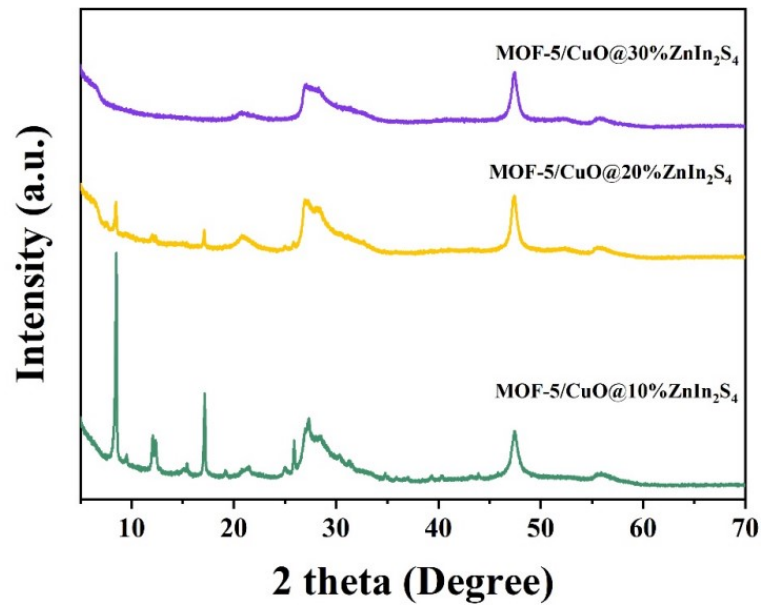


Figure S2. The XRD patterns of MOF-5/CuO@10% ZnIn₂S₄, MOF-5/CuO@20% ZnIn₂S₄ and MOF-5/CuO@30% ZnIn₂S₄, respectively.

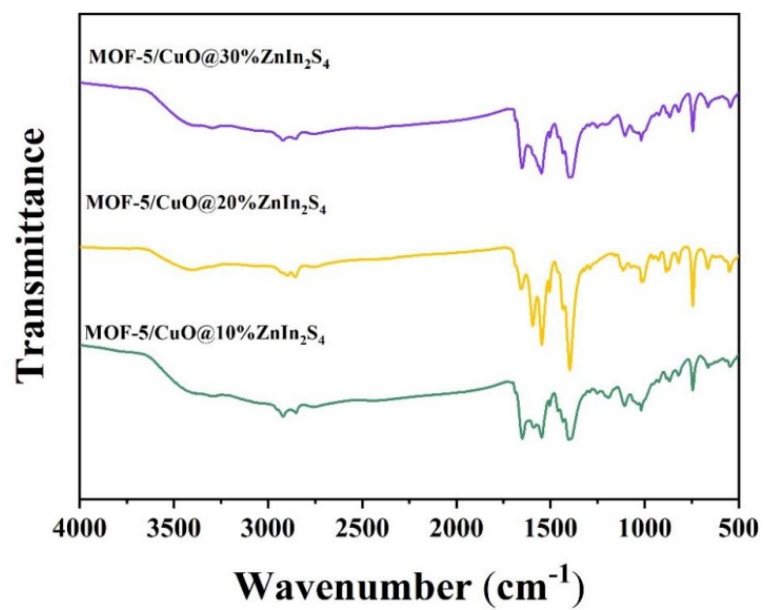


Figure S3. The FR-IT spectra of MOF-5/CuO@10% ZnIn₂S₄, MOF-5/CuO@20% ZnIn₂S₄ and MOF-5/CuO@30% ZnIn₂S₄, respectively.

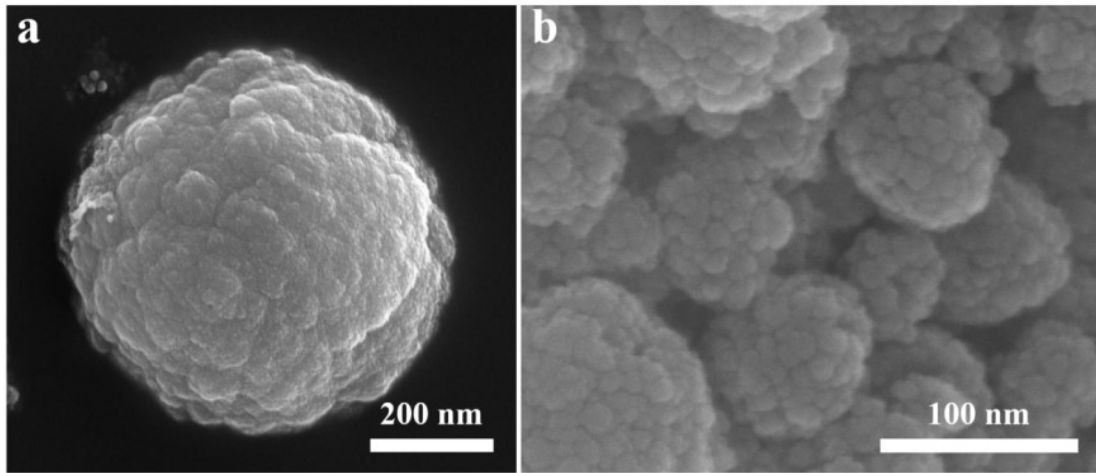


Figure S4. SEM images (a, b) of MOF-5 at different shooting sizes.

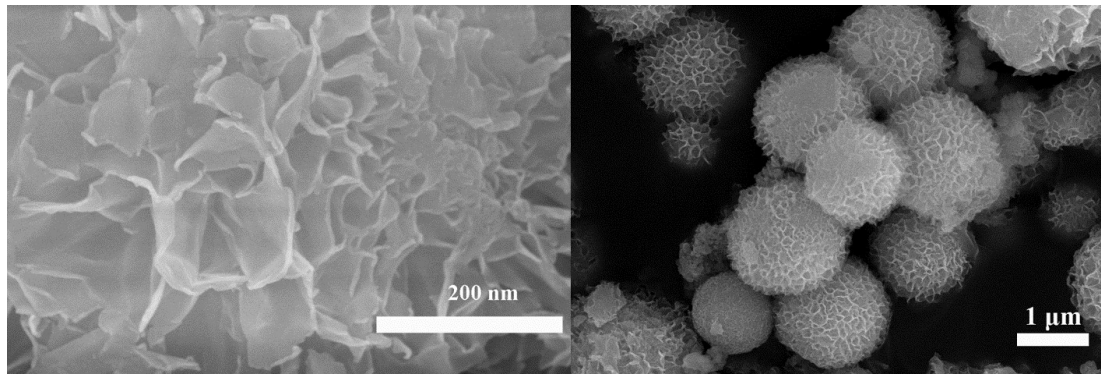


Figure S5. The SEM images of the individually grown ZnIn₂S₄.

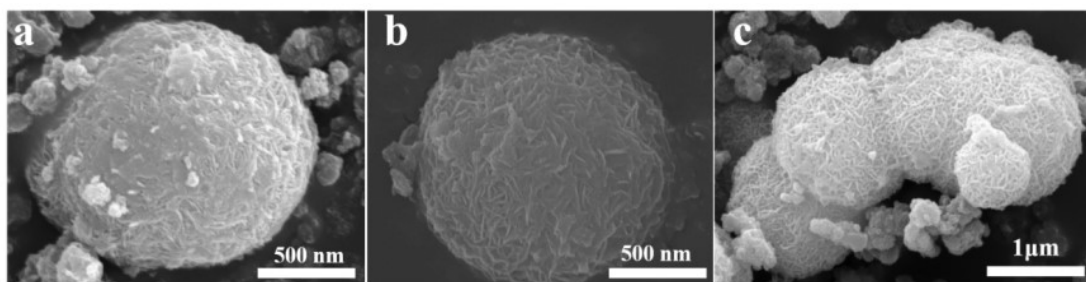


Figure S6. The SEM images of MOF-5/CuO@10% ZnIn₂S₄ (a), MOF-5/CuO@20% ZnIn₂S₄ (b), MOF-5/CuO@30% ZnIn₂S₄ (c), respectively.

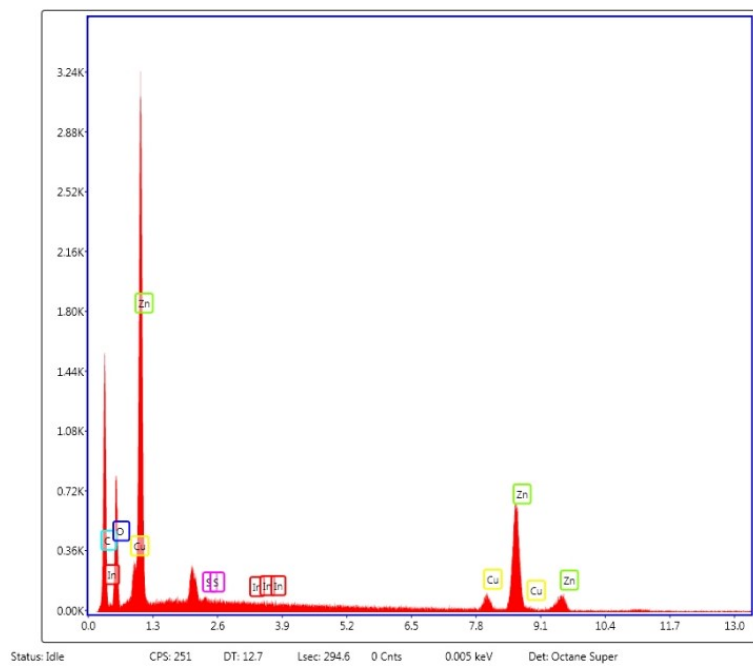


Figure S7. EDX elemental spectrum of MOF-5/CuO@ZnIn₂S₄.

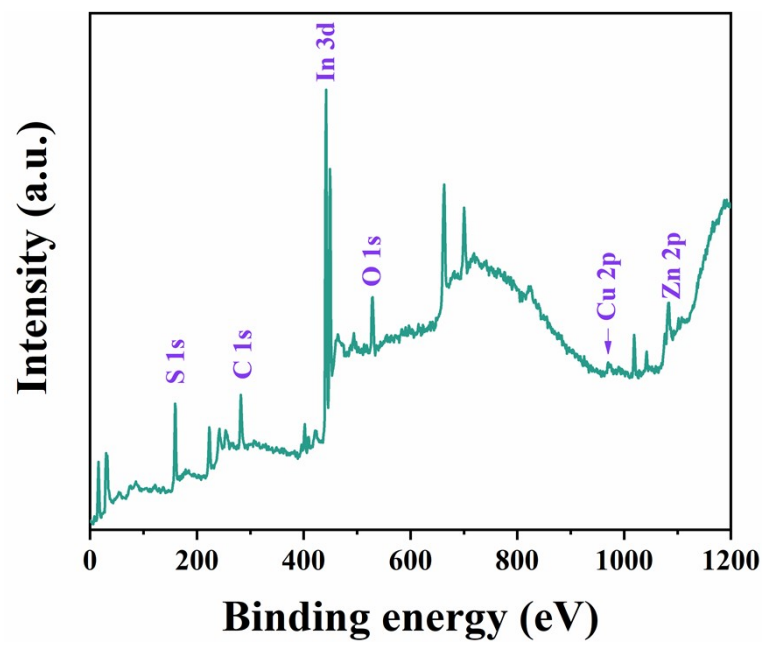


Figure S8. XPS survey spectrum of MOF-5/CuO@ZnIn₂S₄.

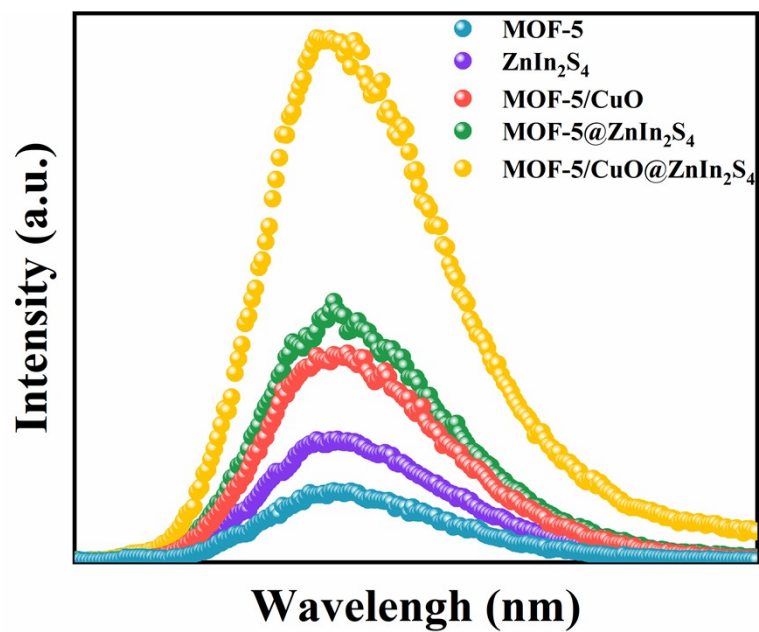


Figure S9. Fluorescence spectra of the as-prepared samples.

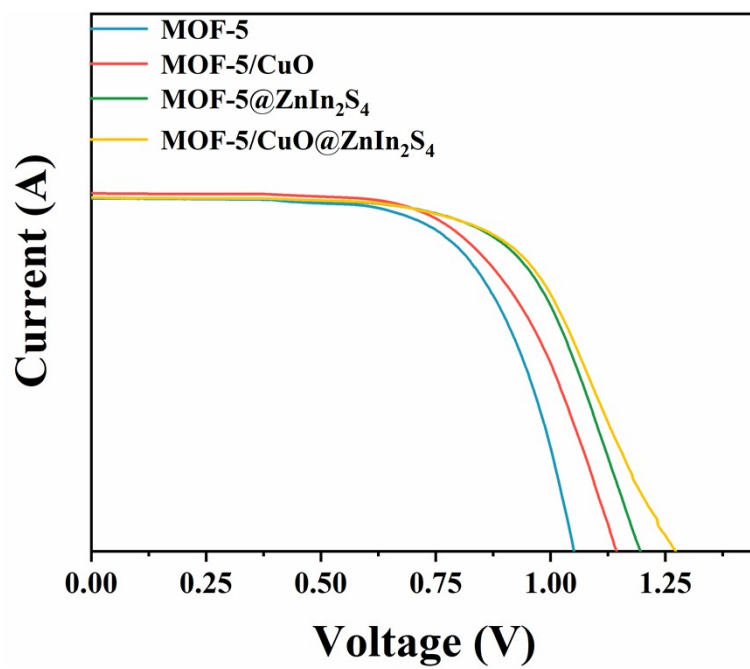


Figure S10. Solid-state current-voltage (I-V) curves of prepared photocatalysts.

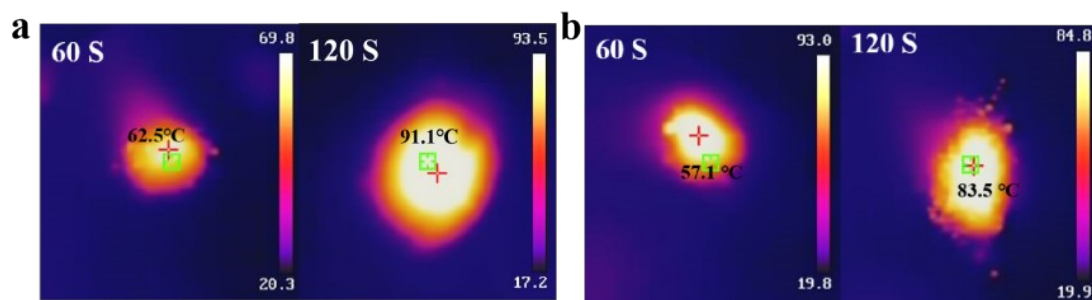


Figure S11. Infrared photographs of MOF-5/CuO (a) and MOF-5@ZnIn₂S₄ (b) with an onset temperature of 25 °C and 120 s of simulated solar irradiation.



Figure S12. Digital photos of MOF-5, ZnIn₂S₄, MOF-5/CuO, MOF-5@ZnIn₂S₄, MOF-5/CuO@ZnIn₂S₄, respectively.

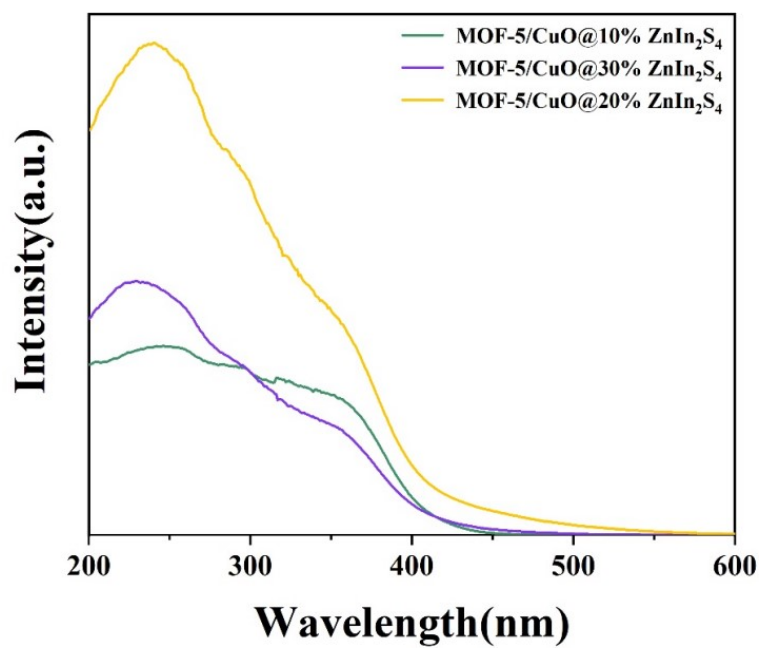


Figure S13. The UV-vis spectra of MOF-5/CuO@10% ZnIn₂S₄, MOF-5/CuO@20% ZnIn₂S₄ and MOF-5/CuO@30% ZnIn₂S₄, respectively.

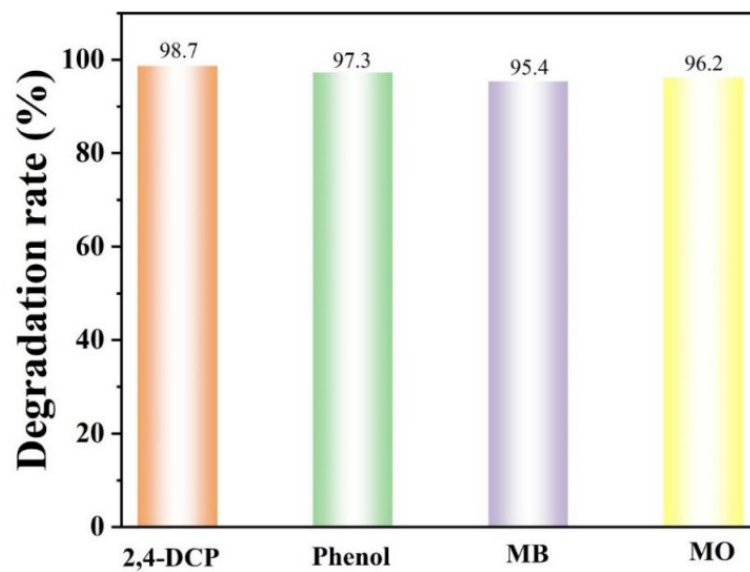


Figure S14. Photocatalytic degradation rates of MOF-5/CuO@ZnIn₂S₄ for different pollutants.

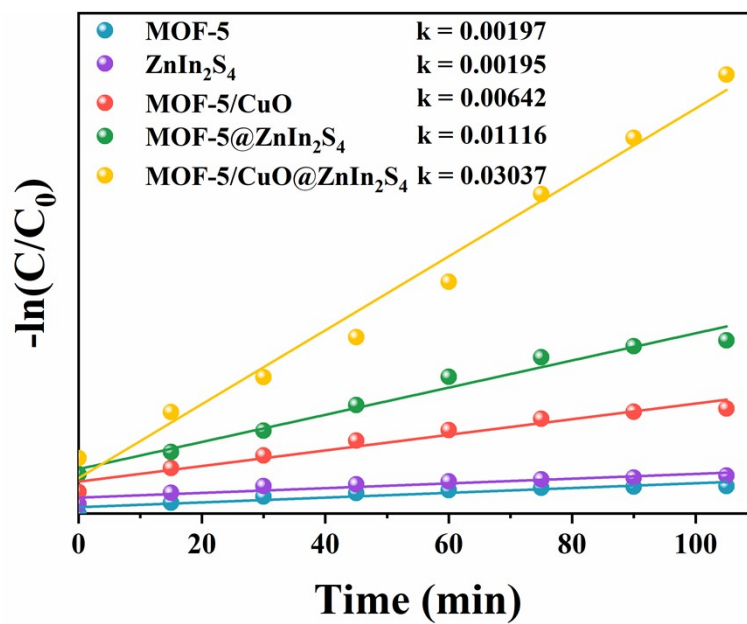


Figure S15. Pseudo primary kinetic plots of 2,4-DCP degradation by different photocatalysts under visible light irradiation.

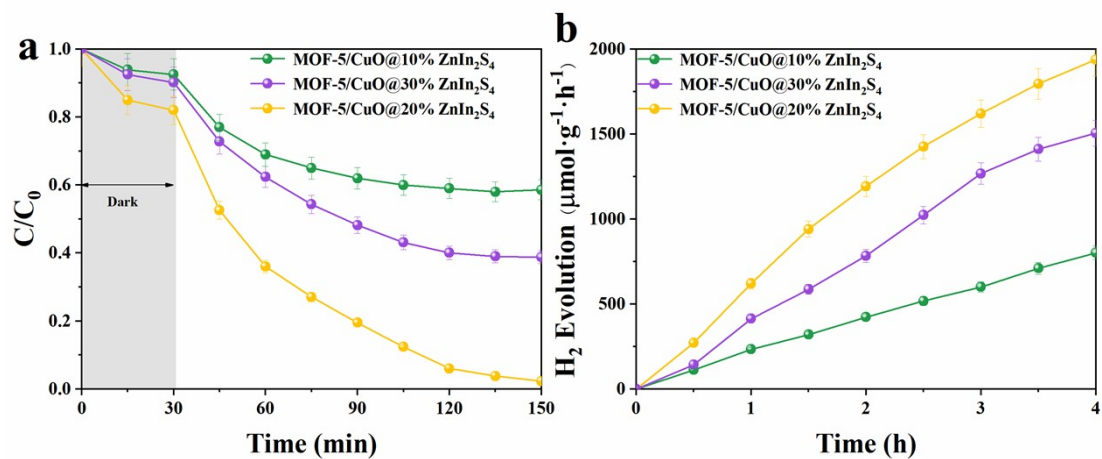


Figure S16. Photocatalytic degradation curves (a) and hydrogen evolution efficiency (b) of MOF-5/CuO@10%ZnIn₂S₄, MOF-5/CuO@20%ZnIn₂S₄ and MOF-5/CuO@30%ZnIn₂S₄, respectively.

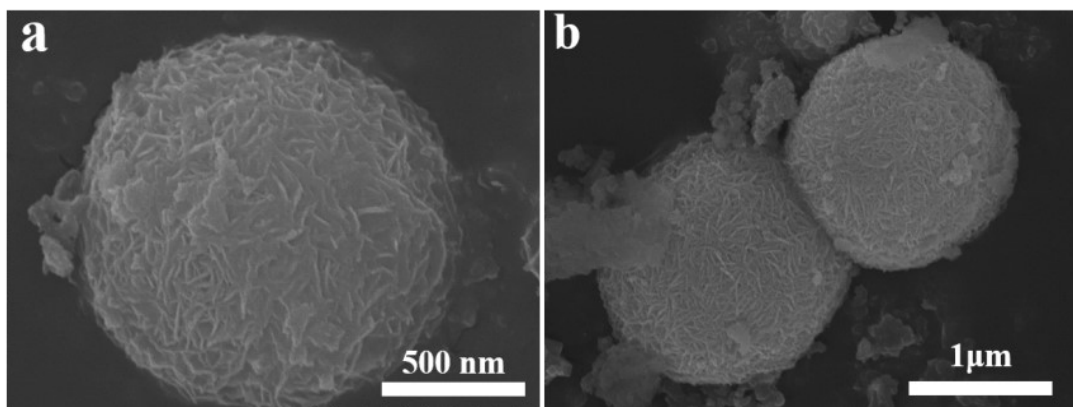


Figure S17. SEM images of MOF-5/CuO@ZnIn₂S₄ before (a) and after photocatalytic reaction (b).

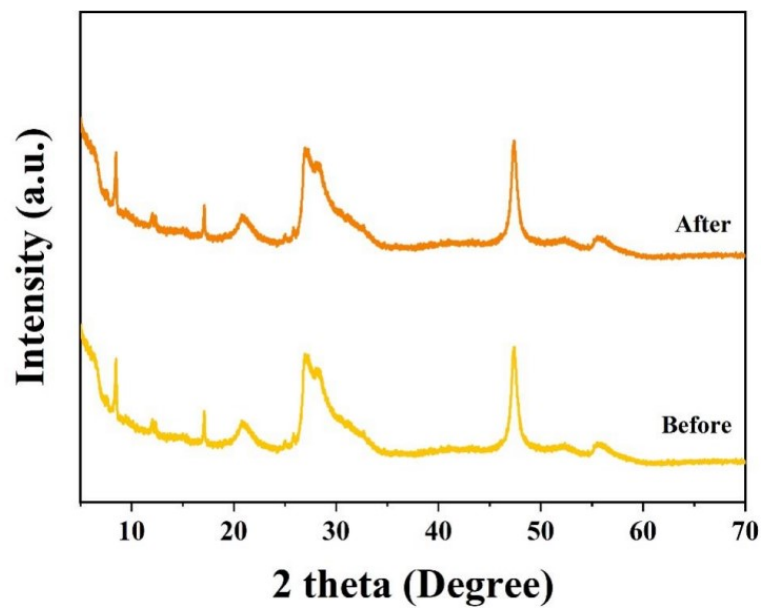


Figure S18. XRD patterns of MOF-5/CuO@ZnIn₂S₄ before and after photocatalytic reaction.

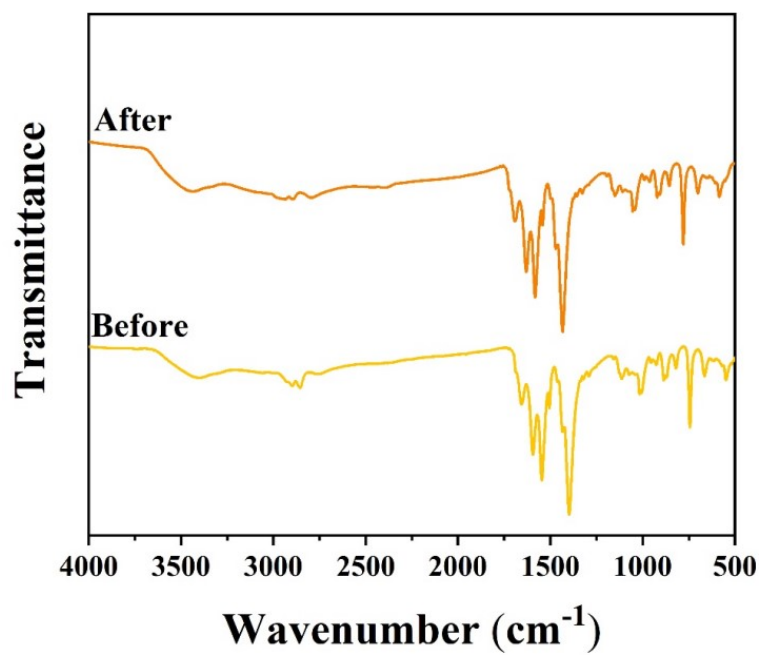


Figure S19. FR-IT spectra of MOF-5/CuO@ZnIn₂S₄ before and after photocatalytic reaction.

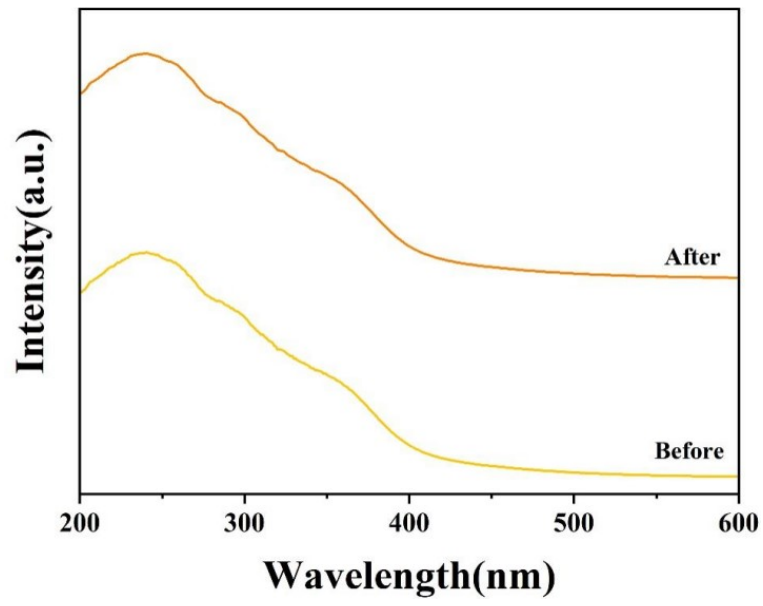


Figure S20. UV-Vis spectra of MOF-5/CuO@ZnIn₂S₄ before and after photocatalytic reaction.

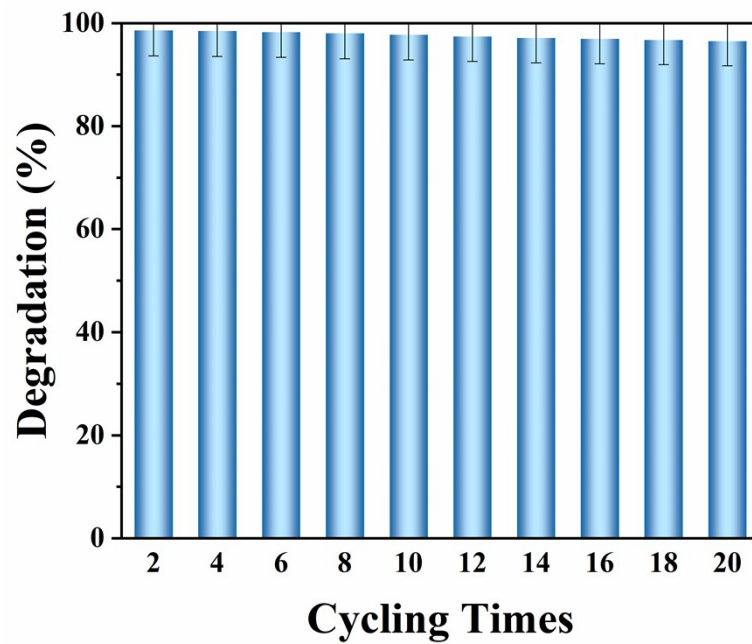


Figure S21. Long-term stability test experiment diagram of photocatalytic degradation of 2,4-DCP (20 cycles, 40 h).

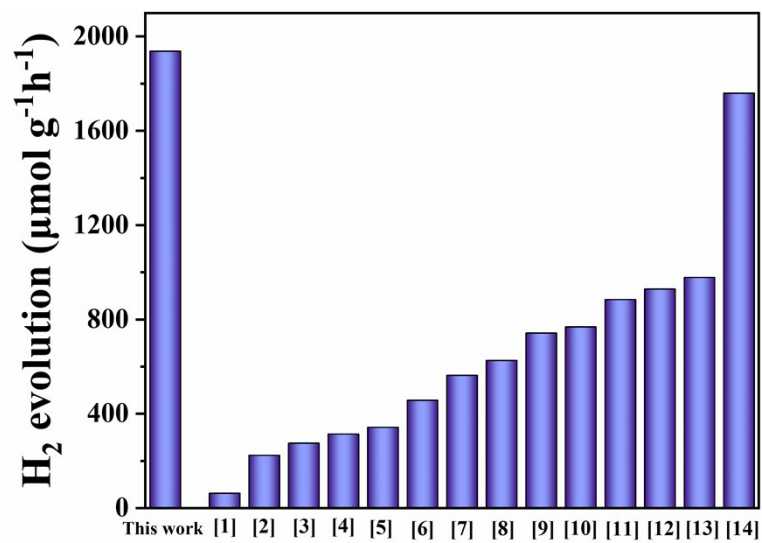


Figure. S22. The photocatalytic H₂ evolution rates of different photocatalysts.

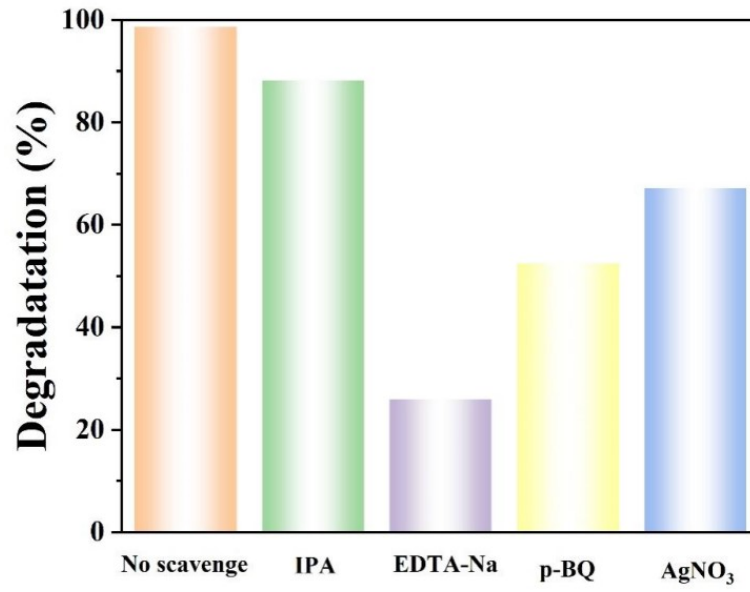


Figure S23. The species trapping experiments for photocatalytic degradation 2,4-DCP on MOF-5/CuO@ZnIn₂S₄.

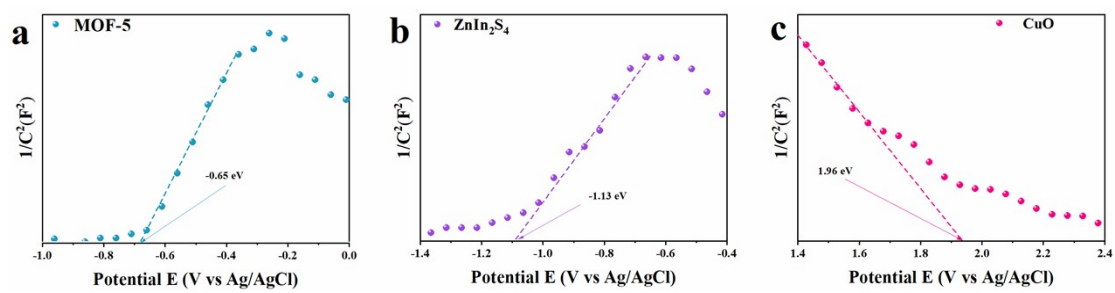


Figure S24. The Mott-Schottky plots of MOF-5 (a), $ZnIn_2S_4$ (b), CuO (c), respectively.

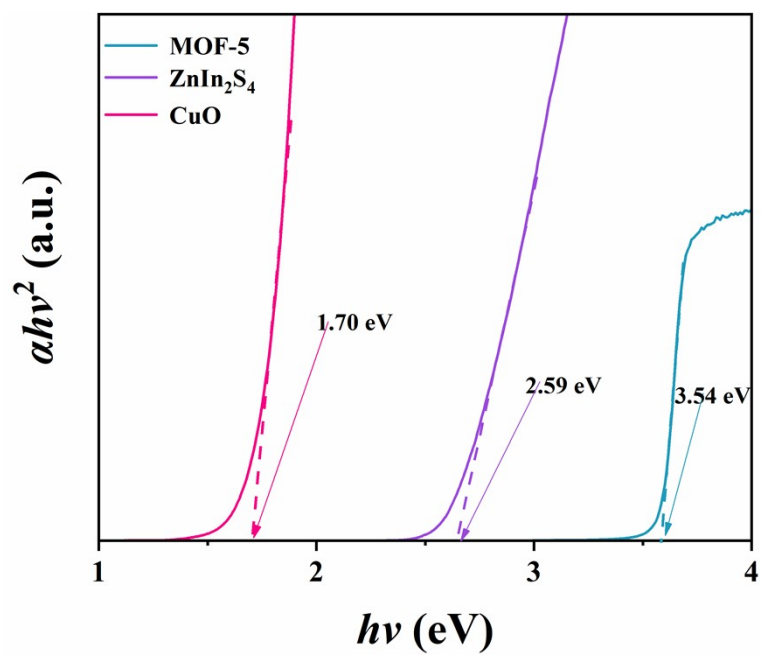


Figure S25. The corresponding optical bandgaps $(\alpha h\nu)^2$ versus $h\nu$ curves for different samples.

Table S1. The specific BET surface areas of the as-prepared samples.

| Photocatalyst | MOF-5 | MOF-5/CuO | MOF-5@ZnIn ₂ S ₄ | MOF-5/CuO@ZnIn ₂ S ₄ |
|--|--------|-----------|--|--|
| S_{BET} (m²/g) | 706.96 | 271.76 | 222.51 | 462.33 |

Table S2. The photocatalytic H₂ evolution rates of different photocatalysts.

| Photocatalyst | Rate of H ₂ generation ($\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$) | Sacrificial agent | ref |
|--|--|--|------------------|
| CdS@Ti ₃ C ₂ | 63.53 | Triethanolamine (TEOA) | [1] |
| CdS/MoC | 224.5 | Lactic acid | [2] |
| CeO ₂ /ZnIn ₂ S ₄ | 276 | 0.5M Na ₂ SO ₃ , Na ₂ S | [3] |
| EY-MIL-53(Fe) | 315 | TEOA | [4] |
| MoS ₂ /ZnIn ₂ S ₄ | 343 | Lactic acid | [5] |
| CuO/CdS/CoWO ₄ | 457.9 | Na ₂ SO ₃ , Na ₂ S | [6] |
| BiVO ₄ /RGO/CdS | 563.7 | Lactic acid | [7] |
| MOF-199/MoS ₂ | 626.3 | Formic acids | [8] |
| [Zn(L1)(L2)] | 743 | Na ₂ SO ₃ , Na ₂ S | [9] |
| SnS ₂ /ZnIn ₂ S ₄ | 769 | Lactic acid | [10] |
| Cu ₇ S ₄ /ZnIn ₂ S ₄ | 885 | Na ₂ SO ₃ , Na ₂ S | [11] |
| MoOS _x /CdS | 929.4 | Lactic acid | [12] |
| ZnIn ₂ S ₄ /Ti ₃ C ₂ | 978.7 | TEOA | [13] |
| Cu ₃ (HHTP) ₂ -MOF/Tp-Pa-1-COF | 1760 | Sodium ascorbate (SA) | [14] |
| MOF-5/CuO@ZnIn₂S₄ | 1938.3 | 0.1 M Na₂SO₃, Na₂S | This work |

Table S3. The band gap energies, conduction band (CB) and valence band (VB) potentials (NHE)

for MOF-5, CuO, and ZnIn₂S₄.

| Photocatalyst | Band gap (eV) | CB (eV) | VB (eV) |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| MOF-5 | 3.54 | -0.45 | 3.09 |
| CuO | 1.70 | 0.46 | 2.16 |
| ZnIn ₂ S ₄ | 2.59 | -0.93 | 1.66 |

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