

## Supporting Information

### In-situ construction of $\alpha$ -MoC/g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> Mott-Schottky heterojunction for efficient photocatalytic H<sub>2</sub> evolution

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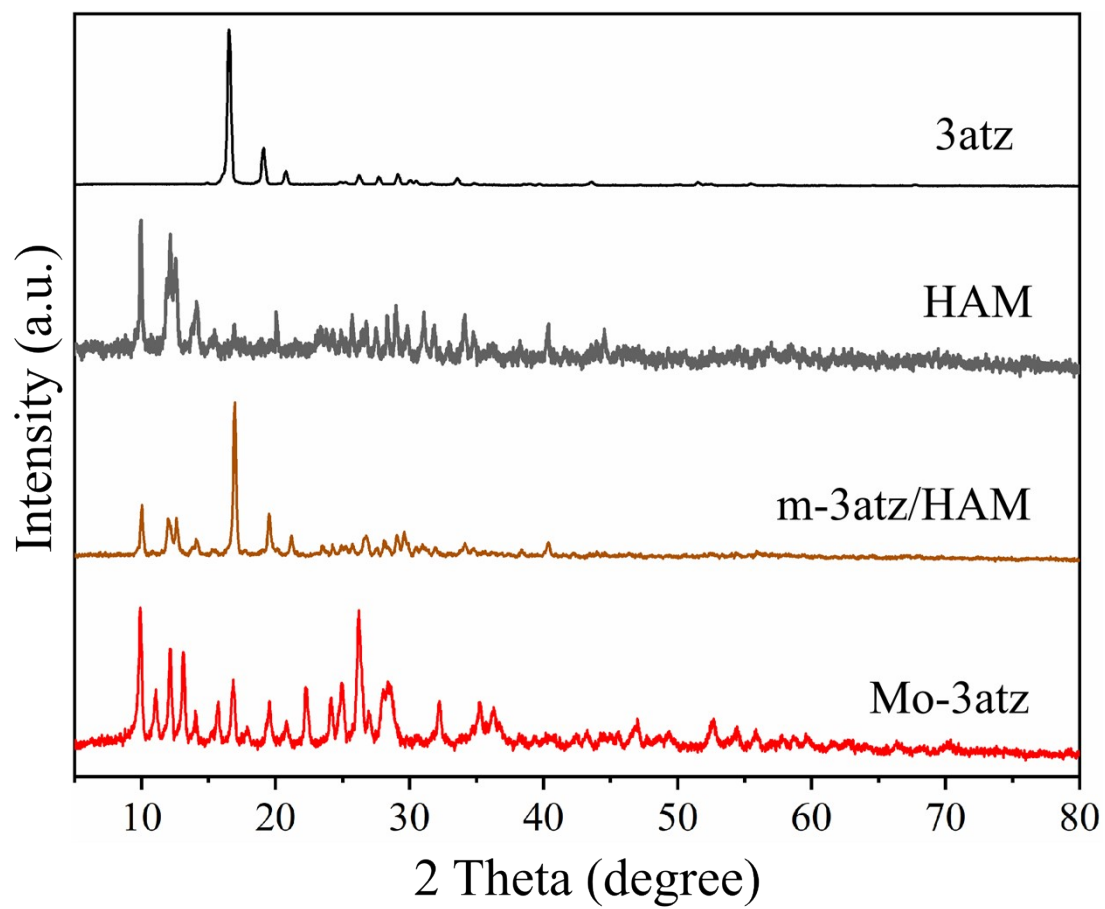


Fig. S1. XRD patterns of 3atz, HAM, m-3atz/HAM, and Mo-3atz.

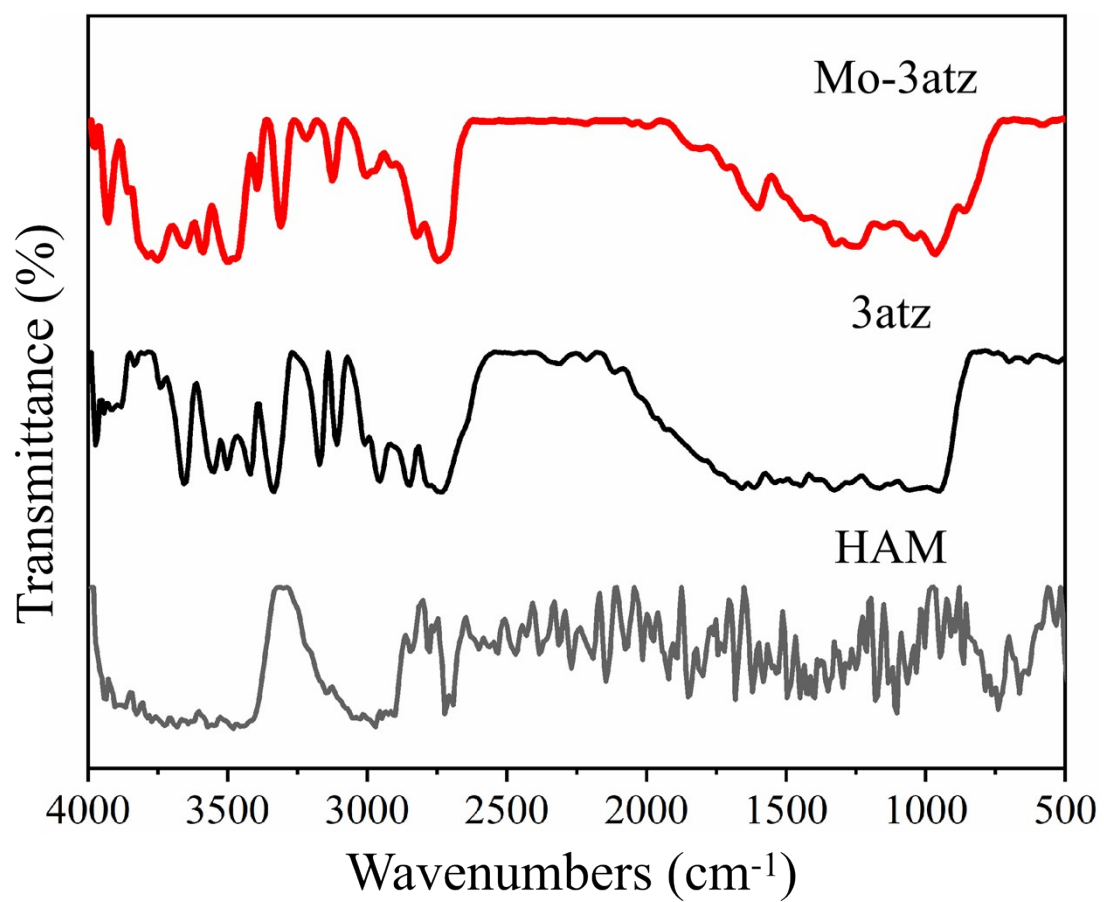


Fig. S2. FT-IR spectra of HAM, 3atz, and Mo-3atz.

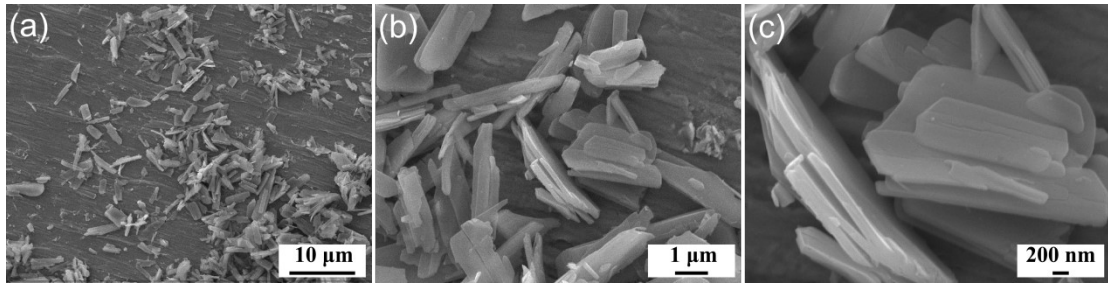


Fig. S3. SEM images of Mo-3atz synthesized in room temperature.

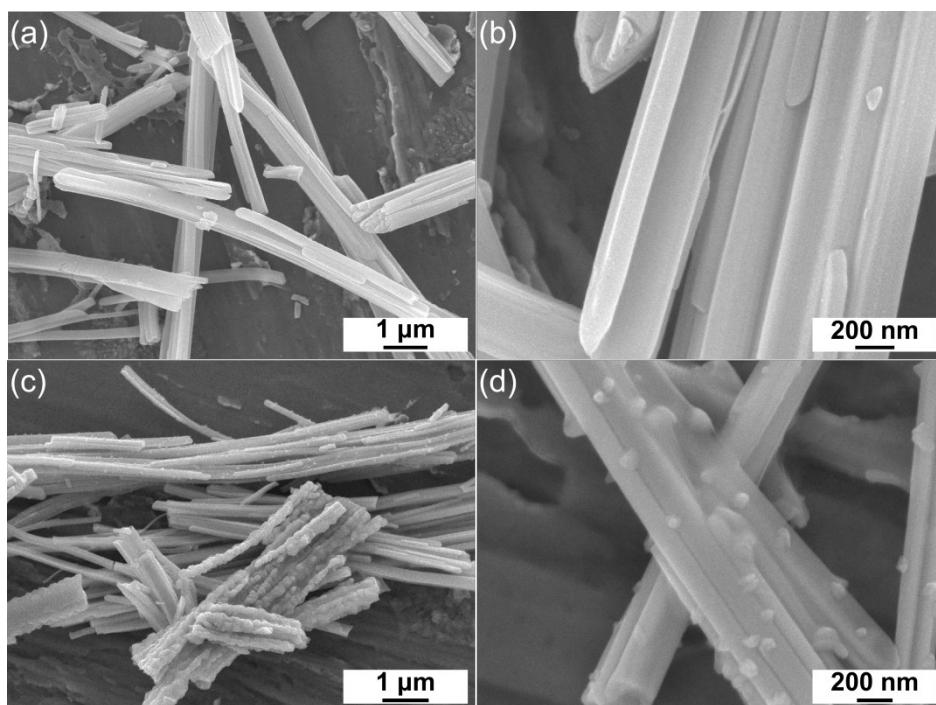


Fig. S4. SEM images of Mo-3atz synthesized under 70 °C (a, b), and as-prepared  $\alpha$ -MoC (c, d)

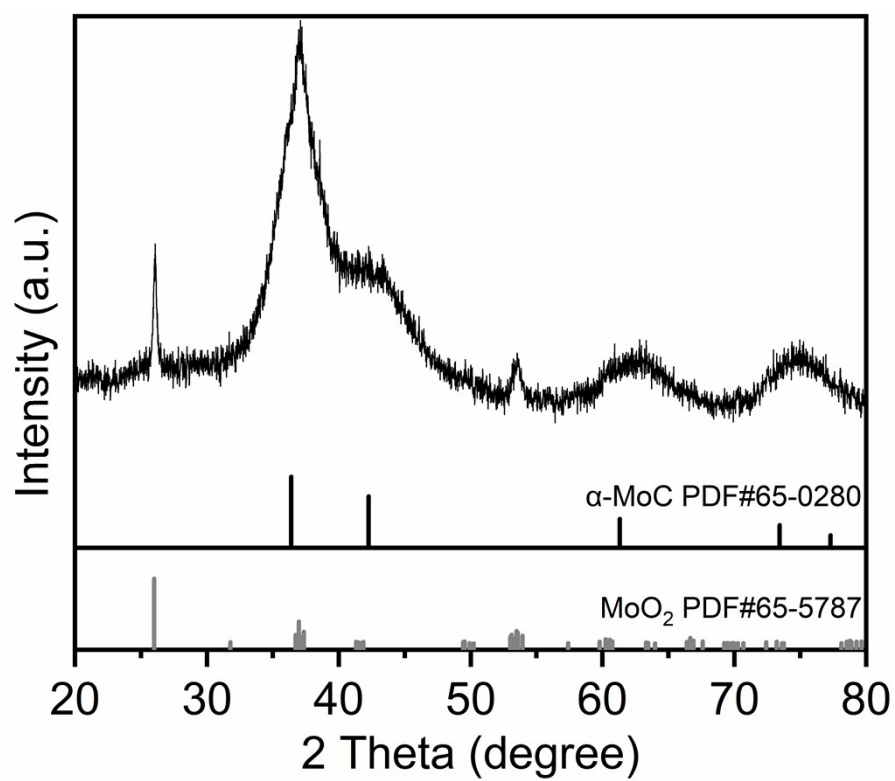


Fig. S5. XRD pattern of Mo-3atz calcined under Ar atmosphere.



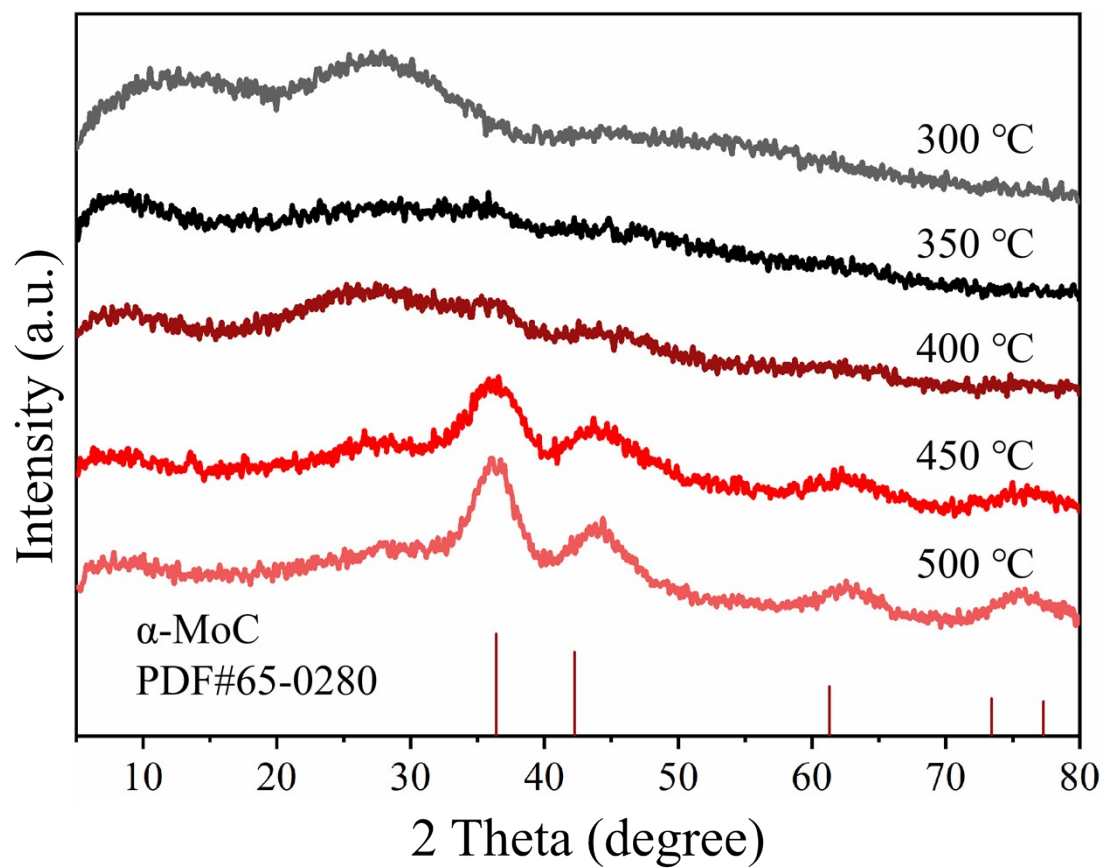


Fig. S6. XRD patterns of Mo-3atz precursor calcined under various temperatures.

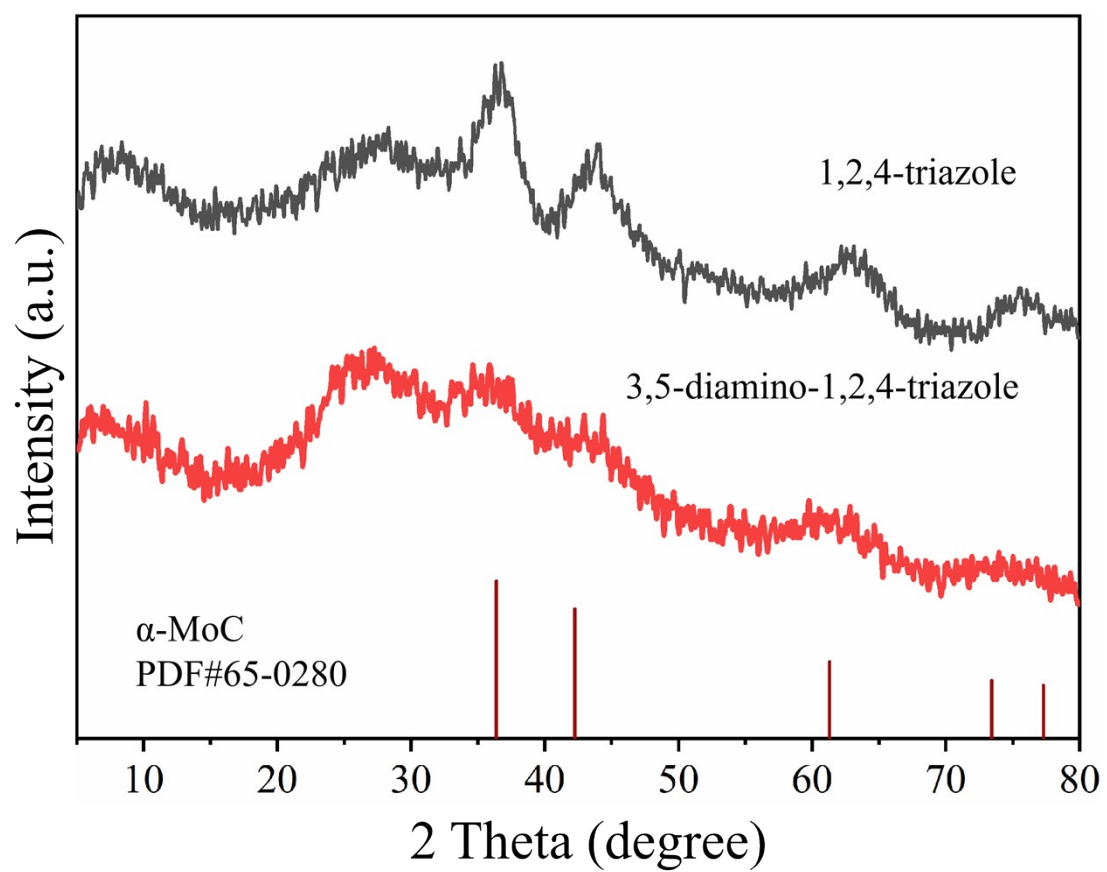


Fig. S7. XRD patterns of samples synthesized using other ligands.

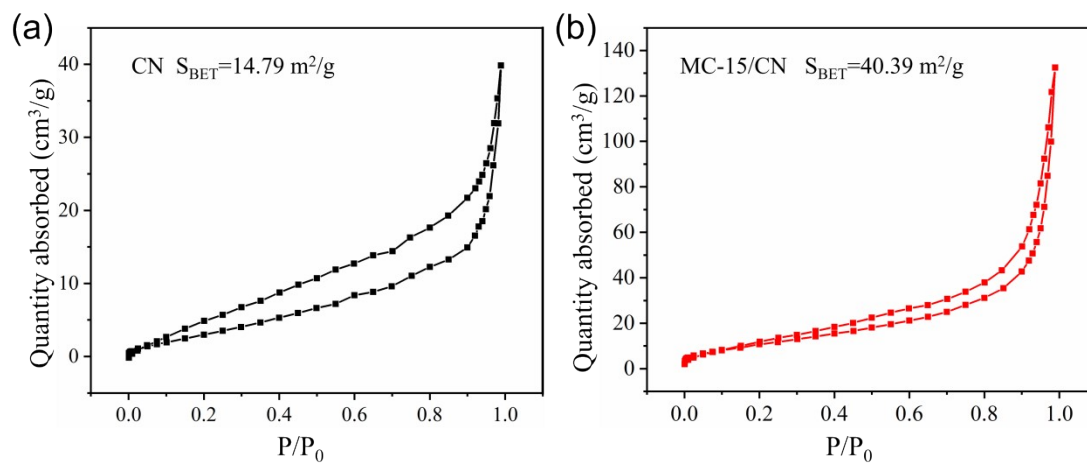


Fig. S8.  $\text{N}_2$  adsorption-desorption isotherms of CN and MC-15/CN.

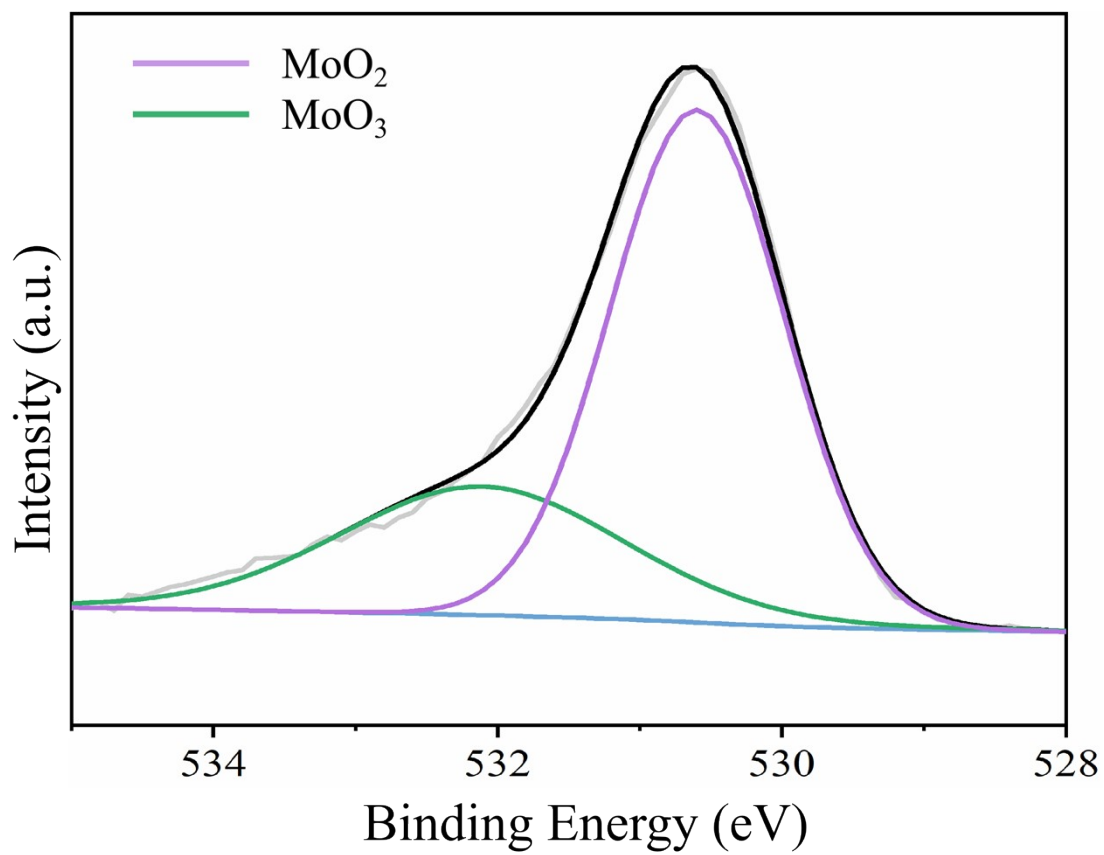


Fig. S9. The high-resolution O 1s spectrum of  $\alpha$ -MoC.

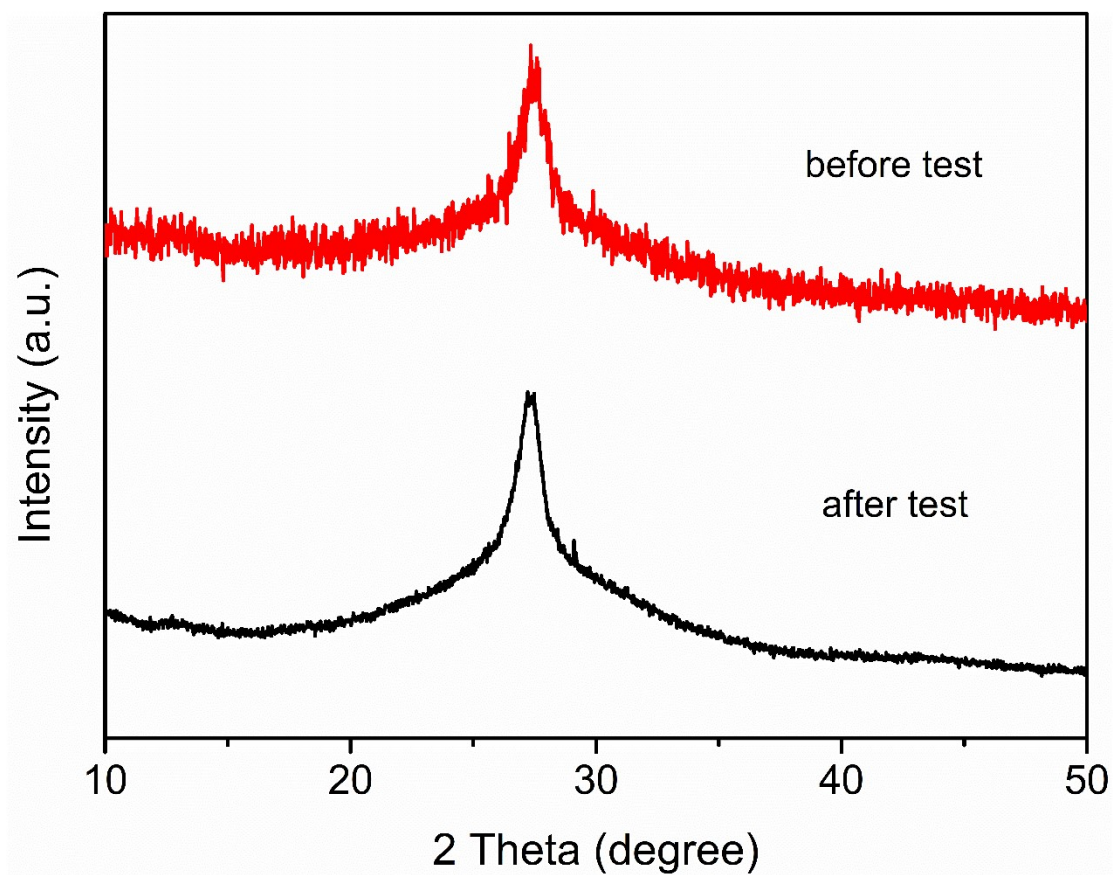


Fig. S10. XRD patterns of MC-15/CN photocatalyst before and after the recycle test.

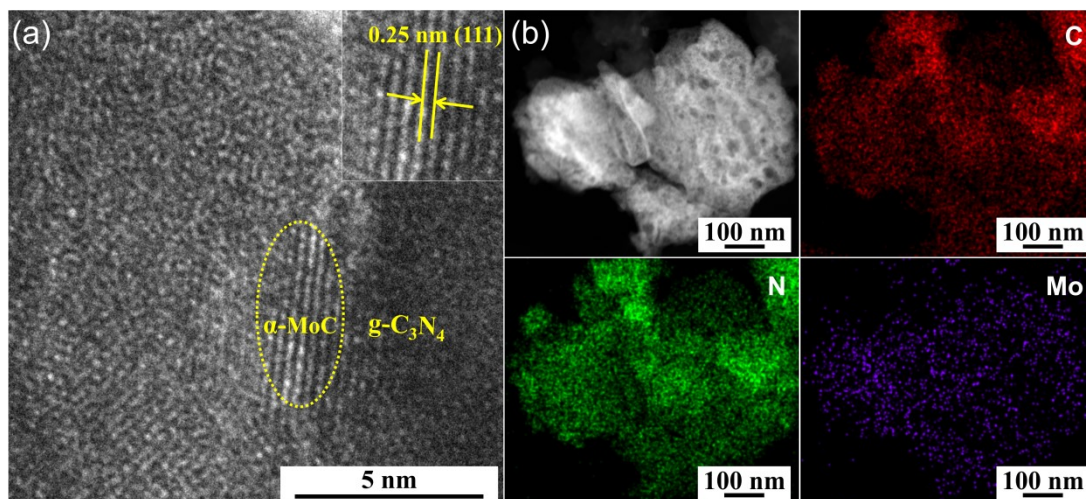


Fig. S11. (a) HRTEM image and (b) EDS element mapping of MC-15/CN photocatalyst after the recycle test.

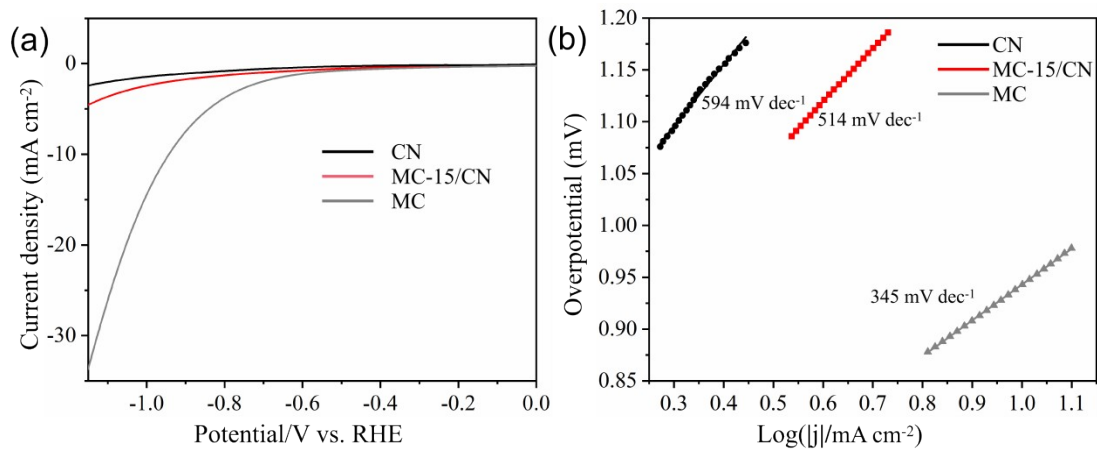


Fig. S12. LSV (a) and Tafel (b) curves of CN, MC-15/CN and MC.

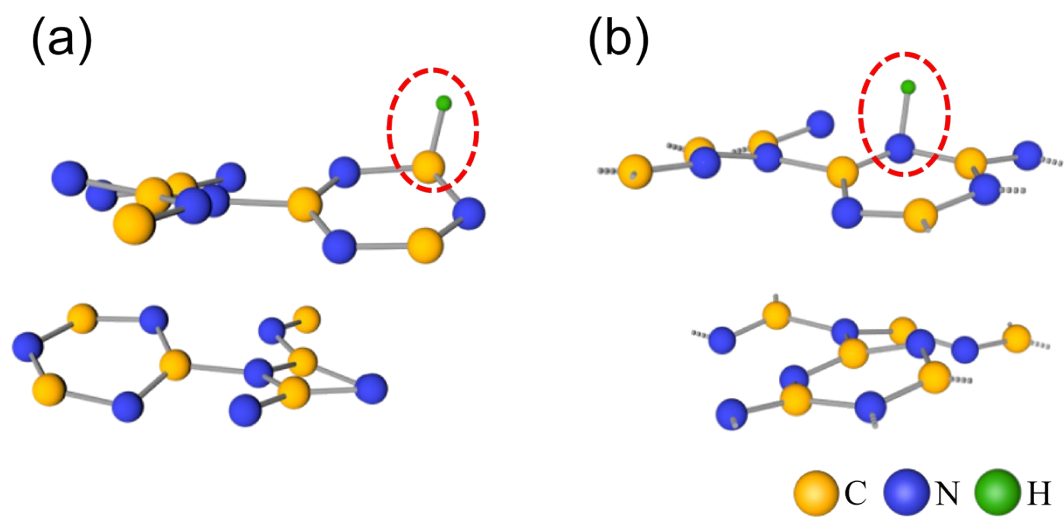


Fig. S13. The models of H\* adsorption sites on the surface of g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>: (a) C site, and (b) N site.



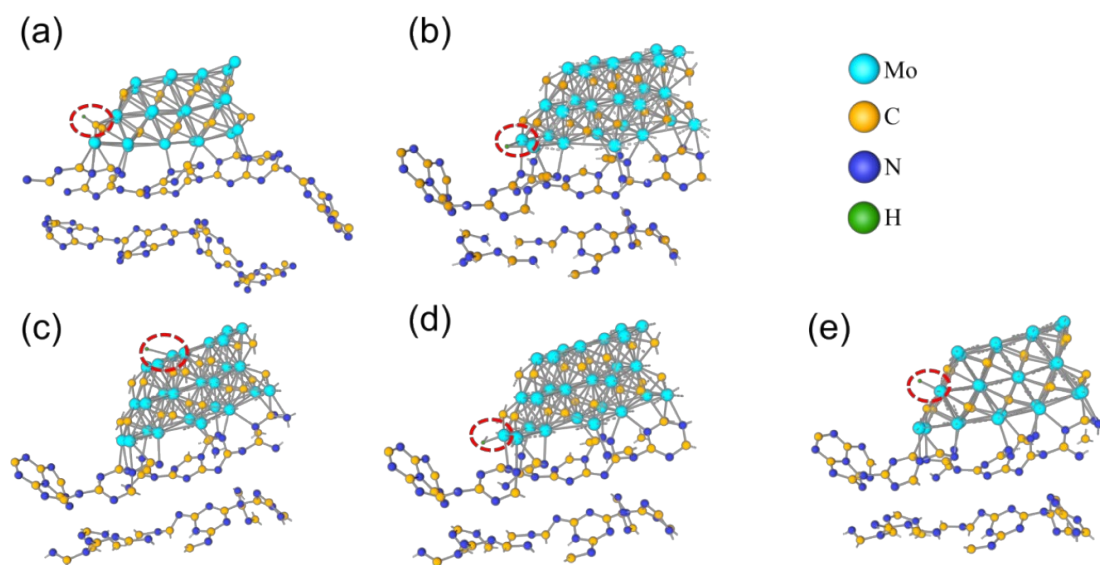


Fig. S14. The models of  $H^*$  adsorption sites of on the surface of  $\alpha$ -MoC ( $\alpha$ -MoC/g- $C_3N_4$ ): (a)  $C_1$  site, (b)  $Mo_1$  site, (c)  $Mo_2$  site, (d)  $Mo_3$  site, and (e)  $Mo_4$  site.

Table S1. Comparison of the synthesis temperature and size of molybdenum carbide from literatures.

<b>Material</b>	<b>Synthesis temperature (°C)</b>	<b>Atmosphere</b>	<b>Size (nm)</b>	<b>Reference</b>
MoC	1000	Ar	~5	1
Mo <sub>x</sub> C	1000	Ar	8.9 ± 3.4	2
C-Mo <sub>x</sub> C	900	N <sub>2</sub>	1-3 (ball mill)	3
Mo <sub>2</sub> C	800	Ar	14.9	4
Mo <sub>2</sub> C	800	Ar	~8.5	5
MoC	800	NH <sub>3</sub>	7	6
MoC	800	N <sub>2</sub>	~5	7
Mo <sub>2</sub> C@C	800	Inert	~5	8
Mo <sub>2</sub> C	800	Ar	~4	9
Mo <sub>2</sub> C	800	Ar	3-5	10
Mo <sub>2</sub> C	750	Ar	~3	11
α-MoC	720	CH <sub>4</sub> /H <sub>2</sub>	~10	12
α-MoC	700	NH <sub>3</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> /H <sub>2</sub>	5-10	13
α-MoC	700	NH <sub>3</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> /H <sub>2</sub>	2-5	14
MoC-QDs/C	700	Ar	2-5	15
Mo <sub>2</sub> C	675	Ar	6.8 ± 1.3	16
<b>α-MoC</b>	<b>450-550</b>	<b>H<sub>2</sub>/Ar</b>	<b>~1.8</b>	<b>This work</b>

Table S2. Comparison of various cocatalysts coupled with g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst for solar H<sub>2</sub> evolution from literatures.

Photocatalyst	Sacrificial agent	Light source	H <sub>2</sub> evolution rate (μmol h <sup>-1</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	Ref
Mo <sub>2</sub> C/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	TEOA	300 W Xe lamp (λ > 420 nm)	60.9	17
2.0wt.% Mo-Mo <sub>2</sub> C/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	TEOA	300 W Xe lamp (λ > 420 nm)	219	17
MoC-Li/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	TEOA	300 W Xe lamp (λ > 420 nm)	130	9
CN-1M (Mo <sub>2</sub> C/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> )	TEOA	300W Xe lamp (λ > 420 nm)	507	18
MoSe <sub>2</sub> /g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	TEOA	300 W Xe lamp (λ > 420 nm)	136.8	19
WC/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	TEOA	300 W Xe lamp (λ > 420 nm)	146.1	20
WS <sub>2</sub> /g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	TEOA	300 W Xe lamp (1.5 W cm <sup>-2</sup> )	154	21
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	TEOA	300 W Xe lamp (λ > 420 nm)	82.5	22
2% MWNTS/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	Methanol	300 W Xe lamp (λ > 400 nm)	75.8	23
<b>MC-15/CN</b>	<b>TEOA</b>	<b>300 W Xe lamp (λ &gt; 400 nm)</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>This work</b>

Table S3. Kinetic analysis of emission decay of g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> and composite photocatalysts.

Samples	Decay life time (ns)			Fractional contribution			X <sup>2</sup>	Average lifetime (ns)
	$\tau_1$	$\tau_2$	$\tau_3$	$f_1$	$f_2$	$f_3$		
CN	0.95	3.37	13.38	32.5	46.2	21.3	1.15	4.71
MC-6/CN	0.94	3.58	14.70	31.6	49.1	19.2	1.15	4.88
MC-9/CN	1.20	4.09	15.61	33.0	49.7	17.3	1.11	5.13
MC-12/CN	1.27	4.24	15.37	36.3	45.5	18.2	1.30	5.19
MC-15/CN	1.37	4.39	16.39	33.5	50.7	15.8	1.19	5.27
MC-18/CN	1.33	4.30	15.70	40.2	44.9	15.0	1.26	4.80

Table S4. The  $\Delta G_{H^*}$  values of all the adsorption models.

Models	Adsorption site (Model)	$\Delta G_{H^*}$ (eV)
g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	C (S8.a)	-0.2301
	N (S8.b)	1.7146
	C <sub>1</sub> (S9.a)	-0.0443
$\alpha$ -MoC/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	Mo <sub>1</sub> (S9.b)	-0.0751
	Mo <sub>2</sub> (S9.c)	-0.9347
	Mo <sub>3</sub> (S9.d)	-0.3280
	Mo <sub>4</sub> (S9.e)	0.3858

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