

Supporting Information

Selective CO₂-to-CO Photoreduction over Orthophosphate Semiconductor via Ag₃PO₄ Quantum Dots Decorated SnS₂ Nanosheets Direct Z-scheme Heterojunction

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Supporting Notes

Note S1. X-ray photoemission spectroscopy core level measurements. The following calculations were performed to determine the valence band offset (ΔE_v) of Ag₃PO₄/SnS₂ heterojunction [1]

$$\Delta E_v = |(E_{Sn3d_{5/2}}^{SnS_2} - E_{VBM}^{SnS_2}) - (E_{Ag3d_{5/2}}^{Ag_3PO_4} - E_{VBM}^{Ag_3PO_4}) - (E_{Sn3d_{5/2}}^{Ag_3PO_4/SnS_2} - E_{Ag3d_{5/2}}^{Ag_3PO_4/SnS_2})| \quad (1)$$

Where $E_{Sn3d_{5/2}}^{SnS_2}$ and $E_{Ag3d_{5/2}}^{Ag_3PO_4}$ are defined to a position of the core level at SnS₂ and Ag₃PO₄ interface, respectively. $E_{Sn3d_{5/2}}^{SnS_2} - E_{VBM}^{SnS_2}$ and $E_{Ag3d_{5/2}}^{Ag_3PO_4} - E_{VBM}^{Ag_3PO_4}$ terms depend on the binding energy difference between core level and valence band maximum. $E_{Sn3d_{5/2}}^{Ag_3PO_4/SnS_2} - E_{Ag3d_{5/2}}^{Ag_3PO_4/SnS_2}$ term was calculated for the potential of interface state within the SnS₂ and Ag₃PO₄ sampled region, thus this potential can correlate with the interface state or the sources of band bending at the heterointerface. First, the experimental determinations of X-ray photoemission spectroscopy (XPS) core level and VBM fitting results were presented in **Figure S8**. $E_{Sn3d_{5/2}}^{SnS_2} - E_{VBM}^{SnS_2}$ term was calculated to be 484.88 eV (*i.e.* 486.6-1.72). $E_{Ag3d_{5/2}}^{Ag_3PO_4} - E_{VBM}^{Ag_3PO_4}$ was calculated to be 366.25 eV (*i.e.* 367.9-1.65) and $E_{Sn3d_{5/2}}^{Ag_3PO_4/SnS_2} - E_{Ag3d_{5/2}}^{Ag_3PO_4/SnS_2}$ was calculated to be 118.20 eV (*i.e.*, 486.30-368.10). Accordingly, ΔE_v was calculated to be 0.43 eV (*i.e.* 484.88-366.25-118.20). Finally, the conduction band offset (ΔE_c) was derived from the bandgap values of SnS₂ (2.56 eV) and Ag₃PO₄ (2.47 eV), which were obtained from UV–visible spectra (**Figure 1a** in the main manuscript).

$$\Delta E_c = (E_g^{Ag_3PO_4} + \Delta E_v - E_g^{SnS_2}), \quad (2)$$

So, ΔE_c was determined to be 0.34 eV.

Supporting Figures

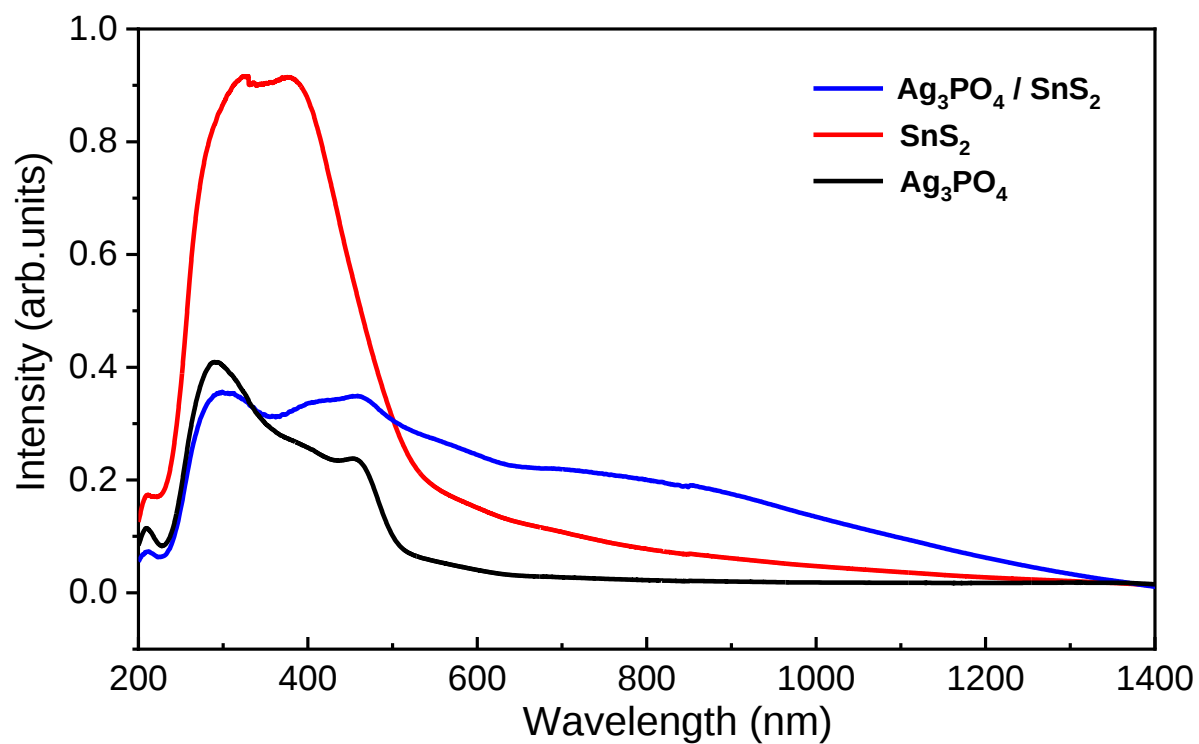


Figure S1. Non-normalized UV-vis absorption spectra of Ag_3PO_4 , SnS_2 and $\text{Ag}_3\text{PO}_4/\text{SnS}_2$ samples

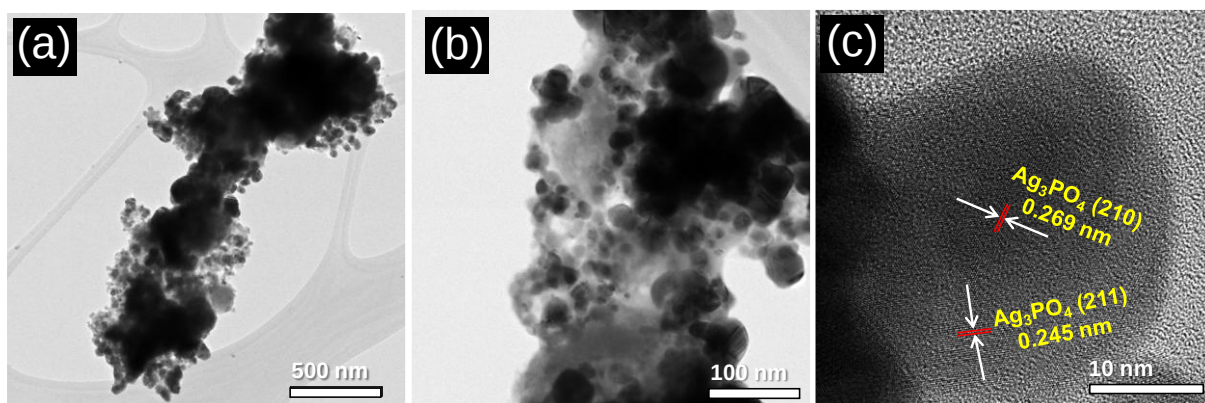


Figure S2. TEM images of Ag_3PO_4 with different magnifications (a) 15 kX, (b) 50 kX, and (c) 800 kX.

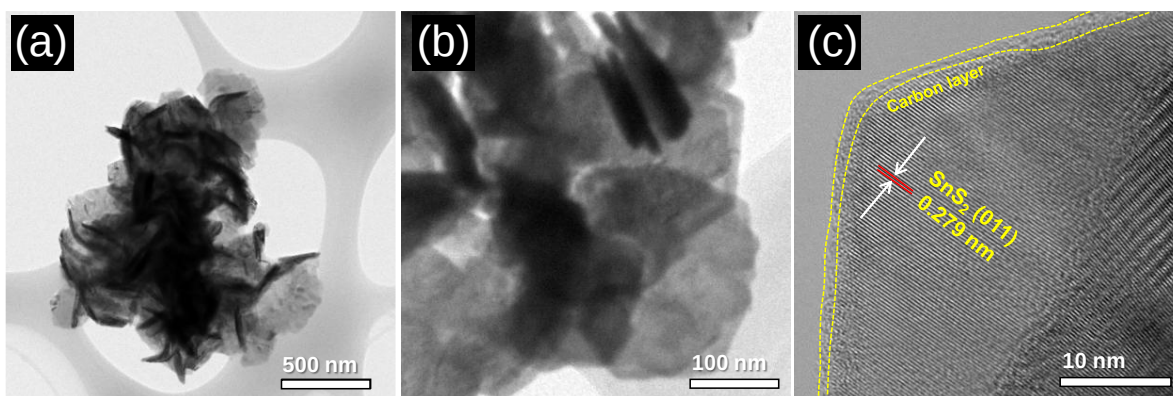


Figure S3. TEM images of SnS₂ with different magnifications (a) 15 kX, (b) 50 kX, and (c) 800 kX.

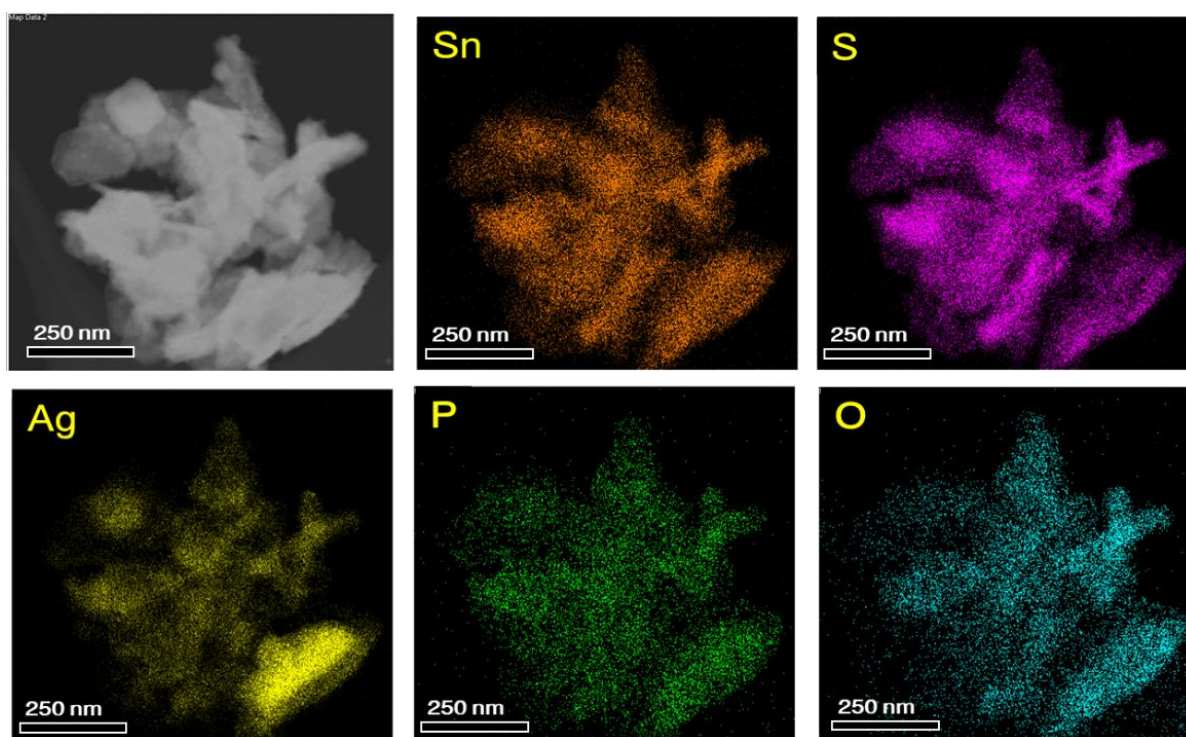


Figure S4. HAADF-STEM image and energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) elemental mapping of Sn, S, Ag, P, O for the Ag₃PO₄/SnS₂ sample.

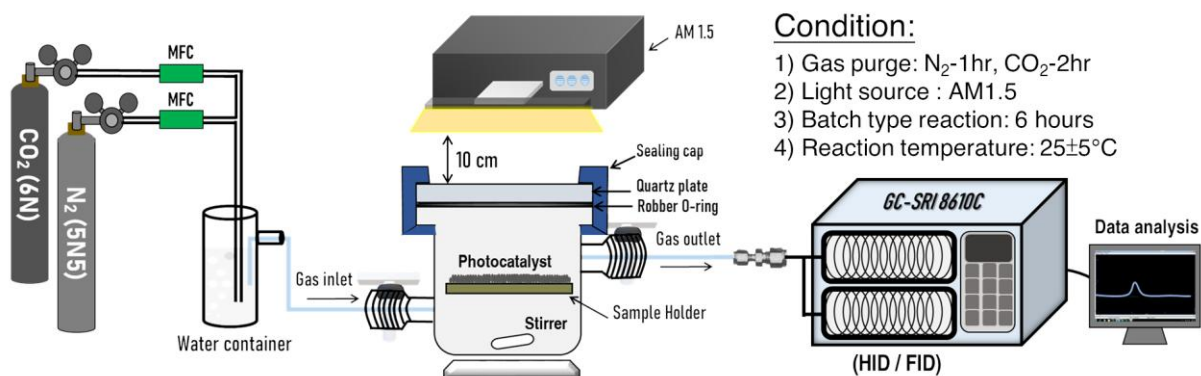


Figure S5. Schematic diagram of the gas-phase photocatalytic (PC) CO_2 reduction system.

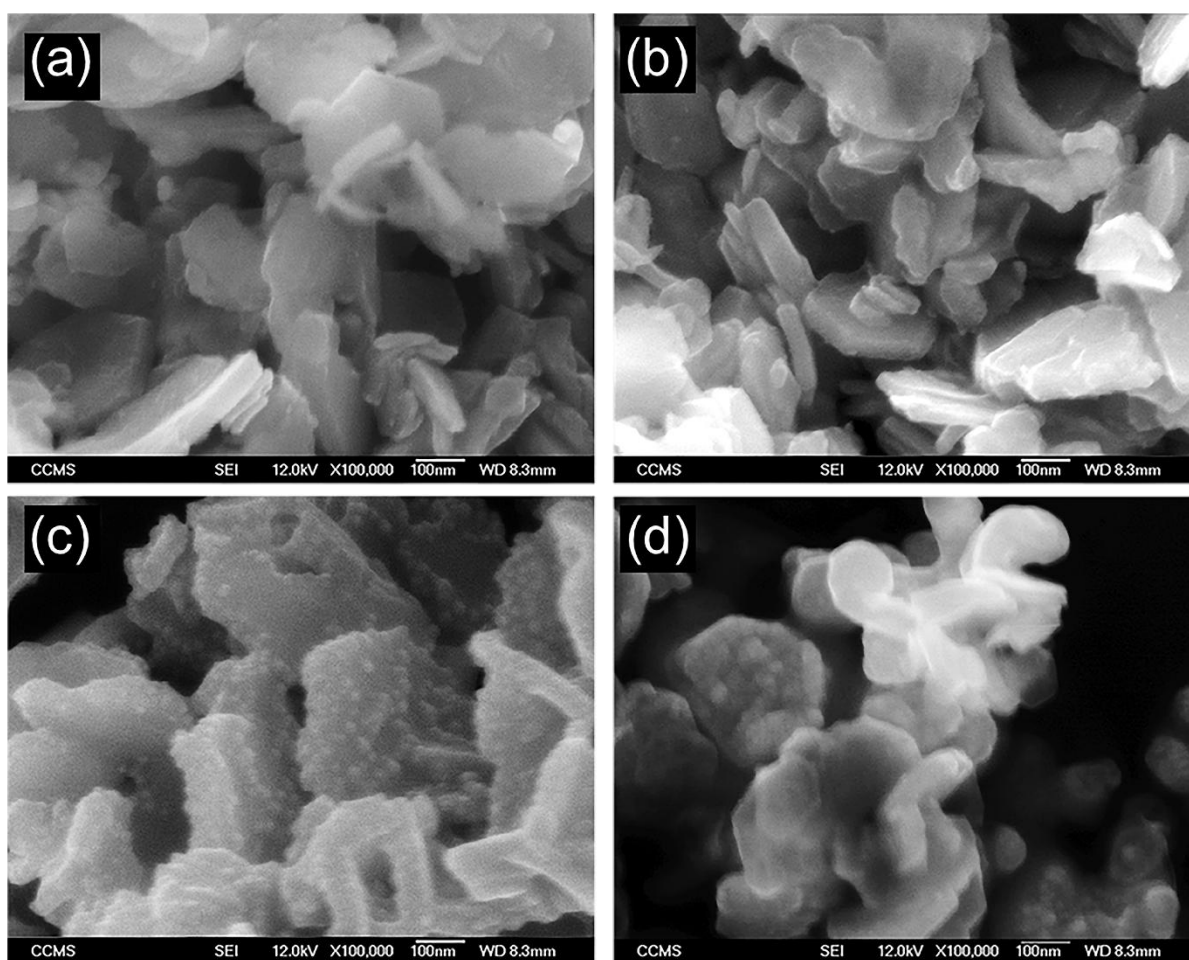


Figure S6. SEM images of the as-prepared $\text{Ag}_3\text{PO}_4/\text{SnS}_2$ heterostructures with different Ag_3PO_4 -to- SnS_2 ratios. (a) 50-to-50, (b) 60-to-40, (c) 70-to-30, (d) 80-to-20.

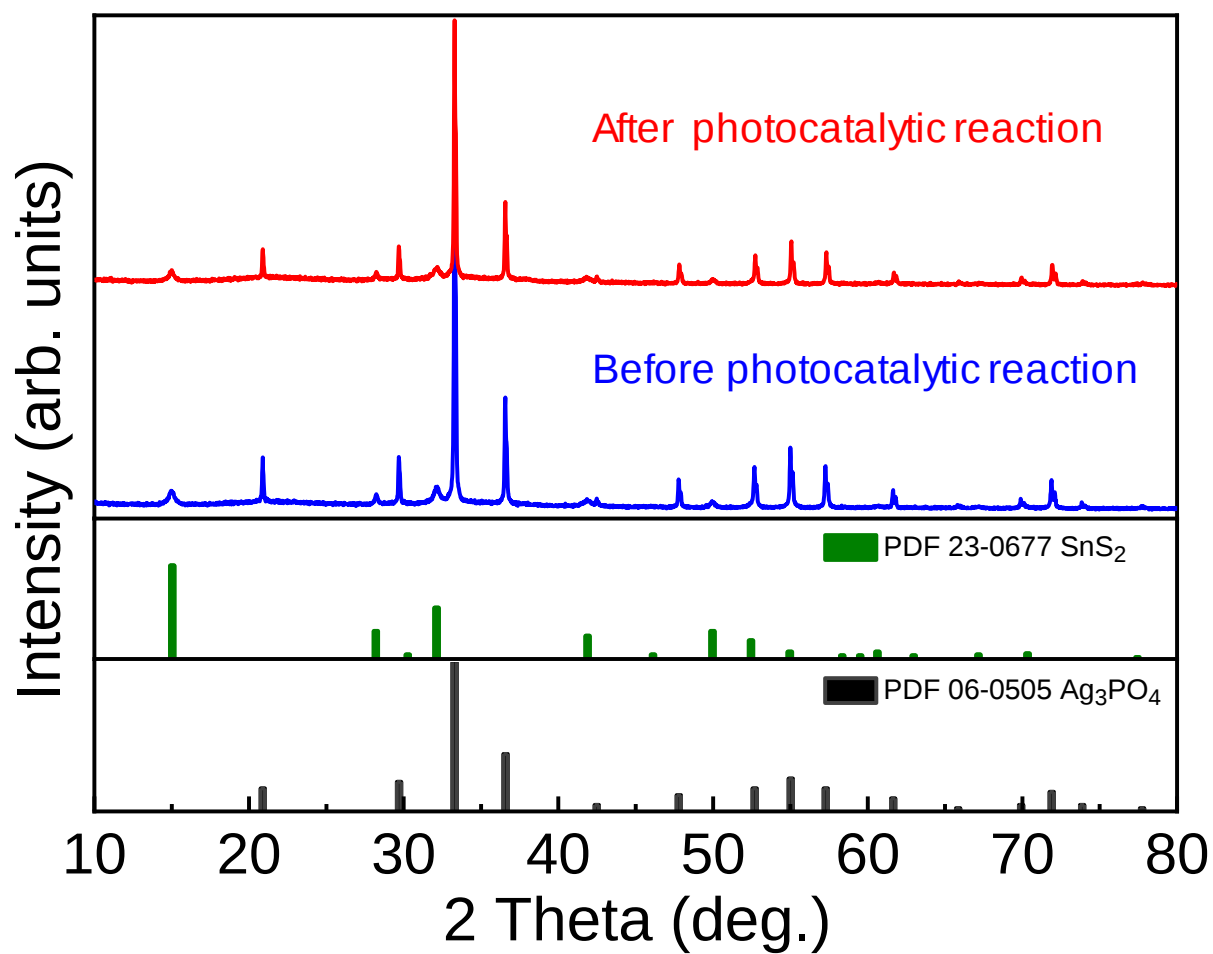


Figure S7. XRD patterns for the Ag₃PO₄/SnS₂ and the pristine Ag₃PO₄/SnS₂ sample after the photocatalytic CO₂ reduction stability test.

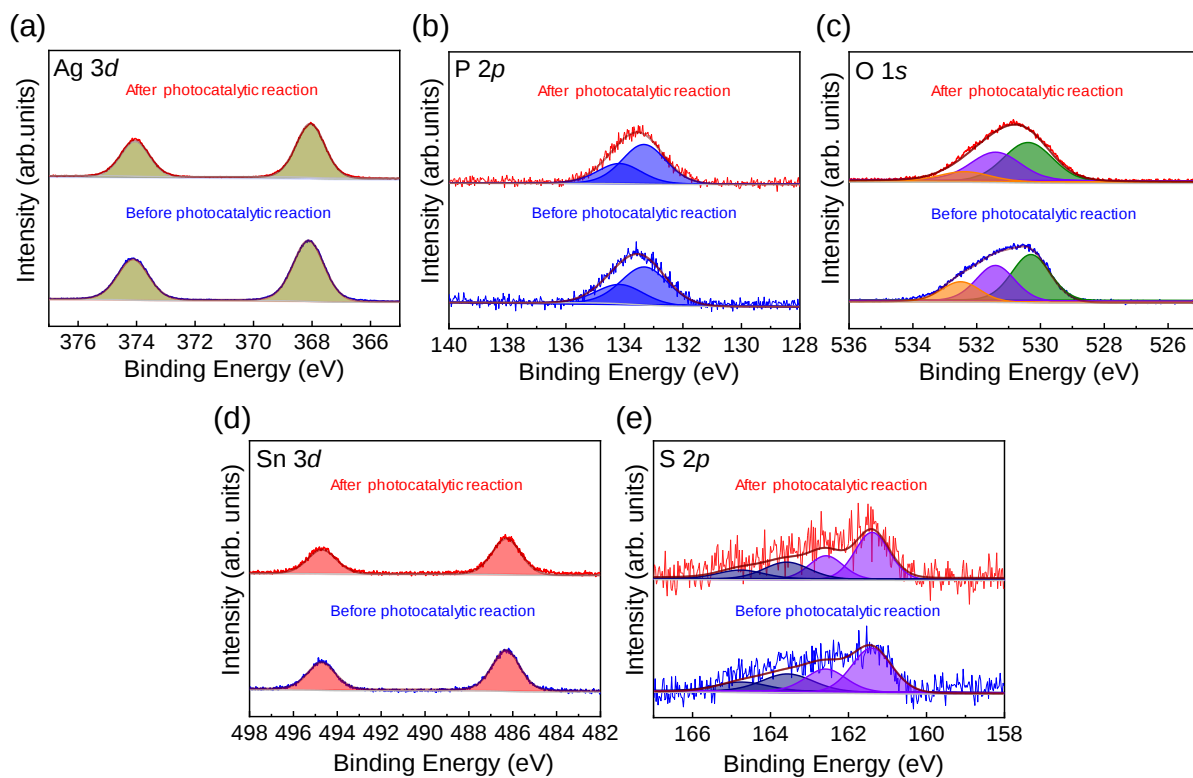


Figure S8. XPS spectra of (a) Ag 3d, (b) P 2p, and (c) O 1s, (d) Sn 3d, and (e) S 2p of $\text{Ag}_3\text{PO}_4/\text{SnS}_2$ before and after the photocatalytic CO_2 reduction stability test.

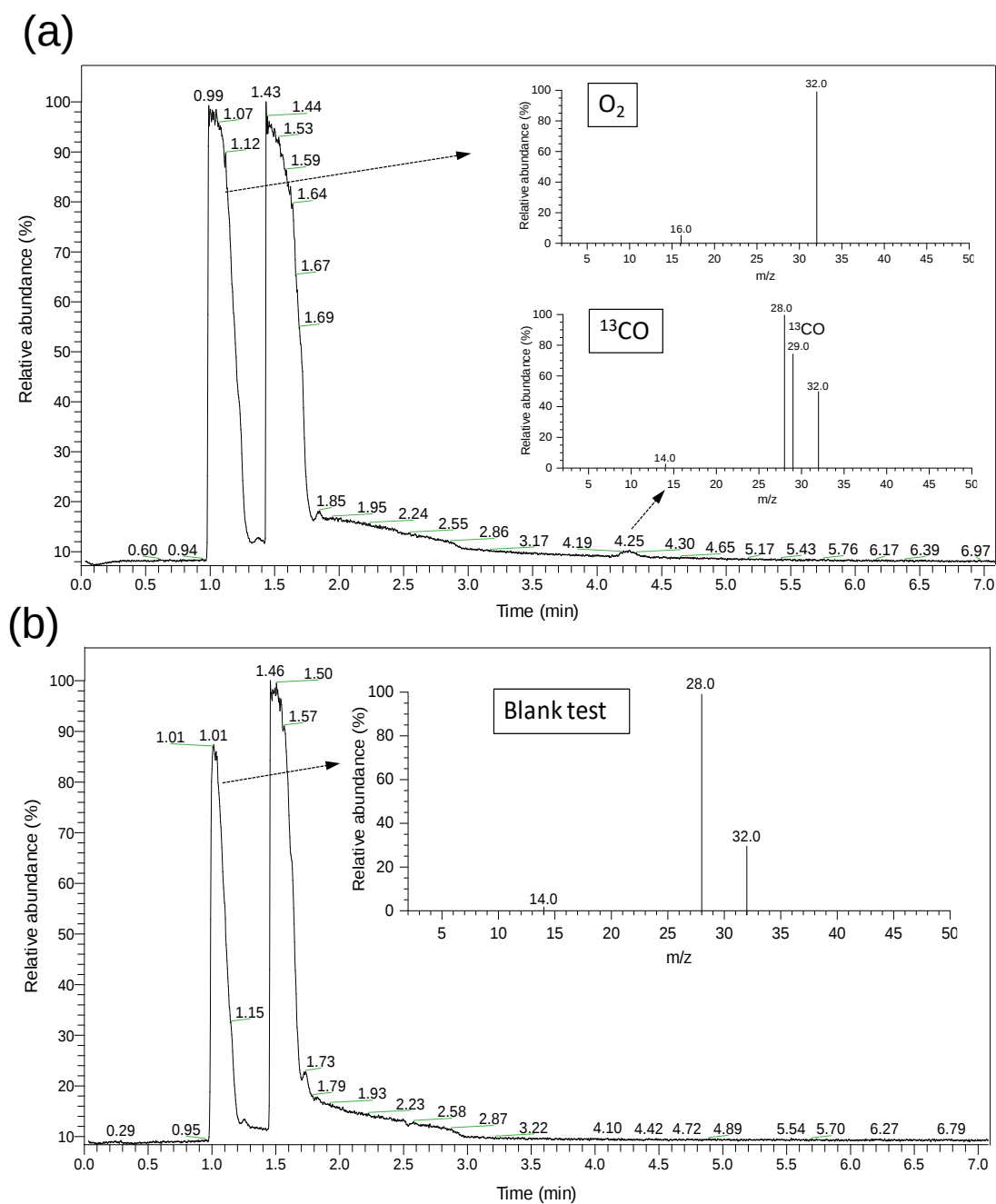


Figure S9. Isotope tracer analysis. Total ion chromatogram and relative mass spectra of (a) isotope tracer $^{13}CO_2$ measurement with O_2 and ^{13}CO detection from photocatalytic CO_2 reduction over Ag_3PO_4/SnS_2 , and (b) air blank test measurement over Ag_3PO_4/SnS_2 .

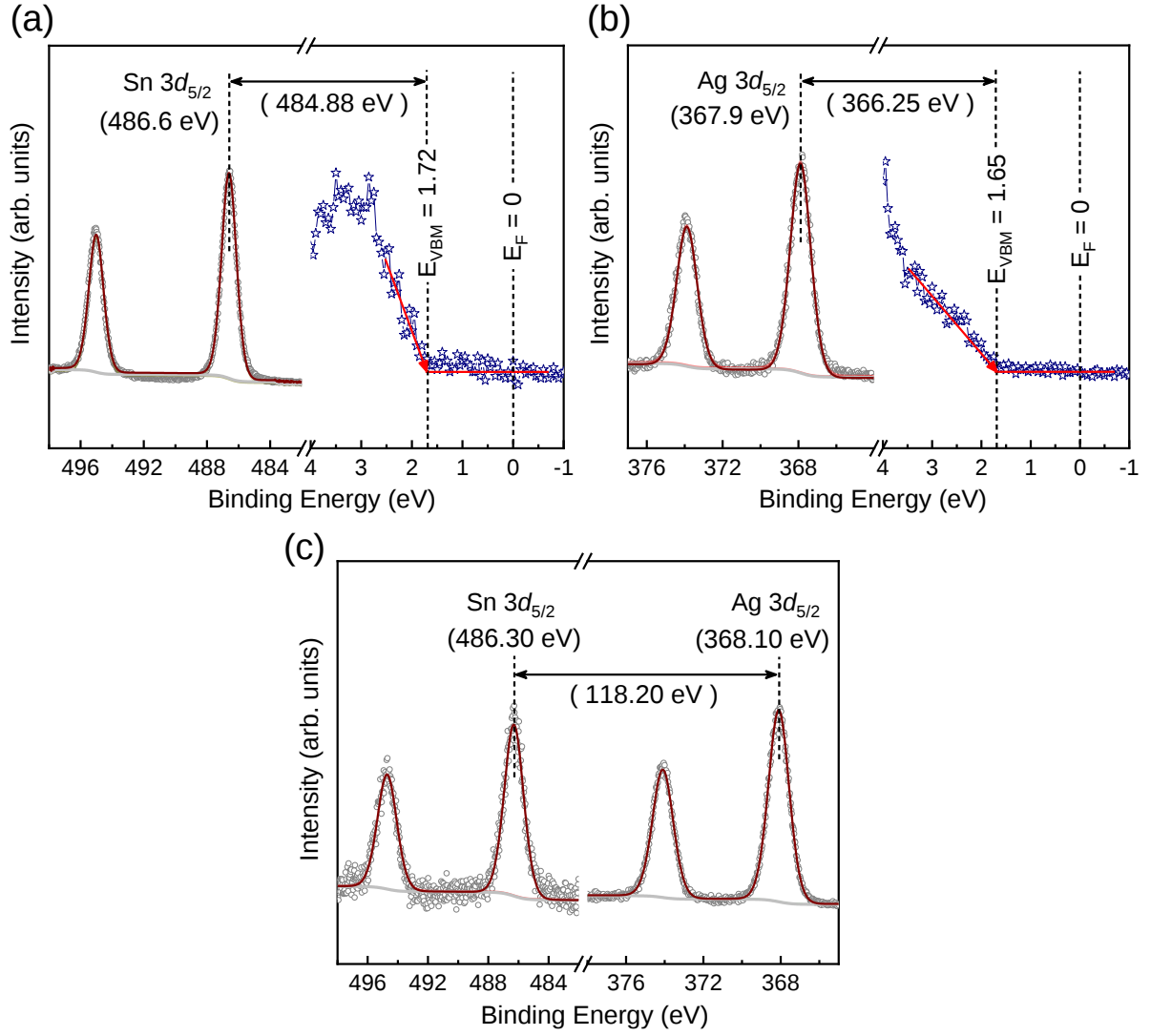


Figure S10. (a) The Sn 3d core level and valence band spectra for SnS₂. (b) The spectra of Ag 3d core level and valence band for pristine Ag₃PO₄. (c) The spectra of Sn 3d and Ag 3d core levels for Ag₃PO₄/SnS₂ heterostructure.

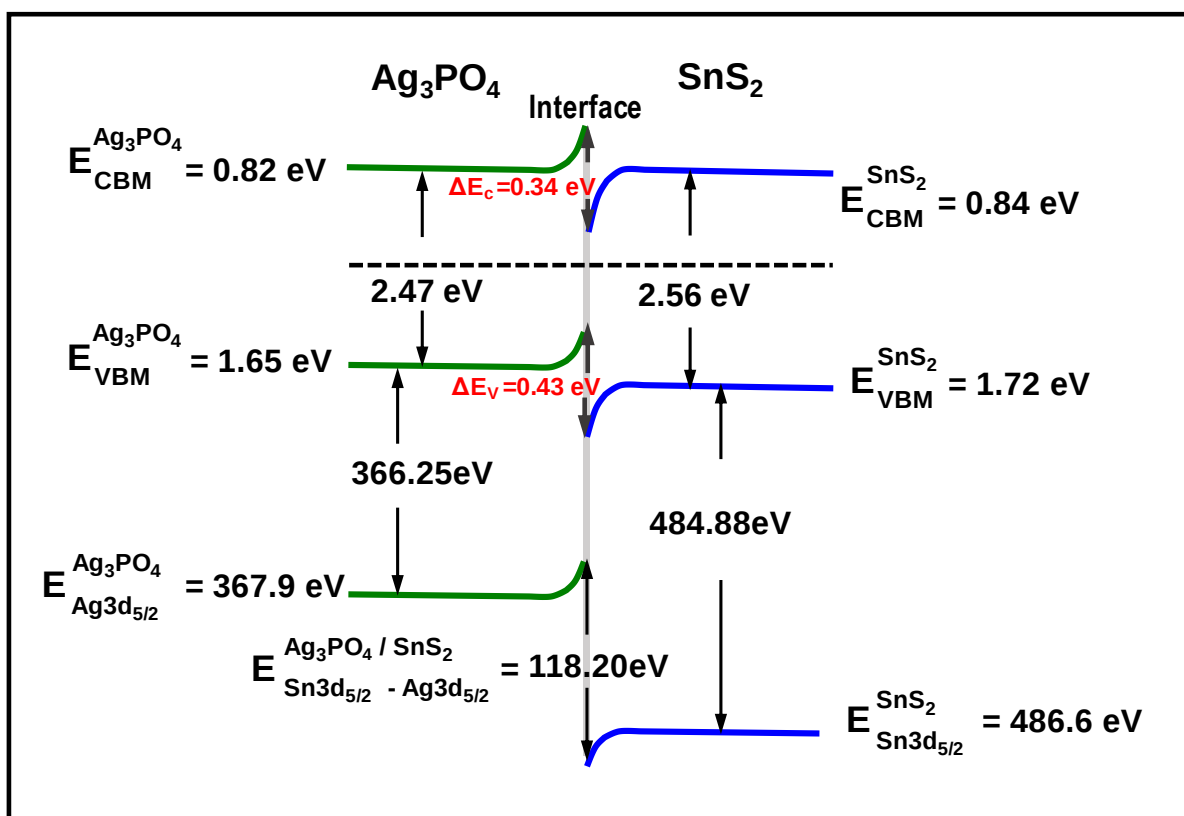


Figure S11. Schematic illustration of band offset at $\text{Ag}_3\text{PO}_4/\text{SnS}_2$ heterointerface.

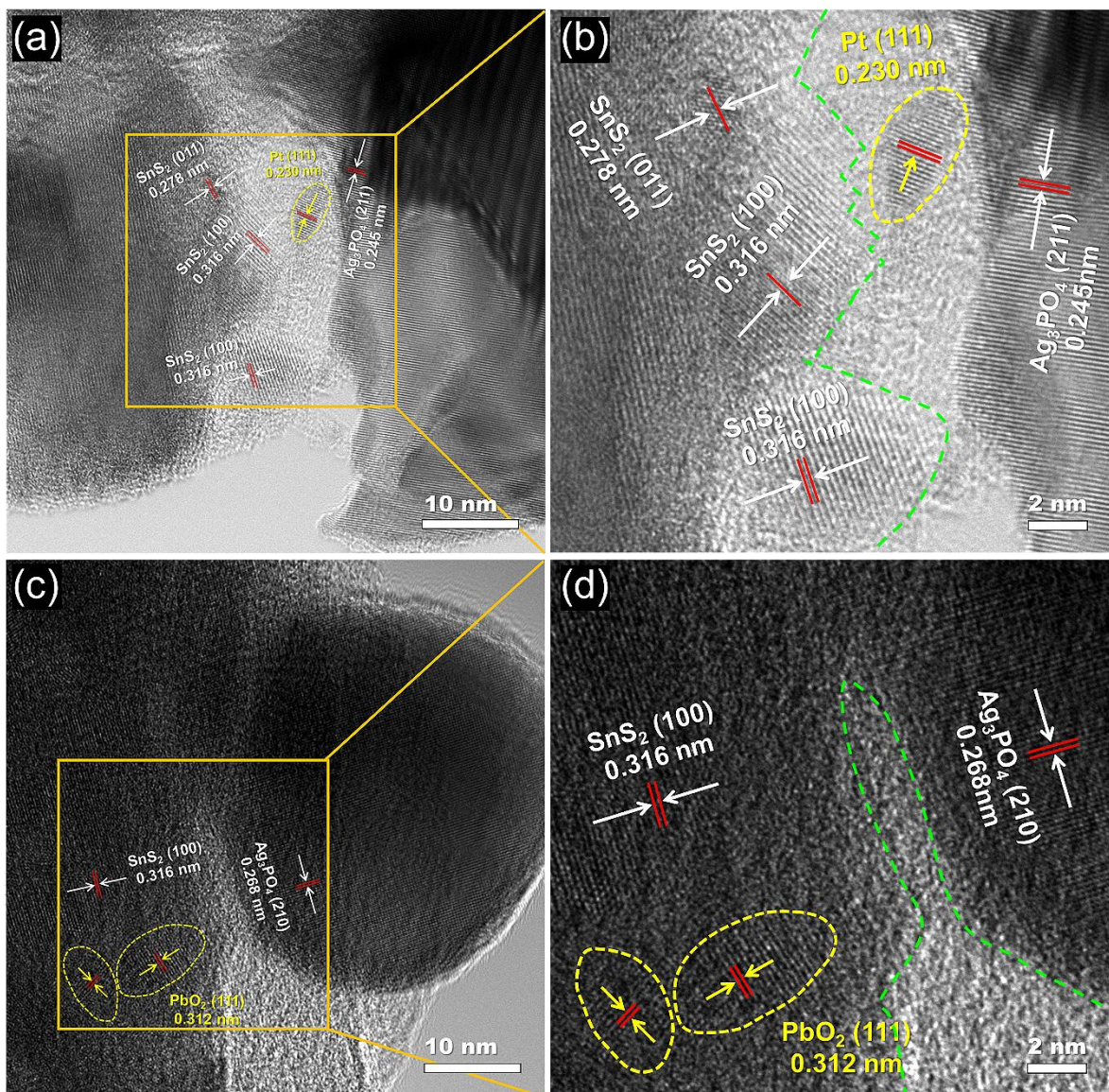


Figure S12. TEM and corresponding HRTEM images after photodeposition of (a–b) Pt and (c–d) PbO₂ nanoparticles on Ag₃PO₄/SnS₂ heterostructure.

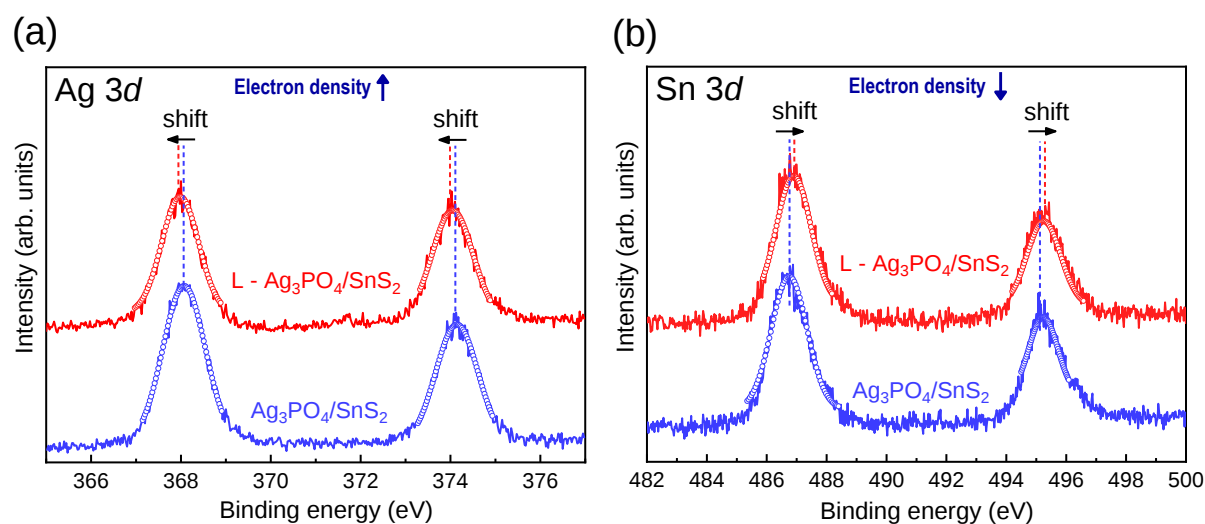


Figure S13. High-resolution XPS analysis for (a) Ag 3d and (b) Sn 3d of Ag₃PO₄/SnS₂ in the dark or under 50 W halogen lamp irradiations.

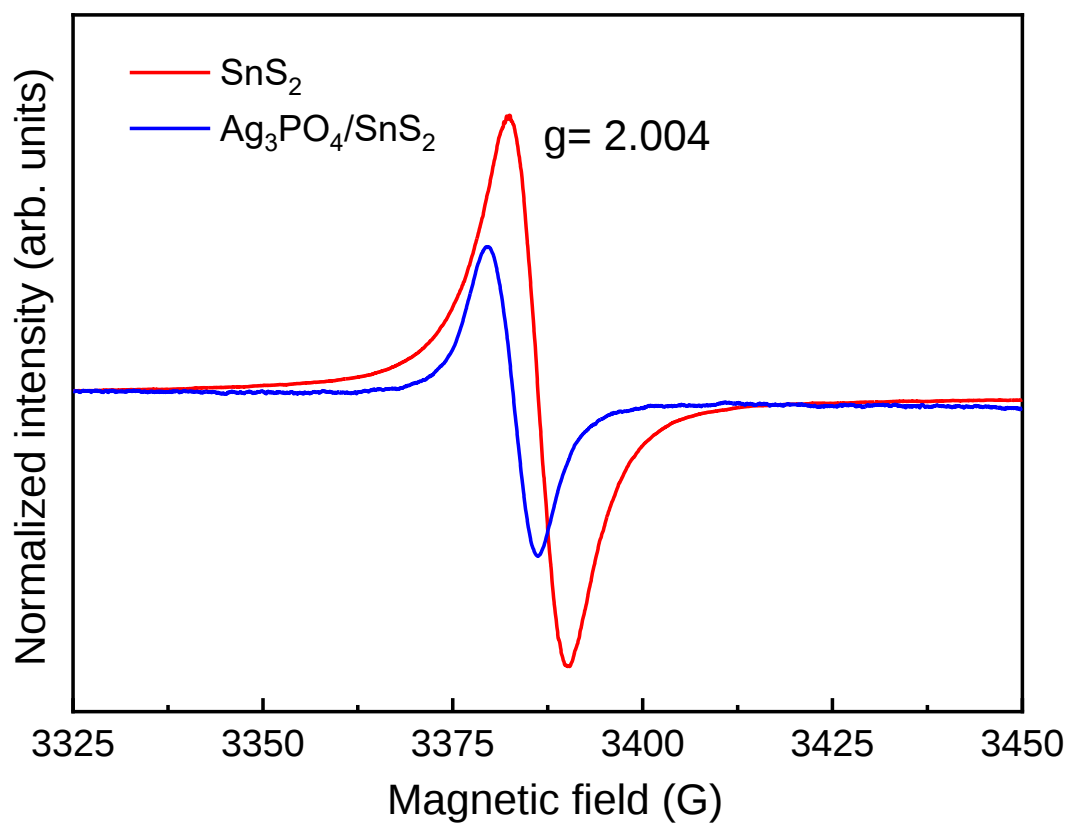


Figure S14. Normalized EPR spectra of SnS_2 and $\text{Ag}_3\text{PO}_4/\text{SnS}_2$ samples. (The spectra were measured at 77 K in the presence of a vacuum, and the peak intensity has been normalized with the weight of the SnS_2 component in the samples)

Supporting Tables

Table S1. Tabulated elemental analysis of $\text{Ag}_3\text{PO}_4/\text{SnS}_2$ measured by the XPS. It shows the composition of the orthophosphate semiconductor is $\text{Ag}_3(\text{PO}_{4-x})_{1-y}$ where $x = 1.8$ and $y = 0.15$.

Elements	Atomic %
Ag	37.0
P	10.5
O	22.8
Sn	9.9
S	19.8

Table S2. AQE_{overall} of photocatalytic CO₂ reduction over Ag₃PO₄/SnS₂ heterostructure under visible wavelength (400–800 nm)

Light source	Solar simulator (AM1.5)
Photon flux (cm ⁻² ·s ⁻¹)	1.78 × 10 ¹⁷
CO evolution (μmol)	2.2
Acetaldehyde evolution (μmol)	0.114
Irradiation area (cm ²)	4
Irradiation time (h)	6
AQE _{overall} (%)	0.021

The quantity AQE_{overall} is calculated by the following equation, AQE_{overall} =

$$\frac{N_e \times (\text{mole of hydrocarbon fuel}) \times (6.02 \times 10^{23})}{(\text{Photon flux} \times \text{Irradiation area} \times \text{Irradiation time})} \times 100\%$$

where the N_e is number of reaction

electron, and the detail calculation of AQE_{overall} for Ag₃PO₄/SnS₂ heterostructure.

Table S3. The fitting constants of the time-resolved photoluminescence (TRPL) curves recorded at wavelength of 505 nm.

Sample	A_1 (%)	τ_1 (ns)	A_2 (%)	τ_2 (ns)	τ_{ave} (ns)
Ag_3PO_4	52.2	2.45	47.8	10.4	6.25
SnS_2	41.5	0.76	58.5	7.04	4.43
$\text{Ag}_3\text{PO}_4/\text{SnS}_2$	65.2	0.77	34.8	0.87	0.80

Supporting References

[1] M. Tangi, P. Mishra, C.-C. Tseng, T.K. Ng, M.N. Hedhili, D.H. Anjum, M.S. Alias, N. Wei, L.-J. Li, B.S. Ooi, Band Alignment at GaN/Single-Layer WSe₂ Interface, ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces 9 (2017) 9110-9117. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acsami.6b15370>