

Supplementary Information

Band-to-band transition visible-light-responsive anatase titania photocatalyst by N,F-codoping for water splitting and CO₂ reduction

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Characterization

XRD measurements were carried out using a Rigaku D/Max-2500/PC powder diffractometer (Cu K α radiation) with an operating voltage of 40 kV and current of 200 mA. The scan range and scan rate were 10-60° and 5 °/min, respectively. Ultraviolet-visible absorption spectra over the range of 200-800 nm were recorded on a UV-vis spectrophotometer (V-670, JASCO). Surface morphologies of the samples were imaged by a field emission scanning electron microscopy (FESEM, S-5500, Hitachi). Energy dispersive spectrometer (EDS, max800) elemental analysis was used to study the distribution of constituent elements in the synthesized materials. The surface elemental binding energies were recorded on an X-ray photoelectron spectrometer (XPS, Thermo Esclab 250Xi, monochromatic Al K α X-ray source). The C1s peak (284.6 eV) was referenced to normalize the measured binding energies for each sample. Transient absorption spectroscopy was conducted with a homemade spectrometer as the previous description¹. Specifically, an amplified Ti: sapphire laser system from Coherent (800 nm, 35 fs, 6 mJ/pulse, and 1 kHz repetition rate), nonlinear frequency mixing techniques and Femto-TA 100 spectrometer (Time-Tech Spectra) were used. For transient absorption spectroscopy, a pump pulse at 400 nm was used to excite the sample, and the induced absorption change (ΔA) as functions of wavelength was recorded.

First-principle calculations

All the calculations were performed using the Vienna Ab-initio Simulation Package (VASP)^{2, 3} with projector augmented wave (PAW) method⁴ based on the density functional theory. The generalized gradient approximation (GGA)⁵ of Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (PBE) form⁶ was applied to describe the exchange-correlation functional with an energy cutoff of 500 eV. The valence electron configuration including Ti (3s²3p⁶3d²4s²), O (2s²2p⁴), N (2s²2p³), and F (2s²2p⁵) were considered in the present work⁷. According to the Monkhorst-Pack scheme⁸, the gamma-centered k-point mesh of the Brillouin zone sampling for the primitive cells of bulk TiO₂ was set at 7 × 7 × 3. To investigate the effect of N,F-doping on the electronic structure of TiO₂,

the TiO_2 (101) surface structure model with four-layer periodic structure (containing 32 O atoms and 16 Ti atoms) was established, and then substituted by N atoms, F-connecting with Ti atoms of the surface based on the fully optimized anatase TiO_2 unit cell.. Thus the N,F-codoped TiO_2 (101) structure model has been established (containing 28 O atoms, 16 Ti atoms, 4 N atoms and 2 F atoms). The k-point mesh of the Brillouin zone was set at $3 \times 7 \times 1$ for the two models, and the vacuum layer is set to 15 Å. The geometries were fully optimized, and the convergence threshold was set to be 10^{-6} eV in energy and 0.01 eV Å^{-1} in force. The PBE + U approach was employed to accurately describe the electronic structure with Ti 3d electron states with a U - J value of 4.5 eV according to the previous report⁹.

Supplementary data

Chart 1 Structure and abbreviation of Ru complex used in this work.

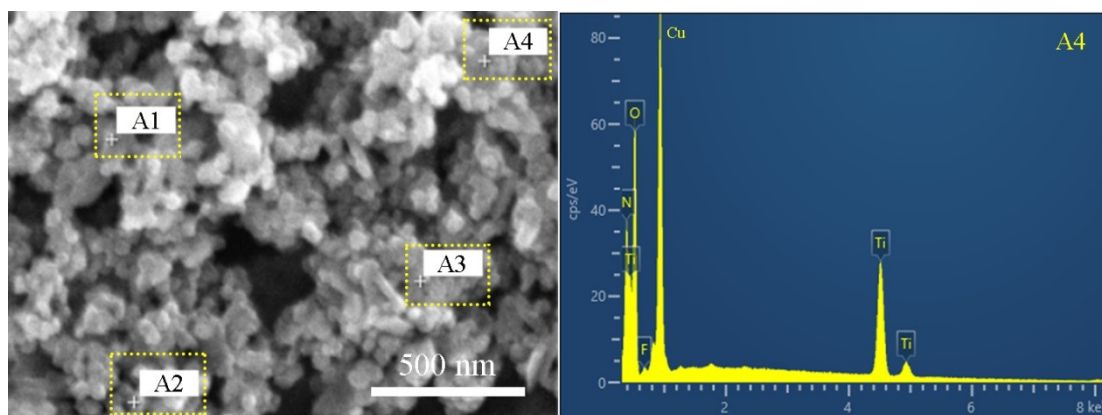
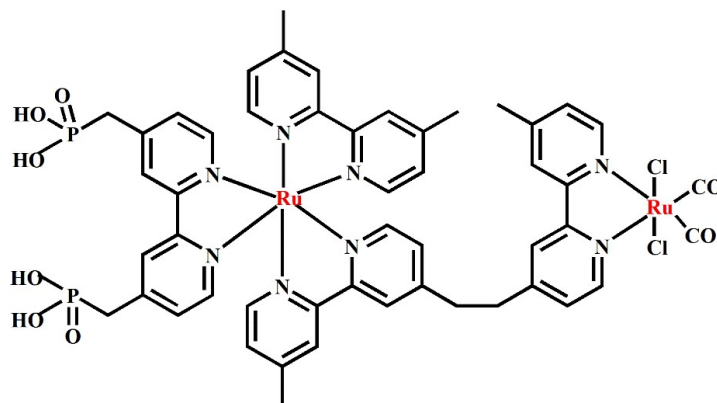


Fig. S1 SEM image of TNOF-0 sample and the selected regions for EDS analysis.

Table S1 Ti, O, N, F elements content in different selected regions (Fig. S1) of TNOF-0 sample.

Area	Ti (wt%)	O (wt%)	N (wt%)	F (wt%)
A1	46.59	47.43	4.86	1.13
A2	49.20	44.77	5.09	0.94
A3	47.26	42.83	5.05	1.06
A4	51.9	42.83	4.39	0.89

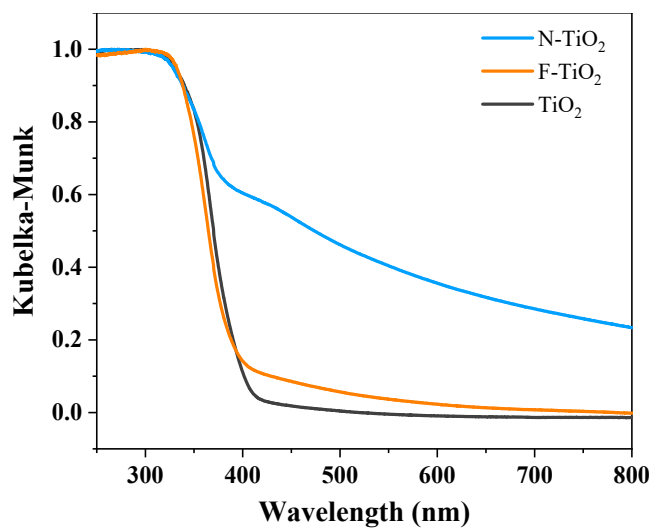


Fig. S2 UV-vis spectra of TiO₂, N-TiO₂, and F-TiO₂ samples.

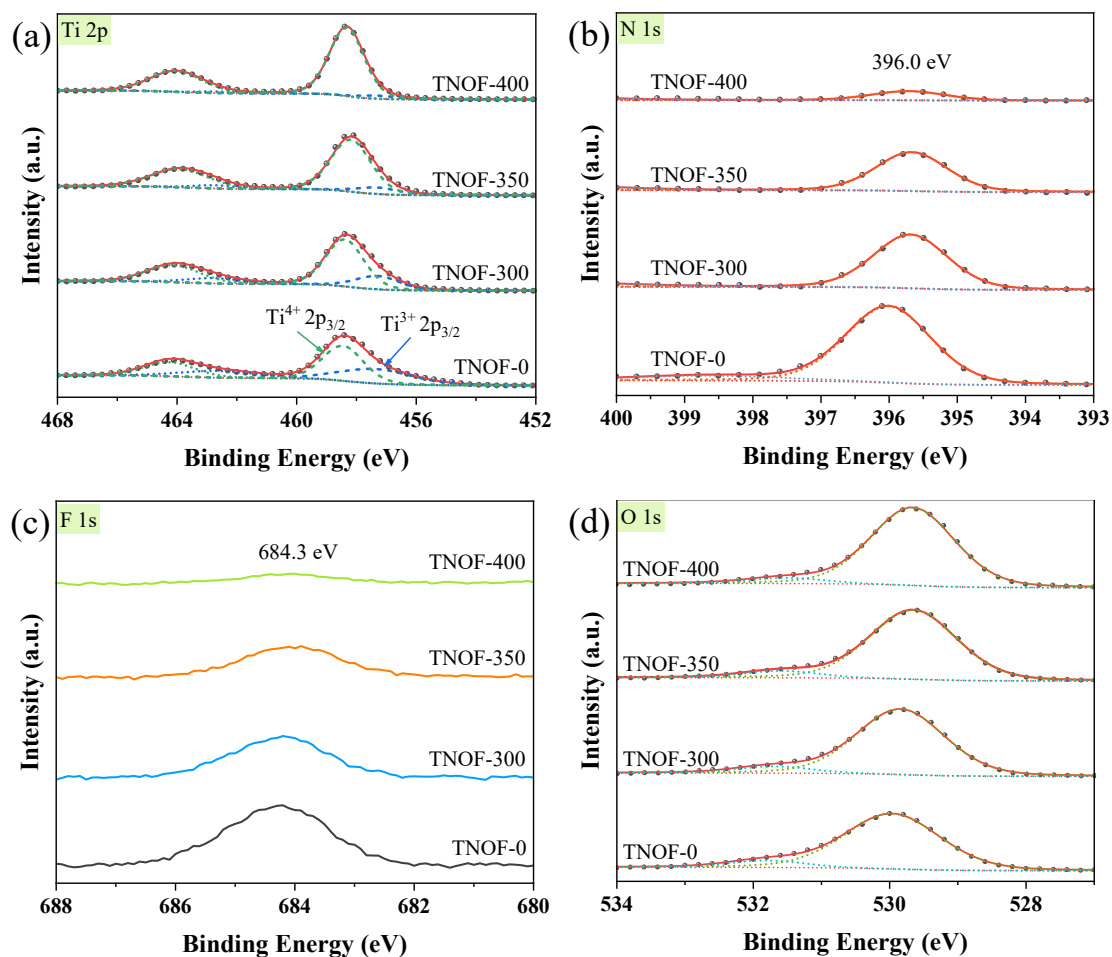


Fig. S3 XPS spectra of (a) Ti 2p, (b) N 1s, (c) F 1s, and (d) O 1s for TNOF samples obtained at different temperatures.

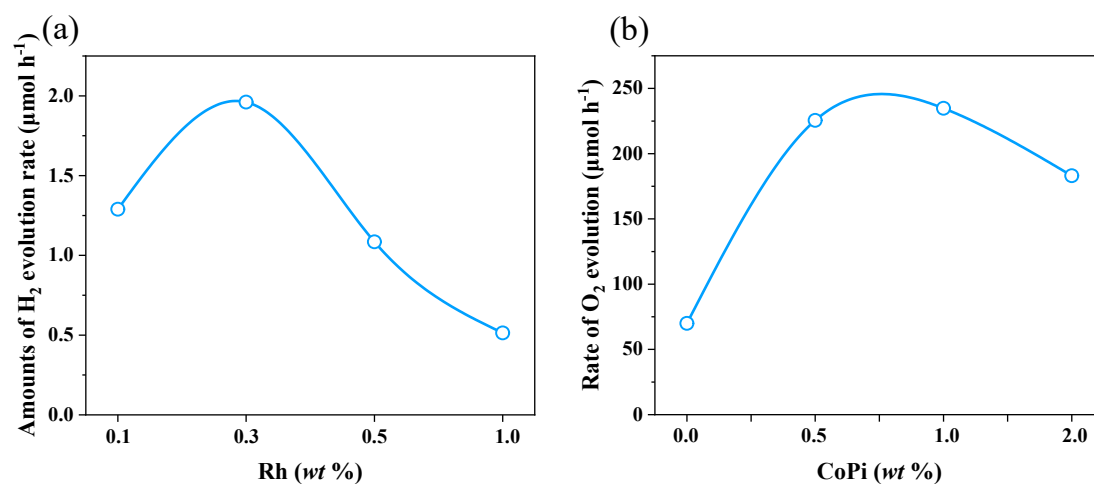


Fig. S4 (a) Optimization of Rh cocatalyst with TNOF-400, (b) Optimization of CoPi cocatalyst with TNOF-350. H₂ evolution reaction conditions: 150 mg catalyst, 100 mL 10 vol% triethanolamine aqueous solution; O₂ evolution reaction conditions: 100 mg photocatalysts, 150 mg La₂O₃, 150 mL 10 mM AgNO₃ aqueous solution. Pyrex top irradiation type, 300 W xenon lamp ($\lambda > 420$ nm).

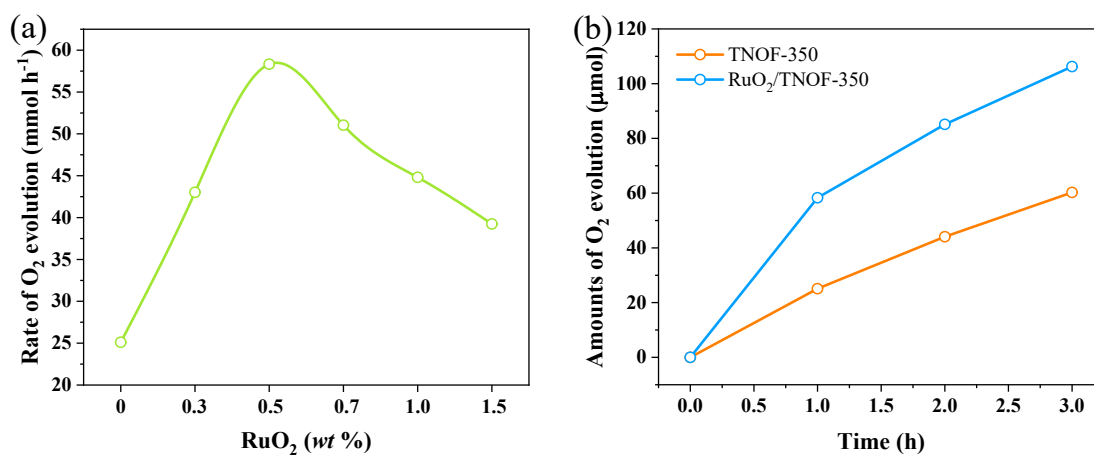


Fig. S5 (a) Optimization of RuO₂ cocatalyst with TNOF-350 and (b) time course curve of the photocatalytic O₂ evolution on TNOF-350 and 0.5 wt%-RuO₂/TNOF-350. Reaction conditions: 100 mg catalyst; 100 mL 5 mM Fe(NO₃)₃ aqueous solution; 300 W Xe lamp ($\lambda > 420$ nm).

Table S2 The photocatalytic activities of water reduction and/or oxidation over other reported N,X-codoped ($X = \text{F}, \text{B}, \text{or C}$) TiO_2 photocatalysts.

Sample	Bandgap	Band-to-band transition	Light source	cocatalyst	Reaction solution	HER/OER activity ($\mu\text{mol/h}$)	ref
TNOF	2.16	yes	300 W Xe lamp ($\lambda > 420 \text{ nm}$)	Rh	triethanolamine/ H_2O (10 vol%)	2.9	This work
				—	AgNO_3 (10 mM)	69.9	
				CoPi		234.8	
$\text{TiN}_x\text{O}_y\text{F}_z$	2.34	yes	300 W Xe lamp ($\lambda > 450 \text{ nm}$)	Pt	$\text{CH}_3\text{OH}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (10 vol%)	0.1	<i>J. Phys. Chem. C</i> , 2007 , 111, 18264-18270
			300 W Xe lamp ($\lambda > 400 \text{ nm}$)	—	AgNO_3 (10 mM)	43.0	
TiOFN	2.20	yes	300 W Xe lamp ($\lambda > 420 \text{ nm}$)	—	—	—	<i>Chem. Commun.</i> , 2011 , 47, 11742-11744
				—	AgNO_3 (10 mM)	50.0	
R- $\text{TiO}_2\text{:N,F}$	2.20	yes	300 W Xe lamp ($\lambda > 420 \text{ nm}$)	—	—	—	<i>Sustain. Energy Fuels</i> , 2018 , 2, 2025-2035
				—	AgNO_3 (10 mM)	11.5	

B ₃ N-TiO ₂	1.97	yes	300 W Xe lamp (λ > 420 nm)	Pt	CH ₃ OH/H ₂ O (10 vol%)	0.69	<i>Chem. Eur. J.</i> , 2019 , 25, 1787- 1794
				—	AgNO ₃ (10 mM)	3.60	
				RuO ₂		8.16	
TiO _{2-x} (CN) _y	2.48	yes	300 W Xe lamp (λ > 420 nm)	—	—	—	<i>Adv. Funct.</i>
				CoO _x	AgNO ₃ (20 mM)	4.25	<i>Mater.</i> , 2019 , 29, 1901943

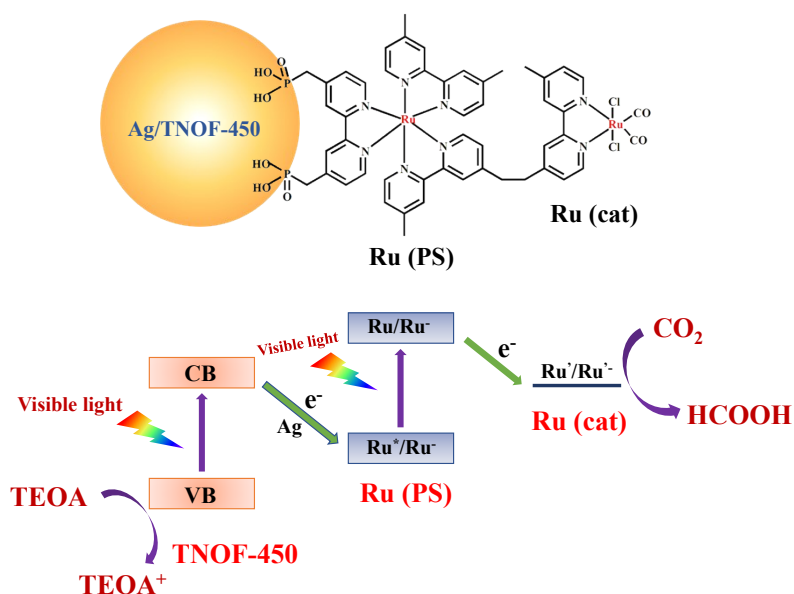


Fig. S6 The Z-scheme CO₂ reduction system consisting of Ag/TNOF-450 and **RuRu'** under visible-light ($\lambda > 400$ nm).

Under visible-light irradiation, both the TNOF-450 and the photosensitizer in **RuRu'** were excited simultaneously. The excited electrons in the conduction band of TNOF-450 can transfer to the excited photosensitizer unit, producing one-electron-reduced species of photosensitizer, from which the intramolecular electron transfer to the catalytic unit in **RuRu'**, and followed by reduction of CO₂ into HCOOH. In this work, the photocatalytic CO₂ reduction was performed using the as-prepared **RuRu'**/Ag/TNOF-450 catalyst under visible-light, where Ag can transfer the electrons from TNOF-450 to the photosensitizer in **RuRu'**.

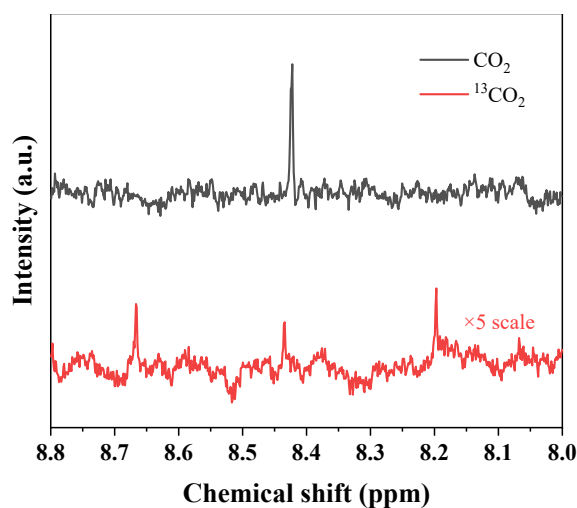


Fig. S7 ^1H NMR spectra of a reactant solution (2 mL of MeCN/TEOA mixed solution) containing 10 mg of **RuRu'**/Ag/TNOF-450, measured after filtration. The photocatalyst suspension was irradiated at 370–500 nm ($\lambda_{\text{max}} = 410$ and 460 nm) using a merry-go-round-type apparatus with an LED light for 15 h under $^{13}\text{CO}_2$ (650 Torr) or saturated unlabeled CO_2 .

Table S3 Comparison of the activities of TNOF-450 photocatalyst with other photocatalysts for CO₂ reduction.

Sample	Reaction condition and time	Light source	Product	HCOOH production (μmol)	TON _(HCOOH)	Selectivity _(HCOOH)	ref
RuRu'/Ag/TNOF-450	saturated CO ₂ , MeCN/TEOA (4:1, 4 mL), 15 h	400 W high pressure Hg lamp (λ > 400 nm)	HCOOH, H ₂	2.6 ± 0.2	2.2 × 10 ²	97.2%	This work
N-TiO ₂	CO ₂ (g), H ₂ O (g)	300 W Xe lamp (λ > 400 nm)	CH ₃ OH	—	—	—	<i>Chinese J. Catal.</i> , 2015 , 36, 2127-2134
Nb-TiO ₂	CO ₂ (g) flow	30 W white bulbs	CH ₄ , CO	0.0	0.0	—	<i>J. Colloid Interf. Sci.</i> , 2019 , 540, 1-8
N-TiO ₂	CO ₂ (g) + H ₂ O (g) (30 : 1)	Xe lamp (315 < λ < 600 nm)	H ₂ , CH ₄ , CO, C ₂ H ₆ , C ₃ H ₈	—	—	—	<i>Catal. Sci. Technol.</i> , 2020 , 10, 1688-1698
N-TiO ₂	CO ₂ (g) + H ₂ O	13 W fluorescent	H ₂ , CH ₄ , C ₂ H ₄ ,	—	—	—	<i>Appl. Catal. B-</i>

	(g)	integrated bulbs, 6h	C ₂ H ₆				<i>Environ.</i> , 2015 , 168-169, 114- 124
N-TiO ₂ /CuO	saturated CO ₂ , H ₂ O	20 W Xe lamp (350 < λ < 800 nm)	H ₂ , HCOOH	1.65	—	~ 94.5%	<i>J. Photochem. Photobiol.</i> , 2022 , 11, 100125
Ru' /mpg-C ₃ N ₄	saturated CO ₂ , MeCN/TEOA (4:1, 4 mL), 5 h	450 W Xe lamp (λ > 400 nm)	H ₂ , CO, HCOOH	19.345	> 200	>80%	<i>Chem. Commun.</i> , 2013 , 49, 10127- 10129
RuRu' /Ag/g-C ₃ N ₄	saturated CO ₂ (g), DMA/TEOA (4:1, 4 mL), 40 h	400 W high pressure Hg lamp (λ > 400 nm)	HCOOH, CO, H ₂	~ 67	> 3.3 × 10 ⁴	87-99%	<i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i> , 2016 , 138, 5159-5170
RuRu' /Pb ₂ Ti ₂ O _{5.4} F _{1.2}	saturated CO ₂ , MeCN/TEOA (4:1, 4 mL), 15 h	400 W high pressure Hg lamp (λ > 400 nm)	HCOOH, H ₂	0.6	26	> 99%	<i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i> , 2018 , 140, 6648-6655

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