

Supporting Information for

Covalent organic framework constructed from a donor-acceptor-donor motif monomer for photocatalytic hydrogen evolution from water

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General methods

^1H and ^{13}C NMR were recorded on a Bruker Avance 400 NMR spectrometer. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) data were collected using a SmartLab SE X-ray powder diffractometer (Rigaku, Japan) with $\text{Cu K}\alpha$ radiation ($\lambda = 1.5405 \text{ \AA}$) in the range of $2\theta = 2.00^\circ$ - 30.00° at a step size of 0.1° . Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR) spectra in the region of 500 - 4000 cm^{-1} were obtained with a Perkin-Elmer 1600 FT-IR spectrometer. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) was performed on a Mettler Toledo TGA/DSC3+ thermogravimetric analyzer in the temperature range of 20 - $800 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ under an N_2 atmosphere and a heating rate of $10 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}/\text{min}$. The scanning electron microscopy (SEM) images of the **DABT-Py-COF** material were recorded on a Hitachi SU8010 scanning electron microscope with acceleration voltage of 20 kV and the high-resolution transmission electron microscopy (HR-TEM) analysis was performed on a JEOL 2100 Electron Microscope with an operating voltage of 200 kV . X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) data were obtained with a PHI 5000 Versaprobe II (VP-II) electron spectrometer from Ulvac-Phi. Solid state ^{13}C CP-MAS NMR spectrum was recorded on a Bruker Avance III 400 MHz NMR spectrometer. Solid state ultraviolet-visible (UV-Vis) spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu UV-2700 double-beam UV-vis spectrophotometer. High-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) analysis was detected by Bruker maXis ultrahigh-resolution-TOF mass spectrometer. Time-resolved photoluminescence spectroscopy was measured by time-correlated single photon counting (Hamamatsu photonics, Quantaaurus-Tau) with laser (710 nm) as the excitation light source. N_2 adsorption measurements were performed using the Micromeritics ASAP 2020 sorption/desorption analyzer at 77 K , the samples were degassed under high vacuum at $120 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for 8 h before analysis.

Photoelectrochemical measurements

Cyclic voltammetry (CV) measurements were performed on a CHI 660E in a three-electrode electrochemical cell equipped with a salt bridge and a scan rate of 100 mVs^{-1} . The photocurrent measurements were conducted on a workstation in a standard three-electrode system in dark and light excitation at -0.14 V vs. Ag/AgCl with the photocatalyst-coated FTO as the working electrode, Pt plate as the counter electrode and Ag/AgCl as the reference electrode by directly irradiating the working electrode from the back side using a 300 W Xenon lamp with AM 1.5 cut-off filter, and $2\text{M Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ aqueous solution was used as the electrolyte. Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) analysis was performed at the open circuit condition at -0.14 V vs. Ag/AgCl in the frequency range of 0.01 to 10000 Hz with an AC amplitude of 10 mV .

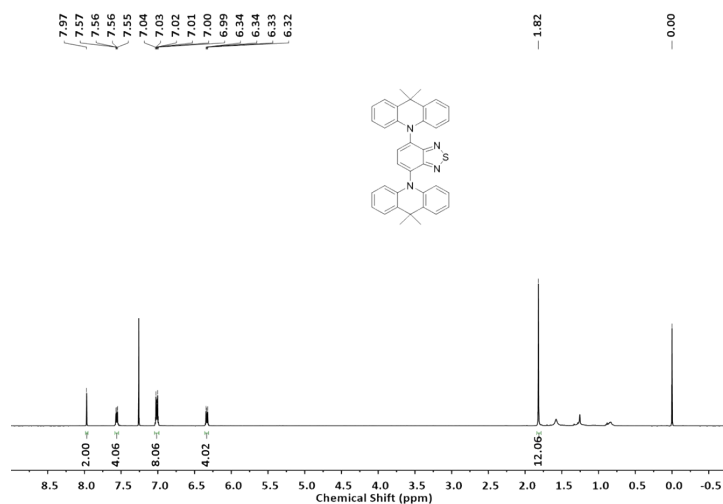


Fig. S1 ^1H NMR spectrum of compound **DABT**.

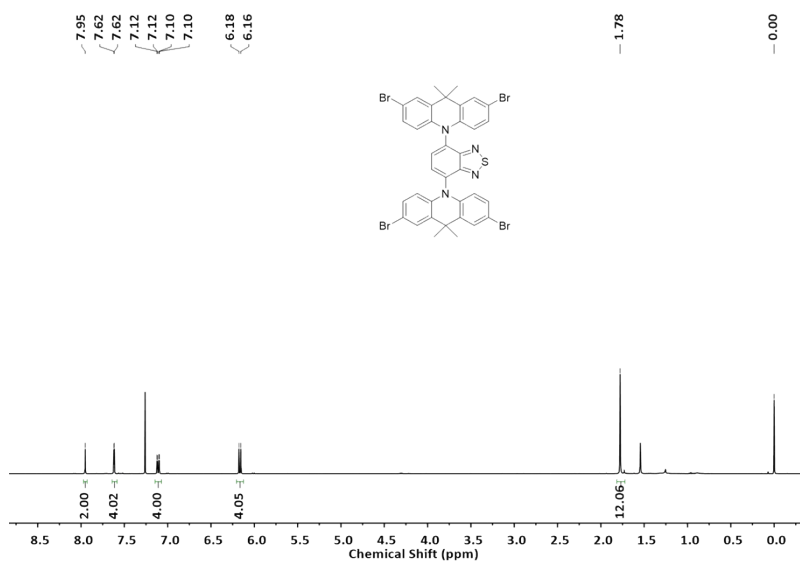


Fig. S2 ^1H NMR spectrum of compound **DABT-4Br**.

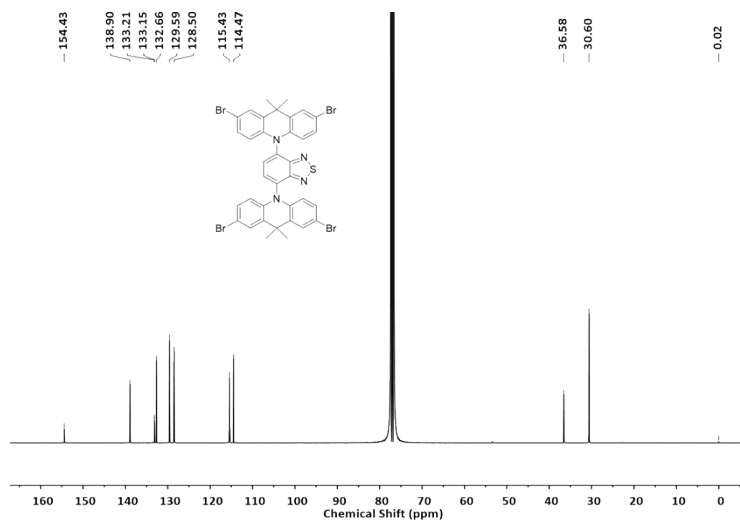


Fig. S3 ^{13}C NMR spectrum of compound **DABT-4Br**.

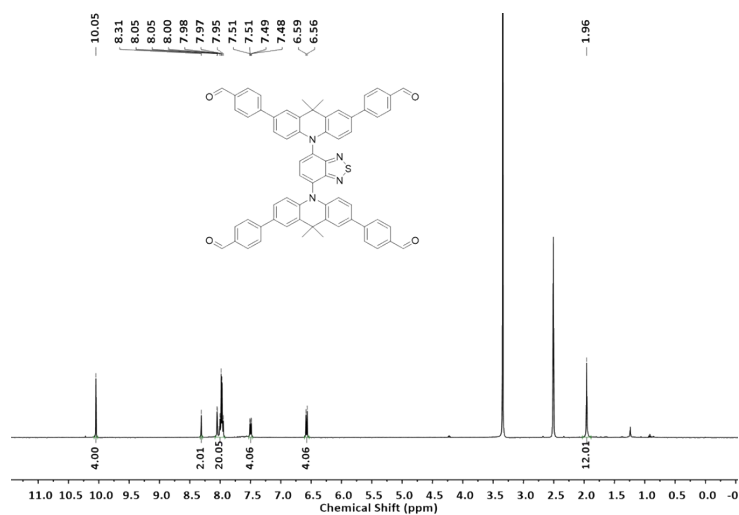


Fig. S4 ¹H NMR spectrum of DABT-4CHO.

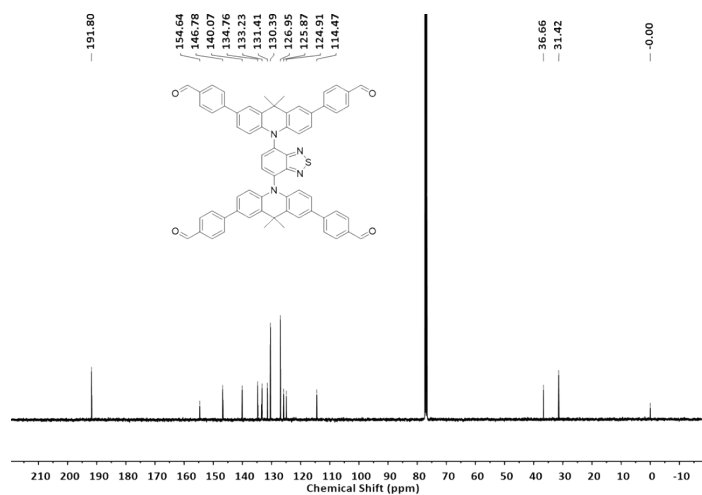


Fig. S5 ¹³C NMR spectrum of DABT-4CHO.

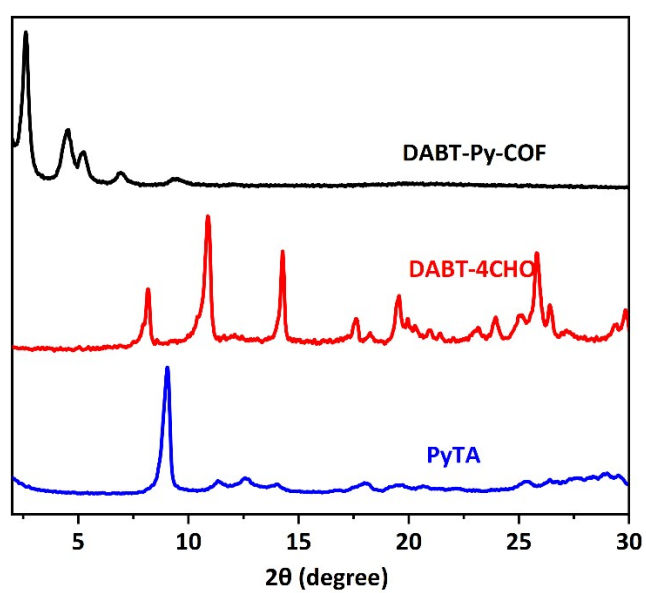


Fig. S6 Comparison of the PXRD patterns of the PyTA (blue), DABT-4CHO (red) and the DABT-Py-COF (black).

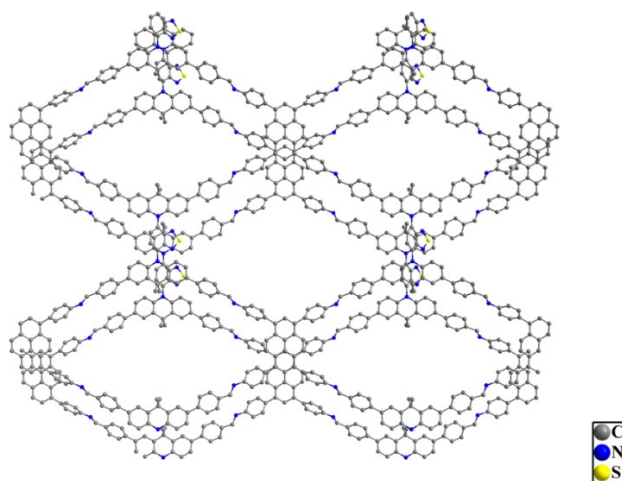


Fig. S7 Top view of the ball-stick model of **DABT-Py-COF** in slipped AA stacking mode.

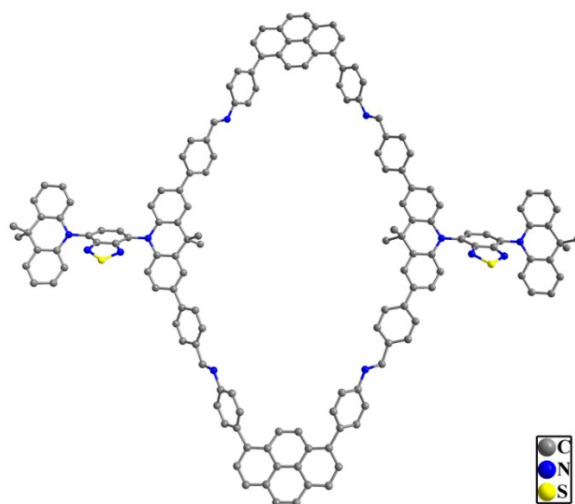


Fig. S8 Ball-stick model of the COF segment.

Table S1 Fractional atomic coordinates for the unit cell of **DABT-Py-COF** with slipped AA stacking.

Space group: <i>P1</i>			
$a = 33.4252\text{\AA}$, $b = 28.0981\text{\AA}$, $c = 7.0436\text{\AA}$			
$\alpha = 44.9959^\circ$, $\beta = 90.0502^\circ$, $\gamma = 90.0440^\circ$			
C1	0.51282	2.15798	-6.44277
N2	0.53933	2.11076	-6.25994
S3	0.56721	2.13458	-6.13948
C4	0.45125	3.06441	-6.54015
C5	0.45014	3.00913	-6.5138
C6	0.48957	2.97439	-6.48142
C7	0.41146	2.98326	-6.50574
C8	0.45232	2.3533	-6.67348
C9	0.37819	2.34527	-6.61635
C10	0.41502	2.32202	-6.62533

C11	0.91789	2.74074	-6.65246
C12	0.91806	2.69592	-6.67946
C13	0.95331	2.66461	-6.65577
C14	0.99021	2.68502	-6.62666
C15	0.99004	2.73173	-6.59793
C16	0.95294	2.75738	-6.59817
C17	1.02696	2.75256	-6.5712
C18	1.02787	2.80096	-6.55432
C19	0.98967	2.82232	-6.53961
C20	0.95159	2.80075	-6.55541
C21	1.02728	2.65932	-6.62631
C22	1.06258	2.67801	-6.58305
C23	1.0624	2.72277	-6.55568
C24	0.9523	2.61574	-6.67004
C25	0.99045	2.59299	-6.67765
C26	1.02845	2.61442	-6.6609
C27	0.91067	2.82227	-6.52346
C28	1.06852	2.83061	-6.56246
C29	0.91163	2.58689	-6.66611
C30	1.0692	2.59091	-6.68281
C31	0.90031	2.88999	-6.66977
C32	0.86122	2.90863	-6.65353
C33	0.83027	2.86034	-6.48983
C34	0.84115	2.79296	-6.33889
C35	0.88009	2.77447	-6.35111
C36	1.09727	2.85808	-6.76646
C37	1.13593	2.87988	-6.76748
C38	1.14854	2.87722	-6.56829
C39	1.11954	2.8518	-6.3667
C40	1.08053	2.82951	-6.3652
C41	1.08165	2.52251	-6.49713
C42	1.12074	2.50281	-6.50712
C43	1.14951	2.55072	-6.70558
C44	1.1365	2.61856	-6.89382
C45	1.09773	2.63798	-6.88332
C46	0.88207	2.56124	-6.46848
C47	0.84344	2.54016	-6.47193
C48	0.83165	2.54198	-6.66994
C49	0.86146	2.5655	-6.86479
C50	0.90049	2.58679	-6.86111
N51	0.78825	2.87637	-6.47814
N52	1.18999	2.89949	-6.58039
N53	1.19104	2.53439	-6.7244

N54	0.79024	2.52042	-6.66256
C55	0.77412	2.92962	-6.53609
C56	0.72992	2.94175	-6.50779
C57	0.72251	2.98169	-6.45786
C58	0.68332	3.0001	-6.44971
C59	0.64809	2.98184	-6.49936
C60	0.65527	2.94044	-6.54491
C61	0.69502	2.92068	-6.54775
C62	0.60569	3.00894	-6.51345
C63	0.6026	3.06887	-6.57556
C64	0.56545	3.09732	-6.60249
C65	0.52792	3.0665	-6.55417
C66	0.52913	3.00743	-6.50305
C67	0.56797	2.97935	-6.47987
C68	0.48991	2.97444	-6.70144
C69	1.20694	2.90791	-6.435
N70	1.48959	3.09596	-6.56774
C71	1.48873	2.90109	-6.20102
C72	1.37385	3.00786	-6.50822
C73	1.48951	3.15531	-6.60319
C74	1.46702	3.21495	-6.80709
C75	1.33191	2.97953	-6.48991
C76	1.30036	2.97278	-6.3376
C77	1.26136	2.94985	-6.32411
C78	1.25048	2.93286	-6.46498
C79	1.28184	2.93916	-6.61814
C80	1.32152	2.9613	-6.62821
C81	0.77338	2.51406	-6.81463
C82	1.20873	2.4749	-6.57687
C83	0.51345	2.21317	-6.4756
C84	0.48998	2.27157	-6.66751
N85	0.54073	2.20647	-6.31886
N86	0.49021	2.32958	-6.69497
C87	0.52844	2.36254	-6.73116
C88	0.53019	2.4117	-6.72234
C89	0.49106	2.44115	-6.71942
C90	0.5652	2.34779	-6.78183
C91	0.60256	2.37378	-6.79313
C92	0.60618	2.41787	-6.76108
C93	0.56907	2.43681	-6.72951
C94	0.48944	2.51659	-6.9856
C95	0.64829	2.4449	-6.77319
C96	0.67924	2.45663	-6.94015

C97	0.71829	2.47868	-6.94905
C98	0.72979	2.49007	-6.78993
C99	0.69905	2.47897	-6.62265
C100	0.65936	2.45746	-6.61603
C101	1.45143	2.40786	-6.69526
C102	1.4129	2.43182	-6.69113
C103	1.37543	2.40122	-6.65153
C104	1.49368	2.43382	-6.48019
C105	1.33366	2.42369	-6.63481
C106	1.32206	2.49185	-6.7941
C107	1.28239	2.51017	-6.78269
C108	1.25229	2.46117	-6.60835
C109	1.26443	2.3936	-6.44718
C110	1.3034	2.37556	-6.4603
C111	1.46672	3.27087	-6.83534
C112	0.41366	3.08628	-6.53014
H113	0.41052	2.94181	-6.48801
H114	0.35125	2.31894	-6.58414
H115	0.41359	2.27802	-6.59074
H116	0.88953	2.76356	-6.6818
H117	0.88979	2.68731	-6.72573
H118	0.98957	2.85665	-6.5171
H119	1.09119	2.65716	-6.56478
H120	1.09087	2.73262	-6.51617
H121	0.9906	2.55778	-6.69558
H122	0.92217	2.9293	-6.80446
H123	0.85503	2.96129	-6.77613
H124	0.81904	2.75369	-6.20913
H125	0.88594	2.72184	-6.22873
H126	1.09002	2.86164	-6.926
H127	1.15649	2.899	-6.92717
H128	1.12693	2.84786	-6.20657
H129	1.06012	2.80929	-6.20342
H130	1.06139	2.48389	-6.33812
H131	1.12827	2.44991	-6.35601
H132	1.15683	2.65752	-7.05104
H133	1.09019	2.69087	-7.03205
H134	0.88867	2.55846	-6.31041
H135	0.82224	2.52238	-6.31704
H136	0.85475	2.56858	-7.02331
H137	0.92158	2.60549	-7.01787
H138	0.79558	2.96654	-6.59076
H139	0.74766	2.99931	-6.42415

H140	0.68108	3.02936	-6.40337
H141	0.6302	2.9245	-6.5861
H142	0.69837	2.8907	-6.59051
H143	0.62915	3.09743	-6.62172
H144	0.56673	3.14637	-6.67519
H145	0.56882	2.93409	-6.43695
H146	0.51854	2.95563	-6.70752
H147	0.48487	3.02623	-6.90147
H148	0.46611	2.9417	-6.66851
H149	1.18872	2.89865	-6.28469
H150	1.48926	2.90069	-6.04199
H151	1.5147	2.87165	-6.17016
H152	1.46147	2.87397	-6.17209
C153	1.37658	3.05933	-6.51612
H154	1.44937	3.21844	-6.9455
H155	1.30584	2.98468	-6.22344
H156	1.23915	2.94571	-6.20111
H157	1.27587	2.92668	-6.72985
H158	1.34396	2.96545	-6.75
H159	0.79157	2.52518	-6.96907
H160	1.19132	2.43047	-6.4192
H161	0.56554	2.31532	-6.8133
H162	0.62913	2.35789	-6.82361
H163	0.57045	2.47335	-6.71913
H164	0.46392	2.54254	-6.98972
H165	0.48636	2.52229	-7.1581
H166	0.51696	2.54356	-7.0166
H167	0.67325	2.44947	-7.06957
H168	0.74003	2.48668	-7.08339
H169	0.70556	2.48698	-6.49644
H170	0.63747	2.44931	-6.48228
H171	1.41207	2.47379	-6.71197
H172	1.5162	2.46853	-6.51615
H173	1.50264	2.38178	-6.29565
H174	1.46496	2.44532	-6.44092
H175	1.34347	2.53159	-6.93305
H176	1.2754	2.56287	-6.91095
H177	1.24326	2.35341	-6.30743
H178	1.30986	2.32254	-6.32815
H179	1.44827	3.31398	-6.99083
H180	1.34947	1.08	0.48601
H181	1.41221	1.12439	0.4712

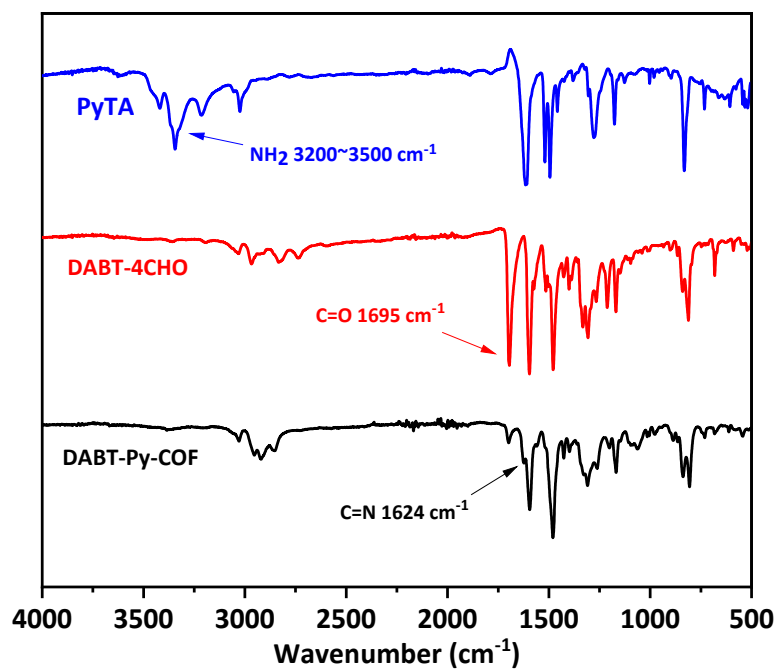


Fig. S9 FT-IR spectra comparison of the PyTA (blue), **DABT-4CHO** (red) and **DABT-Py-COF** (black).

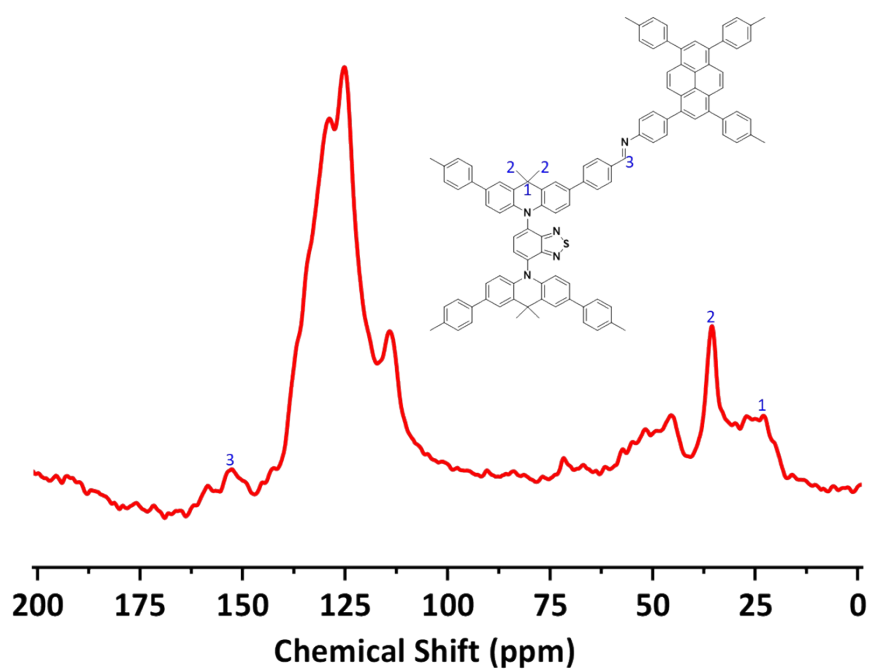


Fig. S10 The solid state ^{13}C cross polarization magic angle spinning (^{13}C CP/MAS) NMR spectrum of **DABT-Py-COF**.

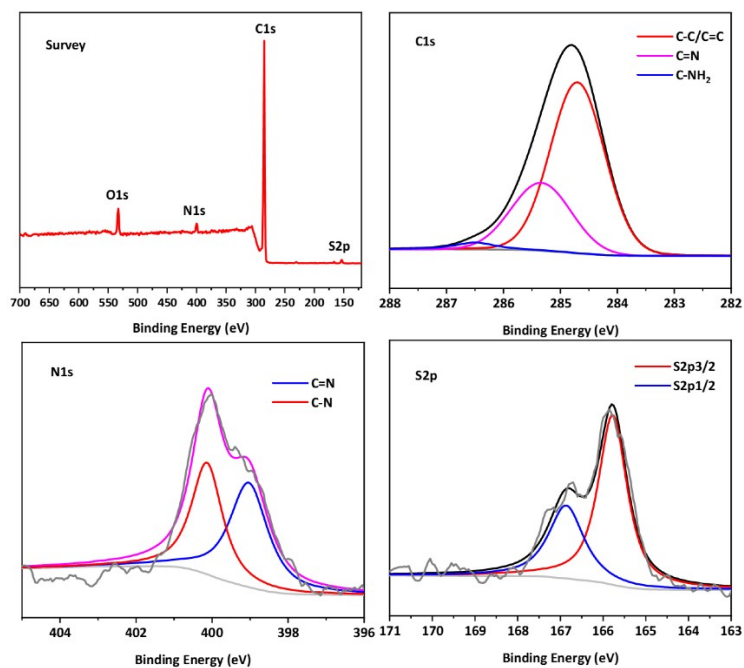


Fig. S11 The X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) of the **DABT-Py-COF**, including the survey, C1s, N1s and S2p spectra.

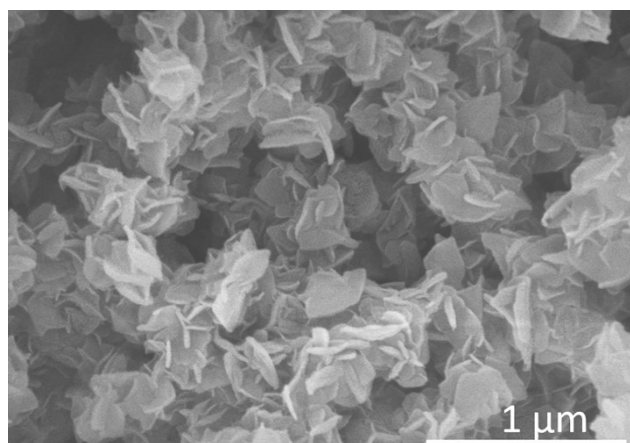


Fig. S12 Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) image of the **DABT-Py-COF**.

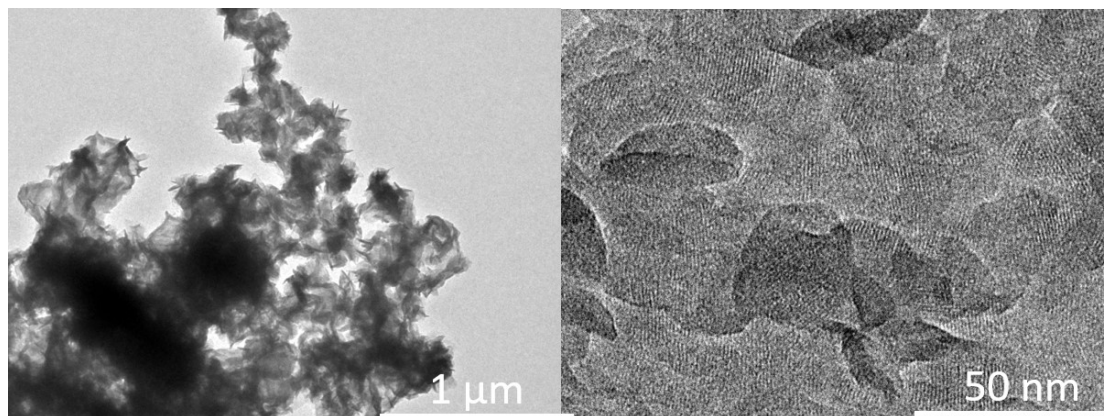


Fig. S13 Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) image of the **DABT-Py-COF**.

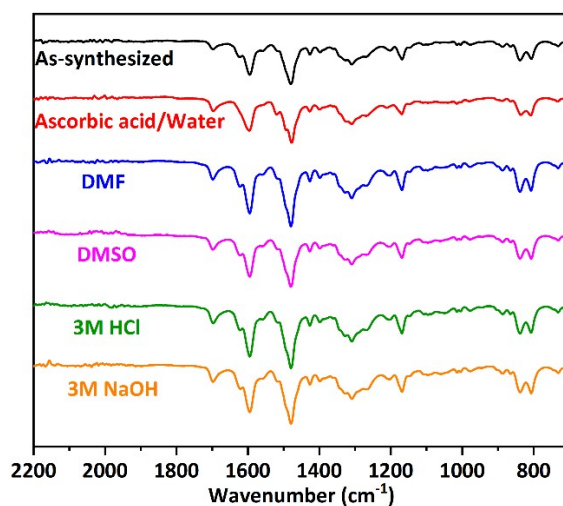


Fig. S14 FT-IR spectra of **DABT-Py-COF** after immersing in different solvents for 1 week.

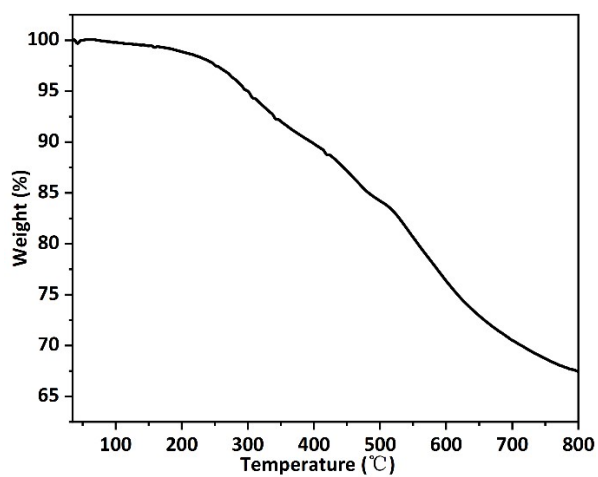


Fig. S15 Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) curve of the **DABT-Py-COF** measured at a heating rate of 10 °C/min under a nitrogen flow.

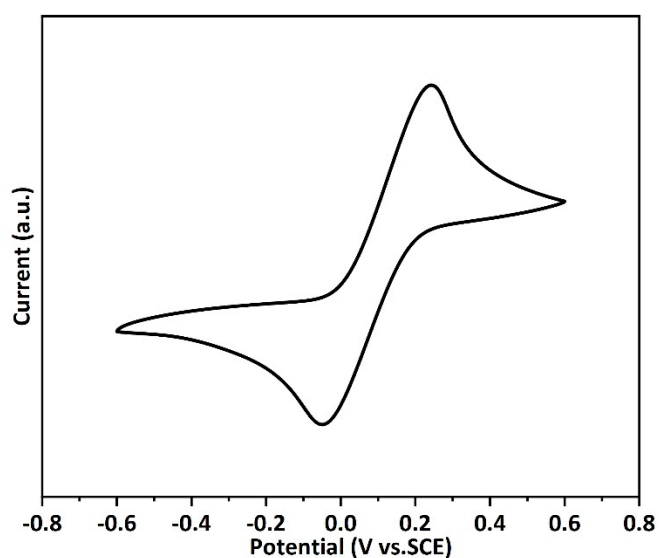


Fig. S16 Cyclic voltammetry measurements of ferrocene/ferrocenium couple to calibrate the pseudo reference electrode ($E_{1/2}$ is obtained to be 0.11 V).

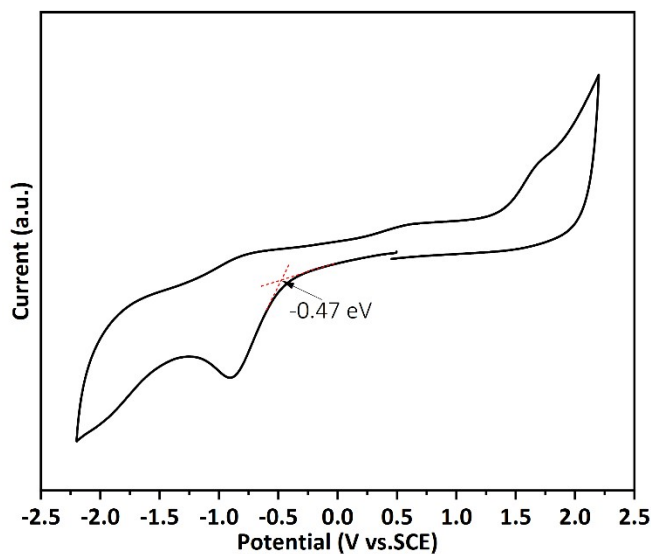


Figure S17. Cyclic voltammetry plot of **DABT-Py-COF** referenced to saturated calomel (SCE) using ferrocene (F_c) as an internal standard at a scan rate of 100 mV S^{-1} . The calculation of the E_{HOMO} and E_{LUMO} is according to the following equations:

$$E_{\text{LUMO}} = - (E_{\text{onset vs.SCE}} - E_{(1/2, Fc)} + 4.8) \text{ eV}$$

$$E_{\text{HOMO}} = E_{\text{LUMO}} - E_{g, \text{opt}}$$

Where, $E_{1/2, Fc}$ is obtained to be 0.11 vs. SCE., reduction onset potential $E_{\text{onset vs. SCE}}$ was extracted from the X-intercept of the linear fit in the voltammogram, $E_{g, \text{opt}}$ is obtained from the UV-Vis spectrum by using Tauc-plot method.

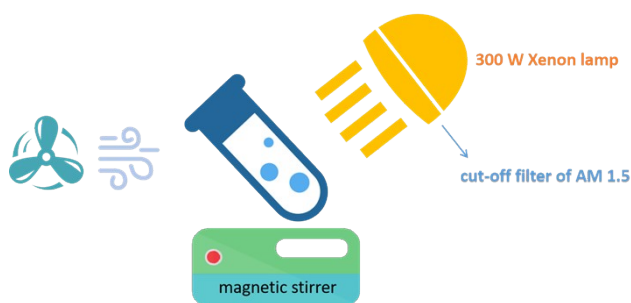


Figure S18. A schematic representation for this photocatalytic H_2 evolution.

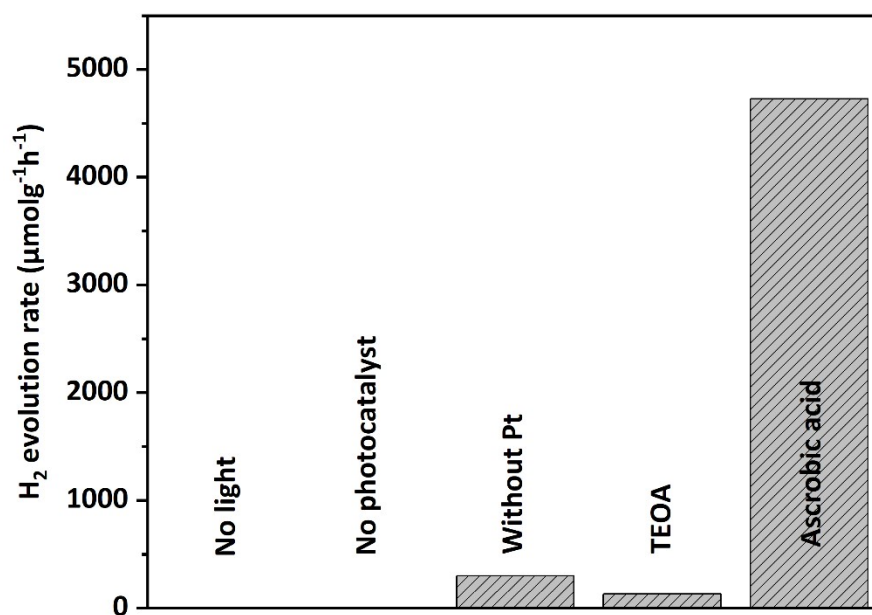


Fig. S19 Photocatalytic performance of **DABT-Py-COF** over 4h under visible-light irradiation (AM 1.5) in the absence of light/ photocatalyst/Pt co-catalyst and in the presence of sacrificial agent of TEOA or ascorbic acid.

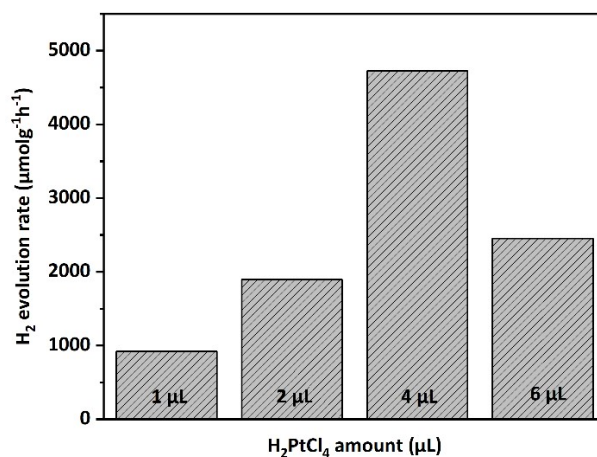


Fig. S20 The effects of the Pt amount on the photocatalytic performance of the **DABT-Py-COF**.

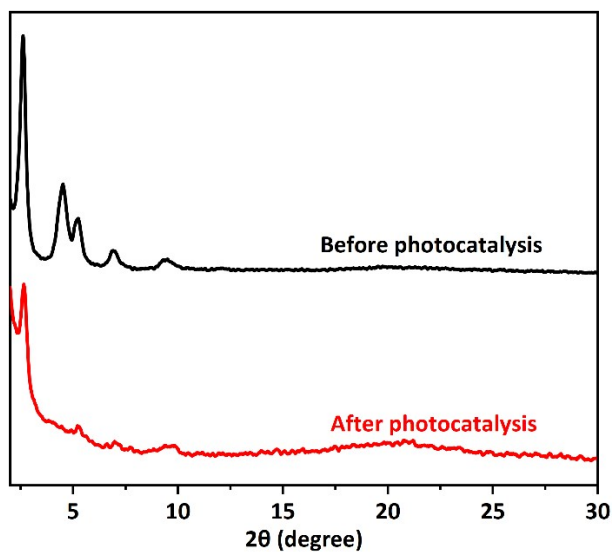


Fig. S21 PXRD patterns of the **DABT-Py-COF** before and after 5 cycles photocatalytic reactions.

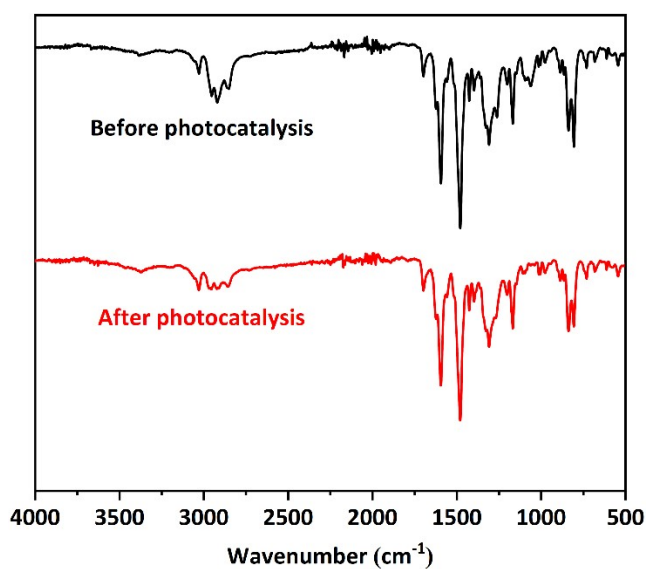


Fig. S22 FT-IR spectra of the **DABT-Py-COF** before and after 5 cycles photocatalytic reactions.

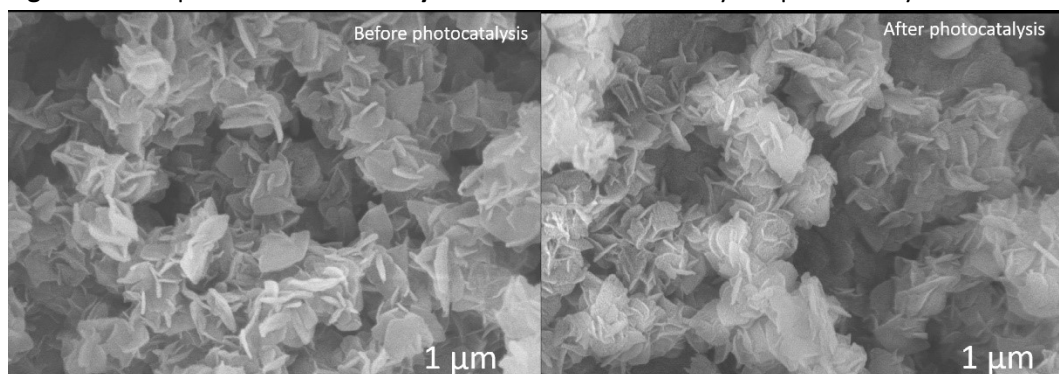


Fig. S23 Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) images of the **DABT-Py-COF** before and after 5 cycles photocatalytic reactions.

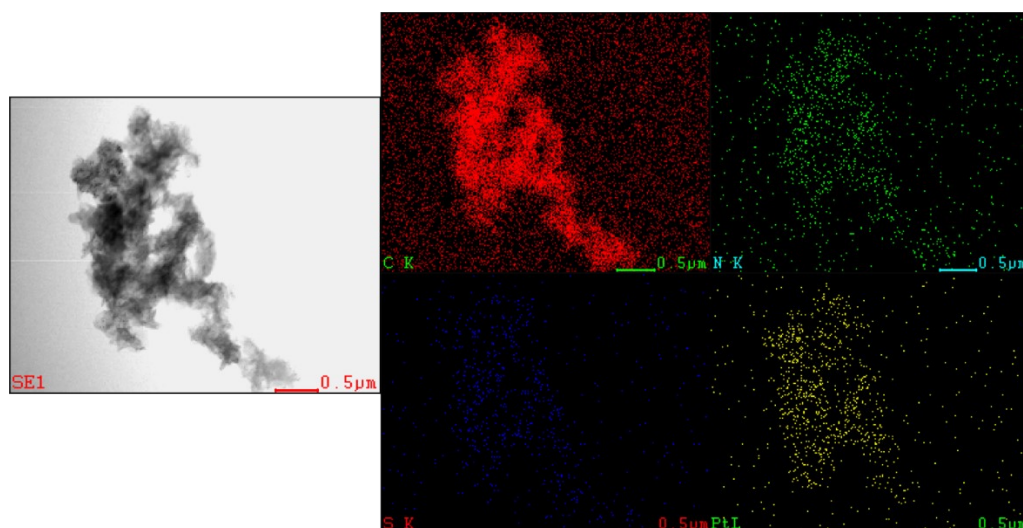


Fig. S24 Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) and EDS mapping of the **DABT-Py-COF** after photocatalytic reactions.

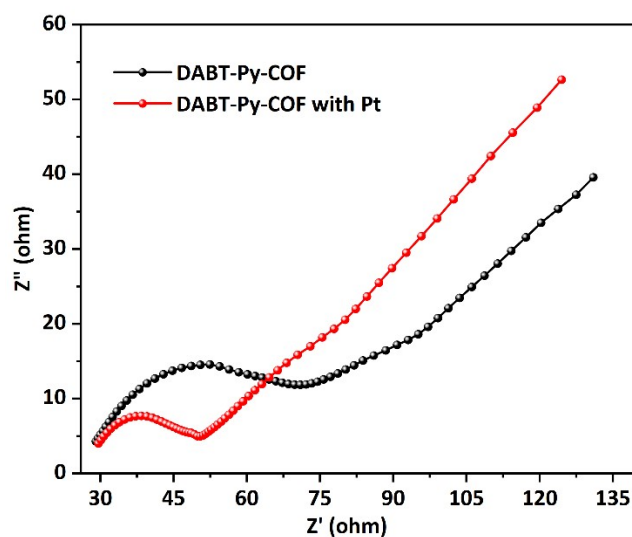


Fig. S25 Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) Nyquist plots of the **DABT-Py-COF** with and without the Pt co-catalyst.

Table S2. The summary of the photocatalytic H₂ evolution performance under visible-light irradiation over different types of CMPs and COFs.

COFs	Band gap (eV)	Co-catalyst	Sacrificial agent	HER ($\mu\text{mol g}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$)	Ref.
g-C ₄₀ N ₃ -COF	2.36	Pt	Na ₂ S	4	2
TPAL-COF	-	Pt	TEOA	6.8	3
g-C ₄₀ N ₃ -COF	2.36	Pt	TEA	12	2
g-C ₄₀ N ₃ -COF	2.36	Pt	Na ₂ SO ₃	14	2
N ₀ -COF	2.6-2.7	Pt	TEOA	23	4
TpPa-2-COF	2.52	Pt	Lactic acid	28	5
g-C ₄₀ N ₃ -COF	2.36	Pt	EtOH	56	2
TpPa-2	2.07	Pt	Sodium	72.00	6

			ascorbate		
BE-COF	2.12	Pt	Ascorbic acid	76.0	7
PTP-COF	2.1	Pt	TEOA	83.83	8
N ₁ -COF	2.6-2.7	Pt	TEOA	90	6
N ₁ -COF	-	Co-1	TEOA	100	9
CTP-1	2.96	Pt	TEOA	120	10
sp ² c-CMP	1.96	Pt	TEOA	140	11
TTR-COF	2.71	Au	TEOA	141	12
TTB-COF	2.8	Au	TEOA	145.25	12
N3-COF	-	Co-1	TEOA	163	9
OB-POP-1	2.21	Pt	TEOA	168	13
CTF-1	2.23	Pt	TEOA	168	14
B-CTF-1	2.14	Pt	TEOA	179	14
TpPa-COF-NO ₂	1.92	Pt	Sodium ascorbate	220	15
COF-42	-	Co-1	TEOA	233	9
TP-BDDA	2.31	Pt	TEOA	324 ± 10	16
CTF-15	2.58	Pt	TEA	352	17
TBC-COF	-	Pt	TEOA	360	14
N ₂ -COF	-	Co-2 ^b	TEOA	414	9
N ₂ -COF	2.6-2.7	Pt	TEOA	438	4
CTP ₃₀₀	2.36	Pt	TEOA	500	10
TAB-TFP-COF	2.45	Pt	Ascorbic acid	666.4	18
N ₂ -COF	-	Co-1 ^a	TEOA	782	9
OB-POP-2	2.28	Pt	TEOA	940	13
TpDTz COF	2.07	NiME	TEOA	941	19
CTF-1-10min	2.26	Pt	TEOA	1072	20
CTF-Th	2.38	Pt	TEOA	1100	21
OB-POP-4	2.37	Pt	TEOA	1114	13
TpPa-1-COF	2.02	Pt	Sodium ascorbate	1223	22
OB-POP-3	2.14	Pt	TEOA	1322	13
sp ² c-COF	1.9	Pt	TEOA	1360	11
CTF-O	2.67	Pt	TEOA	1440	23
CTF-HUST-1	2.03	Pt	TEOA	1540	24
TpPa-COF	2.09	Pt	Sodium ascorbate	1560	15
TP-COF	2.28	Pt	Ascorbic acid	1600 (±80)	25
N ₃ -COF	2.6-2.7	Pt	TEOA	1703	4
CTF-BT	2.51	Pt	TEOA	1800	21
Ni(OH) ₂ - 2.5%/TpPa-2	-	Ni(OH) ₂	Sodium ascorbate	1895.99	6
TFPT-COF	2.8	Pt	TEOA	1970	26
CTFS ₁₀	1.87	Pt	TEOA	2000	27

sp ² c-COF _{ERDN}	1.85	Pt	TEOA	2120	11
COF-alkene	2.34	Pt	TEOA	2330	28
g-C ₄₀ N ₃ -COF	2.36	Pt	TEOA	2596	2
Py-FTP-BTCOF	2.34	Pt	Ascorbic acid	2875	29
TpPa-COF-CH ₃	2.10	Pt	Sodium ascorbate	3070	15
CdS-COF(90:10)	-	Pt	Lactic acid	3678	5
TZ-COF-4	2.2	Pt	Ascorbic acid	4296	30
S-COF	2.10	Pt	Ascorbic acid	4440 (±140)	25
PyTA-BC	2.71	Pt	Ascorbic acid	5030	31
CTF-S	2.47	Pt	TEOA	5320	23
TpPa-1	2.11	Pt	Ascorbic acid	5479	32
MoS ₂ -3%/TpPa-1-COF	2.14	MoS ₂	Ascorbic acid	5585	32
CTF-HS _{0.75} -1	2.70	Pt	TEOA	6040	24
CTF-BT/Th-1	2.51	Pt	TEOA	6606	21
CTF-HS _{0.75} -2	-	Pt	TEOA	7100	24
TpPa-COF-(CH ₃) ₂	2.06	Pt	Sodium ascorbate	8330	15
TP-COF	1.97	PVP-Pt	Ascorbic acid	8420	7
CTF-CBZ	2.17	Pt	TEOA	9920	33
CN-COF	2.09	Pt	TEOA	10100	34
Pd ⁰ /TpPa-1-EosinY	-	-	TEOA	10400	35
CTF-N	2.17	Pt	TEOA	10760	33
20%CdS-CTF-1	-	Pt	Lactic acid	11430	36
CdS NPs/3%CTF-1	2.36	Pt	Lactic acid	12150	37
Mo ₃ S ₁₃ @EB-COF	-	Ru(bpy) ₃ Cl ₂	Ascorbic acid	13215	38
ter-CTF-0.7	2.11	Pt	TEOA	19320	33
NH ₂ -UiO-66/TpPa-1-COF(4:6)	2.10	Pt	Sodium ascorbate	23413	22
FS-COF	1.85	Pt	Ascorbic acid	10100 (±300)	25
NTU-BDA-THTA/NH ₂ -Ti ₃ C ₂ Tx(8:4)	2.09	Pt	Ascorbic acid	14228.1	39
BTH-3	-	Pt	Ascorbic acid	15100	40
FS-COF+WS5F	-	Pt	Ascorbic acid	16300 (±290)	25
USTB-10	1.52	Pt	Ascorbic acid	21800	41
WO ₃ @TpPa-1-COF/rGo (30%)	2.11	Pt	Ascorbic acid	26730	42
COF-JLU100	1.4	Pt	TEOA	107380	43

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