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### *Supporting Information*

# **Improving Photocatalytic Hydrogen Production through Switching Charge Kinetics from Type-I to Z-scheme via Defective Engineering**

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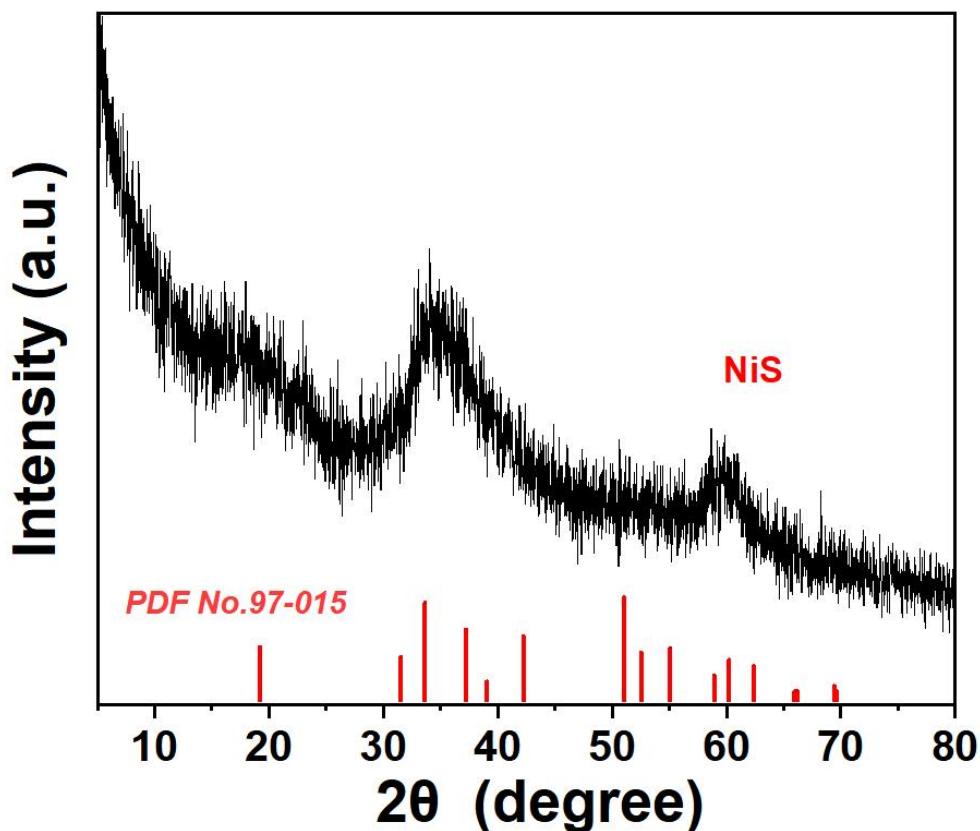
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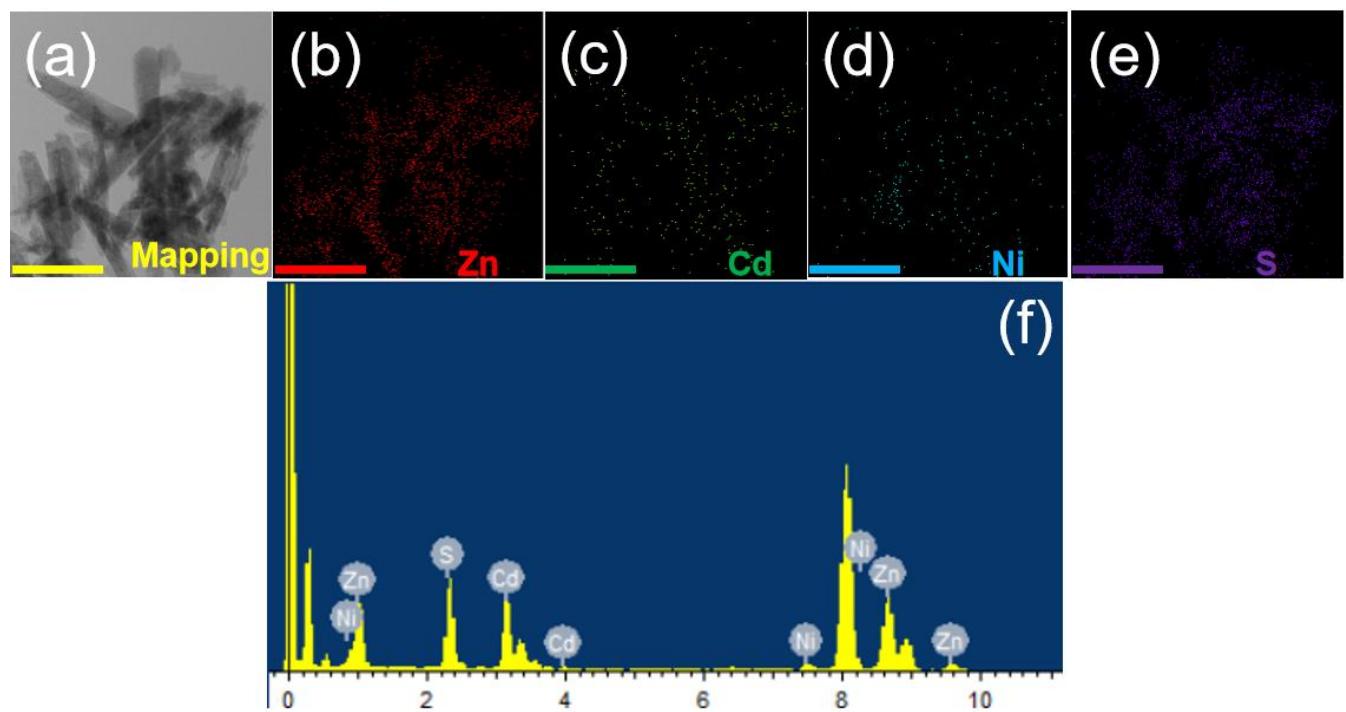
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**Figure S1.** The XRD patterns of NiS.

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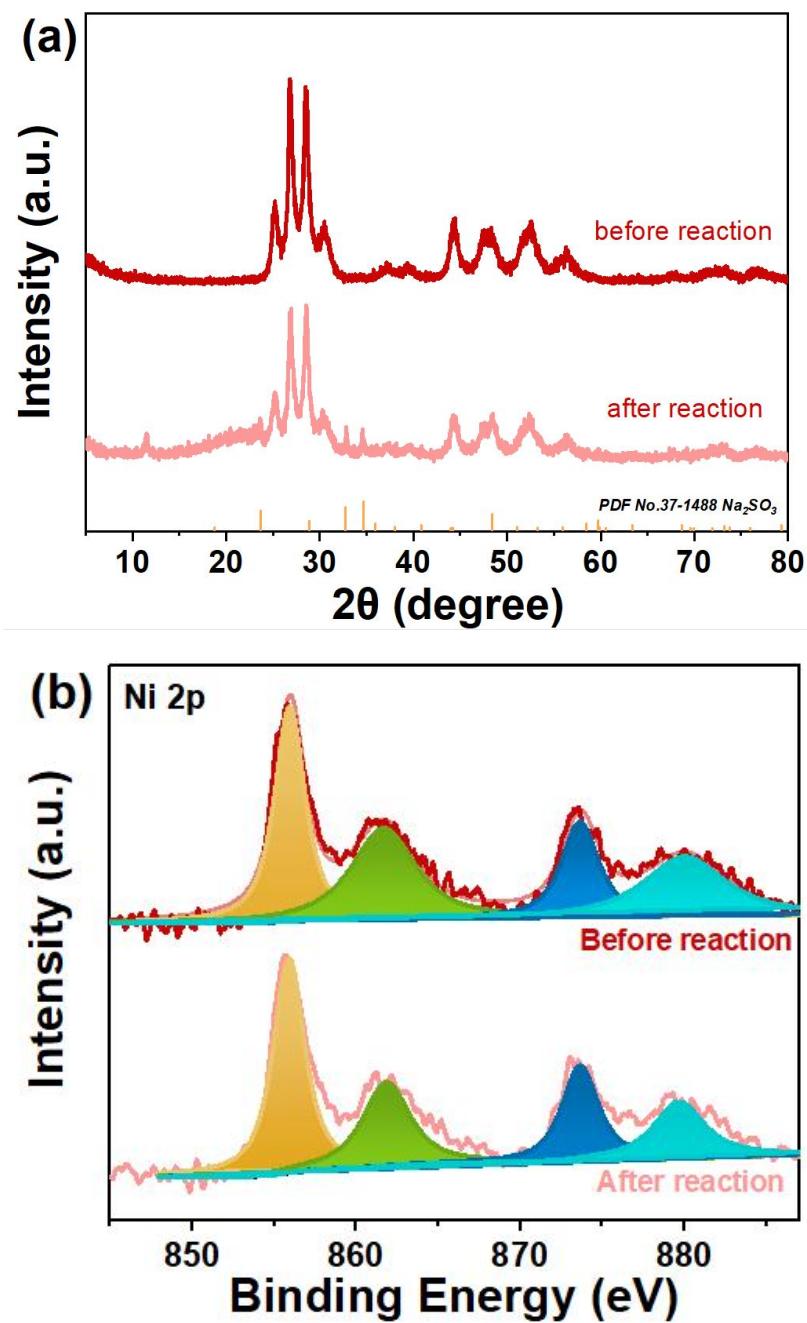
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**Figure S2.** The elemental mapping images EDX (a-f) of **CZNS 6**.

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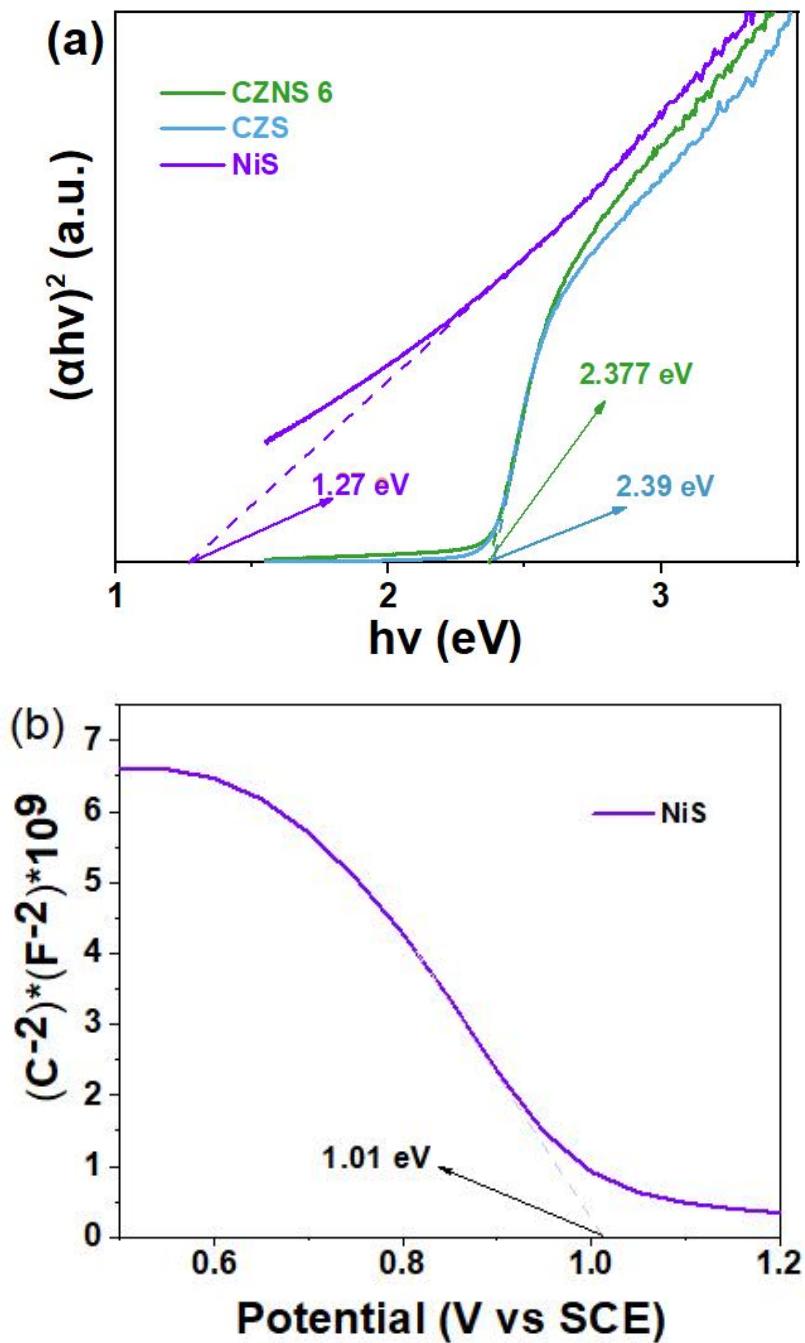
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**Figure S3.** XRD patterns(a) and high-resolution XPS spectra (b) of Ni 2p for CZNS 6 before and after the photocatalytic hydrogen evolution reaction.

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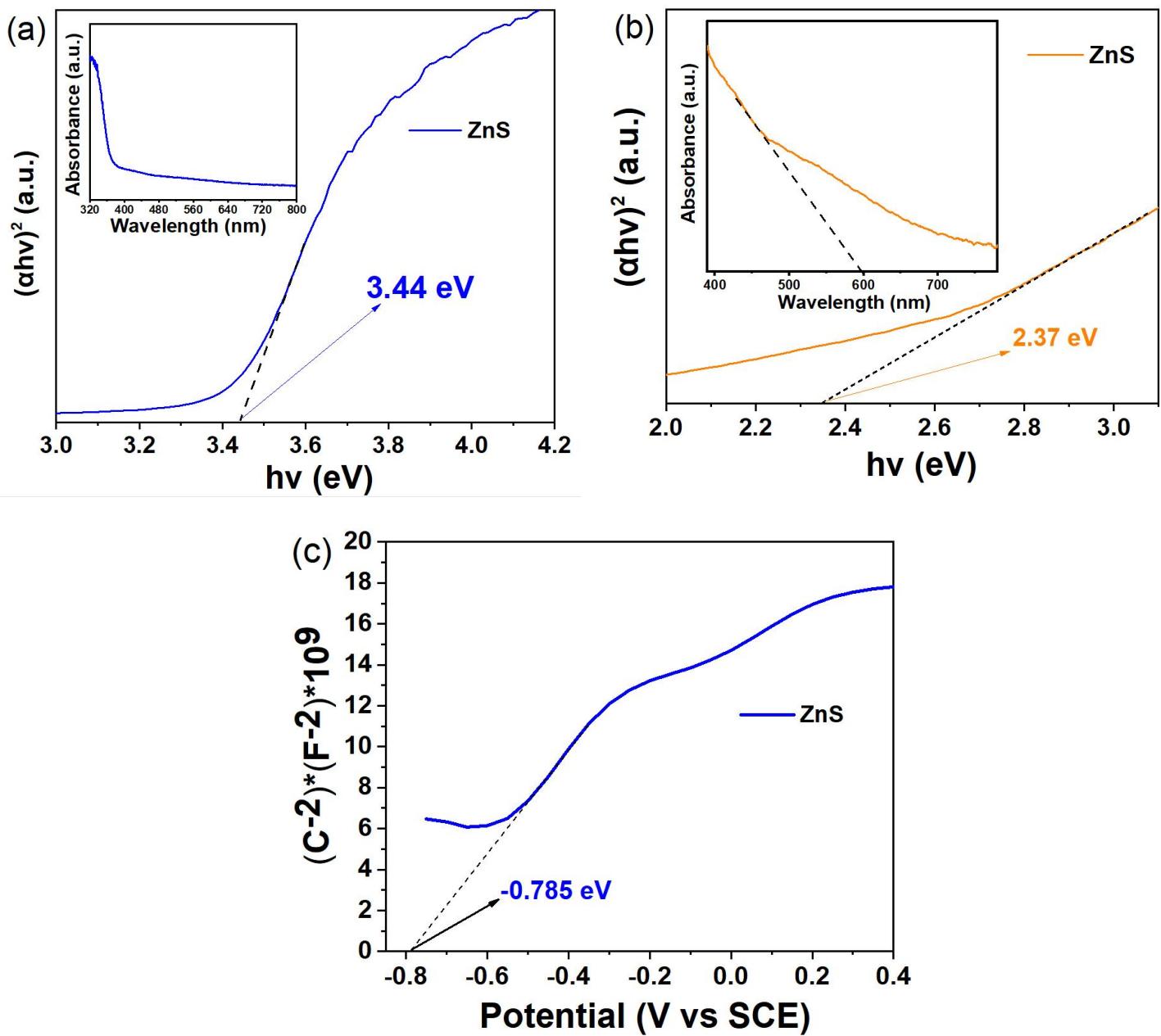
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**Figure S4.** The Tauc plots of of NiS, CZS and CZNS 6(a); the Mott–Schottky plots of NiS (b).

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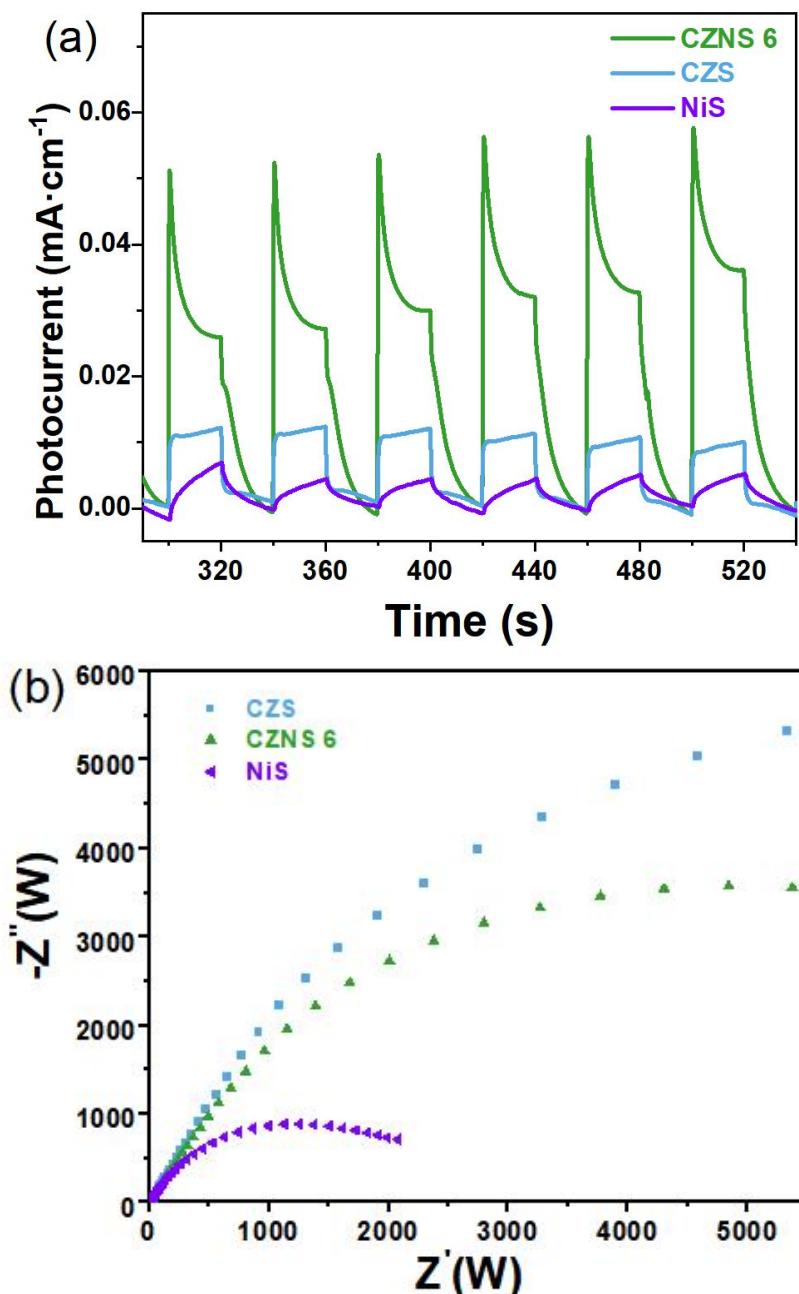
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**Figure S5.** The Tauc plots of  $(\alpha h\nu)^2$  versus  $(h\nu)$  of ZnS (a) and enlarged view for ZnS at visible region local (b); the Mott–Schottky plots of ZnS (c).

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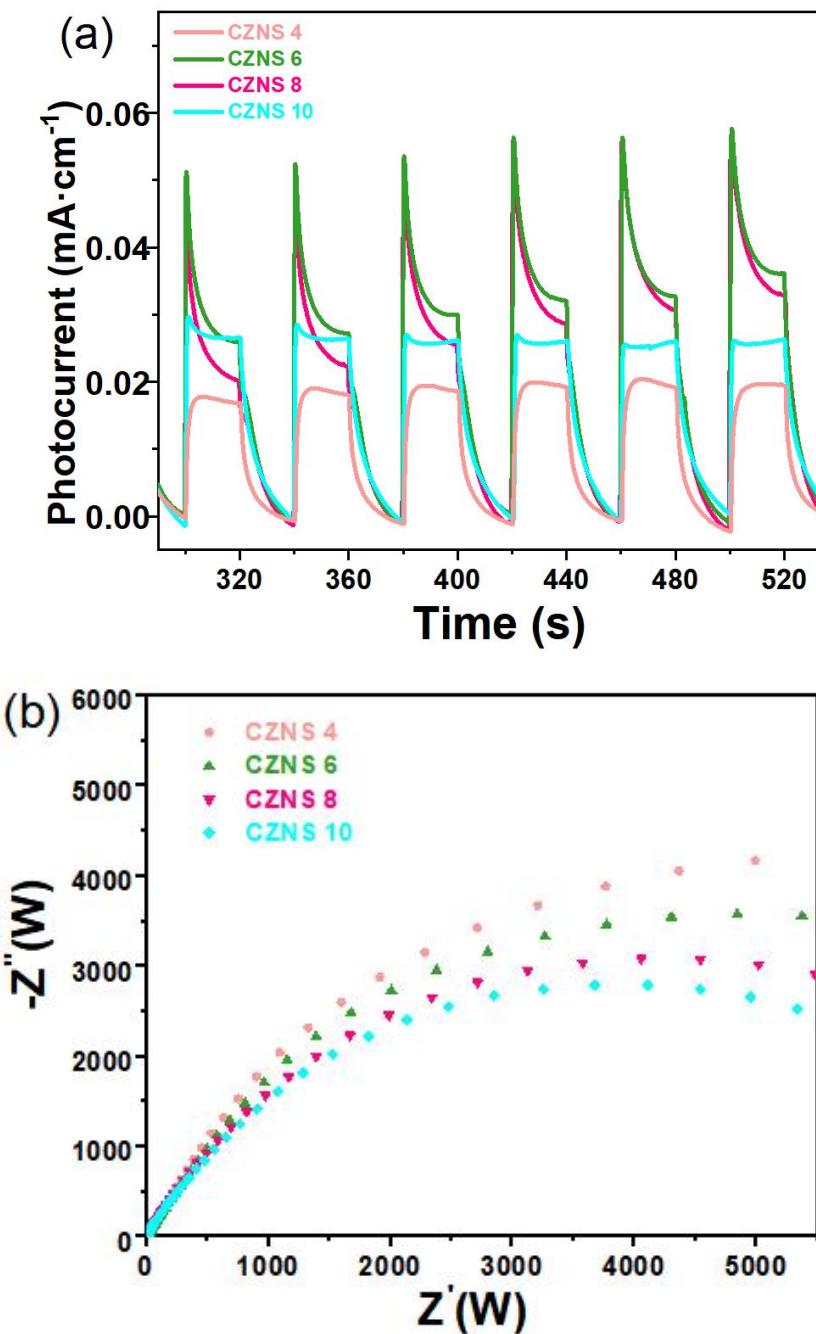
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**Figure S6.** The photo-current curves (a) and Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy (EIS) (b) of CZS, NiS, and CZNS 6.

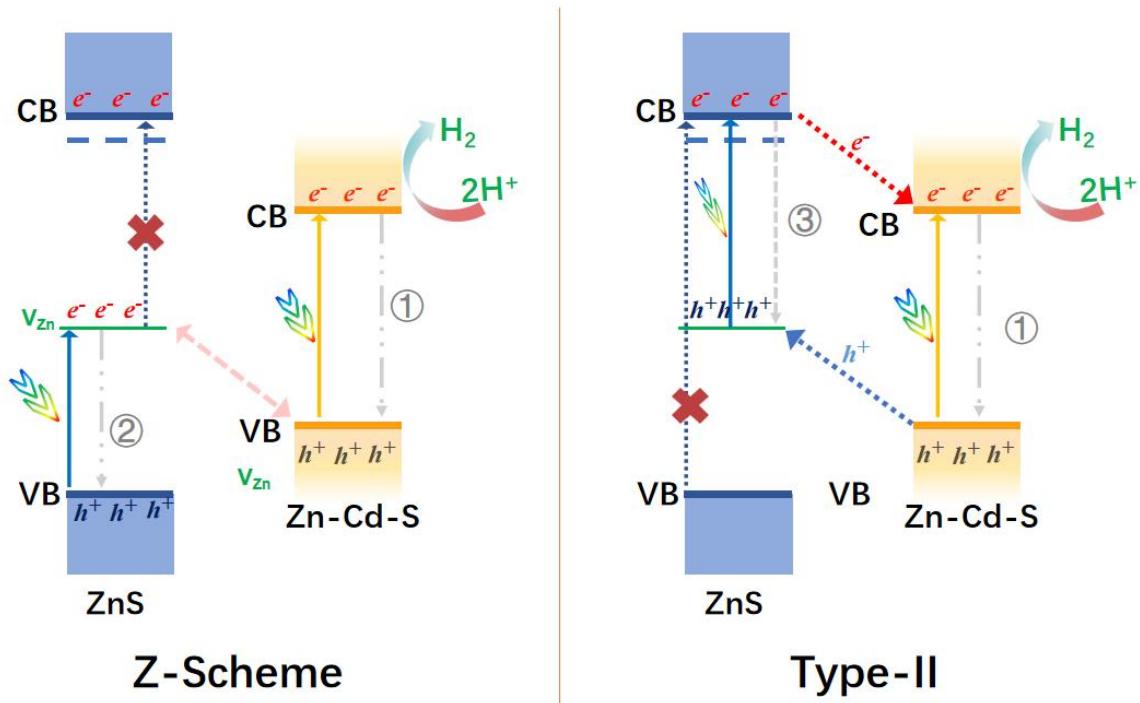
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**Figure S7.** The photo-current curves(a) and Electrochemical Impedence Spectroscopy (EIS) (b) of samples with different NiS additions.

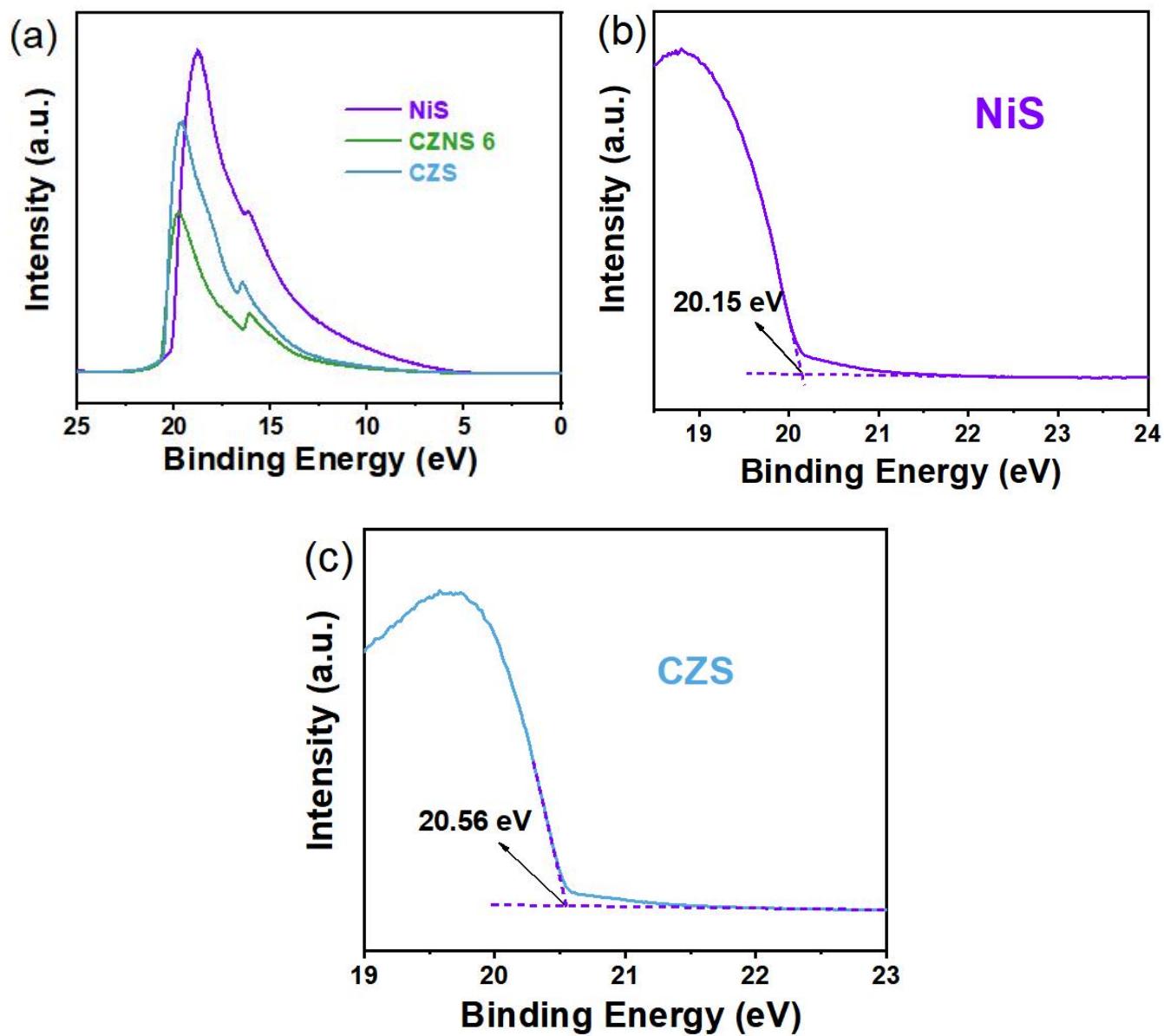
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**Figure S8.** The band structure and charge transfer mechanism of sample CZS under visible light ( $> 420$  nm): (a) Z-Scheme; (b) type-II.

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**Figure S9.** The UPS sepctra of NiS, CZS and CZNS 6 (a), and the corresponding photoemission cutoff spectra of NiS (b) and CZS (c) .

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**Table S1.** The time-resolved photoluminescence of sample CZN and CZNS 6.

Samples	CZS	CZNS 6
A <sub>1</sub>	1.35	1.75
τ <sub>1</sub> <sup>a</sup> (ns)	2.45	0.38
A <sub>2</sub>	1.28	0.38
τ <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup> (ns)	9.46	49.05
A <sub>3</sub>	0.31	
τ <sub>3</sub> <sup>c</sup> (ns)	85.66	
Ave τ (ns)	57.1	47.4

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**Table S2.** Recent heterojunction photocatalytic systems for H<sub>2</sub> evolution based on the Zn-Cd-S nanomaterials.

Catalyst	Weight (mg)	Sacrificial agent	Light source	H <sub>2</sub> evolution (mmol·g <sup>-1</sup> ·h <sup>-1</sup> )	Reference
<b>Cd<sub>0.5</sub>Zn<sub>0.5</sub>S nanorod</b>	100	Na <sub>2</sub> S and Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	300 W Xe lamp	2.58	1
<b>ZnCdS/ZnCd S/ZnS</b>	20	Na <sub>2</sub> S and Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	300 W Xe lamp	0.2339	2
<b>Pt-modified ZnCdS</b>	25	Na <sub>2</sub> S and Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	300 W Xe lamp	1.045	3
<b>NiO/ZnCdS</b>	40	Na <sub>2</sub> S and Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	300 W Xe lamp	5.042	4
<b>Pt-modified ZnCdS</b>	10	Na <sub>2</sub> S and Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	300 W Xe lamp	8.87	5
<b>Zn<sub>(1-x)</sub>Cd<sub>x</sub>S</b>	20	Na <sub>2</sub> S and Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	300 W Xe lamp (>420 nm)	7.71	6
<b>ZnS/g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub></b>	50	Na <sub>2</sub> S and Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	300 W Xe lamp	0.713	7
<b>ZnCdS QDs</b>	50	Na <sub>2</sub> S and Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	300 W Xe lamp	11.32	8
<b>ZnO/CdS</b>	30	Na <sub>2</sub> S and Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	300 W Xe lamp	7.669	9
<b>Zn<sub>1-x</sub>Cd<sub>x</sub>S/CdS</b>	10	Na <sub>2</sub> S and Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	300 W Xe lamp	2.7	10
<b>ZnS/g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub></b>	30	Na <sub>2</sub> S and Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	300 W Xe lamp	0.654	11
<b>This work</b>	30	Na <sub>2</sub> S and Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	300 W Xe lamp (>420 nm)	16.68	/

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