

SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR THE WORK

On the Enhanced Photocatalytic Activity of N-Doped Carbon Dots

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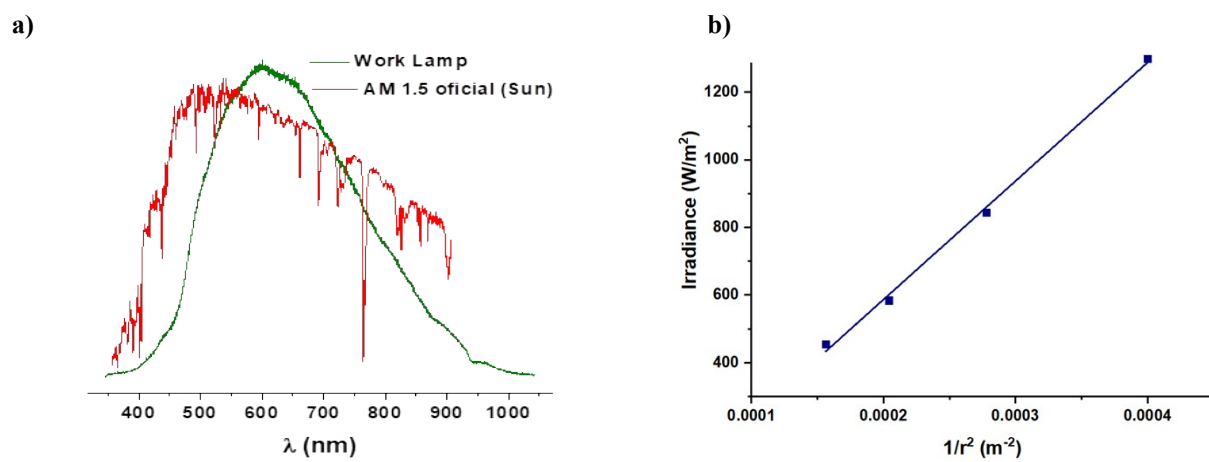


Figure S1. (a) Comparison of the work lamp and sunlight emission spectra. (b) Irradiance as a function of $1/r^2$.

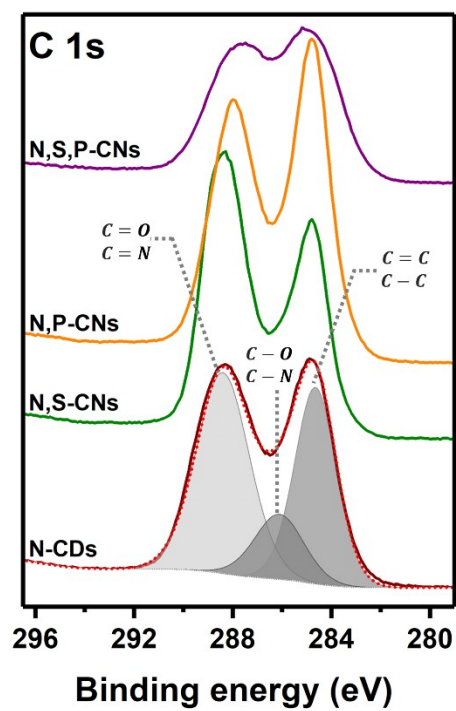


Figure S2. High-resolution X-ray photoelectron (XPS) spectra depicting C 1s orbital binding energy regions for doped carbon nanostructures.

Table S1. Elemental composition of doped carbon nanostructures obtained from XPS survey spectra.

Element	N-CDs		N,S-CNs		N,P-CNs		N,S,P-CNs	
	Binding Energy (eV)	Atomic %	Binding Energy (eV)	Atomic %	Binding Energy (eV)	Atomic %	Binding Energy (eV)	Atomic %
C	286.8	48.0	288.6	42.4	285.4	50.0	286.9	51.2
O	532.3	35.2	531.2	37.3	531.6	31.2	532.2	28.4
N	400.8	16.6	399.6	17.6	400.1	17.6	400.6	18.3
P	125.5	0.1	133.7	0.2	133.3	1.1	134.3	0.5
S	169.7	0.1	163.0	2.5	168.5	0.1	164.3	1.6

Table S2. Relative composition of different species of N, S and P present in doped carbon nanostructures obtained from XPS analysis.

Signal	Assignment	N-CDs		N,S-CNs		N,P-CNs		N,S,P-CNs	
		Binding Energy(eV)	Atomic %	Binding Energy (eV)	Atomic %	Binding Energy (eV)	Atomic %	Binding Energy (eV)	Atomic %
C 1s[1,2]	$C = O; C = N$	288.4	48.3	288.4	54.1	287.9	46.1	287.8	45.6
	$C - O; C - N$	286.1	14.5	286.3	12.0	285.7	13.1	286.1	8.2
	$C - C; C = C$	284.8	37.2	284.8	33.9	284.8 (C - P)	40.8	284.8 (C - P)	46.2
O 1s[2,3]	Na (Auger peak); $C - OH$	535.3	14.3	535.5	15.3	535.4	12.7	535.0	12.3
	$C - O - C$	532.2	13.6	532.4	8.3	532.3	10.4	532.2	7.9
	$C = O$	530.8	72.1	531.0	76.4	531.0	76.9	530.7	79.8
N 1s[2,4]	Pyrrolic ($C_2 - N - H$)	399.5	69.8	399.5	79.2	399.5	79.9	399.2	88.6
	Pyridinic ($C = N - C$)	397.8	30.2	397.8	20.8	397.7	20.1	397.3	11.4
S 2p[5]	$-C - S - C -$ (S2p _{3/2} and S2p _{1/2})	-	-	162.8	66.2	-	-	162.9	72.0
	$-C - S^-$	-	-	161.2	33.8	-	-	161.2	28.0
P 2p[6]	$P - O - C$	-	-	-	-	132.8	100	132.8	100

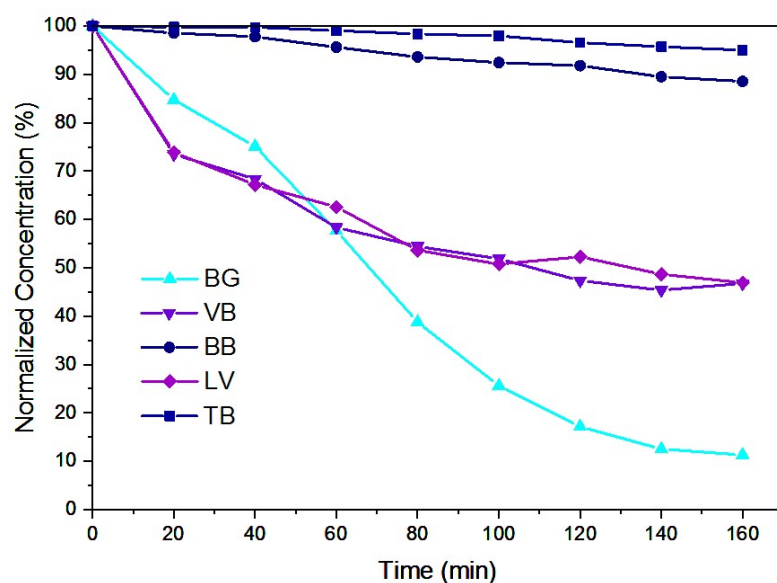


Figure S3. Comparison of dye photostabilities under visible light. Initial concentrations for each colorant were adjusted so that the absorbance range fell within the range where the Lambert-Beer law holds (0.2 – 0.8). The initial concentrations of the colorants were $\rho(\text{Brilliant Green}) = 0.6 \text{ mg/mL}$ ($1.243 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mol/L}$); $\rho(\text{Victoria Blue}) = 7.0 \text{ mg/mL}$ ($1.528 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol/L}$); $\rho(\text{Brilliant Blue}) = 3.0 \text{ mg/mL}$ ($3.632 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mol/L}$); $\rho(\text{Lauth's Violet}) = 7.0 \text{ mg/mL}$ ($2.654 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol/L}$) and $\rho(\text{Brilliant Blue}) = 3.0 \text{ mg/mL}$ ($3.632 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mol/L}$).

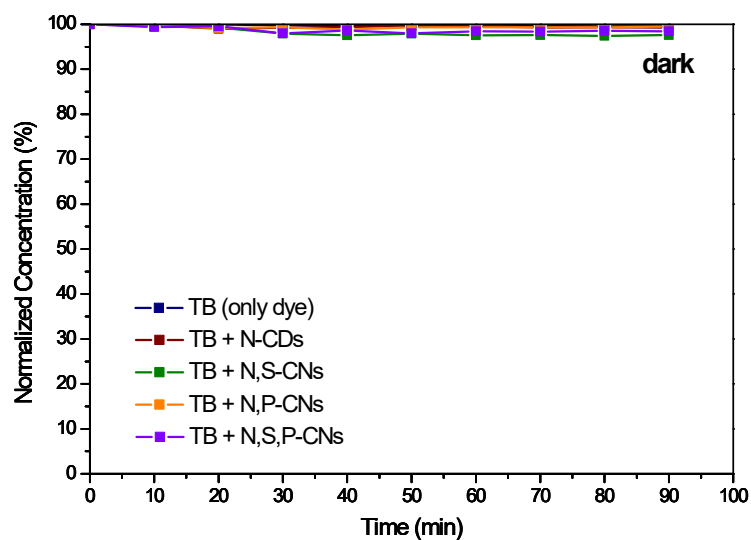


Figure S4. Time evolution of the normalized concentration of Toluidine Blue (TB, $\rho(TB) = 55 \mu\text{g/mL}$ equals $c(TB) = 1.80 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ M}$) in the presence of the doped nanostructures and without illumination.

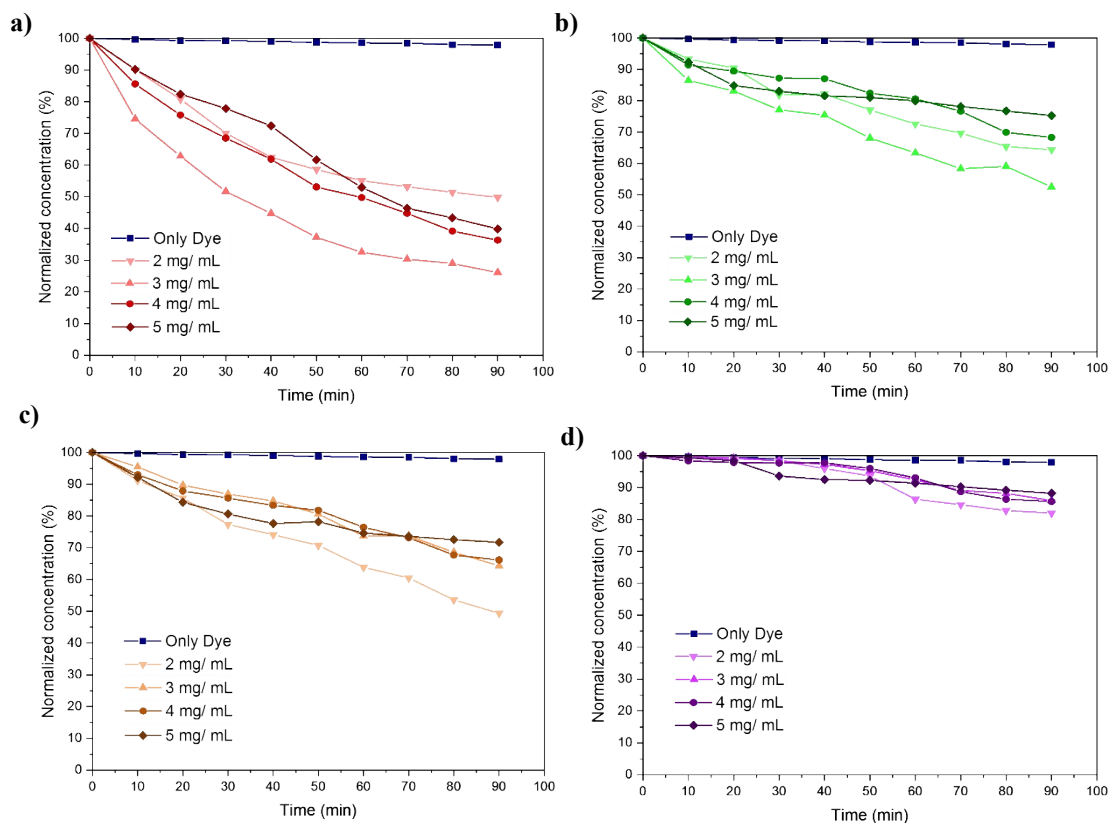


Figure S5. Time evolution of the normalized concentration of Toluidine Blue (TB, $\rho(TB) = 55 \mu\text{g/mL}$ equals $c(TB) = 1.80 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ M}$) in the presence of: (a) N-CDs; (b) N,S-CNs; (c) N,P-CNs; and (d) N,S,P-CNs at different concentrations.

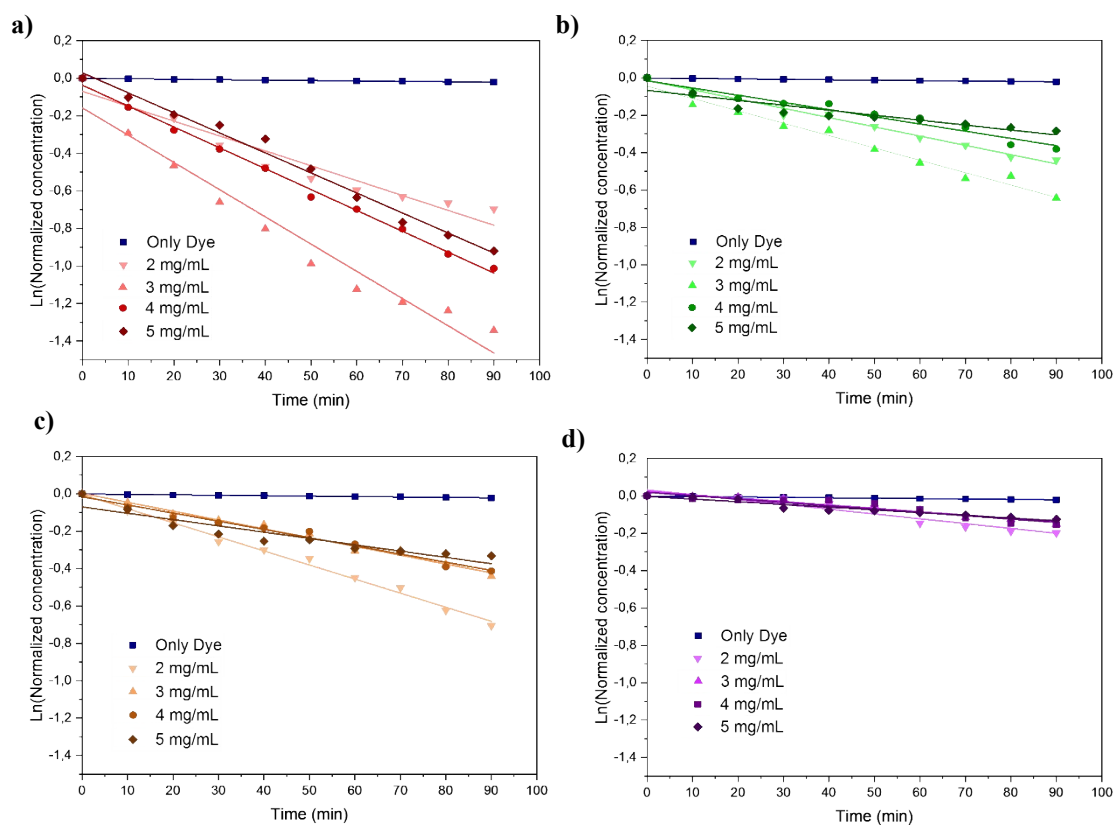


Figure S6. Photodegradation of Toluidine Blue (TB, $\rho(TB) = 55 \mu\text{g/mL}$ equals $c(TB) = 1.80 \cdot 10^{-7} M$) in the presence of (a) N-CDs; (b) N,S-CNs; (c) N,P-CNs; and (d) N,S,P-CNs at different concentration, following a pseudo-first-order kinetics.

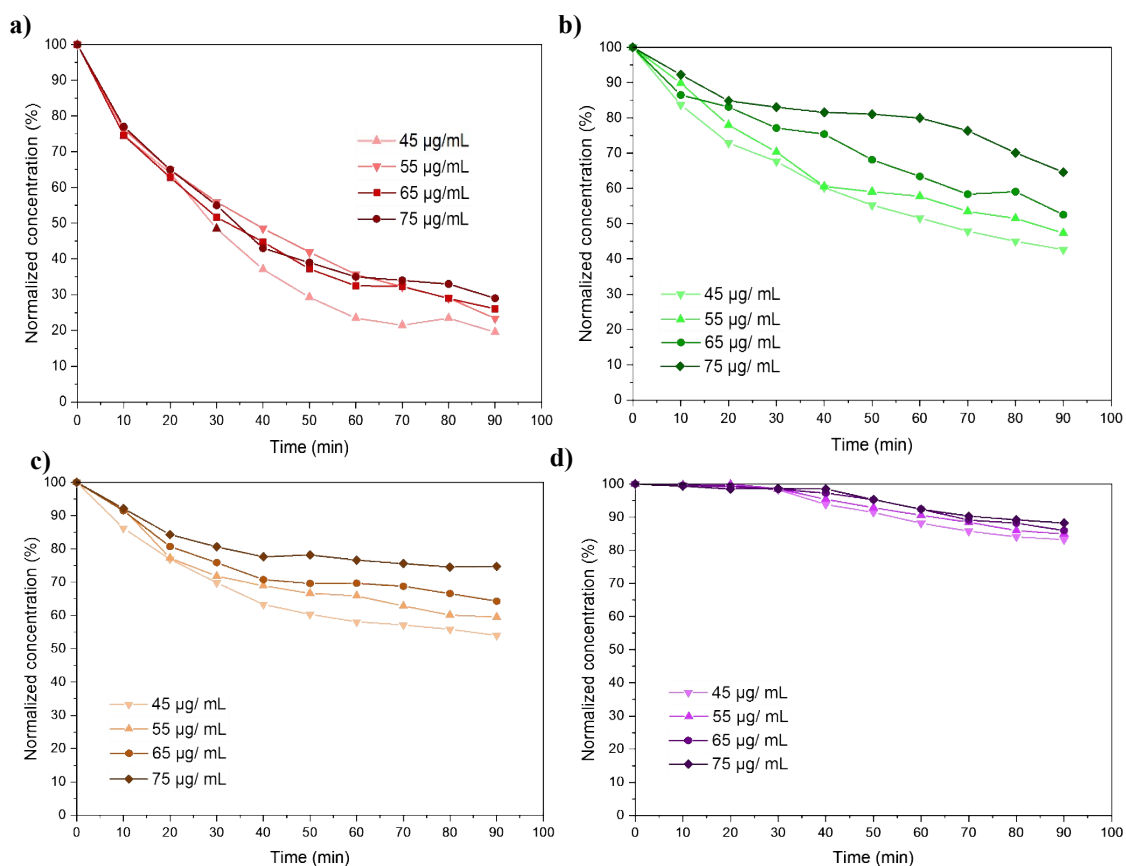


Figure S7. Time evolution of the normalized concentration of Toluidine Blue (TB) at different dye concentrations ($\rho(TB) = 45 \mu\text{g/mL}$ equals $c(TB) = 1.47 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ M}$; $\rho(TB) = 55 \mu\text{g/mL}$ equals $c(TB) = 1.80 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ M}$; $\rho(TB) = 65 \mu\text{g/mL}$ equals $c(TB) = 2.13 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ M}$; $\rho(TB) = 75 \mu\text{g/mL}$ equals $c(TB) = 2.45 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ M}$) in the presence of: (a) N-CDs; (b) N,S-CNs; (c) N,P-CNs; and (d) N,S,P-CNs at a concentration of 3 mg/mL.

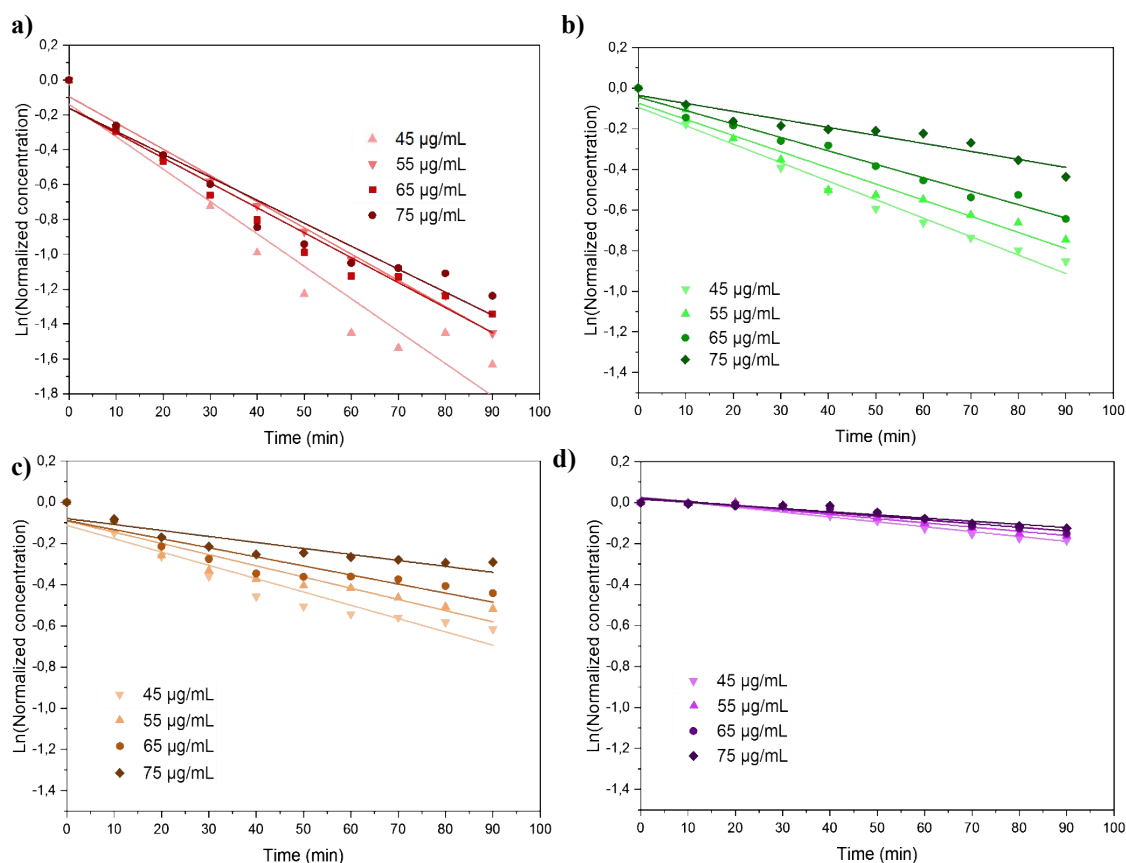


Figure S8. Photodegradation of Toluidine Blue (TB) at different dye concentrations ($\rho(TB) = 45 \mu\text{g/mL}$ equals $c(TB) = 1.47 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ M}$; $\rho(TB) = 55 \mu\text{g/mL}$ equals $c(TB) = 1.80 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ M}$; $\rho(TB) = 65 \mu\text{g/mL}$ equals $c(TB) = 2.13 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ M}$; $\rho(TB) = 75 \mu\text{g/mL}$ equals $c(TB) = 2.45 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ M}$), using 3 mg/mL of (a) N-CDs. (b) N,S-CNs (c) N,P-CNs, (d) N,S,P-CNs. The reactions followed a pseudo-first-order kinetics.

Table S3. Pseudo-first-order rate constants for each doped material at different concentrations; $\rho(\text{TB}) = 55 \text{ } \mu\text{g/mL}$ equals $c(\text{TB}) = 1.80 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ M}$.

TB (dye)	$(1.4 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-4} \text{ k (min}^{-1})$ (without photocatalysts)			
$\rho(\text{photocatalyst})$	2 mg/mL	3 mg/mL	4 mg/mL	5 mg/mL
N-CDs k (min⁻¹)	$(7.9 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-3}$	$(1.1 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-2}$	$(1.1 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-2}$	$(1.1 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-2}$
N,S-CNs k (min⁻¹)	$(4.9 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-3}$	$(7.0 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-3}$	$(3.9 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-3}$	$(2.7 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-3}$
N,P-CNs k (min⁻¹)	$(7.5 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-3}$	$(8.0 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-3}$	$(4.4 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-3}$	$(3.4 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-3}$
N,S,P-CNs k (min⁻¹)	$(2.5 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-3}$	$(4.0 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-3}$	$(1.8 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-3}$	$(1.4 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-3}$

Table S4. Apparent rate constants for each doped material ($\rho(\text{photocatalyst}) = 3 \text{ mg/mL}$) at different dye concentrations.

$\rho(\text{dye})$	45 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	55 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	65 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	75 $\mu\text{g/mL}$
$c(\text{dye})$	$1.47 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ mol/L}$	$1.80 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ mol/L}$	$2.13 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ mol/L}$	$2.45 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ mol/L}$
N-CDs $k \text{ (min}^{-1}\text{)}$	$(1.8 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-2}$	$(1.5 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-2}$	$(1.4 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-2}$	$(1.3 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-2}$
N,S-CNs $k \text{ (min}^{-1}\text{)}$	$(9.1 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-3}$	$(7.9 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-3}$	$(6.6 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-3}$	$(3.9 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-3}$
N,P-CNs $k \text{ (min}^{-1}\text{)}$	$(6.5 \pm 0.8) \times 10^{-3}$	$(5.4 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-3}$	$(4.4 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-3}$	$(2.9 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-3}$
N,S,P-CNs $k \text{ (min}^{-1}\text{)}$	$(2.4 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-3}$	$(2.1 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-3}$	$(1.8 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-3}$	$(1.5 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-3}$

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