

Supplementary Information

Photogenerated Carrier-assisted Electrocatalysis: Mechanistic Perspectives and Catalytic Advances

Wenhao Lu,† Tingting Du,† Xing Lin, Hao Cui, Fei Xue, Xin Zhang* and Fengchun Yang*

Key Laboratory of Synthetic and Natural Functional Molecule Chemistry of Ministry of Education,

College of Chemistry and Material Science, Northwest University, Xi'an, 710127, China.

†Wenhao Lu and Tingting Du contributed equally to this manuscript.

*Corresponding author and E-mail: zhangxin@nwu.edu.cn; fyang@nwu.edu.cn.

Table S1. Timeline of major developments in PCAE.

Year	Development	Ref.
1972	First photo-assisted water splitting	20
1984	First photo-assisted CO ₂ reduction	22
2005	First photo-assisted methanol oxidation	23
2014	First photo-assisted formic acid oxidation	24
2014	First light-assisted Li-O ₂ battery	25
2018	First photo-assisted rechargeable Zn-air batteries	26
2021	First photo-driven urea-assisted hydrogen generation	27
2023	First light field-enhanced nitrogen reduction reaction	28

Table S2. The strategy and performance of PCAE.

No.	Catalyst	Strategy	Dark condition				Light condition				Stability	Reaction type	Ref.
			Overpotential (mV)	Tafel (mV dec ⁻¹)	Mass activity (mA mg ⁻¹)	Others	Overpotential (mV)	Tafel (mV dec ⁻¹)	Mass activity (mA mg ⁻¹)	Others			
Note: unless stated otherwise, measurements were performed in in 1 M KOH at 10 mA cm ⁻²													
1	BP QDs/MoS ₂	Heterojunction	320/470/670/770 [1/0.5/0.2/0.1 M KOH]	108/141/245/264 [1/0.5/0.2/0.1 M KOH]	-	-	170/400/650/720 [1/0.5/0.2/0.1 M KOH]	95/135/231/247 [1/0.5/0.2/0.1 M KOH]	-	-	CA: 10000 s [1.4 V, 7.5 mA cm ⁻²]	OER	42
2	CoFe PBA/CoS ₂ CNBs	Heterojunction	301	79.6	-	-	275 mV	59.2	-	-	CA: 45 h [1.5 V]	OER	43
3	CoS ₂ /MoS ₂ /Ni ₃ S ₂	Heterojunction	195/341 [10/100 mA cm ⁻²]	56.2	-	-	166/282 [10/100 mA cm ⁻²]	-	-	-	CA: 12 h [0.4 V]	OER	44
4	SnS ₂ /NiO	Heterojunction	388	215	-	-	310	190	-	-	CA: 10 h [87.8%, normalized current]	OER	45
5	CF/WS/CNTs	Heterojunction	224	47	-	-	291	78	-	-	CA: 10 h [0.291 V]	OER	39
6	Pt-BiOBr	Schottky junction	-	-	26.5/155.4[MOR/EOR]	-	-	-	751.7/929.8[MOR/EOR]	-	CA: 3000 s [30.9/16.9 mA mg ⁻¹ MOR/EOR]	MOR/EOR	46
7	Pt/BiVO ₄ /Bi ₂ O ₃	Heterojunction	-	-	506.6	-	-	-	281.4	-	CA: 425 s [0.751 V, light chopping mode]	MOR	47
8	WO/CN-Ni@CF	Heterojunction	Potential: 1.48 V [100 mA cm ⁻²]	-	-	-	Potential: 1.34 V [100 mA cm ⁻²]	-	-	-	CP: 18 h [1.18 V]	UOR	48
9	TiO ₂ -Fe ₂ O ₃	Heterojunction	-	-	-	Power density: 22 mW m ⁻²	-	-	-	Power density: 28 mW m ⁻²	-	UOR	49
10	Ni ₃ (VO ₄) ₂	Morphological regulation	122	82	-	-	90	50	-	-	CV: 1000 cycle	HER	50
11	CdSe/WS ₂	Quantum dots sensitized	-1030	132	-	-	-400	56	-	-	CA: 24 h [-0.4 V]	HER	51
12	Ti ₃ C ₂ @P-WO ₃	Heterojunction	162	102	-	-	44	41	-	-	CV: 5000 cycle	HER	52
13	STO/A-R TNTAs	Heterojunction	-	-	-	HCOOH: 68.24 μmol cm ⁻² h ⁻¹ ; H ₂ : 1.77 μmol h ⁻¹	-	-	-	-	CA: 24 h	CO ₂ RR	53

14	IrO ₂ · nH ₂ O	Dye 1 as sensitizer and a molecular bridge	-	-	-	Current density: 12.7 μA cm ⁻²	-	-	-	-	-	Water Splitting	54
15	CdS@Co ₉ S ₈ /Ni ₃ S ₂	Morphological regulation	-	91.3 [OER]	-	-	[HER/OER, -10/20 mA cm ⁻²]	121/87.2 [HER/OER]	-	-	CP: 40 h [1.15 V]	Water Splitting	55
16	CdS@Ni ₃ S ₂ /Ni ₃ P	Heterojunction	-	-	-	-	-130/300 [HER/OER]	103.0/108.7 [HER/OER]	-	-	CA: 12 h [1.54 V]	Water Splitting	56
17	NiFe-ZAIS	Heterojunction	151/242 [HER/OER]	111.7/71.6 [HER/OER]	-	-	129/220 [HER/OER]	105.0/54.6 [HER/OER]	-	-	CV: 1000 cycle	Water Splitting	33
18	PDTB TiO ₂	Double cathode	-	-	-	Discharge: 1.20 V; Charge: 1.8 V	-	-	-	Discharge: 1.90 V; Charge: 0.59 V	Discharge/charge after cycle: 1.18/0.86 V	ORR/OER	57
19	CeVO ₄ @CNT	Heterojunction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Discharge: 2.59 V; Charge: 3.48 V	50 cycle specific capacity limit of 0.15 mAh cm ⁻² for each cycle at 0.15 mA cm ⁻²	ORR/OER	58
20	Cu ₂ O/β-Bi ₂ O ₃	Heterojunction	-	-	-	Current density: 30.1 mA cm ⁻²	-	-	-	Current density: 40.4 mA cm ⁻²	CA: 9 h	CO ₂ RR	63
21	S-NiFeO _x H _y /CC	Doping	265	78	-	Cdl: 1.58 mF cm ⁻²	250	63	-	Cdl: 10.93 mF cm ⁻²	CP: 24 h [20 mA cm ⁻²]	OER	64
22	Pt-Fe ₂ O ₃	Schottky junction	-	-	167.8	-	-	-	389.1/218.7 [Solar/visible light]	-	CV: 300cycle	MOR	65
23	Pd/hollow TiO ₂ sphere (PHTG)	Morphological regulation	-	-	2657	-	-	-	3687 [UV]	-	CA: 10000 s [1627 mA cm ⁻²]	MOR	66
24	CdS@Ni ₃ S ₂	Heterojunction	330	85.5	-	-	260	75	-	-	CA: 6 h [8.6 mA cm ⁻²]	Water Splitting	69
25	CeO ₂ /MnO ₂ -CFP	Heterojunction	-	-	-	Capacitance: 303.0 F · g ⁻¹ at 0.25 A · g ⁻¹	-	-	-	Capacitance: 169.7 F · g ⁻¹ at 0.25 A · g ⁻¹	CV: 100 cycle	Supercapacitors	70
26	CdS@Ni ₃ S ₂ /Cu ₂ S	Heterojunction	223/347 [HER/OER 20 mA cm ⁻²]	151.7 [OER]	-	-	[OER, 20 mA cm ⁻²]	133.7 [OER]	-	-	CA: 40 h [15 mA cm ⁻²]	Water Splitting	71
27	In ₂ O ₃ @InP	Heterojunction	-44	121.2	-	Photocurrent density: 0.3 mA cm ⁻²	-164	106.9	-	Photocurrent density: 0.9 mA cm ⁻²	CA: 80 h [-10/-20/-50/-100 mA cm ⁻²]	HER	72
28	Ni- or Co-doped CeO ₂	Schottky junction	330 320	98 112	-	-	266 285	86 78	-	-	-	OER	73

29	CoMo-LDH@Ti ₃ C ₂ T _x	Heterojunction	-	-	-	NO ₃ ⁻ yield of 125.9 μg h ⁻¹ mg _{cat} ⁻¹ ; EF: 43.7%	-	-	-	NO ₃ ⁻ yield of 198.55 μg h ⁻¹ mg _{cat} ⁻¹ ; EF: 46.22%	CA: 6000 s	NOR	74
30	Ru NPs/SAs@N-TC	Schottky junction	150	75	-	-	90	58	-	-	CA: 50000 s	HER	75
31	Rh/SnO ₂	Schottky junction	-	127.6	-	Current density: 11.89 mA cm ⁻²	247.05	92.6	-	-	Current density: 13.19 mA cm ⁻²	FAOR	76
32	Pd/CeO ₂	Schottky junction	-	322	2409.31	-	-	285	4161.72	-	-	FAOR	77
33	PdSn/WO ₃	Schottky junction	-	188	1339.5	-	-	203	2262.3	-	CA: 20000 s	FAOR	78
34	CoCr-LDH/CFP	Morphological regulation	445 [100 mA cm ⁻²]	85	-	-	417 [100 mA cm ⁻²]	74	-	-	CA: 15 h [1.57 V, 15 mA cm ⁻²]	Water Splitting	81
35	CCN@FFC	Heterojunction	137/271 [HER/OER]	97/53 [HER/OER]	-	Cdl: 1.53 mF cm ⁻²	68/182 [HER/OER]	38/44 [HER/OER]	-	Cdl: 4.87 mF cm ⁻²	CA: 18 h [10 mA cm ⁻²]	Water Splitting	82
36	CdS-CdSe/MoS ₂ /NiFe-LDH	Heterojunction	-	177	-	Cdl: 15.9 mF cm ⁻²	-	78	-	Cdl: 22.2 mF cm ⁻²	CV: 500 cycle	HER	83
37	LaCoO ₃ /NiFe LDH	Heterojunction	310	100	-	-	260	95	-	-	CA: 60 h [1.8 V, 460 mA cm ⁻²]	OER	84
38	Pt/g-C ₃ N ₄	Schottky junction	-	-	56	-	-	-	132	-	CA: 2000 s	MOR	85
39	Pt/g-C ₃ N ₄ /MoS ₂	Heterojunction	-	-	76.9	-	-	-	165.5	-	CA: 3000 s [-0.2 V]	EOR	86
40	Pt-Bi ₂ WO ₆ /MoS ₂	Heterojunction	-	-	1781	-	-	-	2743	-	CA: 1500 s [-0.2 V]	MOR	87
41	Cd-CoS _x	Doping	-	-	10.4 [0.6 V]	-	-	-	14.5 [0.6 V]	-	CA: 8 h [0.6 V]	MOR	89
42	N-doped CoNiOOH	Doping	-	-	-	95 μmol h ⁻¹ cm ⁻² [1.5 V]	-	-	-	160 μmol h ⁻¹ cm ⁻² [1.5V]	CA: 48 h [2.5 V]	Water Splitting	90
43	AB-OV/CC	Defect Engineering	-	-	-	Discharge: 2.76 V; Charge: 3.94 V	-	-	-	Discharge: 3.05 V; Charge: 3.25 V	Charge voltage retention of 70% [500 h]	Li-O ₂ Batteries	91
44	Au-N _x -C ₃ N ₄	Defect Engineering	-	-	-	Discharge: 1.18 V; Charge: 3.52 V	-	-	-	Discharge: 1.60 V; Charge: 3.05 V	Cycle stability [500 h]	Li-N ₂ batteries	92
46	LaFe _{1-x} O ₃ -Fe _y	Defect Engineering	450	73.0	-	-	634	65.7	-	-	CA: 30 h [1.8 V, 12 mA cm ⁻²]	Water Splitting	93
47	NiCo ₂ S ₄	Doping	-	-	-	-	80/243 [HER/OER]	58.5/54.9 [HER/OER]	-	-	CA: 24 h [1.60 V, 80 mA cm ⁻²]	Water Splitting	96

48	MnWO ₄ /FeCoNi	Schottky junction	104/234 [HER/OER]	60.6/67.4 [HER/OER]	-	-	64/204 [HER/OER]	53.1/56.1 [HER/OER]	-	-	CA: 720 h [500/1000 mA cm ⁻²]	Water Splitting	97
49	CuO/ZnO/graphene	Heterojunction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	H ₂ production: 37.2 mmol g ⁻¹ h ⁻¹	H ₂ production rate: 208 mmol g ⁻¹	Water Splitting	98
50	PtNi/C-TiO ₂ NTs	Doping	-	-	108 mA cm ⁻²	-	-	-	123 mA cm ⁻²	-	CA: 1800 s [51%, 61 mA cm ⁻²]	MOR	103
51	TiO ₂	Defect Engineering	-	-	-	Power density: 5.8 μW cm ⁻²	-	-	-	Power density: 22.2 μW cm ⁻²	CP: 15 min [0.54 V, 90 μA cm ⁻²]	MOR	104
52	ZnO, TiO ₂ , Fe ₂ O ₃	ID semiconductor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.12/1.34/1.14 ZnO/TiO ₂ /Fe ₂ O ₃	-	MOR	105
53	Si NWs@ZnO	Heterojunction	-	-	-	Short circuit current: 67.0 μA cm ⁻² ; OCP: 0.4 V	-	-	-	Short circuit current: 100.5 μA cm ⁻² ;	CA: 20000 s [97.4%]	MOR	106
54	pTTh	Polymer semiconductor	-	-	-	Onset Potential: 0.66 V; current density: 1.2 mA cm ⁻²	-	-	-	Onset Potential: 1.34 V; current density: 52.8 mA cm ⁻²	CA: 10 h [0.8 V]	ORR	107
55	W-BiVO ₄ /V ₂ O ₅ photoanode/ Cu ₂ O/CuO photocathode	Heterojunction	-	-	-	R _{ct} : 161,000 Ω; J _{sc} : 0 mA cm ⁻² ; OCP: 0.03 V	-	-	-	R _{ct} : 241 Ω; J _{sc} : 8.05 mA cm ⁻² ; OCP: 0.41 V	-	ORR	108
56	Nickel foam/TiO ₂ coating	Semiconductor	-	-	-	R _{ct} : 3,822.25 Ω	-	-	-	R _{ct} : 2497.75 Ω; Photocurrent density: 0.025 mA cm ⁻²	CA: 1200 s [0.5 M NaOH with 0.05/0.07/0.2/0.3/0.5 M Urea]	UOR	109
57	TiO ₂ -Fe ₂ O ₃ /CC	Heterojunction	-	-	-	Discharge plateaus: 2.9 V [0.01 mA cm ⁻²]; Charge plateaus: 4.2 V [0.01 mA cm ⁻²]	-	-	-	Discharge plateaus: 3.2/2.5 V [0.01/1 mA cm ⁻²]; Charge plateaus: 3.2 V [0.01 mA cm ⁻²]	3.0/3.2 V [Discharge/charge potential after 100 cycle]	Li-O ₂ Battery	114
58	Co-TABQ	Metal/Organic Polymer	-	-	-	Discharge voltage: 2.63 V; charge voltage: 4.31 V [0.10 mA cm ⁻²]	-	-	-	Discharge voltage: 3.13/3.06/2.96/2.83 V; charge voltage: 3.33/3.41/3.50/3.61 V [0.10/0.20/0.30/0.50 mA cm ⁻²]	50 cycle	Li-O ₂ Battery	115
59	In ₂ S ₃ @CNT/SS	Structural Design	-	-	-	Discharge voltage: 2.73 V; charge voltage: 3.86 V; Round Trip Efficiency: 70.7%	-	-	-	Discharge voltage: 3.14 V; charge voltage: 3.20 V; Round Trip Efficiency: 98.1%	25 cycle/Flexibility Test 10 cycle [0°, 45°, 180°]	Li-CO ₂ Battery	116

60	TiO ₂ /CC	Semiconductor	407/505 [CO ₂ RR/CO ₂ ER]	-	-	-	Discharge voltage: 2.67 V; charge voltage: 3.97 V; Energy Efficiency: 67.3%	-	-	289/373 [CO ₂ RR/CO ₂ ER]	Discharge voltage: 2.82 V; charge voltage: 2.88 V; Energy Efficiency: 97.9%	Stable Cycling: 60 h [0.01 mA cm ⁻²]	Li-CO ₂ Battery	117
61	BiVO ₄ or α-Fe ₂ O ₃	Semiconductor	-	-	-	Charge voltage: 2.0/2.0 V [BiVO ₄ /α-Fe ₂ O ₃]	-	-	-	Charge voltage: 1.20/1.43 V [BiVO ₄ /α-Fe ₂ O ₃];	CA: BiVO ₄ [10 min, 84.6%] α-Fe ₂ O ₃ [5 h, 100%]	Zn-air battery	121	
62	VLS-RZAB	Semiconductor	-	-	-	Charge voltage: 1.72 V; Energy Efficiency: 75.64%	-	-	-	Charge voltage: 1.35/1.28 V; Energy Efficiency: 97.78/101.64% [Visible light/UV]	50 cycle [1.65 V, 100 mW cm ⁻²]	Zn-air battery	122	
63	Ru@TS@C	Semiconductor	-	-	-	295 mV at 0.2 mA cm ⁻²	-	-	-	218 mV at 0.2 mA cm ⁻²	76% round-trip efficiency retention after 300 h under light	Zn-air battery	123	
