

## Supporting information

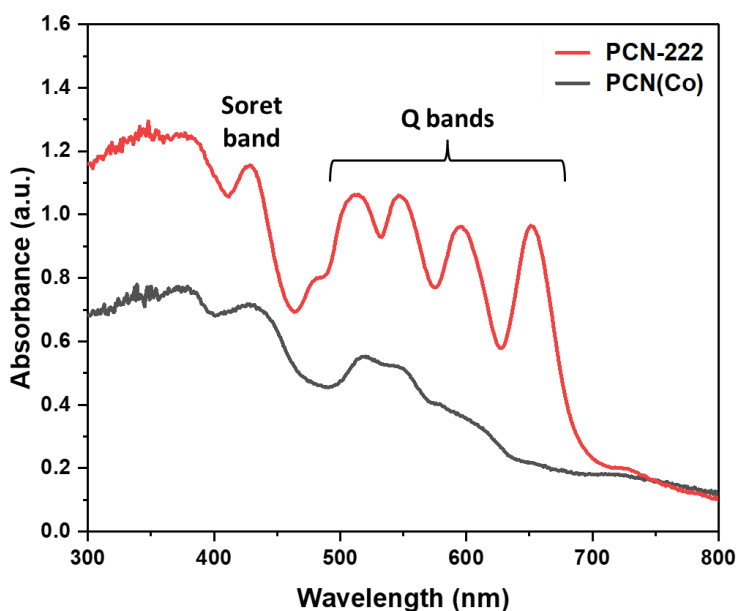
### Engineering Covalently Linked $\text{NH}_2\text{-TiN@PCN-222-Co}$ Single-Atom Photocatalyst for Solar-Driven $\text{CO}_2\text{-to-CO}$ Conversion

Minh-Khoa Duong,<sup>a</sup> Toan-Anh Quach,<sup>a</sup> Van-Duc Nguyen,<sup>a</sup> Sakar Mohan<sup>b</sup>, Trong-On Do<sup>a\*</sup>

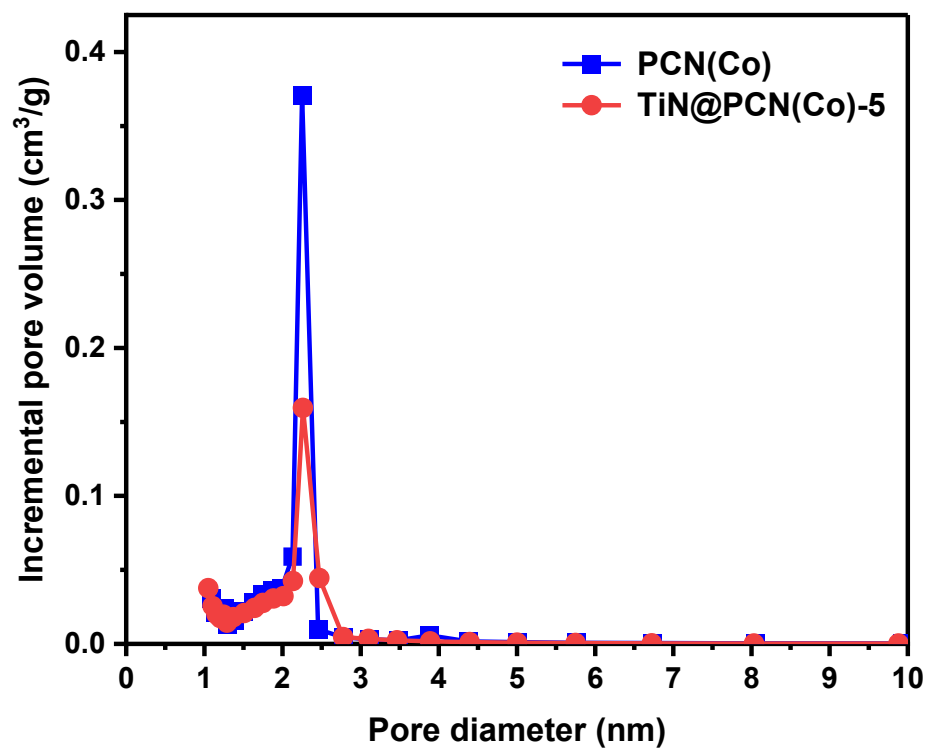
<sup>a</sup>Department of Chemical Engineering, Laval University, 1065 Avenue de la Médecine, Quebec, QC G1V0A6, Canada

<sup>b</sup>Centre for Nano and Material Sciences, Jain (Deemed-to-be University), Jain Global Campus, Kanakapura road, Bangalore 562112, Karnataka, India.

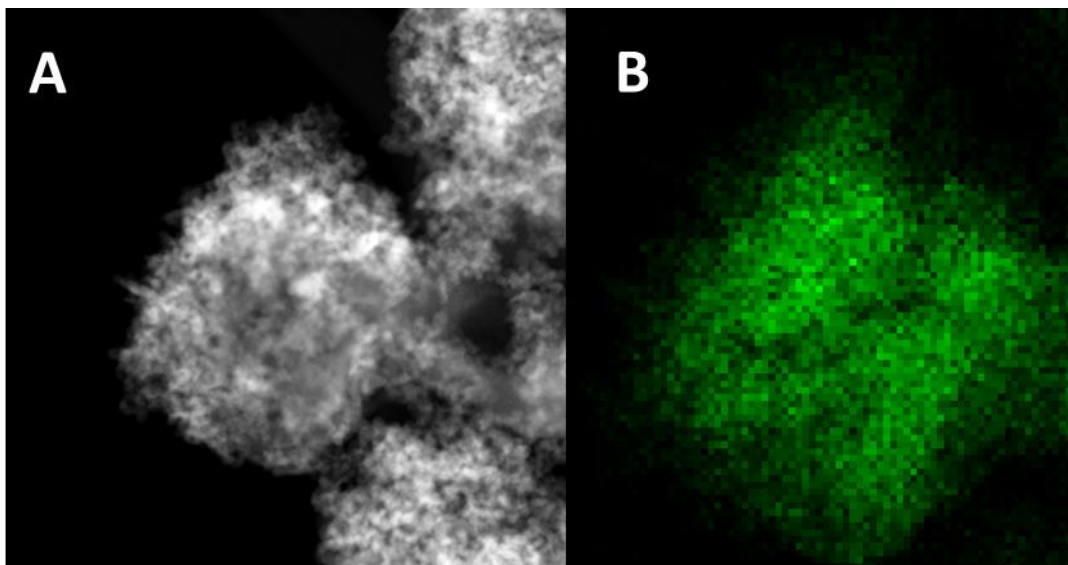
\*Corresponding Author: Email address: Trong-On.Do@gch.ulaval.ca



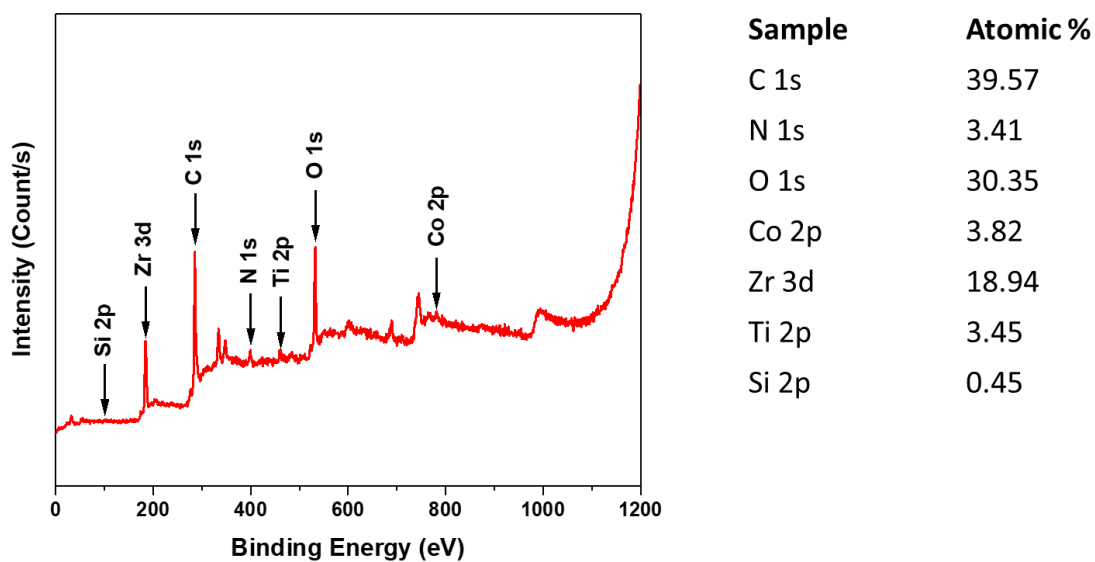
**Figure S1.** UV-visible absorption spectra of PCN-222 (non-cobalt metalation) and PCN(Co).



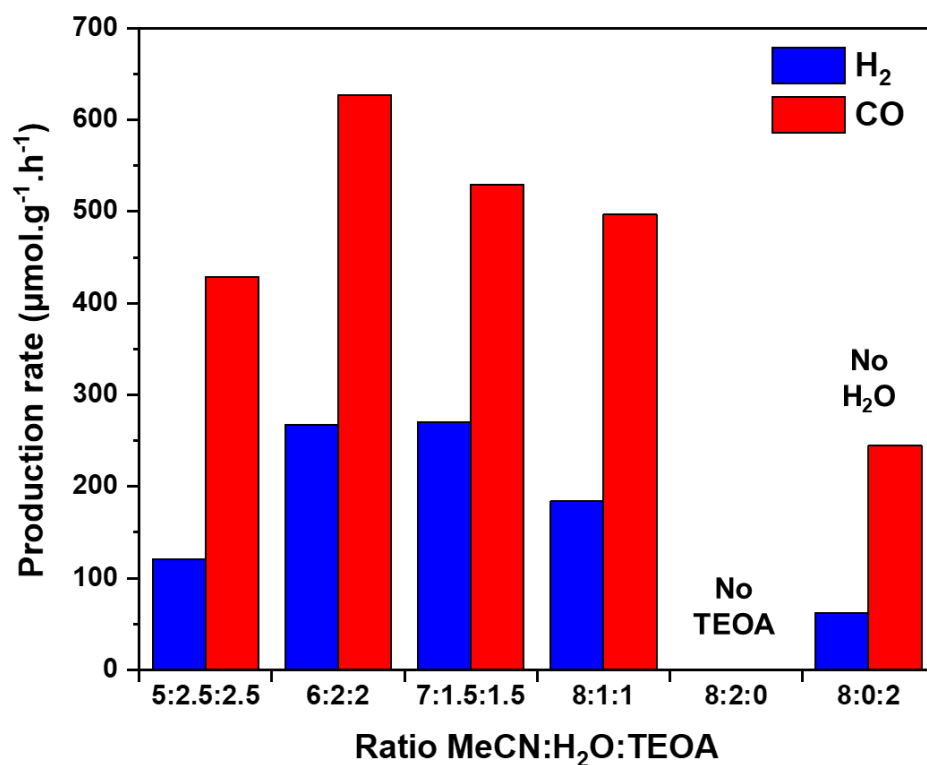
**Figure S2.** The pore size distribution of PCN(Co) and TiN@PCN(Co)-5



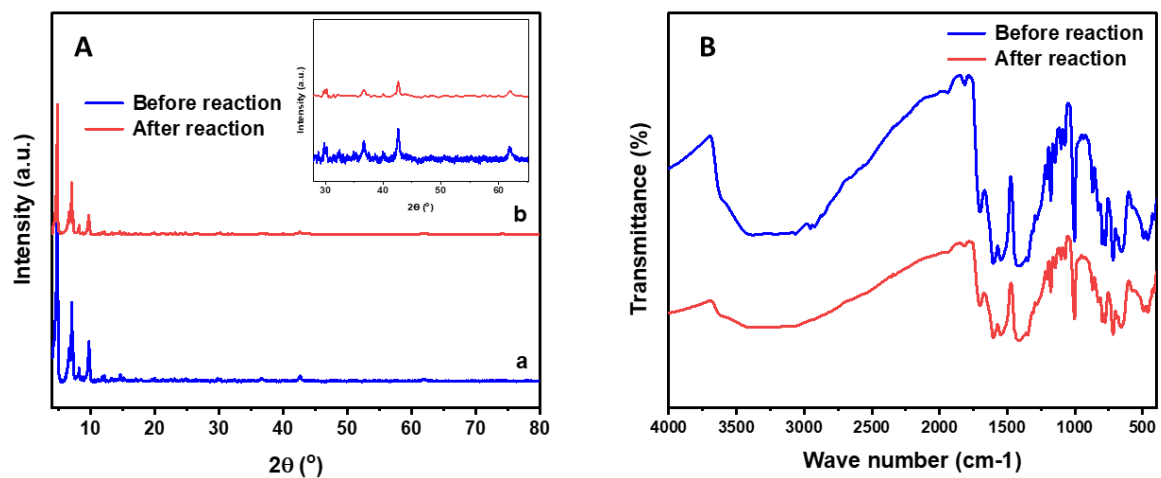
**Figure S3.** EDS elemental mapping images of (A) full area survey and (B) N K signal of TiN@PCN(Co) sample.



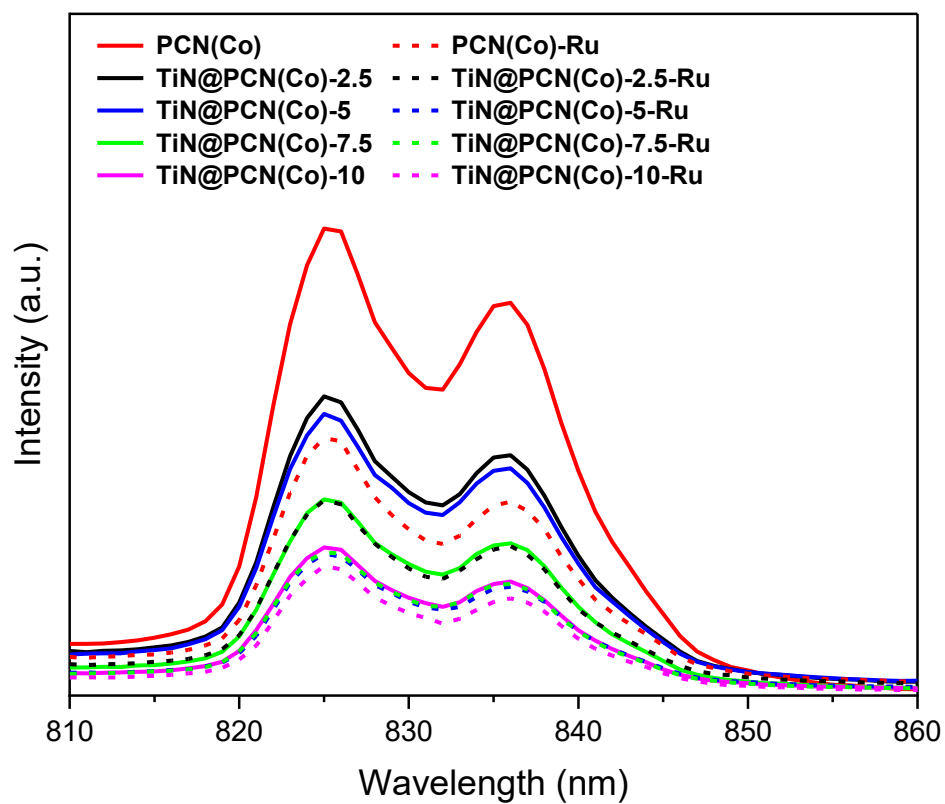
**Figure S4.** The survey XPS spectra of TiN@PCN(Co)-5 nanocomposite



**Figure S5.** The optimization of solvent ratio MeCN:H<sub>2</sub>O:TEOA for the photocatalytic CO<sub>2</sub> reduction



**Figure S6.** (A) XRD spectra and (B) FT-IR spectra of TiN@PCN(Co)-5 before and after 5 cycle stability test.



**Figure S7.** Photoluminescence spectra of bare PCN(Co) and TiN@PCN(Co)-x samples with and without photosensitizer  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3]\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

**Table S1:** The fitting circuit parameters of electrodes.

| Sample               | PCN(Co) | TiN@PCN-<br>2.5 | TiN@PCN-<br>5 | TiN@PCN-<br>7.5 | TiN@PCN-<br>10 |
|----------------------|---------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| $R_s (\Omega)$       | 15.14   | 14.31           | 17.44         | 16.44           | 19.68          |
| $Q (\times 10^{-5})$ | 5.27    | 5.38            | 5.54          | 5.95            | 5.58           |
| $R_{ct} (\Omega)$    | 6391    | 3958            | 2742          | 5473            | 4249           |

**Table S2:** Fit parameter of TRPL curves for the bare PCN(Co) and TiN@PCN(Co)-x composites with and without the presence of photosensitizer.

| Sample         | $\tau_1/\text{ns}$ | $A_1$ (%) | $\tau_2/\text{ns}$ | $A_2$ (%) | $\tau_3/\text{ns}$ | $A_3$ (%) | $T_{av}/\text{ns}$ |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| PCN(Co)        | 1.22               | 37.3      | 1.83               | 37.4      | 2.44               | 25.3      | 1.885              |
| PCN(Co)-Ru     | 1.39               | 16.8      | 2.09               | 41.6      | 2.79               | 41.6      | 2.375              |
| TiN@PCN-2.5    | 1.43               | 34.3      | 2.14               | 35.5      | 2.86               | 30.2      | 2.268              |
| TiN@PCN-2.5-Ru | 1.53               | 37.0      | 2.30               | 34.6      | 3.07               | 28.4      | 2.403              |
| TiN@PCN-5      | 1.50               | 35.4      | 2.25               | 34.0      | 3.00               | 30.6      | 2.378              |
| TiN@PCN-5-Ru   | 1.53               | 40.6      | 2.30               | 20.1      | 3.07               | 39.3      | 2.494              |
| TiN@PCN-7.5    | 1.18               | 37.1      | 1.78               | 34.2      | 2.37               | 28.7      | 1.859              |
| TiN@PCN-7.5-Ru | 1.39               | 35.0      | 2.09               | 30.6      | 2.79               | 34.4      | 2.248              |
| TiN@PCN-10     | 1.60               | 53.0      | 2.40               | 47.0      | 3.21               | 0.0       | 2.060              |
| TiN@PCN-10-Ru  | 1.39               | 34.9      | 2.09               | 34.6      | 2.79               | 30.5      | 2.213              |

The average lifetime is calculated by the following equation:

$$\tau_{av} = \frac{(A_1\tau_1^2 + A_2\tau_2^2 + A_3\tau_3^2)}{(A_1\tau_1 + A_2\tau_2 + A_3\tau_3)}$$

**Table S3:** Comparison of photocatalytic CO<sub>2</sub> reduction activities with the reported photocatalyst in the literature

| Catalyst                                                    | Light source         | Co-Catalyst | Sacrificial agent | Photosensitizer                                             | CO Production rate (μmol. g <sup>-1</sup> .h <sup>-1</sup> ) | References       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>TiN@PCN-222-Co</b>                                       | <b>150 W Xe lamp</b> | <b>No</b>   | <b>TEOA</b>       | <b>[Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>]Cl<sub>2</sub>.6 H<sub>2</sub>O</b> | <b>627.42</b>                                                | <b>This work</b> |
| gC <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> /PCN-222(Fe <sup>III</sup> ) | 300 W Xe lamp        | No          | No                | No                                                          | 28.5                                                         | [1]              |
| CdS@PCN-222-Co                                              | 150 W Xe lamp        | No          | TEOA              | [Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub> .6 H <sub>2</sub> O  | 636.41                                                       | [2]              |
| PCN-222(Pt)/BiOCl                                           | 300 W Xe lamp        | No          | No                | No                                                          | 8.38                                                         | [3]              |
| PCN-224(Cu)/TiO <sub>2</sub>                                | 300 W Xe lamp        | No          | No                | No                                                          | 37.21                                                        | [4]              |

## References

1. Zhou, D., et al., *Construction of local coordination environment of iron sites over g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>/PCN-222 (Fe) composite with high CO<sub>2</sub> photoreduction performance*. Applied Catalysis B: Environment and Energy, 2024. **344**: p. 123639.
2. Quach, T.-A., M.-K. Duong, S. Mohan, and T.-O. Do, *Single Cobalt Atom-Integrated Z-Scheme CdS@ PCN-222 Heterojunction for Enhanced Syngas Production from Solar-Driven CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction*. Energy & Fuels, 2025.
3. Li, L., et al., *Construction of PCN-222 (Pt)/BiOCl heterojunction with built-in electric field drive charge separation for enhanced photocatalytic performance*. Applied Surface Science, 2025. **697**: p. 162978.
4. Wang, L., et al., *Integration of copper (II)-porphyrin zirconium metal–organic framework and titanium dioxide to construct Z-scheme system for highly improved photocatalytic CO<sub>2</sub> reduction*. ACS Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering, 2019. **7**(18): p. 15660-15670.