

Supporting Information

Figure S1

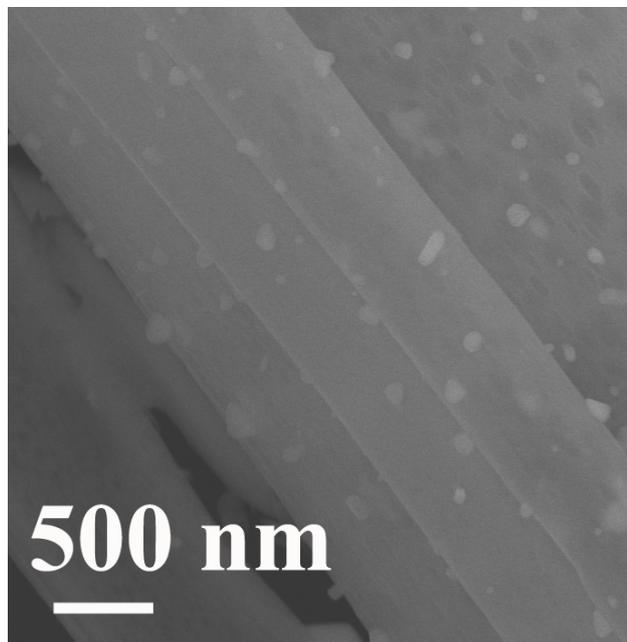


Figure S1 SEM images of Ag@TiO₂@Ag nanotubes with 7.3% Ag content.

Figure S2

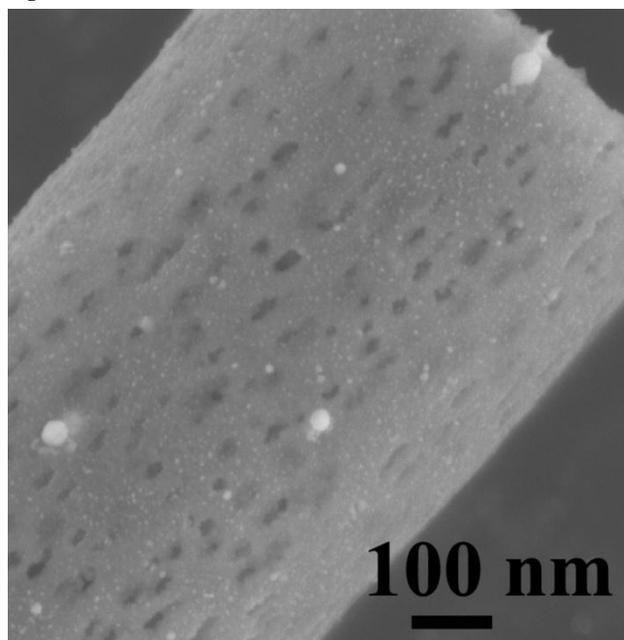


Figure S2 SEM images of Ag@TiO₂@Ag nanotubes with 10.6% Ag content.

Figure S3

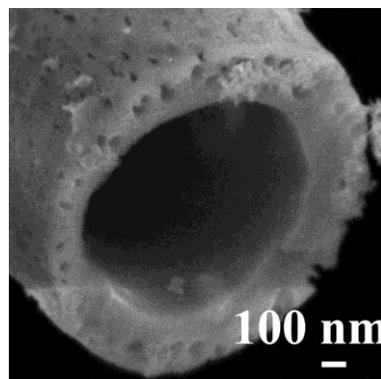


Figure S3 SEM images of Au nanoparticles deposited on both side-walls of TiO₂ nanotubes (Au@TiO₂@Au NTs).

Typical synthesis of Au@TiO₂@Au NTs process was described as below. In the first step, 0.60 g tetrabutyl titanate was dissolved in 0.80 g ethanol and 1.05 g ethanoic acid. This mixed solution was stirred for 20 min. Second, 0.2 g poly (vinyl pyrrolidone) (PVP) was dissolved in 0.6 g ethanol and stirred for 20 min. Then the two prepared solutions were mixed together and stirred for 1 h. Thus, a viscous gel of PVP/titanium acetate composite solution was obtained. Third, HAuCl₄ was dissolved in PVP/titanium acetate composite solution and stirred at room temperature for 20 min. Fourth, 0.7 g mineral oil was added to the HAuCl₄/PVP/titanium acetate composite solution and stirred at room temperature for 48 h to obtain a stable and homogeneous emulsion. As for a typical electrospinning process, the spinneret had an inner diameter of 0.6 mm. Grounded aluminum strips (2 cm in width) with parallel gaps of about 1 cm were used as the collectors. A distance of 15 cm and a direct current voltage of 18 kV were maintained between the tip of the spinneret and the collector. During the electrospinning process the environmental temperature was maintained at 90 °C. The temperature of the syringe was maintained under 70 °C. After electrospinning, the fibers were heated from room temperature to 550 °C at a rate of 8 °C min⁻¹, and then held at 550 °C for 2 h in air.

Figure S4

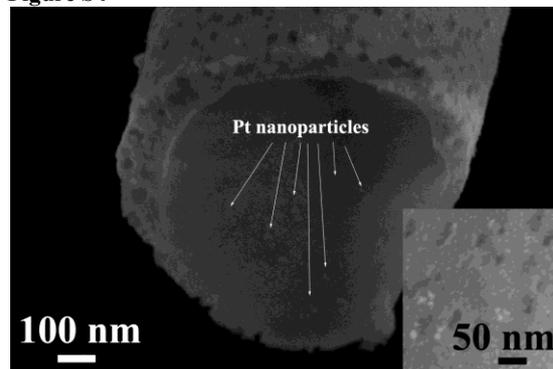


Figure S4 SEM images of Pt nanoparticles deposited on both side-walls of TiO₂ nanotubes (Pt@TiO₂@Pt NTs).

Typical synthesis of Pt@TiO₂@Pt NTs process was described as below. In the first step, 0.60 g tetrabutyl titanate was dissolved in 0.80 g ethanol and 1.05 g ethanoic acid. This mixed

solution was stirred for 20 min. Second, 0.2 g poly (vinyl pyrrolidone) (PVP) was dissolved in 0.60 g ethanol and stirred for 20 min. Then the two prepared solutions were mixed together and stirred for 1 h. Thus, a viscous gel of PVP/titanium acetate composite solution was obtained. Third, HPTCl_4 was dissolved in PVP/titanium acetate composite solution and stirred at room temperature for 20min. Fourth, 0.70 g mineral oil was added to the HPTCl_4 /PVP/titanium acetate composite solution and stirred at room temperature for 48 h to obtain a stable and homogeneous emulsion. As for a typical electrospinning process, the spinneret had an inner diameter of 0.6 mm. Grounded aluminum strips (2 cm in width) with parallel gaps of about 1 cm were used as the collectors. A distance of 15 cm and a direct current voltage of 18 kV were maintained between the tip of the spinneret and the collector. During the electrospinning process the environmental temperature was maintained at 90°C . The temperature of the syringe was maintained under 70°C . After electrospinning, the fibers were heated from room temperature to 600°C at a rate of $10^\circ\text{C min}^{-1}$, and then held at 600°C for 2 h in air.

Figure S5

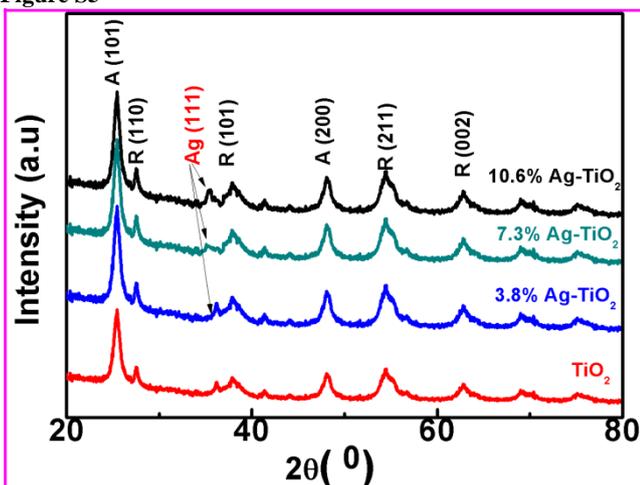


Figure S5 XRD patterns of the Ag@TiO₂@Ag NTs heterostructures with various Ag concentrations.

The TiO₂ showed mixed crystalline phases of anatase and rutile and the ratio of anatase phase to rutile phase was about 80 : 20. When Ag concentration is 3.8% almost no peaks corresponding to Ag can be detected, but with the Ag concentration increasing, the peaks at 2θ values of 38.2° can be indexed to fcc metallic Ag(111).