## **Supporting Information**

for

## Visible-light-driven Photocatalytic Destruction of NOx Using Mesoporous TiO2 Spheres Synthesized by a "Water Controlled-Releasing Process"

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Fig.S1 NMR spectra of solutions after the reaction.( The origin of peaks in the NMR spectra were marked in Fig.S-1c; It is well known that water don't has a fixed position in the NMR spectra)



Fig.S2 SEM image of sample synthesized by introducing 3g Ti i-PrOH in the solvent.





Fig.S3 Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherm and BJH pore size distribution plots (inset) of (a) Ti-420, (b) Ti-1150, (c) Ti-1600, (d) Ti-2000, (e) Ti-3000.



Fig.S4 TEM image of sample obtained with 20 Vol.% acetic acid in the solvent.



Fig.S5 SEM image of sample synthesized in pure ethanol.



Figure S6 Photocatalytic activity in destructing  $NO_x$  gas under UV irradiation over different photocatalysts.



**Figure S7.** The SEM and TEM images of  $SnO_2$  (a)-(b) nanospheres, (c) nanoparticles, (d)-(e) hollow particles synthesized by water-controlled releasing process. The starting material is 0.2g  $SnCl_2$ . The 50ml ethanol, 45 ml ethanol+5 acetic acid and 40 ml ethanol+10 acetic acid were used as solvent to synthesize nanospheres, nanoparticles and hollow particles, respectively, at a reaction temperature of 200 °C