

# Supporting Information for Electrochemical Fabrication of ZnO-CdSe Core-Shell Nanorod Arrays for Efficient Photoelectrochemical Water Splitting

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## SI-1. TEM images of ZnO/CdSe nanorods

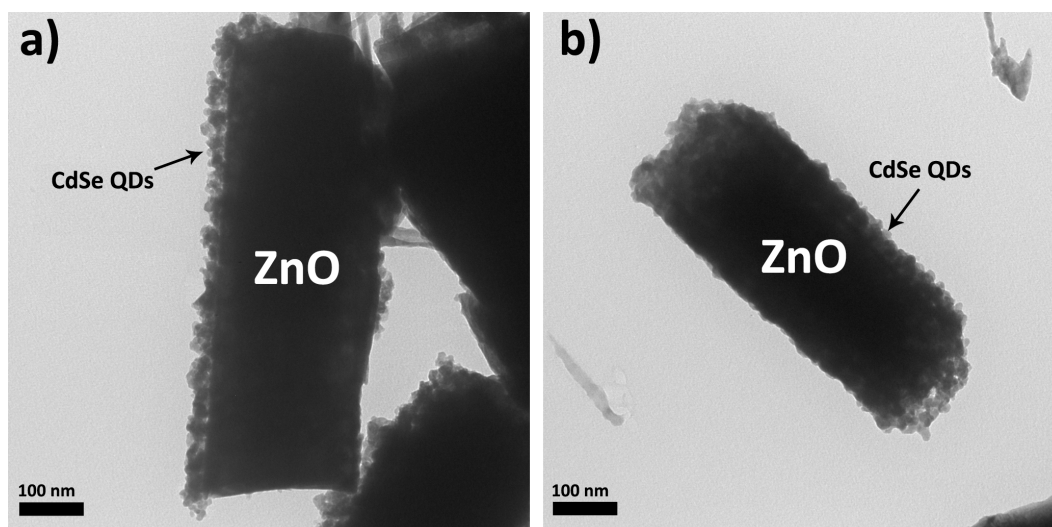
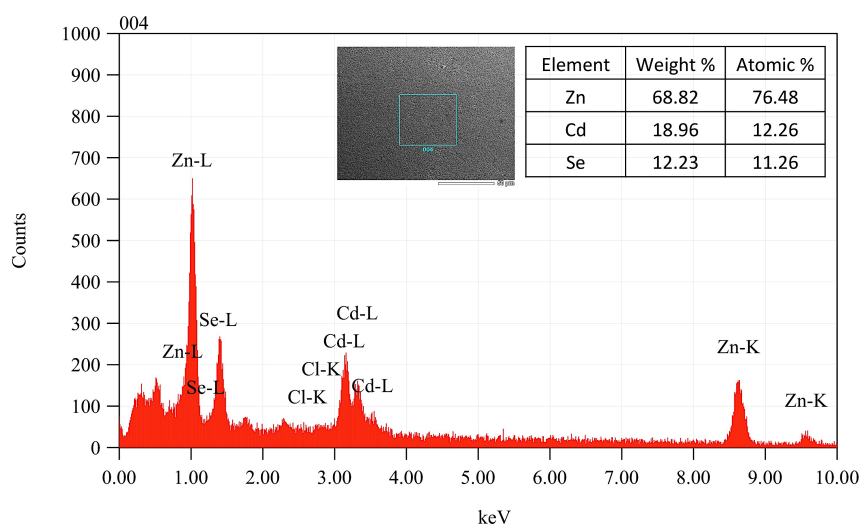


Figure S1. TEM images of ZnO/CdSe nanorods

## SI-2 Energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) of the ZnO/CdSe nanorod arrays



**Figure S2.** EDS spectrum and elemental composition of ZnO/CdSe core-shell nanorod arrays.

SI-3 HRTEM Image of ZnO/CdSe Nanorod Arrays

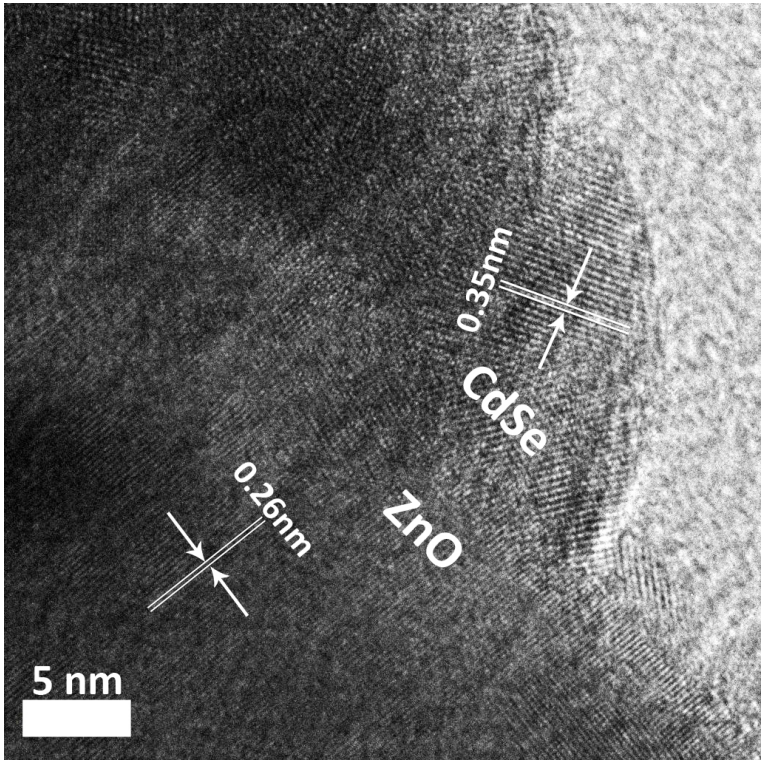


Figure S3. The HRTEM image of ZnO/CdSe core-shell nanorod arrays

SI-4 Optimization of CdSe deposition time

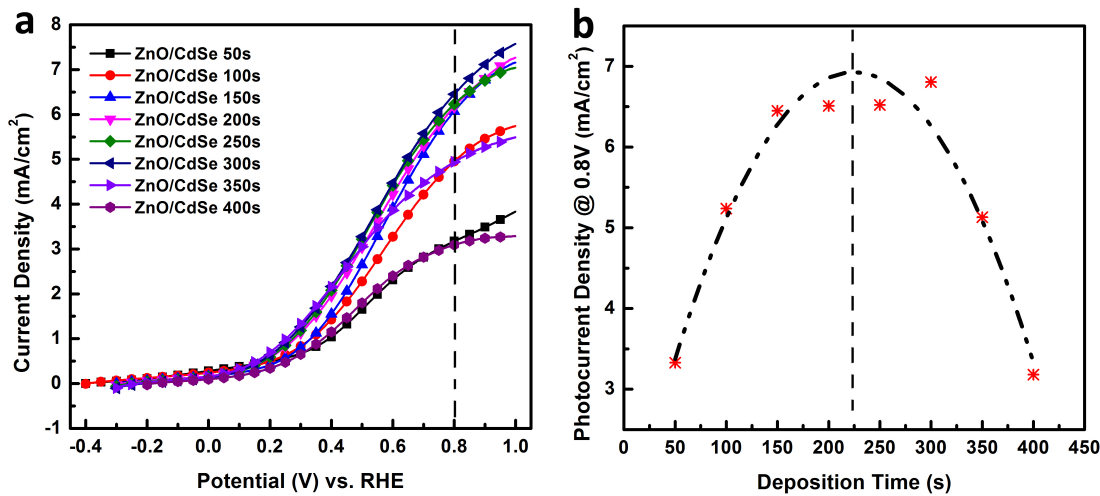
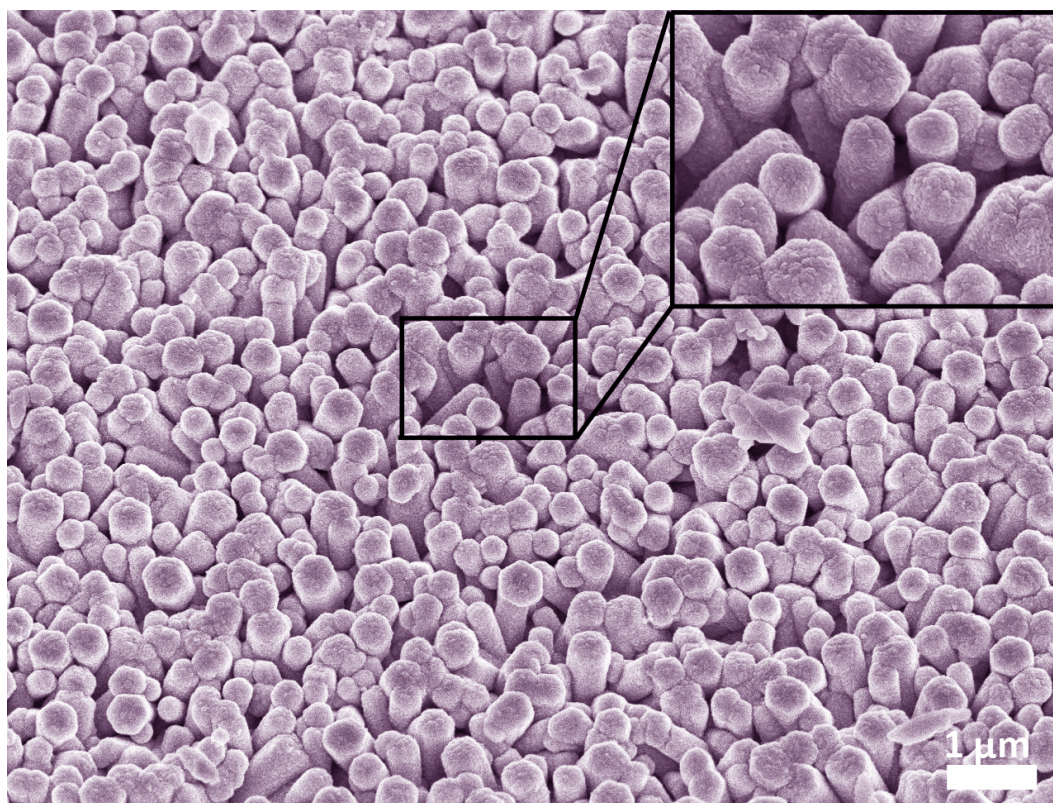


Figure S4 a) Photocurrent -photovoltage (J-V) curves of ZnO/CdSe nanorod arrays prepared with different CdSe deposition time, and b) optimization curve

**SI-5 FESEM images of ZnO nanorod arrays loaded with excessive amount of CdSe QDs**



**Figure S5** ZnO nanorod arrays loaded with excessive amount of CdSe QDs (350 seconds)



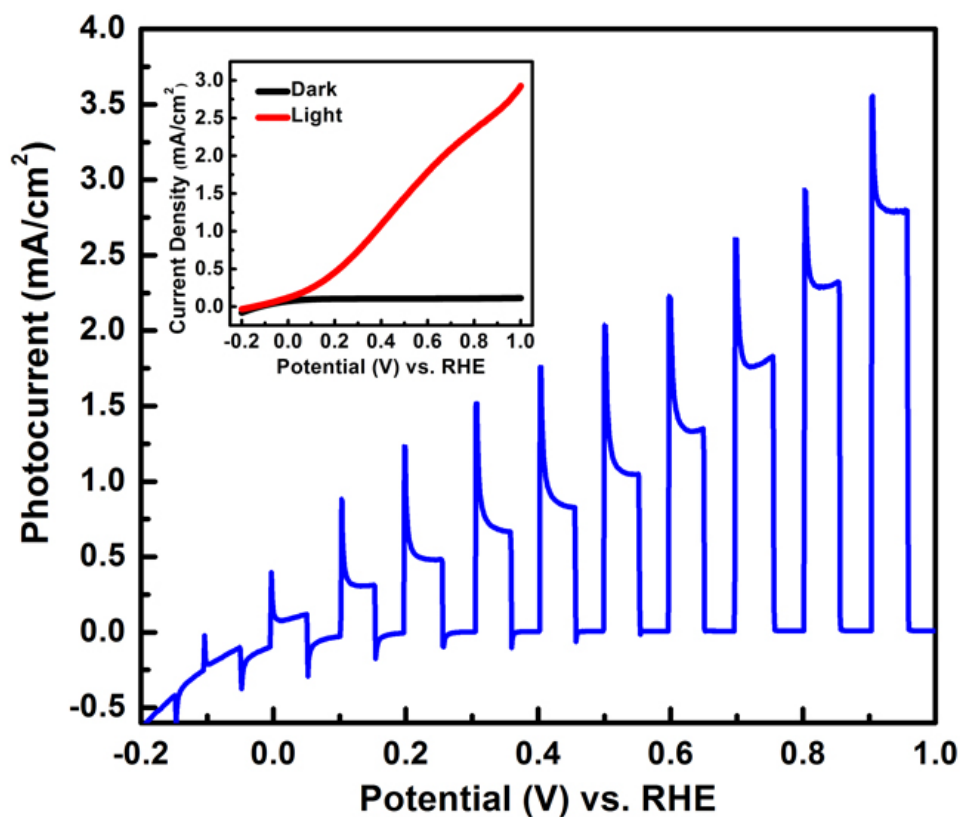
## SI-6 Comparison of saturated photocurrent density

**Table S1 Comparison of saturated photocurrent density with reported similar materials**

| Reported Material                                                        | Year        | Light Source              | Electrolyte                                                       | Saturated Photocurrent density (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> ) |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ZnO/CdSe nanorod arrays<sup>a)</sup></b>                              | <b>2013</b> | <b>Simulated Sunlight</b> | <b>0.2M Na<sub>2</sub>S</b>                                       | <b>14.9</b>                                          |
| IrO <sub>x</sub> .nH <sub>2</sub> O-CdSe/CdS/ZnO nanowire <sup>[1]</sup> | 2013        | Simulated Sunlight        | 0.25M Na <sub>2</sub> S and 0.35M Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> | 13.9                                                 |
| Double-layered tubular CdSe/ZnO arrays <sup>[2]</sup>                    | 2013        | Xe Lamp                   | 0.1M Na <sub>2</sub> S                                            | 2.55                                                 |
| Double-shelled ZnO/CdSe/CdTe nanocable arrays <sup>[3]</sup>             | 2012        | Simulated Sunlight        | 0.6M Na <sub>2</sub> S, 0.2M S and 0.2M KCl                       | 14.3                                                 |
| TiO <sub>2</sub> /CdSeS <sup>[4]</sup>                                   | 2012        | Xe Lamp                   | 0.25M Na <sub>2</sub> S and 0.35M Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> | 6                                                    |
| CdSe/CdS sensitized ZnO/WO <sub>x</sub> Nanowires <sup>[5]</sup>         | 2011        | Simulated Sunlight        | 0.25M Na <sub>2</sub> S and 0.35M Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> | 11                                                   |
| CdS/ZnO nanotube arrays <sup>[6]</sup>                                   | 2011        | Xe Lamp                   | 1M Na <sub>2</sub> S                                              | 10.64                                                |
| CdSe QDs sensitized N-doped TiO <sub>2</sub> <sup>[7]</sup>              | 2010        | Xe Lamp                   | 0.25M Na <sub>2</sub> S and 0.35M Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> | 2.75                                                 |
| Double sided CdS CdSe QD sensitized ZnO <sup>[8]</sup>                   | 2010        | Xe Lamp                   | 0.25M Na <sub>2</sub> S and 0.35M Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> | 12                                                   |
| ZnO-CdSSe core-shell nanowire arrays <sup>[9]</sup>                      | 2010        | Xe Lamp                   | 1M Na <sub>2</sub> S                                              | 6.2                                                  |
| CdSe QD-sensitized ZnO nanowire arrays <sup>[10]</sup>                   | 2010        | Xe Lamp                   | 0.25M Na <sub>2</sub> S and 0.35M Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> | 2.48                                                 |
| CdSe/CdS co-sensitized ZnO nanowire arrays <sup>[11]</sup>               | 2010        | Simulated Sunlight        | 1M Na <sub>2</sub> S                                              | 9.15                                                 |
| CdS nanoparticle/ZnO nanowire <sup>[12]</sup>                            | 2009        | Simulated Sunlight        | 1M Na <sub>2</sub> S                                              | 4.5                                                  |
| ZnO/CdS core/shell nanowire arrays <sup>[13]</sup>                       | 2009        | Simulated Sunlight        | 1M Na <sub>2</sub> S                                              | 7.23                                                 |

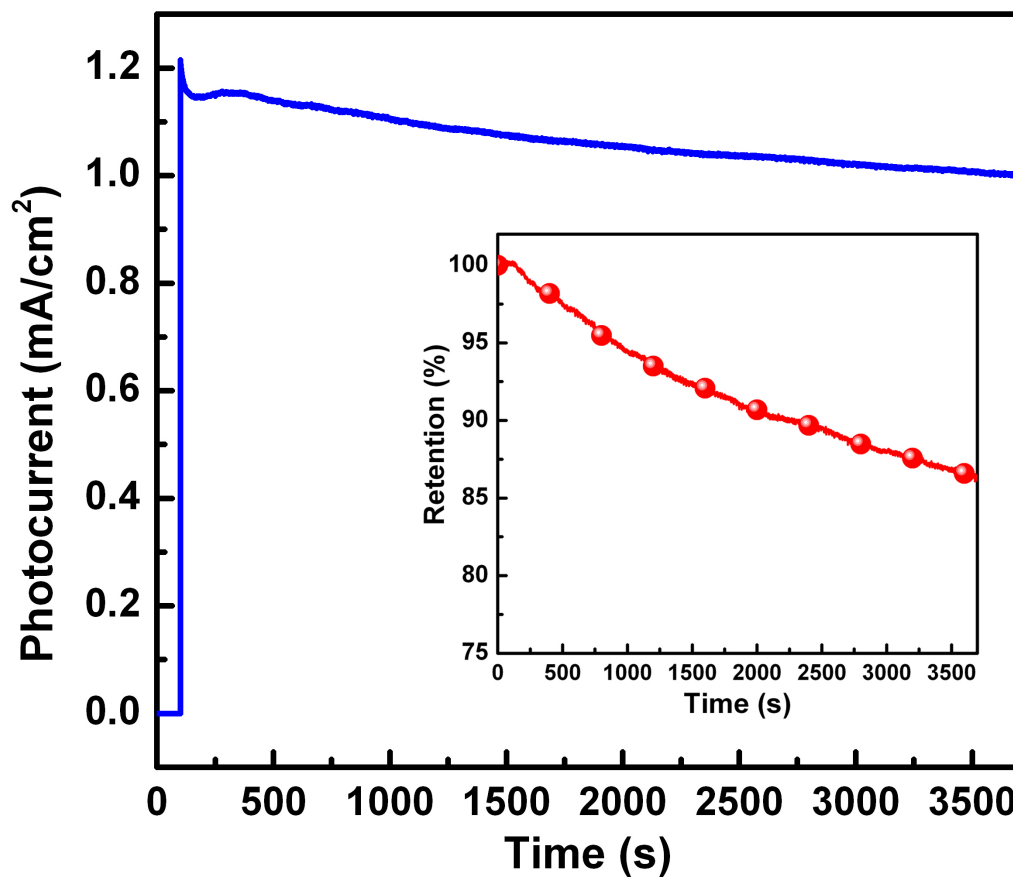
a) ZnO/CdSe nanorod arrays prepared in this work

**SI-7 Photocurrent-voltage characteristics of ZnO/CdSe nanorod arrays in 0.5 M Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> under chopped AM 1.5 G light illumination**



**Figure S6.** Photocurrent-voltage characteristics of ZnO/CdSe nanorod arrays in 0.5 M Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> under chopped AM 1.5 G light illumination, inset shows the corresponding LSV curves observed under dark (black) and illuminated (red) conditions in the same electrolyte.

**SI-8 Stability test of ZnO/CdSe nanorod arrays under continuous AM 1.5G light illumination**



**Figure S7.** Stability test of ZnO/CdSe nanorod arrays under continuous AM 1.5G light illuminations for 1hour

## Reference:

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