## **Supporting information (SI)**

## One step fabrication of C-doped BiVO<sub>4</sub> with hierarchical structures for high-performance photocatalyst under visible light irradiation<sup>†</sup>

Chao Yin<sup>a</sup>, Shenmin Zhu\*<sup>a</sup>, Zhixin Chen<sup>b</sup>, Wang Zhang<sup>a</sup>, Jiajun Gu<sup>a</sup> and Di Zhang\*<sup>a</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Faculty of Engineering, University of Wollongong, Wollongong, NSW, 2522, Australia.

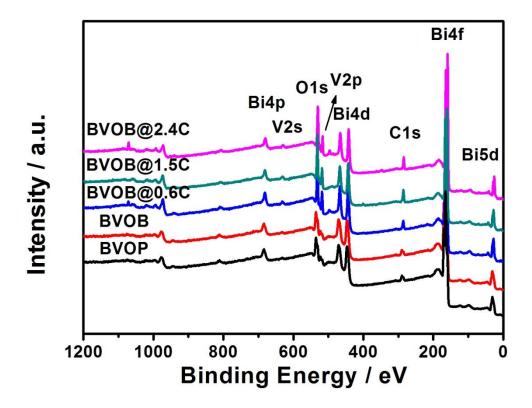


Figure S1 Full spectra of X-ray photoelectron spectra of the samples.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> State Key Laboratory of Metal Matrix Composites, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, 800 Dongchuan Road, Shanghai, 200240, P. R. China. E-mail: smzhu@sjtu.edu.cn; zhangdi@sjtu.edu.cn; Fax: +86-21-34202749; Tel: +86-21-34202584.

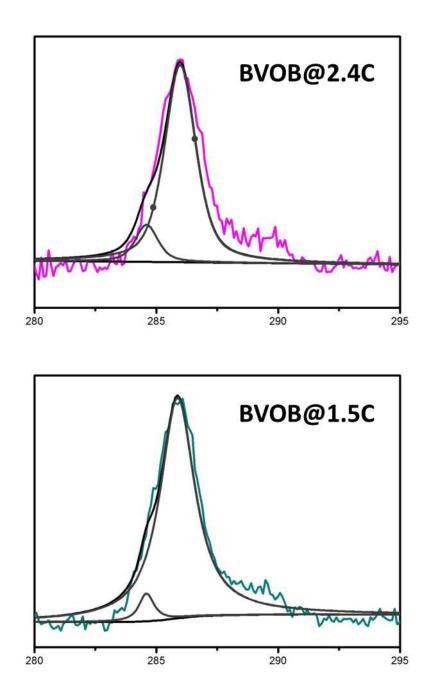


Figure S2 The C1s XPS spectra of BVO@1.5C and BVO@2.4C.

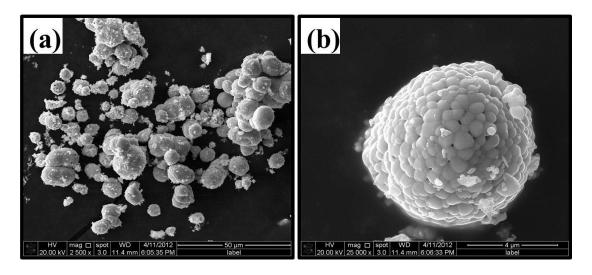
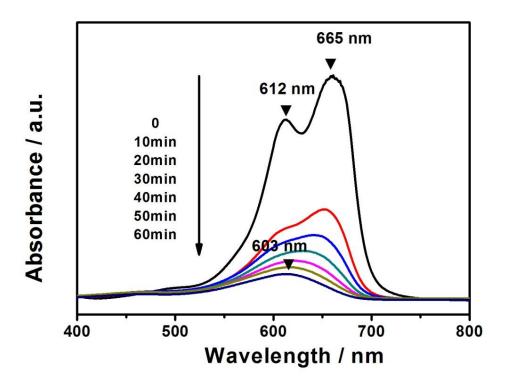
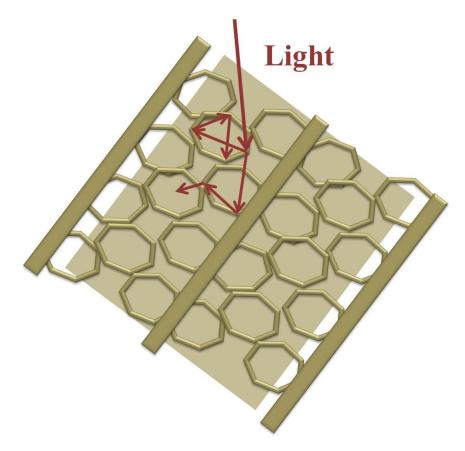


Figure S3 FE-SEM images of the BiVO<sub>4</sub> powders (BVOP).



**Figure S4.** Time profile of MB absorbance spectrum observed during incubation with BVOB@1.5C under visible light irradiation ( $\lambda > 420$  nm).



**Figure S5.** 2D model from the FESEM images, showing the ways to absorb solar by *Papilioparis* butterfly wing.