Supplementary Information

Ultrafast conversion of carcinogenic 4-nitrophenol into 4-aminophenol in dark catalyzed by surface interaction on BiPO₄/g-C₃N₄ nanostructures in the presence of NaBH₄

Ahmed B. Azzam^{a*}, Ridha Djellabi^b, Sheta M. Sheta^c, S.M. El-Sheikh^d

^{a*} Faculty of Science, Chemistry Department, Helwan University, Ain Helwan, Cairo 11795, Egypt

^b Università degli Studi di Milano, Dip. Chimica and INSTM-UdR Milano, Via Golgi, 19, 20133 Milano - Italy

^c Department of Inorganic Chemistry, National Research Centre, 33, El-Behouth St., Dokki, Giza 12622, Egypt

^d Nanomaterials and Nanotechnology Department, Advanced Materials Division, Central Metallurgical R & D Institute (CMRDI), P.O. Box, 87 Helwan, 11421 Cairo, Egypt

*Corresponding authors: Ahmed B. Azzam, ahmed azzam2000@hotmail.com, Tel.

+201285259709

Experimental

Materials

Bismuth nitrate pentahydrate $[Bi(NO_3)_3 \cdot 5H_2O, 99.99\%]$, diammonium hydrogen phosphate $[(NH_4)_2HPO_4>99.0\%]$, Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO>99.9%) urea $[(NH_2)_2CO>99.0\%]$, [melamine>99.0%], and cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB, 98%) were obtained from Sigma-Aldrich. All the chemicals were used without any purification as they were received.

Characterization

The crystallinity of the as-prepared samples was measured on X- ray diffraction (XRD) on Brucker (Axs D8- advance diffractometer using Cu-K α radiation (λ = 1.5406 Å) with 2 θ ranging from 10° to 70° and scan rate of 2° min⁻¹, Germany). Quanta FEG-250 scanning electron microscopy (SEM) with 30 kV accelerated

voltage was used to acquire the surface morphology of catalysts. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) images are recorded on (TEM, JEOLJEM-1230, Japan). X-ray photoelectron spectroscopic (XPS) measurements were performed using a Thermo Scientific K α system employing monochromatic Al K α radiation. The vibration spectrum of samples were taken with a Fourier Infrared absorption spectrometer (FT-IR) using PerkinElmer Spectrum (200–4,000 cm⁻¹).

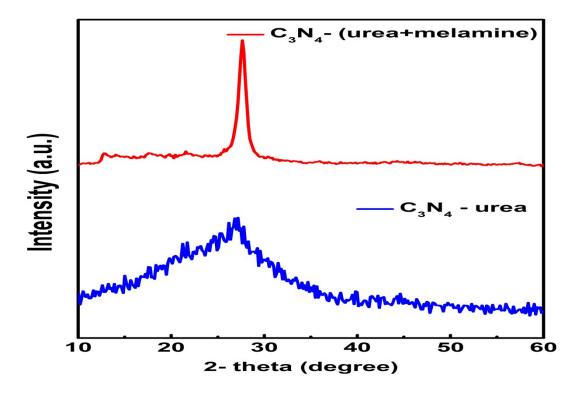


Fig. S1 X-ray diffraction patterns of C_3N_4 -urea, and C_3N_4 -(urea + melamine)