

Supporting Information

Performance and Mechanism Analysis of Photocatalytic Degradation of Tetracycline by SiC/CdS Composites

Sen Qian^a, Fen Qiao^{a*}, Lei Zhou^a, Yixian Liu^b, Wenjie Liu^a, Jing Yang^a, Tao
Wang^c, Haitao Li^{a,b*}

^a School of Energy & Power Engineering, Jiangsu University, Zhenjiang, 212013, Jiangsu, P.R. China

^b Institute for Energy Research, Jiangsu University, Zhenjiang, 212013, Jiangsu, P.R. China

^c Key Laboratory of Power Station Energy Transfer Conversion and System, Ministry of Education, North China Electric Power University, 102206, Beijing, P. R. China

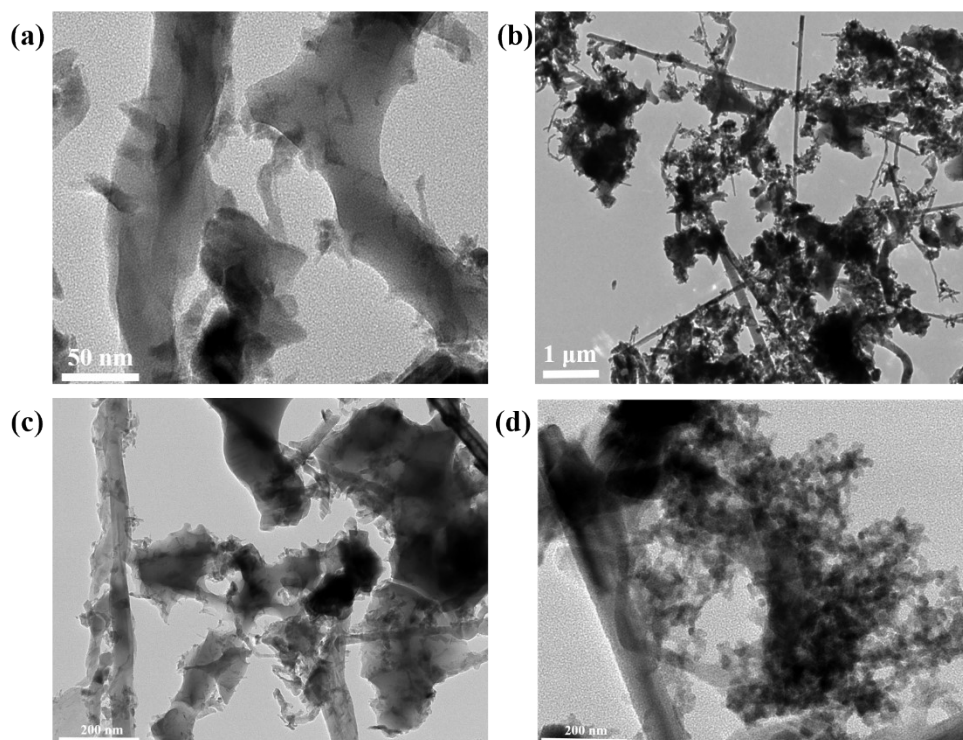


Figure S1. TEM images of SiC/CdS

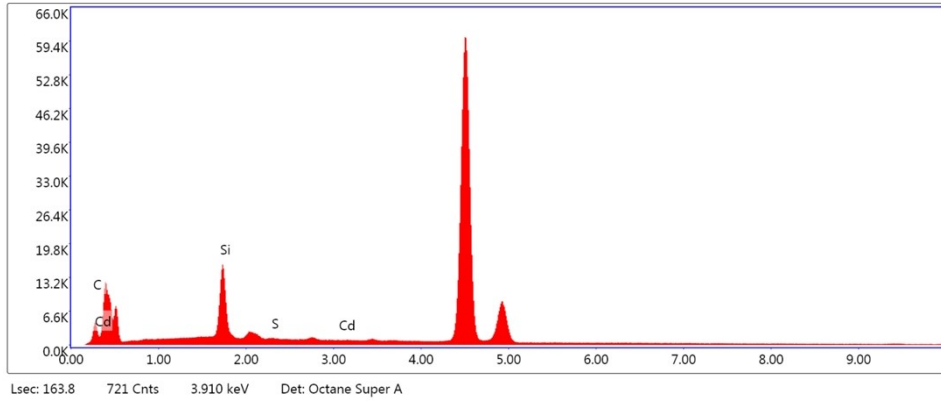


Figure S2. EDS pattern of SiC/CdS composite photocatalyst.

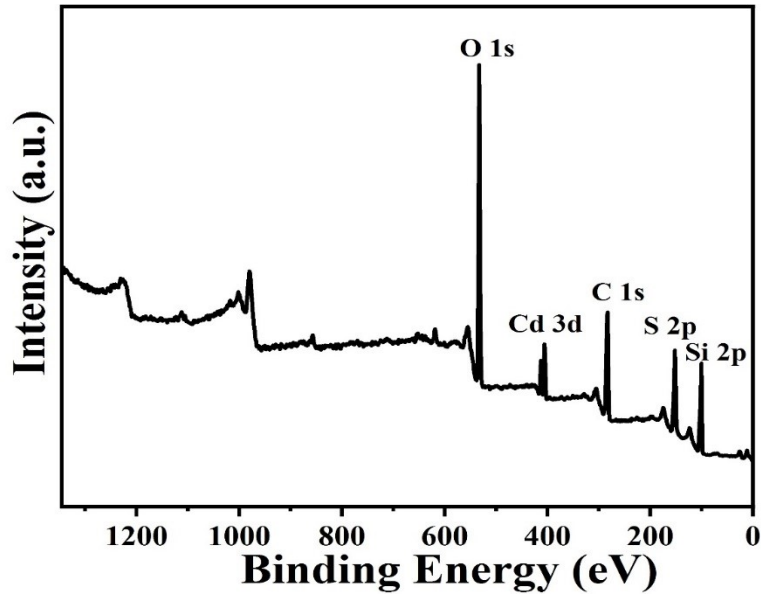


Fig. S3. XPS survey spectrum of SiC/CdS

$$\alpha h\nu = A(h\nu - E_g)^{n/2} \quad (S1)$$

Where, α is the absorption coefficient, $h\nu$ is the photon energy, and A is a constant. It can be noted that the band gap values of the composite samples decrease with the increasing proportion of CdS.

$$E_{fb} = E_{Ag/AgCl} + 0.059PH + E_{Ag/AgCl}^0 \quad (S2)$$

(vs. Ag/AgCl, PH = 7, $E_{Ag/AgCl}^0 = 0.197$ eV)

$$-\ln(C/C_0) = kt \quad (S3)$$

Where, C_0 and C are the absorbance concentrations of the solution before and after photodegradation, respectively, k represents the reaction rate, t represents the reaction time, and k values are obtained by fitting a linear function.

Ab initio simulation

The DFT calculations in this work are carried out by Vienna Ab initio Simulation Package (VASP) [1]. The supercell is too big so only gamma point is calculated in k-space. GGA-PBE[2] method is adopted as exchange-correlation functional and PAW[3, 4] is applied as pseudo-potential. The energy cutoff is 400eV and the atoms are relaxed until the atomic force decreases under $0.01\text{eV}\cdot\text{\AA}^{-1}$.

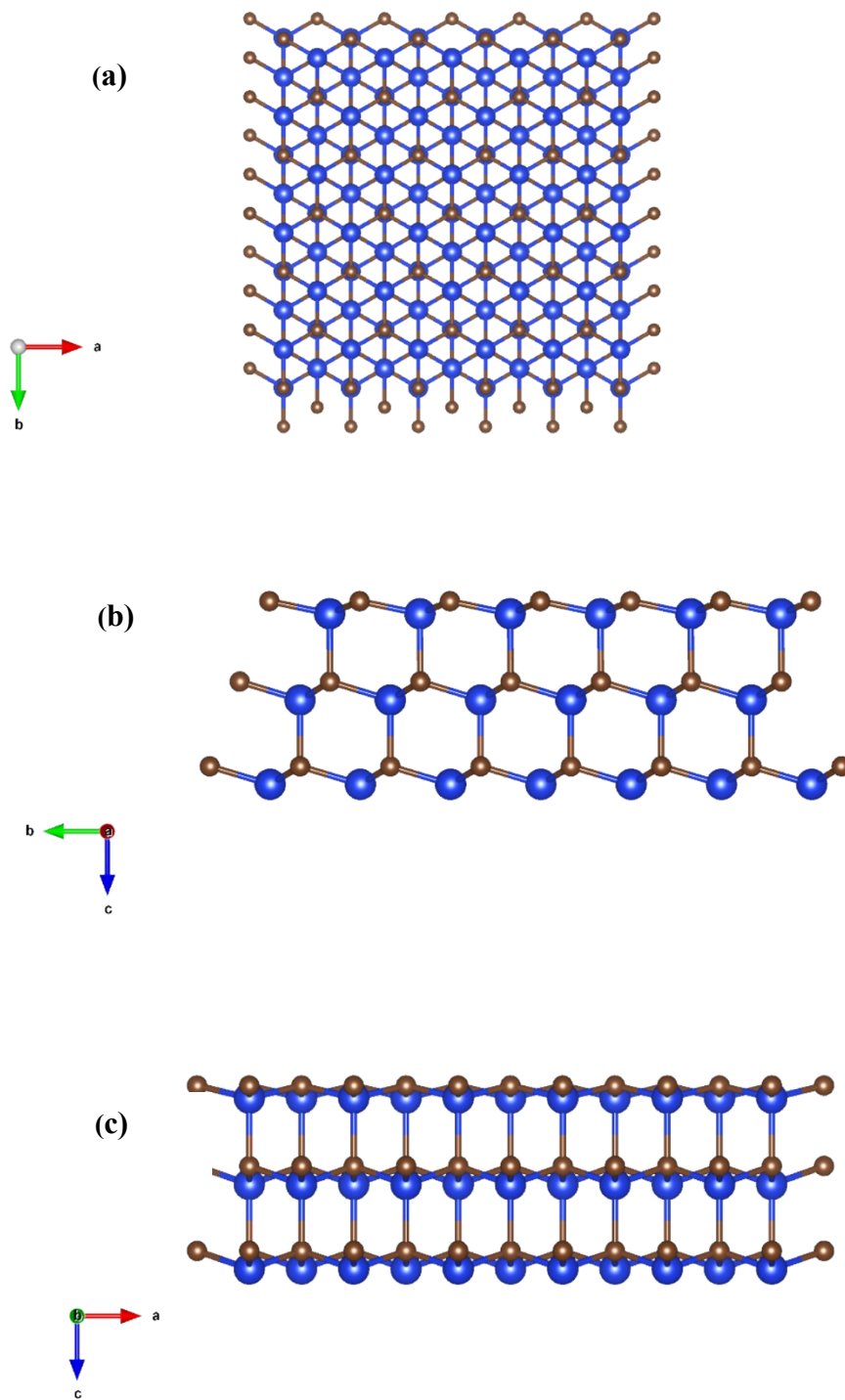


Figure S4. The optimized structures of SiC in the direction of a) a-axis b) b-axis, and c) c-axis.

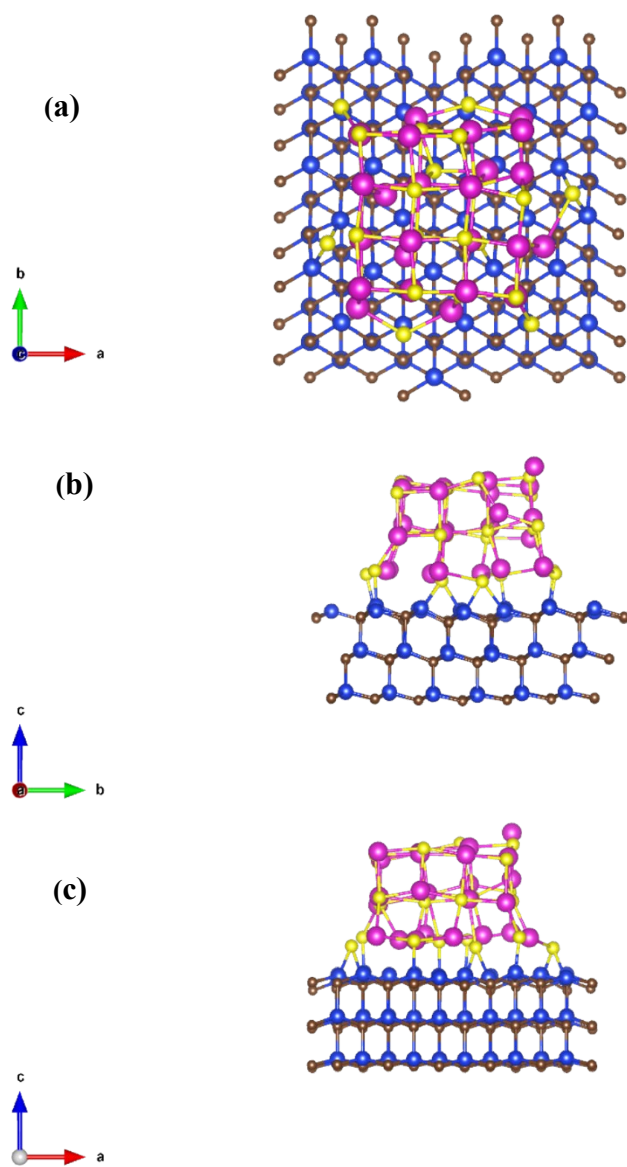


Figure S5. The optimized structures of SiC/CdS in the direction of a) a-axis b) b-axis, and c) c-axis.

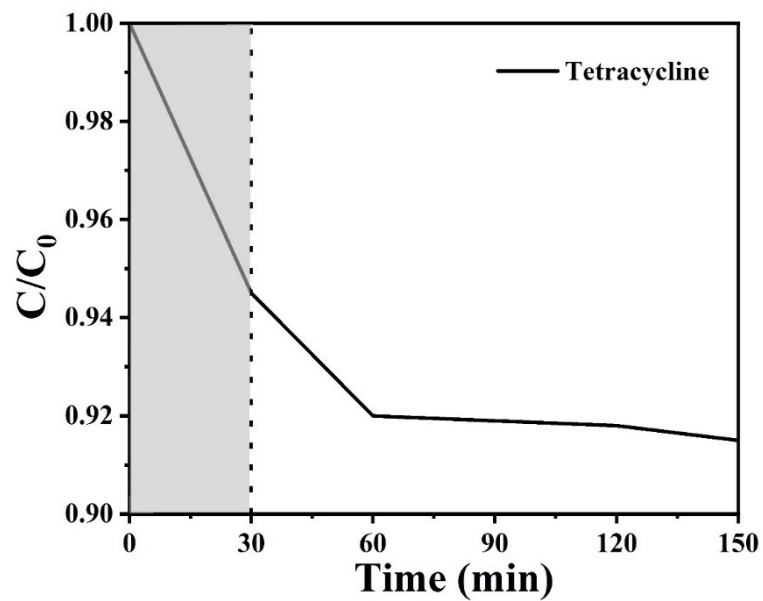


Figure S6. Degradation rate of tetracycline without catalyst.

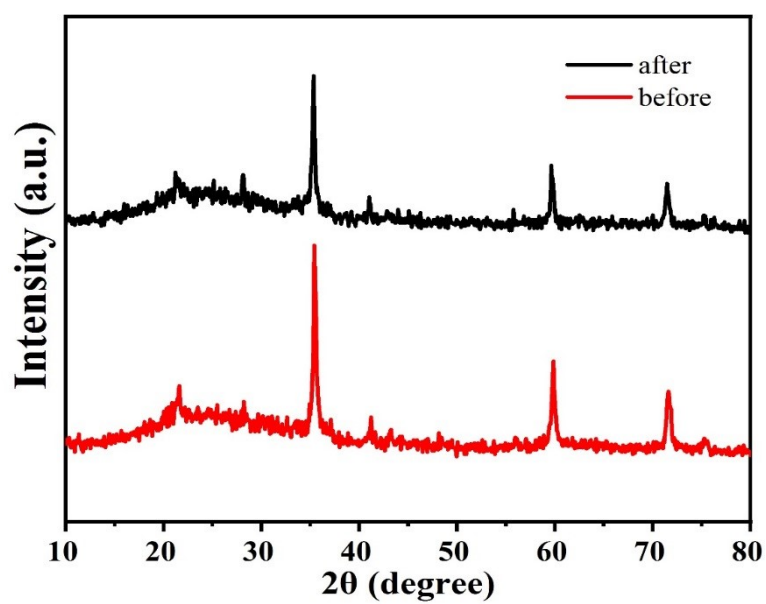


Figure S7. XRD comparison before and after four cycles

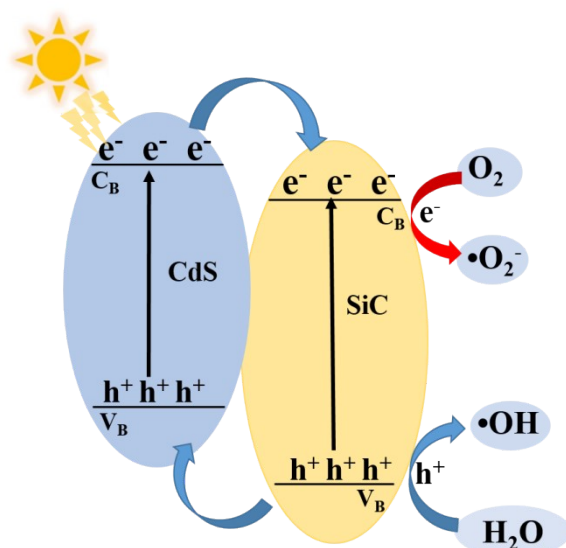


Figure S8. Schematic diagram of the photocatalytic mechanism of SiC/CdS heterojunction.

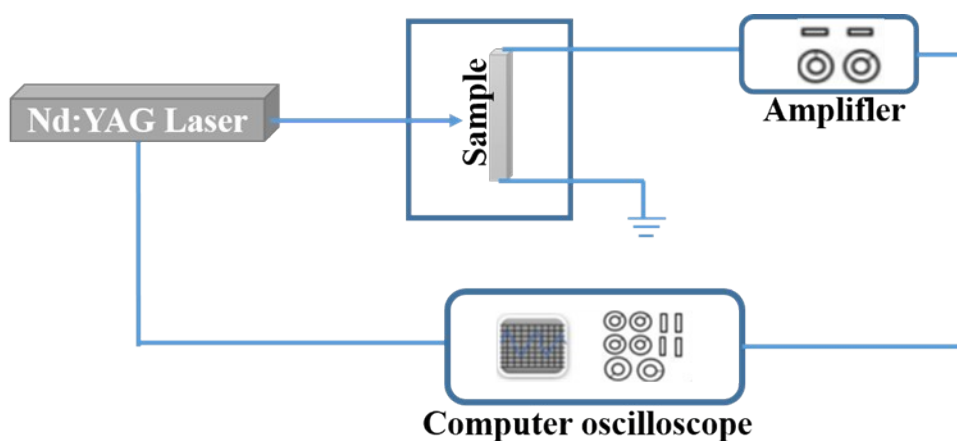


Figure S9 The schematic diagram of the transient photovoltage test system

Table S1. Comparison with other photocatalysts in the literature for the degradation of tetracycline

Photocatalyst	Concentration (mg/L)	Dosage (g/L)	Irradiation time (min)	Light source	Degradation rate (%)	Ref.
Fe/g-C3N4/	20	0.385	80	Xe	88.1	[5]

Kaolinite				500 W		
SnS ₂ @ZnIn ₂ S	40	0.20	60	Xe	88.23	[6]
4@Kaolinite				300 W		
CdS/Ti ₃ C ₂	10	0.50	60	Xe	96.3	[7]
				300W		
Fe based MOF	50	0.50	180	Xe	52	[8]
				500 W		
WO ₃ /C ₃ N ₄ /NC	20	1.00	30	LED	96.3	[9]
QDs				18 W		
Bi ₂ O ₂ CO ₃ /Ti ₃ C	20	0.50	120	Xe	31.0	[10]
2				300 W		
ZnO/CeO ₂ @H	20	0.30	60	Xe	87.0	[11]
NTs				300W		
SiC/CdS-0.5	20	0.33	120	Xe	78	This
				150 W		word

References

- [1] G. Kresse, J. Furthmüller, Efficient iterative schemes for ab initio total-energy calculations using a plane-wave basis set, *Physical Review B* 54(16) (1996) 11169-11186.
- [2] J.P. Perdew, K. Burke, M. Ernzerhof, Generalized Gradient Approximation Made Simple, *Physical Review Letters* 77(18) (1996) 3865-3868.
- [3] P.E. Blöchl, Projector augmented-wave method, *Physical Review B* 50(24) (1994) 17953-17979.
- [4] G. Kresse, D. Joubert, From ultrasoft pseudopotentials to the projector augmented-wave method, *Physical Review B* 59(3) (1999) 1758-1775.
- [5] Z. Cao, Y. Jia, Q. Wang, H. Cheng, High-efficiency photo-Fenton Fe/g-C₃N₄/kaolinite catalyst for tetracycline hydrochloride degradation, *Applied Clay Science* 212 (2021) 106213.
- [6] Y. Li, B. Yu, Z. Hu, H. Wang, Construction of direct Z-scheme SnS₂@ ZnIn₂S₄@ kaolinite heterostructure photocatalyst for efficient photocatalytic degradation of tetracycline hydrochloride, *Chemical Engineering Journal* 429 (2022) 132105.
- [7] Q. Zhu, Y. Sun, F. Na, J. Wei, S. Xu, Y. Li, F. Guo, Fabrication of CdS/titanium-oxo-cluster nanocomposites based on a Ti₃C₂ framework with enhanced photocatalytic activity for tetracycline hydrochloride degradation under visible light, *Applied Catalysis B: Environmental* 254 (2019) 541-550.
- [8] U. Ghosh, A. Pal, Insight into the multiple roles of nitrogen doped carbon quantum dots in an ultrathin 2D-0D-2D all-solid-state Z scheme heterostructure and its performance in tetracycline degradation under LED illumination, *Chemical Engineering Journal* 431 (2022) 133914.
- [9] T. Guo, K. Wang, G. Zhang, X. Wu, A novel α -Fe₂O₃@ g-C₃N₄ catalyst: synthesis derived from Fe-based MOF and its superior photo-Fenton performance, *Applied Surface Science* 469 (2019) 331-339.

- [10] B. Tan, Y. Fang, Q. Chen, X. Ao, Y. Cao, Construction of Bi₂O₂CO₃/Ti₃C₂ heterojunctions for enhancing the visible-light photocatalytic activity of tetracycline degradation, *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science* 601 (2021) 581-593.
- [11] Z. Ye, J. Li, M. Zhou, H. Wang, Y. Ma, P. Huo, L. Yu, Y. Yan, Well-dispersed nebula-like ZnO/CeO₂@HNTs heterostructure for efficient photocatalytic degradation of tetracycline, *Chemical Engineering Journal* 304 (2016) 917-933.