

Ultrafast carrier transport in ultrafine porous polymers for highly selective photocatalytic reduction of CO₂ to CH₄

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Computational methods

The first-principles calculations based on the Density Functional Theory (DFT) were performed using the Materials Studio software with DMol3 model. The Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (PBE) exchange-correlation functional within the generalized gradient approximation (GGA) was employed to describe the exchange-correlation energy. The energy cutoff for the plane wave basis expansion was set to 600 eV. The force on each atom was set as 0.03 eV/Å for convergence criterion. Slab model was constructed in a 4×4 supercell, with a vacuum layer of 20 Å in the z direction to avoid the interaction between layers. The sampling in the Brillouin zone was set with 3×3×1 by the Monkhorst-Pack method. The van der Waals interaction was considered by using DFT-D3 method.

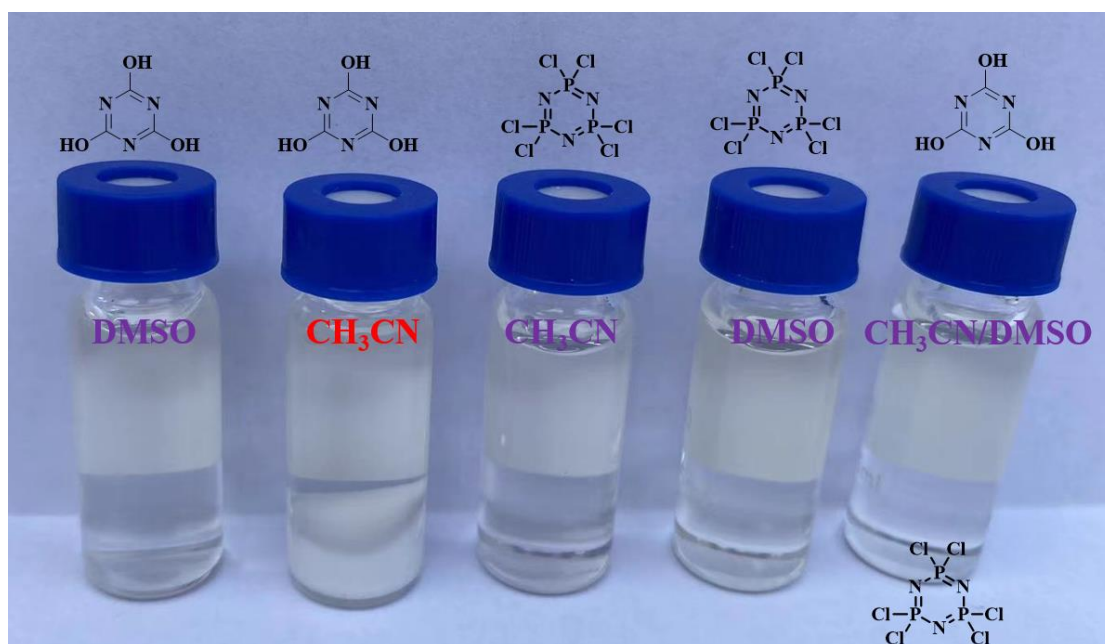


Fig. S1. Picture of the dissolution of cyanuric acid and hexachlorocyclotriphosphazene in a solvent.

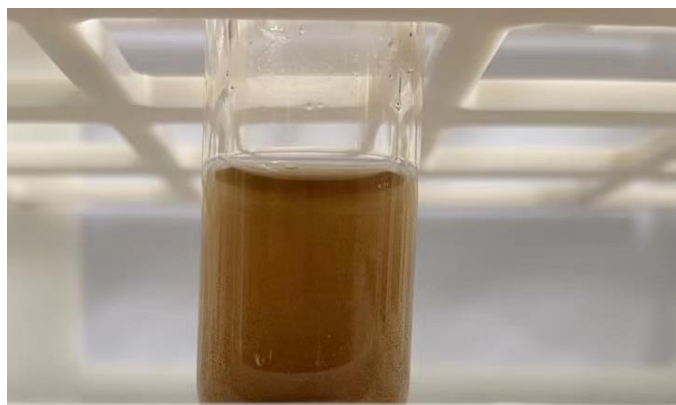


Fig. S2. Picture of D1M4-PC sample in the reaction solution.

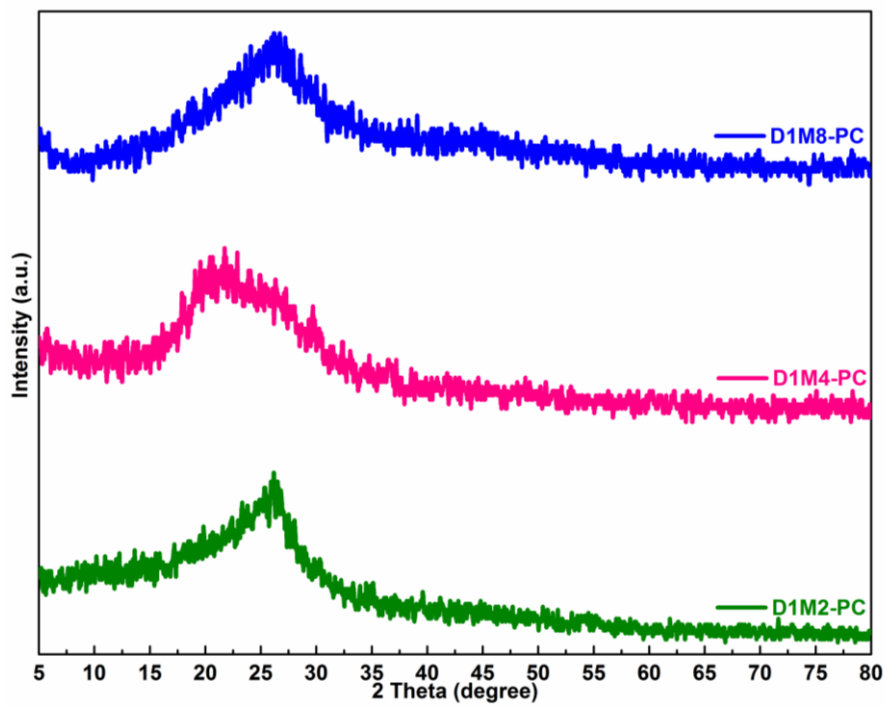


Fig. S3. XRD patterns of D1M2-PC, D1M4-PC and D1M8-PC samples.

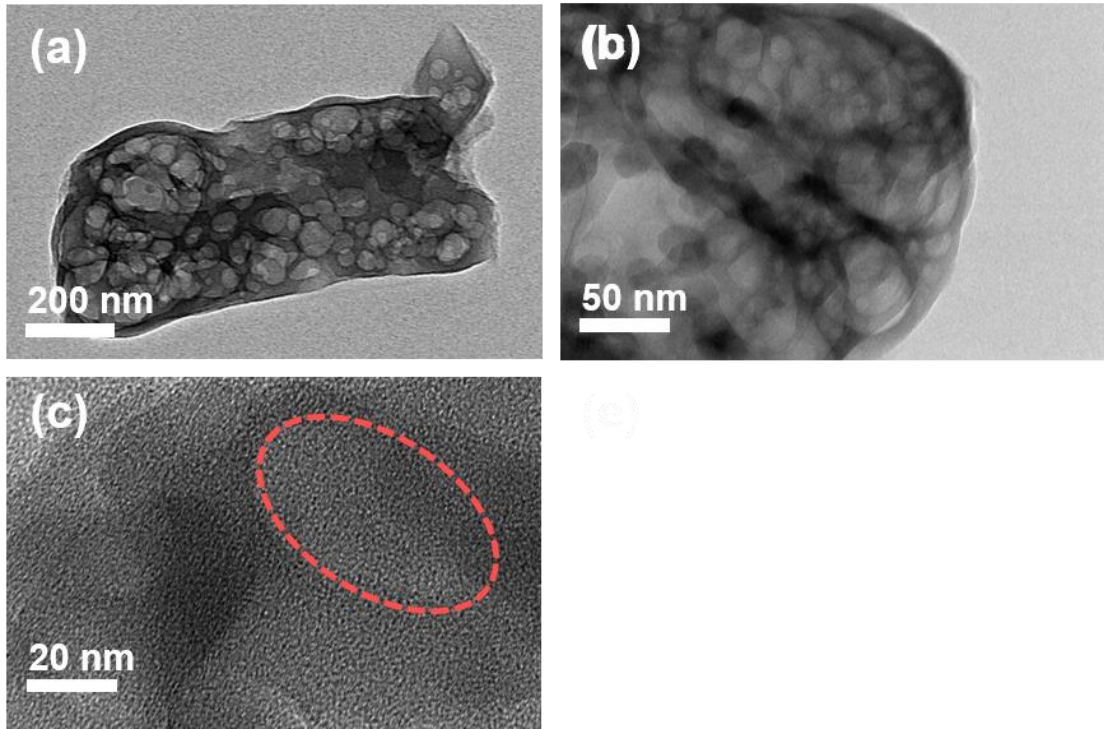


Fig. S4. TEM images (a, b) and HRTEM (c) of D1M2-PC.

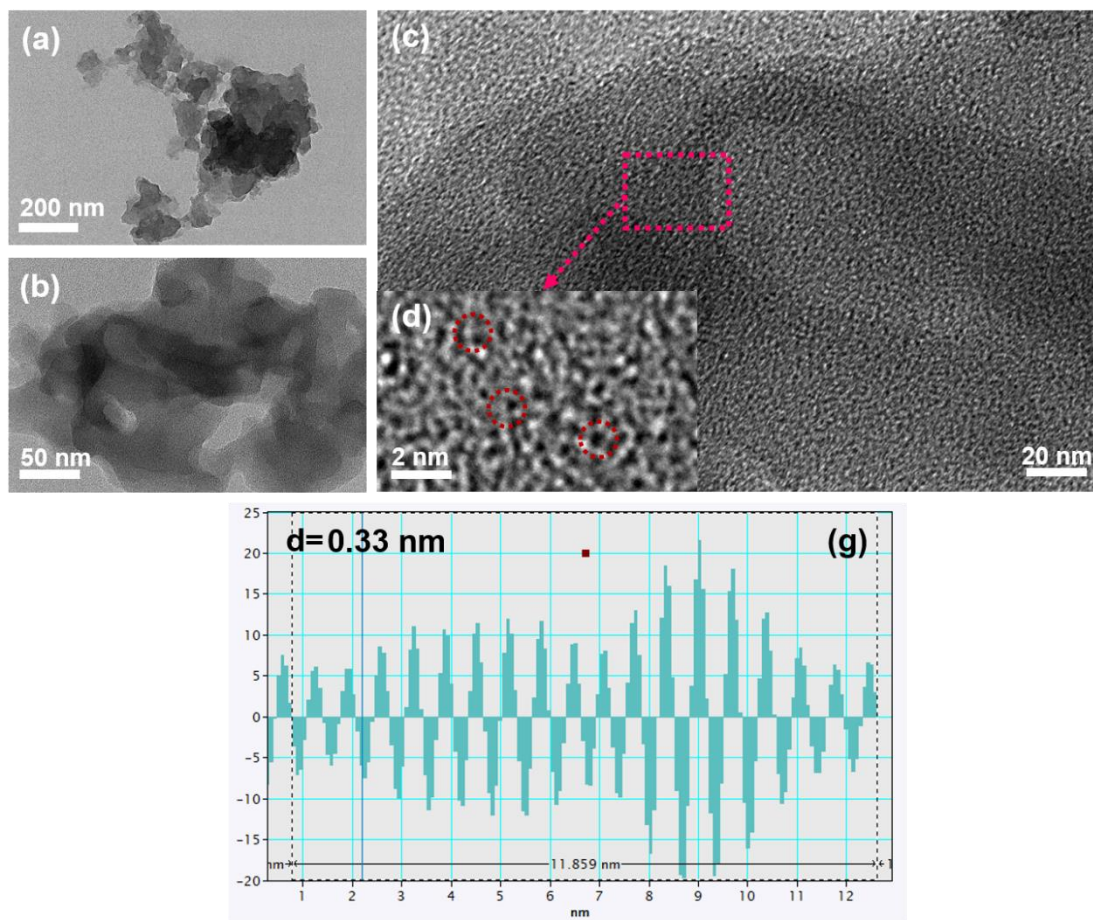


Fig. S5. TEM images (a, b), HRTEM (c and d) and interval length picture (e) of D1M8-PC.

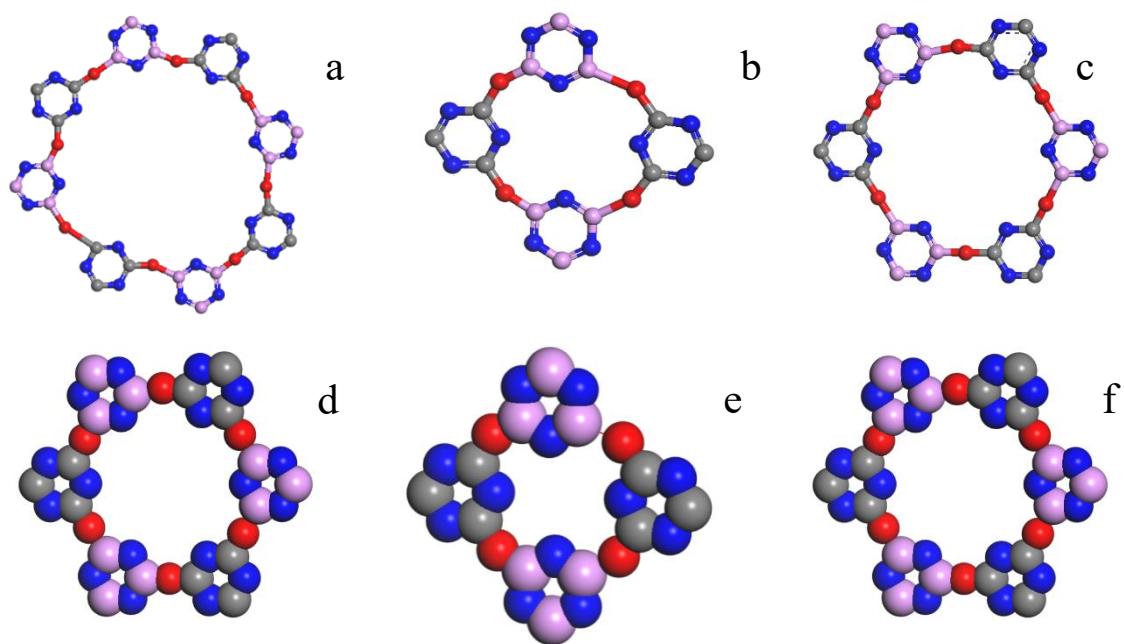


Fig. S6. Ball-stick representation of D1M2-PC, D1M4-PC and D1M8-PC (a-c) and CPK structure of D1M2-PC, D1M4-PC and D1M8-PC (d-f) (N element (Blue), P element (Pink), C element (Gray), and O element (Red)).

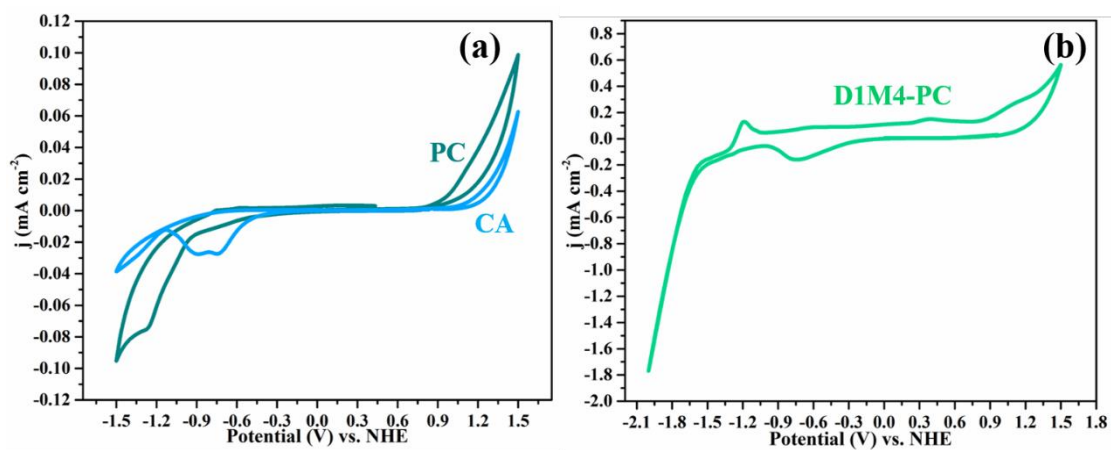


Fig. S7. (a) Cyclic voltammograms (CVs) of cyanuric acid (CA) and hexachlorocyclotriphosphazene (PC) in MeCN solution containing 0.1 M of tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate (TBAHFP). (b) CV of D1M4-PC.

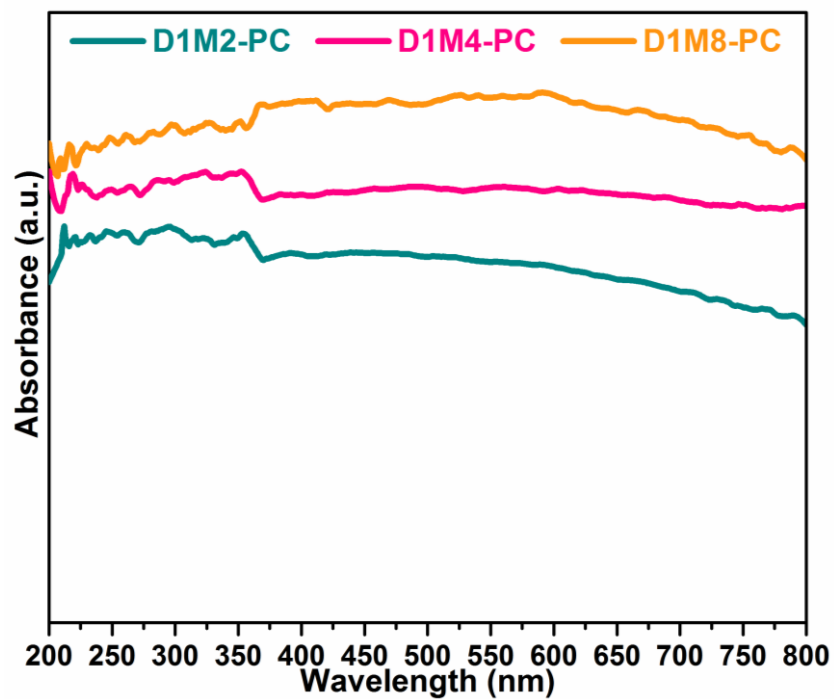


Fig. S8. UV-vis diffuse reflectance spectra (DRS) of D1M2-PC, D1M4-PC and D1M8-PC samples.

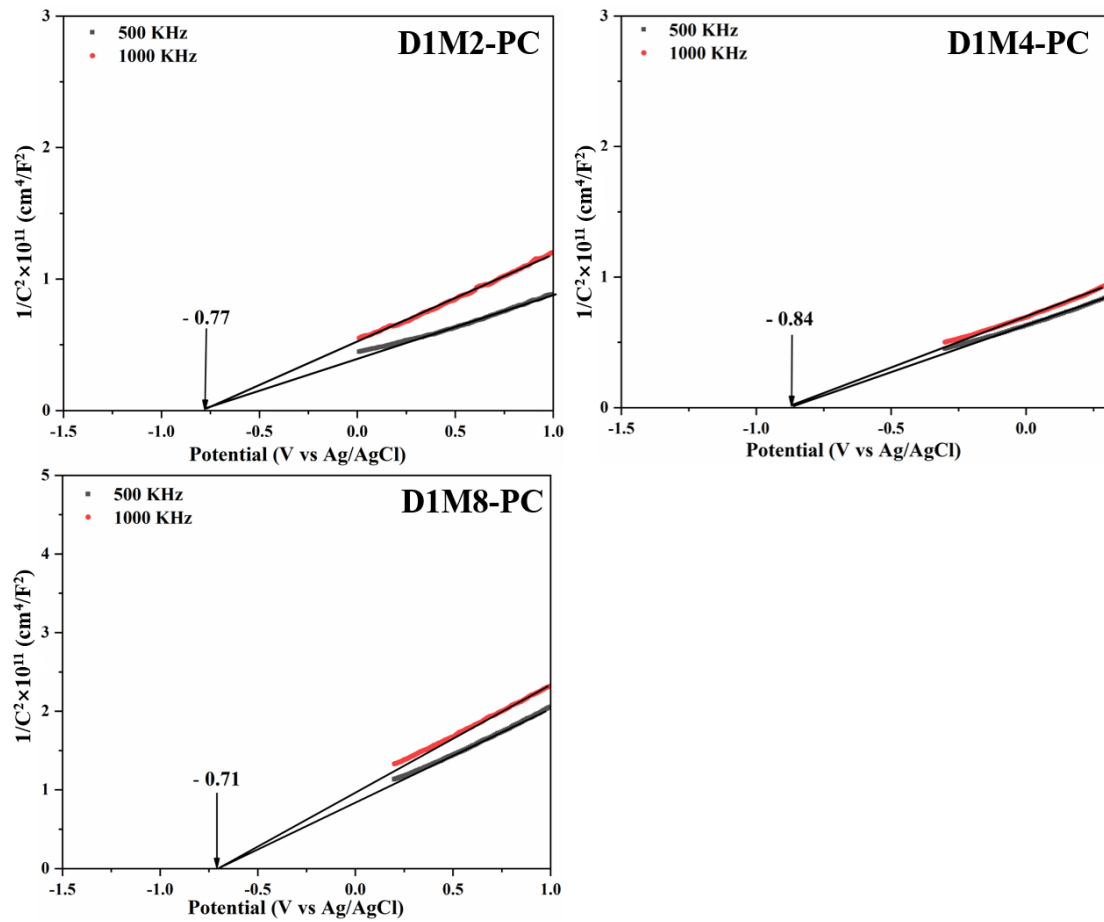


Fig. S9. The Mott-Schottky plots of D1M2-PC, D1M4-PC and D1M8-PC samples.

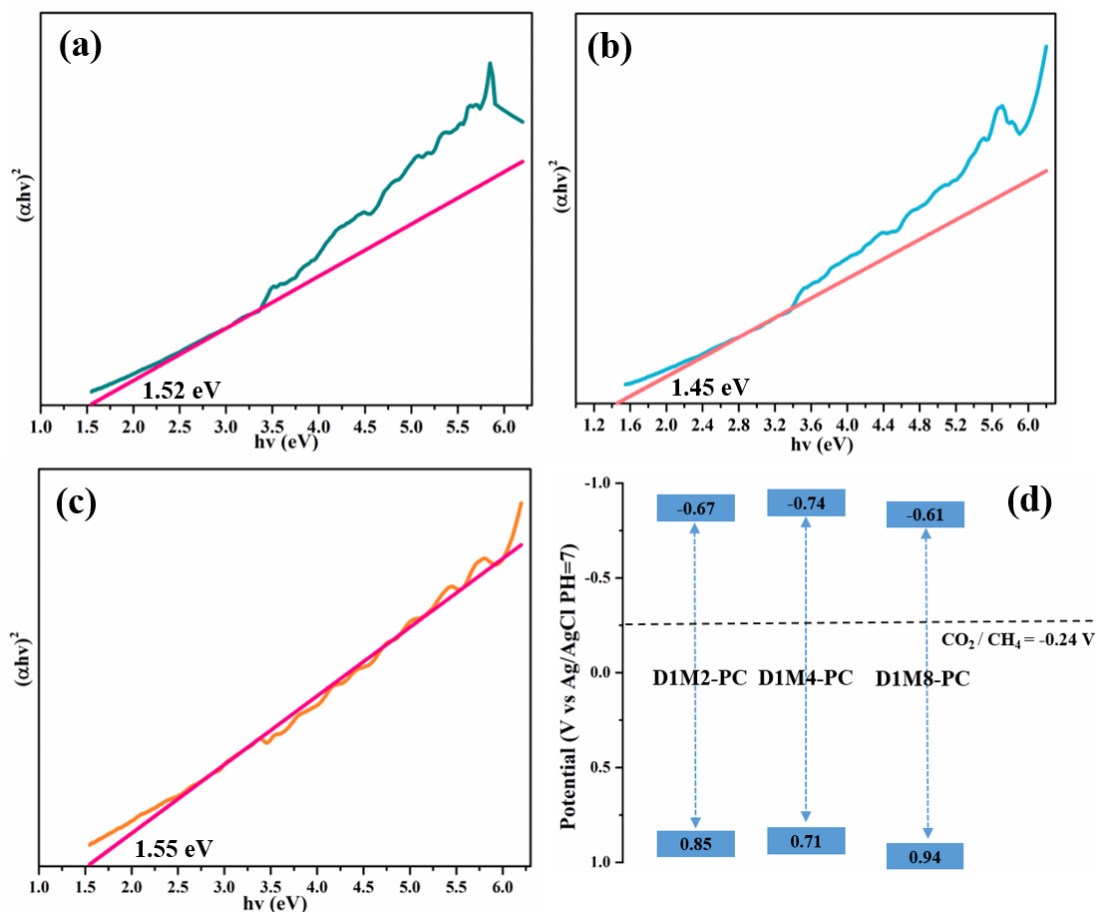


Fig. S10. (a) The $(\alpha hv)^2$ versus $h\nu$ curve of (a) D1M2-PC, (b) D1M4-PC and (c) D1M8-PC samples; The band structure of the compounds is calculated by the KubelKa-Munk (KM) method according to the following equation: $\alpha hv = A(h\nu - E_g)^{1/2}$, where α is the absorption coefficient, $h\nu$ is the photo energy, E_g is the band gap, and A is a constant. (d) The schematic diagram of the calculated band positions of D1M2-PC, D1M4-PC and D1M8-PC samples.

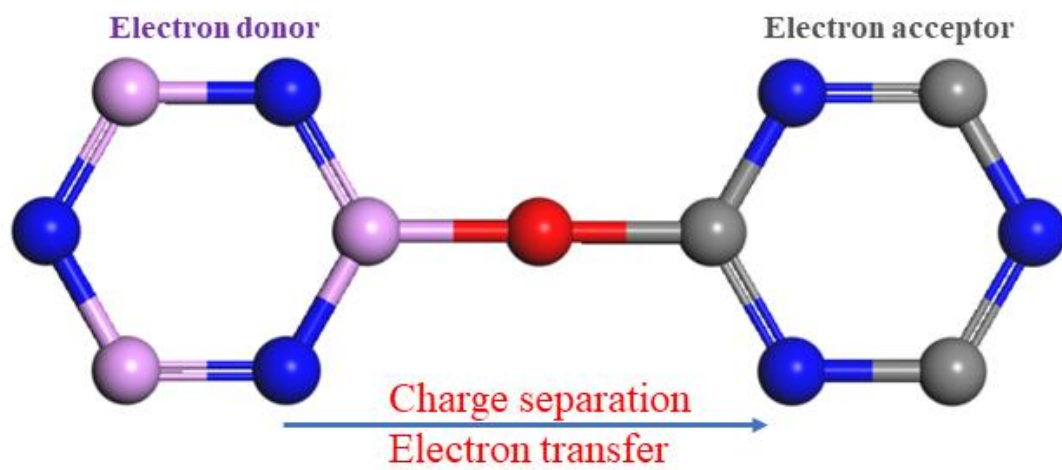


Fig. S11. Donor-acceptor structure of D1M4-PC sample (N element (Blue), P element (Pink), C element (Gray), and O element (Red)).

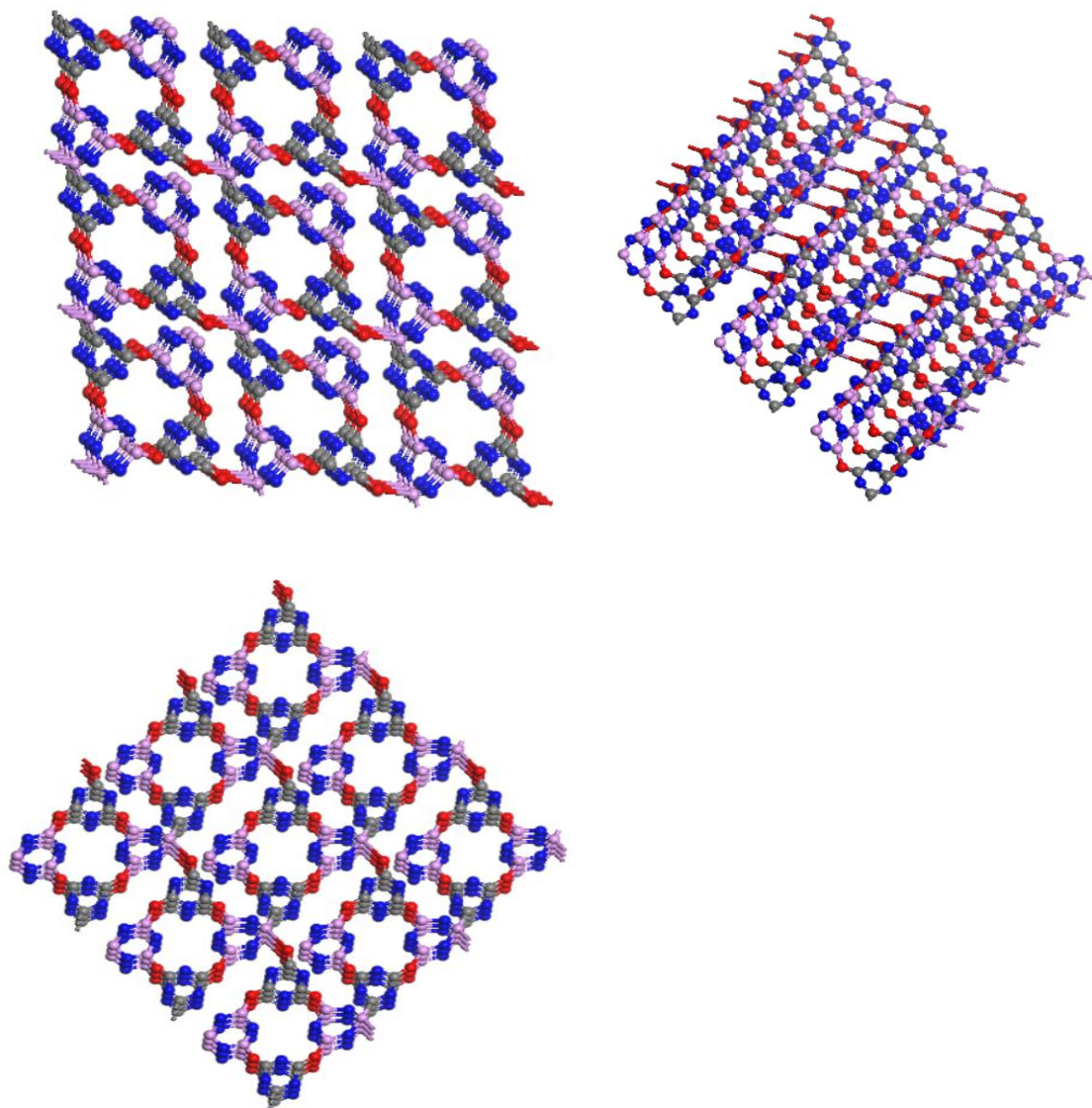


Fig. S12. Chemical skeleton of D1M4-PC sample (N element (Blue), P element (Pink), C element (Gray), and O element (Red)).

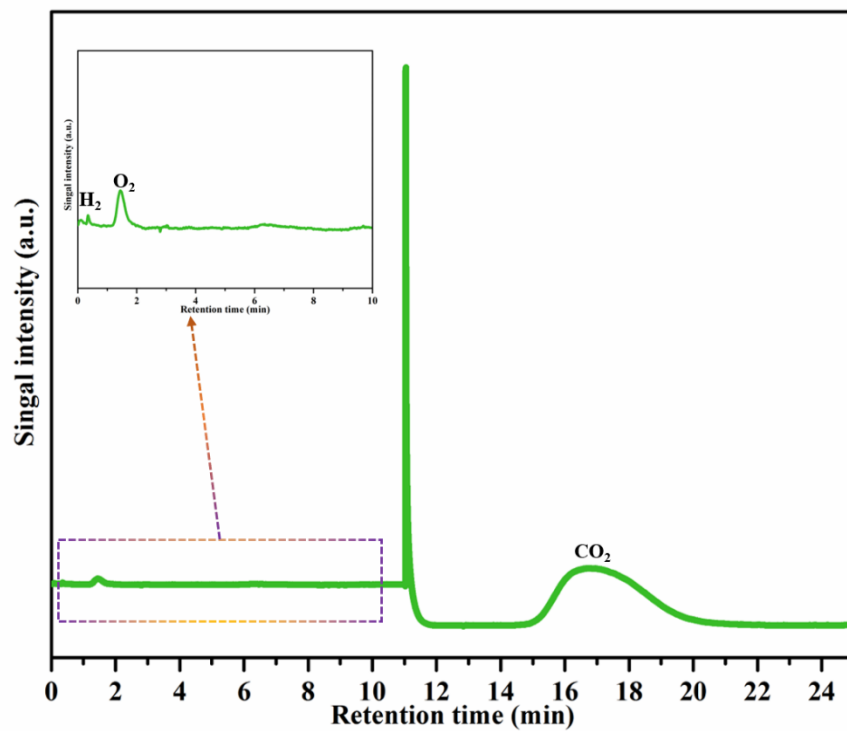


Fig. S13. GC spectrum of D1M4-PC sample with a thermal conductivity detector (TCD).

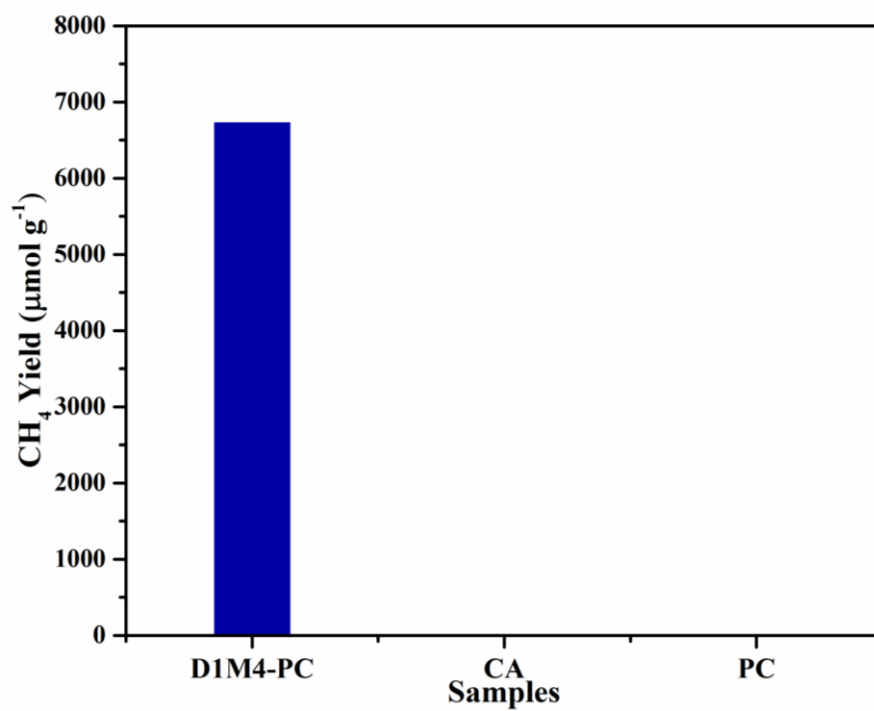


Fig. S14. Photocatalytic CO₂ conversion rates for cyanuric acid (CA), hexachlorocyclotriphosphazene (PC), and DIM4-PC samples.

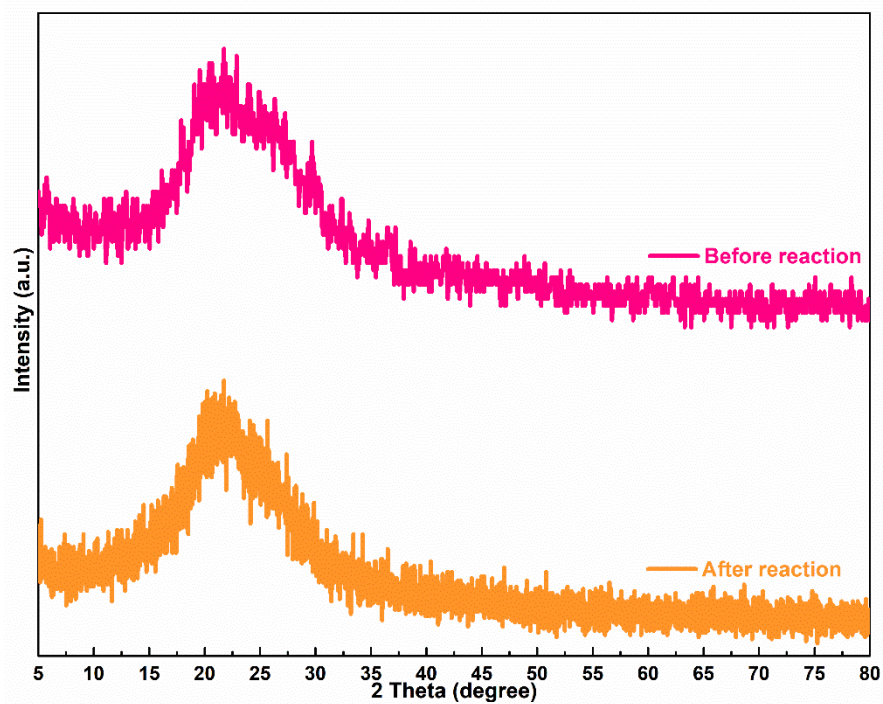


Fig. S15. XRD patterns of D1M4-PC sample before and after the stability test.

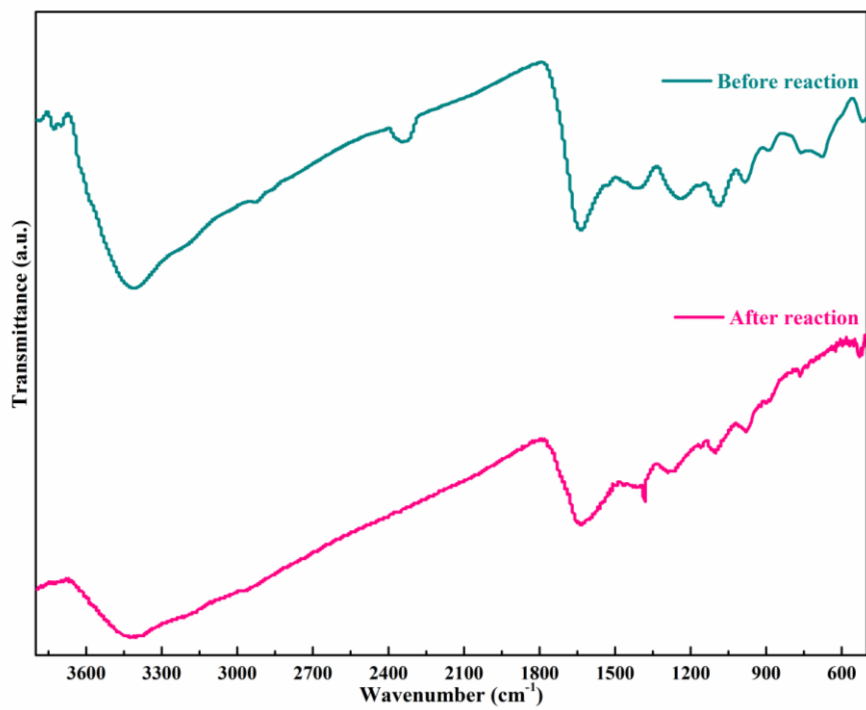


Fig. S16. FT-IR spectra of DIM4-PC sample before and after the stability test.

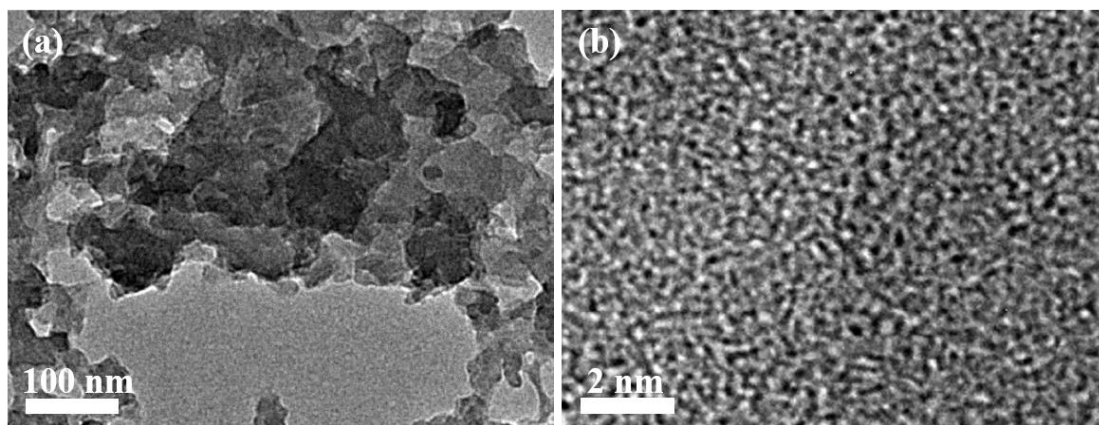


Fig. S17. TEM (a) and HRTEM (b) of D1M4-PC sample after the stability test.

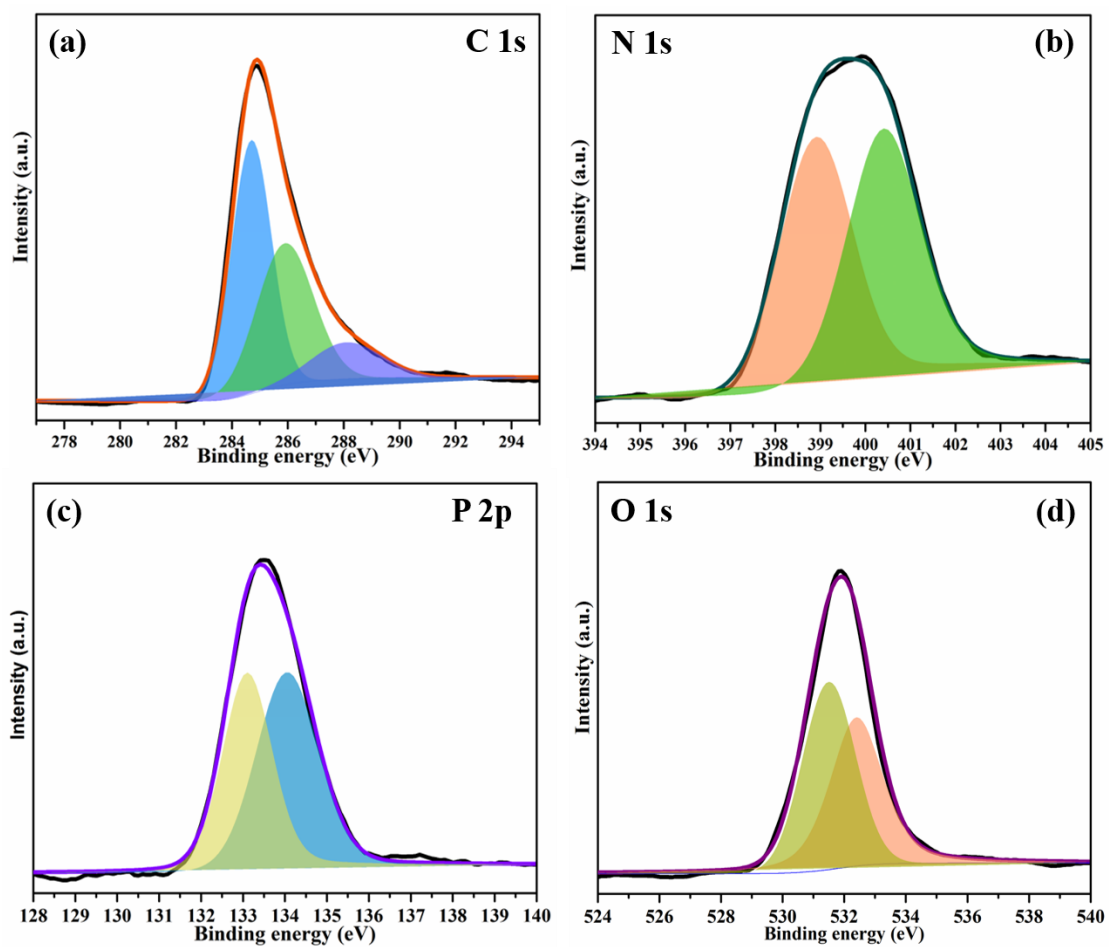


Fig. S18. XPS spectra of D1M4-PC after the stability test: (a) C 1s, (b) N 1s, (c) P 2p and (d) O 1s.

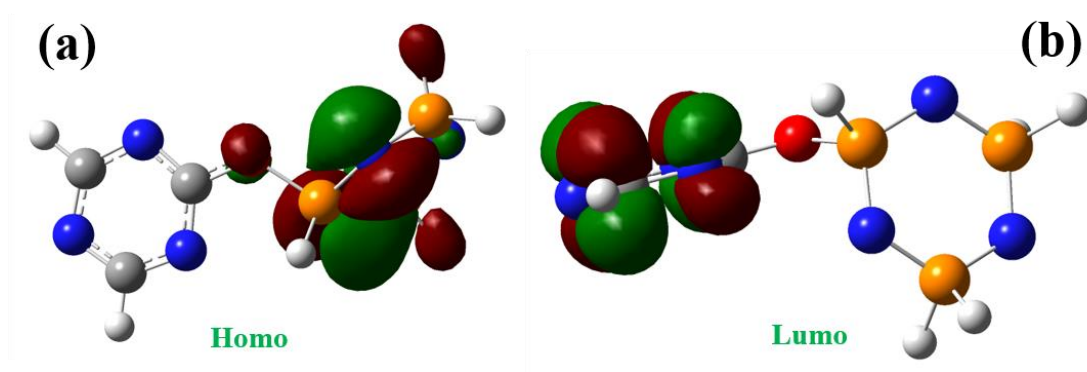


Fig. S19. Frontier molecular orbital picture of D-A structure (a: HOMO, b: LUMO) from DFT calculation using the 6-31(d,p) basis set in the B3LYP method.

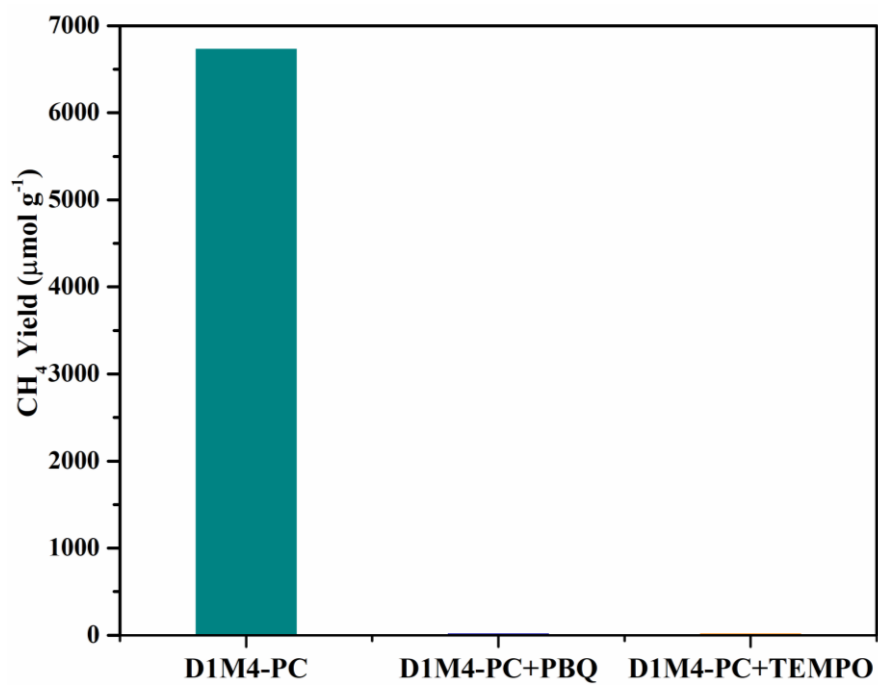


Fig. S20. Free radical trapping experiment of D1M4-PC.

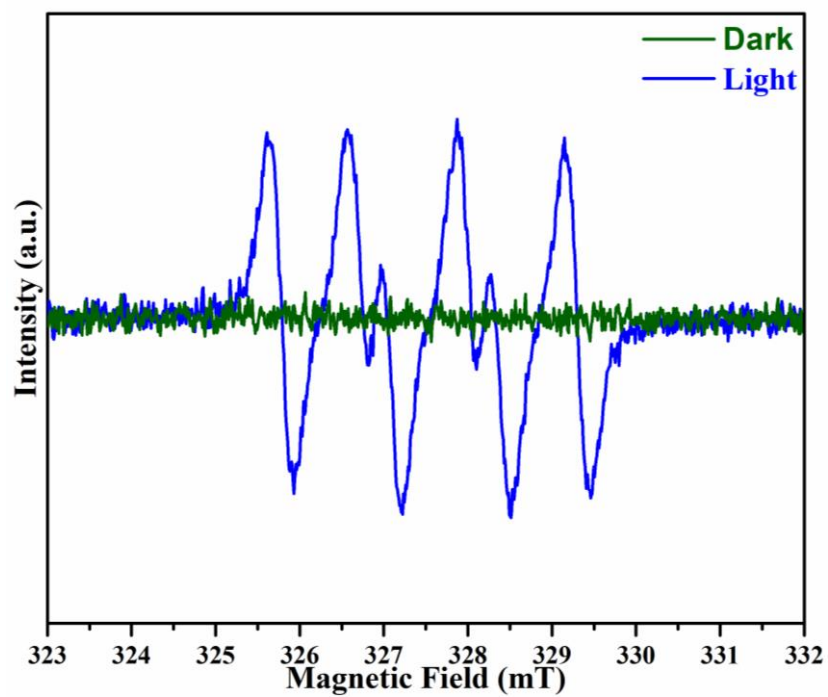
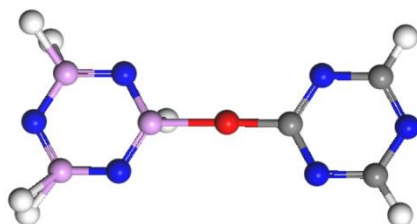


Fig. S21. ESR spectra of $\cdot\text{O}_2^-$ in D1M4-PC sample.

Computational Details

All computations were performed under the framework of Density Functional Theory (DFT) using the Gaussian 16 or MS software package of programs. In our calculation, the simplest possible repetitive unit consisting of single cyanuric acid and single phosphonitrile was taken into consideration. Molecular geometries were optimized using B3LYP(g) and energy was calculated using B3LYP(g,d).



Ball-stick representation of D1M4-PC using in DFT calculate.

DFT-optimized geometry of D1M4-PC (singlet).

Atom	x	y	z
N	-1.73872062	-1.35046377	0.75296857
P	-0.53993591	-0.29972954	0.85831432
N	-0.80039354	1.22382279	0.44771370
P	-2.09534569	1.61247668	-0.44775712
N	-3.19608839	0.47345742	-0.74794073
P	-3.01949620	-1.02870329	-0.18640248
O	0.67292633	-0.94381765	-0.12431486
N	2.71010837	-0.89158193	-1.11169532
C	3.94855208	-0.40013600	-1.06668428
N	4.43803826	0.44484605	-0.14979670
C	3.55297435	0.78465926	0.79110675
N	2.28907925	0.36454747	0.86756258
C	1.92718401	-0.46572955	-0.11712745
H	3.88865280	1.46576892	1.57010289
H	4.62653473	-0.71707730	-1.85642504
H	-3.05934679	-1.93172640	-1.27109059
H	-4.17133737	-1.41013015	0.52995761
H	0.04548405	-0.37993801	2.11765638
H	-2.71249428	2.72633137	0.15749498
H	-1.66566256	2.17149670	-1.67095298

Part of the Gaussian output file:

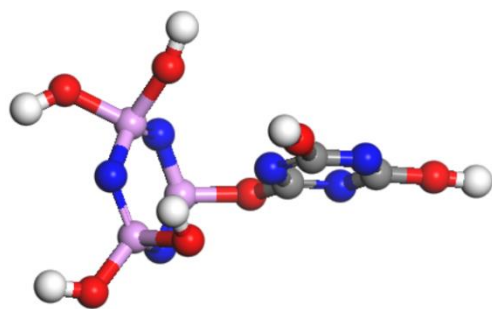
Mulliken charges:

1	N	-0.654682
2	P	0.950038
3	N	-0.659825
4	P	0.782871
5	N	-0.679479
6	P	0.791086
7	O	-0.535625
8	N	-0.410488
9	C	0.246219
10	N	-0.396266
11	C	0.254717
12	N	-0.434669
13	C	0.668566
14	H	0.131480
15	H	0.131683
16	H	-0.040569
17	H	-0.038070
18	H	-0.025847
19	H	-0.038606
20	H	-0.042534

Sum of Mulliken charges = 0.00000

Mulliken charges with hydrogens summed into heavy atoms:

1		
1	N	-0.654682
2	P	0.924191
3	N	-0.659825
4	P	0.701731
5	N	-0.679479
6	P	0.712448
7	O	-0.535625
8	N	-0.410488
9	C	0.377902
10	N	-0.396266
11	C	0.386197
12	N	-0.434669
13	C	0.668566



Ball-stick representation of DIM4-PC using in DMol3 calculate for electrostatic potential energy.

DMol3-optimized geometry of DIM4-PC.

Atom	x	y	z
N	9.33811063316486	9.66674496293331	4.10215850701181
P	11.86123407225155	11.01813324913500	3.13212458543765
N	14.55799073122141	10.18170191391016	4.21148691688898
P	14.65973190960400	8.61945797156388	6.85217485181998
N	12.12751877258279	7.26771451133700	7.87799970391317
P	9.42592311460137	8.09195476979524	6.73483436788998
O	11.53178927674260	14.21711780563321	3.26022167581976
N	11.09485685168512	17.95297030013372	5.30647346047805
C	10.94540236765615	19.11600686792085	7.54152827550298
N	11.05467915210532	18.02516738689458	9.83236970869192
C	11.33538492508340	15.51485145134674	9.73637604917056
N	11.50545008692956	14.10654207824779	7.64032909105767
C	11.37509643300762	15.44243437589849	5.48058228852209
O	11.38407282485340	14.18509407208206	12.26061050926874
O	10.66491312138720	21.95445937937583	7.45847445704100
H	10.55303384580295	24.04852894507905	7.50606401775154
H	11.58878701282122	13.09603680121291	14.04160896076139
O	17.59844719488438	6.89047848543519	7.53392253036154
O	8.66765664013738	4.76544252952172	7.40531609075861
H	17.81729403982867	4.84455882392281	7.94163308099888
H	9.76479786457199	2.98767494656442	7.59434712792057
H	11.26528696688916	11.46273397493783	0.45557989096986
O	14.56535851826974	10.90717646981483	9.46897351914460
O	6.82141220810108	9.45610551224441	8.59112453865332
H	4.99720291053773	9.95338570237613	9.49935465172530
H	13.45008646014807	9.84976319014228	10.89654303571155

Table S1. The comparison of photocatalytic CO₂ reduction activity among some representative photocatalysts reported in the literatures over recent years and *this work*.

Photocatalyst	Light source	Major Product (Yield and Rate)	CH ₄ selectivity	Ref.
D1M4-PC	300 W Xenon lamp ($\lambda \geq 420$ nm)	CH₄ (6733 $\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$)	>99%	This work
Cu ₂ O-111-Cu ⁰	300 W Xenon lamp ($\lambda \geq 420$ nm)	CH ₄ (150 $\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$)	97%	[1]
CuPP	white LED ($\lambda > 400$ nm)	CO (16.1 $\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$)	95%	[2]
V _S -CuInS ₈	Visible light	CH ₄ (209 $\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$)	100%	[3]
MOF-525-Co	300 W Xenon lamp (400 nm < λ < 800 nm)	CO (1210 $\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$)	40.9%	[4]
Cu ₂ O@Cu@Ui O-66-NH ₂	300 W Xenon lamp ($\lambda > 400$ nm)	CO (104.5 $\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$)	61.4%	[5]
5%APCN/CdS e-DETA	300 W Xenon lamp ($\lambda > 420$ nm)	CH ₄ (25.9 $\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$)	25.3%	[6]
CMP-BT ³	300 W Xenon lamp ($\lambda > 420$ nm)	CO (50 $\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$)	81.6%	[7]
MIL- 101(Cr)-Ag	300 W Xe lamp (400 nm < λ < 780 nm)	CH ₄ (427.5 $\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$)	62.9%	[8]
rGO-coated Ag/Cu ₂ O	300 W Xe lamp ($\lambda > 380$ nm)	CH ₄ (82.6 $\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$)	90%	[9]
Cs ₂ AgBiBr ₆ /Ti ₃ C ₂ T _x	300 W Xe lamp ($\lambda > 420$ nm)	CO (50.6 $\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$)	68%	[10]

[1] Y. Deng, C. Wan, C. Li, Y. Y. Wang, X. Y. Mu, W. Liu, Y. P. Huang, P. K. Wong, and L. Q. Ye, Synergy effect between facet and zero-valent copper for selectivity photocatalytic methane formation from CO₂, ACS Catal. 12 (2022) 4526-4533.

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- [9] Z. L. Tang, W. J. He, Y. L. Wang, Y. C. Wei, X. L. Yu, J. Xiong, X. Wang, X. Zhang, Z. Zhao, J. Liu, Ternary heterojunction in rGO-coated Ag/Cu₂O catalysts for boosting selective photocatalytic CO₂ reduction into CH₄, *Appl. Catal. B Environ.* 311 (2022) 121371-121385.
- [10] Z. P. Zhang, B. Z. Wang, H. B. Zhao, J. F. Liao, Z. C. Zhou, T. H. Liu, B. C. He, Q. Wei, S. Chen, H. Y. Chen, D. B. Kuang, Y. Li, G. C. Xing, Self-assembled lead-free double perovskite-MXene heterostructure with efficient charge separation for photocatalytic CO₂ reduction, *Appl. Catal. B Environ.* 312 (2022) 121358-121367.