

Supplementary Information to

**Enhanced solar absorption and photoelectrochemical properties
of Al-reduced TiO₂/TiO_{2-x}/CdS heterojunction nanorods**

Xiao Li, Jingshan Hou, Jing Wang, Yanwei Huang, Guoying Zhao, Ganghua Zhang*
and Yongzheng Fang*

*School of Materials Science and Engineering, Shanghai Institute of Technology,
Shanghai, 201418, P. R. China;*

E-mails: ganghuazhang@sit.edu.cn (G.H. Zhang) and fyz1003@sina.com (Y.Z. Fang)

Fig. S1 (a) EDS results for $\text{TiO}_2/\text{TiO}_{2-x}/\text{CdS}$ composite film. (b) Elemental mapping images of Cd, O, S, and Ti elements.

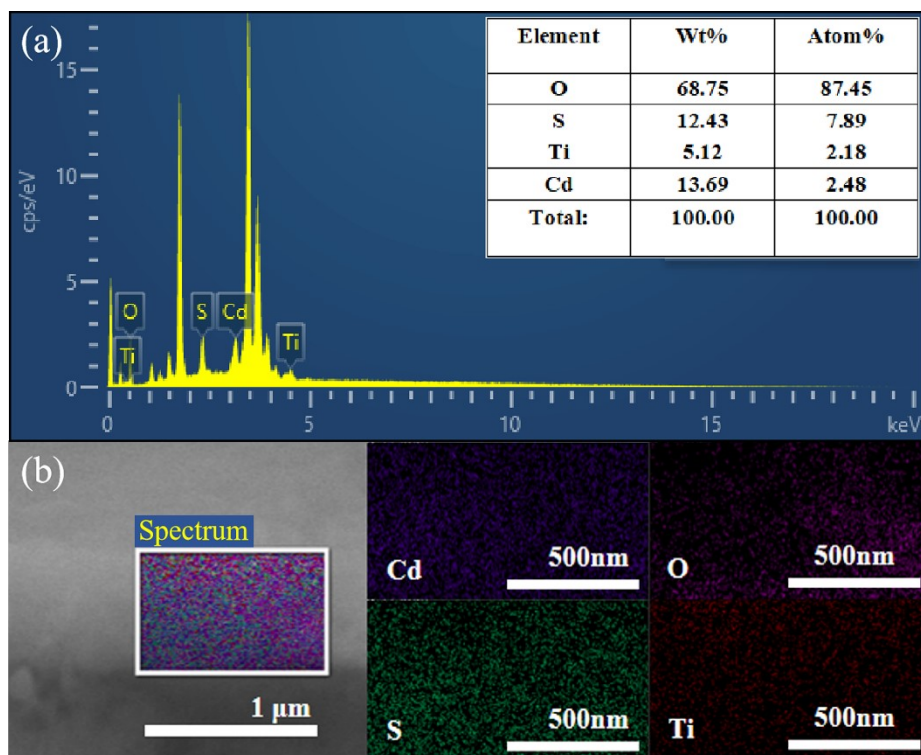


Fig. S2 Optical photographs of film electrodes.



Fig. S3 The optical bandgaps of $\text{TiO}_2/\text{TiO}_{2-x}$ film samples prepared at different Al-reduction temperatures.

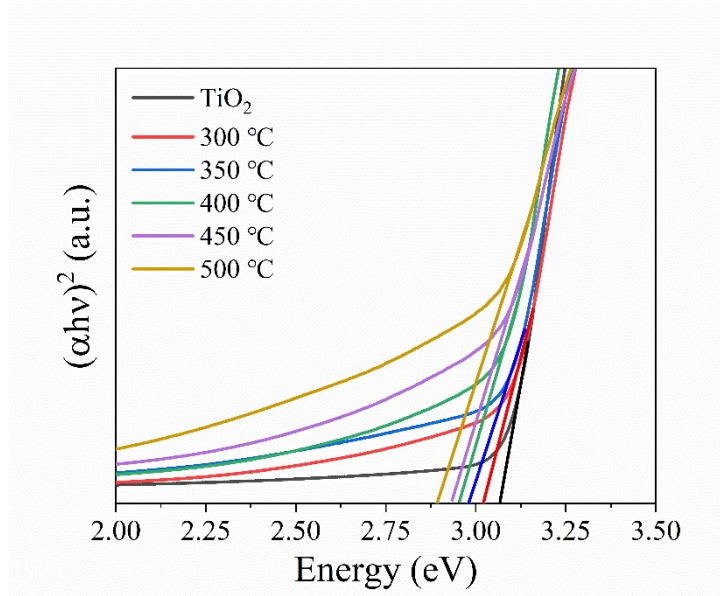


Fig. S4 Resistance value of FTO conductive glass annealed at different Al-reduction temperatures.



Fig. S5 Photocurrent densities of $\text{TiO}_2/\text{TiO}_{2-x}/\text{CdS}$ after exposing to air for six months (a) and the XRD patterns of $\text{TiO}_2/\text{TiO}_{2-x}/\text{CdS}$ before and after photostability test (b).

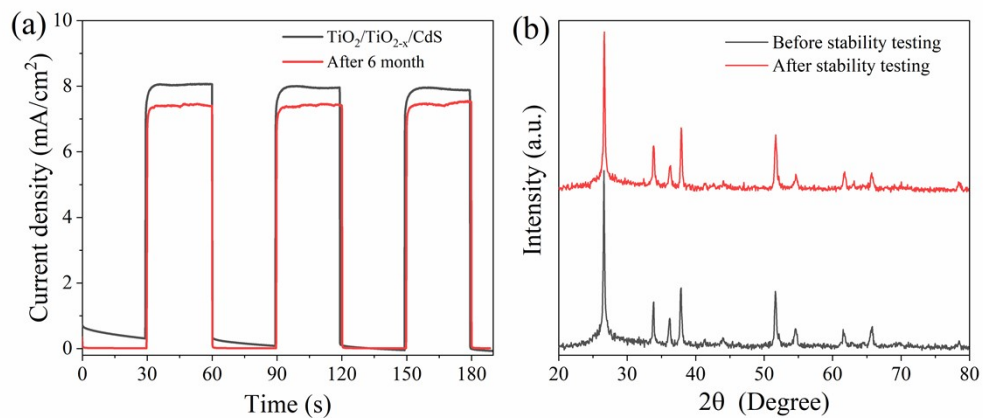


Fig. S6 The Mott-Schottky plots of $\text{TiO}_2/\text{TiO}_{2-x}$ and CdS.

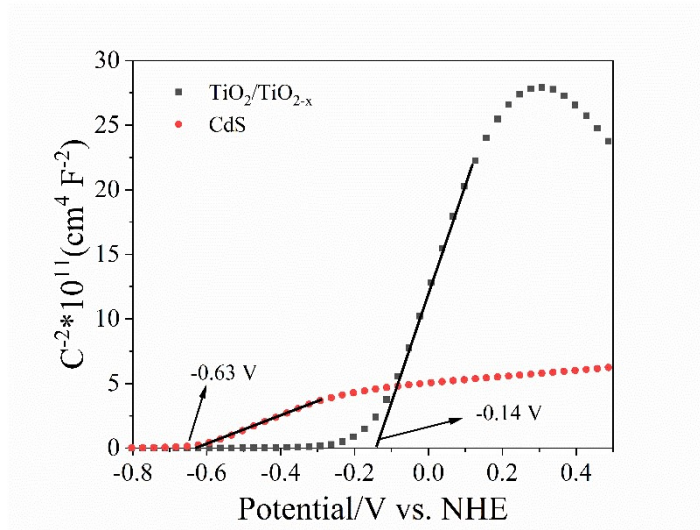


Table S1 PEC performances of the TiO₂/CdS related photoanodes.

photoanodes	photocurrent density (bias)	light and intensity (100 mW/cm ²)	electrolyte	ref
(nanoparticles)			1 M Na ₂ S	1
TiO ₂ /CdS	4.63 mA/cm ² (-0.2V vs. Ag/AgCl)			
(nanosheet arrays)		simulated light 500 W	0.25 M Na ₂ S +	2
TiO ₂ /CdS	3.24 mA/cm ² (0V vs. Ag/AgCl)	Xe lamp	0.35 M Na ₂ SO ₃	
(nanorod arrays)		simulated light 500 W	1 M Na ₂ S	3
TiO ₂ /CdS	5.778 mA/cm ² (0V vs. Ag/AgCl)	Xe lamp		
(nanotube arrays)		simulated light 500 W	0.25 M Na ₂ S +	4
H:TiO ₂ /CdS	2.0 mA/cm ² (-0.43V vs. Ag/AgCl)	Xe lamp	0.35 M Na ₂ SO ₃	
(nanobullet arrays)			0.25 M Na ₂ S +	5
H:TiO ₂ /CdS	0.5 mA/cm ² (0 V vs Ag/AgCl)		0.35 M Na ₂ SO ₃	
(nanowire arrays)		simulated light 150 W	0.25 M Na ₂ S +	6
H:TiO ₂ /CdS	4.0 mA/cm ² (0.5 V vs. RHE)	Xe lamp	0.35 M Na ₂ SO ₃	
H:CdS/TiO ₂	7.2 mA/cm ² (0.5 V vs. RHE)			

Notes and references

- [1] S. S. Kalanur, Y. J. Hwang and O. S. Joo, *J. Colloid Interface Sci.*, 2013, **402**, 94-99.
- [2] H. Yao, W. Fu, H. Yang, J. Ma, M. Sun, Y. Chen and M. Li, *Electrochim. Acta*, 2014, **125**, 258-265.
- [3] H. Wang, Y. Bai, H. Zhang, Z. Zhang, J. Li and L. Guo, *J. Phys. Chem. C.*, 2010, **114**, 16451-16455.
- [4] P. Lv, H. Yang, W. Fu, H. Sun, W. Zhang, M. Li and S. Su, *CrystEngComm*, 2014, **16**, 6955-6962.
- [5] Y. S. Chang, M. Choi, M. Baek, P. Y. Hsieh, K. Yong and Y. J. Hsu, *Appl. Catal. B Environ.*, 2018, **225**, 379-385.
- [6] H. Wang, G. Wang, Y. Ling, M. Lepert, C. Wang, J. Z. Zhang and Y. Li, *Nanoscale*, 2012, **4**, 1463-1466.

Table S2 Parameters obtained from time-resolved PL decay curves according to a double-exponential decay.

Sample	A_1	τ_1 (μs)	A_2	τ_2 (μs)	τ (μs)
TiO ₂	0.58898	0.19513	0.19837	1.09393	0.78
CdS	0.71859	0.23258	0.17371	1.32039	0.86
TiO ₂ /TiO _{2-x}	0.40952	0.19322	0.19627	1.22371	0.96
TiO ₂ /TiO _{2-x} /CdS	0.46588	0.21779	0.25027	1.5294	1.25