

The *in-situ* decoration of Ti₃C₂ quantum dots on Cu nanowires for high efficient electrocatalytic reduction of nitric oxide to ammonia

Baojing Li^a, Dongcai Shen^a, Zhengting Xiao^{a,b}, Quan Li^a, Shuo Yao^a, and Wentai Wang^{a*}

^a Key Laboratory of Marine Chemistry Theory and Technology, Ministry of Education; College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Ocean University of China, Qingdao, 266100, China. Email: wentaiwang@ouc.edu.cn

^b Key Laboratory of Biofuels, Qingdao Institute of Bioenergy and Bioprocess Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Qingdao 266101, PR China

1. Determination of NH₃

The ammonia produced in the electrocatalytic NORR process was determined by UV-vis spectrophotometry with indophenol blue method. Specifically, 2 mL of solution after NORR test is added to 2 mL of 1.0 M NaOH solution (containing 5 wt% salicylic acid and 5 wt% sodium citrate), 1 mL of 0.05 M NaClO and 0.2 mL of 1 wt% C₅FeN₆Na₂O are added, and the absorption spectrum of UV-vis tested after the solution was kept away from light for 2 hours in the greenhouse. The concentration of indophenol blue was measured at the wavelength of 655 nm in the absorption spectrum. The concentration absorption peak curve is calibrated with a series of standard NH₄Cl (aq) of different concentrations. The standard curve obtained by indophenol blue method is $y=0.37131x+0.04886$, $R^2=0.9996$, as shown in the figure.

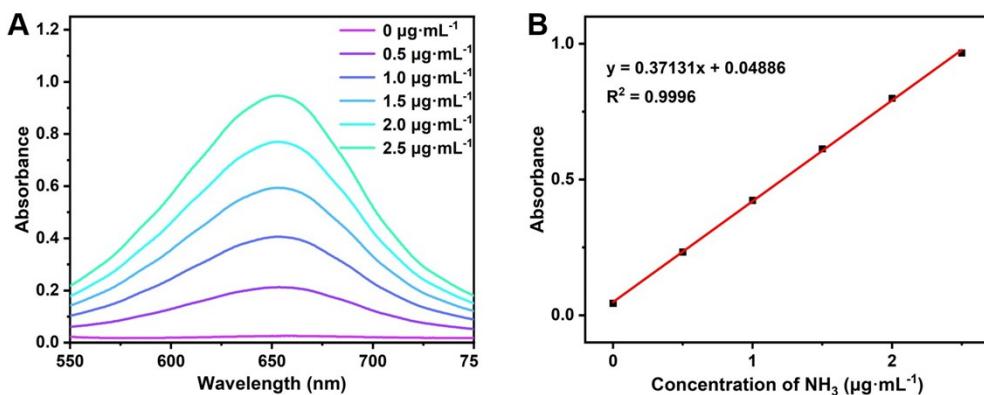


Fig. S1. (A) UV-vis absorption spectra of indole phenol determination at different concentrations of NH₄⁺ at room temperature after 2 hours of avoiding light. (B) Calibration curve for estimating NH₄⁺ concentration.

2. Determination of N₂H₄

N₂H₄ was determined by UV-vis using the method reported by Watt and Christp. Mix 0.599 g C₉H₁₁NO, 3 mL HCl and 30 mL C₂H₅OH as color developing agent for standby. Specifically, take 2 mL of experimental solution from the NORR electrolytic cell, add 2 mL of developer, mix it at room temperature for 15 minutes, and then conduct UV-vis analysis at 455 nm to test the absorbance of the obtained solution. Configure N₂H₄ measurement working curves with different concentrations to obtain the relationship between N₂H₄ with different concentrations and absorbance:

$$y=0.77471x+0.02014, R^2=0.997.$$

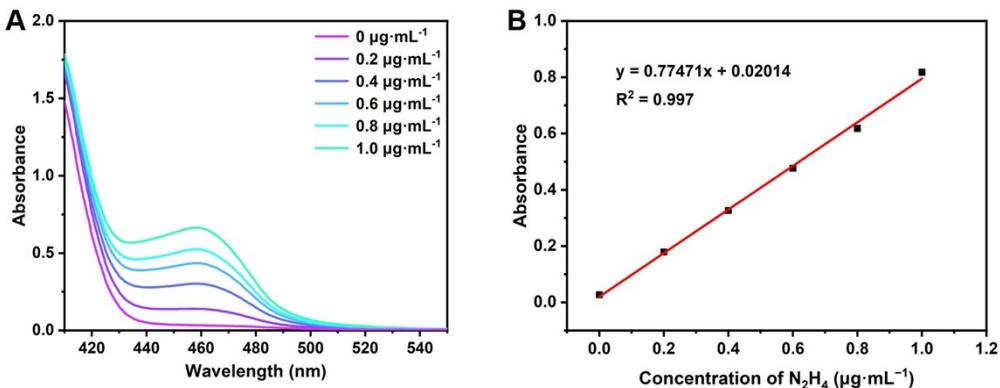


Fig. S2. (A) UV-vis absorption spectra measured after 20 minutes at different N₂H₄ concentrations at room temperature. (B) Calibration curve for estimating N₂H₄ concentration.

3. Determination of H₂

Determination of gas phase product H₂ by gas chromatography.

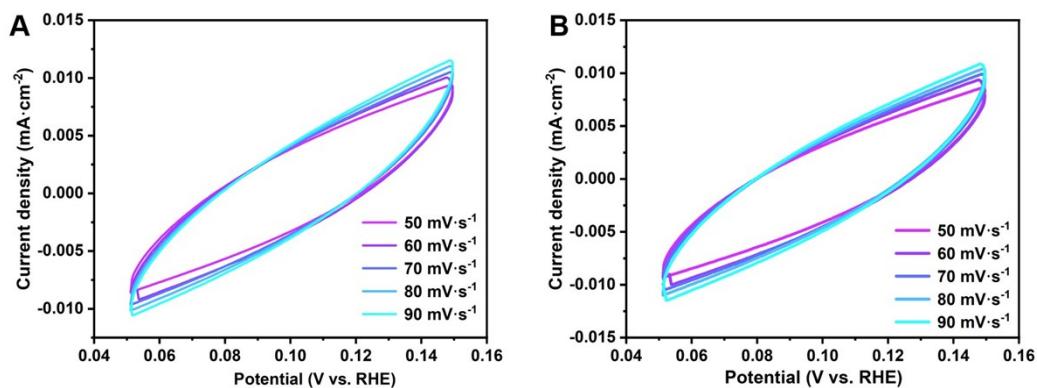


Fig. S3 The CV curves of (A) Cu NWs and (B) Ti_3C_2 QDs/Cu NWs at different scanning rates (50, 60, 70, 80, 90 mV/s).

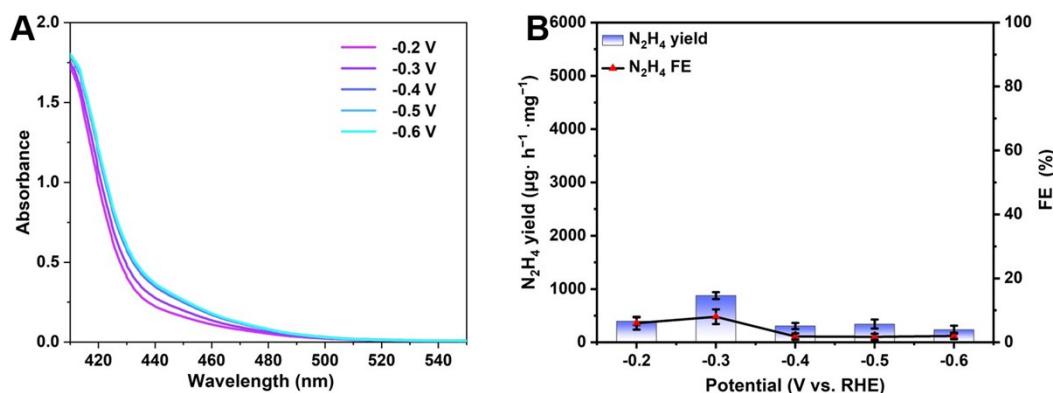


Fig. S4. The UV-vis absorption spectra of N_2H_4 were produced at Ti_3C_2 QDs/Cu NWs at different potentials.

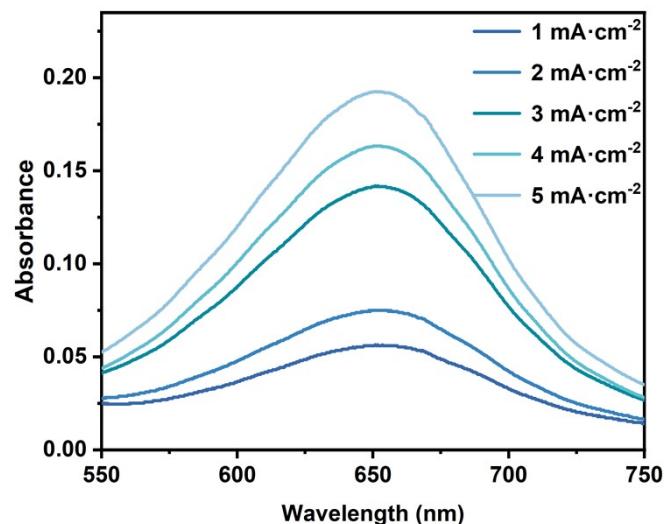


Fig. S5. UV-vis absorption spectra at different currents.

Table 1. Comparison of Ti_3C_2 QDs/Cu NWs and reported NORR performance

Catalyst	Electrolyte	Potential (V vs. RHE)	NH ₃ yield	FE (%)	Ref.
Ti_3C_2 QDs/Cu NWs	0.1 M K ₂ SO ₄	-0.4	5346.30 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg}^{-1}$	95.50	This work
Ni ₂ P/CP	0.1 M HCl	-0.2	33.47 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$	76.9	¹
Ru _{0.05} Cu _{0.95}	0.5M Na ₂ SO ₄	-0.49	17.68 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$	64.9	²
CoP/TM	0.2 M Na ₂ SO ₄	-0.2	47.22 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$	88.3	³
FeP/CC	0.2 M PBS	-0.2	85.62 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$	88.49	⁴
Cu/P-TiO ₂	0.1 M K ₂ SO ₄	-0.3	3520.80 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg}^{-1}$	86.49	⁵
Cu-Ti hollow fiber	0.05M Na ₂ SO ₄	-0.6	400 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$	90	⁶
NiNC@CF	0.5 M PBS	-0.5	94 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$	87	⁷
HCNF/CP	0.2 M Na ₂ SO ₄	-0.6	22.35 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$	88.33	⁸
Ni@NC	0.1 M HCl	0.16	34.6 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$	72.3	⁹

NiO/TM	0.1 M Na ₂ SO ₄ +0.05 mM Fe ²⁺ - EDTA	-0.6	2130 µg·h ⁻¹ ·cm ⁻²	90	10
MoS ₂ /GF	0.1 M HCl + 0.5 mM Fe (II)SB	-0.7/0.1	99.6 µmol·cm ⁻² ·h ⁻¹	76.6	11
a-B _{2.6} C @ TiO ₂ / Ti	0.1 M Na ₂ SO ₄ + 0.5 mM Fe ²⁺ - EDTA	-0.9	3678.6 µg·h ⁻¹ ·cm ⁻²	87.6	12
Bi NDs/CP	0.1 M Na ₂ SO ₄ + 0.05 mM Fe(II)EDT A	-0.50	1194 µg·h ⁻¹ ·mg ⁻¹	89.2	13
Bi@C	0.1 M Na ₂ SO ₄ + 0.05 mM Fe(II)EDTA	-0.7/-0.4	1592.5 µg·h ⁻¹ ·mg ⁻¹	93	14
Ru-LCN	0.5 M Na ₂ SO ₄	-0.2	45.02µmol·mg ⁻¹ ·h ⁻¹	65.96	15
Fe/C	0.5 M PBS	—	908µmol·cm ⁻² ·h ⁻¹	77	16

	0.5M H ₂ SO ₄	—	1239μmol·cm ⁻² ·h ⁻¹	50.4	
MoC/NCS	0.1 M HCl	-0.8	1350±15μg·cm ⁻² ·h ⁻¹	89%±2%	¹⁷

References

1. T. Mou, J. Liang, Z. Ma, L. Zhang, Y. Lin, T. Li, Q. Liu, Y. Luo, Y. Liu, S. Gao, H. Zhao, A. M. Asiri, D. Ma and X. Sun, High-efficiency electrohydrogenation of nitric oxide to ammonia on a Ni2P nanoarray under ambient conditions, *Journal of Materials Chemistry A*, 2021, **9**, 24268-24275.
2. J. Shi, C. Wang, R. Yang, F. Chen, N. Meng, Y. Yu and B. Zhang, Promoting nitric oxide electroreduction to ammonia over electron-rich Cu modulated by Ru doping, *Science China Chemistry*, 2021, **64**, 1493-1497.
3. J. Liang, W.-F. Hu, B. Song, T. Mou, L. Zhang, Y. Luo, Q. Liu, A. A. Alshehri, M. S. Hamdy, L.-M. Yang and X. Sun, Efficient nitric oxide electroreduction toward ambient ammonia synthesis catalyzed by a CoP nanoarray, *Inorganic Chemistry Frontiers*, 2022, **9**, 1366-1372.
4. J. Liang, Q. Zhou, T. Mou, H. Chen, L. Yue, Y. Luo, Q. Liu, M. S. Hamdy, A. A. Alshehri, F. Gong and X. Sun, FeP nanorod array: A high-efficiency catalyst for electroreduction of NO to NH₃ under ambient conditions, *Nano Research*, 2022, **15**, 4008-4013.
5. L. Chen, W. Sun, Z. Xu, M. Hao, B. Li, X. Liu, J. Ma, L. Wang, C. Li and W. Wang, Ultrafine Cu nanoparticles decorated porous TiO₂ for high-efficient electrocatalytic reduction of NO to synthesize NH₃, *Ceramics International*, 2022, **48**, 21151-21161.
6. P. M. Krzywda, A. Paradelo Rodríguez, N. E. Benes, B. T. Mei and G. Mul, Effect of Electrolyte and Electrode Configuration on Cu-Catalyzed Nitric Oxide Reduction to Ammonia, *ChemElectroChem*, 2022, **9**, e202101273.
7. T. Muthusamy, S. Sethuram Markandaraj and S. Shanmugam, Nickel nanoparticles wrapped in N-doped carbon nanostructures for efficient electrochemical reduction of NO to NH₃, *Journal of Materials Chemistry A*, 2022, **10**, 6470-6474.
8. L. Ouyang, Q. Zhou, J. Liang, L. Zhang, L. Yue, Z. Li, J. Li, Y. Luo, Q. Liu, N. Li, B. Tang, A. Ali Alshehri, F. Gong and X. Sun, High-efficiency NO electroreduction to NH₃ over honeycomb carbon nanofiber at ambient conditions, *J Colloid Interface Sci*, 2022, **616**, 261-267.
9. S. Sethuram Markandaraj, T. Muthusamy and S. Shanmugam, Electrochemical Reduction of Nitric Oxide with 1.7% Solar-to-Ammonia Efficiency Over Nanostructured Core-Shell Catalyst at Low Overpotentials, *Advanced Science*, 2022, **9**.
10. P. Liu, J. Liang, J. Wang, L. Zhang, J. Li, L. Yue, Y. Ren, T. Li, Y. Luo, N. Li, B. Tang, Q. Liu, A. M. Asiri, Q. Kong and X. Sun, High-performance NH₃ production via NO electroreduction over a NiO nanosheet array, *Chem Commun*, 2021, **57**, 13562-13565.

11. L. Zhang, J. Liang, Y. Wang, T. Mou, Y. Lin, L. Yue, T. Li, Q. Liu, Y. Luo, N. Li, B. Tang, Y. Liu, S. Gao, A. A. Alshehri, X. Guo, D. Ma and X. Sun, High-Performance Electrochemical NO Reduction into NH₃ by MoS₂ Nanosheet, *Angew Chem Int Ed Engl*, 2021, **60**, 25263-25268.
12. J. Liang, P. Liu, Q. Li, T. Li, L. Yue, Y. Luo, Q. Liu, N. Li, B. Tang, A. A. Alshehri, I. Shakir, P. O. Agboola, C. Sun and X. Sun, Amorphous Boron Carbide on Titanium Dioxide Nanobelt Arrays for High-Efficiency Electrocatalytic NO Reduction to NH₃, *Angew Chem Int Ed Engl*, 2022, **61**, e202202087.
13. Y. Lin, J. Liang, H. Li, L. Zhang, T. Mou, T. Li, L. Yue, Y. Ji, Q. Liu, Y. Luo, N. Li, B. Tang, Q. Wu, M. S. Hamdy, D. Ma and X. Sun, Bi nanodendrites for highly efficient electrocatalytic NO reduction to NH₃ at ambient conditions, *Materials Today Physics*, 2022, **22**, 100611.
14. Q. Liu, Y. Lin, L. Yue, J. Liang, L. Zhang, T. Li, Y. Luo, M. Liu, J. You, A. A. Alshehri, Q. Kong and X. Sun, Bi nanoparticles/carbon nanosheet composite: A high-efficiency electrocatalyst for NO reduction to NH₃, *Nano Research*, 2022, **15**, 5032-5037.
15. Y. Li, C. Cheng, S. Han, Y. Huang, X. Du, B. Zhang and Y. Yu, Electrocatalytic Reduction of Low-Concentration Nitric Oxide into Ammonia over Ru Nanosheets, *ACS Energy Letters*, 2022, **7**, 1187-1194.
16. S. Cheon, W. J. Kim, D. Y. Kim, Y. Kwon and J.-I. Han, Electro-synthesis of Ammonia from Dilute Nitric Oxide on a Gas Diffusion Electrode, *ACS Energy Letters*, 2022, **7**, 958-965.
17. G. Meng, M. Jin, T. Wei, Q. Liu, S. Zhang, X. Peng, J. Luo and X. Liu, MoC nanocrystals confined in N-doped carbon nanosheets toward highly selective electrocatalytic nitric oxide reduction to ammonia, *Nano Research*, 2022, **15**, 8890-8896.