

Ternary heterogeneous Z-scheme photocatalyst TiO₂/CuInS₂/OCN incorporated with carbon quantum dots (CQD) for enhanced photocatalytic degradation efficiency of reactive yellow 145 dye in water

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1. Chemicals

Titanium isopropoxide (TIP, 97%, Sigma-Aldrich), indium(III) chloride tetrahydrate ($\text{InCl}_3 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 97%, Sigma-Aldrich), Copper(II) nitrate trihydrate ($\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 99%, Sigma-Aldrich), thioacetamide ($\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{NS}$, 98%, Sigma-Aldrich), sodium dodecyl sulfate ($\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_{11}\text{OSO}_3\text{Na}$, 98%, China), hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2 , 30%, China), ammonium chloride (NH_4Cl , 98%, China), ethylene glycol (EG, 98%, China), acetic acid (CH_3COOH , 98%, China), ethanol ($\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$, 98%, Vietnam) were all purchased and used without further purification.

2. Additional figures

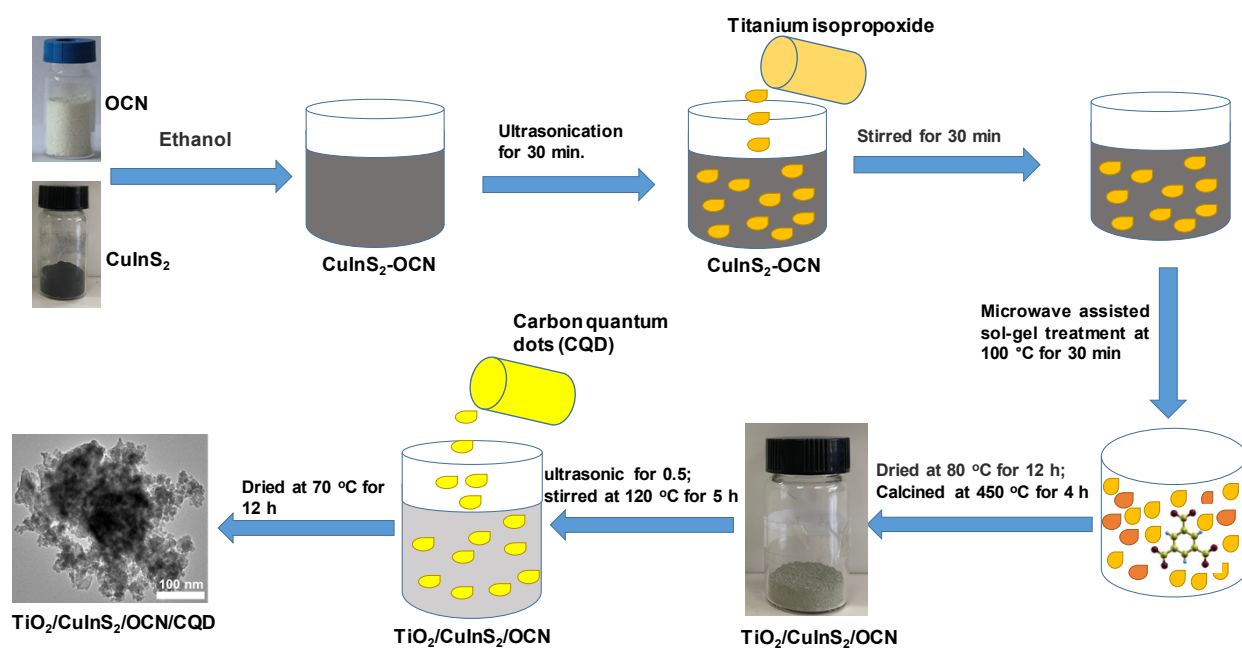


Figure S1. Schematic diagram of the synthesis process of $\text{TiO}_2/\text{CuInS}_2/\text{OCN}/\text{CQD}$ material

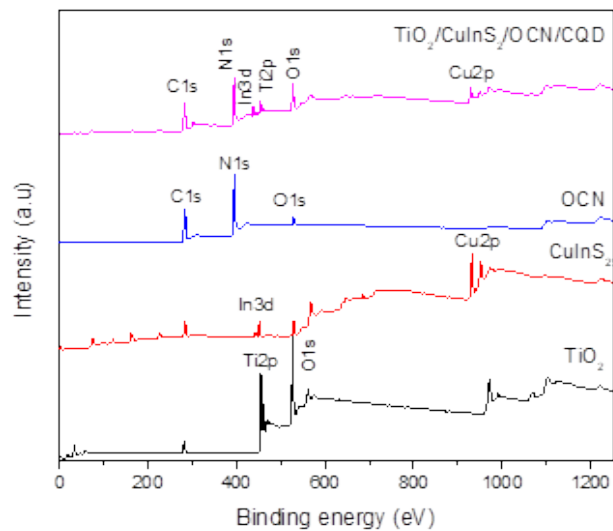


Figure S2. Survey XPS spectra of the CuInS_2 , OCN, TiO_2 , and $\text{TiO}_2/\text{CuInS}_2/\text{OCN}/\text{CQD}$ samples.

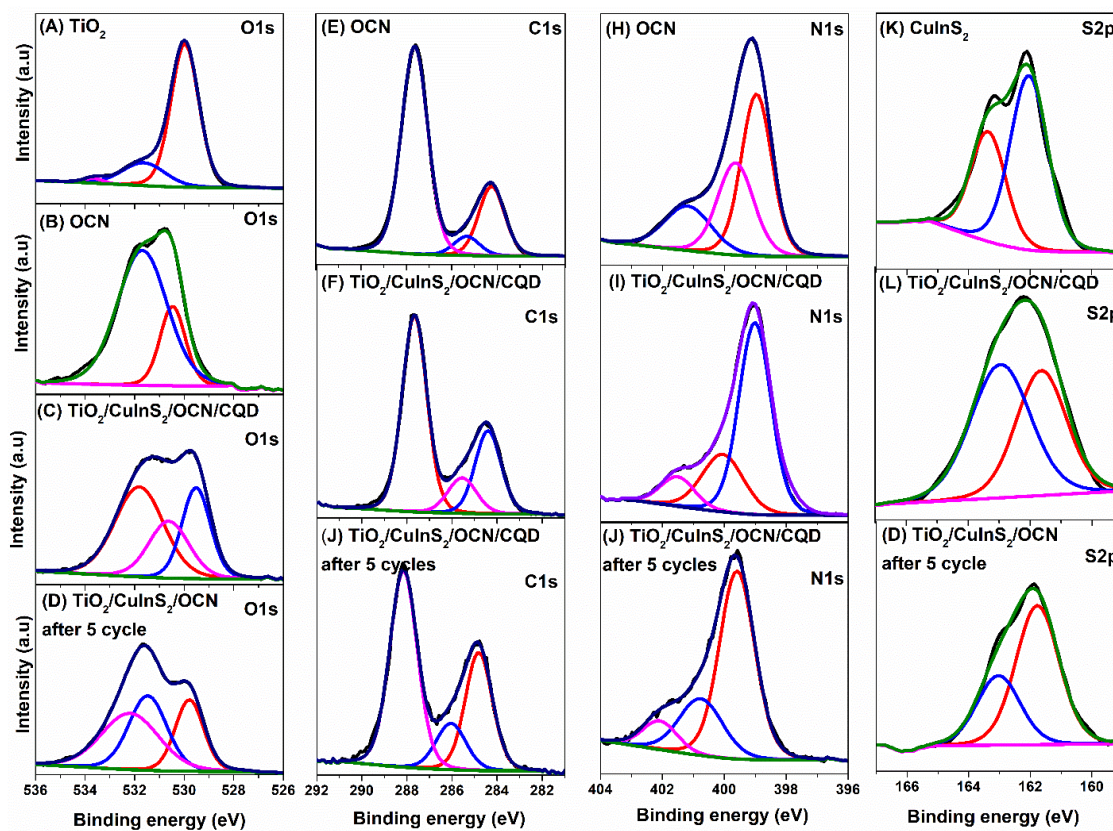


Figure S3. High-resolution O 1s, C 1s, N 1s and S 2p XPS spectra of CuInS₂, OCN, TiO₂, TiO₂/CuInS₂/OCN/CQD samples

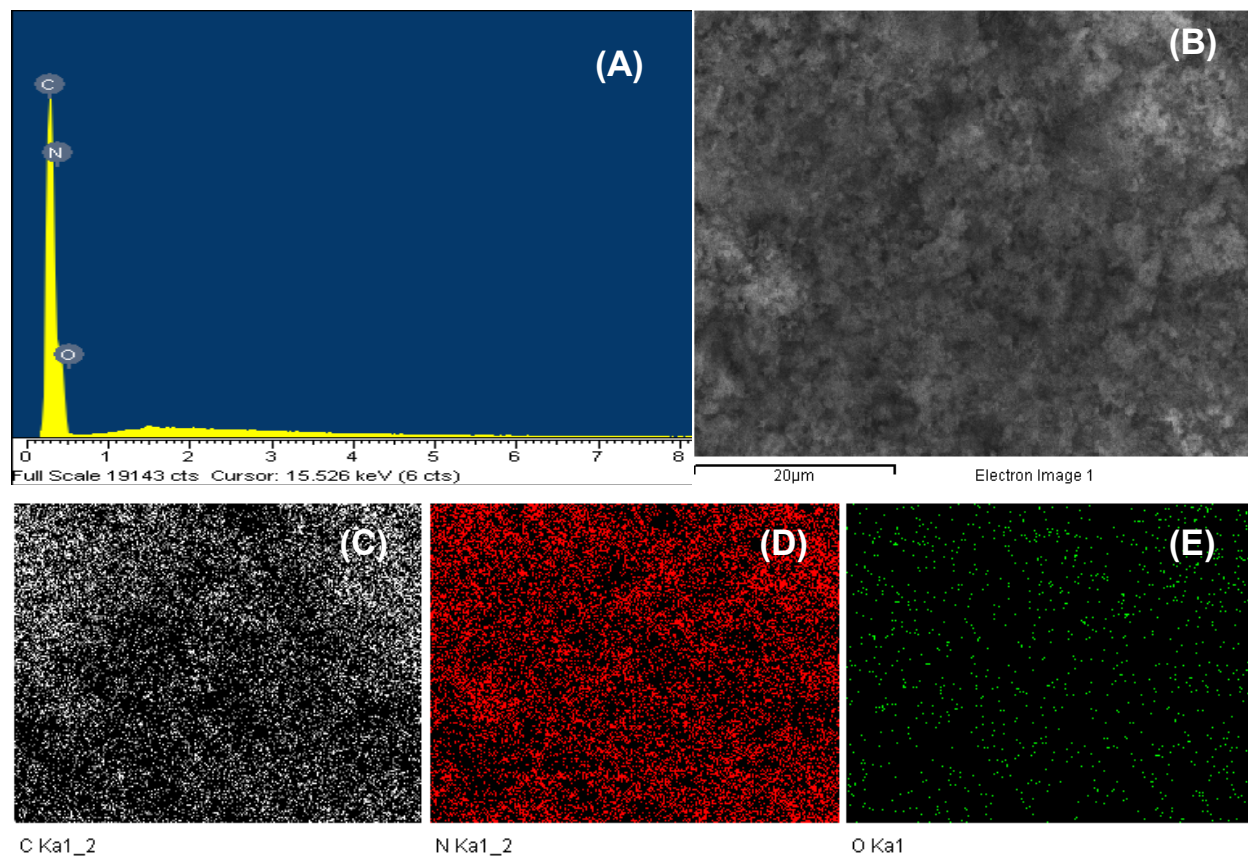


Figure S4. (A) EDS spectrum and (B) EDS-mapping image of OCN sample; EDS elemental mapping images of C (C), N (D) and O (E) in the sample

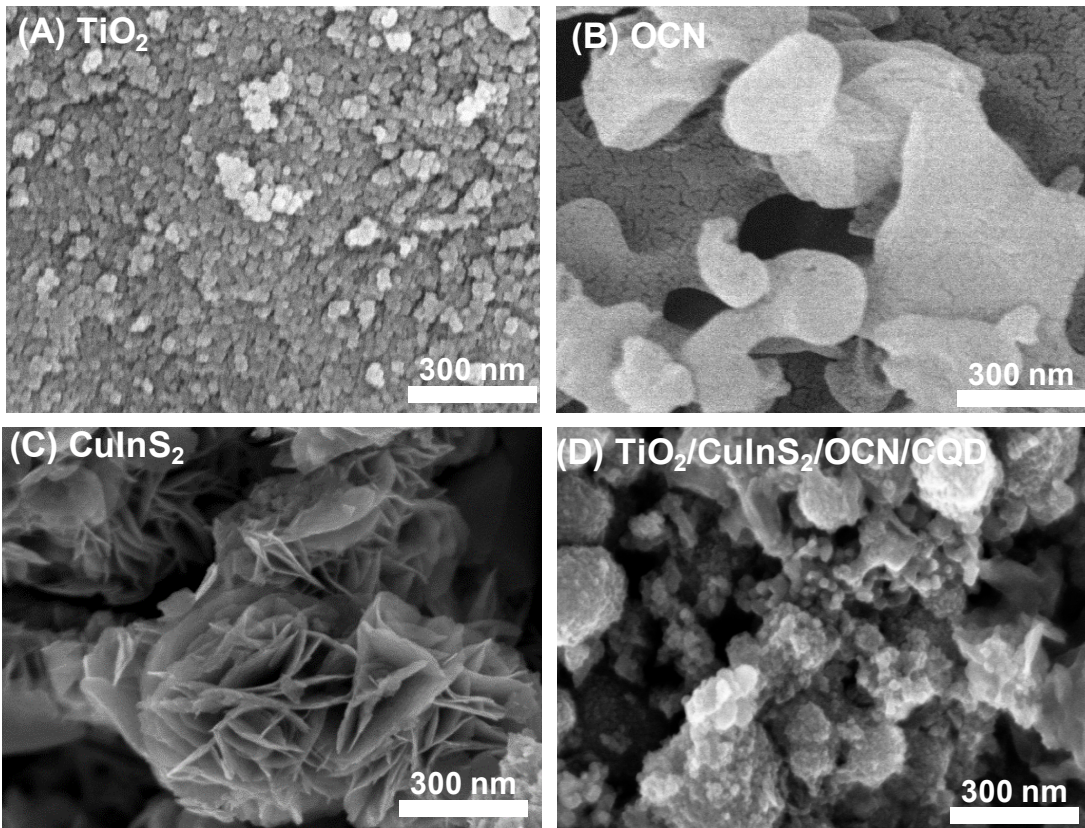


Figure S5. SEM images of CuInS_2 , TiO_2 , OCN and $\text{TiO}_2/\text{CuInS}_2/\text{OCN}/\text{CQD}$ samples

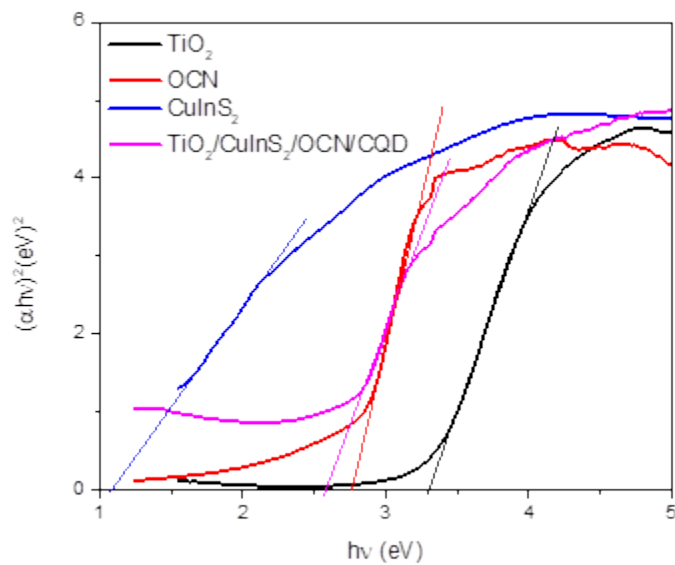


Figure S6. Chart for calculating band gap energy of TiO_2 , CuInS_2 , OCN and $\text{TiO}_2/\text{CuInS}_2/\text{OCN}$ samples.

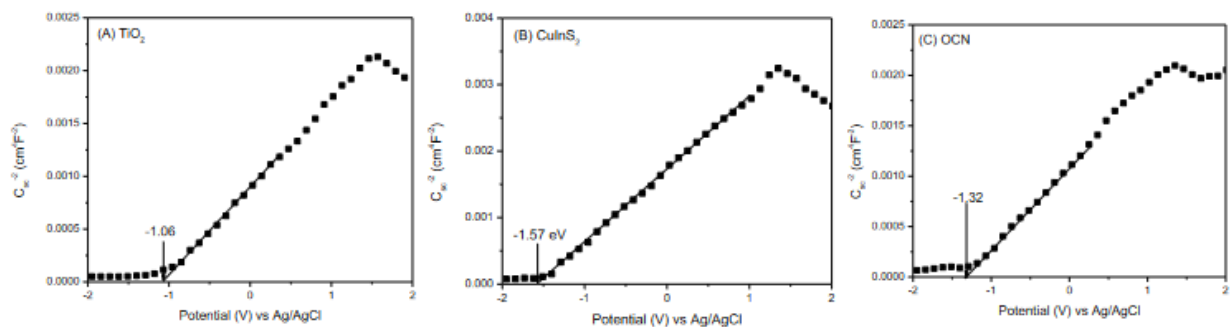


Figure S7. Mott-Schottky characteristics of TiO_2 , CuInS_2 and OCN samples

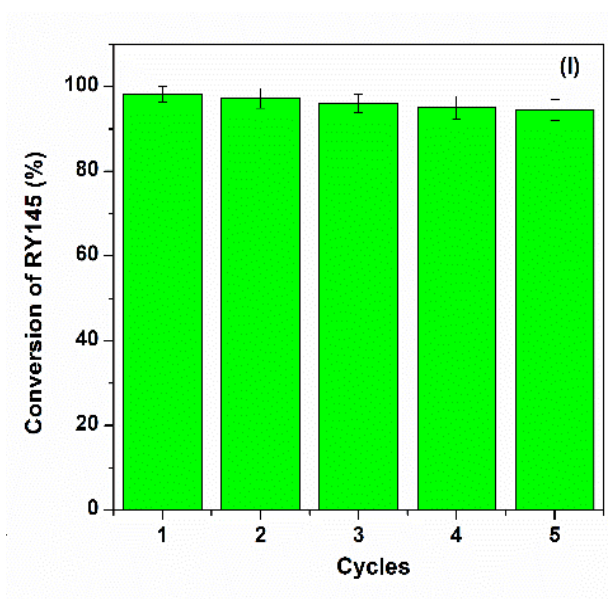


Figure S8. Conversion of RY145 after 5 reaction cycles on $\text{TiO}_2/\text{CuInS}_2/\text{OCN}/\text{CQD}$ photocatalyst

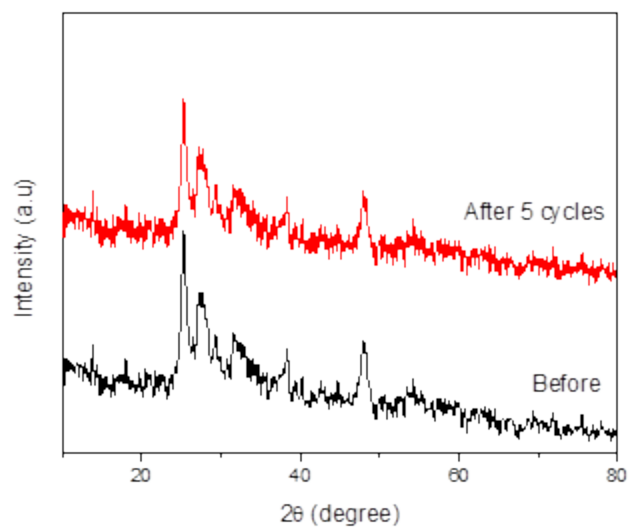


Figure S9. XRD patterns of $\text{TiO}_2/\text{CuInS}_2/\text{OCN}/\text{CQD}$ before and after 5 reaction cycles

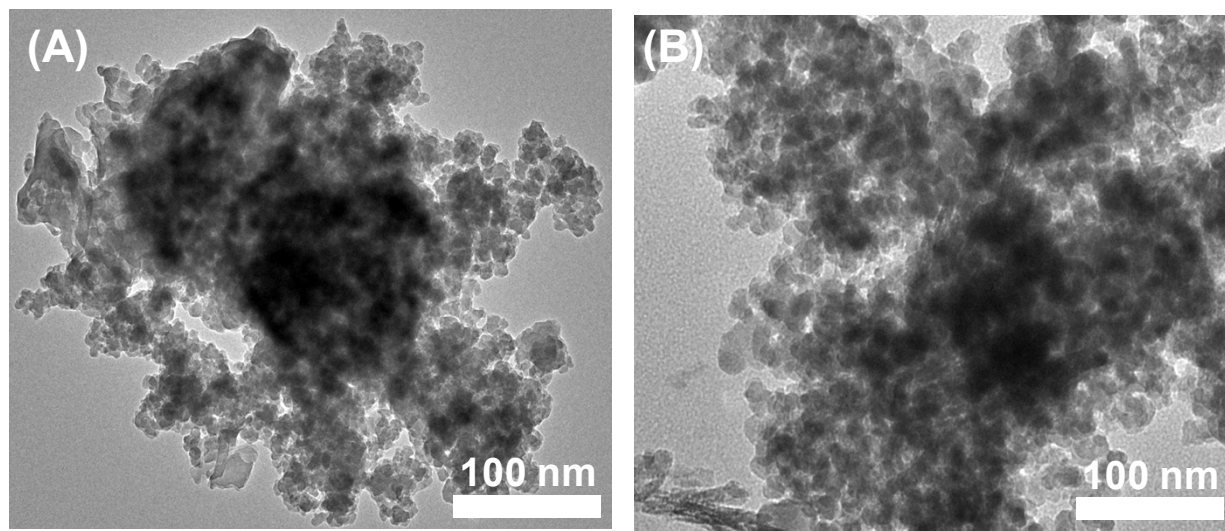


Figure S10. TEM images of $\text{TiO}_2/\text{CuInS}_2/\text{OCN}/\text{CQD}$ before (A) and after 5 reaction cycles (B)

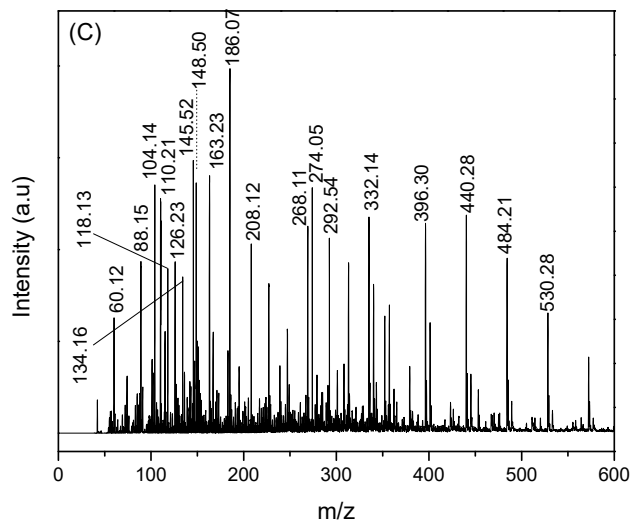
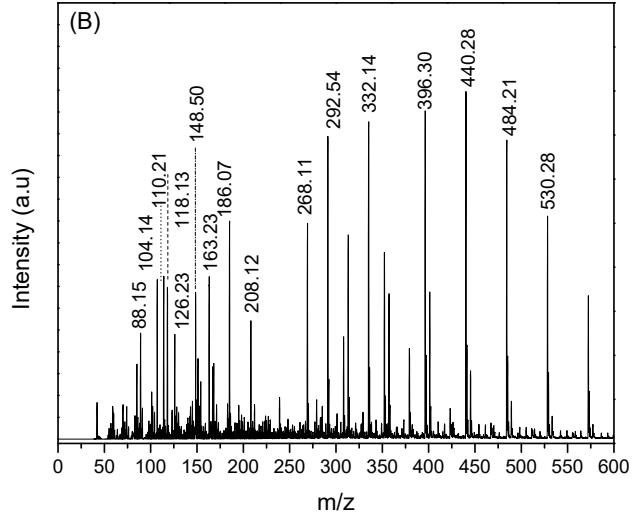
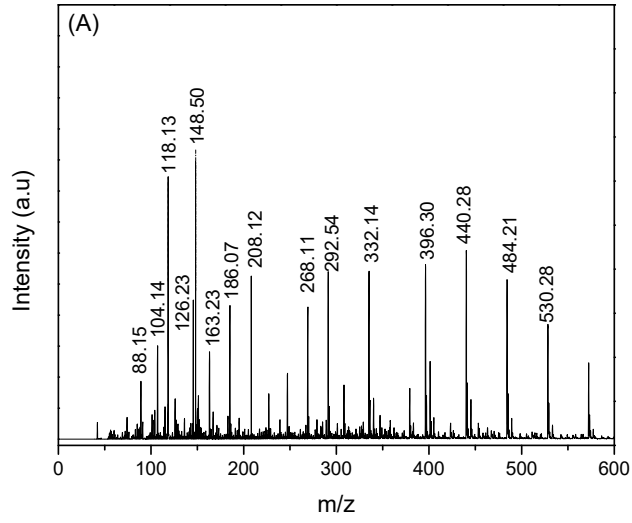


Figure S11. LC-MS spectra of RY145 degraded by $\text{TiO}_2/\text{CuInS}_2/\text{OCN}/\text{CQD}$ photocatalyst at different reaction times

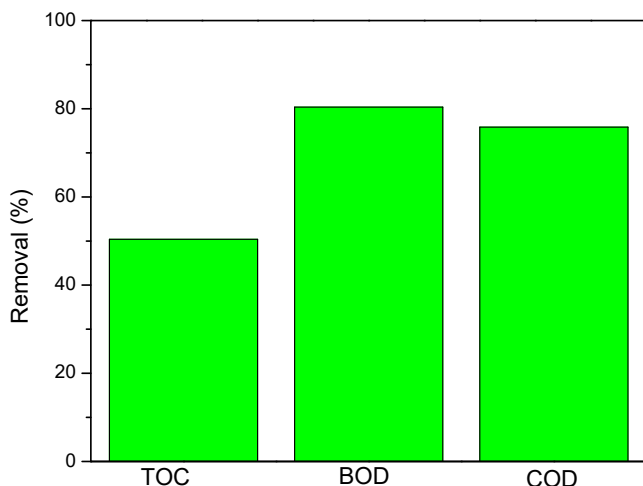


Figure S12. COD, BOD, TOC removal efficiency of RY145 after 60 minutes of visible light irradiation

3. Additional tables

Table S1. Binding energies of the bonds in the CuInS_2 , TiO_2 , OCN and $\text{TiO}_2/\text{CuInS}_2/\text{OCN}/\text{CQD}$ samples

| Element | | CuInS_2 | TiO_2 | OCN | $\text{TiO}_2/\text{CuInS}_2/\text{OCN}/\text{CQD}$ | $\text{TiO}_2/\text{CuInS}_2/\text{OCN}/\text{CQD}$ after 5 cycles |
|---------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-----|---|---|
| Cu2p | Cu^0 | 929.52 | - | - | - | - |
| | | 949.22 | - | - | - | - |
| | Cu^+ | 932.13 | - | - | 931.94 | 932.50 |
| | | 952.01 | - | - | 951.74 | 952.40 |
| | Cu^{2+} | 933.42 | - | - | 933.19 | 934.92 |
| | | 953.78 | - | - | 953.78 | 954.98 |

| | | | | | | |
|------|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| In | In ²⁺ | 446.14 | - | - | 444.67 | 444.75 |
| | | 453.64 | - | - | 452.73 | 452.80 |
| | In ³⁺ | 448.37 | - | - | 446.25 | 446.42 |
| | | 455.84 | - | - | 453.62 | 453.75 |
| S | S ²⁻ | 162.04 | - | - | 161.64 | 161.77 |
| | | 163.36 | - | - | 162.95 | 163.03 |
| Ti2p | Ti ⁴⁺ | - | 458.80 | - | 458.99 | 459.16 |
| | | - | 464.56 | - | 464.71 | 464.12 |
| C1s | sp ² C-C | - | - | 284.24 | 284.40 | 284.81 |
| | C-O | - | - | 285.34 | 285.55 | 286.05 |
| | N-C=N | - | - | 287.64 | 287.66 | 288.15 |
| N1s | C-N=C | - | - | 398.97 | 399.01 | 399.59 |
| | sp ³ N | - | - | 399.64 | 400.05 | 400.76 |
| | C ₂ -NH | - | - | 401.18 | 401.31 | 402.08 |
| O1s | N-C-O | - | - | 530.47 | 529.52 | 529.79 |
| | Ti-O | - | 529.98 | - | 530.62 | 531.47 |
| | -OH groups | - | 531.94 | 531.69 | 531.81 | 532.18 |

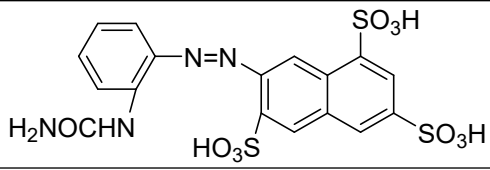
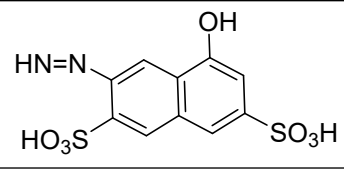
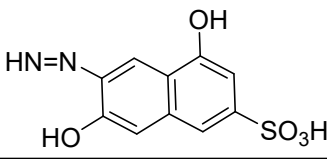
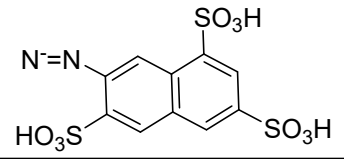
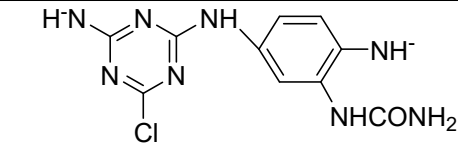
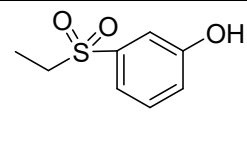
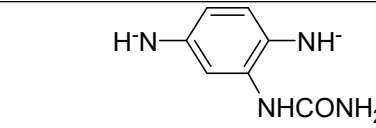
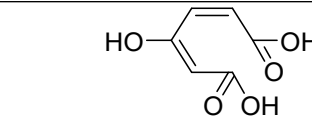
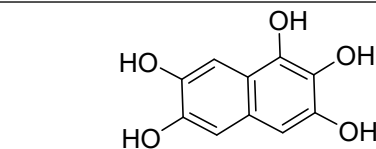
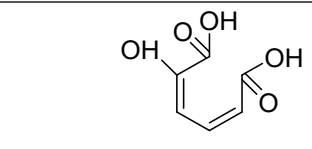
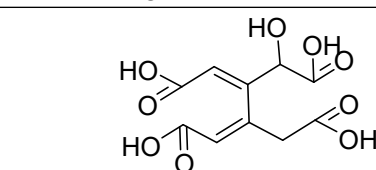
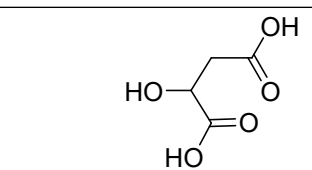
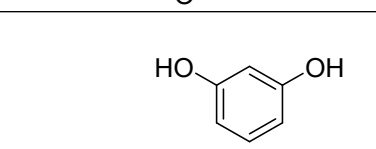
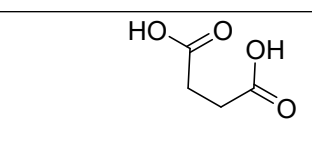
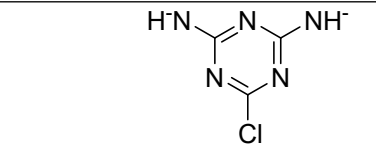
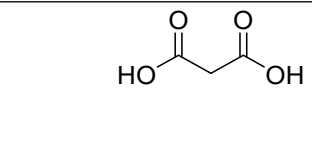
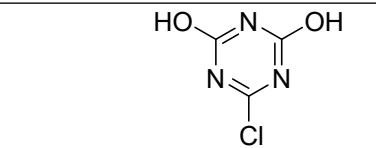
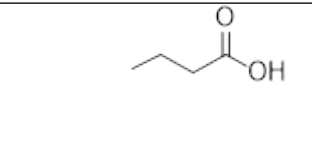
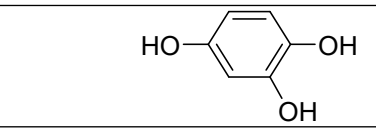
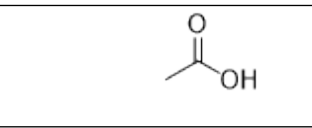
Table S2. Chemical composition (wt%) of elements in samples TiO₂, CuInS₂, OCN and TiO₂/CuInS₂/OCN/CQD samples

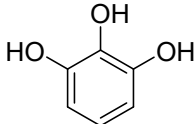
| Samples | C | N | O | Ti | Cu | In | S | Total |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| OCN | 44 | 52.32 | 3.68 | - | - | - | - | 100 |
| CuInS ₂ | - | - | - | - | 29.57 | 40.18 | 30.25 | 100 |
| TiO ₂ | - | - | 42.47 | 57.53 | - | - | - | 100 |
| TiO ₂ /CuInS ₂ /OCN/CQD | 23.47 | 28.75 | 17.62 | 13.71 | 4.65 | 6.88 | 4.92 | 100 |

Table S3. Comparative results of RY145 dye pollutants removal by various heterogeneous materials

| Samples | Reaction conditions | Removal efficiency (%) | Reaction time (min) | Ref. |
|---|--|------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| TiO ₂ /CuInS ₂ /O CN/CQD | [RY145] = 50 mg/L [Catalyst] = 0.4 g/L Lamp: 15W pH = 5.5 | 98.2 | 60 | This work |
| Cu-NiO/ZnO | RY145] = 30 mg/L [Catalyst] = 6 g/L | 99 | 70 | [1] |
| TiO ₂ /CQD | RY145] = 30 mg/L [Catalyst] = 1 g/L Lamp: intensity: 30,798 lux; Wavelength: 400–700 nm | 55 | 30 | [2] |
| ZnO | RY145] = 5 mg/L [Catalyst] = 1 g/L | 99 | 320 | [3] |
| g-C ₃ N ₄ -BiOBr | [RY145] = 50 mg/L [Catalyst] = 1 g/L Lamp: Wonfram 500 W | 93 | 60 | [4] |
| Cu –ZnO | [RY145] = 40 mg/L [Catalyst] = 1 g/L Lamp: Solar light irradiation | 80 | 100 | [5] |
| α-Al ₂ O ₃ NPs | [RY145] = 60 mg/L [Catalyst] = 0.6 mg/L pH = 6.5 Fluorescent lamp (80W) | 95 | 60 | [6] |
| MTiO ₃ (M = Sr, Ca, Ba, Pb) | [RY145]= 50 mg/L [Catalyst] = 0.5 g/L pH = 6.5 Lamp: 8 W | 78 | 120 | [7] |
| g-C ₃ N ₄ -SrTiO ₃ | [RY145]= 50 mg/L [Catalyst] = 1 g/L Lamp: 500 W tungsten | 100 | 90 | [8] |
| TiO ₂ /Activated carbon | [RY145]= 50 mg/L [Catalyst] = 50 mg/L [H ₂ O ₂] = 2 mL/L pH =3 Lamp: Low-pressure mercury | 93 | 240 | [9] |

Table S4. Reactive yellow 145 dye (RY145) degradation under irradiation of visible light intermediates as detected by LC-MS analysis

| m/z | Probable structure | m/z | Probable structure |
|--------|---|--------|---|
| 530.28 |  | 332.14 |  |
| 268.11 |  | 396.30 |  |
| 292.54 |  | 186.07 |  |
| 163.23 |  | 158.22 |  |
| 208.12 |  | 158.22 |  |
| 274.05 |  | 134.16 |  |
| 110.21 |  | 118.13 |  |
| 145.52 |  | 104.14 |  |
| 148.5 |  | 88.15 |  |
| 126.23 |  | 60.12 |  |

| | | | |
|--------|---|--|--|
| 126.23 |  | | |
|--------|---|--|--|

4. References

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