

Supporting Information

Constructing Rhenium complex supported on g-C₃N₄ for Efficient Visible-Light-Driven Photoreduction of CO₂ to CO via a novel Z-scheme Heterojunction

Phuong Ngoc Nguyen,^{1,2} Trang Thanh Tran,¹ Quynh Anh Thi Nguyen,³ Yoshiyuki Kawazoe,^{4,5,6} S.V. Prabhakar Vattikuti,⁷ Long V. Le,⁸ Viet Quoc Bui,^{3,*} Tuan Manh Nguyen,^{2,9,*} Nam Nguyen Dang^{10,11}

¹Institute of Applied Materials Science, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST), 29TL Street, Thanh Loc Ward, District 12, Ho Chi Minh City 700000, Vietnam

²Graduate University of Science and Technology, VAST, 18 Hoang Quoc Viet Street, Cau Giay, Ha Noi 100000, Vietnam

³Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, The University of Danang, 41 Le Duan, Danang, Vietnam

⁴New Industry Creation Hatchery Center, Tohoku University, 6-6-4 Aramaki Aza Aoba, Aoba-ku, Sendai, Miyagi, 980-8579 Japan.

⁵School of Physics, Institute of Science, Suranaree University of Technology, 111 University Avenue, Nakhon Ratchasima, 30000 Thailand.

⁶Physics and Nanotechnology, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankurathur, Tamil Nadu, 603203 India

⁷School of Mechanical Engineering, Yeungnam University, Gyeongsan, Republic of Korea

⁸Institute of Materials Science, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST), Hanoi 100000, Vietnam

⁹Institute of Applied Informatics and Mechanics, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST), 291 Dien Bien Phu Street, Ward 7, District 3, Ho Chi Minh City 700000, Vietnam

¹⁰Future Materials & Devices Lab., Institute of Fundamental and Applied Sciences, Duy Tan University, Ho Chi Minh City 700000, Vietnam

¹¹The Faculty of Environmental and Chemical Engineering, Duy Tan University, Danang 550000, Vietnam

*E-mail addresses: nguyenmanhtuan@iams.vast.vn and bqviet@ac.udn.vn

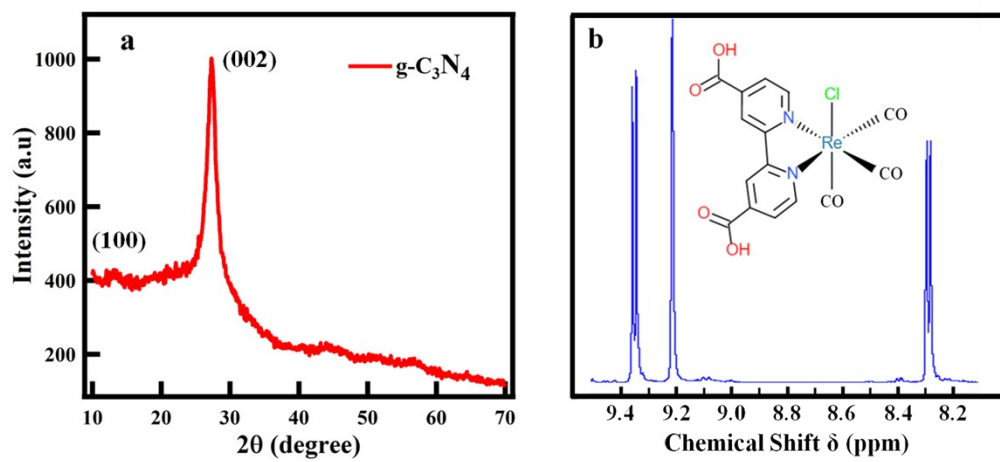


Figure S1: XRD pattern of g-C₃N₄ (a), ¹H NMR of Re(bpy-COOH) (b).

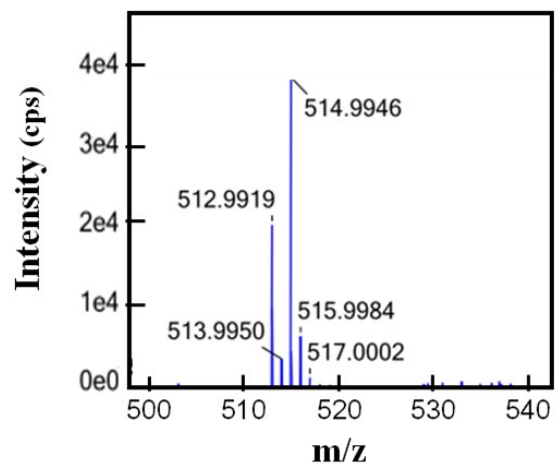


Figure S2. ESI-MS of Re(bpy-COOH) in MeCN under drift voltage at 20 mV.

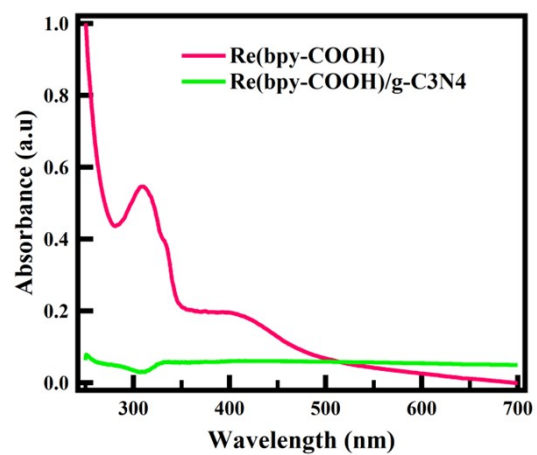


Figure S3: UV/Vis absorption spectrum of Re(bpy-COOH) and Re(bpy-COOH)/g-C₃N₄ in MeCN at room temperature.

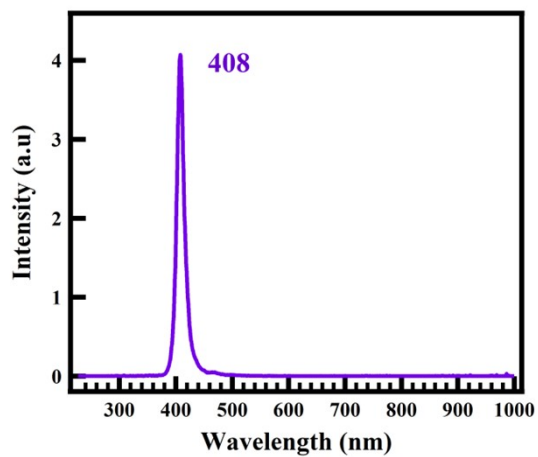


Figure S4: Light source spectrum of the photo-irradiation system used in the experiment (light intensity at a distance of 5 cm and 11 cm are $210\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ and $78\text{W}/\text{m}^2$, respectively).

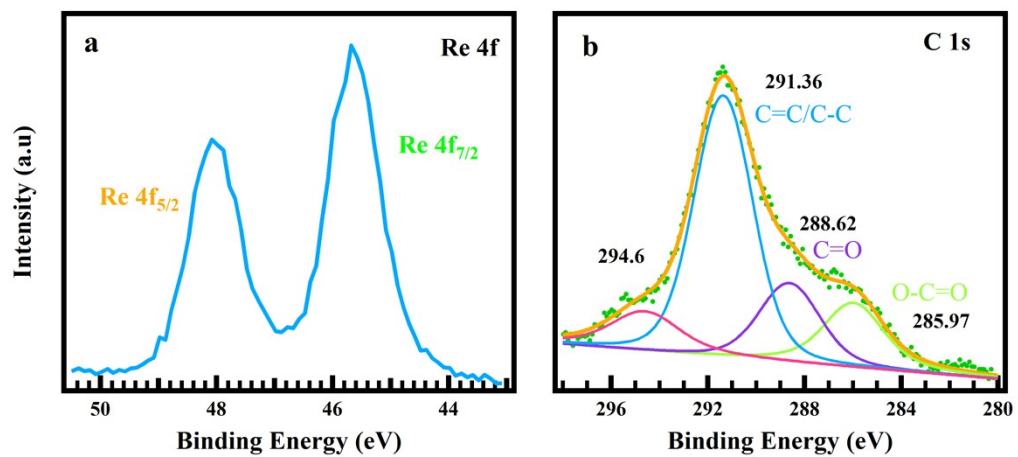


Figure S5: High resolution scan of Re 4f (a) and C 1s (b) of Re(bpy-COOH).

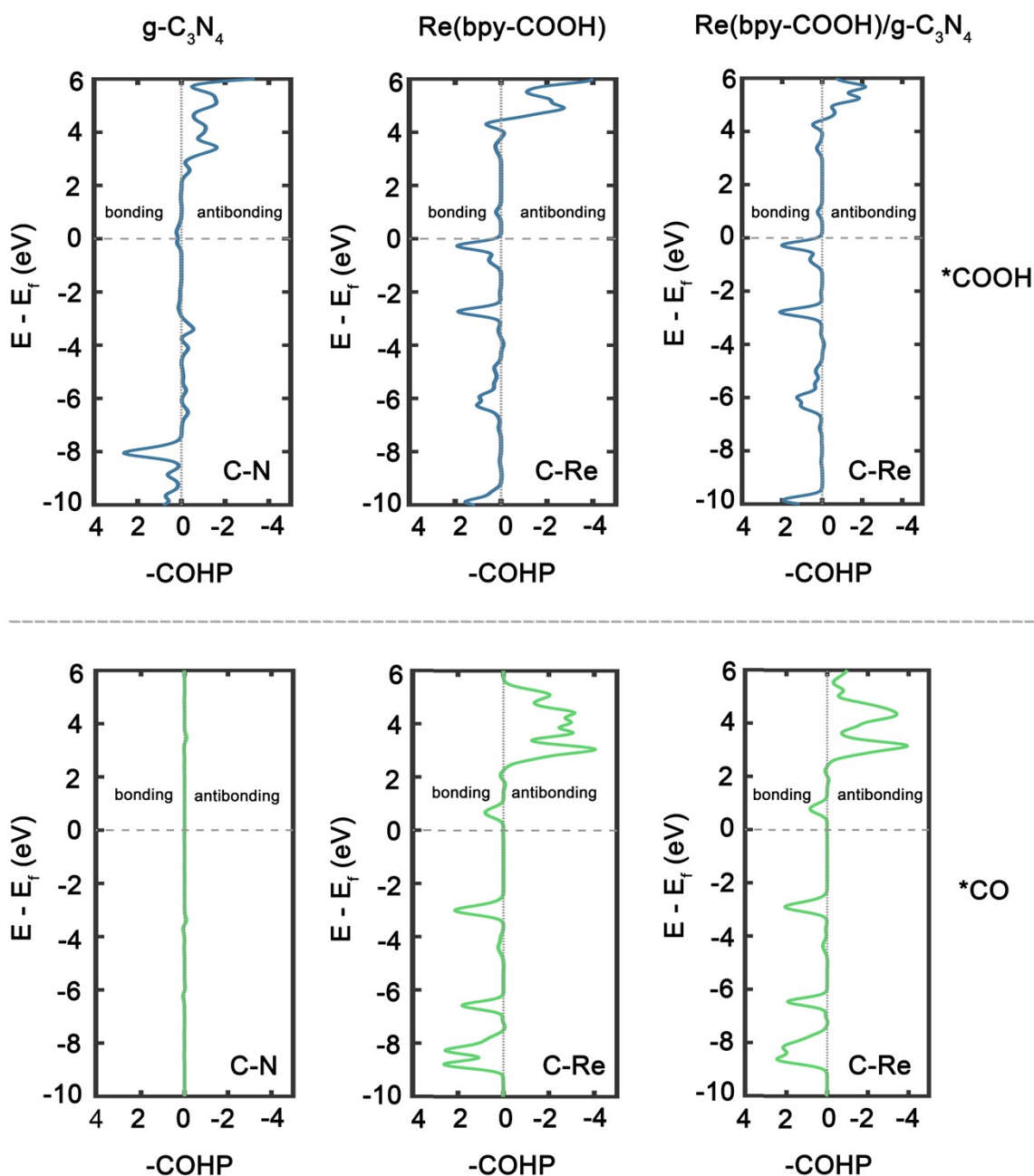


Figure S6. Crystal orbital Hamilton population (COHP) for $*\text{COOH}$ (blue) and $*\text{CO}$ (green) intermediates in $g\text{-C}_3\text{N}_4$ (left panels), $\text{Re}(\text{bpy-COOH})$ (middle panels), and $\text{Re}(\text{bpy-COOH})/g\text{-C}_3\text{N}_4$ (right panels), respectively. Fermi level is shifted to zero. Positive (negative) value of $-\text{COHP}$ indicates the bonding (antibonding) interactions. For $g\text{-C}_3\text{N}_4$, C-N interaction is considered, while C-Re interaction is for $\text{Re}(\text{bpy-COOH})$ and $\text{Re}(\text{bpy-COOH})/g\text{-C}_3\text{N}_4$.

Table S1: Emission decay parameters of Re(bpy-COOH)/g-C₃N₄ and g-C₃N₄ excited and emitted at the wavelength of 355 nm and 450 nm, respectively.

Materials	A ₀	A ₁	A ₂	A ₃	τ ₁ (ms)	τ ₂ (ms)	τ ₃ (ms)	B ₁	B ₂	B ₃	τ (ms)
Re(bpy-COOH)/g-C ₃ N ₄	0.001 6	0.821 5	0.088 0	0.117 2	2.824 2	10.69 30	10.22 30	0.800 1	0.085 7	0.114 2	4.343 5
g-C ₃ N ₄	0.005 1	0.859 7	0.071 1	0.134 9	2.262 5	8.053 2	8.747 7	0.806 7	0.066 7	0.126 6	3.469 7

The emission decay curve was fitted by triple- exponential function, as shown in eq. 1. The average lifetime τ and the relative ratio B_i were calculated by following functions (2) and (3), as presented below:

$$f(x) = A_0 + A_1 * \exp\left(-\frac{x}{\tau_1}\right) + A_2 * \exp\left(-\frac{x}{\tau_2}\right) + A_3 * \exp\left(-\frac{x}{\tau_3}\right) \quad (1)$$

$$\tau = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^3 B_i * \tau_i}{\sum_{i=1}^3 B_i} \quad (2)$$

$$B_i = A_i / \sum_{i=1}^3 A_i \quad (3)$$

Table S2. Mulliken charge and charge transfer between each atom of *COOH, *CO and g-C₃N₄, Re(bpy-COOH), Re(bpy-COOH)/g-C₃N₄, respectively. The positive (negative) value in charge transfer column represents the loss (gain) electron.

	Atoms	g-C ₃ N ₄		Re(bpy-COOH)		Re(bpy-COOH)/g-C ₃ N ₄	
		Mulliken charge	Charge transfer	Mulliken charge	Charge transfer	Mulliken charge	Charge transfer
*COOH	C	-3.34	0.66	-3.96	0.04	-3.87	0.13
	O	-6.54	-0.54	-6.45	-0.45	-6.5	-0.50
	O	-6.59	-0.59	-6.53	-0.53	-6.56	-0.56
	H	-0.48	0.52	-0.57	0.43	-0.55	0.45
	Total		0.05		-0.51		-0.48
*CO	C	-3.61	0.39	-3.89	0.11	-3.83	0.17
	O	-6.38	-0.38	-6.26	-0.26	-6.30	-0.30
	Total		0.01		-0.15		-0.13

Control experiment

The observed CO might include not only from photocatalytic CO₂RR but also from CO photo-degradation of Re(bpy-COOH), we conduct photocatalytic activity of Re(bpy-COOH) under Ar gas. The amount of CO production from photocatalytic CO₂ reaction was determined by subtracting the CO produced by Re(bpy-COOH) photo-degradation. ($\text{TON}_{\text{CO}} = \text{TON}_{\text{CO_PCO2RRexp}} - \text{TON}_{\text{COphoto-deg}}$) (PCO₂RR: photocatalytic CO₂ reduction reaction)

The reaction solution containing Re(bpy-COOH) (0.6 mM) in DMF:TEOA mixed solvent (5:1 v/v) was placed in a visible-light-transparent vial (5mL) and purged with Ar to remove all of air. The reaction vial was irradiated by a light-source system (15 W energy-saving light bulk, center wavelength $\lambda = 408$ nm, and light intensity at a distance of 5 cm is 210W/m²) in the photoreaction box. During irradiation, the solution was being stirred slowly by a magnetic bar and the temperature of the solution was controlled at room temperature by constant temperature system. The gaseous reaction products were identified by gas chromatography (GC Clarus 680-PerkinElmer), which was equipped with TCD detector, molecular sieve column (LxI.D.: 30 m x 0.32 mm), and Ar carrier gas. The CO produced by Re(bpy-COOH) photo-degradation was shown in table S3.

Table S3: The CO produced by Re(bpy-COOH) photo-degradation

Time (minute)	$\text{TON}_{\text{COphoto-deg}}$
20	0.323
40	0.364
60	0.398

Time-resolved photoluminescence measurement

For TRPL measurement, the 355-nm laser diode was used as the excitation source. The signals were recorded by using a 0.6-m grating monochromator (Jobin-Yvon HRD1) and then detected by a fast photomultiplier (Hamamatsu model H733, with a rise time of 700 ps). Averaging the multi-pulses at each spectral point using a 1.0 GHz digital oscilloscope (Tektronix DPO 4102B) improved the signal-to-noise ratio.

The emission lifetime of Re(bpy-COOH) was confirmed in nanosecond timescale with the average lifetime was 8.22 ns, which reached agreement with the previous report ¹.

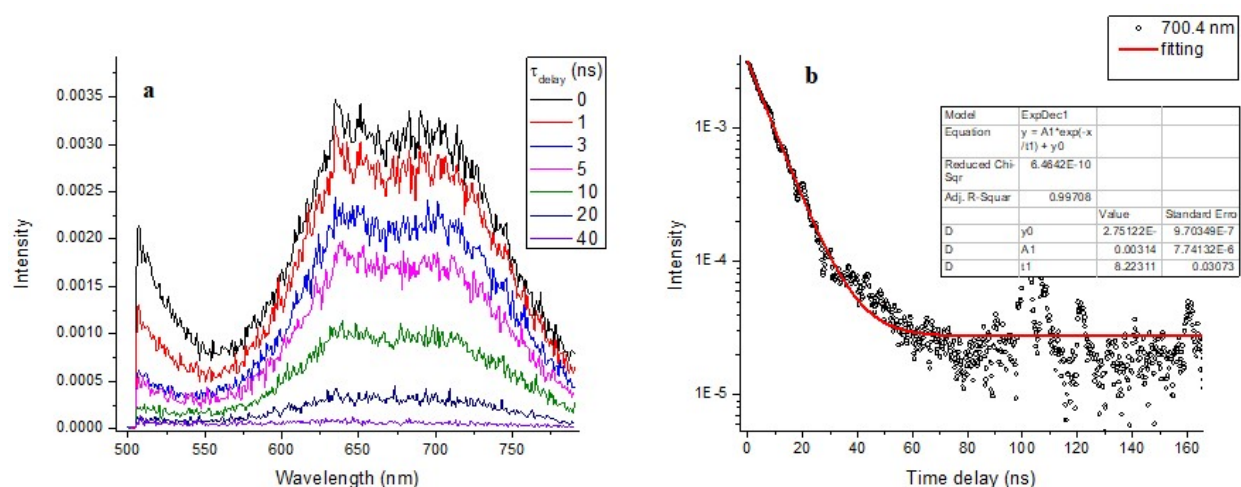


Figure S7. Time-resolved photoluminescence (TRPL) of Re(bpy-COOH) in methanol (a) and emission decay profile of Re(bpy-COOH) (b).

Reference

1. Nahhas, A. El *et al.* Ultrafast excited-state dynamics of $[\text{Re}(\text{L})(\text{CO})_3(\text{bpy})]$ n complexes: Involvement of the solvent. *J. Phys. Chem. A* **114**, 6361–6369 (2010).