

Supporting Information

Ag/Pd bimetallic nanoparticles loaded Zr-MOF: An efficacious visible light responsive photocatalyst towards H₂O₂ and H₂ production

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(The following electronic supporting information contains 8 pages, 04 tables, and 5 figures.)

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1. Experimental Techniques:

1.1. Characterization Techniques:

The powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) analysis was carried out by using Rigaku Ultima-IV (40 kV-40 mA) which is connected with Cu K α source having radiation ($\lambda = 0.154$ nm) at 2θ range (5° - 80°) to detect the crystallinity and phase purity properties of the material. Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectrometer analysis was carried out with JASCO FTIR-4600-LE taking KBr (potassium bromide) as reference for interpretation of the functional groups of synthesized materials between the range of 4000 - 400 cm^{-1} . To determine the oxidation states and chemical composition of the materials X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) analysis was performed by VG-microtech-multilab-ESCA-3000 spectrometer (Mg-K-X-ray non-monochromatized source). By the Brunauer–Emmett–Teller (BET) surface area analysis and the N_2 adsorption-desorption evaluation materials textural properties were measured using NOVA-2200e Quantachrome analyser. The surface morphology was analyzed by scanning electron microscopy (SEM) with 200 kV JEOL-JEM-2100 that was coupled with energy-dispersive X-ray (EDS) and elemental mapping analysis apparatus respectively and the internal topology of the produced photocatalysts, were analyzed through transmission electron microscopy (TEM) by ZEISS SUPRA-55. The optical characteristics of the synthesized samples were measured using a JASCO-V-750 UV-Visible spectrophotometer with BaSO_4 reference in the wavelength range (200-800 nm). The excitation and emission spectra of photoluminescence (PL) were measured using a JASCO FP-8300 fluorescence spectrometer using Xenon lamp as the light source with an excitation wavelength of 325 nm. The TRPL analysis was carried out by Edinburgh-FLS920 Fluorescence spectrometer which is coupled with a multi-channel scaling (MCS) module fitted to the F290H pulsed Xe microsecond flash lamp source. Electrochemical properties of the prepared materials were characterized by using IVIUMnSTAT multi-channel analyzer. Furthermore, Agilent Technology gas-chromatography was used to analyze the evolution of H_2 (GC-7890B). An ICP-OES elemental analyzer (Elementar Vario EL III Carlo Erba 1108) was used to determine the loading percentage of the elements present.

1.2. FTO Preparation: Additionally, the prepared materials were dropcastingly deposited on the fluorine-doped tin oxide (FTO) glass. Firstly, the FTO glasses were ultrasonically washed with DI and ethanol for 20 min each and then dried at 75°C . The suspension which comprised of distilled water (1.6 mL), ethanol (1.4 mL) and Nafion (40 μL) was uniformly coated on the conducting surface of FTO. The Ag/AgCl taken as reference electrode, Pt electrode used as

counter electrode, and the sample coated FTO as working electrode were installed three electrode based electrochemical cell and by taking Na_2SO_4 (0.2 M) as electrolyte.

1.3. Scavenger Test Procedure: Radical scavenger tests were carried out to clarify the reactive species in charge of the production of H_2O_2 by (1:2) Ag/Pd@UiO-66-NH_2 under light illumination. These experiments are depicted in (Fig. S4) The influence of $\cdot\text{O}_2^-$, $\text{OH}\cdot$, h^+ , and e^- species on photocatalytic H_2O_2 formation was investigated using 1,4-benzoquinone (PBQ), isopropanol (IPA), citric acid (CA), and dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), in that order. When PBQ and DMSO were introduced to the photocatalytic system, the yield of H_2O_2 was dramatically reduced, confirming the considerable contribution of both $\cdot\text{O}_2^-$ and e^- via indirect and direct O_2 reduction routes. Also, the addition of IPA showed a significant impact on H_2O_2 production which exhibit the remarkable role of $\text{OH}\cdot$ radicals. Moreover, the significant H_2O_2 yield delay caused by the addition of CA showed a minor involvement of h^+ radicals as reactive intermediate species during the photocatalytic H_2O_2 production process.

Fig S1: BET surface area (Inset: BJH pore size distribution) of (1:2) Ag/Pd@UiO-66-NH_2

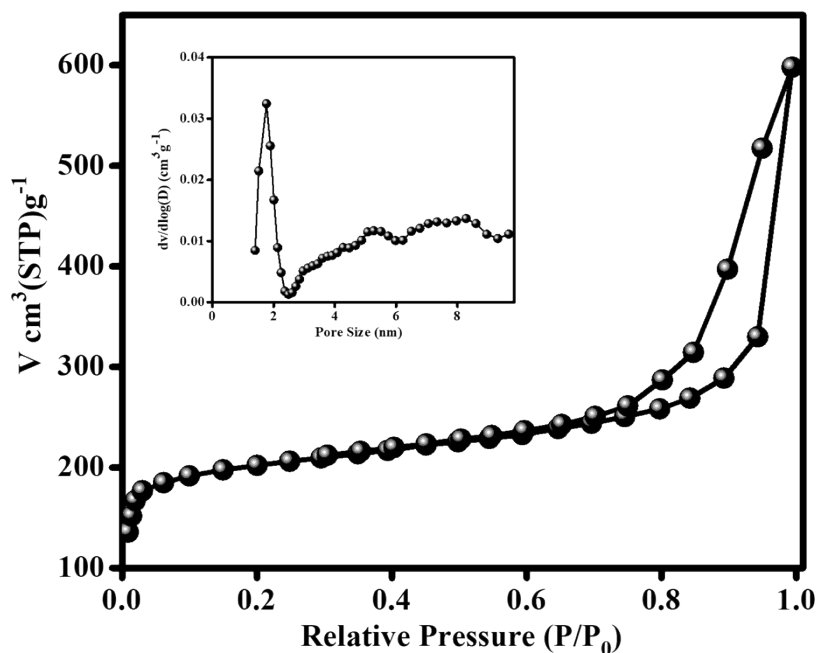


Fig. S2: Survey XPS spectrum of pristine UiO-66-NH₂ and composite (1:2) Ag/Pd@UiO-66-NH₂

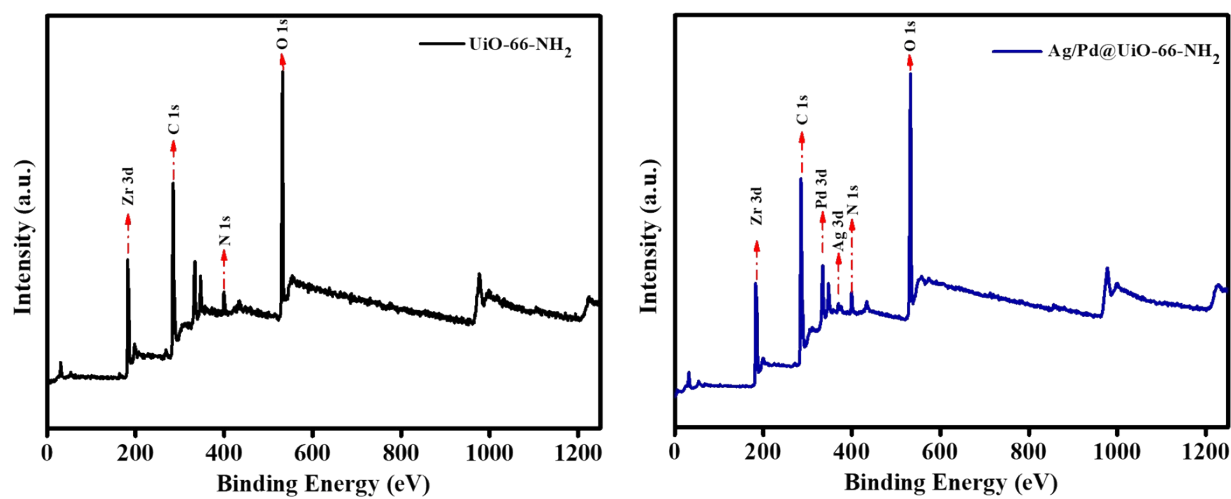


Fig. S3: PL plot for pristine UiO-66-NH₂ and (1:1, 1:2, 2:1) Ag/Pd@UiO-66-NH₂

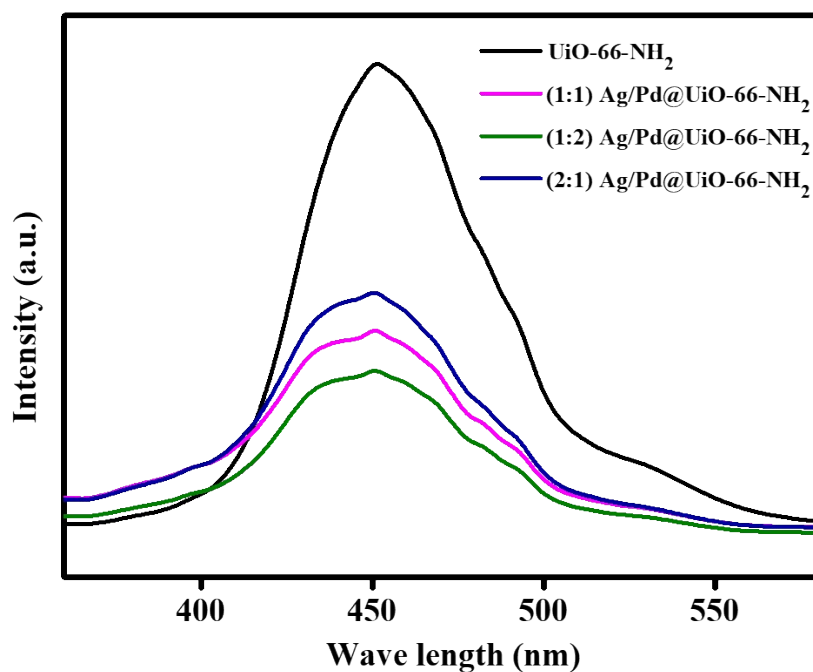


Fig. S4: TRPL plot of (1:2) Ag/Pd@UiO-66-NH₂

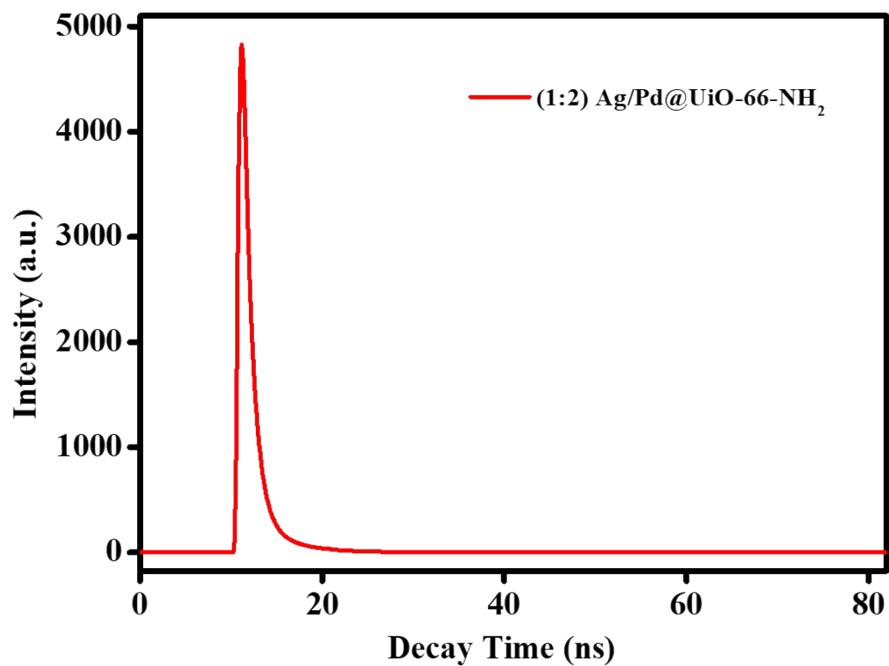


Fig. S5: LSV plot of the prepared photocatalysts

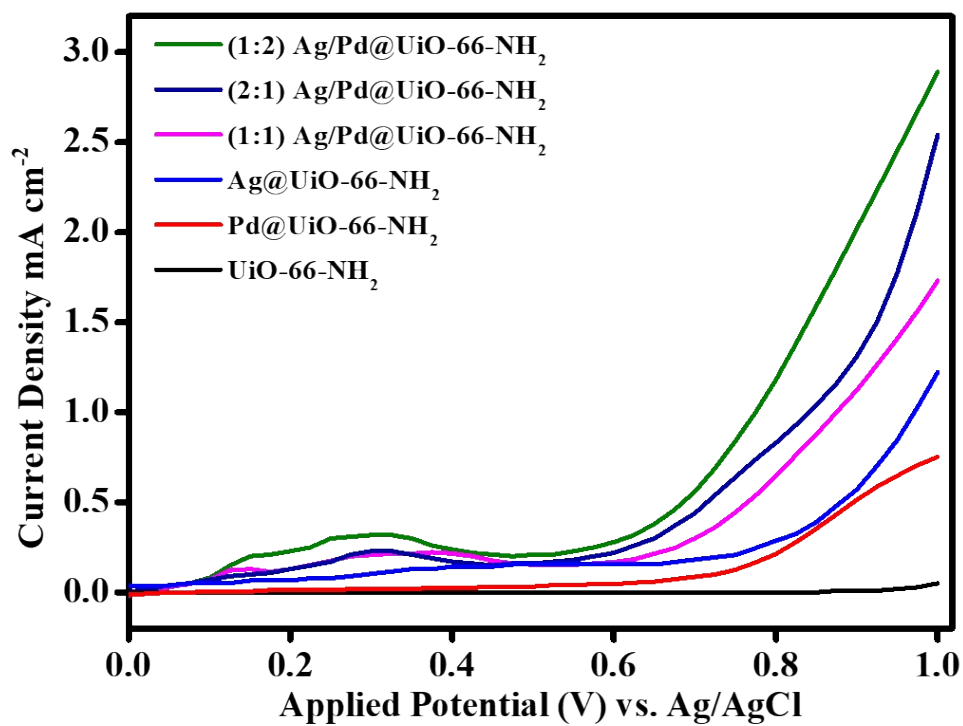


Fig. S6: Post photo-catalytic PXRD analysis

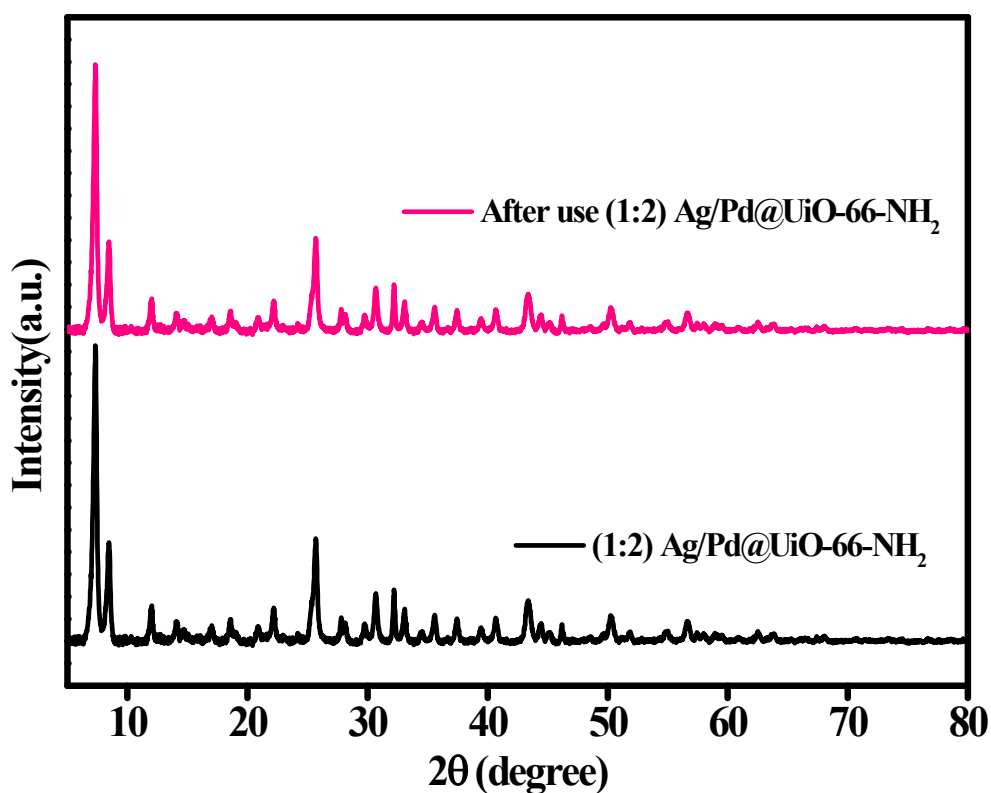


Table S1: TRPL fitting data and average life times of the prepared MOFs

| Sample Name | τ_1 | τ_2 | A1 | A2 | τ_{avg} | Ref. |
|------------------------------------|----------|----------|---------|-------|--------------|-------------------|
| UiO-66-NH ₂ | 0.36 | 4.81 | 6600.48 | 16.40 | 0.504 | ¹ |
| (1:2) Ag/Pd@UiO-66-NH ₂ | 0.81 | 6.82 | 63.6 | 21.76 | 0.537 | <i>This study</i> |

Table S2: Apparent Conversion Efficiency (ACE) Expression and Calculation for photocatalytic hydrogen evolution by the prepared photocatalysts

| ACE Expression | ACE Value |
|--|--|
| $ACE(H_2) = \frac{\text{stored chemical energy (SCE)}}{\text{incident light intensity (ILI)}}$ | ACE _(UNH) : 0.88 % |
| $ACE(H_2) = \frac{\text{moles of H produced (in } \mu\text{mol/s}) \times \Delta H_c}{150\text{mW cm}^{-2} \times (\text{area of the spherical surface on which})}$ <p>[ΔH_c = Heat of Combustion (kJ mol⁻¹) for H₂ = 2H⁺ + ½ O₂; ΔH_c = 285.8 kJ mol⁻¹, r = Circle radius = 1.5 cm.]</p> | ACE _{(1:2)Ag/Pd@UiO-66-NH₂} : 3.30 % |

Table S3: Comparative table for photocatalytic H₂O₂ production by various photocatalysts

| Sl. No. | Material Name | Light Source | H ₂ O ₂ Production | Ref. |
|---------|---|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| 1. | Hexagonal rosettes g-C ₃ N ₄ | Visible light ($\lambda > 420$ nm) | 150 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1} \text{g}^{-1}$ | 2 |
| 2. | CoP/g-C ₃ N ₄ | Visible light ($\lambda > 420$ nm) | 140 μmol in 2 h | 3 |
| 3. | PEI/g-C ₃ N ₄ | Visible light ($\lambda > 420$ nm) | 208.1 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1} \text{g}^{-1}$ | 4 |
| 4. | Bi ₄ O ₅ Br ₂ /g-C ₃ N ₄ | Visible light ($\lambda > 420$ nm) | 124 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1}$ | 5 |
| 5. | CdS/rGO | Sun light | 164 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1}$ | 6 |
| 6. | Ti ₃ C ₂ /TiO ₂ | Visible light ($\lambda > 420$ nm) | 179.7 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$ | 7 |
| 7. | Ag/ZnFe ₂ O ₄ -Ag-Ag ₃ PO ₄ | Visible light ($\lambda > 420$ nm) | 206.3 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$ | 8 |
| 8. | O-CNC | Visible light ($\lambda > 420$ nm) | 2008.4 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1} \text{g}^{-1}$ | 9 |
| 9. | DCN-15A | Visible light ($\lambda > 420$ nm) | 12.1 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1}$ | 10 |
| 10. | (1:2) Ag/Pd@UiO-66-NH ₂ | Visible light ($\lambda > 420$ nm) | 39.4 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1}$ | <i>This study</i> |

Table S4: Comparative table for photocatalytic H₂ evolution by various photocatalysts

| Sl. No. | Material Name | Light Source | H ₂ Production | Ref. |
|---------|---|--|---|------|
| 1. | NU66/ZIS | 300 W Xe lamp ($\lambda \geq 420$ nm) | 2199 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1} \text{g}^{-1}$ | 11 |
| 2. | Pt@UiO-66-NH ₂ @ZnIn ₂ S ₄ | 300 W Xe lamp ($\lambda \geq 420$ nm) | 850 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1} \text{g}^{-1}$ | 12 |
| 3. | Au ₄ @UiOS@ZIS | 300 W Xe lamp ($\lambda \geq 420$ nm) | 391 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1}$ | 13 |
| 4. | PtNi/g-C ₃ N ₄ | 300 W Xe lamp ($\lambda \geq 420$ nm) | 104.7 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1}$ | 14 |
| 5. | Ag-Pd/ZIS | 300 W Xe lamp ($\lambda \geq 420$ nm) | 125.4 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1}$ | 15 |

| | | | | |
|-----|--|--|---|-------------------|
| 6. | Cu-Pt/SrTiO ₃ | Visible Light ($\lambda \geq 420$ nm) | 369.4 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1}$ | ¹⁶ |
| 7. | AuPd/g-C ₃ N ₄ | Visible light ($\lambda \geq 420$ nm) | 2145 $\text{mmol h}^{-1} \text{g}^{-1}$ | ¹⁷ |
| 8. | Au/g-C ₃ N ₄ | Visible light ($\lambda \geq 420$ nm) | 423.1 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1}$ | ¹⁸ |
| 9. | CdS/PdAg/g-C ₃ N ₄ | 300 W Xe lamp ($\lambda \geq 420$ nm) | 3098.3 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1} \text{g}^{-1}$ | ¹⁹ |
| 10. | (1:2) Ag/Pd@UiO-66-NH ₂ | 300 W Xe lamp/Visible Light | 448.2 $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1}$ | This study |

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