

Supporting Information

Preparation of CoS₂/g-C₃N₄ composite catalyst and its application in photocatalytic reduction of CO₂

Yuqing Sun^a, Yilin Deng^a, Yan Hu^a, Liang Zhou^{a,c}, Juying Lei^{a,b,c,d,*}, Yongdi Liu^{a,c}, Jinlong Zhang^{c,e,*}

^a National Engineering Research Center of Industrial Wastewater Detoxication and Resource Recovery, State Environmental Protection Key Laboratory of Environmental Risk Assessment and Control on Chemical Process, East China University of Science and Technology, 130 Meilong Road, Shanghai 200237, P. R. China. Email: leijuying@ecust.edu.cn

^b Shanghai Institute of Pollution Control and Ecological Security, Shanghai 200092, P.R. China

^c Shanghai Engineering Research Center for Multi-media Environmental Catalysis and Resource Utilization, East China University of Science and Technology, 130 Meilong Road, Shanghai 200237, P. R. China. Email: jlzhang@ecust.edu.cn

^d Shanghai Key Laboratory of Rare Earth Functional Materials, Shanghai 200234, P. R. China

^e Key Laboratory for Advanced Materials and Joint International Research Laboratory of Precision Chemistry and Molecular Engineering, Feringa Nobel Prize Scientist Joint Research Center, School of Chemistry and Molecular Engineering, East China University of Science and Technology, 130 Meilong Road, Shanghai 200237, P. R. China

2.3 Characterizations

2.3.1 The instrumental characterizations

Operating at a working voltage and current of 40 kV and 100 mA, the $K\alpha$ ray wavelength of Cu was 1.5406 Å, and the powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns of all samples were collected in the range of 2θ angles from 5° to 80°. The microscopic morphology of the sample was characterized by the scanning electron microscope (SEM, NOVA Nano SEM 450), transmission electron microscope (TEM, JEM-1400 EX) and high-resolution transmission electron microscope (HRTEM, JEM-2100 EX). The ultraviolet-visible (UV-vis) diffuse reflectance absorption spectrum was scanned in the range of 200-800 nm using a UV-vis spectrophotometer (Varian, Cary 500). The measurement of the specific surface area was carried out by using an ASAP 2020 instrument at 77 K using N_2 adsorption. The X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) test was carried out using the PHI 5000C ESCA system. The excitation source was Al $K\alpha$ rays with energy of 1486.6 eV, the pressure in the analyzer was less than 1×10^{-8} Torr, and the pass energy was 50 eV. And use X-rays with a power of 250 W and a target voltage of 14.0 kV. Cary Eclipse's fluorescence emission meter (FL) was used to test the fluorescence emission spectrum under excitation at a wavelength of 350 nm. The 133 eV/Falio 60S energy spectrometer (EDS) was used to detect the content of C, N, Co and S in the sample. The time-resolved fluorescence decay spectroscopy (TRFL) was measured using an FSL 980 instrument at room temperature. The electrochemical test was measured on an electrochemical workstation (Zahner, Zennium), using a three-electrode system (platinum counter electrode, saturated calomel electrode as reference electrode, working electrode). For the photocurrent and Mott-Schottky test, the electrolyte is 0.5 mol L⁻¹ sodium sulfate, and the xenon lamp was used as the light source. The electrochemical impedance test (EIS) was carried out in a mixture of 0.1 mol L⁻¹ KCl solution and 25 mmol L⁻¹ $K_4Fe(CN)_3$ and $K_3Fe(CN)_6$ solutions.

2.3.2 CO₂ photocatalytic reduction (CO₂PR) evaluation

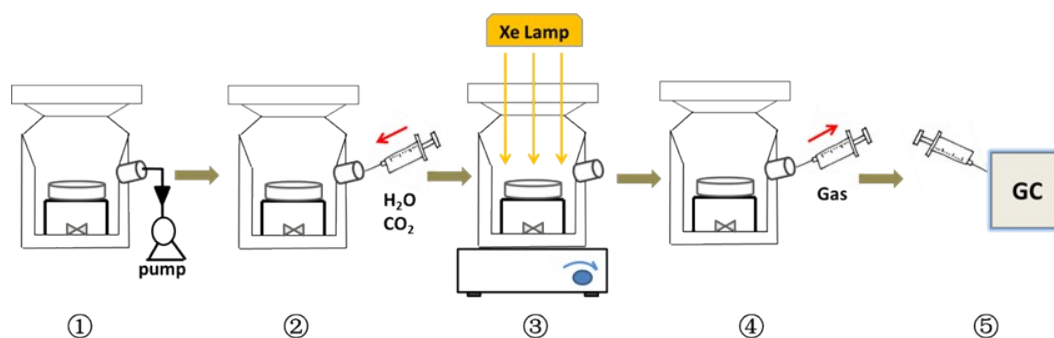


Fig. S1. Photocatalytic CO₂ reduction flowchart (①. Evacuate the reactor; ②. Inject 1 mL of ultrapure water and 200 mL of CO₂ into the reactor; ③. Irradiate the catalyst with Xe lamp for 4 h; ④. Extract 5 mL of reacted gas; ⑤. Inject gas into GC for analysis).

The gas-solid phase photocatalytic reduction experiments of CO₂ were carried out in a self-made

reaction system (Fig. S1). 30 mg of sample was dispersed in 1 mL of water. The mixture was spread on a watch glass with a diameter of 6 cm, and dried to form a thin layer. The prepared sample was transferred to a reactor with a volume of 450 mL, and 1 mL of ultrapure water was injected into the reactor. Then, the reactor was evacuated and 400 mL of CO₂ (gas, 99.99%) was injected into the reactor. After 30 min of dark adsorption, a 300 W Xenon lamp was used to illuminate for 4 h. After the reaction, 5 mL of mixed gas was extracted and pumped into the gas chromatograph (GC) to analyze the gas composition. The external standard method was used to qualitatively and quantitatively test the gas, and the test was repeated three times for each sample. Three comparative tests were carried out under the conditions of using Ar instead of CO₂, no light and no catalyst.

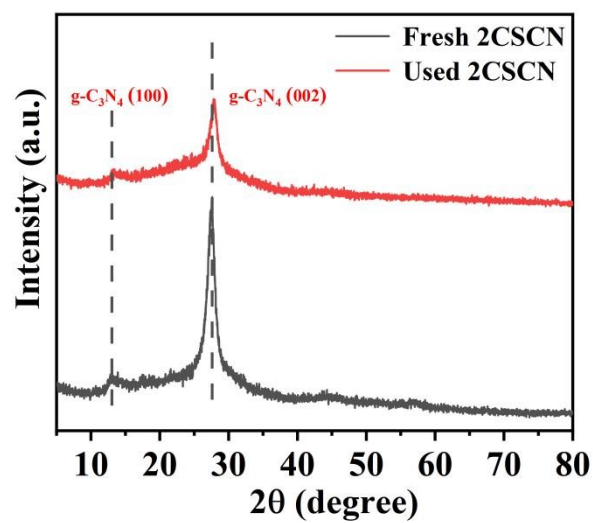


Fig. S2. XRD patterns of 2CSCN before the reaction and after 5 cycles of testing.

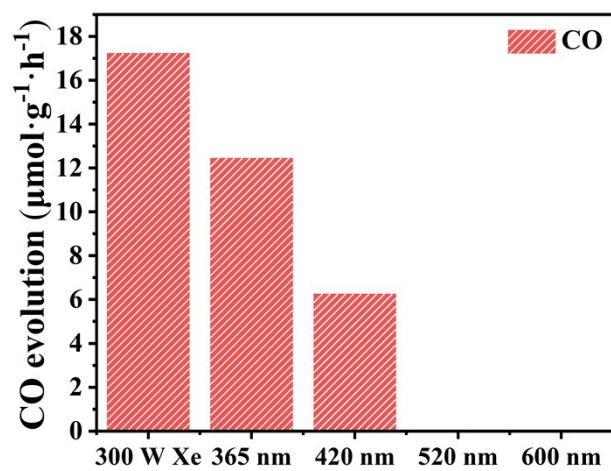


Fig. S3. CO production rate of 2CSCN under different light irradiation.

Table S1. Comparison of photocatalytic performance of our catalyst with other reported similar materials.

Sample	Light source	Reaction condition	Performance ($\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$)	Reference
$\text{CoS}_2/\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4$	300 W Xe lamp	H_2O	CO (17.24)	
$\text{Pt}/\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4$	LED-397/427/452	H_2O	CO (13.20)	1
$\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4/\text{Ag-TiO}_2$	300 W Xe lamp	H_2O	CH ₄ (9.33) CO (6.33)	2
$\text{NiO}/\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4$	300 W Xe lamp	H_2O	CO (4.17)	3
$\text{SnFe}_2\text{O}_4/\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4$	300 W iodine tungsten lamp	H_2O	CO (7.56)	4
AgX/pCN	low-power 15 W energy-saving daylight lamp	H_2O	CH ₄ (10.92)	5
$\text{MoS}_2/\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4$	300 W Xe lamp	H_2O	CO (8.37)	6
$\text{CuInS}_2/\text{Au}/\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4$	300 W Xe lamp with 400 nm cut-off filter	H_2O	CH ₄ (0.15) CO (2.43)	7
Bi_2S_3 QDs/ $\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4$	300 W Xe lamp	H_2O	CH ₄ (12.52) CO (54.74)	8
Cu_2O QDs/ $\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4$	Photocatalytic activity evaluation system (CEL-SPH2N-D9, Beijing)	H_2O	CH ₄ (0.08) CO (8.12)	9
NiS_2 QDs/ $\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4$	300 W Xe lamp	H_2O	CO (10.68)	10
$\text{CoZnAl-LDH}/\text{RGO}/\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4$	300 W Xe lamp	H_2O	CO (10.11)	11
$\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4/\text{CoCo-LDH}$	300 W Xe lamp	H_2O	CO (71.39)	12
Co-CuInS_2	300 W Xe lamp	H_2O	CO (15.24)	13
$\text{Co}_9\text{S}_8@\text{ZnIn}_2\text{S}_4/\text{CdS}$	300 W Xe lamp	H_2O , MeCN, Na_2SO_3	CO (82.10)	14

References

- 1 A. A. Saraev, A. Y. Kurenkova, A. V. Zhurenok, E. Y. Gerasimov and E. A. Kozlova, Selectivity control of CO₂ reduction over Pt/g-C₃N₄ photocatalysts under visible light, *Catalysts*, 2023, **13**, 273.
- 2 H. Li, Y. Gao, X. Wu, P.-H. Lee and K. Shih, Fabrication of heterostructured g-C₃N₄/Ag-TiO₂ hybrid photocatalyst with enhanced performance in photocatalytic conversion of CO₂ under simulated sunlight irradiation, *Appl. Surf. Sci.*, 2017, **402**, 198-207.
- 3 J.-Y. Tang, R.-T. Guo, W.-G. Zhou, C.-Y. Huang and W.-G. Pan, Ball-flower like NiO/g-C₃N₄ heterojunction for efficient visible light photocatalytic CO₂ reduction, *Appl. Surf. Sci.*, 2018, **237**, 802-810.
- 4 Y. Jia, H. Ma, W. Zhang, G. Zhu, W. Yang, N. Son, M. Kang and C. Liu, Z-scheme SnFe₂O₄-graphitic carbon nitride: Reusable, magnetic catalysts for enhanced photocatalytic CO₂ reduction, *Chem. Eng. J.*, 2020, **383**, 123172,
- 5 W. Ong, L. K. Putri, L. Tan, S.-P. Chai and S. Yong, Heterostructured AgX/g-C₃N₄ (X=Cl and Br) nanocomposites via a sonication-assisted deposition-precipitation approach: Emerging role of halide ions in the synergistic photocatalytic reduction of carbon dioxide, *Appl. Catal. B. Environ.*, 2016, **180**, 530-543.
- 6 H. Qin, R. Guo, X. Liu, W. Pan, Z. Wang, X. Shi, J. Tang and C. Huang, ZScheme MoS₂/g-C₃N₄ heterojunction for efficient visible light photocatalytic CO₂ reduction, *Dalton Trans.*, 2018, **47**, 15155-15163.
- 7 W. Ye, J. Hu, X. Hu, W. Zhang, X. Ma and H. Wang, Rational construction of Z-scheme CuInS₂/Au/g-C₃N₄ heterostructure : experimental results and theoretical calculation, *Chemcatchem*, 2019, **11**, 6372-6383.
- 8 R. Guo, X. Liu, H. Qin, Z. Wang, X. Shi, W. Pan, Z. Fu, J. Tang, P. Jia, Y. Miao and J. Gu, Photocatalytic reduction of CO₂ into CO over nanostructure Bi₂S₃ quantum dots/g-C₃N₄ composites with Z-scheme mechanism, *Appl. Surf. Sci.*, 2020, **500**, 144059.
- 9 Z. Sun, W. Fang, L. Zhao, H. Chen, X. He, W. Li, P. Tian and Z. Huang, g-C₃N₄ foam/Cu₂O QDs with excellent CO₂ adsorption and synergistic catalytic effect for photocatalytic CO₂ reduction, *Environ. Int.*, 2019, **130**, 0-9.
- 10 H. Qin, R.-T. Guo, X.-Y. Liu, X. Shi, Z.-Y. Wang, J.-Y. Tang and W.-G. Pan, 0D NiS₂ quantum dots modified 2D g-C₃N₄ for efficient photocatalytic CO₂ reduction, *Colloids Surf., A*, 2020, **600**, 124912.
- 11 Y. Yang, J. Wu, T. Xiao, Z. Tang, J. Shen, H. Li, Y. Zhou and Z. Zou, Urchin-like hierarchical CoZnAl-LDH/RGO/g-C₃N₄ hybrid as a Z-scheme photocatalyst for efficient and selective CO₂ reduction, *Appl. Catal., B*, 2019, **255**, 117771.
- 12 Y.-L. Li, Q. Zhao, X.-J. Liu, Y. Liu, Y.-J. Hao, X.-J. Wang, X.-Y. Liu, D. Hildebrandt, F.-Y. Li and F.-T. Li, Co-N₂ Bond Precisely Connects the Conduction Band and Valence Band of g-C₃N₄/CoCo-LDH to Enhance Photocatalytic CO₂ Activity by High-Efficiency S-Scheme, *Small Struct.*, 2023, **4**, 2300177.
- 13 Z. Yang, J. Yang, H. Ji, M. He, Y. Song, W. Zhang, J. Yuan, X. She, Y. She, H. Li and H. Xu, Construction of S-Co-S internal electron transport bridges in Co-Doped CuInS₂ for enhancing photocatalytic CO₂ reduction, *Mater. Today Chem.*, 2022, **26**, 101078.
- 14 Y. Zhang, Y. Wu, L. Wan, H. Ding, H. Li, X. Wang and W. Zhang, Hollow core-shell Co₉S₈@ZnIn₂S₄/CdS nanoreactor for efficient photothermal effect and CO₂ photoreduction, *Appl. Catal. B Environ.*, 2022, **311**, 121255.