Supporting Information

Temperature-driven growth of uranyl-organic frameworks for efficient photocatalytic CO₂ reduction

Lu-Yao Wang,^a Guang Che,^a Ya-Ru Gong,^{*a} Wei-Ting Yang,^{*a} Yuan Lin,^a Jiao-Rong Liu,^a Shu-Yu Chen, ^a Meng-Dan Xiao,^a Xu-Dong Tian^a and Zhong-Min Su^{*a}

^aKey Laboratory of Advanced Materials of Tropical Island Resources, Ministry of Education, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Hainan University, Haikou 570228, China

*E-mail: Ya-Ru Gong (gongyr@hainanu.edu.cn); Wei-Ting Yang (yangwt@hainanu.edu.cn); Zhong-Min Su (zmsu@nenu.edu.cn)

1. Materials and Characterizations

All the chemicals were of analytical grade and purchased from commercial sources without any further purification. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns were collected on a MiniFlex 600X X-ray diffractometer in the range of 5-40°at room temperature. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) was performed on a Rigaku TG-DTA8122 Corporation analyzer heated from 30-800 °C under a dry nitrogen gas atmosphere. The Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) spectra were examined in the range of 4000-400 cm⁻¹ on a Shimadzu IRAffinity-1S FT-IR spectrophotometer. The scanning electron microscopy (SEM) was performed by Thermo Fisher. The gas products are identified by FULI GC9790II.

Caution! Uranyl nitrate hexahydrate $UO_2(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ is a radioactive and chemically toxic reactant, and precautions with suitable care and protection for handling such substances should be followed although it was used in the experiment. $UO_2(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ was dissolved in ultra-pure water (50 mL) to obtain a uranyl nitrate stock solution (0.50 M).

2. Crystallographic data

The crystallographic data and structural refinements of HNU-94-80 were collected at 100 K on a Bruker Apex CCD diffractometer with graphite monochromatic Ga-K α radiation. All crystal structures are solved directly with the ShelXT¹ structure solution program using intrinsic phasing by the least square method based on F² using Olex2². Except for some solvent molecules, other atoms are generated in the ideal geometric position. Topology analysis of

HNU-94-80 was performed using the TOPOS³ program package.

3. Electrochemical test

Photo-electrochemical measurements were carried out on Shanghai Chenhua electrochemical workstation in 1 M Na₂SO₄ solution. Three-electrode configuration was used with ITO glass coated with the catalyst as the working electrode, AgCl electrode reference electrode, and Pt counter electrode. For the preparation of the working electrode, the as-synthesized photocatalyst sample (3 mg) were added to Nafion (20 μ L), EtOH (200 μ L) and H₂O (400 μ L) for ultrasonic treatment for 6h, and the suspension thus obtained was evenly dropped on the surface of the ITO board, which was subsequently dried in a drying oven at 60°C.

4. Photocatalysis experiment

The photocatalytic reduction of carbon dioxide was conducted within a 150 mL quartz reactor. A 300 W xenon lamp, equipped with a filter ($\lambda \ge 420$ nm), served as the light source, and high-purity carbon dioxide was employed as the feedstock for the photocatalytic reaction. The reaction mixture consisted of [Ru(bpy)₃]Cl₂·6H₂O (0.013 mmol, 10 mg) and HNU-94 (0.003 mmol, 5 mg), with acetonitrile (MeCN, 30 mL), water (7.5 mL), and triethanolamine (TEOA, 5 mL) as solvents. Initially, the catalyst was placed into the sealed quartz reactor. Subsequently, the reactor was evacuated using an online gas-closed system in tandem with a gas-circulated pump. Following this, high-purity carbon dioxide was introduced. After two rounds of gas purging to reach adsorption equilibrium, the xenon lamp was switched on for irradiation over a period of 2 hours, maintaining the temperature at 32°C. Every 20 min, a gas chromatography (GC) instrument was utilized to test and analyze gases such as carbon monoxide, methane, and hydrogen through the online system.

5. Figures and Tables

Figure S1. The asymmetric unit of HNU-94.



Figure S2. PXRD of HNU-94-120 after 48 h immersion in H₂O.



Figure S3. The FT-IR curves for HNU-94-80, HNU-94-100 and HNU-94-120.



Figure S4. The TGA for HNU-94-80, HNU-94-100 and HNU-94-120



Figure S5. N_2 sorption isotherms of the HNU-94-80, HNU-94-100 and HNU-94-120.



Figure S6. Band gap energy analysis for HNU-94-80, HNU-94-100 and HNU-94-120.



Figure S7. Schematic diagram of HNU-94-80 electron transfer.





Figure S8. Schematic diagram of HNU-94-100 electron transfer.

Figure S9. Schematic diagram of HNU-94-120 electron transfer.



Figure S10. Time-course profiles of CO and CH₄ catalyzed by HNU-94-80.



Figure S11. Time-course profiles of CO and CH_4 catalyzed by HNU-94-100.



Figure S12. PXRD of HNU-94-120 before and after photocatalytic reaction.



Figure S13. Time-course profiles of H_2 catalyzed by HNU-94-120.

	HNU-94-80	
Empirical formula	$C_{48}H_{24}N_{3}O_{16}U_{2} \\$	
Formula weight	1374.76	
Temperature/K	100	
Crystal system	monoclinic	
Space group	C2/c	
a/Å	17.8388(13)	
b/Å	56.143(4)	
c/Å	18.6016(14)	
a/°	90	
β/°	116.072(3)	
γ/°	90	
Volume/Å ³	16734(2)	
Z	8	
pcalcg/cm ³	1.091	
μ/mm ⁻¹	8.365	
F(000)	5160.0	
Reflections collected	155999	
Independent reflections	14743 [$R_{int} = 0.0703, R_{sigma} = 0.0381$]	
Data/restraints/parameters	14743/24/625	
Goodness-of-fit on F2	1.041	
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0407, wR_2 = 0.1138$	
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0465, wR_2 = 0.1168$	

Table S1 Crystal data of HNU-94-80.

Atom	Atom	Length/Å		Atom	Atom	Length/Å		
U1	O16	1.774(6)		U2	O121	2.473(4)		
U1	O15	1.768(6)		U2	O111	2.475(4)		
U1	O3	2.466(4)		U2	O14	1.768(4)		
U1	O4	2.440(4)		U2	O71	2.470(3)		
U1	05	2.449(5)		U2	O81	2.456(4)		
U1	O6	2.479(4)		U2	013	1.758(4)		
U1	09	2.423(4)		U2	01	2.486(4)		
U1	O10	2.461(4)		U2	O2	2.439(4)		
Atom	Atom	Atom	Angle/°		Atom	Atom	Atom	Angle/°
O16	U1	O3	89.6(2)		O15	U1	O16	178.5(2)
O16	U1	O4	92.5(2)		015	U1	O3	91.6(2)
O16	U1	O5	91.8(2)		O15	U1	O4	88.9(2)
O16	U1	O6	90.23(19)		O15	U1	05	88.4(2)
O16	U1	09	93.2(2)		015	U1	O6	88.73(19)
O16	U1	O10	89.1(2)		O15	U1	O9	86.4(2)
03	U1	O6	170.85(13)		015	U1	O10	89.47(19)
O4	U1	O3	52.45(15)		05	U1	O3	118.05(14)
O4	U1	O5	65.61(14)		05	U1	O6	52.81(13)
O4	U1	O6	118.42(14)		05	U1	O10	121.42(12)
O4	U1	O10	172.74(14)		09	U1	O3	67.74(13)
09	U1	O4	119.83(14)		09	U1	O10	52.99(12)
09	U1	O5	172.38(17)		O10	U1	O3	120.53(13)
09	U1	O6	121.40(12)		O10	U1	O6	68.62(12)

Table S2. Bond lengths [Å] and angles [deg] for HNU-94-80.

MOFs	Light [nm]	Time [h]	CO [mmol g ⁻¹]	Ref
HNU-94-120	λ≥420	2	2.57	This work
HNU-94-100	λ≥420	2	0.67	This work
HNU-94-80	λ≥420	2	0.53	This work
V ₁₈ -Co	λ≥420	1	1.037	4
V ₁₈ -Mn	λ≥420	9	5.74×10^{-3}	4
BPAN-Co-1	λ≥420	1	1.927	5
NNU-55-Ni	λ≥420	16	4.265	6
$Ni_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}$ -MOF-74	λ≥420	1	0.64	7
Co-OAc	λ≥420	1	2.3257	8
UiO-Co-N ₃	λ≥420	2	0.3586	9
UCu1	λ≥420	3	1.0782	10
UCu2	λ≥420	3	1.4448	10
MR-N _{0.2} C _{0.8} O	λ≥400	4	1.11	11
U-B-Co	λ≥400	1	3.41	12
IHEP-101	λ≥420	3	1.374	13

Table S3 Photocatalytic efficiency of HNU-94 compared to other MOFs.

Table S4 The research of reaction conditions of HNU-94-120

	CO [mmol g ⁻¹]	CH ₄ [mmol g ⁻¹]
Without the H ₂ O	0.45	0.02
Without the MeCN	0.16	0
Without the TEOA	0	0
CH ₃ OH instead of CH ₃ CN	0.78	0

References

- G. M. Sheldrick, Crystal structure refinement with SHELXL, *Acta Crystallogr. Sect. C: Struct. Chem.*, 2015, 71, 3-8.
- 2. O. V. Dolomanov, L. J. Bourhis, R. J. Gildea, J. A. K. Howard and H. Puschmann, OLEX2: a complete structure solution, refinement and analysis program, *J. Appl. Crystallogr.*, 2009, **42**, 339-341.
- 3. V. A. Blatov, A. P. Shevchenko and D. M. Proserpio, Applied Topological Analysis of Crystal Structures with the Program Package ToposPro, *Cryst. Growth Des.*, 2014, **14**, 3576-3586.
- J. Wang, H. Xu, Q. Wang, J. Zhou, X. Xiang, S. Li, H. Mei and Y. Xu, Self-assembly of mixed valence polyoxovanadate-based metal-organic frameworks for enhanced CO₂ photoreduction, *Chem. Eng. J.*, 2014, 14, 7, 3576–3586.

- Y. Zhao, Z. Shao, Y. Cui, K. Geng, X. Meng, J. Wu and Hongwei Hou, Guest-Induced Multilevel Charge Transport Strategy for Developing Metal-Organic Frameworks to Boost Photocatalytic CO₂ Reduction, *Small*, 2023, 19, 2300398.
- Y. S. Xia, M. Tang, L. Zhang, J. L., C. Jiang, G.K. Gao, L. Z. Dong, L. G. Xie and Y. Q. Lan, Tandem utilization of CO₂ photoreduction products for the carbonylation of aryl iodides, *Nat. Commun.*, 2022, 13, 2964.
- S. H. Guo, X. J. Qi, H. M. Zhou, J. Zhou, X. H. Wang, M. Dong, X. Zhao, C. Y. Sun, X. L. Wang and Z. M. Su, A bimetallic-MOF catalyst for efficient CO₂ photoreduction from simulated flue gas to value-added formate, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2020, 8, 11712-11718.
- K. Sun, Y. Huang, Q. Wang, W. Zhao, X. Zheng, J. Jiang and H. L. Jiang, Manipulating the spin state of Co sites in metal-organic frameworks for boosting CO₂ photoreduction, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2024, 146, 3241-3249.
- J. Wang, K. Sun, D. Wang, X. Niu, Z. Lin, S. Wang, W. Yang, J. Huang, and H. L. Jiang, Precise Regulation of the Coordination Environment of Single Co(II) Sites in a Metal-Organic Framework for Boosting CO₂ Photoreduction, ACS Catal., 2023, 13, 8760-8769.
- Z. W. Huang, S. W. An, K. Q. Hu, X. B. Li, Z. N. Bin, Z. H. Zhou, L. Mei, Z. J. Guo, W. S. Wu, Z. F. Chai and W. Q. Shi, Modulating the coordination microenvironment of uranyl compounds to enhance photocatalytic CO₂ reduction, Inorg. *Chem. Front.*, 2023, 10, 4754-4762.
- H. Yang, D. Zhang, Y. Luo, W. Yang, X. Zhan, W. Yang, and H. Hou, Highly Efficient and Selective Visible-Light Driven Photoreduction of CO₂ to CO by Metal-Organic Frameworks-Derived Ni-Co-O Porous Microrods, *Small*, 2022, 18, 2202939.
- Y. Jiang, S. C. Liu, L. P. Zhang, G. W. Guan, Y. T. Li, S. Ni, R. Y. Jiang, S. T. Zheng, H. R. Liu, H. Ling Lan and Q. Y. Yang, Immobilization of Nickel- and Cobalt-Based Complexes in NH₂-UiO-66 for Efficient CO₂ Photoreduction, *Chem. Eng. J.*, 2024, **494**, 153100.
- Z. H. Zhou, X. B. Li, Z. W. Huang, Q. Y. Wu, J. X. Wang, Z. H. Zhang, J. P. Yu, L. Mei, F. Q. Ma, K. Q. Hu and W. Q. Shi, Engineering uranyl sites into MOFs for efficient and highly selective photocatalytic CO₂ reduction, *Inorg. Chem. Front.*, 2024, 11, 6493-6501.