

Table of Contents

Abstract	<i>I-VI</i>
Chapter 1. Introduction.....	2
1.1. General Considerations.....	2
1.2. Photocatalysis.....	11
1.3. Photocatalysis for solar fuels.....	17
1.4. Modification of TiO ₂ for solar photocatalysis.....	24
1.5. Photocatalysts other than TiO ₂	30
1.6. Photoinduced charge separation versus photothermal pathways.....	41
1.7. Solar Fuels.....	44
References.....	54
Chapter 2. Objectives.....	77
Chapter 3. Fe clusters embedded on N-doped graphene as a photothermal catalyst for selective CO₂ hydrogenation.....	81
3.1. Introduction.....	81
3.2. Materials preparation and characterization.....	84
3.3. Photocatalytic Results.....	89
3.4. Mechanistic Investigation.....	92
3.5. Conclusions.....	98
References.....	99
Chapter 4. Co-doped hydroxyapatite as photothermal catalyst for selective CO₂ hydrogenation.....	104

Table of Contents

4.1. Introduction.....	104
4.2. Material preparation and characterization.....	106
4.3. Light-assisted CO ₂ hydrogenation tests.....	116
4.4. Mechanistic Investigation.....	126
4.5. Conclusions.....	130
References.....	131

Chapter 5. Ru supported photocatalyst for CO₂ hydrogenation: 137

Effect of irradiation power on CO and CH₄ products distribution...

5.1. Introduction.....	137
5.2. Materials preparation and characterization.....	140
5.3. Photocatalytic results.....	143
5.4. Changing the product selectivity.....	149
5.5. Conclusions.....	151
References.....	152

Chapter 6. Visible-light-driven photocatalytic overall water 159 splitting promoted by porphyrin sensitized Zn-substituted potassium poly(heptazine imide).....

6.1. Introduction.....	159
6.2. Materials preparation and characterization.....	163
6.3. Photocatalytic results.....	170
6.4. Reaction mechanism.....	179
6.5. Conclusions.....	187
References.....	188

Table of Contents

Chapter 7. Photocatalytic O₂ reduction to H₂O₂ employing polymeric triazine/heptazine heterojunctions.....	194
7.1. Introduction.....	194
7.2. Materials preparation and characterization.....	195
7.3. Photocatalytic H ₂ O ₂ evolution.....	204
7.4. Reaction mechanism.....	211
7.5. Photocatalytic flow reactions.....	221
7.6. Conclusions.....	223
References.....	224
Chapter 8. Conclusions.....	233
Chapter 9. Experimental.....	237
9.1. Material synthesis.....	237
9.1.1. Employed Chemicals.....	237
9.1.2. Synthesis of Fe/Co@NG catalysts.....	238
9.1.3. Synthesis of Co _x HAP photocatalysts.....	238
9.1.4. Synthesis of Ru(2.5 wt.%)@STO photocatalyst.....	239
9.1.5. Synthesis of K ⁺ PHI ⁻	239
9.1.6. Synthesis of the TCPP(X wt. %)@(Zn/K)PHI photocatalyst.....	240
9.1.7. Synthesis of PTI/Li ⁺ Cl ⁻ photocatalyst.....	240
9.1.8. Synthesis of graphitic carbon nitride g-CN photocatalyst.....	241
9.1.9. Synthesis of mesoporous graphitic carbon nitride mpg-CN photocatalyst.....	241
9.1.10. Synthesis of Na ⁺ PHI ⁻ and H ⁺ PHI ⁻ photocatalysts.....	241
9.1.11. Synthesis of H heterojunction photocatalysts.....	242
9.2. Experimental set-ups and procedures for photocatalytic reactions....	242

Table of Contents

9.2.1. Light-assisted CO ₂ hydrogenation under batch conditions	242
9.2.2. Light-assisted CO ₂ hydrogenation under continuous flow regime (with external heating).....	243
9.2.3. Light-assisted CO ₂ hydrogenation under continuous flow regime (with no external heating) under high flux irradiation.....	244
9.2.4. Light-assisted CO ₂ hydrogenation (batch) under high flux irradiation.....	245
9.2.5. Light-assisted CH ₄ wet reforming (batch) under high flux irradiation.....	246
9.2.6. Light-assisted CH ₄ dry reforming (batch) under high flux irradiation.....	246
9.2.7. Photocatalytic water splitting tests.....	247
9.2.8. Photocatalytic O ₂ reduction to H ₂ O ₂ in batch.....	247
9.2.9. Photocatalytic O ₂ reduction to H ₂ O ₂ under continuous flow regime.....	248
9.3. Characterization techniques.....	252
9.3.1. Powder X-ray Diffraction (PXRD).....	252
9.3.2. Elemental Analysis (EA).....	252
9.3.3. Inductively Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectroscopy (ICP- OES).....	253
9.3.4. Diffuse Reflectance UV-VIS Spectroscopy (UV-VIS DR).....	253
9.3.5. Raman spectroscopy.....	254
9.3.6. MAS ¹³ C NMR spectroscopy.....	254
9.3.7. X-ray Photoemission spectroscopy (XPS).....	254
9.3.8. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM).....	255
9.3.9. Isothermal N ₂ absorption.....	255
9.3.10. Transient Absorption Spectroscopy (TAS).....	255
9.3.11. Photoelectrochemical Characterization.....	256

Table of Contents

9.4. Other methods.....	257
9.4.1. H ₂ TCPP quantification.....	257
9.4.2. Calculation of Apparent Quantum Yields (AQY %).....	258
9.4.3. Calculation of the solar to hydrogen efficiency (STH %).....	259
References.....	259
Dissemination.....	261