

Boosting CdS Photocatalytic Activity for Hydrogen Evolution in Formic Acid Solution by P Doping and MoS₂ Photodeposition

Junchen Liu ¹, Haoran Huang ¹, Chunyu Ge ¹, Zhenghui Wang ^{1,*}, Xunfu Zhou ^{2,*} and Yueping Fang ^{1,3,*}

¹ Key Laboratory for Biobased Materials and Energy of Ministry of Education, College of Materials and Energy, South China Agricultural University, 483 Wushan Road, Guangzhou 510642, China; exgukon@163.com (J.L.); hhr210527@163.com (H.H.); gcy199991@163.com (C.G.)

² School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Lingnan Normal University, Zhanjiang 524048, China

³ Guangdong Laboratory for Lingnan Modern Agriculture, 483 Wushan Road, Guangzhou 510642, China

* Correspondence: zhwang@scau.edu.cn (Z.W.); zxf776932260@163.com (X.Z.); ypfang@scau.edu.cn (Y.F.)

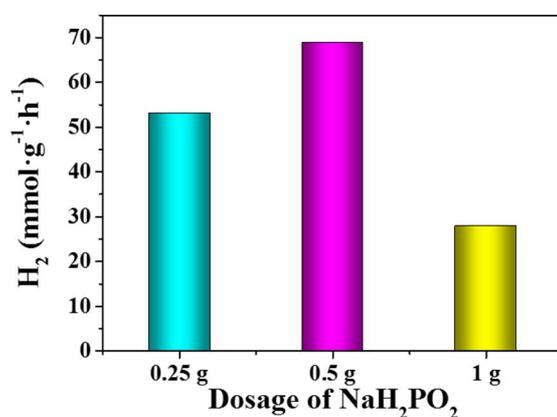


Figure S1. The average rate of H₂ evolution over CdS/P/MoS₂ synthesized from different dosage of NaH₂PO₂.

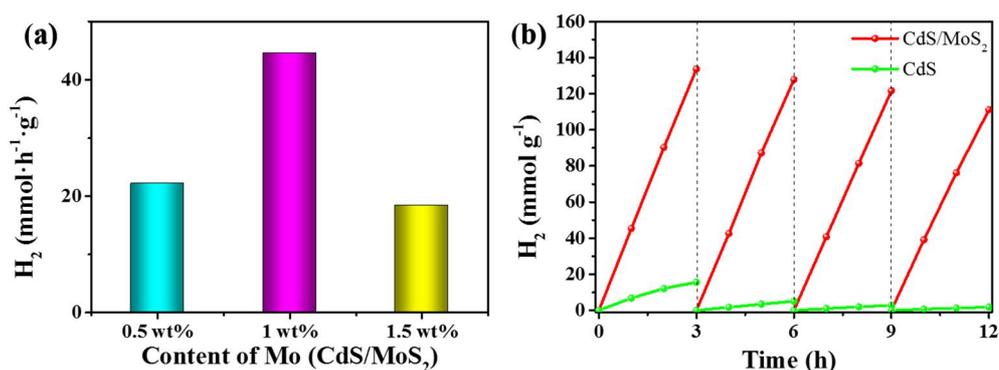


Figure S2. The average rate of H₂ evolution over CdS/MoS₂ loaded with different content of Mo.(a) and stability tests of CdS and CdS/MoS₂ (b).

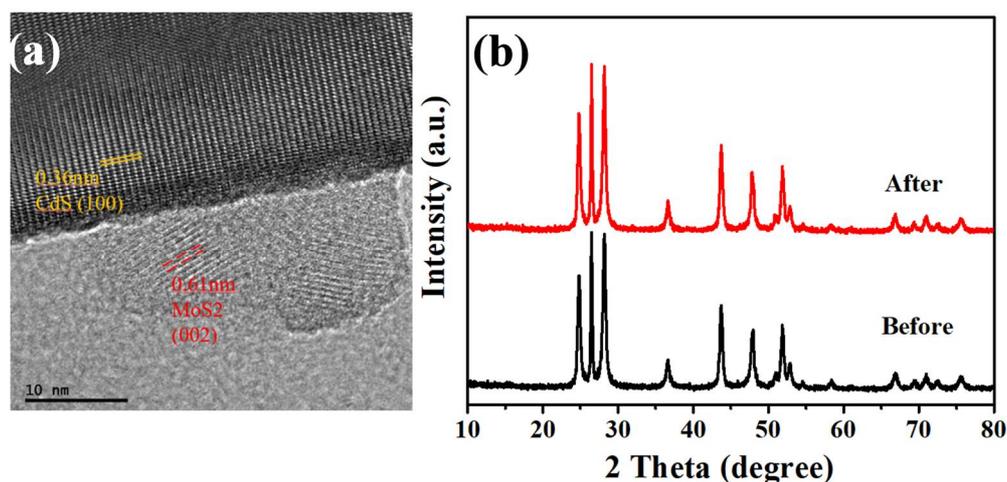


Figure S3. The characterization of CdS/P/MoS₂ after recycling tests: (a) HRTEM; (b) XRD.

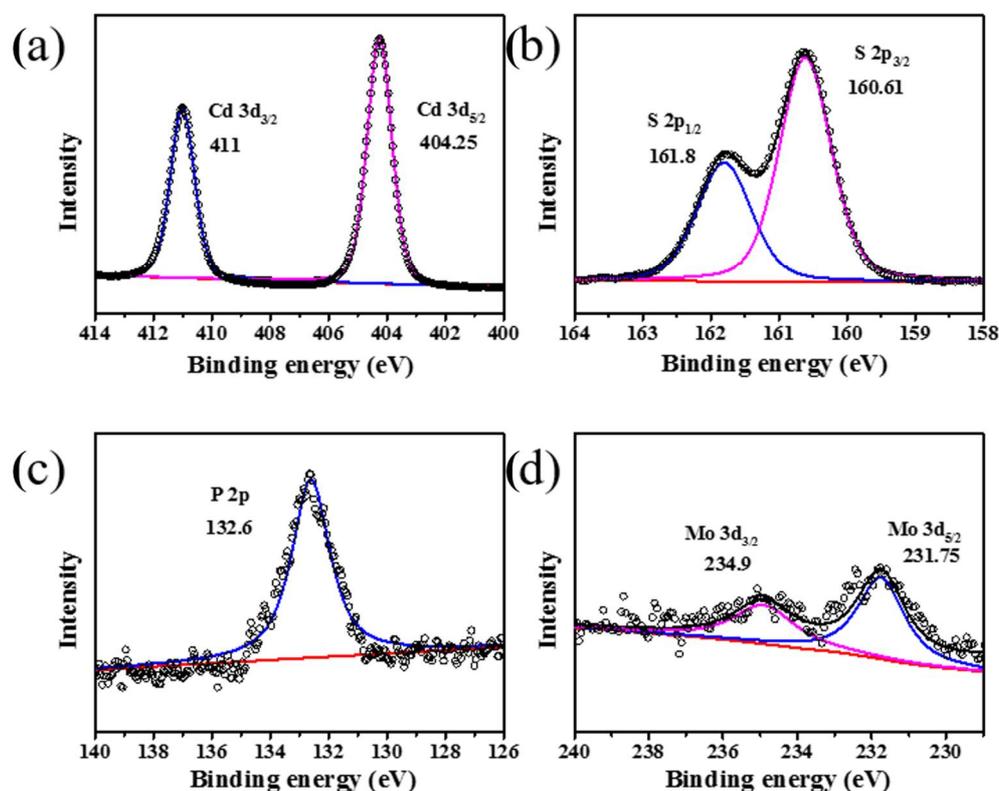


Figure S4. the high resolution XPS spectra of CdS/P/MoS₂ after a photocatalytic run: a) Cd 3d; b) S 2p; c) P 2p and d) Mo 3d.

Figure S3a shows the HRTEM image after photocatalytic test for 12 h, and Figure S3b shows the XRD patterns of CdS/P/MoS₂ before and after photocatalytic test for 12 h. As can be seen from Figure S3, the structure of CdS/P/MoS₂ does not change significantly after the photocatalytic reaction. As the figure S4 shows, there are no changes in the surface species of CdS/P/MoS₂ after a photocatalytic run. This phenomenon confirmed that MoS₂ as a cocatalyst can promote the separation and transfer of photogenerated charge carriers and improve the photocatalytic activity.

Table S1. Comparison of photocatalytic H₂ production activities over different photocatalyst.

Photocatalyst	Light (nm)	Activity (mmol·g ⁻¹ ·h ⁻¹)	Stability (h)	References
Pt/CdS nanorods	>420	4.46	>50	[51]
Pt/CdS/TNT	>420	4.26	>3	[52]
Ru/CdS/ZnS nanoparticles	>420	5.85	>40	[53]
Pd@C ₃ N ₄	>400	53.4	>6	[54]
CdS/FeP	>420	278	>120	[12]
Co/CdS nanorods	>420	14.2	>12	[55]
Ni/CdS nanorods	>420	22.8	>12	[55]
Co-Ni/CdS nanorods	>420	32.6	>18	[55]
CdS/Co-P ₃	>420	102.9	>24	[6]
TiO ₂ /AuPd	solar	17.7	>10	[56]
NiCoP@CdS nanorods	>400	354	>48	[57]
CdS/CoP@RGO	>420	182	>160	[2]
CdS/P/MoS ₂	>400	68.89	>12	this work

Table S2. Exponential decay-fitted parameters of fluorescence lifetime for CdS, CdS/P and CdS/P/MoS₂.

Items	CdS	CdS/P	CdS/P/MoS ₂
τ_1 /ns	0.8341	0.8001	0.8272
A ₁	251.081	228.995	154.313
τ_2 /ns	9.8339	8.2673	6.6510
A ₂	5.403	6.574	0.772
τ_{average} /ns	2.66	2.51	1.05

Through double exponential function fitting and calculation, the average fluorescence life of the sample was calculated, as shown in the table S1. The average life of CdS/P/MoS₂ is 1.05 ns, which is much lower than that of CdS/P (2.51 ns) and CdS/P/MoS₂(2.66ns). This proves that CdS/P/MoS₂ has a higher nonradiative transition rate, which is attributed to the transfer of electrons from CdS/P to MoS₂.