Supporting Information (SI)

Facile Synthesis of Highly Efficient One-Dimensional Plasmonic Photocatalysts through Ag@Cu₂O Core-Shell

Heteronanowires

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Figure S1

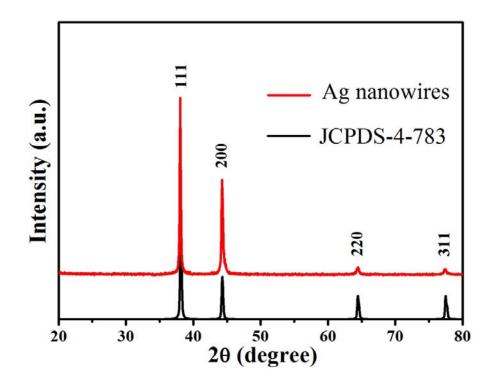


Figure S1. XRD pattern of as-prepared Ag nanowires (Ag NWs).

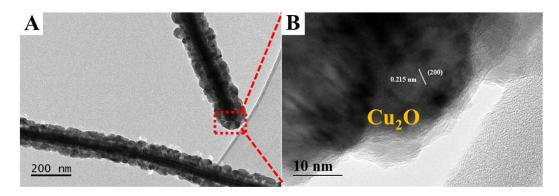


Figure S2. (A)TEM and (B) HRTEM images of the 1D Ag@Cu₂O core-shell heteronanowire.



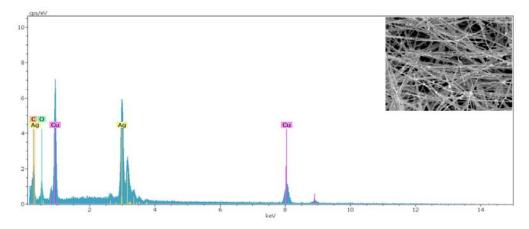


Figure S3. EDS pattern of as-synthesized 1D Ag@Cu₂O core-shell heteronanowires.



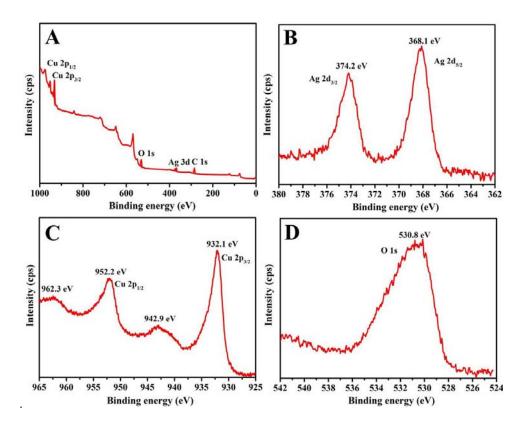


Figure S4. XPS spectra of the 1D $Ag@Cu_2O$ core-shell heteronanowires: (A) survey-scan spectrum, (B) Ag 2d, (C) Cu 2p, and (D) O 1s.

X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) measurement has been performed to investigate the surface elemental composition and electronic state of Ag@Cu₂O core-shell heteronanowires, as shown in Figure S4. The survey spectrum in Figure S4(A) shows that except for C, Cu, O and Ag, no other elements are observed in the spectrum, indicating the high purity of the product. The peak at 284.5 eV can be readily assigned to the binding energies of C1s. High-resolution spectra of Ag, Cu and O species are shown in Figure S4(B-D), respectively. Two strong peaks at 374.2 eV and 368.1 eV [Figure S4(B)] are respectively assigned to Ag2d 3/2 and Ag2d 5/2, which correspond to pure metallic Ag according to the reported results.^{1, 2} From the high resolution scanning spectra of Cu 2p

[Figure S4(C)], two main peaks at binding energies of 932.1 and 952.2 eV, together with two shakeup satellites at 942.9 and 962.3 eV, were observed in the sample. The peaks at 932.1 and 952.2 eV can be attributed to the binding energies of Cu 2p3/2 and Cu 2p1/2 from Cu⁺.³⁻⁵ The satellite peaks at 942.9 and 962.3 eV located at higher binding energies are typically associated with Cu²⁺ in CuO or probably Cu(OH)₂ species,^{3, 5, 6} implying the presence of Cu²⁺ on the sample surface. These results demonstrate that copper species in Ag@Cu₂O are mainly present as Cu⁺, and only a small amount of Cu²⁺ is presented in the sample. This is reasonable as Cu₂O is easy to be oxidized in the process of experiment.⁷ Surface Cu₂O could be oxidized into CuO and/or Cu(OH)₂ species when they were exposed in air with humidity. The peak at 530.8 eV in Figure S4(D) corresponds to O 1s, which is originated from the lattice oxygen of Cu₂O.^{5, 8}

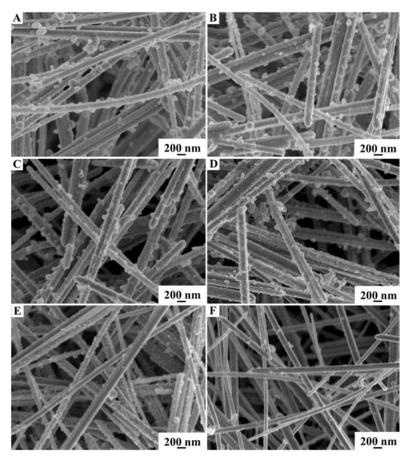


Figure S5. SEM images of the products obtained at different reaction times: (A) 2 min, (B) 20 min, (C) 40 min, (D) 60 min, (E) 12 h and (F) 24 h.

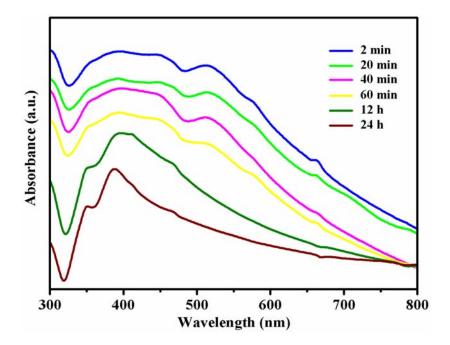


Figure S6. UV-vis absorption spectra of the products obtained at different reaction times.



Figure S7. Photographs of reaction systems composited of Ag NWs, Cu $(NO_3)_2$ solution and N_2H_4 before and after reaction at different stages.

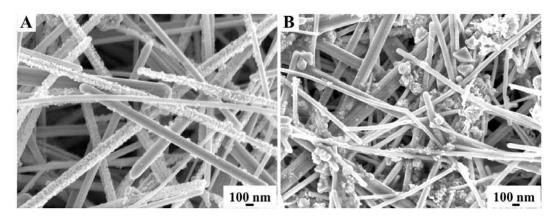


Figure S8. SEM images of the products prepared in the presence of different concentration of Cu^{2+} : (A) 0.1 M and (B) 0.2 M.

Figure S9

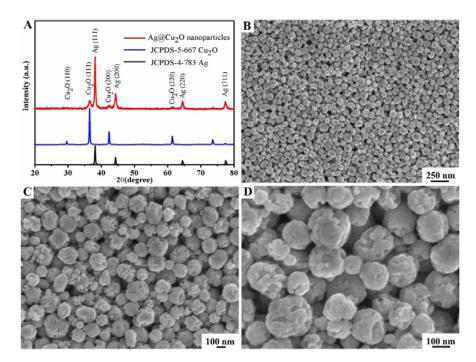


Figure S9. (A) XRD pattern and (B-D) SEM images of the Ag@Cu₂O nanoparticles.



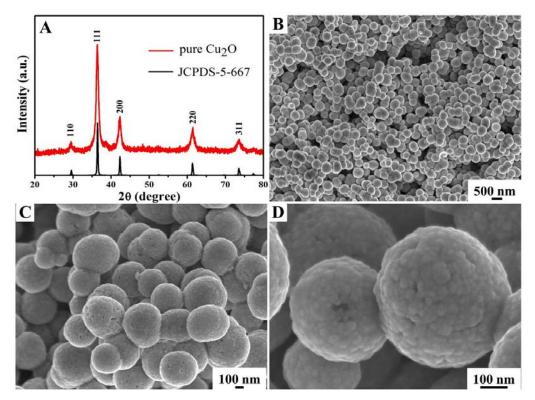


Figure S10. (A) XRD pattern and (B-D) SEM images of the pure Cu₂O.

Figure S11

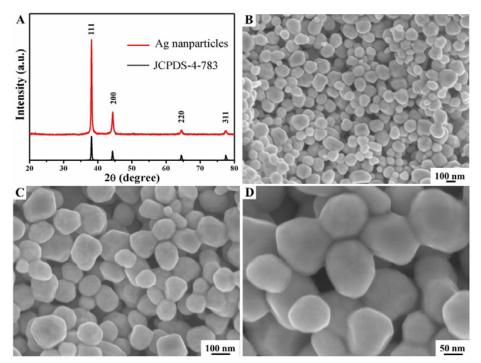


Figure S11. (A) XRD pattern and (B-D) SEM images of the Ag nanoparticles.

Figure S12

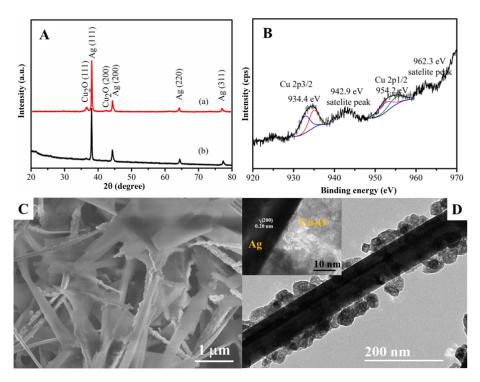


Figure S12. (A) XRD patterns of the sample before (a) and after (b) photocatalytic test; (B) XPS spectrum of Cu 2p, (C) SEM image and (D) TEM image of the sample after photocatalytic test.

References

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