Earth-Abundant Mixed-Metal Oxide@Carbon Nitride Photocatalysts for H₂O₂ Generation Only From H₂O and O₂

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1. Introduction

Light-driven synthesis of H_2O_2 only from water and molecular oxygen could be an alternative pathway for solar fuels production.¹⁻⁴ Herein, we designed a dual-functional photocatalyst i.e., mixed metal oxide/graphitic- C_3N_4 (MMO@ C_3N_4) for both water oxidation and oxygen reduction to generate H_2O_2 .⁵

2. Results and discussion

The MMO@C₃N₄ photocatalyst led to rapid generation of H₂O₂, with an initial rate that exceeded 4.0 μ M min⁻¹ (in 30 min), which is superior to the controls (Figure 1). H₂O₂ has the largest formation rate and lower decomposition rate on the MMO@C₃N₄. H₂O₂ was produced only from water and dioxygen without any sacrificial organics (e.g. alcohols).

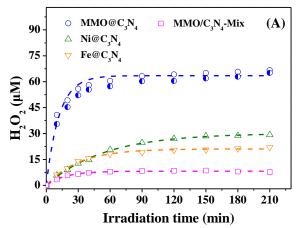


Figure 1. Light-driven H₂O₂ generation over the photocatalysts

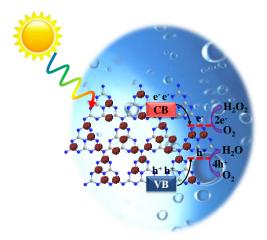


Figure 2. Scheme of energy levels and charge transfer

3. Conclusions

We developed a facile strategy to prepare an earth-abundant photocatalyst for H_2O_2 synthesis. This work provides a promising way for clean production of H_2O_2 owing to facile synthesis and extremely accessible feedstocks.

References

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