



Fabrication of layered $\text{In}_2\text{S}_3/\text{WS}_2$ heterostructure for enhanced and efficient photocatalytic CO_2 reduction and various paraben degradation in water

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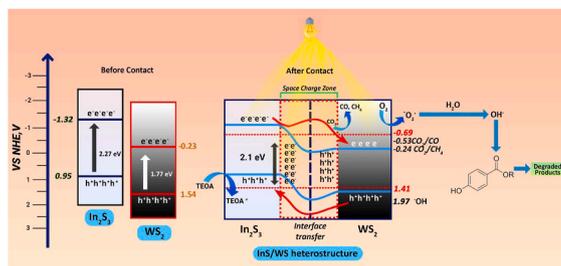
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GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



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ABSTRACT

Because of the excessive use of fossil fuels, CO_2 emissions into the environment are increasing. An efficient method of converting CO_2 to useful carbonaceous products in the presence of light is one way to address the issues associated with energy and environmental remediation. $\text{In}_2\text{S}_3/\text{WS}_2$ heterostructure has been fabricated using the efficient hydrothermal method. The results of structural, morphological, optical, and photo/electrochemical characterization confirm the formation of a hierarchical, layered heterostructure of type-II. Enhanced photocatalytic activity is observed in $\text{In}_2\text{S}_3/\text{WS}_2$ heterostructure compared to pristine In_2S_3 and WS_2 . $\text{In}_2\text{S}_3/\text{WS}_2$ heterostructure exhibit higher photocatalytic activity than pure In_2S_3 and WS_2 . For 12 h, photocatalytic CO_2 reduction produces 213.4 and 188.6 μmol of CO and CH_4 , respectively. Furthermore, the photocatalytic ability of the synthesized materials to degrade different parabens (Methyl: MPB, Ethyl: EPB, and Benzyl: BPB) under visible radiation was evaluated. Under optimized conditions, the $\text{In}_2\text{S}_3/\text{WS}_2$ heterostructure degraded 88.6, 90.4, and 95.8% of EPB, BPB, and MPB, respectively, in 90 min. The mechanism of photocatalysis was discussed in detail. MCF-7 cell viability was assessed and found to exhibit low mortality in $\text{In}_2\text{S}_3/\text{WS}_2$ treated MPB aqueous solution.

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