

## **Supporting Information**

### **Understanding the High Photocatalytic Activity of (B, Ag)-codoped TiO<sub>2</sub> under Solar-light Irradiation with XPS, Solid-state NMR and DFT Calculations**

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**\*\*Calculation of NMR parameters:** The isotropic chemical shift ( $\delta_{\text{iso}}$ ) and quadrupolar interaction parameter ( $P_Q$ ) were estimated by the center of gravity of the

signal corresponding to the F1 and F2 axes (designated by  $\delta_{F1}$  and  $\delta_{F2}$ ) observed in the 3QZ-FAM MAS NMR spectra (sheared) recorded at 9.4T in Figure 3 (see main text) using the following equations:

$$\delta_{iso} = \frac{17}{27}\delta_{F1} + \frac{10}{27}\delta_{F2}; \quad \text{Eq. (S1)}$$

$$P_Q = \nu_0 \times \sqrt{\frac{17}{675000}} \times (\delta_{F1} - \delta_{F2}) = QCC \times \sqrt{1 + \frac{\eta^2}{3}}, \quad \text{Eq. (S2)}$$

where  $\nu_0$  denote the Larmor frequency. Accordingly, the NMR parameters, viz. isotropic chemical shift ( $\delta_{iso}$ ), quadrupolar coupling constant (QCC), and asymmetry parameter ( $\eta$ ) corresponding to various B sites may be extracted by fitting of the second-order quadrupolar line shape obtained from slices of the  $^{11}\text{B}$  3QZ-FAM MAS NMR spectra (Fig.5) using the Dimfit program.<sup>S1</sup> In turn, these NMR parameters were adopted to simulate the 1D NMR spectra in Figure 3.

#### References (Supporting Information):

- (S1) Massiot, D.; Fayon, M.; Capron, I.; King, S.; Le Calve', B.; Alonso, J.-O.; Durand, B.; Bujoli, Z.; Gan, Z.; Hoatson G. *Magn. Reson. Chem.* **2002**, 40, 70.

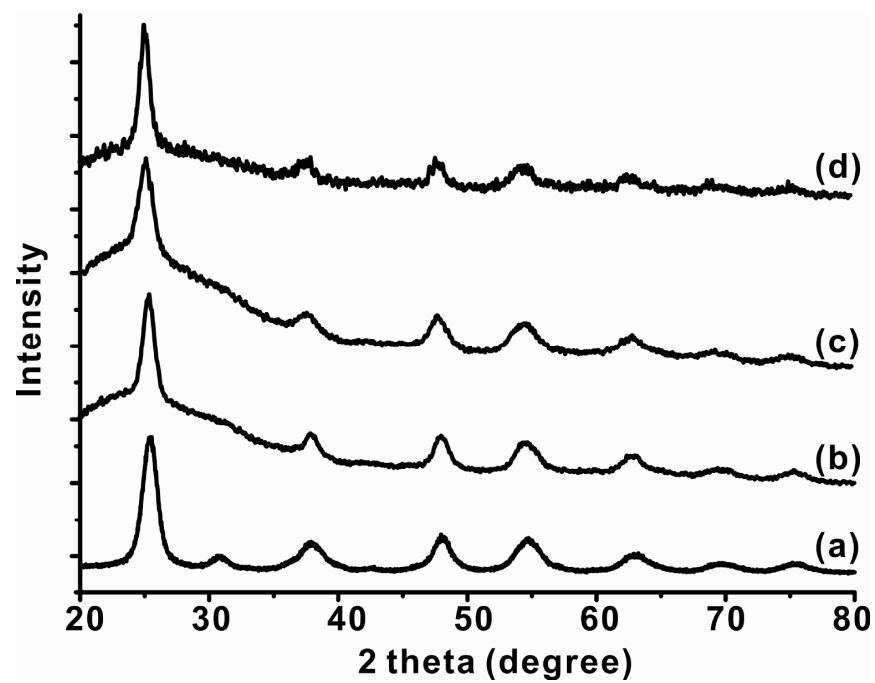


Figure S1. XRD spectra of (a) pure, (b) 3%Ag-doped, (c) 10%B-doped, and (d) (10%B, 3%Ag)-codoped  $\text{TiO}_2$ .

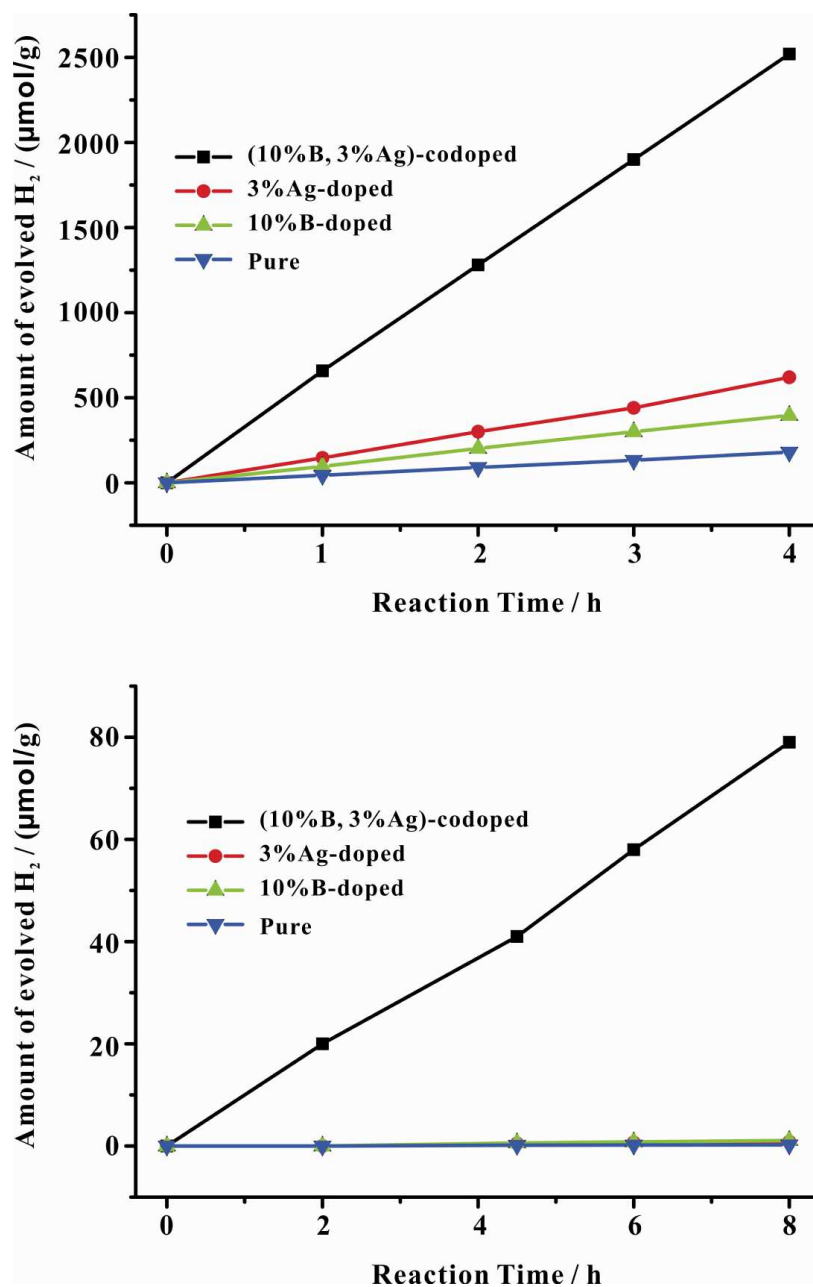


Figure S2.  $H_2$  evolution from methanol solution (5.0 vol. %) in the suspension containing pure, B-doped, Ag-doped, and (B, Ag)-codoped  $\text{TiO}_2$  catalysts (catalyst amount: 50 mg) under irradiation of (upper) UV-Vis light (Xe lamp, 300 W), and (bottom) visible light (Xe lamp with a 400 nm cut-on filter,  $\lambda > 400$  nm).

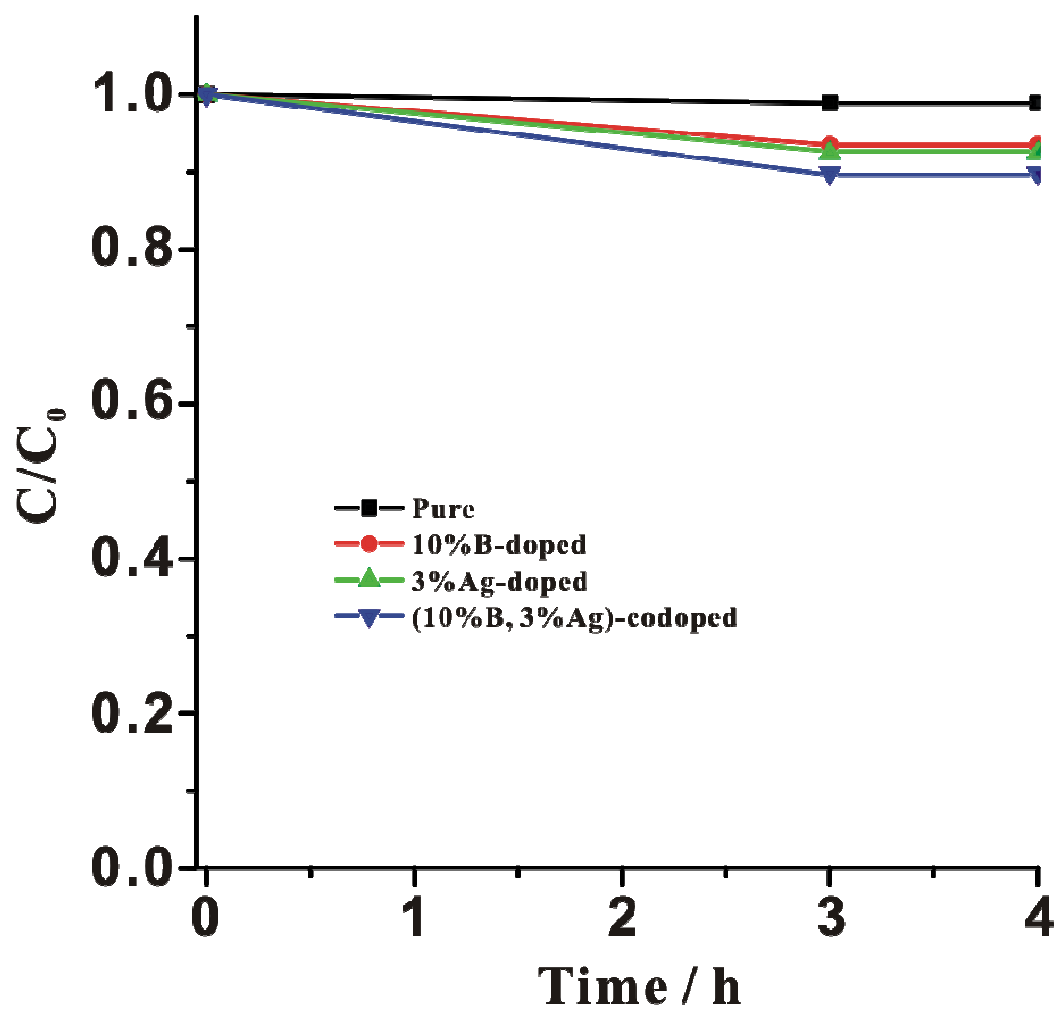


Figure S3. Adsorption curves of methylene blue on pure, 10% B-doped, 3% Ag-doped, and (10% B, 3% Ag)-codoped  $\text{TiO}_2$  in dark. The concentrations of methylene blue were determined by the observed optical intensities at  $\lambda = 665 \text{ nm}$ .

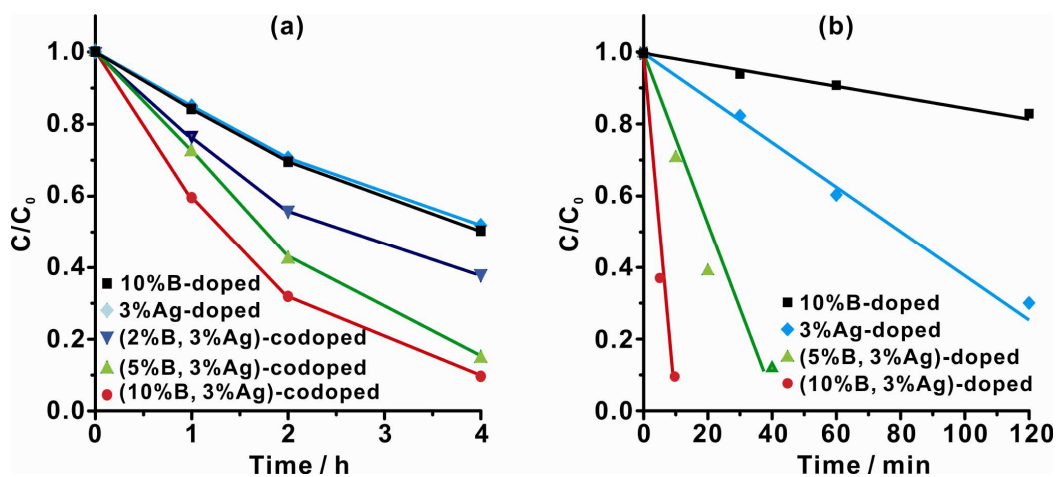


Figure S4. Photo-degradation curves of methylene blue on B-doped, Ag-doped, and (B, Ag)-codoped  $\text{TiO}_2$  under irradiation of (a) visible-light ( $\lambda > 420$  nm), and (b) solar-light. The concentrations of methylene blue were determined by the observed optical intensities at  $\lambda = 665$  nm.

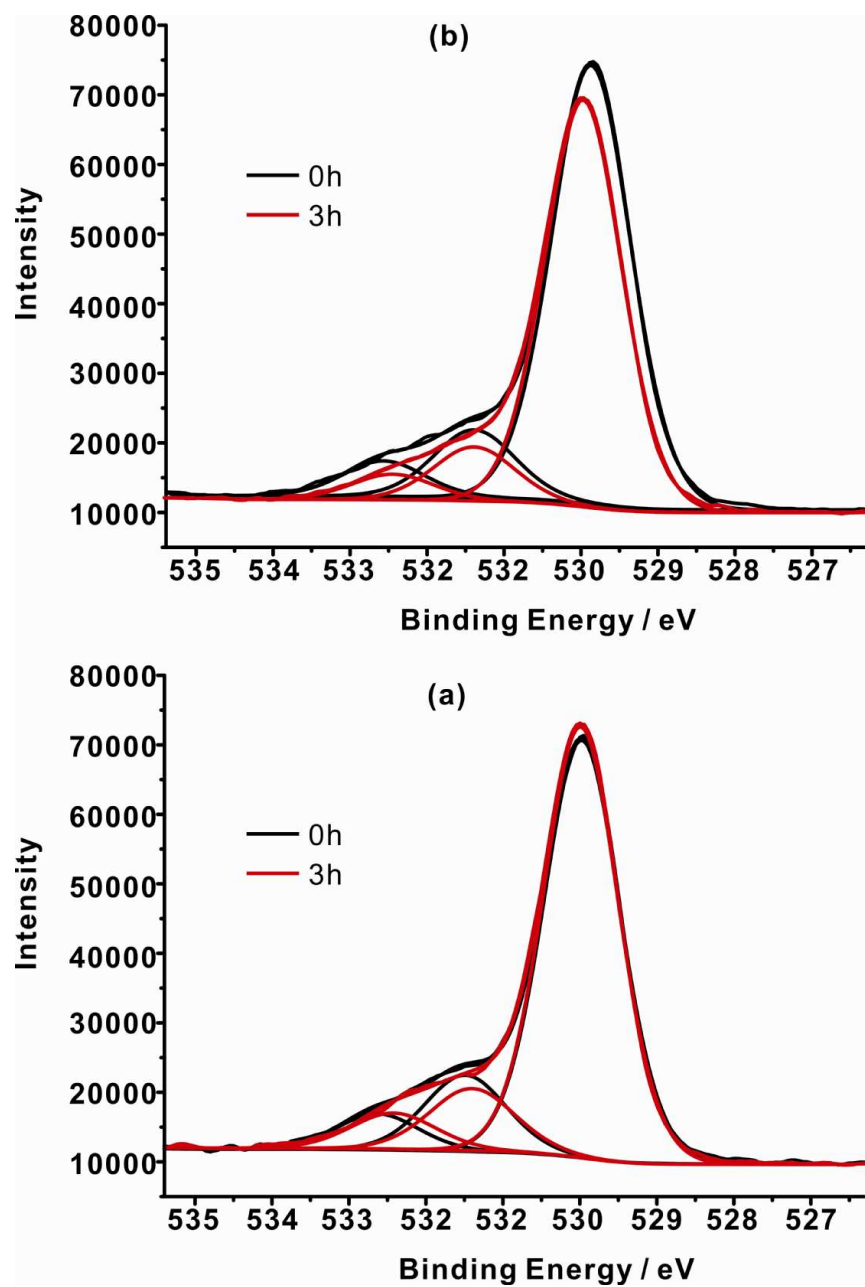


Figure S5. In-situ O 1s XPS spectra of (a) 3%Ag-doped and (b) (10%B, 3%Ag)-codoped  $\text{TiO}_2$  samples before (black lines) and after (red lines) UV-Vis irradiation for 3 h.