

Supplementary Materials



## Effect of Ag<sub>2</sub>S Nanocrystals/Reduced Graphene Oxide interface on Hydrogen Evolution Reaction.

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**Figure S1.** Electrochemical performance of different catalysts. The horizontal axis represents the overpotential. The vertical axis represents the Tafel slope. Performance of rGO-based chalcogenide metal semiconductor composites as electrocatalyst for hydrogen evolution reaction was shown in **Table S2**. Performance of Ag-based chalcogenide metal semiconductor as electrocatalyst for hydrogen evolution reaction is presented in **Table S3**.



Figure S2. EDS of Ag<sub>2</sub>S/rGO hybrid on glass substrate.



**Figure S3.** a. Changes in photoluminescence at different weight ratios of Ag<sub>2</sub>S to rGO. b. normalized changes in the PL signal as a function of Ag<sub>2</sub>S %. The fitting indicates a slight deviation from linearity.



**Figure S4. a.** Typical CV scans (1st and 1000th) of Ag2S/rGO. **b.** Durability tests of Ag2S/GO hybrid. The polarization curves were recorded before and after 1000 potential cycles in  $0.5 \text{ M H}_2\text{SO}_4$  aqueous solution from 0 to -0.7 V (vs RHE).



**Figure S5.** The XPS spectra of the Ag<sub>2</sub>S/rGO composite. **a.** Survey XPS spectrum of Ag<sub>2</sub>S/rGO composite before electro-catalyst reaction. **b.** Survey XPS spectrum of Ag<sub>2</sub>S/rGO composite after electro-catalyst reaction.



**Figure S6.** Tauc plots for Ag<sub>2</sub>S/rGO, Ag<sub>2</sub>S/GO, and Ag<sub>2</sub>S used for the extraction of the band gaps.

Sample	$A_1$	τ <sub>1</sub> (ns)	A <sub>2</sub>	τ <sub>2</sub> (ns)	A <sub>3</sub>	τ₃ (ns)	τ (ns)	Average (ns)
$Ag_2S_1$	908.3	108.4	3164.2	5.6	11685.1	0.5	7.7	
$Ag_2S_2$	803.9	115.2	2744.2	6.1	10694.2	0.5	8.0	
$Ag_2S_3$	776.8	114.5	2727.2	5.9	10618.9	0.5	7.8	7.8
$Ag_2S_4$	762.5	113.9	2640.2	6.1	10699.2	0.5	7.7	
$Ag_2S_5$	837.1	113.9	2834.4	6.2	11919.1	0.5	7.6	
Ag <sub>2</sub> S/rGO_1	814.2	75.0	3269.4	5.8	17918.0	0.6	4.1	
Ag <sub>2</sub> S/rGO_2	1003.6	77.9	4290.3	6.4	23758.3	0.7	4.2	
Ag <sub>2</sub> S/rGO_3	834.8	83.9	3020.2	6.9	19141.0	0.6	4.5	4.4
Ag <sub>2</sub> S/rGO_4	1068.8	85.2	3819.5	7.1	24718.7	0.6	4.5	
Ag <sub>2</sub> S/rGO_5	1077.0	84.3	3807.9	7.1	25250.6	0.6	4.4	

**Table S1.** The fluorescence lifetime of the Ag2S and the Ag2S/rGO.

<b>Table S2.</b> The performance of rGO-based chalcogenide metal semiconductor composites as
electrocatalyst for hydrogen evolution reaction.

Catalyst type	electrolyte	Overpotential	Tafel slope (mV/dec)	Year	Ref.
$(MoS_2)_x(SnO_2)_{1-}$ 	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	$263 \pm 5 \text{ mV}$	50.8 mV/dec	2018	[1]
Mo <sub>3</sub> S <sub>13</sub> -SrGO	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	244 mV	53 mV/dec	2018	[2]
Ni <sub>0.85</sub> Se@NGO	$0.5 \text{ M} \text{ H}_2 \text{SO}_4$	104 mV	50.7 mV/dec	2018	[3]
WSe <sub>2</sub> -rGO	$0.5 \text{ M} \text{ H}_2 \text{SO}_4$	100 mV	64 mV/dec	2018	[4]
CoS <sub>2</sub> /RGO	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	180 mV	75 mV/dec	2017	[5]
NiSe-RGO-PI/CNT	$0.5 \text{ M} \text{ H}_2 \text{SO}_4$	270 mV	61 mV/dec	2017	[6]
FeSe <sub>2</sub> /GO	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	250 mV	64 mV/dec	2017	[7]
WS <sub>3</sub> @x/rGO	1M KOH	465 mV	54 mV/dec	2017	[8]
MoS <sub>2</sub> /rGO	$0.5 \text{ M} \text{ H}_2 \text{SO}_4$	222 mV	59.8mV/dec	2017	[9]
MoSe <sub>2</sub> -rGO-M	$0.5 \text{ M} \text{ H}_2 \text{SO}_4$	310 mV	57 mV/dec	2017	[10]
MoS <sub>2</sub> /rGO	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	347 mV (η1)	48 mV/dec	2017	[11]
MoSSe@rGO	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	153 mV	51 mV/dec	2016	[12]
MoS <sub>2</sub> NF/rGO	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	190 mV	95 mV/dec	2014	[13]
Ag <sub>2</sub> S/rGO	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	120 mV	49.1 mV/dec		This work

Table S3. The performance of Ag<sub>2</sub>S-based composites for hydrogen evolution reaction.

Catalyst type	electrolyte	Overpotential	Tafel slope (mV/dec)	Year	Ref.
Ag <sub>2</sub> S/Ag	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	199 mV	102 mV/dec	2017	[14]
$Ag_2WS_4$	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	329 mV	62 mV/dec	2018	[15]
Ag <sub>2</sub> S/Ag	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	190 mV	120 mV/dec	2018	[16]
Ag <sub>2</sub> S	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	320 mV	86 mV/dec	2019	[17]
Ag <sub>2</sub> S/CuS	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	193 mV	75 mV/dec	2016	[18]
Ag <sub>2</sub> S/MoS <sub>2</sub>	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	110 mV	42 mV/dec	2017	[19]
Ag-Ag <sub>2</sub> S/MoS <sub>2</sub>	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	200 mV		2014	[20]
Ag <sub>2</sub> S/rGO	0.5 M H2SO4	120 mV	49.1 mV/dec		This work

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