Supramolecular Framework Catalyst Constructed by Iron Porphyrin Complexes for Photochemical CO₂ Reduction

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Molecule-based porous crystalline photocatalysts without noble metals are one of the most attractive systems for visible-light-driven CO_2 reduction. However, reports on this class of photocatalysts are still limited and their activities are quite low compared to those containing noble metals. Here, we report an iron-complex-based porous crystalline photocatalyst for CO_2 reduction with high activity, selectivity, and stability.

A key to our success is the introduction of the concept of supramolecular framework catalyst,¹ which are constructed by the selfassembly of discrete catalyst modules bearing catalytic site and intermolecular interaction sites via noncovalent interactions. Important feature of supramolecular framework catalysts is that three essential components for light-driven CO_2 reduction,



Figure 1. Structure and features of FeBPPy and FC1.

(i) photosensitizer, (ii) reaction field, and (iii) catalytic sites, can easily be incorporated into their structures in ordered fashion. In this study, we employed **FeBPPy** as a molecular module (Figure 1). **FeBPPy** contains an iron porphyrin scaffold, which can function as a catalytic site for CO₂ reduction, with pyrene moieties, which serve as both light-harvesting units and non-covalent interaction sites, at the *meso* positions. By a simple recrystallization technique, **FeBPPy** are self-assembled into the supramolecular framework catalyst (**FC1**).²

Photocatalytic CO₂ reduction of **FC1** was conducted under visible-light irradiation (400 $\leq \lambda \leq 750$ nm) in a CO₂ saturated MeCN containing the suspension of **FC1** as a photocatalyst, 0.2 M TFE as a proton source and 0.2 M BIH as a sacrificial electron donor. After 24 h, the formation of CO (697.3 mmol g⁻¹, selectivity 99.9%) was confirmed. The production rate was 29,100 µmol g⁻¹ h⁻¹, which is more than 100 times higher than those of current best-in-class porous-crystalline-solid-based photocatalysts without noble metals. The performance of the **FC1** is also excellent in terms of apparent quantum yield for CO production (0.596% at 400 nm) and stability (up to 96 h).³ The details of the control experiment, durability test, and mechanistic investigation will be discussed in the presentation.

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