

Supporting Information

Photoelectrochemical measurement

Photoelectrochemical experiments were conducted by adopting the traditional three-electrode system, where the platinum sheet was used as the counter electrode and the Ag/AgCl electrode as the reference electrode. The working electrode preparation process was as follows: 5 mg of catalyst was dispersed in 0.8 mL DMF with sustained ultrasound to form the uniform suspension, then 20 μL of the suspension was dropwise added onto a FTO glass electrode (illumination area, 0.5 cm*0.5 cm) and dried naturally at the room temperature. The photocurrent measurement was accomplished on a CHI 660D electrochemical workstation (Shanghai, China), with UV lamp as the light source and the shutter devices as the timing switch of light on/off, and the electrolyte was 0.2 mol/L Na_2SO_4 . The Nyquist plots were performed with sinusoidal perturbation amplitude of 10 mV and frequency range from 100 MHz to 0.01 Hz in dark.

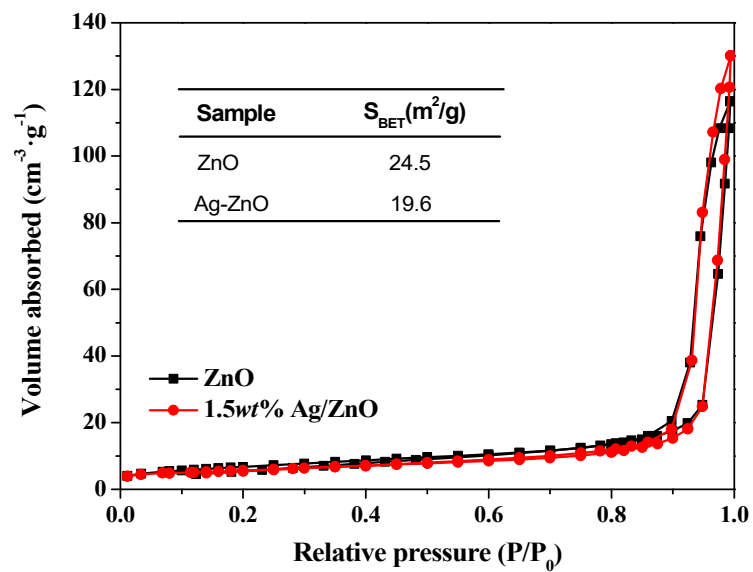


Figure S1. The N_2 adsorption-desorption isotherms for ZnO and 1.5 wt% Ag-ZnO

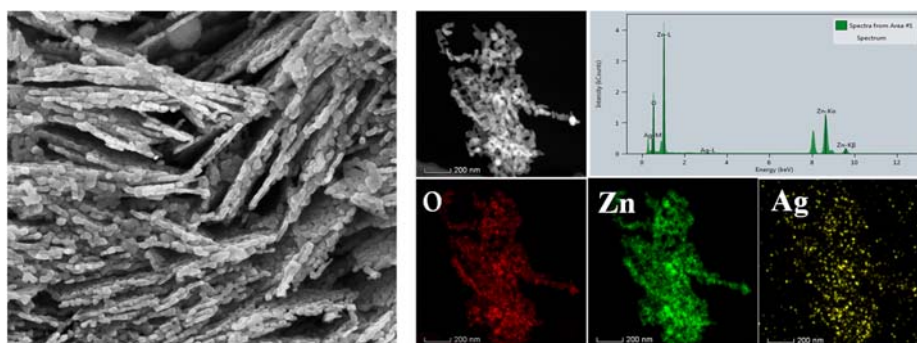


Figure S2. SEM image and EDX spectrum for 1.5 wt% Ag-ZnO after reaction

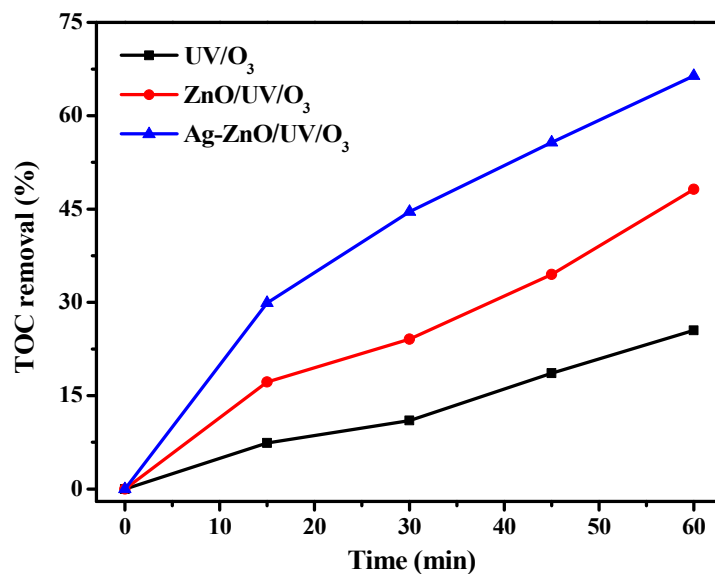


Figure S3. Mineralization of tetracycline hydrochloride in different oxidation processes, Gaseous [O₃]: 10 mg/L; O₃ flow rate: 50 mL/min; catalyst dosage: 0.5 g/L; tetracycline hydrochloride: 80 mg/L

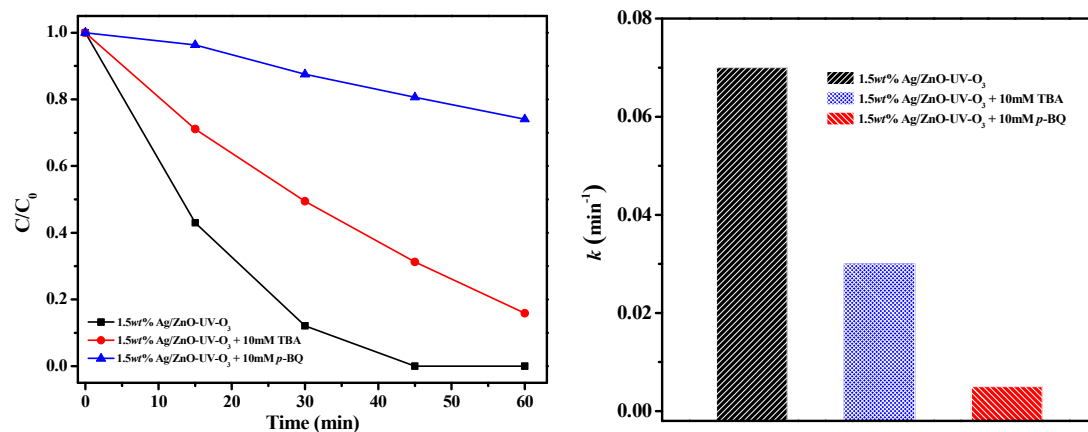


Figure S4. Radical trapping experiments in photocatalytic ozonation process using 1.5 wt% Ag/ZnO as a catalyst. Reaction conditions: [Phenol]₀ = 50 mg/L; catalyst loading = 0.5 g/L; ozone flow rate = 50 mL/min; ozone concentration = 10 mg/L.

Table S1. Recent reports on ZnO-based catalyst for phenol removal

Catalysts	Measurement conditions	Performance	Ref
ZnO	Catalyst dosage: 1.0 g/L; [phenol]: 100 mg/L; Ozone dosage: 0.50 mg/min; Reaction time: 60 min	Degradation: 66%	<i>Bulletin of the Korean Chemical Society</i> , 2012, 33, 215-220
Pt-SiO ₂ -ZnO	Catalyst dosage: 1.0 g/L; [phenol]: 100 mg/L; Light source: 150-Watts mercury lamp; Reaction time: 60 min;	Degradation: 100%	<i>International Journal of Photoenergy</i> , 2012, 103672
Fe ₃ O ₄ /ZnO	Catalyst dosage: 0.325 g/L; Reaction time: 150 min; Light source: 575 W metal halide lamp	Degradation: 82% (k=0.0057 min ⁻¹)	<i>Chemical Engineering Journal</i> , 2014, 244, 327-334
Ag ₂ SO ₄ /ZnO	Catalyst dosage: 0.5 g/L; [phenol]: 40 mg/L. Reaction time: 300 min; Light source: 80 W outdoor lamp	Degradation: 35% (k=0.01 min ⁻¹)	<i>Desalination and Water Treatment</i> , 2015, 1072954
ZnO@SiO ₂	Catalyst dosage: 0.5 g/L; [phenol]: 50 mg/L. Reaction time: 120 min; Light source: 48 W UV-C lamp	Degradation: 94%	<i>Environmental Science and Pollution Research</i> , 2017, 24, 12655-12663
BiOI/ZnO	Catalyst dosage: 1.0 g/L; [phenol]: 25 mg/L. Reaction time: 120 min; Light source: 500 W xenon lamp	Degradation: 98% (k=0.03 min ⁻¹)	<i>Journal of Colloid and Interface Science</i> , 2017, 494, 130-138
Ag-ZnO/MWCNT	Catalyst dosage: 1.0 g/L; [phenol]: 100 mg/L. Reaction time: 60 min; Light source: UV-A Lamp	Degradation: 81%	<i>Materials Science in Semiconductor Processing</i> , 2018, 83, 175-185
Ag-ZnO	Catalyst dosage: 1.5 g/L; [phenol]: 50 mg/L. Reaction time: 120 min; Light source: 24 W, 365 nm	Degradation: 99% (k=0.048 min ⁻¹)	<i>Applied Catalysis B: Environmental</i> , 2018, 225, 197-206
ZrO ₂ -ZnO	Catalyst dosage: 1.0 g/L; [phenol]: 50 mg/L. Reaction time: 120 min; Light source: Ultra-Vitalux lamp, 300W	Degradation: 74% Mineralization: 51%	<i>Journal of Nanomaterials</i> , 2019, 1015876
Ag-ZnO	Catalyst dosage: 0.5 g/L; [O ₃]: 10 mg/L; O ₃ flow rate: 50 mL/min; [phenol]: 50 mg/L. Reaction time: 60 min; Light source: 18 W G6 T 5, 365 nm	Degradation: 100% (k=0.07 min ⁻¹) Mineralization: 62%	<i>This study</i>

Table S2 ICP analysis of Ag/ZnO samples

Samples	0.5wt% Ag/ZnO	1.0wt% Ag/ZnO	1.5wt% Ag/ZnO	2.0wt% Ag/ZnO	2.5wt% Ag/ZnO
Ag loading amount (wt%)	0.45	0.93	1.41	1.87	2.32