## **Supporting Information**

## Photo-thermal coupling to enhance CO<sub>2</sub> hydrogenation toward CH<sub>4</sub> over Ru/MnO/Mn<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>

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Supplementary Fig. 1 SEM image of (a)  $Ru/MnO_x$ ; (b) The elemental mapping of  $Ru/MnO_x$ .



**Supplementary Fig. 2** The high angle annular dark-field scanning transmission electron microscope (HAADF-STEM) image of the Ru/MnO<sub>x</sub> catalyst.



Supplementary Fig. 3 Rietveld refinement result of XRD patterns: (a)  $MnO_x$ ; (b)  $Ru/MnO_x$ .



Supplementary Fig. 4 FT-IR spectra of  $MnO_x$  and  $Ru/MnO_x$ .



Supplementary Fig. 5 Raman spectra of  $MnO_x$  and  $Ru/MnO_x$ .



Supplementary Fig. 6  $CO_2$  adsorption isotherms of  $MnO_x$  and  $Ru/MnO_x$ .



Supplementary Fig. 7  $N_2$  adsorption-desorption isotherms of (a)  $MnO_x$ ; (b)  $Ru/MnO_x$ .



**Supplementary Fig. 8** (a-b) High-resolution Mn 2p XPS spectra of MnO<sub>x</sub> and Ru/MnO<sub>x</sub>; (c) High-resolution Ru 3p XPS spectra of Ru/MnO<sub>x</sub>; (d) XPS survey spectrum of Ru/MnO<sub>x</sub>.



**Supplementary Fig. 9** (a) Photograph of the apparatus setup for photo-thermal CO<sub>2</sub> experiments in the batch reactor; (b) Schematic illustration of the photo-thermal reactor; (c) and (d) Schematic illustration of the heating system.



**Supplementary Fig. 10** (a) Infrared thermal images captured for the catalyst surface temperature under 2.5 W cm<sup>-2</sup> irradiation, 0.1 MPa and external heating (Set temperature: 200 °C); (b)The temperature at the bottom of the catalyst, measured using a commercially available thermochromic temperature indicator.



**Supplementary Fig. 11** Influence of total pressure on CH<sub>4</sub> evolution rate over Ru/MnO<sub>x</sub>; Reaction conditions: 15 mg of catalyst, full-arc 300 W UV-xenon lamp, 2.5 W cm<sup>-2</sup>, 200 °C, irradiation time 4 hours,  $H_2/CO_2 = 4/1$ .



**Supplementary Fig. 12** Control experiments for Ru/MnO<sub>x</sub> under various conditions. Reaction conditions: 15 mg of catalyst, full-arc 300 W UV-xenon lamp, 2.5 W cm<sup>-2</sup>, 200 °C, irradiation time 4 hours, initial pressure 1 MPa ( $H_2/CO_2 = 4/1$ ).



**Supplementary Fig. 13** The images of (a) the photo-thermal catalytic performance evaluation process carried out in the flow reaction system and (b) the fixed-bed quartz tube reactor. (c) Dimensions of the fixed-bed quartz tube reactor.



**Supplementary Fig. 14** Temperature-dependent space time yield of  $CH_4$  over  $Ru/MnO_x$  under photothermal (a) and thermal (b) conditions. Reaction conditions: 150 mg of catalyst, full-arc 300 W UV-xenon lamp, 2.5 W cm<sup>-2</sup>, initial pressure 0.1 MPa,  $CO_2/H_2$  mixture flow (10 mL min<sup>-1</sup>/40 mL min<sup>-1</sup>).



**Supplementary Fig. 15** The photothermal catalytic performance of Ru/MnO<sub>x</sub> catalyst in a fixed-bed reactor. Reaction conditions: 150 mg of catalyst, full-arc 300 W UV-xenon lamp, 2.5 W cm<sup>-2</sup>, 200 °C, initial pressure 0.1 MPa,  $CO_2/H_2$  mixture flow (20 mL min<sup>-1</sup>/80 mL min<sup>-1</sup>).



Supplementary Fig. 16 TEM image of  $Ru/MnO_x$  after reaction of 20 h at 200 °C under photothermal condition in the fixed-bed reactor.



Supplementary Fig. 17 TG-MS analysis of Ru/MnO<sub>x</sub> after reaction of 20 h at 200  $^{\circ}$ C under photothermal condition in the fixed-bed reactor.



**Supplementary Fig. 18** XPS spectra of  $Ru/MnO_x$  after reaction in 4 h at 200 °C in the batch reactor: (a) High-resolution of Mn 2*p* XPS spectra; (b) High-resolution of Ru 3*p* XPS spectra.



Supplementary Fig. 19 Infrared thermal images captured for (a)  $MnO_x$  and (b)  $Ru/MnO_x$  under 2.5 W cm<sup>-2</sup> illumination.



Supplementary Fig. 20 TRPL spectra of  $MnO_x$  and  $Ru/MnO_x$ .



Supplementary Fig. 21 The periodic on/off photocurrent response spectra of  $MnO_x$  and  $Ru/MnO_x$ .



Supplementary Fig. 22 (a) Mott–Schottky plots of the  $MnO_x$ ; (b) The bandgap value of the  $MnO_x$ .



Supplementary Fig. 23 The work function of Ru and band structures of  $MnO_x$ .



Supplementary Fig. 24 The different time of variable temperature XRD results in 20%  $CO_2/H_2$  atmosphere at 200 °C: (a)  $MnO_x$ ; (b)  $Ru/MnO_x$ .



**Supplementary Fig. 25** Influence of various manganese oxide on CH<sub>4</sub> evolution rate. Reaction conditions: 15 mg of catalyst, full-arc 300 W UV-xenon lamp, 2.5 W cm<sup>-2</sup>, 200 °C, irradiation time 4 hours, initial pressure 1 MPa ( $H_2/CO_2 = 1/1$ ).



Supplementary Fig. 26 Infrared thermal images captured for  $WO_3$  under 0.3 W cm<sup>-2</sup> illumination.



**Supplementary Fig. 27** XPS spectra of Ru/MnO<sub>x</sub> in 20% CO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub> atmosphere under variable time at 200 °C: (a) High-resolution of Mn 2*p* XPS spectra; (b) High-resolution of Ru 3*p* XPS spectra.



**Supplementary Fig. 28** XPS spectra of Ru/MnO<sub>x</sub> after reacting at 200 °C for 4 h in a 20% CO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub> atmosphere: (a) High-resolution of Mn 2*p* XPS spectra; (b) High-resolution of Ru 3*p* XPS spectra.



**Supplementary Fig. 29** Spectra of FT-IR study of  $Ru/MnO_x$  at different conditions: (a) Effect of different temperature under thermal condition; (b) Effect of different temperature under photothermal conditions.



**Supplementary Fig. 30** Spectra of FT-IR study of Ru/MnO<sub>x</sub> at different conditions: (a) Effect of different time at 200 °C under thermal condition; (b) Effect of different time at 200 °C under photothermal conditions.



Supplementary Fig. 31 Calculation model of (a)  $Ru/Mn_3O_4$  (321), (b)  $Ru/Mn_3O_{4-x}$  (321) and (c) Ru/MnO (200).



**Supplementary Fig. 32** Adsorption configurations of all the involved species on  $Ru/Mn_3O_4$  (321). The blue, red, purple, yellow, and green spheres represent the Mn, O, Ru, C, and H atoms, respectively.



**Supplementary Fig. 33** Adsorption configurations of all the involved species on  $Ru/Mn_3O_{4-x}$  (321). The blue, red, purple, yellow, and green spheres represent the Mn, O, Ru, C, and H atoms, respectively.



**Supplementary Fig. 34** Adsorption configurations of all the involved species on Ru/MnO (200). The blue, red, purple, yellow, and green spheres represent the Mn, O, Ru, C, and H atoms, respectively.



**Supplementary Fig. 35** The calculated (a) densities of states and (b) projected densities of states for Ru/Mn<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4-x</sub> under dark and light conditions. Fermi levels are at 0 eV.

Catalyst	Ru (wt%)	RuCl <sub>3</sub> ·3H <sub>2</sub> O addition (mmol)		
1.4%Ru/MnO <sub>x</sub>	1.4	0.02		
2.8%Ru/MnOx	2.8	0.04		
4.0%Ru/MnO <sub>x</sub>	4.0	0.06		
5.8%Ru/MnO <sub>x</sub>	5.8	0.08		
7.3%Ru/MnO <sub>x</sub>	7.3	0.1		
8.1%Ru/MnO <sub>x</sub>	8.1	0.12		

Supplementary Table 1 ICP-OES analysis of Ru/MnO<sub>x</sub>.

Sample		MnO <sub>x</sub>		Ru/MnO <sub>x</sub>			
Phase	Mn <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	MnOOH	MnO <sub>2</sub>	Mn <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	MnOOH	MnO <sub>2</sub>	
Abundance (%)	69.023	25.976	5.002	72.528	27.544	0.928	
Space group	I41/amd	P-3m1	C12/m1	I41/amd	P-3m1	C12/m1	
a (Å)	5.7702(4)	3.2031(16)	5.1657(61)	5.7698(2)	3.2016(17)	5.1657(61)	
b(Å)	5.7702(4)	3.2031(16)	2.8645(61)	5.7698(2)	3.2016(17)	2.8645(33)	
c(Å)	9.4544(9)	4.6199(9)	7.0860(32)	9.4490(5)	4.6141(7)	7.0860(32)	
Volume(Å <sup>3</sup> )	314.796(62)	41.050(42)	104.17(18)	314.569(31)	40.959(44)	104.17(18)	
$\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{wp}}$		1.62%		1.71%			
R <sub>p</sub>		1.25%		1.33%			
GOF		1.34		1.33			

Supplementary Table 2 Crystal parameters and reliability factors of the refinement for  $MnO_x$  and  $Ru/MnO_x$ .

Metal loading H <sub>2</sub> :CO <sub>2</sub> Pr	Pressure	T . 1.	Light intensity	Temperature	CH <sub>4</sub> production rate	CO <sub>2</sub> conversion	CH <sub>4</sub> selectivity	TOF	D C		
Catalysts	(wt%)	ratio	(Mpa)	Light sources	(W cm <sup>-2</sup> )	(°C)	$(\text{mmol } g^{-1} h^{-1})$	(%)	(%)	(h <sup>-1</sup> )	Ref
Ru/MnO <sub>x</sub>	7.3	4:1	1	300 W Xe lamp 200-1100 nm	2.5	200 (external heater)	166.7	66.8	99.5	232	This work
$\begin{array}{c} \text{Co}_7\text{Cu}_1\text{Mn}_1\text{O}\\ \text{x}(200) \end{array}$		3:1	0.1	300 W Xe lamp 300-1100 nm	0.234	200 (external heater)	14.5	27.45	85.3		1
$Ru/Al_2O_3$	2.4	4:1	0.08	1000 W Xe lamp	—	396	115	0.95	99.2	484	2
Cu <sub>2</sub> O/Graphe ne		4:1	0.13	300 W Xe lamp	0.2	250 (external heater)	14.93 (Cu)	2.84	99	0.256	3
$Ru@Ni_2V_2O_7$	0.35	4:1	0.067	300 W Xe lamp	2	350	114.9	96.3	99.3	3340	4
Ru/Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub>	11.5	1:1	0.1	300 W Xe lamp	1.8		44.85	1.68	69.5	56.7	5
Rh/Al	5	3:1	1.5	300 W Xe lamp	11.3	200 (external heater)	550	_	99	1132	6
21%Co/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.21	4:1	0.1	300 W Xe lamp 200-1100 nm	1.3	292	6.04	—	97.7	1.74	7
Ru-TiO <sub>x</sub>	1.77	4:1	—	300 W Xe lamp	2	276	22.35	—	99.99	12.76	8
Ir@UiO66	0.14	4:1	0.1	300 W Xe lamp	2.3	250 (external heater)	19.9 (Flow reactor)	9.3	95	2876	9
8 % Ru/SiO <sub>2</sub>	0.8	6:1	—	300 W Xe lamp	0.063	300 (external heater)	55.44 (Flow reactor)	51.8	99	70	10
Ru-Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3-x</sub> -L	0.7	4:1	0.1	300 W Xe lamp	2.27	236	0.84	86.47	99	1248	11
Ru/H <sub>x</sub> MoO <sub>3-y</sub>	4	1:1	—	300 W Xe lamp Vis-IR	0.75	140 (external heater)	20.8 (Flow reactor)	—	99	52.6	12

Supplementary Table 3 The summarized CH<sub>4</sub> yields for recently reported photo-thermo-catalysts.

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