



Supplementary Material

Preparation and Characterization of Defective TiO₂. The Effect of the Reaction Environment on Titanium Vacancies Formation.

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In the Figure S1 are presented SEM images for pure TiO₂-TBT (a,b) and TBT-HIO₃_50 (c,d).

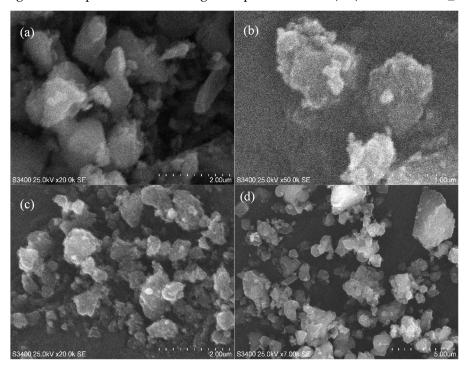


Figure S1. SEM analysis of pure TiO₂-TBT (a,b) and defective TBT-HIO₃_50 (c,d) photocatalysts.

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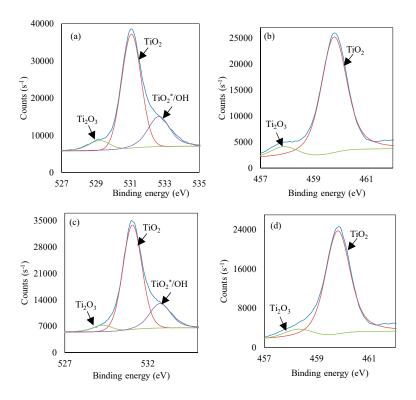


Figure S2. Deconvolution of X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) for Ti $2p_{3/2}$ and O 1s for TBT-HIO₃_50 before (a,b) and after phenol photodegradation (c,d).

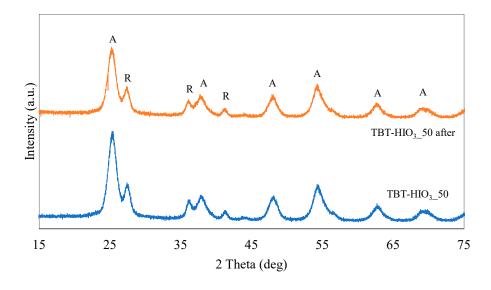


Figure S3. XRD patterns for defective TBT-HIO₃_50 photocatalyst before and after a photocatalytic phenol degradation (A–anatase, R–rutile).

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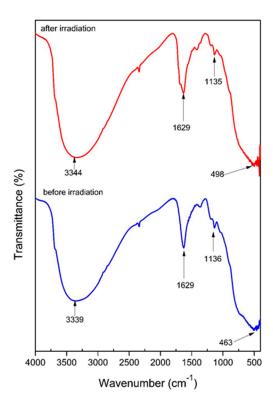


Figure S4. Fast-Fourier transformation spectroscopy (FTIR) spectra of defective TBT-HIO₃_50 before and after phenol photodegradation.

Table S1. Fraction of oxidation states of Ti as well as surface composition of defective TBT-HIO₃_50 photocatalyst before and after phenol degradation.

| Photocatalyst | Ti 2p3/2 (%) | | O 1s (%) |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|
| | Ti ⁴⁺ | Ti ³⁺ | O 18 (%) |
| TBT-HIO ₃ _50 | 26.94 | 1.23 | 71.83 |
| TBT-HIO ₃ _50 after | 26.74 | 1.45 | 71.81 |



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