

MXENE BASED SCHOTTKY-JUNCTIONS FOR UNASSISTED PHOTOELECTROCHEMICAL WATER SPLITTING

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The development of high performance self-powered photoelectrochemical (PEC) water splitting is greatly impacted by the screening of photoelectrodes with appropriate Fermi level difference. This work involved the merging of the Ti₃C₂/BiVO₄ and Ti₃C₂/g-C₃N₄ based photoanodes and Ti₃C₂/MoS₂ and Ti₃C₂/BiOI based photocathodes to create a dual-photoelectrode unassisted system for PEC water splitting. X-ray diffraction (XRD) and Scanning electron microscopic (SEM) analysis confirmed the structural and morphological analysis of fabricated photoanodes and photocathodes. MXene (Ti₃C₂) nanosheets produced distinctive Schottky junctions when combined with semiconductors (BiVO₄, g-C₃N₄, BiOI and MoS₂). These junctions modified Fermi energy levels, assisted in the separation of electron-hole pairs and increased light absorption and resulted in efficient conversion of water into hydrogen (H₂) and oxygen (O₂), analyzed through linear sweep voltammetry (LSV). The fabricated Ti₃C₂ MXene based Schottky junctions offered a base for the innovative building of dual-photoelectrode internal driven, independent of power, PEC water splitting platform with excellent performance.

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