

ADVANCED MATERIALS

Supporting Information

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Simultaneous Enhancement of Charge Separation and Hole
Transportation in a TiO_2 - SrTiO_3 Core-Shell Nanowire
Photoelectrochemical System

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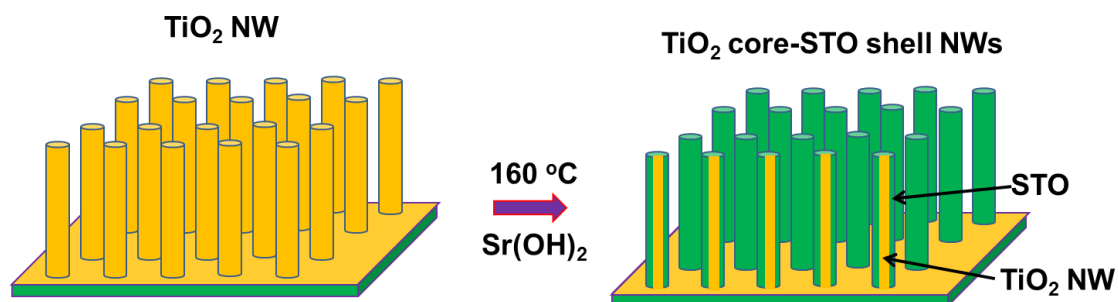


Figure S1. Schematic fabrication process of TiO₂/STO core-shell NWs

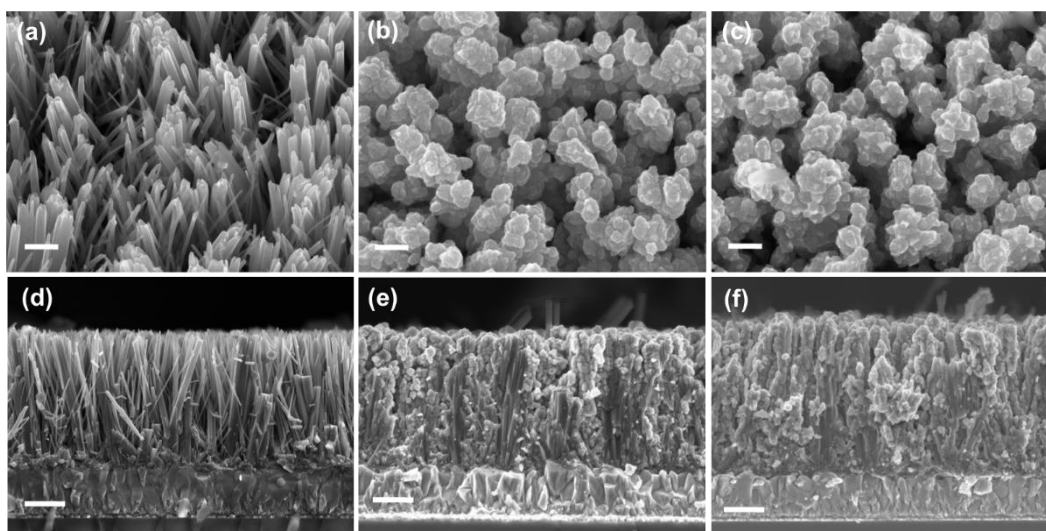


Figure S2. (a-c) 15°-tilted view and (d-f) cross-sectional SEM images of TiO₂/STO NWs obtained after 1-hour (a,d), 3-hour (b,e) and 4-hour (c,f) hydrothermal conversion at 160 °C. Scale bars: 200 nm (tilted-view) and 500 nm (cross-sectional).

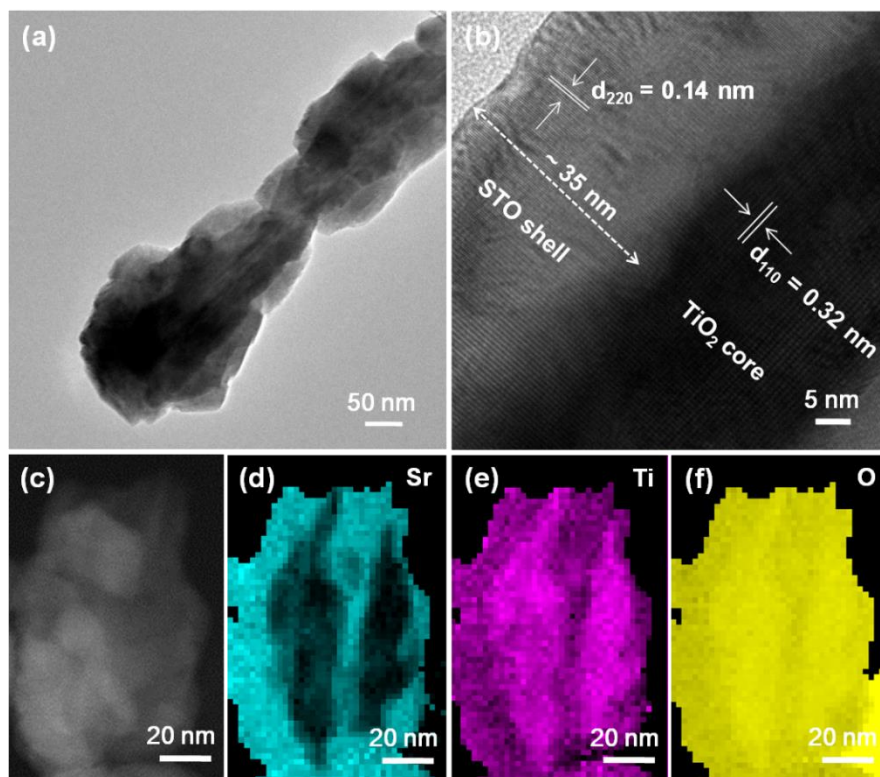


Figure S3. Structural and elemental characterizations of the TiO₂ core-STO shell NW prepared at 160 °C for 4h (35 nm STO shell thickness). **(a)** Representative TEM image of a TiO₂/35 nm STO NW. **(b)** HRTEM images of the TiO₂/35 nm STO NW along the edge, showing a single-crystalline STO shell with a thickness ~35 nm. The clear lattice fringes with spacing of 0.14 and 0.32 nm are indexed to the (220) plane of STO and (110) plane of the rutile TiO₂, respectively. **(c)** STEM image of the tip region of a TiO₂/35 nm STO NW. **(d-f)** Corresponding EELS elemental mapping of Sr **(d)**, Ti **(e)** and O **(f)**, respectively.

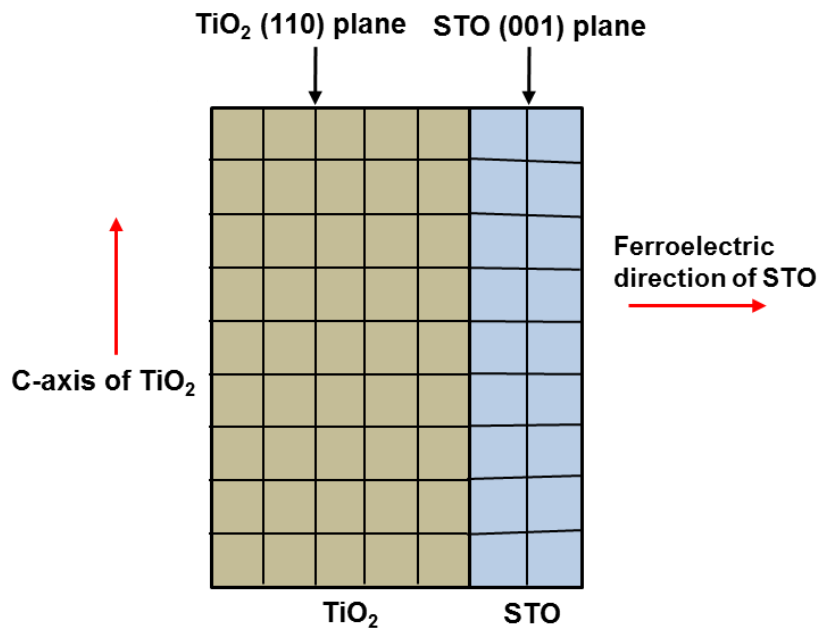


Figure S4. Schematic illustration of the relationship between c-axis of TiO₂ and the ferroelectric polarization direction of STO.

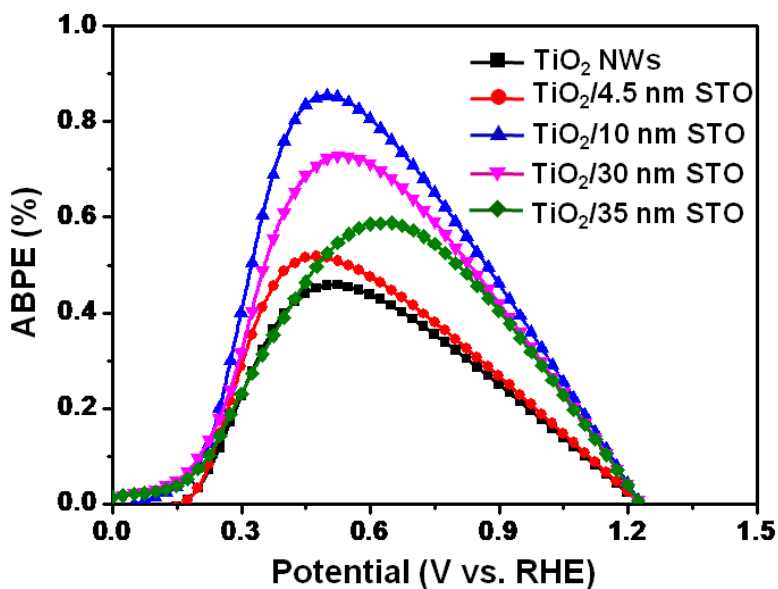


Figure S5. Applied bias photon-to-current efficiency (ABPE) as a function of applied potential obtained using a three-electrode system.

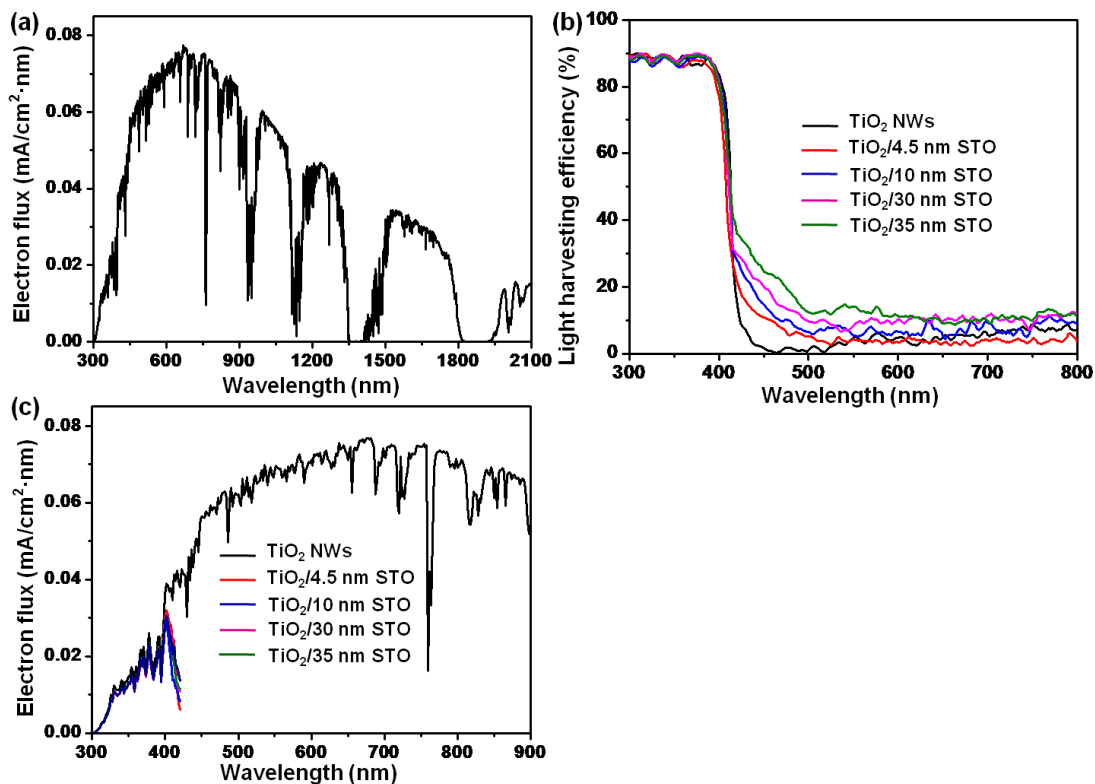


Figure S6. (a) Electron flux of AM 1.5G solar spectrum. (b) The light harvesting efficiencies (η_{LHE}) calculated from the absorption data (η_{ABS}) shown in (a) via the equation $\eta_{LHE} = (1 - 10^{-\eta_{ABS}}) \times 100\%$. (c) Electron flux of the pristine TiO₂ NW and TiO₂/4.5, 10, 30 and 35 nm STO core-shell NW photoanodes.

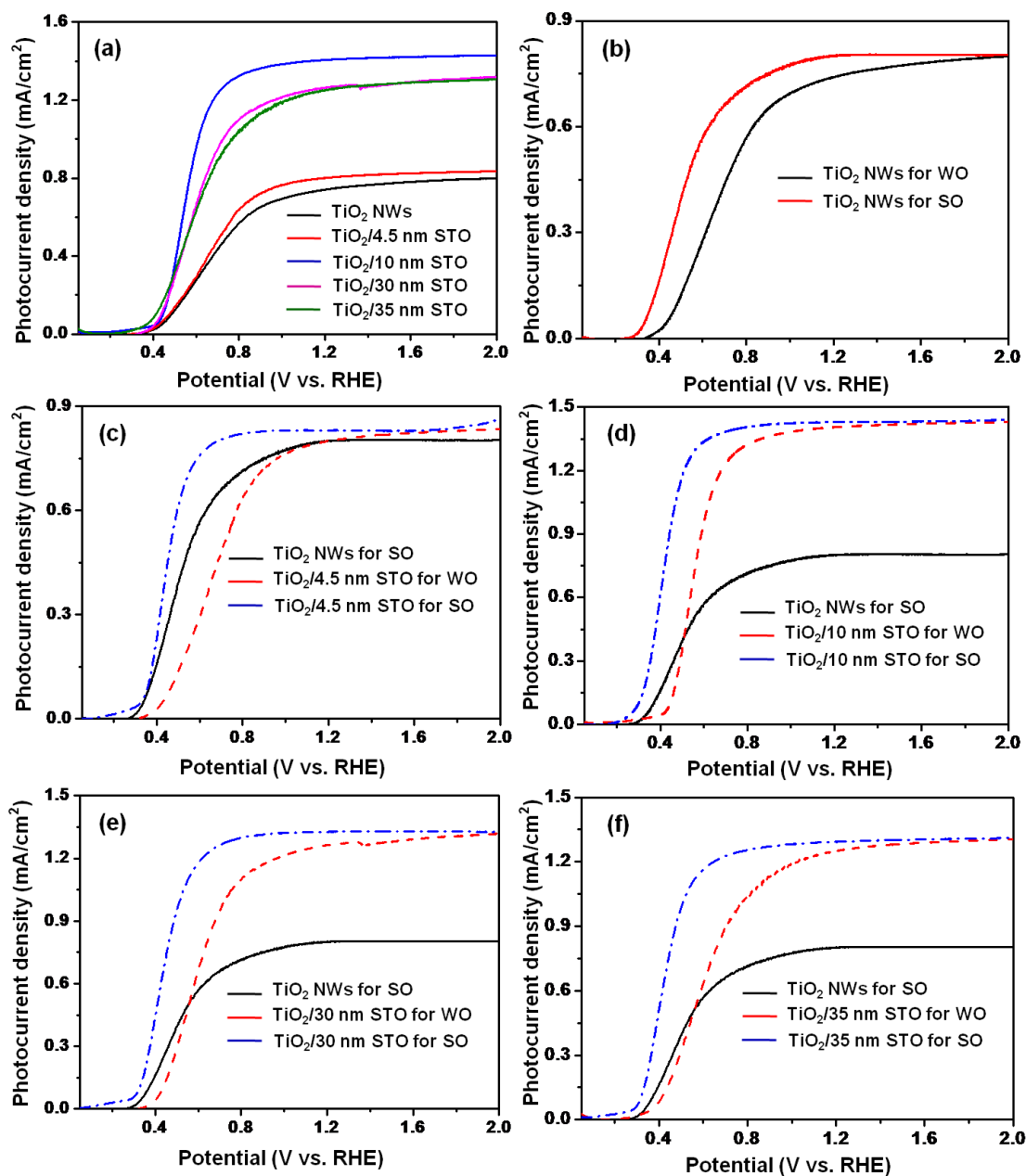


Figure S7. (a) *J-V* curves of the pristine TiO₂ NW array and TiO₂/STO core-shell NW arrays with four different STO thickness for water oxidation (WO) measured in a 0.5 M phosphate buffer (pH = 7) under AM 1.5 G illumination (100 mW/cm²). (b-f) Comparison of *J-V* curves measured for WO and in a 0.5 M phosphate buffer (pH = 7) and sulfite oxidation (SO) measured in a 0.5 M phosphate buffer with 1 M Na₂SO₃ (pH = 7) as the hole scavenger under AM 1.5 G illumination. Comparisons were made between the pristine TiO₂ NW arrays (b) and TiO₂-STO core/shell NW arrays with STO thickness of 4.5 (c), 10 (d), 30 (e) and 35 (f) nm.

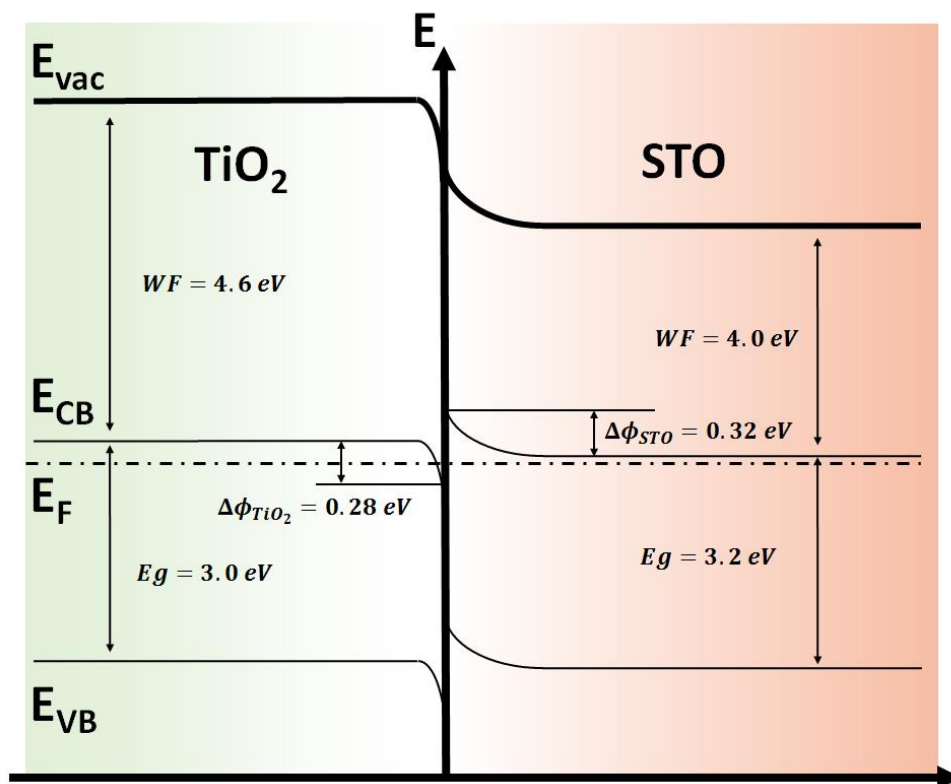


Figure S8. Schematic band structure at the TiO_2/STO interface.

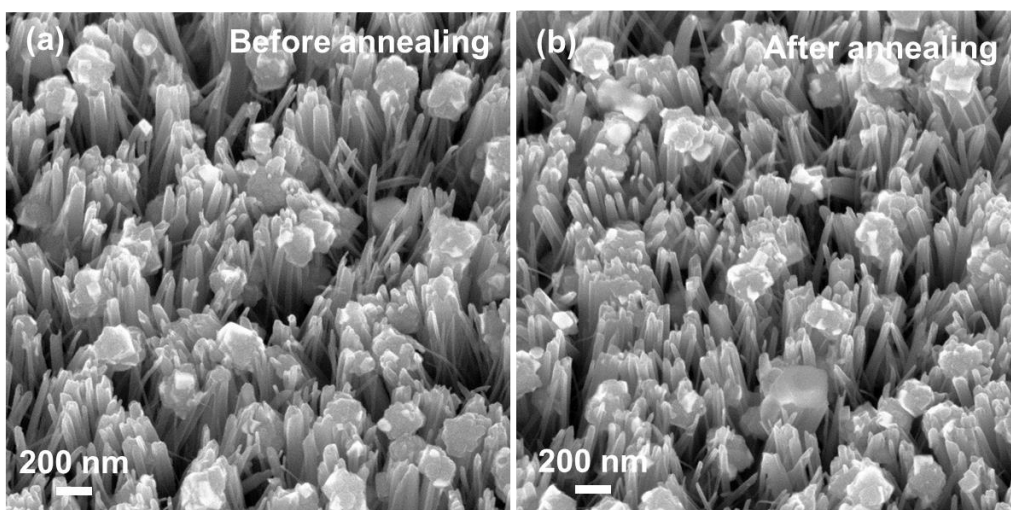


Figure S9. SEM images of TiO₂/10 nm STO NWs before (a) and after (b) annealing at 500 °C for 1 hours.

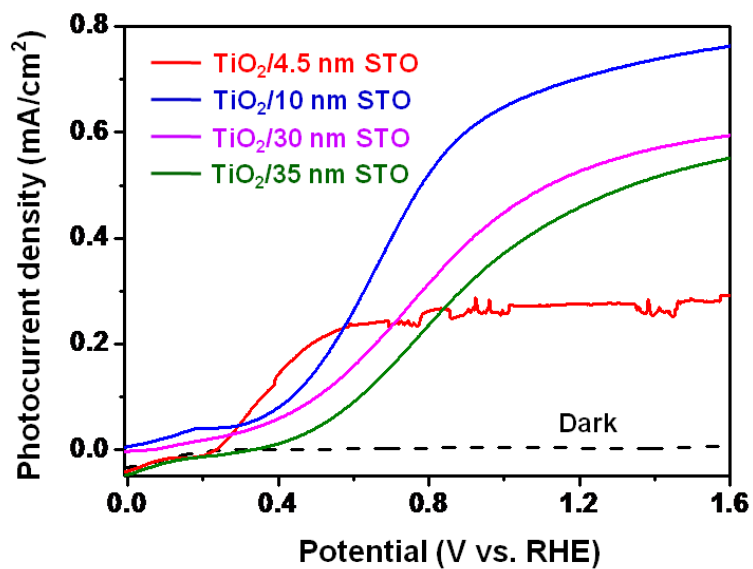


Figure S10. *J-V* curves of the TiO₂/4.5, 10, 30 and 35 nm STO annealed at 500 °C for 1h.

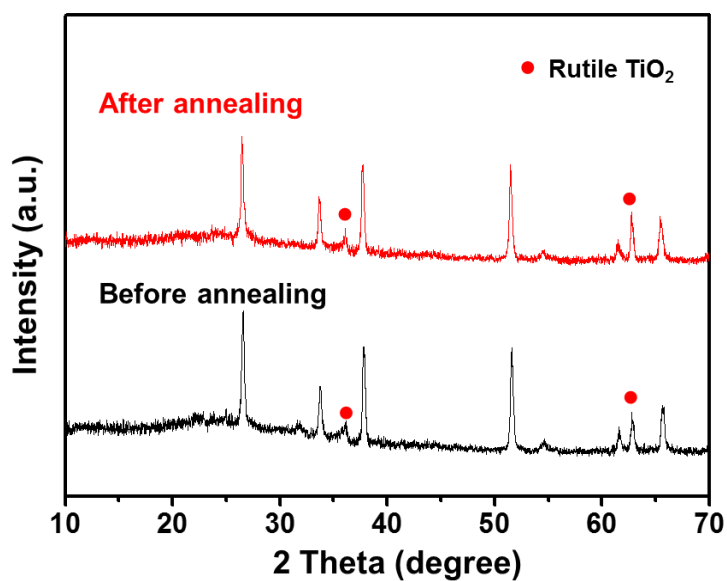


Figure S11. XRD of TiO₂ NWs before (black) and after (red) annealing at 500 °C for 1 hours.

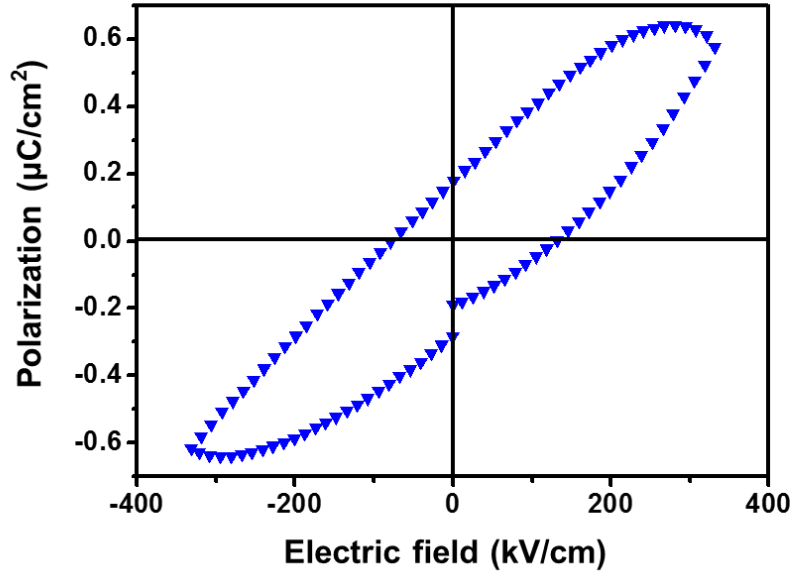


Figure S12. Polarization-electric field loop of the TiO₂/35 nm STO NWs.

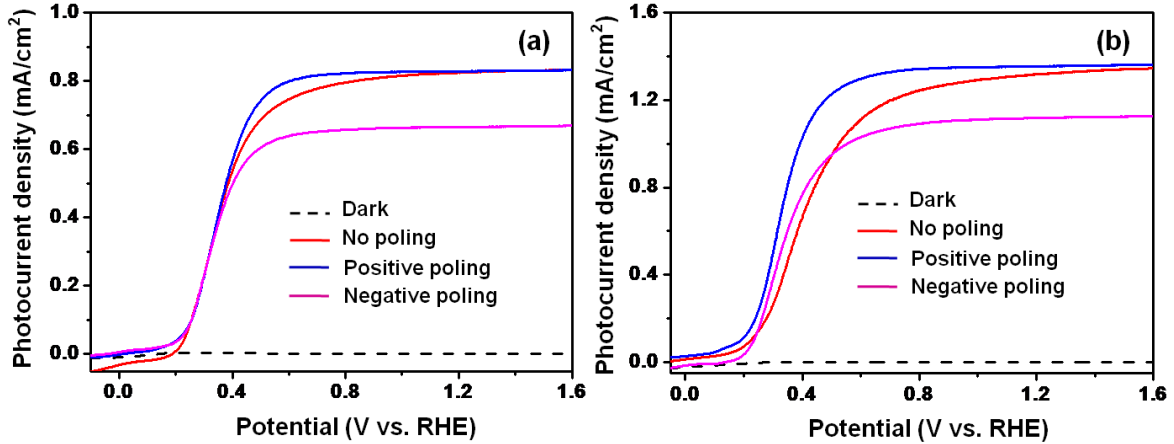


Figure S13. *J-V* curves of the as-prepared (red), positively poled (blue) and negatively poled (magenta) TiO₂ core-STO shell NW arrays prepared at 160 °C with the STO thickness of 4.5 nm (a) and 30 nm (b) measured in a 1 M NaOH solution (pH = 13.6) under AM 1.5 G illumination (100 mW/cm²) using three electrode setup. The as-prepared samples were poled under ± 10 V in air.