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## Electronic Supporting Information

# Zn-doped Fe<sub>2</sub>TiO<sub>5</sub> Pseudobrookite-based Photoanodes Grown by Aerosol-Assisted Chemical Vapor Deposition

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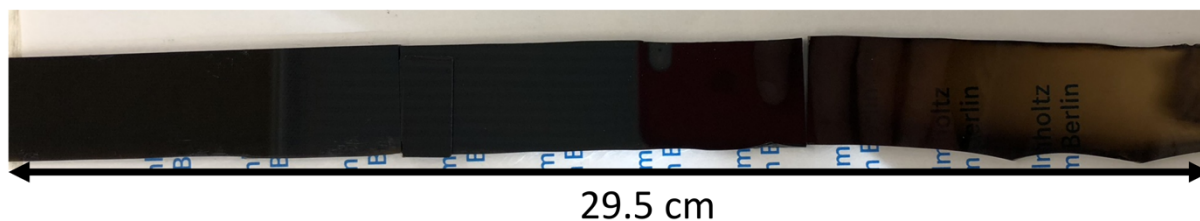


Figure S1. Representative photograph of as-deposited film on FTO-coated glass (Fe-Ti-O film prepared at 450 °C for 1 h by AA-CVD).

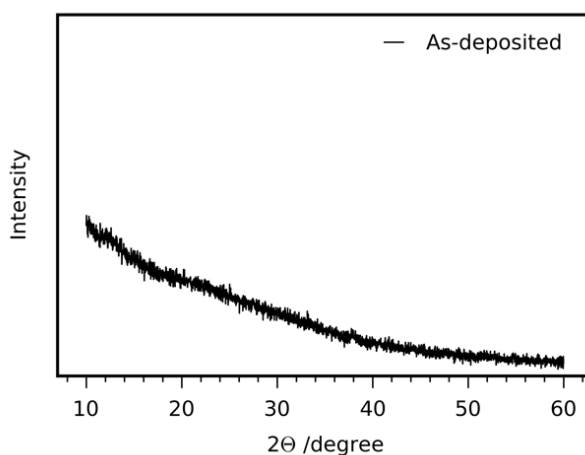


Figure S2. XRD pattern of as-deposited Fe-Ti-O at 450°C for 1h.

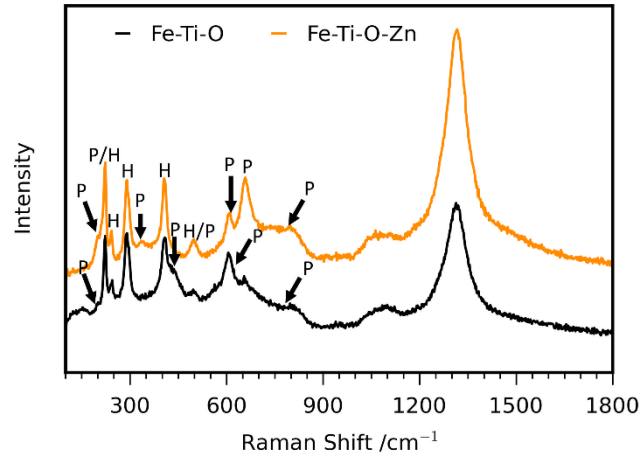


Figure S3. Raman spectra of Fe-Ti-O-Zn and Fe-Ti-O. P:  $\text{Fe}_2\text{TiO}_5$  (pseudobrookite) and H:  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  (hematite).

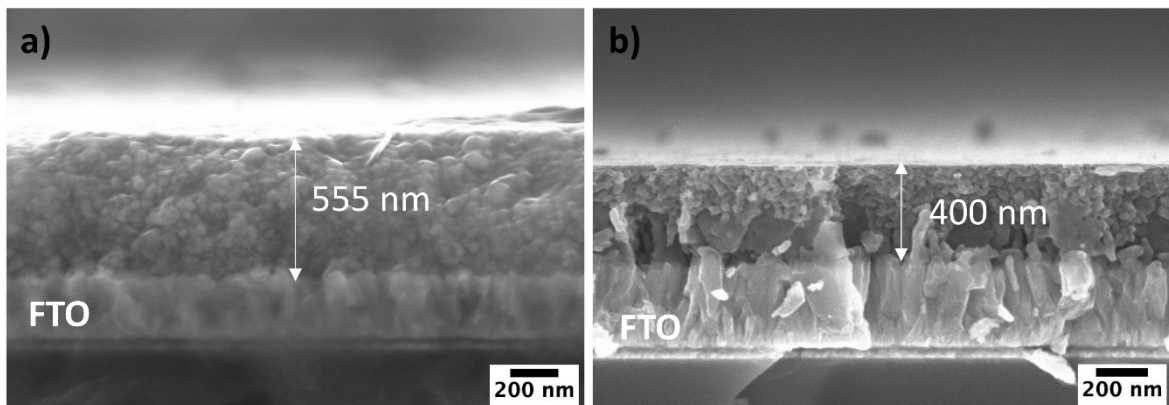


Figure S4. SEM cross-sectional micrographs of (a) Fe-Ti-O and (b) Fe-Ti-O-Zn.

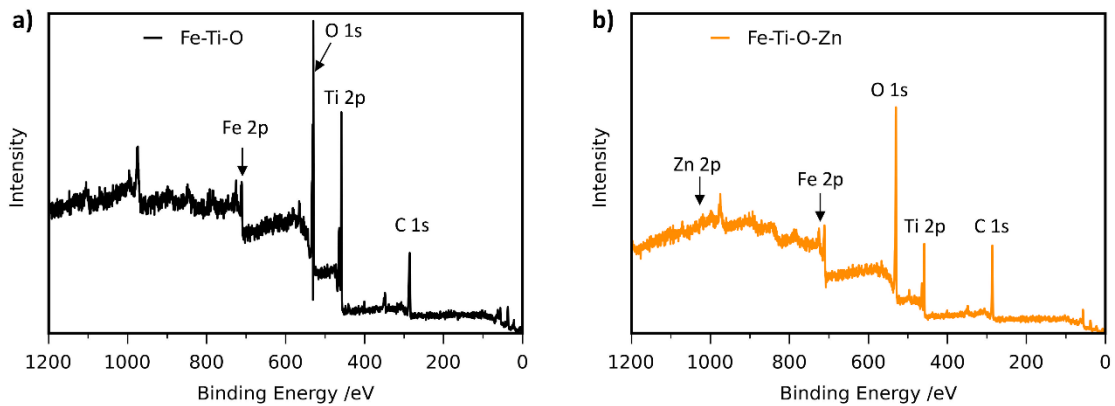


Figure S5. Survey XPS spectra of (a) Fe-Ti-O and (b) Fe-Ti-O-Zn thin film samples.

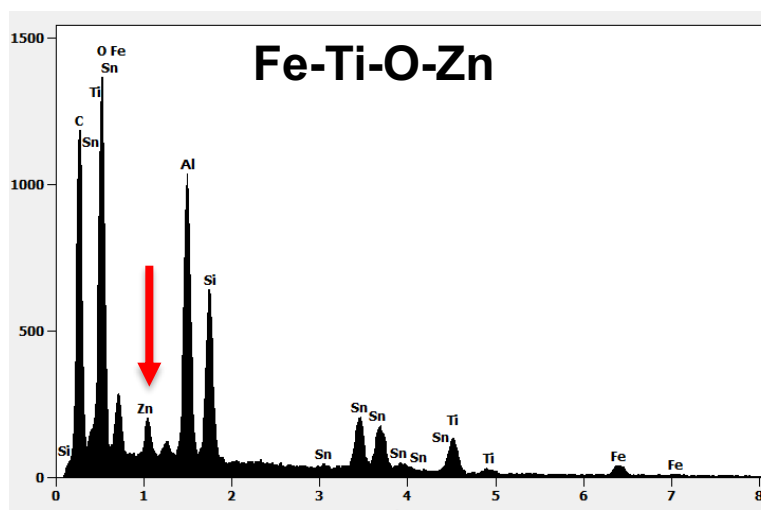


Figure S6. SEM-EDX spectrum of Fe-Ti-O-Zn sample measured with an acceleration voltage of 15 kV.

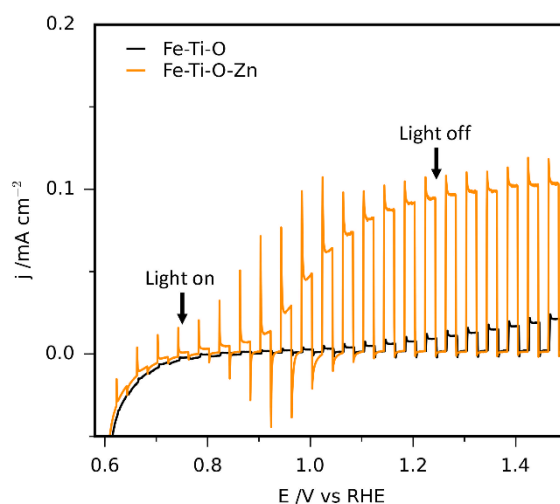


Figure S7. Front-side illumination  $j$ - $V$  curves of Fe-Ti-O-Zn and Fe-Ti-O. All measurements were performed under chopped simulated sunlight (1 sun, AM 1.5) and in 1 mol L<sup>-1</sup> NaOH (pH=13.6)

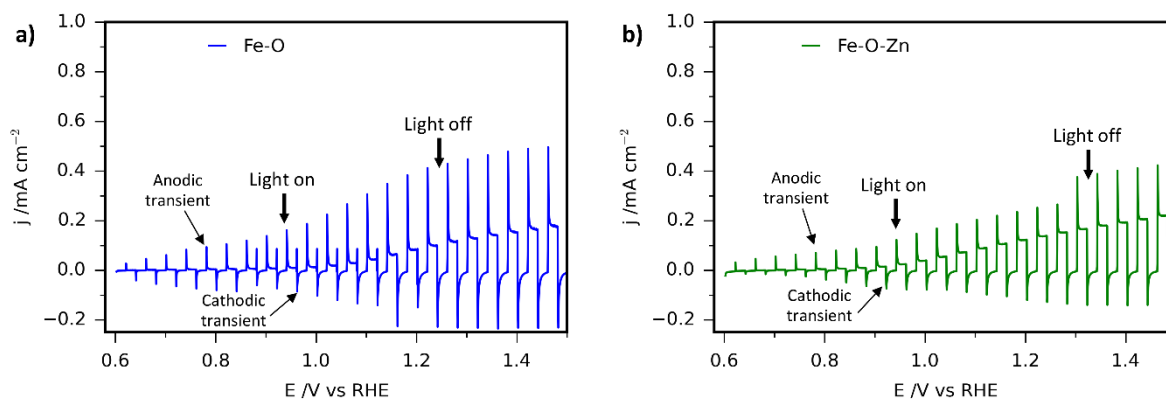


Figure S8. Back-side illumination  $j$ - $V$  curves of Fe-O and Fe-O-Zn. All measurements were performed under chopped simulated sunlight (1 sun, AM 1.5) and in 1 mol L<sup>-1</sup> NaOH (pH=13.6)

**Table S1. Reported preparation methods, photocurrent performances and IPCE of Fe<sub>2</sub>TiO<sub>5</sub>-based photoanodes.**

Composition	Preparation method <sup>a</sup>	Photocurrent density (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>b</sup>	IPCE (%) <sup>c</sup>	Reference
Zn-doped Fe <sub>2</sub> TiO <sub>5</sub> (major) & α-Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	AACVD	0.6	20	This work
Fe <sub>2</sub> TiO <sub>5</sub> with Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> traces	Sol-gel synthesis and dip coating	0.05	Not reported	1
Fe <sub>2</sub> TiO <sub>5</sub>	Pulsed laser deposition	0.16	5	2
Fe <sub>2</sub> TiO <sub>5</sub> with Ni <sub>2</sub> FeO <sub>x</sub>	Electrochemical	0.3	Not reported	3
Fe <sub>2</sub> TiO <sub>5</sub> with SnO <sub>x</sub> coating	solvothermal	0.36	10	4
Al <sup>3+</sup> -surface-treated Fe <sub>2</sub> TiO <sub>5</sub> with FeOOH as electrocatalyst	Electrospray + surface treatment	0.52	Not reported	5
F-surface modified Fe <sub>2</sub> TiO <sub>5</sub>	Electrospray + surface treatment	0.4	20	6
Fe <sub>2</sub> TiO <sub>5</sub> inverse opal structure (IOS) with Ga <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> underlayer and (Ni <sub>2</sub> CoFe)OOH electrocatalyst	Layer-by-layer self-assembly and hybrid microwave annealing	2.08	23	7
Fe <sub>2</sub> TiO <sub>5</sub> nanotube arrays with TiO <sub>2</sub> underlayer, H <sub>2</sub> treatment and FeNiO <sub>x</sub> electrocatalyst	Hybrid microwave annealing (Use of anodized aluminum oxide as template)	0.93	Not reported	8

<sup>a</sup> Refers to the experimental method used for the growth of Fe<sub>2</sub>TiO<sub>5</sub>-based films. The methods used for electrocatalyst loadings or other treatments are omitted.

<sup>b</sup> Reported photocurrent density value at 1.23 V<sub>RHE</sub> under simulated sunlight (AM 1.5G filter, 100 mW cm<sup>-2</sup>)

<sup>c</sup> IPCE at 350 nm measured at 1.23 V<sub>RHE</sub>

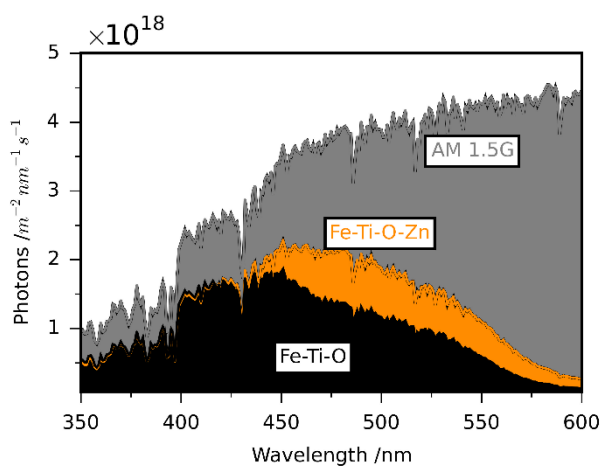


Figure S9. Number of photons absorbed from the solar visible light spectrum (AM 1.5G, 1 sun irradiance) for Fe-Ti-O-Zn and Fe-Ti-O.

**Table S2. Theoretical maximum photocurrent density obtained by integrating the absorbance spectra with the AM 1.5G 1 sun irradiance spectrum.**

Sample	$j_{\text{abs}}$ (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )
Fe-Ti-O	3.94
Fe-Ti-O-Zn	5.27

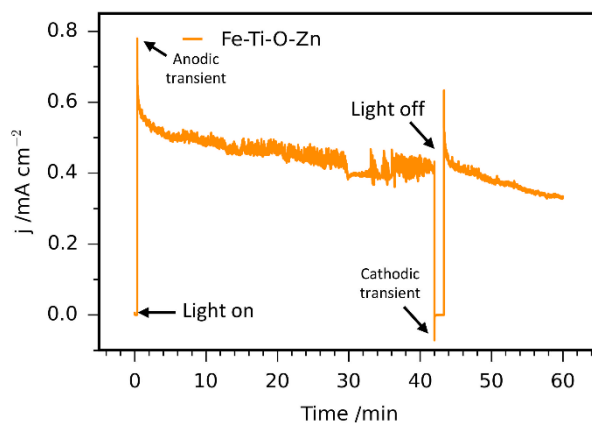


Figure S10. Photocurrent-time curve of Fe-Ti-O-Zn for 60 min under simulated sunlight (1 sun, AM 1.5) measured at 1.23 V<sub>RHE</sub> in 1 mol L<sup>-1</sup> NaOH

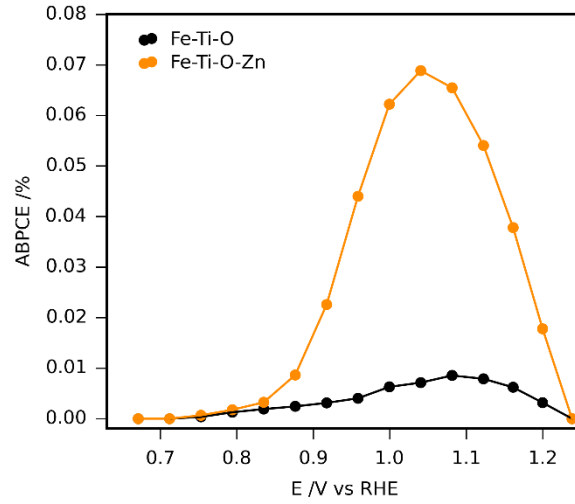


Figure S11. ABPCE curves of Fe-Ti-O and Fe-Ti-O-Zn.

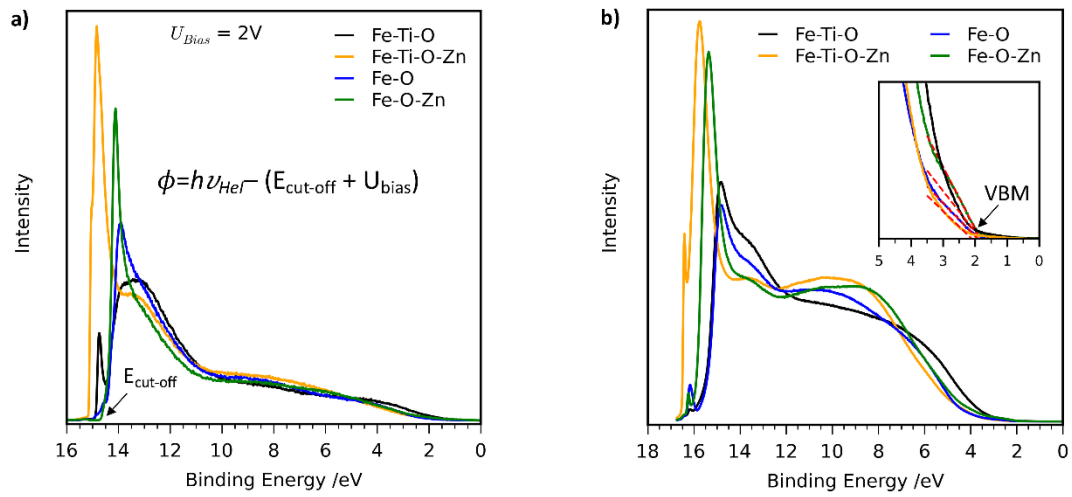


Figure S12. UPS measurements using an He I photon source ( $E=21.2$  eV) with (a) an applied bias of 2 V and (b) without applied bias. From these measurements,  $E_{cut-off}$ , work function ( $\phi$ ) and valence band maximum (VBM) were determined.

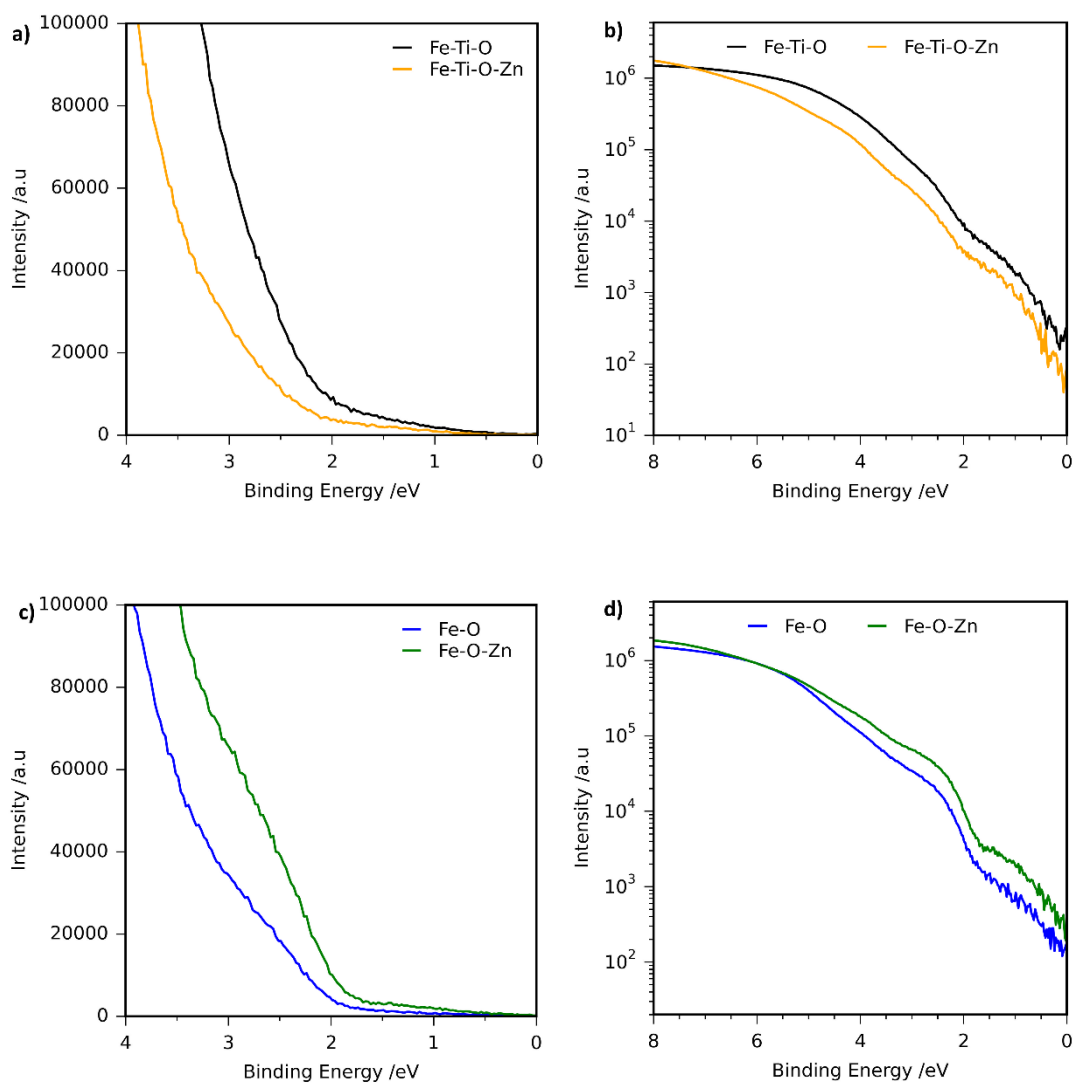


Figure S13. Zoomed-in UPS spectra using an He I photon source ( $E=21.2$  eV) without applied bias plotted on a linear (a,c) and logarithmic scale (b,d). (a-b) Fe-Ti-O and Fe-Ti-O-Zn films. (c-d) Fe-O and Fe-O-Zn.

**Table S3 Work function ( $\phi$ ) and valence band maximum (VBM) values obtained from UPS measurements**

Sample	$\Phi$ (eV)	VBM (eV)
Fe-Ti-O	4.36	1.83
Fe-Ti-O-Zn	4.07	2.10
Fe-O	4.77	1.93
Fe-O-Zn	4.88	1.82



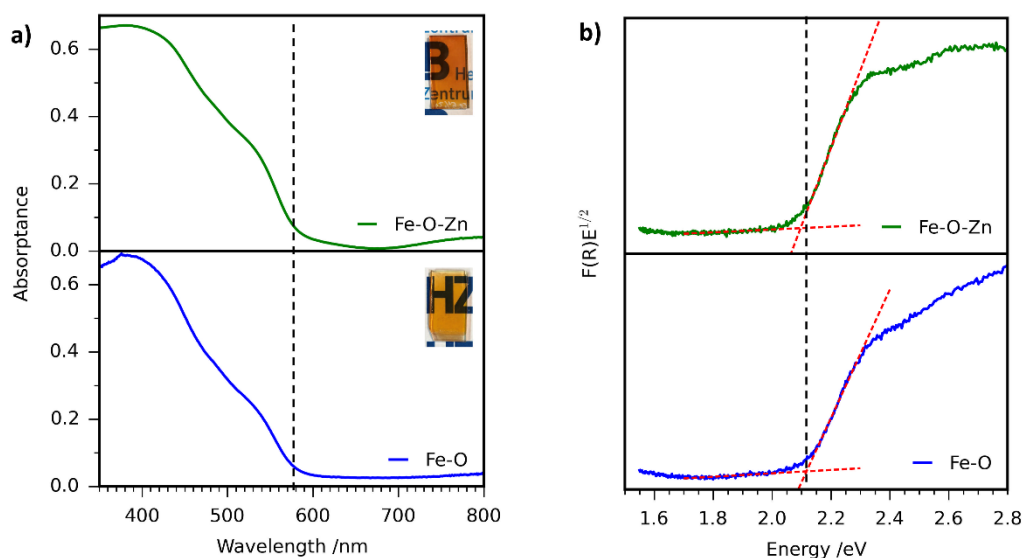


Figure S14. UV-Vis absorbance spectra and (b) Tauc plots measured via diffuse reflectance UV-Vis spectroscopy of Fe-O-Zn and Fe-O. Insets in (a) show photographs of all films prepared. Dashed vertical line indicates onsets for Fe-O samples. The logo is copyrighted by the Helmholtz-Zentrum Berlin für Materialien und Energie GmbH.

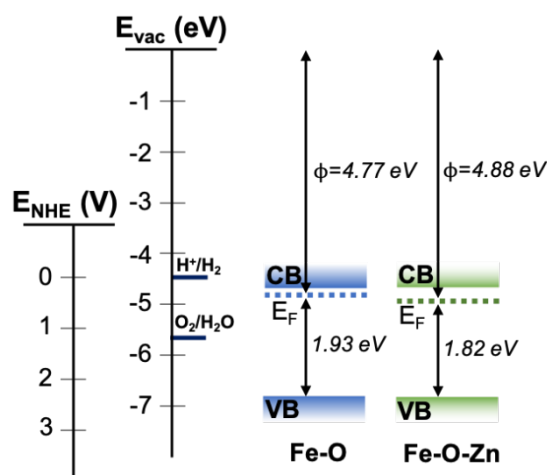


Figure S15. Schematic diagram of band level positions for Fe-O films calculated from UPS measurements (Figure S14†) with respect to the vacuum level and the normal hydrogen electrode (NHE) potential

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