Supporting informations for

## V<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub>@C catalyst prepared from biomass for hydroxylation of

## benzene to phenol with molecular oxygen

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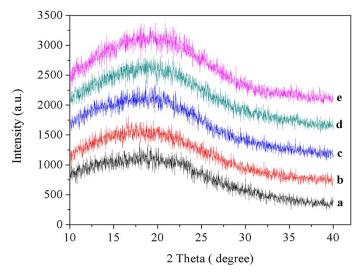


Fig.S1 XRD spectra of (a) V<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub>@C-S, (b) V<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub>@C-G, (c) V<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub>@C-F, (d) V<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub>@C-(F+G), (e) V<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub>@C-Vc.

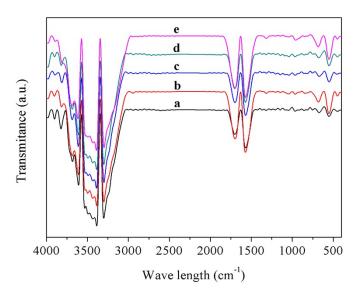


Fig. S2 FT-IR spectra of the catalysts. (a)  $V_x O_y @C-S$ , (b)  $V_x O_y @C-G$ , (c)  $V_x O_y @C-F$ , (d)  $V_x O_y @C-F$ , (e)  $V_x O_y @C-Vc$ .

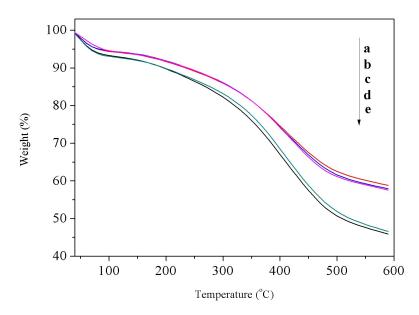


Fig. S3 TG curves of the catalysts. (a)  $V_x O_y @C-G$ , (b)  $V_x O_y @C-F$ , (c)  $V_x O_y @C-Vc$ , (d)  $V_x O_y @C-FG$ , (e)  $V_x O_y @C-S$ .

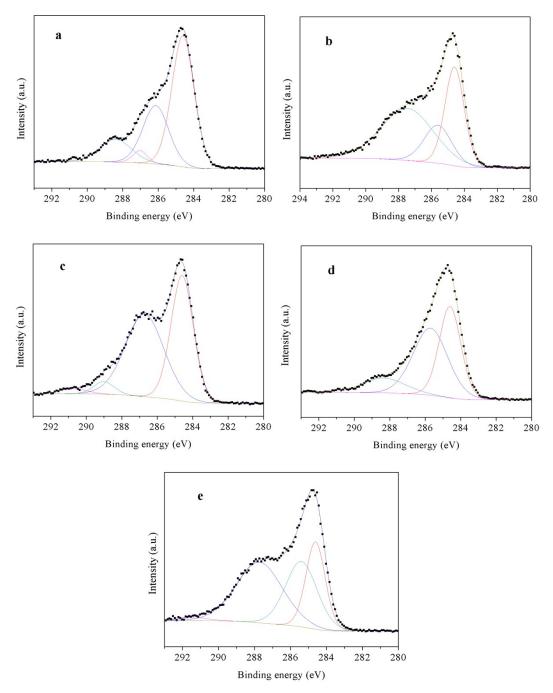


Fig. S4 C1s spectra of catalysts. (a)  $V_xO_y@C-S$ , (b)  $V_xO_y@C-G$ , (c)  $V_xO_y@C-F$ , (d)  $V_xO_y@C-(F+G)$ , (e)  $V_xO_y@C-Vc$ .

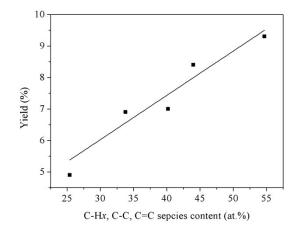


Fig. S5 The relationship between C1 species (C-H<sub>x</sub>, C-C,C=C) and yield of phenol.

Entry	Catalysts	V <sup>5+</sup>	V <sup>4+</sup>	V <sup>3+</sup>
1	V <sub>x</sub> O <sub>y</sub> @C-S	517.40eV	516.30eV	515.32eV
		7.76%	25.63%	66.61%
2	V <sub>x</sub> O <sub>y</sub> @C-G	_	517.14eV	515.06eV
			13.36%	86.64%
3	V <sub>x</sub> O <sub>y</sub> @C-F	518.07eV	_	515.74eV
		15.78%		84.22%
4	V <sub>x</sub> O <sub>y</sub> @C-(F+G)	517.47eV	516.02eV	514.43eV
		32.59%	43.25%	24.45%
5	V <sub>x</sub> O <sub>y</sub> @C-Vc	—	516.96eV	514.95eV
			58.93%	41.07%

Table S1 Summary of XPS V2p data of catalysts.