## **Supporting Information**

## Metal-free catalytic oxidation of benzylic alcohols for benzaldehyde

Zhiyong Wang, a,b Jie Shi, a,b Dan Wang, \*,a,b Yuan Pu, a,b Jie-Xin Wang, a,b Jian-Feng Chen\*,a,b

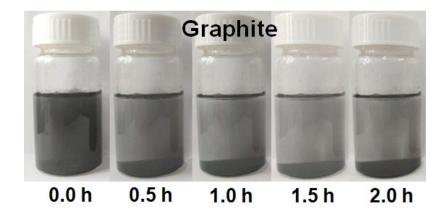
a State Key Laboratory of Organic-Inorganic Composites, Beijing University of Chemical Technology, Beijing

100029, China
b Possersh Center of the Ministry of Education for High Growity Engineering and Technology, Paijing University

<sup>b</sup> Research Center of the Ministry of Education for High Gravity Engineering and Technology, Beijing University of Chemical Technology, Beijing 100029, China

\* Corresponding authors: Dan Wang (Tel: +86-10-64449453; E-mail: wangdan@mail.buct.edu.cn) and Jian-Feng

Chen (Tel: +86-10-64446466; E-mail: <a href="mailto:chenjf@mail.buct.edu.cn">chenjf@mail.buct.edu.cn</a>)



**Fig. S1** Digital photos of graphite dispersion with different durations. (The dispersions are 1 mg/mL in DI water, ultrasonic treatment for 30 min)

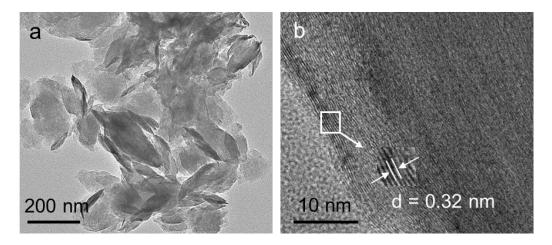


Fig. S2 (a) TEM image, and (b) HRTEM image of SG

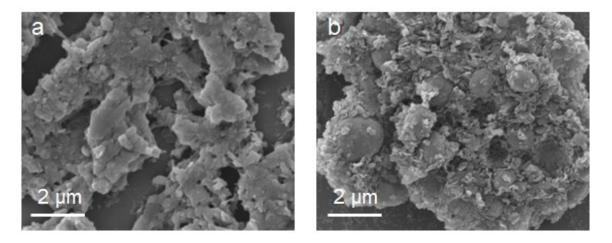


Fig. S3 SEM images of (a) pristine graphite, and (b) SG.

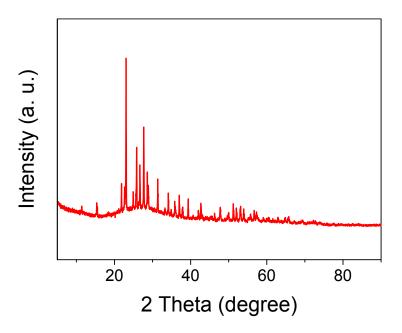


Fig. S4 XRD patterns of sulfur powder.

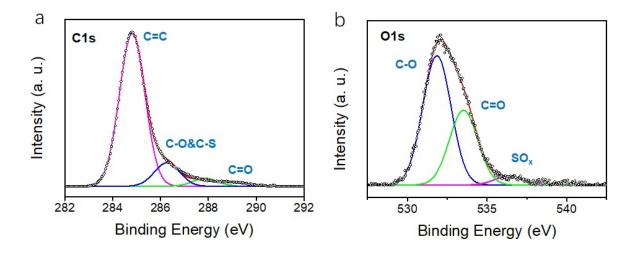
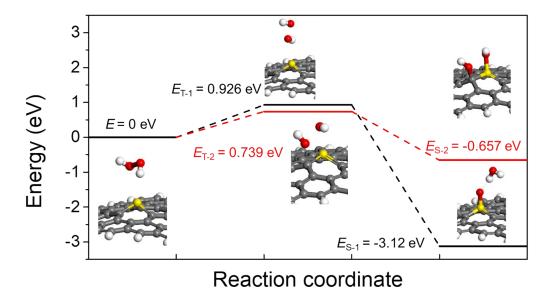


Fig. S5 High XPS resolution (a) C1 s peak, and (b) O1 s of SG.



**Fig. S6** Reaction energy profile at different coordinates of the hydroxyl radical (OH) absorbed by SG on different active sites. (Black line represents two OHs are both absorbed on S atom, red line represents two OHs are absorbed on S atom and adjacent C atom, respectively.)

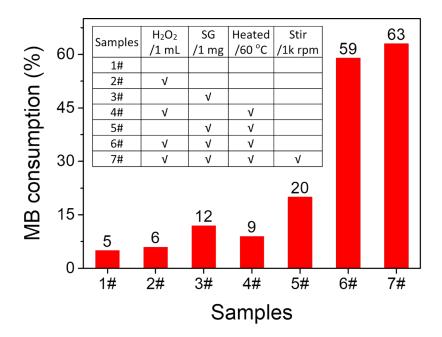


Fig. S7 MB consumption at different reaction conditions.

Table S1. Catalytic oxidation of BzOH to BzH with different catalysts

Residence time (min)	Peak area percentage (%)	Molecular formula	Name	
4.82	25.7	$C_7H_6O$	Benzaldehyde	
5.60	72.2	$C_7H_8O$	Benzyl alcohol	
12.10	2.1	$C_{16}H_{22}O_4$	Benzenedicarboxylic acid	

Table S2. Catalytic oxidation of BzOH to BzH at different stirring speed

Entry	Stirring speed (rpm)	Conversion (%)	Selectivity (%)	Yield (%)
1	0	7.10	96.06	6.82
2	500	6.14	90.86	5.58
3	750	15.79	91.52	14.45
4	1000	19.22	91.92	17.66
5	1500	17.98	91.82	16.51