

Supporting Information for

Vanadia Supported on Mesoporous Carbon Nitride as a Highly Efficient Catalyst for Hydroxylation of Benzene to Phenol

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Determination of the data of catalytic conversion and selectivity

All the reagents and products are analyzed by GC equipped by a FID detector coupled with a SE-54 capillary column. After a catalytic reaction, the resultant compounds revealed by the GC profile were only CH₃CN (solvent), benzene, phenol, and benzoquinone. No biphenyl, catechol, or hydroquinone was detected. Their quantitative calculation (i.e. conversion of benzene, and selectivity to phenol) was based on an area-normalization method.

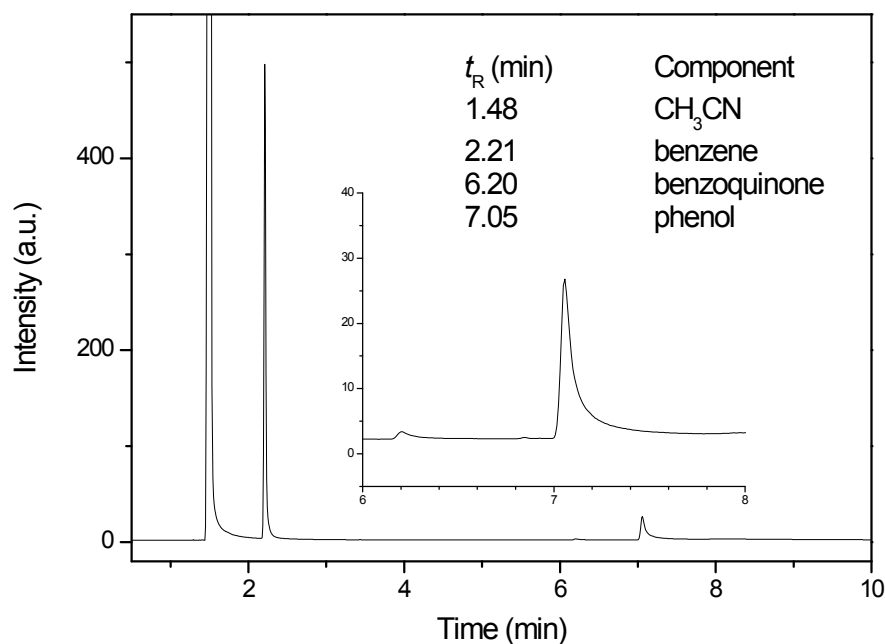


Fig. S1 A representative GC profile after the catalytic reaction.

A series of CH₃CN solutions containing benzene, phenol and benzoquinone with different concentrations were prepared. Wherein, the concentrations for the three solutes were close to ordinary values in a typical catalytic reaction of the present work. Next, the response factors (*f*) for phenol and benzoquinone on the basis of benzene were calculated as follows:

$$f_{\text{phenol}} = \frac{A_{\text{benzene}} / n_{\text{benzene}}}{A_{\text{phenol}} / n_{\text{phenol}}}, f_{\text{benzoquinone}} = \frac{A_{\text{benzene}} / n_{\text{benzene}}}{A_{\text{benzoquinone}} / n_{\text{benzoquinone}}}$$

where *A*, and *n* were the peak area of GC, and molar amount (or concentration, mol/L) of a compound, respectively.

The final conversion of benzene (*Conv.*) and selectivity to phenol (*Sel.*) were calculated as follows:

$$Conv. = \frac{A_{\text{phenol}} \times f_{\text{phenol}} + A_{\text{benzoquinone}} \times f_{\text{benzoquinone}}}{A_{\text{benzene}} + A_{\text{phenol}} \times f_{\text{phenol}} + A_{\text{benzoquinone}} \times f_{\text{benzoquinone}}}$$

$$Sel. = \frac{A_{\text{phenol}} \times f_{\text{phenol}}}{A_{\text{phenol}} \times f_{\text{phenol}} + A_{\text{benzoquinone}} \times f_{\text{benzoquinone}}}$$

The efficiency (*E*_{H₂O₂} or selective conversion) of H₂O₂ for the hydroxylation of benzene was calculated as follows:

$$E_{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2} = \frac{n_{\text{phenol}} + 2n_{\text{benzoquinone}}}{n_{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2, \text{feed}}} = \frac{n_{\text{benzene, feed}} \times Conv. \times Sel. + 2n_{\text{benzene, feed}} \times Conv. \times (1 - Sel.)}{n_{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2, \text{feed}}}$$

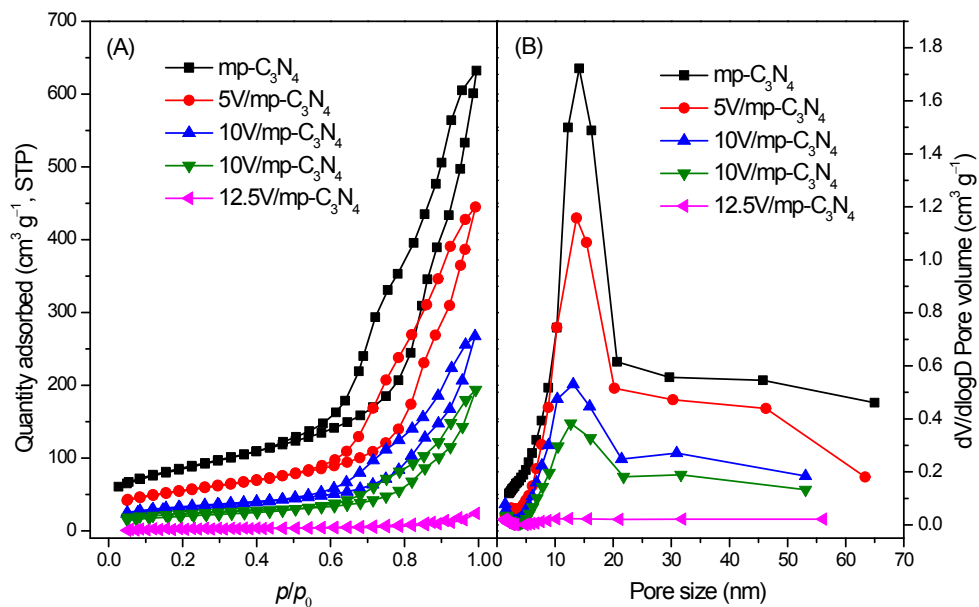


Fig. S2 N_2 adsorption–desorption isotherms (A) and pore size distributions (B) of V/mp- C_3N_4 samples.

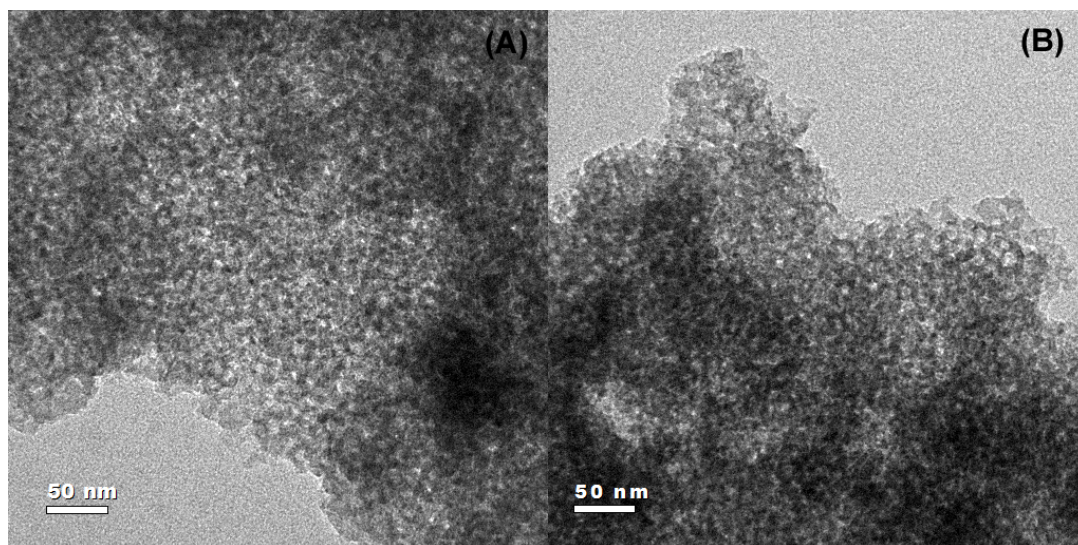


Fig. S3 TEM images of mp- C_3N_4 (A) and 10V/mp- C_3N_4 (B) materials.

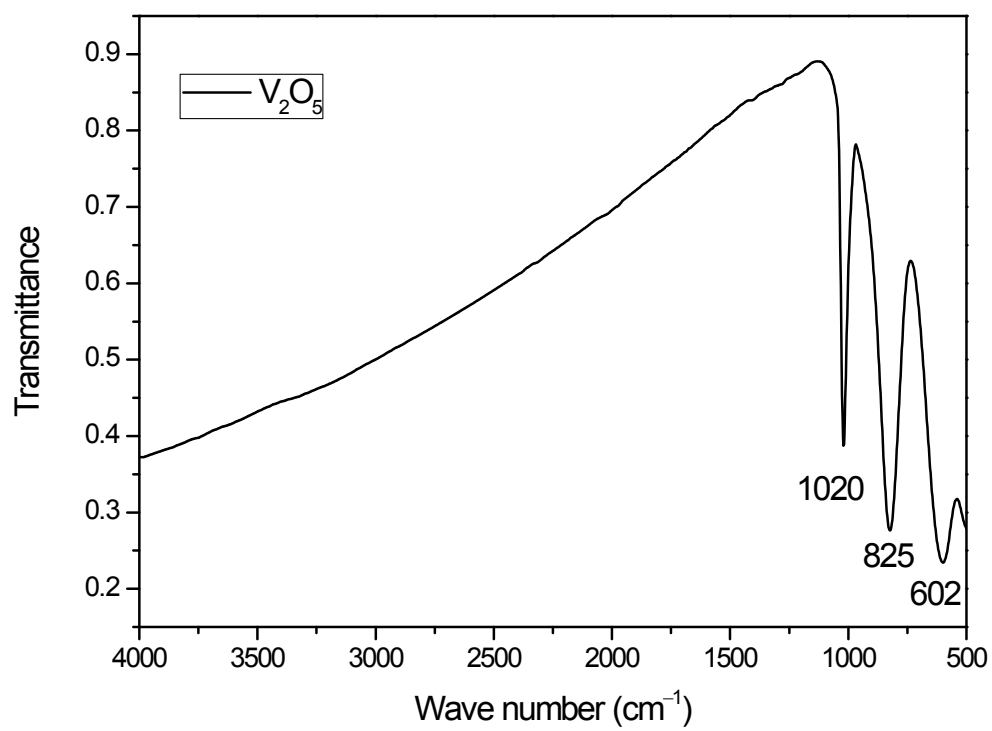


Fig. S4 FT-IR spectrum of V_2O_5 .

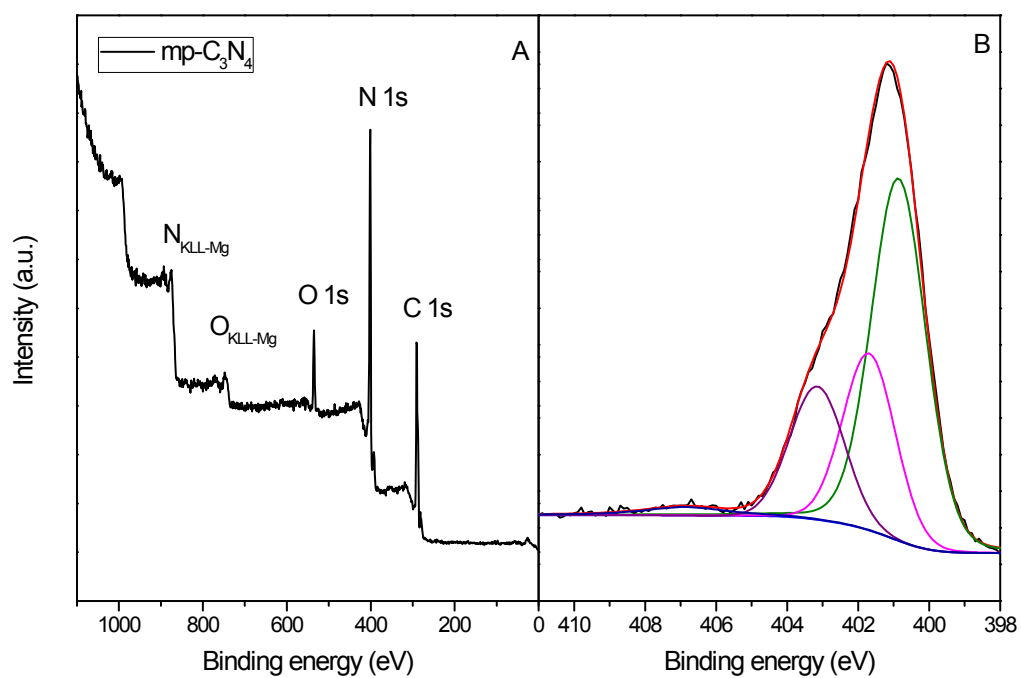
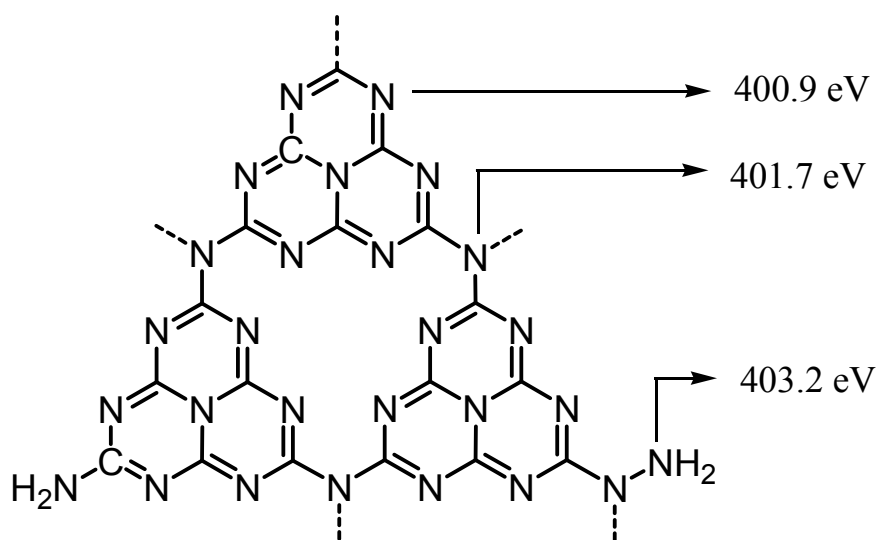


Fig. S5 XPS survey (A) and N 1s spectrum (B) of mp-C₃N₄.



Scheme S1 Various N species in mp-C₃N₄.

Table S1 Effects of the amounts of benzene and H₂O₂ catalyst on the catalytic performances on 10V/mp-C₃N₄^a.

| Entry | V_{benzene} (mL) | $V_{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}$ (mL) | $n_{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}/n_{\text{benzene}}$ | $W_{\text{catal.}}$ (mg) | Conv. (%) | Sel. (%) | Yield (%) | TOF (h ⁻¹) |
|-------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | 3 | 2.6 | 60 | 21.3 | 92.4 | 19.7 | 1.16 |
| 2 | 1.5 | 3 | 1.8 | 60 | 18.7 | 95.9 | 18.0 | 1.59 |
| 3 | 2 | 3 | 1.3 | 60 | 10.2 | 97.1 | 9.9 | 1.17 |
| 4 | 1.5 | 1 | 0.6 | 60 | 2.8 | 97.1 | 2.7 | 0.24 |
| 5 | 1.5 | 2 | 1.2 | 60 | 10.8 | 96.7 | 10.4 | 0.92 |

^a Reaction conditions: $T = 60\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, $V_{\text{acetonitrile}} = 6.0\text{ mL}$, $t = 3\text{ h}$, and $W_{\text{catal.}} = 60\text{ mg}$.