# **Electronic supplementary information**

## Surface defect engineered CeO<sub>2-x</sub> by ultrasound treatment for superior

## photocatalytic H<sub>2</sub> production and water treatment

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Figure S1. EDAX study of U-Ceo<sub>2-x</sub> sample.

Catalyst	Ce <sup>3+</sup> %	Ce <sup>4+</sup> %	0 <sub>c</sub> %	H <sub>2</sub>	BB	Phenol
				production	degradation	degradation
				(µmol h <sup>-1</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	(in %)	(in %)
CeO <sub>2</sub>	54.44	45.56	-	950	44	39
U-CeO <sub>2-x</sub>	59.54	40.46	15.64	2570	95.2	94.5

Table S1. Relative surface concentration of Ce<sup>3+</sup> and oxygen vacancy based on XPS analysis.



Figure S2. TPR spectra of the synthesized samples.



Figure S3. TOC analysis of the BB dye and phenol.



Figure S4. ESR spectra detecting •OH in the presence of DMPO in water.



Figure S5. ESR spectra detecting  ${}^{\bullet}O_{2}{}^{-}$  in the presence of DMPO in methanol.



Figure S6. ESR spectra detecting <sup>1</sup>O<sub>2</sub> in the presence of TEMP.

Catalyst	Degradation factors	Pollutant	Degradation efficiency (%)	Reaction time (mins)	Reference
W0 <sub>3</sub> -ZnO	Sonocatalytic degradation Dosage: 2 g/L	BB dye	90	40	1
TiO <sub>2</sub>	Dosage: 0.5 g/L pH: 6 H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> : 0.2 mmol/L	BB dye	97.7	180	2
ZnO	Dosage: 0.35 mg/L pH: 3 Temperature: 35 °C	BB dye	90	15	3
Ag-ZnO	Dosage: 0.08 mg/L pH: 12	BB dye	97.14	180	4
Bi <sub>2</sub> WO <sub>6</sub>	Dosage: 0.75 g/L pH: 12 H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> : 0.04 mmol/L	BB dye	>99	300	5
NCN/BiWO	Dosage: 1 g/L	Phenol	93.1	240	6
g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> /CNT/BiVO <sub>4</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> : 5 % vol	Phenol	80.6	120	7
2D-CN	Dosage: 0.5 g/L	Phenol	>90	60	8
Bi <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> /Bi <sub>2</sub> MoO <sub>6</sub>	Dosage: 0.08 g/L	Phenol	96.4	180	9
MgO@Ag_TiO <sub>2</sub>	Dosage: 0.2 g/L	Phenol	95	120	10

## Table S2. Reported literatures of BB dye and phenol degradation.



Figure S7. LC-MS spectra of BB dye at (a) 0 min (b) 10 mins (c) 30 mins.







Figure S9. LC-MS spectra of Phenol at (a) 0 min (b) 10 mins (c) 30 mins (d) 80 mins.



Figure S10. Degradation pathway of Phenol.

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