

Supplementary data for Dalton Transactions

## Generation of singlet oxygen over CeO<sub>2</sub>/K, Na-codoped g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> for tetracycline hydrochloride degradation in a wide pH range

Jianfei Zheng<sup>a</sup>, Zhen Xu<sup>a</sup>, Sitian Xin<sup>a</sup>, Bicheng Zhu<sup>b</sup> and Longhui Nie<sup>\*a,b</sup>,

<sup>a</sup> Hubei Provincial Key Laboratory of Green Materials for Light Industry, New Materials and Green Manufacturing Talent Introduction and Innovation Demonstration Base, Hubei University of Technology, Wuhan 430068, China; <sup>b</sup> State Key Laboratory of Advanced Technology for Materials Synthesis and Processing, Wuhan University of Technology, Wuhan 430070, China

\*Corresponding author: Tel. +86 59750482, E-mails: nielonghui@mail.hbut.edu.cn (L. Nie)

## 1. Results

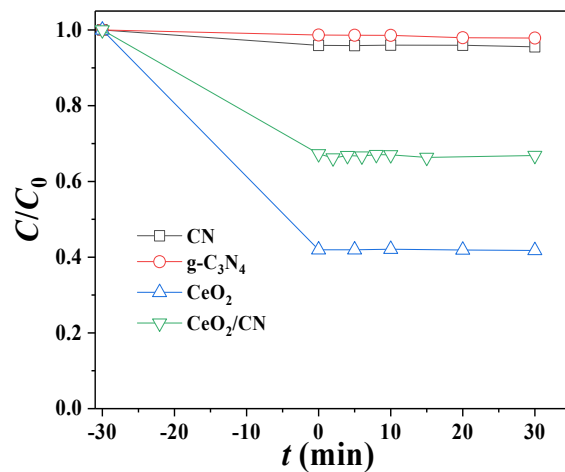


Fig. S1 Adsorption curves of TCH over the CN, g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>, CeO<sub>2</sub> and CeO<sub>2</sub>/CN catalysts in absence of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>

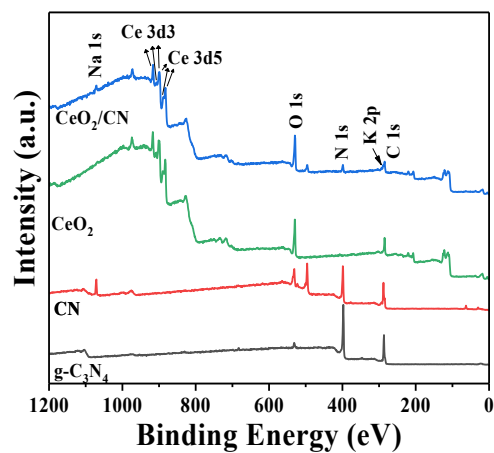
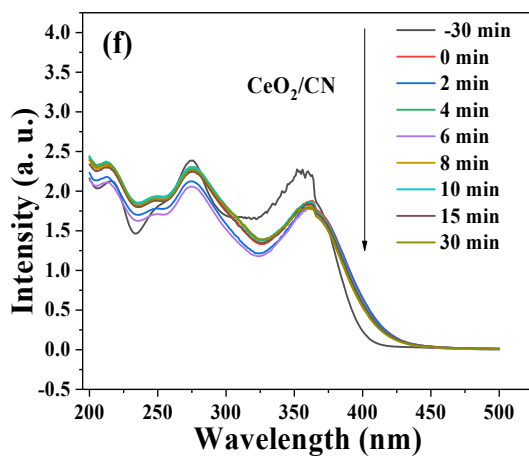
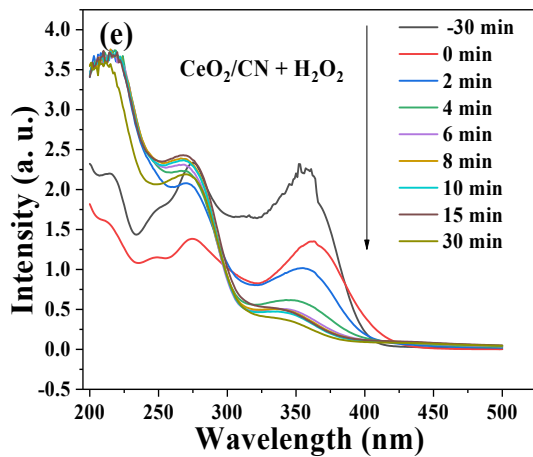
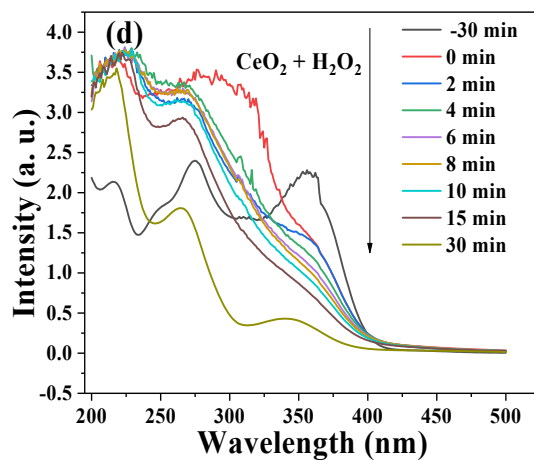
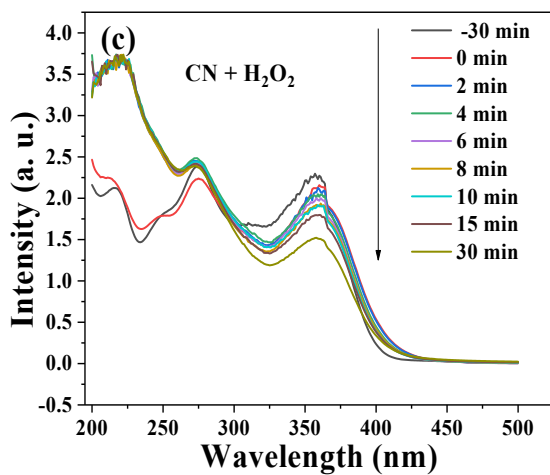
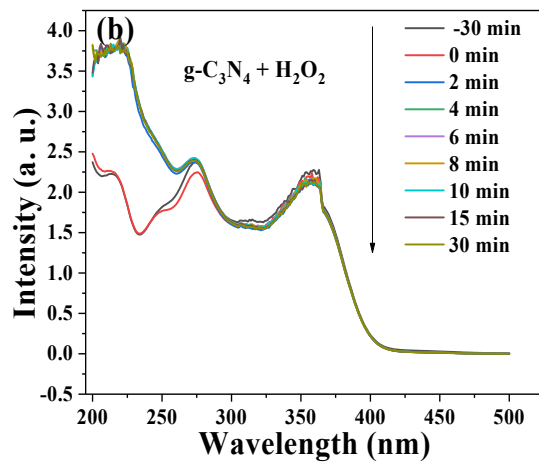
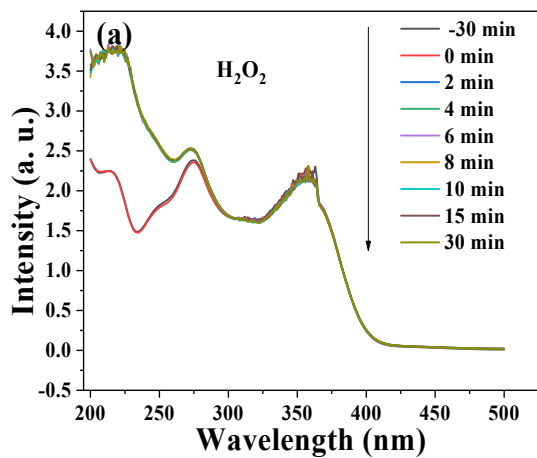


Figure S2 XPS survey spectra for the g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>, CN, CeO<sub>2</sub> and CeO<sub>2</sub>/CN.



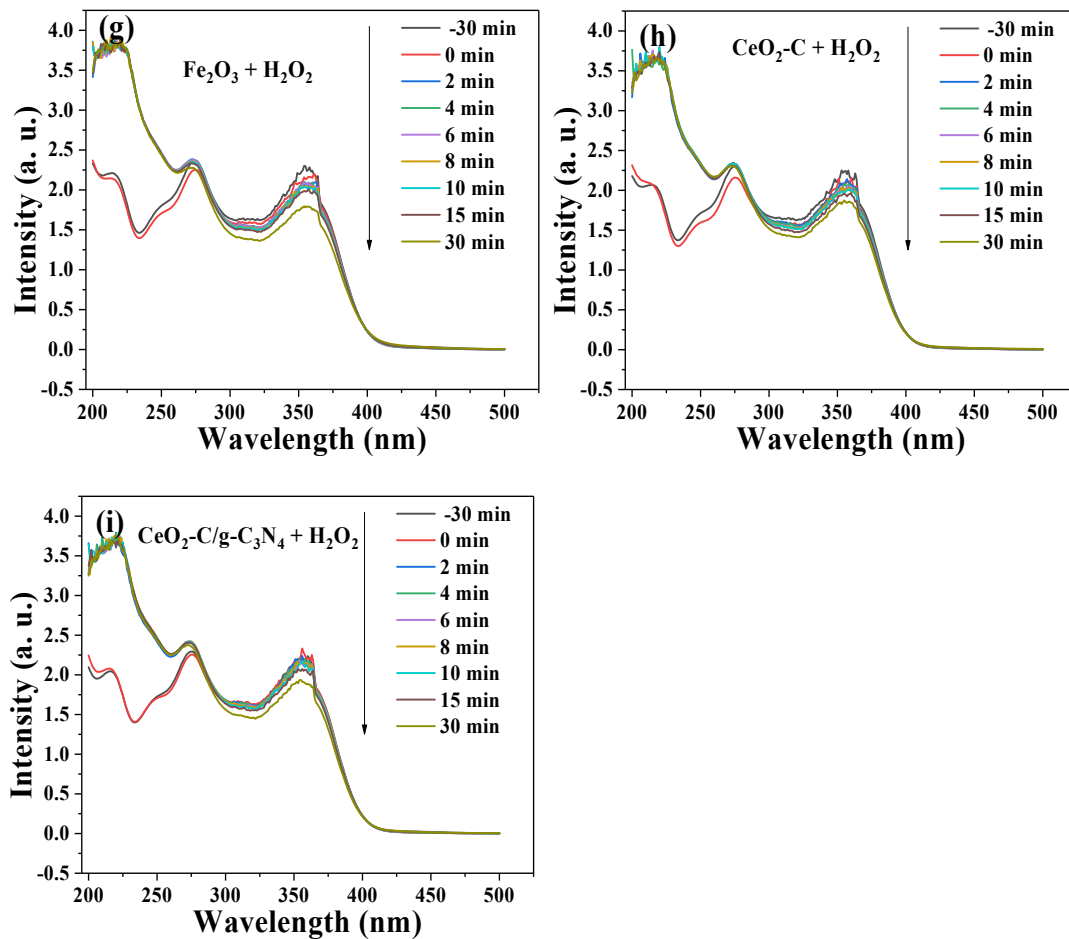


Fig. S3 the UV-vis spectra of TCH dependent on reaction time over  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (a),  $\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (b),  $\text{CN} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (c),  $\text{CeO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (d),  $\text{CeO}_2/\text{CN} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (e),  $\text{CeO}_2/\text{CN}$  (f),  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (g),  $\text{CeO}_2\text{-C} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (h), and  $\text{CeO}_2\text{-C}/\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (i), respectively.

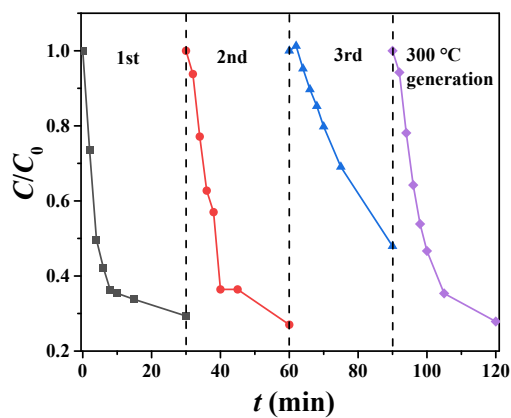


Fig. S4 The degradation curves of TCH in the recycling/regeneration experiments over  $\text{CeO}_2/\text{CN}$  in presence of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ .

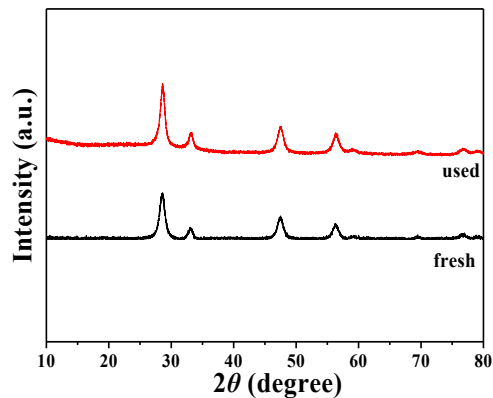


Fig. S5 XRD patterns for the fresh and used  $\text{CeO}_2/\text{CN}$  samples.

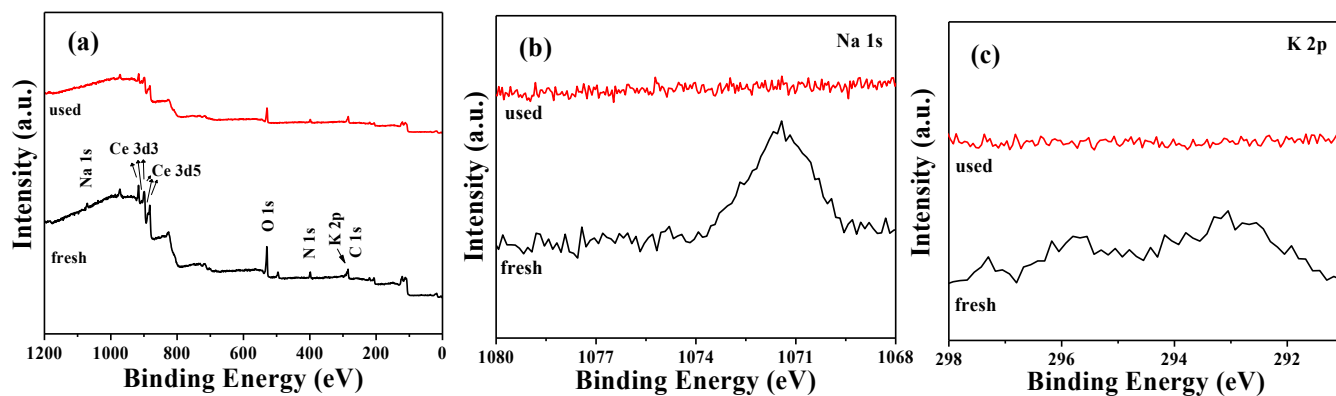


Fig. S6 XPS spectra for the fresh and used  $\text{CeO}_2/\text{CN}$  samples: survey spectra (a), high resolution spectra of Na 1s (b) and K 2p (c).

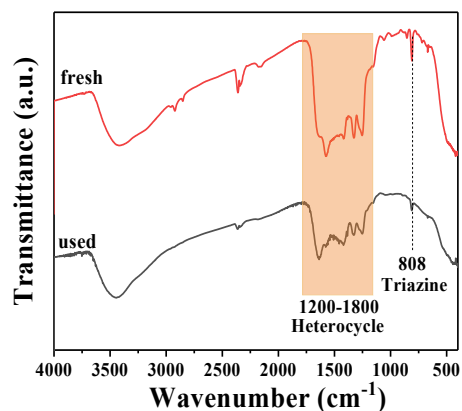


Fig. S7 FTIR spectra for the fresh and used  $\text{CeO}_2/\text{CN}$  samples.

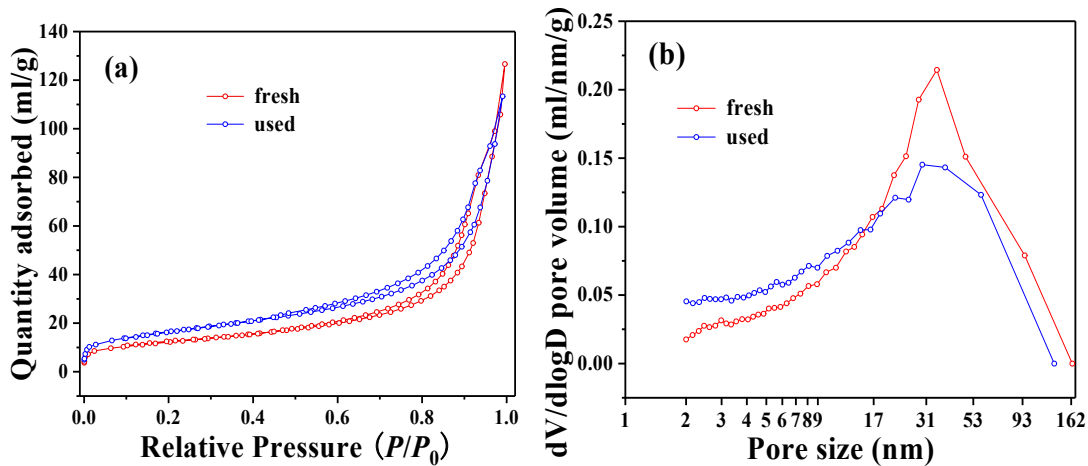


Fig. S8 Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherms of the fresh and used CeO<sub>2</sub>/CN samples (a) and the corresponding pore size distribution curves (b).

**Table S1** Binding energies (B.E.) of the elements in the CeO<sub>2</sub>, CN, and CeO<sub>2</sub>/CN samples and the shift of the binding energies (in bracket) of the elements in CeO<sub>2</sub>/CN compared with those in CN or CeO<sub>2</sub>.

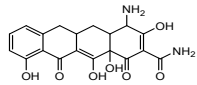
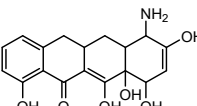
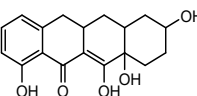
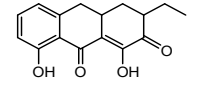
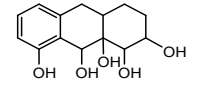
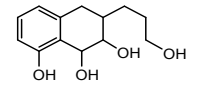
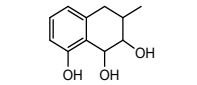
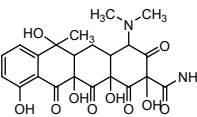
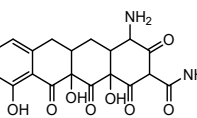
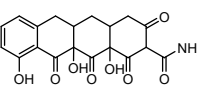
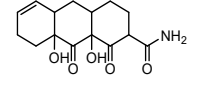
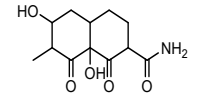
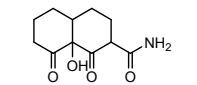
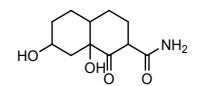
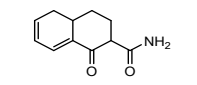
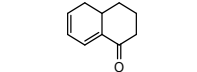
elements	CN		CeO <sub>2</sub>	CeO <sub>2</sub> /CN (binding energy shift)	Atomic percentage of elements		
	B.E. (eV)	B.E. (eV)	B.E. (eV)	B.E. (eV)	CN	CeO <sub>2</sub>	CeO <sub>2</sub> /CN (fresh/used)
Na 1s	1071.4			1071.5 (+0.1)	7.1	/	4.0/0.9
K 2p	2p <sub>1/2</sub>	292.7		293.1 (+0.4)	1.0		0.9/0.0
	2p <sub>3/2</sub>	295.4		295.7 (+0.3)			
C 1s	C <sub>I</sub>	284.8		284.8	42.0	/	34.1/47.7
	C <sub>II</sub>	286.3		285.9 (-0.4)			
	C <sub>III</sub>	288.2		288.5 (+0.3)			
N 1s	N <sub>I</sub>	398.5		398.6 (+0.1)			
	N <sub>II</sub>	399.6		399.7 (+0.1)	35.6	/	8.2/11.3
	N <sub>III</sub>	401.0		401.2 (+0.2)			
	N <sub>IV</sub>	404.7		406.8 (+2.1)			
Ce 3d	v		900.9	900.8 (-0.1)			
	v'		903.2	903.1 (-0.1)			
	v''		907.5	907.4 (-0.1)			

	$\nu'''$	916.8	916.6 (-0.2)	/	28.9	12.4/5.9
	$\mu$	882.3	882.2 (-0.1)			
	$\mu'$	884.6	884.5 (-0.1)			
	$\mu''$	888.9	888.8 (-0.1)			
	$\mu'''$	898.2	898.0 (-0.2)			
	O <sub>I</sub>	529.4	529.2 (-0.3)			
O 1s	O <sub>II</sub>	531.1	530.6 (-0.5)	14.5	71.1	40.3/34.2
	O <sub>III</sub>	532.4	532.2 (-0.2)			

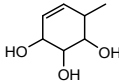


The atomic percentage of each element was supplemented in Table S1. For both CN and CeO<sub>2</sub>/CN, the atomic percentage of Na is higher than that of K, indicating Na is easier to dope into g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> possibly owing to its smaller ion size. Compared with CN, the atomic percentage of Na, K, C and N in CeO<sub>2</sub>/CN shows a decrease in different degree owing to the incorporation of CeO<sub>2</sub>. The molar ratios of C/N for CN and CeO<sub>2</sub>/CN are 1.8 and 4.2, respectively, indicating that N vacancies are formed in both samples and more N vacancies exist in the later. The Na contents before and after reaction (for three repeated experiments) in CeO<sub>2</sub>/CN are 4.0 % and 0.9 % of atomic percentage by XPS, and the K contents before and after reaction in CeO<sub>2</sub>/CN are 0.9 % and 0.0 % of atomic percentage, respectively. The decrease of the contents of Na<sup>+</sup> and K<sup>+</sup> ions in the used sample by XPS is owing to the adsorption of intermediates formed in the degradation of TCH on the surface of CeO<sub>2</sub>/CN because the XPS technique can only analyze elemental content in the surface thin layer.

**Table S2** Possible degradation intermediates identified by LC-MS.

Compounds	Retention time (min)	<i>m/z</i>	Proposed structure
TC	3.82	445	

1	6.61	387	
2	1.24	345	
3	1.03	317	
4	1.01	273	
5	7.50	267	
6	1.27	239	
7	1.19	195	
8	1.30	477	
9	2.07	403	
10	1.45	388	
11	7.67	294	
12	1.00	256	
13	2.37	226	
14	5.94	228	
15	0.92	192	
16	8.06	149	



17	2.26	145	
18	5.97	101	
19	1.19	89	

**Table S3** Characteristic parameters of the fresh and used CeO<sub>2</sub>/CN samples.

Sample	$S_{\text{BET}}$ (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	$V_{\text{pore}}$ (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)	$d_{\text{pore}}$ (nm)
Fresh CeO <sub>2</sub> /CN	43.4	0.17	16.4
used CeO <sub>2</sub> /CN	59.6	0.17	11.7