

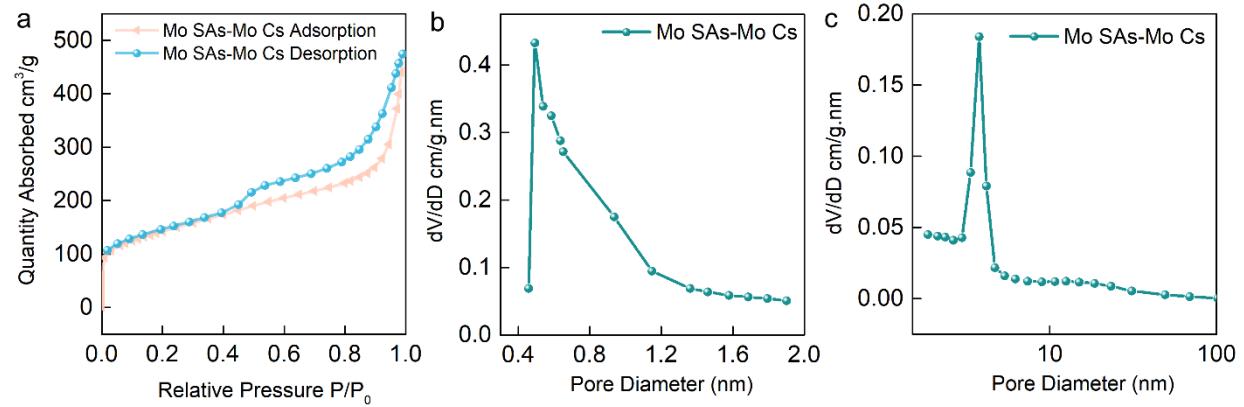
## Supporting Information

### **Spontaneous Generation of Atomically Dispersed Mo and MoS<sub>2</sub> Coupling Catalyst by Reaction Induction Transformation for Enhancing Local Hydrogen Concentration in Hydrogenation**

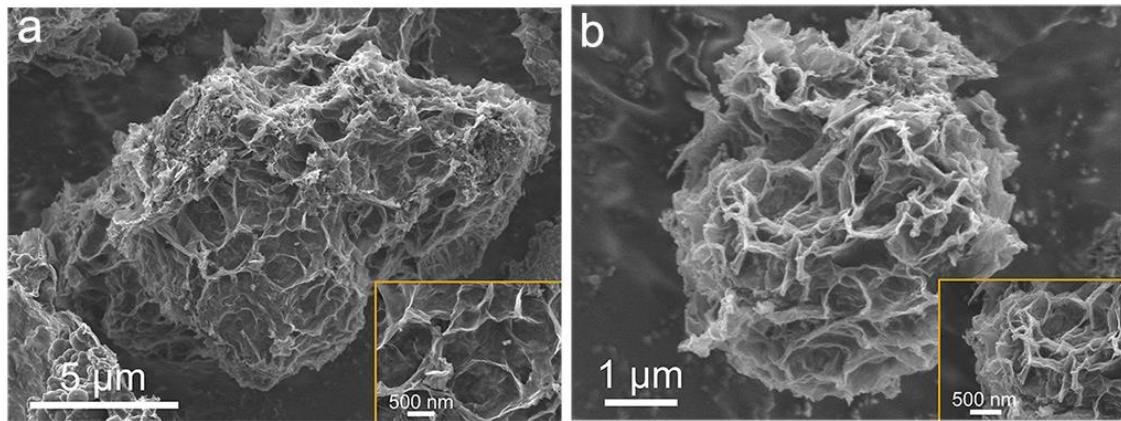
*Guangxun Sun,<sup>a</sup> Peng Xue,<sup>a</sup> Changle Yue,<sup>a</sup> Yang Li,<sup>a</sup> Hongfu Shi,<sup>a</sup> Xin Zhang,<sup>a</sup> Fengyu Tian,<sup>a</sup> Junxi Li,<sup>a</sup> Zekun Guan,<sup>a</sup> Bin Liu,<sup>a</sup> Zhi Liu,<sup>\*a,c</sup> Yunqi Liu,<sup>\*a,b</sup> Yuan Pan<sup>\*a</sup>*

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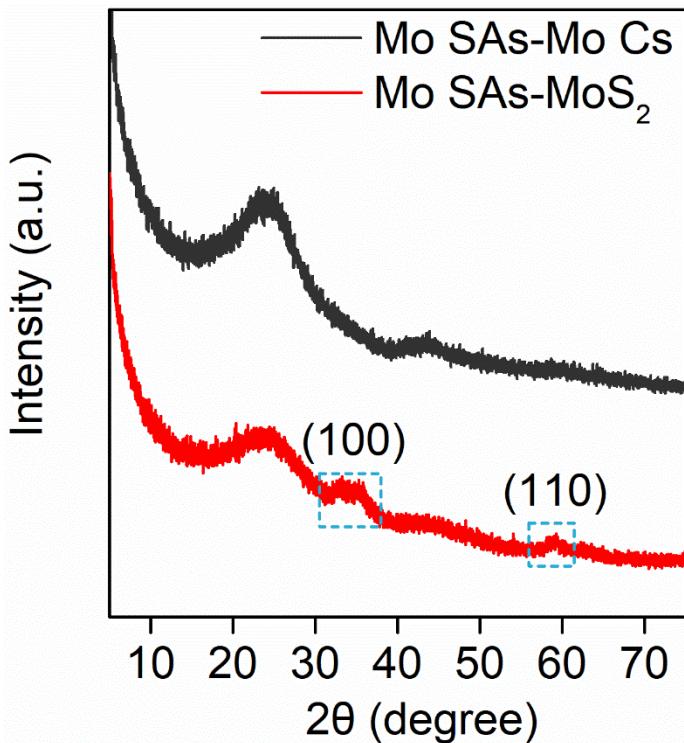
## Supplementary Text



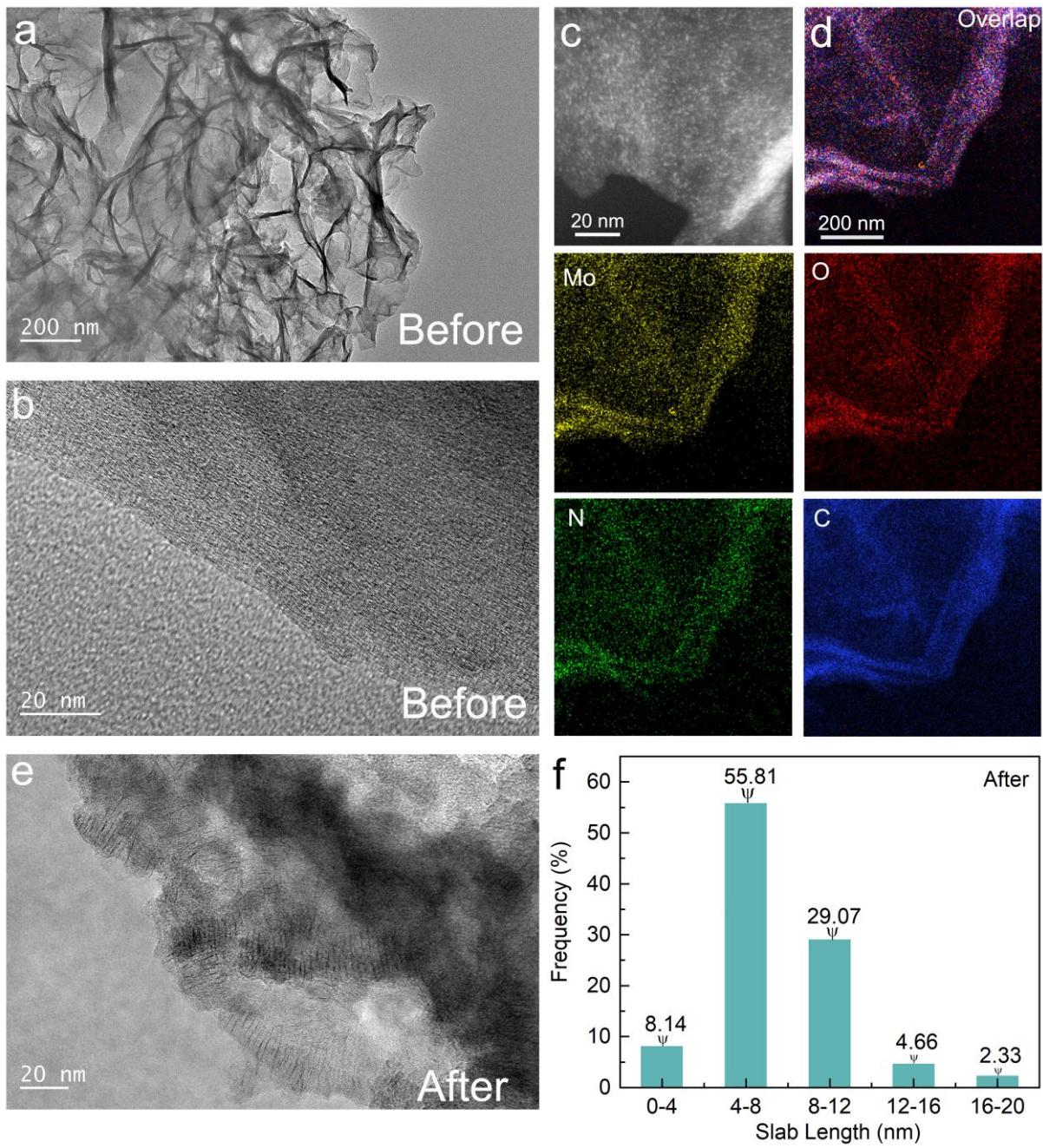
**Fig. S1.** (a)  $N_2$  adsorption/desorption isotherms, (b, c) pore size distribution of Mo SAs-Mo Cs.



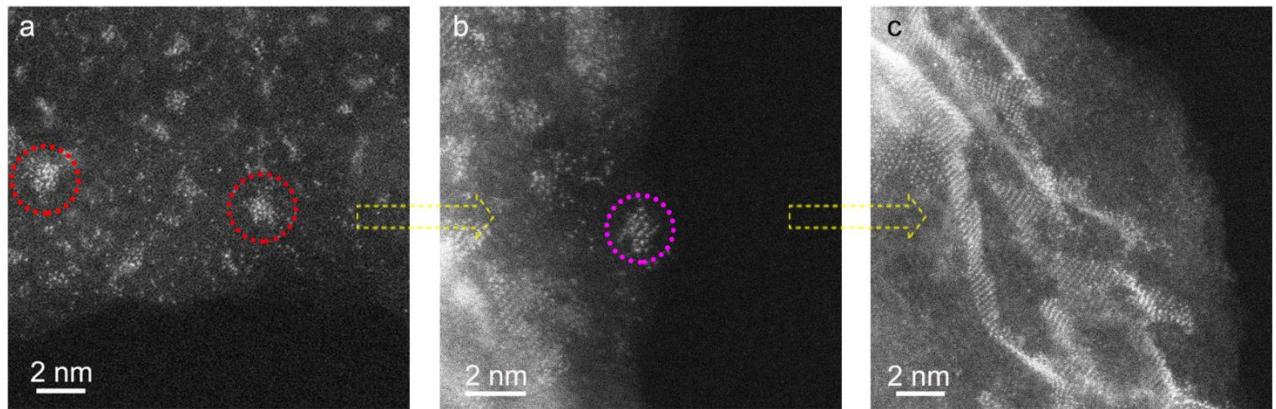
**Fig. S2.** (a, b) SEM image of Mo SAs-Mo Cs.



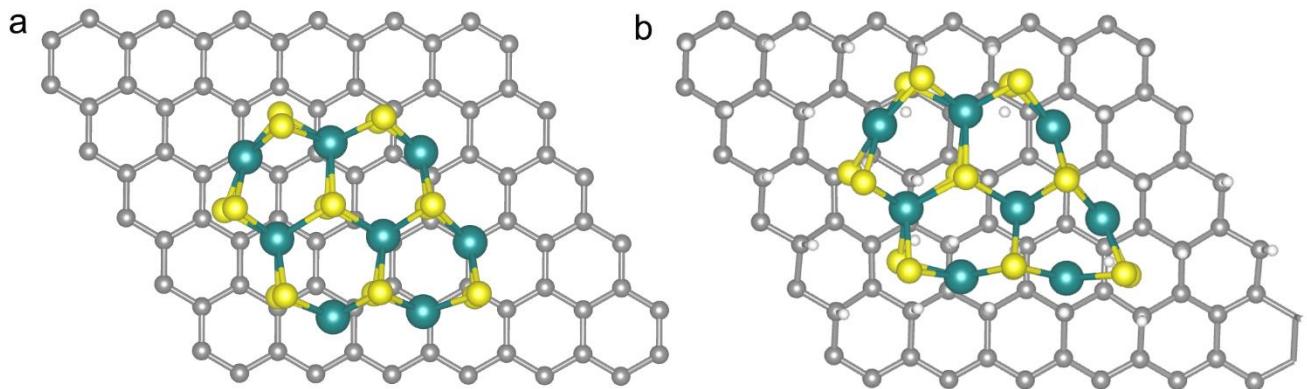
**Fig. S3.** XRD patterns of Mo SAs-Mo Cs and Mo SAs-MoS<sub>2</sub> catalysts.



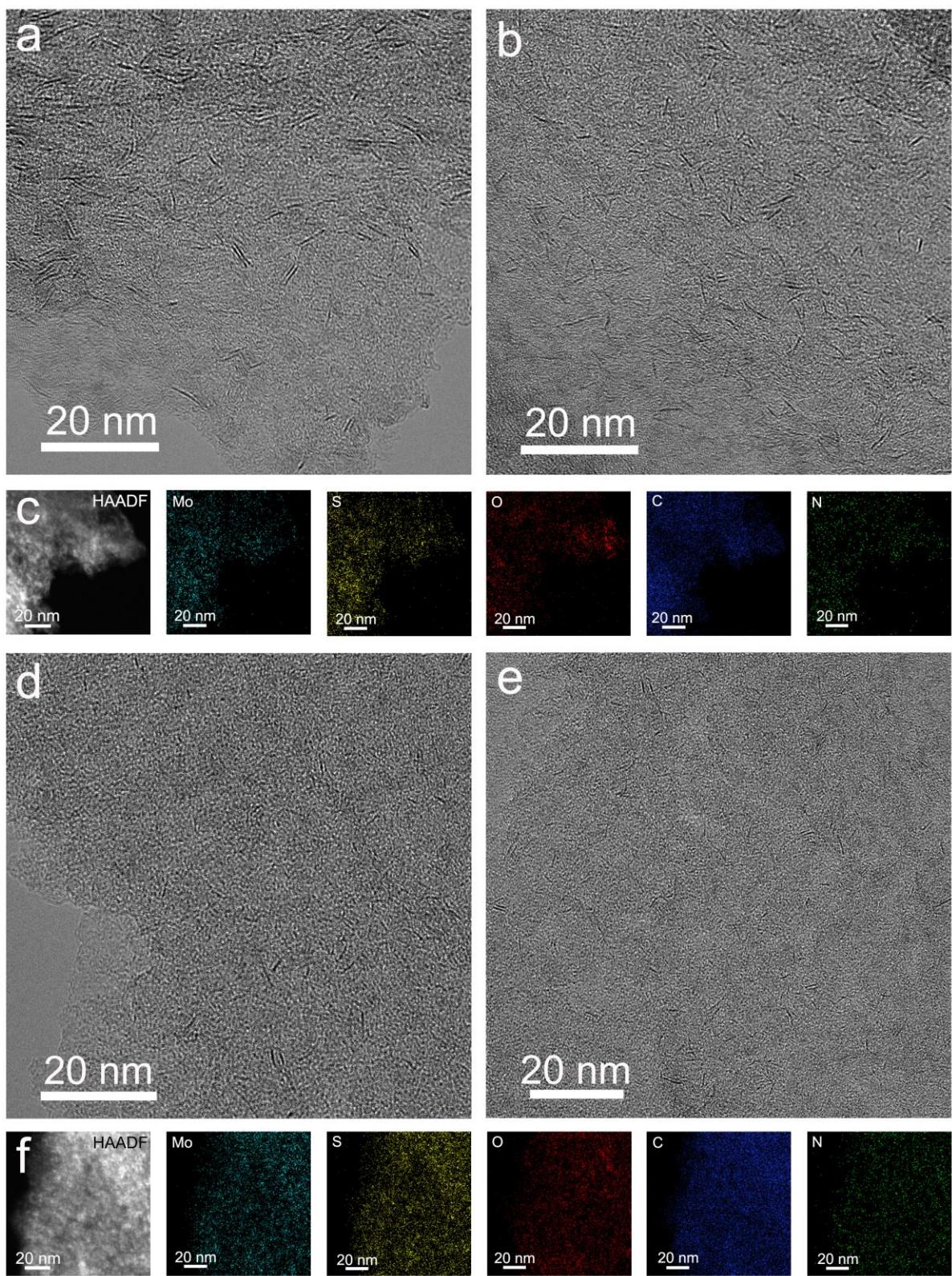
**Fig. S4.** Morphological of Mo SAs-Mo Cs (a) TEM. (b) HRTEM. (c) HAADF-STEM. (d) HAADF-STEM-EDS-mapping. Morphological of Mo SAs-MoS<sub>2</sub> (e) TEM (f) the corresponding distribution of slab length of MoS<sub>2</sub> nanosheets.



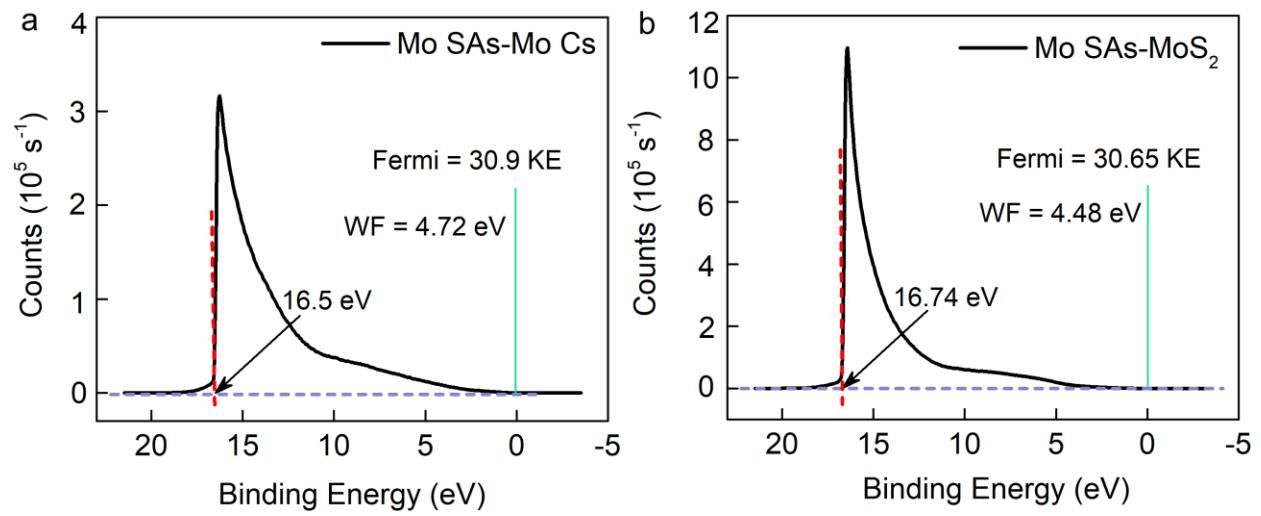
**Fig. S5.** AC-HAADF-STEM for the transformation of Mo clusters to MoS<sub>2</sub>. (a) Mo SAs-Mo Cs. (b) intermediates. (c) Mo SAs-MoS<sub>2</sub>.



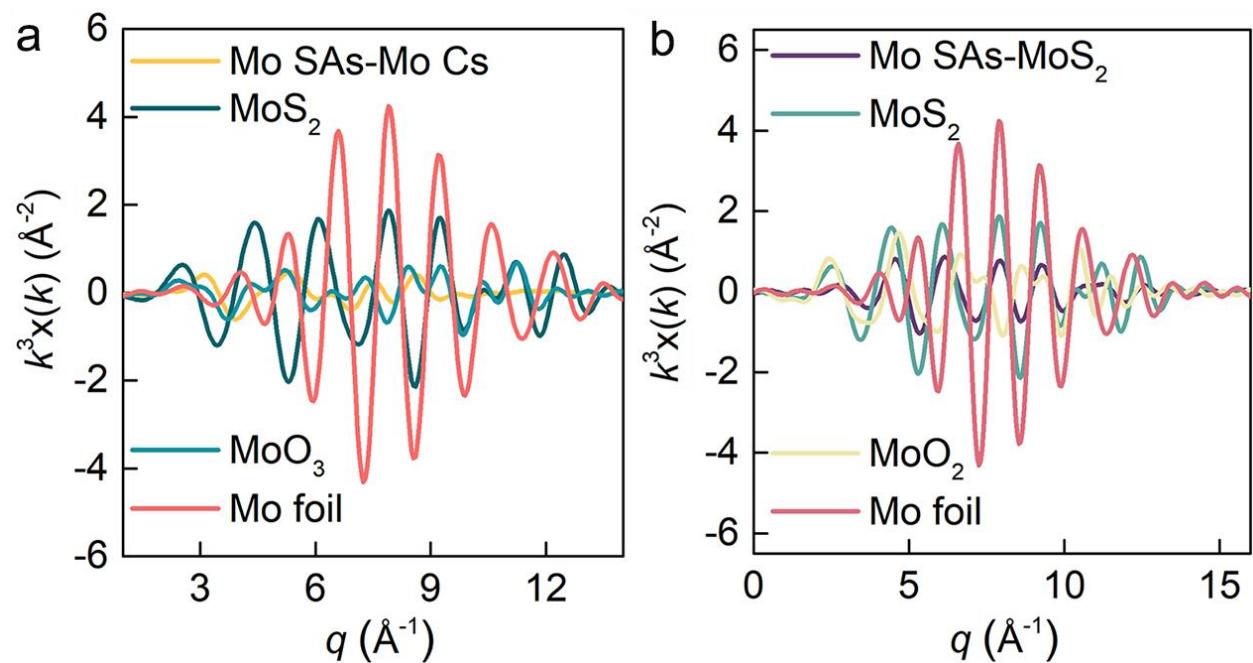
**Fig. S6.** The optimized configurations of (a) MoS<sub>2</sub> adsorption on C and (b) C-H substrate. The cyan, yellow, and grey spheres denote Mo, S, and C atom, respectively.



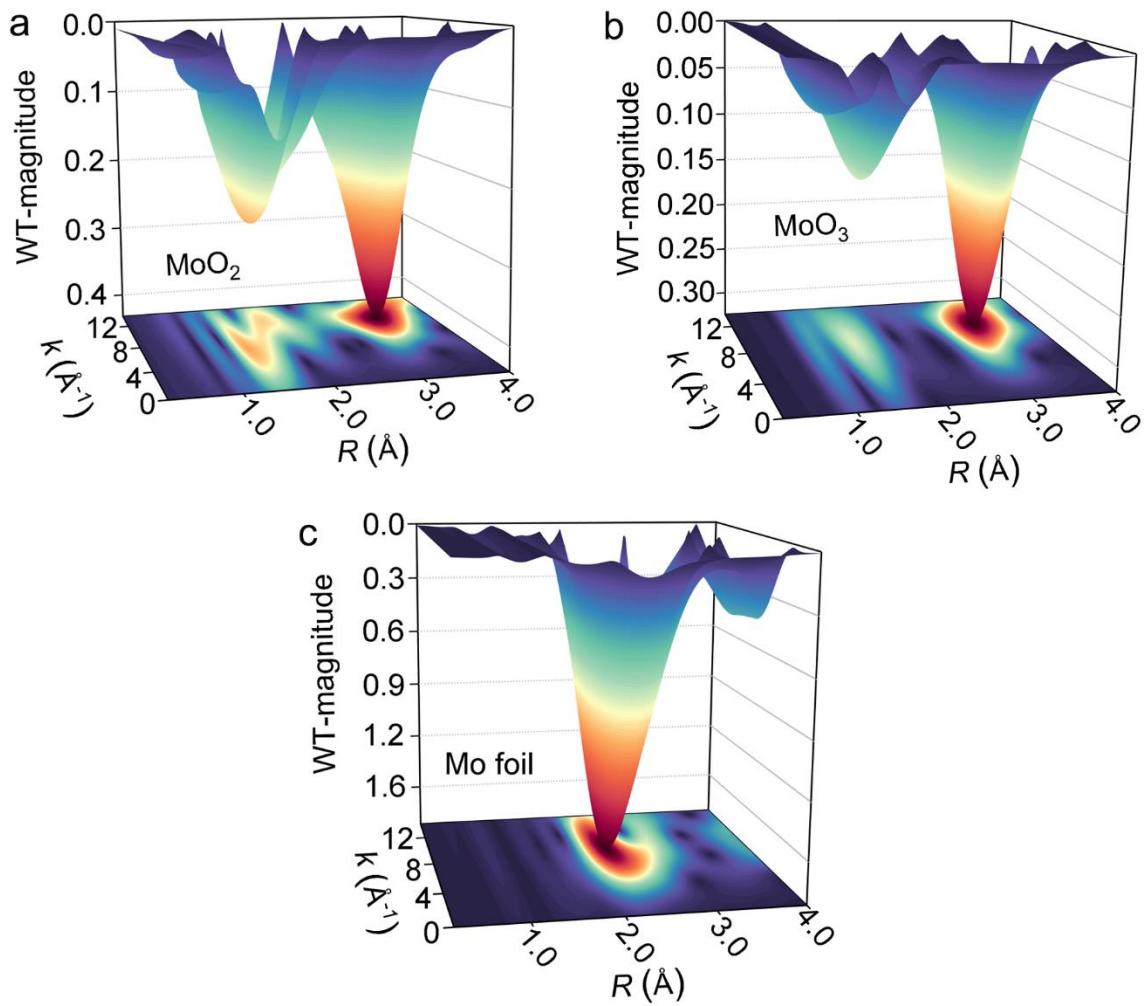
**Fig. S7.** Morphological of TEM images for *in situ* sulfurization of Mo species (a-c) TEM-H<sub>2</sub>. (d-f) TEM-N<sub>2</sub>.



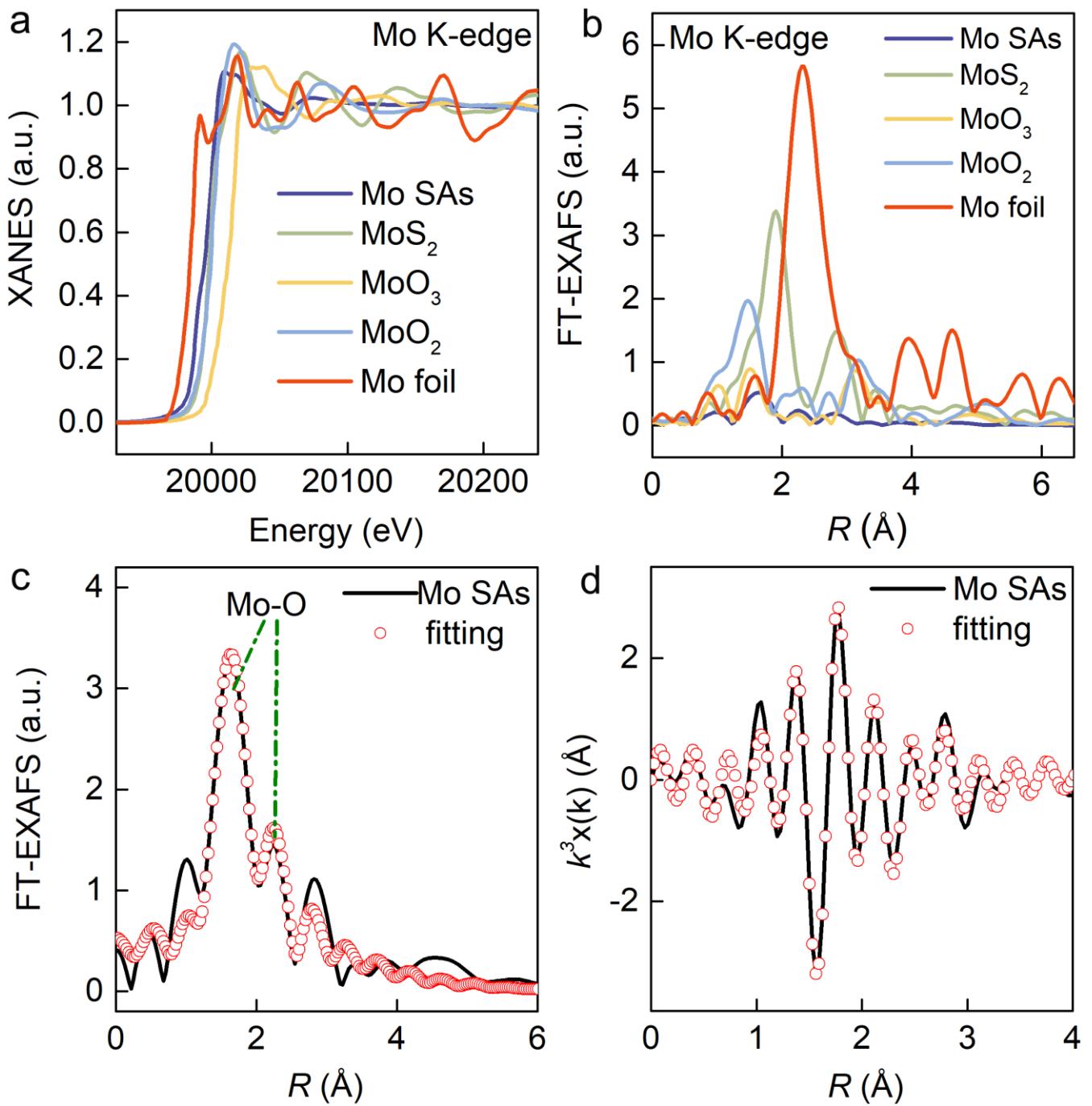
**Fig. S8.** UPS spectra of the catalysts before and after the reaction. (a) Mo SAs-Mo Cs, (b) Mo SAs-MoS<sub>2</sub>.



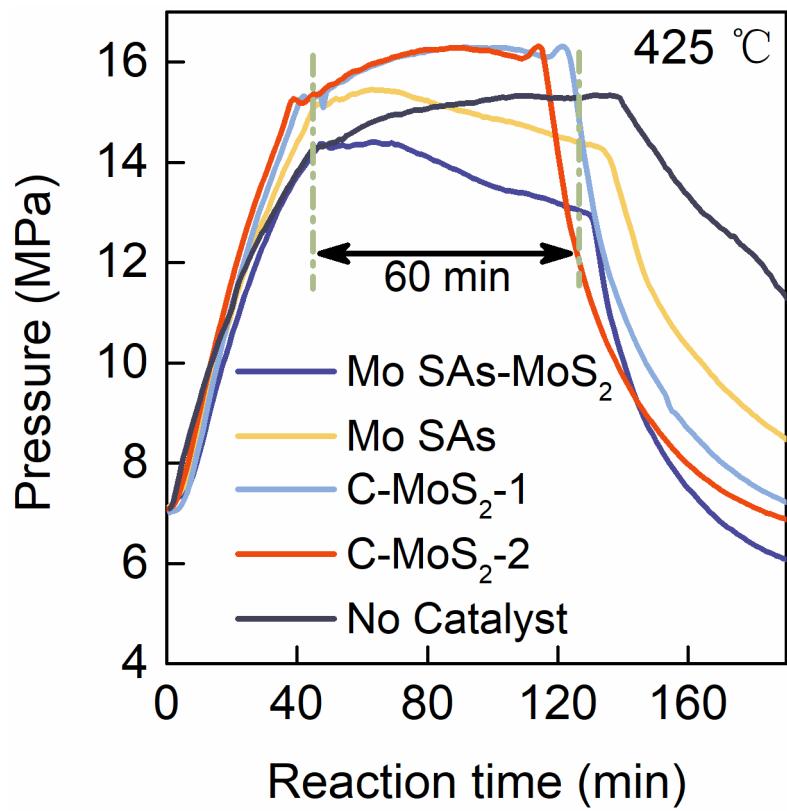
**Fig. S9.** EXAFS fitting curves of (a) Mo SAs-Mo Cs and (b) Mo SAs-MoS<sub>2</sub>.



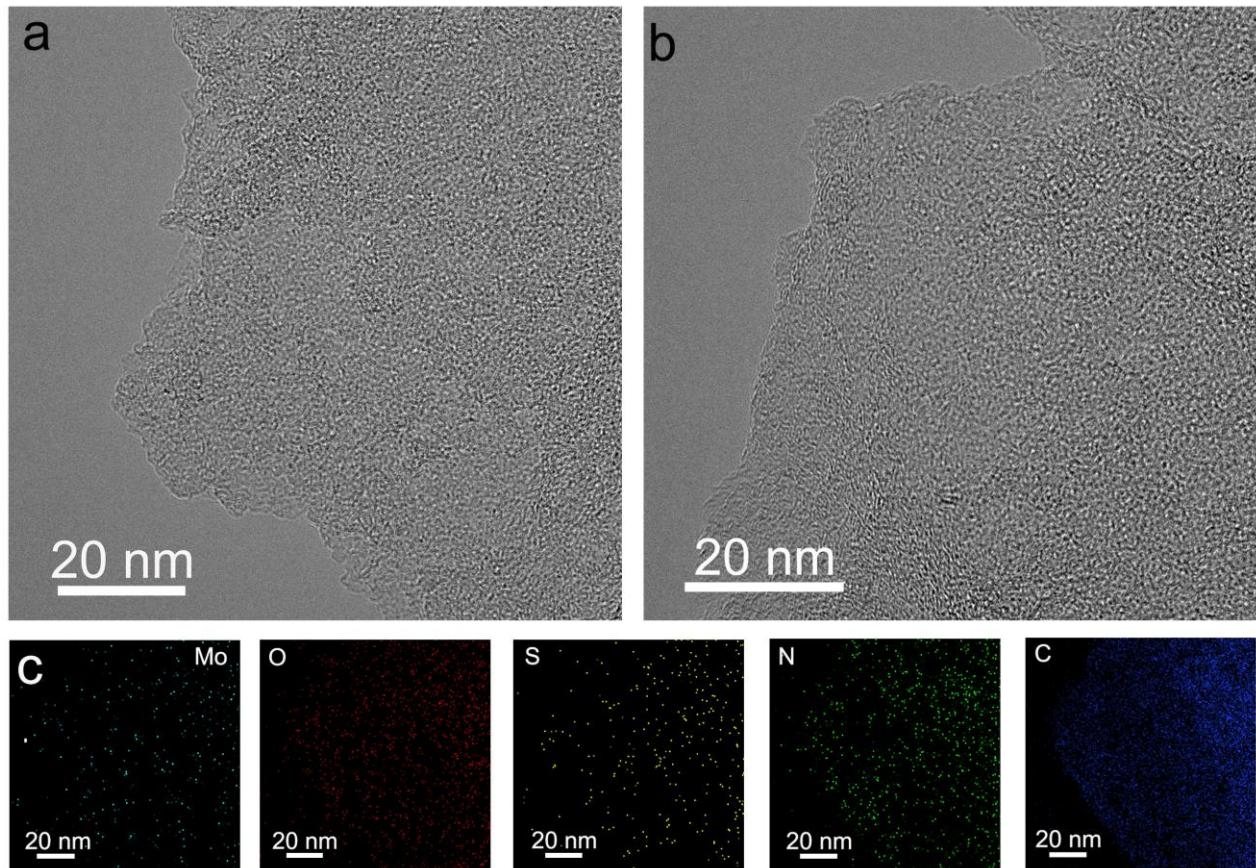
**Fig. S10.** WT contour plots in Mo K-edge of (a)  $\text{MoO}_2$ , (b)  $\text{MoO}_3$  and (c) Mo foil standard.



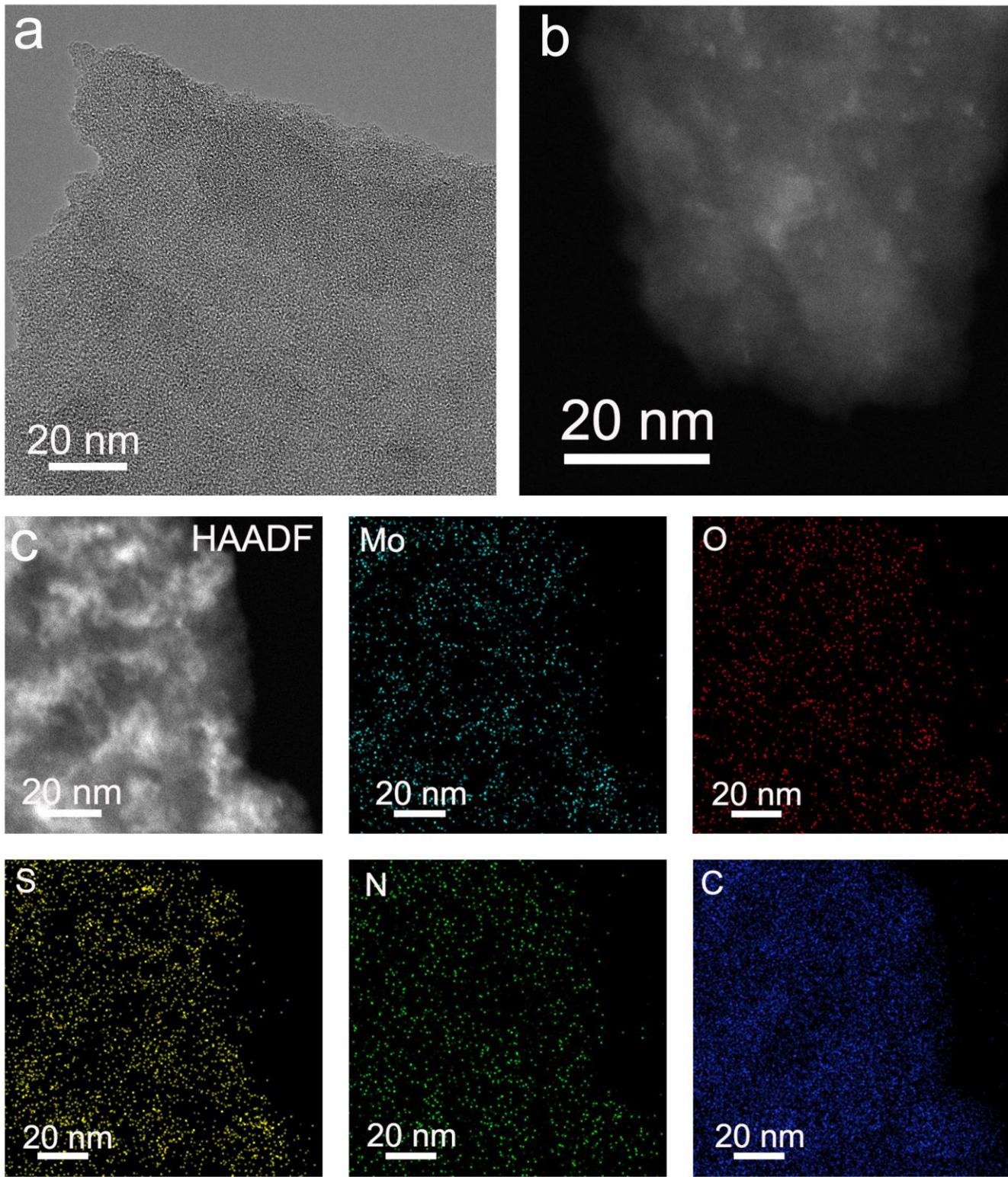
**Fig. S11.** Mo K-edge of Mo SAs and corresponding samples (a) XANES and (b) EXAFS. Mo K-edge EXAFS fitting curve for Mo SAs (c) FT magnitude and (d) imaginary component.



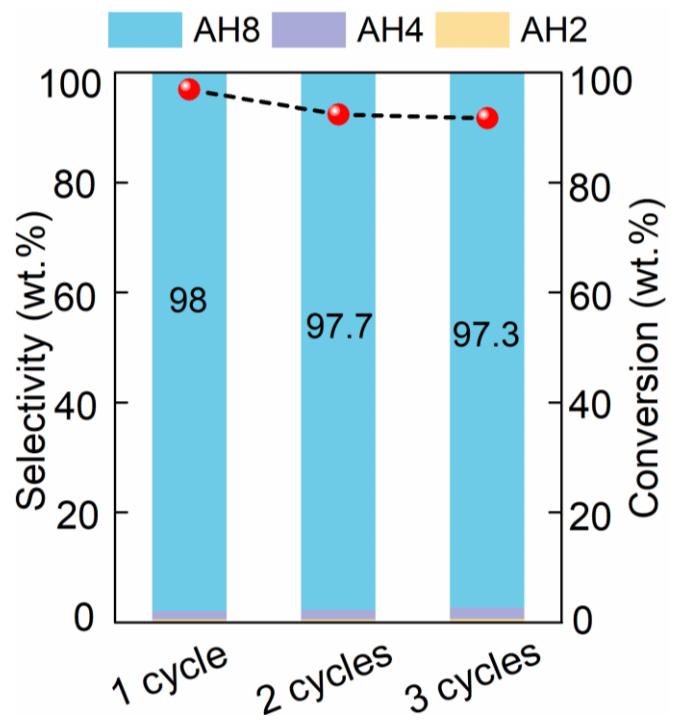
**Fig. S12.** H<sub>2</sub> consumption profiles of VR using Mo SAs-MoS<sub>2</sub> and corresponding catalysts at 698 K.



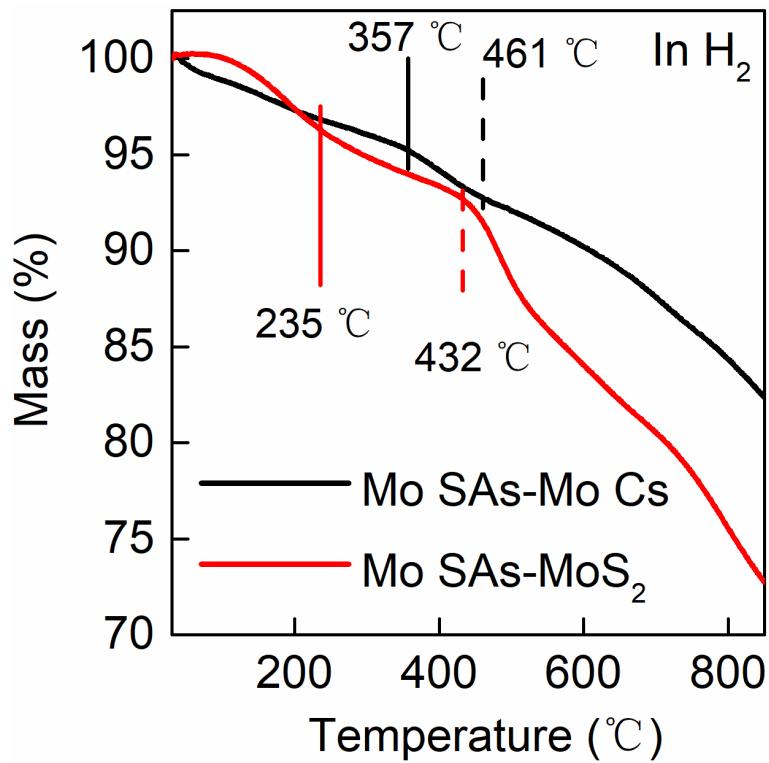
**Fig. S13.** Morphological of TEM images for Mo SAs before the reaction (a-b) HRTEM. (c) Mapping.



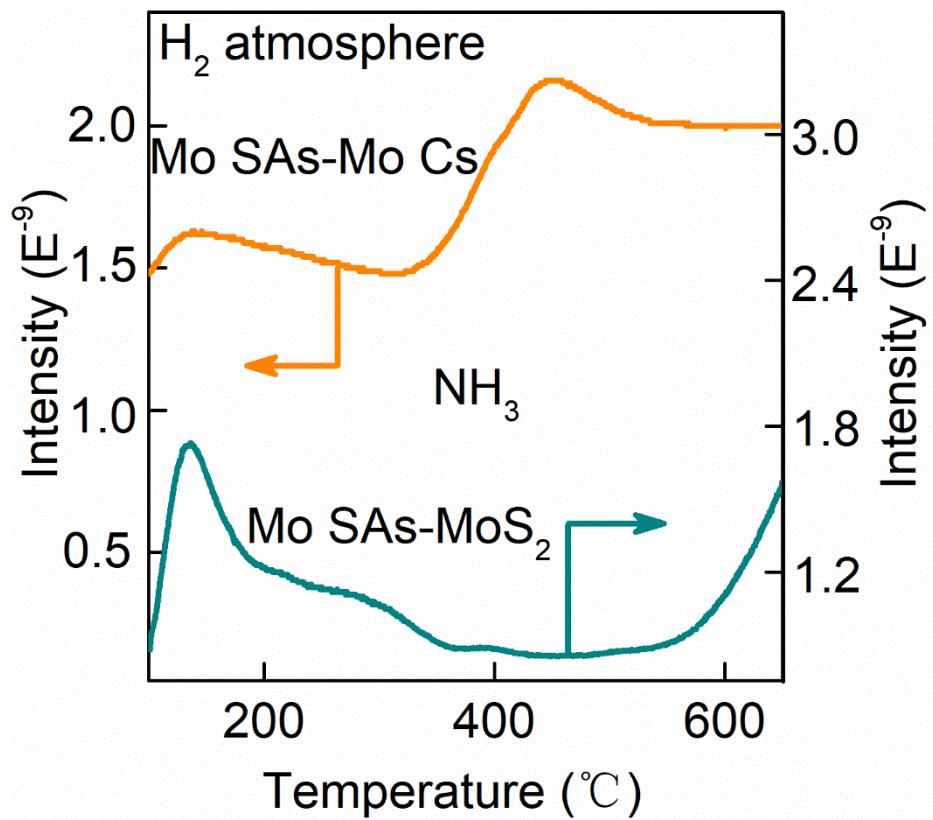
**Fig. S14.** Morphological of TEM images for Mo SAs after the reaction (a-b) HRTEM. (c) HAADF-STEM-mapping.



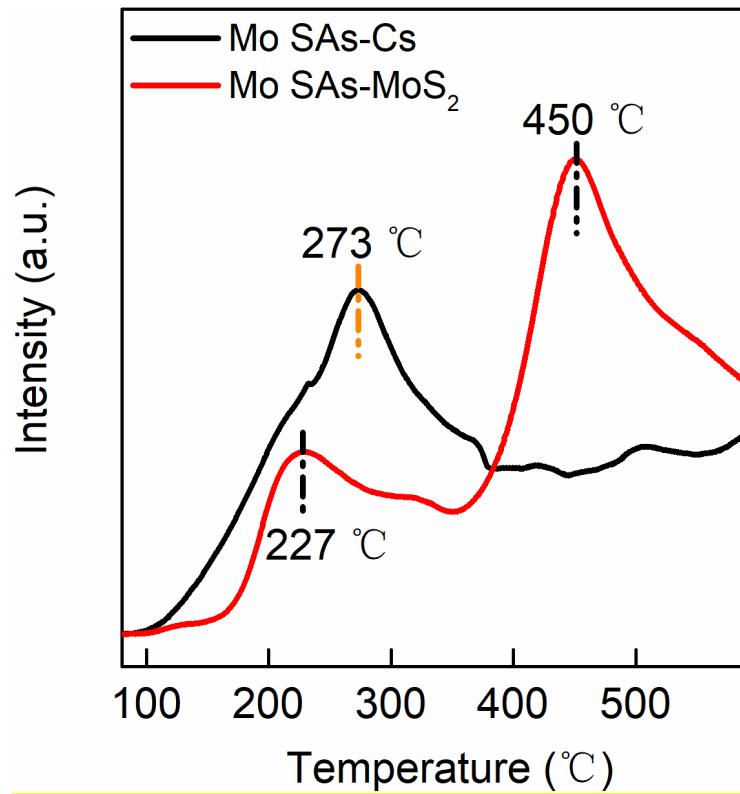
**Fig. S15.** Mass spectra of NH<sub>3</sub> in H<sub>2</sub> atmosphere from 100 ~ 650 °C.



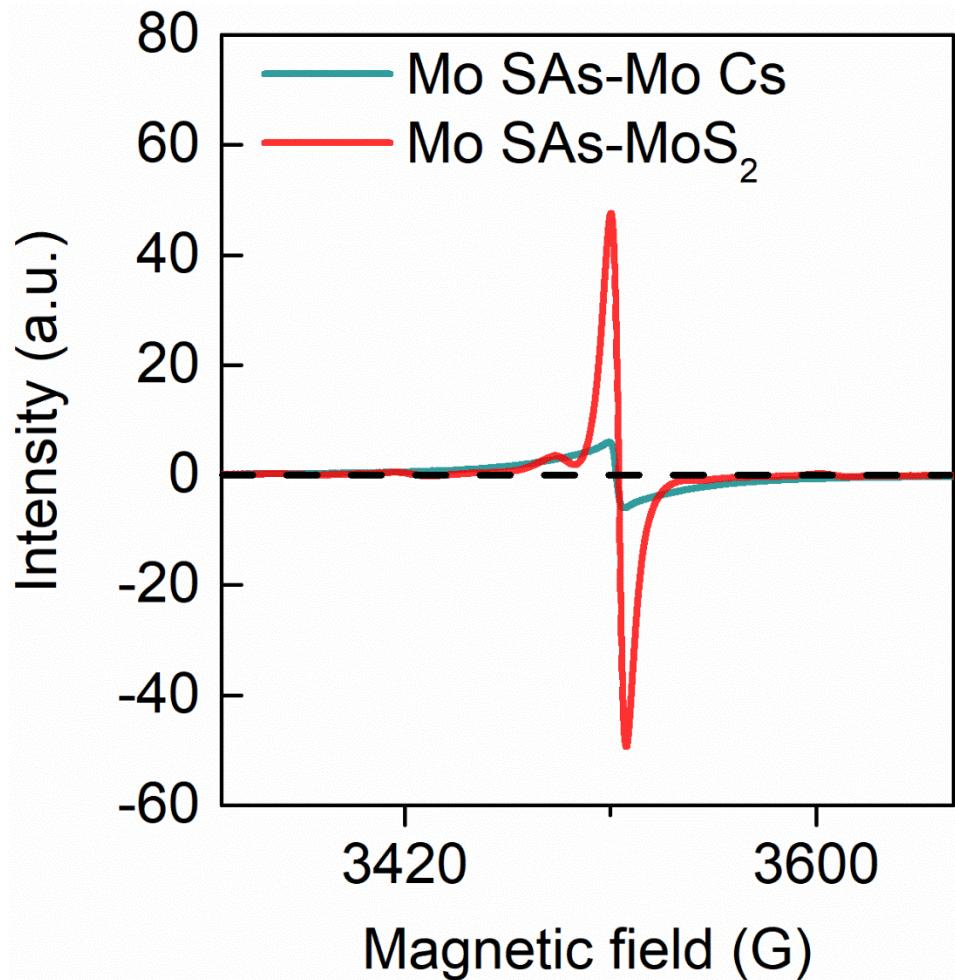
**Fig. S16.** Comparison of TG for Mo SAs-Mo Cs and Mo SAs-MoS<sub>2</sub> catalysts.



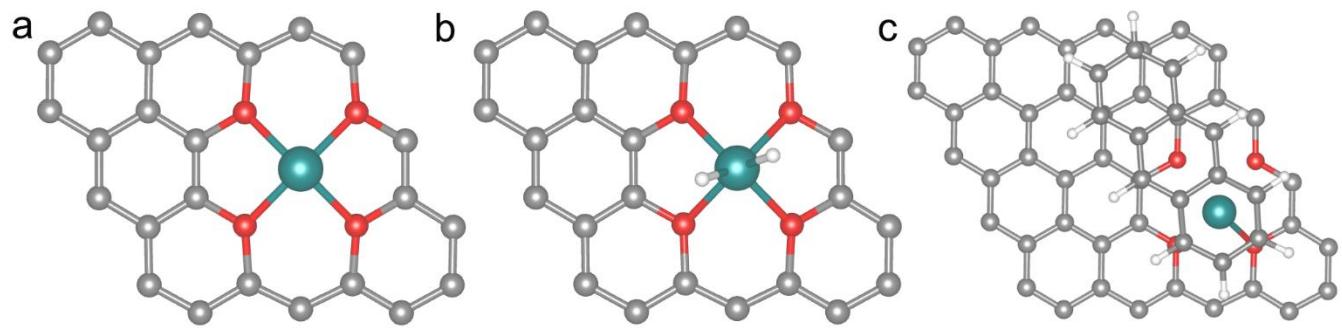
**Fig. S17.** Mass spectra of  $\text{NH}_3$  in  $\text{H}_2$  atmosphere from  $100 \sim 650^\circ\text{C}$ .



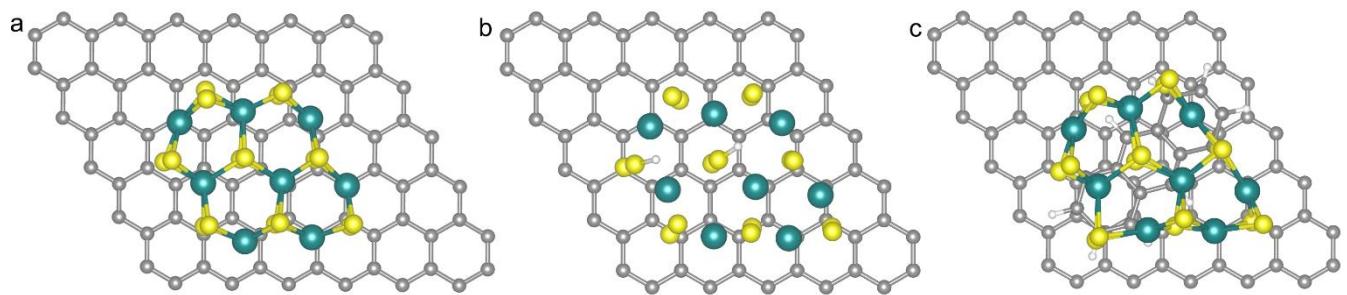
**Fig. S18.** H<sub>2</sub>-TPD of Mo SAs-Cs precursor and Mo SAs-MoS<sub>2</sub> catalyst.



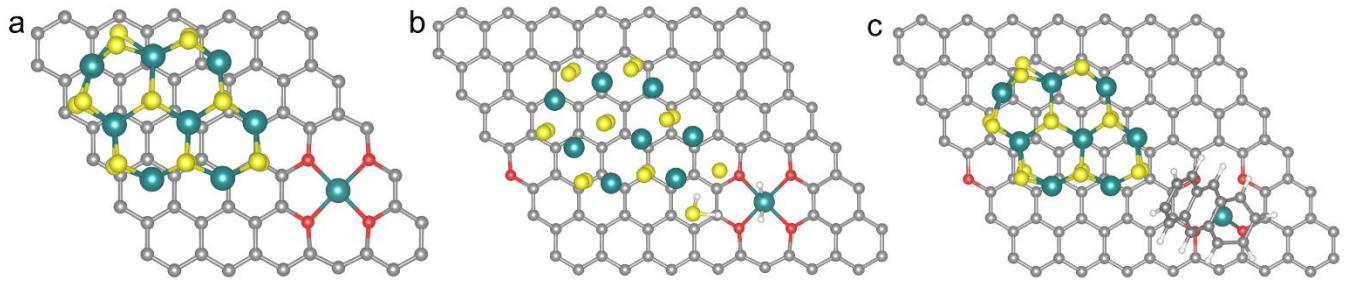
**Fig. S19.** EPR spectra of Mo SAs-Mo Cs and Mo SAs-MoS<sub>2</sub>.



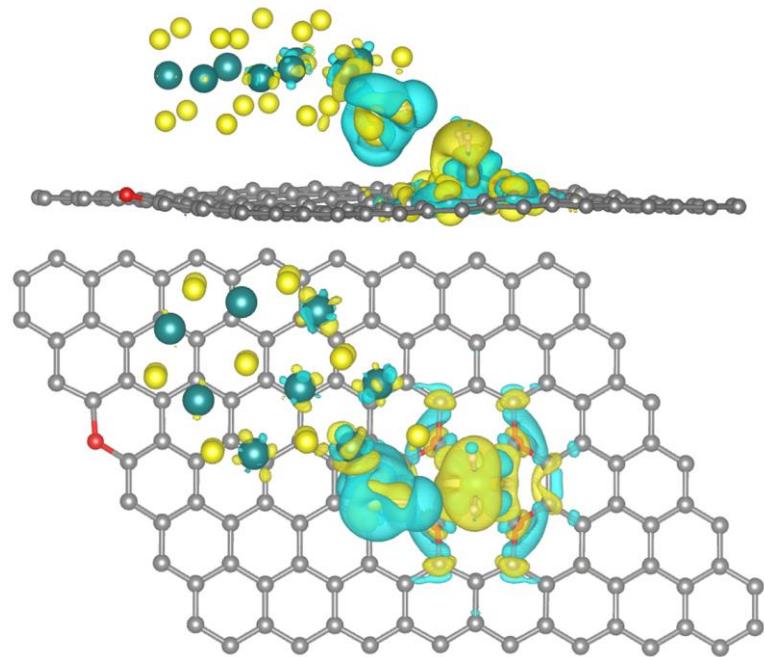
**Fig. S20.** The optimized configurations of (a) C-Mo, (b) C-Mo-H<sub>2</sub> and (c) C-Mo-AH.



**Fig. S21.** The optimized configurations of (a) C-MoS<sub>2</sub>, (b) C-MoS<sub>2</sub>-H<sub>2</sub> and (c) C-MoS<sub>2</sub>-AH.



**Fig. S22.** The optimized configurations of (a) C-Mo-MoS<sub>2</sub>, (b) C-Mo-MoS<sub>2</sub>-H<sub>2</sub> and (c) C-Mo-MoS<sub>2</sub>-AH.



**Fig. S23.** Charge density of anthracene adsorption in C-Mo, C-MoS<sub>2</sub>, C-Mo-MoS<sub>2</sub>.

**Table S1.** The specific components of VR.

VR	Amount
Density (20°C) (g·cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.039
S (wt.%)	5.2
N (wt.%)	0.56
Carbon residue (wt.%)	27.03
Ni (μg·g <sup>-1</sup> )	73.6
V (μg·g <sup>-1</sup> )	204
Fe (μg·g <sup>-1</sup> )	74.7
Ca (μg·g <sup>-1</sup> )	88
Resins (wt.%)	25.78
C7-Asphaltene (wt.%)	15.19
Saturates (wt.%)	12.18
Aromatic (wt.%)	46.59
H/C (atomic)	1.45

**Table S2.** Structural parameters of Mo SAs-Mo Cs, Mo SAs-MoS<sub>2</sub>, and Mo SAs samples extracted from the EXAFS fitting.

Sample	Scatter-ing pair	CN	R(Å)	$\sigma^2$ (10 <sup>-3</sup> Å <sup>2</sup> )	$\Delta E_0$ (eV)	R
Mo SAs-Mo Cs	Mo-O	3.95	1.56 (1)	0.001	10 (7)	0.01
	Mo-Mo	6.22	3.01 (1)	0.004		
Mo SAs-MoS <sub>2</sub>	Mo-O	4.41	1.97 (4)	0.002	7.3 (2)	0.01
	Mo-S	1.73	2.43 (1)	0.003		
Mo SAs	Mo-O	3.62	2.16 (3)	0.004	4.8 (2)	0.02

$S_0^2$  is the amplitude reduction factor  $S_0^2=1.0$ ; CN is the coordination number; R is interatomic distance (the bond length between central atoms and surrounding coordination atoms);  $\sigma^2$  is Debye-Waller factor (a measure of thermal and static disorder in absorber-scatterer distances);  $\Delta E_0$  is edge-energy shift (the difference between the zero kinetic energy value of the sample and that of the theoretical model). R factor is used to value the goodness of the fitting.

**Table S3.** Comparison of hydrogenation performance of Mo SAs-MoS<sub>2</sub> catalysts with various reported catalysts.

Catalyst	Quantities ppm	Temperature °C	Initial pressure MPa	Time h	Coke wt.%	TOF <sub>T</sub> s <sup>-1</sup>	Anthra-cene Conver-sion wt.%	Ref.
Mo SAs-MoS <sub>2</sub>	200	425	7	1	0.6	0.39	99.4	This work
Fe-MoS <sub>2</sub>	2000	425	9	2	1.7	-	-	Fuel. 2024, 374, 132465
NiMo	500	425	7	1	0.9	0.36	98.8	Chem. Eng. J. 2024, 498, 155166
Fe-O-B <sub>24</sub>	30000	440	13	4	2.0	-	-	Fuel. 2023, 332, 126063.
Mo SAs/C	200	425	7	1	0.63	0.35	-	Sci. Bull. 2023, 68, 503-515.
CoWS <sub>2</sub>	150	420	7	2	1.3	0.76	-	J Catal. 2023, 421, 145-155.
Mo/ASA	-	430	11	3	0.5	-	-	Pet. Sci. 2023, 20, 2575-2584.

Mo-A/R	150	430	7	1	0.5	1.15	-	Chem. Eng. Res. Des. <b>2022</b> , 321, 124029.
FeNiS <sub>x</sub>	500	430	7	1	1.4	-	-	Fuel. <b>2022</b> , 321, 124029.
[N <sub>x</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> MoO <sub>4</sub>	-	430	12.3	3	1.1	0.21	-	Chem. Eng. Sci. <b>2022</b> , 253, 117516.
MoS <sub>2</sub> -ES	360	400	5	4	3.2	0.089	-	J. Catal. <b>2019</b> , 369, 111-121.
MoS <sub>2</sub>	2000	410	8	1	1.84	-		

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