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2	Supporting Information
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4	Mechanically driven stainless steel-initiated activation of S-H bonds
5	to construct disulfides
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18 Table of Contents

Experimental details	р.
Figure S1 The standard curve of substrate (left) and product (right)	4
Figure S2 GC chromatography of reaction solution with internal	
standard. Analysis method: HP-5 (30 m $\times$ 0.32 mm $\times$ 0.25 $\mu m,$ the initial	
temperature was 90 °C for 0 min, then it was heated to 100 °C at a rate of	5
2 °C/min for 2 min, and then heated to 250 °C at a rate of 10 °C/min for 2	
min).	
Table S1 The reaction time screening.	6
Figure S3 The reaction time screening.	6
Table S2 The reaction solvent screening.	7
Figure S4 The reaction solvent screening.	7
Table S3 Screening of ball mill media types.	8
Figure S5 Screening of ball mill media types.	8
Table S4 Ball material ratio screening.	9
Figure S6 Ball material ratio screening.	9
Table S5 Ball mill speed screening.	10
Figure S7 Ball mill speed screening.	10
Figure S8 SEM image and particle size distribution of SS NPs.	11
<b>Figure S9</b> SEM image and particle size distribution of SS NPs after reaction.	11
<b>Figure S10</b> SS NPs (a, b, d) HRTEM images and lattice fringe analysis at greater magnifications; (c, e, f) Fast Fourier Transform plots (FFT); (g) Electronic image and elemental content distribution of EDS spectra.	12
<b>Figure S11</b> SEM and TEM characterization of SS NPs after 5 cycles. (a) SEM images of SS NPs; (b~c) HRTEM images and lattice fringe analysis of SS NPs; (d~h) Electronic image and elemental distribution of EDS spectra.	12
Figure S12 The HRMS of tempo-adduct: calcd. for $C_{16}H_{25}NO_2NaS$ [M + Na] <sup>+</sup> 318.1504, found 318.1509.	13

	S-(4-methoxyphenyl) 4-methoxybenzenesulfonothioate byproducts.	14
	Spectroscopic Data	15
	<sup>1</sup> H and <sup>13</sup> C NMR Spectra	22
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
29		
30		
31		
32		
33		
34		
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Figure S1 The standard curve of substrate (left) and product (right)

52 Use the internal standard method for quantitative analysis of reactants to 53 minimize errors. A 20 mM solution of 2-nitrotoluene was employed as the internal standard to establish standard curves. A series of standard solutions with known 54 55 concentrations (3 mM, 6 mM, 9 mM, 12 mM, 15 mM, 18 mM, 21 mM, 24 mM, 27 56 mM, and 30 mM) of the substrate 4-methoxyphenylthiophenol (1a) and the product bis(4-methoxyphenyl)disulfide (2a) were prepared. The standard curve is drawn by 57 58 using the linear relationship between the peak area ratio of 1a (or 2a) and the internal standard and the concentration. Finally, 1a (or 2a) internal standard solutions of 59 different concentrations were analysis by gas chromatography. Analysis method: HP-5 60  $(30 \text{ m} \times 0.32 \text{ mm} \times 0.25 \text{ }\mu\text{m})$ , the initial temperature was 90 °C for 0 min, then it was 61 62 heated to 100 °C at a rate of 2 °C/min for 2 min, and then heated to 250 °C at a rate of 10 °C/min for 2 min). 63



Figure S2 GC chromatography of reaction solution with internal standard. Analysis method: HP-5 (30 m  $\times$  0.32 mm  $\times$  0.25 µm, the initial temperature was 90 °C for 0 min, then it was heated to 100 °C at a rate of 2 °C/min for 2 min, and then heated to 250 °C at a rate of 10 °C/min for 2 min).

### 69 **Table S1** The reaction time screening.



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Entry <sup>[a]</sup>	Time (min)	Conversion (%)-1a <sup>[b]]</sup>	Yield (%)-2a <sup>[b</sup>	
1	5	75.5	69.9	
2	10	83.8	75.1	
3	20	98.5	89.0	
4	30	98.5	92.2	
5	40	98.5	88.5	
6	50	98.5	90.9	
7	60	98.5	90.1	
8	120	98.5	87.1	
9	240	98.5	92.1	

[a] Reaction conditions: 1a (0.3 mmol), solvent-free, ten 8 mm and thirty 5 mm tungsten carbide balls were added

72 into a 100 mL stainless steel jar, and the milling speed was 500 rpm, reaction at room temperature for xx min.

73 [b] Yields and conversions were determined by GC analysis with an internal standard.

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Figure S3 The reaction time screening.

### 77 Table S2 The reaction solvent screening.

78	-0	SH <u>mechanical drive</u> Solvent, r.t., air time (30 min), 500 rpi tungsten carbide ball	m o S s s 2a	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
	Entry <sup>[a]</sup>	Solvent (mL)	Conversion (%)-1a <sup>[b]]</sup>	Yield (%)-2a <sup>[b</sup>
	1	free	98.5	92.2
	2	H <sub>2</sub> O (2)	98.5	88.7
	3	EA (2)	48.8	40.3
	4	MeCN (2)	98.5	88.9
	5	MeOH (2)	98.5	93.2
	6	DCM (2)	55.4	45.6
	7	n-hexane (2)	83.5	79.8
	8	acetone (2)	80.3	77.4
	9	PE (2)	70.5	58.6
	10	DMF (2)	98.5	83.4

[a] Reaction conditions: 1a (0.3 mmol), solvent was xx (2 mL), ten 8 mm and thirty 5 mm tungsten carbide balls

80 were added into a 100 mL stainless steel jar, and the milling speed was 500 rpm, reaction at room temperature for

81 30 min.

82 [b] Yields and conversions were determined by GC analysis with an internal standard.



Figure S4 The reaction solvent screening.

### 85 **Table S3** Screening of ball mill media types.

86	Solvent-free, r.t., air time (30 min), 500 rpm grinding media 2a			
	Entry <sup>[a]</sup>	Grinding Ball	Conversion (%)-1a <sup>[b]]</sup>	Yield (%)-2a <sup>[b</sup>
	1	Tungsten carbide balls	98.5	92.2
	2 <sup>[c]</sup>	Agate beads	21.3	19.1
	3 <sup>[c]</sup>	Zirconia balls	17.6	13.2

87 [a] Reaction conditions: 1a (0.3 mmol), solvent-free, ten 8 mm and thirty 5 mm different grinding balls were

added into a 100 mL stainless steel jar, and the milling speed was 500 rpm, reaction at room temperature for 30min.

90 [b] Yields and conversions were determined by GC analysis with an internal standard.

91 [c] The ball mill jar used is an agate jar.

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Figure S5 Screening of ball mill media types.

### 95 **Table S4** Ball material ratio screening.

96	Solvent-free, r.t., air time (30 min), xx rpm tungsten carbide balls 2a			
	Entry <sup>[a]</sup>	<b>Ball Material Ratio</b>	Conversion (%)-1a <sup>[b]]</sup>	Yield (%)-2a <sup>[b</sup>
	1	300: 1	31.9	31.3
	2	600 <b>:</b> 1	67.1	65.5
	3	900: 1	96.8	95.3
	4	1200: 1	99.9	99.8
	5	1500: 1	97.8	97.4

97 [a] Reaction conditions: 1a (0.3 mmol), solvent-free, x 8 mm and x 5 mm tungsten carbide balls were added into a

98 100 mL stainless steel jar, and the milling speed was 500 rpm, reaction at room temperature for 30 min.

99 [b] Yields and conversions were determined by GC analysis with an internal standard.



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Figure S6 Ball material ratio screening.

### 103 Table S5 Ball mill speed screening.

104	Solvent-free, r.t., air time (30 min), xx rpm tungsten carbide balls 2a				
	Entry <sup>[a]</sup>	Speed (rpm)	Conversion (%)-1a <sup>[b]]</sup>	Yield (%)-2a <sup>[b</sup>	
	1	100	64.8	59.5	
	2	200	72.1	61.6	
	3	300	85.4	86.3	
	4	400	99.0	97.0	
	5	500	99.9	99.8	

105 [a] Reaction conditions: 1a (0.3 mmol), solvent-free, eight 8 mm and twenty-four 5 mm tungsten carbide balls

were added into a 100 mL stainless steel jar, and the milling speed was xx rpm, reaction at room temperature for30 min.

108 [b] Yields and conversions were determined by GC analysis with an internal standard.

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Figure S7 Ball mill speed screening.







Figure S8 SEM image and particle size distribution of SS NPs before reaction.



Figure S9 SEM image and particle size distribution of SS NPs after reaction.



Figure S10 SS NPs (a, b, d) HRTEM images and lattice fringe analysis at greater magnifications;
(c, e, f) Fast Fourier Transform plots (FFT); (g) Electronic image and elemental content
distribution of EDS spectra.



Figure S11 SEM and TEM characterization of SS NPs after 5 cycles. (a) SEM images of SS NPs;
(b~c) HRTEM images and lattice fringe analysis of SS NPs; (d~h) Electronic image and elemental
distribution of EDS spectra.





2a

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#### 1,2-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)disulfane (2a): CAS Number 5335-87-5. 137

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Following the general procedure, the title compound was isolated as a yellow solid (Yield 98%, 41.0 mg). <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.40 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 4H), 6.84 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 4H), 3.80 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 160.0, 132.8, 128.5,

## 1,2-di-o-tolyldisulfane (2b): CAS Number 4032-80-8.



114.7, 55.5.

Following the general procedure, the title compound was isolated as a vellow brown solid (Yield 91%, 33.6 mg). <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.53 (dd, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 7.19-7.12 (m, 6H), 2.45 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  137.3, 135.5, 130.4, 128.5, 127.4, 126.8, 20.1.

# 1,2-di-m-tolyldisulfane (2c): CAS Number 20333-41-9.



Following the general procedure, the title compound was isolated as a yellow solid (Yield 94%, 34.6 mg). <sup>1</sup>H **NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) : δ 7.33–7.31 (m, 4H), 7.22-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.06–7.04 (m, 2H), 2.34 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 139.1, 137.0, 129.0, 128.1,

128.0, 124.6, 21.5.

1,2-di-p-tolyldisulfane (2d): CAS Number 103-19-5. 160

161 162 163 2d 164

Following the general procedure, the title compound was isolated as a yellow solid (Yield 88%, 32.6 mg). <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.40 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.12 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 2.34 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 137.5, 134.0, 129.9, 128.6, 21.2.

#### 1,2-bis(4-isopropylphenyl)disulfane (2e): CAS Number 622407-64-1. 167

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Following the general procedure, the title compound was isolated as a vellow oil liquid (Yield 91%, 41.1 15

mg). <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.45 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 170 2.95-2.86 (m, 2H), 1.24 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 12H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  148.4, 171 134.4, 128.3, 127.4, 33.9, 24.0. 172

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#### 1,2-bis(2-methoxyphenyl)disulfane (2f): CAS Number 59014-89-0. 174



Following the general procedure, the title compound was isolated as a white solid (Yield 95%, 39.8 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) :  $\delta$  7.54 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.22-7.17 (m, 2H), 6.92 (td, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (dd, J= 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz,

CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  156.6, 127.8, 127.6, 124.6, 121.4, 110.5, 56.0. 180

#### 1,2-bis(3-methoxyphenyl)disulfane (2g): CAS Number 59014-89-0. 182



the general procedure, the title Following compound was isolated as a yellow liquid (Yield 97%, 40.3 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.22 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.10–7.07 (m, 4H), 6.78-6.75 (m, 2H), 3.77 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101

MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 160.1, 138.4, 130.0, 119.6, 113.2, 112.6, 55.4.

### 1,2-bis(2-chlorophenyl)disulfane (2h): CAS Number 31121-19-4.



Following the general procedure, the title compound was isolated as a white solid (Yield 88%, 37.8 mg). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.55 (dt, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (dt, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.25-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.14 (m, 2H))2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 134.4, 131.9, 129.8,

127.9, 127.7, 127.2. 196

1,2-bis(2-bromophenyl)disulfane (2i): CAS Number 71112-91-9. 198



Following the general procedure, the title compound was isolated as a white solid (Yield 87%, 48.9 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.55-7.51 (m, 4H), 7.29–7.25 (m, 2H), 7.08 (td, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 136.2, 133.0, 128.3, 128.0, 126.9, 121.1.

### 205 **1,2-bis(3-chlorophenyl)disulfane (2j):** CAS Number 19742-92-8.

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Following the general procedure, the title compound was isolated as a yellow liquid (Yield 89%, 38.3 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.47 (s, 2H), 7.35 (dt, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.24–7.19 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101

210 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 138.5, 135.2, 130.3, 127.7, 127.1, 125.4.

# 1,2-bis(3-bromophenyl)disulfane (2k): CAS Number 19742-90-6.

213 214 Br

CI

S

2j

S

2k

Following the general procedure, the title compound was isolated as a yellow oil liquid (Yield 84%, 47.4 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.62 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.41–7.35 (m, 4H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 138.7, 130.6, 130.6, 129.9, 125.9, 123.3.

# 219 **1,2-bis(4-fluorophenyl)disulfane (2l):** CAS Number 405-31-2.



Following the general procedure, the title compound was isolated as a yellow liquid (Yield 99.6%, 38.0 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.47–7.43 (m, 4H), 7.04–6.99 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 

224 162.7 ( $J_{C-F} = 249.5 \text{ Hz}$ ), 132.2 ( $J_{C-F} = 3.0 \text{ Hz}$ ), 131.4 ( $J_{C-F} = 8.1 \text{ Hz}$ ), 116.4 ( $J_{C-F} = 22.2 \text{ Hz}$ ).

### 1,2-bis(4-chlorophenyl)disulfane (2m): CAS Number 1142-19-4.

CI



Following the general procedure, the title compound was isolated as a yellowish-white solid (Yield 90%, 38.9 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.41–7.38 (m, 4H), 7.29–7.25 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, 120.4

- 232 CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 135.2, 133.7, 129.4, 129.4.
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1,2-bis(3-bromophenyl)disulfane (2n): CAS Number 5335-84-2.



Following the general procedure, the title compound was isolated as a yellowish-white solid (Yield 84%, 47.4 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.44–7.41 (m, 4H), 7.34–7.32 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):

**4,4'-disulfanediyldiphenol (20):** CAS Number 15015-57-3.







### **1,2-dicyclohexyldisulfane (2x):** CAS Number 2550-40-5.



![](_page_19_Figure_4.jpeg)

Following the general procedure the title compound was isolated as a white solid 341 (Yield 21%, 21.9 mg). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.60-7.56 (m, 8H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR 342 (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  140.9, 129.6 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 32.3 Hz), 126.7, 126.3 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 4.04 Hz), 343 124.0 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 272.7$  Hz). 344 345 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(o-tolyl)disulfane (3a): CAS Number 2445788-86-1. 346 Following the general procedure the title compound was 347 isolated as a yellow oily liquid (Yield 33%, 26.3 mg). 348 S <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.63–7.59 (m, 1H), 349 0 7.43–7.39 (m, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 3H), 6.84–6.81 (m, 350 3a 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, 351 352 CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 160.0, 137.8, 136.1, 132.3, 130.5, 129.4, 128.0, 127.6, 126.7, 114.8, 55.5, 20.2. 353 354 1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)disulfane (3aa): CAS Number 355 2492436-80-1. 356 Following the general procedure the title compound 357 s´<sup>S</sup> was isolated as a yellow oily liquid (Yield 33%, 358 CI O 29.6 mg). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.35 (d, J 359 3aa = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.24–7.17 (m, 4H), 6.83–6.81 (m, 360 2H), 3.89 (s, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 159.8, 135.5, 133.4, 361 132.2, 130.9, 128.7, 127.8, 114.7, 55.5, 42.5. 362 363 364 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)disulfane (3ab): CAS Number 365 1670249-61-2. 366 Following the general procedure the title compound 367  $F_3C$ was isolated as a yellow oily liquid (Yield 46%, 368 S s´ 43.6 mg). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.63 (d, J 369  $\cap$ = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.45–7.41 370 3ab (m, 2H), 6.86–6.83 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR 371 (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  160.2, 142.5 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 2.02 Hz), 132.0, 129.0 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 33.3 Hz), 372 127.2, 127.1, 126.0 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 4.04$  Hz), 124.2 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 272.7$  Hz), 115.0, 55.5. 373 374

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190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 f1 (ppm)

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