

Supplementary Information

Biotemplated synthesis of highly divided MoS₂ catalysts.

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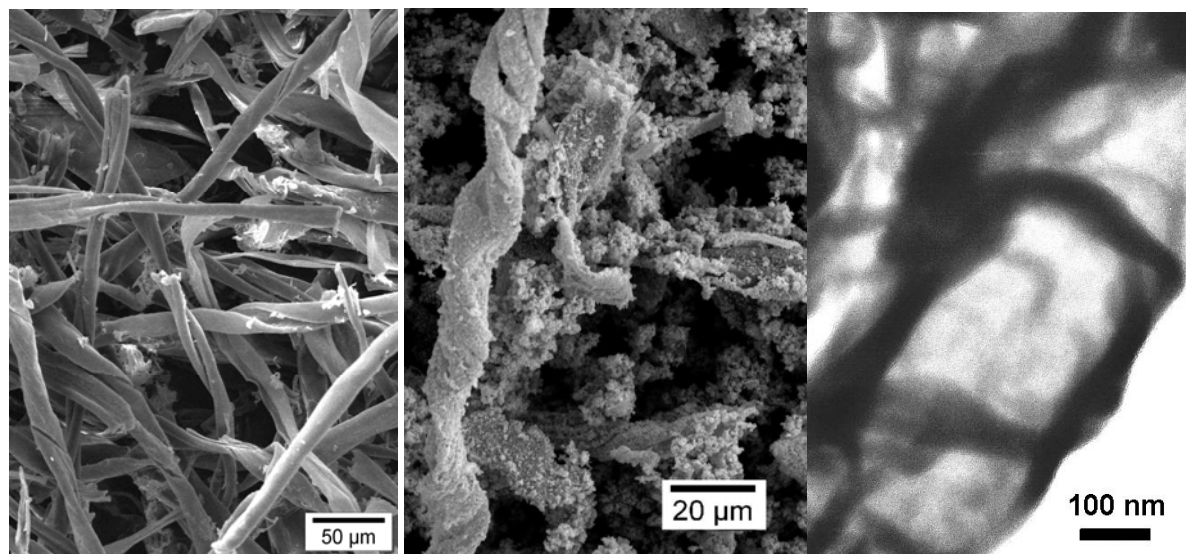


Fig. S1 SEM picture of the initial cotton fibres (left); of the solid A (middle); TEM image of the solid A representing interwoven macropores with variable walls thickness (right).

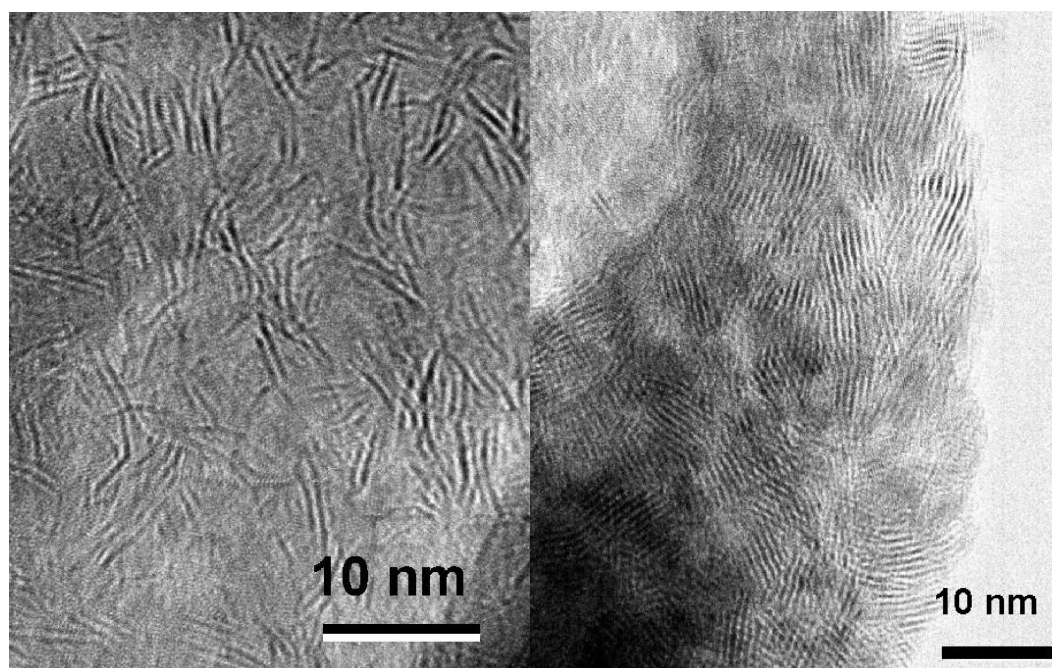


Fig S2 TEM images of the solids B (left) and E (right).

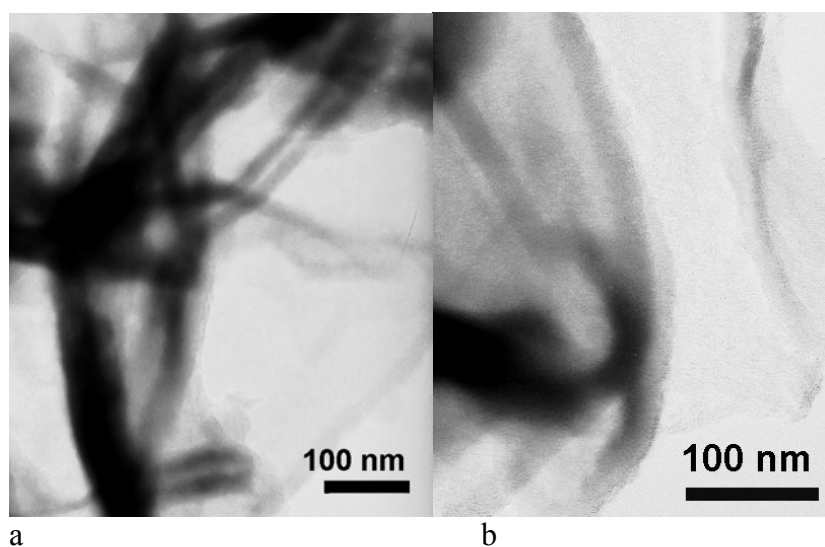


Fig. S3 low-resolution TEM images of the solid B showing different zones with typical entangled tubular morphology.

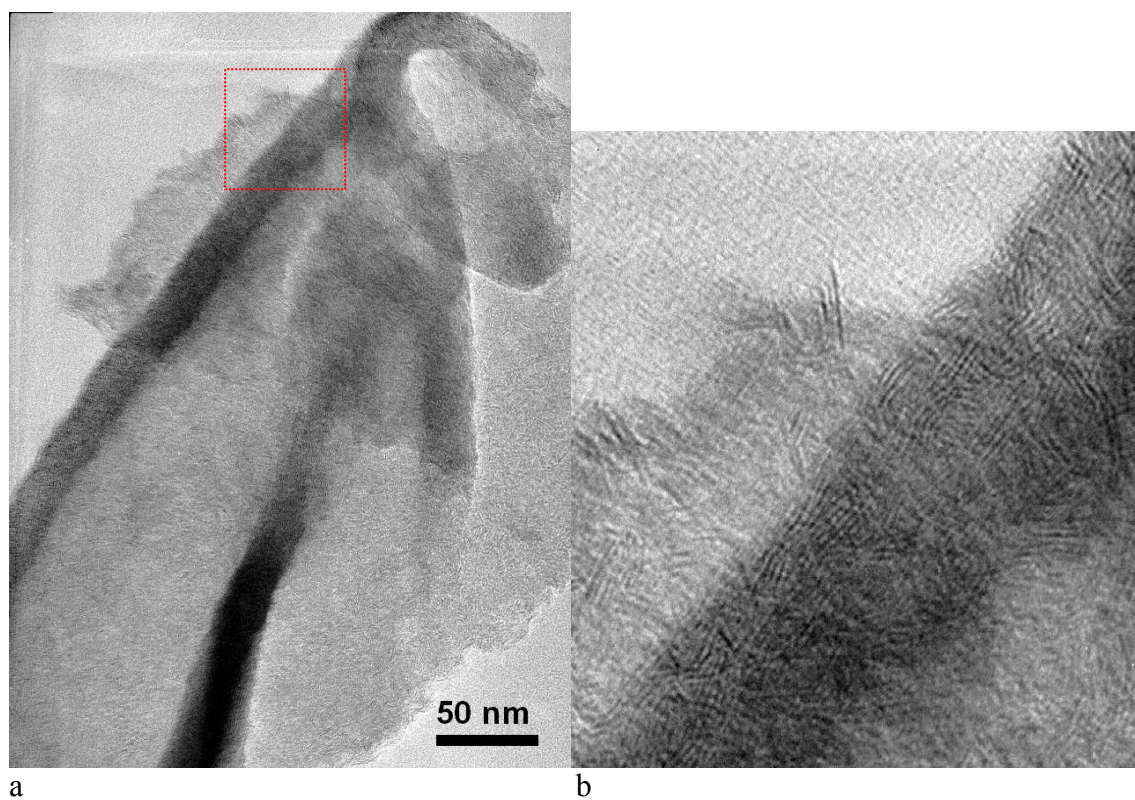


Fig. S4 TEM image of a tubular fragment of solid B (a) and zoom on the area marked in a by a square, attesting that the tubule walls consist of MoS₂ slabs (b)

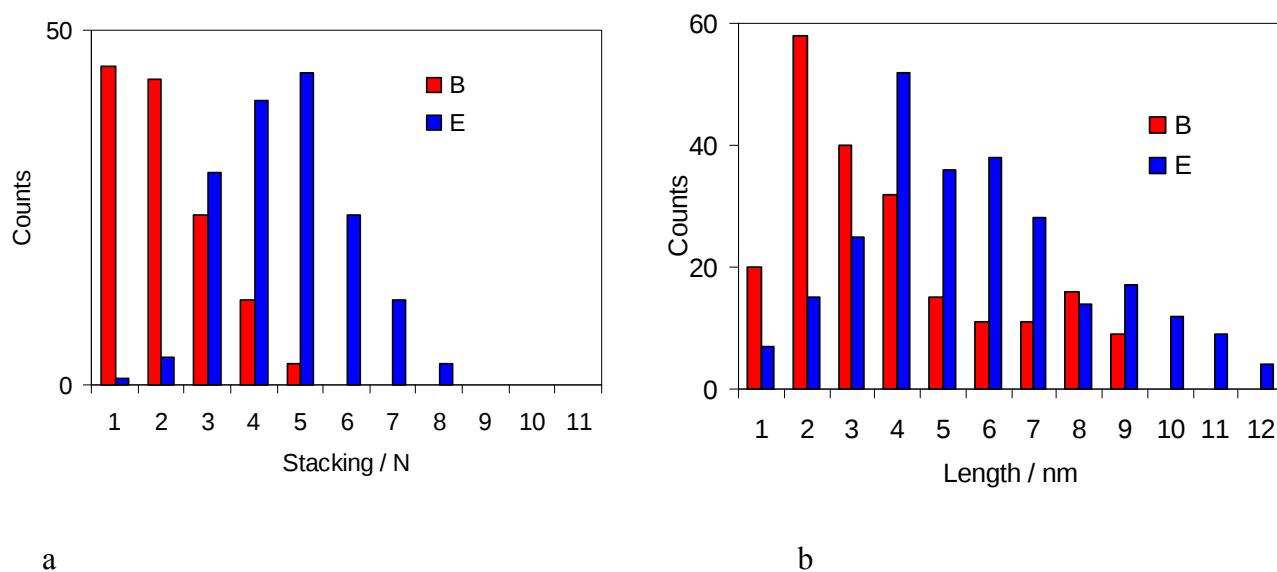


Fig. S5 Histograms representing the distributions of MoS₂ slabs stacking (a) and length (b) in the solid B as compared to the reference solid E. The histograms were obtained using Digital Micrograph Gatan™ software

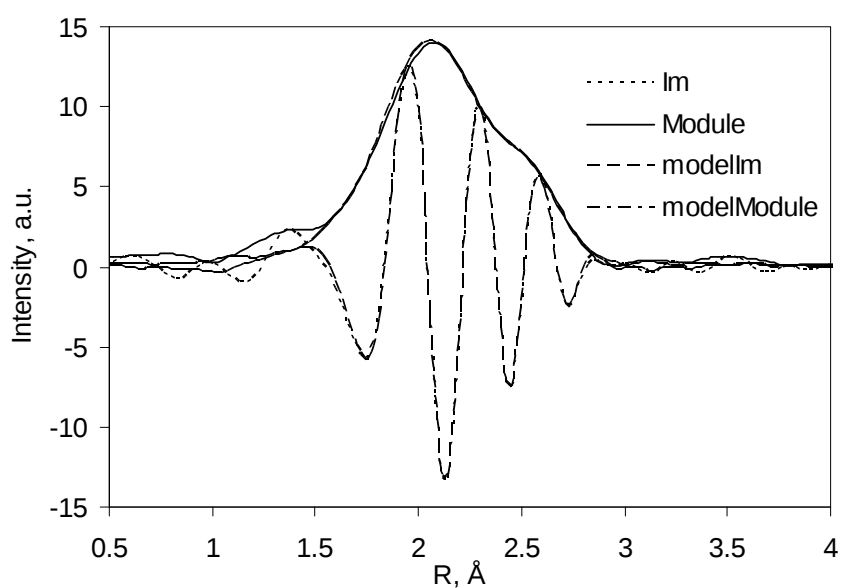


Fig. S6 R-space fit (Imaginary part and Module of Fourier transform) for the solid A. The fit was obtained using VIPER program.

Table S1. EXAFS fitting parameters for the solids A-E

Scatterer atom	CN	R(Å)	$\sigma^2(\text{Å}^2)$	ΔE_0
A				
S	5.8(5)	2.445(3)	0.0052(7)	-1.0(3)
Mo	1.1(2)	2.807(4)	0.0065(8)	-1.0(3)
B				
S	3.9(3)	2.402(5)	0.0041(5)	0.0(4)
Mo	2.9(3)	3.15(1)	0.0054(6)	0.0(4)
C				
S	6.0(5)	2.451(5)	0.0048(4)	-0.6(3)
Mo	1.2(2)	2.810(5)	0.0058(5)	-0.6(3)
D				
S	4.4(4)	2.414(4)	0.0042(4)	-0.8(4)
Mo	3.0(3)	3.15(1)	0.0042(4)	-0.8(4)
E				
S	5.1(4)	2.420(3)	0.0039(4)	-0.3(3)
Mo	3.5(5)	3.155(5)	0.0043(4)	-0.3(3)

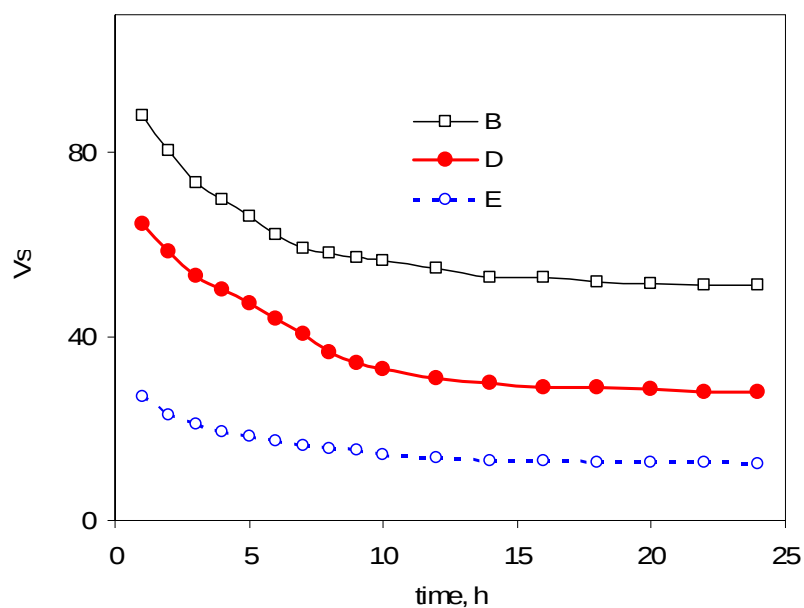


Figure S7 Time evolution of the specific rate of thiophene HDS, measured at 300°C (V_s , 10^{-8} mol.g⁻¹s⁻¹).

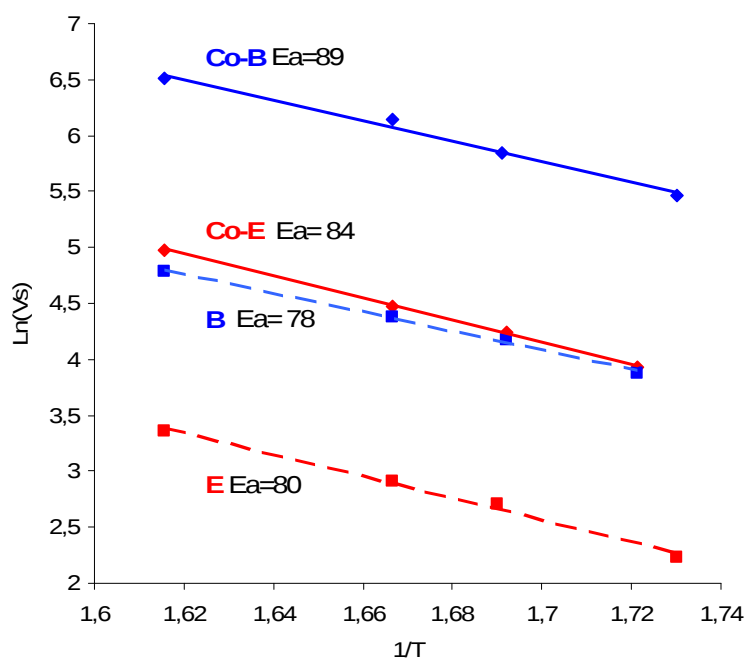


Figure S8. Arrhenius plots of thiophene HDS specific rate (V_s , 10^{-8} mol.g⁻¹s⁻¹) for the non-promoted (B, E) and Co-promoted (Co-B, Co-E) catalysts. Activation energies (E_a , kJ/mol) are indicated in the legends.

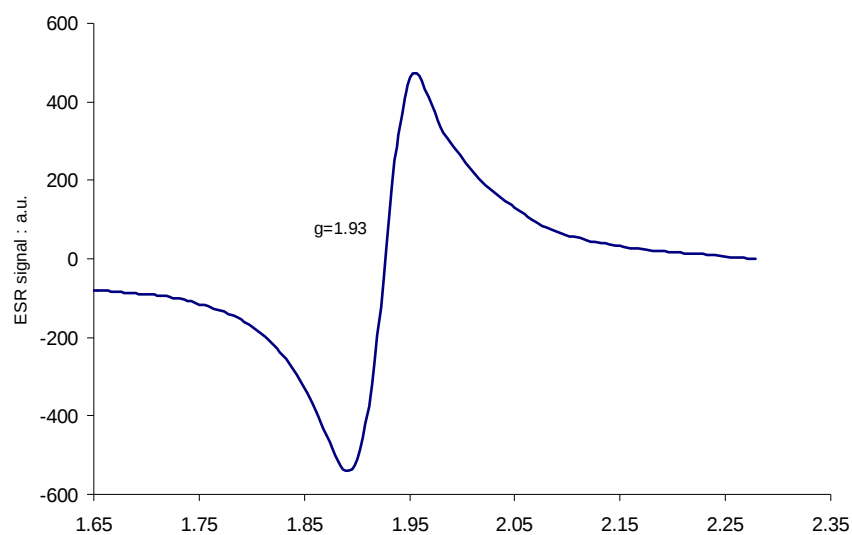


Figure S9. X-band EPR signal for the solid obtained from the reflux in EG of cellulose and ammonium heptamolybdate. The spins concentration estimated from double integration and comparison with Varian strong pitch is $0.51 \times 10^{21} \text{ spin.g}^{-1}$