## **Supporting Information**

# Nitrogen and sulfur co-doped cobalt carbon catalysts for ethylbenzene oxidation with synergistically enhanced performance

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### Materials

Melamine,  $Co(OAc)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$ ,  $C_2H_4O_2S$ , glucose monohydrate ( $C_6H_{12}O_6 \cdot H_2O$ ), bromobenzene, 1,4-dichlorobenzene, and anhydrous ethanol were from commercial sources and were used without any further purification.

#### **Results and discussion**



**Figure S1.** SEM image of (a) Co-N-S-C-700; TEM images of (b) Co-S-C-700 and (c) r-Co-N-S-C-700 (re-activated)



Figure S2. Raman spectra of Co-N-C-700, Co-S-C-700, N-S-C-700, Co-N-S-C-700, and Co-N-S-C-800 samples



**Figure S3.** (a) XPS survey spectra of various Co-N-S-C-T samples; (b) High-resolution C 1s spectra of Co-N-S-C-T; High-resolution N 1s spectra of (c) Co-N-S-C-T, and (d) Co-N-S-C-700-R and r-Co-N-S-C-700 samples

Sample	Content (at%)						
	С	N	0	S	Со	F	
Co-N-S-C-600	73.78	1.99	12.76	9.40	2.09	-	
Co-N-S-C-700	74.81	2.63	11.81	9.43	1.32	-	
Co-N-S-C-800	74.85	3.19	9.35	10.66	1.95	-	
r-Co-N-S-C-700	72.77	1.17	13.24	9.29	3.52	-	
Co-N-S-C-700-R	42.45	1.15	28.40	11.59	6.41	10.00	

Table S1. Chemical composition of different catalysts based on XPS data

Catalysts	Dopants	Conv.(%) a	Select.(%) <sup>b</sup>	Cond. <sup>c</sup>	Ref.
Co-N-S-C-700	N, S	48	85	0.8 MPa O <sub>2</sub> , 120 °C, 5h	This work
Co@GCNs-800	Ν	68.1	93.2	0.8 MPa O <sub>2</sub> , 120 °C, 5h	[1]
S-CoNC	N, S	62	91	0.8 MPa O <sub>2</sub> , 120 °C, 5h	[2]
Co-N-C-Phen	Ν	40	75	0.8 MPa O <sub>2</sub> , 120 °C, 5h	[3]
Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> @GNC	Ν	65.8	72.6	20 bar air, 140 °C, 4h	[4]
CoNC-10	N	22	75	0.8 MPa O <sub>2</sub> , 120 °C, 5h	[5]

**Table S2.** The comparison of the work and the recently reported work

<sup>[a]</sup> Conversion of ethylbenzene; <sup>[b]</sup> Selectivity to acetophenone; <sup>[c]</sup> Condition of reaction.

Table S3. Recycling performance of Co-N-S-C-700 in oxidation of ethylbenzene with  $O_2^{[a]}$ 

			Sel.(%) <sup>[c]</sup>		
Entry	Catalyst	Conv.(%) <sup>[b]</sup>	AP	РА	BA
1	Co-N-S-C-700-R	8	88	10	2
2	r-Co-N-S-C-700-2	49	86	13	1
3	r-Co-N-S-C-700-3	52	87	13	0

<sup>[a]</sup> Reaction conditions: ethylbenzene (10 ml), catalyst (28 mg), O<sub>2</sub> (0.8 MPa), 120 °C and 5 h.<sup>[b]</sup> Conversion of ethylbenzene. <sup>[c]</sup> Selectivity to acetophenone (AP), phenethyl alcohol (PA) and benzaldehyde (BA).

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