## **Supporting Information**

## Highly efficient oxidation of ethyl lactate to ethyl pyruvate with molecular oxygen over $V_xO_y/SBA$ 15 catalyst

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Figure S1. SEM image of SBA-15 (a),  $0.5V_xO_y/SBA-15$  (b),  $2.7V_xO_y/SBA-15$  (c),  $5.9V_xO_y/SBA-15$  (d)



Figure S2. V 2p spectra of  $V_2O_5$  and  $5.9V_xO_y$ /SBA-15



Figure S3. The GC-FID spectra of the EL conversion over  $5.9V_xO_y$ /SBA-15 catalyst.



Figure S4. Time effect of 0.5SBA-15 (a),  $0.9V_xO_y/SBA-15$  (b),  $2.7V_xO_y/SBA-15$  (c),  $4.5V_xO_y/SBA-15$  (d),  $5.9V_xO_y/SBA-15$  (e),  $6.9V_xO_y/SBA-15$  (f) on EL reaction.



Figure S5. First-order kinetic fit (A) and Arrhenius plot of conversion of EL over 5.9V<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub>/SBA-15 (B)

**Table S1.** The effect of  $H_2O_2$  or HBHP on catalytic performance of  $5.9V_xO_y/SBA-15$  catalyst.

Oxygen donor	EL conversion (%)	EP selectivity (%)	EP yield (%)
$H_2O_2$	28	94	23
TBHP	52	93	48

Reaction conditions: 2 mmol EL, 15 mL acetonitrile, 50 mg catalyst, EL: Oxygen dornor = 1:2, T = 130 °C, t = 4 h.



Figure S6. First-order kinetic fit (A) and Arrhenius plot of conversion of EL over 5.9V<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub>/SBA-15 (B)