

## ***Supporting Information for***

# **General synthesis for supported single-atom catalysts using hydroxyl nests in zeolites**

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**KEYWORDS:** Single-atom catalysts, High-temperature catalysis, Hydroxyl-nests, Propane dehydrogenation, General synthesis.

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**Equations:**

**Corrected peak area:**

$$A_i = nA_jF_j$$

$A_i$  was the relative quantity of the hydrocarbon products,  $n$  was the carbon number of hydrocarbons,  $A_j$  was the peak area given by the FID results, and  $F_j$  was the relative correction factor.

**Propane conversion was calculated as follows:**

$$\text{Conversion} = \frac{\Sigma A_i}{\Sigma A_i + A_{C_3H_8}}$$

**The selectivity of hydrocarbon products is calculated as follows:**

$$\text{Selectivity}_i = \frac{A_i}{\Sigma A_i}$$

**The yield of hydrocarbon products is calculated as follows:**

$$\text{Yield} = \frac{A_i}{\Sigma A_i + A_{C_3H_8}}$$

**Carbon balance (> 95%) is calculated as follows:**

$$\text{Carbon balance} = \frac{\Sigma A_i}{A_{C_3H_8}}$$

**The deactivation rate is calculated as follows:**

$$k_d(\text{h}^{-1}) = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{1 - X_{end}}{X_{end}}\right) - \ln\left(\frac{1 - X_{start}}{X_{start}}\right)}{t}$$

where  $X_{start}$  and  $X_{end}$  represent the conversion at the start and the end of an experiment, and  $t$  is the duration of the experiment in hours, higher  $k_d$  values being indicative of rapid deactivation, that is, low stability.

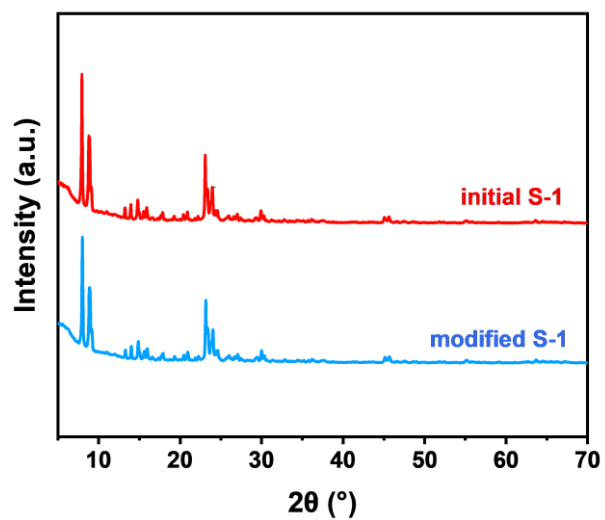


Figure S1. The XRD spectra of S-1 zeolite.

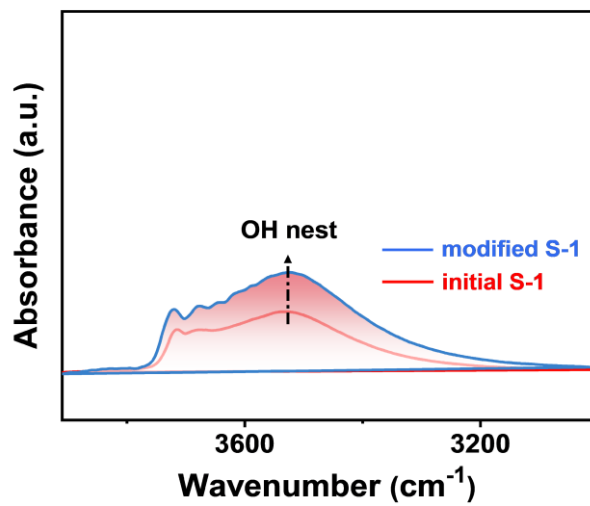
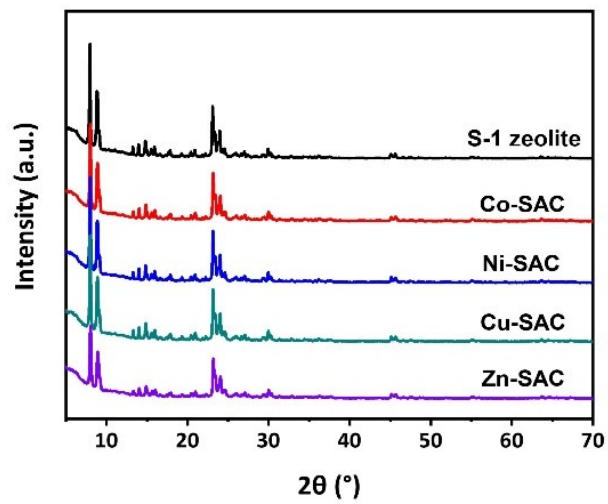


Figure S2 The IR spectra of S-1 zeolite.



**Figure S3** The XRD patterns of M-SACs.

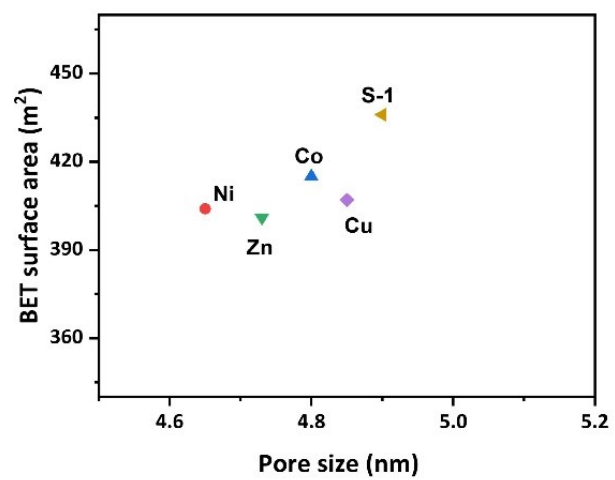
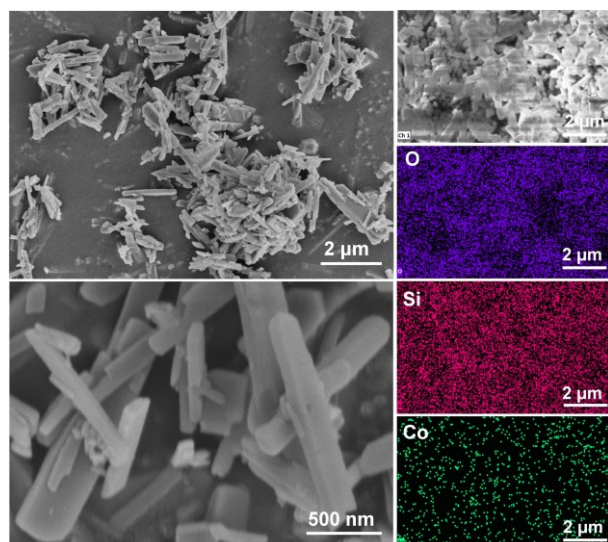
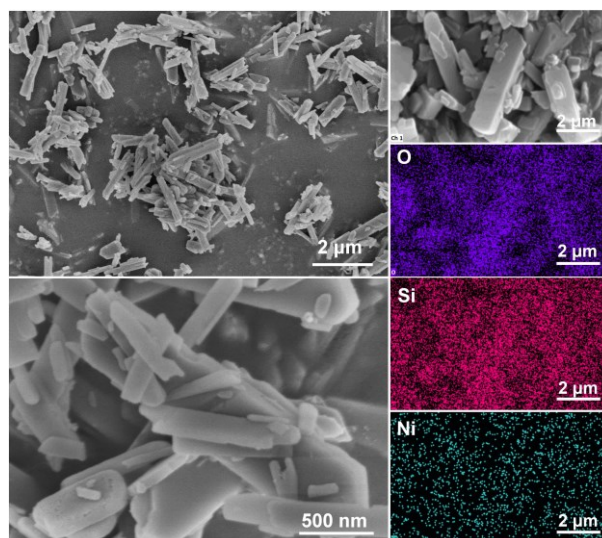


Figure S4 The physical properties data of different catalysts.

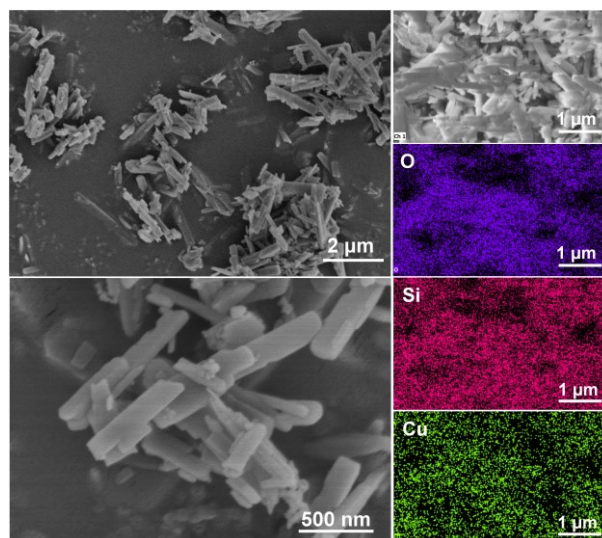


**Figure S5** The SEM images and the corresponding EDS mapping images of the Co-SAC catalyst.

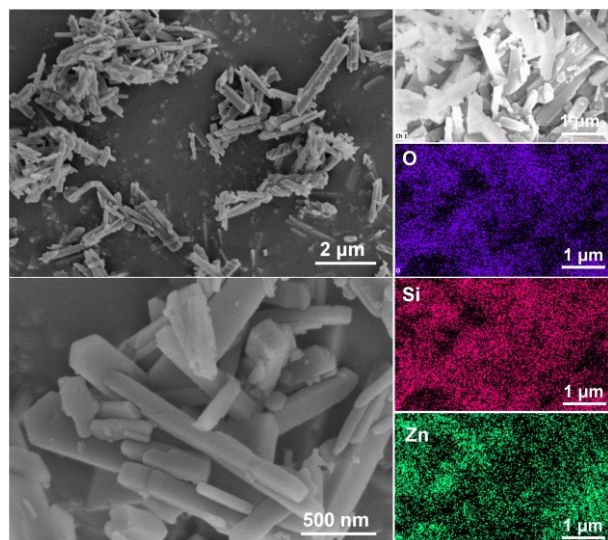


**Figure S6** The SEM images and the corresponding EDS mapping images of the Ni-SAC.





**Figure S7** The SEM images and the corresponding EDS mapping images of the Cu-SAC.



**Figure S8** The SEM images and the corresponding EDS mapping images of the Zn-SAC.

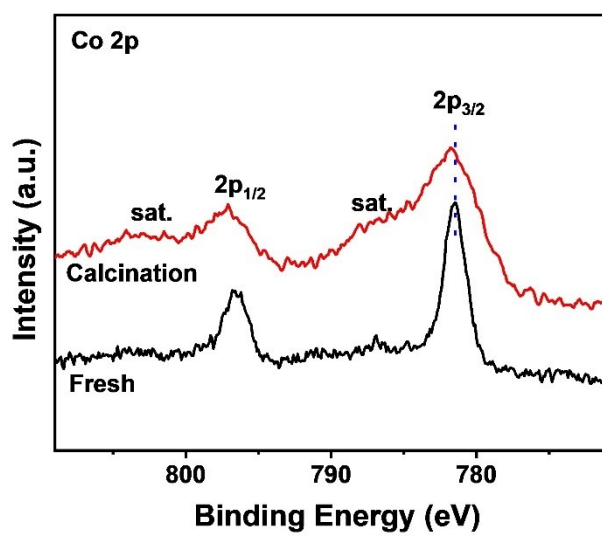


Figure S9 The XPS spectra of the Co-SAC catalysts: fresh catalysts and after calcination.

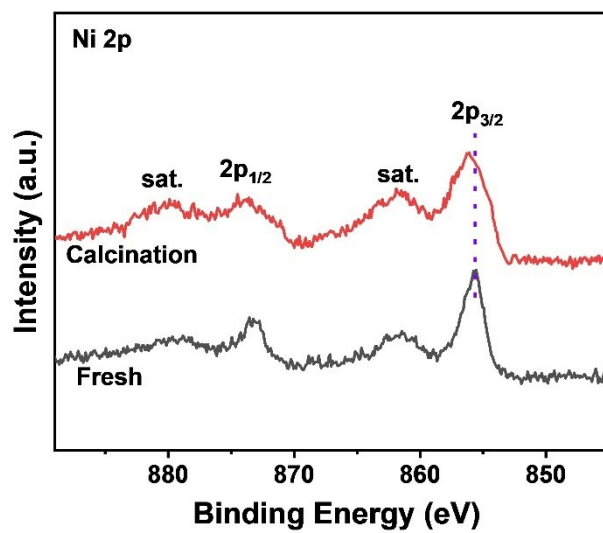


Figure S10 XPS spectra of the Ni-SAC catalysts: fresh catalysts and after calcination.

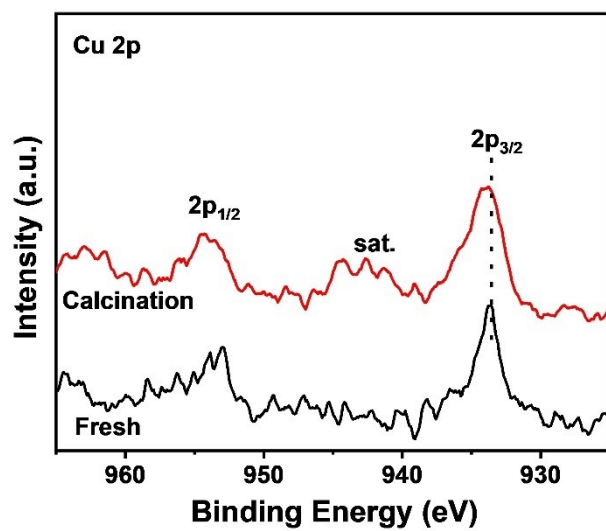


Figure S11 The XPS spectra of the Cu-SAC catalysts: fresh catalysts and after calcination.

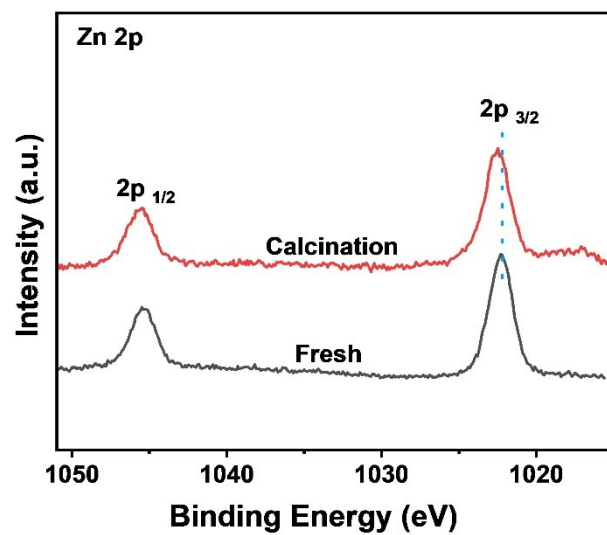
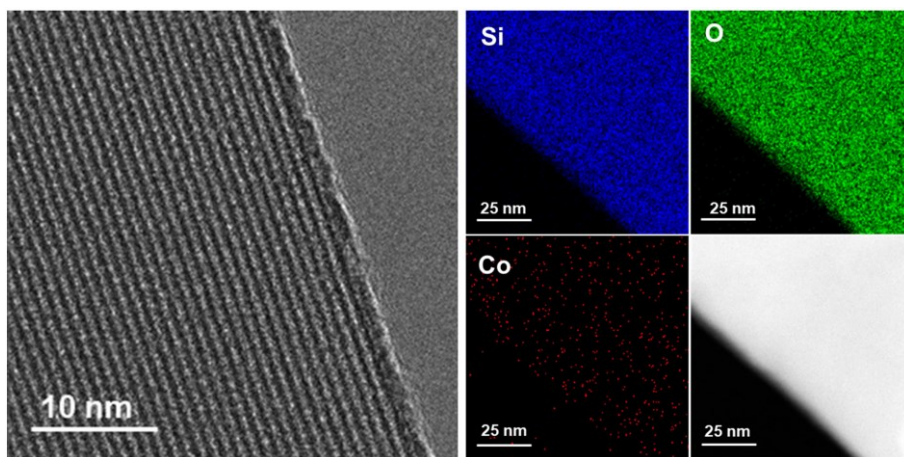
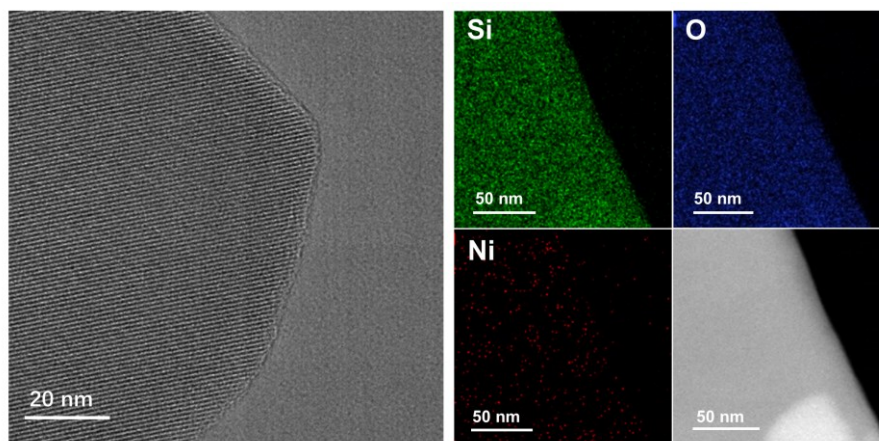


Figure S12 The XPS spectra of the Zn-SAC catalysts: fresh catalysts and after calcination.

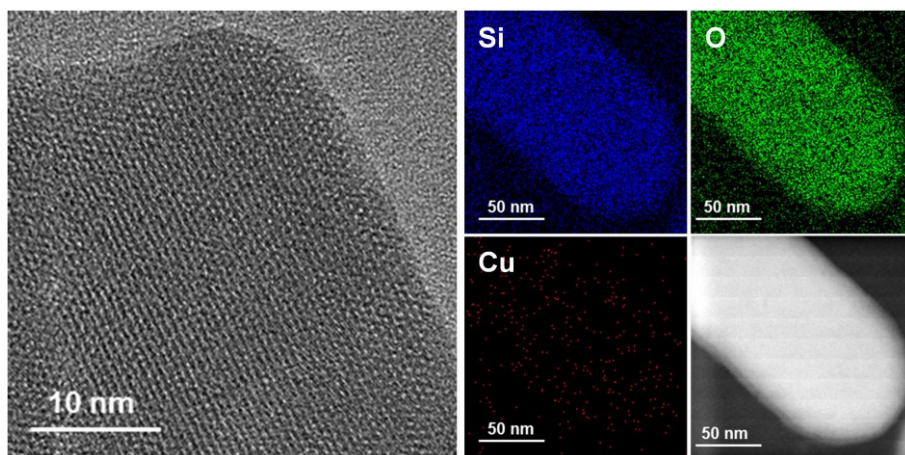


**Figure S13** TEM image and the corresponding EDS mapping images of Co-SAC.

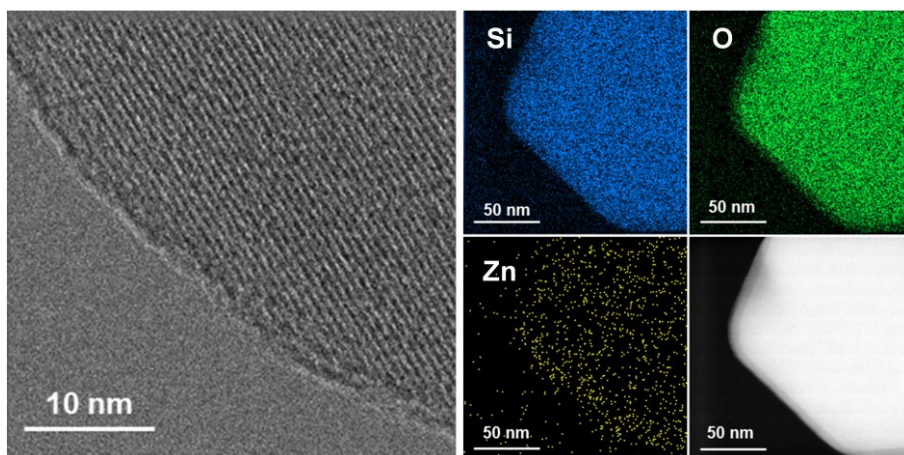


**Figure S14** TEM image and the corresponding EDS mapping images of Ni-SAC.

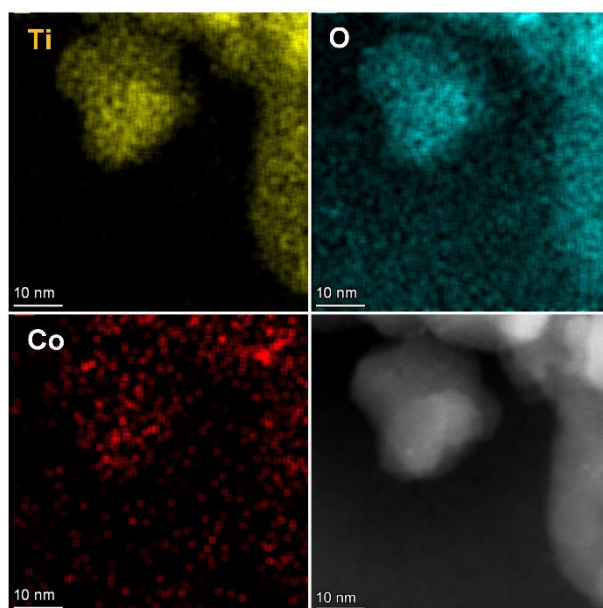




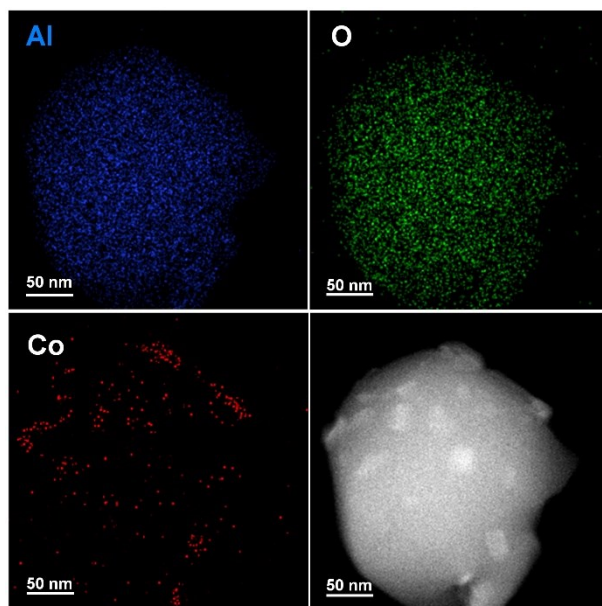
**Figure S15** TEM image and the corresponding EDS mapping images of Cu-SAC.



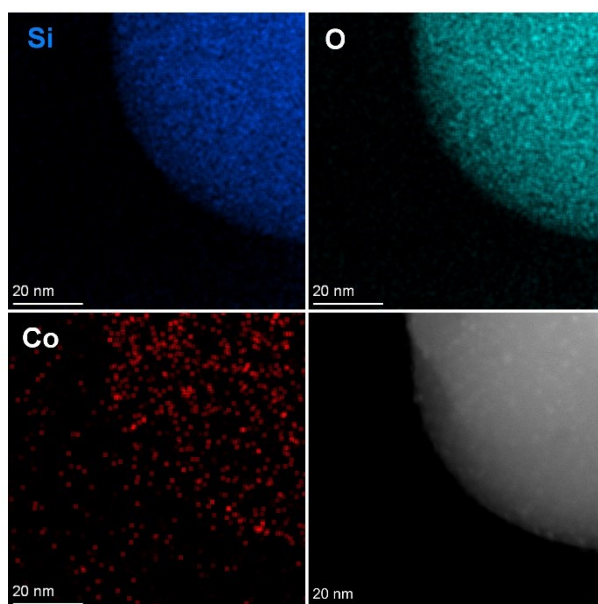
**Figure S16** TEM image and the corresponding EDS mapping images of Zn-SAC.



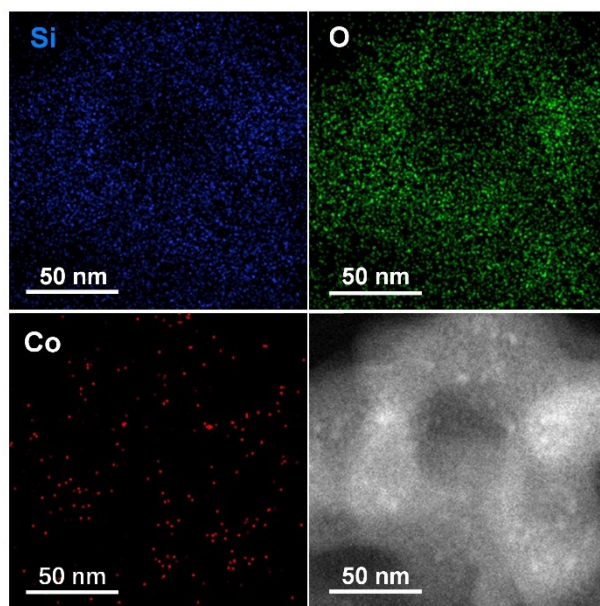
**Figure S17** HADDF-STEM image and the corresponding EDS mapping images of the Co/TiO<sub>2</sub> catalyst.



**Figure S18** HADDF-STEM image and the corresponding EDS mapping images of the Co/SiO<sub>2</sub> catalyst.



**Figure S19** HADDF-STEM image and the corresponding EDS mapping images of the Co/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalyst.



**Figure S20** HADDF-STEM image and the corresponding EDS mapping images of the Co/MCM-41. catalyst.

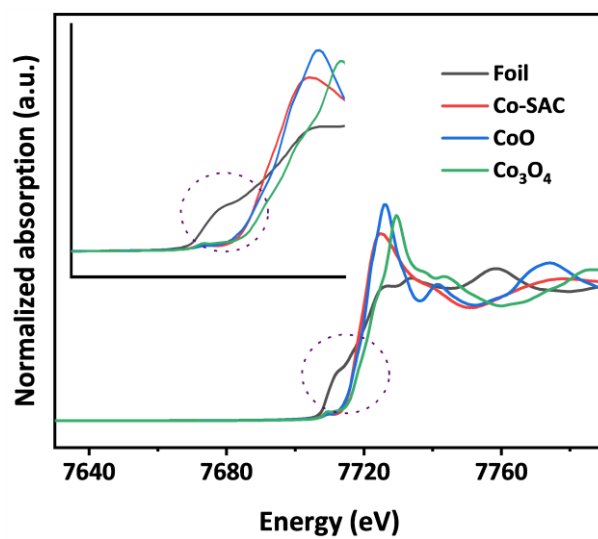
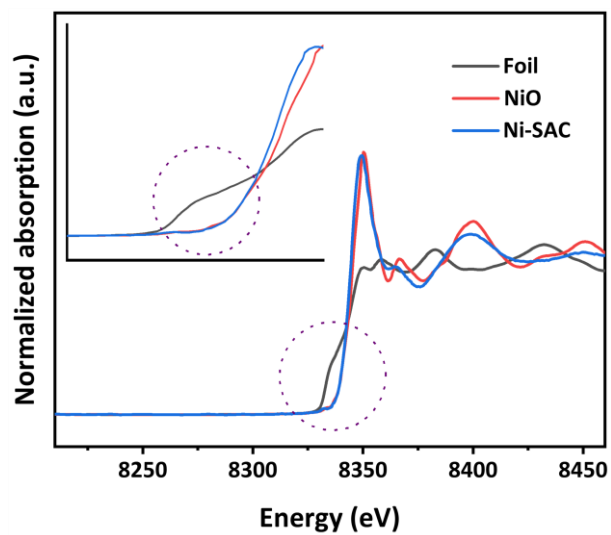
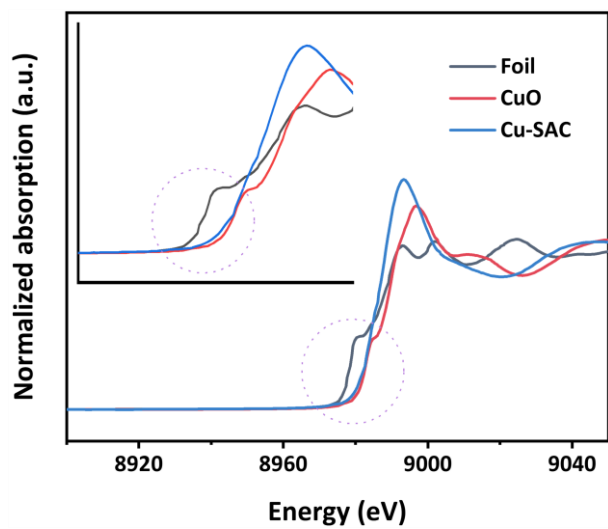


Figure S21 The K-edge near-edge XANES spectra of Co-SAC.

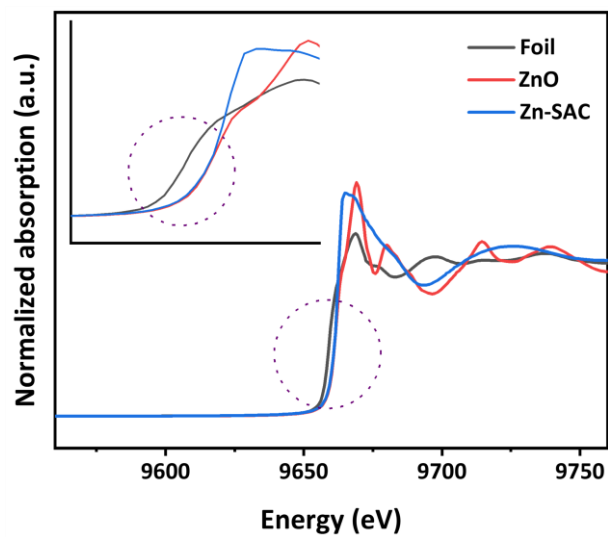


**Figure S22** The K-edge near-edge XANES spectra of Ni-SAC.





**Figure S23** The K-edge near-edge XANES spectra of Cu-SAC.



**Figure S24** The K-edge near-edge XANES spectra of Zn-SAC.

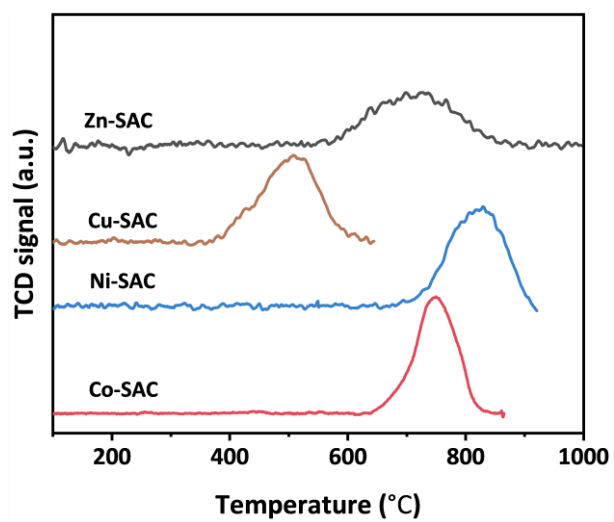
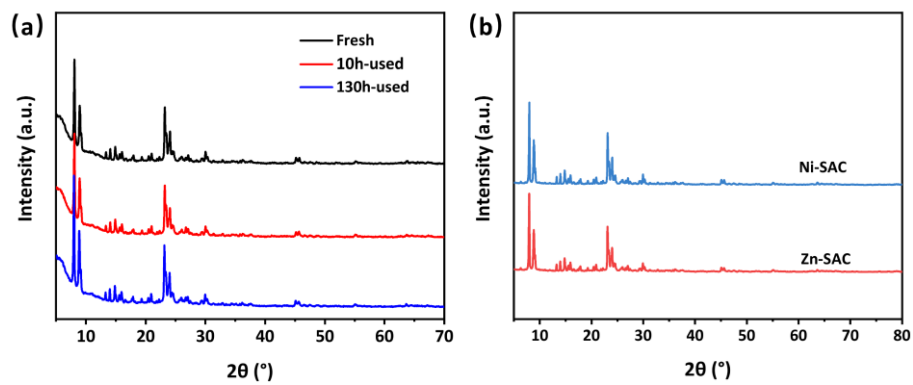
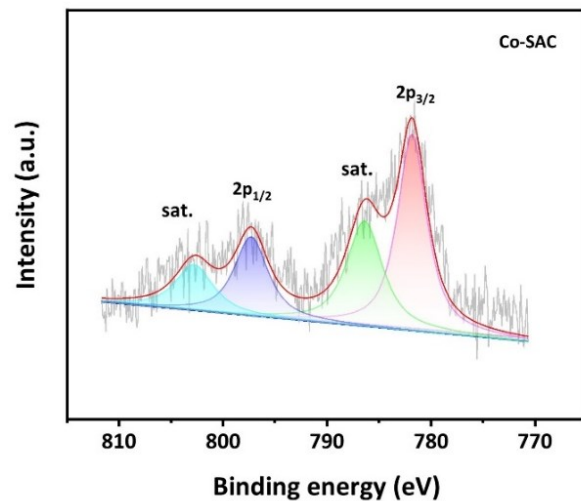


Figure S25 The H<sub>2</sub>-TPR curve of M-SACs.



**Figure S26** The XRD patterns of Co-SAC catalysts after reaction (a) and M-SAC catalysts after 10 h reaction (b).



**Figure S27** The XPS patterns of Co-SAC catalysts after 130 h reaction.

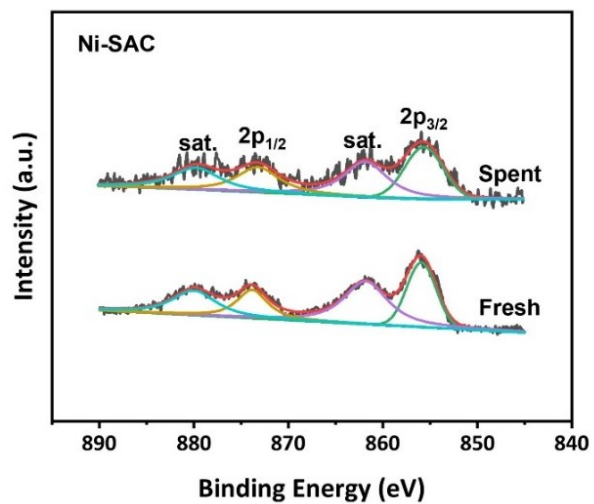


Figure S28 The XPS patterns of Ni-SAC catalysts after reaction

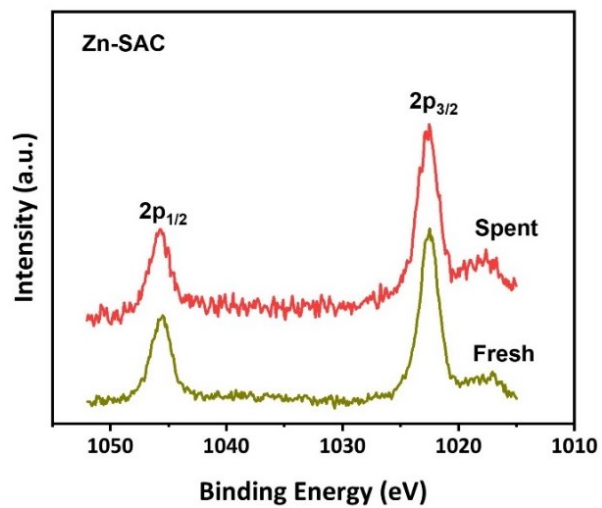
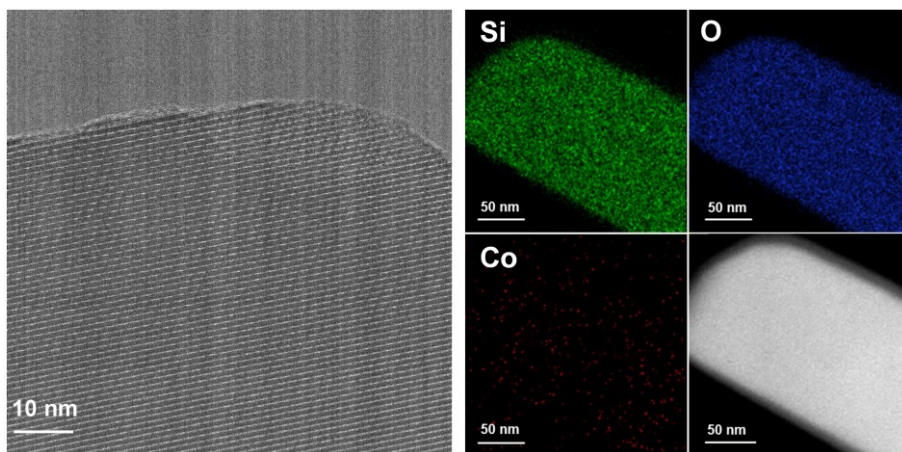
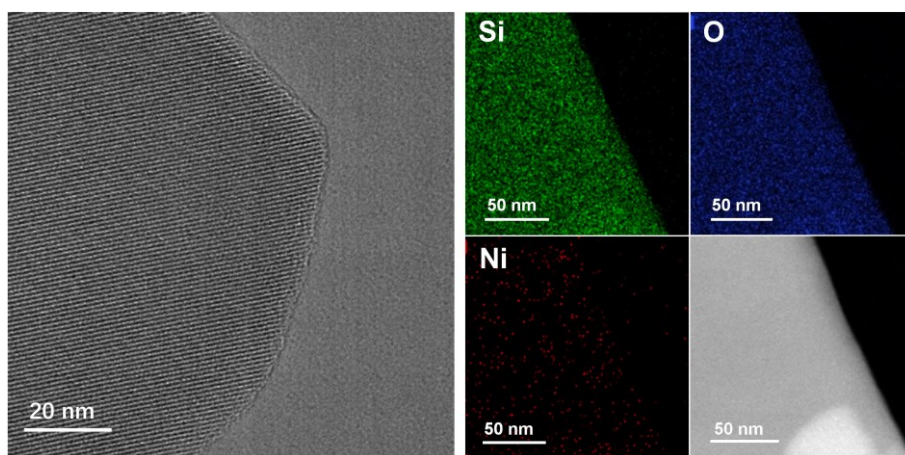


Figure S29 The XPS patterns of Zn-SAC catalysts after reaction.

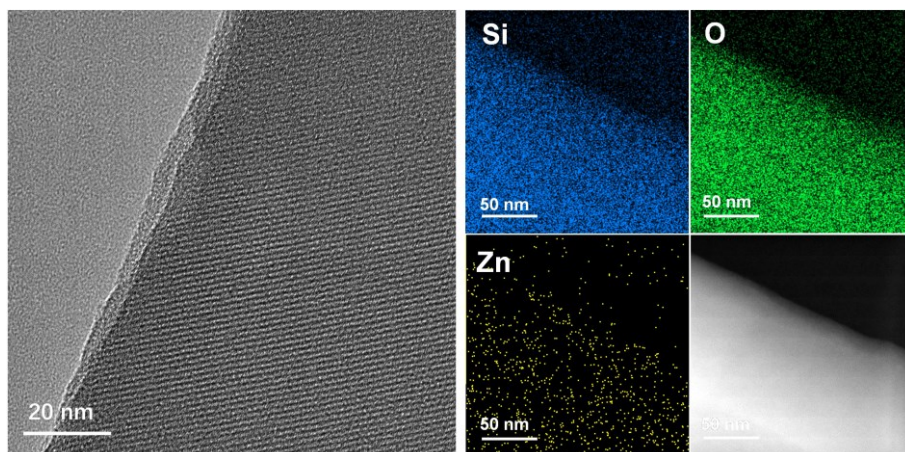


**Figure S30** HADF-STEM image, and the corresponding EDS mapping images of the fresh Co-SAC after 10 h reaction.





**Figure S31** HADF-STEM image and the corresponding EDS mapping images of the fresh Ni-SAC after 10 h reaction.



**Figure S32** HADF-STEM image and the corresponding EDS mapping images of the fresh Zn-SAC after 10h reaction.

Table S1. Structural parameters of M-SACs extracted from the EXAFS fitting ( $S_0^2=0.85$ )

Sample	Path	C.N.	R (Å)	$\sigma^2$ ( $10^{-3}\text{Å}^2$ )	$\Delta E_0$ (eV)	R-factor
Co-SAC	Co-O	3.2 $\pm 0.5$	1.96 $\pm 0.012$	2.75 $\pm 1.75$	-1.27 $\pm 1.90$	0.020
Ni-SAC	Ni-O	3.5 $\pm 0.6$	2.06 $\pm 0.013$	9.0*	-7.88 $\pm 1.57$	0.008
Zn-SAC	Zn-O	3.2 $\pm 0.5$	1.93 $\pm 0.01$	7.0 $\pm 1.56$	-0.11 $\pm 1.47$	0.014
Cu-SAC	Cu-O	3.3 $\pm 0.3$	1.94 $\pm 0.007$	4.6 $\pm 1.01$	-6.42 $\pm 1.35$	0.008

$S_0^2$  is the amplitude reduction factor  $S_0^2=0.85$ ; CN is the coordination number; R is interatomic distance (the bond length between central atoms and surrounding coordination atoms);  $\sigma^2$  is the 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. The obtained XAFS data was processed in Athena (version 0.9.26) for background, pre-edge line and post-edge line calibrations. Then Fourier transformed fitting was carried out in Artemis (version 0.9.26). The  $k^3$  weighting, k-range of 3-12  $\text{Å}^{-1}$  and R range of 1~3  $\text{Å}$  were used for the fitting of foil; k-range of 2-11  $\text{Å}^{-1}$  and R range of 1~3  $\text{Å}$  were used for the fitting of samples.

Table S2. Comparison of the activity of catalysts in present work and reported literatures.

Catalyst	Temp. (°C)	Feed composition	Con. (%)	Sel. (%)	K <sub>d</sub> (h <sup>-1</sup> )	Ref.
K-PtSn@MFI	600	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> : He= 6: 19	38.7	97	0.012	1
K-PtSn@MFI	600	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> : He= 5: 16	71	88	0.019	2
Pt/Fe-3	550	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> : N <sub>2</sub> = 1: 3	47.5	90.5	0.012	3
PtSn/SiO <sub>2</sub>	580	Pure C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	40.4	99	0.008	4
ZnO-S-1	550	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> : N <sub>2</sub> = 2: 3	30	90	0.49	5
ZnOx/S-1	600	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> : N <sub>2</sub> = 2: 3	30.8	88	0.008	6
Cu-ZnO@S-1	600	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> : H <sub>2</sub> = 7: 3	34.4	86.5	0.025	7
Co-MFI	580	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> : Ar= 1: 19	~58	97	-	8
Co-SBA-15	600	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> : H <sub>2</sub> = 1: 6	37	96	-	9
Co SAs/SiO <sub>2</sub>	550	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> : N <sub>2</sub> =2:6.4	25	95.1	0.009	10
Co-acac@S-1	600	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> : N <sub>2</sub> = 1: 19	47	94.7	0.028	11
Co-SAC	560	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> : N <sub>2</sub> = 1: 4	40.3	98	0.0045	<b>This</b>

Table S3. Metal content and dispersion of M-SACs.

Catalyst	Metal content		dispersion
	(wt%)		
	fresh	spent	(%)
Co-SAC	1.5	1.49	95.2
Ni-SAC	1.32	1.31	93.8
Cu-SAC	1.29	-	93.0
Zn-SAC	1.17	1.15	92.5

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