

## Supplementary Materials

### One-pot synthesis of carbon dots/hydrochar and visible-light-driven photocatalysts for aerobic oxidative coupling of benzylic amines

Xihua Cao<sup>1,2,3,4,5,#</sup>, Yi Zhao<sup>1,2,3,4,5,#</sup>, Junyang Leng<sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup>, Xiaoli Bai<sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup>, Yining Qu<sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup>, Liang Jiang<sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup>, Daomei Chen<sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup>, Jiaqiang Wang<sup>1,2,3,4,5,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Chemical Sciences & Technology, Yunnan University, Kunming 650091, Yunnan, China.

<sup>2</sup>School of Materials and Energy, Yunnan University, Kunming 650091, Yunnan, China.

<sup>3</sup>Yunnan Institute of Frontier Technologies in Water Treatment, Kunming 650091, Yunnan, China.

<sup>4</sup>National Center for International Research on Photoelectric and Energy NMaterials, Kunming 650091, Yunnan, China.

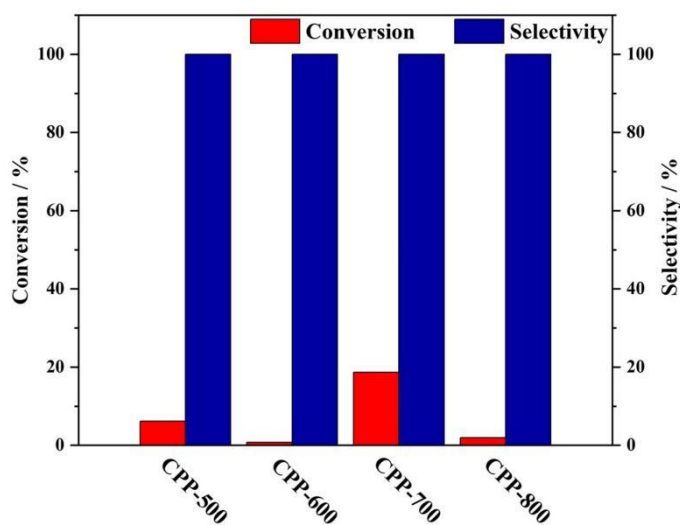
<sup>5</sup>School of Engineering, Yunnan University, Kunming 650091, Yunnan, China.

# Authors contributed equally.

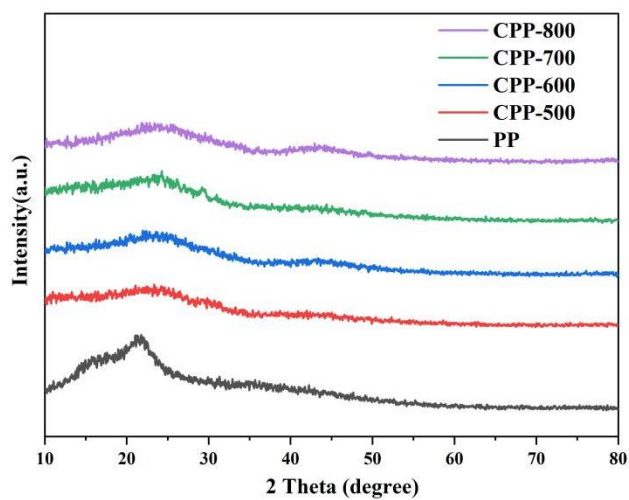
\***Correspondence to:** Prof. Jiaqiang Wang, School of Chemical Sciences & Technology, Yunnan University, 2 Cuihu North Road, Wuhua District, Kunming 650091, Yunnan, China. E-mail: jqwang@ynu.edu.cn



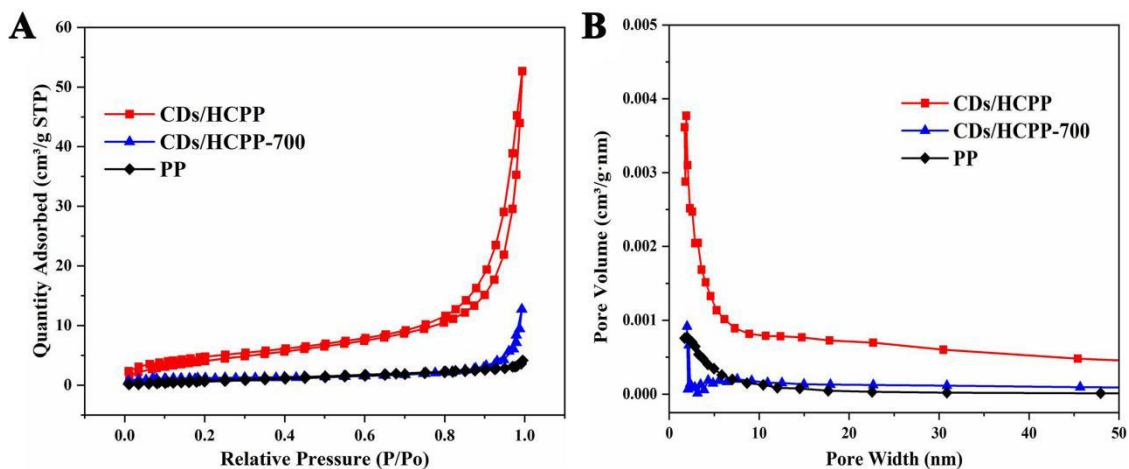
## Supplementary Figures



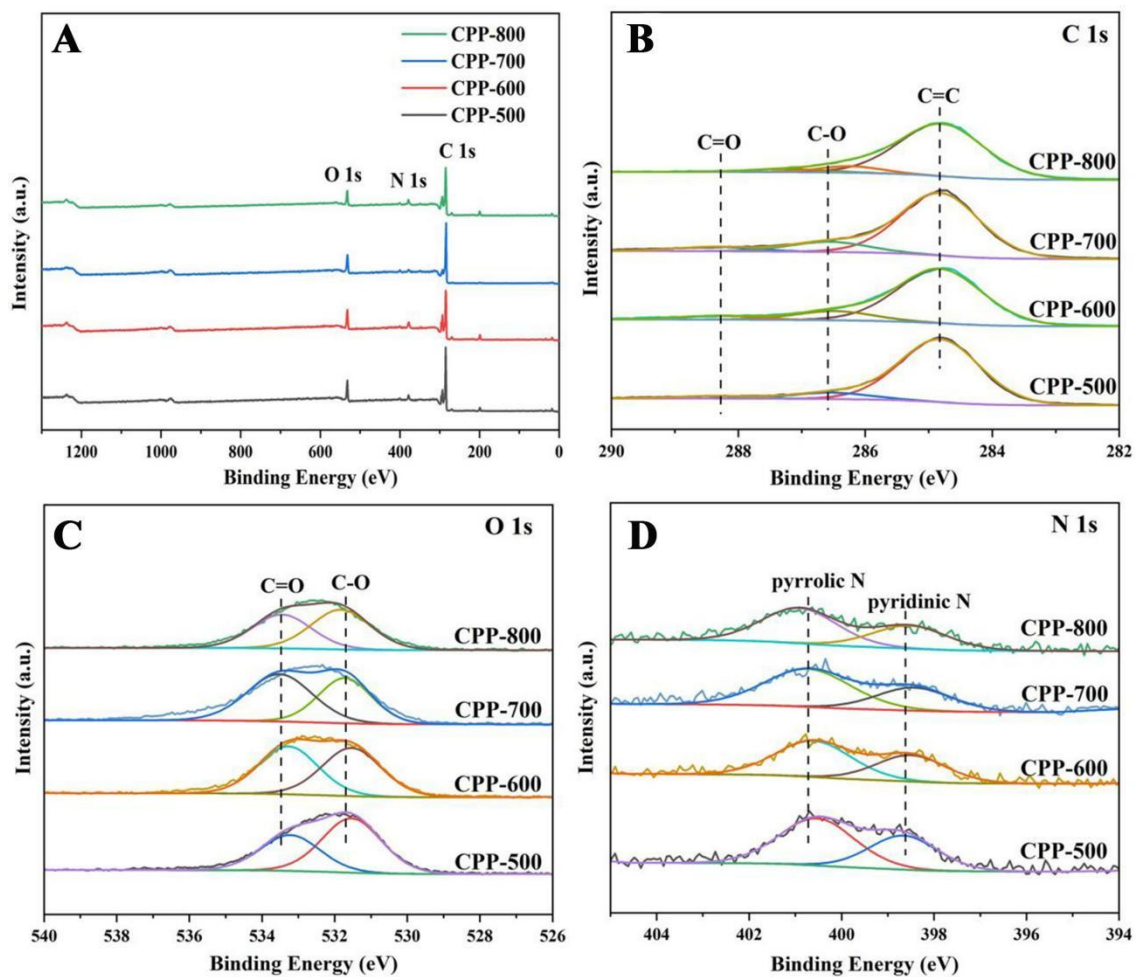
**Supplementary Figure 1A.** The photocatalytic oxidative coupling of benzylamine performance of CPP-x (x = 500, 600, 700, 800).



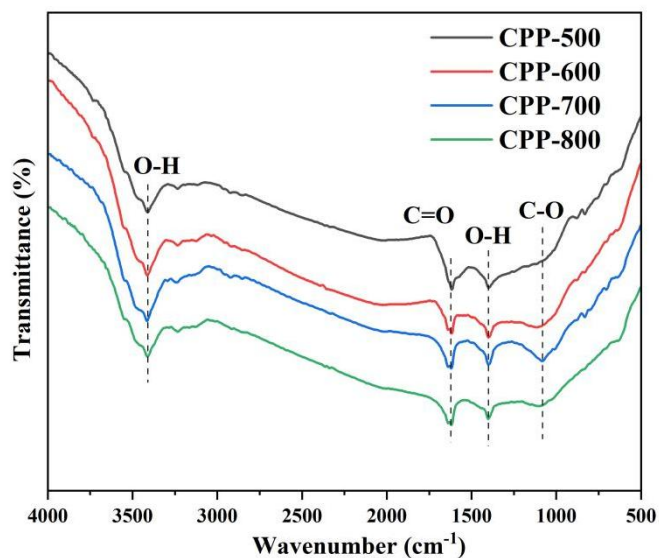
**Supplementary Figure 1B.** The XRD patterns of a. carbonized pomelo peel CPP-x (x = 500, 600, 700, 800).



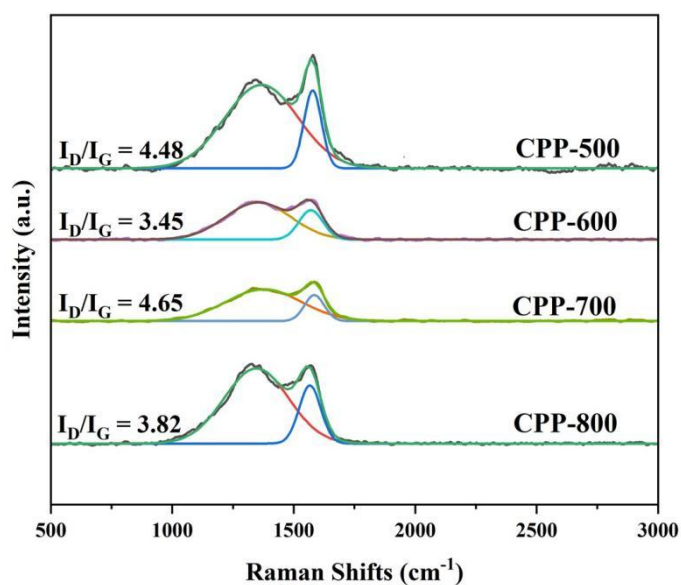
**Supplementary Figure 2.** (A) N<sub>2</sub> sorption isotherms and (B) pore size distribution of PP, CDs/HCPP, and CDs/HCPP-700.



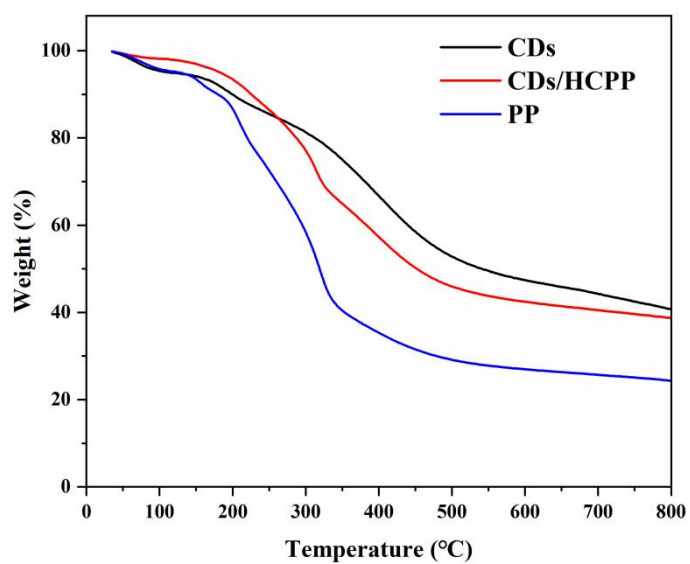
**Supplementary Figure 3.** The XPS spectra of as-prepared materials (A) survey; (B) C 1s; (C) O 1s; (D) N 1s.



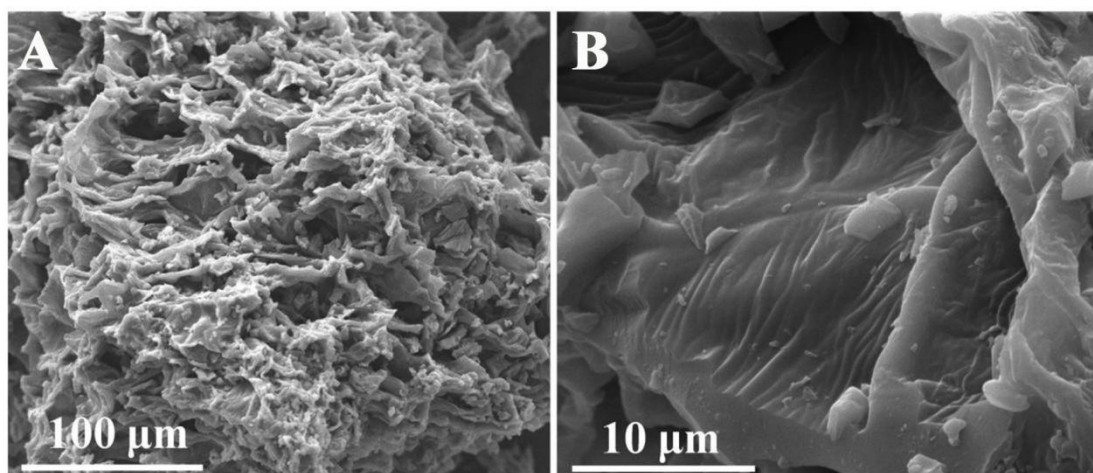
**Supplementary Figure 4.** The FT-IR images of a. CPP-x (x = 500, 600, 700, 800).



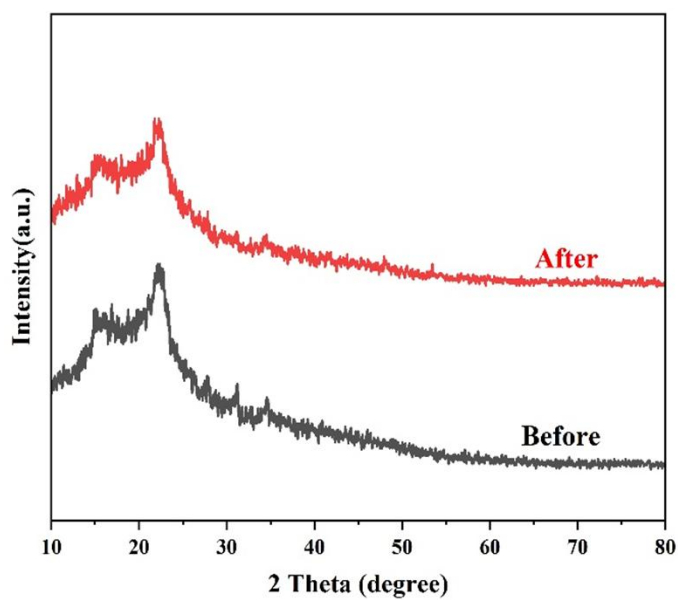
**Supplementary Figure 5.** Raman spectra of CPP-x (x = 500, 600, 700, 800).



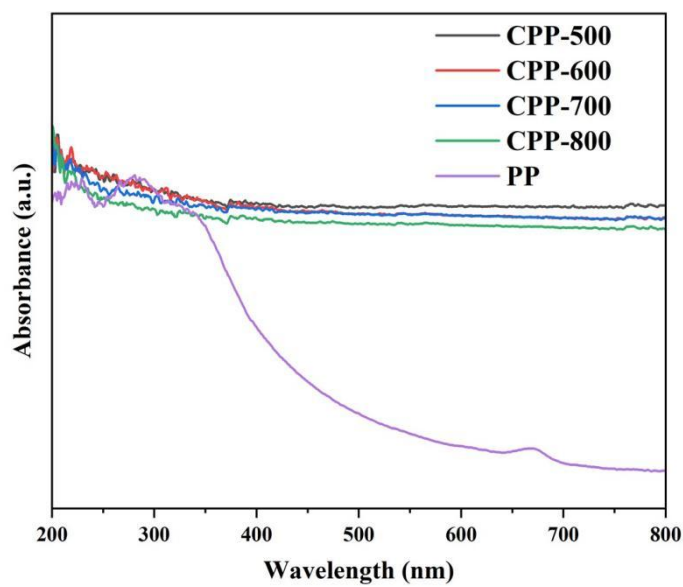
**Supplementary Figure 6.** TGA curves under N<sub>2</sub> for PP, CDs, and CDs/HCPP.



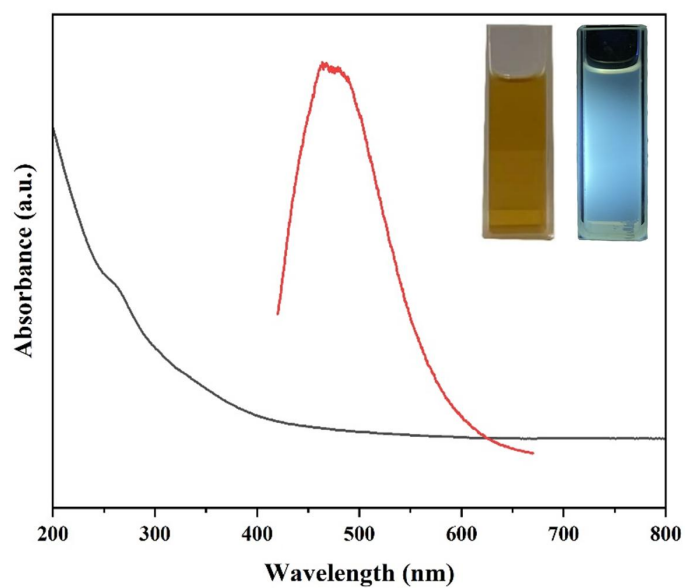
**Supplementary Figure 7.** SEM images of CPP-700.



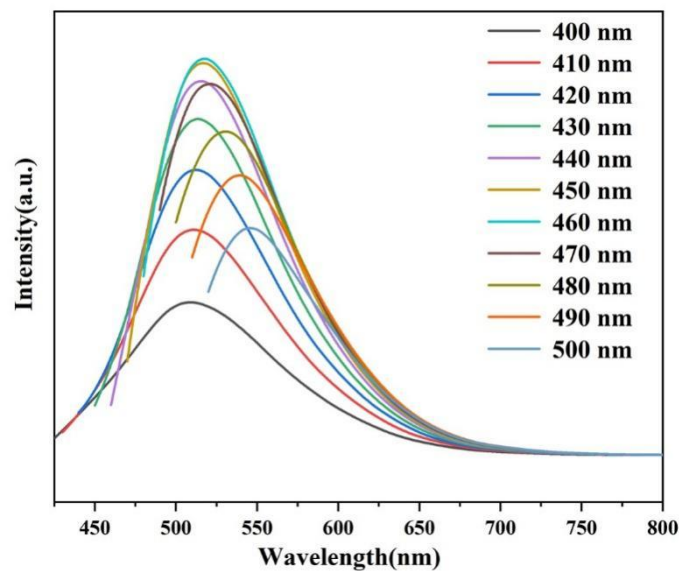
**Supplementary Figure 8.** XRD patterns of CDs/HCPP before and after reaction.



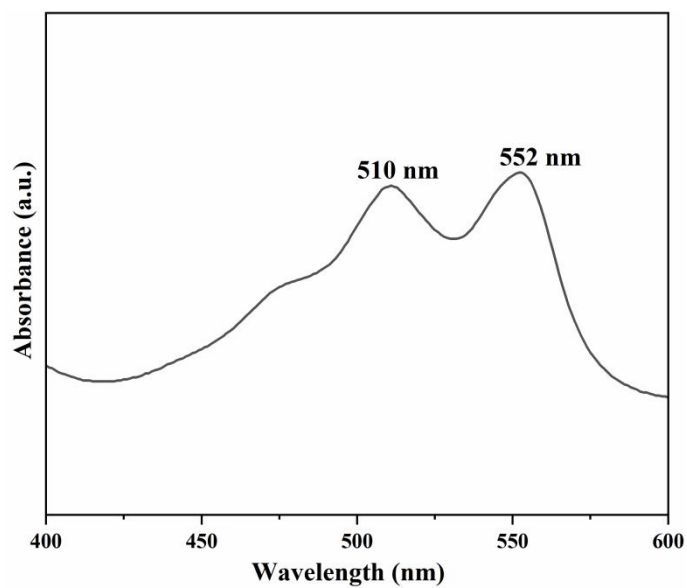
**Supplementary Figure 9.** The UV-vis diffuse reflectance spectra of CPP-x (x = 500, 600, 700, 800)



**Supplementary Figure 10.** PL emission and UV-vis absorption spectra of CDs/HCPP dispersed in water.

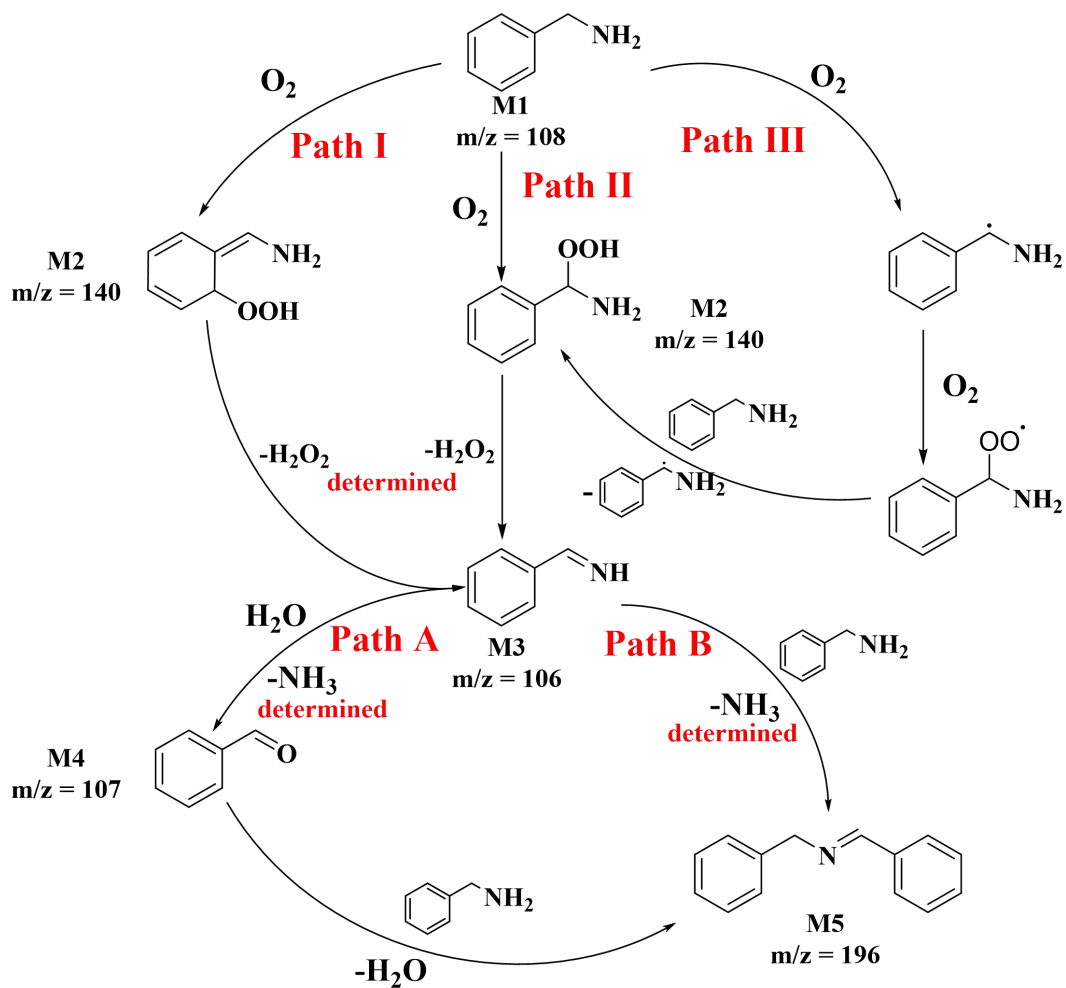


**Supplementary Figure 11.** PL spectra of CDs at different excitation wavelengths varying from 400 to 500 nm.

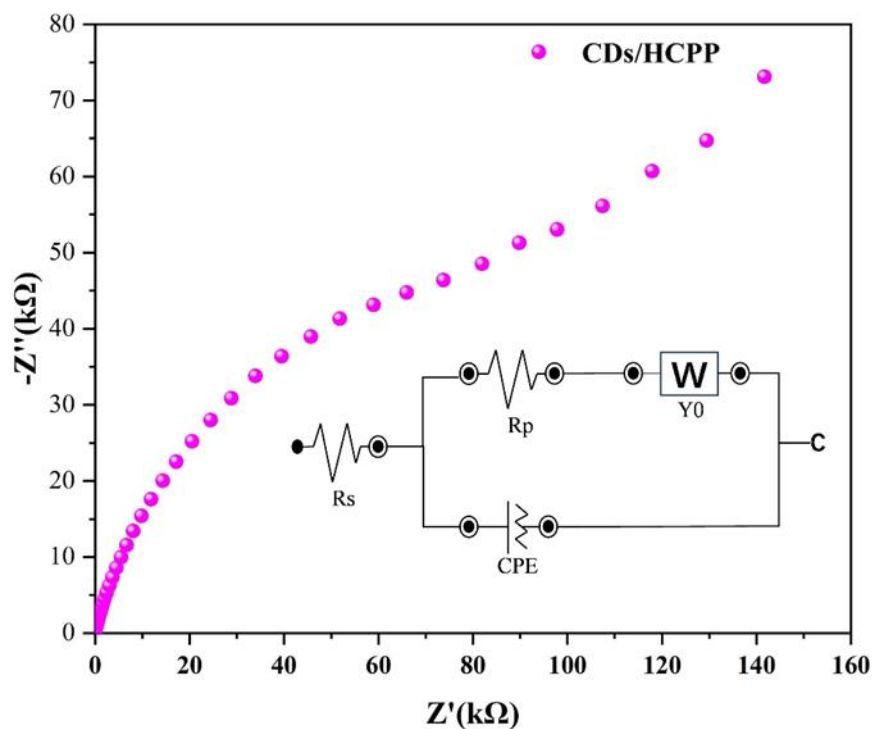


**Supplementary Figure 12.** Detection of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> in the filtrate of photocatalytic aerobic oxidative coupling of benzylamine over CDs/HCPP, based on a DPD/POD method.



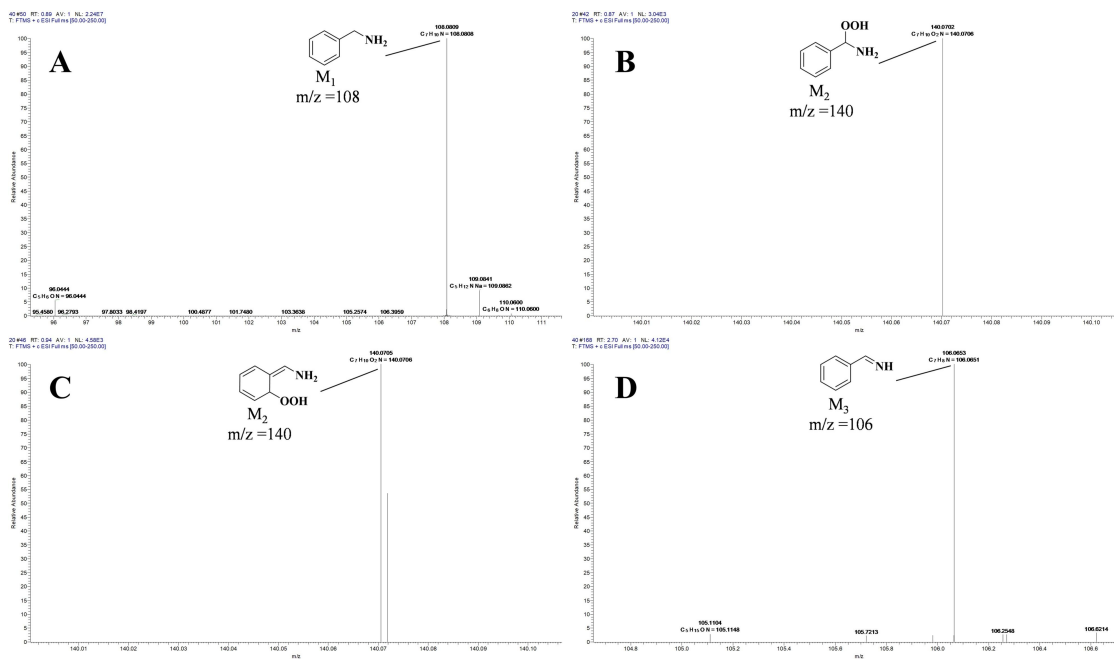


**Supplementary Figure 13.** The possible reaction route of PCDs/HCPP on photocatalytic oxidative coupling of benzylamine.



**Supplementary Figure 14.** The equivalent electrical circuits applicable to fit the EIS data. The equivalent electrical circuits applicable to fit the EIS data are shown in Supplementary Figure 14. The different electrical elements, i.e.,  $R_s$  and  $R_{ct}$  shown in this model represent the electrolyte resistance and charge transfer resistance respectively.  $Y_0$  and  $n$  represent CPE (constant phase element) parameters. The Nyquist diameter of the electrode deposited with the CDs/HCPP

Sample	$R_{ct}$	$R_s$	CPE	
			$Y_0$	$N$
CDs/HCPP	10,918 $\Omega$	148.66 $\Omega$	$1.9643 \cdot 10^{-6}$ S	0.84626



Supplementary Figure 15. (A-D) MS figures.

## Supplementary Tables

**Supplementary Table 1. Binding energies of the C 1s, O 1s and N 1s regions of CDs, CDs/HCPP and CDs/HCPP-700**

Sample	C 1s	Specie	C%	O1s	specie	O%	N 1s	Specie	N%
CDs	284.8	C=C	77.6	531.5	C-O	55.5	399.9	Pyridinic N	84.3
	286.6	C-O	17.2	532.8	C=O	44.5	401.9	Graphitic N	15.7
	288.5	C=O	5.2						
CDs/HCPP	284.7	C=C	67.7	531.1	C-O	17.3	399.8	Pyridinic N	76.4
	286.4	C-O	25.4	532.7	C=O	82.7	401.9	Graphitic N	23.6
	288.1	C=O	6.9						
CDs/HCPP-700	284.7	C=C	75.2	531.8	C-O	46.2	398.5	Iminic N	35.0
	286.2	C-O	17.6	533.6	C=O	53.8	400.7	Pyrrolic N	65.0
	288.5	C=O	7.2						

**Supplementary Table 2. Organic element content of as-prepared materials**

Sample	C (%)	H (%)	N (%)	O (%)	Ash (%)
PP	41.65	6.21	2.37	49.06	0.71
CDs	53.00	5.93	2.45	38.62	0
CDs/HCPP	54.04	5.84	3.29	34.16	2.67
CDs/HCPP-700	72.67	2.23	3.48	17.37	4.25

**Supplementary Table 3. The comparison of photocatalytic oxidation of amines between this work and recently reported similar catalytic systems**

Entry	Catalysts	Condition	Con./%	Sele./%	Yield./%	Ref.
1	Hydrochar from bamboo	35 W tungsten-bromine lamp $\lambda > 420$ nm, 29 °C, 0.1 Mpa O <sub>2</sub> , 32 h	97.1	99.5		1
2	O-CDs	300W Xe lamp, $\lambda > 420$ nm 90 °C, 0.1 Mpa O <sub>2</sub> , 12 h	-	-	98	2
3	Cu <sub>2</sub> O / CDs	20 W LED, $\lambda > 400$ nm 50 °C, 0.1 Mpa O <sub>2</sub> , 8 h	97	98	95	3
4	C70 fullerene	34 W LED, $\lambda = 470$ nm 35 °C, 0.1 Mpa O <sub>2</sub> , 24 h	-	-	98	4
5	mpg-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	300W Xe lamp, $\lambda > 400$ nm, 80 °C, 0.5 Mpa O <sub>2</sub> , 3.5 h	90	99	89	5
6	CDs/HCPP	10W LED, $460 < \lambda < 465$ nm 26 °C, air, 6 h	-	-	99	This work

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