

## Electronic Supplementary Information

# A facile strategy for enhancing FeCu bimetallic promotion for catalytic phenol oxidation

Lei Luo<sup>a</sup>, Chengyi Dai<sup>a</sup>, Anfeng Zhang<sup>a</sup>, Junhu Wang<sup>b</sup>, Min Liu<sup>a</sup>, Chunshan Song<sup>ac\*</sup> and Xinwen Guo<sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> State Key Laboratory of Fine Chemicals, PSU-DUT Joint Center for Energy Research, School of Chemical Engineering, Dalian University of Technology, Dalian 116024, P. R. China. Fax: +86-0411-84986134; Tel: +86-0411-84986133; E-mail: [guoxw@dlut.edu.cn](mailto:guoxw@dlut.edu.cn)

<sup>b</sup> Mossbauer Effect Data Center, Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Dalian, 116023, China

<sup>c</sup> EMS Energy Institute, PSU-DUT Joint Center for Energy Research and Department of Energy & Mineral Engineering, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania 16802, United States. Fax: +1-814-865-3573; Tel: +1-814-863-4466; E-mail: [csong@psu.edu](mailto:csong@psu.edu)

1 XRD patterns of (a) Fe<sub>10</sub>/MI, (b) Fe<sub>10</sub>/ME, (c) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/MI, (d) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/ME, (e) Cu<sub>10</sub>/MI, (f) Cu<sub>10</sub>/ME.

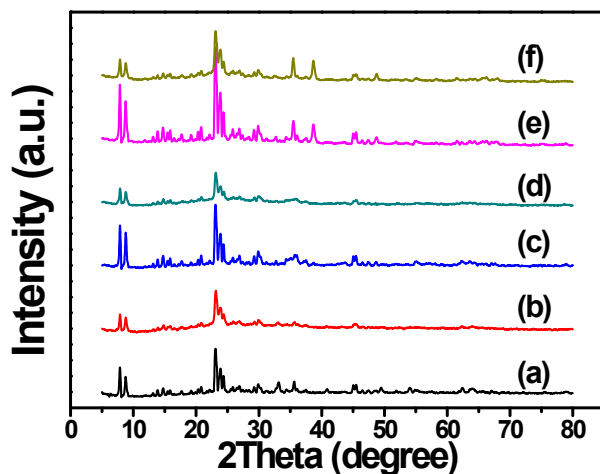


Fig. S1. XRD patterns of (a) Fe<sub>10</sub>/MI, (b) Fe<sub>10</sub>/ME, (c) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/MI, (d) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/ME, (e) Cu<sub>10</sub>/MI, (f) Cu<sub>10</sub>/ME.

2 Phenol oxidation reaction catalyzed by Fe<sub>5</sub>/ME and Cu<sub>5</sub>/ME.

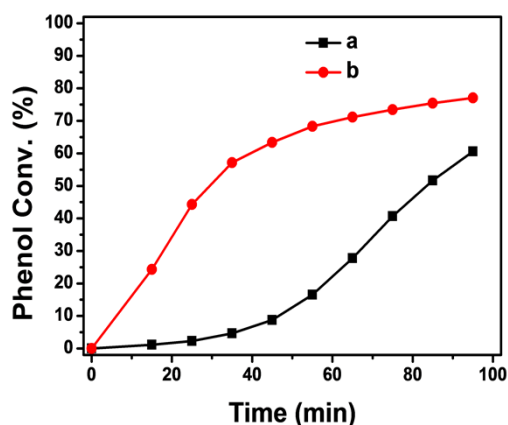


Fig. S2. Phenol conversion in the presence of (a) Fe<sub>5</sub>/ME, (b) Cu<sub>5</sub>/ME. Reaction conditions: Molar ratio: 14 H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 1 phenol, 20 mg catalyst: 50 ml phenol (1 g/L), temperature is 323 K.

3 TEM images of (a) Fe<sub>10</sub>/MI, (b) Fe<sub>10</sub>/ME, (c) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/MI, (d) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/ME, (e) Cu<sub>10</sub>/MI, (f) Cu<sub>10</sub>/ME.

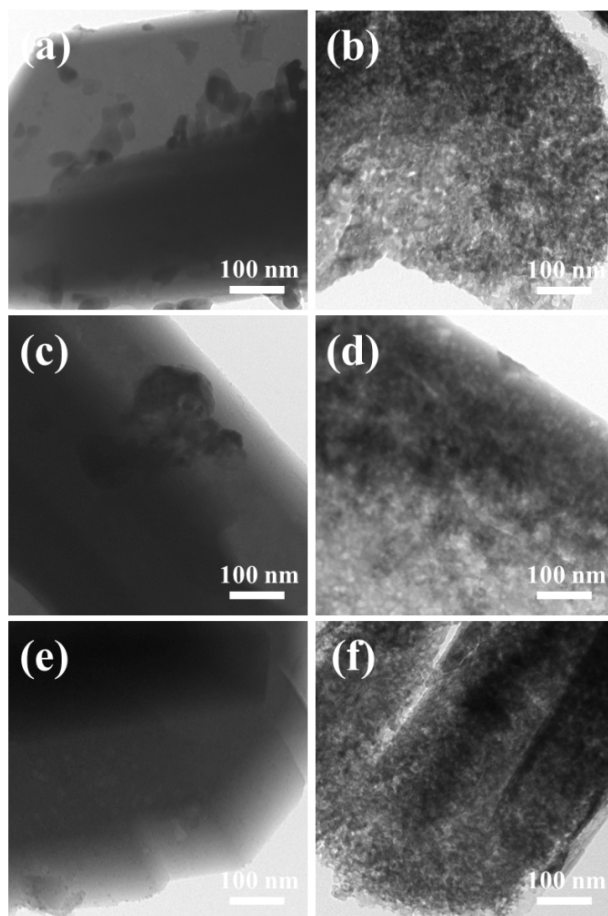


Fig. S3. TEM images of (a) Fe<sub>10</sub>/MI, (b) Fe<sub>10</sub>/ME, (c) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/MI, (d) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/ME, (e) Cu<sub>10</sub>/MI, (f) Cu<sub>10</sub>/ME.

#### 4 Amount of Cu and Fe in synthetic gel and Fe<sub>x</sub>Cu<sub>y</sub>/ZSM-5 samples.

Table S1. Amount of Cu and Fe in synthetic gel and Fe<sub>x</sub>Cu<sub>y</sub>/ZSM-5 samples.

Sample	Amount of metal in synthetic gel, (wt.%) <sup>a</sup>			Amount of metal in samples <sup>b</sup>		
	Fe	Cu	n <sub>Fe</sub> /n <sub>Cu</sub>	Fe	Cu	n <sub>Fe</sub> /n <sub>Cu</sub>
Fe <sub>10</sub> /MI	10	0	/	9.73	/	/
Fe <sub>10</sub> /ME	10	0	/	9.64	/	/
Fe <sub>5</sub> Cu <sub>5</sub> /MI	5	5	1.1	4.77	5.31	1.03
Fe <sub>5</sub> Cu <sub>5</sub> /ME	5	5	1.1	4.74	5.25	1.03
Cu <sub>10</sub> /MI	0	10	/	/	10.5	/
Cu <sub>10</sub> /ME	0	10	/	/	10.7	/

<sup>a</sup> Weight ration of M/support, where M is Fe and Cu. <sup>b</sup> Measured by ICP analysis.

Table S2. Molar ratios of Si/Al in the two supports.

Sample	Theoretical Si/Al (mol/mol)	Experimental Si/Al <sup>a</sup> (mol/mol)
Micro-ZSM-5	40	87.2
Meso-ZSM-5	/	43.5

<sup>a</sup> Measured by ICP analysis.

**5 Ar adsorption/desorption isotherms of sample (a) Fe<sub>10</sub>/MI, (b) Fe<sub>10</sub>/ME, (c) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/MI, (d) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/ME, (e) Cu<sub>10</sub>/MI, (f) Cu<sub>10</sub>/ME.**

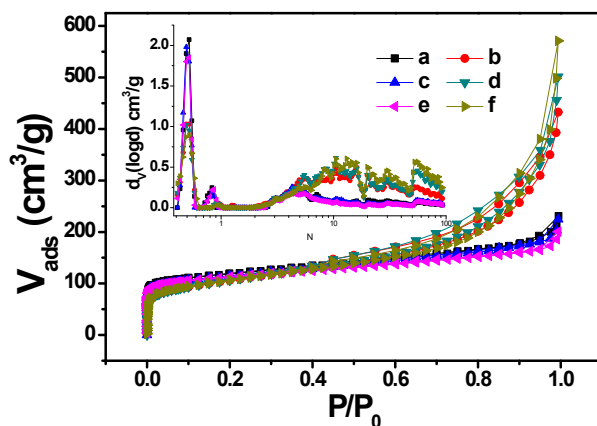


Fig. S4. Ar adsorption/desorption isotherms at 87 K and pore size distributions of (a) Fe<sub>10</sub>/MI, (b) Fe<sub>10</sub>/ME, (c) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/MI, (d) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/ME, (e) Cu<sub>10</sub>/MI, (f) Cu<sub>10</sub>/ME. The pore size distributions were determined by non-local density functional theory (NLDFT).

Table S3. Textural properties of (a) Fe<sub>10</sub>/MI, (b) Fe<sub>10</sub>/ME, (c) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/MI, (d) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/ME, (e) Cu<sub>10</sub>/MI, (f) Cu<sub>10</sub>/ME.

Sample	$S_{micro}^{[a]}$ [m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> ]	$S_{meso}^{[a]}$ [m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> ]	$S_{BET}^{[b]}$ [m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> ]	$V_{micro}^{[a]}$ [cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> ]	$V_{pore}^{[c]}$ [cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> ]
a	260	127	387	0.10	0.29
b	133	199	332	0.05	0.55
c	230	138	368	0.08	0.29
d	128	203	331	0.05	0.64
e	260	108	368	0.10	0.26
f	148	183	331	0.06	0.73

[a] t-plot method [b] BET method [c]  $P/P_0=0.99$ .

**6 Recycling performance of Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/MI and Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/ME.**

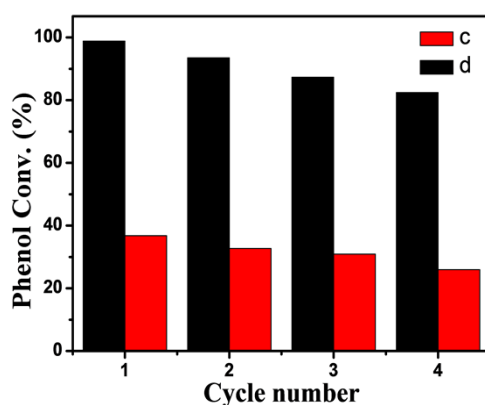


Fig. S5. The recycling performance of sample (c) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/MI and (d) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/ME.

**7 Metal leaching performance analysis by ICP.**

Table S4. Metal leaching performance analysis by ICP.

Sample	Metal leaching	
	Fe (mg/L)	Cu (mg/L)
Fe <sub>10</sub> /MI	0.08	/
Fe <sub>10</sub> /ME	1.27	/
Fe <sub>5</sub> Cu <sub>5</sub> /MI	0.27	2.81
Fe <sub>5</sub> Cu <sub>5</sub> /ME	1.62	2.13
Cu <sub>10</sub> /MI	/	3.41
Cu <sub>10</sub> /ME	/	3.16

### 8 Catalytic performance of Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/SBA-15.

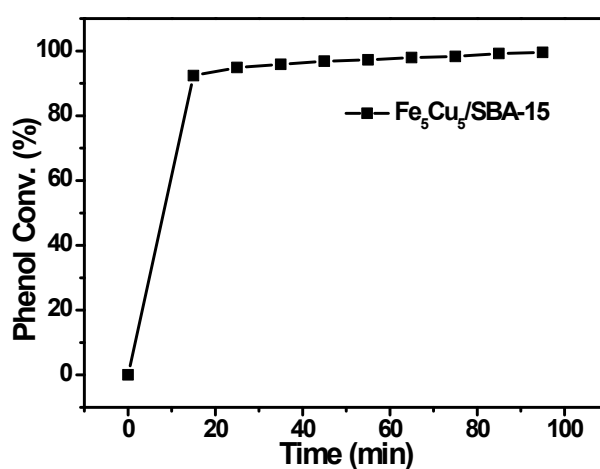


Fig. S6. Phenol conversion in the presence of Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/SBA-15.

### 9 Efficiency of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>.

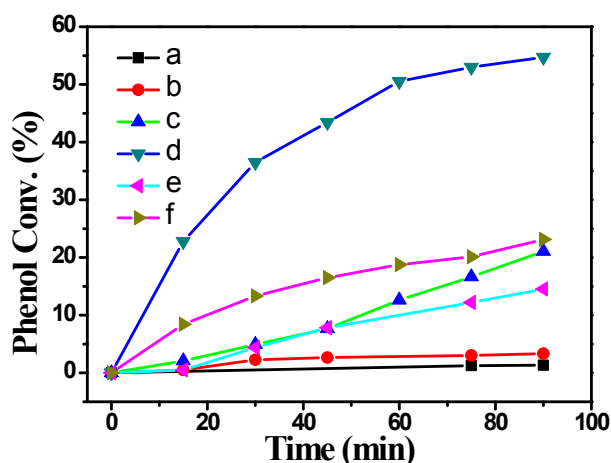


Fig. S7. H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> degradation in the presence of (a) Fe<sub>10</sub>/MI, (b) Fe<sub>10</sub>/ME, (c) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/MI, (d) Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/ME, (e) Cu<sub>10</sub>/MI, (f) Cu<sub>10</sub>/ME. Reaction conditions: Molar ratio: 14 H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 1 phenol, 20 mg catalyst : 50 ml phenol (1 g/L), temperature is 323 K.

### 10 Catalytic performance of Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/meso-S-1.

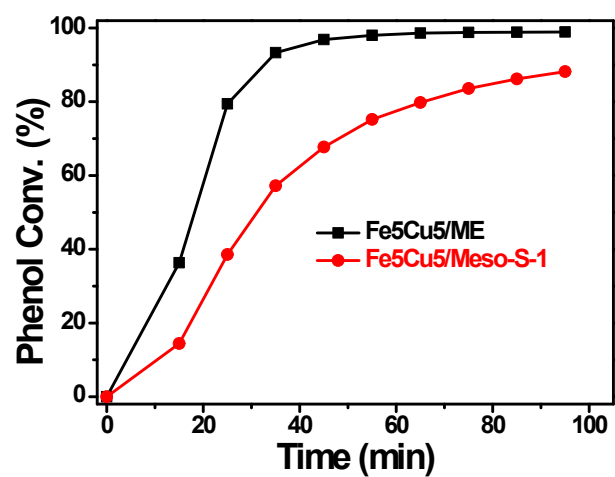


Fig S8. Phenol conversion in the presence of Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/ME and Fe<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>5</sub>/meso-S-1.