

## Supporting Information

### **Insight into different performance of Pt/KL catalysts for *n*-alkane (C6-C8) aromatization: catalytic role of zeolite channels**

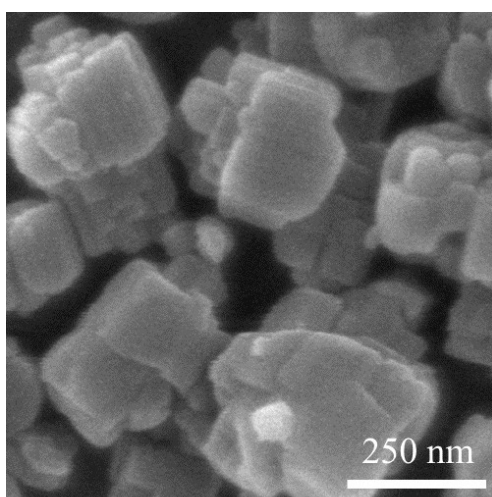
Mengxia Yan,<sup>ac</sup> Dan Xu,<sup>\*b</sup> Baoshan Wu,<sup>\*ad</sup> Yong Yang<sup>ad</sup> and Yongwang Li<sup>ad</sup>

<sup>a</sup> State Key Laboratory of Coal Conversion, Institute of Coal Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Taiyuan 030001, People's Republic of China. E-mail: wbs@sxicc.ac.cn

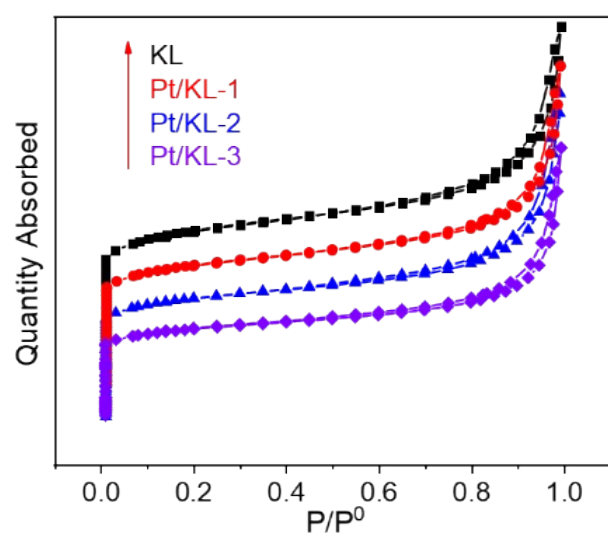
<sup>b</sup> Energy Research Institute, Shandong Academy of Sciences, Jinan, 250014, People's Republic of China. E-mail: xudan@sderi.cn

<sup>c</sup> University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, People's Republic of China.

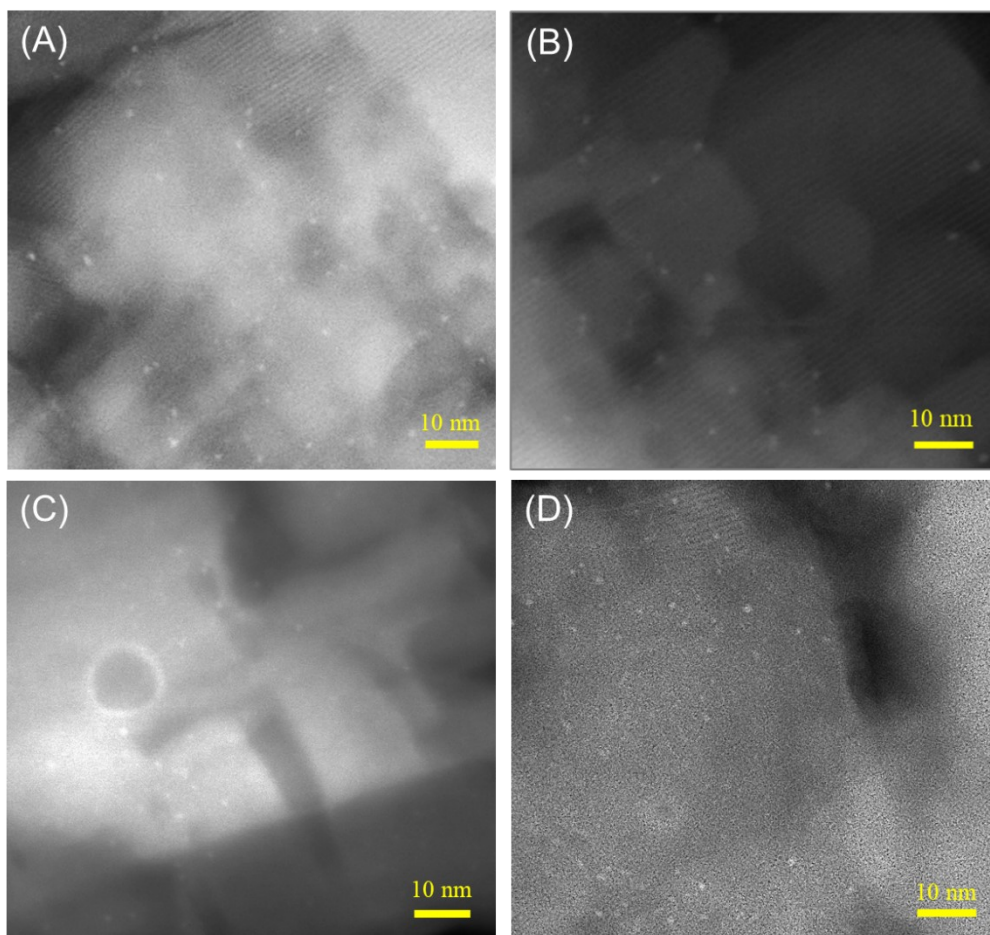
<sup>d</sup> National Energy Research Center for Coal to Clean Fuels, Synfuels China Co., Ltd., Beijing 101407, People's Republic of China.



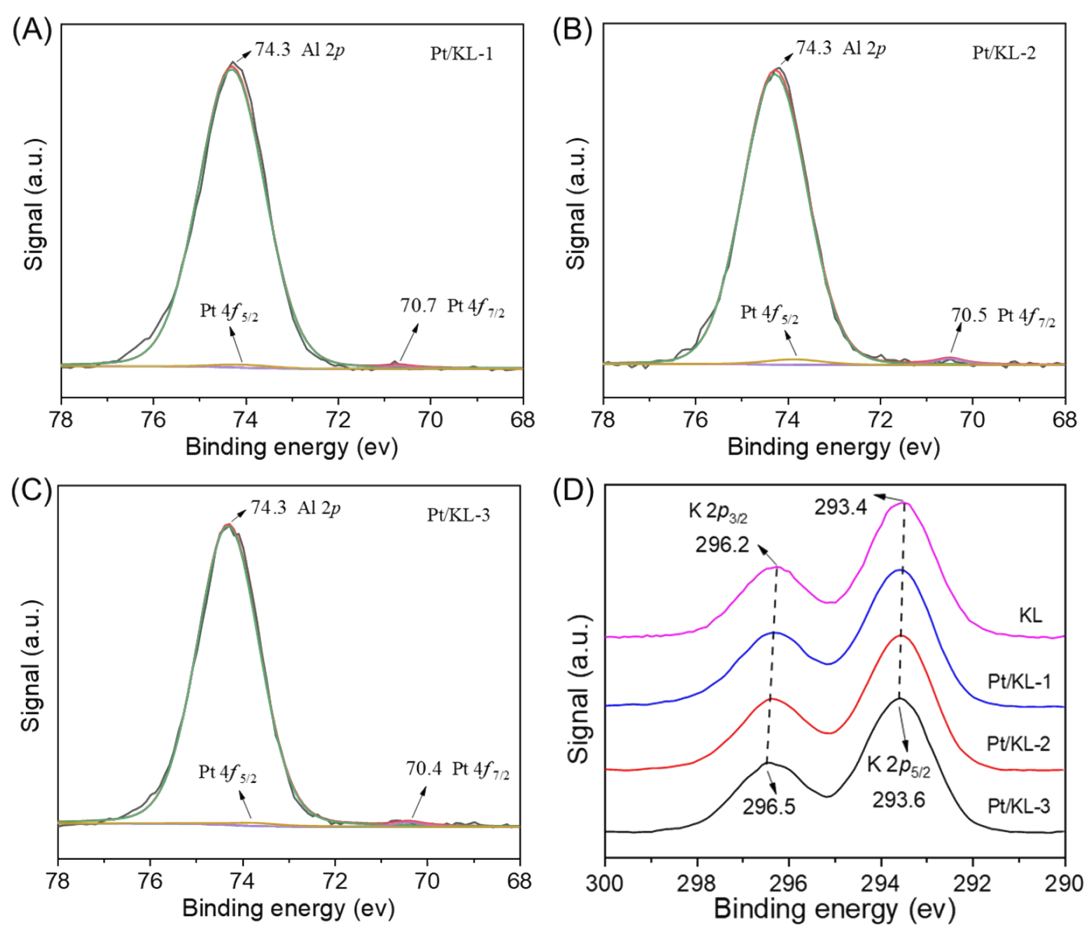
**Fig. S1** The SEM image of KL zeolite



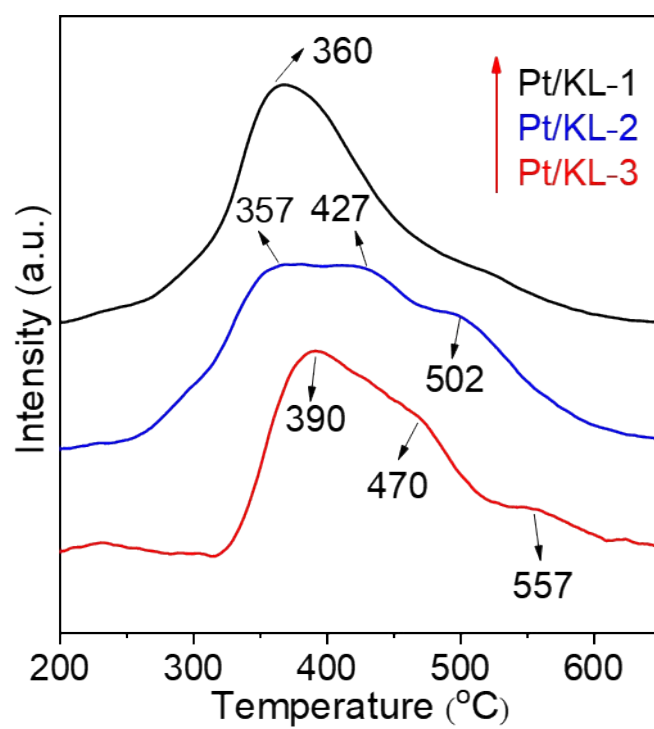
**Fig. S2** N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isomers of KL zeolite and Pt/KL-x catalysts at 77 K



**Fig. S3** HAADF-STEM of (A)-(B) Pt/KL-1 (C) Pt/KL-2 (D) Pt/KL-3 catalysts



**Fig. S4** The XPS spectra of Pt 4f for (A) Pt/KL-1 (B) Pt/KL-2 (C) Pt/KL-3 catalysts and (D) K 2p for Pt/KL-x catalysts

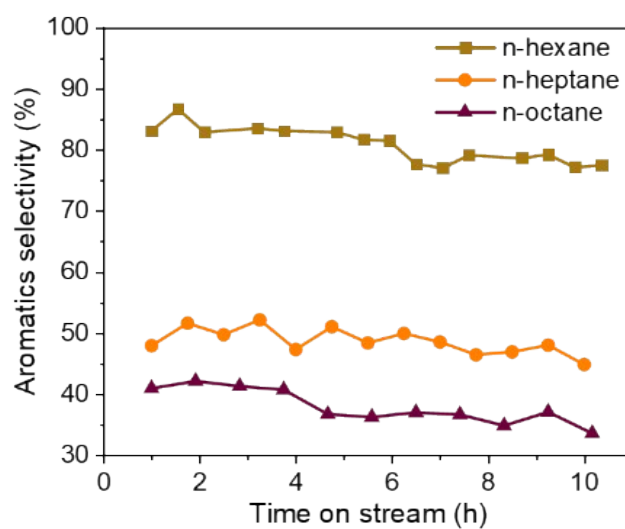


**Fig. S5** The H<sub>2</sub>-TPR profiles of Pt/KL-x catalysts

**Table S1** Conversion and specific product selectivity of Pt/KL-3 catalyst for *n*-alkane aromatization (Reaction condition: T=450 °C; 0.1 MPa; H<sub>2</sub>/*n*-alkane=6)

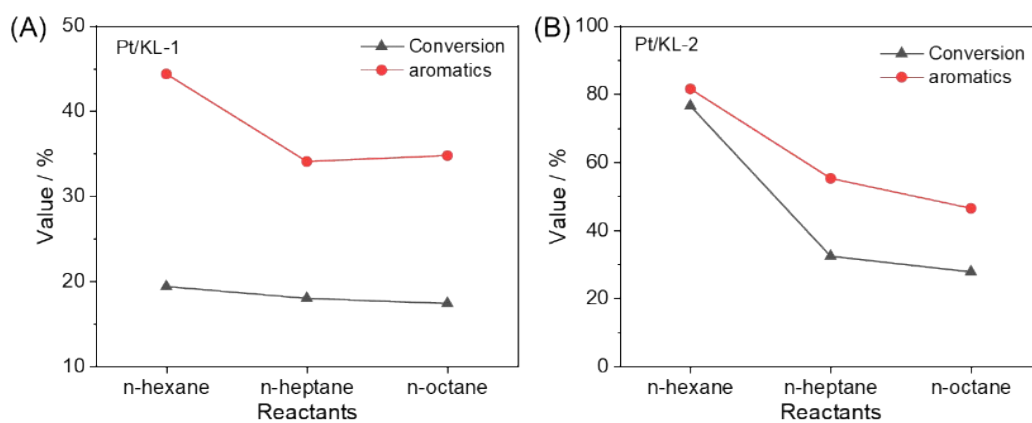
	Reactants		
	<i>n</i> -hexane	<i>n</i> -heptane	<i>n</i> -octane
Conversion / %	81.7	24.0	26.9
Selectivity / %			
total aromatics	83.2	48.0	41.0
benzene	83.2	6.7	2.3
toluene	-	41.3	4.8
C8 aromatics	-	-	33.9
C6=	0.7	0.6	0.1
C7=	-	19.0	0.3
C8=	-	-	24.1
C1-C4	3.5	5.2	6.2
C5-C <sub>n</sub> <sup>a</sup>	12.6	27.2	28.3

<sup>a</sup> The value of n was 6, 7 and 8 when feed was *n*-hexane, *n*-heptane and *n*-octane, respectively

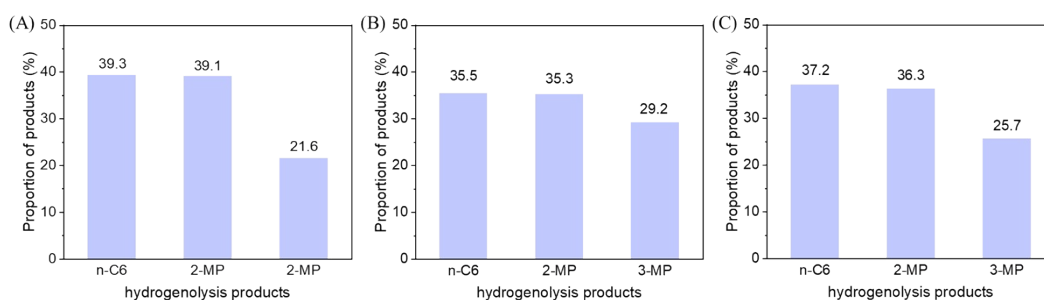


**Fig. S6** Variation of aromatics selectivity in *n*-hexane, *n*-heptane and *n*-octane aromatization as a function of time on stream on Pt/KL-3 catalyst  
(Reaction condition: T=450 °C; 0.1 MPa; H<sub>2</sub>/*n*-alkane=6)



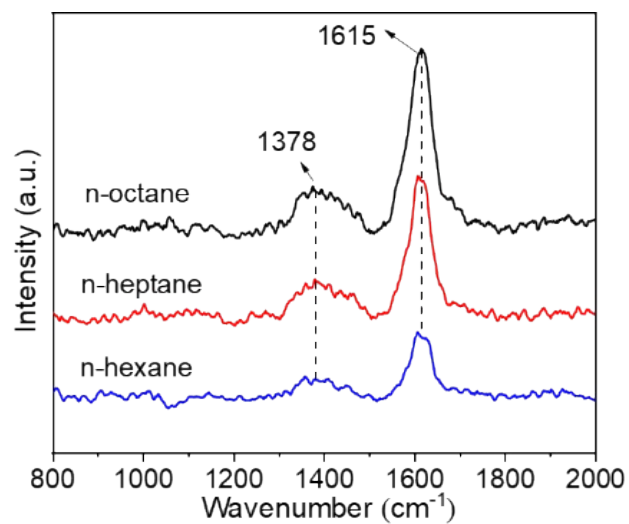


**Fig. S7** The conversion and aromatics selectivity for *n*-hexane, *n*-heptane and *n*-octane aromatization over (a) Pt/KL-1 and (b) Pt/KL-2 catalysts

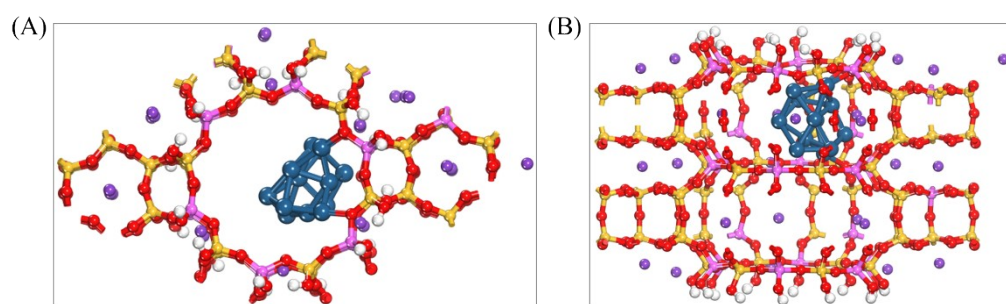


**Fig. S8** The hydrogenolysis products distribution of methylcyclopentane on (A) Pt/KL-1 (B) Pt/KL-2 (C) Pt/KL-3 catalysts

The ring opening of methylcyclopentane was structure-sensitive reaction, and products distribution would be related to the size of Pt clusters and collimating effects of channels<sup>1, 2</sup>. For highlighting the effect of Pt clusters locations, methylcyclopentane hydrogenolysis was performed. The reaction conversion was controlled < 10%. The hydrogenolysis products distribution of methylcyclopentane on Pt/KL-x catalysts were shown in Fig. S8. For Pt/KL-1 catalyst (Fig. S8A), it could be seen that *n*-hexane, 2-methylpentane (2-MP) and 3-methylpentane (3-MP) accounted for 39.3%, 39.1% and 21.6% among total hydrogenolysis products, respectively. This indicated that the distribution was *n*-hexane: 2-MP: 3-MP = 1.82: 1.81: 1, which was similar to the statistical distribution (2: 2: 1)<sup>3, 4</sup>. The result suggested that Pt clusters of Pt/KL-1 catalyst were highly dispersed and mainly located outside zeolite channels. For Pt/KL-2 catalyst (Fig. S8B), the proportion of *n*-hexane, 2-MP and 3-MP were respectively 35.5%, 35.3% and 29.2% (*n*-hexane: 2-MP: 3-MP = 1.22: 1.21: 1), indicating increased selectivity of opening in the  $\gamma$  position<sup>3</sup>. This further confirmed that plentiful Pt clusters in Pt/KL-2 catalyst located inside zeolite channels, leading to evident collimating effects<sup>2, 3</sup>. While, the products distribution on Pt/KL-3 catalyst (1.45: 1.41: 1) was closer to statistical distribution (2: 2: 1), since parts of Pt clusters were again located at orifice in Pt/KL-3 catalyst. Above results further imply that the size of Pt clusters in these Pt/KL-x catalysts was similar and these clusters were not larger enough to fill pore. Therefore, the difference in catalytic performance of Pt/KL-x catalysts for *n*-alkane reforming might be related to the position of Pt clusters.



**Fig. S9** UV-Raman spectra of spent Pt/KL-1 catalyst for *n*-alkane aromatization



**Fig. S10** The basal model of Pt/KL catalysts (A) projection viewed along [001]

(B) cartoon viewed [001]

## Notes and references

- 1 Y. Zhu, Z. An and J. He, *J. Catal.*, 2016, **341**, 44-54.
- 2 W. E. Alvarez and D. E. Resasco, *J. Catal.*, 1996, **164**, 467-476.
- 3 G. Jacobs, F. Ghadiali, A. Pisanu, A. Borgna, W. Alvarez and D. Resasco, *Appl. Catal. A.*, 1999, **188**, 79-98.
- 4 P. Samoila, M. Boutzeloit, C. Especel, F. Epron and P. Marécot, *J. Catal.*, 2010, **276**, 237-248.