## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Fundamentals and application potential of synergy effect between ZnO and Mo/SiO<sub>2</sub> for propene production in the metathesis of ethylene and trans-2 butene

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## Tables

Sample	Surface area / m <sup>-2</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup>	Crystallite size / nm
a-ZnO	4	69.3
b-ZnO	35	10.3
c-ZnO	7	58.0

**Table S1**The surface area and the average size of crystallites of different ZnO.

Sample	E <sub>a</sub> , kJ/mol
Mo/SiO <sub>2</sub>	15.5
a-ZnO_dual-bed	94.3
a-ZnO-1	92.9
a-ZnO-5	105.8
a-ZnO-10	100.1
a-ZnO-20	99.9
a-ZnO-50	104.0
a-ZnO-100	88.1

**Table S2**Apparent activation energies of propene formation in the metathesis of ethylene<br/>with 2-butene determined in the temperature range from 100 to 200°C.



**Figure S1** A schematic representation of reactor configurations with different integration manners for ZnO and Mo/SiO<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure S2** The UV-vis spectrum of Mo/SiO<sub>2</sub> at room temperature after catalyst treatment in air at 500°C for 1 h.



**Figure S3** The Raman spectrum of Mo/SiO<sub>2</sub> at room temperature after catalyst treatment in air at 500°C for 1 h.



Figure S4The profile of outlet  $H_2$  flow in temperature-programmed reduction of Mo/SiO2with 5vol%  $H_2$  in Ar.



**Figure S5** The profile of outlet NH<sub>3</sub> flow in temperature-programmed desorption of NH<sub>3</sub> from Mo/SiO<sub>2</sub> or bare SiO<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure S6** In situ DRIFT spectra of Mo/SiO<sub>2</sub> and bare SiO<sub>2</sub>. The spectra were recorded at 150°C after treatment of the samples in air at 450 °C for 1h.



Figure S7 XRD patterns of a-ZnO, b-ZnO and c-ZnO.



**Figure S8** The effect of the presence of a-ZnO and the weight ratio of a-ZnO to Mo/SiO<sub>2</sub> on product distribution at (a) 50°C, (b) 100°C, (c) 150°C and (d) 200°C.



Figure S9 Arrhenius plots of the rate of propene formation in the metathesis of ethylene with 2-butene over Mo/SiO<sub>2</sub> and different Mo/SiO<sub>2</sub>–ZnO combinations. Reaction conditions:  $T=50 - 200^{\circ}$  C, feed composition:  $C_2H_4$ /trans-2- $C_4H_8/N_2=5/5/1$ . The activation energy was calculated for the temperature range between 100 and 200°C.



**Figure S10** The dependences of the rate of propene formation over physically mixed Mo/SiO<sub>2</sub> and ZnO (the weight ratio of ZnO to Mo/SiO<sub>2</sub> of 1:1) at 200°C on (a) the specific surface area of ZnO and (b) the size of crystallites of ZnO.



Figure S11 MS signal of  $C_4D_7H$  (m/z=63) collected during the H-D experiments with different ZnO samples using  $C_4H_8$ - and 2- $C_4D_8$ -containing feeds.