

# Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

## Oxidation of ethylene by Cu/TiO<sub>2</sub>: Reducibility of Cu<sup>2+</sup> in TiO<sub>2</sub> as a possible descriptor of catalytic efficiency.

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S.No	Catalyst	CuSO <sub>4</sub> .5H <sub>2</sub> O (mg)	Ti(OC <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> (g)	Ethanol (mL)	ICP-OES (Cu wt.%)
1.	0.2% Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	5.13	3.5	30	0.21
2.	1% Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	25.66	3.5	30	1.06
3.	3% Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	77.00	3.5	30	3.38
4.	4% Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	102.67	3.5	30	4.03

**Table S1** Data for the synthesis of Cu-doped TiO<sub>2</sub>.

ICP-OES (Inductively coupled plasma - optical emission spectrometry)

**Table S2**

weighted  
size (d) nm of  
doped TiO<sub>2</sub>  
Scherer

S. NO	Catalyst	volume-weighted average grain size 'd' (nm)
1.	TiO <sub>2</sub>	10.3
2.	0.2% Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	9.8
3.	1% Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	9.7

Volume-  
average grain  
TiO<sub>2</sub> and Cu  
calculated using  
equation

4.	3% Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	7.5
5.	4% Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	7.4

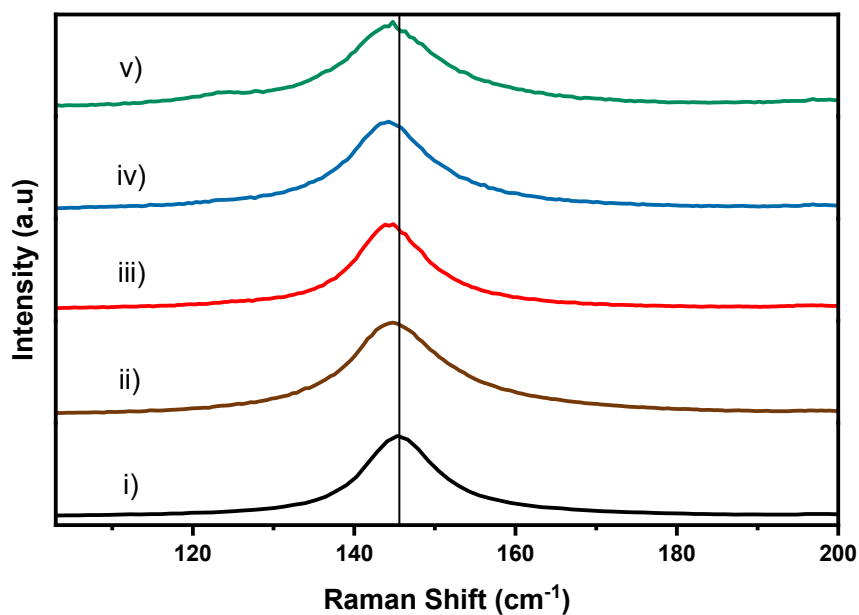
**Scherer equation:  $d_{XRD} = K\lambda/W\cos\theta$**

$d_{XRD}$  = volume-weighted average grain size

K = Scherrer constant

$\lambda$  = Wavelength

W = peak width



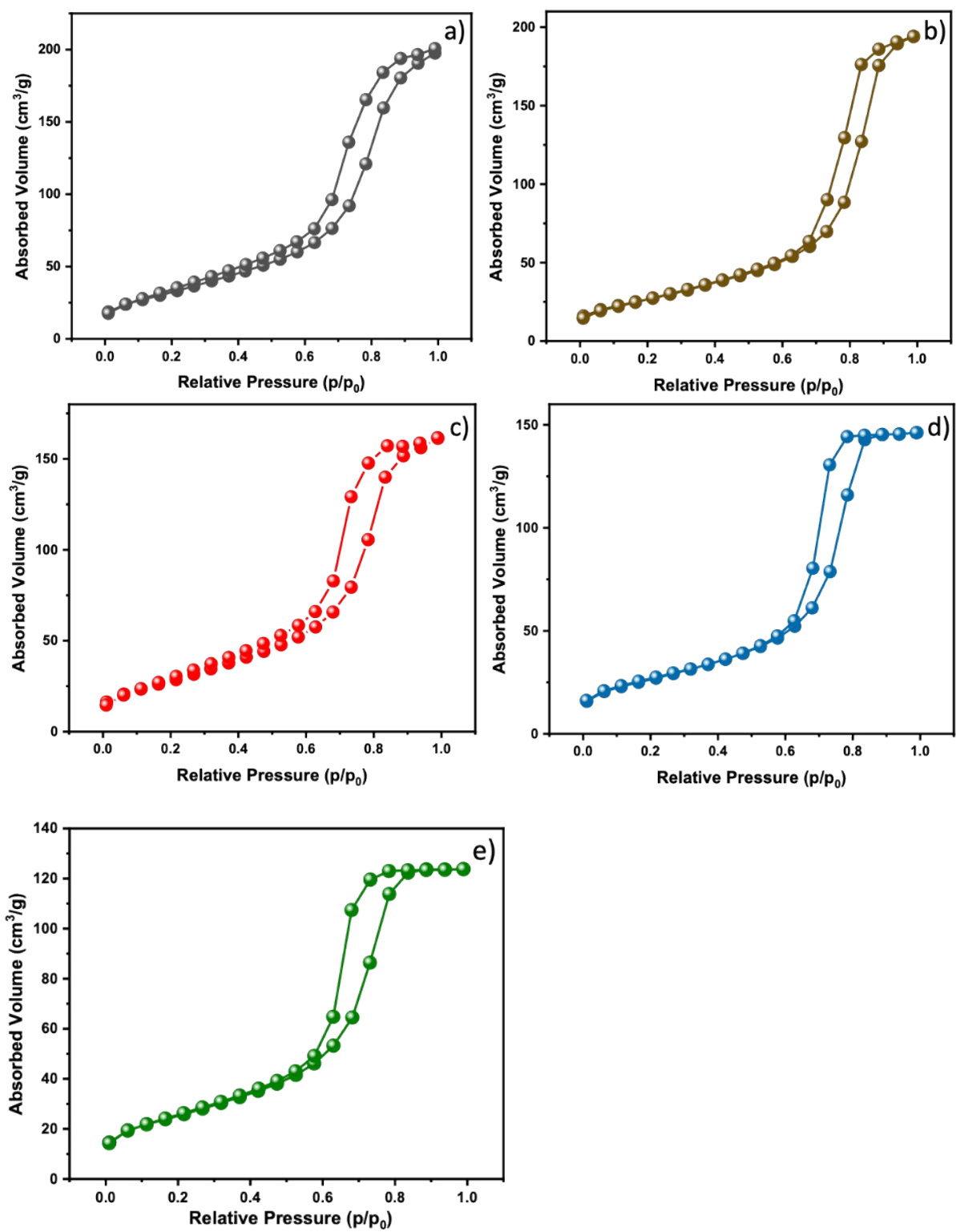
**Fig. S1** Enlarged image of 144.9  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  Raman shift i)  $\text{TiO}_2$  (black) ii) 0.2%  $\text{Cu/TiO}_2$  (brown) iii) 1%  $\text{Cu/TiO}_2$  (red) iv) 3%  $\text{Cu/TiO}_2$  (blue) v) 4%  $\text{Cu/TiO}_2$  (green).

**Table S3** Comparison of Temperature (K) of deconvoluted peaks in all the prepared catalyst

Catalyst	Temperature (K)			
	$\text{Cu}^{2+}$ to $\text{Cu}^+$	$\text{Cu}^+$ to $\text{Cu}^0$	$\text{Ti}^{4+}$	
$\text{TiO}_2$	–	–	770	880
0.2 $\text{Cu/TiO}_2$	–	–	715	825
1 $\text{Cu/TiO}_2$	577	615	729	729
3 $\text{Cu/TiO}_2$	540	583	656	841
4 $\text{Cu/TiO}_2$	538	611	680	874

**Table S4** Comparison of H<sub>2</sub>-consumption (micromole/gram) of deconvoluted peaks in all the prepared catalyst

Catalyst	H <sub>2</sub> -Consumption (μmol/gram)				Valence Ratio (Cu <sup>2+</sup> / Cu <sup>+</sup> ) approx.	
	Cu <sup>2+</sup> to Cu <sup>+</sup>	Cu <sup>+</sup> to Cu <sup>0</sup>	Ti <sup>4+</sup>			Total
0.2 Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	–	–	311.4	990.8	1399.2	
1 Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	1411.8	2520.7	1250.4		5182.9	0.5
3 Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	582.8	1135.4	4408.9	5747.6	11874.1	0.5
4 Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	782.9	1040.2	1425.7	3910.1	7158.9	0.7



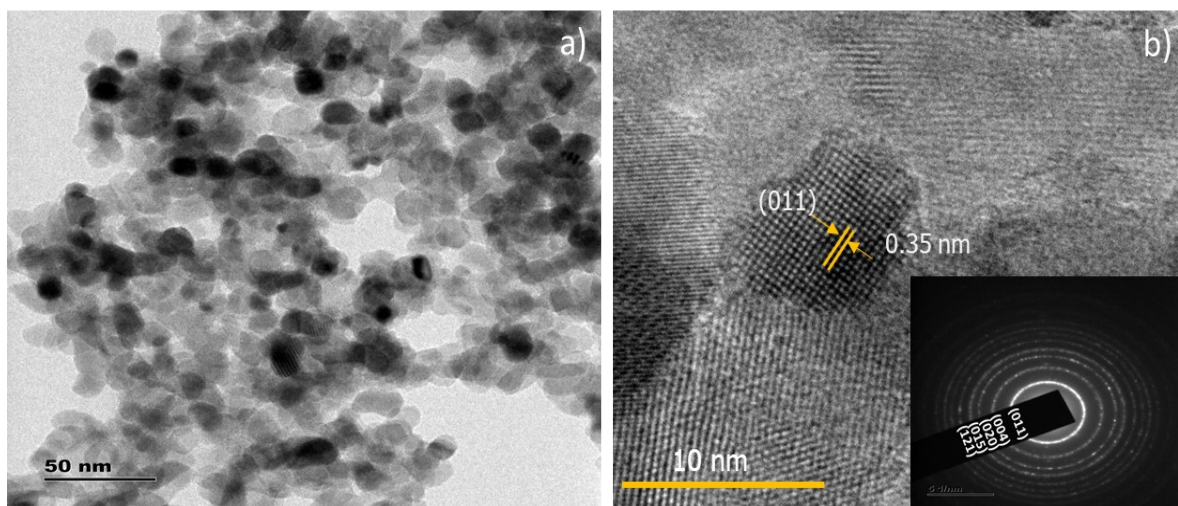
**Fig. S2** N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherm at 77K a) TiO<sub>2</sub> b) 0.2% Cu/TiO<sub>2</sub> c) 1% Cu/TiO<sub>2</sub> d) 3% Cu/TiO<sub>2</sub> e) 4% Cu/TiO<sub>2</sub>

**Table S5** BET surface area, average pore size and total pore volume analysis of TiO<sub>2</sub> and Cu/TiO<sub>2</sub> samples

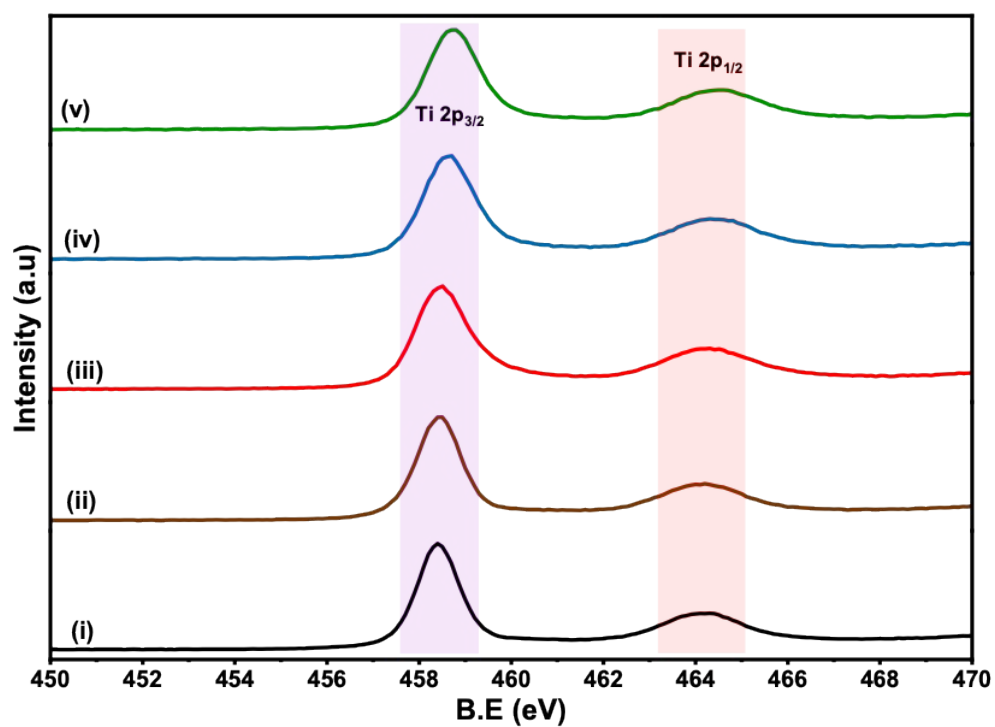
S.No	Catalyst	BET Surface Area (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	Average pore size (nm)	Total pore volume (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)
1	TiO <sub>2</sub>	119.9	5.0	0.30
2	0.2% Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	97.4	6.1	0.30
3	1% Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	103.4	4.8	0.24
4	3% Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	94.3	4.7	0.22
5	4% Cu/TiO <sub>2</sub>	91.0	4.2	0.19

#### **BET and textural analysis**

The N<sub>2</sub> adsorption and desorption isotherms (Fig. S2) of prepared materials was of type IV, which indicates mesoporous materials.<sup>1</sup> The surface area and other textural parameters of the samples are shown in the Table S2. BET surface area of the pure anatase TiO<sub>2</sub> was calculated to be 119.9 m<sup>2</sup>/g, which was highest among all the materials. Increasing Cu concentration in TiO<sub>2</sub> lead to a slight decrease in surface area.<sup>1</sup> The average pore size of all the materials were around 4 - 6 nm which is in mesoporous range. Total pore volume and pore size also followed the same trend as BET surface area.



**Fig. S3** a) TEM micrographs of 1% Cu/TiO<sub>2</sub> b) HR-TEM and SAED pattern (inset) of 1% Cu/TiO<sub>2</sub>

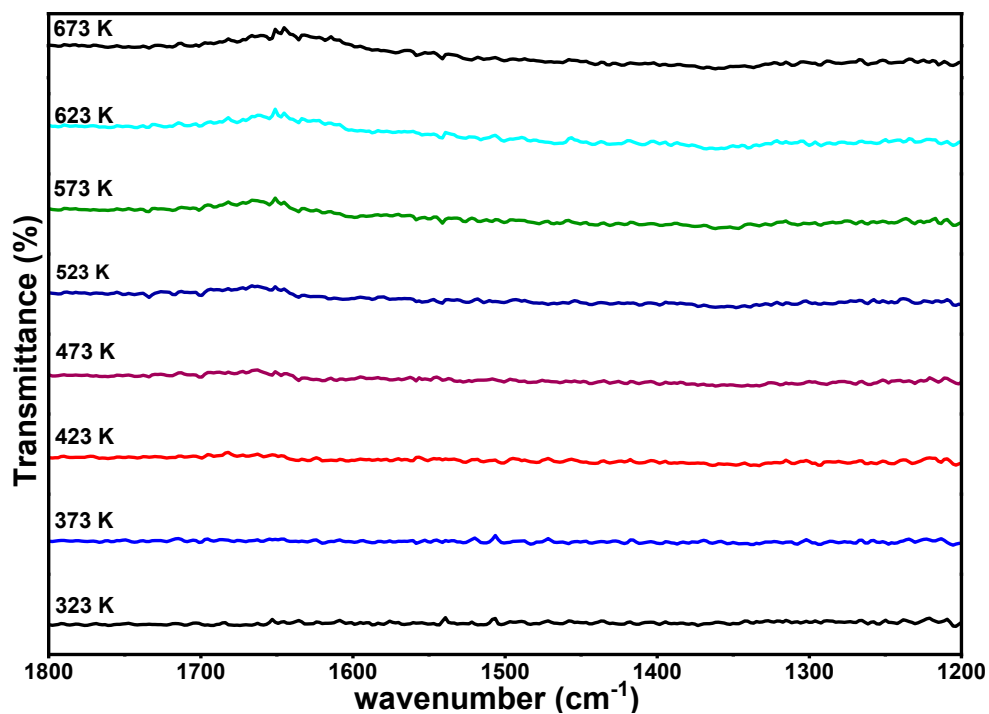


**Fig. S4** X-ray photoelectron spectra of Ti 2p i) TiO<sub>2</sub> ii) 0.2% Cu/TiO<sub>2</sub> iii) 1% Cu/TiO<sub>2</sub> iv) 3% Cu/TiO<sub>2</sub> v) 4% Cu/TiO<sub>2</sub>

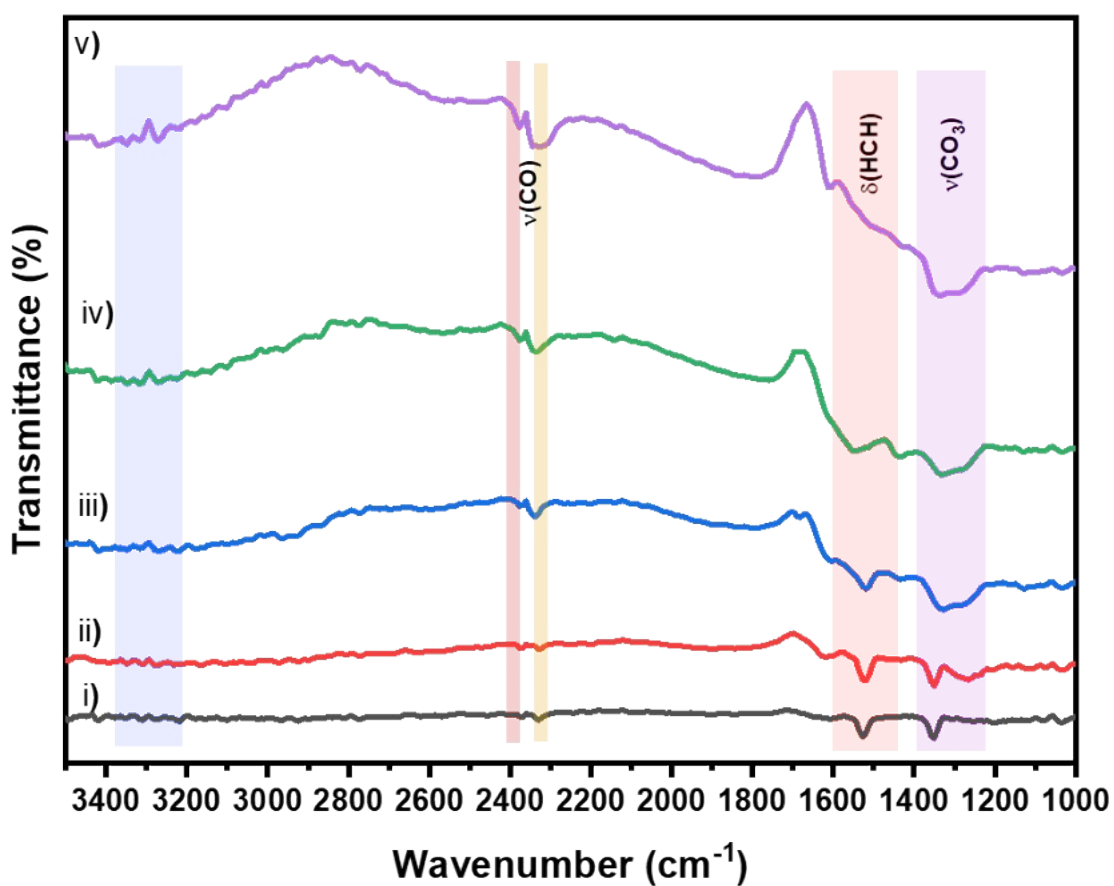


**Table S6** Valence ratio of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}/\text{Cu}^+$  in all the prepared catalyst using X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy.

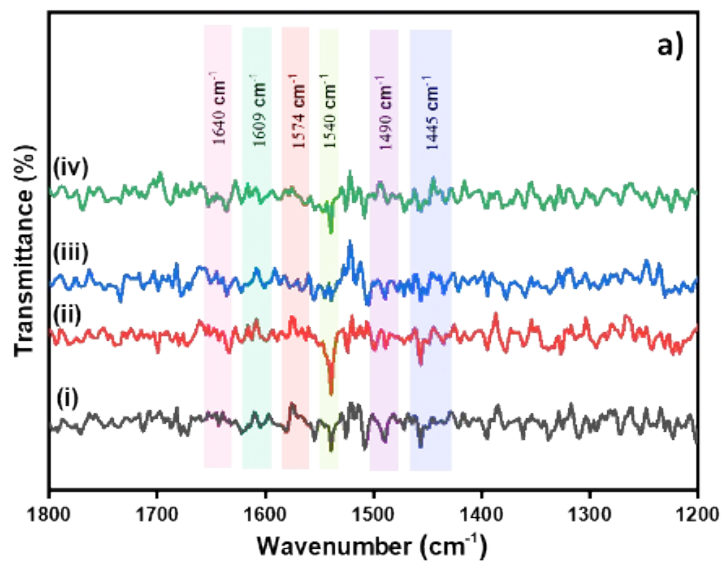
Catalyst	Peak 1 ( $\text{Cu}^+$ ) Area	Peak 2 ( $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ ) Area	Valence Ratio( $\text{Cu}^{2+}/\text{Cu}^+$ ) approx.
0.2 Cu/ $\text{TiO}_2$	6095	0	0
1 Cu/ $\text{TiO}_2$	19872	4152	0.2
3 Cu/ $\text{TiO}_2$	23347	10989	0.5
4 Cu/ $\text{TiO}_2$	29701	26186	0.9



**Fig. S5** CO<sub>2</sub> DRIFT of 1% Cu/ $\text{TiO}_2$



**Fig. S6** DRIFTS measurement during oxidation of ethylene using 1% Cu/TiO<sub>2</sub> with the mixture of ethylene (1.5 vol %) and oxygen (5.9 vol %) at (i) 298 K; (ii) 373 K; (iii) 473 K; (iv) 573 K; (v) 673 K.



**Fig. S7** a) Pyridine DRIFTS of  $\text{TiO}_2$  i) 323 K ii) 373 K iii) 473 K iv) 573K

## Reference

1. T. Sreethawong and S. Yoshikawa, *Catalysis Communications*, 2005, **6**, 661-668.