Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Sustainable Energy & Fuels. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2022

# **Supplementary Information**

# Catalytic conversion of sucrose to 1,2-propanediol over alumina supported Ni-Mo bimetallic catalyst

Sreejith Sreekantan<sup>a,b</sup>, Arun Arunima Kirali<sup>a,b</sup>, Banu Marimuthu,\*<sup>ab</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Catalysis and Inorganic Chemistry Division, CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Dr.Homi Bhabha Road, Pune-411008, India

<sup>b</sup>Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh- 201 002, India

**KEYWORDS** : Biomass conversion, Sugar hydrogenolysis, propylene glycol, Retro-aldol condensation, Renewable resources, Sustainability.

Table S1	The reaction data of different Ni-Mo supported over $\gamma\text{-Al}_2O_3$ catalysts on sucrose substrate
Table S2	The optimisation of the reaction conditions using 8%Ni-20%Mo/ $\gamma$ - Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> catalyst.
Table S3	The reusability study of the catalyst 8%Ni-20%Mo/ $\gamma$ - Al $_2O_3$ catalyst.
Table S4	The reusability of the 8%Ni-20%Mo/ $\gamma$ - Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> on 2wt% sucrose at 160°C, 40bar H <sub>2</sub> , 1 h run time (at low conversion)
Figure S1	The XRD patterns of the fresh and spent catalyst at low conversion and high conversion
Figure S2	The morphology of the spent catalyst after 4 runs (a & b) FE-SEM (c & d) HR- TEM
Figure S3	The py-IR spectra of various Ni-Mo/ $\gamma$ -Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> supported catalysts.
Figure S4	The deconvoluted XPS spectrum of Mo-3d and Ni-2p of various Ni-Mo/ $\gamma$ -Al $_2O_3$ supported catalysts.
Figure S5	The HPLC chromatogram of the reaction of 8%Ni-20%Mo/ $\gamma$ -Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> on 2wt% sucrose at optimized reaction condition.
Figure S6	The Calibration curve for the 1,2-propanediol for the quantification

## 1. The reaction data of different Ni-Mo supported over $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalyst on sucrose substrate

**Table S1 :** The optimisation of different Ni-Mo bimetallic combinations over  $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> support at 220°C , 40 bar H<sub>2</sub>, 4.5 h, 2 wt% Sucrose

Entry No	Me Loa (؟	etal ding %)			Ρ	roduct S	electivity	· (%)		
	Ni	Мо	1,2- PDO	1,3- PDO	EG	1,2- BDO	2- PrOH	1- PrOH	Lactic Acid	EG+ PDO+ BDO
1	6	20	70.1	1.0	4.1	15.3	1.0	1.7	2.2	90.5
2	10	20	67.1	0.4	7.2	11.4	2.9	1.8	2.4	86.1
3	8	20	72.2	1.1	4.6	11.7	2.2	2.0	3.1	89.6
4	8	15	61.2	Trace	2.9	12.0	8.2	Trace	7.0	76.1
5	8	25	69.4	0.8	5.5	12.6	1.4	1.3	2.3	88.3
6	8	0	30.4	0.6	6.3	3.1	3.6	ND	20.0	40.4
7	0	20	15.7	1.2	14.0	2.1	4.2	ND	32.2	33.0
8	0	0	19.9	1.3	14.6	2.2	3.7	ND	29.8	38.0

## 2. The optimisation of the reaction conditions using 8%Ni-20%Mo/ $\gamma$ - Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalysts

Entry			React	ion Conditio	ons	Product Selectivity (%)					
No											
	T	P	Sucrose:	Sucrose	Time (h)	1,2-PD	1,3-PD	EG	1,2-	Lactic	PDO+
	(°C)	(bar)	Ratio	tration (wt%)					BDO	Acid	EG+BDO
1	220	40	1:0.35	2	4.5	72.2	1.1	4.6	11.7	3.1	89.6
2	200	40	1:0.35	2	4.5	71.6	Trace	4.6	11.9	3.2	88.1
3	180	40	1:0.35	2	4.5	73.7	2.6	2.5	12.2	1.8	91.0
4	160	40	1:0.35	2	4.5	46.0	6.0	1.9	8.7	Trace	62.6
5	180	50	1:0.35	2	4.5	70.0	3.2	5.8	10.8	2.6	89.8
6	180	30	1:0.35	2	4.5	67.6	3.9	4.0	11.6	3.2	87.1
7	180	40	1:0.5	2	4.5	70.6	2.6	4.6	13.1	2.0	90.9
8	180	40	1:0.20	2	4.5	53.1	5.6	3.9	10.5	6.6	73.1
9	180	40	1:0.35	2	2.5	70.8	4.1	2.5	12.9	2.4	90.3
10	180	40	1:0.35	2	6.5	71.7	1.8	3.1	13.6	2.5	90.2
11	180	40	1:0.35	5	4.5	73.5	3.7	1.4	14.3	3.2	92.9

Table S2: The optimisation of the reaction conditions for active catalyst (8%Ni-20%Mo/ $\gamma$ - Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) on sucrose substrate

#### 3. The reusability study of the catalyst $8\% Ni\-20\% Mo/\gamma\ Al_2O_3$ catalyst

# of Run	Product Selectivity (%)							
	1,2-PD	1,3-PD	EG	1,2-BDO	Lactic Acid	PDO+ FG+BDO		
Run 1	73.7	2.6	2.5	12.3	1.8	91.1		
Run 2	73.2	2.6	3.8	12.8	1.6	92.4		
Run 3	70.0	3.0	4.0	10.8	3.4	87.8		
Run 4	61.8	1.7	4.3	11.6	6.6	79.4		

Table S3: The reusability of the 8%Ni-20%Mo/γ- Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> over 2wt% sucrose at 180°C, 40bar H<sub>2</sub>, 4.5 h run time

## 4. The reusability study of 8%Ni-20%Mo/ $\gamma$ - Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> at lower conversion

Table S4: The reusability of the 8%Ni-20%Mo/ $\gamma$ - Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> over 2wt% sucrose at 160°C, 40bar H<sub>2</sub>, 1 h run time

# of	Conversion	Product Selectivity (%)							
Run		1,2-PD	1,3- PD	EG	1,2- BDO	Lactic Acid	1-PrOH	PDO+ EG + BDO	
Run 1	54.7	69.0	3.3	1.5	10.1	2.8	2.1	83.9	
Run 2	54.4	71.3	2.6	1.2	10.3	0.3	2.6	85.4	
Run 3	57.7	69.9	3.1	1.2	9.7	0.9	2.3	83.9	

## 5. The XRD data of fresh and spent catalysts



Figure S1: The XRD patterns of the fresh and spent catalyst at low conversion and high conversion

6. The morphology study of used and spent catalyst



Figure S2: The morphology of the spent catalyst after 4 runs (a & b) FE-SEM (c & d) HR-TEM

7. The pyridine IR of various Ni-Mo/  $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> supported catalysts.



Figure S3 : The py-IR spectra of various  $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> supported catalysts



8. The deconvoluted XPS spectrum of Ni-2p and Mo-3d various Ni-Mo/ $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalysts.

**Figure S4** : The deconvoluted XPS of (a) Mo-3d of 20%Mo/ $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (b&e) Mo-3d & Ni-2p of 8%Ni-15%Mo/ $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (c &f) Mo 3d & Ni 2p of 8%Ni - 25%Mo/ $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (d) Ni-2p of 8%Ni/ $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>

9. The HPLC chromatogram of the activity study of the catalyst 8%Ni-20%Mo/ $\gamma$ - Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> at optimized reaction condition



**Figure S5**: The HPLC chromatogram of the reaction of 8% Ni-20%Mo/  $\gamma$  - Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> over 2wt% sucrose at 180°C, 40 bar H<sub>2</sub>, 4.5 h at 1:0.3 sucrose: catalyst ratio

<b>Retention Time</b>	Compound
21.23	1,2- Propanediol
22.89	1,3-Propanediol
19.94	1,2-Ethanediol
25.29	1,2-Butanediol
16.18	Lactic acid
32.15	1-Propanol
17.41	Glycerol

#### 10. The Calibration curve for the 1,2-propanediol



Figure S6: The calibration curve for 1,2-PDO