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## **Electronic Supporting Information**

## Modulated synthesis of cesium phosphomolybdate encapsulated in hierarchical porous UiO-66 for catalysing alkene epoxidation

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## **Materials and Instrumentation information**

*N,N'*-dimethylformamide (DMF), tetrachloromethane, ethanol, acetone, toluene, 1,4-dioxane, 1,2-dichloroethane, acetonitrile, lauric acid (LA), potassium bromide (KBr), barium sulfate (BaSO<sub>4</sub>) and phosphomolybdic acid (HPM) were purchased from Energy Chemical. ZrCl<sub>4</sub>, terephthalic acid (BDC), styrene, 1-octene, 1-decene, cyclooctene, cyclododecene, and 5.5 mol·L<sup>-1</sup> *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide (*t*-BuOOH) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. All the chemicals were obtained commercially and used without further purification.

Elemental quantity was analyzed by inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry (ICP-OES) using iCAP 7400. X-ray diffraction (XRD) was performed on a Bruker AXS D8 ADVANCE diffractometer with Cu  $K\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$  = 1.54178 Å). N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms were measured at 77 K with Quantachrome iQ automated adsorption analyzer. The Brunauer-Emmett-Teller (BET) surface area and total pore volume were calculated from the N<sub>2</sub> sorption isotherms, and the pore size distribution was calculated based on the N<sub>2</sub> sorption isotherm by using Non Local Density Functional Theory (NLDFT) model. Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) images were recorded on a Hitachi SU-8020 scanning electron microscopy. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) was carried out using a Tecnai G2 F20 S-TWIN transmission electron microscope. Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) spectra were collected from KBr pellets on a Nicolet Nexus–870 spectrometry in the range of 400 to 4000 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Diffuse reflectance UV-visible (DR-UV-Vis) spectra were carried out on a Shimadzu UV-2600 spectrometer with the reference of BaSO<sub>4</sub>. Raman

experiments were carried out using a Renishaw inVia Raman microscope. <sup>31</sup>P MAS NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DSX-300 spectrometer. The chemical shifts are given relative to external 85% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>. X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) was measured on a Thermo ESCALAB 250Xi with Al *Kα* irradiation (1486.6 eV), and the binding energies were calibrated using the C1s peak at 284.8 eV. Electron spin resonance (ESR) spectra were obtained on Bruker A300 spectrometer at room temperature.

## Reference catalyst preparation

Synthesis of microporous UiO-66

Typically, 0.36 g ZrCl<sub>4</sub> and 0.24 g BDC were dissolved in 60 mL DMF. After stirring for 2 h, the mixture was transferred to a Teflon-lined autoclave and kept at 393 K for 24 h. After cooling down to room temperature, the precipitate was washed several times with DMF and acetone. Finally, the precipitate was dried overnight under a vacuum at 373 K.

Synthesis of microporous HPM@UiO-66

Typically, 0.36 g ZrCl<sub>4</sub>, 0.24 g BDC and 0.06 g HPM were dissolved in 60 mL DMF. After stirring for 2 h, the mixture was transferred to a Teflon-lined autoclave and kept at 393 K for 24 h. After cooling down to room temperature, the precipitate was washed several times with DMF and acetone. Finally, the precipitate was dried overnight under a vacuum at 373 K. The loading amount of HPM in the hybrid composite was determined by ICP-OES spectrometer as shown in Table S1.

Synthesis of microporous CsPM@UiO-66

CsPM@UiO-66 composite was carried out by cation exchange. Firstly, twice synthetic equivalent HPM@UiO-66 was added to 10 mL of a methanol solution of cesium acetate (12 mg·mL<sup>-1</sup>) at 333 K. After stirring for 3 h, the solids were separated by vacuum rotary evaporation method, Soxhlet-extracted with methanol and dried overnight under vacuum at 373 K to obtain the CsPM@UiO-66 composite, respectively. The loading amount of CsPM in the hybrid composite was determined by ICP-OES spectrometer as shown in Table S1.

Table S1 The element compositions determined by ICP-OES analyses of various materials.

Sample	HPM loading	Mo loading	Cs loading
	$(\text{mmol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1} / \text{wt.\%})$	$(\text{mmol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1} / \text{wt.\%})$	$(\text{mmol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1} / \text{wt.\%})$
HPM@HP-UiO-66	0.040 / 7.4	0.480 / 4.7	_
CsPM@HP-UiO-66	0.040 / 7.4	0.480 / 4.7	0.105 / 2.8
HPM@UiO-66	0.016 / 2.9	0.192 / 1.8	_
CsPM@UiO-66	0.016 / 2.9	0.192 / 1.8	0.030 / 0.8

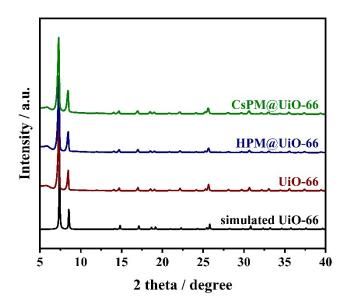


Fig. S1 XRD patterns of simulated UiO-66, UiO-66, HPM@UiO-66 and CsPM@UiO-66 composites.

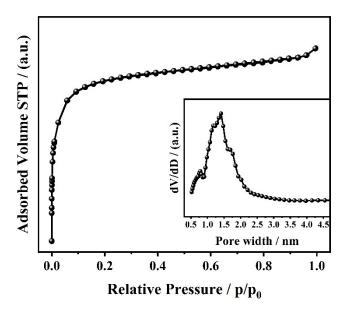


Fig. S2  $N_2$  adsorption-desorption isotherms and pore size distribution (insert) of CsPM@UiO-66 composites.

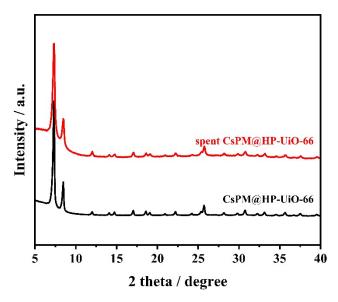


Fig. S3 XRD patterns of CsPM@HP-UiO-66 and the spent CsPM@HP-UiO-66 composite.

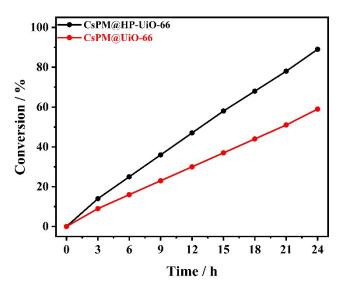
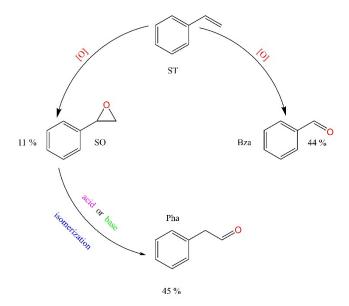
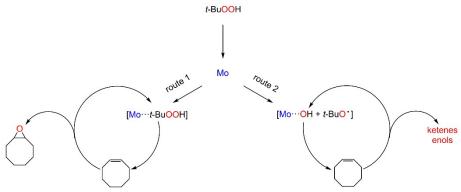


Fig. S4 Kinetic profile of cyclooctene epoxidation over CsPM@UiO-66 and CsPM@UiO-66 composites. Reaction condition: cyclooctene 1.0 mmol, *t*-BuOOH 2.0 mmol, tetrachloromethane 2.5 mL, catalyst 10 mg, reaction temperature 353 K.



Scheme S1 Oxidation products distribution of styrene over CsPM@HP-UiO-66 composite.



Scheme S2 Proposed tentative mechanism of cyclooctene epoxidation over CsPM@HP-UiO-66 composite.