

## Supporting information

### **Hydrodeoxygenation of furfural to 2-methylfuran using supported molybdenum carbides: Study of the support effect**

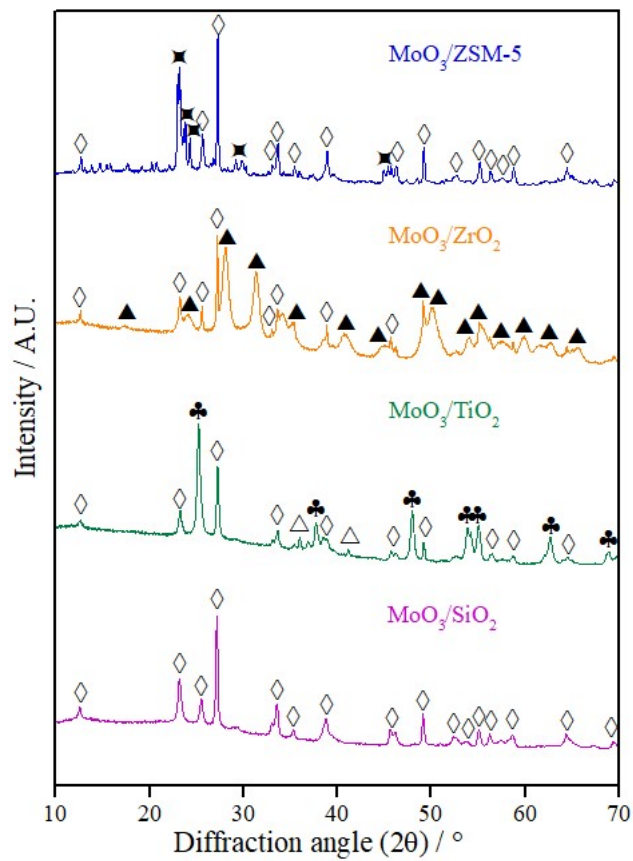
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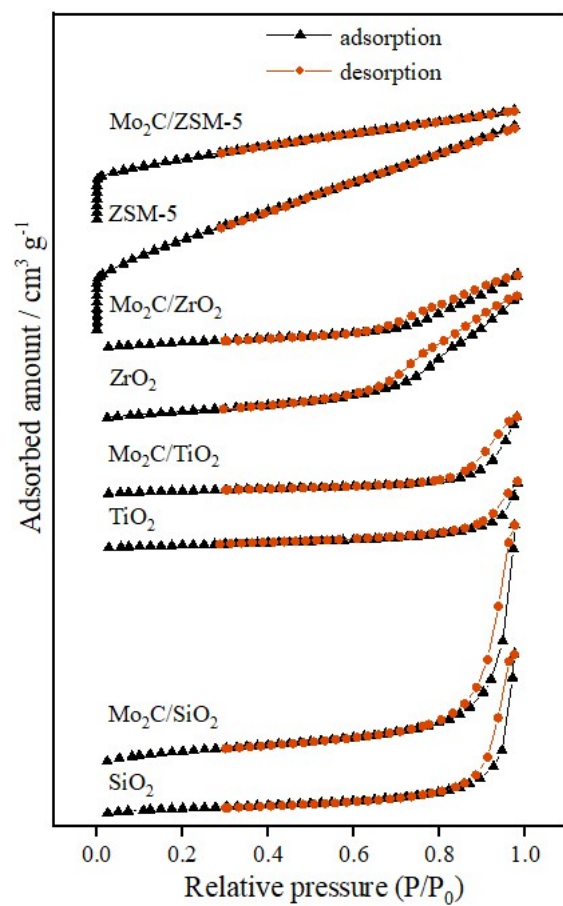
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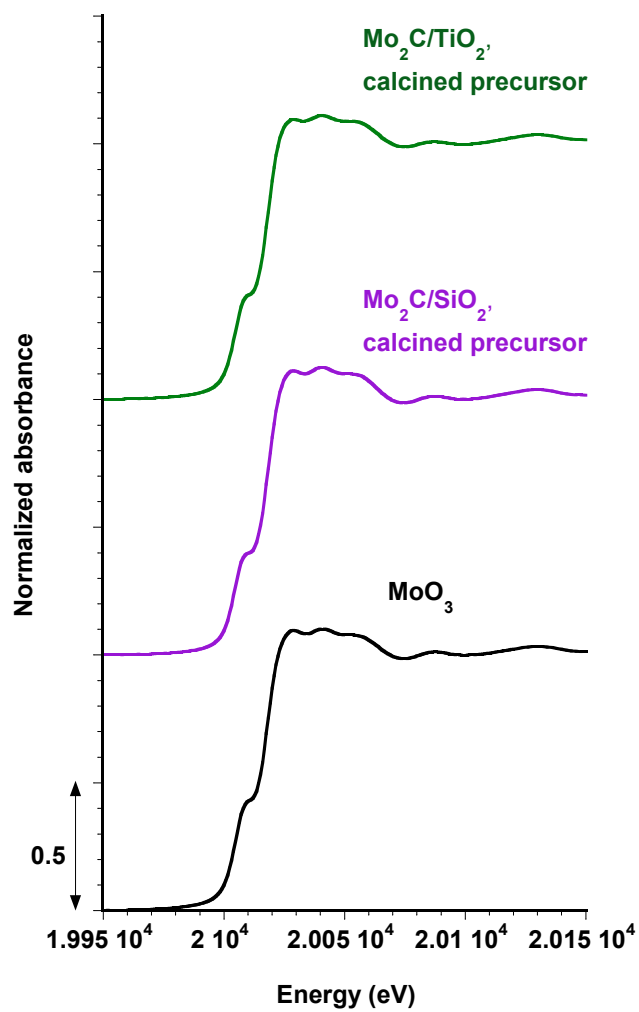
<sup>4</sup> National Institute of Technology, Catalysis, Biocatalysis and Chemical Processes Division, Av. Venezuela 82, 20081-312, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.



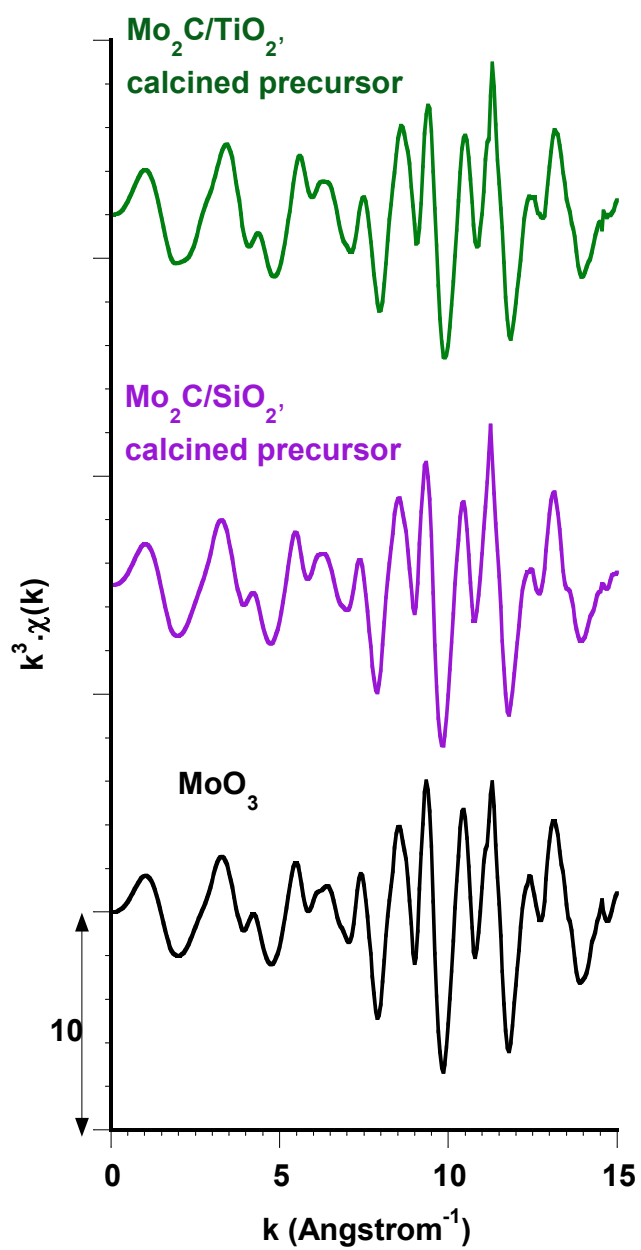
**Figure S1.** Diffractograms of the calcined precursors of Mo carbides supported on different materials. ◊ MoO<sub>3</sub>, ◻ ZSM-5, ▲ m-ZrO<sub>2</sub>, ♣ a-TiO<sub>2</sub>, ◻ r-TiO<sub>2</sub>



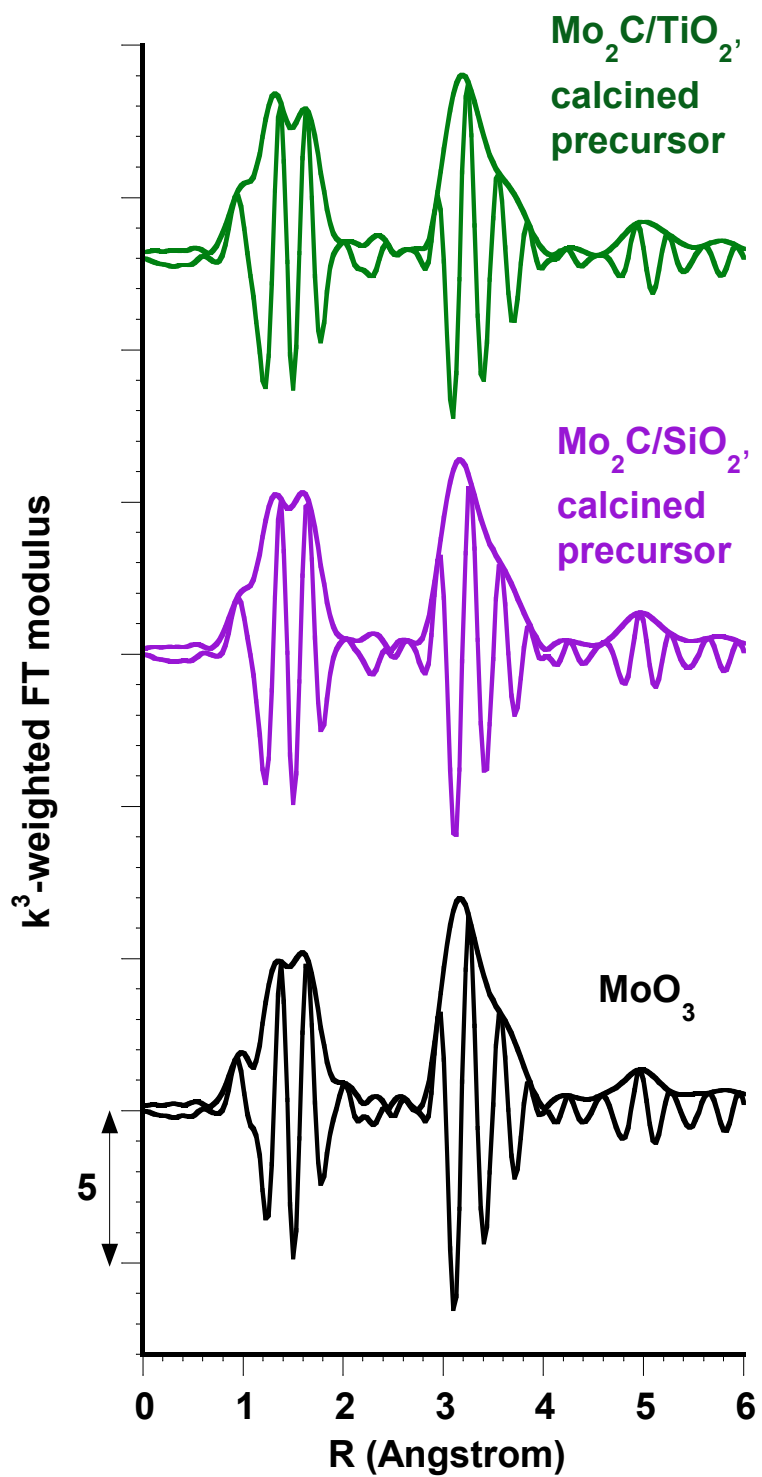
**Figure S2.** N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms of the passivated Mo carbides and respective supports.



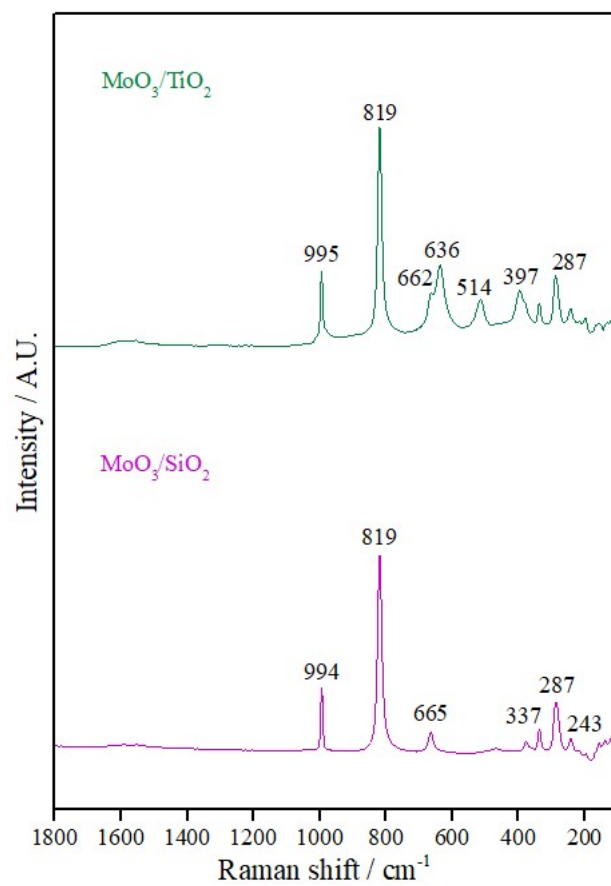
**Figure S3.** XANES spectra recorded at the Mo K-edge for the calcined precursors of  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{SiO}_2$  and  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{TiO}_2$ . Comparison with reference  $\text{MoO}_3$ .



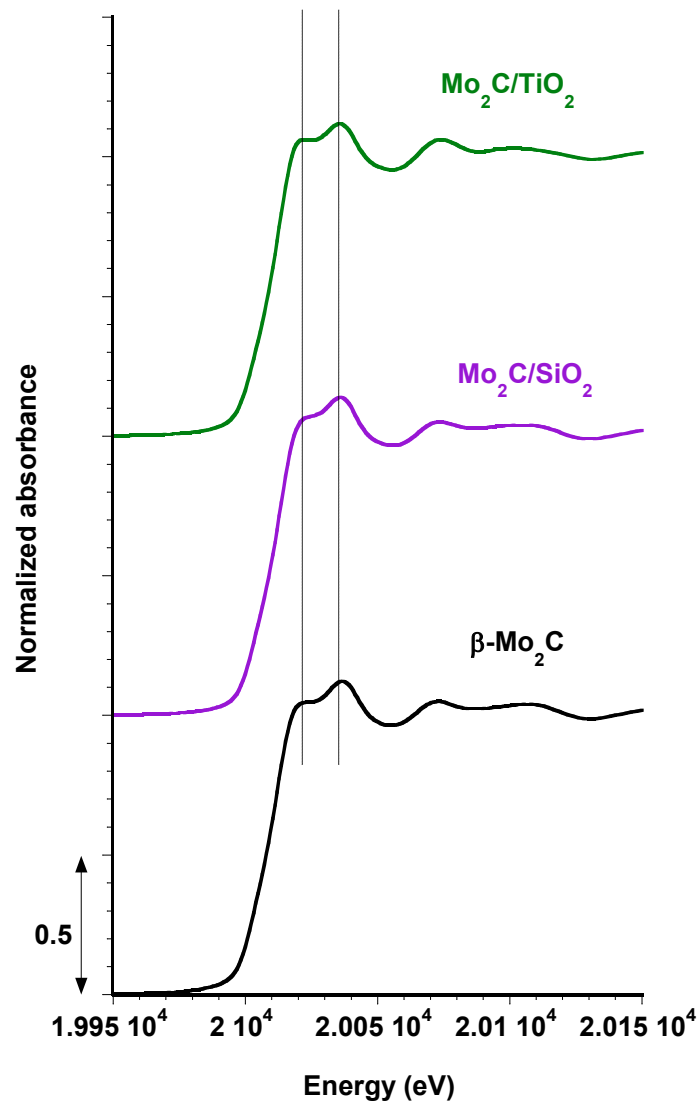
**Figure S4.** EXAFS signals recorded at the Mo K-edge for the calcined precursors of  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{SiO}_2$  and  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{TiO}_2$ . Comparison with reference  $\text{MoO}_3$ .



**Figure S5.** Fourier transforms of the EXAFS signals recorded at the Mo K-edge for the calcined precursors of  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{SiO}_2$  and  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{TiO}_2$  ( $k = 3.5 - 15 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$ ). Comparison with reference  $\text{MoO}_3$ .

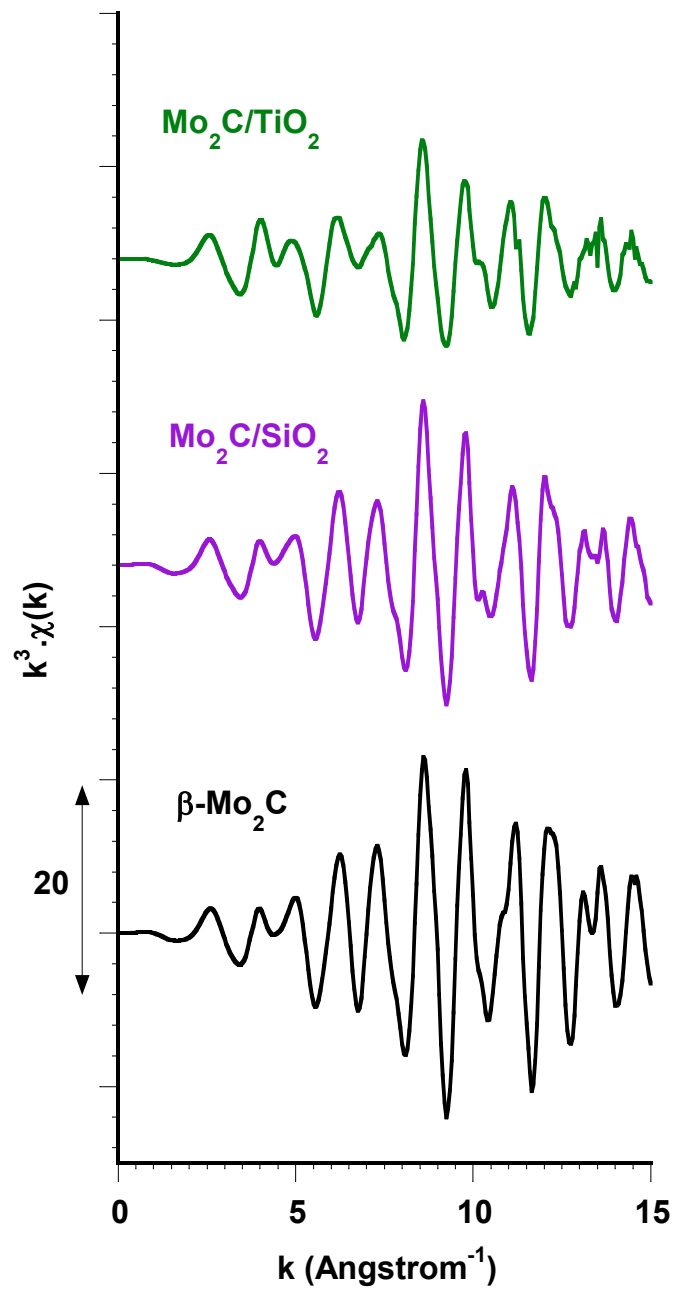


**Figure S6.** Raman spectra of the calcined precursors of  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{SiO}_2$  and  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{TiO}_2$  (recorded at room temperature).



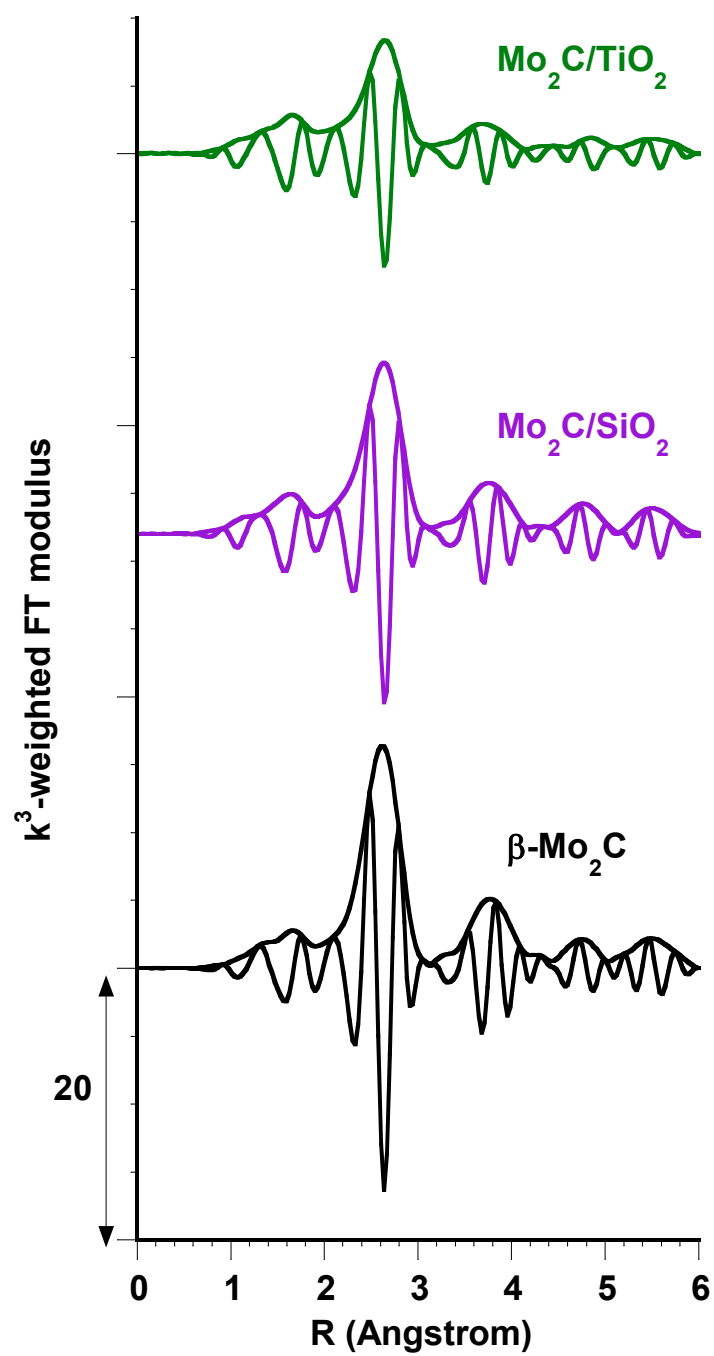
**Figure S7.** XANES spectra recorded at the Mo K-edge for carburized  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{SiO}_2$  and  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{TiO}_2$  (spectra recorded at room temperature). Comparison with reference  $\beta\text{-Mo}_2\text{C}$ .



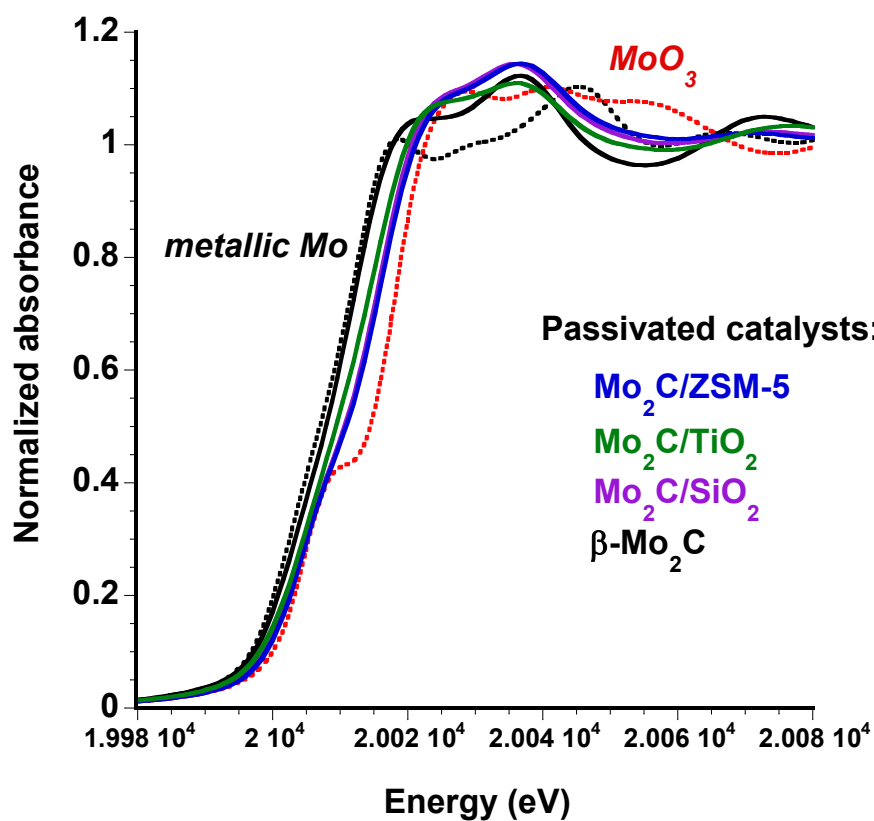


**Figure S8.** EXAFS signals recorded at the Mo K-edge for carburized  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{SiO}_2$  and  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{TiO}_2$  (spectra recorded at room temperature).

Comparison with reference  $\beta\text{-Mo}_2\text{C}$ .

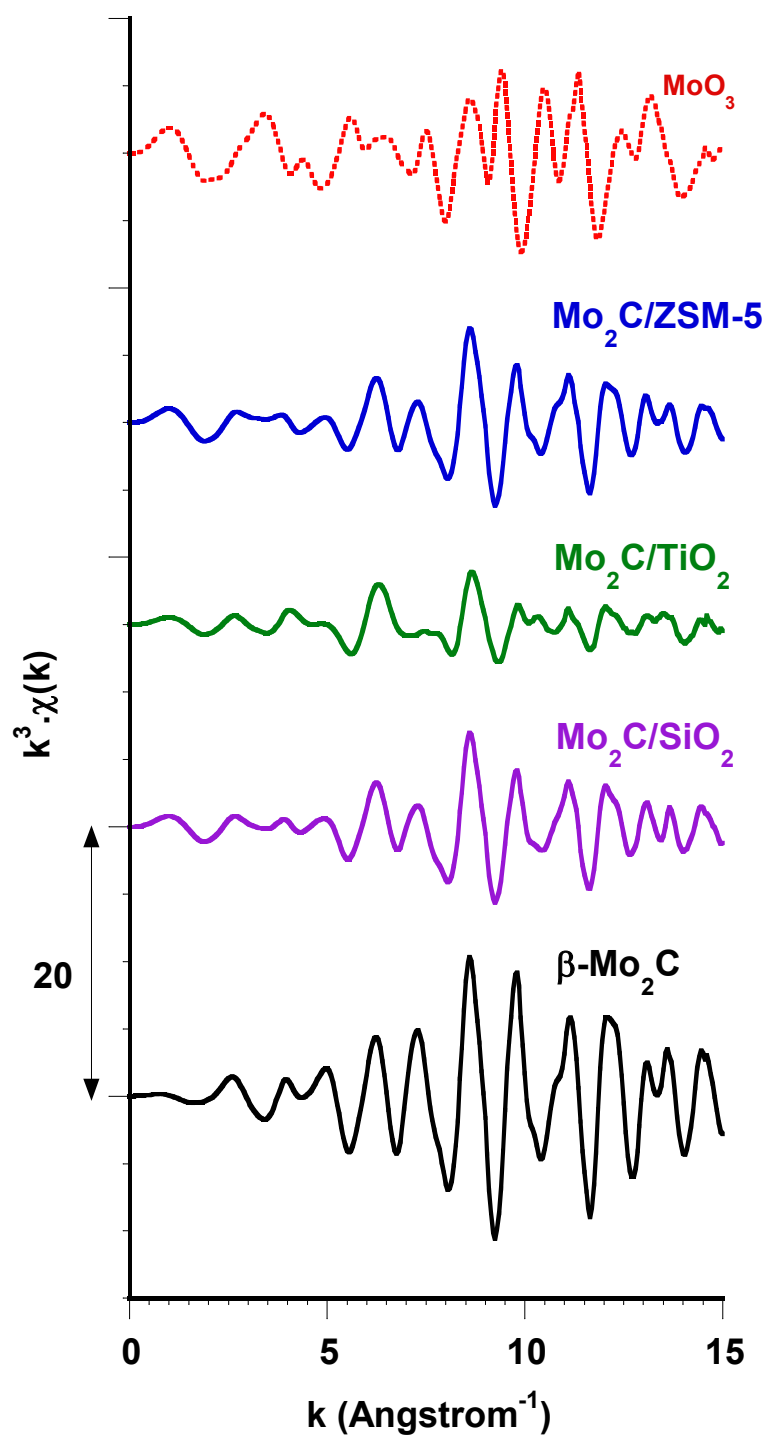


**Figure S9.** Fourier transforms of the EXAFS signals recorded at the Mo K-edge for carburized  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{SiO}_2$  and  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{TiO}_2$  (spectra recorded at room temperature,  $k = 3.5 - 15 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$ ). Comparison with reference  $\beta\text{-Mo}_2\text{C}$ .



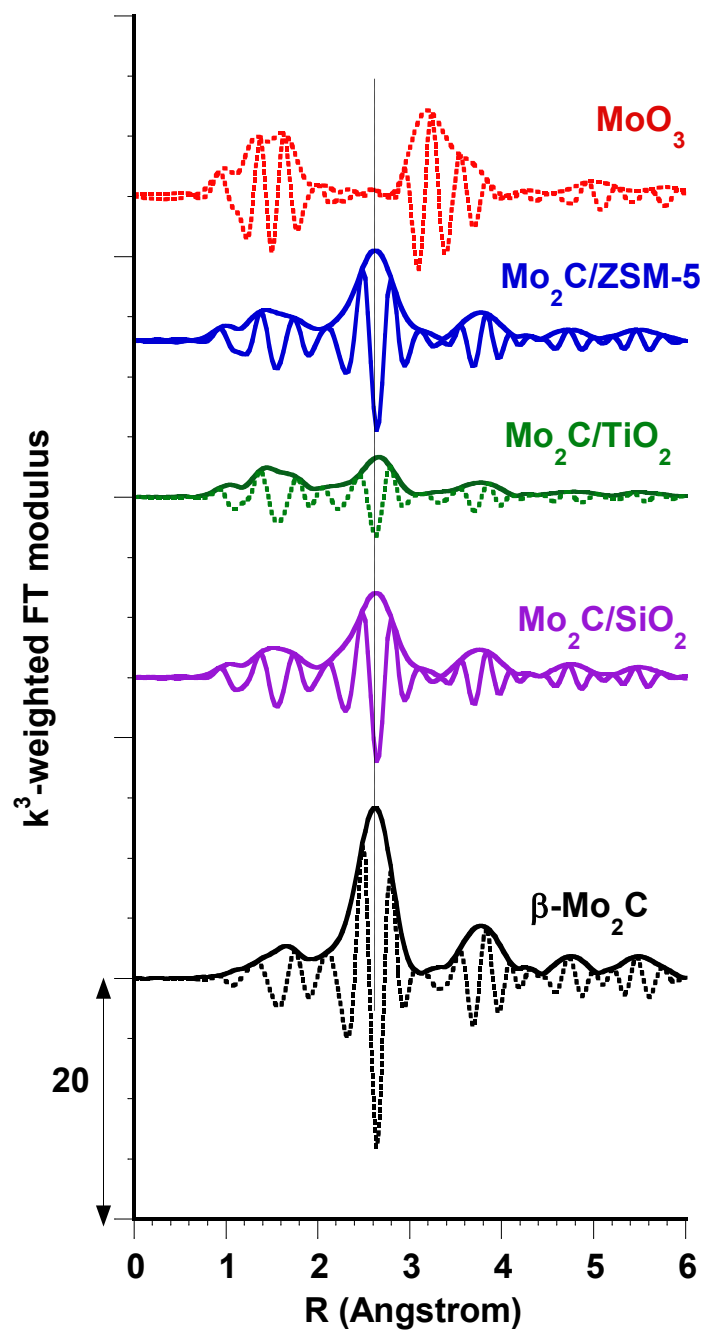
**Figure S10.** XANES spectra recorded at the Mo K-edge for passivated  $\beta$ -Mo<sub>2</sub>C, Mo<sub>2</sub>C/SiO<sub>2</sub>, Mo<sub>2</sub>C/TiO<sub>2</sub>, and Mo<sub>2</sub>C/ZSM-5 (spectra recorded at room temperature).

Comparison with references MoO<sub>3</sub> and metallic Mo (dotted lines).

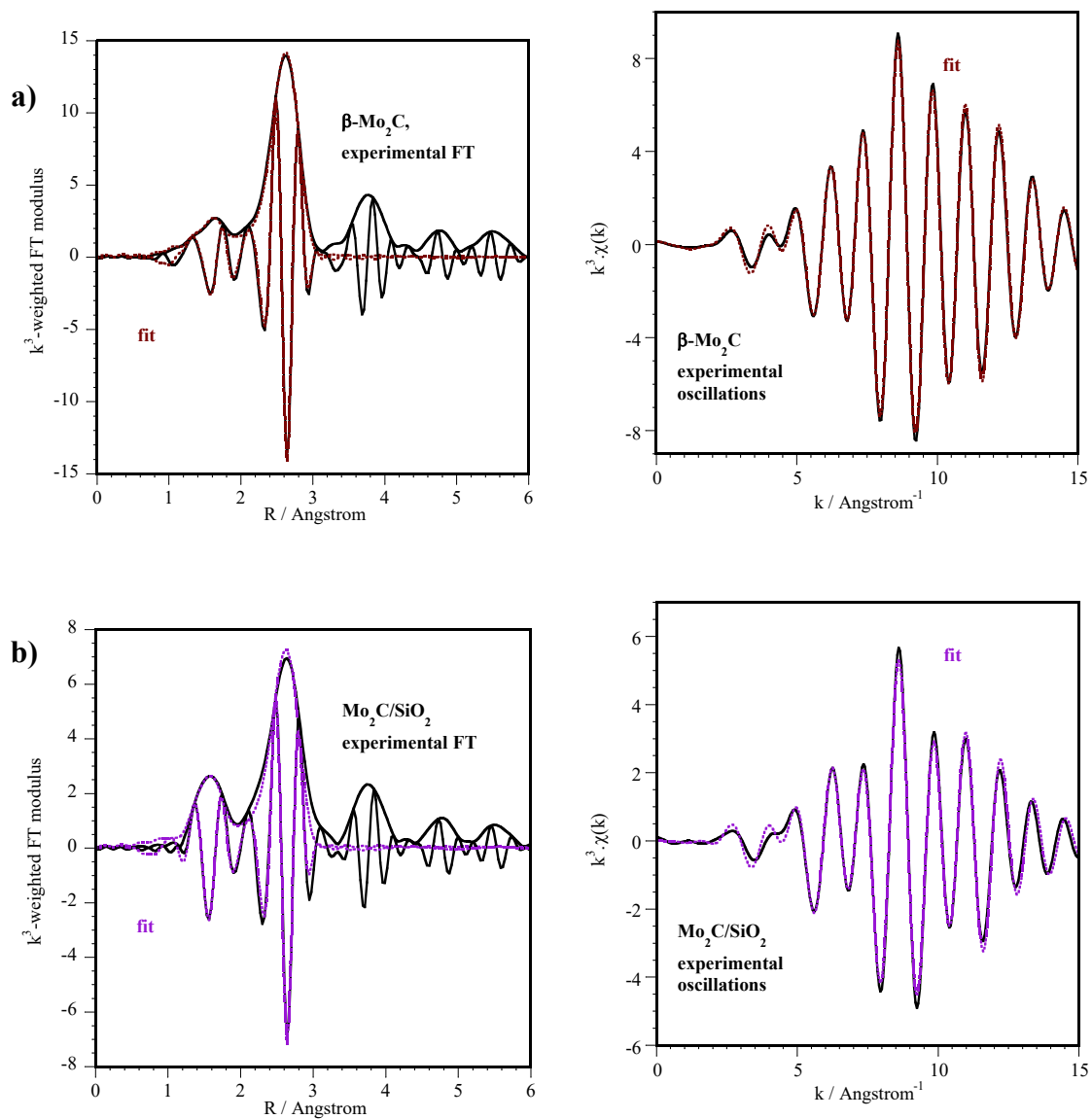


**Figure S11.** EXAFS signals recorded at the Mo K-edge for passivated  $\beta\text{-Mo}_2\text{C}$ ,  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{TiO}_2$ , and  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{ZSM-5}$  (spectra recorded at room temperature).

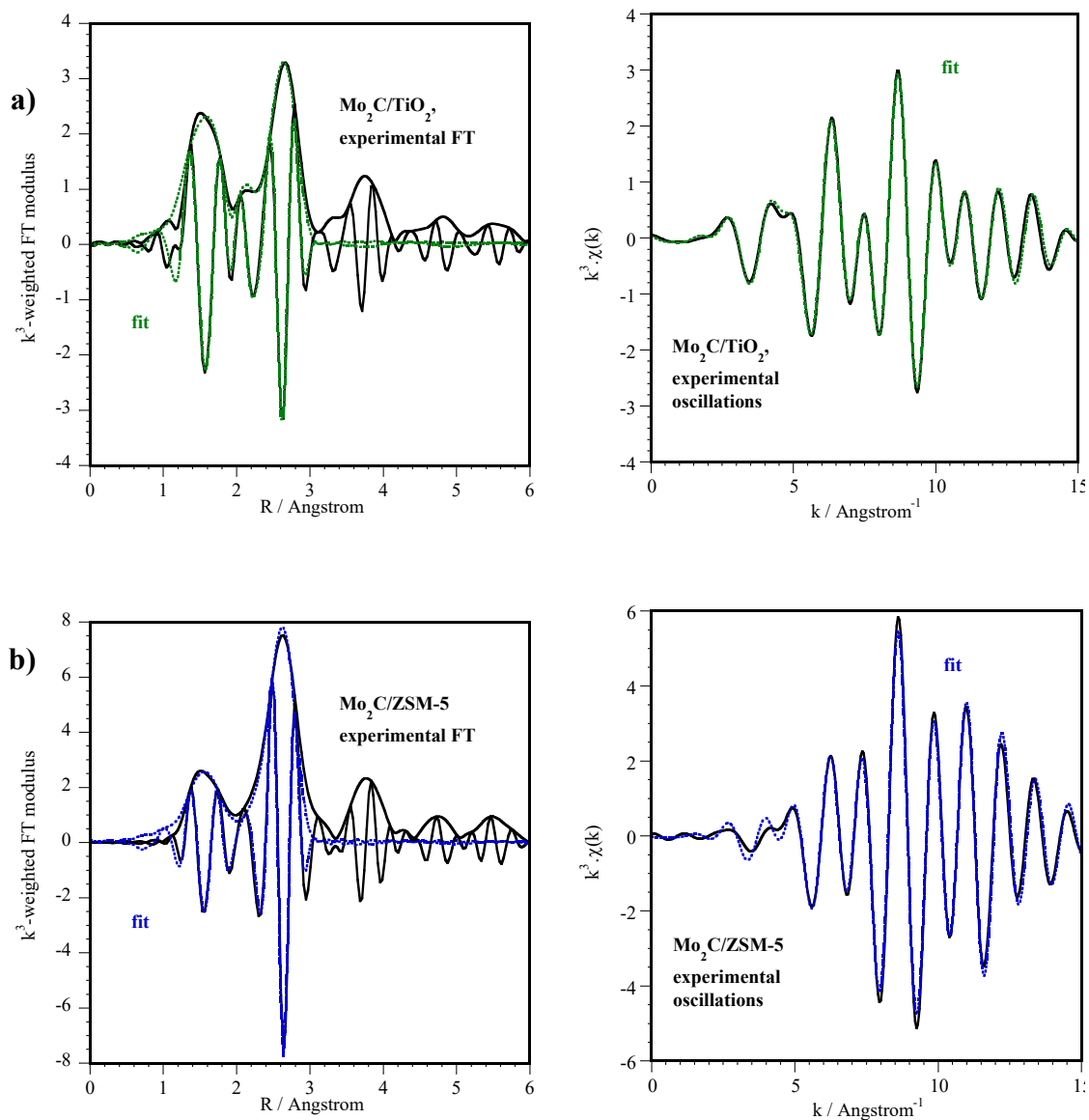
Comparison with reference  $\text{MoO}_3$ .



**Figure S12.** Fourier transforms of the EXAFS signals recorded at the Mo K-edge for passivated  $\beta$ -Mo<sub>2</sub>C, Mo<sub>2</sub>C/SiO<sub>2</sub>, Mo<sub>2</sub>C/TiO<sub>2</sub>, and Mo<sub>2</sub>C/ZSM-5 (spectra recorded at room temperature). Comparison with reference MoO<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S13.** Analysis of the data recorded at the Mo K-edge for the passivated catalysts (spectra recorded at room temperature), using linear combinations of MCR-ALS components (see Table S1). XANES spectrum (left) and EXAFS oscillations (right), a)  $\beta$ -Mo<sub>2</sub>C and b) Mo<sub>2</sub>C/SiO<sub>2</sub>.

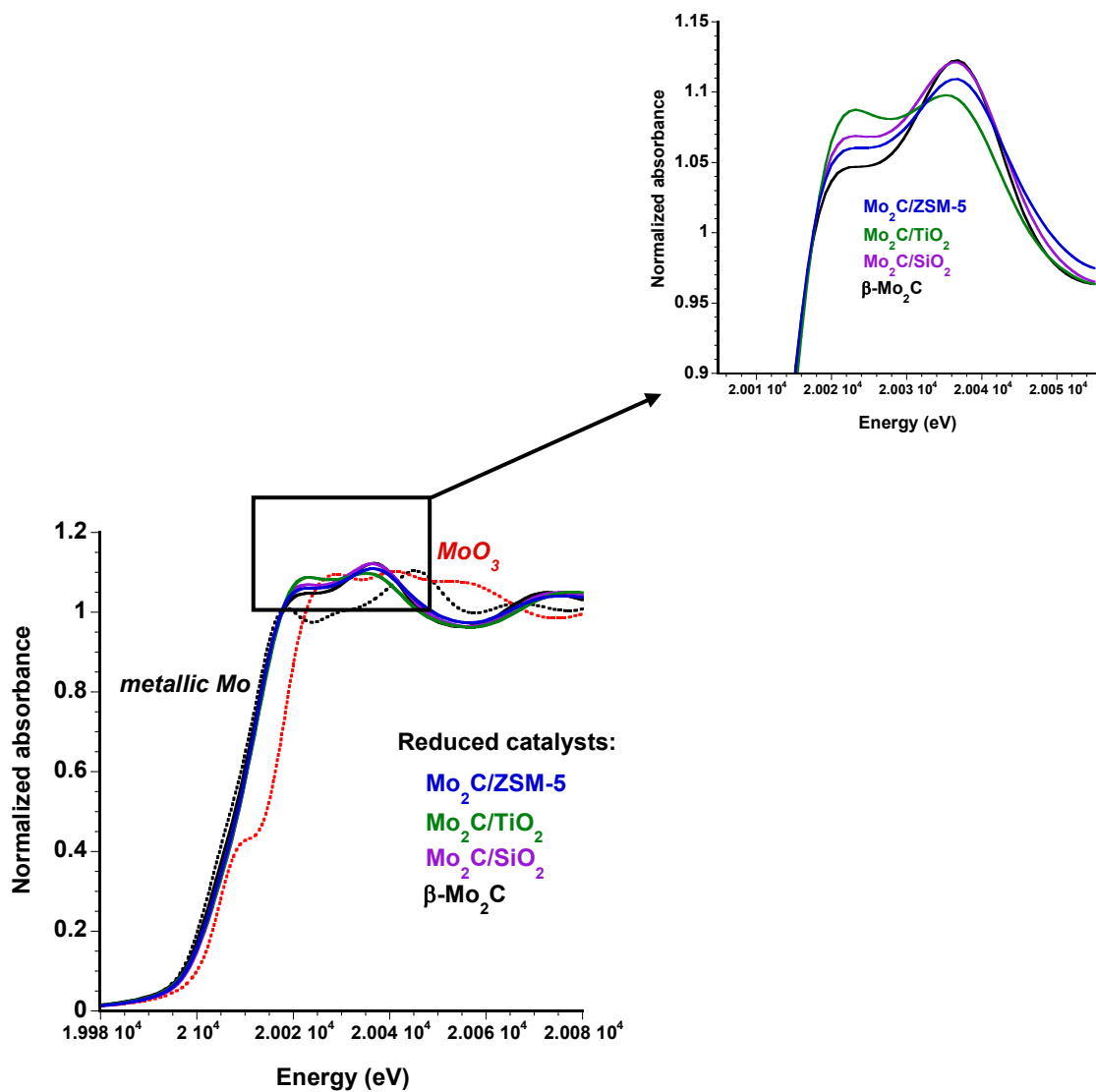


**Continuation of Figure S13.** Analysis of the data recorded at the Mo K-edge for the passivated catalysts (spectra recorded at room temperature), using linear combinations of MCR-ALS components (see Table S1). XANES spectrum (left) and EXAFS oscillations (right),  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{TiO}_2$ , and b)  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{ZSM-5}$ .

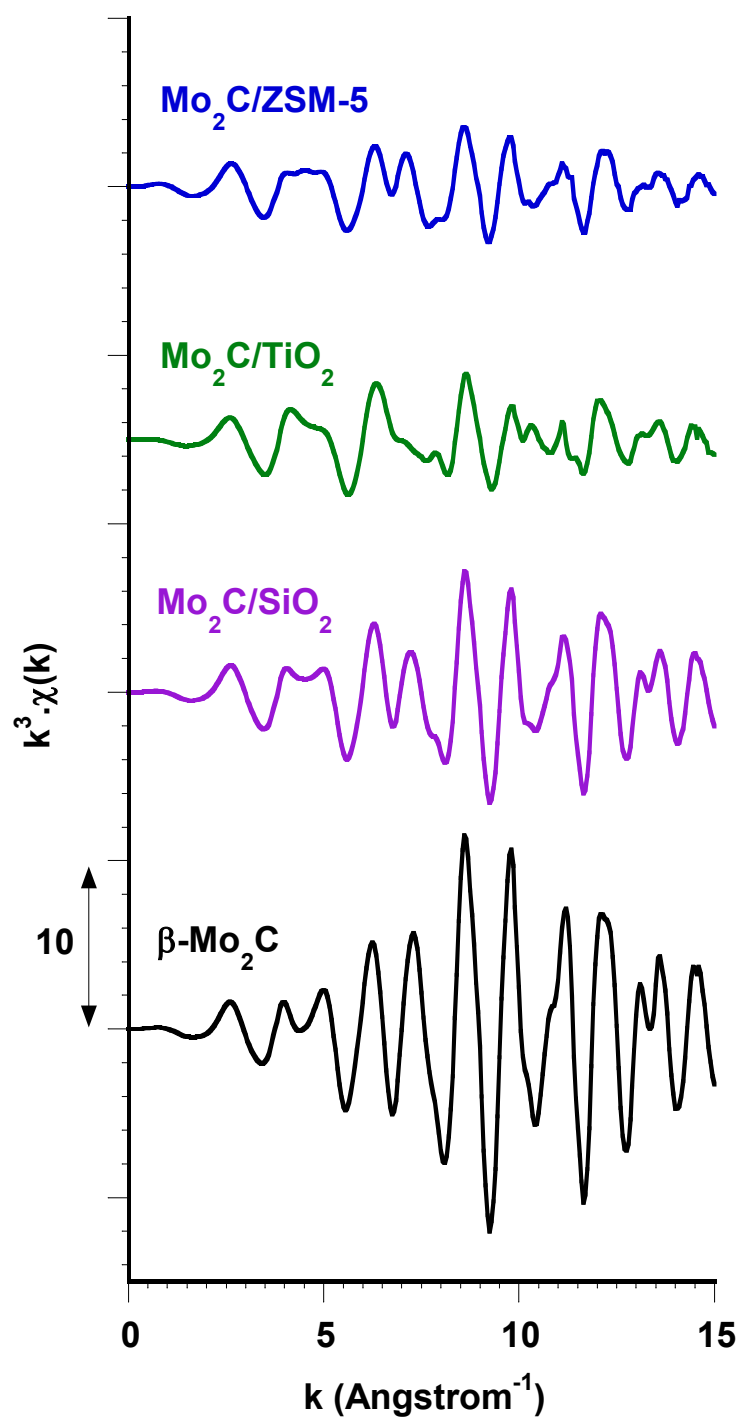
**Table S1.** Fitted parameters at the Mo K-edge ( $E_0 = 20013$  eV,  $S_0^2 = 0.98$ ) determined from the EXAFS analysis of spectra recorded at room temperature on catalysts after passivation.  $k = 3.5 - 15 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$ . Fit of the first peak(s) from the Fourier transform between 1 and 3  $\text{\AA}$ .

Catalyst	Backscatterer	N	$\sigma^2 (\text{\AA}^2) \times 10^3$	R ( $\text{\AA}$ )
$\beta$ -Mo <sub>2</sub> C	C	$2.9 \pm 0.9$	$5 \pm 3$	$2.09 \pm 0.02$
	Mo	$6.8 \pm 0.8$	$6.4 \pm 0.6$	$2.971 \pm 0.005$
$\Delta E_0 = -4.9$ eV, r-factor = 0.01493, $\chi^2 = 646$ , $N_{\text{ind}} = 13$ , $N_{\text{var}} = 7$				
Mo <sub>2</sub> C/SiO <sub>2</sub>	O	$0.9 \pm 0.9$	$7 \pm 5$	$1.71 \pm 0.04$
	C	$4 \pm 3$	$7 \pm 5$	$2.08 \pm 0.02$
	Mo	$4 \pm 1$	$7 \pm 2$	$2.97 \pm 0.01$
$\Delta E_0 = -5.2$ eV, r-factor = 0.03112, $\chi^2 = 1745$ , $N_{\text{ind}} = 13$ , $N_{\text{var}} = 9$				
Mo <sub>2</sub> C/TiO <sub>2</sub>	O	$0.8 \pm 0.4$	$8 \pm 2$	$1.69 \pm 0.03$
	C	$3.7 \pm 0.7$	$8 \pm 2$	$2.13 \pm 0.02$
	Mo	$0.4 \pm 0.2$	$8 \pm 2$	$2.52 \pm 0.03$
	Mo	$2.1 \pm 0.5$	$8 \pm 2$	$2.97 \pm 0.01$
$\Delta E_0 = -0.4$ eV, r-factor = 0.01268, $\chi^2 = 708$ , $N_{\text{ind}} = 13$ , $N_{\text{var}} = 10$				
Mo <sub>2</sub> C/ZSM-5	O	$0.9 \pm 0.9$	$6 \pm 4$	$1.71 \pm 0.03$
	C	$3 \pm 2$	$6 \pm 4$	$2.10 \pm 0.02$
	Mo	$3.9 \pm 0.9$	$7 \pm 1$	$2.969 \pm 0.009$
$\Delta E_0 = -5.3$ eV, r-factor = 0.02999, $\chi^2 = 1515$ , $N_{\text{ind}} = 13$ , $N_{\text{var}} = 9$				

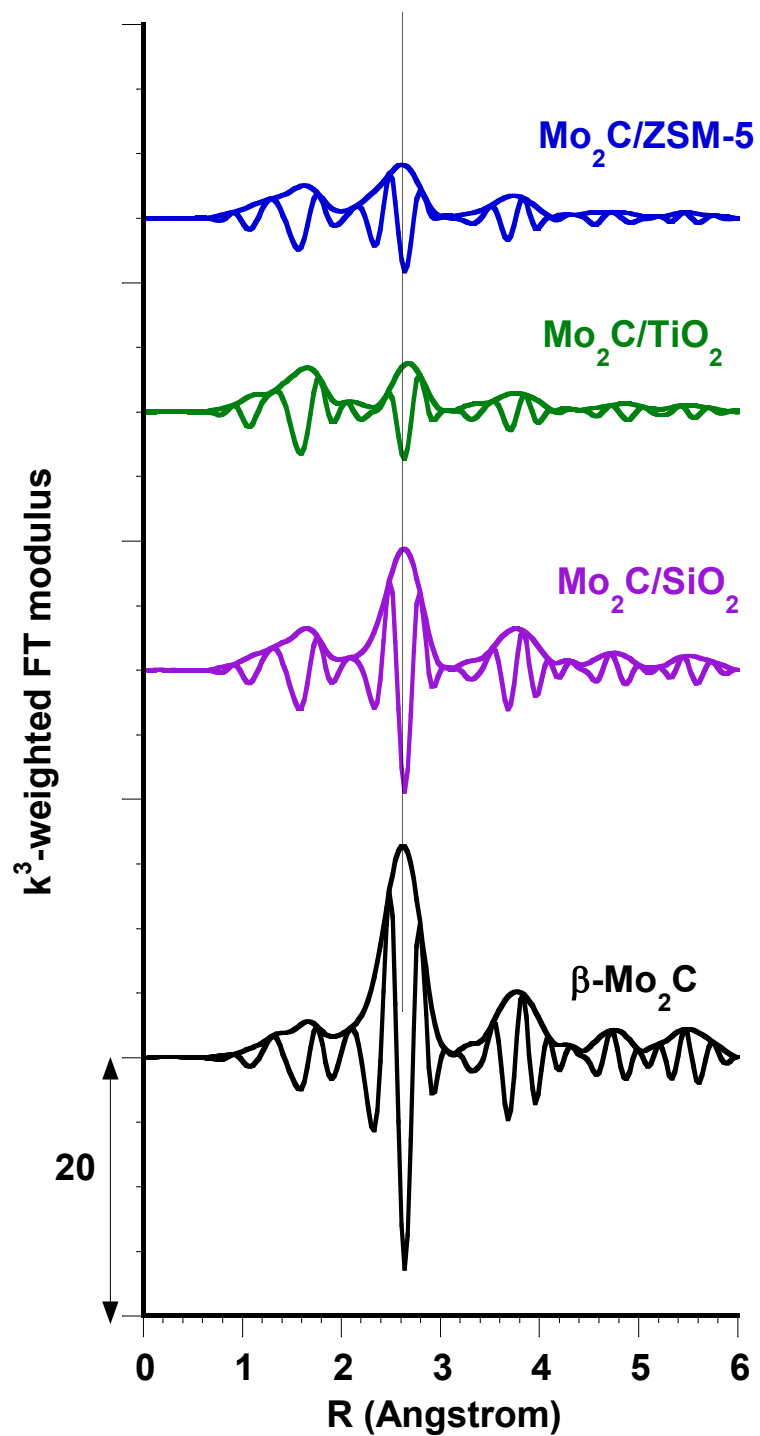




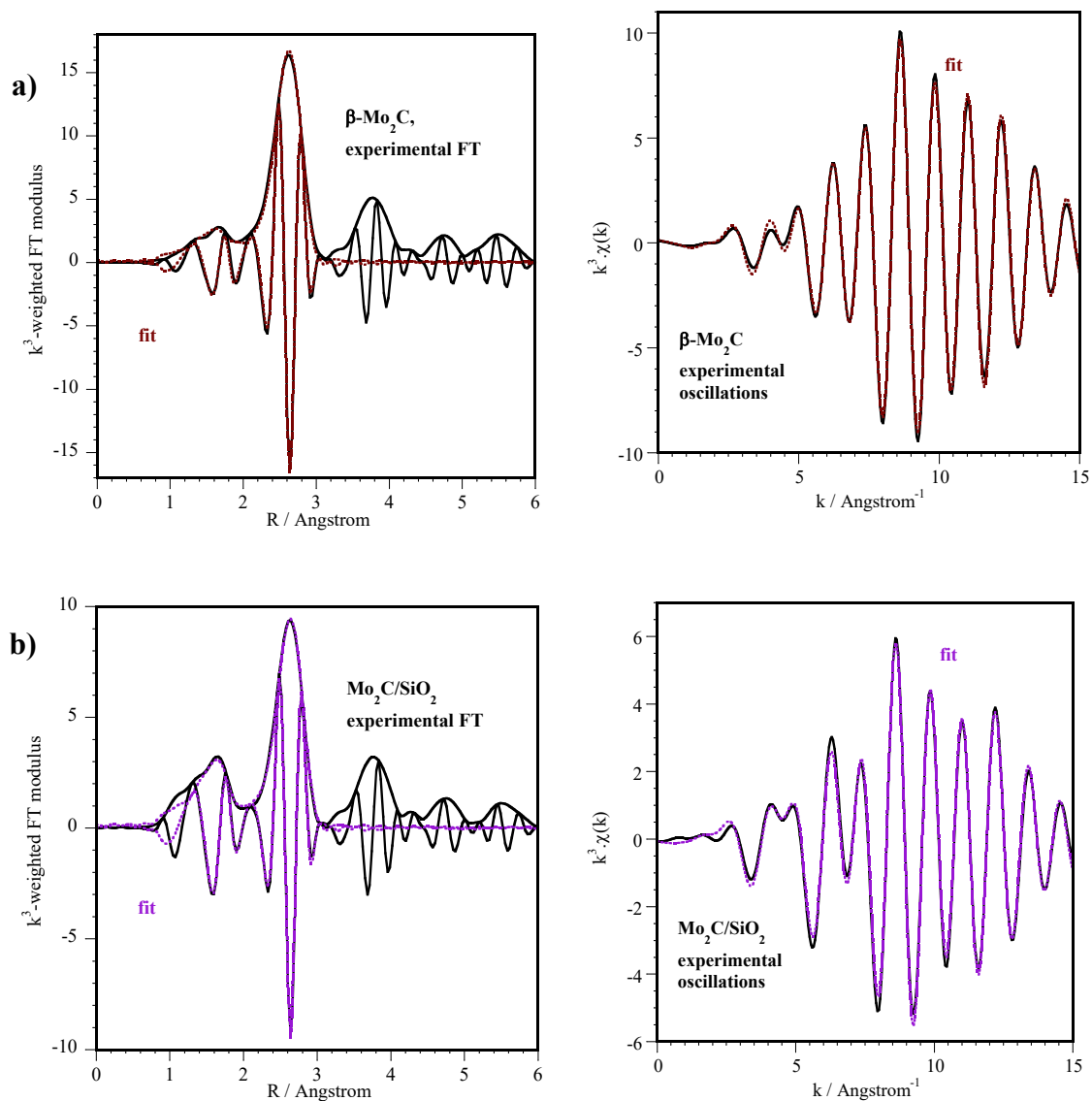
**Figure S14.** XANES spectra recorded at the Mo K-edge for reduced  $\beta$ -Mo<sub>2</sub>C, Mo<sub>2</sub>C/SiO<sub>2</sub>, Mo<sub>2</sub>C/TiO<sub>2</sub>, and Mo<sub>2</sub>C/ZSM-5 (spectra recorded at room temperature). Comparison with references MoO<sub>3</sub> and metallic Mo (dotted lines).



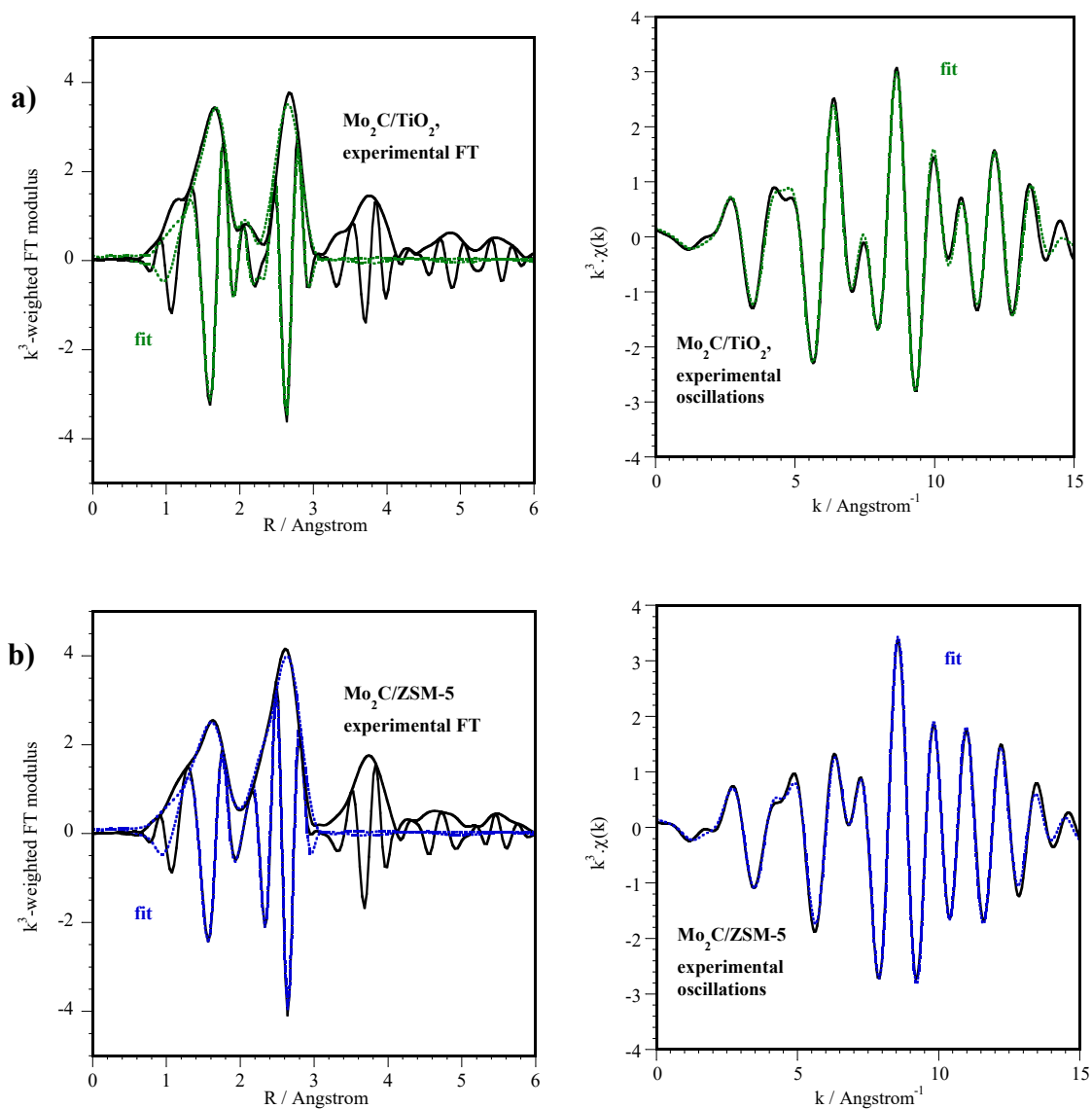
**Figure S15.** EXAFS signals recorded at the Mo K-edge for reduced  $\beta\text{-Mo}_2\text{C}$ ,  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{TiO}_2$ , and  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{ZSM-5}$  (spectra recorded at room temperature).



**Figure S16.** Fourier transforms of the EXAFS signals recorded at the Mo K-edge for reduced  $\beta\text{-Mo}_2\text{C}$ ,  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{TiO}_2$ , and  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{ZSM-5}$  (spectra recorded at room temperature).



**Figure S17.** XAS data at the Mo K-edge of the catalysts after reduction (spectrum recorded at room temperature). Fit of the first and second shells of neighbors: Fourier transform (left) and EXAFS oscillations (right), a)  $\beta\text{-Mo}_2\text{C}$  and b)  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}/\text{SiO}_2$ .



**Continuation of Figure S17.** XAS data at the Mo K-edge of the catalysts after reduction (spectrum recorded at room temperature). Fit of the first and second shells of neighbors: Fourier transform (left) and EXAFS oscillations (right), a) Mo<sub>2</sub>C/TiO<sub>2</sub> and b) Mo<sub>2</sub>C/ZSM-5.

**Table S2.** Fitted parameters at the Mo K-edge ( $E_0 = 20013$  eV,  $S_0^2 = 0.98$ ) determined from the EXAFS analysis of spectra recorded at room temperature on catalysts after passivation and reduction in  $H_2$ .  $k = 3.5 - 15 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$ . Fit of the first peak(s) from the Fourier transform between 1 and 3  $\text{\AA}$ .

Catalyst	Backscatter	N	$\sigma^2 (\text{\AA}^2) \times 10^3$	R ( $\text{\AA}$ )
$\beta$ - $Mo_2C$	C	$2.7 \pm 0.9$	$4.1 \pm 0.3$	$2.08 \pm 0.02$
	Mo	$7.3 \pm 0.8$	$5.7 \pm 0.5$	$2.966 \pm 0.005$
$\Delta E_0 = -5.5$ eV, r-factor = 0.01575, $\chi^2 = 592$ , $N_{ind} = 13$ , $N_{var} = 7$				
$Mo_2C/SiO_2$	C	$4.1 \pm 0.6$	$6 \pm 1$	$2.105 \pm 0.006$
	Mo	$4.1 \pm 0.4$	$6.1 \pm 0.4$	$2.976 \pm 0.003$
$\Delta E_0 = -2.7$ eV, r-factor = 0.00717, $\chi^2 = 202$ , $N_{ind} = 13$ , $N_{var} = 7$				
$Mo_2C/TiO_2$	C	$4.0 \pm 0.7$	$5 \pm 2$	$2.13 \pm 0.01$
	Mo	$0.3 \pm 0.2$	$8 \pm 2$	$2.49 \pm 0.04$
	Mo	$2.3 \pm 0.7$	$8 \pm 2$	$2.977 \pm 0.009$
$\Delta E_0 = -0.1$ eV, r-factor = 0.01630, $\chi^2 = 514$ , $N_{ind} = 13$ , $N_{var} = 9$				
$Mo_2C/ZSM-5$	C	$3.9 \pm 0.7$	$8 \pm 2$	$2.10 \pm 0.01$
	Mo	$0.7 \pm 0.5$	$9 \pm 2$	$2.69 \pm 0.02$
	Mo	$3.0 \pm 0.9$	$9 \pm 2$	$2.980 \pm 0.009$
$\Delta E_0 = -2.9$ eV, r-factor = 0.01134, $\chi^2 = 271$ , $N_{ind} = 13$ , $N_{var} = 9$				