

High CO conversion in syngas to aromatics by addition of ZnMnZr oxides as methanol synthesis components

Shiyu Liu¹, Qiuyun Huang¹, Jie Wang¹, Weihua Shen^{1,*} and Yunjin Fang^{1,*}

1. State Key Laboratory of Chemical Engineering, School of Chemical Engineering,
East China University of Science and Technology, Shanghai 200237, China

*Corresponding Author

Email: whshen@ecust.edu.cn(Prof. Shen); yjfang@ecust.edu.cn(Prof. Fang)

Tel: +86-21-64252829

Table S1 XRF results of materials.

Sample	Molar composition	
6Mn4Zr	Mn (mol%)	Zr (mol%)
	59.35	40.65
H-ZSM-5(60)	Si/Al (in mole)	
	58.52	
SAPO-34(0.1)	Si/Al (in mole)	
	0.12	

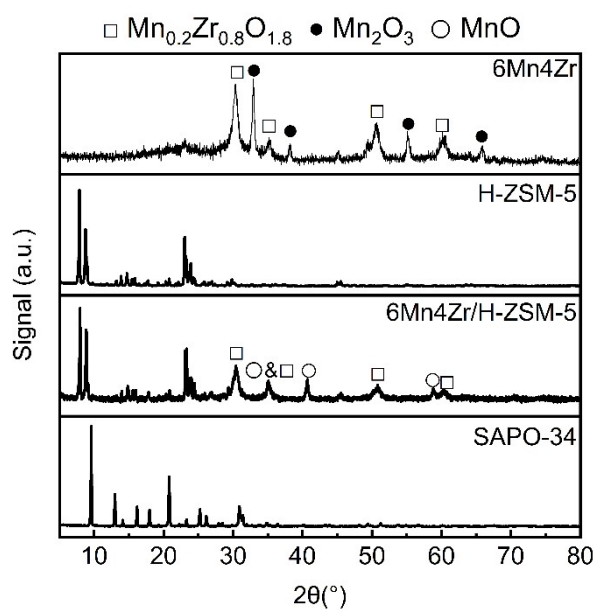


Figure S1. XRD patterns of 6Mn4Zr, H-ZSM-5, 6Mn4Zr/H-ZSM-5(S) and SAPO-34

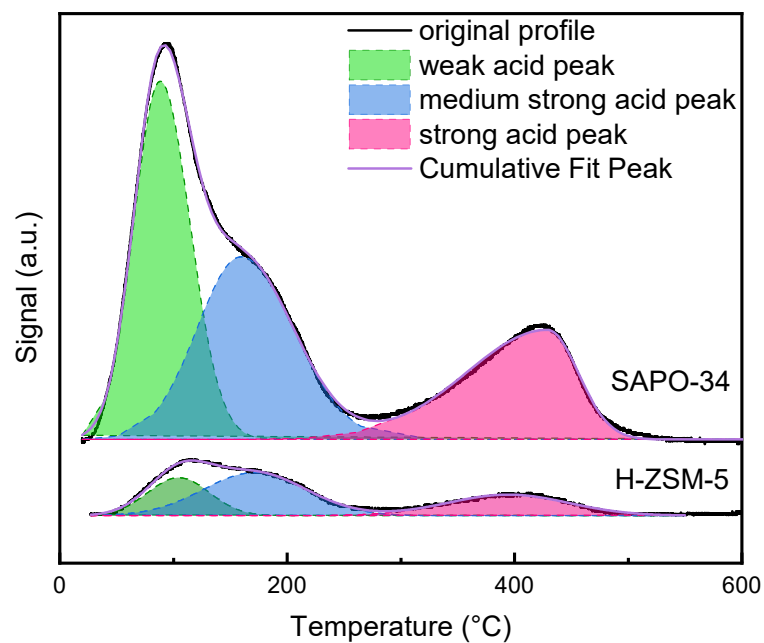


Figure S2. NH_3 -TPD profile of zeolites.

Table S2 Quantification of acid sites in Figure S2

Zeolites	Acid sites distribution			Total acid sites $\mu\text{mol/g}$
	Weak acid sites	Medium strong acid sites	Strong acid sites	
H-ZSM-5	19.07%	52.09%	28.84%	73.45
SAPO-34	43.01%	31.56%	25.43%	720.41

Table S3 Crystallinity and crystal size (nm) (calculated by Scherrer equation) of oxides.

Sample	Crystallinity (%)	Crystal Size (nm)
2Mn8Zr	19.5	12.3
0.2Zn2Mn8Zr	16.3	16.5
0.4Zn2Mn8Zr	15.4	15.0
1Zn2Mn8Zr	13.1	18.0
2Zn2Mn8Zr	12.0	17.7
2Mn8Zr*	21.2	13.2
0.2Zn2Mn8Zr*	17.2	16.8
0.4Zn2Mn8Zr*	16.1	15.9
1Zn2Mn8Zr*	13.5	18.2
2Zn2Mn8Zr*	12.1	17.9

Table S4 Quantification oxides O 1s orbit with different composition

Oxides	Lattice O (O_L)	Vacancy O(O_V)	Chemi-sorbed O(O_C)
2Mn8Zr	58.34%	28.12%	13.54%
0.2Zn2Mn8Zr	58.92%	29.07%	12.01%
0.4Zn2Mn8Zr	57.20%	30.91%	11.89%
1Zn2Mn8Zr	55.41%	32.45%	12.13%
2Zn2Mn8Zr	54.96%	34.62%	10.41%

Table S5 Quantification oxides Mn 2p orbit with different composition

Oxides	Mn ²⁺	Mn ³⁺
2Mn8Zr	59.30%	40.70%
0.2Zn2Mn8Zr	57.81	42.19
0.4Zn2Mn8Zr	50.31	49.69
1Zn2Mn8Zr	48.58	51.42
2Zn2Mn8Zr	39.31	60.69

Table S6. Detailed organic products distribution of bifunctional catalyst and multi-functional catalyst

Catalyst	Methanol & DME	Methane	Ethylene	Ethane	Propylene	Propane	Butane	Butene (including 1,3-butadiene)	C ₅ -C ₆	C ₇	C ₈ ⁺	Aromatics
2Zn2Mn8Zr/H-ZSM-5	0.37%	11.52%	1.40%	24.48%	0.50%	10.67%	20.27%	0.06%	29.95%	0.44%	0.00%	0.34%
2Zn2Mn8Zr/H-ZSM-5	0.17%	7.31%	1.27%	5.28%	1.01%	24.44%	26.33%	0.94%	24.90%	0.70%	0.11%	7.55%
2Zn2Mn8Zr/(6Mn4Zr/H-ZSM-5)(1:1:1)	0.33%	7.43%	1.51%	9.84%	0.86%	9.72%	24.50%	0.80%	42.40%	0.80%	0.35%	1.46%

Table S7 Coke deposition over bifunctional catalyst in figure 4.

Catalyst	Mass ratio at 200°C	Mass ratio at 800°C	Mass loss of coke
2Zn2Mn8Zr/H-ZSM-5	98.09%	96.79%	1.30%
2Zn2Mn8Zr/H-ZSM-5	98.32%	97.06%	1.26%
6Mn4Zr/H-ZSM-5	98.19%	95.52%	2.66%
2Zn2Mn8Zr/SAPO-34	95.04%	91.41%	3.63%

Table S8 Reaction condition and results of orthogonal experiment

Entry	Reaction Temperature	Reaction Pressure	Mass ratio of 6Mn4Zr to H-ZSM-5	Mass ratio of 0.1Zn1Mn4Zr to bifunctional catalyst	CO conversion	CO ₂ selectivity	Methanol & DME	Methane	C ₂ -C ₄ paraffin	C ₂ -C ₄ olefin	C ₅ ⁺	Aromatics	Carbon Balance
1	400	3	1:1	1:8	25.90%	39.89%	0.08%	2.20%	14.37%	2.29%	8.97%	72.09%	99.55%
2	400	2	2:1	1:4	20.73%	38.86%	0.07%	2.50%	25.77%	4.82%	19.01%	47.55%	98.42%
3	400	5	1:2	1:2	40.86%	38.68%	0.12%	2.30%	32.75%	2.83%	38.33%	23.37%	100.87%
4	400	4	4:1	1:1	39.59%	38.79%	0.29%	1.87%	29.41%	5.11%	41.64%	21.24%	97.15%
5	375	3	2:1	1:2	17.21%	36.90%	0.24%	3.47%	25.41%	4.26%	28.47%	37.50%	101.63%
6	375	2	1:1	1:1	16.94%	37.77%	0.31%	1.84%	26.90%	5.91%	44.10%	20.95%	99.91%
7	375	5	4:1	1:8	20.94%	40.02%	0.33%	1.66%	8.07%	4.98%	13.26%	71.56%	96.07%
8	375	4	1:2	1:4	21.24%	38.82%	0.16%	1.42%	14.46%	3.29%	20.36%	60.20%	102.29%
9	350	3	1:2	1:1	11.92%	37.50%	0.24%	1.22%	20.33%	5.71%	43.68%	28.81%	97.54%
10	350	2	4:1	1:2	8.70%	39.04%	0.52%	1.18%	10.61%	11.62%	27.19%	48.49%	100.76%
11	350	5	1:1	1:4	13.50%	37.10%	0.14%	1.04%	11.22%	1.47%	13.43%	72.69%	98.03%
12	350	4	2:1	1:8	8.32%	34.21%	0.13%	1.22%	8.25%	1.81%	9.10%	79.50%	101.98%
13	425	3	4:1	1:4	35.11%	39.40%	0.14%	3.07%	32.47%	6.38%	28.09%	29.36%	96.36%
14	425	2	1:2	1:8	23.23%	39.73%	0.08%	3.37%	32.35%	6.76%	22.60%	34.46%	99.68%
15	425	5	2:1	1:1	51.06%	37.53%	0.16%	5.71%	48.32%	1.80%	38.43%	5.58%	97.22%
16	425	4	1:1	1:2	50.15%	38.52%	0.05%	4.93%	52.10%	2.14%	25.82%	14.95%	100.50%

Table S9 Range analysis of orthogonal experiment

Factor	Value	CO conversion	CO ₂ selectivity	Organic products distribution							Determinant factor
				Methanol & DME	Methane	C ₂ -C ₄ paraffin	C ₂ -C ₄ olefin	C ₅ ⁺	Aromatics	Paraffins	
Reaction Temperature (°C)	350	10.61%	36.96%	0.26%	1.17%	12.60%	5.15%	23.35%	57.37%	37.12%	3.83
	375	19.08%	38.38%	0.26%	2.10%	18.71%	4.61%	26.55%	47.55%	47.36%	4.78
	400	31.77%	39.06%	0.14%	2.22%	25.58%	3.76%	26.99%	41.06%	54.79%	5.90
	425	39.89%	38.80%	0.11%	4.27%	41.31%	4.27%	28.74%	21.09%	74.32%	2.16
Reaction Pressure (MPa)	2	17.40%	38.85%	0.25%	2.22%	23.91%	7.28%	28.23%	37.86%	54.36%	3.01
	3	22.54%	38.42%	0.18%	2.49%	23.15%	4.66%	27.30%	41.94%	52.94%	4.45
	4	29.83%	37.59%	0.16%	2.36%	26.06%	3.09%	24.23%	43.97%	52.65%	6.21
	5	31.59%	38.33%	0.19%	2.68%	25.09%	2.77%	25.86%	43.30%	53.63%	6.34
Mass ratio of 6Mn4Zr to H-ZSM-5	1:2	24.31%	38.68%	0.15%	2.08%	24.97%	4.65%	31.24%	36.71%	58.29%	3.72
	1:1	26.62%	38.32%	0.15%	2.50%	26.15%	2.95%	23.08%	45.17%	51.73%	5.80
	2:1	24.33%	36.88%	0.15%	3.23%	26.94%	3.17%	23.75%	42.53%	53.92%	4.77
	4:1	26.09%	39.31%	0.32%	1.95%	20.14%	7.02%	27.55%	42.66%	49.64%	5.61
Mass ratio of 0.1Zn1Mn4Zr to bifunctional catalyst	1:1	29.88%	37.90%	0.25%	2.66%	31.24%	4.63%	41.96%	19.15%	75.86%	1.38
	1:2	29.23%	38.29%	0.23%	2.97%	30.22%	5.21%	29.95%	31.08%	63.14%	3.35
	1:4	22.65%	38.55%	0.13%	2.01%	20.98%	3.99%	20.22%	52.45%	43.21%	6.75
	1:8	19.60%	38.46%	0.16%	2.11%	15.76%	3.96%	13.48%	64.40%	31.35%	8.67

Analysis of influence of each factor on reaction results in range analysis:

As shown in table S9, factor 1 and factor 4 exhibited significant impact on reaction results. Raising reaction temperature could promote the activation of H₂ over both 0.2Zn2Mn8Zr and 6Mn4Zr. It provided more methanol from 0.2Zn2Mn8Zr, which could act as H carrier and enhance over-hydrogenation; moreover, the C-C coupling over 6Mn4Zr could be interrupted because of the enhanced H₂ supplementary¹, and remarkably increase the selectivity of C₂-C₄ paraffin. While increasing the addition of

0.2Zn2Mn8Zr, it mainly affects the generation of methanol, while the C-C coupling ability over 6Mn4Zr could be maintained. Thus, at higher addition of 0.2Zn2Mn8Zr, it generates more C_5^+ rather than aromatics. Increasing reaction pressure from 2 MPa to 3 MPa could promote the generation of aromatics at the expense of C_2 - C_4 olefin, which could be benefited from the improvement in C-C coupling over 6Mn4Zr that related to adsorption of CO. However, as the selectivity of C_2 - C_4 olefin at 3 MPa was already consumed to 4.66% which is a quite low value, further increasing reaction pressure showed little influence on product selectivity. The mass ratio of 6Mn4Zr to H-ZSM-5 shows little influence of CO conversion, as CO was mainly activated over 0.2Zn2Mn8Zr. Both lacking of 6Mn4Zr or H-ZSM-5 would result in mismatch between the two-stage C-C coupling, and increase the selectivity of C_5^+ .

Table S10 Carbon balance data of reaction results in main text

Table 2	
Catalyst	Carbon balance
2Zn2Mn8Zr	99.15%
1Zn2Mn8Zr	101.57%
0.4Zn2Mn8Zr	97.58%
0.2Zn2Mn8Zr	103.88%
2Mn8Zr	97.02%

Table 3	
Catalyst	Carbon balance
6Mn4Zr/H-ZSM-5*	98.05%
2Zn2Mn8Zr/H-ZSM-5	100.72%
2Zn2Mn8Zr/H-ZSM-5	99.55%
2Zn2Mn8Zr/SAPO-34	99.66%

Table 4	
ZnMnZr composition	Carbon balance
2Zn2Mn8Zr ^a	97.55%
2Zn2Mn8Zr ^b	99.93%
2Zn2Mn8Zr ^c	103.18%
1Zn2Mn8Zr ^b	100.42%
0.4Zn2Mn8Zr ^b	99.72%
0.2Zn2Mn8Zr ^b	99.99%

Table 5	
Mass ratio ^a	Carbon balance
1:(1:1)	99.99%
1:(2:2)	100.42%
1:(4:4)	99.55%

Table 6	
Space velocity (mL·gcat ⁻¹ ·h ⁻¹)	Carbon balance
3000	99.55%
2400	101.44%
1800	98.37%
1200	99.24%
600	100.14%

Table S11 Comparison of catalyst performance of OX-ZEO catalyst in STA

Catalyst	Pressure	Reaction temperature	Space velocity	CO conversion	Aromatics selectivity	References
	MPa	°C	mL/(g _{cat} ·h)	%	%	
Zn-ZrO ₂ /HZSM-5(1:2)	3(2:1)	400	500	21	81	2
ZnCrO _x /HZSM-5(1:1)	4(1:1)	350	1500	16	73.9	3
Ce _{0.2} Zr _{0.8} O ₂ /HZSM-5(1:1)	2(1:1)	380	600	8.1	83.1	4
ZnCrO _x /ZSM-5(1:1)	4(1:1)	350	1500	18.3	69.0	5
ZnCrO _x /HZSM-5(1:1)	4(2:1)	400	1200	16.1	74	6
MoZrO ₂ /HZSM-5(1:2)	4(2:1)	400	3000	22	76	7
ZnO-MnO&H-ZSM-5(3:1)	3(1:1)	340	750	14.8	80.1	8
MnO/HZSM-5(2:1)	2(2:1)	350	333	21	83	9
Cr ₂ O ₃ /ZSM-5(1:1)	4(1:1)	395	2000	17.9	80.8	10
MnCr/ZSM-5(1:3)	4(1:1)	430	2250	13	70.9	11
ZrO ₂ /HZSM-5(1:1)	3.8(1:1)	400	500	24	67.4	12
CeZrO _x /Cu-ZSM-5(1:1)	3.6(1:1)	450	500	40.8	72.1	13
1CeZrO _x -2ZnZrO _x /Z5@Si(1.25:1)	3.6(2:1)	420	500	38	74.7	14
Fe-ZnCr ₂ O ₄ /HZSM-5(3:1)	3(1:1)	380	1500	57.5	74	15
ZnZrO _x /HZSM-5(1:1)	3(2:1)	390	1000	10	74	16
Zn _{0.8} CrO/HZSM-5(1:1)	4(1:1)	350	3000	29.8	69.9	17
0.15Zn&ZnCr ₂ O ₄ /ZSM-5(1:1)	4(1:1)	350	3000	23.5	74.2	18
1/200Cu-CeZrO _x /ZSM-5@Si(1.25:1)	3.6(2:1)	420	500	44.5	80.2	19
6Mn4Zr/H-ZSM-5(1:1)	3(2:1)	400	3000	15.11	84.33	1
0.2Zn2Mn8Zr 6Mn4Zr/H-ZSM-5(1:4:4)	3(2:1)	400	3000	25.9	72.09	This work

References:

1. S. Liu, Q. Huang, I. U. Haq, Z. Yang, W. Shen and Y. Fang, *Catalysis Science & Technology*, 2025, **15**, 580-591.
2. K. Cheng, W. Zhou, J. C. Kang, S. He, S. L. Shi, Q. H. Zhang, Y. Pan, W. Wen and Y. Wang, *Chem*, 2017, **3**, 334-347.
3. J. H. Yang, X. L. Pan, F. Jiao, J. Li and X. H. Bao, *Chemical Communications*, 2017, **53**, 11146-11149.
4. Z. Huang, S. Wang, F. Qin, L. Huang, Y. H. Yue, W. M. Hua, M. H. Qiao, H. Y. He, W. Shen and H. L. Xu, *Chemcatchem*, 2018, **10**, 4519-4524.
5. J. H. Yang, K. Gong, D. Y. Miao, F. Jiao, X. L. Pan, X. J. Meng, F. S. Xiao and X. H. Bao, *Journal of Energy Chemistry*, 2019, **35**, 44-48.
6. X. L. Yang, T. Sun, J. G. Ma, X. Su, R. F. Wang, Y. R. Zhang, H. M. Duan, Y. Q. Huang and T. Zhang, *Journal of Energy Chemistry*, 2019, **35**, 60-65.
7. W. Zhou, S. L. Shi, Y. Wang, L. Zhang, Y. Wang, G. Q. Zhang, X. J. Min, K. Cheng, Q. H. Zhang, J. C. Kang and Y. Wang, *Chemcatchem*, 2019, **11**, 1681-1688.
8. Y. Fu, Y. M. Ni, W. L. Zhu and Z. M. Liu, *Journal of Catalysis*, 2020, **383**, 97-102.
9. S. Z. A. Gilani, L. Lu, M. T. Arslan, B. Ali, Q. Wang and F. Wei, *Catalysis Science & Technology*, 2020, **10**, 3366-3375.
10. C. Liu, J. J. Su, S. Liu, H. B. Zhou, X. H. Yuan, Y. C. Ye, Y. Wang, W. Q. Jiao, L. Zhang, Y. Q. Lu, Y. D. Wang, H. Y. He and Z. K. Xie, *Acs Catalysis*, 2020, **10**, 15227-15237.
11. D. Y. Miao, Y. Ding, T. Yu, J. Li, X. L. Pan and X. H. Bao, *Acs Catalysis*, 2020, **10**, 7389-7397.
12. S. Wang, Y. Fang, Z. Huang, H. L. Xu and W. Shen, *Catalysts*, 2020, **10**.
13. S. Wang, Z. Huang, Y. J. Luo, J. H. Wang, Y. Fang, W. M. Hua, Y. H. Yue, H. L. Xu and W. Shen, *Catalysis Science & Technology*, 2020, **10**, 6562-6572.
14. Y. Fang, H. Sheng, Z. Huang, Y. Yue, W. Hua, W. Shen and H. Xu, *Chemcatchem*, 2022, **14**, e202200200.
15. Y. Fu, Y. M. Ni, Z. Y. Chen, W. L. Zhu and Z. M. Liu, *Journal of Energy Chemistry*, 2022, **66**, 597-602.
16. Y. Li, M. Wang, S. Liu, F. Wu, Q. Zhang, S. Zhang, K. Cheng and Y. Wang, *Acs Catalysis*, 2022, **12**, 8793-8801.
17. Z. Ma, F. Cao, Y. Yang, L. Wang, T. Zhang, M. Tan, G. Yang and Y. Tan, *Fuel*, 2022, **325**, 124809.
18. Z. Ma, M. Tan, F. Cao, Y. Yang, N. Gong, Y. Wu, J. Zhang, G. Yang and Y. Tan, *Aiche Journal*, 2023, **69**, e17979.
19. H. Sheng, Y. Fang, Y. Huang, Z. Huang, W. Shen and H. Xu, *Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research*, 2022, **61**, 12405-12414.