

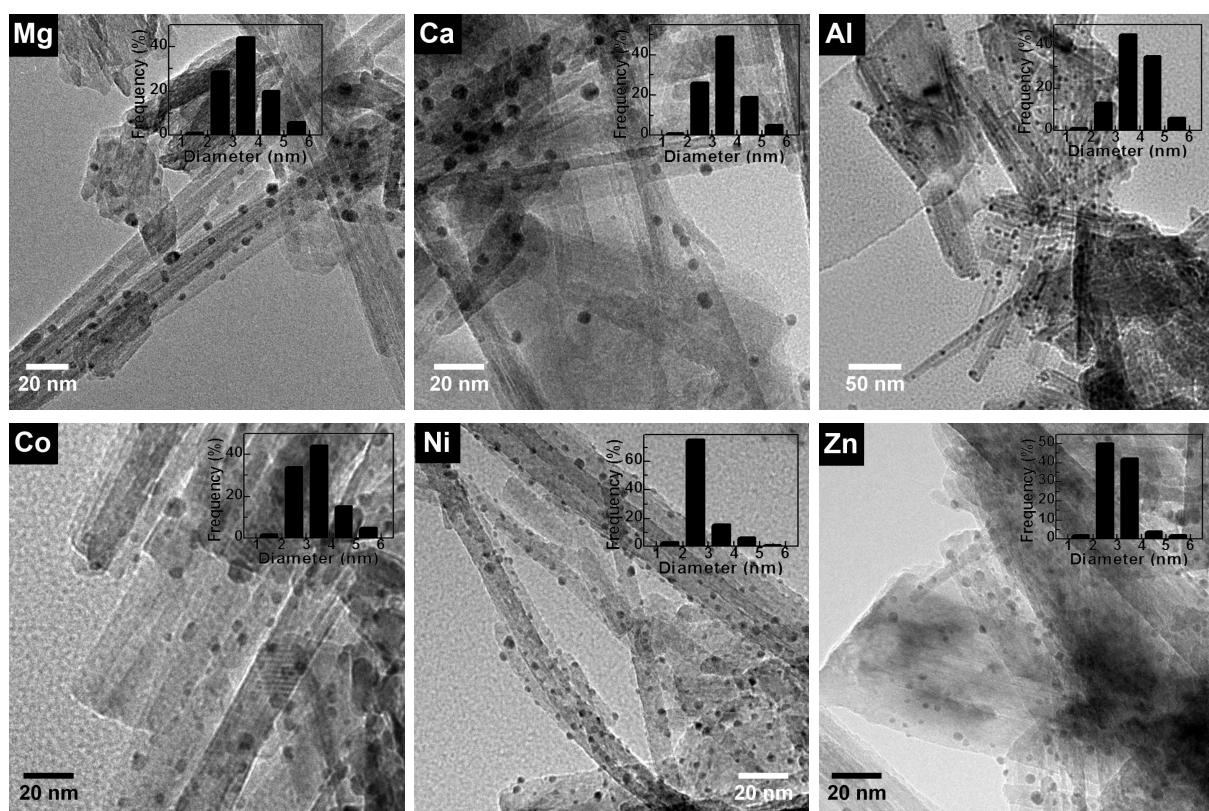
## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

### Synergistic effect between gold nanoparticles and metal-doped $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> toward enhanced aerobic selective oxidation of ethanol

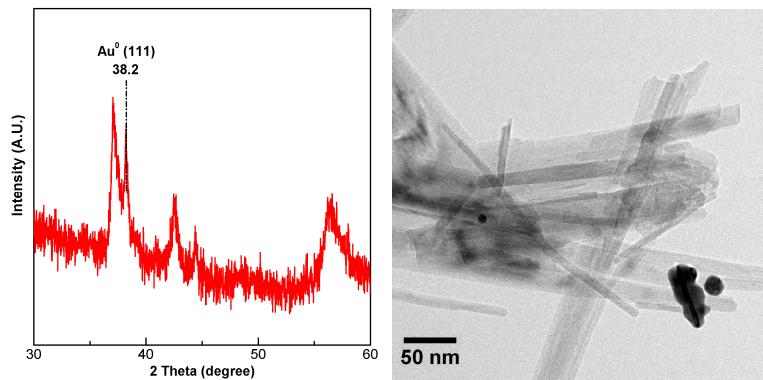
Panpan Wang,<sup>a</sup> Huimin Luo,<sup>a</sup> Jingwen Wang,<sup>b</sup> Bo Han,<sup>b</sup> Fuming Mei<sup>a</sup> and Peng Liu\*<sup>a</sup>

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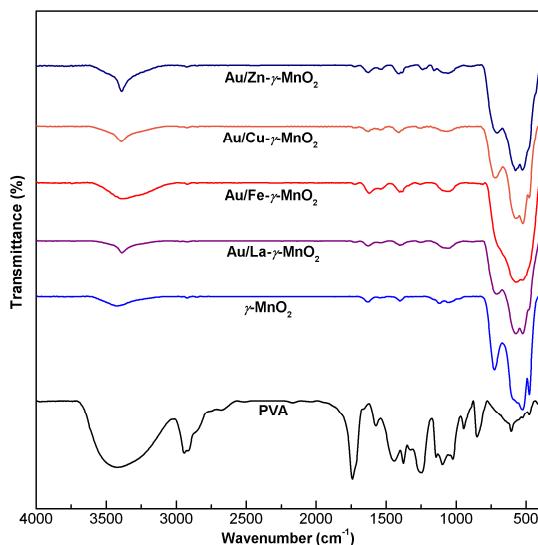
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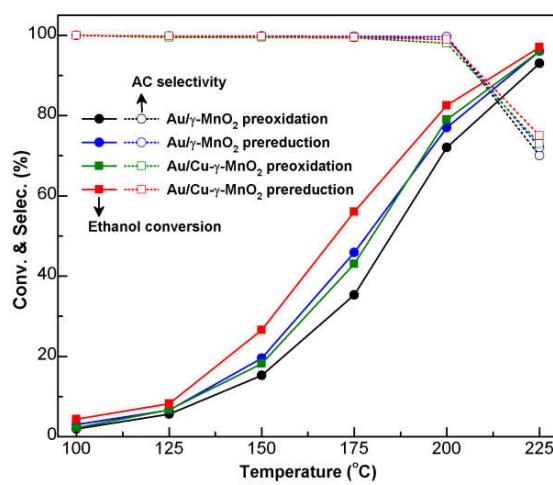
**Fig. S1** TEM images and AuNP size distributions of various Au/M- $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> samples.



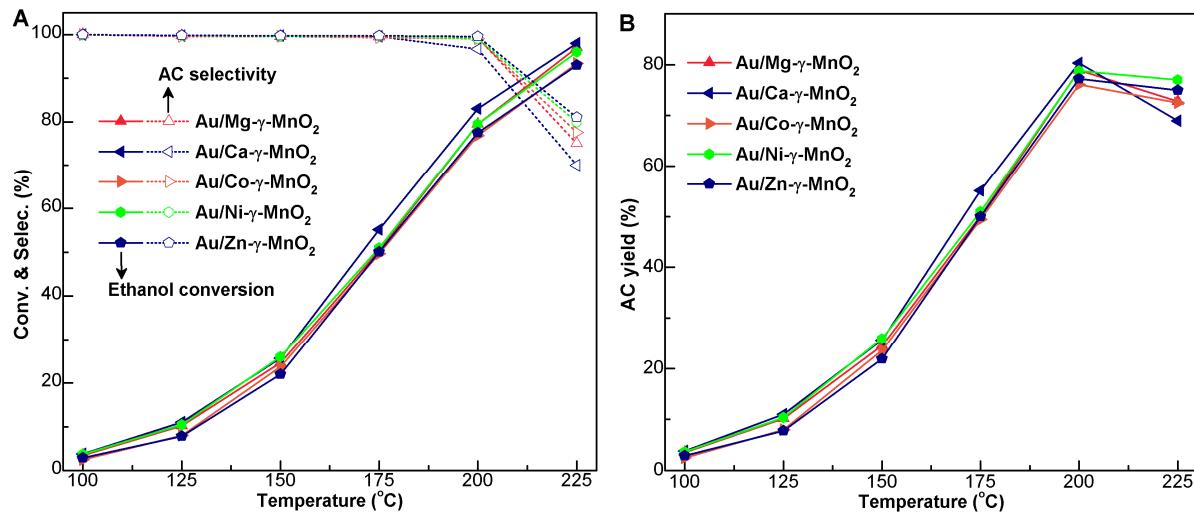
**Fig. S2** XRD pattern and TEM image of Au/Cu- $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>-DP sample.



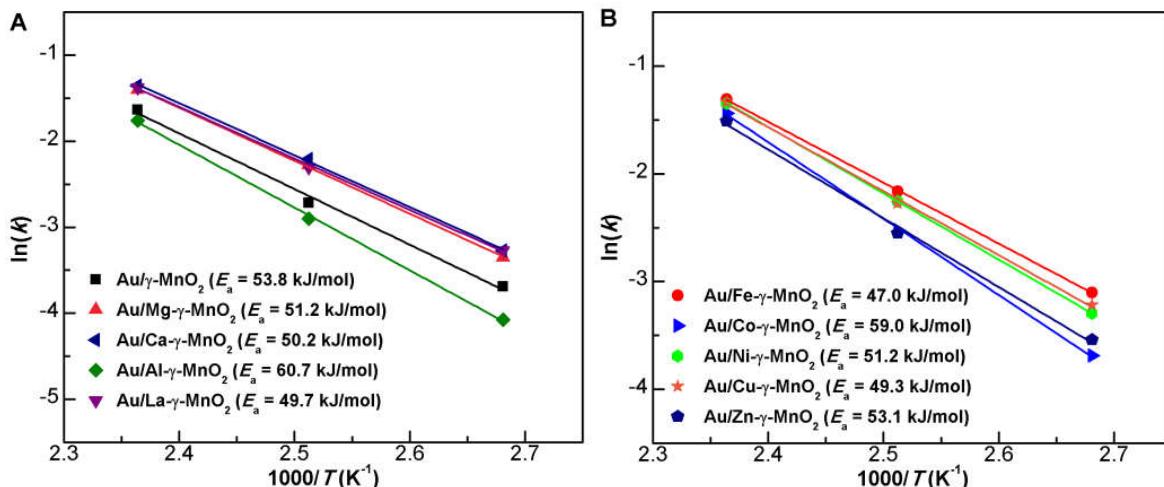
**Fig. S3** FT-IR spectra of various samples.



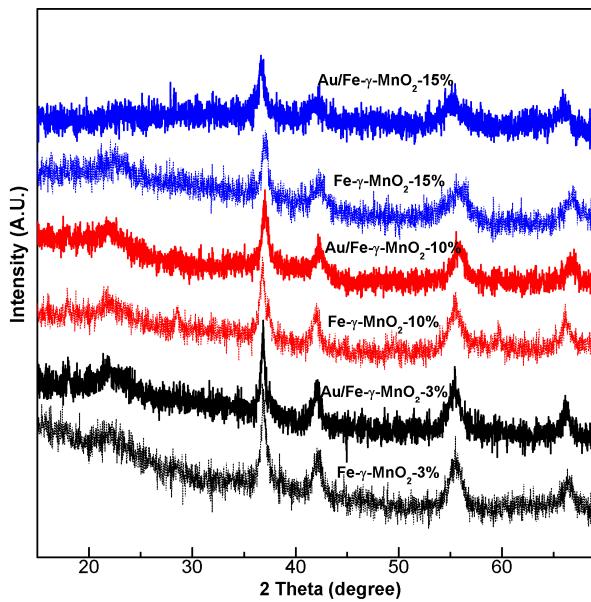
**Fig. S4** Effect of catalyst pretreatment on the catalytic performance.



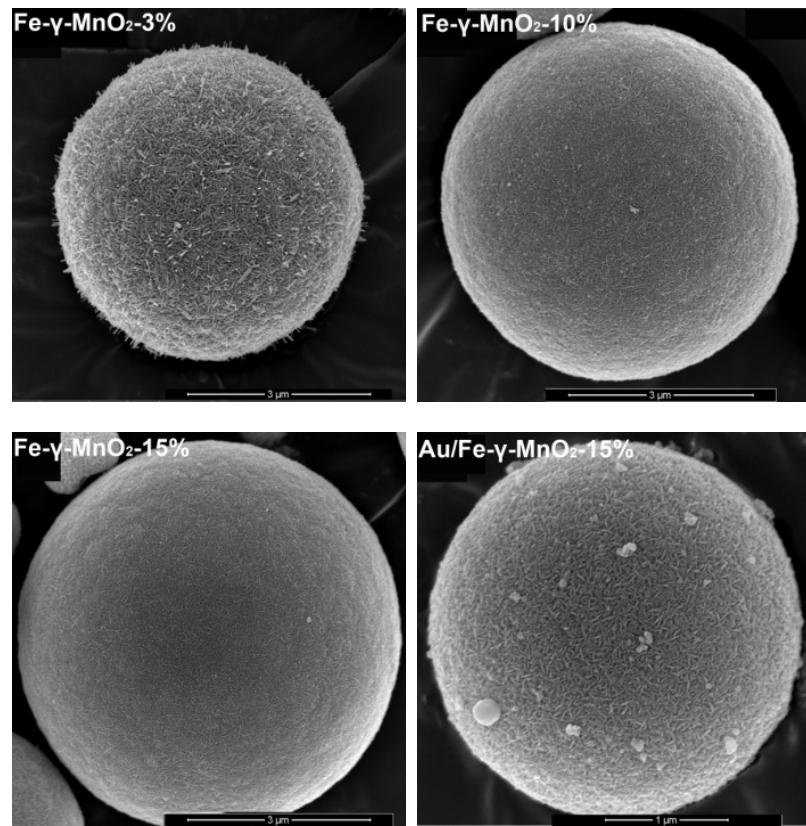
**Fig. S5** Ethanol conversion & AC selectivity (A) and AC yield (B) as a function of the reaction temperature over various  $\text{Au}/\text{M}-\gamma\text{-MnO}_2$  catalysts.



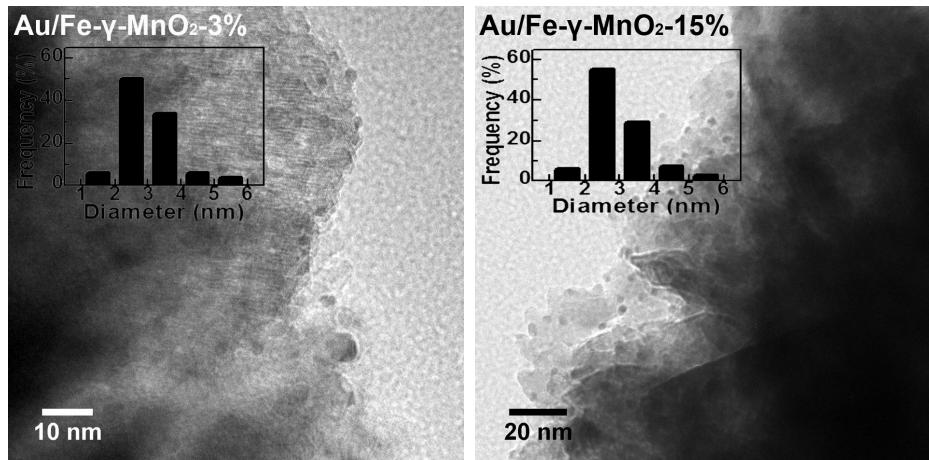
**Fig. S6** Arrhenius plots and apparent activation energies for ethanol oxidation at 100–150  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  over various  $\text{Au}/\text{M}-\gamma\text{-MnO}_2$  catalysts.



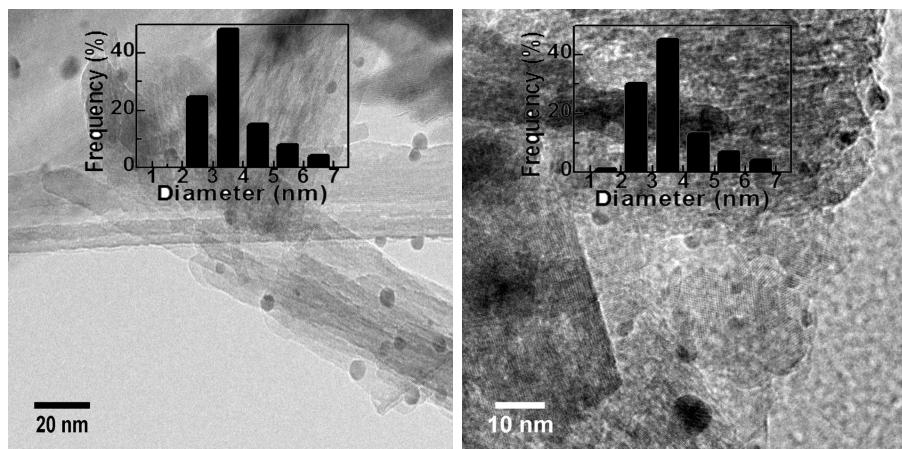
**Fig. S7** XRD patterns of various Fe- $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> and Au/Fe- $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> samples.



**Fig. S8** SEM images of various Fe- $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> and Au/Fe- $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>-15% samples.



**Fig. S9** TEM images of Au/Fe- $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>-3% and Au/Fe- $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>-15% catalysts.



**Fig. S10** TEM images and AuNP size distributions of the spent Au/ $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> and Au/Fe- $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> catalysts.

**Table S1** H<sub>2</sub>-TPR results of various Au/M- $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> catalysts and M- $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> supports

Sample	H <sub>2</sub> uptake (mmol/g)	H <sub>2</sub> uptake of support (mmol/g)
Au/ $\gamma$ -MnO <sub>2</sub>	8.6	10.7
Au/Mg- $\gamma$ -MnO <sub>2</sub>	9.3	9.6
Au/Ca- $\gamma$ -MnO <sub>2</sub>	9.0	10.1
Au/Al- $\gamma$ -MnO <sub>2</sub>	7.2	8.3
Au/La- $\gamma$ -MnO <sub>2</sub>	8.8	10.3
Au/Fe- $\gamma$ -MnO <sub>2</sub>	6.8	7.7
Au/Co- $\gamma$ -MnO <sub>2</sub>	8.2	9.7
Au/Ni- $\gamma$ -MnO <sub>2</sub>	7.9	9.2
Au/Cu- $\gamma$ -MnO <sub>2</sub>	8.1	9.5
Au/Zn- $\gamma$ -MnO <sub>2</sub>	8.5	9.8

**Table S2** Comparison of representative supported gold catalysts from the literature and the present work for gas-phase aerobic oxidation of ethanol at 200 °C.

Catalyst	[ethanol] (vol.%)	O <sub>2</sub> /ethanol	Conv. (%)	Selec. (%)	Yield (%)	STY (g <sub>aldehyde</sub> g <sub>cat</sub> <sup>-1</sup> h <sup>-1</sup> )	Ref.
2wt% Au/TiO <sub>2</sub>	2.0	9	65	60	39	0.06	[1]
1wt% Au/MoO <sub>3</sub>	0.77	3	65.5	99	65	0.19	[2]
1wt% Au/MnO <sub>2</sub>	0.77	3	100	0	0	0	[2]
1wt% Au/Recryst-S1	2.0	1	50	98	49	1.38	[3]
1wt% Au/CuSiO <sub>3</sub>	1.5	3	30	94	28.2	0.64	[4]
1.4wt% AuCu/BN	1.5	3	92	87	80	2.4	[5]
0.9wt% Au/MgCuCr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	1.5	3	73	99	72	2.1	[6]
1wt% Au/Cu-OMS	2.5	1	92	87	80	3.0	[7]
1wt% Au/ $\gamma$ -MnO <sub>2</sub>	2.5	1	77	99.6	77	2.9	
<b>0.7wt% Au/Fe-<math>\gamma</math>-MnO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>This work</b>

**Table S3** Kinetic isotope effects for ethanol oxidation on Au/Fe- $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> at 125 °C.<sup>a</sup>

Reactant	Conv. (%)	Selec. (%)	Activity (mmol g <sub>cat</sub> <sup>-1</sup> h <sup>-1</sup> )	KIE (k <sub>H</sub> /k <sub>D</sub> )
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OH	11.5	99.8	9.8	-
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OD	8.4	99.7	7.2	1.37
C <sub>2</sub> D <sub>5</sub> OD	5.6	99.6	4.8	2.05

<sup>a</sup> Ethanol conversion and acetaldehyde selectivity at 125 °C (catalyst 0.06 g, ethanol/O<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> = 1/1/38, GHSV = 100,000 mL g<sub>cat</sub><sup>-1</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>).

## Reference

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