

Supplementary Information for

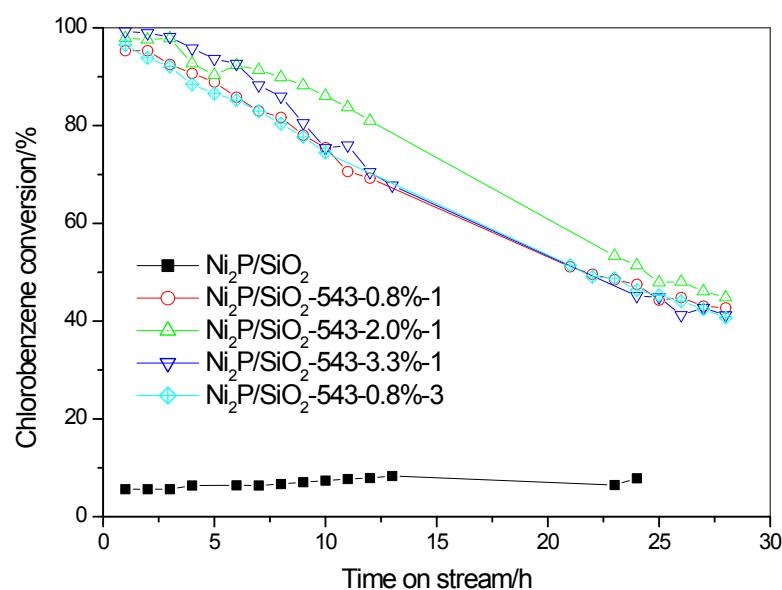
**A facile approach to enhancing activity of Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub> catalyst for hydrodechlorination of chlorobenzene: promoting effect of water or oxygen**

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**Table 1S** Properties of Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub> before and after pretreatment

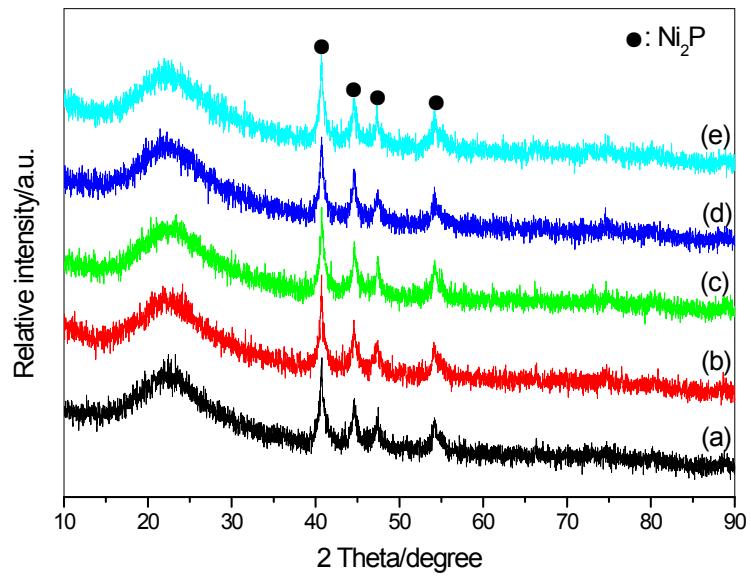
Catalyst	S <sub>BET</sub> (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	Pore volume (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)	Mean pore diameter(nm)	Ni content (wt.%)	Ni/P molar ratio	Ni <sub>2</sub> P particle size(nm) <sup>a</sup>
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/SiO <sub>2</sub>	294	0.43	5.9	12.7	1.5	12.6
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/SiO <sub>2</sub> -513	292	0.42	5.7	13.7	1.6	13.5
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/SiO <sub>2</sub> -543	297	0.43	5.8	13.7	1.6	13.8
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/SiO <sub>2</sub> -573	288	0.41	5.7	13.7	1.5	14.0
Ni <sub>2</sub> P/SiO <sub>2</sub> -673	290	0.42	5.7	13.7	1.5	15.5

<sup>a</sup> Calculated by Scherrer equation on the base of Ni<sub>2</sub>P(111) reflection ( $2\theta=40.8^\circ$ ).

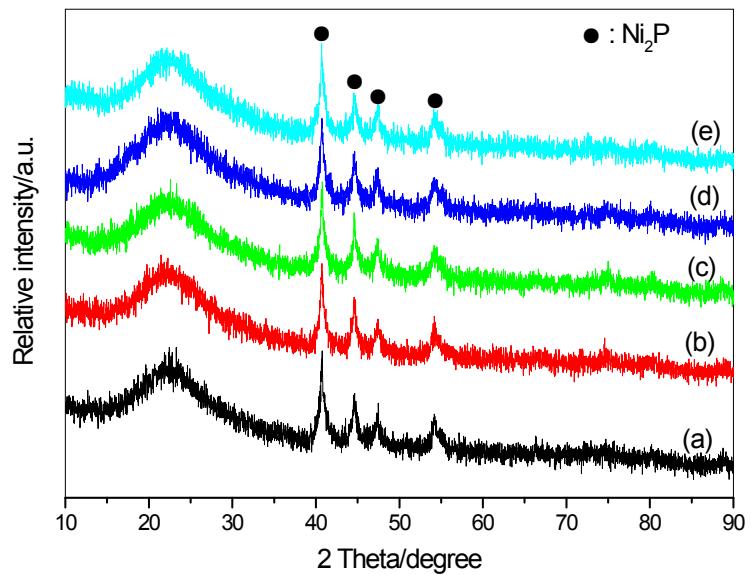


**Fig. 1S** Activity of Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub> treated with a H<sub>2</sub>O/H<sub>2</sub> flow.

The treated catalysts are denoted as Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub>-T-c%-t, where T, c% and t represent treatment temperature (K), water concentration in H<sub>2</sub> and treatment time (h).

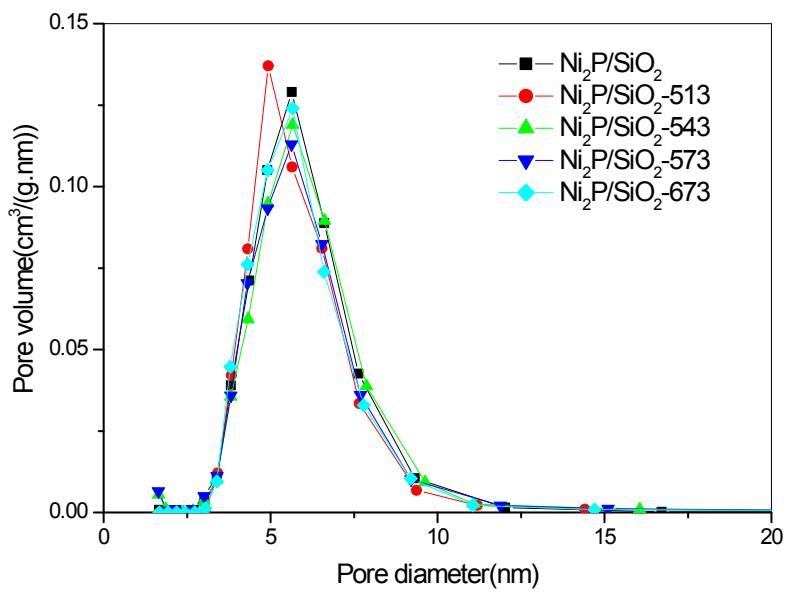
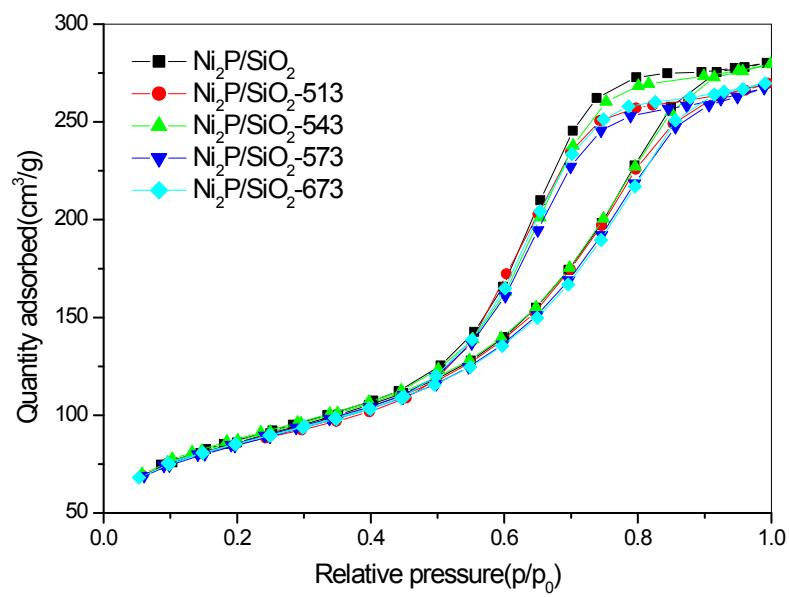


**Fig. 2S** XRD patterns of (a)Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub>; (b)Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub>-513; (c)Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub>-543; (d)Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub>-573; (e)Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub>-673

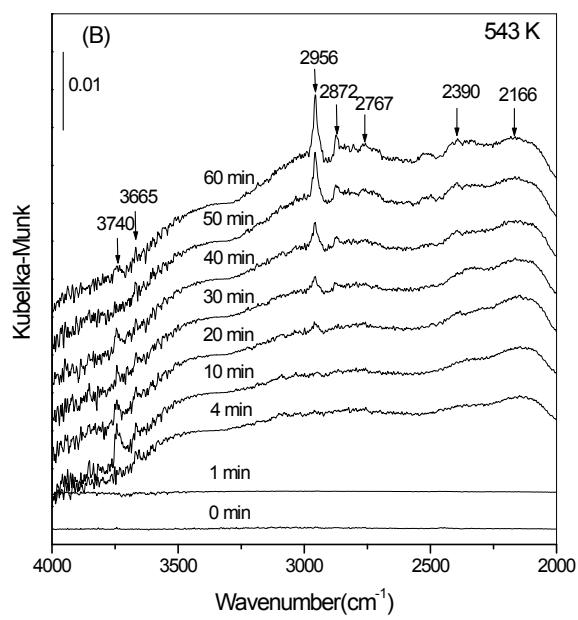
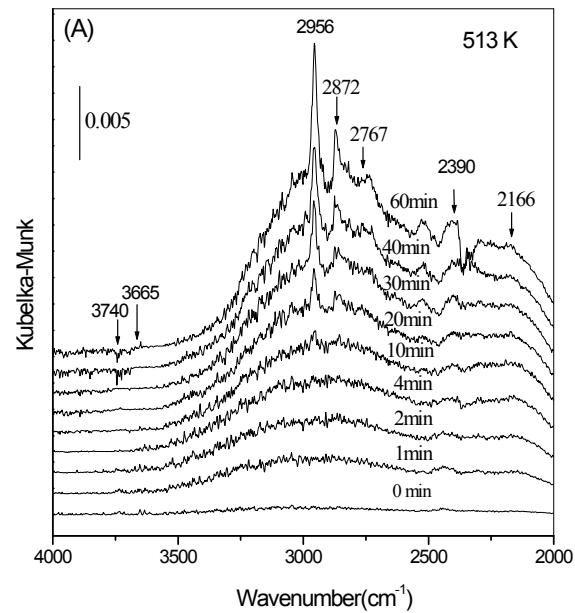


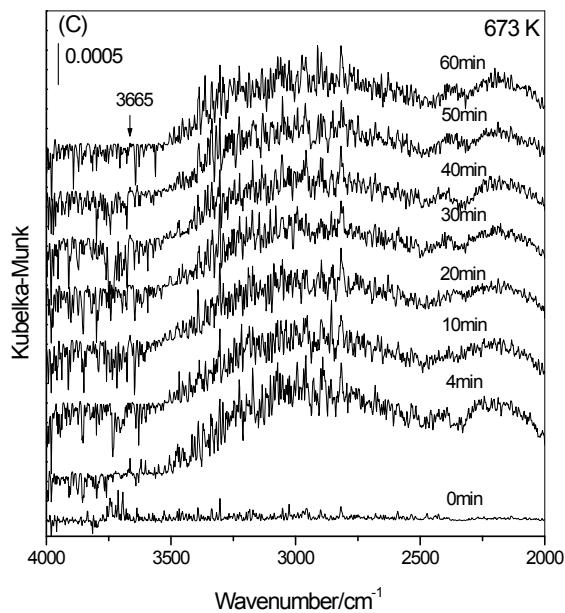
**Fig. 3S** XRD patterns of (a) Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub>; (b) Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub>-270-0.8%-1; (c) Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub>-270-2.0%-1; (d) Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub>-270-3.3%-1; (e) Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub>-270-0.8%-3

The treated catalysts are denoted as Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub>-T-c%-t, where T, c% and t represent treatment temperature (K), water concentration in H<sub>2</sub> and treatment time (h).

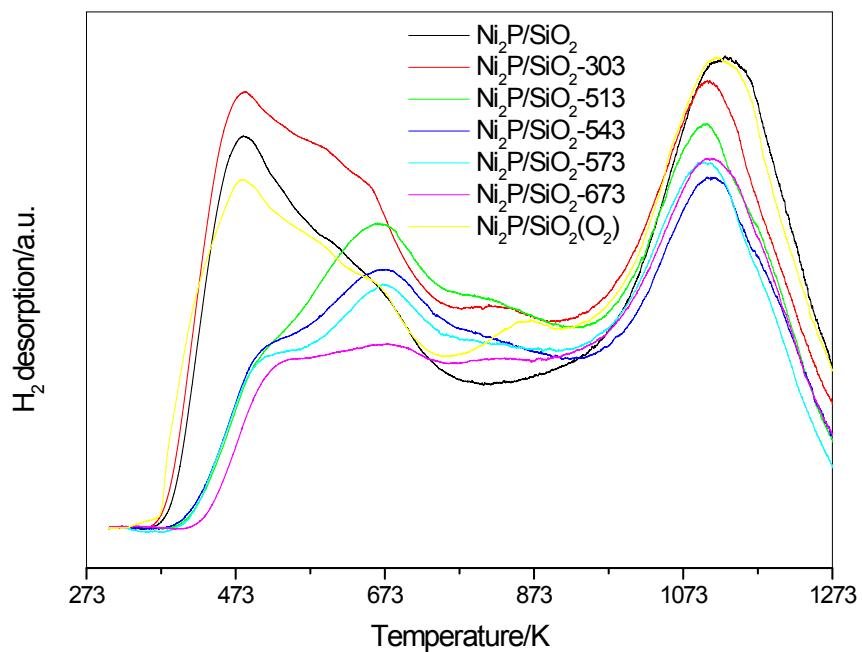


**Fig. 4S** Adsorption-desorption isotherms (A) and pore diameter distributions (B) of  $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}/\text{SiO}_2$  and  $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}/\text{SiO}_2$ -T.

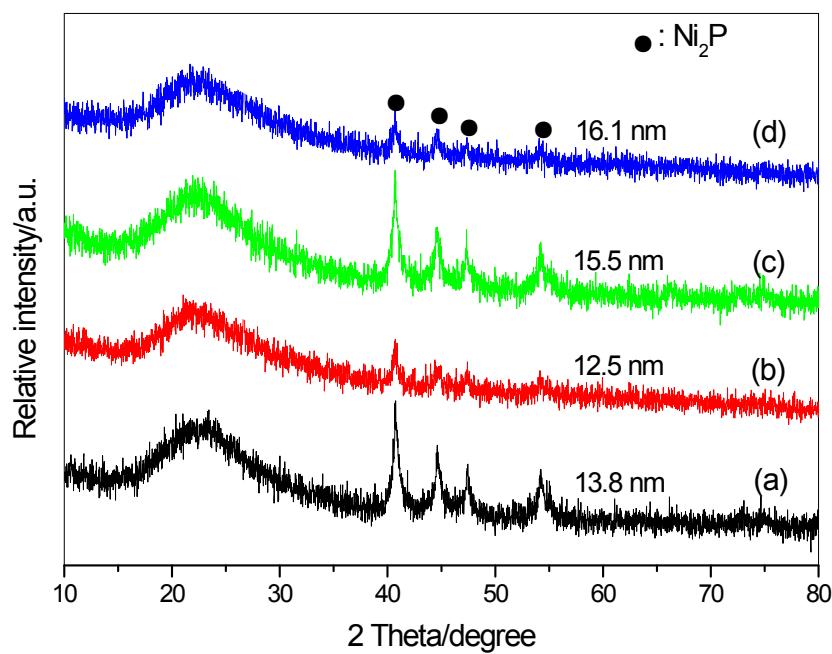




**Fig. 5S** In situ DRIFTS spectra of re-reduced  $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}/\text{SiO}_2(\text{O}_2)$  treated with 0.8% $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{H}_2$  at (A) 513 K; (B) 543 K and (C) 673 K



**Fig. 6S**  $\text{H}_2$ -TPD profiles of  $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}/\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}/\text{SiO}_2\text{-T}$  and re-reduced  $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}/\text{SiO}_2(\text{O}_2)$



**Fig. 7S** XRD patterns of (a)  $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}/\text{SiO}_2$ ; (b) used  $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}/\text{SiO}_2$ -543; (c)  $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}/\text{SiO}_2$ -673 and (d) used  $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}/\text{SiO}_2$ -673

Note: the figure on each pattern is the  $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}$  crystallite size calculated by Scherrer equation on the base of  $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}(111)$  reflection ( $2\theta=40.8^\circ$ ).