## **Catalysis Science & Technology**

Significant effect of base on the selectivity improvement in the hydrogenation of benzoic acid over NiZrB amorphous alloy supported on  $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>

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## **Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)**

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**Fig. S1** FTIR patterns of (a) NiZrB/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, (b) NiZrB/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (without PEG(800)), (c) precursor of NiZrB/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, and (d) PEG(800).



Fig. S2 Time-conversion plot of hydrogenation of BA. Reaction conditions: BA (3.0 g), cyclohexane (60 mL), NiZrB/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (1.0 g, 11.0 wt % of Ni), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (5 mol % of BA), 423 K, initial P (H<sub>2</sub>) = 5 MPa.



Fig. S3 Recycle runs of catalyst in cyclohexane and water. Reaction conditions: BA (3.0 g), cyclohexane (60 mL), NiZrB/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (1.0 g, 11.0 wt % of Ni), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (5 mol % of BA), 423 K, initial P (H<sub>2</sub>) = 5 MPa and reaction time 4 h.



Fig. S4 TEM image (a) and size distribution (b) of NiZrB/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-u-K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S5 XRD patterns of amorphous alloy catalysts. (a)  $NiZrB/Al_2O_3$  and (b)  $NiZrB/Al_2O_3$ -u-K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>.



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**Fig. S6** GC-MS analysis of the hydrogenation products. (A) GC analysis, (B-D) the MS patterns of peak a, b, and c in GC analysis.