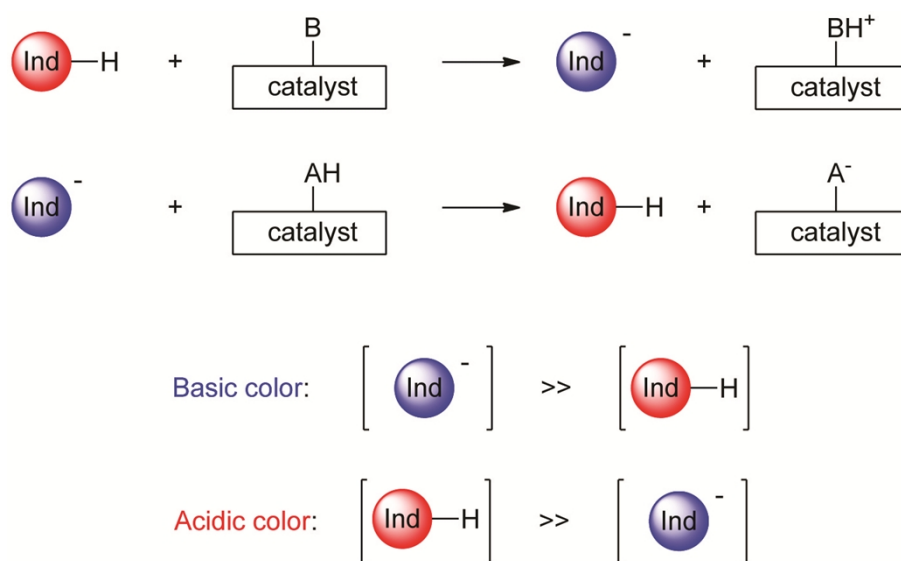


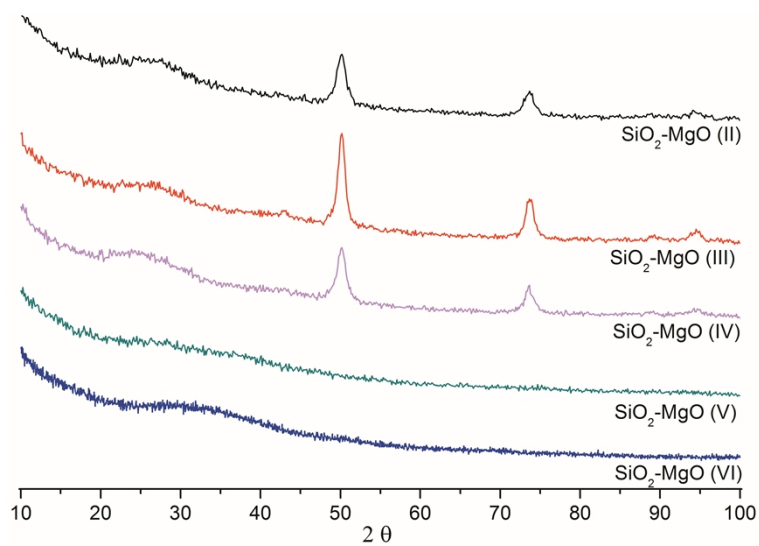
## Electronic supporting information

### Influence of Acid-Base Properties on the Lebedev Ethanol-to-Butadiene Process Catalyzed by SiO<sub>2</sub>-MgO Materials

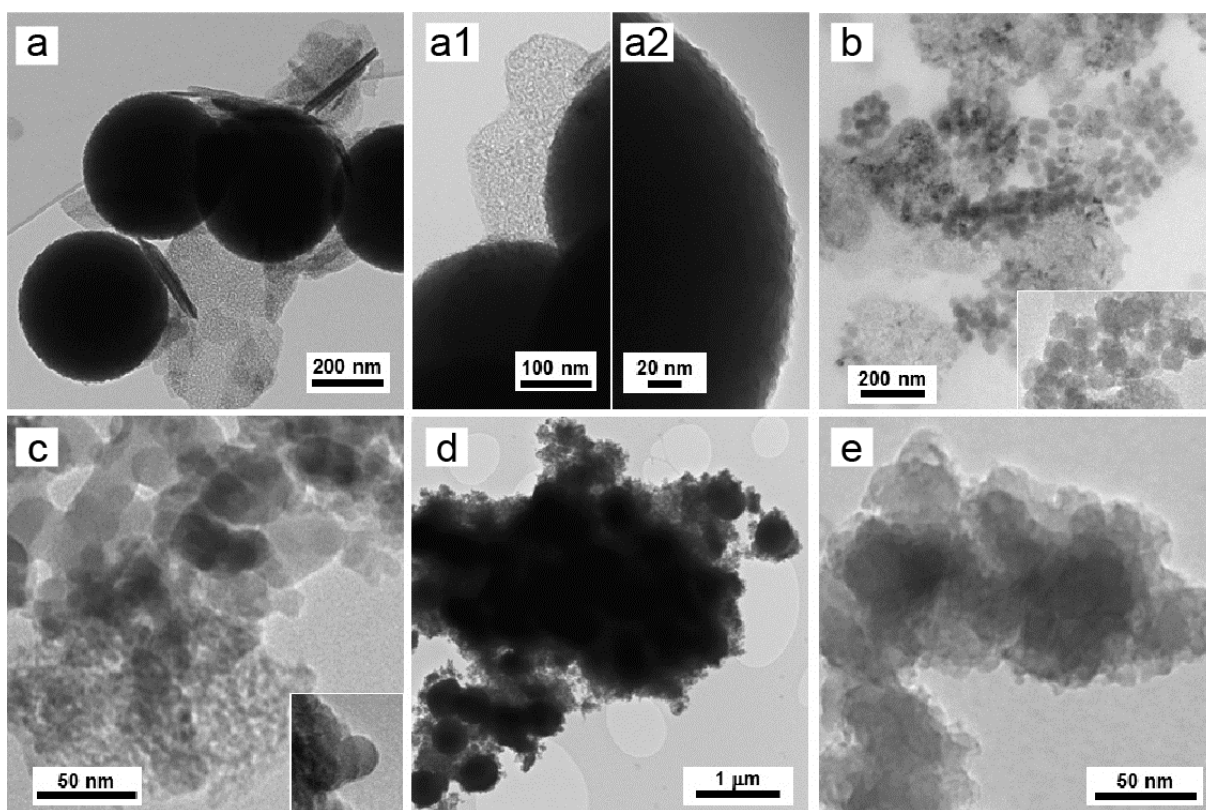
Carlo Angelici,<sup>a</sup> Marjolein E. Z. Velthoen,<sup>a</sup> Bert M. Weckhuysen<sup>\*,a</sup> and Pieter C. A. Bruijninx<sup>\*,a</sup>



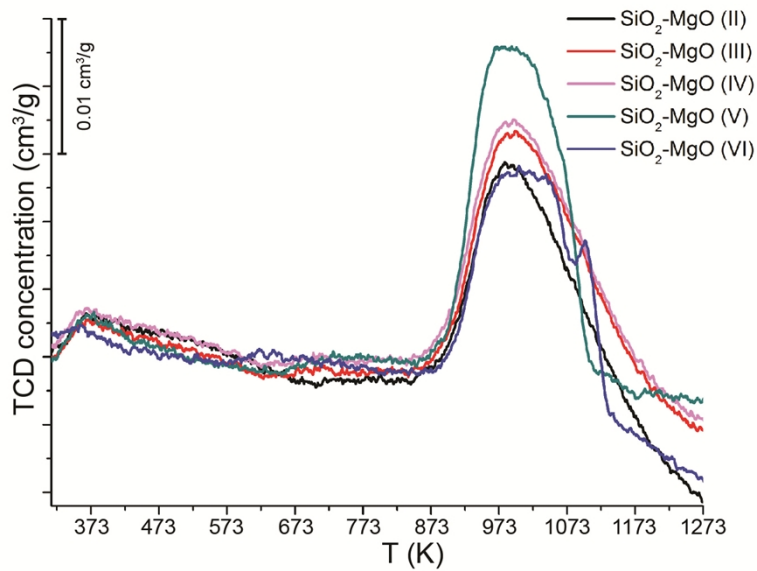
**Scheme S1** Interaction of the protonated indicator form with a basic site of the catalyst gives the deprotonated form causing a color change (top). The deprotonated form of the indicator can then interact with an acidic site present on the catalyst thus reverting back to the neutral form of the catalyst. The observed color depends on the relative amounts of the protonated and deprotonated indicator forms.



**Figure S1** XRD diffractograms of the various SiO<sub>2</sub>-MgO catalysts.



**Figure S2** Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM) pictures of a) SiO<sub>2</sub>-MgO (II), b) SiO<sub>2</sub>-MgO (III), c) SiO<sub>2</sub>-MgO (IV), d) SiO<sub>2</sub>-MgO (V), e) SiO<sub>2</sub>-MgO (VI).



**Figure S3** CO<sub>2</sub> desorption for the various SiO<sub>2</sub>-MgO catalysts in the range 313-1273 K.