

## Appendix A. Supplementary material

### Direct synthesis of 2-ethylhexanol via *n*-butanal aldol condensation-hydrogenation reaction integration over Ni/Ce-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> bifunctional catalyst

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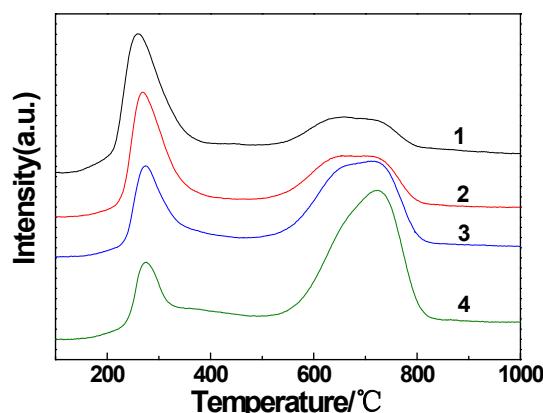


Fig. S1 H<sub>2</sub>-TPR profiles of Ni/Ce-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalysts prepared at different calcination temperatures

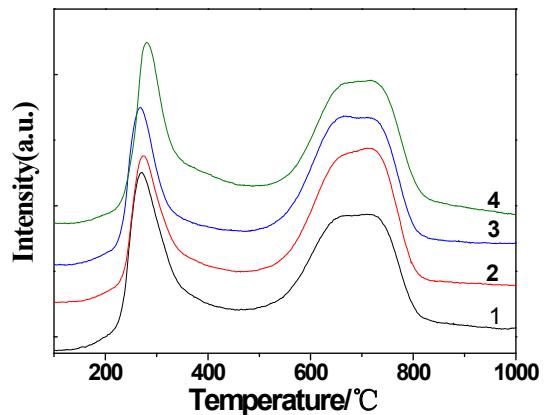


Fig. S2 H<sub>2</sub>-TPR profiles of Ni/Ce-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalysts prepared at different calcination time  
 1-3 h; 2-4 h; 3-5 h; 4-6 h

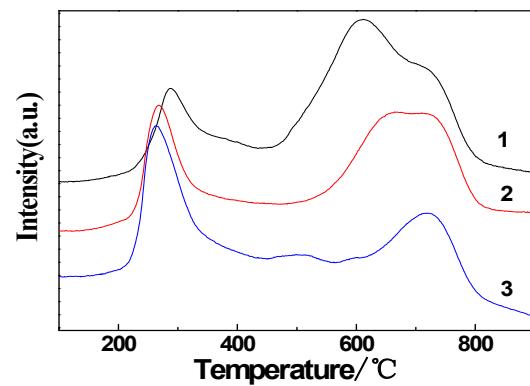


Fig. S3 H<sub>2</sub>-TPR profiles of Ni/Ce-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalysts prepared at different reduction temperature  
 1-520 °C; 2-570 °C; 3-620 °C

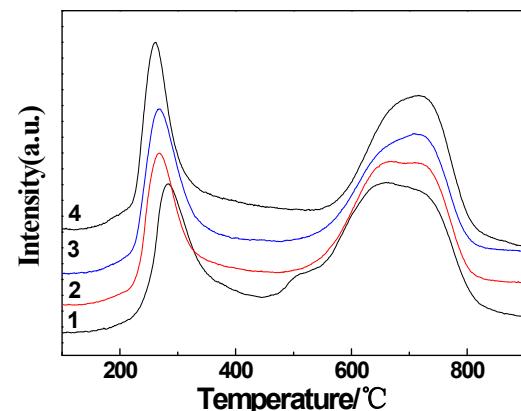


Fig. S4 H<sub>2</sub>-TPR profiles of Ni/Ce-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalysts prepared at different reduction time  
 1-3 h; 2-4 h; 3-5 h; 4-6 h

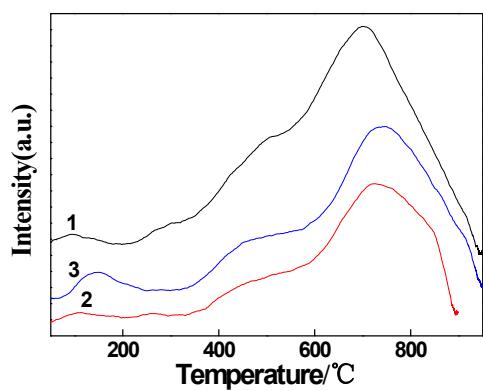


Fig. S5 H<sub>2</sub>-TPD profiles of the fresh and the recovered  
Ni/Ce-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalysts

1: fresh 2: recovered① 3: recovered②