# **Support Information**

# Microwave-accelerated direct synthesis of 3-picoline from glycerol through a liquid phase reaction pathway

Cai-Wu Luo<sup>a, b</sup> Xiao-Yan Feng<sup>c</sup> and Zi-Sheng Chao<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> College of Materials Science and Engineering, Changsha University of Science & Technology, Changsha, Hunan 410114, China
<sup>b</sup> School of Environmental Protection and Safety Engineering, University of South China, Hengyang, Hunan 421001, China
<sup>c</sup> College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, State Key Laboratory of Chem/Biosensing and Chemometrics, Hunan University, Changsha, Hunan 410082, China

\* Corresponding author: Prof. Zi-Sheng Chao;

Tel: +86-731-88713257;

E-mail address: chao\_zs@aliyun.com or zschao@yahoo.com

#### 1. Characterizations

N<sub>2</sub>-physisorption was conducted on a Quantachrome Autosorb-1 instrument at liquid-N<sub>2</sub> temperature. Before measurement, the specimen was in situ outgassed in the instrument at 300 °C for 12 h under a vacuum of 10<sup>-8</sup> Torr. The Brunauer–Emmett–Teller (BET) method was employed to calculate the specific surface area, with the correlation coefficient being above 0.9999. The total pore volume was calculated at a relative pressure of  $P/P_0 = 0.99$ , assuming full surface coverage with nitrogen. The "t-plot" method was used to estimate the micropore area and volume.

Ammonia temperature-programmed desorption (NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD) profile was recorded by a Micromeritics AutoChem II 2920 analyzer equipped with a TCD detector. The specimen (170 mg) was first heated by a rate of 10 °C·min<sup>-1</sup> from room temperature to 400 °C in a stream of helium (99.99%, 60 mL·min<sup>-1</sup>) and pretreated at that temperature and atmosphere for 0.5 h. Then, the specimen was cooled to 100 °C and subjected to ammonia-saturation in a stream of 5% NH<sub>3</sub>/He with a flow rate of 50 mL·min<sup>-1</sup>. After the sample was purged with helium at 100 °C for 1 h, ammonia was desorbed by heating the specimen to 800 °C at a rate of 10 °C·min<sup>-1</sup>.

Figure S1



Fig. S1. Effect of reaction time (min) on the production of 3-picoline under microwave irradiation. (Reaction conditions: reaction temperature = 373 K, and molar ratio of glycerol / ammonium acetate / HAc = 1 / 3.58 / 15.4).

Figure S2



Fig. S2. Comparison between the production of 3-picoline using acetic acid and propionic acid as both the solvent and catalyst under microwave irradiation, respectively. (Reaction conditions: reaction temperature = 373 K, reaction time = 20 min, and molar ratio of glycerol / ammonium acetate / (acetic acid or propionic acid) = 1/3.58/15.4).

Figure S3



**Fig. S3.** Effect of various organic acid solid catalysts on the production of 3-picoline under microwave irradiation. 0 #: Blank, 3 #: stearic acid, 4 #: oxalic acid, 5 #: adipic acid, 6 #: sulfosalicylic acid, 7 #: edetic acid. (Reaction conditions: reaction temperature = 373 K, reaction time = 20 min, and mass ratio of glycerol/ammonium acetate/acetic acid/solid catalyst = 1/3/10/0.2).

Figure S4



**Fig. S4.** Effect of various ion-exchanged resin on the production of 3picoline under microwave irradiation. 0 #: Blank, 8 #: D 402 Na, 9 #: D 113 III, 10 #: D 001 H. (Reaction conditions: reaction temperature = 373 K, reaction time = 20 min, and mass ratio of glycerol/ammonium acetate/acetic acid/solid catalyst = 1/3/10/0.2).

## Figure S5



**Fig. S5.** Effect of KF and MgF<sub>2</sub> on the production of 3-picoline under microwave irradiation. 0 #: Blank, 11 #: KF, 12 #: MgF<sub>2</sub>. (Reaction conditions: reaction temperature = 373 K, reaction time = 20 min, and mass ratio of glycerol/ammonium acetate/acetic acid/solid catalyst = 1/3/10/0.2).

## Tables

#### Table S1

The textural and acid properties of various catalysts\*

Catalysts	S <sub>BET</sub> (m²/g)	S <sub>micro</sub> (m²/g)	$S_{ext}$ (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	$T_{m,i}{}^a$ and $A_i{}^b$ for various desorption peaks				
				T <sub>m,1</sub>	$A_1$	$T_{m,2}$	$A_2$	$A_{total}^{c}$
				(°C)	(mmol/g)	(°C)	(mmol/g)	(mmol/g)
HZSM-5	336	304	32	165	0.84	360	1.03	1.87

 $^*S_{BET}$ ,  $S_{micro}$  and  $S_{ext}$  refer to specific surface area, micropore surface area and external surface area, respectively, and  $S_{BET} = S_{micro} + S_{ext}$ .

 ${}^{a}T_{m,i}$  refers to the temperature at the maximum of desorption peak i;

 ${}^{b}A_{i}$  refers to the integral area of desorption peak i and it means also the concentration of acid site corresponding to desorption peak i;

<sup>c</sup>  $A_{total} = \Sigma A_i$ .