A General Approach for the Synthesis of Bimetallic M-Sn (M=Ru, Rh and Ir) Catalysts for Efficient Hydrogenolysis of Ester

Akshaya K. Samal,^a Haibo Zhu,^{a,*} Moussab Harb,^a Shiv S. Sangaru,^a Dalaver H. Anjum,^b Mohamed N. Hedhili,^b Youssef Saih,^a and Jean-Marie Basset^{a,*}

a.KAUST Catalysis Center, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Thuwal 23955-6900, Saudi Arabia, E-mail: haibo.zhu@kaust.edu.sa, jeanmarie.basset@kaust.edu.sa

b.Imaging and Characterization Lab, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Thuwal 23955-6900, Saudi Arabia



Fig. S1 STEM images of Ir-Sn nanoparticles with different magnification (A, B and C) and EDS point analysis on a randomly selected Ir-Sn bimetallic nanoparticle. Presence of Cu is obtained from carbon coated copper grid.



Fig. S2 TEM images of Ir-Sn/SiO $_2$ catalyst synthesized by impregnation method.



Fig. S3 EDS analyses on two randomly selected particles from Fig. S2.



Fig. S4 DFT-optimized isomers of Ru₃₃Sn₂₂ nanoclusters. For each structure, the relative energy is given in brackets. Color legend: Ru in green and Sn in gray. The Sn elements are shown in bigger size balls.



Fig. S5 DFT-optimized isomers of $Rh_{33}Sn_{22}$ nanoclusters. For each structure, the relative energy is given in brackets. Color legend: Rh in blue and Sn in gray. The Sn elements are shown in bigger size balls.



Fig. S6 DFT-optimized isomers of $Ir_{33}Sn_{22}$ nanoclusters. For each structure, the relative energy is given in brackets. Color legend: Ir in orange and Sn in gray. The Sn elements are shown in bigger size balls.



Fig. S7 XPS spectrum of the Sn 4d core level measured from as-synthesized Ru-Sn and Ir-Sn bimetallic samples.



Fig. S8 XPS spectra of the Ru3d and Ir 4f core level measured from as-synthesized Ru-Sn and Ir-Sn bimetallic samples.



Fig. S9 Conversion versus selectivity in ethyl acetate hydrogenolysis reaction over Ru-Sn and Ir-Sn catalysts at 320 °C.





Fig. S10 TEM images of Rh-Sn/SiO₂ catalyst before and after hydrogenolysis reaction.