

### Electronic Supplementary Information

#### Influence of Copper and Potassium on the Structure and Carbidisation of Supported Iron Catalysts for Fischer-Tropsch Synthesis

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**Table S1.** Mössbauer parameters

Catalyst	Iron forms	$\delta$ , mm/s	$\Delta$ , mm/s	$\Gamma$ , mm/s	H, kOe	A, %	$\chi^2$
15% Fe	Fe 1	0.34(4)	0.90(14)	0.73(18)	501.1(3)	6	1.5
	Fe 2	0.29(10)	0.48(18)	0.62		4	
	Fe 3	0.59(4)		0.37(8)		2	
	Fe 4					88	
15% Fe 1% K	Fe 1	0.30(1)	0.93(7)	0.54(8)	502.0(4)	13	1.0
	Fe 2	0.35(1)	0.46(4)	0.39(5)		9	
	Fe 3						
	Fe 4					78	
15% Fe 1% K 1% Cu	Fe 1	0.296(8)	0.90(2)	0.51(3)	493.7(2)	16	4.3
	Fe 2	0.340(5)	0.56(1)	0.45(2)		25	
	Fe 3		0.1(9)			4	
	Fe 4					55	
15% Fe 1% Cu	Fe 1	0.336(7)	0.91(1)	0.58(3)	504.7(5)	22	1.4
	Fe 2	0.367(6)	0.47(2)	0.39(3)		13	
	Fe 3						
	Fe 4					65	

The errors in the last digits are given in parentheses.  $\delta$  is the isomer shift.  $\Delta$  is the quadrupole splitting. H is the magnetic hyperfine field.  $\Gamma$  is the full line width at half maximum. A is relative area of spectral component, representing the relative content of the corresponding Fe species assuming a common recoilless fraction for all iron species in a sample and  $\chi^2$  is the deviation.

**Table S2.** Effective activation energies, pre-exponential factors and calculated rate constants for Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> reduction to Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> in CO and syngas

Catalyst	Reduction by CO						Reduction by H <sub>2</sub> /CO					
	$\alpha=0.1$			$\alpha=0.8$			$\alpha=0.1$			$\alpha=0.8$		
	E, kJ/mol	$k_0, s^{-1}$	K, gm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> *	E, kJ/mol	$k_0, s^{-1}$	K, gm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> *	E, kJ/mol	$k_0, s^{-1}$	K, gm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> *	E, kJ/mol	$k_0, s^{-1}$	K, gm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> *
Fe	118.9	$6.19 \cdot 10^8$	$9.3 \cdot 10^{-3}$	197.0	$2.55 \cdot 10^{15}$	$2.9 \cdot 10^{-3}$	74.4	$1.13 \cdot 10^5$	$1.9 \cdot 10^{-2}$	55.3	$7.68 \cdot 10^2$	$7.0 \cdot 10^{-3}$
FeCu	83.6	$4.81 \cdot 10^5$	$1.0 \cdot 10^{-2}$	104.9	$1.69 \cdot 10^7$	$4.1 \cdot 10^{-3}$	73.8	$1.63 \cdot 10^5$	$2.8 \cdot 10^{-2}$	80.4	$3.26 \cdot 10^5$	$1.5 \cdot 10^{-2}$
FeK	104.0	$4.84 \cdot 10^6$	$1.3 \cdot 10^{-3}$	186.6	$4.59 \cdot 10^{13}$	$3.6 \cdot 10^{-4}$	95.9	$1.50 \cdot 10^6$	$2.3 \cdot 10^{-3}$	107.4	$1.03 \cdot 10^7$	$1.4 \cdot 10^{-3}$
FeCuK	97.9	$1.00 \cdot 10^7$	$0.9 \cdot 10^{-2}$	143.4	$5.87 \cdot 10^{10}$	$3.6 \cdot 10^{-3}$	96.2	$1.75 \cdot 10^7$	$2.2 \cdot 10^{-2}$	125.0	$2.72 \cdot 10^9$	$8.0 \cdot 10^{-3}$

\* the rate constants are calculated for the temperature of 288°C (in CO) and at 312 °C (in syngas)

**Table S3.** Effective activation energies, pre-exponential factors and calculated rate constants for carbidisation ( $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4 \rightarrow x\text{-Fe}_5\text{C}_2$ ) in CO and syngas

Catalyst	In the presence of CO						In the presence of H <sub>2</sub> /CO					
	$\alpha=0.1$			$\alpha=0.6$			$\alpha=0.1$			$\alpha=0.6$		
	E, kJ/mol	$k_0, \text{s}^{-1}$	$K, \text{gm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ *	E, kJ/mol	$k_0, \text{s}^{-1}$	$K, \text{gm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ *	E, kJ/mol	$k_0, \text{s}^{-1}$	$K, \text{gm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ *	E, kJ/mol	$k_0, \text{s}^{-1}$	$K, \text{gm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ *
Fe	69.8	$2.47 \cdot 10^2$	$1.1 \cdot 10^{-4}$	96.9	$5.99 \cdot 10^3$	$8.7 \cdot 10^{-6}$	99.0	$2.52 \cdot 10^5$	$2.3 \cdot 10^{-4}$	103.0	$2.83 \cdot 10^5$	$1.1 \cdot 10^{-4}$
FeCu	86.0	$2.19 \cdot 10^4$	$2.8 \cdot 10^{-4}$	110.9	$7.68 \cdot 10^5$	$5.3 \cdot 10^{-5}$	49.6	$3.13 \cdot 10^1$	$1.4 \cdot 10^{-3}$	48.2	$1.42 \cdot 10^1$	$5.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$
FeK	105.8	$8.77 \cdot 10^5$	$1.7 \cdot 10^{-4}$	165.9	$1.98 \cdot 10^{10}$	$1.2 \cdot 10^{-5}$	68.3	$6.13 \cdot 10^2$	$3.1 \cdot 10^{-4}$	85.2	$6.37 \cdot 10^3$	$9.0 \cdot 10^{-5}$
FeCuK	117.6	$2.17 \cdot 10^7$	$4.3 \cdot 10^{-4}$	148.9	$4.27 \cdot 10^9$	$8.3 \cdot 10^{-5}$	93.8	$3.24 \cdot 10^5$	$6.8 \cdot 10^{-4}$	131.0	$1.74 \cdot 10^8$	$1.7 \cdot 10^{-4}$

\* the rate constants are calculated for the temperature of 410 °C