

## Supporting information

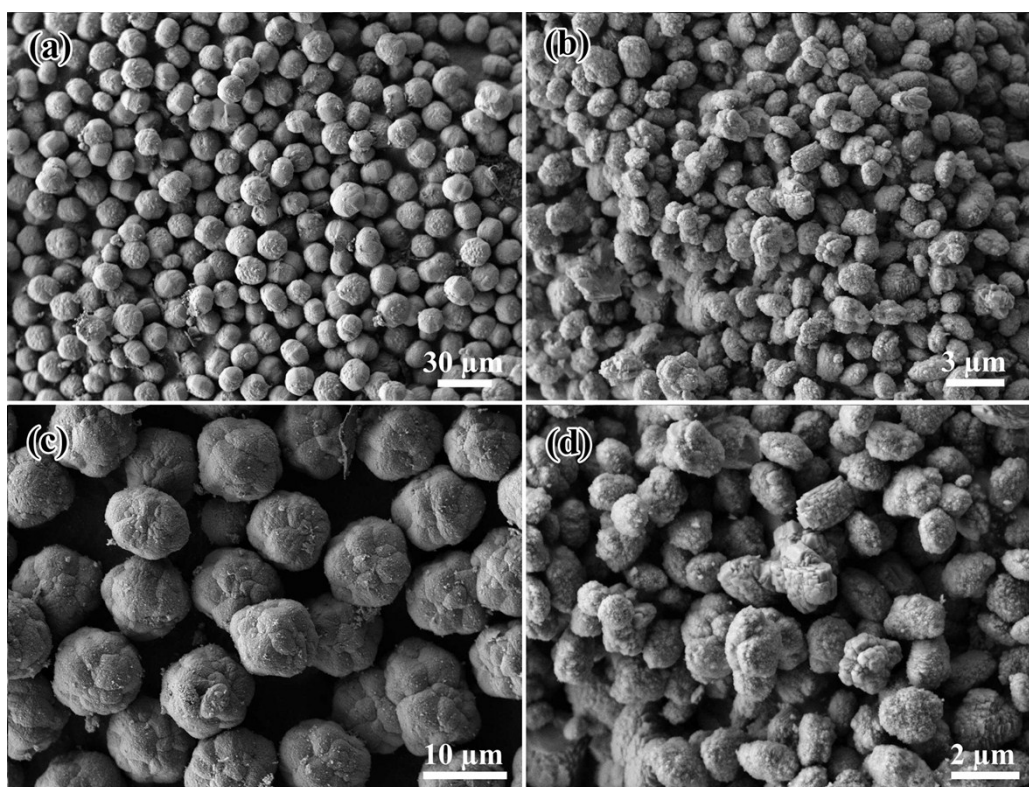
### **Seed-induced and additive-free synthesis of oriented nanorod-assembled meso/macroporous zeolites: toward efficient and cost-effective catalysts for the MTA reaction**

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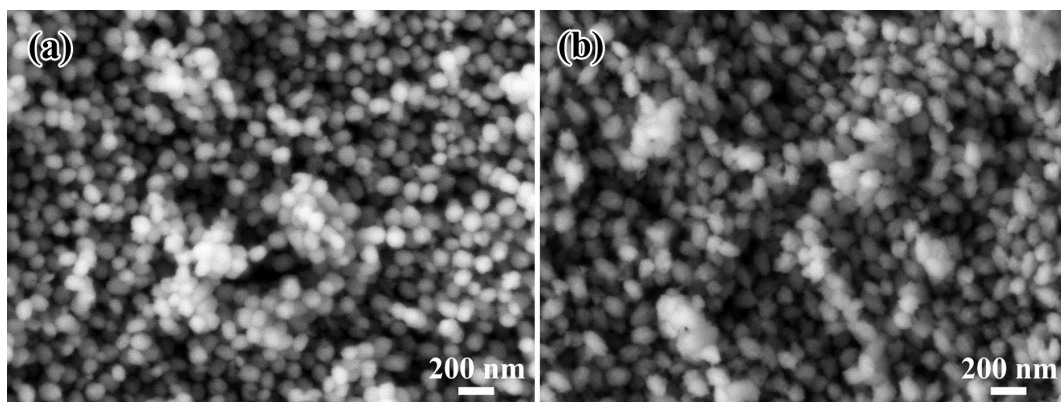
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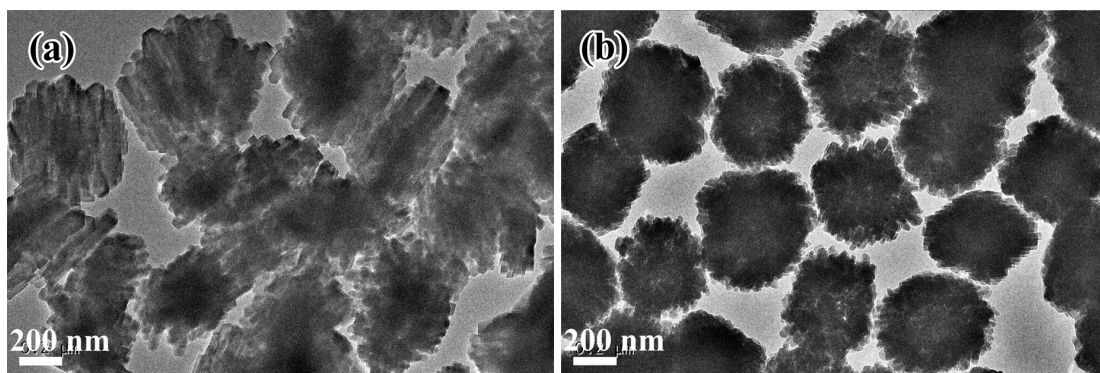
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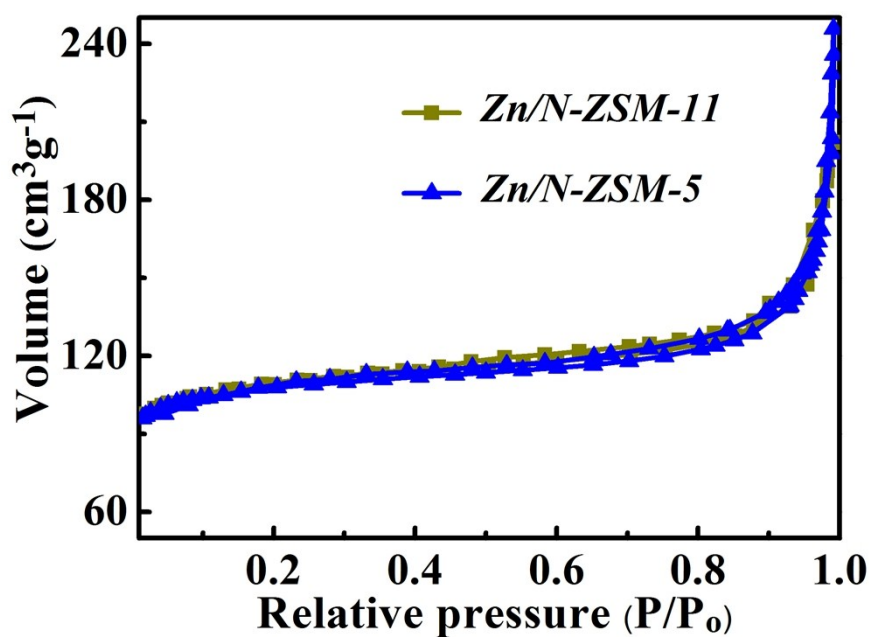
**Figure S1.** SEM images of (a, c) C-ZSM-5 and (b, d) C-ZSM-11 under different magnification. For comparisons, conventional ZSM-5 and ZSM-11 (denoted as C-ZSM-5 and C-ZSM-11, respectively) were also synthesized by using TPABr or TBABr as the templates under seed-free crystallization conditions. The molar composition of the synthesis mixture for C-ZSM-5 and C-ZSM-11 were 3.5 NaOH : 60 SiO<sub>2</sub> : 4 NaAlO<sub>2</sub> : 2500 H<sub>2</sub>O : 8 TPABr and 3.5 NaOH : 60 SiO<sub>2</sub> : 4 NaAlO<sub>2</sub> : 2500 H<sub>2</sub>O : 8 TBABr, respectively.



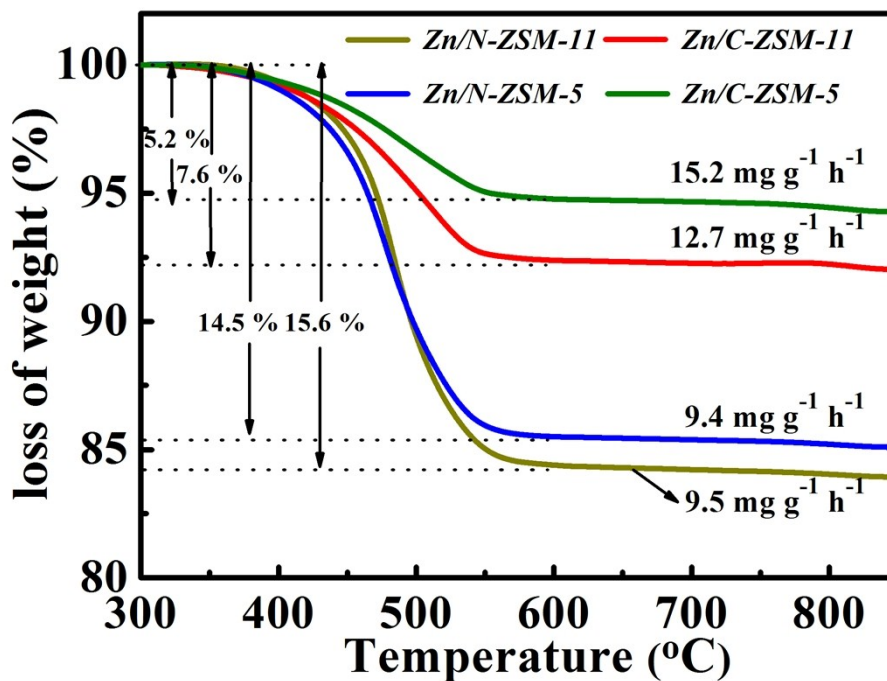
**Figure S2.** SEM images of silicalite-1 (a) and silicalite-2 seeds (b). It was obvious that the as-prepared silicalite-1 and silicalite-2 seeds had similar particle size of about 150 nm but with slightly different crystal morphologies of near-sphere shape and olive shape, respectively.



**Figure S3.** Low-resolution TEM images of (a) N-ZSM-5 and (b) N-ZSM-11, which showed the existence of zeolite nanorods that assembled into hedgehog-shaped sub-micron particles, in which substantial mesopores were formed due to the stacking of these nanorods, resulting in quite different structure properties from C-ZSM-5 and C-ZSM-11.



**Figure S4.** Nitrogen adsorption/desorption isotherms of Zn/N-ZSM-5 and Zn/N-ZSM-11.



**Figure S5.** TG curves of Zn/N-ZSM-5, Zn/N-ZSM-11, Zn/C-ZSM-5, and Zn/C-ZSM-11 after MTA reaction tested at 748 K ( $W_{\text{cat}} = 0.7$  g; GHSV = 0.75 h<sup>-1</sup>). Clearly, both of Zn/N-ZSM-5 and Zn/N-ZSM-11 have much slower coke formation rate (about 4.41 mg g<sub>cat</sub><sup>-1</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>) than Zn/C-ZSM-5 and Zn/C-ZSM-11 (26.33 mg g<sub>cat</sub><sup>-1</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>).

**Table S1.** Textural properties and compositions of various samples.

Sample name	S <sub>BET</sub> (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	S <sub>Micro</sub> <sup>a</sup> (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	S <sub>Meso</sub> (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	V <sub>Micro</sub> <sup>a</sup> (cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	V <sub>Meso</sub> <sup>b</sup> (cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )
Zn/N-ZSM-5	415	371	44	0.15	0.23
Zn/N-ZSM-11	417	369	48	0.15	0.18

<sup>a</sup> *t*-plot method.

<sup>b</sup>  $V_{\text{meso}} = V_{\text{tot}} - V_{\text{micro}}$ .