

## Supporting Information

### Facile synthesis of spinel $\text{Cu}_{1.5}\text{Mn}_{1.5}\text{O}_4$ microspheres with high activity for the catalytic combustion of diesel soot

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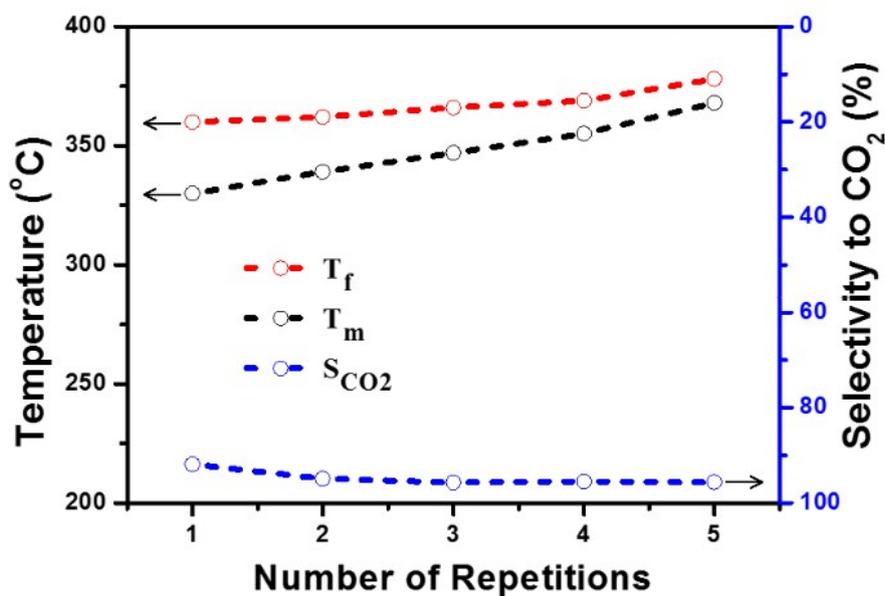
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### Experimental

To investigate the effect of residual Na on catalytic activity, three additional reference catalysts with different Na content have been prepared for further comparison: Cu1Mn1-NR (Non-Rinsed) was obtained through the same procedure with Cu1Mn1, except that no rinse was applied; Na/Cu1Mn1 sample was prepared by impregnating certain amounts of  $\text{NaNO}_3$  onto Cu1Mn1 (result in 10 wt % Na); and Cu1Mn1- $\text{NH}_3$  was obtained by the following procedure: Ammonia water containing 60 mmol of  $\text{NH}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  was quickly adding into 55 mL of solution containing 3.75 mmol of  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and 3.75 mmol of  $\text{Mn}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ , which was kept under stirring at 95 °C. After 30 min of reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, then the precursor was centrifuged and dried at 100 °C overnight. Next, the as-prepared samples were grinded and then calcined under static air at 500 °C for 2 h with a heating rate of 1 °C/min.

**Table S1** Characteristic temperatures ( $T_i$ ,  $T_m$  and  $T_f$ ) and selectivity to  $\text{CO}_2$  for catalytic soot combustion over different  $\text{Cu}_x\text{Mn}_y$  mixed oxides and references  $\text{CuO}$  and  $\text{MnO}_\delta$  under loose contact mode. [Reaction condition: 350 ppm  $\text{NO}$  + 10%  $\text{O}_2$  in balance  $\text{N}_2$  with a total flow of 200 mL/min, the space velocity is  $120\,000\text{ mL}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ , the mass of soot-catalyst-silica is 10-100-1000 mg]

Sample	$T_i$ (°C)	$T_m$ (°C)	$T_f$ (°C)	$S_{\text{CO}_2}$ (%)
Pure soot	424	560	606	58.6
$\text{CuO}$	319	352	392	93.6
$\text{Cu}_2\text{Mn}_1$	311	358	399	92.4
$\text{Cu}_1\text{Mn}_1$	299	330	360	91.9
$\text{Cu}_1\text{Mn}_2$	331	386	435	94.9
$\text{MnO}_\delta$	276	344	441	94.4



**Fig. S1** Characteristic temperatures ( $T_f$  and  $T_m$ ) and selectivity to  $\text{CO}_2$  ( $S_{\text{CO}_2}$ ) for cyclic soot combustion tests over  $\text{CuMnO(K)}$  and  $\text{CuMnO}$ . (Reaction conditions: 350 ppm  $\text{NO}$  and 10%  $\text{O}_2$  in  $\text{N}_2$  with a total flow of 200 mL/min, mass of soot-catalyst-silica is 10-100-1000 mg)

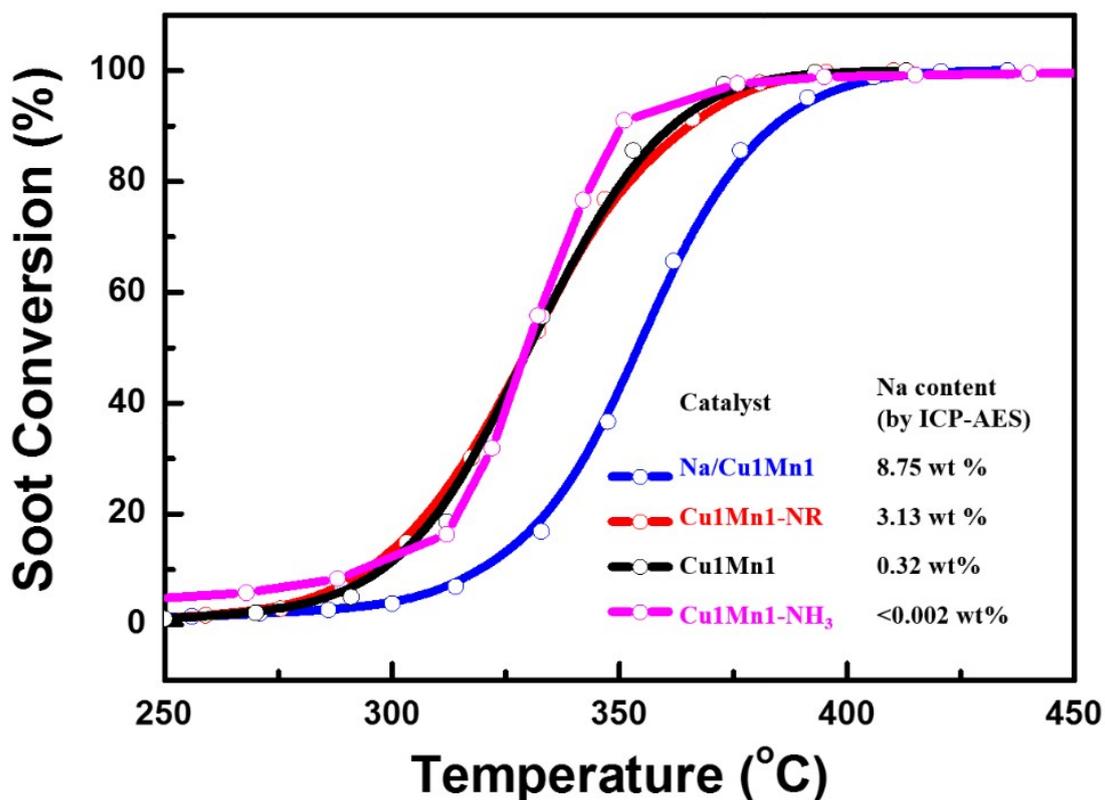


Fig. S2 Catalytic soot combustion over four different catalysts as indicated with different Na contents. (Preparation procedures for these samples are shown in the Experimental section in SI.) (Reaction conditions: 350 ppm NO and 10% O<sub>2</sub> in N<sub>2</sub> with a total flow of 200 mL/min, mass of soot-catalyst-silica is 10-100-1000 mg)

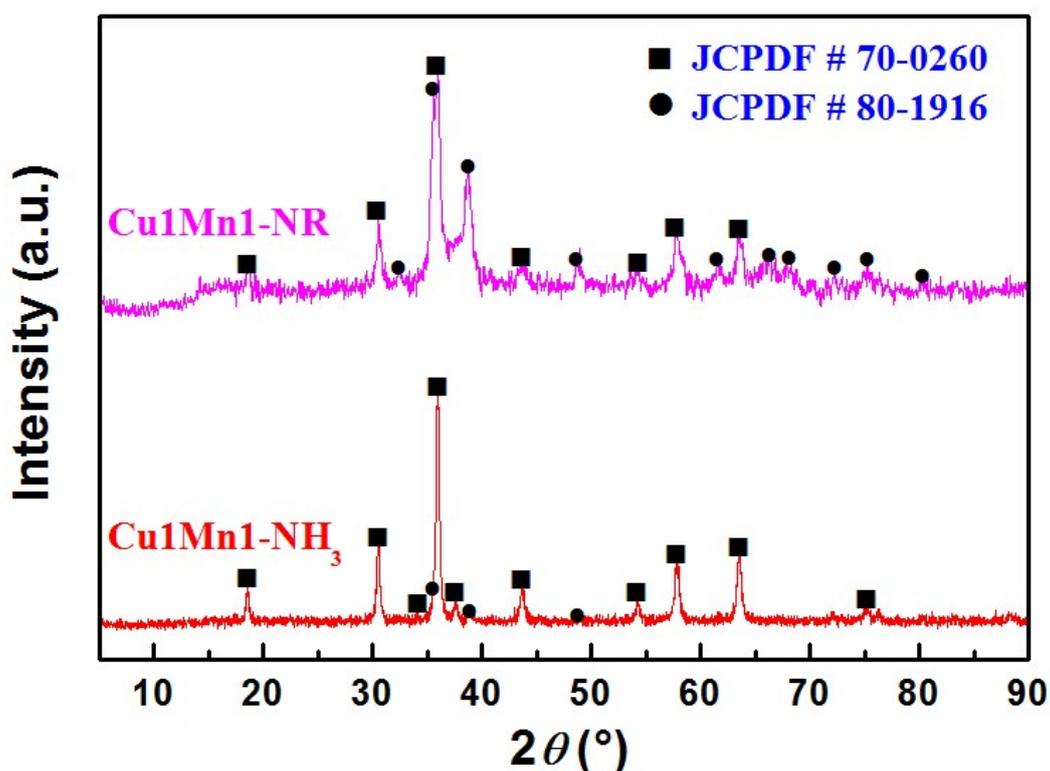


Fig. S3 XRD patterns of Cu1Mn1-NR and Cu1Mn1-NH<sub>3</sub>. (■: Cu<sub>1.5</sub>Mn<sub>1.5</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, ●: CuO)

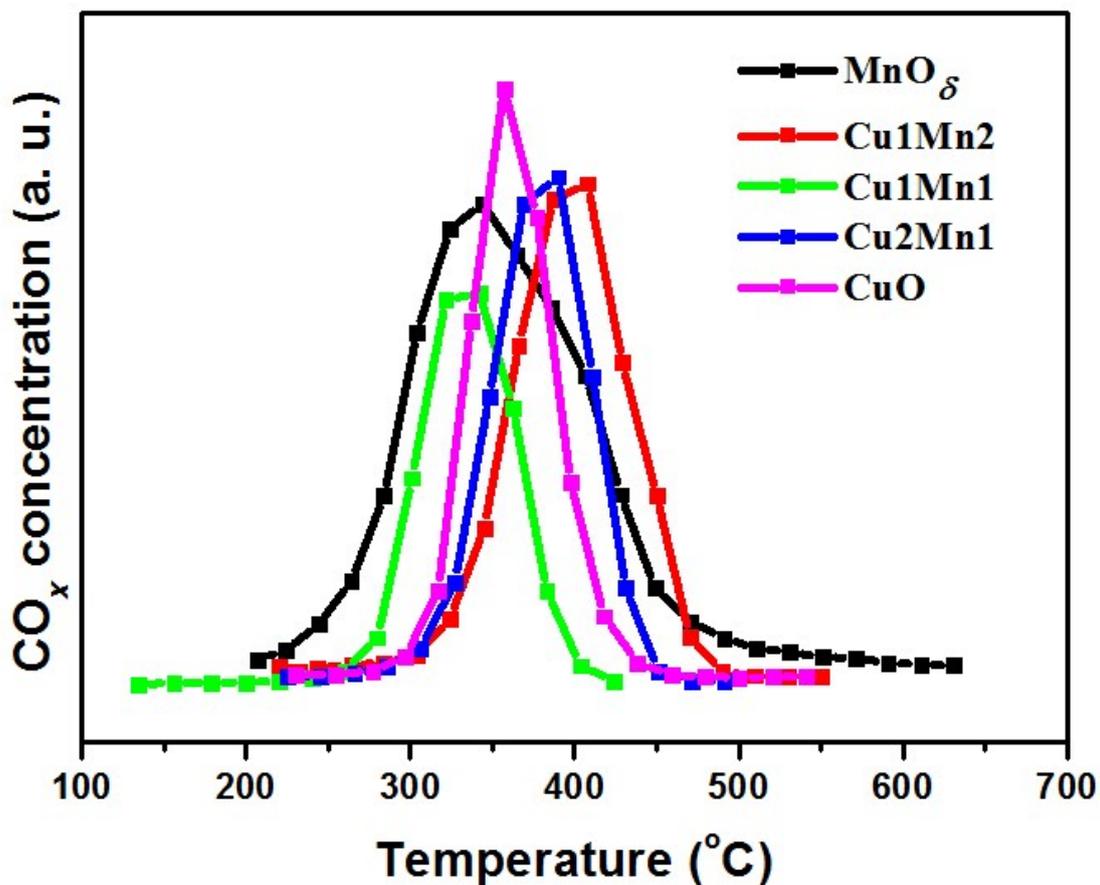


Fig. S4 Soot combustion performance with different catalysts under loose contact mode. (Reaction conditions: 350 ppm NO and 10% O<sub>2</sub> in N<sub>2</sub> with a total flow of 200 mL/min, mass of soot-catalyst-silica is 10-100-1000 mg)

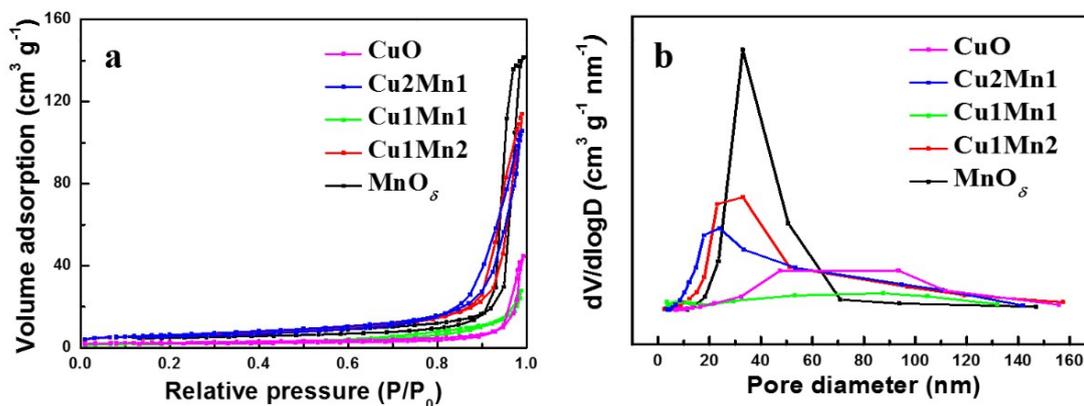


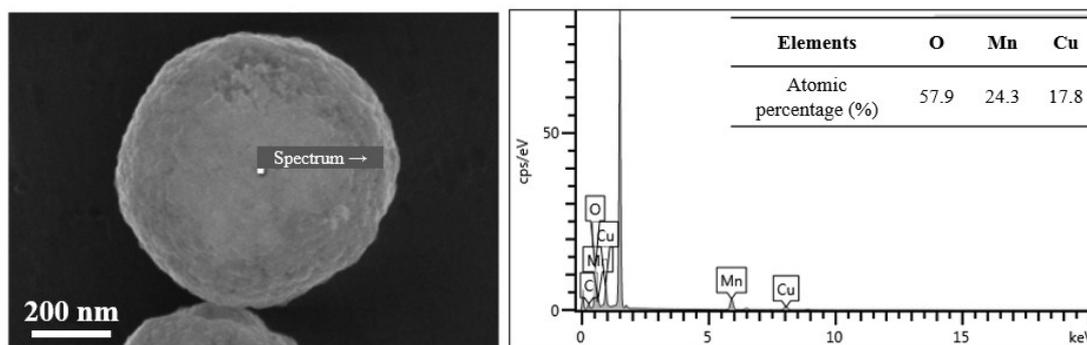
Fig. S5 (a) N<sub>2</sub> adsorption/desorption isotherms and (b) the corresponding pore size distributions of the different Cu<sub>x</sub>Mn<sub>y</sub> mixed oxides and references CuO and MnO<sub>δ</sub>.

**Table S2** The specific surface areas, pore volumes and average pore diameters of different  $Cu_xMn_y$  mixed oxides and references  $CuO$  and  $MnO_\delta$ .

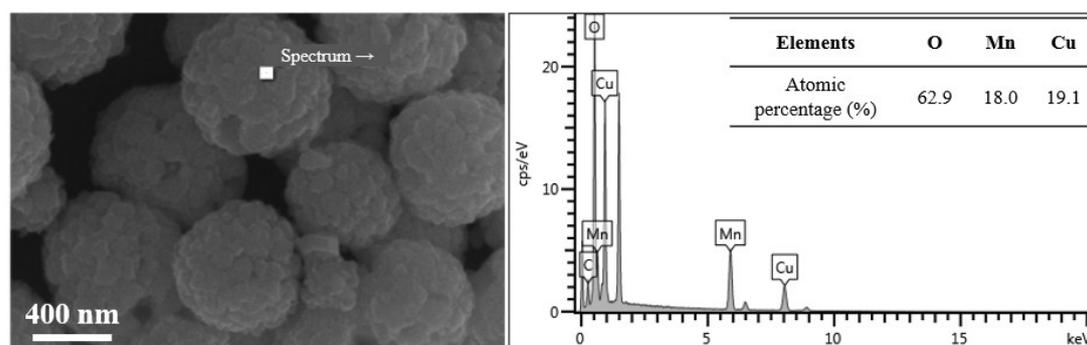
Catalyst	$S_{BET}$ ( $m^2 \cdot g^{-1}$ ) <sup>a</sup>	$V_{BJH}$ ( $cm^3 \cdot g^{-1}$ ) <sup>b</sup>	$D_p$ (nm) <sup>a</sup>
CuO	9	0.07	10-156
Cu <sub>2</sub> Mn <sub>1</sub>	22	0.16	10-143
Cu <sub>1</sub> Mn <sub>1</sub>	8	0.04	10-132
Cu <sub>1</sub> Mn <sub>2</sub>	22	0.18	28
$MnO_\delta$	21	0.22	33

<sup>a</sup>Determined by BET method.

<sup>b</sup>Determined by BJH method.



**Fig. S6** The typical SEM image and corresponding EDS spectrum of  $Cu_1Mn_2$ .



**Fig. S7** The typical SEM image and corresponding EDS spectrum of  $Cu_1Mn_1$ .

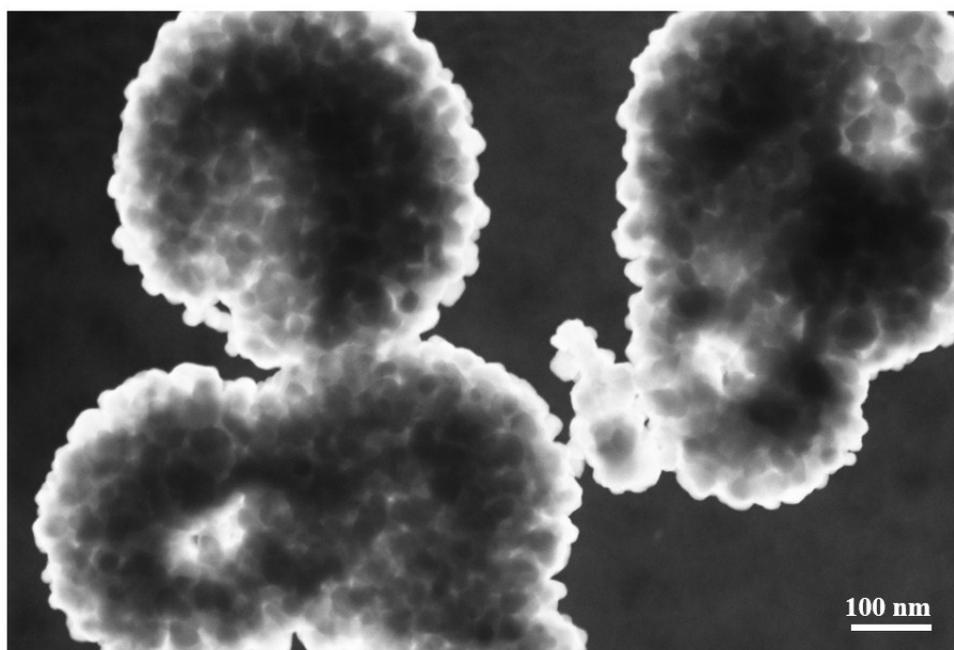


Fig. S8 The typical STEM image of Cu1Mn1.

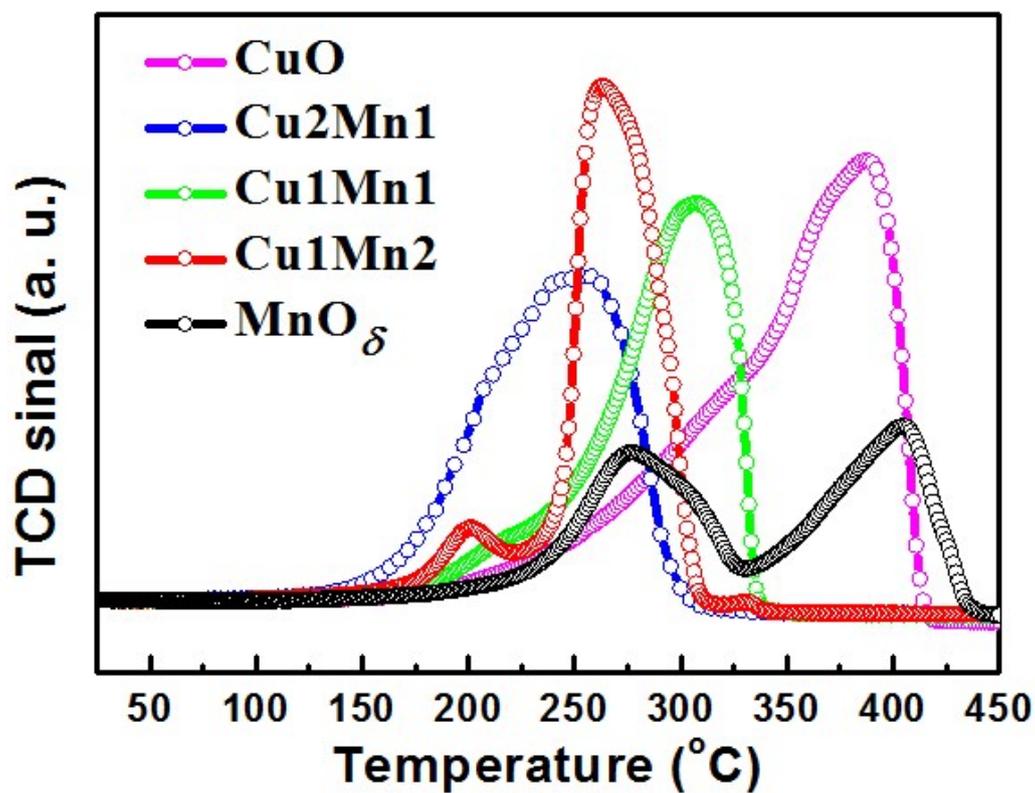
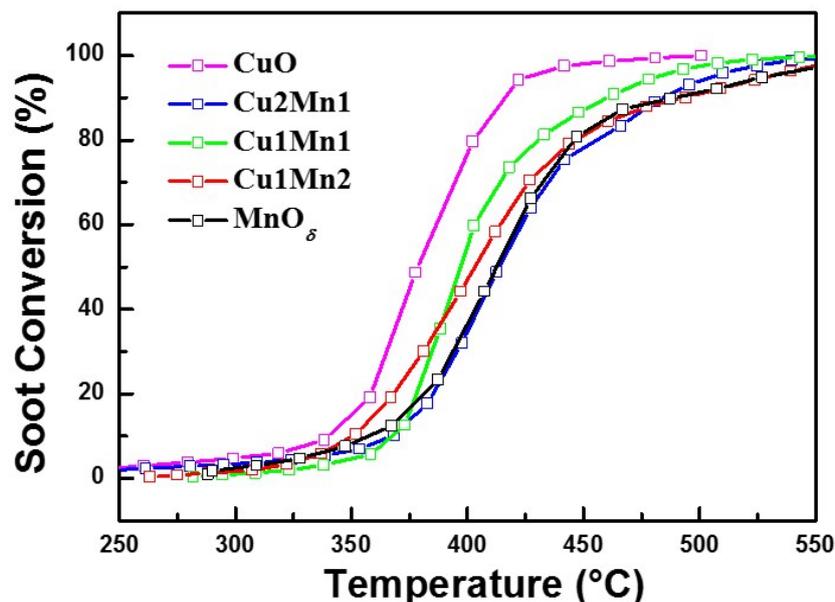
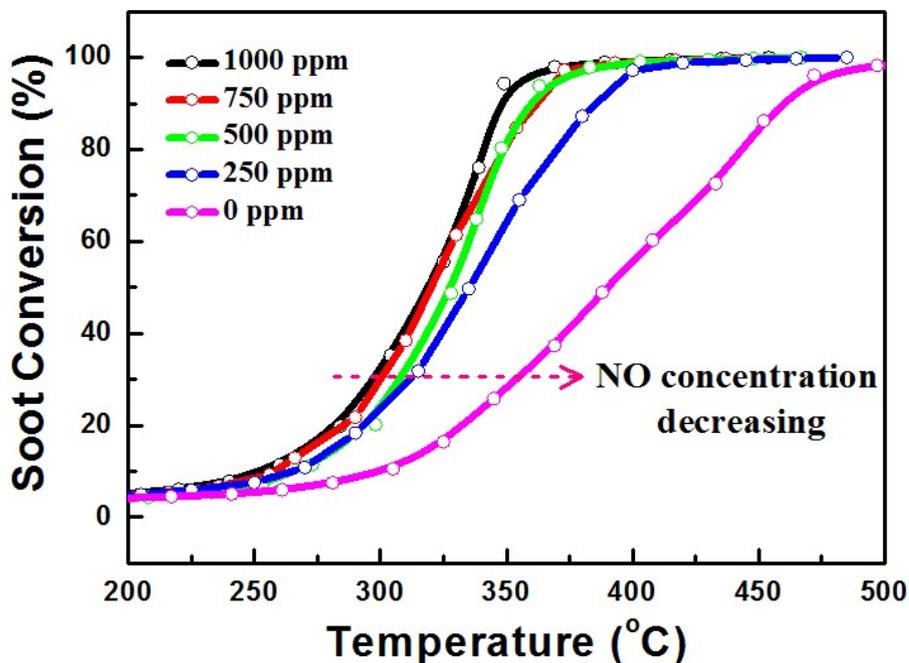


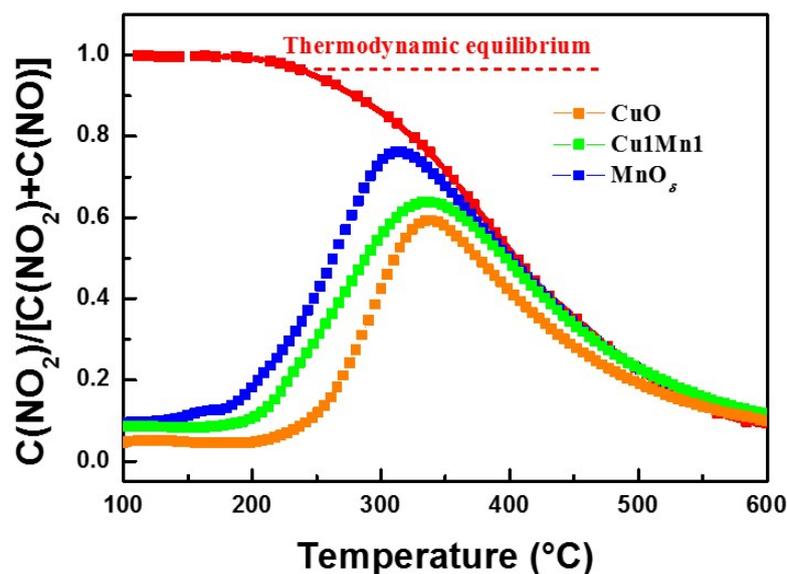
Fig. S9 H<sub>2</sub>-TPR curves of different catalysts as indicated.



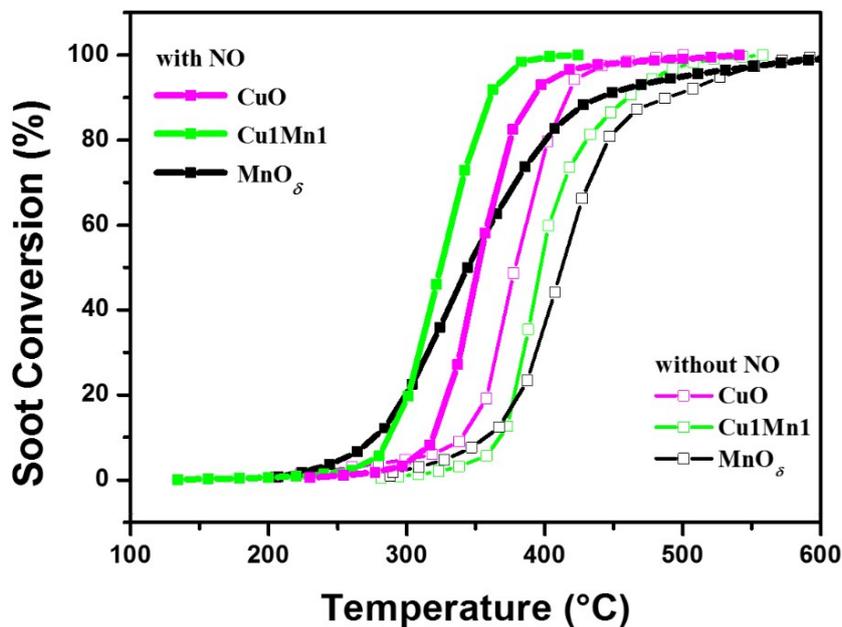
**Fig. S10** Catalytic soot oxidation in O<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> under loose contact mode over different Cu<sub>x</sub>Mn<sub>y</sub> mixed oxides and references CuO and MnO<sub>δ</sub>. (Reaction condition: 10% O<sub>2</sub> in balance N<sub>2</sub> with a total flow of 200 mL/min, the space velocity is 120 000 mL·g<sup>-1</sup>·h<sup>-1</sup>, the mass of soot-catalyst-silica is 10-100-1000 mg)



**Fig. S11** The effect of NO<sub>x</sub> concentration on catalytic soot combustion activity. (Reaction condition: 10% O<sub>2</sub> in balance N<sub>2</sub> with a total flow of 200 mL/min, NO concentrations are set as indicated above, the space velocity is 120 000 mL·g<sup>-1</sup>·h<sup>-1</sup>, the mass of soot-catalyst-silica is 10-100-1000 mg)



**Fig. S12** Catalytic NO oxidation over CuO, Cu1Mn1 and MnO<sub>δ</sub>. Thermodynamic equilibrium profile is also shown for reference. [Reaction condition: 350 ppm NO + 10% O<sub>2</sub> in balance N<sub>2</sub> with a total flow of 200 mL/min, the space velocity is 120 000 mL·g<sup>-1</sup>·h<sup>-1</sup>]



**Fig. S13** Catalytic soot combustion over CuO, Cu1Mn1 and MnO<sub>δ</sub> with or without NO. [Reaction conditions: (350 ppm NO +) 10% O<sub>2</sub> in balance N<sub>2</sub> with a total flow of 200 mL/min, the space velocity is 120 000 mL·g<sup>-1</sup>·h<sup>-1</sup>, mass of soot-catalyst-silica is 10-100-1000 mg]