

## Supporting information for

### ‘Verifying the olefin formation mechanism of the methanol-to-hydrocarbons reaction over H-ZSM-48’

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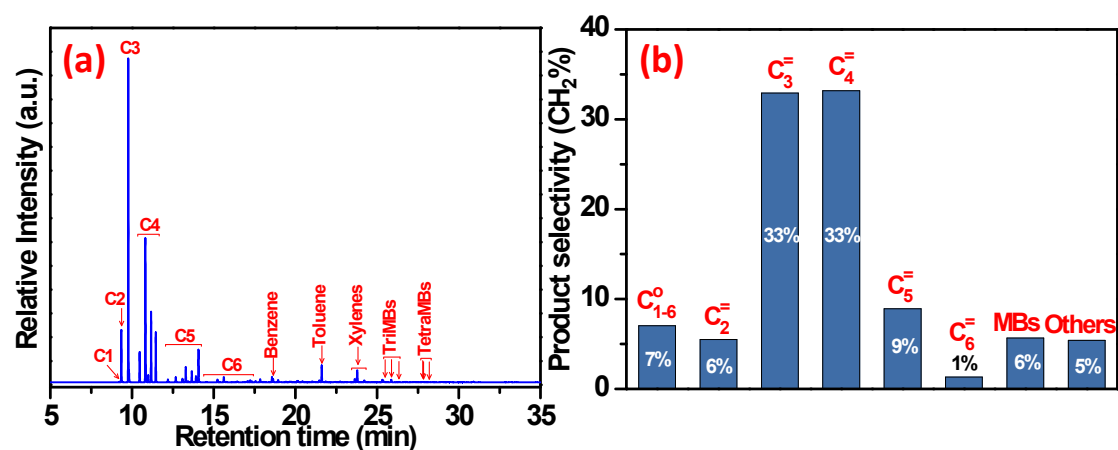


Fig. S1 GC chromatogram (a) and Product selectivity (b) of the reaction of pure tert-Butanol on zeolite H-ZSM-48. Reaction conditions: 450 °C, catalyst weight of 60 mg, tert-Butanol WHSV of 0.4 h<sup>-1</sup>, TOS of 10 min.

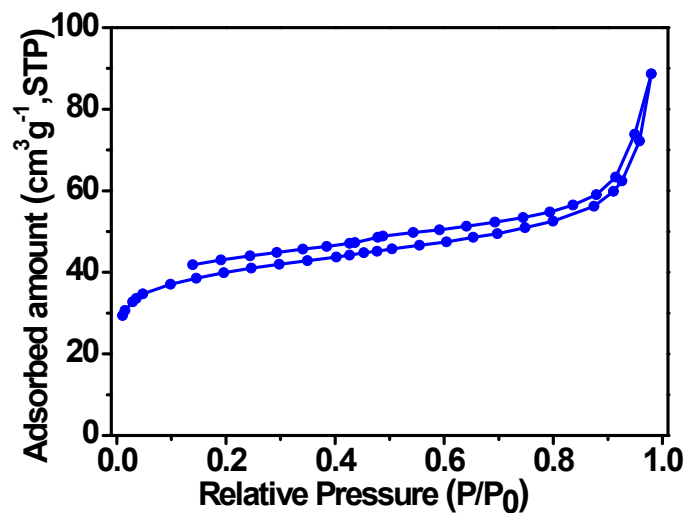


Fig. S2 N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherm of H-ZSM-48

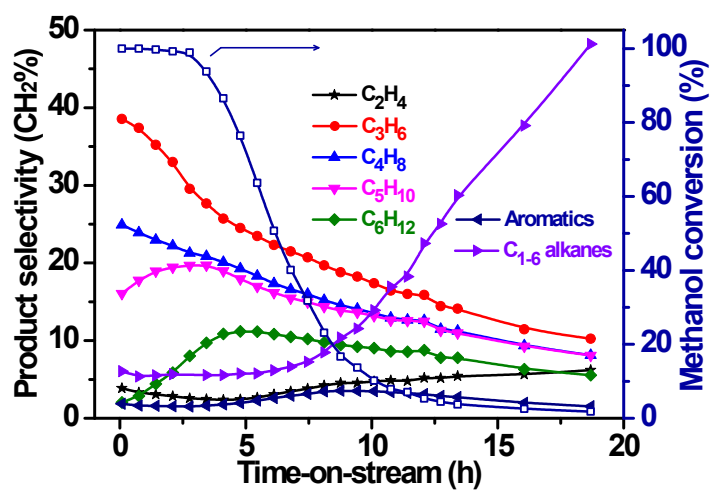


Fig. S3 Methanol conversion and product selectivity over H-ZSM-48. Reaction conditions: 17 kPa MeOH, catalyst weight of 100 mg, WHSV of 2 h<sup>-1</sup> and 723 K.

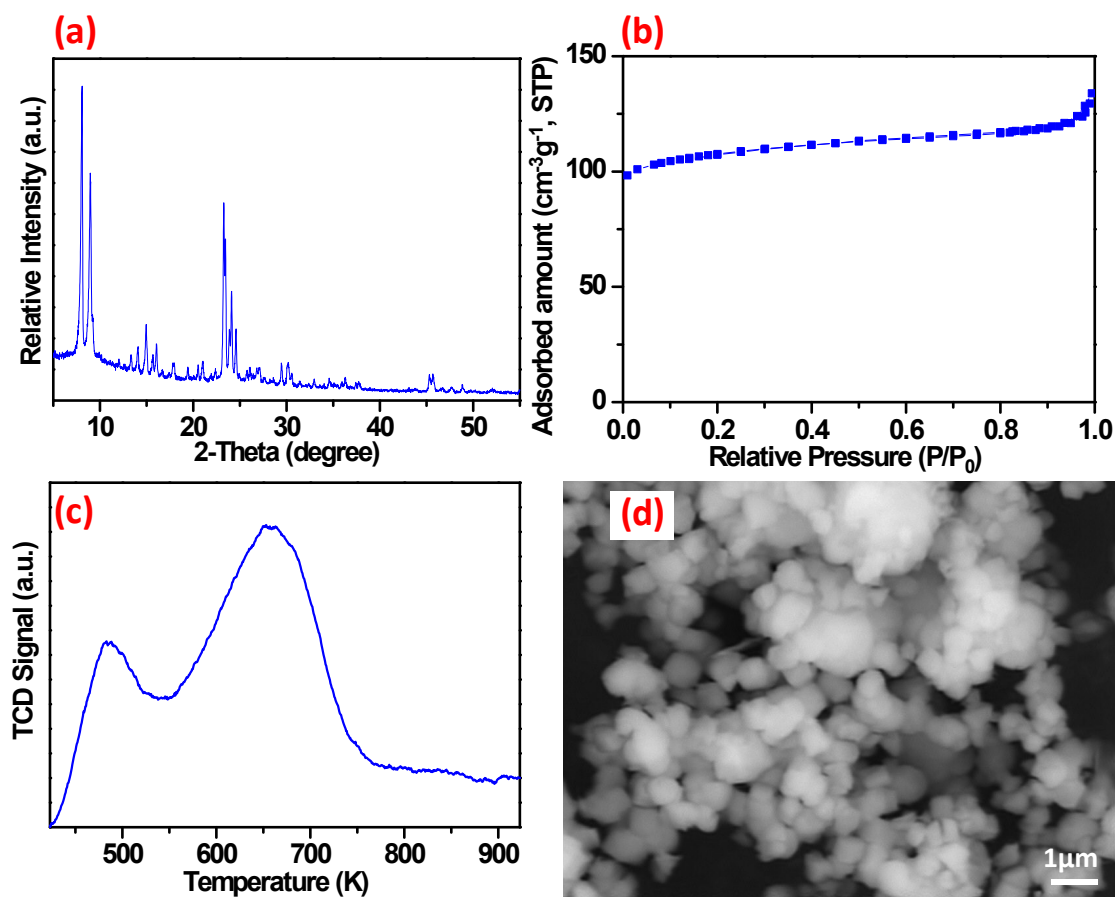


Fig. S4 XRD pattern (a), N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherm (b), NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD profile (c), and SEM image of H-ZSM-5.

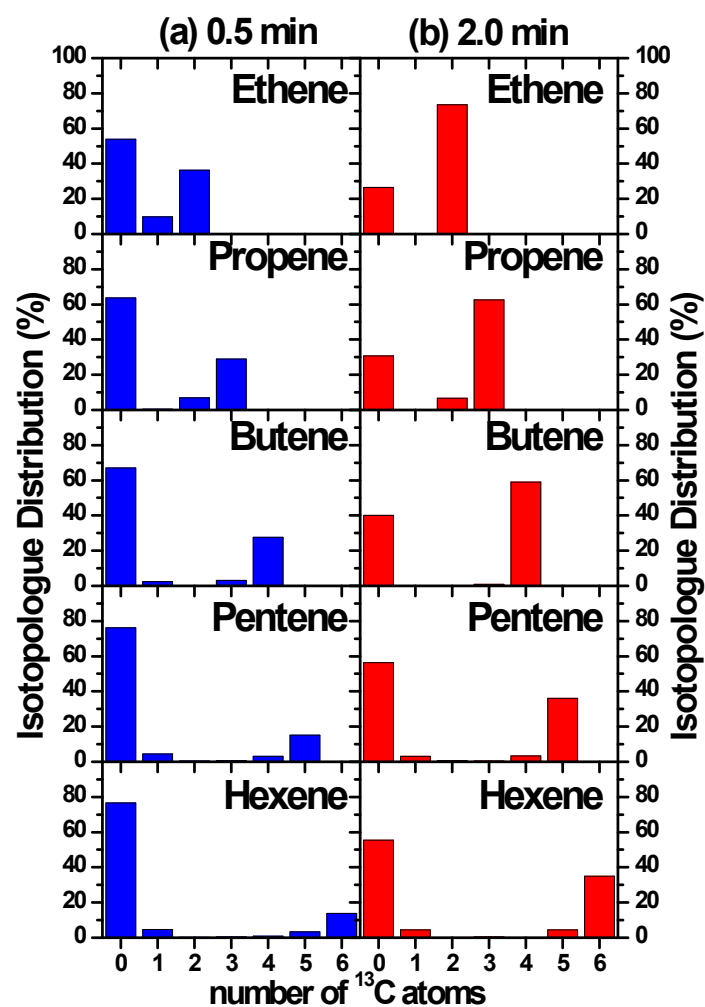


Fig. S5 Isotopic labelling patterns for effluent products formed after the <sup>12</sup>C/<sup>13</sup>C switch experiment over H-Z-SM-48 at 723K with <sup>12</sup>C-methanol feeding for 18 min followed by 0.5 and 2 min of <sup>13</sup>C-methanol feeding and a WHSV of 25 h<sup>-1</sup>.

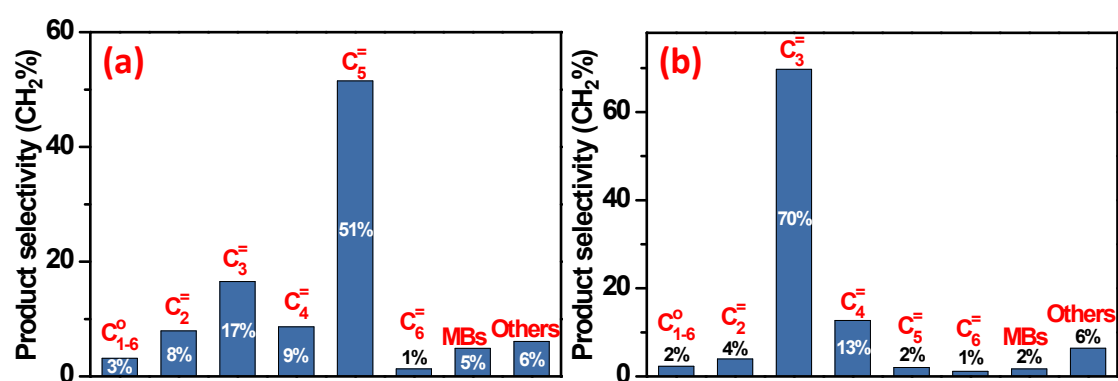


Fig. S6 Product selectivity of pentene (a) and hexene (b) alone reacted over H-ZSM-48 zeolite after 10 min on stream. Reaction conditions: 723 K, The feeding rate was equivalent to 3 C% of methanol (WHSV = 2.0 h<sup>-1</sup>, Section 3.2), 1-Pentanol and 1-Hexanol were used as the precursor of pentene and hexene, respectively.

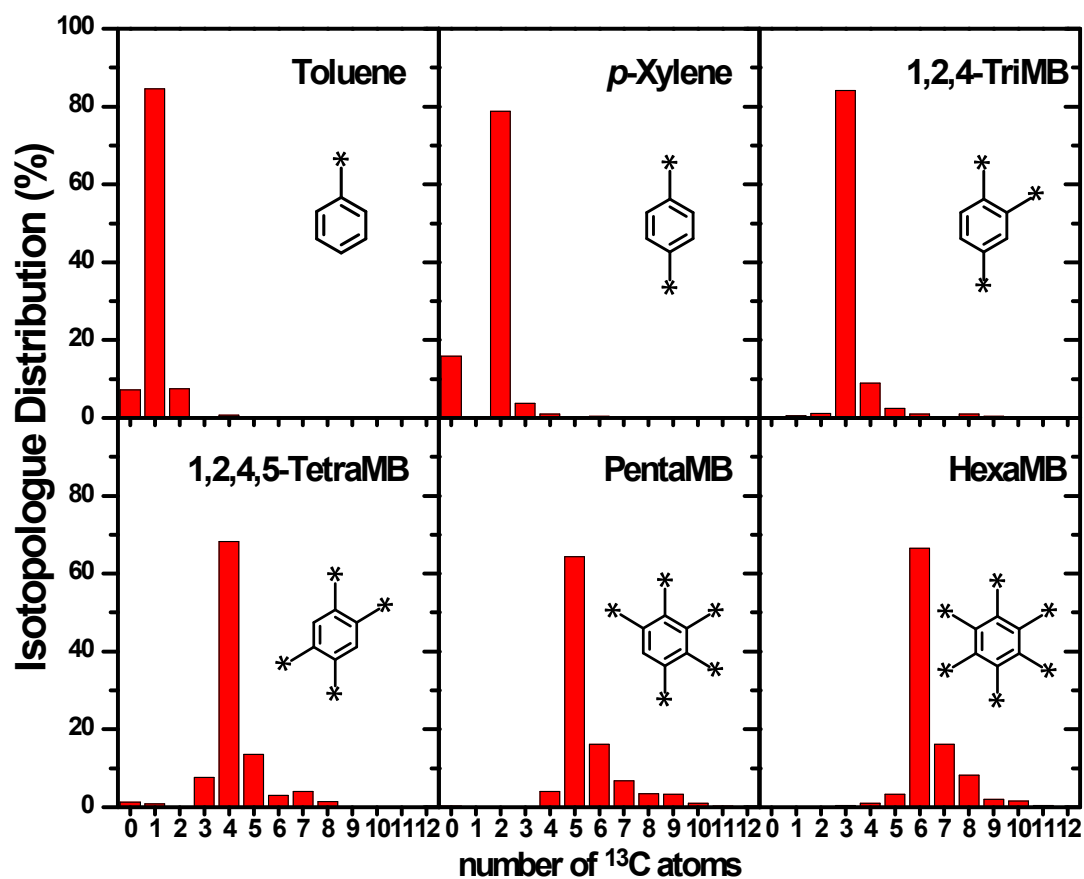


Fig. S7 Isotopic labelling patterns for methylbenzenes formed after 2 minutes of co-reacting  $^{13}\text{C}$  methanol with  $^{12}\text{C}$  benzene (molar ratio 3:1) at 543 K over H-ZSM-48.

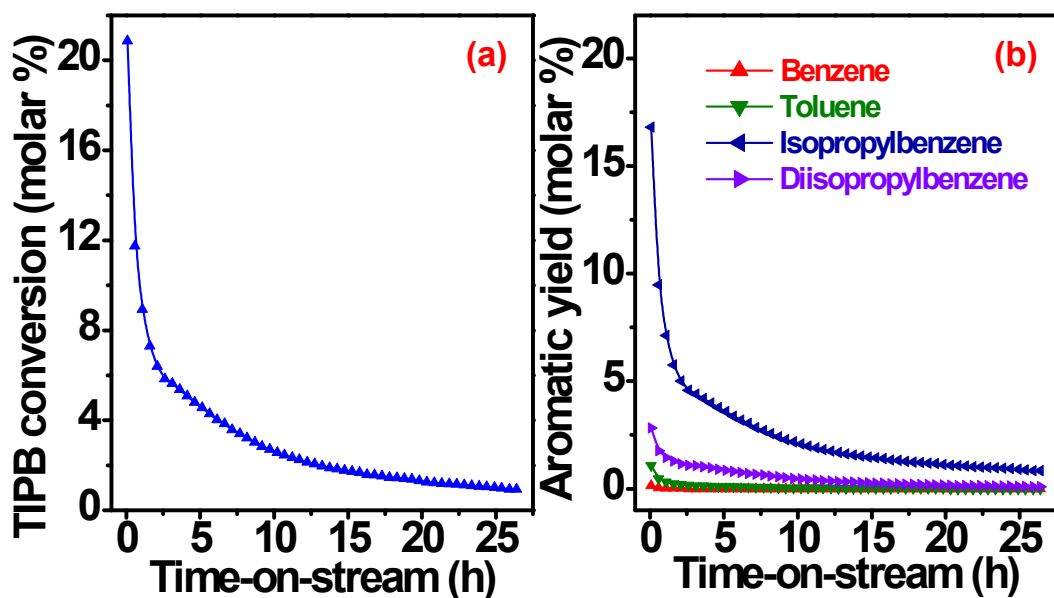


Fig. S8 TIPB conversion (a) and product distributions (b) over H-ZSM-48. Reaction conditions: 573 K, catalyst weight of 60 mg, vaporized TIPB in nitrogen ( $80 \text{ mL min}^{-1}$ , 358 K) as feed.

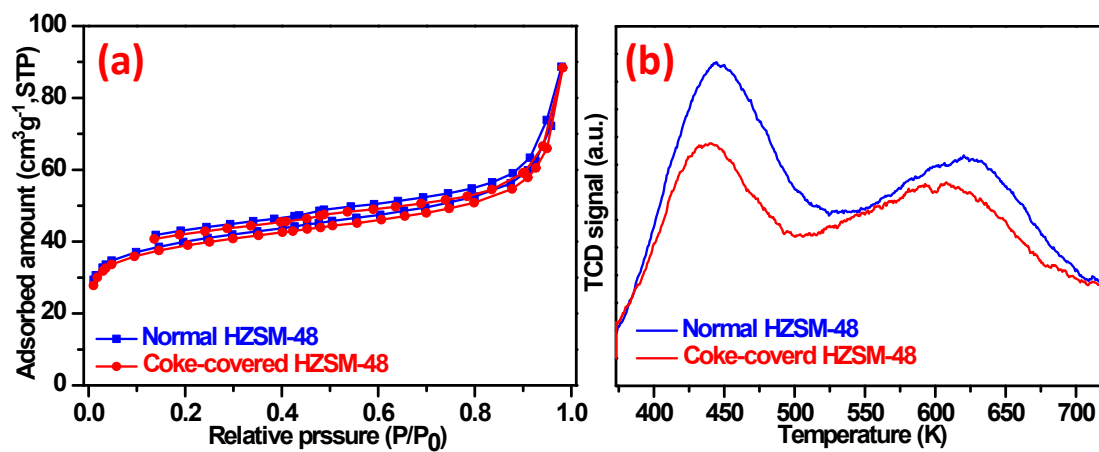


Fig. S9 Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherms (a) and NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD profiles over Normal H-ZSM-48 and coke-covered H-ZSM-48.

**Table S1** Methanol conversion and product selectivity over H-ZSM-48 at different reaction temperature.<sup>a</sup>

Temperature/K	723	823	873	973
MeOH Conversion/%	99.95	99.96	99.95	99.97
C <sub>3-6</sub> <sup>=</sup>	80.7	59.8	51.6	16.0
C <sub>1-6</sub> alkanes	6.0	6.9	11.5	23.1
MBs	1.8	10.5	13.7	18.8
Product selectivity/wt% <sup>b</sup>				
H <sub>2</sub>	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
CO	0.67	1.01	3.12	26.81
CO <sub>2</sub>	0.31	0.30	0.89	1.53
CH <sub>4</sub>	0.71	2.97	8.97	21.96
C <sub>2-6</sub> alkanes	5.27	3.95	2.52	1.14
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	3.84	19.85	16.40	11.51
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	38.19	42.70	34.77	10.91
C <sub>4</sub> <sup>=</sup>	24.66	15.54	14.23	3.63
C <sub>5</sub> <sup>=</sup>	15.90	0.91	0.89	0.17
C <sub>6</sub> <sup>=</sup>	2.02	0.65	1.68	1.32
Benzene	0.07	1.44	1.90	5.90
Toluene	0.41	4.22	5.20	6.85
Xylene	0.98	3.97	5.17	4.67
TriMB	0.32	0.77	1.20	1.14
TetraMB	0.07	0.10	0.27	0.23
Others <sup>c</sup>	6.59	1.62	2.81	2.23

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 17 kPa MeOH, catalyst weight of 100 mg, WHSV of 2 h<sup>-1</sup> and TOS of 5 min.

<sup>b</sup> The product selectivity was analysed by a gas chromatograph (Agilent 7890A, equipped with a capillary CP-Sil PONA column and a Porapak Q packed column) with a FID detector and a TCD detector. The yields of hydrocarbon were determined with CP-Sil PONA column and FID. And, the yields of CO, CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, and H<sub>2</sub> were determined with Porapak Q (1/8 in. × 4 m) column and TCD. He was used as carrier gas. This Agilent 7890A was configured with a ten-way valve. <sup>c</sup> Other fraction includes C<sub>7+</sub> hydrocarbons except methylbenzenes.

**Table S2** Textural and acidic properties of H-ZSM-5.

Si/Al	Surface area (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )			Pore volume (cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )		T <sub>peak</sub> (°C)		Acid amount <sup>e</sup> (μmol g <sup>-1</sup> )		
	S <sub>BET</sub> <sup>a</sup>	S <sub>micro</sub> <sup>b</sup>	S <sub>external</sub> <sup>b</sup>	V <sub>micro</sub> <sup>b</sup>	V <sub>meso</sub> <sup>c</sup>	LT peak <sup>d</sup>	HT peak <sup>d</sup>	Total acidity	Weak acidity	Strong acidity
93.3	346	278	68	0.136	0.062	175.7	374.4	241.0	122.4	118.6

<sup>a</sup> Surface area by Brunauer-Emmett-Teller (BET) method. <sup>b</sup> Micropore and external surface area and micropore volume by t-plot method. <sup>c</sup> Mesopore volume by Barrett-Joyner-Hallenda (BJH) method. <sup>d</sup> The LT peak represents a low temperature desorption peak. The HT peak represents a high temperature desorption peak. <sup>e</sup> Calculated with Gaussian function fit.

**Table S3** Methanol conversion and product selectivity over H-ZSM-5 at different reaction temperature.<sup>a</sup>

Temperature/K	723	823	873	973
Conversion/%	100	100	100	100
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> /C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	4.3	2.4	1.8	0.7
C <sub>4</sub> HTI	0.13	0.06	0.04	0.04
C <sub>5</sub> HTI	0.27	0.34	0.29	0.41
C <sub>6</sub> HTI	0.61	0.42	0.16	0.02
Ethene/2MBu	3.2	25.5	79.2	331.9
C <sub>3-6</sub> <sup>=</sup>	69.5	63.0	50.3	14.7
C <sub>1-6</sub> alkanes	10.3	7.1	9.8	32.8
Aromatics	5.4	9.3	16.8	31.2
Product selectivity/CH <sub>2</sub> %				
CH <sub>4</sub>	0.6	3.2	7.4	31.6
C <sub>2-6</sub> alkanes	9.7	3.9	2.4	1.2
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	9.4	19.2	21.8	17.8
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	39.9	45.5	38.2	12.6
C <sub>4</sub> <sup>=</sup>	22.9	15.7	10.9	1.6
C <sub>5</sub> <sup>=</sup>	5.4	1.2	0.6	0.1
C <sub>6</sub> <sup>=</sup>	1.3	0.7	0.6	0.4
Benzene	0.3	0.9	2.0	7.1
Toluene	1.5	3.2	6.0	11.4
Xylene	2.8	4.0	6.9	9.4
TriMB	0.8	1.0	1.8	3.1
TetraMB	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3
Others <sup>b</sup>	5.4	1.5	1.2	3.4

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 17 kPa MeOH, catalyst weight of 100 mg, WHSV of 2 h<sup>-1</sup> and TOS of 5 min.

<sup>b</sup> Other fraction includes C<sub>7+</sub> hydrocarbons except methylbenzenes.



**Table S4** Methanol conversion and product selectivity after 18 min of the  $^{12}\text{C}$ -methanol reaction followed by 2 min of  $^{13}\text{C}$ -methanol reaction over H-ZSM-48 at 723 K and 44.5 kPa MeOH.

Catalyst	H-ZSM-48
WHSV/h <sup>-1</sup>	25
Methanol conversion/%	62.8
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> /C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	11.3
C <sub>4</sub> HTI	0.01
C <sub>5</sub> HTI	0.06
C <sub>6</sub> HTI	0.21
Ethene/2MBu	0.41
Product selectivity/CH <sub>2</sub> %	
C <sub>1-6</sub> alkanes	6.5
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	2.1
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	23.4
C <sub>4</sub> <sup>=</sup>	19.1
C <sub>5</sub> <sup>=</sup>	18.8
C <sub>6</sub> <sup>=</sup>	11.8
Others <sup>a</sup>	17.1
Methylbenzenes	1.4

<sup>a</sup> Other fraction includes C<sub>7+</sub> hydrocarbons except methylbenzenes (MBs).

**Table S5** Conversion and product selectivity after 2 minutes of co-reacting  $^{13}\text{C}$  methanol with  $^{12}\text{C}$  benzene (molar ratio 3:1) at 543 K over H-ZSM-48.

Reaction temperature	543 K
Combined conversion of MeOH and Benzene(C%)	1.82
C <sub>1-6</sub> aliphatic products (C%)	5.37
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Product selectivity (C%)	
CH <sub>4</sub>	0.22
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	0.98
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	0.03
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	1.42
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	0.03
C <sub>4</sub> <sup>=</sup>	0.52
C <sub>4</sub> <sup>o</sup>	0.35
C <sub>5</sub> <sup>=</sup>	0.34
C <sub>5</sub> <sup>o</sup>	0.79
C <sub>6</sub> <sup>=</sup>	0.00
C <sub>6</sub> <sup>o</sup>	0.68
Other <sup>a</sup>	7.32
Toluene	83.75
Xylenes	3.36
TriMBs	0.20
TetraMBs	0.00
Total	100.00

<sup>a</sup> Other fraction includes C<sub>7+</sub> hydrocarbons except MBs.