

Supporting Information

Direct Synthesis of Core-shell MFI Zeolite with Spatially Tapered Trimodal Mesopores via Controlled Orthogonal Self-Assembly

Zhuwen Chen,^{a,b‡} Lei Dong,^{a‡} Chao Chen,^a Yanding Wang,^a Ya Wang,^a Jian Zhang,^a Wei Qian,^a Mei Hong^{a}*

^aGuangdong Provincial Key Laboratory of Nano-Micro Materials Research, School of Chemical Biology & Biotechnology, Peking University Shenzhen Graduate School, Shenzhen 518055, China.

^bCollege of Chemistry and Environmental Engineering, Shenzhen University, Shenzhen 518060, PR China

E-mail: hongmei@pkusz.edu.cn

KEYWORDS: Core-shell zeolites, trimodal mesopores, MFI, organosilane, orthogonal self-assembly

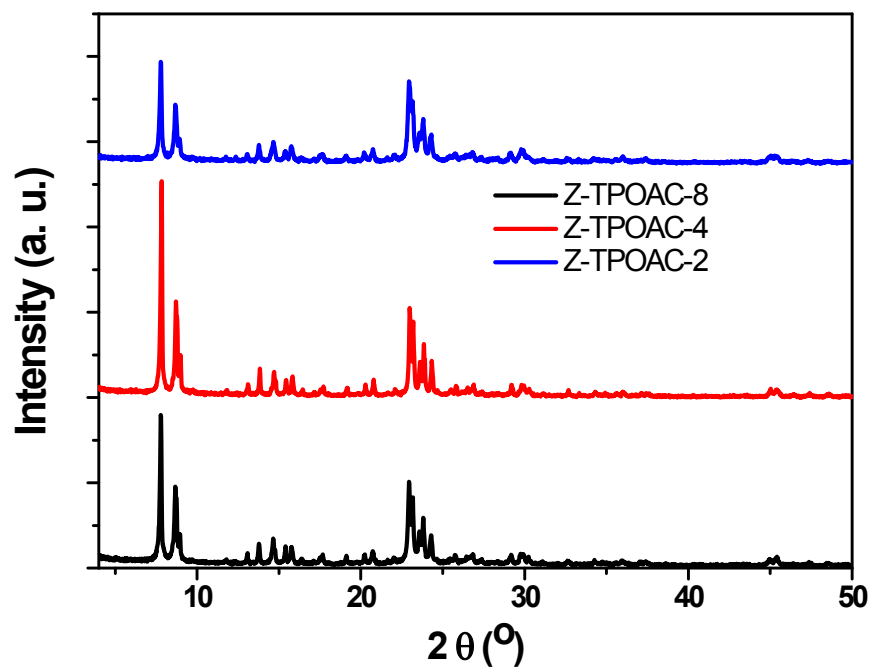


Figure S1. XRD patterns of different Z-TPOAC-n samples.

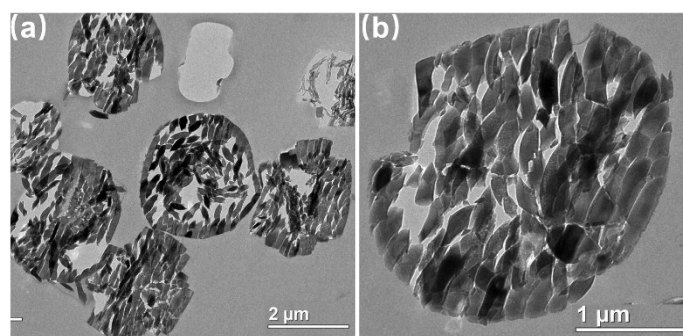
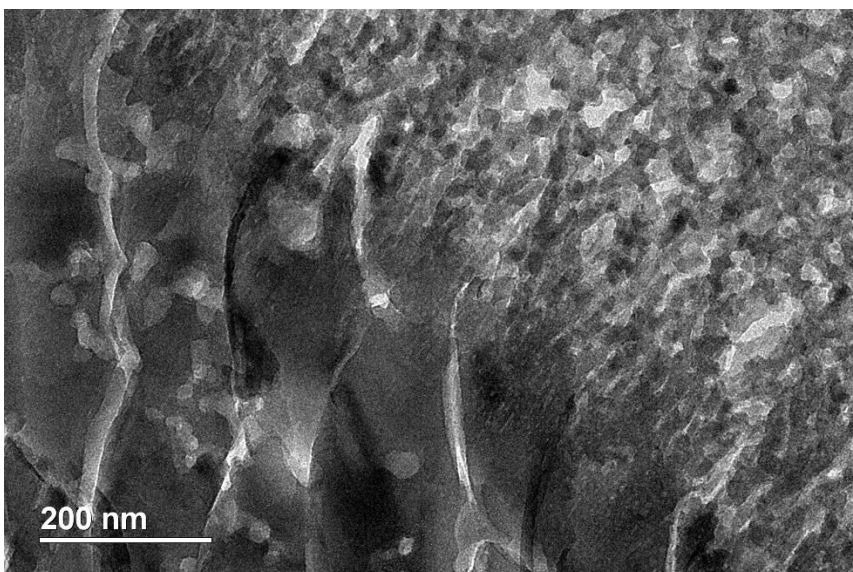
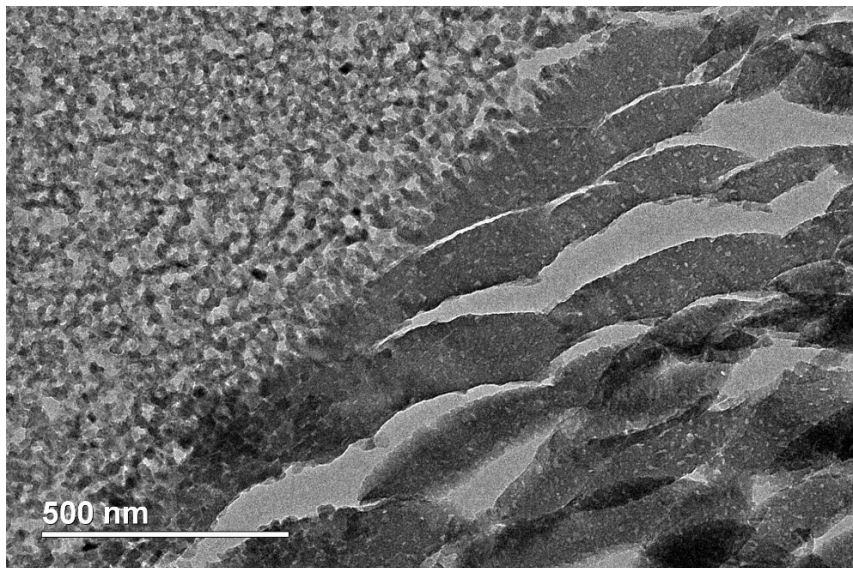
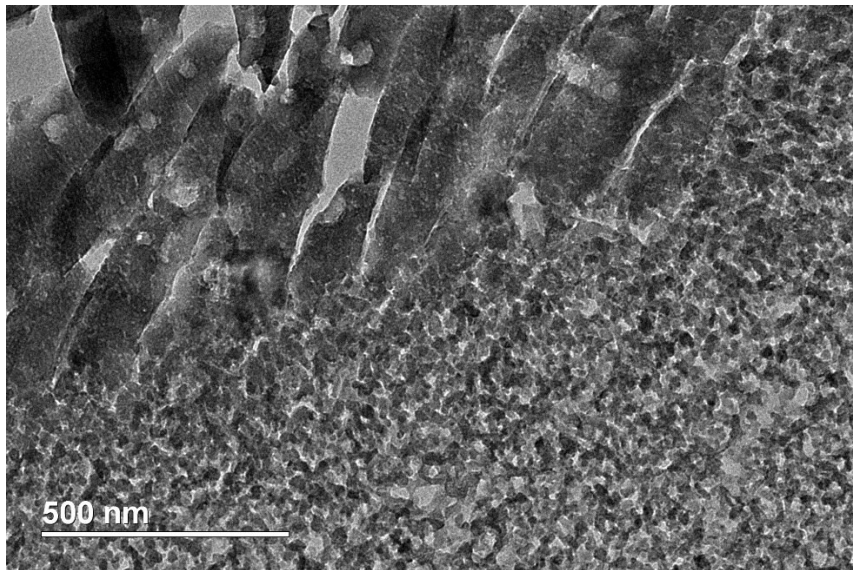


Figure S2. TEM images of commercially available bulk ZSM-5 zeolite crystals with no discernable mesopores taken at different magnification.



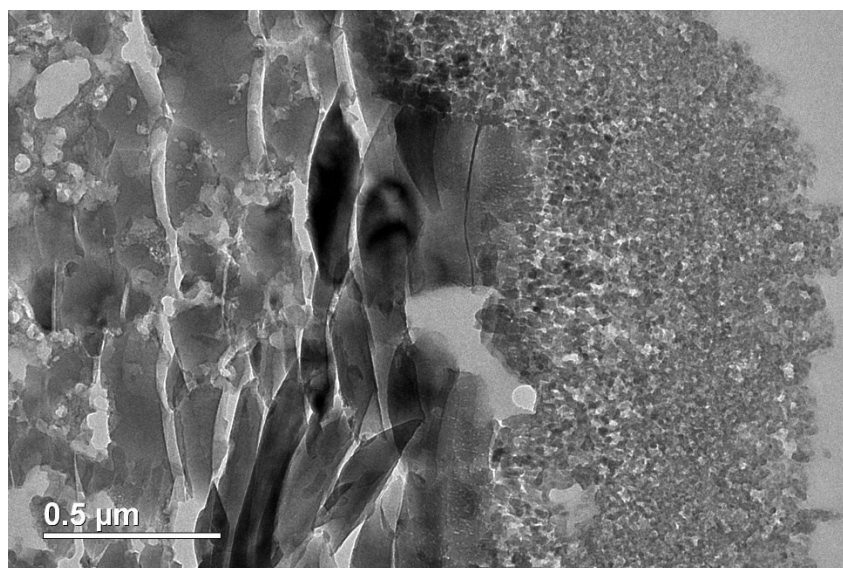


Figure S3. TEM images of Z-TPOAC-8 showing the mesopore distribution in the core-shell structure.

Table S1. Textural properties of as-made samples.

Sample	Surface Area (m ² / g)			Pore Volume (cm ³ / g)		
	S _{total} ^a	S _{micro} ^b	S _{ext} ^c	V _{total} ^d	V _{micro} ^e	V _{meso} ^f
Z-Bulk	329	218	111	0.19	0.12	0.07
Z-TPOAC-8	407	206	201	0.62	0.11	0.51
Z-TPOAC-4	370	227	143	0.34	0.12	0.22
Z-TPOAC-2	361	233	128	0.32	0.12	0.20

^aBET surface area.^bt-Plot micropore surface area.^ct-Plot external surface area.^dTotal pore volume of pores calculated at $P/P_0 = 0.98$ ^et-Plot micropore volume.^fV_{meso} = V_{total} - V_{micro}**Table S2.** Local minimums in the trimodal mesopore distribution of the core-shell Z-TPOAC-n zeolites.

Sample	Local Minimums		
	First (nm)	Second (nm)	Third (nm)
Z-TPOAC-8	3.2	5.1	11.3
Z-TPOAC-4	2.6	5.1	13.7
Z-TPOAC-2	2.6	5.1	15

Table S3. Trimodal mesopore size and volume distribution of the core-shell Z-TPOAC-n zeolites.

Sample	First mesopores (2.6-5.0 nm)			Second mesopores (5.0-14.5 nm)			Third mesopores (>14.5 nm)		
	Peak (nm)	Volume (cm ³ /g)	Volume percentage (%)	Peak (nm)	Volume (cm ³ /g)	Volume percentage (%)	Peak (nm)	Volume (cm ³ /g)	Volume percentage (%)
Z-TPOAC-8	4.0	0.0395	7.80	6.7	0.1564	30.89	32	0.3104	61.31
Z-TPOAC-4	4.0	0.0443	20.28	9.0	0.08	36.61	25	0.0942	43.11
Z-TPOAC-2	4.0	0.0635	33.63	12	0.0448	23.73	23	0.0805	42.64

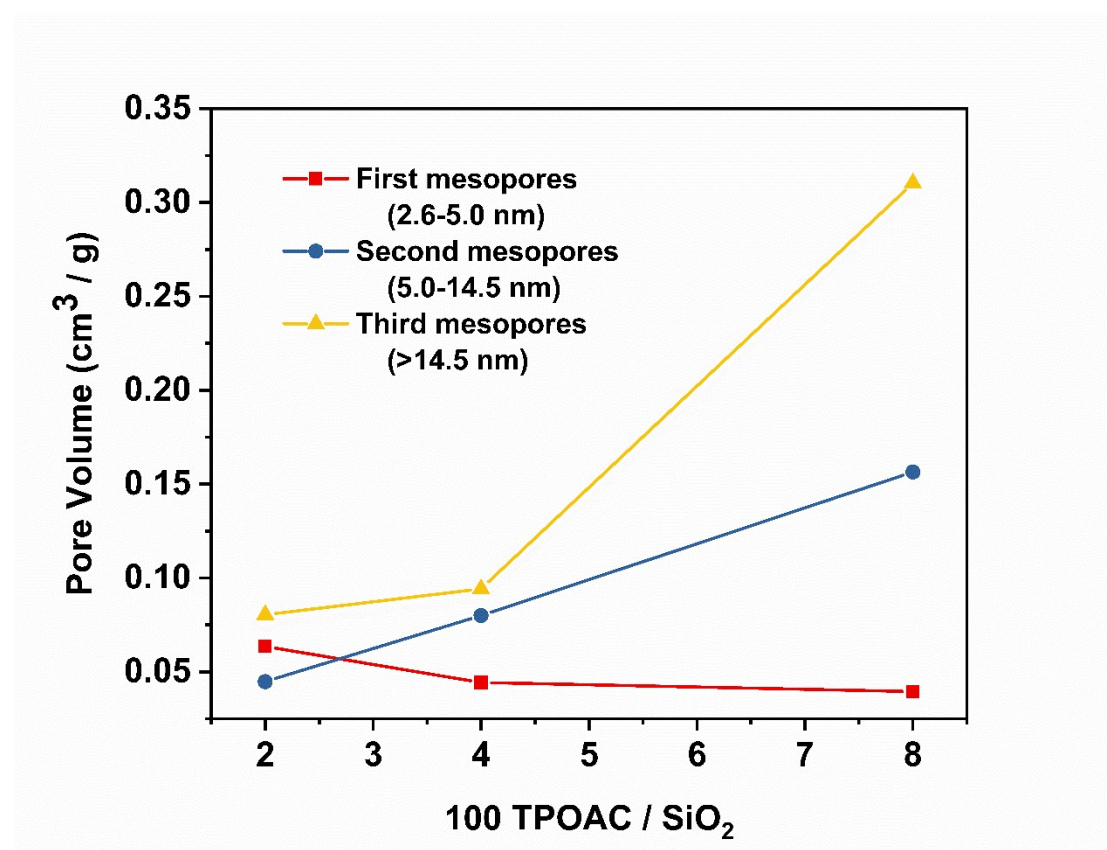


Figure S4. Variation of the mesopore pore volume in the trimodal mesopore pore range of 2.6-5.0 nm, 5.0-14.5 nm and >14.5 nm as a function of the amount of TPOAC added in the zeolite synthesis system.

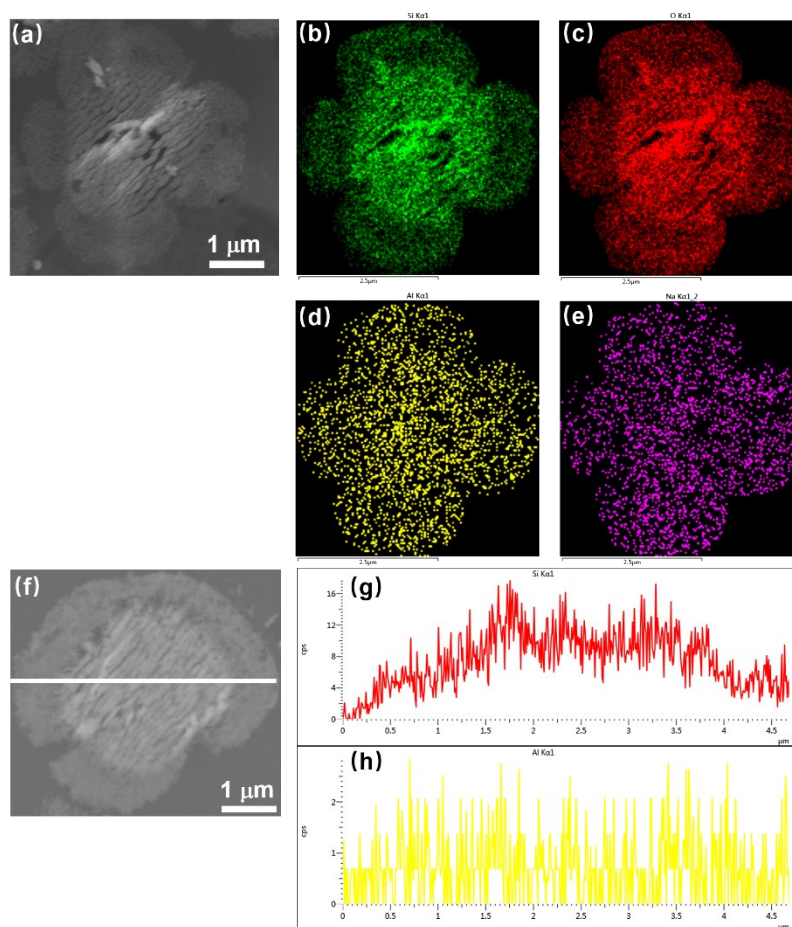


Figure S5. SEM-EDX elemental analysis of core-shell dual-structure Z-TPOAC-8 zeolite, (a) SEM image used for EDX-mapping, (b-e) element distribution of (b) Si, (c) O, (d) Al, (e) Na. (f) SEM-EDX line-scanning of (g) Si and (h) Al.

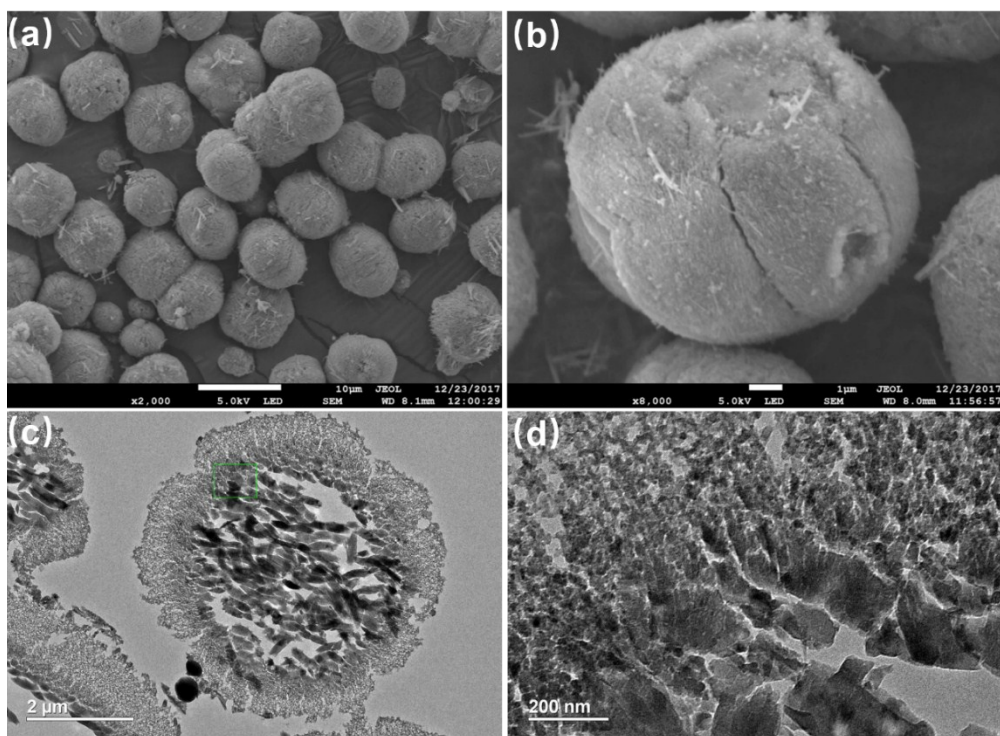


Figure S6. (a,b) SEM images, (c) low-resolution TEM images of core-shell dual-structure Z-TPOAC-4 sample, (d) magnified TEM image of marked area in (c) showing the core-shell boundary.

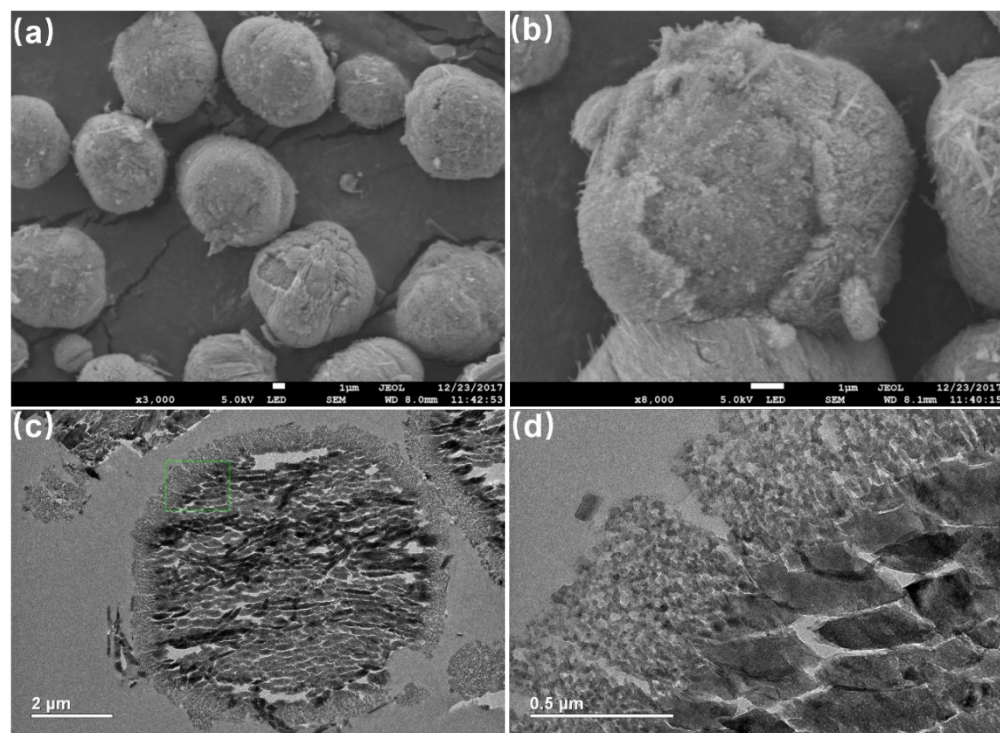


Figure S7. (a,b) SEM images, (c) low-resolution TEM images of core-shell dual-structure Z-TPOAC-2 sample, (d) magnified TEM image of marked area in (c) showing the core-shell boundary.

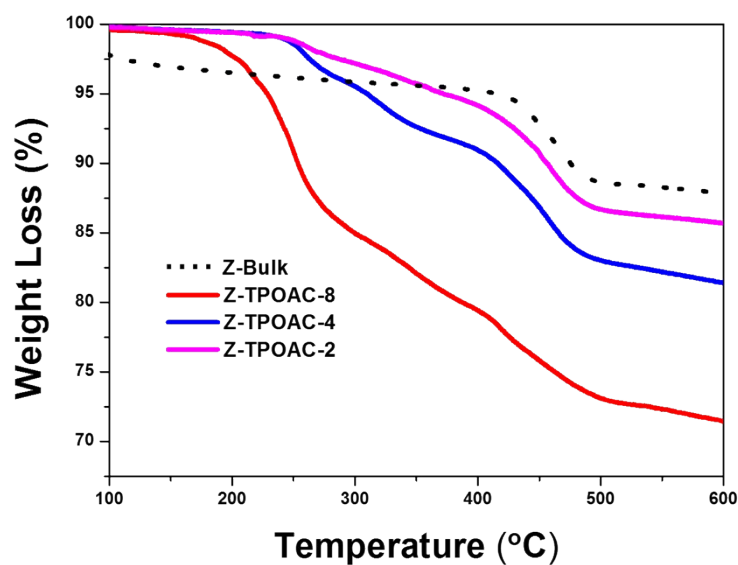


Figure S8. TGA curves of different Z-TPOAC-*n* samples (shown as solid lines) in comparison with the TGA curve of as synthesized Z-Bulk sample synthesized only with structure-directing agent TPABr (shown as dashed line). All the samples were dried at 60 °C for more than 12 h before measurement.

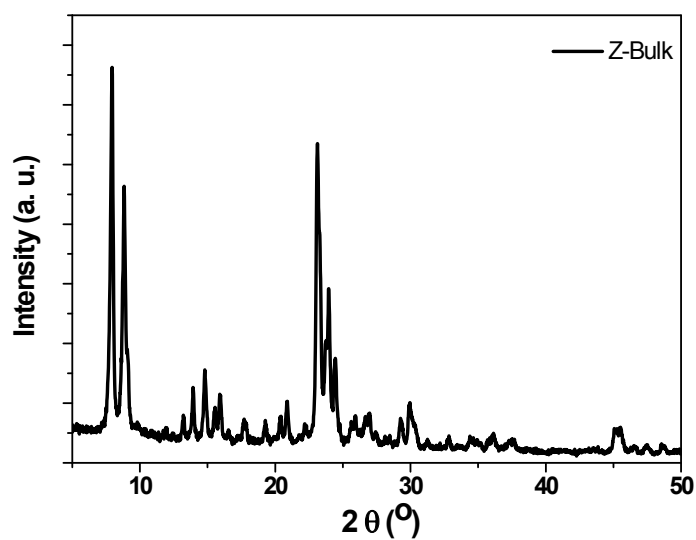


Figure S9. Powder XRD patterns of as-synthesized Z-Bulk.

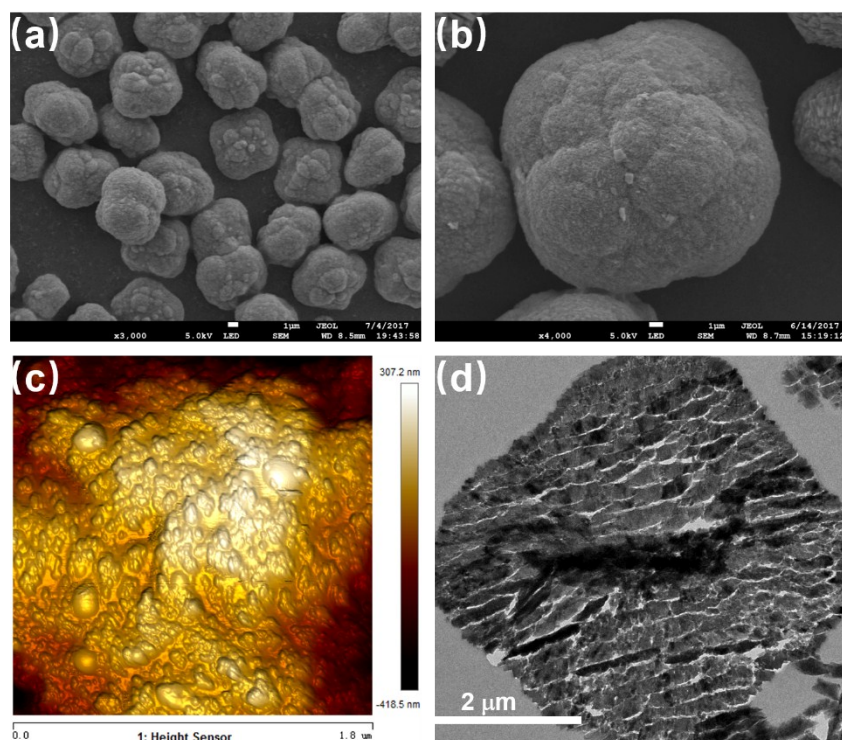


Figure S10. (a, b) SEM images, (c) AFM amplitude mode image, (d) Low-resolution cross-sectional TEM image of Z-Bulk sample.

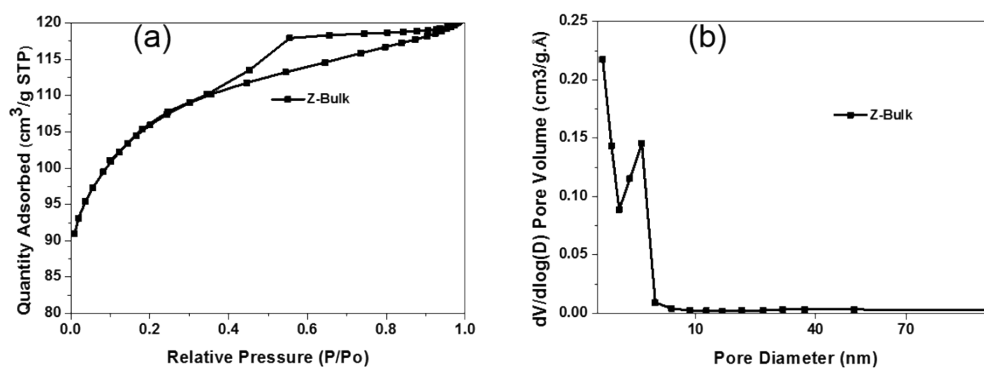


Figure S11. (a) N₂ adsorption-desorption isotherms, and (b) BJH mesopore size distribution of as-made Z-Bulk.

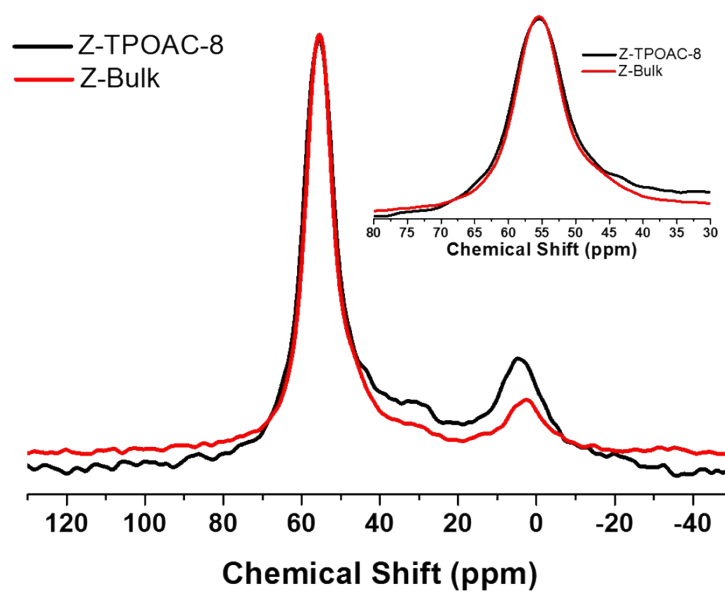


Figure S12. ^{27}Al MAS NMR spectra of mesoporous Z-TPOAC-8 and conventional Z-Bulk samples.

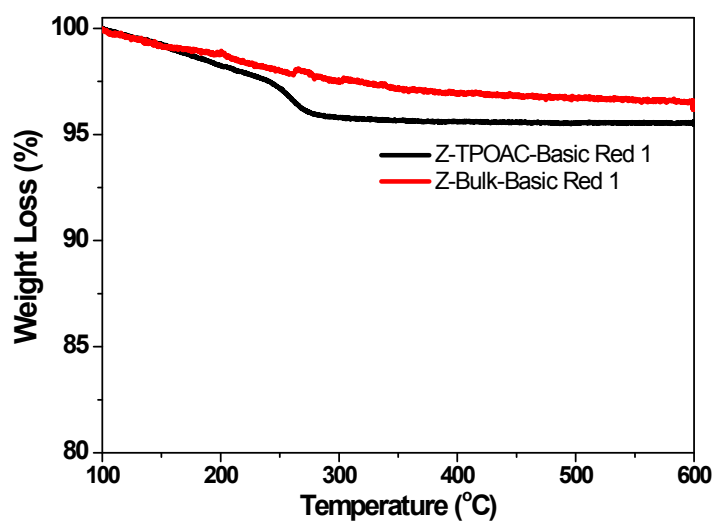


Figure S13. Relative weight loss by TGA of as-synthesized Z-Bulk and Z-TPOAC-8 samples after rhodamine 6G Dye adsorption.

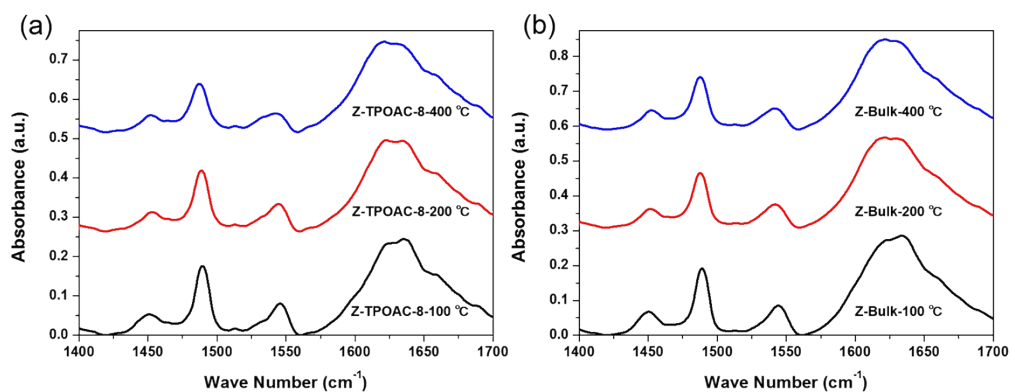


Figure S14. Py-FTIR spectra of H⁺-form (a) Z-TPOAC-8 and (b) Z-Bulk samples at different desorption temperature.

Table S4. Numbers of Brønsted and Lewis acid sites of H⁺-form Z-TPOAC-8 and Z-Bulk samples calculated from FTIR spectra of pyridine desorption at different temperatures.

Unit	200 °C desorption		
mmol/g	B	L	B/L Ratio
Z-TPOAC-8	0.09412	0.01926	4.89
Z-Bulk	0.08825	0.02508	3.52

Table S5. TOF values in the Suzuki–Miyaura cross coupling reactions

TOF (h ⁻¹)	Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 3	Cycle 4
Pd/C	49.3	49	47.8	47.8
Z-Bulk	48.7	48.6	48.0	45.7
Z-TPOAC-8	49.1	49.0	49.3	49.3

TOF=mol(yield)/mol(M)/t, M=Pd

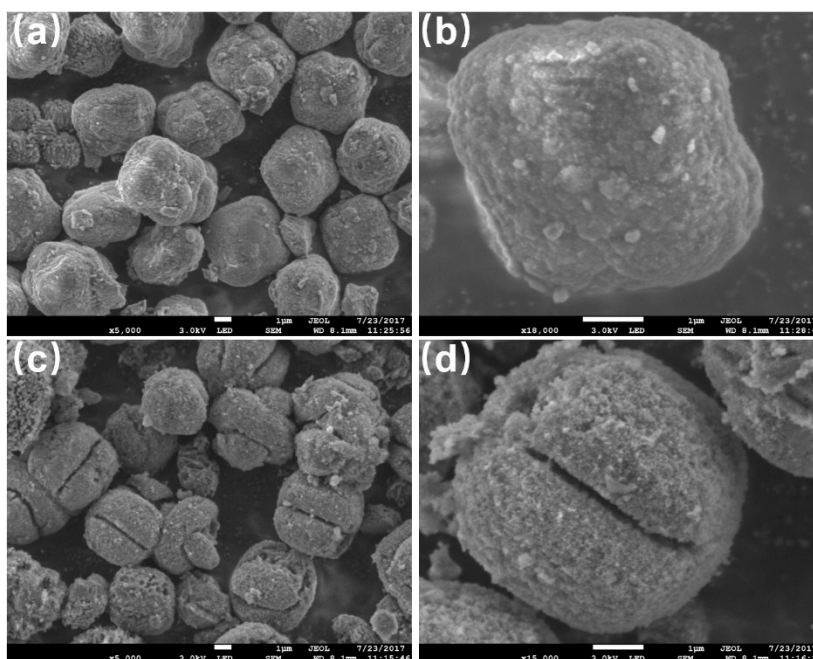


Figure S15. SEM images of zeolite samples after four catalytic cycles, (a, b) sample Z-Bulk, (c, d) sample of core-shell dual-structured Z-TPOAC-8 sample.

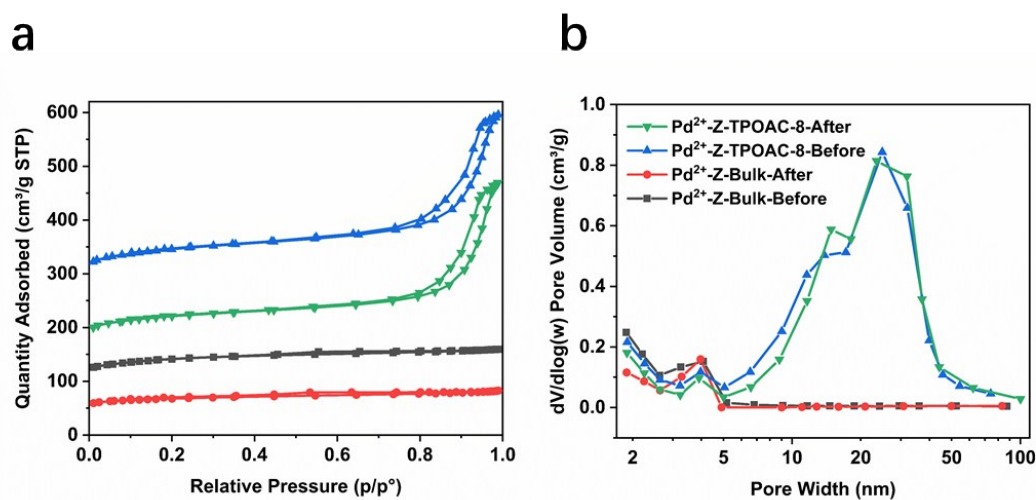


Figure S16. (a) N_2 adsorption-desorption isotherms of Pd^{2+} -exchanged ZSM-5 zeolites before and after the Suzuki–Miyaura cross coupling reactions. The isotherms for Pd^{2+} -Z-TPOAC-8-before, Pd^{2+} -Z-TPOAC-8-After, and Pd^{2+} -Z-Bulk-before were vertically offset by 240, 120, and 40 cm^3/g respectively. (b) BJH mesopore size distribution corresponding to the desorption branch. All samples were degassed at 100 $^{\circ}C$ for 4 h.

Table S6. Textural properties of Pd²⁺-exchanged ZSM-5 zeolites before and after the Suzuki–Miyaura cross coupling reactions.

Sample	Surface Area (m ² / g)			Pore Volume (cm ³ / g)		
	S _{total} ^a	S _{micro} ^b	S _{ext} ^c	V _{total} ^d	V _{micro} ^e	V _{meso} ^f
Pd ²⁺ -Z-Bulk-Before	303	177	127	0.18	0.10	0.08
Pd ²⁺ -Z-Bulk-After	213	140	61	0.13	0.08	0.05
Pd ²⁺ -Z-TPOAC-8-Before	328	143	186	0.55	0.08	0.47
Pd ²⁺ -Z-TPOAC-8-After	310	151	159	0.53	0.08	0.45

^aBET surface area.

^bt-Plot micropore surface area.

^ct-Plot external surface area.

^dTotal pore volume of pores calculated at $P/P_o = 0.98$

^et-Plot micropore volume.

^fV_{meso} = V_{total}-V_{micro}