# The relationship between the surface oxygen species and the acidic properties of mesoporous metal oxides and their effects on propane oxidation

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## Characterizations

#### Raman

The Raman spectra were collected with an HR LabRaman 800 configuration, equipped with a liquid nitrogen-cooled CCD detector using the 514.5 nm line of an Ar<sup>+</sup> laser. The laser power was 10 mW. Scan time was 30 s and the spectral range was 100-2000 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



Fig. S1 Raman spectra of 10% V- $Mn_2O_3$ , 10% Cu- $Mn_2O_3$ , 10% Mo- $Mn_2O_3$ , meso- $Mn_2O_3$  samples.

Raman band located at 635 cm<sup>-1</sup> can be assigned to the Mn-O stretching vibration of the  $MnO_6$  group.<sup>S1</sup> On the Mo-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalyst, the vibration at 850 cm<sup>-1</sup> is Mo-O-Mo vibration in highly dispersed surface molybdate ([MoO<sub>4</sub>]<sup>2-</sup>).<sup>S2</sup> As the vibrations at 300-340 cm<sup>-1</sup> for small crystallites of bulk structure and at 955 cm<sup>-1</sup> for surface molybdate were not detected, we consider that the Mo-O-Mo species on the Mo-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalyst are dominated in highly

dispersed surface molybdate ( $[MoO_4]^{2-}$ ). About the state of vanadia, researchers have reported that the vibrations at 1020~1035 cm<sup>-1</sup> belong to the V=O vibrations of monovanadate species and the bands in the 860 cm<sup>-1</sup> or 930 cm<sup>-1</sup> can be ascribed to the stretching modes in polyvanadate species. <sup>S3, S4, S5</sup> In the present study, the vibrations at 1020~1035 cm<sup>-1</sup> region did not be detected. We observed a very weak V-O-V bond centered at 854 cm<sup>-1</sup>, if the band might be considered a peak. The V species could disperse well on V-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalyst surface. Vibration peak of Cu aggregated state species were not detected on the Cu-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.

### **HAADF-STEM and elemental mapping images**

HAADF-STEM were performed using a Tecnai F20 G2 High-Resolution TEM (HRTEM) electron microscope. The composition of V-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and Mo-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> were characterized using energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX)–elemental mapping analysis. The FEI TIA software was used to control the STEM-EDX mapping.

Fig.S2A and Fig.S2B show HAADF-STEM and elemental mapping images of loaded V and Mo on meso- $Mn_2O_3$  surface. The V and Mo mapping prove the well distribution of the element signals on the surface of the particles.



**Fig. S2A** HAADF-STEM and elemental mapping images of V are presented. Scale bar: STEM 200 nm, elemental mapping 100 nm.



**Fig. S2B** HAADF-STEM and elemental mapping images of Mo are presented. Scale bar: HAADF-STEM 100 nm, elemental mapping 100 nm.

Table 1	IS. The	performance	of the c	atalysts.	Reaction	condition:	Temperature	480°C,
GHSV	= 4500	mL (g h) <sup>-1</sup> , at	nd C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	: $O_2 = 1$	: 1 (mola	r ratio)		

	Conversion	Selectivity (%)									
catalyst	(%)	C1	C <sub>2=</sub>	C <sub>3=</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub> O	ALD	ACR	AcT	AcA	СО	$CO_2$
Meso-Mn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	24.3	2.2	20.6	18.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	58.2
bulk-Mn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	21.1	4.8	30.6	22.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	41.1
10%Mo-Mn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	22.2	1.3	12.0	37.2	1.5	1.2	2.2	0.0	0.0	11.6	33.0
10%Cu-Mn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	19.7	0.9	12.2	29.5	0.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	56.6
1‰V-Mn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	25.7	3.4	27.5	17.4	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.2
1%V-Mn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	24.4	7.1	35.8	28.7	3.3	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.5
5%V-Mn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	25.6	6.0	27.8	31.0	3.3	3.2	0.1	0.0	1.1	0.0	26.9
10%V- Mn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	28.8	1.5	9.0	51.0	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	21.1	11.6
15%V-Mn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	11.9	0.3	4.9	41.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	36.4	16.8

<sup>a.</sup> C<sub>1</sub>: methane, C<sub>2</sub>=: ethylene, C<sub>3</sub>=: propylene, CH<sub>2</sub>O: formaldehyde, ALD: acetaldehyde, ACR: acrolein, AcT: acetone, AcA: acrylic acid, AA: acetic acid



**Fig. S3** FT-IR spectra of reaction atmosphere (propane :  $O_2 = 1 : 1$ ) adsorbed on (A) meso-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, (B) 10% V-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, (C) 10% Cu-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, and (D) 10% Mo-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> at 373, 423, 473, 523 and 573 K.

![](_page_4_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_4_Figure_1.jpeg)

Fig. S4 X-ray O1s photoelectron emission spectra from the indicated materials.

![](_page_5_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Fig.S5** FT-IR spectra of -OH (in the absence of  $O_2$ ) on (A) meso-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, (B) 10% V-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, (C) 10%Cu-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 10%Mo-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, and (D) 10%Mo-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>,10%Cu-Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> from 323 to 573K.

# References

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