

## Supporting Information

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Scheme S1

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### 1. Figures. S1 to S12

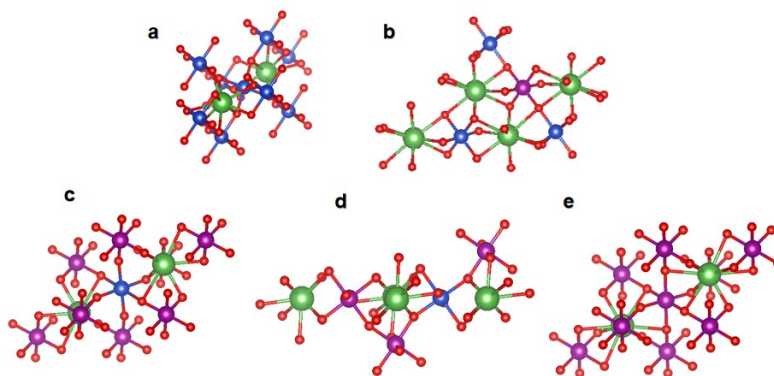


Figure S1. schematic illustrations of (a)  $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$ , (b)  $\text{LaMn}_{0.25}\text{Cu}_{0.75}\text{O}_3$ , (c)  $\text{LaMn}_{0.5}\text{Cu}_{0.5}\text{O}_3$ , (d)  $\text{LaMn}_{0.75}\text{Cu}_{0.25}\text{O}_3$ , (e)  $\text{LaMnO}_3$

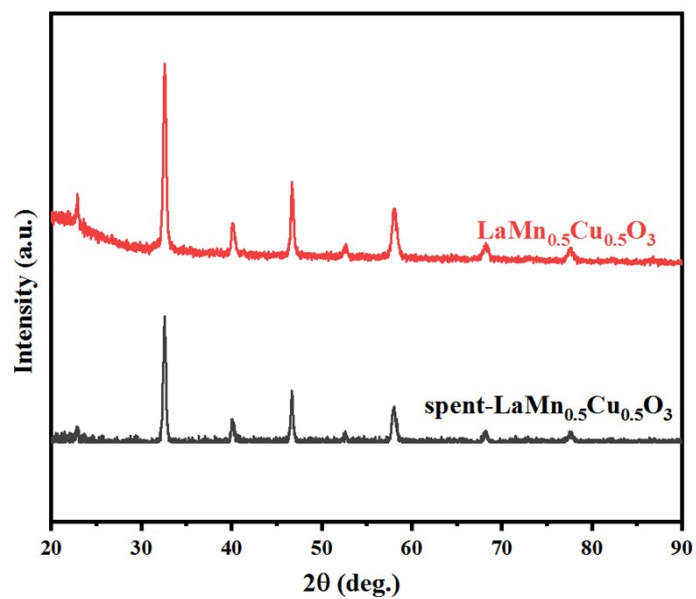


Figure S2. XRD patterns of as-prepared  $\text{LaMn}_{0.5}\text{Cu}_{0.5}\text{O}_3$  sample and spent- $\text{LaMn}_{0.5}\text{Cu}_{0.5}\text{O}_3$  sample

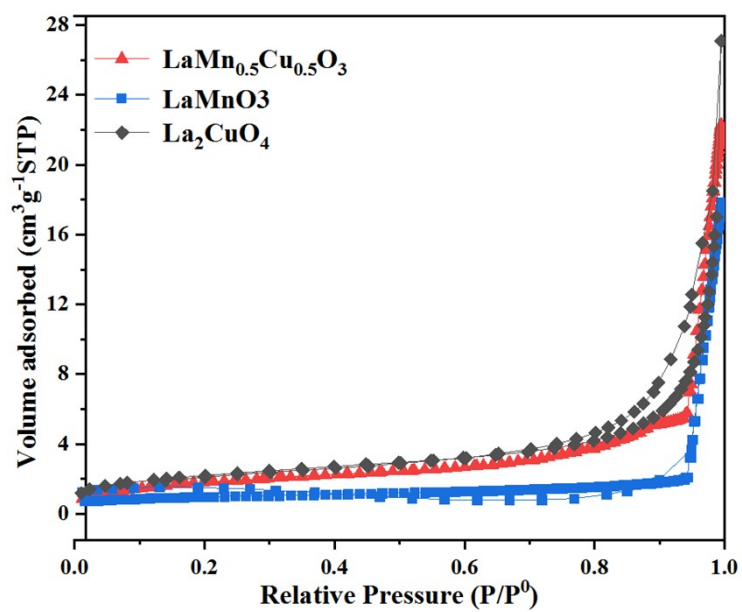


Figure S3.  $\text{N}_2$  adsorption/desorption isotherms of  $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$ ,  $\text{LaMn}_{0.5}\text{Cu}_{0.5}\text{O}_3$  and  $\text{LaMnO}_3$ .

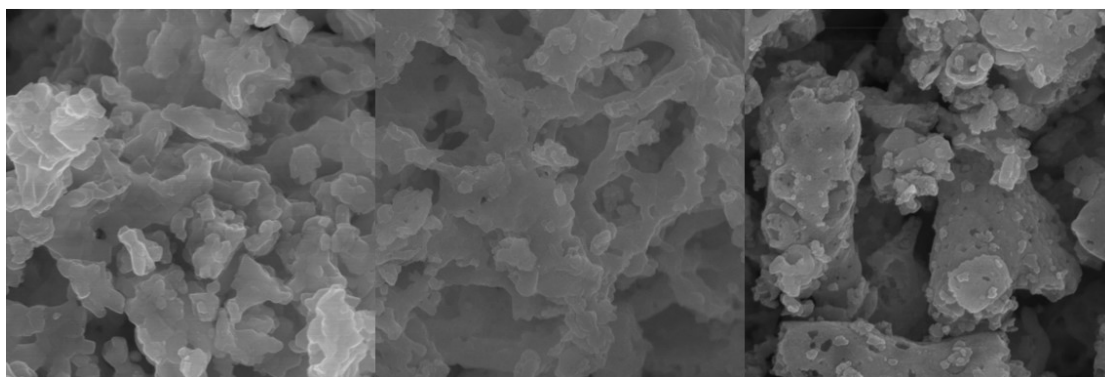


Figure S4. SEM images of spent  $\text{LaMn}_x\text{Cu}_{1-x}\text{O}_3$  samples (from left to right  $x = 1, 0.5,$   
0)

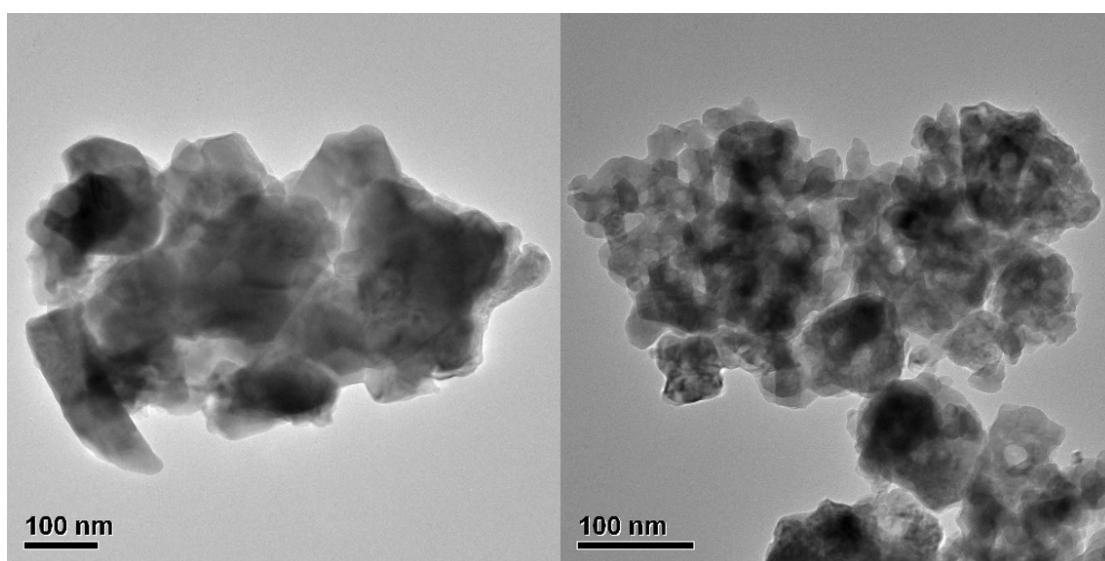


Figure S5. TEM images of spent  $\text{LaMn}_x\text{Cu}_{1-x}\text{O}_3$  samples (from left to right  $x = 0, 0.5$ )

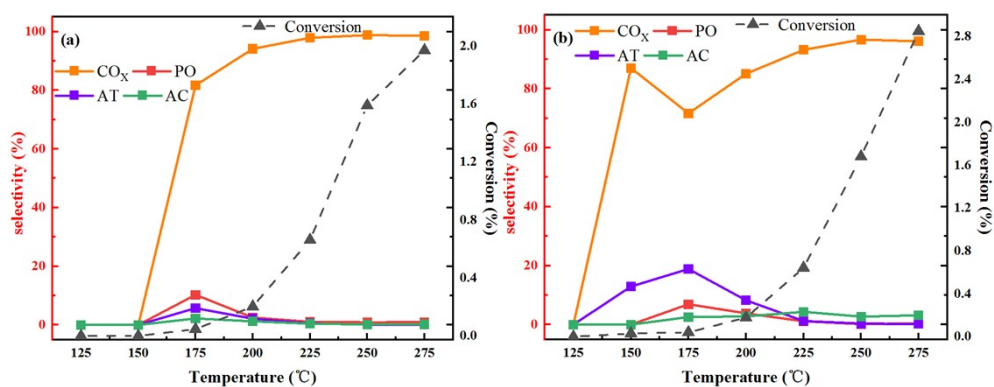


Figure S6. Products (PO: propylene oxide, AC: acrolein, AT: acetone) selectivity and propylene conversion over  $\text{LaMn}_{0.75}\text{Cu}_{0.25}\text{O}_3$  and  $\text{LaMn}_{0.25}\text{Cu}_{0.75}\text{O}_3$  in DEP reaction from 125 to 275 °C

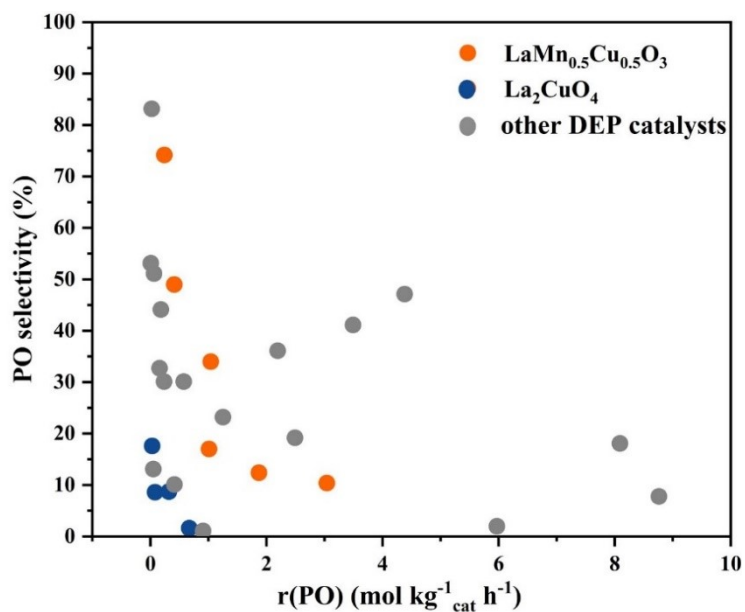


Figure S7. PO selectivity for  $\text{LaCu}_{0.5}\text{Mn}_{0.5}\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$  and other DEP reaction catalysts as a function of PO formation rate.

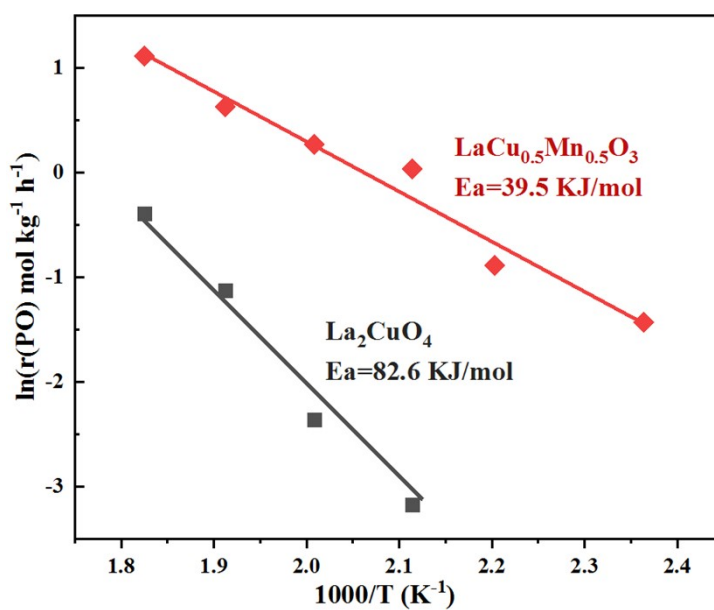


Figure S8. Apparent activation energy of  $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$  and  $\text{LaMn}_{0.5}\text{Cu}_{0.5}\text{O}_3$  calculated by Arrhenius equation.

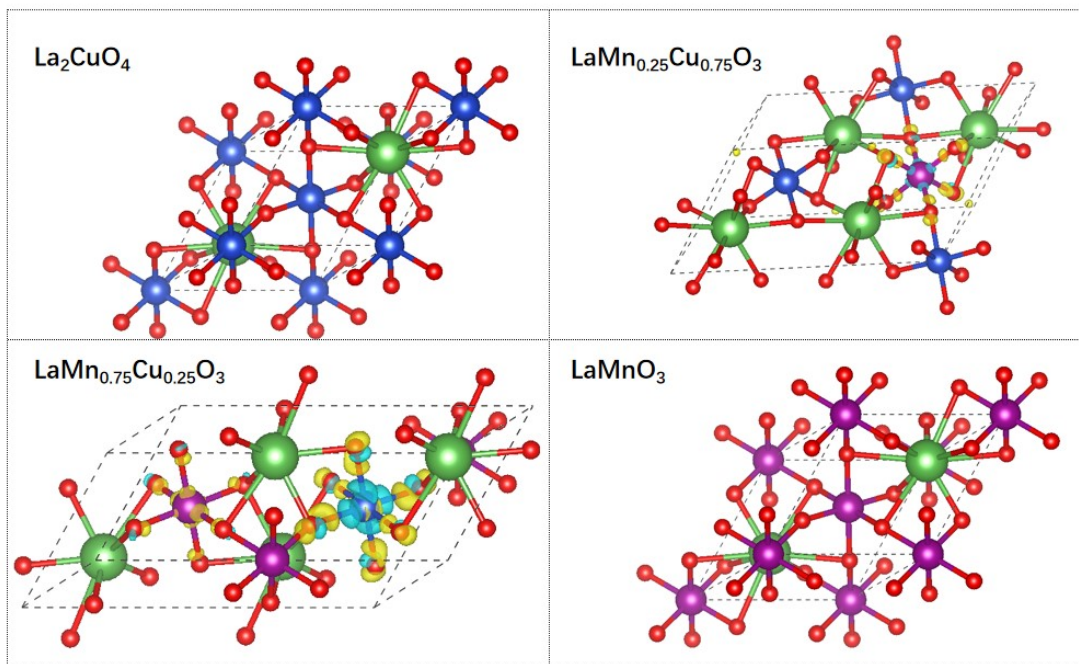


Figure S9. Electron density difference plots for  $\text{LaMn}_x\text{Cu}_{1-x}\text{O}_3$  ( $x = 0, 0.25, 0.75, 1$ ) samples

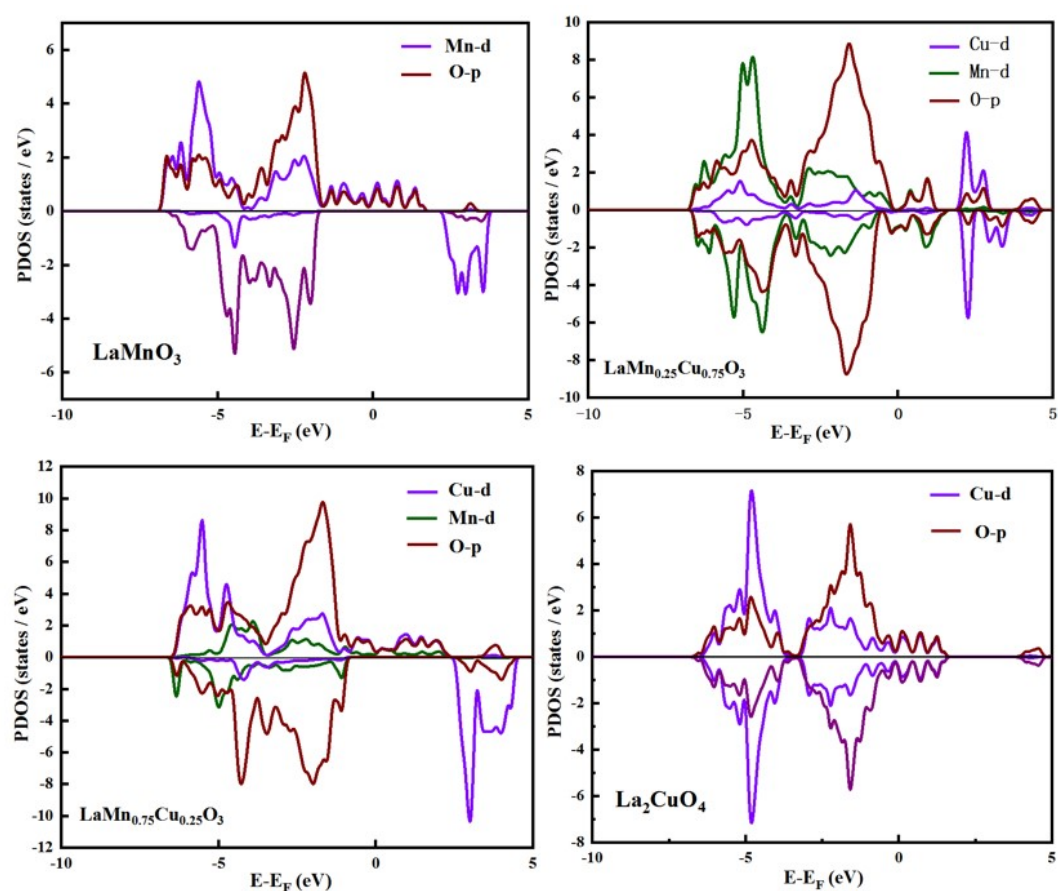


Figure S10. Density of states (DOS) plots for  $\text{LaMn}_x\text{Cu}_{1-x}\text{O}_3$  ( $x = 0, 0.25, 0.75, 1$ )

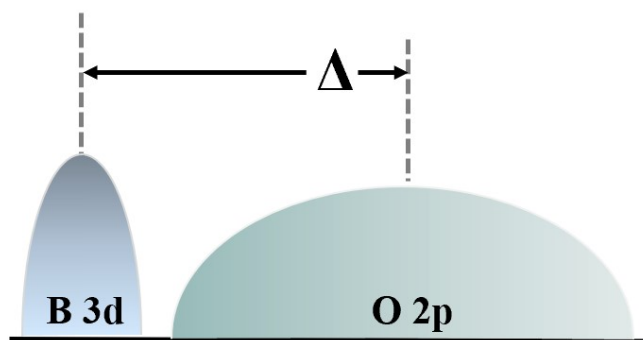


Figure S11. Charge-transfer energy schematic diagram of perovskite type oxides.

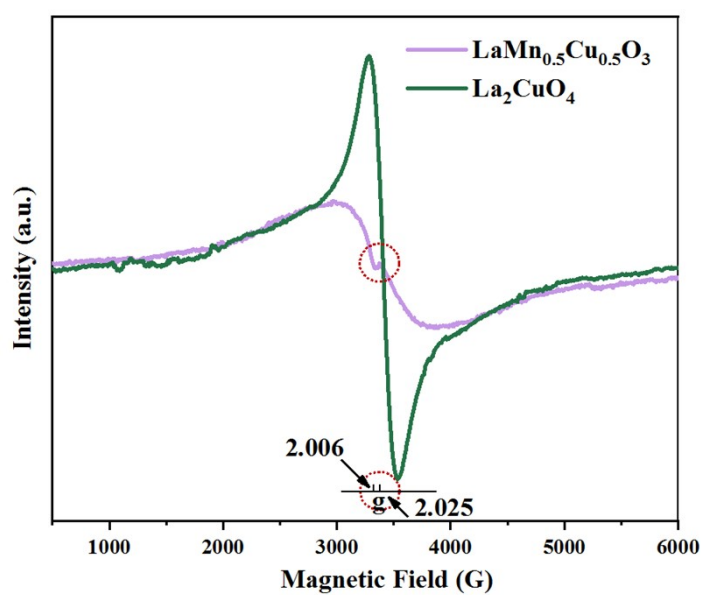
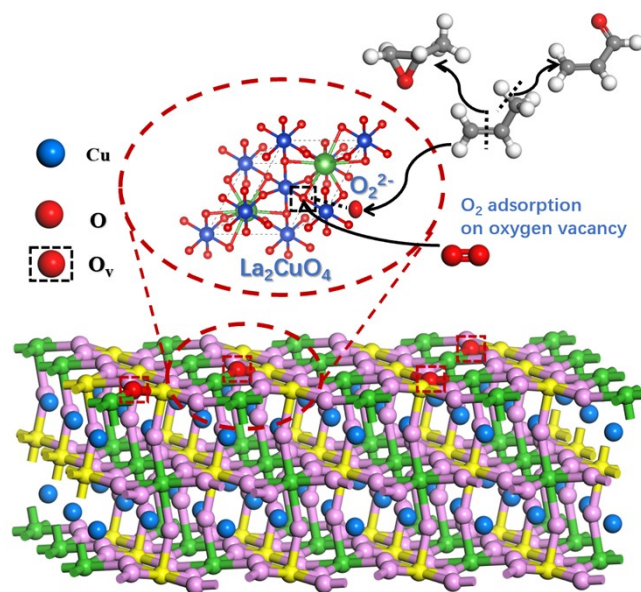


Figure S12. The EPR spectra of  $\text{LaMn}_{0.5}\text{Cu}_{0.5}\text{O}_3$  sample tested at room temperature

## 2. Scheme S1



Scheme S1. Possible reaction model of the direct epoxidation of propylene with molecular oxygen over  $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$  sample

As represented in Scheme S1,  $\text{O}_2$  was adsorbed and activated in the electronegative oxygen vacancies over  $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$  sample forming  $\text{O}_2^{2-}/\text{O}^-$ , then reacted with propylene adsorbed on the surface of the metal cation at the B position. After desorption of the formed products, the oxygen vacancies sites on the perovskite oxides' surface were recovered. Based on previous studies,<sup>1</sup> the activation of dioxygen on oxygen vacancies not only required higher reaction temperature, but also the nucleophilicity of activated oxygen species was enhanced. Therefore, the  $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$  catalyst showed poor low-temperature reducibility and poor selectivity for DEP reaction.

### 3. Table. S1 to S3

**Table S1. Catalytic performance of  $\text{LaCu}_x\text{Mn}_{1-x}\text{O}_3$  with different Cu/Mn molar ratios<sup>a</sup>**

X	r(PO) ( $\text{mol}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}_{\text{cat.}}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ )	Selectivity (%)				Conversion (%)
		PO	AT	AC	$\text{CO}_x$	
0	0	0	0	0	1	1.71
0.25	0.08	2.6	2.1	1.2	94.1	0.21
0.5	1.04	33.9	5.6	4.2	56.3	0.20
0.75	0.11	3.8	8.3	2.8	85.1	0.18
1	0.04	17.4	0	33.7	48.9	0.02

<sup>a</sup>The data in the table above are tested at 200 °C.

**Table S2. Catalytic performance of  $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$  and  $\text{LaCu}_{0.5}\text{Mn}_{0.5}\text{O}_3$  at different reaction temperatures**

Catalyst	temp. (°C)	r(PO) ( $\text{mol}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}_{\text{cat.}}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ )	Selectivity (%)				Conversion (%)
			PO	AT	AC	$\text{CO}_x$	
$\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$	200	0.04	17.4	0	33.7	48.9	0.02
	225	0.09	8.4	0	17.8	73.8	0.06
	250	0.33	8.5	1.4	9.2	80.9	0.24
$\text{LaCu}_{0.5}\text{Mn}_{0.5}\text{O}_3$	275	0.68	1.4	2.2	4.8	91.6	0.29
	150	0.24	74.2	25.8	0	0	0.02
	175	0.41	49	12.3	10.1	28.6	0.05
	200	1.04	33.9	5.6	4.2	56.3	0.20
	225	1.01	17.0	0	9.7	73.3	0.37
	250	1.87	12.4	0.4	0.2	87.0	0.97
	275	3.04	10.4	0.6	0.8	88.2	1.82



**Table S3. Catalytic performance of previous representative Cu-based samples on DEP reaction.**

No	Catalyst	PO sel. (%)	Conv. (%)	r(PO) (mol·kg <sup>-1</sup> ·h <sup>-1</sup> )	Temp. (°C)	Ref.
1	Cu/SiO <sub>2</sub>	53.0	0.25	0.014	225	2
2	VCe <sub>0.5</sub> Cu <sub>0.5</sub> -NaCl	32.6	0.26	0.165	250	3
3	K <sup>+</sup> -CuO <sub>x</sub> /SBA-15	36.0	0.53	2.200	200	4
4	Cu/SiO <sub>2</sub> -NaCl	44.0	0.16	0.187	215	5
5	RuO <sub>2</sub> -CuO-NaCl-TeO <sub>2</sub> -MnO <sub>x</sub> /SiO <sub>2</sub>	23.1	14.55	1.258	250	6
6	CuO-TiO <sub>2</sub> /SiO <sub>2</sub>	30.0	0.10	0.241	250	7
7	RuO <sub>2</sub> -CuO-TiO <sub>2</sub> /SiO <sub>2</sub>	7.70	15.40	8.776	250	7
8	RuO <sub>2</sub> -CuO/SiO <sub>2</sub>	1.90	42.50	5.982	250	7
9	(KAc)-Cu/SiO <sub>2</sub>	19.1	0.27	2.500	325	8
10	CuO <sub>x</sub> -SiO <sub>2</sub>	10.0	1.00	0.420	550	9
11	K <sup>+</sup> -CuO <sub>x</sub> -SiO <sub>2</sub>	30.0	0.48	0.580	550	9
12	Cubic-Cu <sub>2</sub> O-27	83.0	0.06	0.028	110	1
13	NH <sub>4</sub> Cl-RD-Cu <sub>2</sub> O	51.0	0.15	0.068	200	10
14	Cu <sub>2</sub> O rhombic dodecahedra	13.0	0.82	0.057	250	11
15	RuO <sub>2</sub> -CuO-TeO <sub>2</sub> /SiO <sub>2</sub>	41.0	0.37	3.500	250	12
16	RuO <sub>2</sub> -CuO/SiO <sub>2</sub>	18.0	20.00	8.103	250	12
17	RuO <sub>2</sub> -CuO-TeO <sub>2</sub> /SiO <sub>2</sub>	47.0	0.35	4.390	250	12
18	RuO <sub>2</sub> -CuO-NaCl/SiO <sub>2</sub>	1.0	—	0.913	250	12

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