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## Supplementary Material for

## C2 weakens turn over frequency during melting of Fe<sub>x</sub>C<sub>y</sub>: insights

## from reactive MD simulations

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Fig. S1. Validation of the Lindemann determination criteria of  $Fe_xC_y$  nanoparticles. The figure shows the Lindemann index of the labeled atoms. The atoms are activated and diffuse when their Lindemann index reaches 0.1.



Fig. S2. (a) The initial crystal structures of  $Fe_xC_y$ ; (b) the Wulff construction of  $Fe_xC_y$ .



Fig. S3. Cubic boxes for (a)  $Fe_xC_y$  nanoparticle melting and (b) CO activation simulations.



Fig. S4. Calculated (a) temperature, (b) total energy, and (c) potential energy curve of bulk  $Fe_5C_2$ .



Fig. S5. Curves of (a) potential energy and (b) density of  $5 \text{nm Fe}_x C_y$  nanoparticles with temperature.

	Melting Temperature				Pre-melting Temperature			
	2 nm	3 nm	5 nm	8 nm	2 nm	3 nm	5 nm	8 nm
Fe <sub>2</sub> C	1030	1275	1420	1550	850	1100	1210	1350
Fe <sub>5</sub> C <sub>2</sub>	1125	1380	1570	1700	850	1075	1195	1320
Fe <sub>3</sub> C	1050	1520	1750	1875	800	1000	1095	1300
Fe <sub>4</sub> C	950	1450	1780	1950	700	850	980	1200

**Table S1.** The melting and pre-melting temperature (K) of  $Fe_xC_y$  nanoparticles of various sizes.



Fig. S6. Individual atom Lindemann index variation from a lower temperature to higher of  $Fe_5C_2$  nanoparticles, (a) 2 nm; (b) 3 nm; (c) 5 nm; (d) 8 nm.



**Fig. S7.** Individual atom Lindemann index variation from a lower temperature to higher of 5nm Fe<sub>2</sub>C nanoparticles.



Fig. S8. Individual atom Lindemann index variation from a lower temperature to higher of 5 nm  $Fe_3C$  nanoparticles.



**Fig. S9.** Individual atom Lindemann index variation from a lower temperature to higher of 5 nm Fe<sub>4</sub>C nanoparticles.



**Fig. S10.** (a) The structure of bulk  $Fe_5C_2$ ; (b) Radial distribution functions obtained for bulk  $Fe_5C_2$ .



Fig. S11. (a)-(e) The mean-square displacements (MSD) and (f)-(j) the diffusion coefficient of Fe and C atoms of  $Fe_5C_2$  nanoparticles at different temperatures.



**Fig. S12.** (a) The CO dissociation number and (b) the TOF value of the nanoparticles with/without C2 models.