

Electronic Supplementary Information

Metal-Support Interaction Induced ZnO Overlayer in Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃

Catalysts toward Low-Temperature Water Gas Shift Reaction

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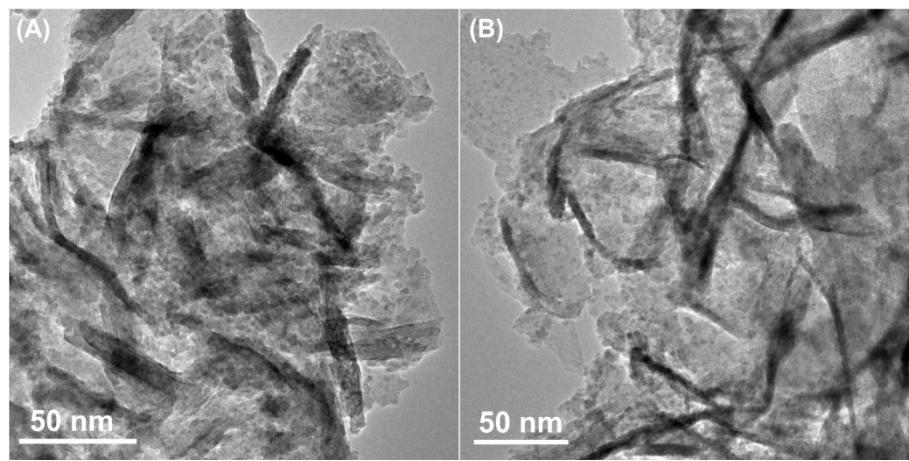


Figure S1. (A–B) TEM images of $\text{Cu}_2\text{Zn}_1\text{Al}$ -LDHs.

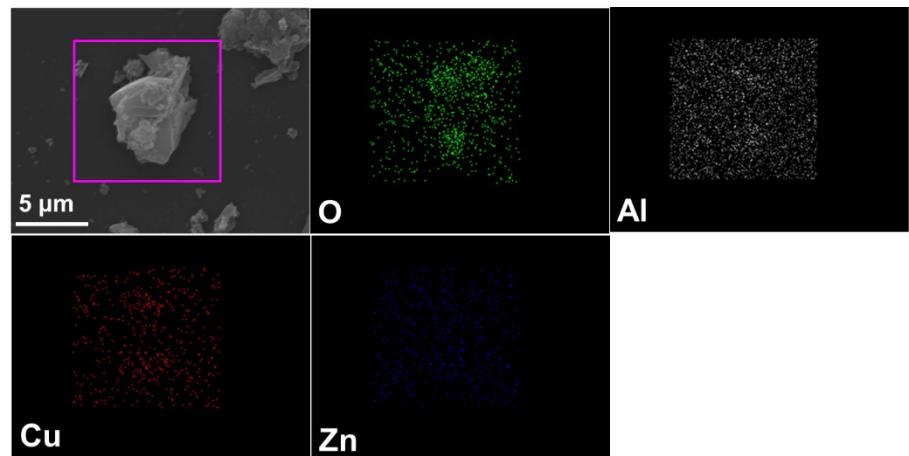


Figure S2. SEM image of $\text{Cu}_2\text{Zn}_1\text{Al}$ -LDHs and the corresponding element EDS mapping of Cu, Zn, Al, and O.

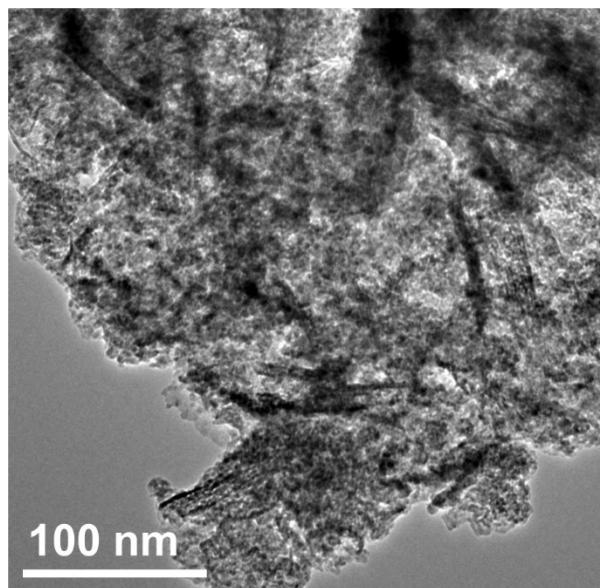


Figure S3. TEM images of Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃-300R.

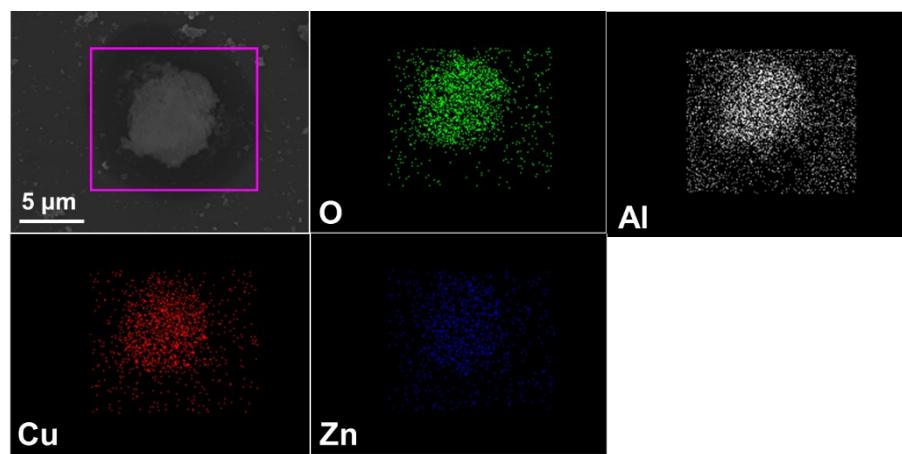


Figure S4. SEM image of Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃-300R and the corresponding element EDS mapping of Cu, Zn, Al, and O.

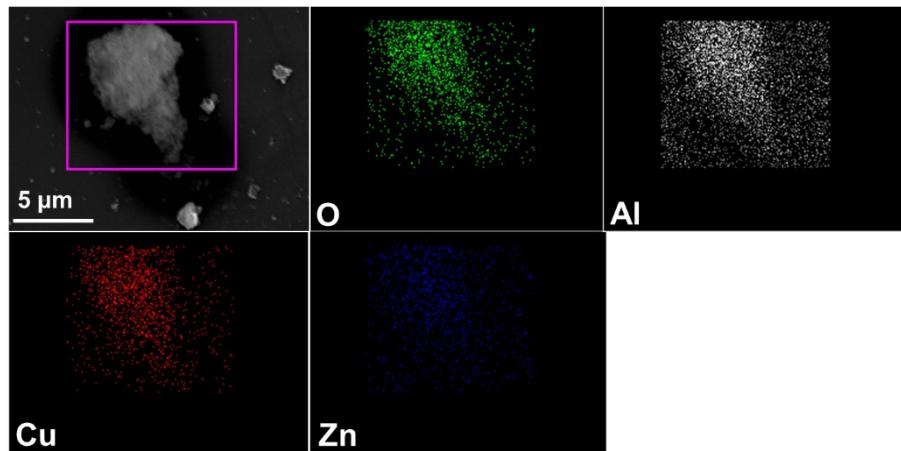


Figure S5. SEM image of Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃-350R and the corresponding element EDS mapping of Cu, Zn, Al, and O.

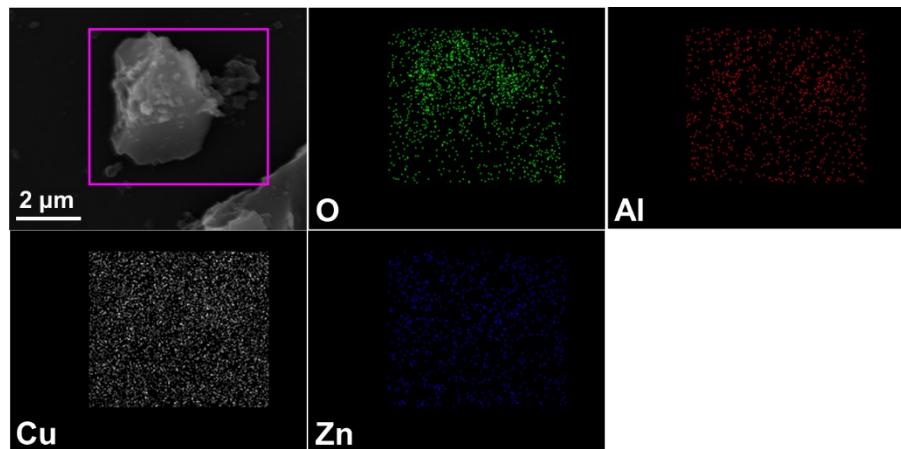


Figure S6. SEM image of Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃-400R and the corresponding element EDS mapping of Cu, Zn, Al, and O.

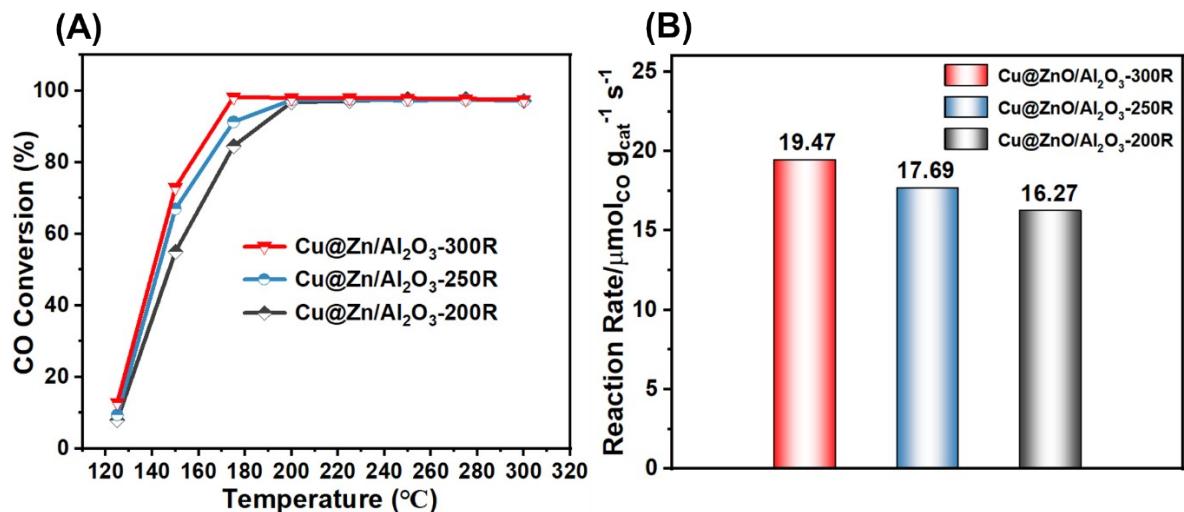


Figure S7. (A) CO conversion as a function of reaction temperature over the Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃ catalysts (WGS reaction conditions: 6% CO, 25% H₂O, 69% Ar; WHSV: 15700 mL g_{cat}⁻¹ h⁻¹). (B) Reaction rates of Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃-300R, Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃-250R and Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃-200R catalysts at 175 °C.

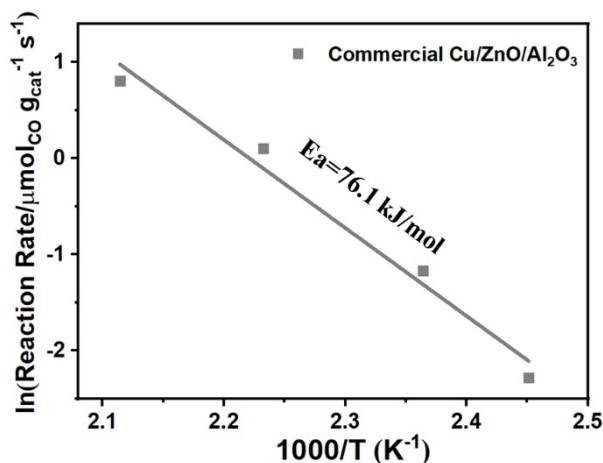


Figure S8. Arrhenius plots of WGS reaction over the commercial Cu/ZnO/Al₂O₃ catalyst. (WGS reaction conditions: 6% CO, 25% H₂O, 69% Ar)

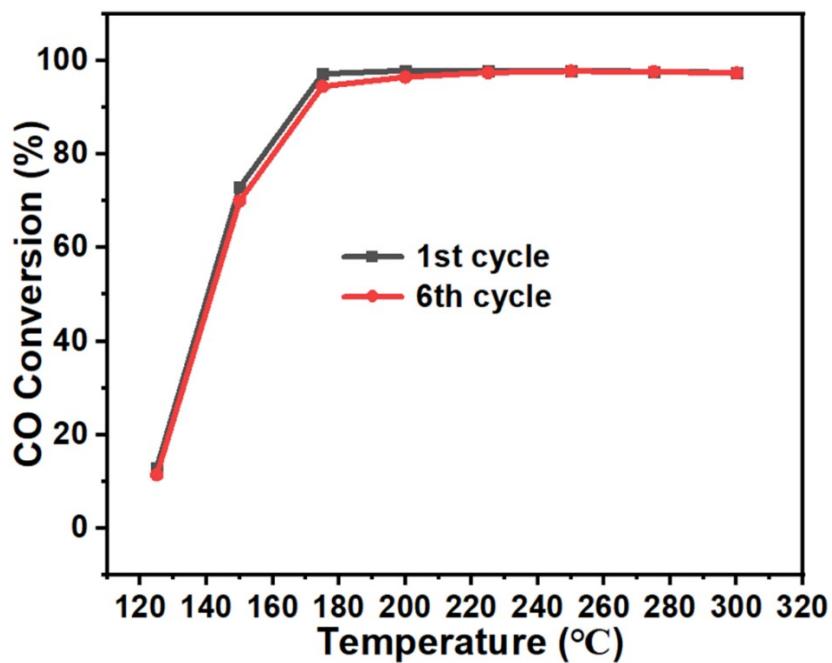


Figure S9. CO conversion as a function of reaction temperature over the Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃-300R catalyst (WGS reaction conditions: 6% CO, 25% H₂O, 69% Ar; WHSV: 15700 mL g_{cat}⁻¹ h⁻¹).

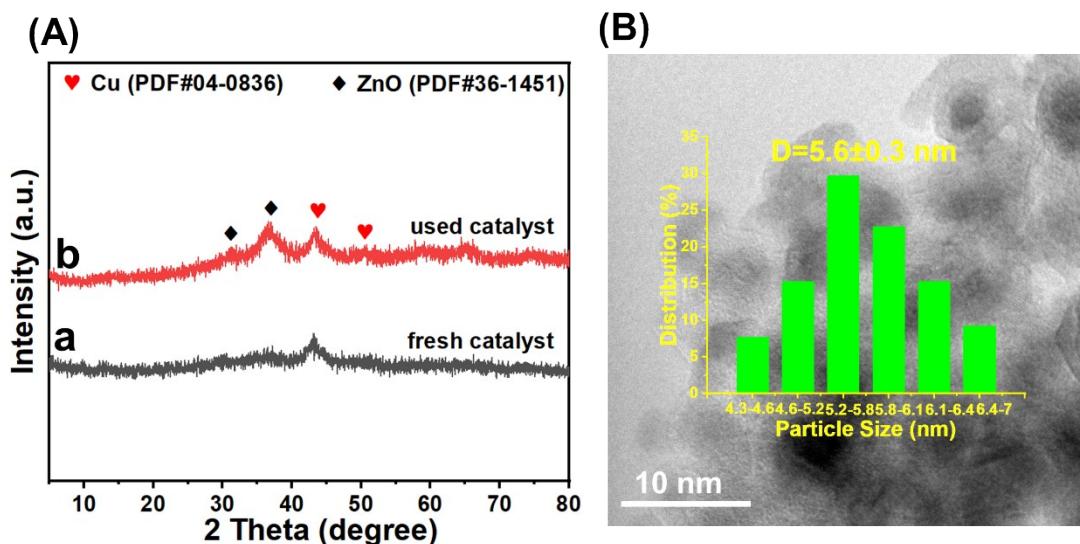


Figure S10. (A) XRD patterns of the Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃-300R catalyst: (a) the fresh catalyst (b) the used catalyst after five cycles test. (B) TEM images of the used Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃-300R catalyst after five cycles test.

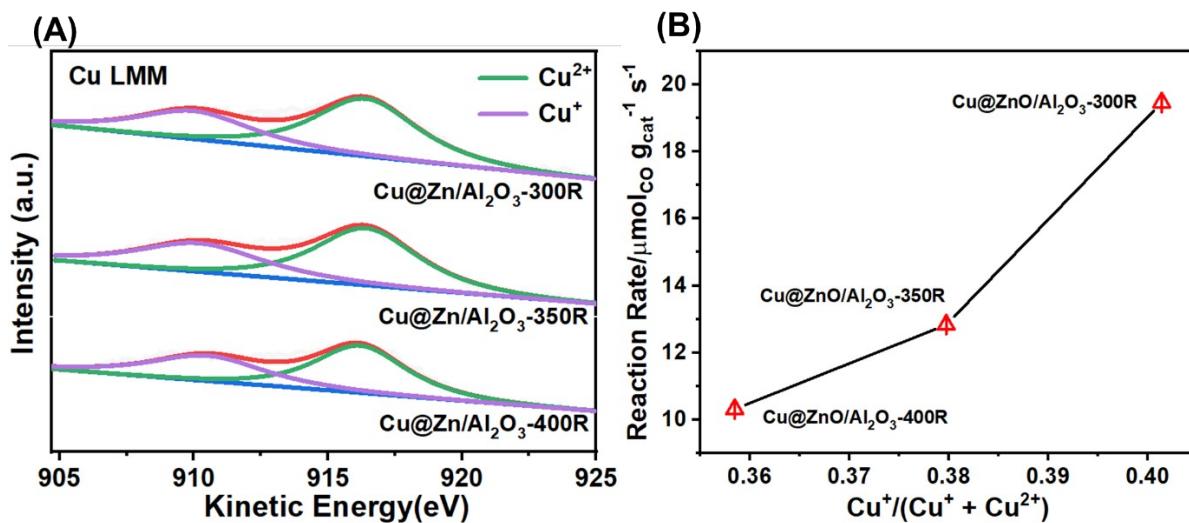


Figure S11. (A) XAES spectra of Cu LMM for Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃-300R, Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃-350R, and Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃-400R. (B) Reaction rate as a function of surface Cu⁺ concentration.

Table S1. Physicochemical properties of Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃-300R catalyst before and after five cycles test

| catalysts | Cu species content ^a (wt %) | Zn species content ^a (wt %) | Al species content ^a (wt %) | Cu crystallite size ^b (nm) | mean Cu particle size ^c (nm) |
|---|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Cu@ZnO/Al ₂ O ₃ -300R (fresh) | 27.5 | 13.9 | 47.1 | 7.6 | 5.4 |
| Cu@ZnO/Al ₂ O ₃ -300R (used) | 27.1 | 13.6 | 47.0 | 7.9 | 5.6 |

^aElement content was determined by inductively coupled plasma–atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP–AES). ^b Crystallite size of Cu was determined by XRD with the Scherrer equation. ^cMean particle size of Cu was determined by TEM.

Table S2. Physicochemical properties of Cu@ZnO/Al₂O₃-300R catalyst before and after stability test

| catalysts | Cu species content ^a (wt %) | Zn species content ^a (wt %) | Al species content ^a (wt %) | Cu crystallite size ^b (nm) | mean Cu particle size ^c (nm) |
|---|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Cu@ZnO/Al ₂ O ₃ -300R (fresh) | 27.5 | 13.9 | 47.1 | 7.6 | 5.4 |
| Cu@ZnO/Al ₂ O ₃ -300R (used) | 27.7 | 14.3 | 47.4 | 8.0 | 5.8 |

^aElement content was determined by inductively coupled plasma–atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP–AES). ^b Crystallite size of Cu was determined by XRD with the Scherrer equation. ^cMean particle size of Cu was determined by TEM.

Table S3. Comparison of catalytic performances for WGSR over various catalysts

| Catalyst | Reaction Temperature (°C) | Reaction Condition | Reaction Rate ($\mu\text{mol CO g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$) | Ref. |
|--|---------------------------|--|---|--|
| Cu@ZnO/Al ₂ O ₃ -300R | 175 | 6%CO-25%H ₂ O-Ar | 19.47 | This work |
| Cu@ZnO/Al ₂ O ₃ -350R | 175 | 6%CO-25%H ₂ O-Ar | 12.83 | This work |
| Cu@ZnO/Al ₂ O ₃ -400R | 175 | 6%CO-25%H ₂ O-Ar | 10.31 | This work |
| Cu/ZnO/Al ₂ O ₃ | 175 | 6%CO-25%H ₂ O-Ar | 3.58 | This work |
| Cu _{8.9} /CeO ₂ | 300 | 10% CO, 20% H ₂ O, balance He | 16.7 | <i>Catal. Today</i> 2008 , 137, 29 |
| Cu/CeO ₂ | 200 | 1.0 vol.% CO, 3.0 vol.% H ₂ O/He | 4.0 | <i>Nat. Catal.</i> 2019 , 2, 334 |
| ZnO/c-Cu | 225 | 5% CO, 10% H ₂ O, balance Ar | 1.2 | <i>Nat. Commun.</i> 2017 , 8, 488 |
| Cu/ZnO/La | 230 | 7% CO, 8.5% CO ₂ , 23% H ₂ O, 37.5% H ₂ and 25% N ₂ | 11.7 | <i>J. Catal.</i> 2010 , 273, 73 |
| Ce _{0.75} Cu _{0.1} Ni _{0.15} O _{2-δ} | 240 | 1.3% CO, 35% H ₂ O | 2.2 | <i>Appl. Catal. B: Environ.</i> 2012 , 123, 367 |
| Cu ₄ Ni ₁₆ /CeLaO _x | 275 | 10% CO, 20% H ₂ O, balance He | 15.6 | <i>Appl. Catal., A</i> 2010 , 387, 87 |
| Au@TiO _{2-x} /ZnO(H300) | 250 | 6%CO-25%H ₂ O-Ar | 15.2 | <i>ACS Catal.</i> 2019 , 9, 2707 |
| Au/CeO ₂ | 150 | 2%CO-10%H ₂ O-He | 2.38 | <i>Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.</i> 2008 , 47, 2884 |
| Au/CeFeAl | 180 | 4.5%CO-30%H ₂ O-N ₂ | 1.98 | <i>J. Catal.</i> 2014 , 314, 1 |