Supplementary Information

Size-Dependent Catalytic Hydrogen Production via Methane Decomposition and Aromatization at a Low Temperature Using Co, Ni, Cu, Mo, and Ru Nanometals

Yuta Fujimoto<sup>a</sup> and Tomonori Ohba \*,a

<sup>a</sup> Graduate School of Science, Chiba University, 1-33 Yayoi, Inage, Chiba 263-8522, Japan

Figures S1–S14

\**Corresponding author*. E-mail address: ohba@chiba-u.jp (T. Ohba)



Figure S1. XRD patterns and (a) SEM images (b) of nonporous and porous SiO<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S2. (a)  $N_2$  adsorption isotherms at 77 K for nonporous and porous SiO<sub>2</sub>. (b) Pore size distribution of porous SiO<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure S3**. XRD patterns of the Mo nanocatalysts on nonporous  $SiO_2$  (top) and porous  $SiO_2$  (bottom) reduced at 800 K.



(c) Ni on SiO<sub>2</sub>



(e) Mo on SiO<sub>2</sub>





(d) Cu on SiO<sub>2</sub>



(f) Ru on SiO<sub>2</sub>





200 nm

Figure S4. TEM images of nanocatalysts on nonporous SiO<sub>2</sub>.

## (a) Porous SiO<sub>2</sub>



(c) Ni on Porous SiO<sub>2</sub>





(d) Cu on Prous SiO<sub>2</sub>



(e) Mo on Porous SiO<sub>2</sub>





(f) Ru on Porous SiO<sub>2</sub>



200 nm

Figure S5. TEM images of nanocatalysts on porous SiO<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure S6.** Mass spectroscopic peaks from 1 to 100 mass numbers for the Co catalysts in bulk (a), on  $SiO_2$  (b), and in porous  $SiO_2$  (c) within the range of 400–1300 K.



**Figure S7.** Mass spectroscopic peaks from 1 to 100 mass numbers for the Ni catalysts in bulk (a), on nonporous  $SiO_2$  (b), and porous  $SiO_2$  (c) within the range of 400–1300 K.



**Figure S8.** Mass spectroscopic peaks from 1 to 100 mass numbers for the Cu catalysts in bulk (a), on nonporous  $SiO_2$  (b), and porous  $SiO_2$  (c) within the range of 400–1300 K. The intensity of benzene was 10 times greater.



**Figure S9.** Mass spectroscopic peaks from 1 to 100 mass numbers for the Mo catalysts in bulk (a), on nonporous  $SiO_2$  (b), and porous  $SiO_2$  (c) within the range of 400–1300 K.



**Figure S10.** Mass spectroscopic peaks from 1 to 100 mass numbers for the Ru catalysts in bulk (a), on nonporous  $SiO_2$  (b), and porous  $SiO_2$  (c) within the range of 400–1300 K.



**Figure S11.** XPS spectra of C1s results for spent catalysts in the Co (a), Ni (b), Cu (c), Mo (d), and Ru (e) nanocatalysts on porous SiO<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure S12.** (a) Thermogravimetric analyses of nanocatalysts after methane decomposition reactions in O<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. (b) Mole ratio of C against nanocatalyst.



**Figure S13.** Isothermal methane decomposition using the Mo bulk nanocatalyst at 860 K.



**Figure S14.** Isothermal methane aromatization to benzene using the Cu nanocatalyst at 1070 K (a), Mo nanocatalyst at 950 K (b), and Ru nanocatalyst at 1100 K (c).