## Mesoporous catalyst supports based on ZnO–ZnAl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanocomposites with enhanced selectivity and coking resistance in isobutane dehydrogenation

Anna N. Matveyeva<sup>a</sup>, Shamil O. Omarov<sup>a</sup>, Alexey V. Nashchekin<sup>b</sup>, Vadim I. Popkov<sup>a</sup>, Dmitry Yu. Murzin<sup>c</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup>Laboratory of Materials and Processes for Hydrogen Energy, Ioffe Institute, Politekhnicheskaya ul. 28, St. Petersburg 194021, Russia

<sup>b</sup>Federal Joint Research Center "Material science and characterization in advanced technology", Ioffe Institute, Politekhnicheskaya ul. 26, St. Petersburg 194021, Russia

<sup>c</sup>Laboratory of Industrial Chemistry and Reaction Engineering, Åbo Akademi University,

Henriksgatan 2, Turku/Åbo 20500, Finland



Figure S1. SEM images of the synthesized materials.



Figure S2. Multi-peak Gaussian fitting for the samples calcined at 700 °C.



Figure S3. Acidity dependence of weak, medium, and strong acid sites on the ZnO content for the samples calcined at 700 °C.



Figure S4. Isobutane conversion depending on the ZnO content, obtained after 10 min of dehydrogenation in the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle (full cycle: dehydrogenation 50 min – helium purge – air regeneration – helium purge) (a); evolution of H<sub>2</sub> during isobutane dehydrogenation on 20ZnO-80ZnAl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (b). Reaction conditions: 550 °C, 20 ml/min of isobutane : He = 40 : 60.

Table S1. Isobutane conversion, space time yield (STY) of isobutene and isobutene selectivity. Reaction conditions: 550 °C, 10 min, iso-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>:N<sub>2</sub> = 40:60, contact time of 0.24 g·s·ml<sup>-1</sup>.

Catalyst	Conversion, %	Selectivity to iso- C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> , mol. %	STY, kg/( $h \cdot m^3$ )	Reference
20ZnO-80ZnAl <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	12	95	1704	This work
$Cr_{10}Zr_{90}O_x$	36	81	5861	[38]
$Cr_2O_3/Al_2O_3$	7	92	950	This work
Note: STY = mass flow of isobutene $(kg/h) / volume of the catalyst (m3)$				