# **Electronic Supplemental Information**

# Non-conventional low-temperature reverse water-gas shift reaction over highly dispersed Ru catalysts in an electric field

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#### **Experimental procedure**

 Table S1. Precursors used for supports synthesis

Atoms / -	Precursor / -
Ti	[(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CHO] <sub>4</sub> Ti
Zr	$ZrO(NO_3)_2 \bullet 2H_2O$
Ce	$Ce(NO_3)_3 \bullet 6H_2O$
Ca	$Ca(NO_3)_2 \bullet 4H_2O$



Figure S1. A schematic image of the apparatus for the catalytic activity tests.



Figure S2. A schematic image of the apparatus for *in-situ* DRIFTS measurements.

## Characterisation of the catalysts

To confirm the metal dispersion of catalysts synthesized using different preparation methods, FE-TEM measurements were taken. Representative images of the catalysts and the size distribution of Ru particles are shown in **Figure S3**, demonstrating that the colloidal nanoparticle deposited 1.5wt% Ru/ZrTiO<sub>4</sub> catalyst has smaller Ru particles (2.37 nm average particle size) than those of the 1.5wt% Ru/ZrTiO<sub>4</sub> catalyst supported by the conventional impregnation method (7.97 nm average particle

size). The image for after the reaction is shown in **Figure S4**, and the catalyst maintained almost the same structure even after the electric field application.



**Figure S3.** Representative TEM images of (A)-(B) 1.5wt%Ru/ZrTiO<sub>4</sub> (colloidal nanoparticles deposited), (D)-(E) 1.5wt% Ru/ZrTiO<sub>4</sub> (impregnation method) and (C), (F) corresponding particle size distributions.



**Figure S4.** Representative TEM images of (A)-(B) 1.5wt%Ru/ZrTiO<sub>4</sub> (colloidal nanoparticles deposited) after the RWGS reaction for 60 minutes with the electric field (CO<sub>2</sub>: H<sub>2</sub>: Ar = 1: 1: 2; 100 SCCM total flow rate; 5 mA input current) and (C) corresponding particle size distribution.

#### Activity tests

 Table S2. Results of activity tests over various supports (Ru colloidal nanoparticles deposited catalysts) in the electric field

Catalysts*	Temp. / K	Voltage /V	CO <sub>2</sub> conv. / %	CO sel. / %	CO formation rate per input power / mmol kJ <sup>-1</sup>
1.5wt% Ru/ZrTiO <sub>4</sub>	511	274	11.2	95.9	1.30
1.7wt% Ru/Ce <sub>0.5</sub> Zr <sub>0.5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	525	398	11.7	91.9	1.05
1.3wt% Ru/CaTiO <sub>3</sub>	514	334	12.3	86.2	1.11
2.0wt% Ru/CeO <sub>2</sub> (JRC-CEO-01)	472	160	3.5	94.0	0.638

 $CO_2$ : H<sub>2</sub>: Ar = 1: 1: 2; 100 SCCM total flow rate; 100 mg catalyst weight; 5.0 mA input current; \*the

Ru loading weight was evaluated from ICP-OES measurements.



**Figure S5.** Effects of imposed current on  $CO_2$  conversion and CO selectivity over the Ru(col)/ZrTiO<sub>4</sub> catalyst with the electric field at 423 K;  $CO_2$ : H<sub>2</sub>: Ar = 1: 1: 2; 100 SCCM total flow rate; 100 mg catalyst weight.



**Figure S6**. Effects of imposed power on  $CO_2$  conversion over the  $Ru(col)/ZrTiO_4$  catalyst with the electric field at 423 K;  $CO_2$ : H<sub>2</sub>: Ar = 1: 1: 2; 100 SCCM total flow rate; 100 mg catalyst weight.



**Figure S7**. *I-V* characteristic profiles in the electric field over the  $Ru(col)/ZrTiO_4$  catalyst at 423 K;  $CO_2$ : H<sub>2</sub>: Ar = 1: 1: 2; 100 SCCM total flow rate; 100 mg catalyst weight.



**Figure S8**. Catalytic stability during the reaction after purge flow (Ar, H<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>) over the Ru(col)/ZrTiO<sub>4</sub> catalyst without the electric field at 593 K (left) and with the electric field (right); CO<sub>2</sub>: H<sub>2</sub>: Ar = 1: 1: 2; 100 SCCM total flow rate; 100 mg catalyst weight.



**Figure S9.** Effect of the contact time (*W/F*) on  $CO_2$  conversion and CO selectivity of Ru(col)/ZrTiO<sub>4</sub> catalyst (A) without the electric field at 593 K and (B) with the electric field (5 mA) at 423 K; CO<sub>2</sub>: H<sub>2</sub>: Ar = 1: 1: 2, total flow rate: 20-200 SCCM; input current: 5.0 mA; 100 mg catalyst weight.



Figure S10. *In-situ* DRIFTS spectra under the RWGS reaction atmosphere over the  $Ru(col)/ZrTiO_4$  catalyst without the electric field at 373 K-673 K in all measured wavenumber regions (1000-4000 cm<sup>-1</sup>).



**Figure S11.** *In-situ* DRIFTS spectra under the RWGS reaction atmosphere over the Ru(col)/ZrTiO<sub>4</sub> catalyst recorded during applying the electric field (EF) with different input currents at 423 K; CO<sub>2</sub>: H<sub>2</sub>: Ar = 1: 1: 2; 40 SCCM total flow rate; 1.0 or 10 mA input current.



Figure S12. ESR spectra of the Ru(col)/ZrTiO4 catalyst before and after applying the electric field

(EF).



**Figure 13.** Mass signal of  $H_2$  and  $H_2O$  under the reduction atmosphere over the Ru/ZrTiO<sub>4</sub> catalyst with/without applying the electric field (EF) at 523-773 K;  $H_2$ : Ar = 1: 19, total flow rate: 100 SCCM.



**Figure S14.** Mass signal of  $H_2$  and  $H_2O$  under the reduction atmosphere over the Ru/ZrTiO<sub>4</sub> catalyst during applying the electric field (EF) at 423 K;  $H_2$ : Ar = 1: 19, total flow rate: 100 SCCM, imposed current: 5.0 mA.