Supplementary Material for

Selectivity-tunable iron nanoparticles from lignocellulosic components for the reductive

amination of carbonyl compounds towards switchable products

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Fig. S1 Schematic layout of experimental setup



Fig. S2 SEM images of the hydrochars carbonized at different time. (a) 2 h; (b) 6 h; (c) 10 h; (d) 16 h;

(e) 24 h. Note, the other conditions are 180 °C and 10 wt%.



Fig. S3 TEM images of the hydrochars prepared at different solvents. (a) water; (b) glycol.



Fig. S4 FTIR spectra of the hydrochars derived from different feedstock. (a) glucose; (b) sucrose.



Fig. S5 TEM images of the Fe_xO_y@HC at different hydrothermal temperatures. (a) 150 °C; (b) 180

°C; (c) 210 °C.



Fig. S6 SEM images of the Fe@HC at different pyrolysis temperatures. (a) 600 °C; (b) 700 °C; (c)

800 °C.



Fig. S8 The control experiments under similar conditions

Type of crosslinker	Ultimate analysis <i>w</i> _{db} /%			Viold on /0/	Carbon
	С	Н	0	- Yield W_{db}/γ_0	conversion/ %
Citric acid	65.3	4.7	30.0	51.0	83.2
Graphene sheet	70.4	4.2	25.4	48.5	85.3
Gallic acid	66.3	4.8	28.9	47.8	79.2

Table S1 Yields of the hydrothermally synthesized nanosphere with crosslinker

Note: VM, volatile matters; FC, fixed carbon; O (oxygen) was calculated by difference based on dry base. Both of N and ash were not detected in the ultimate and proximate analysis, respectively. The reaction conditions are 180 °C, 16 h and 10 *wt*%.

Catalyst	Specific surfaces area	Average diameter	Pore volume
	(m^{2}/g)	(nm)	$(cm^{3/g})$
Fe _x O _y @HC ₁₅₀	9.72	1.92	0.030
Fe _x O _y @HC ₁₈₀	14.4	1.91	0.043
Fe _x O _y @HC ₂₁₀	16.8	1.71	0.037

Table S2 Surface areas, average diameter, and total pore volumes of the Fe_xO_y@HC

S1. ¹H NMR and GC-MS spectra

(In this GC-MS procedure, the first 2 min is held at 40 °C to stabilize the baseline and to evaporate the methanol solution, so that the huge peak in this period is not included in the calculation. Note, the peaks at 15.6 min (GC result) and 3.81/6.07 ppm (NMR result) represents 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene.) **Entry 12 (CAS: 780-25-6; MW: 195.26; RT: 19.74 min)**.







Entry 22 (CAS: N.D.; MW: 223.26; RT: 21.72 min)



Entry 23 (CAS: N.D.; MW: 223.26; RT: 21.84 min)



Entry 24 (CAS: N.D.; MW: 223.26; RT: 22.17 min)



Entry 25 (CAS: N.D.; MW: 264.14; RT: 24.01 min)



Entry 26 (CAS: 428819-12-9; MW: 231.24; RT: 19.59 min)



Entry 27 (CAS: 54560-80-4; MW: 353.05; RT: 26.05 min)

Entry 28

(Target product is not detected, and because of the unstable functional groups of -OH, a large number of polymers overlap between 27-29 min)





Entry 29 (CAS: 3261-60-7; MW: 255.31; RT: 25.24 min)



Entry 30 (CAS: N.D.; MW: 315.25; RT: 28.69 min)



Entry 31 (CAS: N.D.; MW: 315.25; RT: 26.63 min)



Entry 32 (CAS: N.D.; MW: 315.25; RT: 28.63 min)

Entry 33

(Target product is not detected, and because of the unstable functional groups of -OH, a large number of polymers overlap between 26-29 min)





Entry 34 (CAS: N.D.; MW: 179.25; RT: 16.53 min)



Entry 35 (CAS: N.D.; MW: 207.25; RT: 18.94 min)