

Supplementary Materials

Strongly Acidic SSZ-13 Zeolite Boosts High-Space-Velocity CO₂-to-Light Olefins Conversion via Synergistic Bifunctional Catalysis

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Experimental Section

Materials

Zirconium nitrate pentahydrate ($\text{Zr}(\text{NO}_3)_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 99%), iron nitrate nonahydrate ($\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 99.99%), cerium nitrate hexahydrate ($\text{Ce}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 99.99%), gallium nitrate ($\text{Ga}(\text{NO}_3)_3$, 99.9%) and aluminum nitrate nonahydrate ($\text{Al}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 99%) were supplied by Macklin Co., Ltd. Colloidal silica (Ludox AS-40, 40 wt.% suspension in H_2O) was purchased from Sigma Aldrich. Zinc nitrate hexahydrate ($\text{Zn}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 99%), chromic nitrate nonahydrate ($\text{Cr}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 99.99%), D-(+)-Glucose (99.7%) and citric acid (99.5%) were purchased from Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd. Sodium hydroxide (NaOH , 96%) was purchased from Xilong Chemical Co., Ltd. Ammonium carbonate ($(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$, 99%) and aluminum isopropoxide ($\text{Al}(\text{O}-i\text{-Pr})_3$, 99%) were purchased from Shanghai Adamas Reagent Co., Ltd. N,N,N-Trimethyl-1-ammonium adamantane (TMAdaOH, 25%) was purchased from Shanghai Haohong Bio-pharmaceutical Technology Co., Ltd. All chemicals were analytical grade and did not require further purification for use.

Synthesis of metal oxides

The metal oxide catalysts were synthesized predominantly by co-precipitation and sol-gel methods. The $\text{ZnZrO}_x(\text{a})$ solid solution catalyst was taken as a typical example of the co-precipitation method to describe the synthesis procedures, where a represents the molar ratio of $\text{Zn}/(\text{Zn}+\text{Zr})$ for the synthesis.¹ The total moles of metal ions are 0.0155 mol. A certain amount zinc nitrate hexahydrate ($\text{Zn}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$), zirconium nitrate pentahydrate ($\text{Zr}(\text{NO}_3)_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$), or a mixture of $\text{Zn}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and zirconium $\text{Zr}(\text{NO}_3)_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ with a designed Zn/Zr molar ratio were first dissolved in 100 mL water at 70 °C. Then, 100 mL of aqueous solution containing 3.06 g ammonium carbonate ($(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$) was added to the aforementioned solution (at a flow rate of 3 ml min⁻¹) under vigorous stirring at 70 °C to form a precipitate. The suspension was continuously stirred for 2 h at 70 °C, followed by cooling down to room temperature, filtering, and washing three times with deionized water. The recovered sample was dried at 110 °C

overnight and calcined at 500 °C in air for 3 h. The same preparation technique was used for GaZnZrO_x with a Ga : Zn : Zr molar ratio of 33 : 2.5 : 67 and ZnZrAlO_x with a Zn : Zr : Al molar ratio of 13 : 87 : 5.

The ZnFeZrO_x with Zn : Fe : Zr molar ratio of 0.13 : 0.05 : 0.87 was taken as a typical example of the sol-gel method to describe the synthesis procedure. Zn(NO₃)₂·6H₂O, Fe(NO₃)₃·9H₂O, and Zr(NO₃)₄·5H₂O were dissolved in the deionized water. Subsequently, a certain amount of citric acid (metal ions to citric acid molar ratio of 0.5) was added. Then, the mixture solution was stirred and heated to 80 °C to produce a highly viscous gel. The filtered sample was dried at 110 °C overnight and calcined at 500 °C in air for 3 h. The same preparation technique was used for Cr₂O₃, GaZrO_x with a Ga : Zr molar ratio of 1 : 2 and ZnCeZrO_x with a Zn : Ce : Zr molar ratio of 0.5 : 0.2 : 1.8 according to previous reports.²⁻⁴

Hydrothermal synthesis of aluminosilicate SSZ-13

The aluminosilicate SSZ-13 zeolite with CHA topology was synthesized by the hydrothermal synthesis method according to reported procedures.⁵ A synthesis molar ratio of 1.0 SiO₂ : X Al₂O₃ : 0.25 TMAdaOH : 0.125 Na₂O : 44 H₂O was used, where X = 0.100, 0.050, 0.033 and 0.017 for Si/Al = 5, 10, 15 and 30, respectively. A typical synthesis involved adding 6.9630 g N,N,N-Trimethyl-1-ammonium adamantane (TMAdaOH) solution to 17.9438 g of deionized H₂O with stirring. Next, a desirable amount of aluminum isopropoxide (Al(O-*i*-Pr)₃) and NaOH was added to the aqueous TMAdaOH solution and the mixture was stirred under ambient conditions for 15 min. Finally, 4.9500 g of colloidal silica (Ludox AS-40) was added to the mixture and stirred for 2 h under ambient conditions. The synthesis solution was then transferred to a 50 mL Teflon-lined stainless-steel autoclave (Anhui Chem-n Instrument Co., Ltd.) and placed in a forced convection oven at 160 °C and rotated at 20 rpm for 8 d. The crystalline zeolite solid was recovered by three cycles of centrifugation and washing with DI water. The recovered product was dried at 80 °C for 12 h. Finally, the sample was calcined at 550 °C for 6 h to remove the organic template. The resulting sample

was labeled as SSZ-13(x), where x represents the Si/Al ratio in the gel.

Hydrothermal synthesis of other zeolites.

SAPO-34 (CHA topology), ZK-5 (KFI topology), LTA (LTA topology), ERI (ERI topology) and RHO (RHO topology) zeolites were synthesized according to the reported procedure.⁶⁻⁹

SAPO-34 zeolite was prepared with the synthetic gel containing colloidal silica (JN-40), pseudo-boehmite (Al_2O_3), tetraethylammonium hydroxide (TEAOH), phosphoric acid (H_3PO_4) and deionized water. The mixture was stirred for 2 h to form homogeneous gel with a composition of $0.3 \text{ SiO}_2 : 1.0 \text{ Al}_2\text{O}_3 : 2.0 \text{ TEAOH} : 1.0 \text{ P}_2\text{O}_5 : 70 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$. The synthesis solution was then transferred to a Teflon-lined stainless steel autoclave at 200°C for 2 d.

ZK-5 zeolite was synthesized with the colloidal silica (Ludox AS-40), potassium hydroxide (KOH), Aluminum hydroxide ($\text{Al}(\text{NO}_3)_3$), 18-crown-6, strontium nitrate ($\text{Sr}(\text{NO}_3)_2$) and deionized water. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. The obtained gel had a composition of $0.23 \text{ K}_2\text{O} : 0.1 \text{ Al}_2\text{O}_3 : 1.0 \text{ SiO}_2 : 0.1 \text{ 18-crown-6} : 0.01 \text{ SrO} : 16 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$. The synthesis solution was then transferred to a Teflon-lined stainless steel autoclave and allowed to crystallize at 150°C for 5 d.

LTA-type zeolite was synthesized with tetraethylorthosilicate (TEOS), HF, aluminum hydroxide ($\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$), tetramethylammonium hydroxide pentahydrate ($\text{TMAOH} \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$), and deionized water. The mixture was stirred for 24 h at room temperature with a composition of $0.50 \text{ ROH} : 0.05 \text{ TMAOH} : 0.49 \text{ HF} : 1.0 \text{ SiO}_2 : 0.025 \text{ Al}_2\text{O}_3 : 5.0 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$, where R is the imidazolium-based OSDA. The synthesis solution was then transferred to a Teflon-lined stainless steel autoclave and allowed to crystallized at 175°C for 3 d.

RHO-type zeolite was synthesized with colloidal silica (Ludox AS-40), sodium aluminate (NaAlO_2), sodium fluoride (NaF), RHO zeolite seeds, alkali metal-crown ether (AMCE-2) complex and deionized water. The mixture was stirred for 24 h at room temperature in terms of a composition of $0.04 \text{ Na}_2\text{O} : 0.04 \text{ Al}_2\text{O}_3 : 1.0 \text{ SiO}_2 : 0.02 \text{ NaF}$

: 0.16 (AMCE-2 complex) : 6.4 H₂O. The synthesis solution was then transferred to a Teflon-lined stainless steel autoclave and allowed to crystallize at 140 °C for 6 d.

ERI-type zeolite was synthesized with colloidal silica (Ludox AS-40), aluminium sec-butoxide (Al[OCH(CH₃)C₂H₅]₃), tetrapropylammonium hydroxide (TPAOH) hexamethonium bromide (TCl), and potassium hydroxide solution (KOH). The composition of the initial reactant mixture was as follows: 6.37 TPAOH : 1.63 RBr₂: 0.72 K₂O : 0.8 Al₂O₃ : 16 SiO₂ : 258 H₂O, where RBr₂ represents hexamethonium bromide. The initial reactant mixture was finally transferred to an autoclave for hydrothermal treatment at 150 °C for 5 d.

All the recovered products were dried at 80 °C for 12 h. Finally, the samples were calcined at 550 °C for 6 h to remove the organic template. The resulting sample was labeled as zeolite(x), where x represents the Si/Al ratio in the gel.

Ion-exchange of the calcined zeolites to produce the proton-type zeolite

The calcined zeolite was treated with 0.5 mol L⁻¹ NH₄Cl solution (solid-to-liquid ratio of 1 g : 100 mL) at 65 °C for 3 h for twice. The sample was washed several times with deionized water and then calcined at 550 °C for 6 h. The final samples obtained were labeled as H-zeolite(x).

Synthesis of OXZEO bifunctional catalysts

The bifunctional tandem catalysts were fabricated through a mechanochemical blending protocol combining metal oxides with zeolite components. In a standard procedure, metal oxide and zeolite were homogenized at a 2:1 (mass ratio) grinding for 10 min. The resulting composite mixture underwent sequential processing: uniaxial pressing at 10 MPa, and size fractionation to 20 - 40 mesh particles. All preparations maintained strict stoichiometric control unless explicitly modified for comparative studies.

CO₂ hydrogenation to methanol

The catalytic reaction of CO₂ hydrogenation to methanol was evaluated using a high-pressure tubular fixed-bed reactor, and the products were detected by an on-line gas chromatograph (FULI 80) equipped with a thermal conductivity detector (TCD) and two flame ionization detectors (FID). Typically, the ZnZrO_x(a) solid solution (0.12 g) was first pretreated in Ar flow (30 mL min⁻¹) at 400 °C and atmospheric pressure for 2 h. Then the CO₂ and H₂ mixture with a CO₂/H₂ ratio of 1/3 (with 4 vol% N₂ as internal standard) was introduced in the reactor at 320 °C, 4 MPa and GHSV of 21,000 mL g_{cat}⁻¹ h⁻¹. The selectivity of hydrocarbon products was calculated on a molar carbon basis. The selectivity of CO was calculated separately. All the data discussed in this work was collected after 12 h of reaction for CO₂ hydrogenation reaction. TCD and TDX-01 packed column connections (1 m × 1/8 inch), FID connected with HP-PLOT AL2O3S capillary column (30 m × 0.53 mm × 15µm), using Ar (99.999%) as carrier gas. H₂, CO₂, N₂, CO are analyzed by TCD, hydrocarbon products are analyzed by FID 1, and oxygenated hydrocarbons such as CH₃OH are analyzed by another FID 2. Almost no hydrocarbons were detected in FID 1. CO₂ conversion (X), and product selectivity (S) were calculated using the following equations:

$$X(\text{CO}_2) = \frac{\text{CO}_{\text{out}} + \text{CH}_3\text{OH}_{\text{out}}}{\text{CO}_{2\text{out}} + \text{CO}_{\text{out}} + \text{CH}_3\text{OH}_{\text{out}}} \times 100\% \quad (1)$$

$$S(\text{Product}) = \frac{\text{Product}_{\text{out}}}{\text{CO}_{\text{out}} + \text{CH}_3\text{OH}_{\text{out}}} \times 100\% \quad (2)$$

where CO_{2out}, CO_{out} and CH₃OH_{out} are the outlet amounts (moles) of CO₂, CO, and CH₃OH respectively.

Supplementary Figures

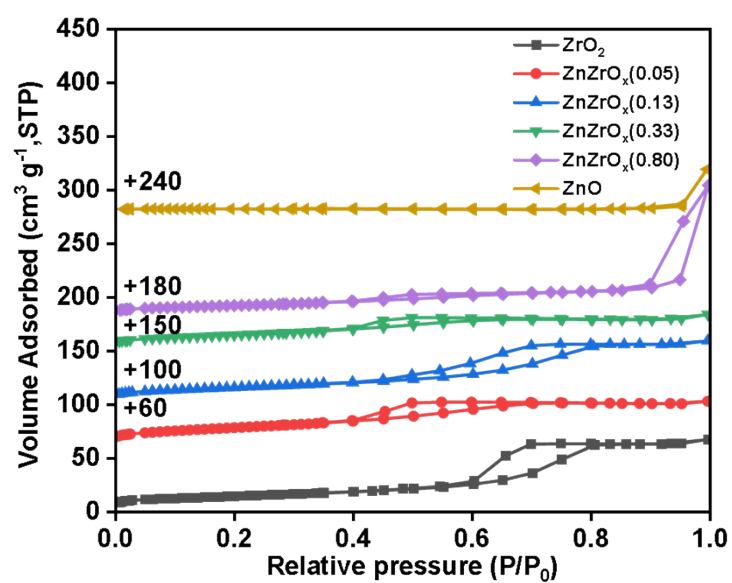


Fig. S1 N₂ adsorption-desorption isotherms profiles of ZrO₂, ZnO and ZnZrO_x(a) oxides with different Zn/(Zn+Zr) molar ratios.

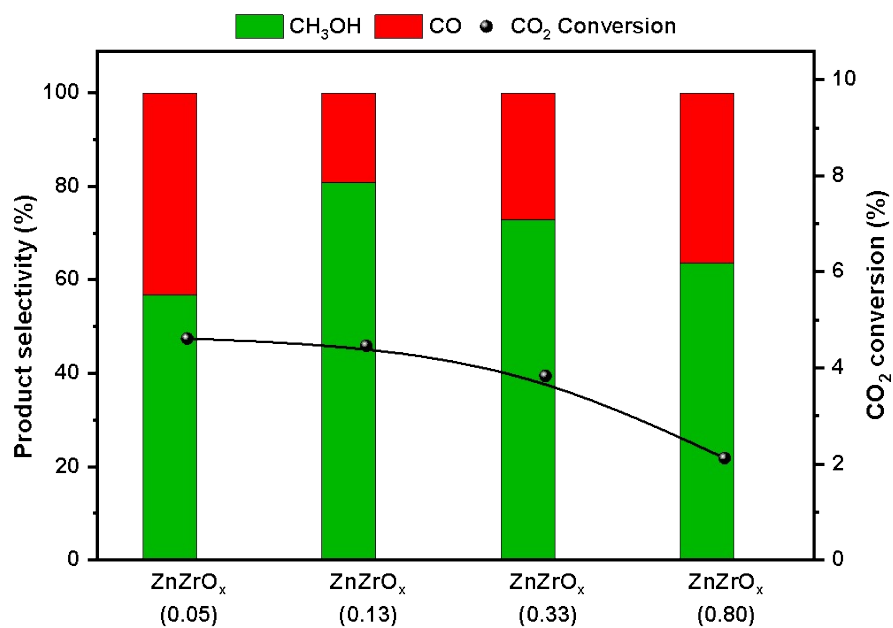


Fig. S2 Catalytic performance of CO₂ hydrogenation to methanol. CO₂ conversion and product distribution obtained over ZnZrO_x(a) oxide (reaction conditions: H₂/CO₂ = 3:1, GHSV = 21,000 mL g_{cat}⁻¹ h⁻¹, 4 MPa and 320 °C).

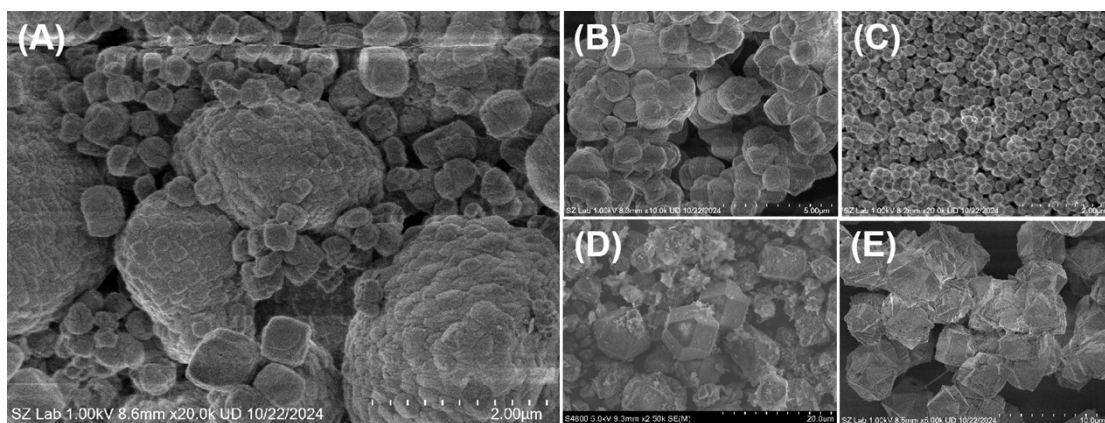


Fig. S3 SEM images of (A) H-SSZ-13(30), (B) H-RHO(12.5), (C) H-ERI(10), (D) H-LTA(20) and (E) H-ZK-5(5) zeolite.

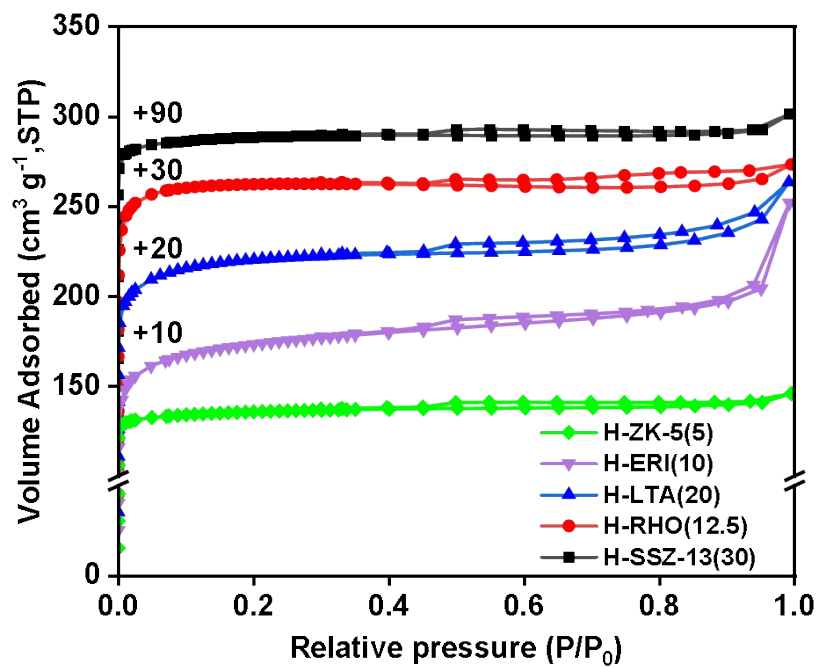


Fig. S4 N₂ adsorption-desorption isotherms profiles of H-ZK-5(5), H-ERI(10), H-LTA(20), H-RHO(12.5) and H-SSZ-13(30) zeolite.

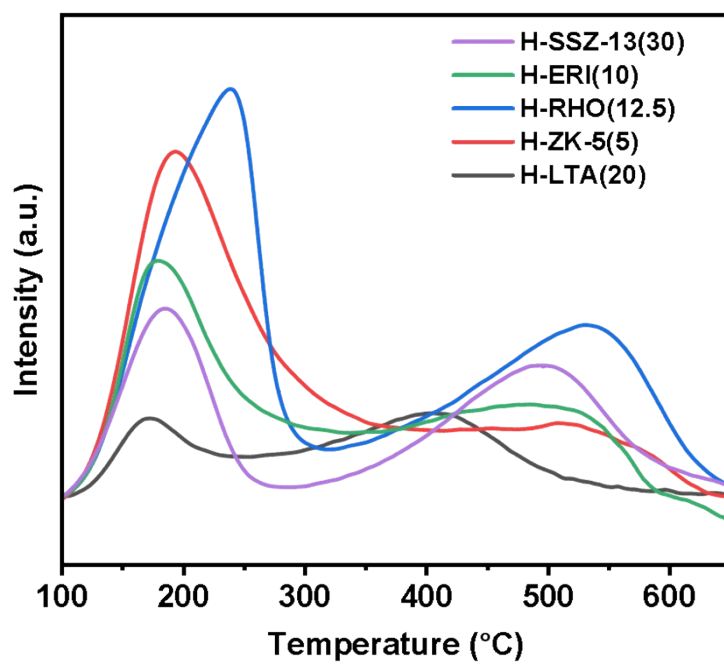


Fig. S5 NH₃-TPD pattern of H-ZK-5(5), H-ERI(10), H-LTA(20), H-RHO(12.5), and H-SSZ-13(30) zeolite.

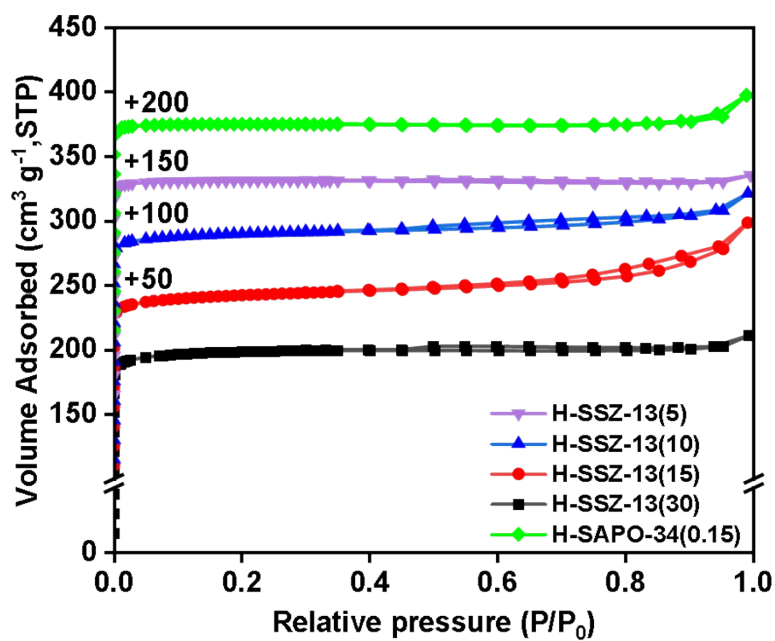


Fig. S6 N₂ adsorption-desorption isotherms profiles of H-SAPO-34(0.15), H-SSZ-13(5), H-SSZ-13(10), H-SSZ-13(15) and H-SSZ-13(30) zeolite.

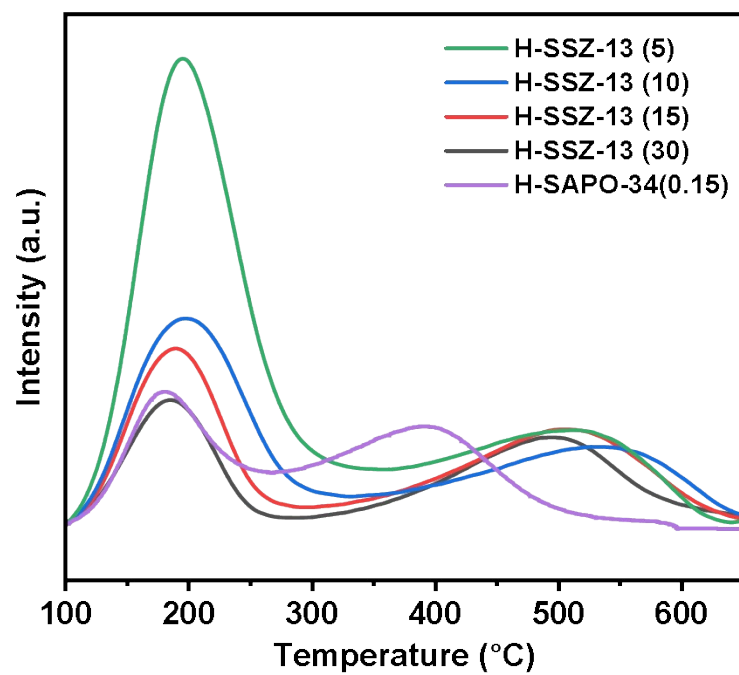


Fig. S7 NH₃-TPD pattern of H-SAPO-34(0.15), H-SSZ-13(5), H-SSZ-13(10), H-SSZ-13(15) and H-SSZ-13(30) zeolites.

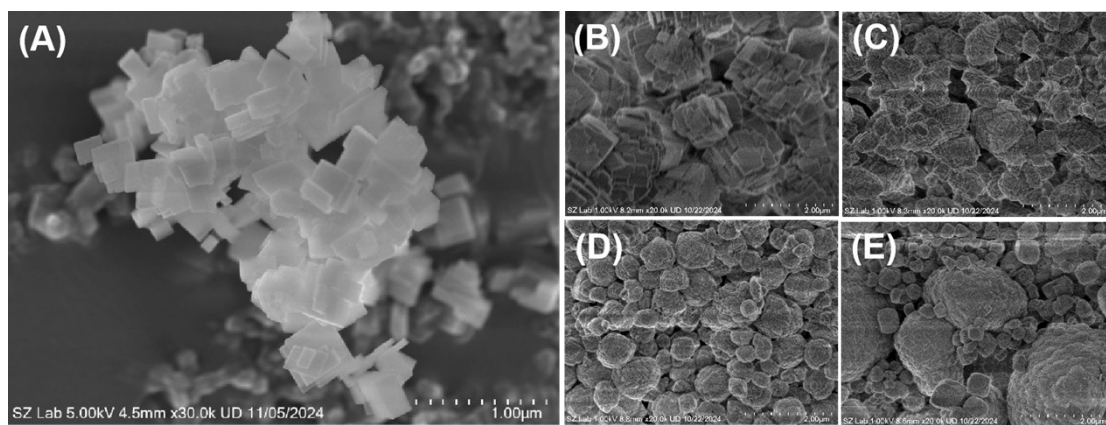


Fig. S8 SEM images of (A) H-SAPO-34(0.15), (B) H-SSZ-13(5), (C) H-SSZ-13(10), (D) H-SSZ-13(15) and (E) H-SSZ-13(30) zeolite.

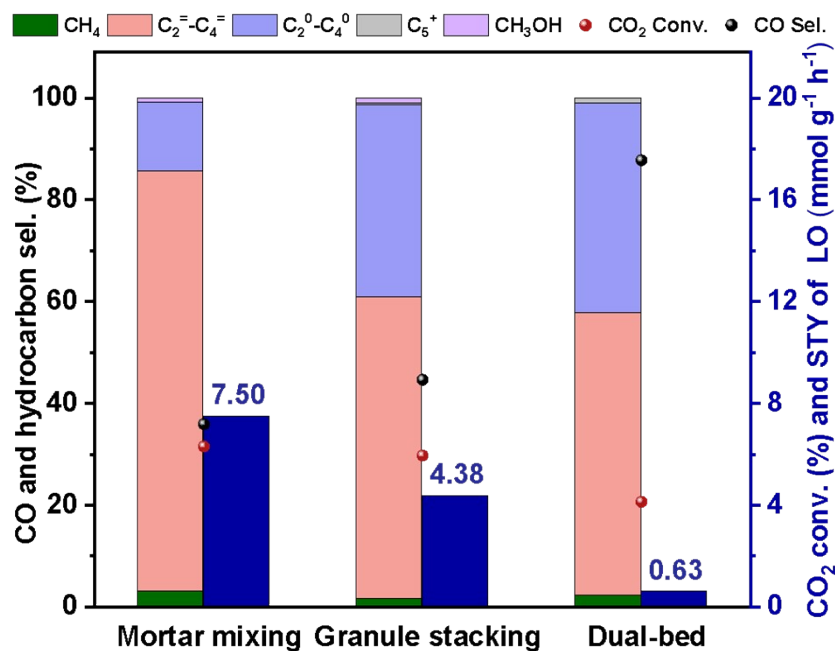


Fig. S9 Catalytic performance of CO₂ hydrogenation into light olefins. Effect of mix mode of oxide and zeolite components on the catalytic performance of ZnZrO_x(0.13) oxide and H-SSZ-13(30) zeolite (reaction conditions: H₂/CO₂ = 3:1, GHSV = 21,000 mL g_{cat}⁻¹ h⁻¹, 1 MPa and 380 °C). LO: light olefins.

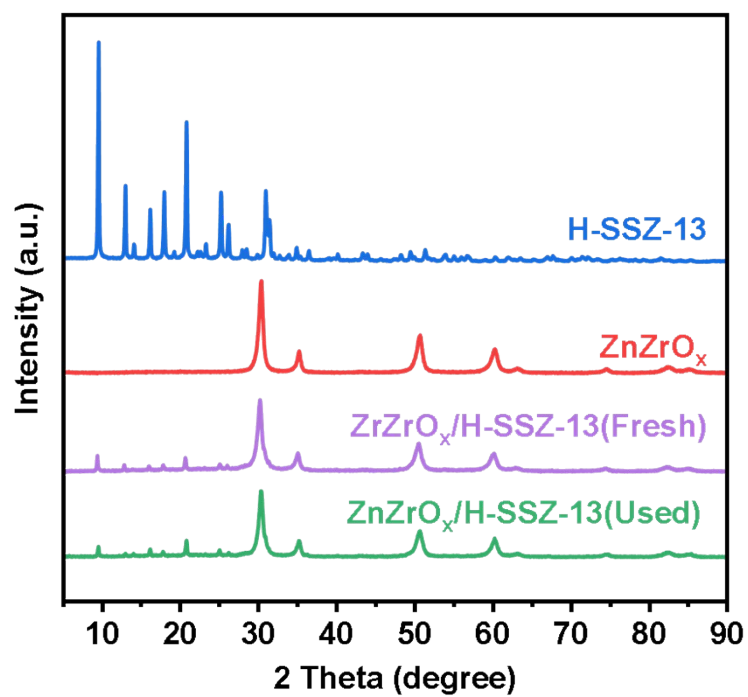


Fig. S10 PXRD patterns of ZnZrO_x(0.13), H-SZZ-13(30), ZnZrO_x/H-S SZ-13(fresh), and ZnZrO_x/H-S SZ-13(used).

Supplementary Tables

Table S1. Physical and chemical properties of $\text{Zn}_a\text{Zr}_{1-a}\text{O}_x$.

Sample	$\text{Zn}/(\text{Zn}+\text{Zr})^a$	S_{total}^b ($\text{m}^2 \text{g}^{-1}$)	$\text{PV}_{\text{total}}^c$ ($\text{cm}^3 \text{g}^{-1}$)	Amount of desorbed CO_2 ($\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$)
ZrO_2	0	51.2	0.10	178.0
$\text{ZnZrO}_x(0.05)$	4.5%	67.3	0.07	240.0
$\text{ZnZrO}_x(0.13)$	11.2%	56.8	0.09	191.9
$\text{ZnZrO}_x(0.33)$	29.5%	54.0	0.05	151.4
$\text{ZnZrO}_x(0.80)$	83.0%	43.4	0.19	153.5
ZnO	1	7.0	0.06	23.1

^a The $\text{Zn}/(\text{Zn}+\text{Zr})$ ratios of samples were measured by XRF.

^b Calculated by BET plot.

^c Calculated based on $\text{P}/\text{P}_0 = 0.99$.

Table S2. Surface area and pore volume properties of various zeolites.

Sample	S_{total}^a (m ² g ⁻¹)	S_{inter}^c (m ² g ⁻¹)	S_{exter}^b (m ² g ⁻¹)	PV_{total}^d (cm ³ g ⁻¹)	PV_{micro}^b (cm ³ g ⁻¹)	PV_{meso}^e (cm ³ g ⁻¹)
H-ERI(10)	505.3	389.4	115.9	0.37	0.20	0.17
H-LTA(20)	612.4	528.3	84.1	0.38	0.27	0.10
H-ZK-5(5)	428.3	396.5	31.8	0.23	0.20	0.03
H-RHO(12.5)	699.5	670.2	29.3	0.38	0.35	0.03
H-SAPO-34(0.15)	504.8	496.5	8.3	0.37	0.26	0.11
H-SSZ-13(5)	526.5	518.7	7.8	0.29	0.28	0.01
H-SSZ-13(10)	550.8	509.9	40.9	0.34	0.28	0.07
H-SSZ-13(15)	560.2	505.5	54.7	0.38	0.27	0.11
H-SSZ-13(30)	574.0	539.2	34.8	0.33	0.29	0.04

^a Calculated by BET plot.

^b Calculated by *t*-plot.

^c S: surface area, $S_{\text{inter}} = S_{\text{total}} - S_{\text{exter}}$.

^d Calculated based on $P/P_0 = 0.99$.

^e PV: pore volume, $PV_{\text{meso}} = PV_{\text{total}} - PV_{\text{micro}}$.

Table S3. Chemical composition and acidity properties of various zeolites.

Sample	Si/Al ^a	Amount of desorbed NH ₃ (mmol g ⁻¹)			
		Total	Weak	Medium	Strong
H-ERI(10)	6.0	1.25	0.44 (183 °C)	0.41 (286 °C)	0.40 (479 °C)
H-LTA(20)	18.5	0.52	0.09 (174 °C)	0.30 (330 °C)	0.13 (416 °C)
H-ZK-5(5)	3.5	1.35	0.51 (190 °C)	0.43 (255 °C)	0.41 (464 °C)
H-RHO(12.5)	8.0	1.81	1.02 (220 °C)	0.29 (420 °C)	0.50 (535 °C)
H-SAPO-34(0.15)	0.18	1.16	0.48 (180 °C)	0.68 (390 °C)	/
H-SSZ-13(5)	4.2	1.69	1.04 (198 °C)	0.38 (345 °C)	0.27 (517 °C)
H-SSZ-13(10)	7.0	1.40	0.76 (198 °C)	0.33 (406 °C)	0.31 (540 °C)
H-SSZ-13(15)	9.7	1.24	0.56 (189 °C)	0.27 (414 °C)	0.41 (517 °C)
H-SSZ-13(30)	16.6	0.91	0.38 (185 °C)	0.05 (366 °C)	0.48 (490 °C)

^a Si/Al ratios were measured by XRF.

Table S4. Comparison of the catalytic performance between our catalyst and the other reported catalysts.

Sample	Temp. (°C)	Pressure (MPa)	O/Z	H ₂ /CO ₂	GHSV (mL g _{cat} ⁻¹ h ⁻¹)	CO ₂ conv.	CO sel.	C ₂ =-C ₄ = sel.	Yield (%)	STY (mmol g _{cat} ⁻¹ h ⁻¹)	Ref.
Cr ₂ O ₃ /H-SAPO-34	370	0.5	0.5	3	4,000	12.7	36.0	95.8	7.79	3.34	1
ZnGa ₂ O ₄ /H-SAPO-34	400	3	0.5	3	5,400	22.0	66.0	80.0	5.98	3.46	10
Zn _{0.5} Ce _{0.2} Zr _{1.8} O ₄ /H-RUB-13(200)	350	3.5	1	3	4,800	22.1	34.5	72.2	10.45	5.37	11
	350	3.5	1	6	4,800	30.1	26.5	72.7	16.08	4.73	
	350	3.5	1	3	9,600	7.86	26.4	77.19	4.46	4.59	
ZnZrO _x /Zn-SAPO-34	380	2	2	3	3,600	12.0	65.0	80.0	3.36	1.30	12
	380	2	2	3	15,000	6.52	36.32	90.0	3.59	6.01	
	380	2	2	3	20,000	5.65	33.16	92.5	3.49	7.49	
GaZrO _x /H-SAPO-34	390	3	0.5	3	3,000	26.7	52.4	88.8	11.28	3.63	13
	390	3	0.5	3	4,500	23.3	53.8	90.2	9.70	4.68	
	390	3	0.5	3	6,000	21.4	53.0	90.9	9.12	5.86	
In-Zr/H-SAPO-34	400	3	2	3	9,000	35.5	85	76.7	4.08	3.94	14
	400	3	2	3	13,500	31.5	81.7	80.4	4.63	6.70	
	400	3	2	3	15,750	29.0	78.2	83.9	5.30	8.95	
ZnFeAlO ₄ /H-SAPO-34	380	4	1	4	4,000	42.0	50.0	83.0	17.43	5.98	15
	380	4	1	6	4,000	48.5	48.0	80.0	20.18	4.94	

Sample	Temp. (°C)	Pressure (MPa)	M/Z	H ₂ /CO ₂	GHSV (mL g _{cat} ⁻¹ h ⁻¹)	CO ₂ conv.	CO sel.	C ₂ =-C ₄ = sel.	Yield (%)	STY (mmol g _{cat} ⁻¹ h ⁻¹)	Ref.
ZnAl ₂ O ₄ /H-SAPO-34	370	3	0.5	3	5,400	15.0	49.0	87.0	6.66	3.85	16
ZnZrO _x /H-SSZ-13(10)	380	1	2	3	21,000	6.34	35.0	86.48	3.56	8.02	This work
ZnZrO _x /H-SSZ-13(15)	380	1	2	3	21,000	6.52	34.31	86.99	3.73	8.38	
ZnZrO _x /H-SSZ-13(30)	380	1	2	3	21,000	6.30	35.92	82.58	3.34	7.50	

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