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**Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)** 

## High surface area LaMO<sub>3</sub> (M=Co, Mn) hollow spheres: synthesis, characterization and catalytic properties in methane combustion

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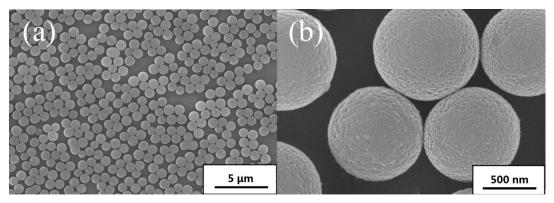


Figure S1. SEM images of carbon sphere templates: (a) low magnification; (b) high magnification.

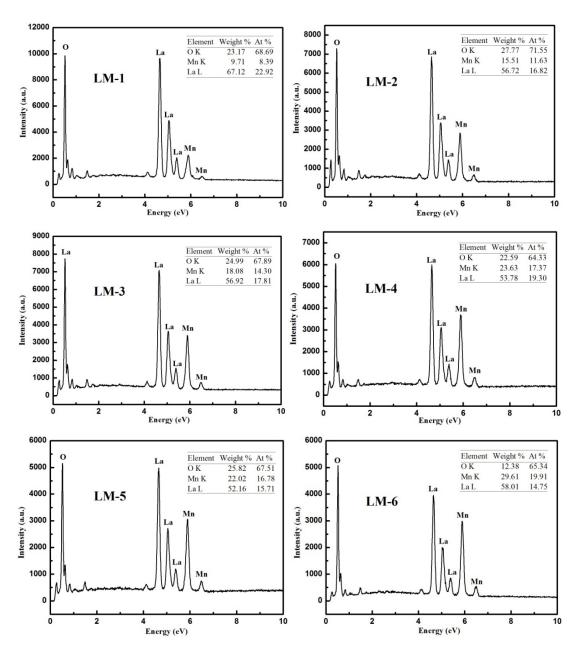


Figure S2. EDX images of LM-1, LM-2, LM-3, LM-4, LM-5 and LM-6

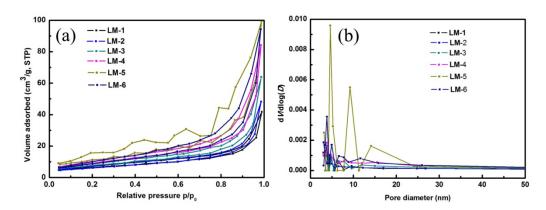
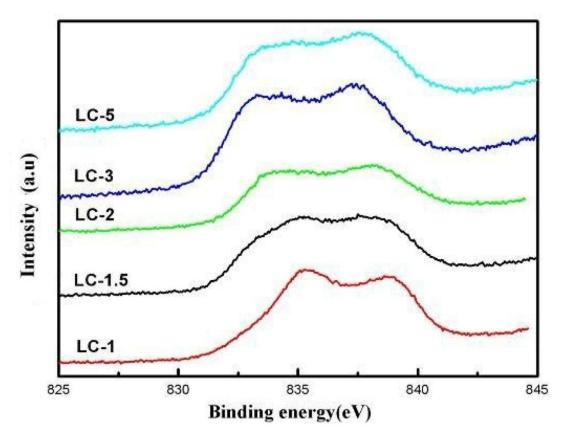
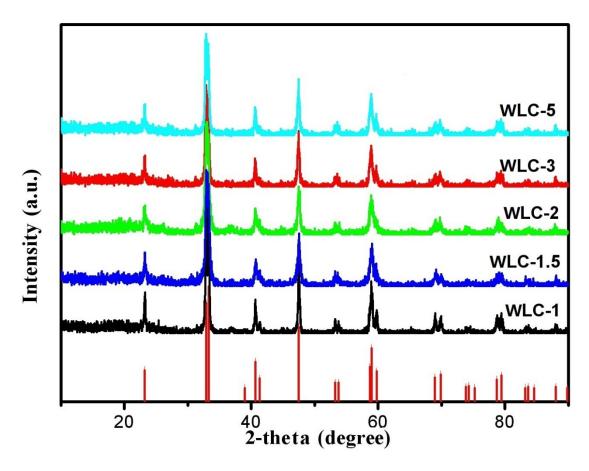


Figure S3. Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherms (a) and pore-size distributions (b) of  $LaMnO_3. \label{eq:lambda}$ 



**Figure S4.** XPS spectra of the as-prepared LaCoO<sub>3</sub> of La3d<sub>5/2</sub>.



**Figure S5.** XRD patterns of the acid-treated LaCoO<sub>3</sub>.

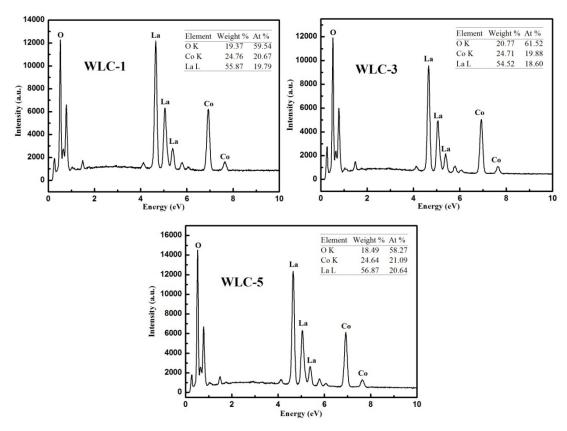
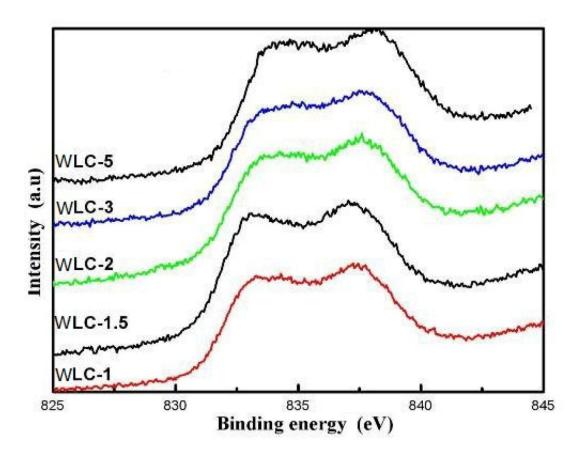
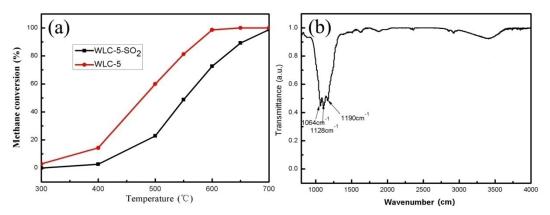


Figure S6. EDX images of WLC-1, WLC-3 and WLC-5



**Figure S7.** XPS spectra of the acid-treated LaCoO<sub>3</sub> of La3d<sub>5/2</sub>.



**Figure S8.** CH<sub>4</sub> oxidation as a function of temperature to WLC-5 before and after SO<sub>2</sub> poisoned (a) and FTIR spectrum of the SO<sub>2</sub> poisoned WLC-5 (b)