## Supporting information

## Eggshell-type catalysts by atomic layer deposition: distribution of zinc oxide within mesoporous alumina spheres

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Distance from particle surface (µm) 0 μm = particle surface

1.00

0.75

0.50

0.25

0.00 ∟ 0

Zn surface coverage ( $\theta$ )





Figure 2. SEM-EDS results of ALD samples prepared by the reaction of varied dose of Zn(acac)<sub>2</sub> with mesoporous alumina sphere (particle size 1.0 mm): (a) backscattered electron image (the location of EDS line scan marked in green). (b) EDS line scans showing the intensity of zinc in alumina.

Figure 3. Modelled zinc surface coverage profiles with varying exposure. Exposure (partial pressure x time) having a fixed precursor partial pressure (100 Pa). The model deposition time (exposure) has the corresponding ratios with respect to the experimental dose of Zn(acac)<sub>2</sub> ALD reactant.