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Comparison of hydrocarbon components affecting de-nox performance of hc-selective catalytic reduction catalysts

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The catalytic performance of copper (Cu)-containing zeolite catalysts supported on various types of zeolites (chabazite, MFI, and BEA frameworks) was investigated in the hydrocarbon (HC)-selective catalytic reduction (SCR) of NO_x with C₃H₆ and n-C₄H₁₀ as reducing agents. The catalysts were prepared by an wetness incipient impregnation method with varying copper loadings from 1 to 10 wt%, thereafter they were washed on the commercial monolithic honeycomb substrate. All the prepared powder catalysts were characterized by N₂ adsorption isotherms, powder X-ray diffraction (XRD), inductively coupled plasma-atomic emission spectrometry, solid-state ²⁷Al magic angle spinning-nuclear magnetic resonance, ultraviolet-visible spectroscopy, X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy, field emission scanning electron microscopy, and high-resolution scanning electron microscopy. The impregnation of Cu to the respective zeolites did not modify the inherent zeolite topology, whereas the loading levels of copper and zeolite topology significantly affected the de-NO_x performance of Cu/zeolites. Among the Cu/zeolite catalysts, 2Cu/ZSM-5 showed the best catalytic performance both the C₃H₆- and C₄H₁₀-SCR, exhibiting a nearly 70% de-NO_x performance at 360°C in C₃H₆-SCR and 74% NO_x conversion at 450-465°C in C₄H₁₀-SCR, followed by Cu/BETA and Cu/SSZ-13. The effects of coexistent gases (0-8 vol.% oxygen and 0-10 vol.% carbon dioxide) and hydrothermal aging at 700°C were also evaluated. Oxygen was an indispensable component for the HC-SCR process, and its concentration affected the N₂ selectivity and temperature window of the maximum de-NO_x performance. The presence of CO₂ in the feed stream was an inhibitor for NO_x reduction.

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