TPD Studies of NH₃-SCR Catalysts and DeNOx Activity Correlation

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A series of metal-exchanged zeolite catalysts was tested for its DeNOx activity in ammonia selective catalytic reduction (NH $_3$ -SCR) reactions. Activity was found to depend strongly on metal species such that at a certain metal, NOx conversion is achieved at 473 K. Ammonia-temperature programmed desorption (NH $_3$ -TPD) was used in an attempt to explain the findings of these experiments. Specifically, we have used NH $_3$ -TPD to determine the population and strength of the acid sites present in the catalysts as a function of metal sepecies. At temperatures where DeNOx activity differs significantly among the catalysts, corresponding differences in their acid site distributions, and hence surface NH $_3$ populations, are observed.