

Preferential Oxidation of Carbon Monoxide in Excess Hydrogen Over Cu-Co Oxides with mesoporous structures

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Catalytic preferential oxidation (PROX) of CO in a H₂-rich stream has recently attracted much attention, since it is considered as the simplest and the most effective method for CO removing from the gas mixtures containing concentrated H₂ for fuel cells. In this study, a series of mesoporous Cu-Co composite oxides by a co-nanocasting-replication method using mesoporous silica KIT-6 as hard template which with the different Cu/Co ratios. The obtained materials were well-characterized by XRD, N₂-adsorption, SEM, TEM, XPS, H₂-TPR and CO-TPD. The results indicated that these Cu/Co composite oxides with different ratios show the smaller particle sizes than pure CuO and Co₃O₄. And these composite oxides can be reduced at lower temperatures than Co₃O₄ by H₂. CO adsorption amounts over the composite oxides were significantly higher than those over Co₃O₄ and CuO. It is indicated that a strong interaction between Cu and Co species in these composite oxides and when the Cu/Co=1 atomic ratio at which the Cu₃Co_{3-x}O₄ phase was the main component. For the preferential oxidation of CO in H₂-Rich stream, the ratio of composite oxides is 5:5 showed the best catalytic activity than both Cu oxide and Co oxide and other composite oxides.