

Accepted Manuscript

Title: Fischer-Tropsch synthesis: foregoing calcination and utilizing reduction promoters leads to improved conversion and selectivity with Co/silica

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PII: S0926-860X(18)30185-6
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apcata.2018.04.013>
Reference: APCATA 16619

To appear in: *Applied Catalysis A: General*

Received date: 20-12-2017
Revised date: 26-3-2018
Accepted date: 13-4-2018

Please cite this article as: Martinelli M, Mehrbod M, Dawson C, Davis BH, Lietti L, Cronauer DC, Kropf AJ, Marshall CL, Jacobs G, Fischer-Tropsch synthesis: foregoing calcination and utilizing reduction promoters leads to improved conversion and selectivity with Co/silica, *Applied Catalysis A, General* (2018), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apcata.2018.04.013>

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Fischer-Tropsch synthesis: foregoing calcination and utilizing reduction promoters leads to improved conversion and selectivity with Co/silica

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Highlights

- Air calcined Co/SiO₂ produce large, easily reduced, Co particles and low Co site densities.
- Direct reduction of cobalt nitrate particles on silica yield small, difficult to reduce, Co particles.
- TPR-MS/EXAFS/XANES reveal a Co oxide spinel is formed by NO₂ oxidation, reducing to CoO and Co⁰.
- Pt addition facilitates reduction of small Co oxides formed during direct nitrate reduction.
- Direct Co nitrate reduction: adding Pt greatly increases Co site density and X_{Co}; improves selectivity.

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