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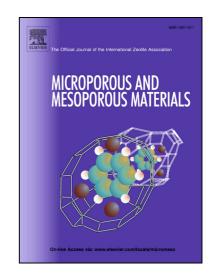
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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Hierarchical Fe-, Cu- and Co-Beta zeolites obtained by mesotemplate-free method.

Part I: Synthesis and catalytic activity in N₂O decomposition

M. Rutkowska^{1*}, Z. Piwowarska¹, E. Micek¹, L. Chmielarz¹

¹Jagiellonian University, Ingardena 3, 30-060 Kraków, Poland

*Corresponding author. Tel.: +48 126632096, fax: +48 126340515. E-mail address:

ma.rutkows@chemia.uj.edu.pl (M. Rutkowska)

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Abstract:

Two series of BEA zeolites (Beta and Beta/meso) have been prepared. A first series of the

samples was obtained by a conventional aging of parent zeolite gel, while the second series

(Beta/meso) was prepared by mesotemplate-free method. In this method Beta nanoparticles

are aggregated under acidic conditions with the formation of micro-mesoporous material.

Both series (Beta and Beta/meso) were doped with Fe, Cu and Co by ion-exchange method

and tested as catalysts of N2O decomposition. The Cu-Beta catalysts was found to be the

most active in the process of N₂O decomposition conducted in inert gas atmosphere.

However, in the process performed under conditions similar to those prevailing in waste gases

emitted from nitric acid plants (one of the main sources of N₂O emission) higher reaction rate

was found for the Cu-Beta/meso catalyst.

1. Introduction

The emission of nitrous oxide (N₂O) to the atmosphere is one of the main environmental

problem, contributing to the greenhouse effect and destruction of the ozone layer. The

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