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Catalytic behavior in propane aromatization using GA-MFI catalyst

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ABSTRACT

Ga-Al-MFI samples were synthesized in hydrothermal conditions from gels of

composition 1.08CH₃NH₂-0.134TPABr-1SiO₂-x Al₂O₃-y Ga₂O₃-40H₂O at 175°C for 7

days, with x=0.005 and 0.0025, y=0.005, 0.010 and 0.020. The samples were

characterized by XRD, BET measurements, thermal analysis (TGA-DTA) atomic

absorption and high resolution solid state MAS ²⁷Al and ⁷¹Ga NMR measurements. The

aromatization of propane was studied as catalytic test. The activity and selectivity of the

catalysts were determined for benzene, toluene and xylenes on one hand and for methane

and ethane on the other hand. The most active sample was obtained with the highest

Ga/Al ratio . For this sample, the BTX selectivity obtained by aromatization was always

higher than the hydrocracking selectivity leading to methane and ethane. The relative

amount of toluene was higher than that of benzene and of xylenes. The samples were

deactivated by coke formation that was revealed more severe for the most active sample.

Keywords: Propane aromatization; Gallium; ZSM-5; Coke formation; Catalyst

deactivation.

1. INTRODUCTION

1

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