Highly selective liquid product of CuFeO₂ treated by microwave in CO₂ hydrogenation

Yo Han Choi¹, Jae Sung Lee²

¹Division of Advanced Nuclear Engineering, Pohang University of Science and Technology (POSTECH), Pohang 790-784, South Korea ²School of Energy and Chemical Engineering, Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology (UNIST), Ulsan 689-798, South Korea *E-mail: ilee1234@unist.ac.kr

A problem of environment has been considered as greenhouse effect and global warming. Especially a growth of CO₂ in atmosphere has changed future-plans for carbon capture and storage (CCS) to carbon capture and utilization (CCU) recently. Previously our group reported high liquid product selectivity in CO₂ hydrogenation through two reaction: reverse water gas shift (RWGS) and Fischer Tropsch. ^[1] By using CuFeO₂. improved higher hydrocarbon selectivity and suppressing methane was collected. But carbon dioxide conversion was low compared to other reference. ^[2-3] In this work, we synthesized CuFeO₂ as simple microwave - hydrothermal method and treated different ratio of hydrogen and carbon monoxide to select increasing carbon dioxide with liquid fuel.

CuFeO₂ was synthesized by microwave hydrothermal method with different times: 1 or 2 hr. Figure 1 present rhombohedral shape of CuFeO₂. Increasing times makes catalyst well developed. That 2hr times is similar with previous 24hr hydrothermal CuFeO₂. ^[1]



Fig.1 (a-b) SEM images of rhombohedral CuFeO₂, synthesized by different times of 1, 2hr. (scale bar, 2.5um).

All of catalyst gets increasing CO₂ conversion in early reaction time, reaches a steady-state in *ca.* 2hr. Interestingly, CuFeO₂ treated by CO shows increasing carbon dioxide conversion until 28%. But suppressing liquid product and increasing methane selectivity are exhibited. On the other hands, catalyst with CO/H₂ indicates that conversion of carbon dioxide increased and liquid fuel selectivity keeps with decreasing CO selectivity. Total yield of higher hydrocarbon selectivity was improved by using pretreatment of proper ratio of CO and H₂.



Fig. 2 (a) Time on stream for CuFeO₂ (2hr) with different pretreatment gas (reaction condition: 300° C, 10 bar, H₂/CO₂=3) (b) selectivity of CuFeO₂ on CO-free basis with bar graph. CO selectivity with broken line graph.

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