

# Pd supported $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalyst : Effect of preparation conditions on the Pd particle size and distribution

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Palladium(Pd) supported on Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalyst have been studied in chemical industry due to high activity in many reaction [1]. In the process of preparation method, characteristics of catalyst is affected by several parameters such as pH value, temperature, solvent, precipitation agent, and metal-support contact times [2-4]. These parameters are influenced by crystal formation and distribution because stability of the solution causes to rate of nucleation and growth [2,4].

Herein, we investigated the effect of the pH value and temperature on Pd particle size and distribution in Pd/ $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalyst. The two types of  $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> with different particle size (20 nm, 3  $\mu$ m) were used as supports. The two different types of support for designated by  $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (20 nm) as A and  $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (3  $\mu$ m) as B. The A and B were calcined by 900 °C for 4 h in air condition. The Pd/ $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalyst were prepared by deposition-precipitation method with different precipitation pH adjusted to 3.5, 5.5, 7.5, and 11.5 by adding NaOH solution. The temperature of preparation solution were controlled with 40, 60, and 85 °C. The prepared catalyst noted as Pd/AB (pH C) (A: type of support, B: solution temperature, C: pH value) The catalyst reduction was performed in liquid phase by formalin at 85 °C. The catalysts were characterized by XRD, N<sub>2</sub>-physisorption, FT-IR, CO-Chemisorption, and FE-TEM.

As shown in the Table 1, it can be seen that metal dispersion has different values with pH and temperature, indicating that it is related to

nucleation and growth of palladium nanoparticle (NP). From the results of CO-Chemisorption, it can be seen that Pd/A60 (pH 5.5) catalyst has the highest Pd dispersion of 43.16%. Also, we confirmed that solution temperature affected Pd particle size and distribution. According to the temperature of solution, Pd dispersion was increased. However, more than solution temperature of 60 °C, Pd dispersion led to decrease. It should be emphasized that pH and temperature play an important role in Pd dispersion and particle size.

Above these results, we can be concluded that dispersion and particle size of Pd were influenced by the preparation conditions. Particularly, temperature and pH value associated with the rate of nuclear growth of Pd nanoparticle and interaction of support – metal precursor, representing that is strongly affected Pd dispersion.

Table 1. CO-Chemisorption results of Pd/ $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalysts

Catalysts	Temperature	Cumulative Quantity (mmol/g)	Metallic surface area (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	Metal dispersion (%)
Pd/A60 (pH 3.5)	60°C	0.0996	188.94	42.41
Pd/A60 (pH 5.5)	60°C	0.1041	192.27	43.16
Pd/A60 (pH 7.5)	60°C	0.0701	132.84	29.82
Pd/A60 (pH 11.5)	60°C	0.0308	58.41	13.11
Pd/B60 (pH 5.5)	60°C	0.0177	33.73	7.57
Pd/A40 (pH 5.5)	40°C	0.0490	93.84	21.06
Pd/A85 (pH 5.5)	85°C	0.0461	87.42	19.62

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