# Novel catalyst with layered structure: [AI]- and [V]- magadiite

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#### Abstract

[M]-magadiites were used in catalytic ethanol conversion monitored by in situ FTIR: ethylene and acetaldehyde were the products obtained.

## Introduction

Al and V-modified magadiite (Si/Al=15 and Si/V=33 molar ratios) were obtained by Seed Induced Crystallization (SIC)<sup>1</sup> method and the catalytic performances of these materials were investigated on ethanol conversion reactions. This reaction can take place by two competitive paths accompanied by a side reaction (reactions 1-3):  $C_2H_5OH \rightarrow C_2H_4$  +  $H_2O$  (1),  $2C_2H_5OH \rightarrow C_2H_5OC_2H_5 + H_2O$  (2) and  $C_2H_5OH \rightarrow CH_3CHO + H_2$  (3). Reaction (1) is dominant at high temperatures while reaction (2) is observed at low temperatures. Also at high temperatures acetaldehyde can be obtained as the product of a side reaction (3). In this work, the reactions were monitored using in situ FTIR of surface and gas phase at various temperatures.

#### Results and discussion

The samples were dehydrated and calcined before ethanol adsorption. After ethanol adsorption, the samples were treated at 100, 150, 200, 250, 300 and 350 °C and remained at each of these temperatures for 1 h. Fig. 1 shows the spectra of the gas phase of the reaction performed on H<sup>+</sup>-[Al]magadiite (A) and  $H^+$ -[V]-magadiite (B). Hardly any difference can be observed in the gas phase of the cell from room temperature up to 250 °C in both samples: the bands observed are typical of ethanol (1241  $\delta$ (CH), 1085-1048 and 880 cm<sup>-1</sup> v(C-O/C-C)). When the temperature arrives at 300 °C, and after at 350 °C, new bands appear at 949 cm<sup>-1</sup> (curves (f) and (g)) assigned to CH<sub>2</sub> wagging vibrations of ethylene<sup>2</sup> and 1760-1730 cm<sup>-1</sup> assigned to vC=O(curves (f) and (g)) of acetaldehyde<sup>3</sup>. The presence of water becomes evident at 1640 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Figure 1A, curve (g)) due to its production in reaction (1). It is necessary to point out that liquid water and ethanol (at 1085, 1048 and 880 cm<sup>-1</sup>, Figure 1A, curves (f) and (g)) were observed after the reaction at 300 °C and 350 °C due to a film formed in the cell windows.



**Figure 1.** FTIR spectra of gas phase after ethanol was adsorbed on H<sup>+</sup>-[AI]-magadiite (A) and H<sup>+</sup>-[V]-magadiite (B) at (a) room temperature, (b) 100 °C, (c) 150 °C, (d) 200 °C, (e) 250 °C, (f) 300 °C, and (g) 350 °C.

### Conclusions

The activity of these solids in ethanol conversion is connected to the framework heteroelement: ethylene is largely produced on  $H^+$ -[Al]-magadiite while acetaldehyde can come either from ethanol oxidation catalyzed by siloxane bridges with production of  $H_2$  or by V-oxidizing in  $H^+$ -[Al]-magadiite and  $H^+$ -[V]-magadiite, respectively.

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