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ABOUT PROMOTION THE VANADIUM-TITANIUM OXIDE CATALYST OF OXIDATION β - AND γ -PICOLINES

Abstract. The promoting effect of tin (IV), chromium (III) and zirconium (IV) oxides additives to the binary V-Ti-oxide system in the reaction of partial oxidation of β - and γ -picolines were investigated. A correlation between the catalytic activity of the studied oxide systems and the affinity values of vanadyl oxygen proton of their surface which was involved in the deprotonation of oxidized methyl substituents was established. A hypothesis about the possibility of a synergistic effect with the simultaneous addition to vanadium pentoxide of titanium (IV) oxide and one of the promoter oxides was expressed.

Keywords: oxidation, β -picoline, γ -picoline, nicotinic acid, isonicotinic acid, catalysts, promotion

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

It was previously established that the modification of vanadium pentoxide with the addition of titanium dioxide leads not only to an increase in the mechanical strength and thermal stability of the catalyst, but also to increase its activity in the partial oxidation of β - and γ -picolines. The goal of this work was to study the promoting effect of tin (IV), chromium (III) and zirconium (IV) oxides additives to the binary V-Ti oxide system with the preparation of three-component catalysts.

The obtained results of the β -picoline oxidation over vanadium – titanium oxide and vanadium – titanium – tin oxide contacts were compared (figure 1). It was established that the modification of the vanadium-titanium catalyst by SnO₂ additives had little effect on the contact activity. The conversion of the initial pyridine base over both catalyst (V₂O₅·16TiO₂ and V₂O₅·15TiO₂·SnO₂) were approximately the same. However, the introduction of tin dioxide into vanadium – titanium catalyst caused a significant increase in the selectivity of nicotinic acid formation. Thus, the selectivity of the nicotinic acid formation over V₂O₅·15TiO₂·SnO₂ catalyst at 280°C already was 82%, whereas over vanadium-titanium catalyst under these conditions it did not exceed 64%. At 340°C, the selectivity for acid over the vanadium-titanium catalyst modified by SnO₂ reached 94%, whereas over the vanadium-titanium catalyst - only 62%.

The promoting effect of SnO_2 additives to vanadium-titanium catalyst is probably due to the fact that tin dioxide can change the chemical composition of the catalyst [1]. Introduced SnO_2 , due to its oxidizing ability, can act as an oxidizing agent to the lower vanadium oxides and prevent the catalyst from being reduced by an oxidizing organic compound, thereby stabilizing its composition.



The feed rate of β -picoline is 30.8 g per 1 liter of catalyst in hour. The molar ratio β -picoline:O₂:H₂O = 1:20:175. Designation of curves (%): A - β -picoline conversion; yield: B - nicotinic acid, C - pyridine, D - CO₂. Catalysts: *I* - V₂O₅· 16TiO₂, 2 - V₂O₅· 15TiO₂·SnO₂.

Figure 1 – The effect of temperature on the β -picoline oxidation in the presence of vanadium-oxide catalysts modified by TiO₂ and SnO₂ Due to SnO_2 , the V_2O_5 content in a three-component vanadium-titanium-tin catalyst must be higher than in a two-component vanadium-titanium catalyst. This was confirmed by data on the tin dioxide effects to the composition of the vanadium-titanium catalyst which we obtained earlier using the electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) method [2].

Under comparable conditions, when 37.8 g of β -picoline feeding per 1 liter of catalyst in hour and the molar ratio of β -picoline:O₂:H₂O = 1:7:85 with the temperature range from 240 to 320°C, partial oxidation of β -picoline was carried out on V-Ti-O- and V-Ti-Cr-O-catalysts. Figure 2 shows the effect of temperature on β -picoline oxidation. It was established that the Cr₂O₃ additives increase the selectivity of the three-component V-Ti-Cr-oxide catalyst for nicotinic acid. The selectivity of nicotinic acid formation increases from 63% to 87% (with the yield increasing from 44 to 66%) at 270°C. The conversion of β -picoline on a modified sample of catalyst at 260-280°C was 5% higher than on the V-Ti-O catalyst sample. When the temperature rises to 300-320°C, the conversion of β -picoline on both catalysts was leveled to 90-93%. On the modified catalyst, oxidative demethylation of the initial substance to form pyridine to a higher extent proceeds, and on the V₂O₅·TiO₂ catalyst – deep oxidation. Thus, it was shown that modifying the V-Ti-O catalyst with chromium (III) oxide leads to a significant increase in the selectivity of the catalyst's action in relation to nicotinic acid.

The tests of zirconium-modified vanadium-titanium oxide catalyst in the reaction of the β -picoline vapor-phase oxidation showed that the introduction of ZrO₂ into the vanadium-titanium oxide catalyst promotes its activity (figure 3). The three-component V-Ti-Zr-oxide contact exceeds the binary V-Ti-oxide catalyst in its catalytic activity in the β -picoline oxidation which is appeared in an increase in the conversion of the initial compound, the yield of nicotinic acid and a decrease in the optimum temperature of its formation.

For a theoretical interpretation of the experimentally obtained information on the promoting effect of oxide modifiers, we carried out quantum chemical calculations using the cluster approximation. The active centers of the surface of the used catalysts were modeled by clusters containing fragments of V₂O₅, TiO₂, SnO₂, Cr₂O₃ and ZrO₂ (table). We proceeded from the idea [3] that various forms of active oxygen are present on the surface of vanadium oxide catalysts, including vanadyl oxygen which participate in the separation of the proton of the oxidizing methyl group at the initial stages of the process.

Optimization of the listed clusters geometry in the tables and the calculation of the total energy values of the initial $E_{initial}$ and protonated E_{fin} structures were carried out using the DFT quantum chemical method (Density Functional Theory) [4] with a two-exponential LanL2DZ basic set with an effective core potential. The calculations were performed by the licensed program "Gaussian 09W", version D.01.

Histogram (figure 4) shows an increase in the nucleophilicity (proton affinity, $PA_{V=0}$) of vanadyl oxygen in the series of studied catalysts in partial oxidation of β -picoline: $V_2O_5 < V_2O_5$ -Ti $O_2 < V_2O_5$ -Ti O_2 -Sn $O_2 < V_2O_5$ -Ti O_2 -Cr₂O₃ < V_2O_5 -Ti O_2 -Zr O_2 . Experiments have shown that in the same sequence the catalytic



The feed rate of β -picoline is 37.8 g per 1 liter of catalyst per hour. The molar ratio of β -picoline:O₂:H₂O = 1:7:85. Designation: A - β -picoline conversion; B, C - selectivity of formation and yield of nicotinic acid; yield: D - pyridine, E - CO₂.

Figure 2 – The effect of temperature on the yield of β -picoline oxidation products over (1) V_2O_5 ·TiO₂; (2) V_2O_5 ·TiO₂·Cr₂O₃ catalysts





Figure 3 – The effect of temperature on (A) the conversion of β -picoline, (B) the yield of nicotinic acid, (C) pyridine and (D) CO₂ under oxidation conditions over (1) V-Ti-O and (2) V-Ti-Zr-O catalysts

Reaction	$-E_{\text{total}}$, a.u.		D 1
	initial state	final state	PA _{V=0} ⁻¹ , kJ ⁻ mol ⁻¹
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	1038,1701913	1038,458359	756,6
$\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \parallel \\ Ti \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ $	727,7636779	728,0689935	801,6
$ \begin{array}{c} $	1400,87024	1401,18833 1401,16991	835,1 786,8
$ \begin{array}{c} $	1645,2941769	1645,6212657 1645,6283228	858,8 877,3

The total energies of vanadium-containing clusters and their protonated forms (E_{total}), the affinity for the proton of oxygen bound to the vanadium ion (PA_{V=0}), calculated by the DFT method (B3LYP / LanL2DZ)

Continuation of table







Figure 4 – Proton affinity to vanadyl oxygen ($PA_{V=O}$) of a catalyst from individual vanadium pentoxide, binary and ternary catalysts

activity increases, assessed by the conversion of the initial material and the yield of nicotinic acid.

It is noteworthy that a significant increase in $PA_{V=O}$ and, accordingly, an improvement in the catalytic properties (figure 1-3) in the transition from individual vanadium pentoxide and binary V-Ti oxide contact to ternary oxide systems. The observed pattern may be due to a synergistic effect [5].

Figure 5 shows the test results for V-, V-Ti- and V-Ti-Sn-oxide catalysts under comparable conditions in the vapor-phase oxidation of γ -picoline. It can be noted that in the performed experiments, the V-Ti-O and V-Ti-Sn-O contacts in their catalytic activity in the vapor-phase oxidation of γ -picoline are better than



 $\label{eq:constraint} \begin{array}{l} The feed rate of γ-picoline 36 g per 1 liter of catalyst per hour. \\ The molar ratio of γ-picoline:O_2:H_2O = 1:14:110. The designation of the curves (catalysts): \\ 1 - V_2O_5, 2 - V_2O_5.8TiO_2, 3 - V_2O_5.8TiO_2. \end{array}$

Figure 5 – The effect of temperature on (A) the conversion of γ-picoline,
 (B) the yield of pyridine-4-carbaldehyde and (C) isonicotinic acid
 under oxidation conditions over vanadium oxide catalysts of different composition

 V_2O_5 . It can be seen that pyridine-4-aldehyde is formed least of all on the binary V-Ti-O catalyst, and the addition of tin dioxide to the catalyst increases its amount in the reaction products. The highest yield of isonicotinic acid on all three catalysts was 60%: at 350°C over vanadium pentoxide, at 290°C over V-Ti-O, and at 310°C over V-Ti-Sn-O catalysts.

From the earlier obtained data analysis of the γ -picoline vapor-phase oxidation over binary V₂O₅·4TiO₂ and 2V₂O₅·Cr₂O₃ catalysts, it follows that in this reaction, the binary vanadium – titanium oxide contact showed a higher catalytic activity than the vanadium-chromium oxide. These data are consistent with the results of quantum-chemical calculations in the cluster approximation, which showed that the vanadium-titanium cluster is characterized by a higher affinity for the proton (nucleophilicity) of vanadyl oxygen responsible for the deprotonation of the oxidizing methyl group of the substrate. It can be considered by the higher degree of γ -picoline conversion and the shift of the maxima of the pyridine-4-carbaldehyde and isonicotinic acid yield to lower temperatures, compared with the binary vanadium-chromium oxide contact.

Comparison of the results of the γ -picoline partial oxidation over the V₂O₅·4TiO₂ binary catalyst and the 2V₂O₅·4TiO₂·Cr₂O₃ ternary catalyst showed that with simultaneous modifying of vanadium pentoxide with titanium (IV) and chromium (III) oxides, a synergistic effect was observed [5], in a significant increase in the yield of isonicotinic acid and a decrease in the optimum temperature of its formation in the case of a three-component catalyst (figure 6).

Modification of the $V_2O_5 \cdot 4TiO_2$ binary system by adding zirconium dioxide (figure 7) leads to an increase in γ -picoline conversion, a decrease in the yield of intermediate pyridine-4-carbaldehyde, obviously, as a result of an increase in its



The feed rate of γ -picoline is 28.6 g per 1 liter of catalyst per hour. The molar ratio of γ -picoline:O₂:H₂O=1:18,3:123. Designation of curves, %: A - γ -picoline conversion, yield: B - pyridine-4-carbaldehyde, C - isonicotinic acid.

Figure 6 – The effect of temperature on the oxidation of γ -picoline on catalysts V₂O₅·4TiO₂ (1) and 2V₂O₅·4TiO₂·Cr₂O₃ (2)



The feed rate of γ -picoline 36 g per 1 liter of catalyst per hour. The molar ratio of γ -picoline:O₂:H₂O=1:13:25,5.

Figure 7 – The effect of temperature on (A) the conversion of γ-picoline,
 (B) the yield of pyridine-4-carbaldehyde and (C) isonicotinic acid
 under oxidation conditions over (1) V₂O₅·4TiO₂ and (2) V₂O₅·4TiO₂·4ZrO₂ catalysts

conversion rate to isonicotinic acid. As a result of promotion, the yield of acid over the ternary V-Ti-Zr-oxide catalyst increases significantly, and its maximum shifts to lower temperatures. All this indicates the presence of a synergistic effect [5] as a result of the simultaneous addition of titanium dioxide and zirconium dioxide to vanadium pentoxide.

EXPERIMENTAL

The initial methylpyridines after drying and distillation had characteristics that correspond to an individual substance (β -picoline – b.p. 140°/692 mmHg, $d_4^{20} = 0.9568$, $n_D^{20} = 1.5050$; γ - picoline – b.p. 141°/695 mmHg, $d_4^{20} = 0.9547$, $n_D^{20} = 1.5058$ [6].

As initial components of catalysts, we used *«pure for analysis»* vanadium pentoxide and oxides of titanium, tin, chromium, and zirconium. The initial oxides with the desired molar ratio were ground in a porcelain mortar to form a homogeneous mixture, which was then pressed into tablets with a diameter of 15 mm and a thickness of 3-4 mm and calcined at 640°C for 4 hours. After cooling, the tablets were crushed into grains of a size of 3-5 mm.

Oxidation of β - and γ -picolines was carried out on a continuous installation with a reaction tube made of stainless steel with a diameter of 20 mm and a length of 150 mm, into which 10 ml of a granular catalyst was loaded. Unreacted β - and γ -picolines and reaction products were captured with water in an air-lift scrubber and analyzed by gas-liquid chromatography. Pyridinecarboxylic acids were detected by «pH-150MI» pH-meter and titration with 0.035 M KOH.

The products of deep oxidation were analyzed by the LHM-8MD chromatograph with a thermal conductivity detector. Stainless steel columns had a length of 3.5 m and an internal diameter of 3 mm. The adsorbent for determining CO was activated carbon of the AG-5 brand (0.25-0.50 mm), for CO₂ - polysorb-1 (0.16-0.20 mm). The temperature of the column thermostat was 40°C.

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Резюме

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β- ЖӘНЕ γ- ПИКОЛИНДЕРДІҢ ТОТЫҒУЫНДА ВАНАДИЙ ТИТАН ОКСИДТІК КАТАЛИЗАТОРЛАРДЫҢ ПРОМОТОРЛАУ ТУРАЛЫ

Қалайы (IV), хром (III) және цирконий (IV) оксидтерін бинарлы V-Ti - оксидтік жүйесіне қосу барысында β- және γ-пиколиндердің парциалды тотығу реакциясы кезіндегі промоторлық әсері зерттелді. Зерттелген оксидті жүйелердің каталитикалық белсенділігі мен тотығатын метилді орынбасарларды депротонизациялауға қатысатын олардың бетіндегі ванадилді оттегінің протонына туыстық шамалары арасында корреляция орнатылды. Ванадий пентоксидіне (IV) титан оксидін және промоторлы оксидтердің біреуін бір мезгілде қосу кезіндегі синергетикалық әсердің болу мүмкіндігі туралы гипотеза айтылды.

Түйін сөздер: тотығу, β-пиколин, γ-пиколин, никотин қышқылы, изоникотин қышқылы, катализаторлар, промоторлеу.

Резюме

П. Б. Воробьев, Т. П. Михайловская, О. К. Югай, А. П. Серебрянская, Р. Курмакызы, А. И. Имангазы

О ПРОМОТИРОВАНИИ ВАНАДИЙТИТАНОКСИДНОГО КАТАЛИЗАТОРА ОКИСЛЕНИЯ β- И γ-ПИКОЛИНОВ

Исследовано промотирующее действие добавок оксидов олова (IV), хрома (III) и циркония (IV) к бинарной V-Ti-оксидной системе в реакции парциального окисления β- и γ-пиколинов. Установлена корреляция между каталитической активностью изученных оксидных систем и величинами сродства к протону ванадильного кислорода их поверхности, участвующего в депротонировании окисляющихся метильных заместителей. Высказана гипотеза о возможности синергического эффекта при одновременном добавлении к пентоксиду ванадия оксида титана (IV) и одного из оксидов-промоторов.

Ключевые слова: окисление, β-пиколин, γ-пиколин, никотиновая кислота, изоникотиновая кислота, катализаторы, промотирование.