

# Deactivation And Regeneration Of Zeolite Catalysts

Deactivation And Regeneration Of Zeolite Catalysts Deactivation and Regeneration of Zeolite Catalysts A Comprehensive Overview zeolites catalysts deactivation regeneration coke poisoning hydrothermal stability FCC industrial applications sustainability environmental impact Zeolite catalysts play a crucial role in numerous chemical processes driving reactions and enhancing efficiency However their performance inevitably degrades over time due to deactivation a complex phenomenon driven by various factors like coke formation poisoning and structural degradation This blog post delves into the intricacies of zeolite deactivation exploring its underlying mechanisms common causes and the essential regeneration techniques employed to restore catalyst activity We will analyze current trends in the field focusing on innovative approaches for enhancing catalyst longevity and minimizing environmental impact Finally we will discuss ethical considerations related to the disposal of zeolites underscoring the importance of responsible catalyst management for sustainable industrial practices

## 1 Unveiling the Importance of Zeolites in Catalysis

Zeolite catalysts crystalline aluminosilicates with unique pore structures and acidic properties are indispensable in numerous industrial processes Their exceptional performance arises from their ability to Provide high surface area and accessibility Zeolites possess a porous structure with a high surface area offering ample space for reactant molecules to interact with active sites Exhibit strong acidity The presence of Lewis and Brnsted acid sites within zeolites facilitates reactions by providing pathways for proton transfer and activating reactants Offer shape selectivity The specific pore sizes and channel geometries within zeolites allow selective adsorption of reactants enhancing reaction rate and product yield These properties render zeolites highly effective in various catalytic applications ranging from refining and petrochemicals to fine chemicals and environmental remediation However their performance is not immune to degradation a phenomenon known as catalyst deactivation

## 2 Unraveling the Mysteries of Zeolite Deactivation A Comprehensive Analysis

Zeolite deactivation is a multifaceted process that diminishes catalyst activity over time leading to reduced reaction rate decreased product yield and ultimately process inefficiency Understanding the underlying mechanisms of deactivation is crucial for developing strategies to mitigate its effects

### 2.1 Coke Formation The Bane of Catalyst Performance

One of the primary causes of zeolite deactivation is coke formation a complex process involving the accumulation of carbonaceous deposits within the zeolite pores Coke formation arises from the decomposition and polymerization of reactant molecules leading to the formation of various carbonaceous species with different structures and properties

#### 2.1.1 Different Types of Coke

**Paraffinic coke** This type of coke is formed from the polymerization of paraffins resulting in a less condensed and more easily removable coke species **Aromatic coke** This coke type formed from the aromatization of olefins is highly condensed and difficult to remove significantly hindering catalyst activity **Gum coke** This coke type primarily present in gasoline upgrading processes is a highly viscous and sticky substance that obstructs catalyst pores and significantly hinders mass transfer

#### 2.1.2 Impact of Coke Formation

**Reduced surface area** Coke deposition decreases the available surface area for reactions

interaction with active sites hindering catalytic activity Blocked pores Coke accumulation within zeolite pores restricts mass transfer of reactants and products further reducing catalytic efficiency Shielding of active sites Coke deposition can physically cover active sites preventing their interaction with reactants and hindering catalytic activity

## 2.2 Poisoning Inactivation of Active Sites

Another major cause of zeolite deactivation is poisoning which involves the interaction of specific molecules with active sites rendering them inactive These molecules termed poisons can be inorganic or organic and their impact on zeolite activity depends on their nature and concentration

### 2.2.1 Types of Poisons

#### 3 Heavy metals

Heavy metals such as mercury lead and arsenic can strongly adsorb onto zeolite active sites inhibiting their catalytic activity

#### Sulfur compounds

Sulfur compounds including mercaptans and sulfides can interact with zeolite active sites and deactivate them particularly in hydrotreating processes

#### Nitrogen compounds

Nitrogen compounds such as ammonia and amines can also poison zeolite active sites interfering with catalytic reactions

### 2.2.2 Impact of Poisoning

Deactivation of active sites Poisons directly interact with active sites blocking their availability and hindering their ability to promote reactions

#### Structural changes

Some poisons such as heavy metals can induce structural changes in zeolites further contributing to deactivation

#### Altering acidic properties

Poisons can influence the acidity of zeolites changing their catalytic activity and selectivity

## 2.3 Structural Degradation Weakening the Catalyst Backbone

In addition to coke formation and poisoning zeolites can also experience structural degradation which involves the breakdown of their crystalline framework leading to loss of surface area pore volume and acidic properties

### 2.3.1 Causes of Structural Degradation

#### Hydrothermal instability

High temperature and water vapor presence can lead to dealumination the removal of aluminum atoms from the zeolite framework resulting in structural degradation

#### Mechanical stress

Mechanical forces during catalyst handling and regeneration processes can damage the zeolite structure reducing its surface area and porosity

#### Chemical attack

Certain chemicals used in industrial processes such as strong acids or bases can attack the zeolite framework and degrade its structure

### 2.3.2 Impact of Structural Degradation

Loss of surface area Structural degradation leads to a decrease in the zeolites surface area reducing the availability of active sites and hindering catalytic activity

Decreased pore volume Degradation can lead to a reduction in pore volume hindering mass transfer of reactants and products and further diminishing catalytic properties

Structural degradation can alter the zeolites acidic properties affecting its catalytic activity and selectivity

## 4.3 Revitalizing Deactivated Zeolites

### Regeneration Techniques

Regeneration is the process of restoring the activity of a deactivated catalyst primarily by removing coke deposits and restoring its original structure Effective regeneration techniques are crucial for prolonging catalyst life and reducing production costs

### 3.1 Coke Removal

#### Releasing the Catalyst from its Carbonaceous Burden

Coke removal is a critical aspect of zeolite regeneration and various methods are employed to achieve this goal

#### 3.1.1 Burning off Coke

##### Thermal Regeneration

Thermal regeneration involves exposing the deactivated zeolite to a controlled atmosphere at high temperatures typically in the presence of oxygen The high temperature promotes coke oxidation converting it into carbon dioxide and water restoring the zeolites original structure and activity

#### 3.1.2 Chemical Treatment

##### Dissolving Coke Away

Chemical regeneration utilizes specific chemicals often in combination with heat to dissolve coke deposits This approach is particularly effective for removing coke deposits

resistant to thermal regeneration 313 Steam Stripping Leveraging the Power of Water Vapor  
 S t e a m   s t r i p p i n g   i n v o l v e s   t r e a t i n g   t h e   d e a c t i v  
 temperatures promoting the removal of coke deposits through a combination of physical and  
 chemical processes 32 Structural Restoration Reviving the Catalyst Framework In cases of  
 structural degradation specific techniques are employed to restore the zeolites framework  
 and acidic properties 321 Dealumination Reversal Restoring Aluminum Atoms Dealumination  
 reversal involves reintroducing aluminum atoms into the zeolite framework restoring its  
 structural integrity and acidic properties This technique is often employed in conjunction with  
 coke removal methods 322 Ion Exchange Enhancing Stability and Activity Ion exchange  
 involves replacing certain cations within the zeolite framework with others improving the  
 zeolites hydrothermal stability and catalytic activity 5 4 Current Trends in Zeolite  
 Deactivation and Regeneration A Glimpse into the Future The field of zeolite deactivation  
 and regeneration is constantly evolving with researchers exploring innovative strategies for  
 enhancing catalyst longevity and minimizing environmental impact 41 Optimizing Catalyst  
 Design Preventing Deactivation from the Start Tailoring zeolite structure Developing new  
 zeolites with tailored pore sizes channel geometries and acidic properties to minimize coke  
 formation and improve hydrothermal stability Incorporating metal nanoparticles Introducing  
 metal nanoparticles into zeolites can enhance their catalytic activity and resistance to  
 deactivation Developing hybrid catalysts Combining zeolites with other catalytic materials  
 such as carbon materials or metal oxides to create hybrid catalysts with improved stability  
 and performance 42 Advanced Regeneration Techniques Pushing the Boundaries of Catalyst  
 Revitalization Microwave regeneration Utilizing microwave energy to efficiently heat the  
 catalyst and promote coke removal reducing energy consumption and processing time  
 Plasma regeneration Employing plasma technology to break down coke deposits and remove  
 them from the catalyst surface offering a more efficient and environmentally friendly  
 approach Supercritical fluid regeneration Using supercritical fluids such as supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>  
 to dissolve and remove coke deposits providing a gentler and more effective regeneration  
 method 5 Ethical Considerations in Zeolite Catalysis Balancing Progress and Responsibility  
 T h e   u s e   o f   z e o l i t e   c a t a l y s t s   r a i s e s   e t h i c a l   c o n s i d e r a t i o n  
 environmental impact and the sustainability of their production and disposal 51  
 Environmental Impact Minimizing Pollution and Conserving Resources Minimizing waste  
 g e n e r a t i o n   D e v e l o p i n g   r e g e n e r a t i o n   s t r a t e g i e s   t h a t   m  
 materials during catalyst processing and disposal Reducing energy consumption Optimizing  
 regeneration processes to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions  
 Utilizing renewable energy sources Implementing sustainable practices for catalyst production  
 and regeneration by using renewable energy sources 6 52 Sustainable Catalyst Management  
 Promoting Circular Economy Catalyst recycling Implementing efficient recycling processes to  
 recover and reuse zeolites minimizing the need for fresh catalyst production Catalyst re  
 E x p l o r i n g   a p p l i c a t i o n s   f o r   d e a c t i v a t e d   z e o l i t e s   s u c h   a s   i n   n o n  
 adsorbents Developing greener production methods Utilizing sustainable and environmentally  
 friendly methods for zeolite synthesis minimizing resource consumption and environmental  
 impact 6 Conclusion Navigating the Future of Zeolite Catalysis with Sustainable Practices  
 Zeolite catalysts are invaluable tools for driving chemical processes and enhancing efficiency  
 H o w e v e r   t h e i r   d e a c t i v a t i o n   p o s e s   s i g n i f i c a n t   c h a l l e n g e s

strategies to maintain optimal performance. Understanding the mechanisms of deactivation and employing advanced regeneration techniques and prioritizing ethical considerations are crucial for promoting the sustainable use of these vital materials. By focusing on deactivation, prioritizing sustainability and promoting responsible catalyst management, we can harness the power of zeolites to drive progress in chemical manufacturing while minimizing environmental impact and ensuring a greener future.

Characterization and Design of Zeolite Catalysts Zeolites and Catalysis Zeolite

Catalysts Catalysis and Zeolites Zeolites in Sustainable Chemistry Deactivation and Regeneration

of Zeolite Catalysts Zeolites in Catalysis Zeolite Chemistry and Catalysis Application of Zeolites

in Catalysis Deactivation and Regeneration of Zeolite Catalysts Molecular Transport and

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catalysis and catalyst is a key technology to solve the problems in energy and environment issues to sustain our human society we believe that comprehensive understanding of the catalysis and catalyst provides us a chance to develop a new catalyst and contributes greatly to our society however the field of heterogeneous catalyst is difficult to study and still stays behind more developed fields of chemistry such as organic and physical chemistries this is a dilemma to the chemists who study the catalysis and catalyst while we can accomplish the progress in the industrial application the scientific understanding is not complete yet a gap between the useful application and incomplete scientific understanding however becomes smaller and smaller in recent years because zeolites are not crystals and the structure is clearly known the study on the catalysis using the zeolites is easier than those encountered in other catalysts such as metals and metal oxides very fortunately zeolites provide us the

strong acidity with the ne distribution which enables various useful catalytic reactions when some metals and cations are loaded in close to the acid sites these loadede ments show extraordinarycharacters and many catalytic reactions proceed thereon

this indispensable two volume handbook covers everything on this hot research field the first part deals with the synthesis modification characterization and application of catalytic active zeolites while the second focuses on such reaction types as cracking hydrocracking isomerization reforming and other industrially important topics edited by a highly experienced and internationally renowned team with chapters written by the who s who of zeolite research

presented in an easy to read form this book on zeolite catalysis cover all aspects of the subject it focuses on synthesis structure diffusion deactivation and industrial applications this book is an ideal text for courses on catalysis or as a supplementary text for those studying applied or industrial chemistry it is also a useful resource for anyone who works with zeolites as catalysts in the laboratory pilot plants or commercial installations

zeolites occur in nature and have been known for almost 250 years as alumino silicate minerals examples are clinoptilolite mordenite offretite ferrierite erionite and chabazite today most of these and many other zeolites are of great interest in heterogeneous catalysis yet their naturally occurring forms are of limited value as catalysts because nature has not optimized their properties for catalytic applications and the naturally occurring zeolites almost always contain undesired impurity phases it was only with the advent of synthetic zeolites in the period from about 1948 to 1959 thanks to the pioneering work of r m barrer and r m milton that this class of porous materials began to playa role in catalysis a landmark event was the introduction of synthetic faujasites zeolite x at first zeolite y slightly later as catalysts in fluid catalytic cracking fcc of heavy petroleum distillates in 1962 one of the most important chemical processes with a worldwide capacity of the order of 500 million t a compared to the previously used amorphous silica alumina catalysts the zeolites were not only orders of magnitude more active which enabled drastic process engineering improvements to be made but they also brought about a significant increase in the yield of the target product viz motor gasoline with the huge fcc capacity worldwide the added value of this yield enhancement is of the order of 10 billion us per year

this book is devoted to the new development of zeolitic catalysts with an emphasis on new strategies for the preparation of zeolites novel techniques for their characterization and emerging applications of zeolites as catalysts for sustainable chemistry especially in the fields of energy biomass conversion and environmental protection over the years energy and the environment have become the most important global issues while zeolitic catalysts play important roles in addressing them with individual chapters written by leading experts this book offers an essential reference work for researchers and professionals in both academia and industry feng shou xiao is a professor at the department of chemistry zhejiang university china xiangju meng is an associate professor at the department of chemistry zhejiang university china

covering the breadth of zeolite chemistry and catalysis this book provides the reader with a

complete introduction to field covering synthesis structure characterisation and applications beginning with the history of natural and synthetic zeolites the reader will learn how zeolite structures are formed synthetic routes and experimental and theoretical structure determination techniques their industrial applications are covered in depth from their use in the petrochemical industry through to fine chemicals and more specialised clinical applications novel zeolite materials are covered including hierarchical zeolites and two dimensional zeolites showcasing modern developments in the field this book is ideal for newcomers who need to get up to speed with zeolite chemistry and also experienced researchers who will find this a modern up to date guide

in chemical processes the progressive deactivation of solid catalysts is a major economic concern and mastering their stability has become as essential as controlling their activity and selectivity for these reasons there is a strong motivation to understand the mechanisms leading to any loss in activity and or selectivity and to find out the efficient preventive measures and regenerative solutions that open the way towards cheaper and cleaner processes this book covers in a comprehensive way both the fundamental and applied aspects of solid catalyst deactivation and encompasses the state of the art in the field of reactions catalyzed by zeolites this particular choice is justified by the widespread use of molecular sieves in refining petrochemicals and organic chemicals synthesis processes by the large variety in the nature of their active sites acid base acid base redox bifunctional and especially by their peculiar features in terms of crystallinity structural order and textural properties which make them ideal models for heterogeneous catalysis the aim of this book is to be a critical review in the field of zeolite deactivation and regeneration by collecting a series of contributions by experts in the field which describe the factors explain the techniques to study the causes and suggest methods to prevent or limit catalyst deactivation at the same time an anthology of commercial processes and exemplar cases provides the reader with theoretical insights and practical hints on the deactivation mechanisms and draws attention to the key role played by the loss of activity on process design and industrial practice

provides an up to date description of industrial zeolite applications reviews of the theory and measurements of diffusion in zeolites and comprehensive treatment of diffusion in zeolites by combining experiments and theories with practical applications of zeolite materials the volume also examines the relationship between diffusion and chemical reactions offers a listing of key features that should be considered in the design and use of zeolite catalysts and explains why uncertainties of current knowledge on diffusion exist  
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the idea for putting together a tutorial on zeolites came originally from my co editor eric derouane about 5 years ago i rst met eric in the mid 1980s when he spent 2 years working for mobil r d at our then corporate lab at princeton nj he was on the senior technical staff with projects in the synthesis and characterization of new materials at that time i managed a group at our paulsboro lab that was responsible for catalyst characterization in support of our catalyst and process development efforts and also had a substantial group working on new material synthesis hence our interests overlapped considerably and we met regularly

after eric moved back to namur initially we maintained contact and in the 1990s we met a number of times in europe on projects of joint interest it was after i retired from exxonmobil in 2002 that we began to discuss the tutorial concept seriously eric had semi retired and lived on the algarve the southern coast of portugal in january 2003 my wife and i spent 3 weeks outside of lagos and i worked parts of most days w proposed content of the book we decided on a comprehensive approach that ultimately amounted to some 20 chapters covering all of zeolite chemistry and catalysis and gave it the title zeolite chemistry and catalysis an integrated approach and tutorial

this new book will be welcomed by companies involved in catalysis and catalyst manufacturing sorbent and detergent production chemical and petroleum refining and by research scientists in academia it contains 76 original contributions of recent work on fundamental and technological aspects of zeolite research and application particular attention is paid to novel developments in zeolite catalysis sorption on zeolites and use of zeolites as detergent builders problems of zeolite synthesis structure modification ion exchange diffusion and novel applications are also dealt with topics which are the subject of much current interest are also treated e g new catalytic applications of zeolites in the synthesis of fine chemicals novel formulations of detergent builders and industrially developed zeolite based separation processes the application of zeolites is also discussed from both economic and ecological points of view the contributions cover a wide range of materials and results which are organised to a large extent in tables and figures and are identified by appropriate keywords the meeting at which these contributions were presented was the latest in a series of smaller more specialized zeolite meetings which are held in between the large international zeolite conferences participating in the symposium were experts from both industry and academia who gave invited lectures oral and poster presentations the resulting book provides a large body of helpful information for present and future work and development in zeolite research and applications

this first book to offer a practical overview of zeolites and their commercial applications provides a practical examination of zeolites in three capacities edited by a globally recognized and acclaimed leader in the field with contributions from major industry experts this handbook and ready reference introduces such novel separators as zeolite membranes and mixed matrix membranes the first part of the book discusses the history and chemistry of zeolites while the second section focuses on separation processes the third and final section treats zeolites in the field of catalysis the three sections are unified by an examination of how the unique properties of zeolites allow them to function in different capacities as an adsorbent a membrane and as a catalyst while also discussing their impact within the industry

zeolites and zeolite like materials offers a comprehensive and up to date review of the important areas of zeolite synthesis characterization and applications its chapters are written in an educational easy to understand format for a generation of young zeolite chemists especially those who are just starting research on the topic and need a reference that not only reflects the current state of zeolite research but also identifies gaps and opportunities the book demonstrates various applications of zeolites in heterogeneous catalysis and

biomass conversion and identifies the endless possibilities that exist for this class of materials their structures functions and future applications in addition it demonstrates that zeolite like materials should be regarded as a living body developing towards new modern applications thereby responding to the needs of modern technology challenges including biomass conversion medicine laser techniques and nanomaterial design etc the book will be of interest not only to zeolite focused researchers but also to a broad scientific and non scientific audience provides a comprehensive review of the literature pertaining to zeolites and zeolite like materials since 2000 covers the chemistry of novel zeolite like materials such as metal organic frameworks mofs covalent organic frameworks cofs hierarchical zeolite materials new mesoporous and composite zeolite like micro mesoporous materials presents essential information of the new zeolite like structures with a balanced coverage of the most important areas of the zeolite research synthesis characterization adsorption catalysis new applications of zeolites and zeolite like materials contains chapters prepared by known specialists who are members of the international zeolite association

intensive research on zeolites during the past thirty years has resulted in a deep understanding of their chemistry and in a true zeolite science including synthesis structure chemical and physical properties and catalysis these studies are the basis for the development and growth of several industrial processes applying zeolites for selective sorption separation and catalysis in 1983 a nato advanced study institute was organized in alcabideche portugal to establish the state of the art in zeolite science and technology and to contribute to a better understanding of the structural properties of zeolites the configurational constraints they may exert and their effects in adsorption diffusion and catalysis since then zeolite science has witnessed an almost exponential growth in published papers and patents dealing with both fundamentals issues and original applications the proposal of new procedures for zeolite synthesis the development of novel and sophisticated physical techniques for zeolite characterization the discovery of new zeolitic and related microporous materials progresses in quantum chemistry and molecular modeling of zeolites and the application of zeolites as catalysts for organic reactions have prompted increasing interest among the scientific community an important and harmonious interaction between various domains of physics chemistry and engineering resulted therefrom

foreword during the recent years a large number of fascinating books appeared covering the ever growing area of zeolites zeotypes and mesoporous molecular sieves even including the emerging field of metal organic frameworks in contrast we decided to prepare this book focused exclusively on zeolites and zeotypes defined as crystalline microporous materials to show that they are still one of the most important groups of inorganic materials serving as very well defined model structures for detail kinetic and spectroscopic studies up to industrially applied catalysts for cracking refineries petrochemistry synthesis of fine chemicals and in environmental catalysis based on that we believe that this book on zeolites will be useful not only for students and newcomers to this field but also to all experienced researchers as a useful reference book preparing this book we tried to follow up the pathway starting from synthesis of zeolites and understanding of new advances in this area up to their applications in adsorption and zeolites authors both from academic institutions very active in this area as well as leading experts from industry were invited to prepare



their contributions while in the introduction the editors tried to briefly outline some basic summary of the last 250 years since the description of the first natural zeolite by swedish mineralogist cronstedt w j roth focused on the discussion of recently synthesized zeolites and zeotypes and the exploitation of the structure directing concepts for the successful synthesis of these novel structural types of zeolites this is continued by r lobo who made a great effort to evaluate the most important factors controlling the synthesis of zeolites from the point of view of the mechanism of zeolite synthesis many organic cations play important role in the synthesis of zeolites and j perez pariente focused his attention on their role as structure directing agents without which the synthesis would not proceed in recent years synthesis of nanozeolites with particle sizes in tens of nanometers step forward this topic is nicely covered by s mintova and v valtchev showing important factors for their synthesis together with discussing possibilities of their investigation this is followed by the chapter of s e park centered on the application of microwave irradiation to shorten the synthesis time of zeolites and to control selectivity and morphology during the synthesis zeolite membranes for separations and catalysis present another important area of zeolite endeavor j santamaria and coworkers nicely described recent achievements in this area final chapter devoted to the synthesis of zeolites was written by industrial experts led by lam the authors focused on the critical issues of scaling up of the zeolite synthesis which provides more detailed ideas of the critical aspects of this effort acidity is one of the most important features of zeolites playing the crucial role in acid catalyzed reactions b gil presented various approaches to characterization of the acidity of zeolites and discussed advantages and disadvantages of individual relevant methods from the practical point of view main part of the book is devoted to catalysis chapter by r staudt and m thommes preceded these chapters describing a broad application potential of zeolites for adsorption applications as for the catalysis a martinez focused on application of zeolites in petrochemical reactions and m bejblova and j cejka highlighted many examples of catalytic potential of zeolites in fine chemical synthesis for the first time a topic of zeolite catalysis for renewables was covered by h van bekkum while z sobalik discussed the application of zeolites in environmental catalysis with special emphasis on denox processes industrial applications of zeolites were summarized by c perego and a carati showing many examples of the importance of zeolites in this field finally c christensen and his group presented an emerging field of controlled synthesis of mesoporous zeolites and their catalytic potential it was our great pleasure to work with many friends and top researchers on the preparation of this book we would like to sincerely thank all of them for their timely reviews on selected topics and particular effort to put the book together last but not least we appreciate the kind invitation from the transworld research network publishing house to edit this book

this book written and edited by leading authorities from academia and industrial groups covers both preventive and curative zeolite based technologies in the field of chemical processing the opening chapter presents the state of the art in zeolite science the two subsequent chapters summarize the chemistries involved in the processes and the constraints imposed on the catalyst adsorbent three major areas are covered oil refining petrochemicals and fine chemicals a chapter on the curative use of zeolites in pollution abatement completes this overview in the area of oil refining a general lecture sets the scene for present and future challenges it is followed by in depth case studies involving fcc

hydrocracking and light naphtha isomerization also an entire chapter is devoted to the often overlooked subject of base oils in the area of petrochemicals the processing of aromatics and olefins is described and special attention is paid to the synergy between catalysis and separation on molecular sieves

zeolites zsm 5  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  30/7e280 and y  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  5/2/7e80 are bound with silica gel ludox hs 40 and ludox as 40 and alumina gamma  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  and boehmite by different binding methods namely gel mixing powder mixing and powder wet mixing methods the acidities of the bound catalysts and the zeolite powder are determined by  $\text{NH}_3$  tpd and ftir the textures of these catalysts are analyzed on a bet machine with nitrogen as a probe molecule the micropore surface area and micropore volume are determined by t plot method micropore volume distribution is determined by horvath kawazoe approach with a cylindrical pore model mesopore volume distribution is determined by bjh method from the nitrogen desorption isotherm silica from the binder may react with extra framework alumina in zeolites to form a new protonic acid  $\text{SiO}_2$  bound catalysts have less strong acidity bronsted acidity and lewis acidity than the zeolite powder also the strength of strong acid sites of the zeolites is reduced when silica is embedded micropore surface area and micropore volume are reduced by about 19 and 18 respectively indicating some micropores of zsm 5 are blocked on binding with silica  $\text{SiO}_2$  bound zsm 5 catalysts have less catalytic activity for butane transformation cracking and disproportionation and ethylene oligomerization than zsm 5 powder when alumina is used as a binder both the total acid sites and lewis acid sites are increased micropore surface area and micropore volume of zsm 5 powder are reduced by 26 and 23 respectively indicating some micropores of zsm 5 are blocked by the alumina binder alumina bound catalysts showed a lower activity for butane transformation and ethylene oligomerization than zsm 5 powder alkaline metals content in the binder is a crucial factor that influences the acidity of a bound catalyst the metal cations neutralize more selectively bronsted acid sites than lewis acid sites alkaline metal cations in the binder and micropore blockage cause the bound catalysts to have a lower catalytic activity than the zeolite powder

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