ผลของโครงสร้างไทเทเนียมไดออกไซด์และการเติมโคบอลต์ต่อสมบัติในการเร่งปฏิกิริยาของตัวเร่ง ปฏิกิริยารูเทเนียมบนไทเทเนียมไดออกไซด์ในปฏิกิริยาไฮโดรจิเนชันแบบเลือกเกิดของเฟอร์ฟูรัลเป็น เฟอร์ฟูริลแอลกอฮอล์

จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

ี บทคัดย่อและแฟ้มข้อมูลฉบับเต็มของวิทยานิพนธ์ตั้งแต่ปีการศึกษา 2554 ที่ให้บริการในคลังปัญญาจุฬาฯ (CUIR) ้เป็นแฟ้มข้อมูลของนิสิตเจ้าของวิทยานิพนธ์ ที่ส่งผ่านทางบัณฑิตวิทยาลัย

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> วิทยานิพนธ์นี้เป็นส่วนหนึ่งของการศึกษาตามหลักสูตรปริญญาวิศวกรรมศาสตรมหาบัณฑิต สาขาวิชาวิศวกรรมเคมี ภาควิชาวิศวกรรมเคมี คณะวิศวกรรมศาสตร์ จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย ปีการศึกษา 2560 ลิขสิทธิ์ของจุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

EFFECTS OF TITANIUM DIOXIDE STRUCTURE AND COBALT ADDITION ON THE $CATALYTIC$ PROPERTIES OF $Ru/TiO₂$ in the selective hydrogenation of FURFURAL TO FURFURYL ALCOHOL

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(Assistant Professor Okorn Mekasuwandumrong, D.Eng.)

ณัฐดนัย นันทสันติ: ผลของโครงสร้างไทเทเนียมไดออกไซด์และการเติมโคบอลต์ต่อสมบัติ ในการเร่งปฏิกิริยาของตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยารูเทเนียมบนไทเทเนียมไดออกไซด์ในปฏิกิริยาไฮโดร จิเนชันแบบเลือกเกิดของเฟอร์ฟูรัลเป็นเฟอร์ฟูริลแอลกอฮอล์ (EFFECTS OF TITANIUM DIOXIDE STRUCTURE AND COBALT ADDITION ON THE CATALYTIC PROPERTIES OF Ru/TIO₂ IN THE SELECTIVE HYDROGENATION OF FURFURAL TO FURFURYL ALCOHOL) อ.ที่ปรึกษาวิทยานิพนธ์หลัก: ศ. ดร. จูงใจ ปั้นประณต, 84 หน้า.

เฟอร์ฟูริลแอลกอฮอล์เป็นสารมัธยันตร์ที่มีความสำคัญในการผลิตสารเคมีมูลค่าสูงที่สำคัญ หลายชนิด โดยทั่วไปเฟอร์ฟูริลแอลกอฮอล์ผลิตจากปฏิกิริยาไฮโดรจิเนชันของเฟอร์ฟูรัลที่ได้จากชีว ้มวลจากพืชโดยใช้ ตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาโลหะที่มีตัวรองรับ งานวิจัยนี้เตรียม ๑.๕ เปอร์เซ็นต์โดยน้ำหนัก ของ รูเทเนียม บนตัวรองรับไทเทเนียมไดออกไซด์ด้วยวิธีการเคลือบฝังและศึกษาผลของโครงสร้าง ผลึกของไทเทเนียมไดออกไซต์และการเติมโคบอลต์ปริมาณ ๐.๒ ถึง ๐.๘ เปอร์เซ็นต์โดยน้ำหนัก ใน ปฏิกิริยาไฮโดรจิเนชันแบบเลือกเกิดของเฟอร์ฟูรัลเป็นเฟอร์ฟิวริวแอลกอฮอล์ที่ อุณหภูมิ๕๐ องศา เซลเซียส ความดันไฮโดรเจน ๒๐ บาร์และเวลาการท าปฏิกิริยา ๒ ชั่วโมง พบว่าการใช้ไทเทเนียมได ออกไซด์ที่มีโครงสร้างผลึกแบบอนาเทสเป็นตัวรองรับโลหะรูเทเนียมให้ค่าการเปลี่ยนแปลงของเฟอร์ ฟูรัล และค่าการเลือกเกิดเป็นเฟอร์ฟิวริวแอลกอฮอล์ ที่ดีที่สุดที่ ๓๒ เปอร์เซ็นต์ และ ๙๐ เปอร์เซ็นต์ ตามล าดับ เนื่องจากไทเทเนียมไดออกไซด์อนาเทสช่วยสนับสนุนการดูดซับไฮโดรเจนที่มากกว่า ไทเทเนียมไดออกไซด์รูไทล์การเติมปริมาณโคบอลต์ปริมาณเล็กน้อยลงในตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยารูเทเนียมบน ตัวรองรับไทเทเนียมไดออกไซด์อนาเทส ช่วยเพิ่มประสิทธิภาพของตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาและเพิ่มค่าการ เลือกเกิดของเฟอร์ฟูริลแอลกอฮอล์โดยที่ ๑.๕ เปอร์เซ็นต์รูเทเนียม ๐.๖ เปอร์เซ็นต์โคบอลต์ บนตัว รองรับไทเทเนียมไดออกไซต์แสดงผลที่ดีที่สุดของ ตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาที่ ๙๒ เปอร์เซ็นต์ของค่าการ เปลี่ยนแปลงของเฟอร์ฟูรัล และ ๙๗.๕ เปอร์เซ็นต์ของค่าการเลือกเกิดเฟอร์ฟูริลแอลกอฮอล์คาดว่า การเติมโคบอลต์ส่งผลให้ขนาดของโลหะผสมใหญ่ขึ้นและช่วยเพิ่มอันตรกิริยาระหว่างรูเทเทียมกับ โคบอลต์ซึ่งสอดคล้องกับการวิเคราะห์คุณลักษณะของตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาด้วยกล้องจุลทรรศน์อิเล็กตรอน แบบส่องผ่าน การรีดักชันของไฮโดรเจนด้วยการโปรแกรมอุณหภูมิและ เอ็กซเรย์โฟโตอิเล็กตรอนส เปกโตรสโกปี

/ RUTHENIUM KEYWORDS: FURFURAL / CATALYSTS / HYDROGENATION / FURFURAL HYDROGENATION

> NATDANAI NANTHASANTI: EFFECTS OF TITANIUM DIOXIDE STRUCTURE AND COBALT ADDITION ON THE CATALYTIC PROPERTIES OF $Ru/TiO₂$ in the SELECTIVE HYDROGENATION OF FURFURAL TO FURFURYL ALCOHOL. ADVISOR: PROF. JOONGJAI PANPRANOT, Ph.D., 84 pp.

Furfuryl alcohol, an important intermediate for the production of many fine chemicals, is typically produced by the selective hydrogenation of lignocellulosic biomass-derived furfural using supported metal catalysts. In this research, 1.5%wt Ru catalysts supported on nanocrystalline TiO₂ were prepared by incipient wetness impregnation method. The effects of crystallographic of $TiO₂$ and Co addition in the range of 0.2-0.8 wt% on the catalytic properties of Ru/TiO₂ were investigated in the selective hydrogenation of furfural to furfural alcohol at 50°C, 20 bar of H_2 , and 2 h reaction time. It was found that Ru supported on anatase phase $TiO₂$ exhibited the highest conversion of furfural and selectivity of furfurly alcohol at 32 and 90%, respectively. The anatase phase of $TiO₂$ may promote adsorption of hydrogen atoms than rutile. The addition of a small amount of Co in the Ru/TiO₂ anatase improved the catalytic activity and furfurly alcohol selectivity with the 1.5% Ru-0.6%Co/TiO₂ showed the best catalytic performances with 92% conversion of furfural and 97.5% furfurly alcohol selectivity. It is suggested that Co addition increased the Ru-Co particles size and enhanced the interaction between Ru and Co as shown by the TEM, H_2 -TPR, and XPS results.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

At present, new technologies for the production of bio fuels as renewable energy received much interest by many researchers. This trend is popular due to energy-shortage problem, global warming, the depletion of fossil energy, and increasing pollution problems. Bio fuels and green chemicals can be obtained from biomass, which is considered as an important feedstock for the production [1]. Furfural is a green chemical that can be produced from xylose conversion of lignocellulosic biomass. It can also be found in the decomposition of agricultural waste such as wood, grass, and corncobs [2, 3]. The furfural hydrogenation has many pathways in this reaction, it can produce furfuryl alcohol, furan, 2-methylfuran, 2-methyl tetrahydrofuran, and tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol, but the progressively interesting high value chemical is furfuryl alcohol [4]. Furfuryl alcohol (FA) has wide applications in the production of tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol, polymers, resin, fibers, lysine, vitamin C, lubricants, and chemical intermediates for the production of perfume and vitamin [1, 5]. Conventional selective hydrogenation of furfural is carried out in liquid phase using copper chromite catalysts at high temperature and high pressure using batch reactor. The results show high conversion and selectivity for furfural hydrogenation but copper chromite has toxicity due to the presence of chromium which is another drawback. The toxicity of chromium can severely affect to the environment, which can cause to poisonous pollution [5, 6].

Noble metals have been considered as active catalysts to substitute the use of copper chromite catalysts because noble metals such as Pt, Pd, and Ru did not affect the environment and have high efficiency in the liquid-phase selective hydrogenation reactions [7]. The phase of titania support structure was found to significantly affect the hydrogenation reaction. The Ni/TiO₂ catalysts on anatase phase is higher activity than the rutile titania supported ones in the hydrogenation of pnitrophenol to p-aminophenol because the titania structure has favorable influenced the physio-chemical properties of the catalysts $[8]$. The Pd-Ru/TiO₂ catalyst in selective hydrogenation of furfural at room temperature and low pressure showed high selectivity towards 2-methylfuran and furfuryl alcohol by using the polar solvent [7]. The Ru/C and Pd/C catalysts have been investigated in the furfural hydrogenation, the results showed that the Pd/C catalyst demonstrated high efficiency for the reaction but Ru/C had low efficiency [6]. On the other hand, improving performance of the Ru catalyst was studied by bimetallic Pd-Ru/TiO₂ in furfural hydrogenation, the result displayed that the increasing of Ru content in the Pd increased the selectivity of 2 methylfuran and furfuryl alcohol but decreased the conversion [7]. Non-noble metal was inquired to improve the Ru catalyst. The addition of Sn to Ru catalysts aggressively appended the C=O bond of furfural hydrogenation and furfuryl alcohol selectivity [9].

In this work, the Ru catalyst supported on various phases of titania supports and the bimetallic Ru-Co catalysts supported on anatase phase titania were tested in the selective hydrogenation of furfural to furfuryl alcohol.

1.2 Research objectives

To investigate the characteristics and catalytic properties of TiO₂ supported Ru nanoparticles prepared with different phases of $TiO₂$ in the liquid-phase furfural hydrogenation. จหาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

To study the effect of bimetallic Ru-Co nanoparticles supported on TiO₂ anatase phase catalyst in liquid-phase furfural hydrogenation.

1.3 Research scopes

- 1. Titanium dioxide support with different phase (Rutile, Anatase, P25, and Solgel method) were used
- 2. Titanium dioxide support were prepared using sol-gel method and calcined at 350°C under air atmospheres for 2 h
- 3. 1.5 wt% Ru/TiO₂ monometallic catalysts with different phases of TiO₂ supports and $SiO₂$ support were prepared by using incipient wetness impregnation method and calcined at 550° C under air atmospheres for 4 h
- 4. The reduction conditions were H_2 flow (25cm³/min) at 300°C for 2 h
- 5. The bimetallic 1.5 wt% Ru and different amounts of Co (0.2, 0.4. 0.6, 0.8 wt%) supported on anatase phase $TiO₂$ were prepared by using incipient wetness impregnation method and calcined at 550° C under air atmospheres for 4 h
- 6. The catalysts were tested in the liquid phase furfural hydrogenation at 50° C and 2 MPa hydrogen pressure for 2 h
- 7. The catalysts were characterized by using X-ray diffraction (XRD), BET surface area, Hydrogen Temperature-programmed reduction (H2-TPR), X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS), CO-pulse chemisorption (CO-Chem), transmission electron microscopy (TEM), and Inductively coupled plasmaatomic emission spectrometry (ICP)

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CHAPTER II BACKGROUND AND LITERATURE REVIEWS

2.1 TiO² Support

Titania or titanium (IV) dioxide is the naturally appearing oxide of titanium. The chemical formula of titania is TiO₂, it is used as white pigment. The most popular titania used as support for catalyst in many industrials is P-25, it is also universally used in heterogeneous catalysis reactions such as photo degradation, oxidation, and hydrogenation because it has commercial availability, excellent stability for chemicals, and low price. It has wide range of applications such as production of paint, food coloring, plastics, fibers, electronic, sunscreen lotions, solar cells, capacitors and rubber. Titania mainly exists in both crystalline and amorphous forms and different crystalline phases for example anatase, rutile, and brookite phase (**Figure 2.1**). The crystallite size of rutile is larger than anatase and it has high thermally stable. Brookite is infrequently utilized. Moreover, anatase and brookite phase can convert to rutile phase at temperature above 600°C. The anatase phase has a tetragonal crystal structure (with dipyramidal habit) and contains zigzag chains of octahedral molecules linked while the rutile phase has a tetragonal crystal structure (with prismatic habit) and contains linear chains of opposite edge-shared octahedral structure. The brookite phase has an orthorhombic crystalline structure (**Table 2.1**). The morphologies of TiO ³ exist as nanostructures, for examples, nanotubes, nanowires, nanorods, and mesoporous structures [10]. The synthetic methods of TiO₂ include sol-gel method, solvothermal method, chemical vapor deposition, electrodeposition, and direct oxidation method.

Figure 2.1 Different forms of TiO₂

 $TiO₂$ possesses high physical and chemical stability and it has abundant element and transition metal such as Titanium (III) and titanium (IV), which is normal oxidation states of TiO₂ element [13]. TiO₂ based catalysts are interested in heterogeneous catalysis because of its nontoxicity, high effectiveness, good mechanical resistance, stability in acidic and oxidative environments, and various oxidation states of $TiO₂$ element for the applications in selective, catalytic oxidation of organic compounds, polymerization catalysis, photocatalysis, and hydrogenation catalysis [13]. The disadvantage of TiO₂ is small specific surface areas, low quantum efficiency, and low adsorption, and low adsorption abilities [14].

2.2 Strong interaction between metal and support

The strong metal-support interaction (SMSI) occurs on the group VIII metals supported on reducible oxide supports reduced at high temperatures. The strong interaction between the metal and TiO₂ improved catalytic stability and activity. Wang, S-Y. et al. [15] studied the activity of Pd in methanation reaction. This research showed that Pd on TiO₂ support is the most active catalyst but silica-supported Pd is the least active resulting from the SMSI of metal and TiO₂ support. The Pd/TiO₂ had the highest turnover frequencies based on the chemisorption and the more competitive hydrogen chemisorption. Pereira, M.M. et al. [16] reported the strong suppression of H_2 and CO chemisorption on a group VIII metal supported on a reducible oxide. It was interesting that at high temperature reduction affected on the structure sensitive reaction. In this research, the bimetallic Pd-Cu on $TiO₂$ was prepared by incipient wetness impregnation and studied in the 1, 3-butadiene hydrogenation. The hydrogen chemisorption and turnover frequency were decreased because of the SMSI effect, which resulted by the reduction at high temperature.

2.3 Ruthenium catalyst

Ruthenium is a chemical element with symbol Ru, atomic number 44 and the 4d transition metals. Ruthenium has the range 0 to +8 oxidation states but the normal state is +2, +3, and +4. It is a rare transition metal belonging to the platinum group and is in group 8 of the periodic table and inert to most other chemicals. Ruthenium was used in wear-resistant electrical contacts and chemistry catalyst. Moreover, it is in platinum alloys because Small amounts of ruthenium can increase the hardness of platinum and palladium. The small amount of ruthenium was increased the corrosion resistance of titanium

The selective hydrogenation was popular investigated by transition metal nanoparticles such as Pt, Pd, Cu, Ni, Ru, Au, and Fe because they have metal surface activation and catalysis selectivity. Cui, X. et al. [17] used ruthenium nanoparticles (Ru-NPs) for selective hydrogenation at C=O bond of aromatic rings because it is low cost metal catalyst compared with other noble metals but the result of ruthenium catalyst showed high activity and selectivity for hydrogenation of all kinds of substituted arenes including lignin-derived aromatic compounds. In this research, prepared Ru nanoparticles supported on a nitrogen-doped carbon material were prepared and tested in hydrogenation of aromatic ethers to the corresponding alicyclic compounds with preservation of the phenyl- and benzyl C–O bonds. The Ru noble metal catalyst plays a pivotal role in the reaction under mild conditions.

2.4 Cobalt catalyst

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Cobalt is a chemical element with symbol Co and atomic number 27. It has only in chemically combined form and has been used for jewelry and paints. The metallic-lustered ores such as cobaltite and the by-product of copper and nickel mining were used to produce cobalt. The main product that prepare by cobalt for example magnetic, wear-resistant and high-strength alloys. Cobalt is a ferromagnetic metal with a specific gravity of 8.9 and the metallic form has two crystallographic structures: hcp and fcc. The advantage in catalyst field of cobalt that has weakly reducing metal and passivating oxide film plays role by protect from oxidation. Cobalt has +2 and +3 of common oxidation states from ranging -3 to +5. The cobalt was active at high operating condition, Mansouri, M. et al. [18] used cobalt-based catalysts as for hydrocarbon synthesis, it has the FTS activity, and selectivity for long-chain paraffins.

The Co/K/AI₂O₃ catalyst was prepared by impregnation with an aqueous solution on Fischer–Tropsch synthesis. FTS was carried out in a fixed-bed micro-reactor at temperature of 483–513 K, pressure of 8bar, H2/CO feed ratio of 1–3, and space velocity of 2700–5200 h⁻¹. The 15wt.%Co/10wt.%K/Al₂O₃ is the optimal amount of catalyst. Moreover, improving of catalytic activity of cobalt was synthesized the bimetallic catalysts from Silva, Rosenir R.C.M. et al. [19] studied the cobalt based catalyst on various supports for hydrogen production. Co catalyst showed lower activity in this reaction but it did not have an induction period. It is popular to prepare Co bimetallic catalysts with other metals in catalyst research field. Co is necessary to promote Ni to increase the particle size. Methane decomposition for hydrogen production via accumulation of carbon by cobalt catalysts with silica, alumina, and niobia support, the Co/SiO₂ reduced at 300°C showed the increased conversion with reaction time. The Co/SiO₂ reduced at 500°C was the best catalyst for methane decomposition and the catalyst was observed a rapid sintering of the metal particles because of the drop in hydrogen chemisorption.

2.5 Furfural hydrogenation

Hydrogenation is a chemical reaction between molecular hydrogen and another compound or element to reduce double and triple bonds in hydrocarbons such as alkene, the reaction is usually used with catalyst to reduce the reaction temperature and pressure such as platinum, copper, and palladium. The hydrogenation reaction occurs from the addition of pairs of hydrogen atoms to a molecule. The step of hydrogenation of a C=C double bond at a catalyst surface consists of 3 main steps (1) the hydrogen adsorbs to the catalyst surface to form adsorbed H atoms (2) the reactant adsorbs to the catalyst surface, and (3) the reactant reacts with adsorbed H atoms to give the product and the molecule leaves the surface.

Heterogeneous catalysis consists of catalyst in a different phase from reactants and the catalyst usually composes of metal and support. Metal nanoparticles with high surface area provide a good basis for the molecular design of mixed oxide catalysts**.** The advantage of heterogeneous catalysis is easy separation of the catalyst from the product and the catalyst can be recycled. The heterogeneous catalysis has high thermal stability and hydrolytic stability in solution, it can operate at high temperature [20].

Furfuryl alcohol was produced by furfural hydrogenation in liquid or vapor phase by the heterogeneous catalysis reaction. The investigation of the hydrogenation of the C=O bonds on the furan rings [9] is shown in **Figure 2.4**. The catalysts usually used in furfural hydrogenation are Ni, Cu, Fe, Co, and noble metals group VIII (Pt, Pd, and Ru) because they can reduce the carbonyl group. The reaction was operated with organic solvents, for examples, octane, methanol, ethanol, and 2-propanol but water is preferred due to environmental issue [21]. Furfural was produced from xylose by bio-derivative and product of furfural by noble metal supported on $TiO₂$ in liquid phase hydrogenation into furfuryl alcohol, tetrahydrofurfural, tetrahydrofuran, and tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol, as shown in **Figure 2.2**. The main product that is focused in this reaction is furfuryl alcohol. It is a substance that have many applications in the chemical industry such as fine chemicals, polymers, tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol, 2,3 dihydropyran, resin, fibers, lysine, vitamin C, lubricants adhesives, and wetting agents as shown in **Figure 2.3** [7].

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Figure 2.3 The applications of furfuryl alcohol

Figure 2.4 The mechanism for the hydrogenation of furfural to furfural alcohol [22]

Table 2.2 Summary of the research of the furfural hydrogenation on various catalysts under different reaction conditions.

| Ref. | Purposes of | Catalysts and | Reaction | Results |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| | study | preparation | conditions | |
| | | methods | | |
| Chen, | Studied the | $Cu/MgO-Al2O3$ | -Liquid phase | -The best |
| H. et al. | effects of the | (10-50wt% Cu | -Reduce at | performance is |
| (2018) | Cu state | loading) by co- | 450°C for 2h | 20%Cu/ MgO- |
| $[23]$ | supported on | precipitation | -Furfurl 100 mg, | Al_2O_3 |
| | $MqO-Al_2O_3$ | and calcined | catalyst 25 mg, | -The optimal time |
| | catalysts in the | at 450° C for 2 | temperature | is 1h |
| | hydrogenation | h | 210°C, time 1 h, | - Excellent stability |
| | of furfural to | | pressure 1 atm, | after four cycles of |
| | furfuryl | | isopropanol 5 | catalyst |
| | alcohol | | mL | |

The research of furfural hydrogenation over the catalysts has become increasingly popular at present because the current of biomass fuels and chemicals. Reaction conditions, metals, supports, preparing methods, and required products have been varied. The Cu metal was popular to investigate in the furfural hydrogenation. Chen, H. et al. (2018) [23] studied the effect of the Cu state supported on MgO-Al₂O₃ catalysts in the hydrogenation of furfural to furfuryl alcohol. From the results, it is suggested that the effect of the Cu state on Cu/MgO-Al₂O₃ achieved a high catalytic activity and 20%Cu/MgO-Al₂O₃ showed the high yield of furfuryl alcohol because of the strongly dependent on the copper content, the balance between the Cu loading and dispersion, and the completely reduction of surface Cu²⁺ to Cu². The state of Cu⁰ showed better dispersion of nanoparticles, a higher reduction degree of Cu, and stronger adsorption of furfural can contribute to high hydrogenation performance. The decrease in the amount of Lewis acidity also increased the performance of catalysts. The temperature and time had a significant effect on the conversion and the best condition was 210℃ for 1 h but it was unstable. The furfuryl alcohol has been produced stably at 170 and 190℃ without other products or degradation. O'Driscoll, Á. et al. (2017) [27] synthesised of monometallic catalysts by wet impregnation and concentrated on the employment metals for the liquid phase hydrogenation. The $SiO₂$ support displays higher furfural conversion because of high surface area and high actual metal loading.

The superior metal for furfuryl alcohol production is platinum based catalysts because platinum is noble metal and it is structure selective to hydrogenate the C=O bond at high furfural conversion. Vargas-Hernández, D. et al. (2014) [24] studied the effects of the Cu spported on SBA-15 silica catalysts and compared with copper chromite for the hydrogenation of furfural to furfuryl alcohol. It was found that the presence of Cu⁰-Cu⁺ species on the catalyst surface is responsible for the high activity and selectivity toward furfuryl alcohol. The SBA-15Cu showed high activity and selectivity toward the desired product at 170 \degree C and all the SBA-15 silica catalysts showed higher activity than copper chromite because the SBA-15silica has more surface area and the SBA-15Cu catalyst has higher activity than SBA-20Cu resulting from lacking of required number of smaller Cu particles that makes the SBA-20Cu catalyst less active in furfural hydrogenation. Sharma, R. V. et al. (2013) [22] developed the Cu:Zn:Cr:Zr based catalysts for the hydrogenation of furfural to furfuryl alcohol. From the results, it was found that the addition of Zn increases the activity for furfural conversion and the addition of Zr increases selectivity by reducing the crystalline size of the Cu. The increasing of Zr content grain the acidity of the catalyst and helps in the dispersion of Cu particles. The novel Cu(3):Zn(2):Cr(1):Zr(3) catalyst is the optimum ratio for this reaction. Villaverde, M.M. et al. (2013) [25] studied the different support on Cu-based catalysts for the hydrogenation of furfural to furfuryl alcohol, which prepared by the incipient wetness impregnation (Cu/SiO₂-I), precipitation-deposition (Cu/SiO₂-PD), and co-precipitation (CuMgAl, CuZnAl and Cu-Cr) methods. The highest activity of CuMgAl was resulted from interaction between Cu 0 atoms and Mg²⁺cations and high Cu dispersion and H_2 chemisorption capacity. In the reaction, high temperature makes high furfural conversion rates and reduces deactivation. The metals used in previous studies were non-noble metals but Bhogeswararao, S. et al. (2015) [26] studied the noble metal on the differences in structure and mode of furfural adsorption of Pt and Pd metal supported on γ -Al₂O₃ for furfural hydrogenation. Excellent activity at room temperature of Pt and Pd catalysts was observed. At high temperature, the Pd catalyst showed expertly decarbonylation activity forming furan because Pd catalyst is selective for C=O hydrogenation. The polar sovent led to high conversion of furfural. The supported Pt catalysts show hydrogenolysis of C=O and C-O groups enabling 2-methylfuran and furan ring-opened products.

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2.6 The effect of titania support on hydrogenation reaction

Table 2.3 Summary of the research on the effect of titania structure support for hydrogenation reaction.

The titania is the most popular in the hydrogenation reaction due to the different crystalline phases, low price, nontoxicity, commercial and excellent stability for chemicals. Rizhi, C. et al. (2006) [8] studied the titania structure on Ni/TiO₂ catalysts prepared by a liquid-phase chemical reduction method for hydrogenation of pnitrophenol to p-aminophenol. From the results, it was found that the titania structure has favorable influence on physio-chemical and catalytic properties of Ni/TiO₂ catalysts and the anatase phase of titania shows higher activity than rutile phase of titania because the nickel oxide is easy to reduce to metallic nickel on anatase phase of titania similar to under reaction conditions. For the different crystalline phases of titania, the mixed crystalline phases of titania was investigated by Panpranot, J. et al. (2006) [29], the TiO₂ supports consisting of various crystalline phases were studied in selective acetylene hydrogenation. From the results, the rutile phase titania displayed the best efficiency of catalyst for the selective acetylene hydrogenation because of the Increasing percentages of rutile phase in the $TiO₂$ showed the dropping of Brunauer-Emmett-Teller surface areas, fewer Ti^{3+} sites, and lower Pd dispersion. The increasing of ethylene resulted from Ti^{3+} in contact with Pd can probably lower the adsorption strength of ethylene. In addition, the SMSI effect of the titania was important to the hydrogenation reaction. Li, Y. et al. (2004) [28] studied the strong metal-support interaction by the effect of titania polymorph for the liquid phase selective hydrogenation of long chain alkadienes. From the results, it was found the reduction by H₂ of anatase titania catalyst occurs at low temperature but rutile phase has high temperature reduction and rutile phase is more thermodynamically and structurally stable than anatase titania because T^{3+} ions in the surface lattice of anatase phase is easy to diffuse to surface of metal particle.

2.7 The noble metal ruthenium catalyst on furfural hydrogenation

Table 2.4 Summary of the research on the ruthenium catalyst on furfural hydrogenation with different supports and reaction conditions.

Noble metals were investigated in the hydrogenation and it higher catalytic activity was found compared to the non-noble metal. Panagiotopoulou, P. et al. (2014) [31] studied in 2 researches, the first one was the methyl furan production by hydrogenation of furfural in the liquid phase on Ru/C catalyst. From the results, it is suggested that increasing of reaction temperature and/or reaction time enhance the yield of methylfuran. The Ru catalysts show significantly decrease of conversion when recycling experiments and furfuryl alcohol yield increases at the expense of methyl furan. Secondly, Panagiotopoulou, P. et al. studied the effect of alcohol hydrogen donor on methyl furan production by Ru/C catalyst [30]. Their results show the Ru/RuO₂/C catalyst exhibits high performance of furfural conversion and selectivity to methyl furan because Ru on carbon support has high dispersion of metal particles on the support surface. The secondary alcohols showed the most effective in reaction which was coherent to Mironenko, R M. et al. (2015) [6] studied the formation and catalytic properties of the active sites in Pd/C and Ru/C catalysts for hydrogenation of furfural. It was found the highly active catalyst is Pd/C because the carbon support affects to the dispersion of metal. The Ru catalyst showed low activity but high selectivity for furfuryl alcohol possibly due to irreversible adsorption of water on the active sites. From other methods of catalyst preparation, Yang, J. et al. (2016) [33] studied the effect of aromatic and aliphatic organic linkers over hydrogenation of furfural on Ru/Al-MIL-53. The framework containing an aromatic ring (Al-MIL-53-BDC) shows higher surface area than the analogue with an aliphatic linker (Al-MIL-53-ADP) which contributes to the Ru metal dispersion and enhanced substrate adsorption. And Yuan, Q. et al. (2015) [5] studied the Ru nanoparticles supported on a series of zirconium based metal organic frameworks for liquid phase hydrogenation of furfural. It was found the Ru/UiO-66 is the most efficient catalyst because the increased binding energy is caused by an increased dispersion of $RuO₂$ and interaction with the organic linkers of the MOF. It can be recycled in five consecutive reactions without appreciable loss in performance.

2.8 The bimetallic catalyst on furfural hydrogenation reaction

| Ref. | Purposes of | Catalysts and | Reaction | Results | |
|------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|--|
| | study | preparation | conditions | | |
| | | methods | | | |
| Liu, L. et | modified | -The bimetallic | -Liquid phase | -The Pt- | |
| al. (2018) | multiwalled | Pt-based and | -Reduce at | Fe/MWNT and | |
| $[1]$ | carbon | Pd-based were | 400°C for 4h | Pd-Ni/MWNT | |
| | nanotubes via | prepared | -Furfurl 0.5mL, | catalysts | |
| | $CO-$ | by co- | temperature | showed | |
| | impregnation | impregnation | 100°C, catalyst | enhancing the | |
| | method for | method | 0.1 g, pressure | catalytic activity | |
| | hydrogenation | | 3MPa, ethanol | for furfural | |
| | of furfural in | | 5mL | hydrogenation | |
| | liquid phase | | | | |

Table 2.5 Summary of the research on the bimetallic catalysts on furfural G) hydrogenation.

The bimetallic catalyst on furfural hydrogenation reaction was studied and has shown resulted in the improving catalytic activity compared to monometallic catalysis. Liu, L. et al. (2018) [1] modified multi-walled carbon nanotubes via co-impregnation method for hydrogenation of furfural in liquid phase. From the results, it was found the Pt–Fe/MWNT showed the highest conversion and selectivity to furfuryl alcohol. Pd–Ni/MWNT catalysts exhibited the best catalytic performance due to the effect of bimetallic catalysts improve catalytic activity and stability and attribute to active crystal planes exposed over Pt and Pd promoted by Fe and Ni. Fulajtárova, K. et al. (2015) [33] studied the bimetallic Pd–Cu catalysts with different metals loadings on various supports for hydrogenation of furfural. From the results, it was found the Pd– Cu catalysts supported on MgO and Mg(OH)₂ showed the highest conversion and selectivity to furfuryl alcohol because the Pd^0 sites and closely interacting bimetallic Pd⁰–Cu₂O catalytic sites. The Cu⁺ sites participate on activation of C=O group in furfural. The Cu promoted Pd was found to improve in conversion and selectivity to furfuryl alcohol. Zhang, C. et al. (2017) [4] synthesized the silica-supported platinum overlayer on nickel or copper catalysts for furfural hydrogenation and showed higher turnover frequencies of furfural hydrogenation compared to pure Pt and pure Cu. For the Cu@Pt, the Pt sites improve the efficiency of Cu catalyst by the blocking of Pt site perform by strong hydrogen adsorption, it decreased H₂ binding strength of Pt overlayer compared to pure Pt. Moreover, the Ru catalyst was interested in improving the selectivity to furfuryl alcohol. Aldosari, O. F. et al. (2016) [7] studied the Pd-Ru/TiO₂ catalyst and the effect of solvent for furfural hydrogenation. It was found that the octane solvent showed high activity and selectivity to 2-methylfuran and furfuryl alcohol as octane is a polar solvent. The effect of bimetallic by adding Ru particles to the Pd/TiO₂ showed the decreasing of conversion but improving the selectivity of 2-methylfuran and furfuryl alcohol and decreasing by product of reaction because Ru catalyst was highly selective catalyst to produce furfurly alcohol but it has low conversion for furfural hydrogenation. From the low conversion for furfural hydrogenation, the research for improved conversion was attempted by Musci, J. J. et al. (2017) [9]. The carbonsupported Ru and RuSn catalysts were investigated in furfural hydrogenation. It is suggested that the adding amount of tin to Ru catalyst improve the efficiency of catalyst for furfural hydrogenation, the Sn/Ru ratio of 0.4 promoted the C=O hydrogenation reaching a selectivity towards furfuryl alcohol because tin compromise between the dilution of Ru sites, active for the hydrogenation reaction but high concentration of tin did not improve the efficiency.

CHAPTER III

EXPERIMENTAL

3.1 Catalyst preparation

3.1.1 Preparation of TiO2 sol-gel support

The TiO₂ sol-gel support was prepared by a sol-gel method. The titanium isopropoxide (TTIP) precursor containing 7.33 cm³ of 65 vol. % nitric acid in 1000 cm³ of deionized water was prepared under constant stirring. After adding 83.5 cm^3 TTIP into stirring mixture while precipitate was formed then the mixture was constantly stirred at room temperature for 3 days until the sol was clear. The clear sol was dialyzed in cellulose membrane in the deionized water for 3-4 days and the water was changed every day until the pH of water was 3.5. After that, the sol was dried in oven at 110°C overnight to taken off the solvent. The dried sol was milled and calcined by O₂ flow at 350°C for 2 h with heating rate of 10° C/min.[7]

Figure 3.1 Diagram of TiO₂ catalysts preparation by sol-gel method

3.1.2 Preparation of SiO² , TiO² (Rutile, P25, Anatase, Sol-gel) supported Ru and Co catalyst (monometallic)

The 1.5%wt Ru monometallic catalysts were prepared on various supports as shown in **Table 3.3.** The catalyst was prepared by incipient wetness impregnation method using ruthenium (III) nitrosylnitrate solution as the Ru precursor. The supports (TiO₂ with various phases: rutile, P25, anatase, and sol-gel and SiO₂ 15nm) were impregnated with the Ru precursor solution until volume equals to pore volume of support. After that, the catalyst was left at room temperature for 6 h and dried by oven at 110° C for 12 h in air. The dried catalyst was calcined in air at 550° C for 4 h with heating rate 10°C/min. The 1.5%wt Co monometallic on TiO₂ anatase phase support was prepared by incipient wetness impregnation method followed the previously steps.

| Chemicals | Formula | Suppliers | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Ruthenium (III) | $Ru(NO)(NO3)x(OH)y, x+y=3$ | Aldrich Chemical Ltd | |
| nitrosylnitrate solution | | | |
| Cobalt naphthenate | $CoC_{22}H_{14}O_{4}$ | Aldrich Chemical Ltd | |
| solution | | | |

Table 3.2 Precursor used for incipient wetness impregnation method

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Table 3.3 Support used for incipient wetness impregnation method

3.1.3 Preparation of TiO² (Anatase) supported Ru-Co catalyst (bimetallic)

The 1.5% wt Ru with various contents of Co bimetallic catalysts on TiO₂ anatase phase supports were prepared by incipient wetness impregnation method using ruthenium (III) nitrosylnitrate solution and cobalt naphthenate solution as Ru precursor and Co precursor, respectively. The $TiO₂$ anatase phase support was impregnated with the mixture of Ru precursor solution and Co precursor solution until volume equals to pore volume of support. After that, the catalyst was left at room temperature for 6 h and dried by oven at 110° C for 12 h in air. The dried catalyst was calcined in air at 550 $^{\circ}$ C for 4 h with heating rate 10 $^{\circ}$ C/min.

Figure 3.2 Diagram of Ru, Co, Ru-Co on TiO₂ catalysts preparation by incipient wetness impregnation method

3.2 Catalyst pretreatment

Before hydrogenation reaction, the catalyst was pretreated by reduction technique to make the catalyst in reduced form. Quartz wool was contained into the glass u-tube cell and 0.06g of catalyst was loaded into the glass u-tube cell. The catalyst was reduced in a MicromeriticsChemiSorb 2750 with a H_2 flow 25cm³/min at 300°C for 2h. After that, the catalyst was cooled down with a N_2 flow 25cm³/min from 300° C to 30° C.

3.3 Catalyst test in the furfural hydrogenation

The furfural hydrogenation was carried out in a liquid-phase in order to investigate the catalytic performances. 0.05g of reduced catalyst, 10ml of methanol and 50µl of furfural were loaded into the 100 ml stainless steel autoclave reactor (JASCO, Tokyo, Japan) supplied with hot plate and magnetic stirrer and then set temperature to 50 \degree C by heating in a water bath. After that, the autoclave reactor was purged with H₂ for 3 times. The furfural hydrogenation reaction was carried out at 20bar of H_2 at 50°C for 2h and the reaction mixture was stirred with magnetic stirrer at 900 rpm to eliminate the external mass transfer resistance. When the reaction was done, the stirrer was stopped and the autoclave reactor was cooled down to 20° C by icewater. The reaction mixture was centrifuged and separated from the catalyst. The liquid product was analyzed by a gas chromatography equipped with a flame ionization detector (FID).

| Chemicals | Formula | Suppliers |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Furfural 99% | $C_5H_4O_2$ | Aldrich |
| Furfuryl alcohol 99% | $C_5H_6O_2$ | Aldrich |
| Tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol 98% | $C_5H_{10}O_2$ | Aldrich |
| Furan 98% | C_4H_4O | Aldrich |
| Methanol 98% | CH ₃ OH | Aldrich |

Table 3.4 Chemicals used in the liquid-phase furfural hydrogenation

Table 3.5 The operating conditions of gas chromatograph with a flame ionization A REAL AND detector

3.4 Catalyst Characterization

3.4.1 X-ray diffraction (XRD)

The XRD patterns and crystalline size of the catalysts were studied by The Xray diffraction technique on a SIEMENS D5000 X-ray diffractometer with CuK α radiation in scanning range from 20 $^{\circ}$ to 80 $^{\circ}$ 2 $\pmb{\theta}$.

2.4.3BET surface area

The BET specific surface area, pore volumes, hyteresis loop, and pore size diameters of the catalysts were investigated by the N_2 physisorption technique on a Micromeritics ASAP 2020 automated system.

3.4.3 Hydrogen Temperature-programmed reduction (H² -TPR)

The reducibility of catalysts and the interaction of metal and support were demonstrated by temperature programmed reduction technique on a MicromeriticsChemiSorb 2750 with ChemiSoftTPx software. The Removing adsorbed method, 0.1g of catalysts were packed in a quartz U-tube and pretreated with a N_2 flow 25 cm^3/m in at 200 $^{\circ}$ C for 1h and then cooled down to the room temperature. Following this the gas flow was changed to 10%H₂/Ar and temperature was ramped to 800 $\mathrm{^{\circ}C}$ by ramped rate 10 $\mathrm{^{\circ}C}$ min⁻¹ with a 30min hold at 800 $\mathrm{^{\circ}C}$

3.4.4 X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS)

The binding energy of catalysts were characterized using a Kratos AMICUS X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy operated with an Mg K_{α} X-ray as primary excitation and KRATOS VISION II software. The XPS spectra of C1s peak was specified as reference at binding energy of 285.0eV.

3.4.5 Co-pulse Chemisorption (CO-Chem)

The amounts of CO chemisorbed on the catalyst, metal active sites, and percentages dispersion of metal were defined by The CO-pulse chemisorption technique on a MicromeriticsChemiSorb 2750 with ChemiSoftTPx software. The 0.05g of catalysts were packed in a quartz U-tube cell and introduced with a He flow 25cm³/min to take out of air and then catalyst was reduced with H_2 flow 25 cm³/min and heated from 30° C to 300° C for 2h with a heating rate of 10° C/min. After catalyst was cooled down to 30° C in a He flow and injected with CO into the cell by pulse method for adsorb on the active sites of catalyst while unabsorbed CO was detected by the thermal conductivity detector. The injecting of CO was stopped until the unabsorbed CO peaks were constant.

3.4.6 Transmission electron microscopy (TEM)

The particles size of metal and the morphology of catalysts were carried out using JEOL-JEM 2010 transmission electron microscope using energy-dispersive X-ray detector operated at 200kV.

2.4.3Scanning electron microscopy and energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (SEM-EDX)

The element distribution and percent metal on the catalyst were characterized by JEOL mode JSM-6400 Scanning electron microscope and Link Isis Series 300 program energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy. The samples were pretreated at 110° C for 24h before analysis.

CHAPTER IV

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND REDEARCH PLAN

4.1 The research methodology

The research methodology consists of two parts.

Part I. Part I. The investigation of the characteristics and catalytic properties of TiO₂ supported Ru nanoparticles prepared with different phases of $TiO₂$ in the liquid-phase furfural hydrogenation. $\ln \frac{1}{2}$

Part II. Study of the effect of bimetallic Ru-Co nanoparticles supported on TiO₂ anatase phase catalyst in liquid-phase furfural hydrogenation.

CHAPTER V RESULTS AND DISSCUSSION

The results and discussion of the characteristics and catalytic properties of the monometallic Ru/TiO₂ and bimetallic Ru-Co/TiO₂ catalysts in the liquid phase of furfural hydrogenation are divided into two parts. In the first part, the investigation of the characteristics and catalytic properties of $TiO₂$ supported Ru nanoparticles prepared with different phases of TiO₂ in the liquid-phase furfural hydrogenation was reported. The TiO₂ supported Ru nanoparticles with different phases of TiO₂ prepared by the incipient wetness impregnation method were analyzed by XRD, N_{2} physisorption, H₂-temperature programmed reduction (H₂-TPR), X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS), CO-pulse Chemisorption, Scanning electron microscopy and energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (SEM-EDX). In the second part, the effect of bimetallic Ru-Co nanoparticles supported on anatase phase TiO₂ catalysts in the liquidphase furfural hydrogenation was discussed. The characteristics and catalytic properties of Ru (1.5wt% Ru) and Co (0.2, 0.4, 0.6, and 0.8wt% Co) on $TiO₂$ anatase phase prepared by the incipient wetness impregnation method were analyzed by XRD, N₂-physisorption, H₂-TPR, XPS, CO-pulse chemisorption, SEM, and TEM.

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Part I. The investigation of the characteristics and catalytic properties of TiO² supported Ru nanoparticles prepared with different phases of TiO² in the liquid-phase furfural hydrogenation.

5.1 Characterization of Ru/TiO2 with different TiO² phases and Ru/SiO²

5.1.2 N² Physisorption

The $N₂$ adsorption-desorption isotherms, pore structure, BET surface area, pore volume, pore size, and the average anatase $Ru/TiO₂$ crystallite size of Ru/TiO₂ with different phases of $TiO₂$ and $SiO₂$ catalysts were measured by the Brunauer Emmett Teller (BET) method and the results are shown in **Table 5.2.** From the results, there were no significant differences in BET surface area, pore volume and pore size of Ru/TiO₂-A, Ru/TiO₂-P25, and Ru/SiO₂. The Ru/TiO₂-Sol showed high BET surface area at 106 m²/g. However, the heat treatment brings the disadvantage of the aggregation of $TiO₂$ particles [34] and small pore size at 5 nm. The pore structure of Ru/TiO₂-Sol synthesized by sol-gel method depended on the desired pore size of the membrane [35]. The particle size and homogeneity in particle distribution can be controlled by Sol-gel technique. Moreover, the hole-structure was collapsed due to the surface tension of the solvents [34]. The Ru/TiO_2 -R had high BET surface area at 144 m^2/g and large pore volume at 0.83 cm $^3/\mathrm{g}$ that was proved by hysteresis loop of Ru/TiO₂-R in **Figure 5.3**. The average anatase TiO₂ crystallite size of Ru/TiO₂-A, Ru/TiO₂-P25 catalysts were not significant different at around 28 nm but was smaller for the Ru/TiO₂-R at 17 nm. However, Ru/TiO₂-Sol exhibited the smallest crystallite size due to the preparation by sol-gel technique [34].

The N₂ adsorption-desorption isotherms of Ru/TiO₂-A, Ru/TiO₂-P25, Ru/TiO₂-R_, Ru/TiO₂-Sol_, and Ru/SiO₂ are shown in **Figure 5.3.** From Brunauer-Deming-Teller (BDTT), the isotherms of Ru/TiO₂-A, Ru/TiO₂-P25, Ru/TiO₂-R_, Ru/TiO₂-Sol_, and Ru/SiO₂ were type-IV physisorption isotherm, showing the characteristic of mesoporous materials with pore diameters between 2 and 50 nm. The shape characteristic of hysteresis loop for all the catalysts except $Ru/TiO₂$ -Sol were type H3 indicating to the

Figure 5.1 N₂-Physisorption isotherms of Ru/TiO₂-A, Ru/TiO₂-P25, Ru/TiO₂-R_, Ru/TiO₂-Sol, and $Ru/SiO₂$

Figure 5.2 The combination of N₂-Physisorption isotherms of Ru/TiO₂-A, Ru/TiO₂-P25, $Ru/TiO₂ - R$, $Ru/TiO₂ - Sol$, and $Ru/SiO₂$

Table 5.1 Physical properties of the Ru/TiO₂ with different phases of titania and Ru/SiO² catalysts*.*

| Sample | Avg. crystallite size ^ª of anatase $TiO2$ (nm) | BET surface area (m^2/g) | Pore volume ^b $\rm (cm^3/g)$ | Avg Pore $sizeb$ (nm) |
|---------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| $Ru/TiO2-A$ | 27.9 ^c | 50 | 0.32 | 22.0 |
| $Ru/TiO2-R$ | 16.9 ^d | 144 | 0.83 | 18.5 |
| $Ru/TiO2-P25$ | 27.9 ^c | 53 | 0.26 | 15.5 |
| $Ru/TiO2-Sol$ | 8.6 ^c | 106 | 0.21 | 5.0 |
| Ru/SiO ₂ | | 44 | 0.20 | 18.2 |

^aBased on the XRD results.

bDetermined from the Barret-Joyner-Halenda (BJH) desorption method.

 \degree Determined from anatase peak at 25° 2 θ

^d Determined from rutile peak at 27° 2 θ

5.1.3 H² -temperature programmed reduction

Temperature programmed reduction was employed to determine the reducibility, reduction behaviors of Ru/TiO₂ with different TiO₂ phases catalysts, as well as to obtain the information regarding the interaction between the metal and support. The reduction behaviors of Ru/TiO₂ Anatase, Ru/TiO₂ Rutile, Ru/TiO₂ Sol-gel, Ru/TiO₂ P25 catalysts are shown in **Figure 5.5**. From the results, all the Ru/TiO₂ showed three main reduction peaks at about 140°C - 200°C as a result of the reduction of Ru(III) to Ru(0) and at 320°C - 410°C as a result of Ru interacted with TiO₂ support [36] and Ru-TiOx species interacted with TiO₂ support [37]. The last board peak at 570°C - 720°C, which can be assigned to the reduction of surface TiO₂ [38]. The Ru reduction peak of $Ru/TIO₂$ -A and $Ru/TIO₂$ -Sol showed a single sharp peak, suggesting that the Ru particles on Anatase and Sol-gel phase of $TiO₂$ were homogeneity in particle size distribution [34]. However, the Ru reduction peak of $Ru/TIO₂-P25$ and $Ru/TIO₂-R$ displayed a series of convoluted peaks probably due to the presence of Ru with different particles sizes and/or presence of Ru ions in different environments on the surface of the support [39].

Figure 5.3 The H₂-TPR profiles of Ru/TiO₂ Anatase, Ru/TiO₂ Rutile, Ru/TiO₂ Sol-gel, Ru/TiO² P25 catalysts

| Catalysts | H_2 consumption of Ru-TiO _x interface species | |
|---------------|--|--|
| | interacting with support ($mmoVg$) | |
| $Ru/TiO2-A$ | 2.72 | |
| $Ru/TiO2-R$ | 3.12 | |
| $Ru/TiO2-P25$ | 1.94 | |
| $Ru/TiO2-Sol$ | 233 | |

Table 5.2 H₂ consumption of Ru-TiO_x peak with different phase of TiO₂ catalysts

According to the H₂-TPR results, the Ru reduction peak of Ru/TiO₂-A was observed at 203°C and the Ru interacted with TiO₂ support peak was shown at 408°C. The Ru reduction peak of Ru/TiO_2 -P25 and Ru/TiO_2 -R appeared at low temperature around at 174°C and 140°C, respectively because the size of Ru particles of Ru/TiO₂-P25 and Ru/TiO₂-R were smaller than Ru/TiO₂-A [39]. However, the Ru interacted with TiO₂ support peak of both catalysts were not significant different. From the H₂-TPR results, smaller Ru particles size usually exhibited Ru reduction peak at lower temperature. Therefore, increasing of Ru particles size resulted in a shift of Ru reduction peak to higher temperature [39-41]. The last board peaks of Ru/TiO_2 -A, Ru/TiO₂-P25, and Ru/TiO₂-R were varied between 665°C and 772°C. However, the Ru/TiO₂-Sol showed the peak of Ru reduction at 211°C which was higher than $Ru/TiO₂-P25$, suggesting that the Ru particles of $Ru/TiO₂-Sol$ were smaller than $Ru/TiO₂-P25$ but the Ru interacted with TiO₂ support peak and the reduction of TiO₂ surface showed the lowest temperature among all the catalysts at 323°C and 574°C, respectively because of the weak interaction between Ru metal and TiO₂-Sol support [41]. The H₂ consumption of Ru-TiO_x species is given in **Table 5.2** and was found to be in the order $Ru/TiO_2-R > Ru/TiO_2-A > Ru/TiO_2-Sol > Ru/TiO_2-P25$.

5.1.1 X-ray diffraction (XRD)

The structure, crystallization and phase composition of $TiO₂$ catalysts were analyzed by X-ray diffraction technique. The XRD patterns of the catalyst samples were measured from 20° to 80° 2 θ . In Figure 5.1, the XRD characteristic peaks

showed anatase phase at 2θ = 25° (major), 37°, 48°, 55°, 56°, 62°, 71°, 75° and rutile phase at 27° (major), 36°, 42°, and 57° without formation of brookite phase, The diffraction peaks of Ru species were not observed in all the catalysts because of low content of Ru loading [42]. The average crystallite size of anatase and rutile phase TiO₂ in different supports were calculated by Scherrer's equation from the full width at half maximum of the XRD peak at 2θ = 25° (major) of anatase phase and 2θ = 27° (major) of rutile phase.

The XRD analysis of $Ru/SiO₂$ are shown in Figure 5.2, the wide angle XRD reveals the presence of a broad peak at $2\theta = 22^{\circ}$ which is because the amorphous SiO₂ support but no diffraction peaks for Ru were detected for catalyst. This is due to low amount Ru metal loading [43].

The amount of Anatase phase was calculated using the areas of the major anatase at 2θ = 25° and rutile 2θ = 27° of XRD peaks following the method described by Jung et al [44]. In Table 5.1, The Ru/TiO₂ catalysts consisting of 97, 87, 75, and 5% Anatase phase were called as Ru/TiO_2 -A, Ru/TiO_2 -P25, Ru/TiO_2 -Sol, and Ru/TiO₂-R, respectively.

D

Figure 5.4 The XRD patterns of Ru/TiO₂ catalysts prepared with different TiO₂ phases

Figure 5.5 The XRD patterns of $Ru/SiO₂$ catalysts

Table 5.3 Ru/TiO₂ prepared with different phases of TiO₂ samples consisting of various % anatase of TiO₂

| Sample | Anatase phase ^{a, b} (%) | Rutile phase ^{a, b} (%) |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| $Ru/TiO2-A$ | | |
| $Ru/TiO2-R$ | ี มาลงกรณมหะ _แ | 95 |
| $Ru/TiO2-P25$ | | |
| $Ru/TiO2-Sol$ | | 25 |

^aBased on the XRD results.

b_{Determined from a method described in Jung et al.}

5.1.4 CO-pulse Chemisorption

The amounts of CO chemisorption on Ru/TiO₂ with different phases of TiO₂ catalysts after reduced at 300°C and the amount of Ru active sites were determined by the chemisorption based on the assumption $CO : RU = 1 : 1$ and the results are shown in Table5.4. The %Ru dispersion on Ru/TiO₂-R, Ru/TiO₂-P25, Ru/TiO₂-Sol, and

 $Ru/TiO₂$ -A were 5.0%, 4.6%, 2.2%, and 1.5%, respectively. It was found that Ru dispersion on TiO₂-P25 and Ru/TiO₂-R were similar and higher than Ru/TiO₂-Sol, and $Ru/TiO₂$ -A. Moreover, the dispersion of Ru on TiO₂-A was the lowest. Similar has been found by Niu et al. [40] that anatase phase TiO₂ led to poor Ru dispersion. The size of Ru particles were also affected by the dispersion of Ru on $TiO₂$ support. According to Elzbieta, T. et al. (2017) [45], increasing of Ru particle size decreased the dispersion of Ru on $TiO₂$ support.

Table 5.4 CO chemisorption and metal concentrations of Ru/TiO₂ with different phase of $TiO₂$ catalysts

| Catalysts | Co chemisorption | Ru dispersion ^{a, b} | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| | (Molecule Co $\times 10^{17}/g$ cat.) | (%) | |
| $Ru/TiO2-A$ | 13.4 | 1.5 | |
| $Ru/TiO2-R$ | 44.7 | 5.0 | |
| $Ru/TiO2-P25$ | 41.1 | 4.6 | |
| $Ru/TiO2-Sol$ | 19.7 | 2.2 | |

a Determined from 1.5% of Ru

b Determined from CO-pulse chemisorption technique with the chemisorption based on the assumption CO : Ru = 1 : 1
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5.1.5 Scanning electron microscopy and energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (SEM-EDX)

The morphology, element distribution, and percent metal on the catalyst were analyzed by SEM-EDX. In Figure 5.6, the SEM images of the Ru/TiO₂-A, Ru/TiO₂-R, and $Ru/TiO₂$ -Sol catalysts showed similar morphology and characteristic shape but the Ru/TiO₂-Sol catalyst was constituted of aggregation of small grains [46]. Elemental analysis by EDX indicated that the chemical compositions were close to stoichiometrical percantages of Ru around 1.5wt% for all the catalysts.

Figure 5.6 The SEM-EDX of Ru/TiO₂ Anatase, Ru/TiO₂ Rutile, Ru/TiO₂ Sol-gel, Ru/TiO₂ P25 catalysts

5.2 Activity test in the liquid-phase furfural hydrogenation

Figure 5.7 The pathway of furfural hydrogenation reaction [47]

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The furfural hydrogenation reaction as shown in **Figure 5.7**, exhibited the 2 main reaction pathways. The first pathway is the hydrogenation in 2 steps of the C=O double bond that converts furfural to furfuryl alcohol and the further hydrogenation of the C=C double bond producing tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol. The second pathway is the hydrogenation of C=O double bond with methanol, which converts furfural to 2-furaldehyde dimethyl acetal, which is the side-product of reaction between furfural and alcohol solvent. In contrast, non-polar solvents conferred poor furfural conversion, while methanol favored acetal by-product formatiol [47]. Taylor, M. et al. (2016) [47] studied the side effect from selective hydrogenation of furfural over supported Pt nanoparticles under mild conditions and showed that the selectivity

towards the undesired acetal side product decreased from ethanol>methanol>nbutanol. In the methanol case small amounts of 2-furaldehyde dimethyl acetal was found after 7h reaction. In our study of furfural hydrogenation reaction, furfuryl alcohol is the desired product and tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol and 2-furaldehyde dimethyl acetal are the undesired products.

The catalytic performances of 1.5% Ru/TiO₂ prepared with different phases of $TiO₂$ catalysts were investigated in the selective hydrogenation of furfural in methanol solvent at temperature 50°C at a H_2 pressure of 2 bar and 2h reaction time. The catalytic behaviors of the Ru/TiO₂ with different phases of TiO₂ catalysts including furfural conversion and product selectivity are reported in **Table 5.5**, the main product was furfuryl alcohol and the by-product was 2-furaldehyde dimethyl acetal. The main product furfuryl alcohol was not hydrogenated to tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol probably due to the time of reaction not long enough and/or the characteristics of the Ru/TiO₂ catalysts [48]. On the other hand, the by-product 2furaldehyde dimethyl acetal was found in small amount. It was found that the $Ru/TiO₂$ catalysts were very selective to furfuryl alcohol. The Ru/SiO₂ catalysts showed very low conversion of furfural therefore it was not interesting in this research. The Ru/TiO₂-A catalyst exhibited the highest catalytic activity among all the catalysts, which could be attributed to the percentages of anatase phase as shown in **Table 5.1.** The catalytic activity decreased with the decreasing of the percentages of anatase phase. This result suggested the percentages of anatase in $TiO₂$ were the important factor attributing to the catalytic activity of Ru catalyst in the hydrogenation reaction of furfural to furfuryl alcohol. From **Table 5.1**. The percentages of anatase of Ru/TiO₂-A, Ru/TiO₂-P25, Ru/TiO₂-Sol, and Ru/TiO₂-R were calculated to be 97%, 87%, 75%, and 5%, respectively the percentage of anatase was found be the main important factor affecting the catalytic activity, the anatase phase TiO₂ is stable in nanometer-siged and hydrogen can pass through the anatase phase of TiO₂ surface and can be incorporated and store into anatase phase of TiO₂ where it leads to a significant band gap reduction. In other words, the anatase phase of TiO₂ are favorable adsorption sites for hydrogen atoms [49, 50]. For the rutile phase TiO₂, the catalytic activity and selectivity of furfuryl alcohol were diminished

because molecular hydrogen could not be interacted strongly with the rutile phase TiO₂, while atomic hydrogen readily sticks to the surface oxygen atoms [49].

The Ru/TiO₂-Sol displayed the selectivity of furfuryl alcohol was the lowest. This may be because of the weak interaction of Ru and TiO₂ support peak of H₂-TPR that was shifted to low temperature. However, the interaction of Ru and TiO₂ support peak of Ru/TiO₂-A, Ru/TiO₂-R, and Ru/TiO₂-P25 were equal position but the H₂ consumption of Ru-TiOx interface species were different. The selectivity of furfuryl alcohol was decreased by the decreasing of $H₂$ consumption of Ru-TiOx interface species as shown in **Table 5.3** because the lone pair electron of C=O are favorable Ru-TiOx interface species [37, 51]. The CO chemisorption results and the N_2 Physisorption results could not described the catalytic activity in this reaction. Different crystalline TiO₂ as supports for Ru nanoparticles was found to have a marked impact on the catalytic performances. Thus, the main factors to improve the catalytic activity in terms conversion are the percentage of anatase in the $TiO₂$ support and selectivity are the H_2 consumption of Ru-TiOx interface species interacting with support.

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Reaction (50µL furfural in 10 ml methanol) at 50°C under 20 bay H_2 with a 50 mg catalyst in 120 min

^a Selectivity of furfuryl alcohol

b Selectivity of 2-furaldehyde dimethyl acetal

Part II. Study of the effect of bimetallic Ru-Co nanoparticles supported on TiO₂ **anatase phase catalyst in liquid-phase furfural hydrogenation.**

5.3 Characterization of Ru-Co/TiO2 with different Co contents

5.3.1 X-ray diffraction (XRD)

In **Figure5.8** shows the XRD patterns of Ru-Co/TiO₂ catalysts with different Co contents prepared by the incipient wetness impregnation method. The Co content was varied at 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, and 0.8%wt with 1.5%wt of Ru on anatase $TiO₂$ catalysts. XRD patterns were collected at the diffraction angles (2θ) between 20° to 80°. The XRD characteristic peaks of the crystalline phases of TiO₂ were detected. The TiO₂ anatase phase at 2θ = 25°(major), 37°, 48°, 55°, 56°, 62°, 71°, 75° and rutile phase at 27°(major), 36°, 42°, and 57° without formation of brookite phase, were observed for all the samples [42]. The peaks corresponding to Ru and Co were not detected probably because of low content of metal loading [52].

Figure 5.8 The XRD patterns of Ru-Co/TiO₂ catalysts with different Co contents

The 1.5%wt of Ru on TiO₂ catalysts prepared with different Co contents and 1.5%wt of Ru on TiO₂ catalyst displayed similar XRD patterns. The average crystallite size of anatase phase $TiO₂$ supports were calculated by the Scherrer's equation from the full width at half maximum of the XRD peak at 2θ = 25° (maior). All the average crystallite size of anatase phase $TiO₂$ supports catalysts were similar about 28-32 nm as shown in Table 5.2

Table 5.6 shows the percentages of anatase and rutile phase of Ru/TiO₂ and Ru-Co/TiO₂ with different Co loading catalysts, there was no significant change in the percentage of anatase phase of TiO₂ of Ru/TiO₂, Ru-0.2Co/TiO₂, Ru-0.4Co/TiO₂, and Ru- 0.6 Co/TiO₂. On the other hand, the result showed the decreased of percentage of anatase phase at 93% for $Ru-0.8Co/TiO₂$ which may be due to high Co loading to $Ru/TiO₂$ causing large particle size of Ru.

| Sample | Anatase phase ^{a, b} (%) | Rutile phase ^{a, b} (%) |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Ru/TiO ₂ | 96 | |
| $Ru-0.2Co/TiO2$ | 95 | |
| Ru -0.4 $Co/TiO2$ | 95 | |
| $Ru-0.6Co/TiO2$ | $96 -$ หาลงกรณมห | |
| Ru -0.8 $Co/TiO2$ | 93 | |

Table 5.6 Ru/TiO₂ with different Co content samples consisting of various % Anatase

^aBase on the XRD results.

bDetermined from Jung et al. method.

5.3.2 N² Physisorption

The N_2 adsorption-desorption isotherms of Ru/TiO_2 , Ru -0.2Co/TiO₂, Ru -0.4Co/TiO_{2,} Ru-0.6Co/TiO₂ and Ru-0.8Co/TiO₂ are shown in Figure 5.9 According to the Brunauer-Deming-Deming-Teller (BDDT) classification of sorption isotherms, all catalysts showed type-IV N_2 adsorption-desorption isotherms with hysteresis loop at high relative pressure in the range of 0.8 to 1.0, which was the characteristic of mesoporous materials. The pore size of mesoporous material was in the range of 2-50

nm. The shape characteristic of hysteresis loop for all catalysts was type H3 indicating to the slit-like pores. So, the Co content between 0.2-0.8, that added to $Ru/TiO₂$ catalysts did not affect the structural properties of the catalyasts.

Figure 5.9 N₂-Physisorption isotherms of Ru/TiO₂, Ru-0.2Co/TiO₂, Ru-0.4Co/TiO_{2,} Ru- $0.6Co/TiO₂$, and Ru- $0.8Co/TiO₂$

Figure 5.10 N₂-Physisorption isotherms of Ru/TiO₂, Ru-0.2Co/TiO₂, Ru-0.4Co/TiO_{2,} Ru- $0.6Co/TiO₂$ and Ru-0.8Co/TiO₂

The BET surface area, the average anatase $TiO₂$ crystallite size, pore volume, and pore size of the Ru/TiO₂ and Ru-Co/TiO₂ with different Co contents prepared by the incipient wetness impregnation method are shown in Table 5.7. The BET surface areas, pore volume, and pore size of $Ru/TiO₂$ and $Ru-Co/TiO₂$ with different Co contents were determined to be 41-50 m²/g, 0.30-0.36 cm³/g, 22-29 nm, respectively. The average anatase TiO₂ crystallite size of all catalysts were no significant different at around 28-32 nm.

| Sample | Avg. crystallite | BET surface | Pore | Pore size ^b |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| | size ^a of anatase | area (m^2/q) | volume ^b | (nm) |
| | $TiO2$ (nm) | | $\rm (cm^3/q)$ | |
| Ru/TiO ₂ | 27.9 | 50 | 0.32 | 22.0 |
| $Ru-0.2Co/TiO2$ | 27.9 | 42 | 0.36 | 29.2 |
| Ru -0.4 $Co/TiO2$ | 30.7 | 42 | 0.30 | 23.8 |
| Ru -0.6Co/TiO ₂ | 30.7 | 45 | 0.31 | 22.3 |
| $Ru-0.8Co/TiO2$ | 32.4 | 41 | 0.32 | 25.9 |

Table 5.7 Physical properties of the Ru/TiO₂ and Ru-Co/TiO₂ with different Co content catalysts.

^aBase on the XRD results.

bDetermined from the Barret-Joyner-Halenda (BJH) desorption method.

5.3.3 H² -temperature programmed reduction

The H_2 -TPR measurements were performed with all the catalysts in order to investigate the reducibility and the metal and support interaction of $Ru/TiO₂$ and Ru-Co/TiO₂ with different Co contents. The results are shown in Figure5.11 The Ru/TiO₂, Ru-0.2Co/TiO₂, Ru-0.4Co/TiO₂, Ru-0.6Co/TiO₂, and Ru-0.8Co/TiO₂ catalysts presented three reduction peaks. The first sharp peak between 200°C and 250°C can be assigned to the reduction of Ru(III) to Ru(0) and the metal-metal interaction [53]. The second peak appeared broad peak between 400°C and 409°C can be assigned to the reduction of Ru interacting with TiO₂ [54]. The last peak was very broad peak around 720°C and 740°C which was interpreted as surface reduction of TiO₂ [38]. The H₂-TPR profile of Co/TiO₂ displayed two shoulder peaks at 371° C and 492° C and a main reduction peak at 440°C. The first shoulder peak was attributed to the reduction of Co precursor and the second main reduction peak was attributed to the two-step reduction of cobalt oxide: $Co_3O_4 \longrightarrow CoO \longrightarrow Co^0$. The last shoulder peak could be attributed to the interaction between Co and Ti and the peak at 742°C was interpreted as surface reduction of $TiO₂$ [38, 55].

Figure 5.11 The H₂-TPR profiles of $Ru/TiO₂$, Ru-Co/TiO₂ with different Co content and $Co/TiO₂$ catalysts

Concerning the H₂-TPR profile of Ru/TiO₂, the reduction peak of Ru(III) to Ru(0) appeared at 203°C while the bimetallic Ru-Co/TiO₂ catalysts exhibited a shift of the reduction peaks of Ru(III) to Ru(0) towards higher temperature, suggesting stronger interaction between Ru and Co as also confirmed by XPS results in **Figure 5.15** for the Ru 3d peak in XPS spectra of Ru/TiO₂ with different Co contents. The reduction peaks of cobalt oxides were not detected in the TPR profiles of Ru-Co/TiO₂. The amount of Ru-Co interaction was maximized at 0.2 wt% Co content as the highest reduction temperature shift was observed at 233°C. Increasing Co content from 0.4, 0.6, and 0.8 wt%, the H_2 -TPR profile showed the peak shift back to lower temperature [56, 57], which was due to the increasing size of the metal as also displayed in TEM image analysis [7, 9, 57]. There were no significant differences for the broad peaks at 406-408°C for all catalysts studied except the Ru-0.8Co/TiO₂ in which the peak was shifted to lower temperature at 393°C which suggested that

addition higher amount of Co at 0.8 wt% led to weaker interaction between Ru and TiO₂. Moreover, the adding of Co content resulted in higher peak area of the Ru reduction peaks due to the incorporation of Co species in the Ru.

5.3.4 Transmission electron microscopy (TEM)

The morphology and particle size of the particles can be estimated by using TEM method. The representative images of the Ru/TiO₂, and the bimetallic Ru-Co/TiO₂ catalysts with different Co contents are shown in **Figure 5.12** the TEM images of all the catalysts showed the nano-spherical particles with uniform particle size [39]. The average particle size of Ru on Ru/TiO₂, Ru-0.2Co/TiO₂, Ru-0.4Co/TiO_{2,} Ru-0.6Co/TiO₂, Ru- 0.6 Co/TiO₂ catalysts determined from the TEM images were approximately as 3.6, 4.5, 5.4, 5.8, 6.3 nm, respectively. The TEM results were in good agreement with the results of H₂-TPR and CO-pulse Chemisorption. The Ru particles of all catalysts were directly observed by TEM analysis for example the small dark spots be seen as Ru metal with the Co particles. However, at higher Co loading, Ru-0.8Co/TiO₂, the metallic clusters can be seen as dark patches.

The addition of Co in the $Ru/TiO₂$ catalysts were reported. The increasing of Co content caused the growing of average particles size of Ru particles. This increase in particle size can be assigned in part to the selective deposit of cobalt on ruthenium [9, 39], as confirmed by the TEM-EDX images in **Figure 5.13**, The EDX of the small dark spots confirmed the presence of both Ru and Co. The isolated Co particles were not observed in TEM image, it is suggested that all the Co particles were combined in the Ru particles, The TEM-EDX results were consistent to the X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy technique and the H_2 -TPR results. Overall the TEM suggests that to form an active catalysts for this reaction larger Ru particles (4nm - 6 nm) are preferred.

Figure 5.12 TEM images of Ru/TiO₂, Ru-0.2Co/TiO₂, Ru-0.4Co/TiO₂, Ru-0.6Co/TiO₂, and Ru -0.8Co/TiO₂

Figure 5.13 TEM-EDX images of Ru-0.6Co/TiO²

5.3.5 X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS)

The XPS elemental survey scans of the surface technique were performed to determine the elemental composition of the catalyst sample at surface. The XPS results are shown in **Figure 5.14**. The C1s spectrum was observed at binding energies of 284.8 eV. There was a strong overlap of the C1s and Ru3d peaks at around 248.8eV was therefore it complicated to deconvolute the peaks because carbon peak overlap with the Ru 3d_{3/2} photoemission. From Figure 5.15, the deconvolution of Ru3d XPS peaks showed the main ruthenium species Ru3d $_{5/2}$ located at 280.8eV [58]. The XPS signal for the sample was weak because of the low loading of metal. The increasing of Co content in Ru/TiO₂ catalyst was reported to the shifting of binding energies of Ru3d_{5/2} peak. The shift towards higher binding energy with the energy difference of 2eV approximately of Ru3d_{5/2} peak (Ru/TiO₂ to Ru-0.8Co/TiO₂) can be observed for Ru-Co/TiO₂ catalyst relative to the monometallic Ru-based catalyst at 280.8 eV, indicating the formation of Ru and Co interaction [59, 60] and/or may be formation of Ru-Co alloy in the Ru-Co/TiO₂ catalyst [61]. This conclusions are in good agreement with the H₂-TPR analysis and TEM images.

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Figure 5.14 Overall Ru peak in XPS spectra of Ru/TiO₂ with different Co content Content

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Figure 5.15 Ru 3d peak in XPS spectra of Ru/TiO₂ with different Co content

5.3.6 CO-pulse Chemisorption

The amounts of CO adsorbed on the $Ru/TiO₂$ with different Co contents and percentage of Ru dispersion on $TiO₂$ support were estimated by the chemisorption based on the assumption CO : Ru = 1 : 1. It can be observed from **Table5.8**, the $Ru/TiO₂$, Ru -0.2Co/TiO₂, Ru -0.4Co/TiO₂, Ru -0.6Co/TiO₂, and Ru -0.8Co/TiO₂ catalysts showed the Ru dispersion at 1.5%, 0.9%, 0.8%, 0.8%, and 0.7%, consecutively. The increasing amount of Co loading on $Ru/TiO₂$ catalysts resulted in slightly lower Ru dispersion because of the particle size of Ru affected to Ru dispersion [39, 45]. The

CO-pulse chemisorption results also corresponded well to the TEM images and the H_2 -TPR results. So, the particle size of Ru was considered as the important of factor that affected the catalytic performances.

^a Determined from 1.5% of Ru

b Determined from CO-pulse chemisorption technique with the chemisorption based on the assumption $CO : Ru = 1 : 1$

5.3.7 Scanning electron microscopy and energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (SEM-EDX)

SEM images for the Ru/TiO₂, Ru-0.2Co/TiO₂, Ru-0.4Co/TiO₂, Ru-0.6Co/TiO₂, and Ru-0.8Co/TiO₂ nanocrystalline structures are shown in Figure 5.16. The results showed no significant change of morphology and characteristic shape and were allowed identifying the individual nanoscale globular or nearly spherical particles for all catalysts [62]. Elemental analysis by EDX indicated that the chemical compositions were close to stoichiometrical percentages of Ru around 1.5% of all catalysts and slightly increased percentages of Co around 0.6 and 1.5 of Ru-0.2Co/TiO₂ and Ru- $0.8Co/TiO₂$. .

catalysts

5.4 The catalytic performances of Ru/TiO² with different Co content in the liquid-phase furfural hydrogenation JNIVERSITY

Figure 5.17 The pathway of furfural hydrogenation reaction

The catalytic performances of 1.5%Ru/TiO $_2$ and 1.5%Ru-Co/TiO $_2$ with different Co contents at 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, and 0.8 catalysts were investigated in the selective hydrogenation of furfural under the following reaction conditions temperature at 50°C, H₂ pressure 20 bar, and 2h reaction time. The catalytic behaviors of 1.5%Ru/TiO ₂and 1.5%Ru-Co/TiO ₂ with different Co contents at 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, and 0.8 catalysts following furfural conversion and selectivity of furfuryl alcohol are summarized in **Table5.17**. The main product was furfuryl alcohol and the by-product was 2-furaldehyde dimethyl acetal. The main product furfuryl alcohol was not hydrogenated to tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol probably due to the short reaction time and/or the characteristic of Ru/TiO₂ catalysts [48]. From the results, the addition amount of Co loading in the Ru/TiO₂ displayed the increasing of catalytic activity in terms conversion with slightly change in the selectivity of furfuryl alcohol for all the amounts of Co loading in the Ru/TiO₂ due to the Ru-Co interaction. The increasing of catalytic activity when the amount of Co loading were added to $Ru/TiO₂$ could be attributed to the increasing of Ru-Co alloy interaction [63] and the optimum of size of Ru particles as observed at TEM images. From the TEM images, it was noticed that the increasing of Co content caused the growing of average particles size of Ru particles, which were suggested to be more active for this reaction. The TEM results were in good agreement with the results of H₂-TPR, CO-pulse chemisorption and XPS. The individual Co particles were not observed in TEM images. Thus, the Co particles was combined in the Ru particles, which was also supported by the X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy technique in **Figure5.15**, The shift towards higher binding energy of Ru3d_{5/2} peak can be estimated for Ru-Co/TiO₂ catalyst relative to the monometallic Ru-based catalyst at 280.8 eV, indicating the formation of Ru and Co interaction [59, 60] and/or may be formation of Ru-Co alloy in the Ru-Co/TiO₂ catalyst [61]. The interaction of Ru–Co bimetallic showed better performance than pure Ru in catalyzing hydrogen evolution [64]. CO-pulse chemisorption showed the decreasing of Ru dispersion because the particle size of Ru affected to Ru dispersion. The H_2 -TPR of catalyst after loading the amount of Co to Ru/TiO₂ was performed the shift back to lower temperature [56, 57] which was due to the increasing size of the Ru metal and Ru-Co alloy formation [63]. The H_2 -TPR peak did not show the peak of Co reduction. In addition, the interaction of Ru and Co resulted in higher peak area of the Ru reduction peaks due to the incorporation of Co species in the Ru reduction peaks. From, the results of $H₂$ TPR, TEM images, CO-pulse chemisorption, and XPS, it can be summarized that the increasing of Ru particle size by interaction between Ru and Co on the $TiO₂$ support improved the catalytic activity of $Ru/TiO₂$ catalysts in terms of conversion.

On the other hand, the conversion of Ru-0.8Co/TiO₂ was decreased because the Ru particles size may be too large as supported by the H_2 -TPR and/or the percentages of anatase of $TiO₂$ that was the lowest among all the catalysts. The percentages of anatase of $TiO₂$ could affect the catalytic activity because the anatase phase of $TiO₂$ are favorable adsorption sites for hydrogen atoms [49, 50]. Moreover, the anatase phase of $TiO₂$ slightly affected to the increase in the selectivity of furfuryl alcohol from 90% of the pure Ru/TiO₂ to 96% of Co loading in the Ru/TiO₂ catalysts.

| Catalysts | Conversion (%) | Selectivity to FA ^a | Selectivity to SP ^b |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Ru/TiO ₂ | 31.8 | 90.0 | 10.0 |
| $Ru-0.2Co/TiO2$ | 56.9 | 95.7 | 4.3 |
| Ru -0.4 $Co/TiO2$ | 812 | 95.7 | 4.3 |
| $Ru-0.6Co/TiO2$ | 91.7 | 97.5 | 2.5 |
| $Ru-0.8Co/TiO2$ | 86.4 | 96.1 | 39 |

Table 5.9 Conversion of furfural and selectivity to furfuryl alcohol of Ru/TiO₂ with different Co contents 111 123

Reaction (50µL furfural in 10 ml methanol) at 50°C under 20 bay H_2 with a 50 mg catalyst in 120 min

^a Selectivity of furfuryl alcohol

b Selectivity of 2-furaldehyde dimethyl acetal

CHAPTER VI CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Conclusions

1) The Ru/TiO₂ prepared with various phases of TiO₂ exhibited different average TiO₂ crystallite size, BET surface area, pore volume, and average pore size. The H₂-TPR results of the Ru/TiO₂ prepared with different phases of TiO₂ showed a shift of Ru and TiO₂ peaks, suggesting in the weak Ru and TiO₂ support interaction. It was found that the anatase phase TiO₂ could enhance the catalytic activity and H₂ consumption of Ru-TiOx interface species could increase the selectivity of furfuryl alcohol. The Ru/TiO₂-A with 97% anatase phase of $TiO₂$ showed the best catalytic activity at conversion of furfural (30%) and selectivity of furfuryl alcohol (90%) under the reaction conditions used. The anatase phase $TiO₂$ is suggested to be favorable adsorption sites for hydrogen atoms so that hydrogenation activity increases.

2) The addition of Co to the Ru/TiO₂ catalysts, resulted in the improved catalytic performances in terms of conversion and selectivity with the Ru-0.6Co/TiO₂ catalyst displayed the highest conversion of furfural (90%) with high selectivity to furfuryl alcohol (>90%). The improved catalytic activity by loading of Co content was correlated to H_2 -TPR, TEM, and XPS results. The increasing of Ru particles size, the Ru-Co alloy interaction, and the strong interaction between Ru and Co led to superior catalytic performances of the bimetallic Ru-Co catalysts compared to the monometallic one.

6.2 Recommendation

1. The interaction between Ru and Co should be further investigated by high sophisticated techniques such as EXAFS.

2. The solvent in hydrogenation of furfural that does not produce solvent product should be researched.

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APPENDIX A CALCULATION FOR CATALYST PREPARATION

The calculation of monometallic 1.5 wt%Ru/TiO₂ catalysts and bimetallic 1.5 wt%Ru with 0.2-0.8 wt%Co/TiO₂ catalysts prepared by incipient wetness impregnation method were shown below. In this work, 2 g of the TiO₂ supports were used for all preparation and determined based on 100 g of catalyst used.

1. Ruthenium(III) nitrosylnitrate solution, Ru 1.5% w/v

 $Ru(NO)(NO₃)₃ MW. = 317.09 g/mol$

2. Cobalt naphthenate, Co in mineral spirits 6%wt $CoC_{22}H_{14}O_4$ MW. = 401.02g/mol

Calculation of monometallic 1.5 wt%Ru/TiO² catalysts:

Ruthenium(III) nitrosylnitrate solution**,** which Ru precursor was appeared in solution

Ru required in precursor = required Ru of weight \div concentration of solution

 $\textcircled{1}$ = 0.03 g ÷ Ru 1.5% w/v $= 0.03$ g \times 100 ml solution Ru 1.5 g = 2 ml solution

Calculation of bimetallic 1.5 wt%Ru with 0.2-0.8 wt%Co/TiO² catalysts:

For 1.5 wt%Ru-0.2wt%Co/TiO²

.

Ruthenium(III) nitrosylnitrate solution**,** which Ru precursor was appeared in solution

Ru required in precursor = required Ru of weight \div concentration of solution

 $= 0.03$ g ÷ Ru 1.5% w/v $/ 0.03$ g \times 100 ml solution Ru 1.5 g \neq 2 ml solution

Cobalt naphthenate solution, which Co precursor was appeared in solution

Co required in precursor = required Co of weight \div purity

 $= 0.004$ g \div Co 6% $= 0.004$ g \times 100 g 6 g = 0.067 g of Co required Co required in volume $= Co$ required in precursor \div density $= 0.067$ g \times 1 ml 0.921 g

= 0.072 ml solution

APPENDIX B

CALCULATION OF THE CRYSTALLITE SIZE

Calculation of the crystallite size by using Debye-Scherrer's equation

The crystallite size was calculated from the width at half of height (or full-width-half-max) of diffraction peak of the XRD pattern by using the Debye-Scherrer's equation.

From Scherrer equation

$$
D = \frac{\kappa \lambda}{\beta cos \theta}
$$

Where $D =$ Crystallite size, A°

K = Crystallite-shape factor or Scherrer constant depanding on shape of crystal (0.9 for FWHM of spherical crystals with cubic symmetry)

 λ = X-ray wavelength, (1.5418 A° for CuKa)

 θ = Observed peak angle, degree

 β = X-ray diffraction broadening, radian

X-ray diffraction broadening (β) is the corrected width of a powder diffraction free from all broadening due to the instrument. The α -alumina was used as a standard sample to observe the instrumental broadening data. The most common correction for the X-ray diffraction broadening (β) can be obtained by From Warren's formula:

$$
\beta = \sqrt{B_m^2 - B_s^2}
$$

Where B_M = The measured peak width in radians at half peak height B_S = The corresponding width of the standard material

Exanple: Calculation of the crystallite size of anatase TiO₂

= 2×0.38 360 = 0.0066 radian

Corresponding the half-height width of α -alumina of the diffraction peak at 25.42° = 0.0041 radian (B_S))

APPENDIX C CALCULATION OF THE PHASE COMPOSITION

The fraction of crystal phase of $TiO₂$ was determined from X-ray diffraction. The phase composition of $TiO₂$ was calculated by using the following equation:

$$
W_{R} = \frac{1}{0.884 \times \frac{A}{R} + 1} \times 100
$$

Where W_R = the percentage of rutile

- A = the peak area of anatase $TiO₂$ at (101)
- R = the peak area of rutile TiO₂ at (101)

The number of 0.884 is the coefficient of scattering

Exanple: Calculation of phase composition of TiO₂

APPENDIX D

CALCULATION FOR METAL ACTIVE SITE AND DISPERSION

Calculation of Ru active site and Ru dispersion of the catalyst by CO-chemisorption is as follows:

Volume of CO adsorption on catalyst, Vads = $\frac{V_{inj}}{m}$ $\frac{N_{\text{inj}}}{m} \times \sum_{i=1}^{n} (1 - \frac{Ai}{Af})$ i−1 Where Vinj = volume injected, 0.02 cm^3

- $m =$ mass of catalyst used, g
- A_i = area of peak i

$$
A_f = area of last peak
$$

Ru active sites

Ru active site = $S_f \times \frac{V_{ads}}{V_{as}}$ $\frac{\text{ads}}{\text{Vg}} \times \text{N}_\text{A}$

Where S_f = stoichiometer factor, CO adsorbed on Ru, CO : Ru = 1 V_{ads} = volume adsorbed $\rm V_{g}$ = molar volume of gas at STP, 22414 cm²/mol N_A = Avogadro's number, 6.023 \times 10²³ molecules/mol

Metal dispersion

Metal dispersion $% = 100 \times \frac{100 \times 100}{\frac{100 \times 100}{\frac{100}{\$ จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัยcule of Ru loaded

%dispersion = $S_f \times \frac{V_{ads}}{V_{as}}$ $\frac{V_{\text{ads}}}{V \text{g}} \times \frac{\text{M.W.}}{\% \text{M}}$ $\frac{W}{\%M} \times 100\% \times 100\%$

Where S_f = stoichiometer factor, CO adsorbed on Ru, CO : Ru = 1

 V_{ads} = volume adsorbed V_g = molar volume of gas at STP, 22414 cm²/mol M.W. = molecular weight of the metal $%M = %meta$

APPENDIX E

CALCULATION OF FURFURAL CONVERSION AND SELECTIVITY

The catalysts performance for the furfural hydrogenation are shown in this below. Reaction result from GC-FID, found that two peaks product consisted of furfuryl alcohol peak and solvent product peak.

The calibration curve of furfural and furfuryl alcohol are shown in Fig. E.1-E.2

Figure E.2 The calibration curve of furfuryl alcohol

VITA

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