ETHYLATION OF BENZENE WITH ETHANOL TO ETHYLBENZENE USING SYNTHESIZED HZSM-5 CATALYSTS: EFFECTS OF TEXTURAL PROPERTIES AND ACIDITY



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A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science The Petroleum and Petrochemical College, Chulalongkorn University in Academic Partnership with The University of Michigan, The University of Oklahoma, Case Western Reserve University, and Institut Français du Pétrole 2012

128374231

Thesis Title:	Ethylation of Benzene with Ethanol to Ethylbenzene Using
	Synthesized HZSM-5 Catalysts: Effects of Textural
	Properties and Acidity
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Program:	Petrochemical Technology
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ABSTRACT

5371026063: Petrochemical Technology Program
Tanakrit Rugwong: Ethylation of Benzene with Ethanol to
Ethylbenzene Using Synthesized HZSM-5 Catalysts: Effects of
Textural Properties and Acidity
Thesis Advisors: Assoc. Prof. Thirasak Rirksomboon and Asst. Prof.
Siriporn Jongpatiwut 98 pp.

Keywords: Alkylation/ Benzene/ Ethanol/ Ethylbenzene/ HZSM-5

Ethylbenzene (EB), which is a key intermediate in the manufacture of styrene in the petrochemical industry is usually produced via alkylation of benzene with ethylene. The direct use of ethanol as an alkylating agent has also become a suitable substitute for ethylene. Ethanol has gained more attention because it provided a longer catalyst life and higher production efficiency when it was used for the ethylation of benzene accompanied by a HZSM-5 catalyst. In this work, HZSM-5 catalysts were synthesized at a desired SiO₂/Al₂O₃ molar ratio of ca.195 with different textural properties and Brönsted acid sites via hydrothermal synthesis. The catalytic activity of the catalysts was tested using a fixed-bed continuous down-flow reactor under various conditions: reaction temperature (300-600 °C), weight hourly space velocity (10-20 h⁻¹), and benzene to ethanol ratio (1:1, 2:1, and 4:1). The results showed that textural properties and acidity of the synthesized HZSM-5 catalysts significantly affected the catalytic activity.

บทคัดย่อ

ธนกฤด รักษ์วงศ์ : ปฏิกิริยาเอธิลเลชันของเบนซีนกับเอทานอลเพื่อผลิตเอทิลเบน-ซีน โดยใช้ตัวเร่งปฏิกิยา HZSM-5 ที่สังเคราะห์ได้เอง : ผลกระทบของลักษณะทางสัณฐานและ ความเป็นกรด (Ethylation of Benzene with Ethanol to Ethylbenzene Using Synthesized HZSM-5 Catalysts: Effects of Textural Properties and Acidity) อ.ที่ ปรึกษา: รศ.ดร. ธีรศักดิ์ ถูกษ์สมบูรณ์, ผศ.ดร. ศิริพร จงผาติวุฒิ 98 หน้า

เอทิลเบนซีนเป็นสารที่สำคัญในอุตสาหกรรมปิโตรเคมี เพราะเป็นหนึ่งในด้วกลางที่ใช้ ในการผลิตสไตรีน โดยปกติแล้วเอทิลเบนซีนจะผลิตผ่านปฏิกิริยาแอลคิลีชั่นของเบนซีนและเอที ลีน เนื่องด้วยการนำเอทานอลมาใช้ในปฏิกิริยาแอลคิลีชั่นโดยตรง กลายเป็นสิ่งที่ได้รับความ สนใจมากกว่าการใช้เอทีลีน เนื่องจากเอทานอลสามารถยืดอายุของด้วเร่งในกระบวนการผลิตและ ให้ประสิทธิภาพในการผลิตที่สูงกว่าเมื่อผลิตผ่านปฏิกิริยาแอลคิลีชั่นของเบนซีน ควบคู่ไปกับการ ใช้ HZSM-5 เป็นด้วเร่ง ในงานวิจัยนี้ HZSM-5 ซึ่งเป็นตัวเร่งได้ถูกสังเคราะห์ที่อัตราส่วนของซิลิ กาต่ออะลูมินาให้ใกล้เคียงกับ 195 และใช้วิธีการสังเคราะห์แบบไฮโครเธอมอลเพื่อจะให้ลักษณะ ทางสัณฐานและความเป็นกรคที่ต่างกัน อัตราการเกิดปฏิกิริยาผ่านตัวเร่งได้ถูกทดสอบโดยใช้ ปฏิกรณ์แบบ Fixed-bed ภายใต้การศึกษาผลกระทบจากตัวแปรต่าง ๆ ได้แก่ อุณหภูมิในการทำ ปฏิกิริยา (300-600 องศาเซลเซียส) Weight Hourly Space Velocity (10-20 ต่อชั่วโมง) และ อัตราส่วนของเบนซีนต่อเอธานอล (1:1, 2:1 และ 4:1) ผลของปฏิกิริยาแสดงให้เห็นว่า ลักษณะ ทางสัณฐานและความเป็นกรคของตัวเร่งปฏิกิยา ส่งผลต่ออัตราการเกิดปฏิกิริยา

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work has been memorable, interesting, and important experience. This work would not have been possible, if the following people were not present.

First of all, I would like to express my gratefully thanks my advisor Assoc. Prof. Thirasak Rirksomboon, for suggestion, encouragement, discussions and problem solving throughout of the course of my reresearch work.

I am pleased to Asst. Prof. Siriporn Jongpatiwut, who provides me encouragragement and suggestion during doing this thesis work.

I deeply appreciate and thank Dr. Siraprapha Dokjampa and Assoc. Prof. Pramoch Rangsunvigit for their valuable comments and suggestions and being my thesis committee.

I am grateful for the scholarship and funding of the thesis work provided by the Petroleum and Petrochemical College; and Center of Excellence on Petrochemical and Materials Technology (PETRO-MAT).

I sincerely extent my appreciation to all my friends and all PPC's staff for their help and creative suggestions.

Finally, I would like to extend the most sincere thank to my lovely family for providing me their love, endless encouragement and forever love during my two year study at the college.

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ABBREVIATIONS

а	Synthesis temperature (°C)
b	Synthesis time (h)
$AI(NO_3)_3 \cdot 9H_2O$	Aluminium nitrate
B/E	Benzene to ethanol feed molar ratio
B/L ratio	Brönsted acid site to the Lewis acid site ratio
DEBs	Diethylbenzenes
EB	Ethylbenzene
HT	Hydrothermal
Mi/T	Micropore to total pore volume
Т	Reaction temperature
TA	Theoretical Acidity
TA/(B/L)	Theoretical Acidity per Brönsted acid site to the Lewis acid site
	ratio
TOS	Time on stream
TPD-IPA	Temperature Programmed Desorption (TPD) Technique of
	Isopropylamine
W	Molar ratio of the water to silica in the initial gel
WHSV	Weight hourly space velocity