Hydrogen production by steam reforming of methane over Ni/ceria-zirconia: Effect of Ce/Zr content.

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Steam reforming of methane (SRM) is the most common and mature method for hydrogen production. N/ceria-zirconia (CZ) catalysts have been studied for this reaction due to the nature to make mobile oxygen species and high reducibility of Ce-ZrO2. In addition, the interaction between the support and the nickel also has a significant impact on the activity and selectivity. In order to further understand the roles of mixed-oxide supports in the SRM, N/CZ catalysts with different Ce/Zr composition of support were investigated. A series of Ce-rich and Zr-rich CZ support were prepared by the citrate complex method by adjusting the Ce/Zr ratio in a range of 0.067-15. The characterizations such as surface area, reduction temperature and basicity of prepared catalysts were analyzed by BET, XRD, TPR and TPD-H2. Among the catalysts with various CZ support loading values, Ce-rich catalyst (Ce/Zr=15) exhibited the highest TPR and TPD values.