Effect of aluminum phosphate binder on the methanol to propylene (MTP) reaction over HZSM-5 catalysts

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The influence of the aluminum phosphate (AP) binder on the acidity and performance of HZSM-5 (SiO₂/Al₂O₃=80, Zeolyst) catalysts in the methanol to propylene (MTP) reaction was studied. The porosity and strong acidity of HZSM-5 catalysts decreased with increasing AP content. Catalytic performance of AP bound catalyst was completely different depending on the binder content. Low content ($\leq 10 \text{ wt\%}$) of AP resulted in a dramatically enhanced propylene selectivity. On the other hand with high content ($\geq 20 \text{ wt\%}$) of AP, methanol was mostly dehydrated into DME without further transformation into hydrocarbons. It is found that there is an optimum AP content related to the acidity of HZSM-5 catalyst to obtain higher propylene selectivity. The HZSM-5 catalyst with AP of 10 wt% showed the highest propylene selectivity due to the decrease in strong acidity induced by the phosphorous compounds (H₂PO₄⁻).