Partial oxidation of methane over transition-metal-substituted hydrotalcite catalysts

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Catalytic performance of transition-metal-substituted hydrotalcite $(M_xMg_{6-x}Al_2(CO_3)(OH)_{16}4H_2O$; M=Ni, Co, Zn, Cu, Mn, x=0.5~3) in partial oxidation of methane was studied in a fixed-bed reactor. The hydrotalcite catalysts were synthesized by a co-precipitation method with changing of the transition metal and the ratio of M/Mg from 0.5/5.5 to 3/3. The catalysts were characterized by XRD, SEM and BET. Partial oxidation of methane was carried out by using 0.05 g each of catalyst at a temperature range from 500°C to 800°C. CH_4/O_2 feed ratio was fixed to 2 (VHSV = 120,000cm³/g · h). Among the transiton metals investigated, Ni exhibited higher activity than the others. The hydrotalcite catalysts with the Ni/Mg ratio of 3/3 exhibited higher catalytic activity than the catalysts with the lower Ni/Mg ratios.