A comparative study on the activity of $\text{Cu-CeO}_2\text{-}Z\text{rO}_2$ catalyst for LT-WGS depending upon the $\text{CeO}_2/\text{ZrO}_2$ ratio

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A comparative study on cubic Cu–Ce $_{0.8}Zr_{0.2}O_2$ and tetragonal Cu–Ce $_{0.2}Zr_{0.8}O_2$ catalysts have been carried out in the Low Temperature Water Gas Shift (LT–WGS) reaction. The catalysts were prepared by the first co–precipitation / digestion method. The physicochemical properties of catalysts prepared were examined by BET, XRD, and H $_2$ –TPR. The cubic Cu–Ce $_{0.8}Zr_{0.2}O_2$ catalyst shows higher CO conversion (X $_{CO}$ > 60% at 400°C) than tetragonal Cu–Ce $_{0.2}Zr_{0.8}O_2$ catalyst at the high Gas Hourly Space Velocity (GHSV) of 72,152 h $^{-1}$. The high catalytic activity of the Cu–Ce $_{0.8}Zr_{0.2}O_2$ is mainly related to the enhanced oxygen mobility and high Cu dispersion resulting from large amount of defect oxygen. In addition, cubic Cu–Ce $_{0.8}Zr_{0.2}O_2$ catalyst exhibits a stable activity at 320 °C for 25 h resulting from a strong resistance against sintering.

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