Effect of gallium ions and of preparation methods on the structural properties of cobalt-molybdenum-alumina catalysts

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may in fact determine the conformations of particular residues through significant dipole–dipole interactions. The purpose of presenting the results of Table III here is merely to demonstrate that the approximate method is a valid one. Evaluation of the actual role played by long-range electrostatic effects in such processes as protein folding remains to be performed.

The computational time savings using the dipole method for the long-range interactions in a protein the size of pancreatic trypsin inhibitor is about 2.5. Thus, it also results in substantial reductions in computational times.

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References and Notes
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(2) (a) NIH Postdoctoral Fellow, 1975–1976. (b) To whom requests for reprints should be addressed.

Small amounts of gallium ions were added to γ-alumina and their influence on the structural properties of the system Co–(Mo)/γ-Al2O3 was studied. It is shown that, due to the presence of Ge3+ ions, a “surface” spinel CoAlO4 is formed with a larger amount of Co2+ in tetrahedral sites as compared to the spinel formed on gallium-free alumina. A decrease of the segregated CoO4 is also observed. A possible effect of gallium ions on molybdenum is discussed. It is also reported that different preparation methods (single or double impregnation) lead to the formation of different surface species. Cobalt aluminate, molybdate monolayer, and Co3O4, depending on the Co content, are formed on doubly impregnated specimens. Cobalt aluminate and cobalt molybdate are the main species formed on singly impregnated specimens. Finally brief consideration is given to how the Co and Mo species, present in the oxide form, change in the sulfided form.

1. Introduction

In previous studies of supported oxide systems on alumina, it was shown that a “surface spinel” (MnAlO4, CoAlO4, NiAlO4, CuAlO2) was formed, either alone or in addition to an oxide phase. Additions of trace amounts of Zn2+, Ga3+, and Ge4+ ions modify the surface properties of alumina, thus affecting the structural features of supported transition metal ions. The presence of these ions, all having a preference for the tetrahedral site, favors a normal cation distribution in the surface spinel NiAlO4. Since the type of symmetry adopted by supported cobalt and molybdenum directly influences their reactivity, it was of interest to investigate the influence of Ga3+ ions in the hydrodesulfurization (HDS) of Co–Mo–alumina catalysts. Within this framework we have also examined how the order of addition of transition metal ion promoters affects the structural properties of the Co–Mo/Ga2O3–γ-Al2O3 system in the oxide form, and how the Co and Mo surface species present in the oxide forms are related to those developed in the sulfided catalysts.

2. Experimental Section

2.1. Catalyst Preparation. The gallium-containing γ-alumina support (AyGa) was prepared by impregnating γ-Al2O3 with gallium nitrate. The mixed, dried at 120 °C, was heated at 500 °C for 15 h. Two nominal Ga contents (atoms per 100 Al atoms) were prepared: 0.6 and 4 (designated as AyGa0.6 and AyGa4).

Different portions of the AyGa0.6 and AyGa4 supports were impregnated with a solution of cobalt nitrate of

TABLE I: Gallium-Containing Specimens and Their Properties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Samples</th>
<th>Co content, a wt %</th>
<th>Curie constant, C, erg G⁻² mol⁻¹ K</th>
<th>Magnetic moment, m_B</th>
<th>Weiss temp - ς, K</th>
<th>Co²⁺ tet, %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A-GaCo(0.6:1)</td>
<td>1.12</td>
<td>3.11</td>
<td>4.99</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-GaCo(0.6:2)</td>
<td>2.29</td>
<td>2.95</td>
<td>4.86</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-GaCo(0.6:3)</td>
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<td>2.96</td>
<td>4.87</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-GaCo(0.6:4)</td>
<td>4.32</td>
<td>2.96</td>
<td>4.87</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-GaCo(0.6:5)</td>
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<td>2.95</td>
<td>4.86</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>(59)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-AyGaMoCo(0.6:5:1)</td>
<td>4.12</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>4.86</td>
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<td>48</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-AyGaMoCo(0.6:5:2)</td>
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<td>2.97</td>
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<td>48</td>
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<td>3.05</td>
<td>4.94</td>
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<td>B-AyGaMoCo(0.6:5:1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-AyGaMoCo(0.6:5:2)</td>
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<td>3.00</td>
<td>4.90</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3.28</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-AyGaMoCo(0.6:5:4)</td>
<td>4.21</td>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>5.08</td>
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<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-AyGaMoCo(0.6:5:5)</td>
<td>4.80</td>
<td>3.28</td>
<td>5.12</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
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a Analytical, see text. b Due to the presence of Co₂O₃, the value is less accurate.

Gallium-Containing Specimens and Their Properties

<table>
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<th>Weiss temp - ς, K</th>
<th>Co²⁺ tet, %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A-GaCo(4:1)</td>
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<td>3.08</td>
<td>4.99</td>
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<td>45</td>
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<td>A-GaCo(4:2)</td>
<td>2.10</td>
<td>3.08</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-GaCo(4:3)</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>3.06</td>
<td>4.93</td>
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<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-GaCo(4:4)</td>
<td>4.12</td>
<td>3.03</td>
<td>4.86</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>(59)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-GaCo(4:5)</td>
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<td>2.95</td>
<td>5.21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-AyGaMoCo(4:5:1)</td>
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<td>3.39</td>
<td>5.01</td>
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<td>39</td>
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<td>3.14</td>
<td>5.01</td>
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<td>39</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2.98</td>
<td>5.21</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2.48</td>
<td>4.88</td>
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<tr>
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<td>5.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>5.07</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3.26</td>
<td>5.13</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-AyGaMoCo(4:5:4)</td>
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<td>5.08</td>
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<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>CoMoO₄ (green)</td>
<td>26.8</td>
<td>3.53</td>
<td>5.32</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CoMoO₄ (pink)</td>
<td>26.8</td>
<td>3.42</td>
<td>5.24</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a Analytical, see text. b Due to the presence of Co₂O₃, the value is less accurate. c Value not calculated due to the large amount of Co₂O₃ present.

known concentration. The material was then dried at 120 °C, ground, and fired at 600 °C for 24 h in air. Cobalt- and gallium-containing catalysts are designated as A-GaCo(0.6:x) and A-GaCo(4:x) with x (nominal Co content in atoms per 100 Al atoms) equal to 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5.

The Co–Mo–Ga-containing catalysts were prepared by two different methods.

Method A. The supports A-Ga0.6 and A-Ga4 were impregnated with an ammonium heptamolybdate solution to obtain a Mo content of 5 atom % with respect to 100 Al atoms. The paste was dried at 120 °C, ground, and fired at 500 °C for 5 h. The catalysts so obtained are designated as A-GaCo(0.6:5) and A-GaCo(4:5).

Cobalt was subsequently added to different portions of A-GaMo(0.6:5) and A-GaMo(4:5) by impregnation with a cobalt nitrate solution followed by drying at 120 °C, grinding, and firing in air at 600 °C for 24 h. The catalysts are designated as A-AyGaMoCo(0.6:5:x) and A-AyGaMoCo(4:5:x) with x = 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 atoms of Co per 100 Al atoms.

Method B. The supports A-Ga0.6 and A-Ga4 were impregnated with an ammonium heptamolybdate solution in the same amount as in method A followed only by drying at 120 °C. Different portions of this material were again impregnated with a solution of cobalt nitrate. The mass was then dried at 120 °C, ground, and fired at 600 °C for 24 h in air. The catalysts so obtained are designated as B-AyGaMoCo(0.6:5:x) and B-AyGaMoCo(4:5:x) where x has the same values as before.

Sulfurization. Portions of A-GaCo(0.6:x), A-GaMoCo(0.6:5:x), and B-AyGaMoCo(0.6:5:x) catalysts were sulfided in a silica reactor at 400 °C, for 2 h, in a flow of H₂ (90 cm³/mín) and H₂S (10 cm³/mín).

2.2. Physical Characterization and Chemical Analysis. Optical reflectance spectra were recorded on a Beckman DK 1 instrument, in the range 2500–210 nm at room temperature, using γ-Al₂O₃ as a reference. To check the influence of grain size on the reflectance spectra, some specimens were ground for 5 and 20 h in a mechanical mortar. The same spectrum was obtained in both cases. Therefore all spectra were recorded for samples ground for 5 h.

Magnetic susceptibility measurements were carried out by the Gouy method in the temperature range 100–295 K. The specimens were contained in a sealed silica tube. X-ray analysis was carried out with Co radiation, using a Debye–Scherer camera (114 nm diameter) or a diffractometer (Philips).

Chemical analysis for cobalt was performed by atomic absorption techniques (Varian Techtron AA5); concentrated H₂SO₄ was used to dissolve the specimens. The catalysts and some of their properties are listed in Tables I and II.

3. Experimental Results

3.1. Reflectance Spectra. Reflectance spectra were recorded for all samples. As the pattern of their spectra is essentially the same only representative series are reported. Figures 1 and 2 show the reflectance spectra of the $\gamma$GaCo(0.6:x) and $\gamma$GaMoCo(0.6:5:x) series, respectively. Detailed analysis of the reflectance spectra of $\gamma$-Co in different environments and of the assignment of optical transitions was discussed elsewhere. Inspection of Figures 1 and 2 leads to the following conclusions:

(a) The spectra of the $\gamma$GaCo and $\gamma$GaMoCo specimens are dominated by bands due to $\text{Co}^{2+}$ ions in tetrahedral symmetry and their general pattern is qualitatively similar to that of the spinel $\gamma$Mg$_2$Al$_2$O$_4$ and of $\text{Co}^{2+}$/Al$_2$O$_3$.

(b) With increasing cobalt content the intensity of the absorption band at 578 nm is lower in the series $\gamma$Co (with $x \leq 3$ atom % since Co$_{2+}$ is present at higher $x$) than in the $\gamma$GaCo(0.6:x) series, Figure 3, as well as for the $\gamma$GaCo(4:x) series.

Recalling that the band at 578 nm is the most intense band for $\text{Co}^{2+}_{\text{tet}}$, one is led to the conclusion that the amount of $\text{Co}^{2+}_{\text{tet}}$ is higher in Ga-containing specimens.

(c) Moreover, inspection of Figure 3 shows that the intensity of the band at 578 nm increases linearly with the Co content for $\gamma$GaCo(0.6:x) as well as for $\gamma$GaCo(4:x) and $\gamma$GaMoCo(0.6:5:x), while this is not the case for $\gamma$GaMoCo, for which the curves become concave toward the abscissa at high Co content. This can be attributed to the presence of a new type of $\text{Co}^{2+}$ with different symmetry. Since the extinction coefficient for octahedral $\text{Co}^{2+}$ ions is smaller than for tetrahedral ions, the new type of $\text{Co}^{2+}$ absorption can be attributed to ions in octahedral symmetry, probably in a new phase (the x-ray section clarifies this point).

(d) It is now useful to analyze the intensity of the shoulder at 720 nm for different series of specimens. Figure 4 shows the change in intensity, reported as the height of the shoulder in cm, with increasing cobalt content for the series $\gamma$GaCo(0.6:x) and $\gamma$GaMoCo(0.6:5:x); the figure also includes data for $\gamma$Co and $\gamma$MoCo(5:x).

The gallium-free $\gamma$Co and $\gamma$MoCo(5:x) have a larger amount of Co$_{2+}$, as compared to the gallium-containing
specimens A-γGaCo(0.6:5:x) and A-γGaMoCo(0.6:5:5) (with x = 1–5). Note that the samples of series B-γGaMoCo do not show the presence of Co3O4.

In conclusion, the reflectance spectra show that the presence of Ga3+ ions hinders the formation of Co3O4. Moreover it favors a more normal CoAl2O4 spinel, i.e., a larger amount of Co2+ in tetrahedral sites, except for the B series in which formation of CoMoO4 is favored (see x-ray section).

3.2. X-Ray Measurements. The phase identification via x-ray spectra for supported catalysts presents difficulties. However, the analysis of the results, as far as the presence of the surface spinel CoAl2O4 and/or Co3O4 is concerned, can be made along lines similar to those discussed elsewhere by comparing the intensities of different reflections, and, in more detail, the intensity profiles. The x-ray findings parallel the spectroscopic results.

It is useful to examine in more detail the x-ray spectra of A-γGaMoCo catalysts according to the preparation method.

Method A. The x-ray pattern of A-γGaMoCo(0.6:5:5) and A-γGaMoCo(4:5:5) catalysts indicates only the formation of the surface spinel CoAl2O4.

Method B. The formation of CoAl2O4 as a surface spinel is confirmed. Moreover, additional lines are visible for Co ≥ 2 atom % and their intensity increases with cobalt content. These lines are attributable to CoMoO4 phases; the lines at d spacing = 6.25, 3.50, 3.12, and 2.09 Å to the green CoMoO4, and the line at d spacing = 3.36 Å to the violet CoMoO4, called the “B” phase by Rico10 and 5 phase by Sleight and Chamberland.11 In particular, in the specimens with 0.8 atom % Ga both phases are present, while in specimens with 4 atom % Ga only the violet phase is present. Since this phase can be transformed into the green phase by grinding,10,12 we ground B-γGaMoCo(4:5:5) for several hours. As a consequence, the line characteristic of the violet phase disappeared and the lines characteristic of the green phase appeared. Both CoMoO4 phases were prepared to check the x-ray spectra.

Sulfided Catalysts. Sulfided A-γGaCo(0.8:5:5) and A-γGaMoCo(0.6:5:5) show spinel phase lines sharper than the corresponding oxidized specimens, without any additional lines. By way of contrast, the sulfided B-γGaMoCo for Co ≥ 2 show, besides sharper spinel phase lines, new lines at d = 5.67, 2.98, 1.91, and 1.75 Å, attributable to CoS2 (ASTM index). No lines attributable to MoS2 appear; note that the lines of CoMoO4 disappeared.

3.3. Magnetic Measurements. Tables I and II report the Curie constant C, the Weiss temperature θ, and the magnetic moment μ calculated from the Curie-Weiss law \( \chi = C/(T - \theta) \), where \( \chi \) is the magnetic susceptibility per mole of cobalt (actual analytical content) after correction for the diamagnetic contribution of all components.

Figure 5 reports the variation of C with cobalt content for some representative specimens and includes the data for A-γCoX and A-γMoCo(5:5:5) for comparison.

From inspection of Figure 5 and Tables I and II it appears that the C values follow different trends according to whether gallium ions are present or absent and to the preparation method.

In principle, the C value is dependent on two distinct facts: (a) the presence of different phases, such as CoAl2O4 (C = 1), CoAl2O4 (C = 3.50)14 and CoMoO4 (C = 3.54); (b) the distribution of Co2+ ions among A (tetrahedral) and B (octahedral) sites of the surface spinel CoAl2O4; a higher C value corresponds to a higher Co2+oct/C02+tet ratio.

It is then appropriate to examine the magnetic results in order to establish whether the variations in C correspond to the presence of these different phases or to a variation of the \( \text{Co}^{2+}_{\text{oct}} / \text{Co}^{2+}_{\text{tet}} \) ratio in the surface spinel CoAl2O4.

(a) Since only CoAl2O4 is present at low cobalt content (Co ≤ 2, see above), the C values depend on \( \text{Co}^{2+} \) ion distribution among A and B sites of the surface spinel CoAl2O4. Thus, comparison of A-γCoX with A-γGaCo(0.8:5:5) (Curve a and a' of Figure 5) indicates that the presence of Ga3+ ions favors a more normal spinel; in fact, a smaller C value means a higher \( \text{Co}^{2+}_{\text{tet}} \) content. (b) At higher cobalt content (Co ≥ 2), the C values strongly decrease for the sample of series A-γCoX (curve a) and A-γMoCo(5:5:5) (curve b), due to the presence of the phase Co3O4, while it remains constant (curve a' and b') for samples of series A-γGaCo(0.6:5:5) and A-γGaMoCo(0.6:5:5). In this last case, they reflect the distribution of \( \text{Co}^{2+} \) ions among A and B sites of spinel CoAl2O4, this being the major Co species present. (c) As for the specimens of series B-γGaMoCo, the magnetic data (curve b', Figure 5) shows an increase of C up to C = 2. This is due to the building up of the CoMoO4 phase in which \( \text{Co}^{2+} \) ions occupy octahedral sites.

Estimate of the Degree of Inversion from Magnetic Data. An estimate of the cobalt ions distributed in octahedral and tetrahedral sites can be made for those samples in which the \( \text{Co}^{2+} \) ions can be assumed to be present as the surface spinel CoAl2O4; for this purpose we will then neglect the samples containing amounts of Co3O4. For the B-γGaMoCo catalyst, containing the surface spinel CoAl2O4 and CoMoO4, it is also possible to estimate the amount of tetrahedral and octahedral cobalt ions. However, we can assume that the tetrahedral cobalt is present completely as the surface spinel CoAl2O4, for the octahedral cobalt we cannot determine how much is present as CoAl2O4 and how much as CoMoO4. From the experimental values of the Curie constant C, and taking into account these restrictions, it is possible to use the law of additivity for computing the fraction of \( \text{Co}^{2+} \) ions in octahedral and tetrahedral sites.2,5 The results obtained using \( C_{\text{tet}} = 3.50^{14} \) and \( C_{\text{oct}} = 2.57^{15} \) are reported in Tables I and II.
Structural Properties of Co–Mo–Alumina Catalysts

It is necessary to emphasize that the percent values given for Co_{\text{tet}} and C_{\text{tet}} are only estimates, because of the choice of C_{\text{tet}} and C_{\text{tet}}, but the relative effect should be real.

Discussion

The presence and amounts of CoO, MoO_{3}, and CoAl_{2}O_{4} are not determined solely by the chemical composition but also by the method of preparation, namely, A and B. Furthermore, the results show that the surface spinel CoAl_{2}O_{4} is always present and its cation distribution is affected by the presence of foreign ions (i.e., in this case, Ga^{3+} ions). Moreover, segregation of the CoO phase depends on several factors, such as the cobalt content, the method of preparation, and the presence of Ga^{3+} ions.

We discuss in order the following topics: (1) the effect of gallium ions on the cobalt and molybdenum; (2) the state of the surface according the method of preparation; (3) the sulfided specimens.

Influence of Gallium Ions on Cobalt and Molybdenum.

In principle, in a spinel the M^{ii} ions can occupy tetrahedral (A) and/or octahedral (B) sites and the relative M^{ii}_{\text{tet}}/M^{ii}_{\text{oct}} ratio depends on several parameters. In addition, recent studies on the structural and magnetic properties of Ni^{ii} ions supported on alumina showed that a small addition of Zn^{2+}, Ga^{3+}, or Ge^{4+}, all having a preference for tetrahedral sites, shifts the cation distribution in the surface spinel NiAl_{2}O_{4} toward a more normal one.

The observed behavior was explained by invoking the polarization of anions toward tetrahedral sites. With this in mind, one would expect that the addition of cobalt ions to gallium-containing alumina, AγGaCo specimens, leads to a more normal CoAl_{2}O_{4} spinel. The experimental observation matches this picture fully.

Especially in the specimens with high cobalt content, the experimental data (Figure 4) show that CoO_{2} segregation is strongly decreased in the Ga-containing specimens (AγGaCo as compared to AγCo). In order to rationalize this point, we recall that segregation of oxides in supported systems is mainly affected by two factors: (a) the stability of ions in the 2+ oxidation state; and (b) the diffusion pathways in the alumina lattice. It has been shown that for cations at tetrahedral sites the possible pathways in a spinel lattice always include a saddle, position of octahedral symmetry. Now, if the crystal field around the octahedral sites is decreased when Ga^{3+} ions are added, one would expect a higher rate of diffusion of Co^{2+} ions as a consequence, a greater amount of spinel is formed while the segregation of CoO_{2} decreases.

The presence of Ga^{3+} may also influence the attachment of molybdate ions on the alumina surface. Molybdate monolayer formation has been extensively discussed by several authors. In our case it may be recalled that OH groups bonded to aluminum ions are about 100 times more basic than those bonded to gallium ions. Consequently, one would expect that molybdenum acid would react preferentially with aluminum octahedral OH giving molybdate ions attached to the surface. For a topotactic process, the molybdenum ions would occupy tetrahedral sites by extending the spinel structure immediately above the plane. As compared to AγMo, the AγGaMo spinel specimens will have a somewhat larger amount of Mo^{6+} in tetrahedral sites and this fact may be relevant for catalytic reactions.

Influence of the Method of Preparation. Method A.

This method consists of three successive impregnations and three calcinations according to the sequence Ga, Mo, and Co.

The first addition of Ga modifies the properties of the alumina surface. The second impregnation and calcination allows the Mo to react with the modified surface of the alumina giving a monolayer of molybdate ions attached to the alumina surface, registry with the structure. Finally, no separate phase of MoO_{3} can be identified since the molybdenum content is fairly low. The cobalt, added with the third impregnation, now finds the structure of the external layers of alumina altered by the presence of Ga^{3+} and molybdate ions.

It may be noted that the presence of Ga^{3+} ions still allows the cobalt ions to react with alumina and favors a more normal spinel.

Finally, it should be emphasized that there is not a tendency to form the compound CoMoO_{4}, since all the molybdenum has already reacted with the alumina surface.

Method B. Since B-AγGaMoCo catalysts were prepared by three impregnations but only two calcinations, the cobalt and molybdenum, react simultaneously (not in succession, as described for method A) with the alumina surface, and with each other. In fact, three reactions at 600 °C are able to occur simultaneously: (1) the reaction between Co- and Ga-containing alumina will give the cobalt aluminate, CoAl_{2}O_{4}, and CoO_{2}; (2) the reaction between molybdenum and alumina will form molybdate ions attached to the alumina surface; (3) the reaction between molybdenum and cobalt forms the CoMoO_{4} phase.

The first reaction is dependent on the diffusion of cobalt ions into the external layers of alumina. The large surface area of alumina assists the process, by increasing the contact area between reactants.

The second reaction, considered as an acid–base reaction, should be dependent on the strength of the relative acids and bases involved and on the dispersion of molybdenum.

As far as the third reaction, the results obtained by Haber and Ziolkowski for the system Co_{3}O_{4}–MoO_{3} at 500 °C clearly indicate that the CoMoO_{4} formation is rapid and dependent on the diffusion of molybdenum ions into Co_{3}O_{4} grains. Thus, the species expected to arise as a function of Co content when the three reactions occur simultaneously can be accounted for as follows.

At low cobalt content, only the first and the second reactions occur. Apparently, the third process (CoMoO_{4} formation) is also very rapid at 600 °C although the strong interaction between cobalt and alumina tends to decompose the CoMoO_{4} when this compound is heated with pure alumina.

Only at higher cobalt content does the formation of cobalt molybdate also occur, as a process taking place on the Co-rich external layers in competition with the diffusion of cobalt into the alumina. The experimental results match this picture fully. The x-ray data have shown that the formation of the CoMoO_{4} phase starts to occur for a cobalt content ≥2 and its amount increases with increasing cobalt content. The reflectance spectra and magnetic measurements parallel the x-ray data showing that the cobalt ions, at higher cobalt content, go into octahedral sites as expected if CoMoO_{4} is formed.

Sulfided Catalysts. As already reported, the effect of sulfiding is confined to the surface layers. The process can be pictured as an exchange of surface OH to SH with a concomitant reduction of Mo^{6+} to lower oxidation states.

To throw light on the Co and Mo species which can be formed during the sulfurization, one has to take into account the species present in the oxide state.
According to literature data \(^2,3,21,25,28\) and to our results, the CoAlO\(_3\) cannot be sulfided, but only their surface OH can be transformed into SH. However, if cobalt is present as separate phases (CoO\(_2\) or CoMoO\(_4\)) it will undergo the CoO\(_2\) transformation.\(^2,21,25\) Concerning molybdenum, it is currently reported that the sulfiding process of the Mo monolayer leads to an “oxysulfo” species rather than to a sulfided one.\(^1,2^4,2^5\) This conclusion is based on the lack of observation of MoS\(_2\). However, it must be pointed out that the sulfiding of B-AyGaMoCo specimens, in which MoS\(_2\) is present, produces only Cogs\(_8\), the conditions being suitable for the formation of CoS\(_2\) and MoS\(_2\). Indeed the sulfiding of pure and silica supported (Co-Mo)\(_2\)S\(_3\) transformation.\(^2^1,2^4,2^5\) Concerning molybdenum, it is currently reported that the sulfiding process of the MoS\(_2\) has a value of \(-0.16\) kcal/mol). These data are compared to the corresponding quantities obtained from microwave data. Considerable torsional data are reported and used to characterize the torsional potential function based on a semirigid model. The average effective V\(_3\) was found to be 2.14 cm\(^{-1}\) (-0.16 kcal/mol). The \(V_{33}\) has a value of \(-55 \pm 2\) cm\(^{-1}\). These data are compared to the corresponding quantities obtained from microwave data. Comparisons are also given to similar quantities obtained for other molecules.

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**References and Notes**

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