

# Conversion of succinic acid over Ni and Co catalysts

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Liquid-phase hydrogenation of succinic acid (SA) over supported Ni and Co catalysts was investigated at 200 °C and 6 MPa of H<sub>2</sub>. Reduced and passivated catalysts with the same surface metal density (2.5 atoms of metal per nm<sup>2</sup> of support) were prepared by incipient wetness impregnation. The catalysts were characterized by X-ray diffraction (XRD), N<sub>2</sub> adsorption, X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS), temperature-programmed reduction (TPR), CO-chemisorption, and temperature-programmed desorption of NH<sub>3</sub> (TPD-NH<sub>3</sub>). The Ni and Co catalysts supported over SiO<sub>2</sub> showed different product distribution, due to the adsorption of the SA over the surface of catalysts, determined by DFT calculations. The Co/SiO<sub>2</sub>, Co/SiO<sub>2</sub>-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, and Co/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalysts showed different product distribution, which was correlated with total acidity from TPD-NH<sub>3</sub> results. In general, the Co catalysts promoted the hydrogenation process; however, the highest total acidity showed by Co/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> also promoted the dehydration process. Finally, the initial rate follows the trend according to the dispersion determined by CO-chemisorption. © 2020 Elsevier B.V.

Biomass

Catalytic hydrogenation

DFT-calculations

Succinic acid

Ammonia

Chemisorption

Cobalt

Dehydration

Hydrogenation

Nickel

Silica

Silicon

Temperature programmed desorption

X ray photoelectron spectroscopy

CO chemisorption

Dehydration process

Hydrogenation process

Incipientwetness impregnation

Liquid-phase hydrogenation

Ni and co catalysts

Product distributions

Temperature-programmed reduction

Catalyst supports