

Synergistic effect of acidity and active phases on DBT HDS performance: the role of S-edge and Mo-edge sites

Zhengkai Cao¹, Xia Zhang², Rong Guo², Chong Peng³, Peng Zheng¹, Xilong Wang⁴, Jiyuan Fan¹, Jinlin Mei¹, Chunming Xu⁵, and aijun duan⁶

¹China University of Petroleum Beijing

²Fushun Research Institute of Petroleum and Petrochemicals

³East China University of Science and Technology

⁴China University of Petroleum Beijing College of Chemical Engineering

⁵Chinese University of Petroleum

⁶China University of Petroleum, Beijing

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Abstract

Dual-metal modifications on SBA-16 silica were implemented to modulate the acidities and the distribution and dispersion of active phases for NiMo catalysts. The results showed that the acidity of S-H groups in S-edge sites can be promoted by B acid and further facilitate the DDS selectivity. The NiMo/AT-7.5 catalyst exhibits the highest HDS efficiency of 97.5% due to its appropriate acidity, highest proportion of MoS₂ phase and concentration of S-edge sites. The kinetic and thermodynamic analyses were applied to investigate the intrinsic HDS reactivity for various catalysts. The results confirmed the existence of synergistic effect in the DBT HDS reaction. The B acid sites can further increase the desulfurization route (DS) of THDBT to CHB. A higher dispersion degree of MoS₂ could improve DBT HDS efficiency. A high total concentration of S-edge and Mo-edge will indicate a high HDS efficiency. The S-edge/Mo-edge ratio and k_{DDS}/k_{HYD} could be correlated.

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