

Deliverable report

D2.2 – Generation of experimental data for (micro)kinetic modelling

WP2 - Optimization of the reaction of conversion of $CO₂$ into COS

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Contents

List of Tables

List of Figures

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Deliverable content

D2.2 contains information on generating experimental data for converting $CO₂$ and H₂S into COS to perform (micro)kinetic modelling (WP5). This information comprises the raw catalytic data and the corresponding experimental conditions of the reaction between $CO₂$ and H₂S to maximize COS production. The raw catalytic data is the results obtained from chromatographic analysis. The data is generated during screening catalytic material, selecting best-performing material, and optimizing reaction conditions.

1.2 Brief description of the state-of-the-art

The key state of the art for the acid gas reaction is reported in the Shell patent (WO2011084973A1), where the reaction between $CO₂$ and H₂S to produce COS employs different reaction conditions and catalytic materials. However, no literature was explicitly found on employing the results of catalytic conversion of $CO₂$ and H₂S to COS for the purpose of (micro)kinetic modelling.

1.3 Corrective action (if relevant)

N.A

1.4 IPR issue (if applicable)

N.A.

2 DELIVERABLE REPORT

D2.2 contains raw experimental data for the reaction between $CO₂$ and $H₂S$ to evaluate COS production and the corresponding catalyst, reactor, pretreatment, and reaction conditions. This data will be employed for the microkinetic modelling of the reaction by WP5. This data has been acquired throughout different tasks of WP2, i.e., pre-screening of available catalytic materials, optimization of reaction and catalyst testing, and selection of best-performing material. Generated data are provided in this deliverable in the form of a table of conditions, while the raw data comprising gas chromatography (GC) analysis of effluent gases is uploaded to the Zenodo platform.

2.1 Context

D2.2 mainly provides a comprehensive collection of raw catalytic data and the corresponding experimental conditions employed for COS production. All the experimental data have been systematically arranged to be used for microkinetic modelling.

2.2 Brief description of the state-of-the-art

See section 1.2.

2.3 Results obtained

This report details the catalyst, reactor dimensions, reaction conditions, and raw catalytic data acquired during the above-mentioned series of events. The results are systematically compiled to be utilized for (micro) kinetic modelling for model development and validation, optimization of reaction conditions, and understanding the mechanism of COS production.

2.3.1 Catalytic setup

The setup used to carry out the experiments is a Micro Catalytic Bed unit from VINCI Technologies. It comprises inlets for the reagent gases (H_2S and CO_2) that come together in a gas mixer and a nitrogen line for additional flow dilution before the reactor. Gas flows are regulated through Mass-Flow Controllers (MFC) to set the desired feed composition. The unit accommodates a fixed bed reactor where the pressure can be controlled via a BackPressure Regulator (BPR) up to 50 bara. A bypass is used to sample the feed concentrations and stabilize flows before feeding the reactor. The catalytic unit is further connected to the Gas Chromatographic (GC) unit, as shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1 Schematic representation of the unit (left) and photo of the actual unit employed in the project (right).

2.3.2 Data acquisition

The raw catalytic data have been acquired using a Chromatec Crystal9000 GC. The GC is equipped with a split/splitless injector, two capillary columns adapted for acid gas analysis (GS-GasPro (60m) and BP-1 (60m)), two flame detectors (FID, FPD) and two conductivity detectors (TCD-HS, μ TCD). This system configuration allows for simultaneously analyzing H₂S, CO₂ and COS. The GC analytical method is developed to ensure sensitivity and separation towards the sulfur compounds and is optimized in the first months of the project with minor changes when needed. The GC oven is kept isothermal at 70°C, which allows for a sampling rate of 15 min in singleinjection analysis or 5 min in multi-injection analysis. Two methods have been developed for multi-injection analysis with a run time of one hour and 2 hours, respectively. For long catalytic experiments, a sequence of multiple runs using one or both multi-injection methods are used. A chromatogram of a single injection of 15 minutes with all the components of the reaction i.e. N_{2} , CO2, COS, and H2S is represented in Figure 2.

Figure 2 μ -TCD signal of an N₂, H₂S, CO₂, COS mixture for a 15-minute method analysis.

µTCD is used as main detector, while FPD is used to detect the lowest concentrations of sulphur compounds. For the sake of consistency throughout all generated data, only µTCD detector will be used in the writing of this deliverable.

The GC detector is calibrated with H_2S CO₂, and COS in the concentration ranges of interest. Integrated areas of chromatograph peaks as a function of the concentration are reported in [Figure 3](#page-9-1) for the µTCD detector. The current analytics setup does not allow for the detection of water, which can be separated from the effluent gas before the GC by a condenser element placed after the reactor within the MCB unit.

Figure 3 H₂S (a), CO₂ (b) and COS (c)calibration curves for µTCD detector. Curve equations, error bars and R² values are reported.

The obtained data are extracted from the GC computer through a report generated by the analytics software. Each report contains a table, with the signals of detectors (in mV), for each analysis that is carried out. For the sake of readability, we collected all the reports for a single experiment in one file/folder containing every analysis.

2.3.3 Experimental Conditions

The information about the dimensions of the reactor (reactor length, catalytic bed diameter, reactor internal diameter) used for catalytic experiments is presented in Table 1. The reactor

specifications remain the same in all the catalytic tests. Different catalysts have been used to screen catalytic materials and identify the best-performing catalyst. These include FAU, LTA, and MFI-type zeolites. Most of these chosen catalysts are microsized materials. Some nanosized materials have also been tested whose names are indicated with the prefix 'nano.' For some experiments, 13X (FAU) zeolite was stored in a 75% Relative Humidity chamber before the analysis, and this material was labelled as 13X-75%RH (as listed in Table 1).

Some zeolites are shaped into extrudates (EXT) and employed for the catalytic tests. The nomenclature as well as the composition of these extrudates has been discussed in detail in deliverable D2.6 as follows.

The experiments were conducted on pure zeolite powders pressed and sieved to attain the desired particle fraction. Extrudates were also subjected to the same sieving to keep the same particle size ratio with respect to the reactor. Tests on uncrushed extrudes are being performed during the writing of the deliverable. The relative raw data will not be part of this deliverable but will be part of the available shared data later.

Table 1 presents the list of tested catalytic materials with their respective physicochemical properties.

Table 1 List of the experimental conditions (a) Specifications of the reactor used for catalytic experiments and (b) Information about the catalysts employed.

All the experiments and the corresponding operating conditions employed are listed in Table 2.

Each experiment is subdivided into sections where the feed flow remains constant throughout the whole time:

- Preloading: pre-adsorption of one reactant prior to the reaction.
- Purge: flushing of reactive gases from the system by means of an inert gas.
- Temperature Programmed Desorption (TPD).
- Catalytic reaction.

Each experiment is labeled with a sequential number (1, 2, 3 etc.) followed by the section name (a, b, c, etc.). Table 2 also lists the most significant parameters used in each experimental section. These parameters refer to:

(i) set of conditions at which the catalyst is treated before performing the experiment (i.e., Pretreatment conditions, Table 2)

(ii) set of conditions at which each section of the experiment is performed (i.e., weight hourly space velocity WHSV, feed composition, temperature, pressure, total flow).

The catalyst material does not change within the different sections of an experiment. Any information specific to a particular experiment, i.e., additional steps performed/conditions applied, is given as comments on the experiment. The formulas used to calculate the partial pressure of the feed in the reactor and the WHSV are given below.

$$
Mole fraction x_i = \frac{n_i}{n_{total}}
$$

Partial Pressure = $\mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{P}_{total}$

$$
WHSV (h^{-1}) = \left(\frac{\text{Flow rate of feed gas}}{\text{Molar volume}} \times \text{molar mass of gas}}\right) / 60
$$

Table 2 List of the catalytic experiments with the corresponding information about (a) pretreatment and (b) reaction conditions used and (c) comments (if any) specific to each experiment. The WHSV values are given relative to H₂S component of the feed.

The raw data obtained from the GC analysis of the effluent gases is the Micro Thermal Conductivity Detector (µ-TCD) response in milli volts (mV) as a function of time in minutes (min). The raw GC data from the most straightforward experiment comprises more than 200,000 GC points. Therefore, due to the large data size, the Excel files containing raw GC data of all catalytic tests are uploaded on the Zenodo platform within the project directory (e-CODUCT GA101058100 Horizon Europe project) and protected by a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) for the use in further dissemination activities, namely publication of academic articles (see next section).

As an example, the first 100 GC points of experiment # 19 as a function of time are presented in Table 3.

Table 3 Raw experimental data showing time and corresponding GC response for 100 (out of 224346) datapoints from the experiment No. 19.

The raw GC data is exploited for (micro)kinetic modelling purposes as follows.

Peak integration is performed for every peak of each separated component (i.e. H₂S, CO₂, COS, N_2) resulting in the peak area in millivolt seconds (mV*s). This quantity is directly proportional to the concentration of the identified specie. The evolution of this value is followed throughout the entire experiment and often expressed relative to the value of the initial feed concentration (C_0) . For the COS the evolution is shown as the value relative to maximum theoretical production from the feed composition used. These quantities are plotted as a function of time for each component. Figure 3 presents an example of raw catalytic data exploitation for (micro)kinetic modelling where the catalytic data of the benchmark reaction on 13X demonstrates the evolution of the relative concentrations of different components as a function of the time of stream.

Figure 4 Relative concentrations evolution for the benchmark reaction.

2.4 Data Availability

The raw GC data of all catalytic tests are uploaded on the Zenodo platform within the project community and protected by a Digital Object Identifier () for the use in further dissemination activities, namely publication of academic article:

- Repository:<https://zenodo.org/>
- Community: e-CODUCT GA101058100 Horizon Europe project
- DOI:<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.12581428>

2.5 Impact of the results

The experimental data impacts the microkinetic modelling in several ways, serving as the backbone for developing, validating, and refining kinetic models. The set of experimental data and reaction conditions presented in this report will be utilized to construct a suitable kinetic model for converting $CO₂$ and H₂S to COS, providing deeper insights into the reaction mechanism. This also will help estimate kinetic parameters and determine rate laws. The refined and customized (micro)kinetic models based on these experimental results will help predict optimal conditions for maximizing COS yield and selectivity.

2.6 Related IPR

N/A

3 CONCLUSION

This report compiles the raw experimental data generated by catalytic tests and the associated reactor, reaction and catalyst conditions for the purpose of (micro)kinetic modeling. This data is generated during pre-screening of available materials for the reaction of $CO₂$ with H₂S for COS production), optimization of reaction conditions and catalyst testing, and selection of best performing material. These results will be employed to construct an appropriate (micro)kinetic model to get deeper insights into the reaction mechanism and optimize the reaction conditions. The experimental conditions and the raw data, together with a refined kinetic model, will help to optimize the reaction conditions and maximize COS production.