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Hydrodeoxygenation of Propanoic Acid over Silica-Supported Palladium: Effect of Metal Particle Size

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Abstract

The effects of metal nanoparticle size on the hydrodeoxygenation (HDO) of propanoic acid (PAC) over Pd/SiO₂ catalysts was investigated. Strong electrostatic adsorption (SEA) was used to prepare catalysts with Pd nanoparticles ranging between 1.9 to 12.4 nm. The particle sizes were determined by chemisorption (O₂-H₂ titration) and transmission electron microscopy (STEM). The HDO was carried out in a continuous gas-phase reactor at 200°C and 1 atm at differential conversion. The reaction followed decarbonylation and hydrogenation pathways to yield ethane (C₂H₆) and propionaldehyde (EtCHO), respectively. While the catalytic TOF remained constant between 3.0-12.4 nm it decreased by a factor of 2-3 with decreasing particle size down to 1.9 nm. The reaction rate is therefore considered to be largely structure-insensitive over the range studied. The selectivity toward EtCHO increased as the particle size increased, indicating hydrogenation is favored on single crystal Pd(111) and Pd(100) planes versus corners and edges. For decarbonylation to produce C₂H₆, reaction rate orders with respect to PAC (~0.5) and H₂ (~0), and the apparent activation energy (~12 Kcal/mole), were found to be the same for both 2.0 and 12.4 nm particle sizes. In contrast, the reaction rate order with respect to PAC (~1.0) and H₂ (~0.3) was different for hydrogenation to produce EtCHO. These differences are explained by a change in the rate-determining step for the HDO of propanoic acid.

1. Introduction

The upgrading of biomass-derived pyrolysis oil can provide a means to produce both useful fuels and chemicals, as well as generate substantial economic and environmental benefits.^{1, 2} However, such bio-oils contains large amounts of carboxylic acids (e.g., acetic acid, propanoic acid) that decrease stability, are highly corrosive, and are challenging to deoxygenate.³ Furthermore, fatty acids, fatty acid esters, and triglycerides are present in other sources such as waste greases and nonfood oils from a variety of plants. Therefore, the hydrodeoxygenation (HDO) of biomass-derived carboxylic acids is of both fundamental and practical interest. A significant amount of effort in these areas has focused on catalytic HDO of aliphatic acids using a variety of monometallic and bimetallic catalysts.³⁻²⁵

Previous studies have shown that the physical properties of small catalytic nanoparticles are often significantly different from those of bulk metals.²⁶⁻³¹ Research over the years has suggested that particle size-induced changes in the electronic structure and/or the geometry of the metal atoms exposed at the catalyst surface will influence catalyst performance.³² Along these lines, Boudart et al. classified catalytic reactions as either structure-sensitive or structure-insensitive.³³ If the reaction is structure-insensitive and there are no mass transport limitations, the active sites will be proportional to the number of surface metal atoms, regardless of metal nanoparticle size. However, if the reaction is structure-sensitive the turnover frequency (TOF) changes as the metal dispersion is altered. For example, reactions such as the hydrodechlorination of 1,2-dichloroethane over Pd/SiO₂, are considered to be structure-insensitive.³⁴ In contrast, reactions over Pd/SiO₂ such as hydrogenolysis of methylcyclopropane, hydrogenation of ethylene, and

selective hydrogenation of acetylene in ethylene-rich mixtures are considered structure-sensitive.³⁵⁻³⁸

Interestingly, there has been very little work performed to explore the structure sensitivity of aliphatic acid HDO over metals. In the only such study, Simakova et al.¹⁴ investigated the effect of metal dispersion on the deoxygenation of palmitic and stearic acid over Pd/C catalysts in the liquid phase. The initial TOF varied by almost an order of magnitude when the initial dispersion of a 1%Pd catalyst was varied from 18% to 72%. However, only four particle sizes were examined, and the catalysts (especially the one with highest dispersion) were found to greatly sinter during the reaction.

The present work explores the effects of metal nanoparticle size (1.9-12.4 nm) on the HDO of propanoic acid (PAC) over a family of silica-supported palladium catalysts. While some small effects on catalytic performance are observed, the activity and selectivity of HDO is not influenced significantly by Pd particle size in the range studied, suggesting that the reaction is largely structure insensitive.

2. Experimental Methods

2.1 Catalyst Synthesis

The Pd/SiO₂ catalysts were synthesized by strong electrostatic adsorption (SEA), where the pH of the metal salt complex solution (100-400 ppm of [Pd(NH₃)₄]²⁺Cl₂, 99.9% Sigma Aldrich) was controlled based on the potential of zero charge (PZC) of the SiO₂.^{39, 40} Once the pH of 11.5 was acquired, the support (Aerosil 300 or 130, Evonik, see details below) was impregnated and shaken for 1 hour at room temperature. The surface loading of the catalyst support ranged from 1000-2000 m²/L. Additional details about the SEA procedure are

explained elsewhere.⁴¹⁻⁴⁴ For some Pd catalysts, thermal pre-treatments were performed on Aerosil 300 SiO₂ support prior to SEA in order to assist in achieving different Pd particle sizes (see Table 1). For Pd-6, Aerosil 130 SiO₂ was used. The catalysts were dried overnight, and pre-treated at different conditions in 20% H₂/balance He in order to obtain a range of different particle sizes through sintering. The final treatment stage prior to reaction involved *in-situ* reduction in 20% H₂/balance He for 2 hours at 350°C. Table 2 summarizes the prepared Pd/SiO₂, which were named Pd-1 to Pd-10 based on their increasing particle size.

2.2 Catalyst Characterization

2.2.1 Pulsed H₂ Titration of Oxygen Pre-Covered Sites

The dispersions and particle sizes of the catalysts were determined by pulsed hydrogen titration of oxygen pre-covered sites utilizing a Micromeritics 2920 AutoChem II Analyzer. The catalysts (0.1-0.2g) were reduced at 350 °C by flowing 20% H₂/balance He, for 2 hrs, followed by purging with Ar for 1 hr to remove the physisorbed hydrogen. After cooling to 40 °C in flowing Ar, the catalysts were exposed to 10% O₂/He for 30 min followed by purging with Ar (30 min). Titration with pulses of 10% H₂/Ar was then employed until no further H₂ uptake occurred.

2.2.2 Transmission Electron Microscopy

Scanning transmission electron microscopy (STEM) was performed on a JEOL 2100F 200kV FEG-STEM/TEM equipped with a CEOS C_s corrector on the illumination system. The geometrical aberrations were measured and controlled to provide less than a $\pi/4$ phase shift of the incoming electron wave over the probe-defining aperture of 17.5 mrad, which at 200kV provides a nominal probe size of <0.1nm. High angle annular dark-field (HAADF) STEM images were acquired on a Fischione Model 3000 HAADF detector with a camera length such

that the detector spanned 50-284 mrad. The scanning acquisition was synchronized to the 60 Hz AC electrical power to minimize 60Hz noise in the images and a pixel dwell time of 15.8 μ s was chosen. Histograms of the particle size distribution were obtained by measuring particles from at least six different micrographs for any sample analyzed.

2.3 Catalyst Evaluation

All activity and kinetics measurements for the HDO of PAc were carried out under atmospheric pressure in a single pass, packed bed, plug flow reactor system with online GC analysis. Prior to the reaction, the catalysts (~0.2 g) were reduced *in-situ* (as indicated in Table 1) at a total flow of 200 sccm for 2 hours in 20% H₂ balance He. All the catalytic activity experiments were conducted at 200°C, with 1.0% PAc (Alfa Aesar, 99%) and 20% H₂, balance He. The reaction rate was determined based on the formation of product (which is proportional to the rate of acid disappearance) in μ mol product formed/min \cdot gcat and turnover frequencies were based on the reaction rate per active site based on surface atoms (TOF, molecules \cdot site⁻¹min⁻¹). For the kinetic experiments, PAc and H₂ mole fractions ranged from $X_{PAc} \sim 0.0020$ -0.017 and $X_{H_2} \sim 0.20$ -0.99. Measurements were also carried out from 200-240 °C in order to determine the apparent activation energy. The plug flow reactor system, including gas chromatographic analysis of product streams, is the same as described previously.⁴¹ The conversion and selectivity for a given catalyst were defined according to the following equations:

$$Conversion = \left(\frac{\sum P_i / \lambda_i}{PAc_{in}} \right) * 100$$

$$Selectivity\ of\ Product\ i = \frac{TOF_{P_i}}{\sum_i^n TOF_{P_i}}$$

where PAC_{in} denotes the concentration of PAc in the feed, TOF_{P_i} is the turnover frequency for a given product, and λ_i and P_i are the stoichiometric factors and product concentrations, respectively. Experiments were carried out at differential conversion in the kinetic regime, under conditions confirmed to be free of both internal (Fig. S1) and external (Fig. S2) mass transfer limitations (see Supporting Information).

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Particle Size Characterization

In order to be able to draw clear correlations between structure and catalytic performance, the intrinsic catalyst properties such as dispersion, surface active sites, and particle size had to be determined. As summarized in Table 2, two characterization techniques were employed: chemisorption (O_2 - H_2 titration), and STEM, with the latter applied to both the fresh and spent catalyst (i.e., before and after the reaction). A wide range of particle sizes and dispersions ranging from 1.9-12.4 nm was obtained by O_2 - H_2 titration. Representative STEM images are shown in Figure 1 for the Pd-2, Pd-6 and Pd-10 catalysts, both before and after reaction, with Figure 2 showing the associated histograms. The Sauter mean particle size was determined from the surface area based on the measured Pd crystallite size distribution. The estimated particle size for the fresh and spent Pd-2 catalyst was 2.7 ± 0.9 and 2.8 ± 0.7 nm, respectively, which is in excellent agreement with chemisorption. For Pd-6, particle sizes of 5.1 ± 1.1 and 8.0 ± 2.0 nm were found for the fresh and spent catalyst, respectively. Finally, the size of the fresh Pd-10 (12.1 ± 2.7 nm) was not significantly effected after the reaction (13.4 ± 3.5 nm) and was in close agreement with chemisorption ($d_{pd} = 12.4$ nm). Additionally, the DeBrouckere mean particle size calculated from STEM was compared with that estimated by XRD, showing good agreement (see

Supporting Information S1.2). Given the inherent assumptions and limitations (e.g., ideal particle shape,⁴⁵ relatively small sampling of particles in microscopy) in the calculations associated with these techniques, the agreement is relatively good overall. Since chemisorption can count all exposed surface Pd sites in each sample, the estimate of particle size and dispersion from this approach was used to obtain the TOF values for this study.

3.2 Particle Size Effect on Activity and Selectivity

In order to elucidate the effect of metal particle size for the HDO of PAc, the activity and selectivity of each Pd/SiO₂ catalyst was investigated under the same conditions. The specific activity expressed per Pd surface atom (TOF) and selectivity towards C₂H₆ and propionaldehyde (EtCHO) are summarized in Table 3. Starting at the smallest particle size, the overall TOF increased by around a factor of 2.5 up to 3.1 nm, above which point it remained roughly constant. The overall change over the whole range is considerably less than the differences in other well-known structure sensitive reactions.^{35, 46, 47} This point will be addressed in the next section. From 1.9 to 3.1 nm, the selectivity is found to be >90% toward C₂H₆, with the balance going towards EtCHO. Thus, in this size range, the HDO of PAc occurs primarily via decarbonylation and subsequent hydrogenation (pathway 2 in Scheme 1) to form the main products C₂H₆ and CO. Further increase in the particle size up to 12.4 nm shifted the selectivity toward EtCHO up to about 24% (balance C₂H₆).

These trends can be further analyzed by examining the change in the TOF for production of each product with particle size, as shown in Table 3. The general trend is that the C₂H₆ TOF increases more at the lowest particle size range, while the EtCHO increases more at the higher particle size range. To attempt to quantify the trends in product formation and further explore structure

sensitivity, the following analysis was performed. Given the f.c.c. crystal structure of Pd and assuming the particles are shaped as cubo-octahedra with corners truncated as (100) planes, Van Hardeveld and Hartog⁴⁸ statistics can be applied. This assumption is reasonable, given that XRD of the catalysts (Fig. S4, Supplemental Information) and high resolution STEM of the small particles in the Pd-2 and Pd-6 samples (Fig. S5, Supplemental Information) show that the Pd is crystalline in nature. As a result, the amount of (111) and (100) planes can be estimated based on the Pd particle sizes. Table 3 summarizes the fraction (in percent) of (111) and (100) planes found in these samples. In the range from 1.9 to 3.1 nm where the largest change in overall TOF occurs, the combined fraction of (111) and (100) planes changes from 56% to 71%, with low coordination sites such as corners and edges making up the significant fraction of the remaining surface. As the particle size increases beyond 3.1 up to 12.4 nm, the combined fraction of (111) and (100) planes increases from 71 to 93%, at which point the low coordinated sites are greatly diminished.

For the purposes of this analysis, it was hypothesized that the TOF value for each product will be different on each of these types of surface sites (i.e., (111), (100), corners/edges). If this is the case, then the TOF values for each product can be written as:

$$\text{TOF}_{\text{C}_2\text{H}_6} = \text{TOF}_{\text{C}_2\text{H}_6/(111)} \times F_{(111)} + \text{TOF}_{\text{C}_2\text{H}_6/(100)} \times F_{(100)} + \text{TOF}_{\text{C}_2\text{H}_6/\text{CE}} \times F_{\text{CE}}$$

$$\text{TOF}_{\text{EtCHO}} = \text{TOF}_{\text{EtCHO}/(111)} \times F_{(111)} + \text{TOF}_{\text{EtCHO}/(100)} \times F_{(100)} + \text{TOF}_{\text{EtCHO}/\text{CE}} \times F_{\text{CE}}$$

where, $\text{TOF}_{\text{C}_2\text{H}_6}$ and $\text{TOF}_{\text{EtCHO}}$ are the total TOF values for those products, $\text{TOF}_{i/j}$ are the TOF values for the given molecule $i = \text{C}_2\text{H}_6, \text{EtCHO}$, on a given type of site $j = \text{Pd}(111), \text{Pd}(100), \text{Pd}$ corners/edges (CE), and F_j are the fractions of each type of site. Using the experimental data for the ten catalysts in Table 3 and assuming that TOF values on various types of sites are

independent of particle size, the values of TOF_{ij} were estimated by using least squares regression.

Figure 3 shows the estimated total TOF values for each product (lines) compared with the experimental data (points), along with the fitted values of TOF_{ij} . It is seen that the decarbonylation of PAc to produce C_2H_6 is favorable on both Pd(111) and Pd(100) faces but not on corners/edges. In addition, the production of EtCHO would appear to be favored on Pd(100) sites. While admittedly somewhat speculative, this analysis helps to rationalize the very small particle size effect over the range studied. The reaction takes place mainly on Pd(111) and Pd(100) sites, which increase by 75% over the range studied. In contrast, the almost 7-fold decrease in the fraction of corners/edges sites has a negligible effect on activity due to their inactivity for this reaction.

The analysis above uses the initial dispersion obtained by chemisorption to calculate TOF values and associated estimated particle sizes. However, as indicated by the STEM for Pd-6 (Figs. 1 and 2), some of the samples are likely to have experienced some sintering during the reaction. In this event, some data points in Figure 3 would be shifted to higher particle size, and larger TOF values. However, the estimated TOF values for surface sites arising from (111), (100), and kinks/edges would not be changed significantly, and general trends described above would still hold. In particular, the inactivity of the kink/edge sites is clear regardless of the assumptions made in the analysis.

As mentioned earlier, a previous particle size effect study involving deoxygenation of palmitic and stearic acid over 1 wt% Pd/C was conducted by Simakova et al.¹⁴ Their results suggested that as the Pd dispersion increased up to 65%, there was an increase in the TOF. However, for

72% disperse catalyst, there was a significant (~10-fold) decrease in the TOF, attributed to the extreme sintering that occurred in that sample based on post reaction characterization. The present results would seem to contradict these previous findings, since overall activity decreased with increasing dispersion and there was no significant sintering at the lowest dispersion. Further studies are required to determine if the origin of these differences is from the support (SiO₂ vs. C) or reaction environment (gas-phase vs. liquid-phase).

3.3 Particle Size Effect on Kinetics

The reaction kinetics for the Pd-10 (12.4nm) catalyst were explored using a power rate law equation, $TOF_i = A_i \exp\left(-\frac{Ea_i}{RT}\right) \left(\prod_{i=1}^n X_i^{\alpha_i}\right) P^{\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i}$, where A_i is the pre-exponential factor, Ea_i is the apparent activation energy, X_i are the mole fractions of species i , P is the total pressure in the reactor, α_i is the reaction order of species i , and TOF_i is the rate of production of species i in terms of turnover frequency. The reaction orders can be obtained from the slope of $\ln TOF$ vs. $\ln X_i$ of PAc and H₂ (i.e., X_{PAc} and X_{H_2} , respectively). Figure 4 shows that the reaction orders for the $TOF_{C_2H_6}$ on Pd-10 with respect to PAc and H₂ are approximately 0.5 and 0, respectively, over the concentration range examined. These reaction orders are consistent with our previous study⁴¹ of the Pd-2 (2 nm) catalyst, which produces essentially only C₂H₆ as a product (cf. Table 3). In addition, the results are in harmony with the computational studies of Heyden⁴⁹ for the decarbonylation (DCN) of PAc on Pd(111) model surfaces. Their findings indicated that a α -carbon dehydrogenation followed by dehydroxylation to produce CH₃CHCO is required to promote C-CO bond scission to yield CO and C₂ hydrocarbons. The extent and removal of the hydrocarbon pool (CH₃CH_x) at the surface, explains why the reaction order with respect to PAc

is less than one. Based on these results, it is concluded that the rate-determining step for the DCN reaction is essentially the same for all the particle sizes studied.

In contrast, the $\text{TOF}_{\text{EtCHO}}$ exhibits reaction rate orders for PAc and H_2 of approximately 1.0 and 0.3, respectively, over the range of concentrations examined. The reason for the different reaction rate orders (with respect to PAc and H_2) for the two products formed can be explained by the two reaction pathways PAc undergoes. For the formation of C2's hydrocarbons, the preferred reaction pathway is DCN (CO and C2's), whereas for the formation of EtCHO the preferred reaction pathway is hydrogenation (without carbon loss). In the latter pathway, a Langmuir Hinshelwood-type adsorption sequence is assumed with PAc and H_2 adsorbing dissociatively mainly on Pd(100) sites and combining to form propionyl and/or acetal intermediates. The subsequent hydrogenation of propionyl and/or acetal species leads to the formation of EtCHO. Therefore, the hydrogenation to produce EtCHO would be expected to have a 1st order dependence with respect to PAc.

With respect to the concentration of H_2 , a reaction order of 0.3 depends on what reaction pathway is favorable. The addition of hydrogen to form an acetal intermediate results in a reaction rate order of ~ 0.5 , due to the assumption of equilibrated hydrogen adsorption on the surface. Alternatively, the $-\text{OH}$ bond scission to form propionyl would result in an H_2 reaction rate order of ~ 0 will be expected. Both of these intermediates further react to form the EtCHO product. Thus, if both pathways occur to some extent, the rate order with respect to hydrogen would be expected to be between 0-0.5, consistent with the experimental observation. We are currently exploring the reaction pathways over Pd(110) using computational studies to further

probe the mechanism. It should be noted that the propionyl species can also undergo decarbonylation to produce the C₂ species that are responsible for the formation of ethane.

The Arrhenius plot for the TOF of Pd-10 (12.4nm) is shown in Figure 5. An apparent activation energy value of 11.7 ± 0.3 is found for C₂H₆/EtCHO production, which is same as observed in our previous detailed study of Pd-2 (2 nm).⁴¹ This again suggests a similar rate determining step for C₂H₆ and EtCHO production occurring on the Pd(111) and Pd(100) sites present in these catalysts.

4. Conclusion

The present findings shed new light on the influence of metal particle size on the HDO of aliphatic carboxylic acids. Activity and selectivity trends for a family of Pd/SiO₂ catalysts at 200°C revealed that PAc decarbonylation was the favored pathway over the entire particle size range studied (1.9-12.4 nm). While the reaction appears to be not strongly structure sensitive, some instructive trends in catalytic performance were observed. Smaller particles are less active but highly selective toward the formation of C₂H₆, whereas larger particles are more active but shift the selectivity partly toward EtCHO. These differences are attributed primarily to the differing composition of Pd crystal facets exposed in these catalysts, and suggest a means of tuning the selectivity through controlling particle size and shape. Current HDO studies in our laboratory are focusing on exploring such particle size effects for other transition metals, as well as the use of bimetallic catalysts to enhance activity and stability.

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Figures and Tables

Table 1. SiO₂ thermal treatment conditions and resulting surface areas for synthesized catalysts.

Support SA (m²/g)	Support Heat Treatment Cond.	Catalyst Id.	Pd loading (wt%)
330	Not heat treated	Pd-1	2.0
330		Pd-2	4.0
330		Pd-3	2.6
309	350°C, 2hrs, helium	Pd-4	2.0
190	800°C, 24hrs, calcined	Pd-5	1.4
130		Pd-6	1.9
285	500°C, 2hrs, hydrogen	Pd-7	3.5
285		Pd-8	3.5
190	800°C, 24hrs, calcined	Pd-9	2.9
309	350°C, 2hrs, helium	Pd-10	3.3

Table 2. Physical properties of Pd/SiO₂ catalysts.

Catalyst Id.	Pd loading (wt%)	Pre-treatment cond. ^b 20% H ₂ /bal. He	Disp. ^a (%)	d _{Pd} ^a (nm) O ₂ -H ₂ titr.	d _{Pd} (nm) TEM (after) ^c
Pd-1	2.0		58.6	1.9	
Pd-2	4.0		55.7	2.0	2.7(2.8)
Pd-3	2.6	150°C, 2.5°C/min, 2hrs	53.7	2.1	
Pd-4	2.0		43.1	2.6	
Pd-5	1.4		36.4	3.1	
Pd-6	1.9		29.4	3.8	5.1(8.0)
Pd-7	3.5		18.1	6.2	
Pd-8	3.5	400°C, 10°C/min, 2hrs	14.3	7.9	
Pd-9	2.9	150°C, 2.5°C/min, 2hrs	11.6	9.7	
Pd-10	3.3	350°C, 2.5°C/min, 2hrs	9.0	12.4	12.1(13.4)

^a Determined by chemisorption, O₂-H₂ titration. ^b Catalysts were reduced *in-situ* at 350°C, for 2 hours at 5°C/min, unless otherwise noted. ^c TEM results in parenthesis indicate the particle size obtained after the reaction.

Table 3. Kinetic data^a for HDO of PAc over Pd/SiO₂ catalysts.

Cat. Id.	d_{pd} (nm)	Overall TOF (min⁻¹)	EtCHO Select.	C₂H₆ Select.	EtCHO TOF (min⁻¹)	C₂H₆ TOF (min⁻¹)	Face (111)^b (%)	Face (100)^b (%)
Pd-1	1.9	0.51	0.08	0.92	0.05	0.46	47	6
Pd-2	2.0	0.38	0.05	0.95	0.05	0.34	49	6
Pd-3	2.1	0.56	0.09	0.91	0.05	0.51	50	7
Pd-4	2.6	0.67	0.06	0.94	0.10	0.57	56	9
Pd-5	3.1	0.89	0.04	0.96	0.04	0.85	60	11
Pd-6	3.8	0.92	0.16	0.85	0.11	0.81	64	12
Pd-7	6.2	0.95	0.09	0.91	0.08	0.87	70	15
Pd-8	7.9	0.84	0.17	0.83	0.13	0.71	72	16
Pd-9	9.7	0.87	0.16	0.84	0.13	0.74	74	17
Pd-10	12.4	0.95	0.24	0.76	0.22	0.73	75	18

^a Conditions: T = 200 °C; P = 1 atm; ~1.0 % PAc, 20% H₂ balanced with He; catalyst mass = 200 mg; total flow rate = 200 sccm. ^b Van Hardeveld and Hartog⁴⁷ statistics on Pd(111) and Pd(100) fraction for the Pd, f.c.c Cubo-Octahedron-corners truncated at (100).

Scheme and Figure Captions

Scheme 1. Reaction pathway for the decarbonylation(DCN)/hydrogenation of PAc over Pd/SiO₂

Figure 1. TEM images for Pd-2 before (A) and after (B) reaction, Pd-6 before (C) and after (D) reaction, and Pd-10 before (E) and after (F) reaction.

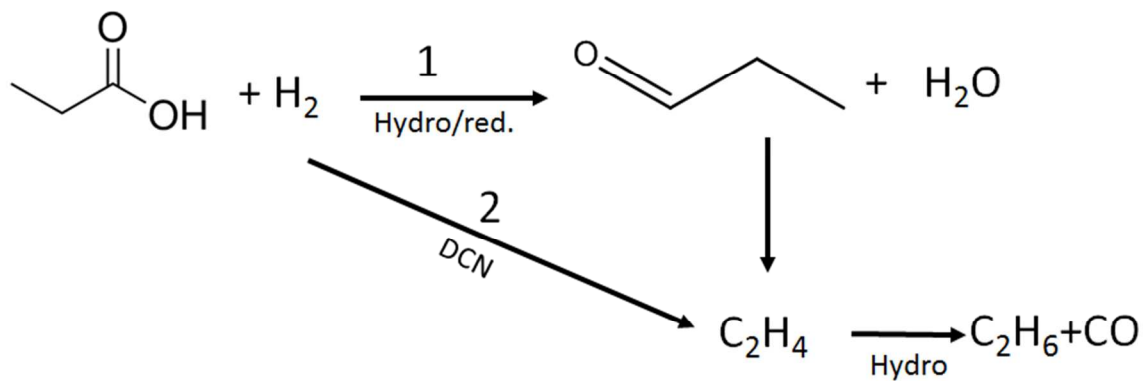
Figure 2. Histograms showing the particle size distributions of Pd-2 before (A) and after (B) reaction, Pd-6 before (C) and after (D) reaction, and Pd-10 before (E) and after (F) reaction. N = Number of particles measured; D_{VSMD} = volume-surface mean diameter; Stdev = standard deviation.

Figure 3. TOF_{C₂H₆} (squares) and TOF_{EtCHO} (diamonds) as a function of particle size for the series of Pd/SiO₂ catalysts for the HDO of PAc. Reactor conditions: T = 200 °C; P = 1 atm; ~1.0 % PAc, 20% H₂ balanced with He; catalyst mass = 200 mg; total flow rate = 200 sccm. The solid lines are the least squares fits of the data. See text for details.

Figure 4. Power rate law dependencies of TOF_{C₂H₆} (squares) and TOF_{EtCHO} (diamonds) on PAc (filled symbols) and H₂ (open symbols) over Pd-2 (red symbols, bottom plot) and Pd-10 (black symbols, top plot). Reactor conditions: T = 200 °C; P = 1 atm; PAc, 20% H₂ balanced with He; catalyst mass = 200 mg; total flow rate = 200 sccm. For hydrogen kinetics, H₂, ~ 1.0% PAc, balanced with He.

Figure 5. Arrhenius plot of overall TOF over Pd-10. Reactor conditions: P = 1 atm; ~1.0 % PAc, 20% H₂ balanced with He; catalyst mass = 200 mg; total flow rate = 200 sccm

Scheme and Figures



Scheme 1. Reaction pathway for the decarbonylation(DCN)/hydrogenation of PAc over Pd/SiO₂

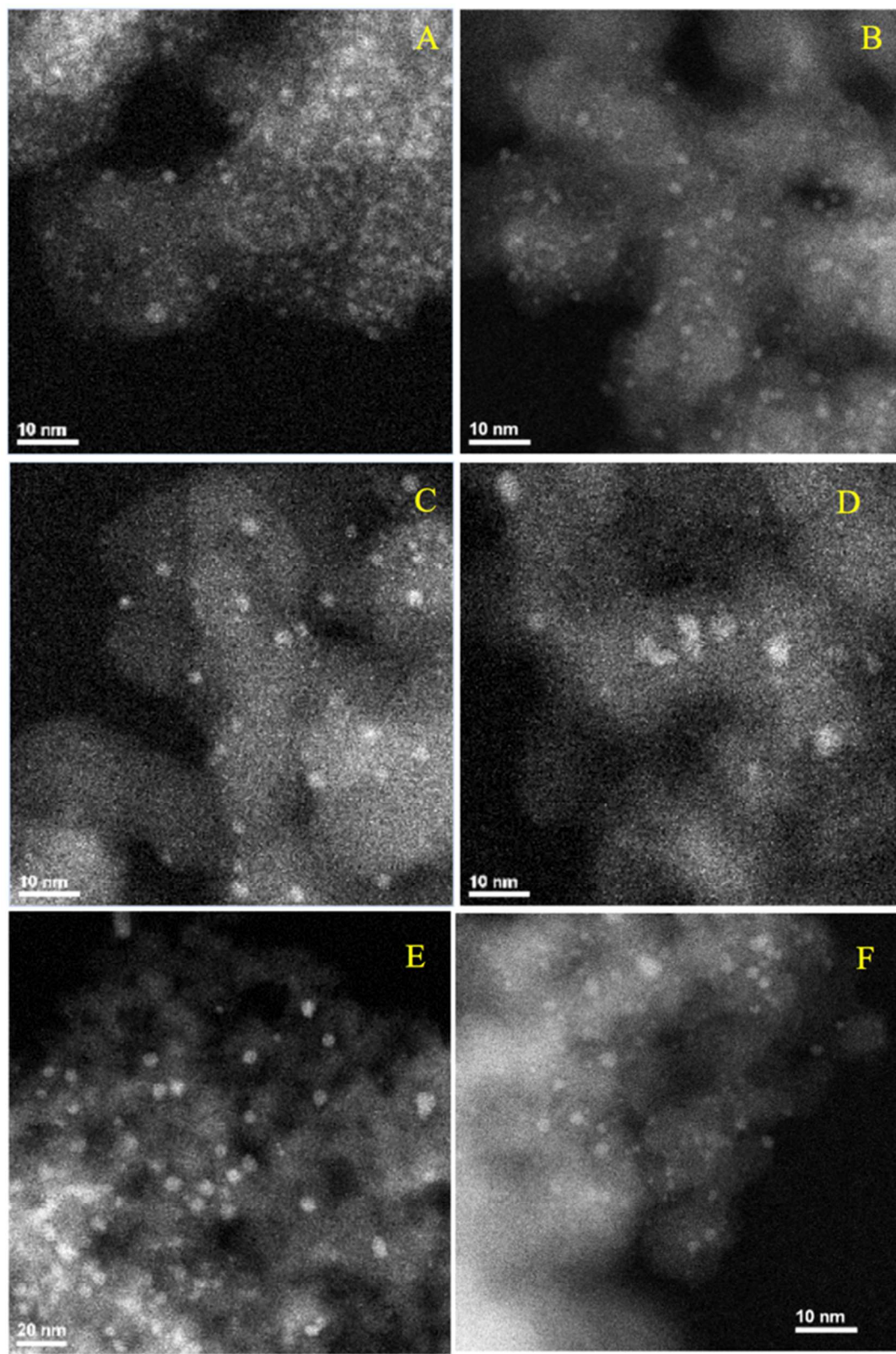


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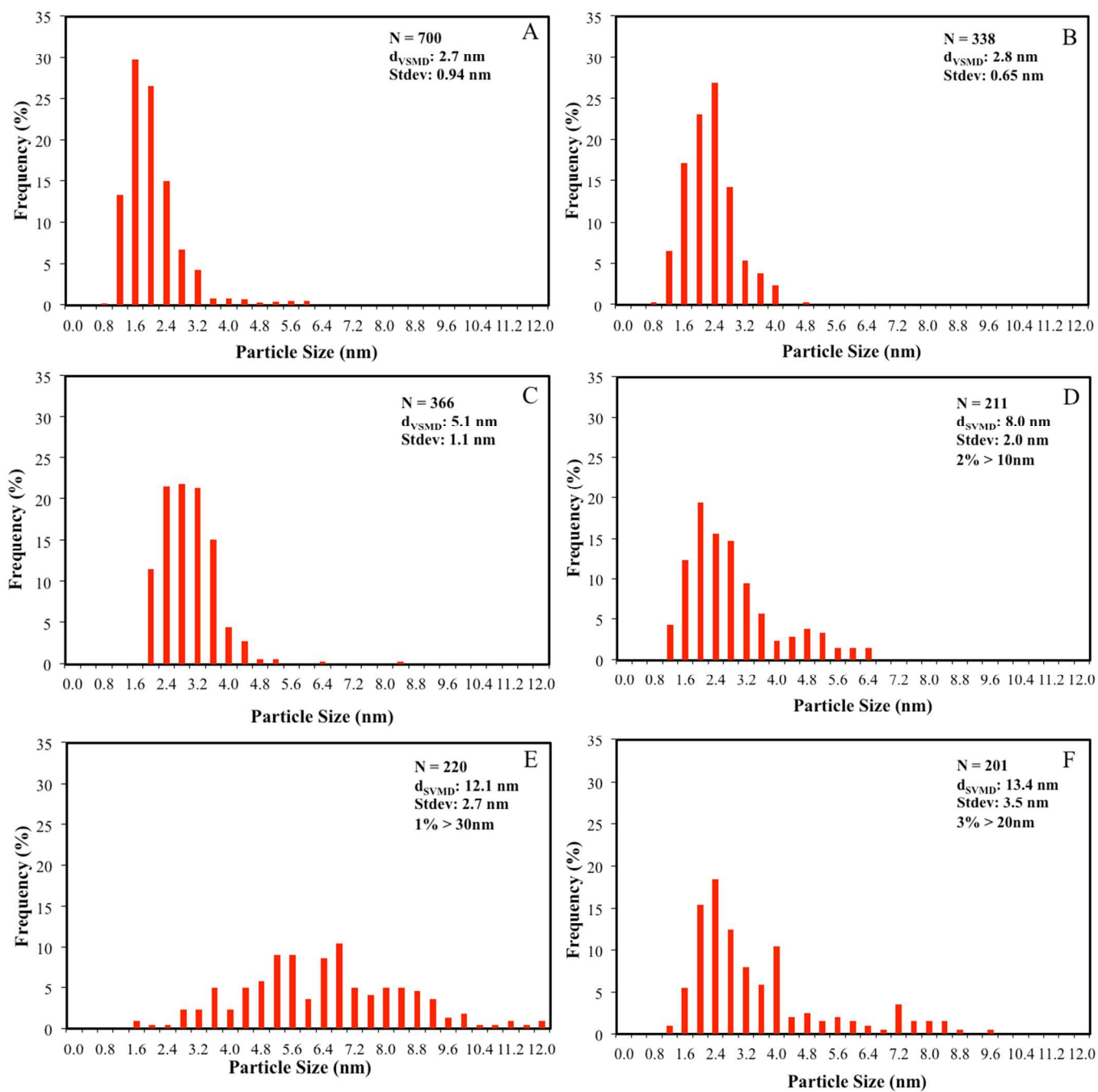


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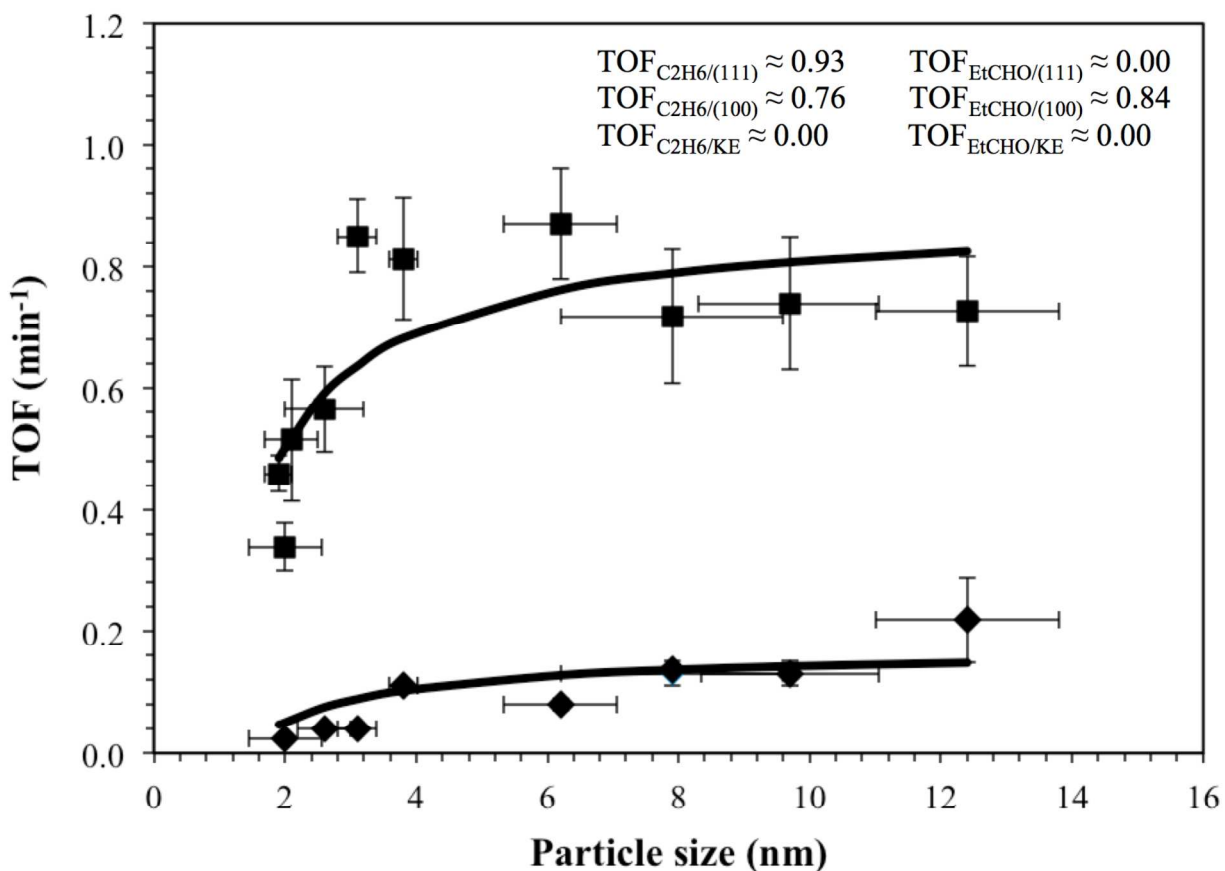


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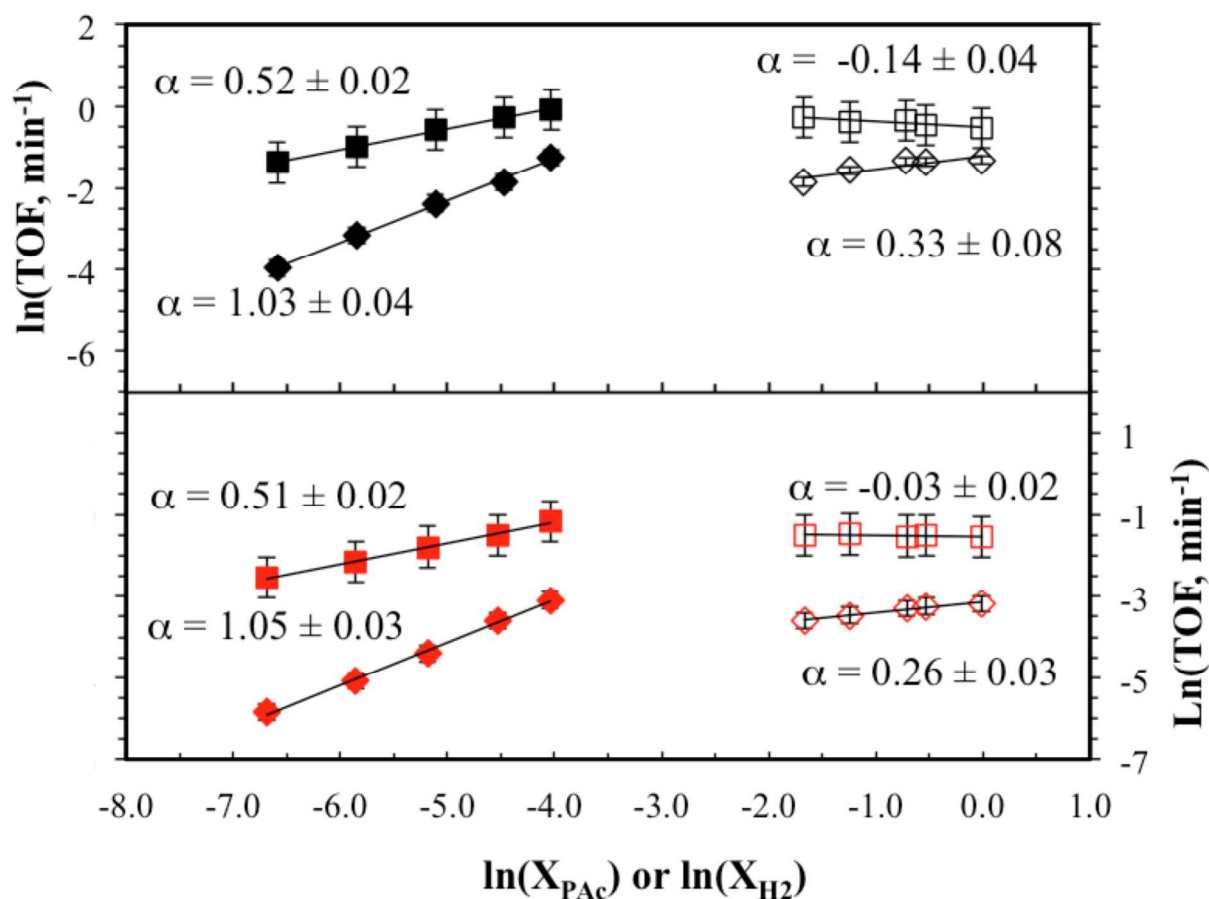


Figure 4. Power rate law dependencies of $\text{TOF}_{\text{C}_2\text{H}_6}$ (squares) and $\text{TOF}_{\text{EtCHO}}$ (diamonds) on PAc (filled symbols) and H_2 (open symbols) over Pd-2 (red symbols, bottom plot) and Pd-10 (black symbols, top plot). Reactor conditions: $T = 200\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$; $P = 1\text{ atm}$; PAc, 20% H_2 balanced with He; catalyst mass = 200 mg; total flow rate = 200 sccm. For hydrogen kinetics, H_2 , ~ 1.0% PAc, balanced with He.

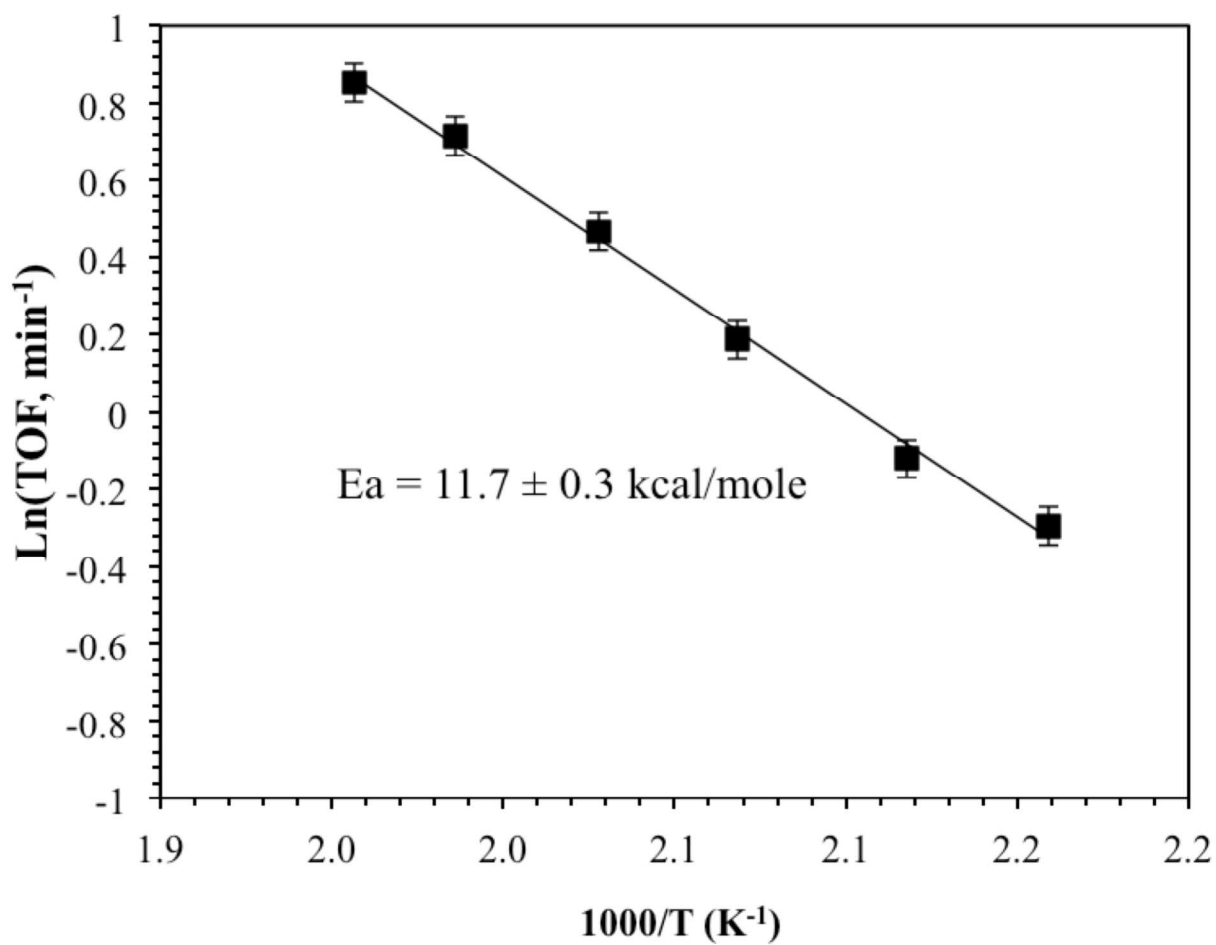


Figure 5. Arrhenius plot of overall TOF over Pd-10. Reactor conditions: $P = 1 \text{ atm}$; $\sim 1.0 \%$ PAc, $20\% \text{ H}_2$ balanced with He; catalyst mass = 200 mg ; total flow rate = 200 sccm