

**Propylene production from 1-butene  
and ethylene catalytic cracking:  
Study of the performance of HZSM-5  
zeolites and silicoaluminophosphates  
SAPO-34 and SAPO-18**

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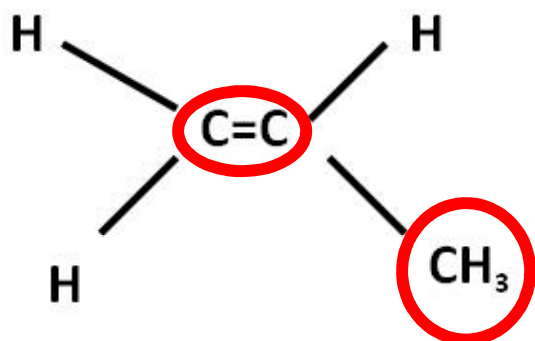


# Propylene production from 1-butene and ethylene catalytic cracking: Study of the performance of HZSM-5 zeolites and SAPOs

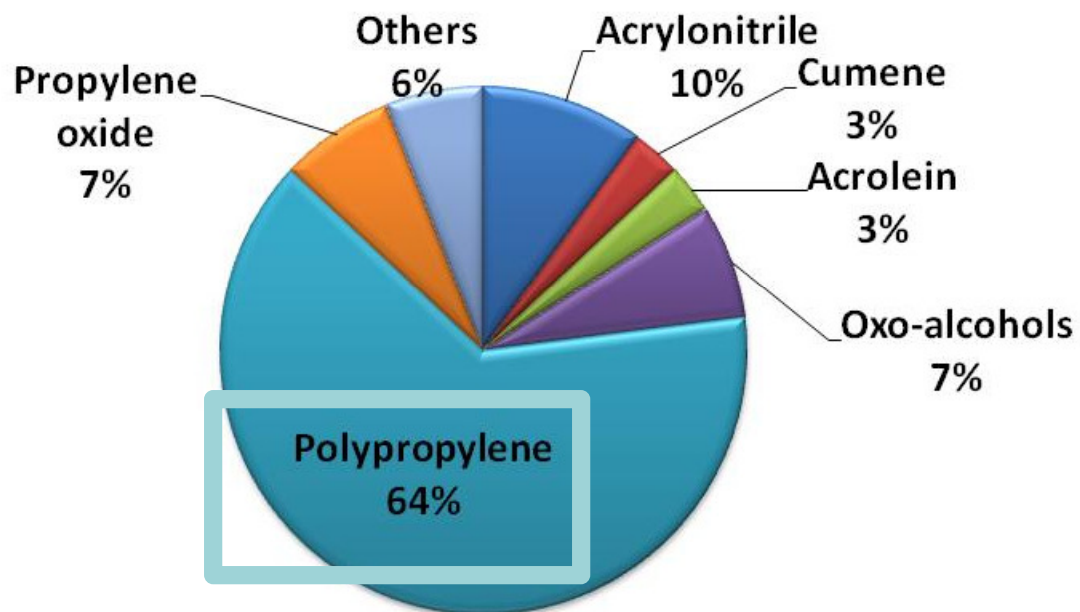


INTRODUCTION

❖ **Propylene:** key building block for the production of important petrochemicals



- ✓ C-C double bond
- ✓ Adjacent methyl group



J.S. Plotkin, *Catalysis Today*, 106 (2005) 10–14

❖ Propylene **worldwide demand** has been increasing at an annual average of 5.7% and by year 2015, demand will grow to 105 million tonnes

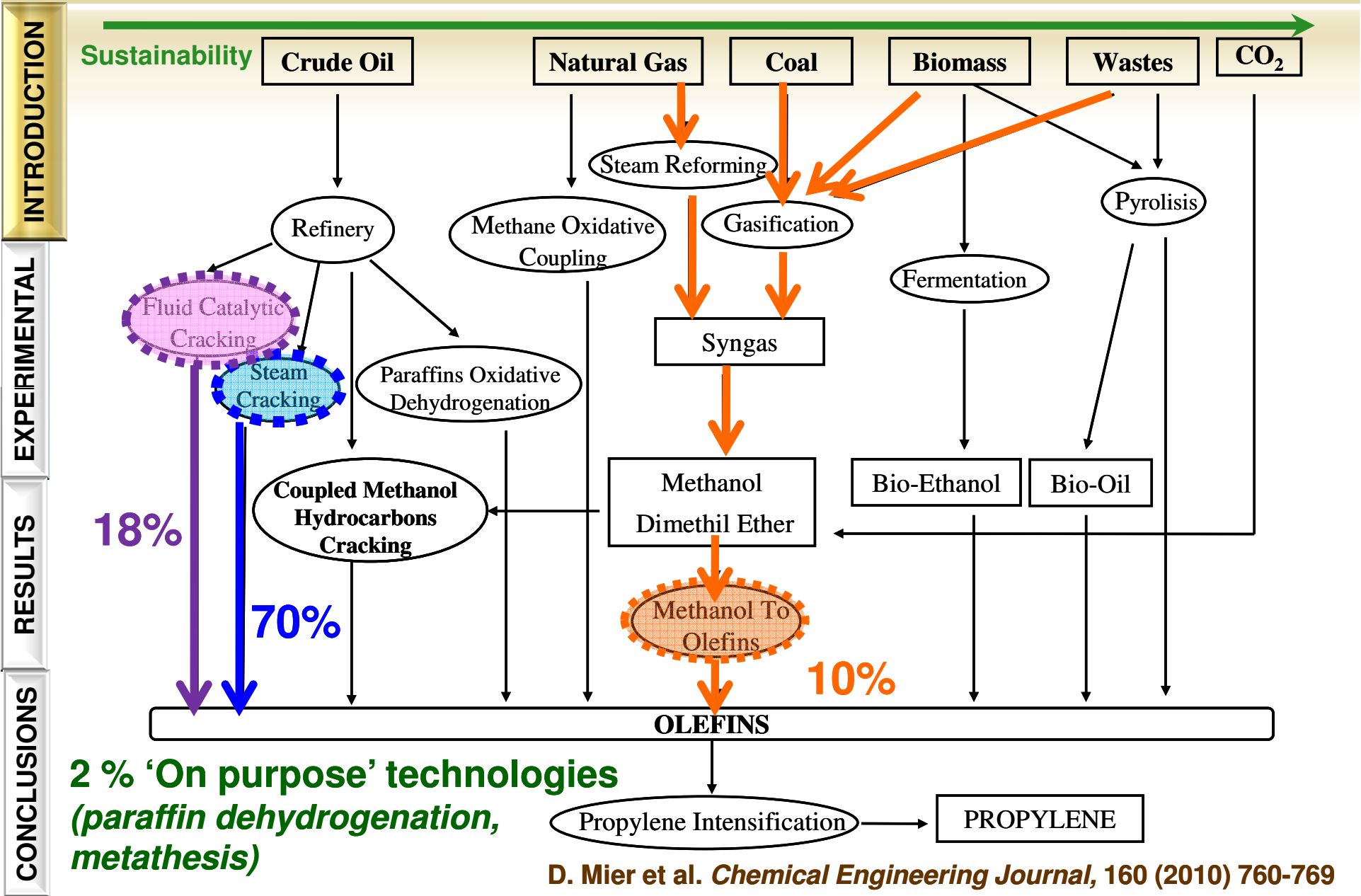
T. Mokrani and M. Scurrall, *Catalysis Reviews*, 51 (2009), 1

EXPERIMENTAL

RESULTS

CONCLUSIONS

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INTRODUCTION



## Catalytic Processes and Waste Valorization

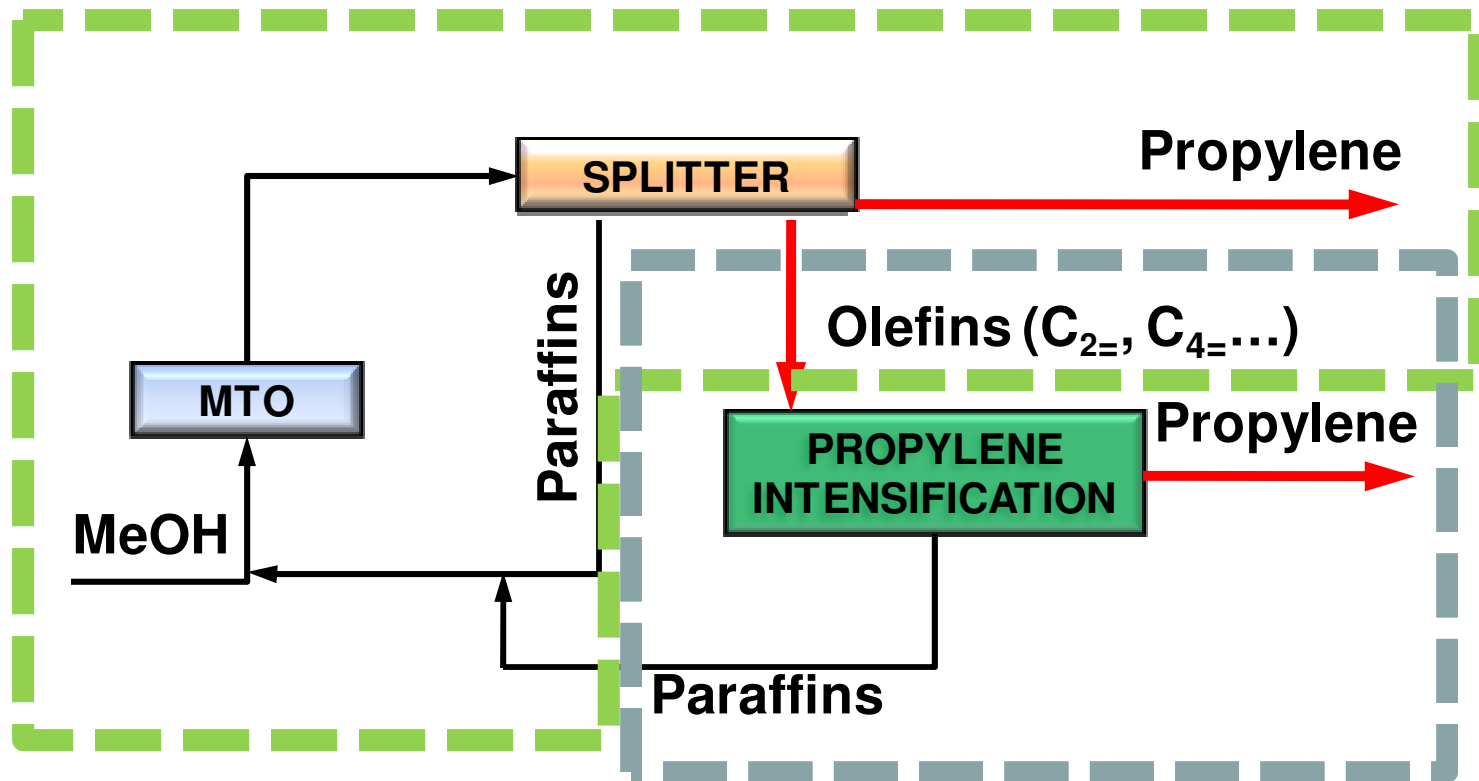


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EXPERIMENTAL

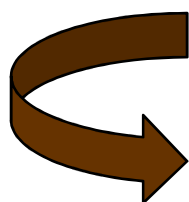
RESULTS

CONCLUSIONS



## $C_2-C_4$ olefin interconversion

- ✓ Acid catalysts → Mechanism of oligomerization-cracking
- ✓ Shape selectivity of the catalysts significant role in propylene yield and selectivity



## New catalyst development for $C_2-C_4$ olefin catalytic cracking

- ✓ Modification of HZSM-5
  - ✓ by metal incorporation (P, P-La, Ni, K...)
  - ✓ by dealumination methods (NaOH, steaming...)
- ✓ Silicoaluminophosphates (SAPO-34, SAPO-18)

**Aim of this work:** Study the role of the properties of the catalyst (acidity and shape selectivity) in the intensification fo propylene

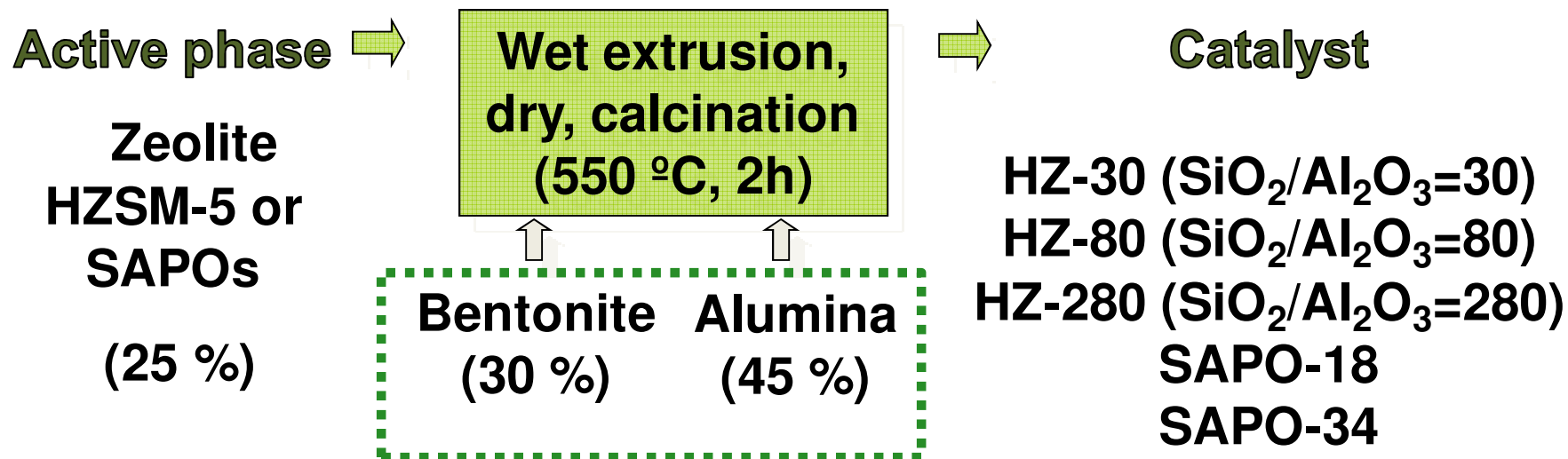
production from 1-butene and ethylene transformation

X. Zhu, S. Liu, Y. Song, L. Xu, *Catal. Lett.*, 103 (2005) 201-210

G. Zhao, J. Teng, Z. Xie, W. Jih, W. Jang, Q. Chen, Y. Tang, *J. Catal.*, 248 (2007) 29-37

A.T. Aguayo, *Conversion-propylene yield, selectivity, stability*, J. Bilbao, *Int. Eng. Chem. Res.*, 49 (2010)

## Catalyst preparation



- ✓ Confer suitable size and mechanical resistance to the catalytic particles in fixed and fluidized bed reactors
- ✓ A matrix with meso- and macroporous structure is formed
  - reducing deactivation by coke
  - increasing hydrothermal stability

# Propylene production from 1-butene and ethylene catalytic cracking: Study of the performance of HZSM-5 zeolites and SAPOs



INTRODUCTION

## Catalyst characterization

### N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption (77 K)

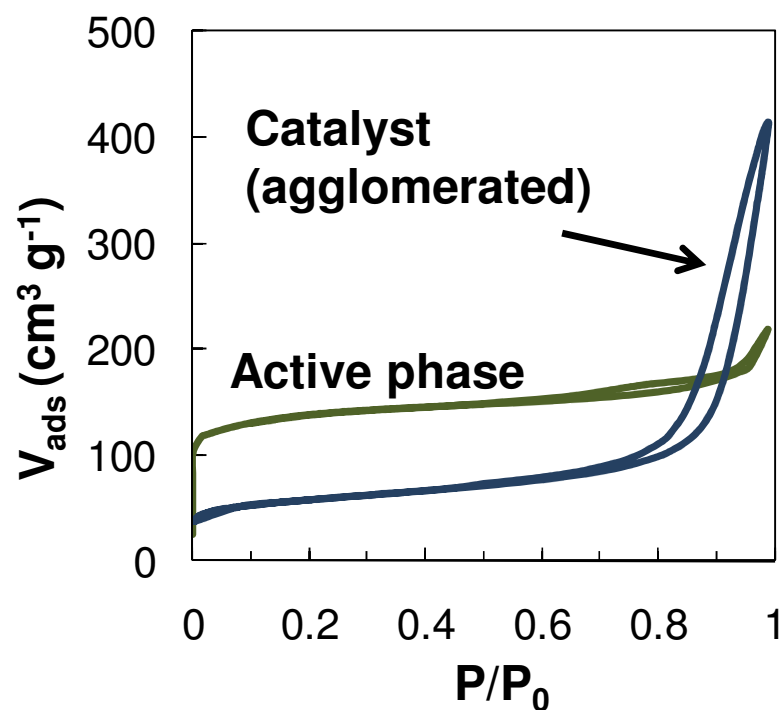
EXPERIMENTAL

Active phase	S <sub>BET</sub> (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	V <sub>mesopore</sub> (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)	V <sub>micropore</sub> (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)
HZ-30	448	0.15	0.12
HZ-80	556	0.11	0.10
HZ-280	512	0.10	0.16
SAPO-18	797	0.08	0.28
SAPO-34	611	0.06	0.24

RESULTS

Catalyst	S <sub>BET</sub> (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	V <sub>mesopore</sub> (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)	V <sub>micropore</sub> (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)
HZ-30	202	0.53	0.042
HZ-80	209	0.48	0.036
HZ-280	231	0.38	0.048
SAPO-18	236	0.23	0.072
SAPO-34	215	0.20	0.046

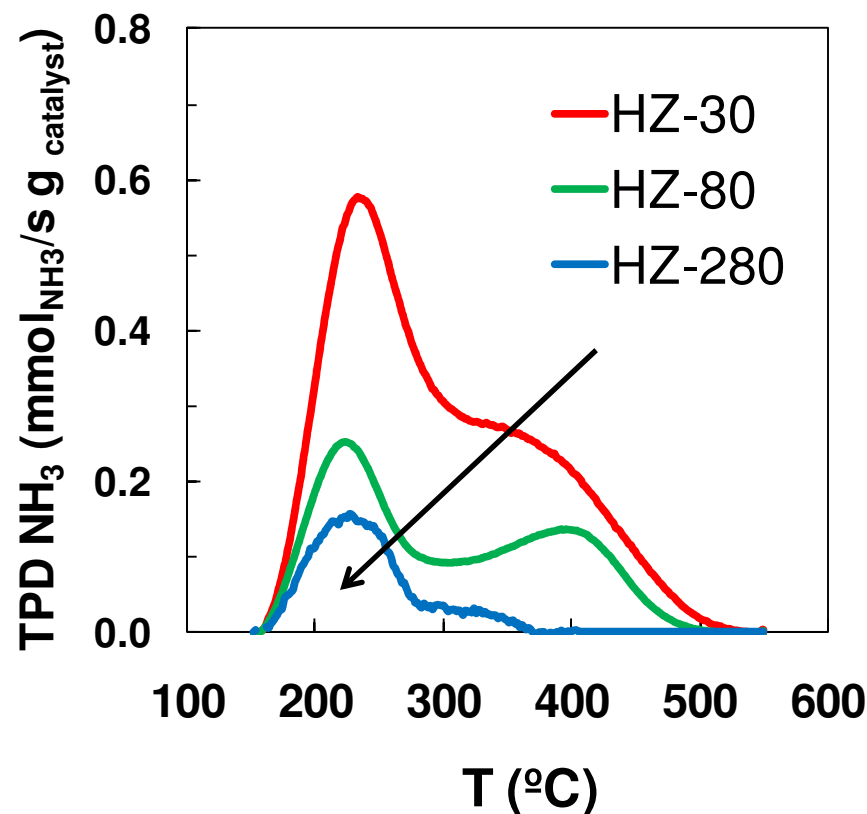
CONCLUSIONS



## Catalyst characterization

DSC (150 °C)-  
TPD of NH<sub>3</sub> (up to 550 °C)

Active phase	Total acidity (mmol NH <sub>3</sub> g <sup>-1</sup> )	T peak(°C) in the TPD	
		1st peak	2nd peak
HZ-30	1.07	230	340
HZ-80	0.46	210	395
HZ-280	0.15	227	325
SAPO-18	0.37	243	335
SAPO-34	0.64	258	348



These acid properties remain after agglomeration



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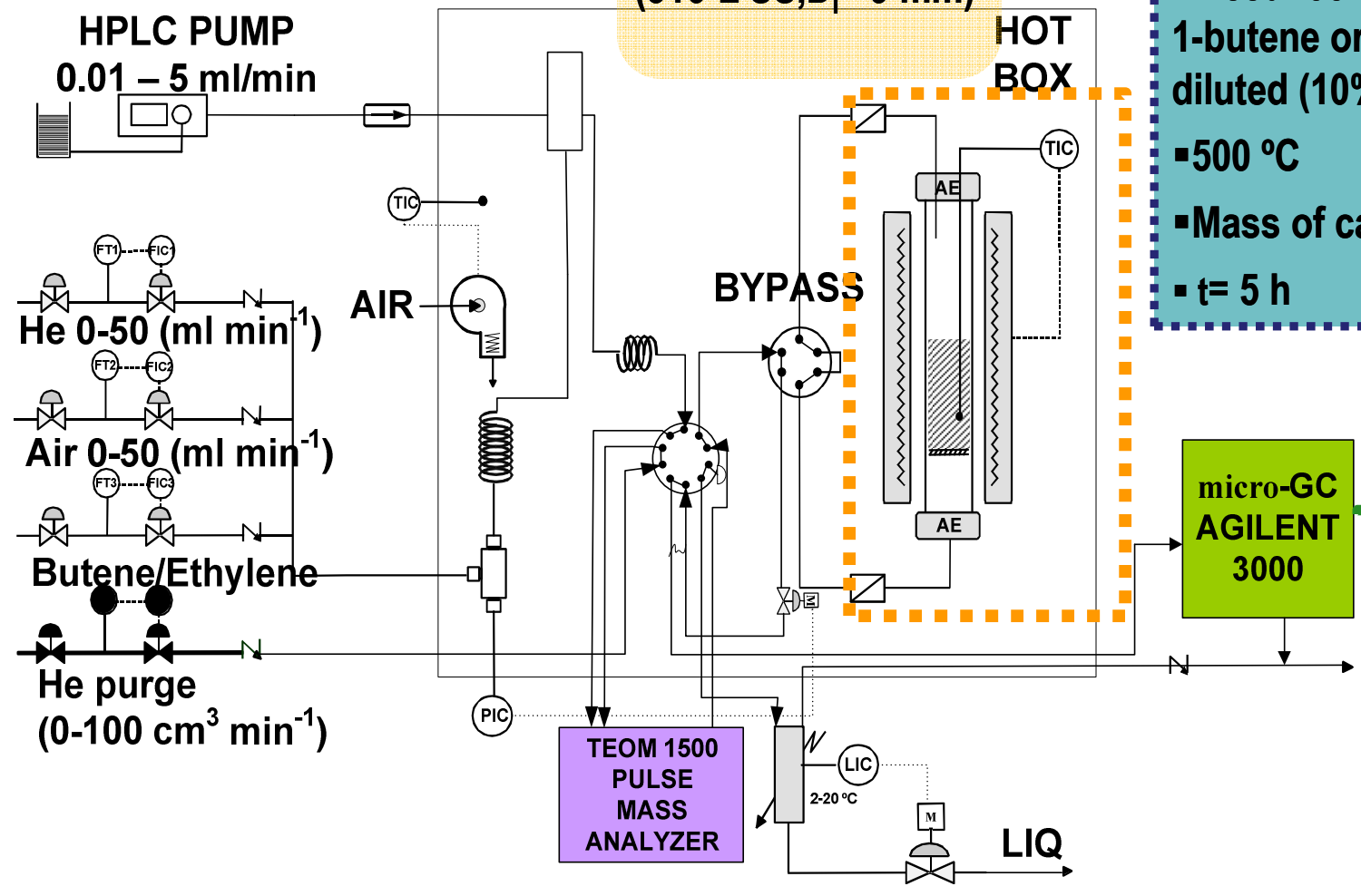


INTRODUCTION  
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## Reactor setup

Fixed bed reactor  
Microactivity  
(316-L SS,  $D_i = 9$  mm)

- Feed:  $35 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ min}^{-1}$  of 1-butene or ethylene diluted (10%) in He
- $500 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$
- Mass of catalyst: 0.55 g
- $t = 5 \text{ h}$



- MS5A
- PPQ
- Alumina
- OV1

## Evaluation criteria used for catalytic performance

Conversion (X):

$$X = \frac{F_0 - F}{F_0}$$

Yield of i lump:

$$Y_i = \frac{F_i}{F_0}$$

Selectivity of i lump:

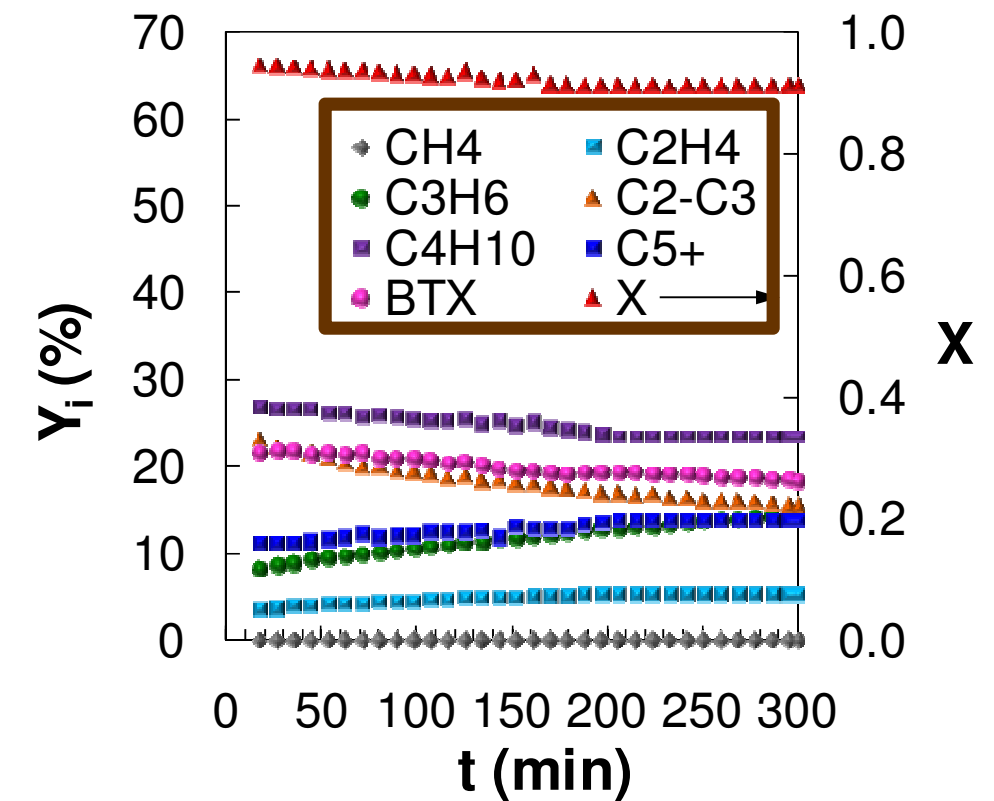
$$S_i = \frac{F_i}{F_0 - F}$$

Molar flowrates:

$F_0$  = reactant in the feed

$F$  = reactant in the outlet stream

$F_i$  = i-lump in the product stream



**HZ-30 catalyst**

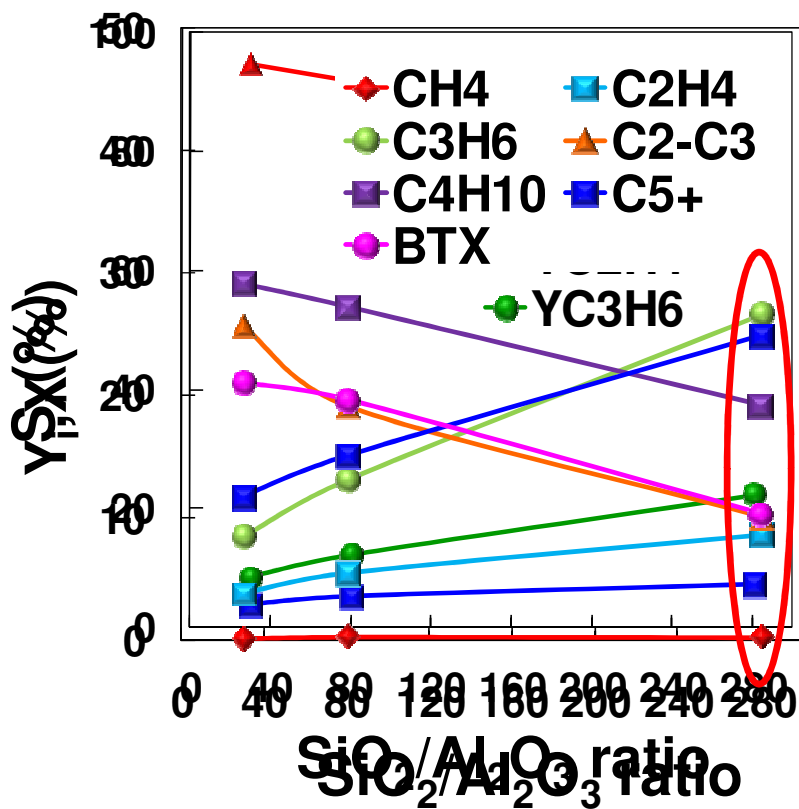
**500 ° C,  $W/F_{A0} = 24.5 \text{ g catalyst h (mol CH}_2\text{)}^{-1}$**

Terms expressed as  $\text{CH}_2$  equivalent units, corresponding to zero time on stream

## Transformation of 1-butene

**HZ-280**

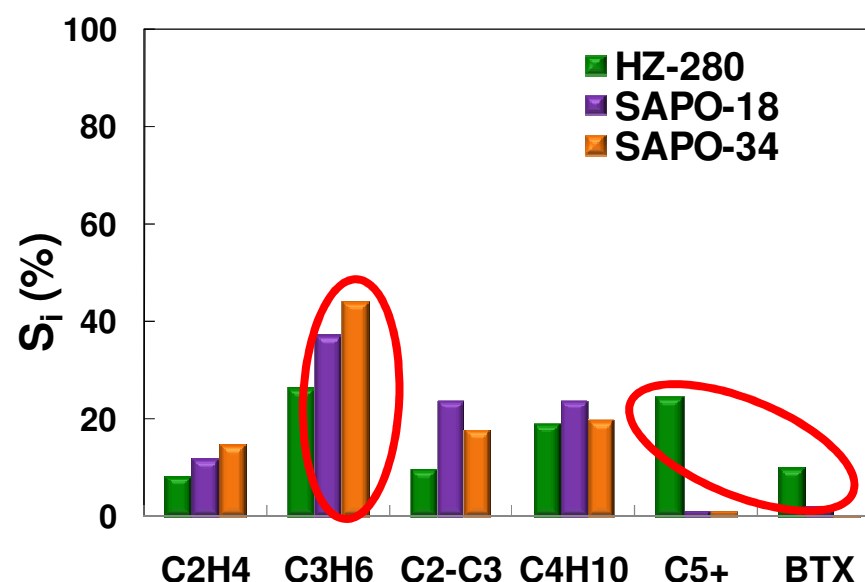
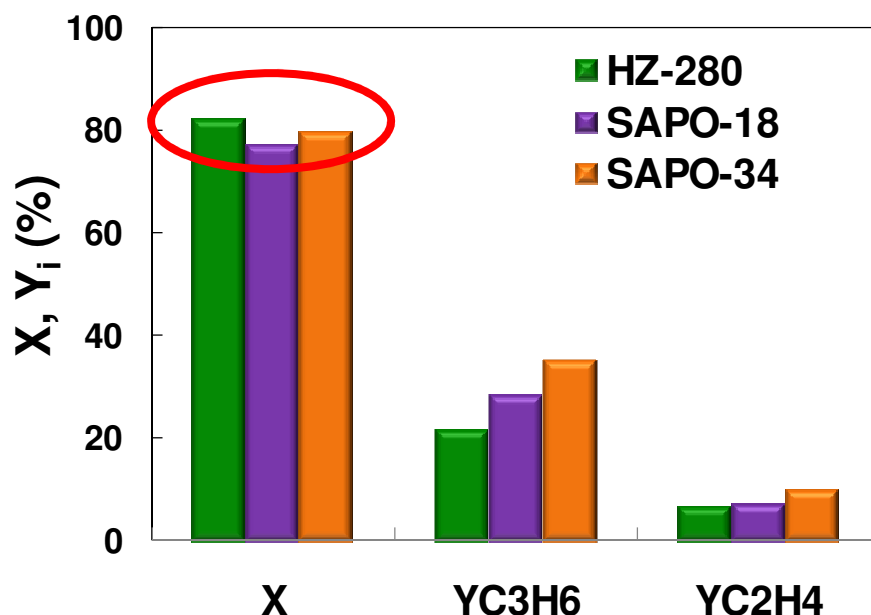
Effect of  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  in HZM-5 zeolites



- $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  ratio ↑
- ✓ Butene conversion ↓
- ✓  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  and  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_6$  yield ↑
- ✓  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ ,  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_6$  and  $\text{C}_5^+$  selectivities ↑
- ✓ Hydrogen transfer reactions (catalyzed by strong acid sites) ↓
- ✓  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_4$  and BTX selectivities ↓

## Transformation of 1-butene

### Shape selectivity catalysts

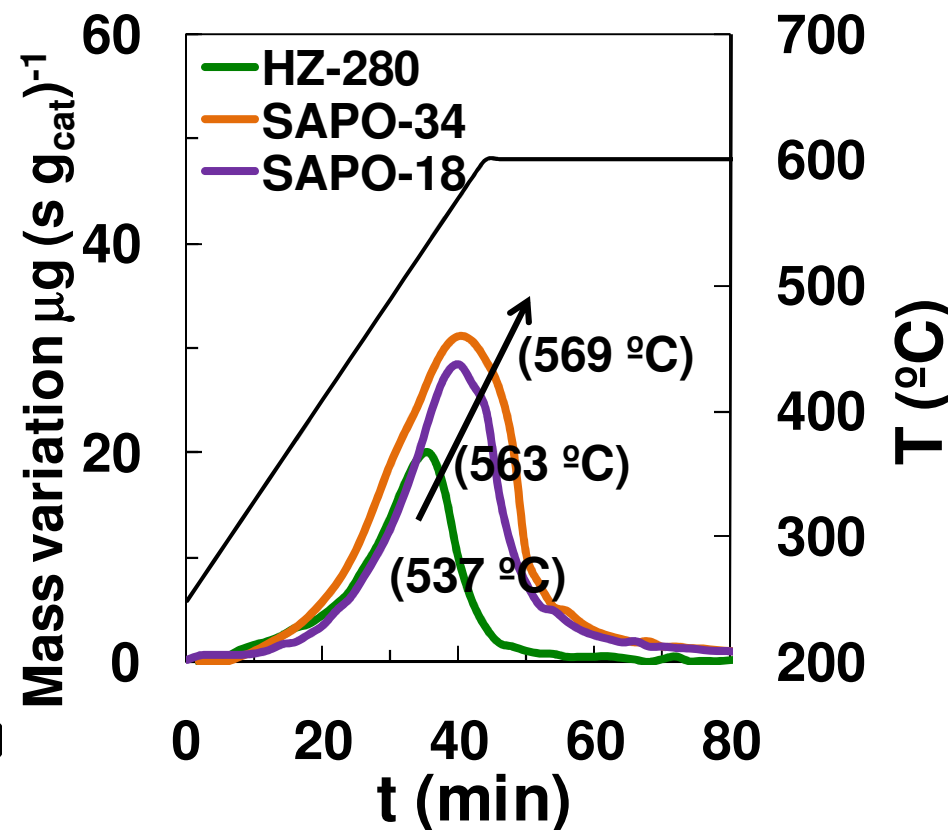
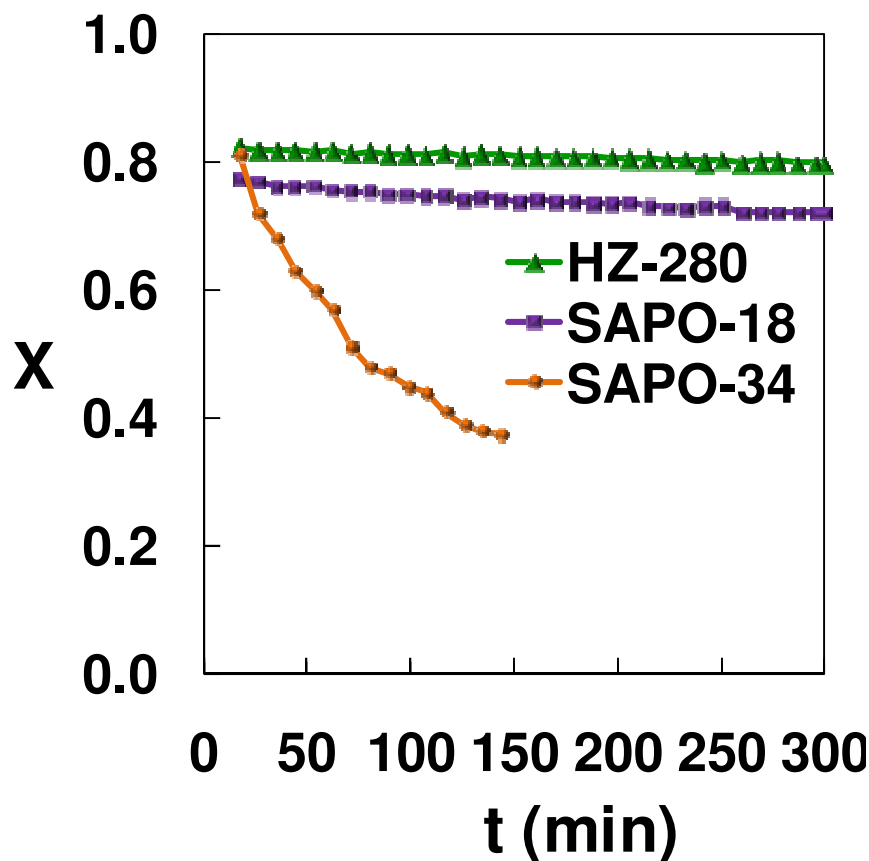


- ✓ Severity of shape selectivity is higher for SAPOs (steric limitations) →  $SC_3H_6$  ↑
- ✓ SAPO-34 is more active than SAPO-18 → HIGHER TOTAL ACIDITY AND ACID STRENGTH OF SAPO-34

## Transformation of 1-butene

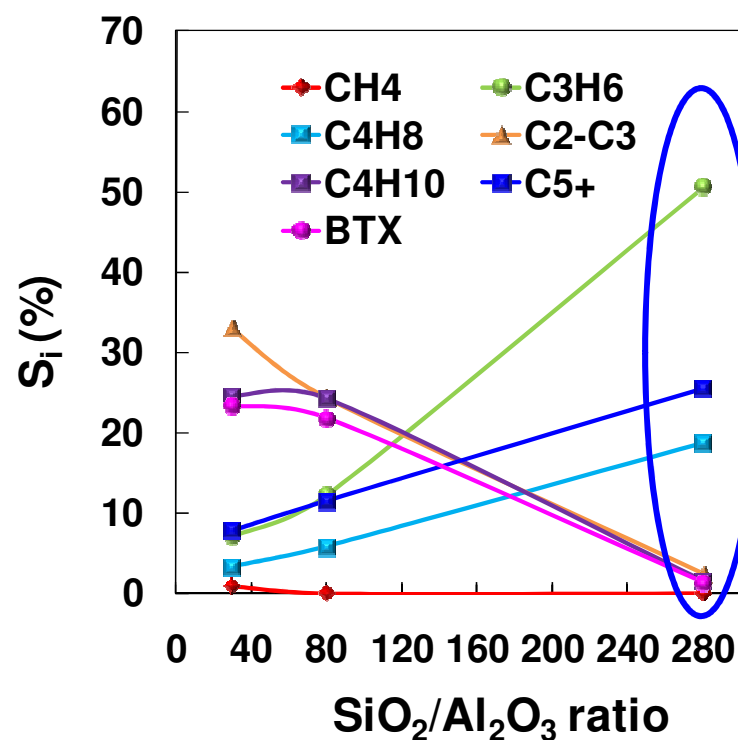
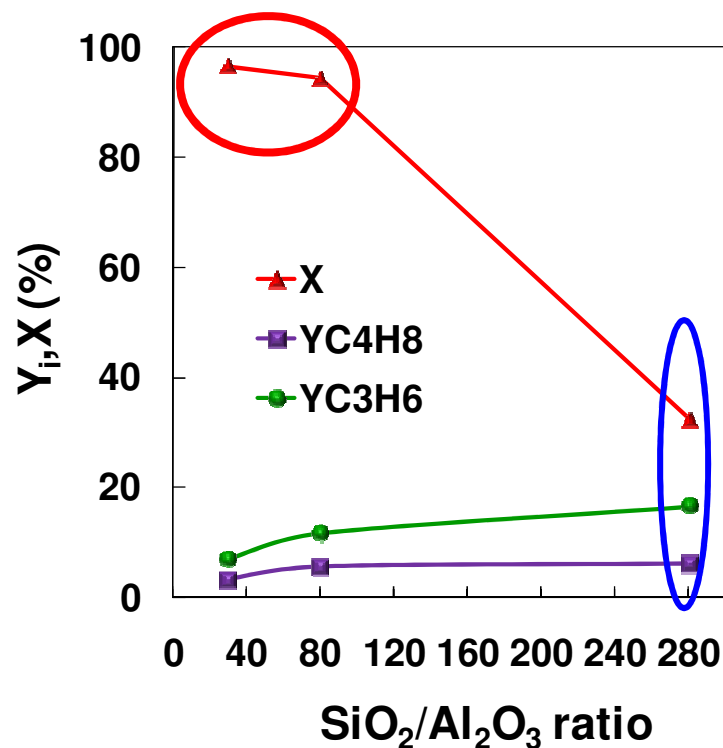
### Deactivation by coke

SAPO-34 (4.7 wt%) > SAPO-18 (3.3 wt%) > HZ-280 (2.7 wt%)



## Transformation of ethylene

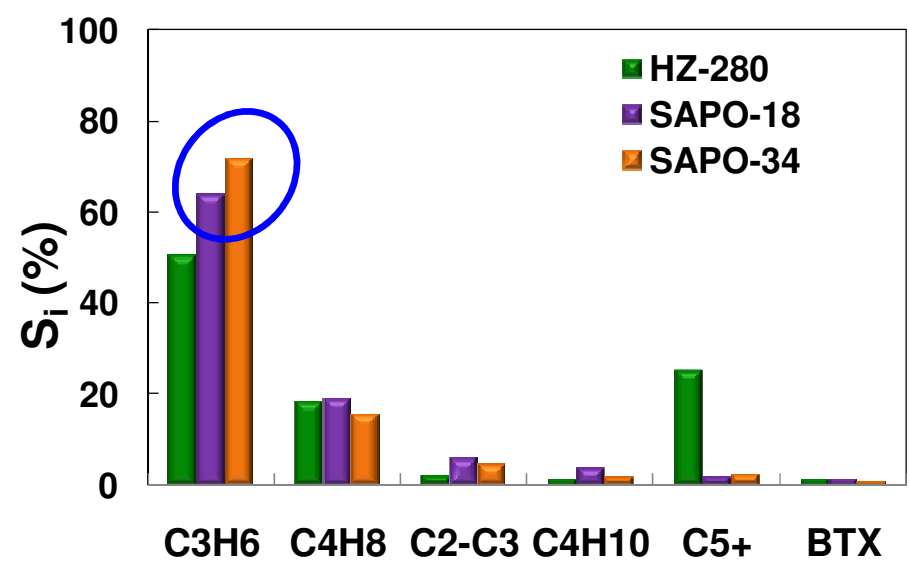
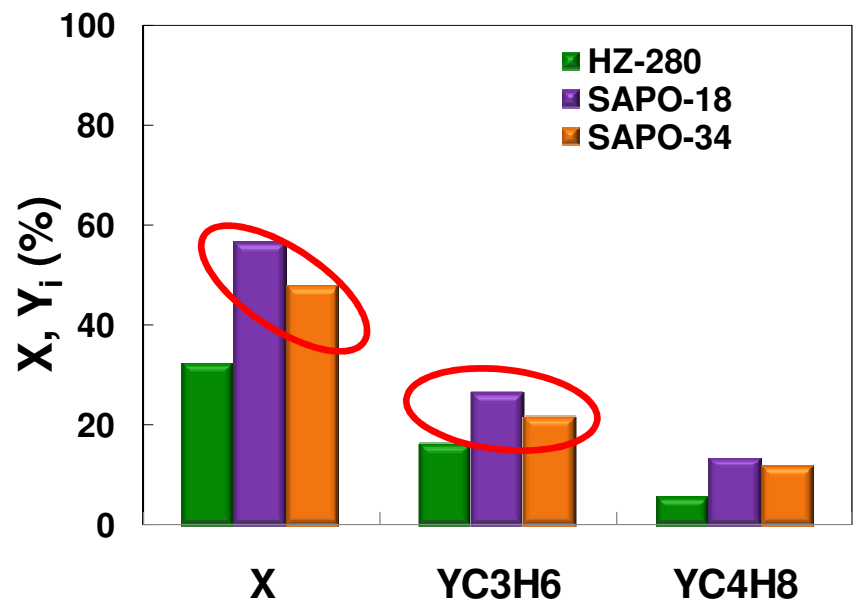
### Effect of $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ in HZM-5 zeolites



- ✓ Ethylene conversion requires low values of  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  ratio
- ✓ HZ-280  $\rightarrow$  SC<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, YC<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub> ↑

## Transformation of ethylene

### Shape selectivity catalysts



- ✓ SAPO-34 and SAPO-18 suitable for the selective production of propylene
- ✓ Steric restriction
- ✓ Deactivation

**SAPO-18 suitable for the selective production of propylene**

## **CONCLUSIONS**

- ✓ The moderation of total acidity and acid strength is an appropriate way to modify HZSM-5 zeolites in order to enhance propylene production
- ✓ SAPO-18 shows higher propylene selectivities using both feeds, although the deactivation by coke is slightly faster than for HZ-280 catalyst
- ✓ The use of SAPO-34 is conditioned by the fast deactivation by coke
- ✓ Operating conditions may have a great influence; the study should be extended to higher temperatures (up to 550 °C) and feed composed of ethylene/propylene mixtures



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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



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THANK YOU  
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