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# PRODUCTION OF CRESOLS IN A ONE-STEP REACTION



Miss. Rojarek Passasadee


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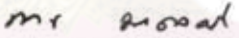
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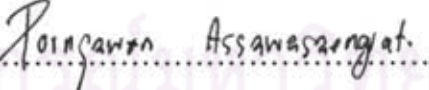
  
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งานวิจัยนี้เป็นการศึกษาการสังเคราะห์คริสซอลในปฏิกิริยารั้งตอนเดียวระหว่างโทลูอินกับไฮโดรเจนเปอร์ออกไซด์โดยมีตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาไทเทเนียมซิลิกาไลต์-1 ที่ได้รับการปรับปรุงด้วยโลหะโคบอลต์ในปริมาณต่างๆ ที่อุณหภูมิการทำปฏิกิริยา 70 และ 90 องศาเซลเซียส และอัตราส่วนโดยโมลของสารตั้งต้นระหว่างโทลูอินและไฮโดรเจนเปอร์ออกไซด์เป็น 1:1 และ 2:1 ผลการศึกษาพบว่าสามารถเติมโลหะโคบอลต์ได้ในปริมาณสูงถึง 0.124 โดยโมลลงในตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาไทเทเนียมซิลิกาไลต์-1 โดยไม่มีผลต่อโครงสร้างของตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยา การศึกษาความว่องไวในการทำปฏิกิริยาพบว่าตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาที่ได้รับการปรับปรุงทุกตัวให้ผลิตภัณฑ์หลักเป็นออโร-คริสซอล พารา-คริสซอลเป็นผลิตภัณฑ์ และเบนซาลดีไฮด์เป็นผลิตภัณฑ์ข้างเคียง ค่าการเลือกเกิดคริสซอลจะลงเมื่ออุณหภูมิการทำปฏิกิริยาเพิ่มสูงขึ้น แต่ถ้าเพิ่มสัดส่วนของโทลูอินต่อไฮโดรเจนเปอร์ออกไซด์ให้สูงขึ้นจะทำให้ค่าการเลือกเกิดคริสซอลเพิ่มขึ้น ทั้งนี้เพราะโทลูอินจะไปปกคลุมพื้นผิวของตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยา ทำให้ปริมาณไฮโดรเจนเปอร์ออกไซด์บนพื้นผิวลดลง ปฏิกิริยาการเกิดเบนซาลดีไฮด์ซึ่งต้องใช้ไฮโดรเจนเปอร์ออกไซด์มากกว่าปฏิกิริยาการเกิดคริสซอลถึง 2 เท่าจึงลดลงตามไปด้วย ผลการทดลองยังแสดงให้เห็นว่าโคบอลต์ที่เติมเข้าไปในปริมาณที่เหมาะสมในตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาไทเทเนียมซิลิกาไลต์-1 จะไปยับยั้งการเกิดเบนซาลดีไฮด์และเพิ่มการเลือกเกิดคริสซอล แต่ถ้าเติมในปริมาณที่มากเกินไปจะทำให้การเกิดเบนซาลดีไฮด์เพิ่มสูงขึ้น

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ภาควิชา.....วิศวกรรมเคมี..... ลายมือชื่อนิสิต..... ๒๕๕๑ แพทย์ศาสต์.....  
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This research is a study on the synthesis of cresol in a one-step reaction from toluene and hydrogen peroxide using titanium silicalite-1 (TS-1) catalysts modified with different amount of Co. The reaction is carried out at reaction temperature 70 C and 90 C, and toluene per hydrogen peroxide molar ratios 1:1 and 2:1. The research found that the addition of Co up to 0.124 mol% does not the structure of TS-1. Catalytic activity testing found that all modified catalysts yield o-cresol and p-cresol as the major products with benzaldehyde as by products. Selectivity toward cresols increases with the increase in reaction temperature. On the contrary, benzaldehyde selectivity decreases if toluene per hydrogen peroxide molar ratio is increased from 1:1 to 2:1. This is due to toluene will cover the catalyst surface, leaving lesser hydrogen peroxide on the catalyst surface. The formation of benzaldehyde which requires twice amount of hydrogen peroxide than the formation of cresol, therefore, decreases. The formation of cresols which requires lower hydrogen peroxide concentration on the catalyst surface, therefore, increases. The experimental results also show that the addition of Co into TS-1 suppresses the formation of benzaldehyde and increases the selectivity toward cresols. Too much Co added, however, will decrease the catalytic activity of the modified catalysts.

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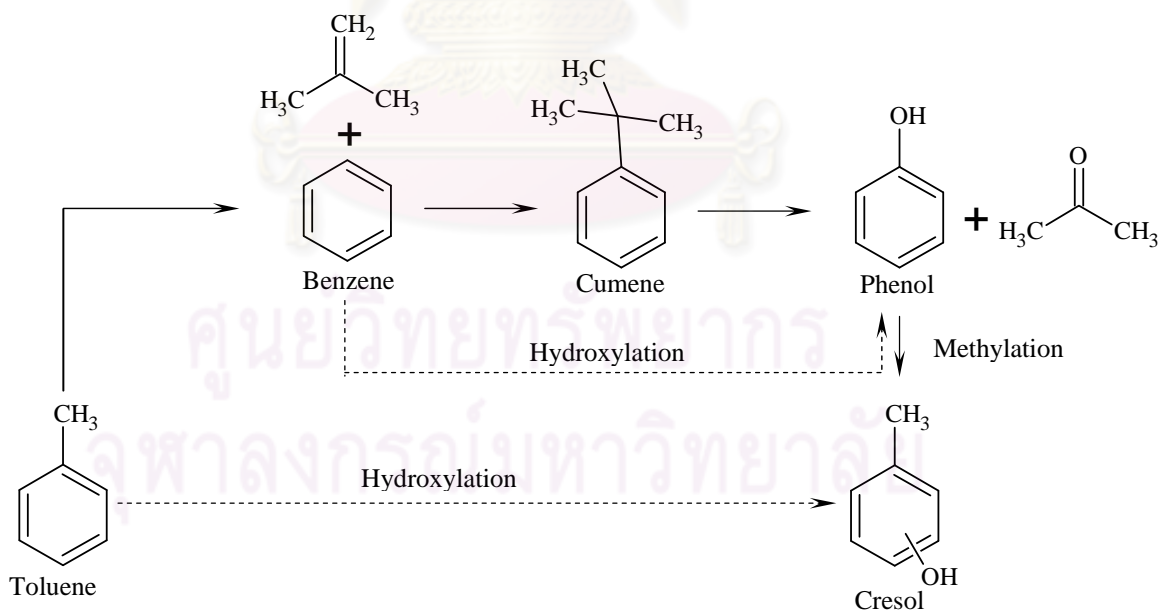
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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

Cresols are an organic compound which is widely used in several manufacture processes such as synthesis resins, to dissolve other chemical or used as insecticides. Cresol solutions are used as household cleaners and disinfectants. Cresols are important chemical raw material. They were originally obtained only from coal tar; after World War II, they were also obtained from spent refinery caustic. Since the mid-1960s, they have been produced synthetically on an increasingly large scale so called "Synthetic cresol". At present, cresol is mainly produced from the methyl alkylation of phenol process which produces a mixture of anisol and mixed cresol (ortho-, meta- and para-cresol). Beginning from aromatic reactant, the current route also has another drawback it consists of two steps: (1) the conversion of benzene to phenol via the cumene process (2) the methanol alkylation of phenol process to produce cresol. The proposed route uses  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  as the oxidant and titanium silicalite-1 (TS-1) as the catalyst. This route is presents in **Figure 1.1**



**Figure 1.1** Routes to produce cresol.



Titanium silicalite-1 (commonly known in the name TS-1) was first revealed by Taramasso et al., 1983 as an effective catalyst for the hydroxylation of benzene to phenol. Many researchers have applied this catalyst to several reactions such as hydroxylation of aromatics (Wu et al., 1998), the hydroxylation of benzene to phenol (Wilkenhoner et al. and Perego et al., 2001), the propylene epoxidation (Wang et al., 2003) and the oxidation of aromatics (Bianchi et al., 2007)

The oxidation using  $H_2O_2$  over TS-1 can occur at a relative low temperature (i.e. 70-80°C). Although, TS-1 has unique catalytic properties at low temperature but it still has low selectivity. Many researchers have studied several methods to improve the selectivity of this catalyst. For example, Pirutko et al. (2001) had studied the second metal to modify the catalytic activity of TS-1 by adding Al, V, Cr, Fe, Co and Ru. They found Fe-TS-1 can catalyze the oxidation of benzene to phenol with high activity and selectivity. Poompichate (2005) had synthesized modified TS-1 by adding Cu, Co, Cr and V during the synthesis step. The results indicate that the second metal ions and titanium ion can simultaneously and homogeneously be incorporated into the framework of TS-1. In 2007, Kasemsiri had studied the catalytic performances of TS-1 and TS-1 modified with second metals (Al, Co, V and Fe) in the hydroxylation of alkyl benzene as toluene and ethyl benzene in the slurry reactor. The results show that all samples can produce cresol but the Co-TS-1 has the maximum selectivity of cresol. At the same time, Jiang et al. (2008) modified TS-1 by adding Co for the epoxidation of styrene by molecular oxygen. They found that Co loading has an important effect on the catalytic property. The increasing in Co loading, both the styrene conversion and the selectivity to styrene oxide increased drastically, and then leveled off.

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The present work introduce a new route to produce cresols in an one step reaction via the hydroxylation of toluene with TS-1 unmodified and modified by adding Co with several ratio to improve the catalytic selectivity of the catalyst. All samples were prepared by static hydrothermal method. The reaction uses a stirred slurry reactor under triphase condition. The research has scope following as:

- 1) Preparation TS-1 and M-TS-1 (M = Co) catalysts which have 50 Si to Ti and 200, 150 and 50 for Si to Co ratio respectively by using the hydrothermal method.
- 2) Pretreatment of these catalysts with 5M HNO<sub>3</sub> solution.
- 3) Characterization of the synthesized TS-1 catalysts by using the following techniques.
  - Determination of crystallinity and structure of catalysts by X-ray diffractometer (XRD).
  - Determination of bulk composition of Si, Ti and M by X-ray fluorescence (XRF).
  - Determination the surface area and pore volume by N<sub>2</sub> Adsorption based on BET method (BET).
  - Determination of incorporation of Ti atoms as a framework element by IR Spectroscopy (IR).
- 4) Study the catalytic reactions in a stirred slurry reactor at various temperature and various molar ratio toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> to determine catalytic activity.

This present work is organized as follows:

The background and scopes of the research are described in Chapter I.

Chapter II reviews the theory of this research and literature on the catalytic activity of metal modified TS-1 catalysts in the hydroxylation of aromatics reaction and comments on previous works.

Chapter III consists of catalyst preparation, catalyst characterization and catalytic reaction study in hydroxylation of toluene.

Chapter IV presents the experimental results of the characterization of catalysts, and the hydroxylation of benzene reactions over these catalysts, including an expanded discussion.

Chapter V contains the overall conclusion emerging from this research and some recommendations for future work.



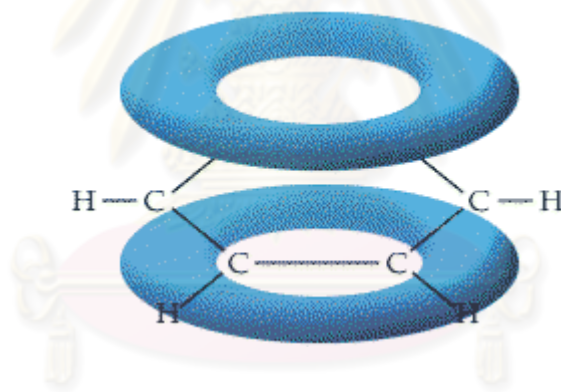
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## CHAPTER II

### THEORY AND LITERATURE REVIEWED

#### 2.1 Electrophilic aromatic substitution

Benzene is an aromatic having a cyclic conjugated compound with 6  $\pi$  electron as shown in **Figure 2.1**. The  $\pi$  electrons are more involved in holding together carbon nuclei than are the  $\pi$  electron of a carbon-carbon double bond. The  $\pi$  electrons are loosely held and are available to reagent that is seeking electron. Therefore, benzene ring serves as a source of electron. Benzene reacts mainly with electrophilic reagents. The reaction of benzene ring is called “Electrophilic substitution reactions”



**Figure 2.1** Electron cloud of benzene

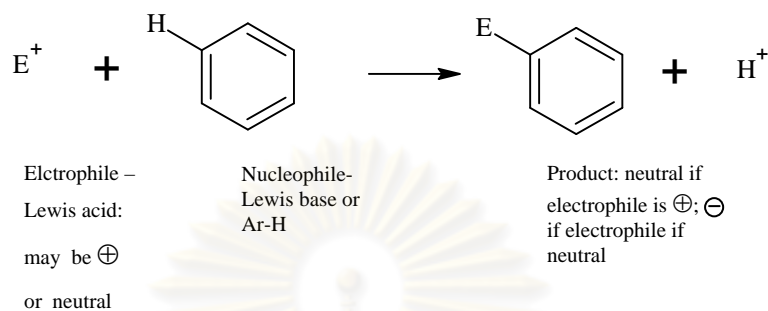
([www.geocities.com/omegaman\\_uk/carbon.html](http://www.geocities.com/omegaman_uk/carbon.html))

Electrophilic aromatic substitution replaces a proton on benzene with another electrophile. Electrophilic aromatic substitution includes a wide variety of reaction: nitration, halogenation, sulfonation and Friedel–Crafts reaction. The mechanism of electrophilic aromatic substitution consists of two steps (as shown in **Figure 2.2**)



Step 1: The ring is attacked by electrophilic reagent to form a carbocation

Step 2: The abstraction of a proton from carbocation by some base. In each case there is a preliminary acid – base reaction which generates the attacking particle; the actual substitution.



**Figure 2.2** The mechanism of electrophilic aromatic substitution.

### 2.1.1 Substituent effects in aromatic rings

In electrophilic aromatic substitution, there are three possible disubstituted products : ortho, meta and para. The preference for ortho, meta and para attack by the electrophile is different for different group. The group that attack to occur chiefly at positions *ortho* and *para* is called and *ortho, para* director. The group that attack to occur chiefly at positions *meta* is called *meta* director

### 2.1.2 Theory of reactivity

The activity of substituted benzene depends on type of substituent group. The group that releases electrons activates the ring is called “activating group”. The group that withdraws electrons deactivates the ring called “deactivating group”.

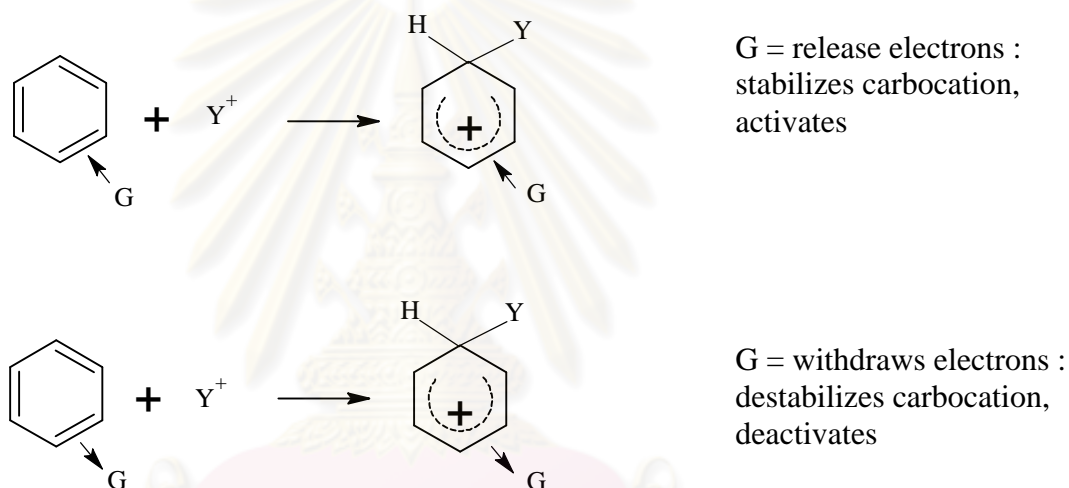
#### I Activating groups.

Activating groups release or donate electrons into the ring by a usually strong resonance effect. The  $\pi$  electrons flow from the substituents to the ring. The release of electrons into the ring stabilizes the positive charge that develops during the reaction, lowering the energy of activation, and increasing the reaction rate over that

of benzene. The activating group direct incomes electrophiles to the ortho and para position of the ring.

## II Deactivating groups.

Deactivating groups are electronegative and withdraw electrons from the ring by a strong resonance effect or by a strong inductive effect. The  $\pi$  electrons flow from the ring to the substituents. The withdrawal of electrons from the ring destabilizes the positive charge that develops during the reaction, raising the energy of activation, and decreasing the reaction rate relative to benzene. **Figure 2.3** shows type of substituent group.

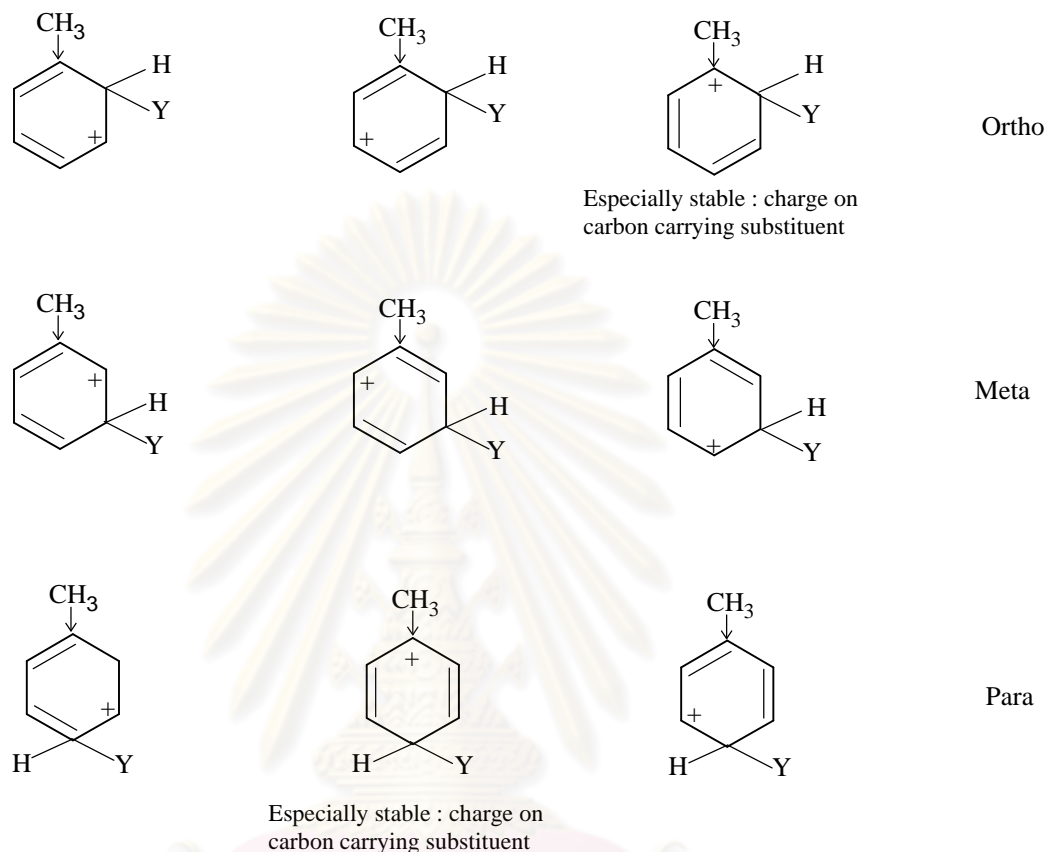


**Figure 2.3** Type of substituent group in electrophilic aromatic substitution

### 2.1.3 Theory of orientation

The activating group activates all position of the benzene ring; even the positions *meta* but at *ortho* and *para* position much more activates than meta position. The deactivating group deactivate all positions in the ring; even the positions meta but at the position meta much more deactivate than *ortho* and *para* position considering **Figure 2.4** activating group substituent at position *ortho*, *para* and *meta*. The *ortho* and *para* position, the positive charge is located on the carbon atom to which  $-CH_3$  is attached. Although  $-CH_3$  releases electrons to all positions of the ring, it does so most strongly to the carbon atom nearest it. The structure that the positive charge

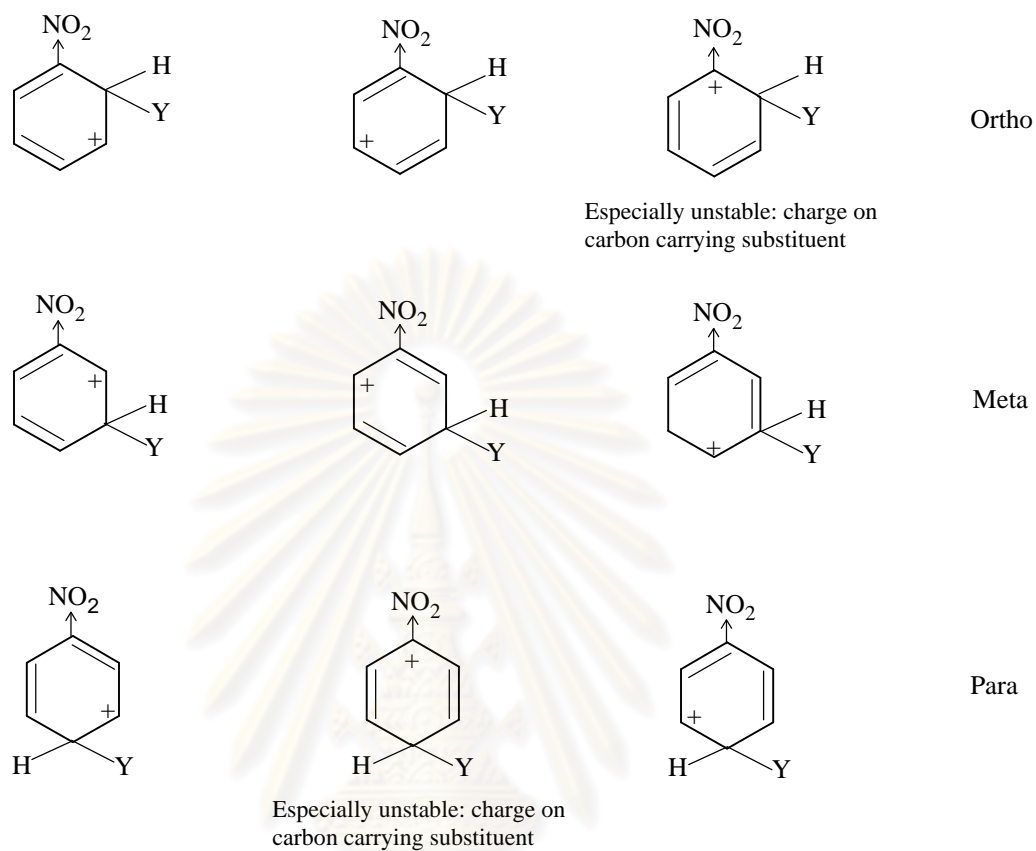
located at the same position of  $-\text{CH}_3$  make this structure most stable because the electrons from  $-\text{CH}_3$  transfer to the ring faster than another structure. In other hand, the *meta* position does not have the structure that make substituted ring stable.



**Figure 2.4** Activating group substituent at position ortho, para and meta

In case of the substitution of nitrobenzene, this compound contains a deactivating group. The substitution at position *ortho* has a three hybrid structures. The positive charge is located on the carbon atom to which  $-\text{NO}_2$  is attached. Although  $-\text{NO}_2$  withdraws electrons from all position, it does so most from the carbon atom nearest it. And this carbon atom, already positive, has little tendency to accommodate the positive charge of the carbocation. The last structure at *ortho* position is particularly unstable and does little to stabilize the ion resulting from attack at *ortho* position. The ion for *ortho* attack is virtually a hybrid for two carbon atoms which is less stable than the ion resulting from attack at a *meta* position because *meta* position has a hybrid of three structure and in which the positive charge is accommodated by three carbon atoms. The substitution of *ortho* occurs more

slowly than *meta* substitution. In case of position *para* is same as position *ortho*. The mechanism of deactivating group is showed in **Figure 2.5**



**Figure 2.5** Deactivating group substituent at position ortho, para and meta.

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## 2.2 Related literature review

The titanium silicalite was first synthesis by Taramasso et al. (1983). They found that TS-1 has a composition corresponding to the formula  $x\text{TiO}_2(1-x)\text{SiO}_2$ . The TS-1 is of the silicalite type, and all the titanium substitutes the silicon. The classical method used tetra methyl ammonium hydroxide (TPAOH) as the template that gives  $\text{TiO}_2$  phase in the TS-1 structure. The  $\text{TiO}_2$  in anatase phase can decompose  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and should be avoid in synthesis titanium silicalite-1. Li et al. (2001) had synthesized titanium silicalite TS-1 by hydrothermal method. They found that several kinds of titanium species may exist in titanium silicalite. The form that titanium atoms incorporate into the framework of titanium silicalite synthesized using tetrapropylammoniumbromide (TPABr) as template differed from that using the classical method (the classical method used TPAOH as the template). But, the symmetry of titanium silicalite changed from monoclinic to orthorhombic with the increase of titanium content in both method. The  $\text{Ti-O}_2^-$  originated from framework titanium and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  had the moderate stability and might be active site in an oxidation reaction. They found that TS-1 synthesized using TPABr as template did not contain anatase, but contained a kind of partly condensed titanium species with six-fold coordination. But, this kind of  $\text{Ti-O}_2^-$  was very stable and could not be catalytic active site. Therefore, the six-fold coordination titanium species was suggested as be inactive in both the oxidation reaction and the decomposition of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ .

Titanium silicalite-1 was also used in various reactions such as oxidation, hydroxylation of aromatics Kumar et al. (1999) studies the hydroxylation of aromatics (such as benzene, toluene, anisole and benzyl chloride) over TS-1/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  under triphase (solid-liquid-liquid) solvent free system and compared with biphasic (solid-liquid) conditions in the presence of a co-solvent. They found that in case of benzyl chloride, triphase condition resulted in the ring hydroxylation forming *p*-hydroxy and *o*-hydroxy benzyl chloride (75%, *para:ortho* ratio 85:15) along with side-chain oxyfunctionalization followed by HCl removal directly forming benzaldehyde (no formation of benzal chloride). The oxidation of cyclohexanone and acetophenone gave caprolactone and phenyl acetate, respectively, as major products (70-90% selectivity). The other hydroxyl-acetophenones (acetophenone) and they found that adding an amount of  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  significantly increased the conversion.

Hulea and Dumitriu (2004) studied the styrene oxidation with  $H_2O_2$  over Ti-containing molecular sieves with MFI, BEA and MCM-41 in liquid phase. They found that the catalytic activity expressed by TOF was found to be sequence in the order: Ti-beta > Ti-MCM-41 > TS-1. The main product of the styrene oxidation was styrene epoxide, phenylacetaldehyde, benzaldehyde and styrene glycol, but the product distribution depended on the nature of the catalyst. Thus, the selectivity to phenylacetaldehyde was very high for all catalysts of MFI type (smaller opening), whereas the benzaldehyde was form in large amount in the presence of Ti-beta and TiMCM-41 (large pores). Both the conversion of styrene and the selectivity towards phenylacetaldehyde increased with the reaction temperature. The nature of the solvent also influenced the catalytic activity and the selectivity to phenylacetaldehyde.

Some researchers try to add another metal to improve catalytic activity of TS-1. Pirutko et al. (2001) synthesized titanosilicalite TS-1 samples modified by Al, V, Cr, Fe, Co and Ru as another metal and all samples were tested in the oxidation of benzene to phenol. They found that all samples still had structure like TS-1 and Fe-TS-1 could catalyze the oxidation of benzene to phenol with high activity and selectivity. Cumaranatunge and Delgass (2005) synthesized TS-1 modified by Au for propylene epoxidation. The Au/TS-1 still had pattern of MFI structure. The particle size range of Au was slightly above the 2-5 nm. Then, the catalysts were tested with propylene epoxidation. They found that higher Au loading (>0.1wt%), achieved with the  $NH_4NO_3$  treatment for this support, were detrimental to catalyst stability. Catalyst with Au loadings less than 0.1 wt% maintained a constant propylene oxide productivity, even after 12 h of reaction at 200°C, whereas catalyst with Au loading of more than 0.1 wt% deactivated to about 80% of original activity. Catalysts with Au loading greater than 0.1 wt% have a higher number of Au particles compared with lower Au loading, and the increased proximity of sites could favor oligomerization of propylene oxide on the surface and thus led to catalyst deactivation.

Kasemsiri (2007) studied the catalytic performances of TS-1 and TS-1 modified with second metals (Al, Co, V and Fe) in the hydroxylation alkyl benzene as toluene and ethyl benzene. The results of toluene hydroxylation at 70°C for 2 h showed that all catalysts produced reaction products as p-cresol, o-cresol, particularly TS-1 modified with Al and Fe also had benzaldehyde as predominant product. When

the reaction temperature was increased to 95°C, it had benzaldehyde as major product accompany with p-cresol, o-cresol for using all catalysts (except Fe-TS-1). The second metals affected the products production of toluene hydroxylation at 70 and 95°C i.e. Co and V restrained benzaldehyde production while Al and Fe promoted the formation of benzaldehyde as main reaction product. In case of ethyl benzene hydroxylation at 70 and 95°C the predominant products were acetophenone and 1-phenethyl ethanol moreover Fe-TS-1 also has phenethyl alcohol and phenyl acetaldehyde. At the same time, Jiang et al. (2007) modified TS-1 by adding Co for epoxidation of styrene by molecular oxygen. XRD pattern showed all samples had MFI structure and did not exist of  $\text{CoO}_x$  crystalline peaks that indicated the  $\text{CoO}_x$  particles were not aggregated but highly dispersed on the surface of TS-1 and confirmed with DR UV-VIS which attributed to ultraviolet adsorbances of  $\text{CoO}_x$  oxide. Result of epoxidation of styrene to epoxide showed the Co loading has an important effect on the catalytic properties. With an increasing in the Co loading, both the styrene conversion and the selectivity to styrene oxide increased drastically, and then level off. When the Co loading increases continually, both the styrene conversion and the epoxide selectivity decreases markedly. The highest conversion was 94.5% and selectivity of epoxide was 74.3% with Co loading 2.32wt% and they found that there was a synergy between the Co and the Ti in the catalyst in the liquid phase epoxidation of styrene by  $\text{O}_2$ . This work prepared Co/TS-1 by immersion technique which is a complicate method, the preparation in a one step is therefore interesting.

From previous works, titanium silicalite-1 can improve the catalytic activity by adding the second metal for many reactions. Therefore, from research of Kasemsiri (2007) which use cobalt to improve the catalytic activity of TS-1 that point of interesting. The amount of metal loading has the limiting that should be investigate.

## CHAPTER III

### EXPERIMENTAL

The experimental in this chapter is divided into four major parts: (1) catalyst preparation, (2) catalyst characterization, and (3) reaction study. The chemicals, apparatus and procedures for catalyst preparation are explained in section 3.1. The composition, structure, surface properties, acidity of the catalyst characterised by various techniques such as XRF, BET, XRD, FT-IR and NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD are discussed in section 3.2. The details of the reaction study are illustrated in section 3.3

#### 3.1 Catalyst preparation

##### 3.1.1 Chemicals

All chemicals used in this preparation procedure of Co-TS-1 catalysts are following in **Table 3.1**.

**Table 3.1** The chemicals used in the catalyst preparation and reaction.

Chemical	Grade	Supplier
Titanium(IV) butoxide 97%	-	Aldrich
Tetrapropylammonium bromide 98%	-	Aldrich
Sodium chloride	Analytical	APS
Sodium hydroxide	Analytical	Merck
Sulfuric acid	Analytical	Aldrich
Sodium silicate solution	Extra pure	Merck
Cobalt(II)nitrate hexahydrate	Analytical	Aldrich
Toluene		
Hydrogen peroxide		
Ethanol		

### 3.1.2 Preparation procedures

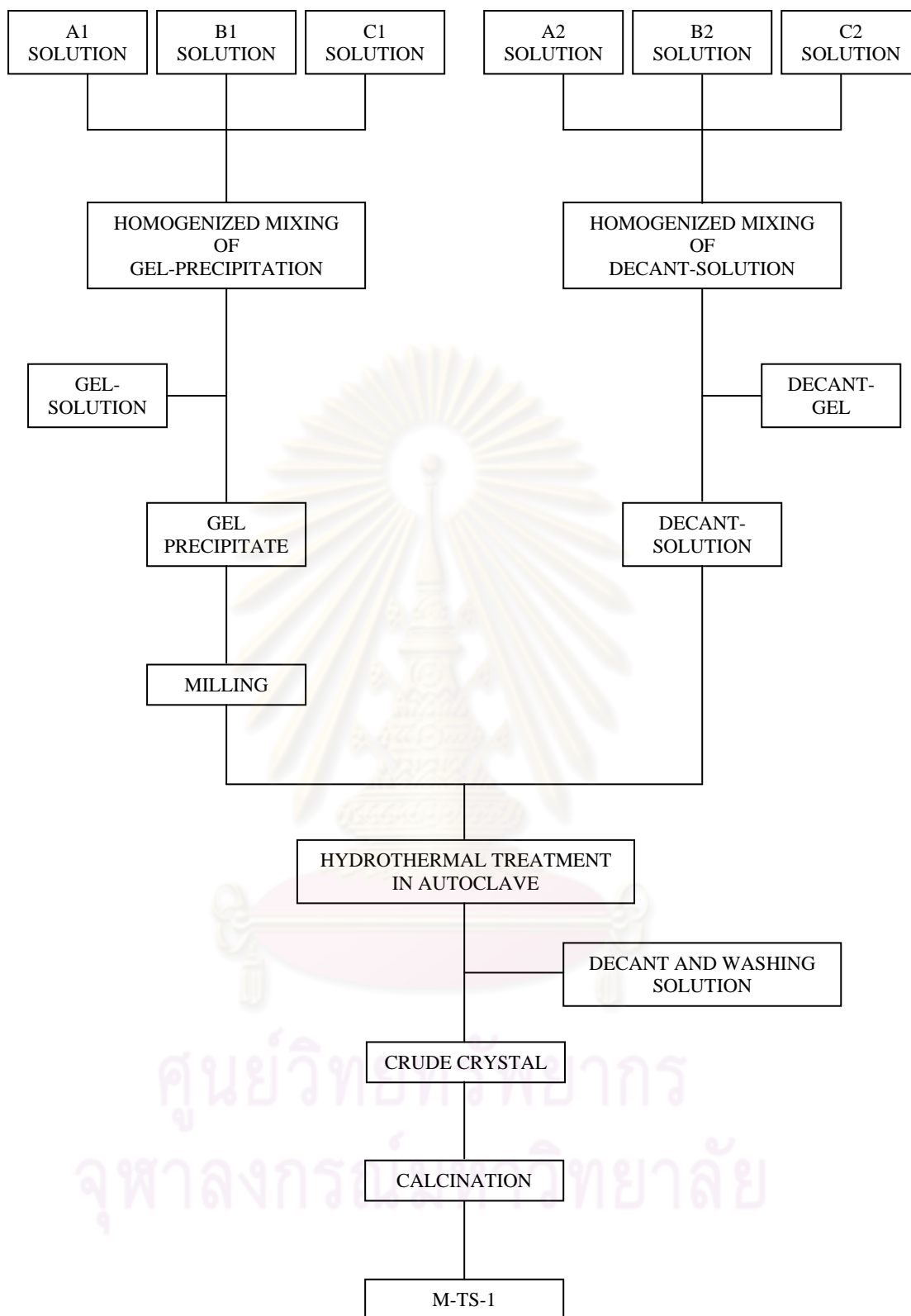
The preparation procedure of Co-TS-1 by rapid crystallization method is shown in Figure 3.1, while the reagents used are shown in **Table 3.2**.

**Table 3.2** Reagents used for the preparation of Co-TS-1: Si/Ti = 50,  
Si/Co = 150\*(Appendix A)

Solution for the gel preparation		Solution for decant-solution preparation	
<u>Solution A1</u>		<u>Solution A2</u>	
Ti[O(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>4</sub>	2.2085 g	Ti[O(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>4</sub>	2.2085 g
TPABr	5.72 g	TPABr	7.53 g
NaCl	11.95 g	De-ionized water	60 ml
Co(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> .6H <sub>2</sub> O	x g	Co(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> .6H <sub>2</sub> O	x g
De-ionized water	60 ml	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (conc.)	3.4 ml
H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (conc.)	3.4 ml		
<u>Solution B1</u>		<u>Solution B2</u>	
Sodium silicate	69 g	Sodium silicate	69 g
De-ionized water	45 ml	De-ionized water	45 ml
<u>Solution C1</u>		<u>Solution C2</u>	
TPABr	2.16 g	NaCl	26.27 g
NaCl	40.59 g	De-ionized water	104 ml
NaOH	2.39 g		
De-ionized water	208 ml		
H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (conc.)	1.55 ml		

Si/Co =200, 150 and 50 respectively





**Figure 3.1** The preparation procedure of Co-TS-1 by hydrothermal method.

### 3.1.2.1 Preparation of gel precipitation and decantation Solution

The source of metals for preparation of decantation and gel solutions were  $\text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  for Co,  $\text{Ti}[\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{CH}_3]_4$  for Ti, and sodium silicate for Si, respectively. TPABr (Tetra-n-propyl ammonium bromide  $[(\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2)_4\text{N}]\text{Br}$ ) was used as organic template. The atomic ratio of Silicon/Titanium set at 50 and Silicon/Co were set at 200, 150, and 50 respectively. The preparation of supernatant liquid was separated from the gel, which is important for preparing the uniform crystals. The detailed procedures were as follows: Firstly, a gel mixture was prepared by adding solution A1 and solution B1 into solution C1 dropwise with vigorous stirring using a magnetic stirrer at room temperature. The pH of the gel mixture was maintained within the range 9-11 because this pH range is suitable for precipitation.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  (conc.) or NaOH solution were used to adjust pH of the gel mixture to an appropriate level if it was necessary. After the addition, stirred gel mixture for 1 h, and was separated from supernatant liquid by centrifuge.

Secondly, a decantation solution was prepared by adding solution A2 and solution B2 into solution C2, same as for the preparation of gel mixture. The supernatant liquids from A2, B2 and C2 were mixed together with the gel mixture. However, before mixing, the pH of solution was maintained between 9-11. The colorless supernatant liquid was separated from the mixture by centrifugation.

### 3.1.2.2 Crystallization

The mixture of the milling precipitate and the supernatant of decant solution was filled in a 500 ml pyrex glass. The glass container was placed in a stainless steel autoclave. The atmosphere in the autoclave was replaced by nitrogen gas and pressurized up to  $3 \text{ kg/cm}^2$  gauge. Then, the autoclave was heated from room temperature to  $180^\circ\text{C}$  and kept at this temperature for 3 days, followed by cooling the mixture to room temperature in the autoclave overnight. The product crystals were washed with de-ionized water by centrifugation in order to remove chloride out of the crystals. Then the crystals were dried in an oven at  $110^\circ\text{C}$  for at least 24 h.

### **3.1.2.3 Calcination**

The dry crystals were calcined in an air stream at 550 °C and held at that temperature for 7 h, by heating them from room temperature to 550 °C at a heating rate of 8.6 °C/min, to burn off the organic template and leave the cavities and channels in the crystals. Then, the calcined crystals were finally cooled down to room temperature in a desiccator.

### **3.1.3 Treatment catalysts**

10 g of Co-TS-1 and TS-1 were placed into a round bottom flask and then 150 ml of 5M HNO<sub>3</sub> aqueous solution was added. After reflux at 80°C for 3 h, the pretreated catalyst was filtered, washed with distilled water until pH 7, dried at 110°C and calcined at 540°C for 7 h in static air.

## **3.2 Catalyst characterization**

### **3.2.1 X-Ray Fluorescence Spectrometer (XRF)**

The chemical composition analysis of elements of the catalyst was performed by X-ray fluorescence (XRF) using Siemens SRS3400.

### **3.2.2 BET surface area measurement**

The sample cell which contained 0.3 g of sample was placed into BET Micromeritics ASAP 2020. After degassing step, the surface area and pore volume of catalyst were measured.

### **3.2.3 X-Ray Diffraction (XRD)**

The crystallinity and X-ray diffraction patterns of the catalysts were performed by an X-ray diffractometer SIEMENS D5000 connected with a computer with Diffract ZT version 3.3 program for fully control of XRD analyzer. The experiments

were carried out by using CuK $\alpha$  radiation with Ni filter. Scans were performed over the  $2\theta$  ranges from  $6^\circ$  to  $30^\circ$  with step size  $0.04^\circ/\text{sec}$ .

### **3.2.4 Fourier transform Infrared (FT-IR)**

The functional group on the catalyst surface was determined by FT-IR using Nicolet model Impact 400. Each sample was mixed with KBr with ratio of sample: KBr equal to 1:100 and then pressed into a thin wafer. Infrared spectra were recorded between  $400$  and  $1300\text{ cm}^{-1}$  on a microcomputer

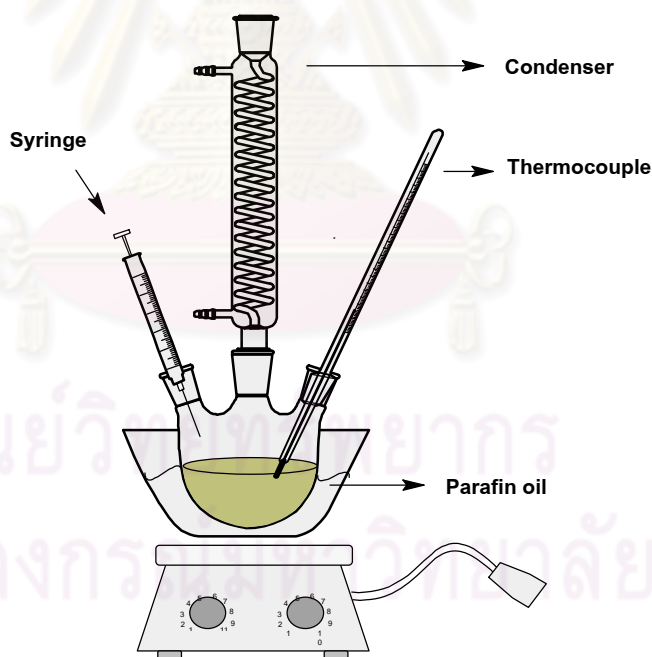
### **3.2.5 NH<sub>3</sub> Temperature programmed desorption (NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD)**

Temperature programmed desorption of ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD) was used to determine the acid properties of catalysts. NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD was carried out using a flow apparatus. The catalyst sample (0.1 g) was treated at  $550^\circ\text{C}$  in helium flow for 1h and then saturated with 15 %NH<sub>3</sub>/He mixture after cooling to  $80^\circ\text{C}$ . After purging with helium at  $80^\circ\text{C}$  for 1 h to remove weakly physisorbed NH<sub>3</sub>, the sample was heated to  $550^\circ\text{C}$  at the rate of  $10^\circ\text{C}/\text{min}$  in a helium flow of  $50\text{ cm}^3/\text{min}$ . The amount of acid sites on the catalyst surface was calculated from the desorption amount of NH<sub>3</sub>. It was determined by measuring the areas of the desorption profiles obtained from the Micromeritics Chemisorb 2750 analyzer

The deconvolution of NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD peak was carried out with the “fityk” curve fitting programme. The peaks were assumed to be Gaussian with showness shape (using parameter ‘SplitGaussian’ in the programme).

### 3.3 Reaction study in the hydroxylation of toluene

The hydroxylation of alkyl benzene (toluene) with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (30 wt% in water, Meck) was carried out in a 250 ml, paraffin oil jacketed, three-necked, glass flask fitted with a condenser and a mechanical stirrer placed in a stirring block heater as shown in **Figure 3.2**. The reaction was performed at atmospheric pressure. Typically, 1 g of a catalyst was reacted with reactant as toluene to  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  molar ratio equals to 1 to 1 and 50 ml of water. First, the catalyst and water using for dispersion of a catalyst were added into a reactor at  $90^\circ\text{C}$  for 1 h so as to drive out gases in pores of catalyst. Then reactant and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  was added into reactor. For  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  was slowly injected dropwise using a 1 ml syringe at  $70^\circ\text{C}$  for 2 h. After the reaction has been stopped by cool down, 50 ml of ethanol was added into reactor to homogenize the aqueous phase and the organic phase. The products were analyzed by a gas chromatograph equipped with a FID detector (SHIMADZU GC9A).



**Figure 3.2** The hydroxylation reactor.



The operating conditions of the GC-9A is listed in **Table 3.3**

**Table 3.3** Operating conditions for gas chromatograph

Gas chromatograph	SHIMADZU GC9A
Detector	FID
Packed column	GP 10% SP-2100
Column length (m)	
Carrier gas	N <sub>2</sub> (99.999%)
Carrier gas flow rate (ml/min)	30
Injector temperature (°C)	250
Detector temperature (°C)	250
Initial column temperature (°C)	80
Programme rate (°C/min)	2
Final column temperature (°C)	240
Analyzed chemical samples	Toluene

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## CHAPTER IV

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter is the results of catalyst characterization and catalytic performance evaluation. The following physical characteristics of catalysts; crystal structure (identified from XRD), location of titanium cation (determined from FT-IR), surface area (measured from BET technique), and catalyst composition (measured from XRF technique) are reported in section 4.1. Section 4.2 reports the catalytic activity of TS-1 and Co-TS-1 in the hydroxylation of toluene. The experimental results are presented as percentage of hydrogen peroxide convert to organic product, selectivity and yield of organic products.

In this study, TS-1 with 1 and 3 days hydrothermal aging are named TS-1(1) and TS-1(3) respectively. The names of TS-1 modified by adding different amount of Co with 3 days aging will be assigned after characterization by XRF technique.

#### 4.1 Catalysts characteristics

##### 4.1.1 Chemical compositions

The chemical compositions of TS-1 and Co-TS-1 are determined by X-Ray Fluorescence Spectrometer. The results are tabulated in **table 4.1**.

**Table 4.1** The chemical compositions of TS-1 and Co-TS-1.

Samples	Si (%mol)	Ti (%mol)	Co (%mol)	Si/Ti (%mol)	Si/Co (%mol)
TS-1(1)	98.00	1.95	none	50.35	none
TS-1(3)	97.34	2.61	none	37.33	none
Co-TS-1(Si/Co=200)	97.50	2.30	0.165	42.45	590.9
Co-TS-1(Si/Co=150)	97.37	2.50	0.102	38.87	954.6
Co-TS-1(Si/Co=50)	98.07	1.74	0.124	56.23	790.9

First, let consider the effect of aging time. Data in table 4.1 show that TS-1 prepared from 1 day aging time (TS-1(1)) has lower amount of titanium than TS-1 prepared from 3 day aging time (TS-1(3)). This is due to longer aging time allows more stable structure to be formed. Titanium incorporated in the stable structure is not washed out in the treatment step. Therefore, all modified TS-1 catalysts are prepared using 3 day aging time.

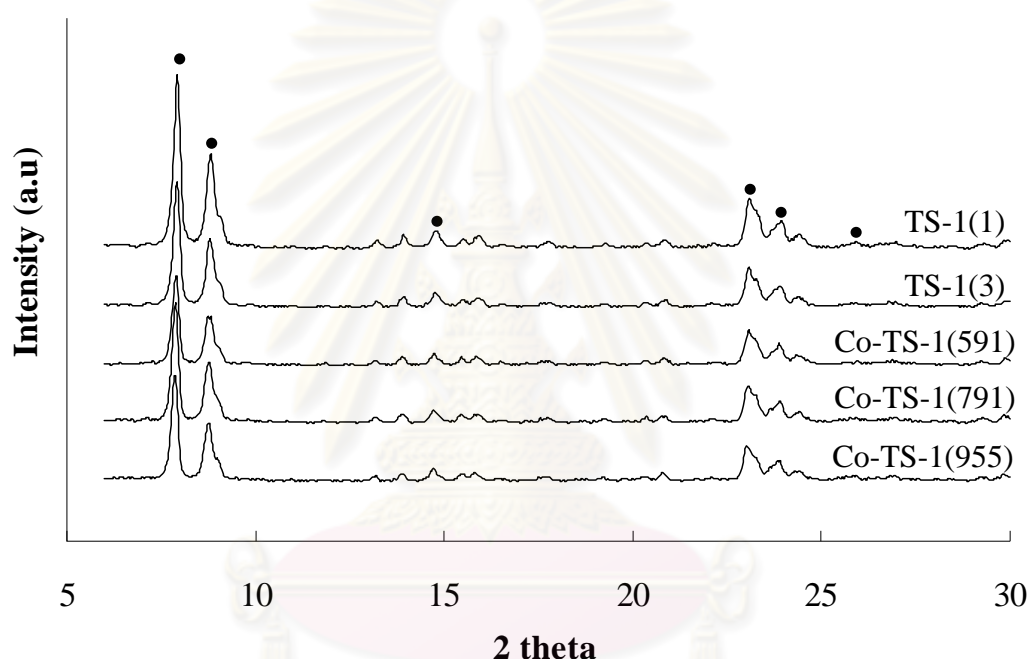
The amount of cobalt added before crystallization and the amount of cobalt appeared in the obtained catalysts relate in an ambiguous manner. At low concentration of cobalt cation in the gel and decant solution, cobalt cations are further aparted. Therefore, cobalt cations have less chance to form a cobalt compound phase. Most of cobalt cations in the solutions, hence, are trapped in the MFI structure. This is possibly the explanation why Co-TS-1(Si/Co=200) has highest cobalt concentration in the MFI structure. From section 4.1.2 forward, Co-TS-1(Si/Co=200) will be named Co-TS-1(591). (The number “591” is the ratio of the obtained catalyst)

At a too high cobalt concentration in the gel and decant solutions, as in the case of Co-TS-1(Si/Co=150), cobalt cations may form a separate cobalt compound which is not a part of MFI structure and can be washed out by nitric acid solution during the treatment step. Because of this reason, the amount of cobalt appears in Co-TS-1(591) is lower than the amount of cobalt appears in Co-TS-1(Si/Co=200). From section 4.1.2 forward, Co-TS-1(Si/Co=150) will be name Co-TS-1(955).

If cobalt concentration in the gel and decant solutions further increased, the chance of cobalt cations incorporate into the MFI framework and the chance of cobalt cation to form its own cobalt compound(s) are both higher. The final concentration of cobalt in the obtained Co-TS-1 depends on which phenomenon has higher probability during the crystallization step. For example, Co-TS-1(Si/Co=50) is synthesized using cobalt nitrate 3 times higher than Co-TS-1(Si/Co=150), but the amount of cobalt appears in the structure of Co-TS-1(Si/Co=50) is only about 20% higher. This explains why when we further increase cobalt concentration in the solutions, the amount of cobalt appears in the obtained catalyst becomes increase again. From section 4.1.2 forward, Co-TS-1(Si/Co=50) will be name Co-TS-1(791).

### 4.1.2 Crystal structure

The crystal structure of all prepared catalysts is identified using x-ray diffraction technique details described previously in section 3.2.3. The recorded XRD patterns of TS-1 and TS-1 modified with Co (Co-TS-1) are summarized in **Figure 4.1**. All recorded XRD patterns show six main characteristic peaks at  $2\theta \approx 8, 8.8, 14.8, 23.1, 24$  and  $26.7$  which are typical for MFI structure (Taramasso et al., 1983), see Appendix G. The XRD pattern of cobalt oxide does not appeared in any obtained pattern.

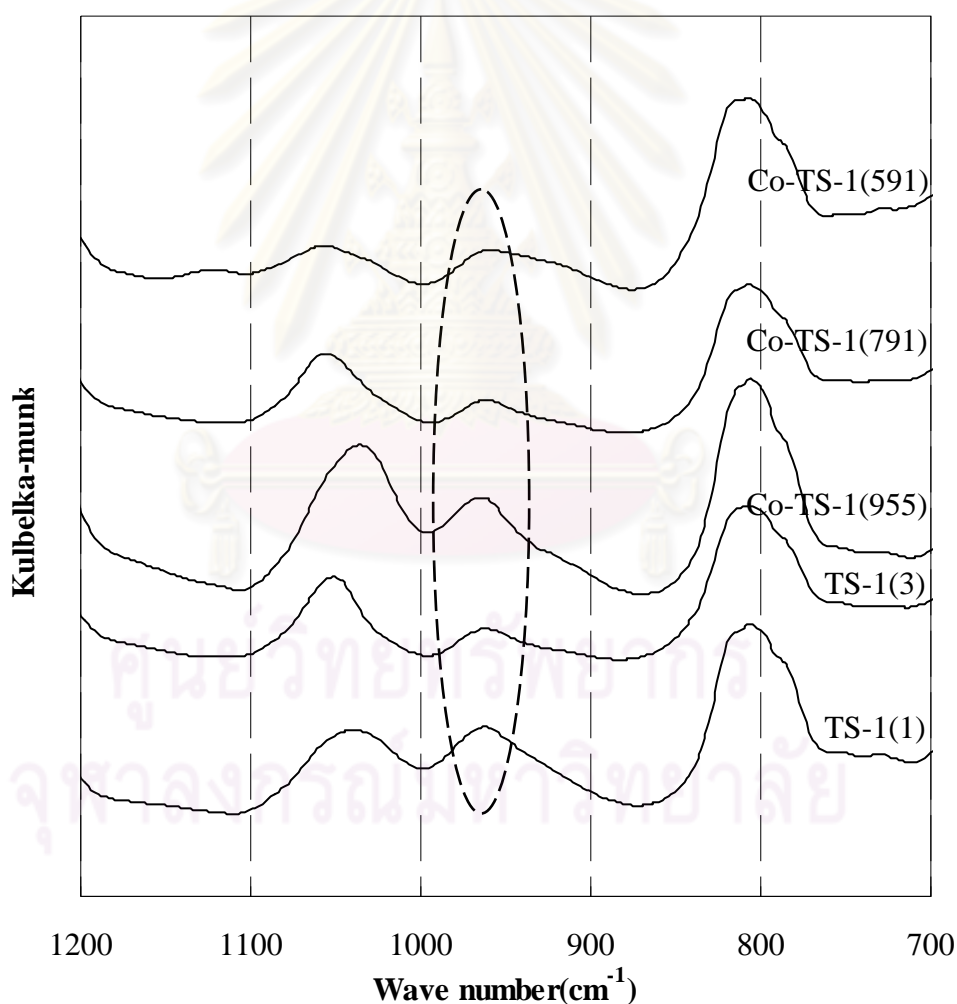


**Figure 4.1** XRD patterns of TS-1 and Co-TS-1.

The appearance of the peaks at  $2\theta \approx 24$  and  $26.7$  indicates an orthorhombic symmetry which is typical for TS-1 having titanium cation ( $Ti^{4+}$ ) within the framework of TS-1 having  $Si/Ti < 100$  (Grienisen et al., 2000). The peaks at  $2\theta \approx 24$  and  $26.7$  are also interpreted as a change from a monoclinic symmetry (silicalite) (Taramasso et al., 1983) to a more catalytic active orthorhombic symmetry (Titanium silicalite). The absence of the peak at  $2\theta \approx 25.3$ , the strongest peak of  $TiO_2$  in anatase phase, shows that anatase does not exist in the TS-1 and Co-TS-1 synthesized using TPABr as the template (Li et al., 2001). These XRD patterns also show that adding cobalt up to 0.124 % mol does not destroy the structure of the catalyst.

### 4.1.3 Location of titanium cation

The characteristic absorption band of  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  in the TS-1 and modified TS-1 is presented in **Figure 4.2**. All samples have the absorption band at  $960\text{ cm}^{-1}$  which indicates that  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  has been incorporated into the framework of TS-1 zeolite (Liu et al., 2005 and Bengoa et al., 1998). Grieneisen et al. (2000) reported that FT-IR spectra exhibited a strong absorption band at  $960\text{ cm}^{-1}$  can be attributed to a stretching mode of an  $[\text{SiO}_4]$  unit bonded to a  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  ion ( $\text{O}_3\text{SiOTi}$ ). Some researcher suggested that the catalytic performance of TS-1 is related to the amount of Ti on the framework of zeolite (Liu et al., 2006)



**Figure 4.2** The absorption band of TS-1 and Co-TS-1 in wave number range between  $700 - 1200\text{ cm}^{-1}$



#### 4.1.4 Surface Area

The surface area of TS-1 and all Co-TS-1 samples are tabulated in **Table 4.2**. All samples have surface area in the range 304-344 m<sup>2</sup>/g which is not so different. Hence, any different observed during catalytic testing should not be the result of the difference in catalyst surface area.

**Table 4.2** The surface area of TS-1 and Co-TS-1

Sample	Surface area (m <sup>2</sup> /g)
TS-1(1)	341
TS-1(3)	344
Co-TS-1(591)	304
Co-TS-1(791)	306
Co-TS-1(955)	338

Since, catalyst characteristics determined from XRD, FT-IR and BET surface area measurement are not so different, they should not affect catalytic properties of the catalyst. The major difference is the content of cobalt of each catalyst sample. The difference in catalytic activity which will be showed in the next section, therefore, should be the result of the difference in the content of cobalt of each sample.

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## 4.2 The catalytic performance of reaction.

The catalytic performance of TS-1 and Co-TS-1 were tested with the hydroxylation of toluene with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  as oxidant. This reaction produces mainly three products: benzaldehyde, ortho-cresol and para-cresol. But in this research the satisfied products are ortho-cresol (o-cresol) and para-cresol (p-cresol).

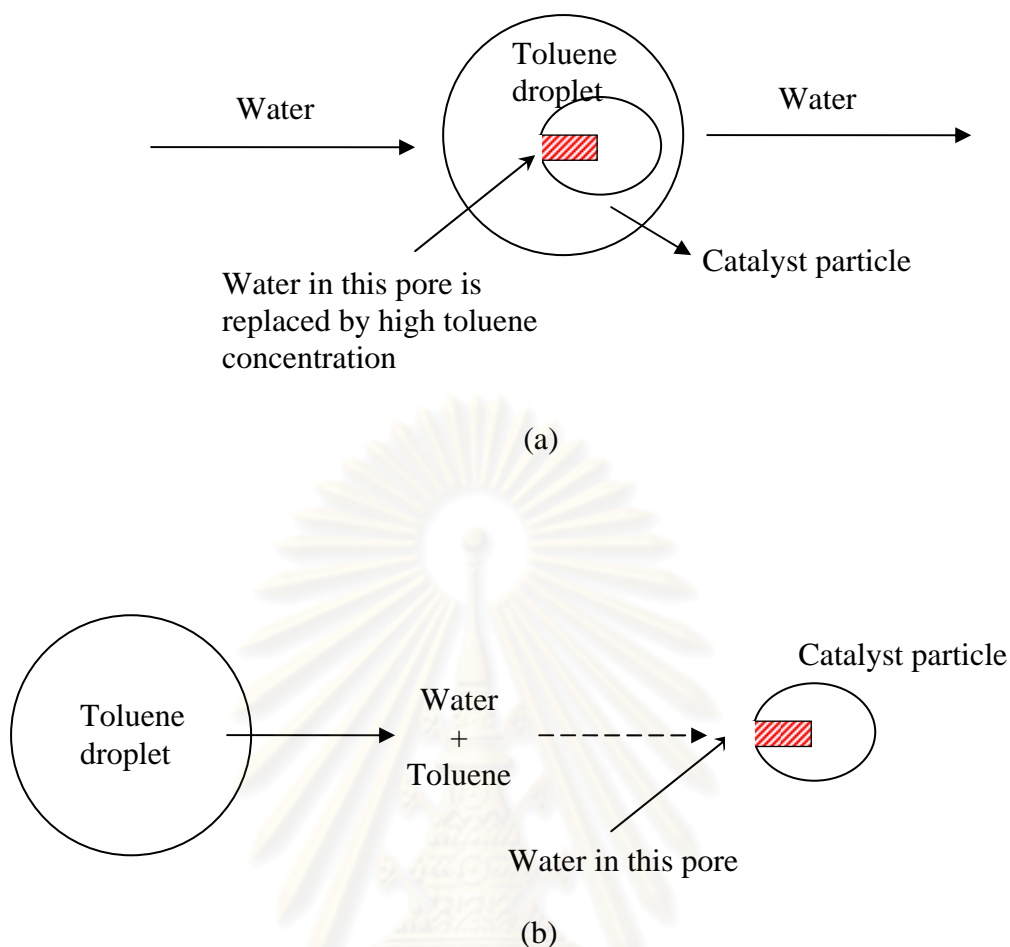
The experimental results are reported in the form of the total percent of converted hydrogen peroxide to organic products and mole of each product formed. In this research, effect of temperature and effect of molar ratio of toluene/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ , and effect of cobalt loading were investigated.

Before discussing the reaction results, let have a look at the mixing phenomena occurring in the stirred reactor. In our experiment, the catalyst is submerged in the water phase. Then the reactor is heated to  $90^\circ\text{C}$  and kept at this temperature for 1 hour to remove gas from the pore of the catalyst. At this moment, all catalyst pores must be filled with water. For the experiment at  $70^\circ\text{C}$  the reactor is allowed to cool down to the reaction temperature. Then 1 ml of toluene is added into the reactor followed by vigorous stirring. During this period, the catalyst will contact with toluene and one or both of the following phenomena will occur

(a) Due to the hydrophobicity of the catalyst surface, toluene may replace water on the catalyst surface and/or inside the catalyst pores up to an extended when catalyst particles contact with toluene phase during the vigorous stirring. Although water is the richest phase in the reactor, it is possible that toluene may present as the rich phase on the catalyst surface/catalyst pore, or

(b) Toluene will dissolve into the water phase which filled in the pores. In this case, the concentration of toluene depends on the solubility of toluene in water. Both phenomena are showed graphically in **Figure 4.3**

Toluene will dissolve into the bulk water phase. Then, the dissolved toluene in the bulk water phase diffuses into the water phase filled in the pores of the catalyst particle.



**Figure 4.3** The phenomena during toluene contact with catalyst particle.

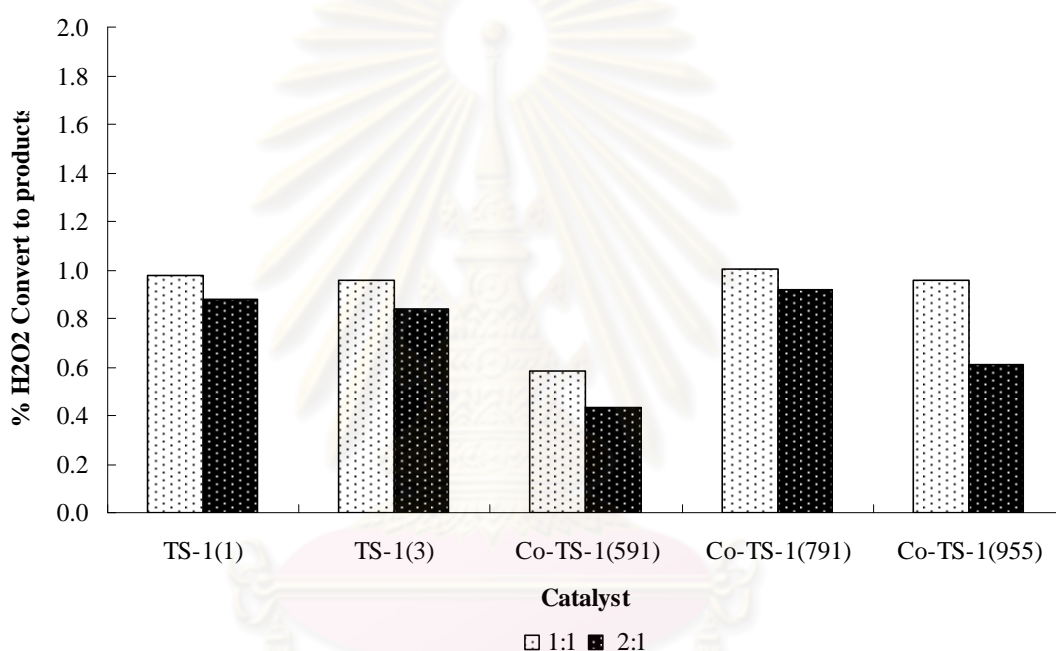
- (a) Direct contact between catalyst particle and toluene droplet.
- (b) Diffusion from toluene droplet through bulk water phase.

The results are related to moles of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  because the reactant toluene can be easily separated from the tri-phase system and reused. Therefore, the considerable maximum  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  utilization is a desirable target.

It should be noted here that “one” mole of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  is required to produce one mole of cresol while “two” mole of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  is required to produce one mole of benzaldehyde. Therefore, it is hypothesized that the molar ratio between  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  on the catalyst surface may take part in controlling which products should occur.

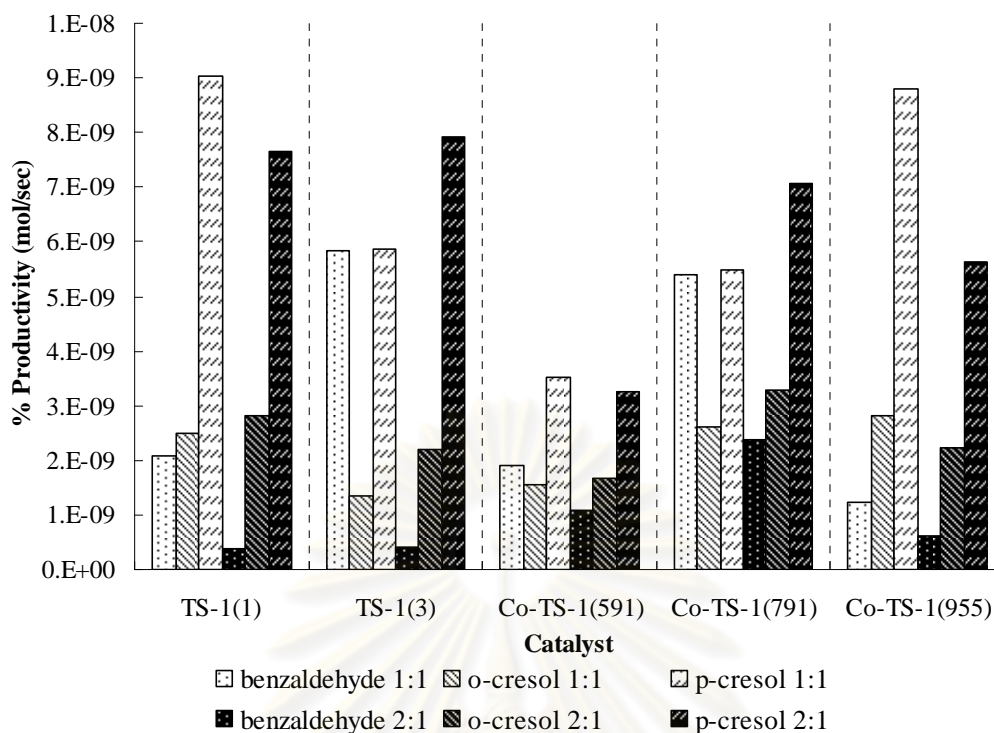
#### 4.2.1 The effect to molar ratio of reactant (Toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)

The first parameter affecting the reaction to be discussed is the molar ratio between toluene and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. The effect of molar ratio of reactants (toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) on the % H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> converted to products obtained at the reaction temperature 70°C are illustrated in **Figures 4.4** and **4.5**. **Figure 4.4** shows the % H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> converted to products and **Figure 4.5** shows the product selectivity. It is observed that increasing the ratio toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> from 1:1 to 2:1 results in decreasing H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> conversion.



**Figure 4.4** Percentage of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> converts to product at 70°C.

The observed decrease in H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> conversion of all catalysts should not be interpreted as the catalyst deactivation. Productivities of organic products (benzaldehyde, o-cresol, and p-cresol) of each catalyst showed in **Figure 4.5** illustrate the decrease in benzaldehyde production of all catalyst when the ratio of toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> is increased. Especially, TS-1(3) and Co-TS-1(791) show a pronounced suppression of benzaldehyde formation. For example, the productivity of benzaldehyde decreases from  $5.838 \times 10^{-9}$  mol/sec to  $4.0437 \times 10^{-10}$  mol/sec which is about 93% for TS-1(3) and from  $5.402 \times 10^{-9}$  mol/sec to  $2.371 \times 10^{-9}$  mol/sec which is about 56% for Co-TS-1(791).



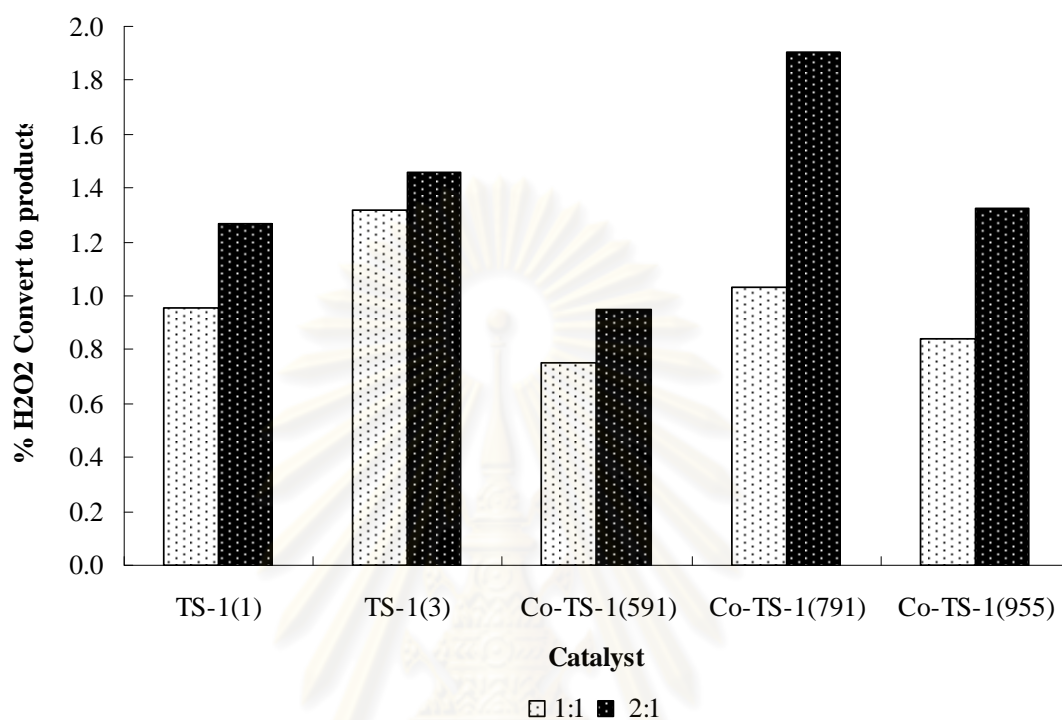
**Figure 4.5** Productivity at 70°C.

As previously mentioned in section 4.2 that the amount of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  required for one mole of benzaldehyde is twice the amount required for one mole of cresol. Therefore, benzaldehyde will be better formed on the surface having high concentration of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ . Increasing the amount of toluene, accompanied by the hydrophobicity by nature of the catalyst surface, will provide less chance for  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  to exist on the catalyst surface. This is the reason why the selectivity of benzaldehyde decreases while the combined selectivity of cresols increases.

**Figures 4.6 – 4.7** exhibit  $\% \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  converted to organic products, and productivity respectively of the experimental results obtained from the reaction temperature 90°C. The behavior of p-cresol formation when toluene/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  ratio is increased from 1:1 to 2:1 at this reaction temperature is the same as at 70°C, due to the same reason. The increasing of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  conversion and the significant increase in cresol selectivity is likely the effect of the behavior of water at temperature near its boiling point. It is known that the surface tension of water decreases when the water temperature increases. Water at 90°C has lower surface tension than at 70°C thus allowing more toluene to penetrate into the catalyst pore. The surface of the catalysts

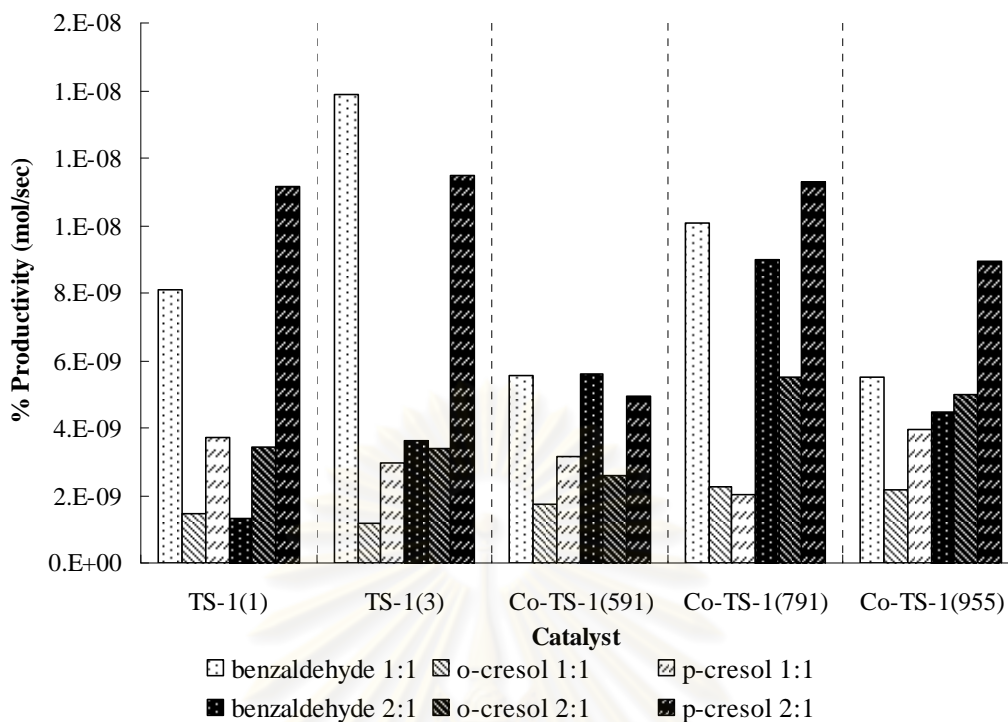


is, therefore, too rich in toluene and too lean in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ . This is the reason why the increasing of % $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  convert to product and the increase in cresol selectivity is observed.



**Figure 4.6** Percentage of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  converts to product at 90 °C.

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**Figure 4.7** Productivity at 90°C.

#### 4.2.2 Effect of temperature.

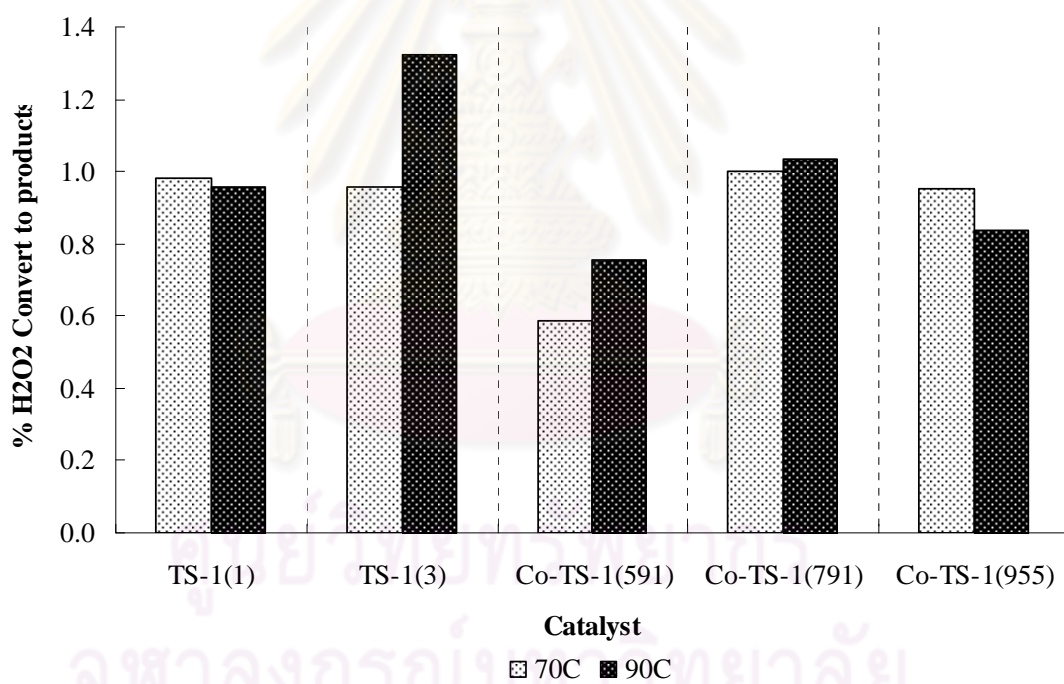
When the reaction temperature increases the following phenomena will occur:

- The reaction rate constant will increase following the Arrhenius's equation
- The concentration of toluene in the pore of the catalyst will increase as previously described on page 26

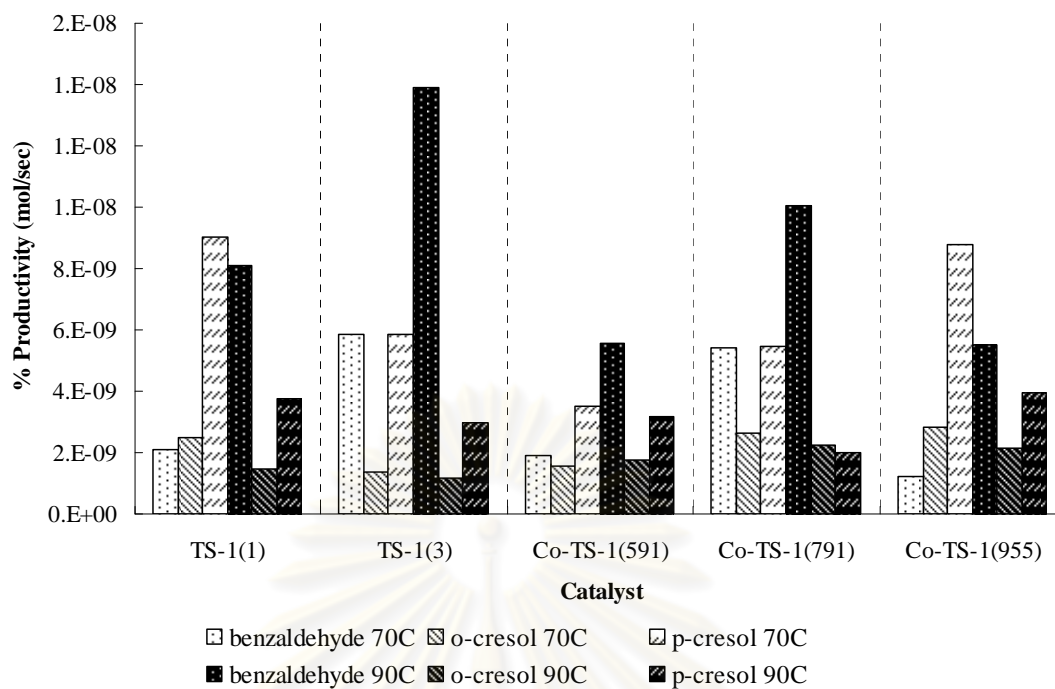
The hydroxylation reaction requires the existence of two reactant molecules (toluene and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  in our case) on the catalyst surface. At a reaction temperature, the reaction rate will depend on the ratio between the two reactant species following the Langmuir-Hinshenwood model. In our case, there are two reactions competitively occur on the catalyst surface i.e. the hydroxylation of toluene to benzaldehyde and the hydroxylation of toluene to cresol.

Phenomenon a) will increase the hydroxylation rate of toluene to benzaldehyde while phenomenon b) will increase the selectivity to cresol as previously described in section 4.2.1 and demonstrated in Figures 4.6 and 4.7. For the hydroxylation reaction of toluene to cresol both phenomena produces contradicts effects. Phenomenon a) will increase the hydroxylation rate of toluene to benzaldehyde but phenomenon b) will increase the selectivity to cresol due to less  $H_2O_2$  is available on the catalyst surface.

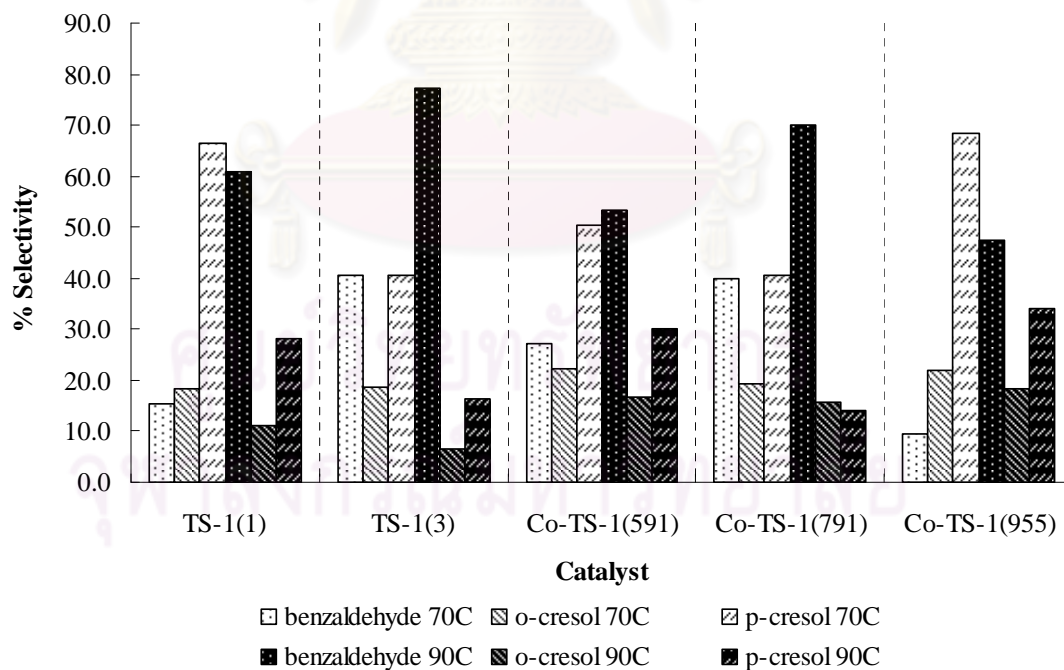
At the same toluene to  $H_2O_2$  ratio, it is observed that when the reaction temperature is increased from  $70^\circ C$  to  $90^\circ C$  both the productivity and selectivity of benzaldehyde increase. This result suggests that phenomenon a) plays the major role. The results are illustrated in **Figures 4.8 – 4.10**



**Figure 4.8** Percentage of  $H_2O_2$  converts to product at molar ratio toluene/ $H_2O_2$  = 1:1.

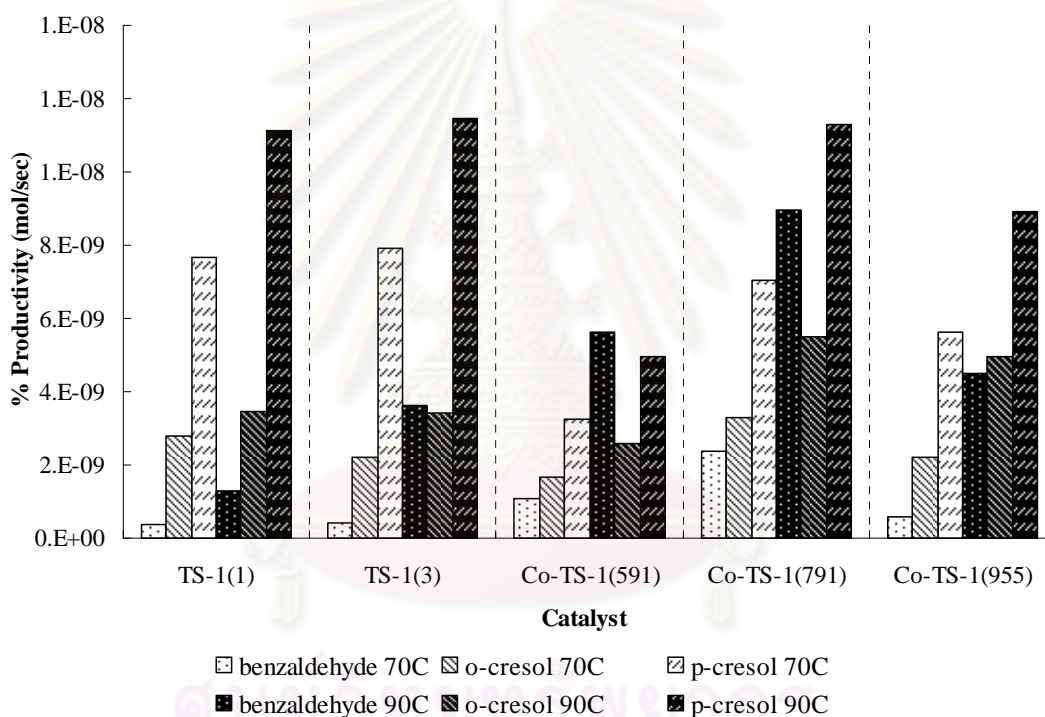


**Figure 4.9** Productivity at molar ratio toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = 1:1.



**Figure 4.10** Product selectivity at molar ratio toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = 1:1.

Let consider at the molar ratio toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = 2:1, the productivity and product selectivity (as shown in **Figures 4.11** and **4.12**) are similar to the molar ratio toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = 1:1. When the reaction temperature is increased, the productivity and selectivity of benzaldehyde increased. But as previously described in section 4.2.1 and showed in figure 4.10 that when toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> ratio is increased from 1:1 to 2:1, the catalyst surface is too rich in toluene and lack of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Therefore, cresols are allowed to produce more. Both benzaldehyde and cresols that are more produced causes % H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> converted to the organic products increase too (as shown in **Figure 4.13**).



**Figure 4.11** Productivity at molar ratio toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = 2:1.



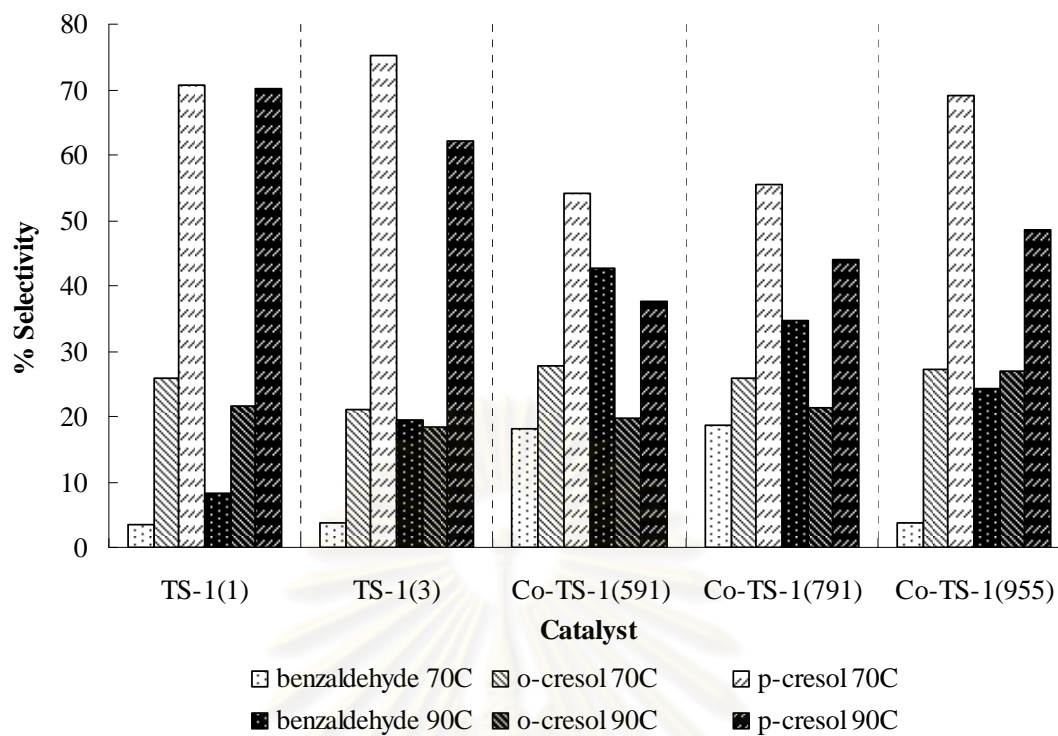


Figure 4.12 Product selectivity at molar ratio toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = 2:1.

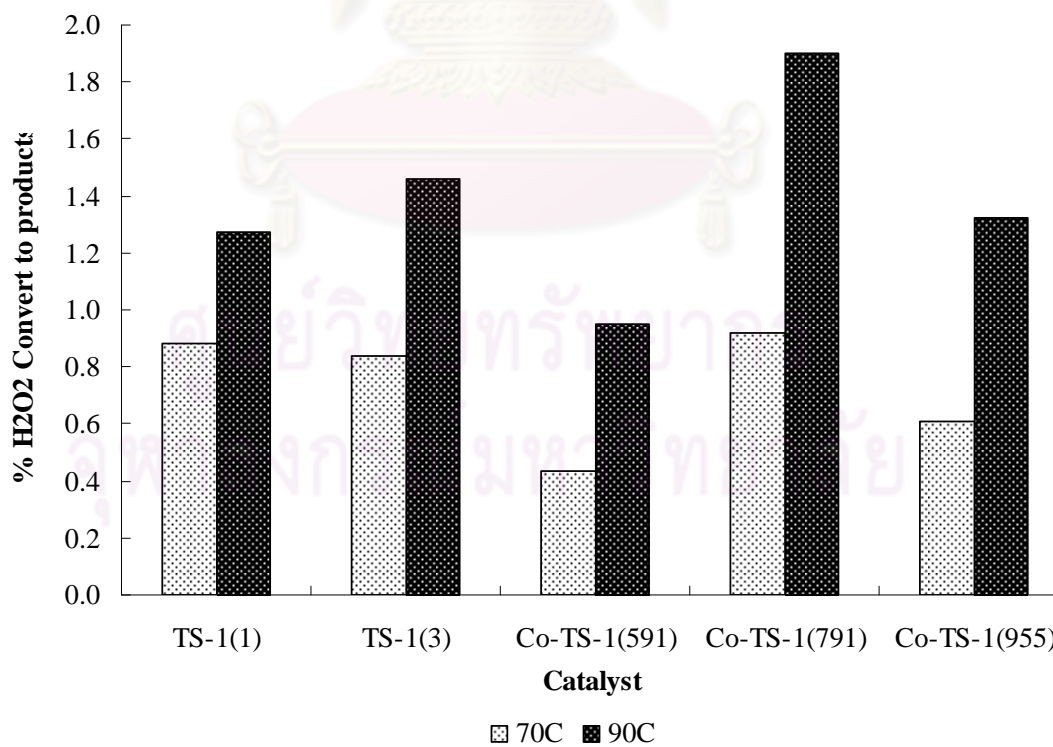


Figure 4.13 Percentage of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> convert to product at molar ratio toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = 2:1.

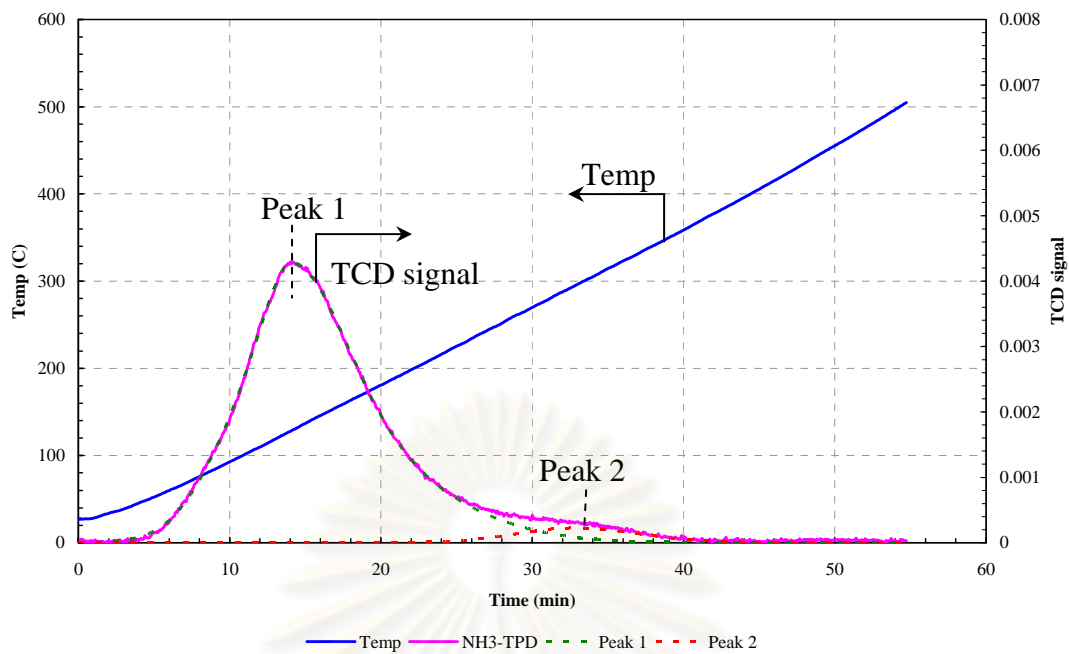
### 4.3 The importance of second metal

As illustrated in section 4.1.1 that the difference among the catalysts is the amount of cobalt cation incorporated. And in section 4.2 we have demonstrated that each catalyst has its own catalytic behavior. Therefore, it is a topic of interest in this research to determine, if possible, why difference amount of cobalt causes difference catalytic behavior.

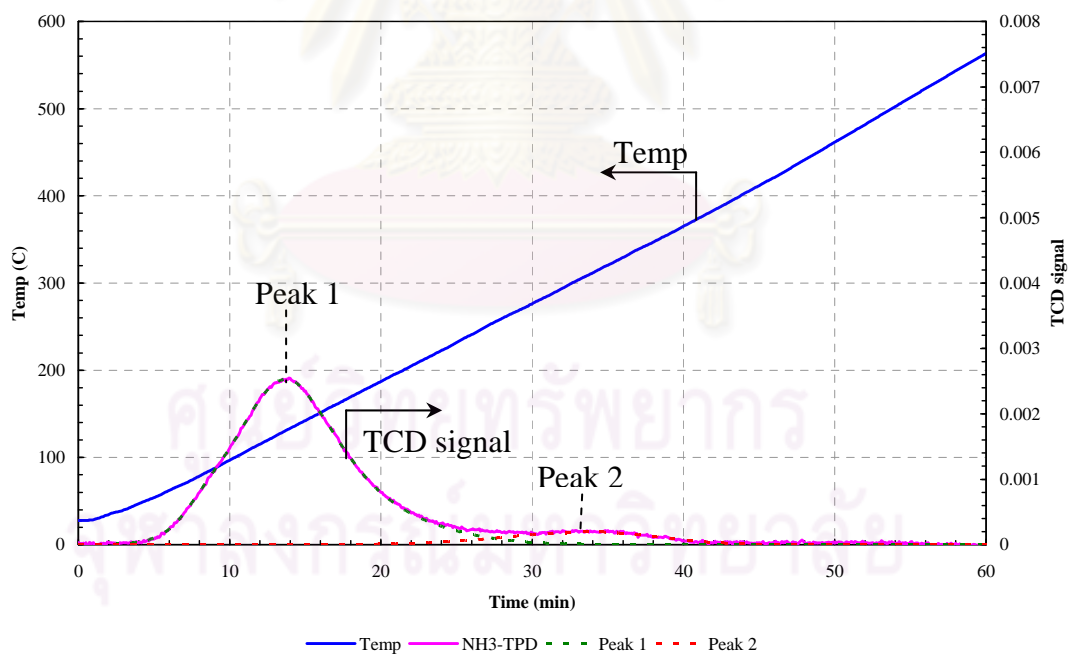
It can be noticed at 70°C with the molar ratio of toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = 1:1 (see figure 4.8-4.10) that TS-(1) and Co-TS-1(955) have almost the same activity but the selectivity of combine cresols of Co-TS-1(955) is higher due to the formation of benzaldehyde is more suppressed on Co-TS-1(955) than TS-1(1).

Let consider the NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD profiles, it is found that NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD profiles of TS-1(1) and TS-1(3) can be deconvoluted into two main peaks. The first peak, will be named here “the weak acid site”, appears around 130-137°C. The second peak, will be named here “the strong acid site”, appears around 303 - 310°C. The profiles of TS-1(1) and TS-1(3) are showed in **Figures 4.14** and **4.15**. The NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD of Co-TS-1(791), Co-TS-1(955), and Co-TS-1(591) are demonstrated in **Figures 4.16-4.18**. It is found that the NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD profiles of Co-TS-1 can be deconvoluted into three peaks. They have a special peak which unmodified TS-1 does not exist that is the peak around 190 – 214°C which will be named here “the medium strength acid site”. This peak possibly has effect on the catalytic activity of the catalysts.

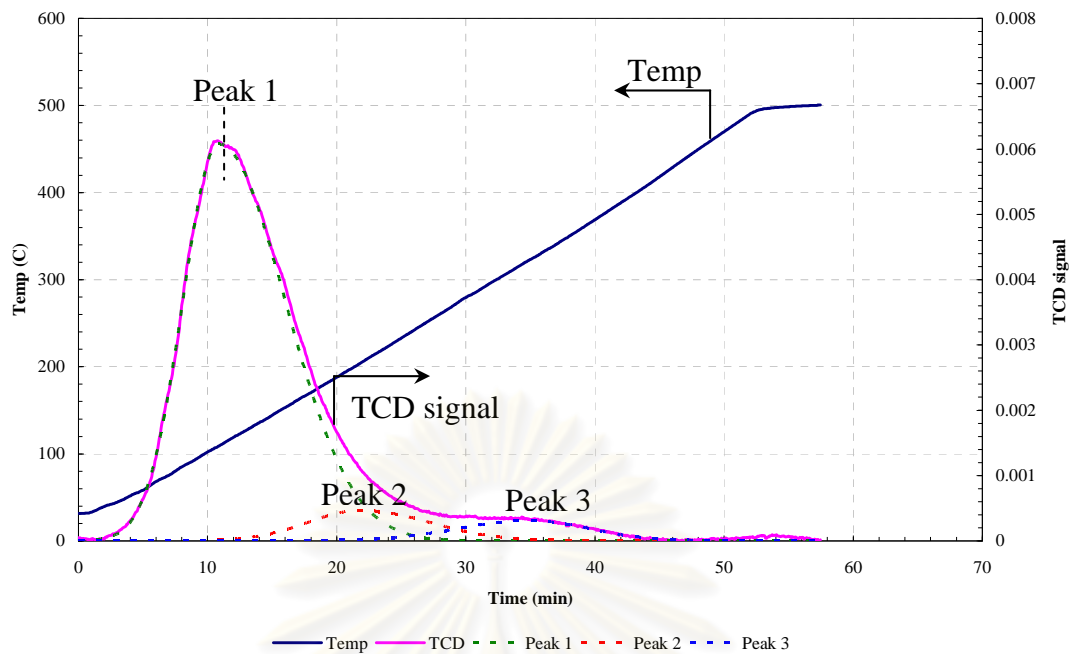
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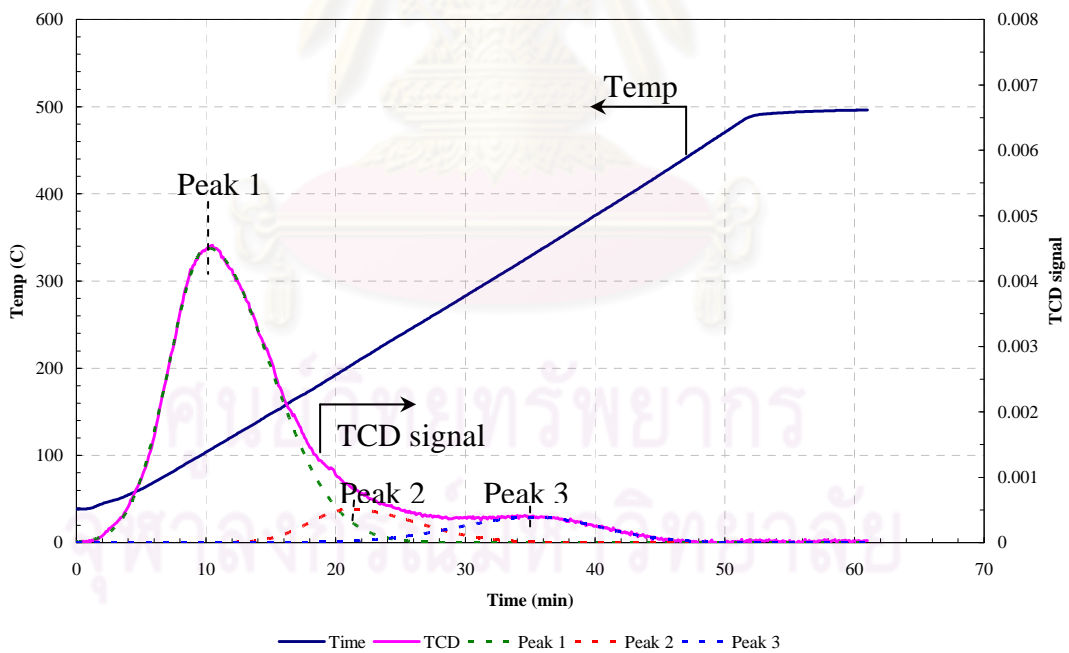
**Figure 4.14** NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD of TS-1(1).



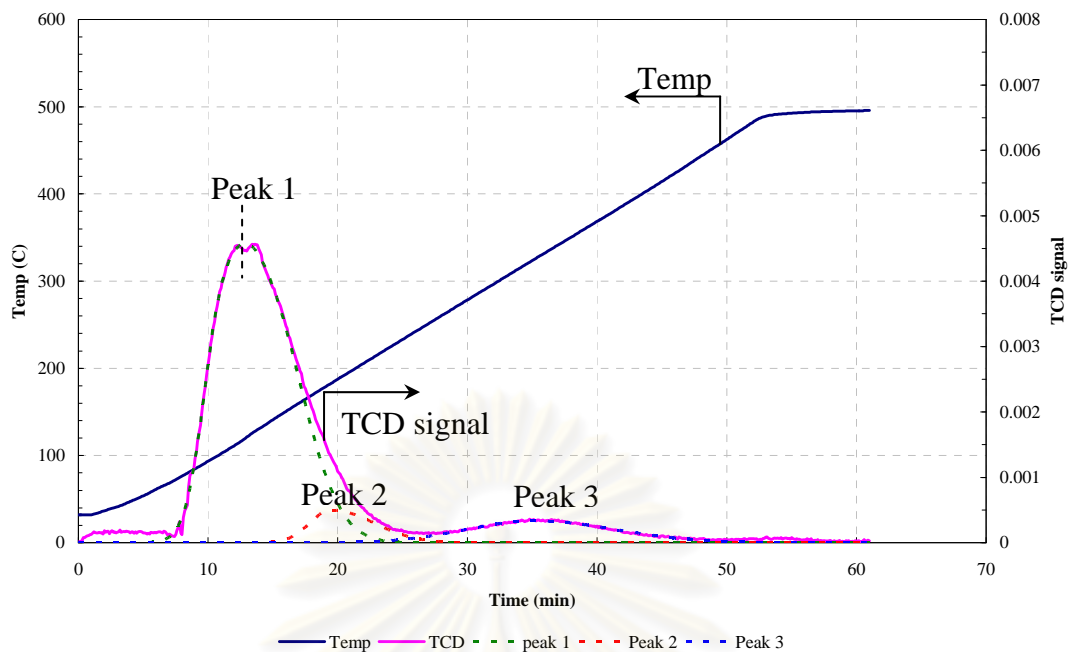
**Figure 4.15** NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD of TS-1(3).



**Figure 4.16** NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD of Co-TS-1(591).



**Figure 4.17** NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD of Co-TS-1(791).



**Figure 4.18** NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD of Co-TS-1(955).

#### 4.4 Proposed mechanism for the formation of benzaldehyde and cresols

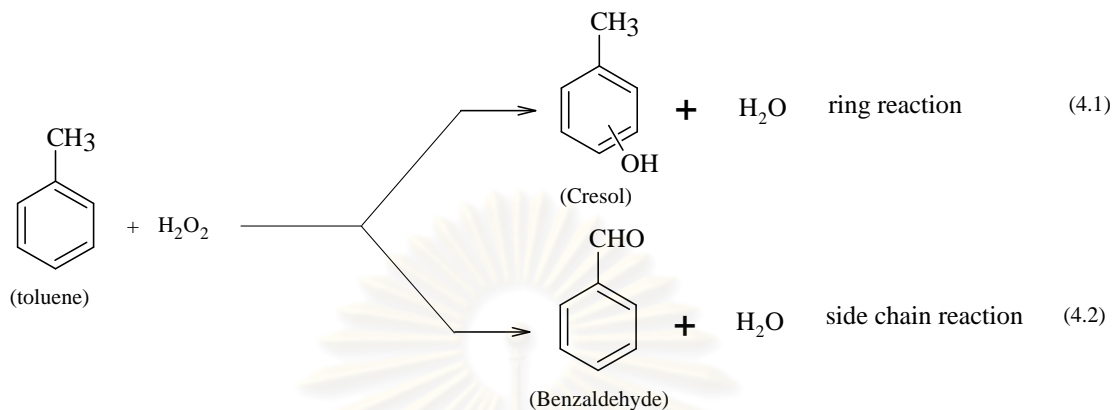
It has been demonstrated above that the reaction between toluene and hydrogen peroxide over TS-1 and Co-TS-1 results in benzaldehyde (oxidation at the side chain methyl group) and cresols (electrophilic substitution of H atom of the aromatic ring). Both reactions are summarized in **Figure 4.19**. In this section, the mechanisms for the formation of benzaldehyde and cresols will be proposed.

##### 4.4.1 Proposed mechanism for the electrophilic substitution

It is generally known that the substitution position of the second group on the aromatic ring depends on the ability of the first substitution group to withdraw or supply electron to the ring. In case the first substitution group is an alkyl group (-CH<sub>3</sub> in case of toluene), the second substitution will prefer the ortho- or para- position. In our case, therefore, the appearance of o-cresol and p-cresol with the absence of m-cresol is not beyond expectation.



Let consider the results from the hydroxylation of toluene gives two parallel reactions that are the reaction occurs directly to benzene ring (4.1) and reaction on methyl group (4.2). The two parallel reactions are showed in **Figure 4.19**.



**Figure 4.19** The two parallel reactions of hydroxylation of toluene.

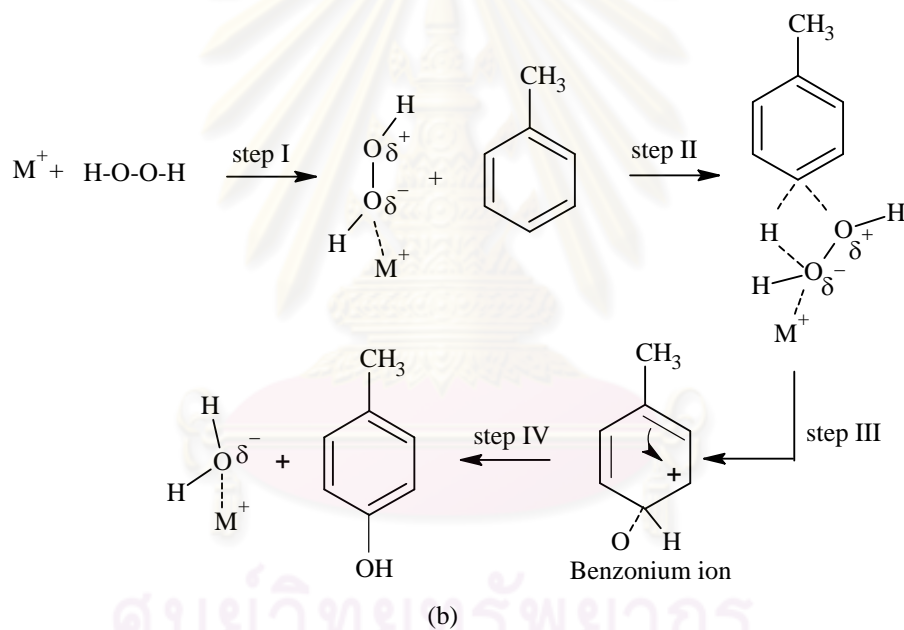
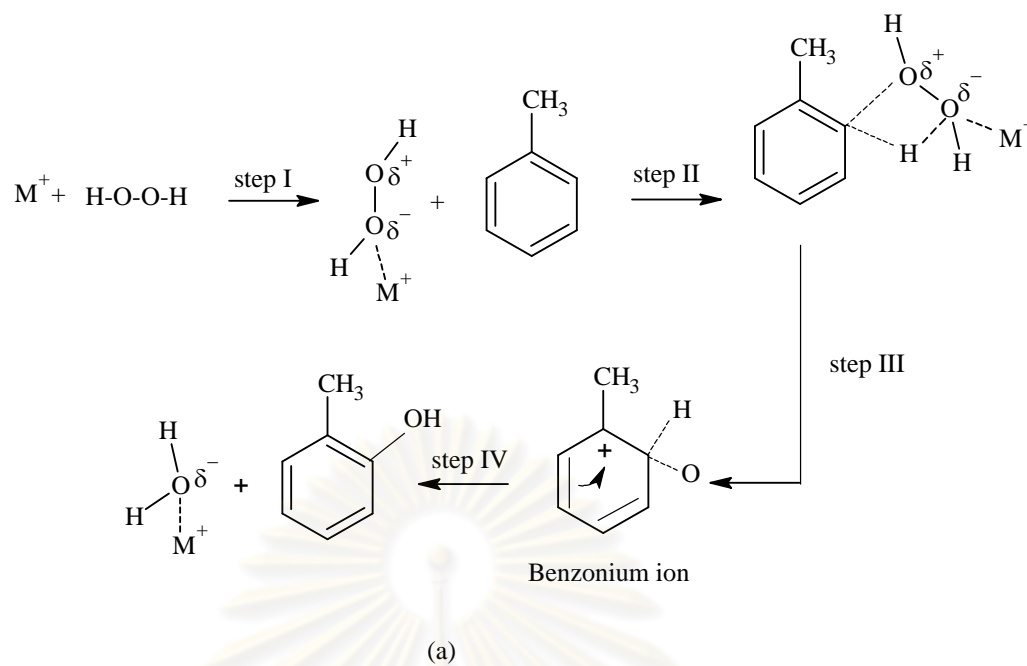
The mechanism for the formation of o-cresol and p-cresol are showed in **Figure 4.20**. The mechanism of cresol is proposed to consist of the following four steps:

Step (i) The metal active site convert hydrogen peroxide to a strong electrophile by forming a complex and polarizing the (OH)-(OH) bond.

Step (ii) The electrophile (-OH) attacks to one carbon atom of benzene ring at ortho- or para- position, using two pi electrons from the pi cloud to form a sigma bond with ring carbon atom. This carbon atom becomes  $\text{sp}^3$ -hybridized. The benzene ring acts as a pi electron donor, or nucleophile, toward the electrophilic reagent.

Step (iii) The benzenium ion, in which the positive charge is delocalized by resonance to the carbon atom at ortho and para to the carbon to which the OH radical became attached; that is ortho and para to the  $\text{sp}^3$  carbon atom.

Step (iv) The substitution is completed by loss of a proton from  $\text{sp}^3$  carbon atom, the same atom to which the electrophilic became attached.

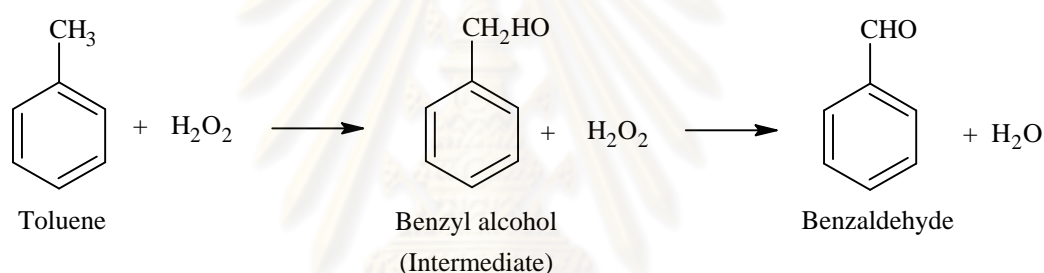


Where  $M^+$  is  $Ti^{4+}$  and second metal

**Figure 4.20** The mechanism of cresol in the hydroxylation of toluene o-cresol (a) and p-cresol (b).

#### 4.4.2 Proposed mechanism for the oxidation at the methyl group

The reaction scheme of benzaldehyde formation is expected to be different from the mechanism of cresol formation. The hydrogen atoms of the alkyl group attached to the ring can be replaced by free radicals (such as  $\text{H-O}\cdot$  and  $\text{H-O-O}\cdot$ ) more easily than hydrogen atom of the ring. Such free radicals may be generated from the decomposition of hydrogen peroxide by the presence of some cations. It is hypothesized that the formation of benzaldehyde will follow the mechanism similar to the halogenation of saturated hydrocarbon. The mechanism of the formation of benzaldehyde is shown in **Figure 4.21**. The active site in **Figure 4.21** is possibly the cations of Co and Ti which act as acidic site having strength higher than any other catalysts.



**Figure 4.21** The reaction scheme of benzaldehyde formation.

#### 4.5 Conclusions

From all of the experimental results and reasons described above, it can be concluded that Co-TS-1 has a potential to be used as a catalyst for the production of benzaldehyde via the reaction with hydrogen peroxide in a stirred reactor. The activity of the catalyst is believed to relate to the strength of the acid site of the catalyst. The weaker the acid site is, the more the cresols are formed. The role of cobalt is adjusting the acidity of the catalyst. The mechanism for the formation of benzaldehyde and cresols are also proposed.

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION

In this study, the TS-1 and TS-1 modified with cobalt metal are prepared and investigated catalytic activity with the hydroxylation of toluene. The effect to catalytic activity due to molar ratio toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, temperature and amount of cobalt loading are examined. The first part of this chapter presents the experimental result and discussion. At the end of this research the following conclusions and suggestion for future work are drawn

#### 5.1 Summerrization

The TS-1 and Co-TS-1 are synthesized by hydrothermal method. The cobalt metals are added incorporated during step of synthesis. All catalysts have the MFI structure with Ti<sup>4+</sup> incorporated in the framework following normal characteristic of TS-1 and do not existing TiO<sub>2</sub> anatase phase. The amount of cobalt can be adding cobalt up to 0.124 %mol does not destroy the structure of the catalyst. The acid site of TS-1 can be organized into two group; i.e. weak acid site and strong acid site while Co-TS-1 can be organized into three groups; i.e. weak acid site, medium strength acid site and strong acid site.

The catalytic activity of toluene hydroxylation with effect of molar ratio of toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> is tested at 1:1 and 2:1, respectively. All catalysts give products as benzaldehyde, o-cresol, and p-cresol. At the same temperature as 70°C, the benzaldehyde production decrease of all catalyst when the ratio of toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> is increased. The total % H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> convert to products follows order: Co-TS-1(791) > TS-1(1) > TS-1(3) > Co-TS-1(955) > Co-TS-1(591) and the selectivity of product observed follows sequence: Co-TS-1(955) > TS-1(1) > Co-TS-1(591) > Co-TS-1(791) > TS-1(3). When the temperature raise up produces an effect of the behavior of water at temperature near its boiling point. It is known that the surface tension of water decreases when the water temperature increases. Water at 90°C has lower surface tension than at 70°C thus allowing more toluene to penetrate into the catalyst

pore. The surface of the catalysts is, therefore, too rich in toluene and too lean in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  cause the increasing of % $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  convert to product and the increase in cresol selectivity.

An effect of temperature to hydroxylation of toluene, 70°C and 90 °C are investigated. At the same molar ratio of toluene/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  as 1:1, the reaction temperature is increased the productivity and selectivity of benzaldehyde increased due to reaction rate constant will increase following the Arrhenius's equation. The total %  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  convert to products follows order: Co-TS-1(791)  $\approx$  TS-1(1)  $\approx$  Co-TS-1(955)  $\approx$  TS-1(3)  $\approx$  Co-TS-1(591) and the selectivity of product observed follows sequence: Co-TS-1(150) > TS-1(1) > Co-TS-1(591) > Co-TS-1(791) > TS-1(3). When the molar ratio of toluene/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  increase the exhibit of productivity are similar at the molar ratio toluene/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  = 1:1. The temperature increase combine with the molar ratio of toluene/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  increase both of benzaldehyde and cresols that are more produced.

## 5.2 Recommendations

From the previous summarization, the following recommendations for future studies are proposed

(1) In this study, examine the catalytic activity of the catalyst at ambient pressure. It is possibly study at elevate pressure.

(2) In the experiments, the fresh catalysts are only used in the reaction. Further study on catalyst stability and regeneration is still needed



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**APPENDICES**

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## APPENDIX A

### CALCULATION FOR CATALYST PREPARATION

The calculation is based on weight of Sodium Silicalite ( $\text{Na}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{SiO}_2\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) in B1 and B2 solutions (Topic 3.1.2).

$$\text{Molecular Weight of Si} = 28.0855$$

$$\text{Molecular Weight of SiO}_2 = 60.0843$$

$$\text{Weight percent of SiO}_2 \text{ in sodium Silicate} = 28.5$$

Using Sodium Silicate 69 g with 45 g of water as B1 solution.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{mole of Si used} &= \text{wt.} \times \frac{(\%)}{100} \times \frac{(\text{M.W. of Si})}{(\text{M.W. of SiO}_2)} \times \frac{(1 \text{ mole})}{(\text{M.W. of Si})} \\ &= 69 \times (28.5/100) \times (1/60.0843) \\ &= 0.3273 \end{aligned}$$

MFI catalyst

For example, to prepare Si/Ti atomic ratio of 50 by using  $\text{Ti}[\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{CH}_3]_4$  for titanium source.

$$\text{Molecular weight of Ti} = 47.88$$

$$\text{Molecular weight of } \text{Ti}[\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{CH}_3]_4 = 340.36$$

$$\text{Weight \% purities of } \text{Ti}[\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{CH}_3]_4 = 97$$

Si/Ti atomic ratio = 50

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Mole of } \text{Ti}[\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{CH}_3]_4 \text{ required} &= 0.3273/50 \\ &= 6.546 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mole} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{amount of } \text{Ti}[\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{CH}_3]_4 &= (6.546 \times 10^{-3}) \times (340.36) \times (100/97) \\ &= 2.2970 \text{ g} \end{aligned}$$

For example, to prepare Si/Co atomic ratio of 150 by using  $\text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  for cobalt source.

$$\text{Molecular weight of Co} = 58.93$$

$$\text{Molecular weight of } \text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O} = 291.03$$

Si/Co atomic ratio = 150

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Mole of } \text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O} \text{ required} &= 0.3273/150 \\ &= 2.18 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mole} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{amount of } \text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O} &= (2.18 \times 10^{-3}) \times (291.03) \\ &= 0.635 \text{ g} \end{aligned}$$

which used in A1 and A2 solutions.



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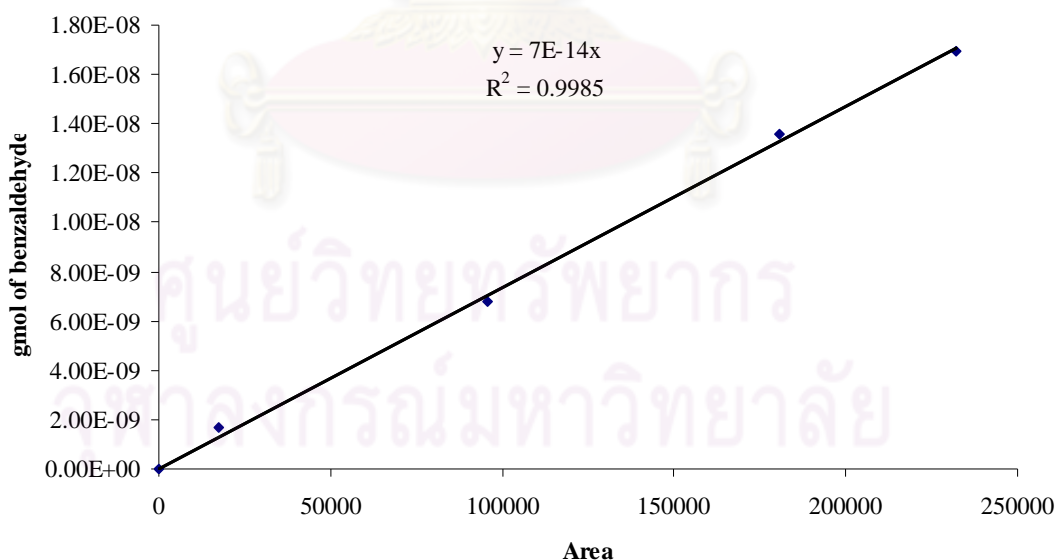
## APPENDIX B

### CALIBRATION CURVES

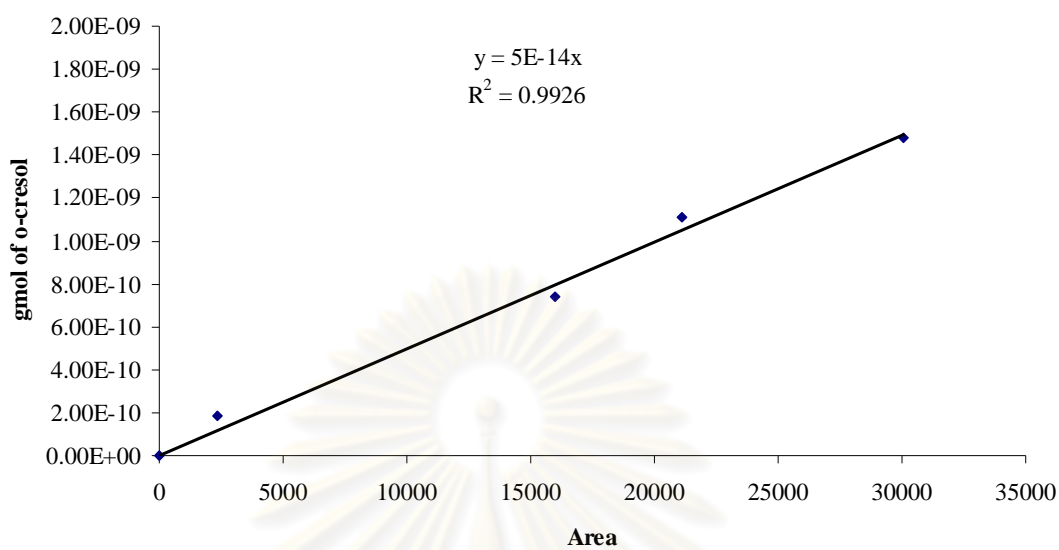
This appendix shows the calibration curves for calculation of products in hydroxylation of toluene reaction. The main product is benzaldehyde, o-cresol and p-cresol.

The flame ionization detector, gas chromatography Shimadzu model 9A was used to analyze the concentration of toluene and products by using GP 10% SP-2100 column.

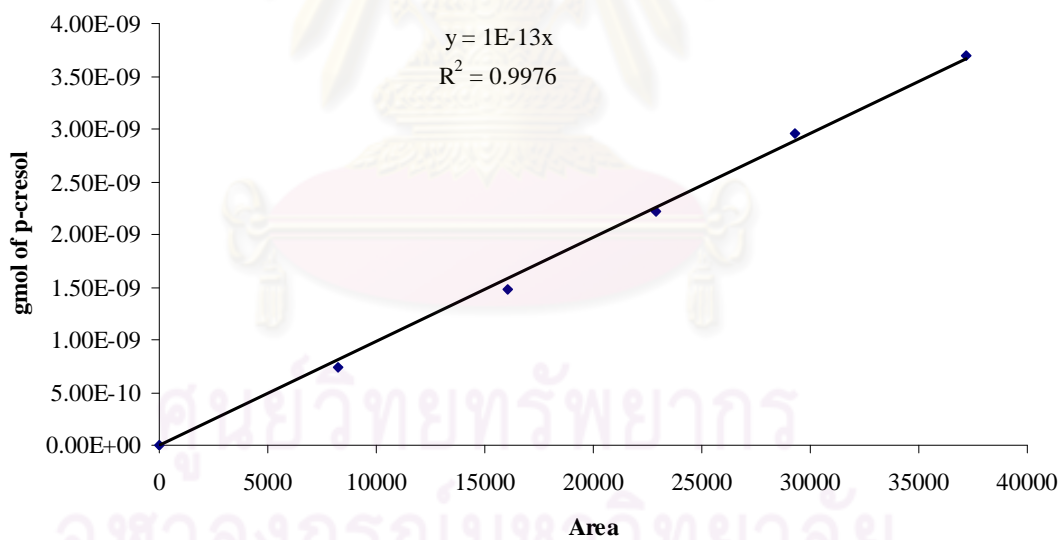
Mole of reagent in y-axis and area reported by gas chromatography in x-axis are exhibited in the curves. The calibration curve of benzaldehyde, o-cresol and p-cresol is illustrated in the following figure.



**Figure B1** The calibration curve of benzaldehyde.



**Figure B2** The calibration curve of o-cresol.



**Figure B3** The calibration curve of p-cresol.

## APPENDIX C

### CALCULATION OF PRODUCTIVITY AND SECLECTIVITY

The productivity and selectivity for the hydroxylation of toluene was evaluated as example, selectivity and productivity of o-cresol

1. The productivity of o-cresol

$$\text{Productivity of o-cresol} = \frac{\text{Overall mole o-cresol}}{\text{Weigth catalyst (g)} \times 7200}$$

2. The selectivity of product

$$\% \text{ Selectivity of o-cresol} = \frac{\% \text{ Conversion of toluene to cresol}}{\% \text{ Total conversion of toluene to products}}$$

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## APPENDIX D

## DATA OF EXPERIMENTS

**Table D1** Data of Figure 4.8

Catalyst	% Total hydrogen peroxide convert to product at 70°C	
	Molar ratio toluene/H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	
	1:1	2:1
TS-1(1)	0.97980	0.87897
TS-1(3)	0.95910	0.83898
Co-TS-1(591)	0.58538	0.43399
Co-TS-1(791)	1.00276	0.91663
Co-TS-1(955)	0.95411	0.60892

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**Table D2** Data of Figure 4.9

Catalyst	Productivity at 70°C					
	Molar ratio toluene/H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>					
	1:1			2:1		
	Benzaldehyde	o-cresol	p-cresol	Benzaldehyde	o-cresol	p-cresol
TS-1(1)	2.083E-09	2.488E-09	9.024E-09	3.6707E-10	2.80168E-09	7.66588E-09
TS-1(3)	5.838E-09	1.35E-09	5.859E-09	4.0437E-10	2.20904E-09	7.91397E-09
Co-TS-1(591)	5.402E-09	2.617E-09	5.487E-09	2.371E-09	3.28639E-09	7.06081E-09
Co-TS-1(791)	1.9E-09	1.545E-09	3.522E-09	1.084E-09	1.67569E-09	3.26195E-09
Co-TS-1(955)	1.236E-09	2.821E-09	8.794E-09	6.0193E-10	2.21954E-09	5.62727E-09

**Table D3** Data of Figure 4.10

Catalyst	% Total hydrogen peroxide convert to product at 90°C	
	Molar ratio toluene/H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	
	1:1	2:1
TS-1(1)	0.9585	1.2706
TS-1(3)	1.3214	1.4588
Co-TS-1(591)	0.7544	0.9489
Co-TS-1(791)	1.0320	1.9037
Co-TS-1(955)	0.8384	1.3249

**Table D4** Data of Figure 4.11

Catalyst	Productivity at 90°C					
	Molar ratio toluene/H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>					
	1:1			2:1		
	Benzaldehyde	o-cresol	p-cresol	Benzaldehyde	o-cresol	p-cresol
TS-1(1)	8.10E-09	1.47E-09	3.73E-09	1.31E-09	3.45E-09	1.11E-08
TS-1(3)	1.39E-08	1.18E-09	2.98E-09	3.61E-09	3.4E-09	1.15E-08
Co-TS-1(591)	1.01E-08	2.25E-09	2.02E-09	8.97E-09	5.5E-09	1.13E-08
Co-TS-1(791)	5.57E-09	1.73E-09	3.17E-09	5.61E-09	2.6E-09	4.95E-09
Co-TS-1(955)	5.51E-09	2.15E-09	3.97E-09	4.48E-09	4.97E-09	8.93E-09

**Table D5** Data of Figure 4.12

Catalyst	% Total hydrogen peroxide convert to products at molar ratio of toluene/H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> = 1:1	
	At 70°C	At 90°C
TS-1(1)	0.97980	0.9585
TS-1(3)	0.95910	1.3214
Co-TS-1(591)	0.58538	0.7544
Co-TS-1(791)	1.00276	1.0320
Co-TS-1(955)	0.95411	0.8384



**Table D6** Data of Figure 4.13

Catalyst	% Product selectivities at molar ratio of toluene/H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> = 1:1					
	At 70°C			At 90°C		
	Benzaldehyde	o-cresol	p-cresol	Benzaldehyde	o-cresol	p-cresol
TS-1(1)	2.08E-09	2.49E-09	9.02E-09	8.10E-09	1.47E-09	3.73E-09
TS-1(3)	5.84E-09	1.35E-09	5.86E-09	1.39E-08	1.18E-09	2.98E-09
Co-TS-1(591)	5.4E-09	2.62E-09	5.49E-09	1.01E-08	2.25E-09	2.02E-09
Co-TS-1(791)	1.9E-09	1.54E-09	3.52E-09	5.57E-09	1.73E-09	3.17E-09
Co-TS-1(955)	1.24E-09	2.82E-09	8.79E-09	5.51E-09	2.15E-09	3.97E-09

**Table D7** Data of Figure 4.14

Catalyst	% Total hydrogen peroxide convert to products at molar ratio of toluene/H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> = 2:1	
	At 70°C	At 90°C
TS-1(1)	0.87897	1.2706
TS-1(3)	0.83898	1.4588
Co-TS-1(591)	0.43399	0.9489
Co-TS-1(791)	0.91663	1.9037
Co-TS-1(955)	0.60892	1.3249

**Table D8** Data of Figure 4.15

Catalyst	% Product selectivities at molar ratio of toluene/H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> = 2:1					
	At 70°C			At 90°C		
	Benzaldehyde	o-cresol	p-cresol	Benzaldehyde	o-cresol	p-cresol
TS-1(1)	3.671E-10	2.802E-09	7.666E-09	1.308E-09	3.449E-09	1.114E-08
TS-1(3)	4.044E-10	2.209E-09	7.914E-09	3.606E-09	3.399E-09	1.148E-08
Co-TS-1(591)	2.371E-09	3.286E-09	7.061E-09	8.969E-09	5.505E-09	1.131E-08
Co-TS-1(791)	1.084E-09	1.676E-09	3.262E-09	5.614E-09	2.6E-09	4.952E-09
Co-TS-1(955)	6.019E-10	2.22E-09	5.627E-09	4.485E-09	4.968E-09	8.93E-09

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## APPENDIX E

### NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD

The NH<sub>3</sub>-TPD profile is deconvolved using a “fityk” deconvolution programme after base line subtraction. The results obtained from the programme suggest that the acidic site can be categorized into 3 groups, according to their desorption peaks. The first one locates around 130-150 °C which will be named here “the weak acid site”. The second one locates around 150-180 °C which will be named here “the medium strength acid site” and the last group locates higher than 180 °C and will be named here “the strong acid site”. The location of each peak and amount of peak type of the acidic site

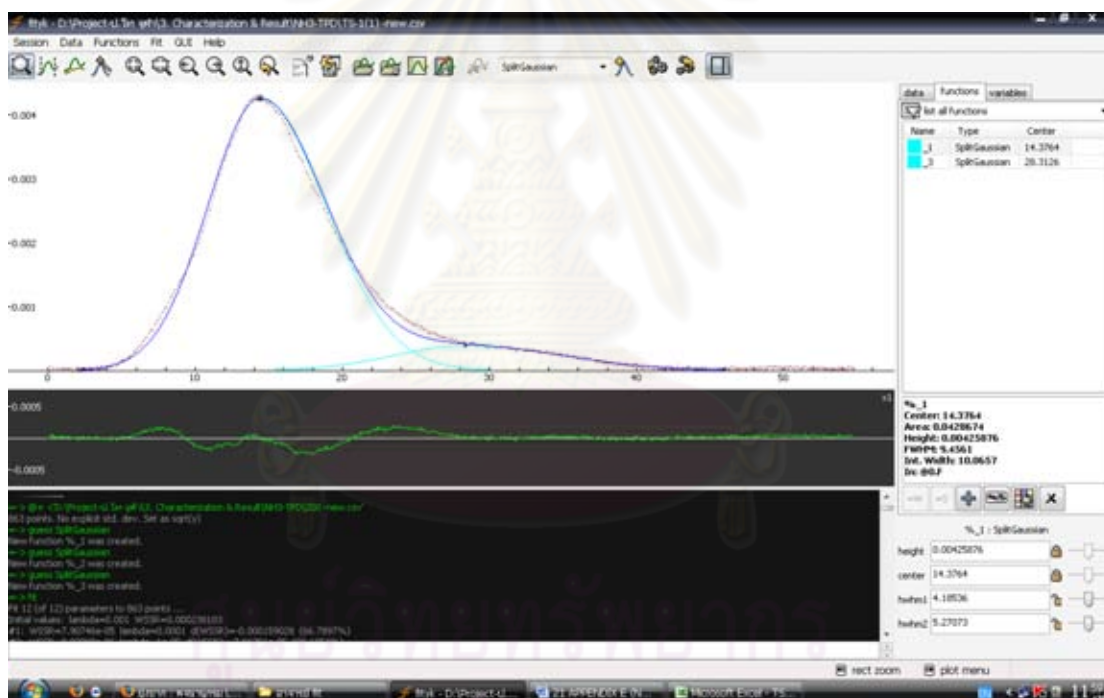


Figure E1 Curve fitting of TS-1(1).

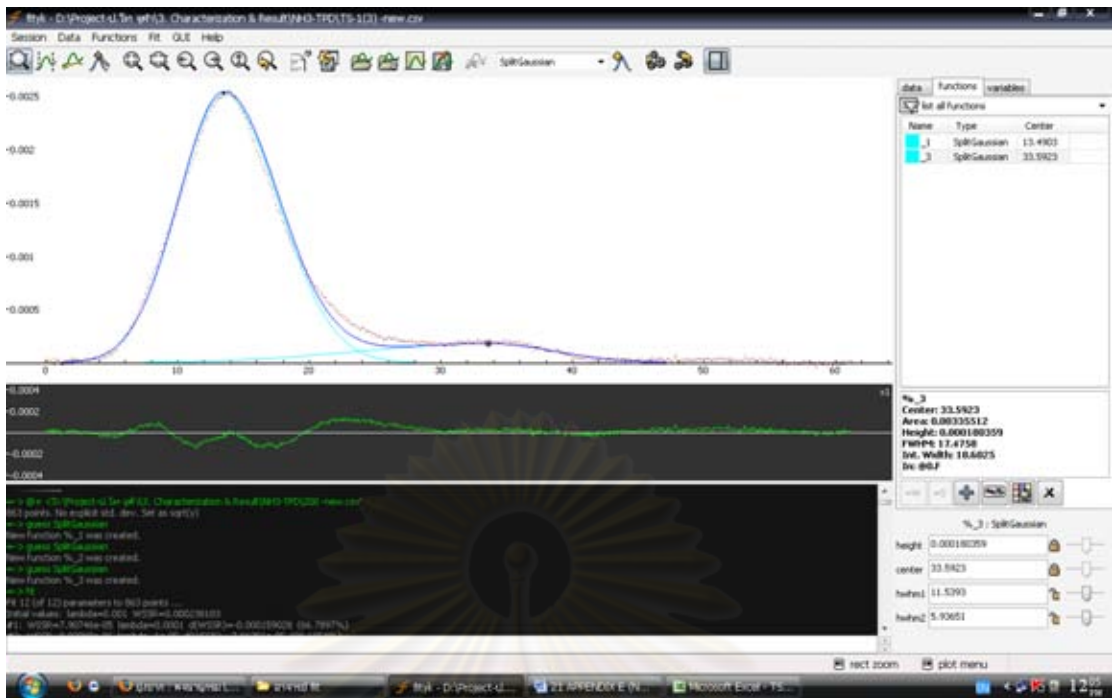


Figure E2 Curve fitting of TS-1(3).

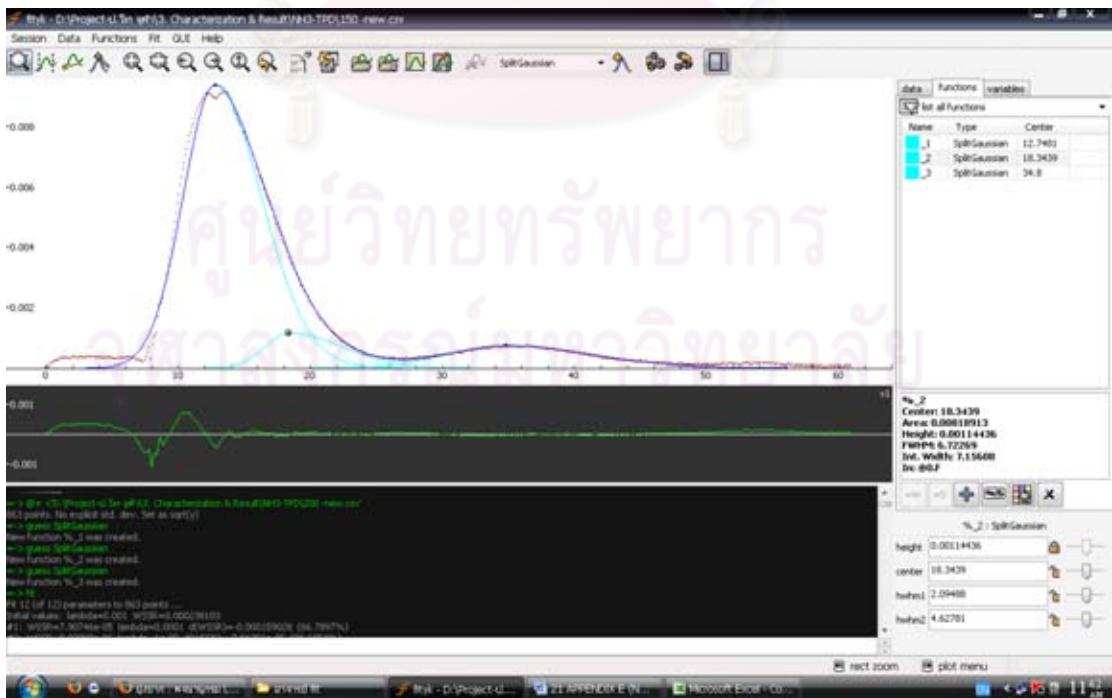


Figure E3 Curve fitting of Co-TS-1(955).

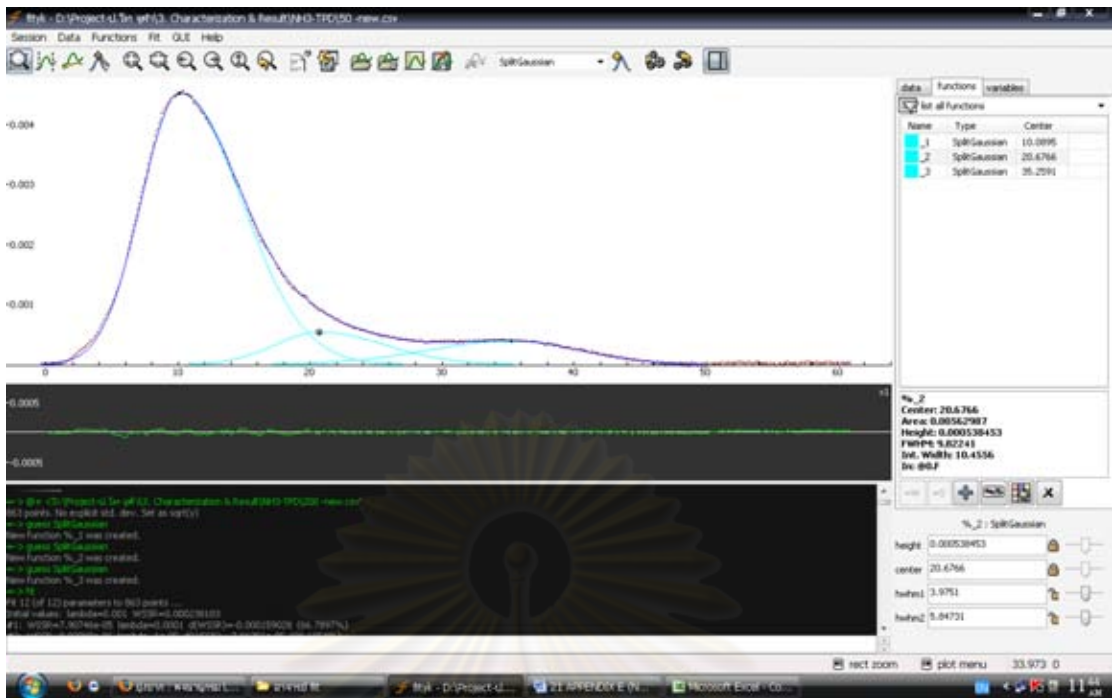


Figure E4 Curve fitting of Co-TS-1(791).

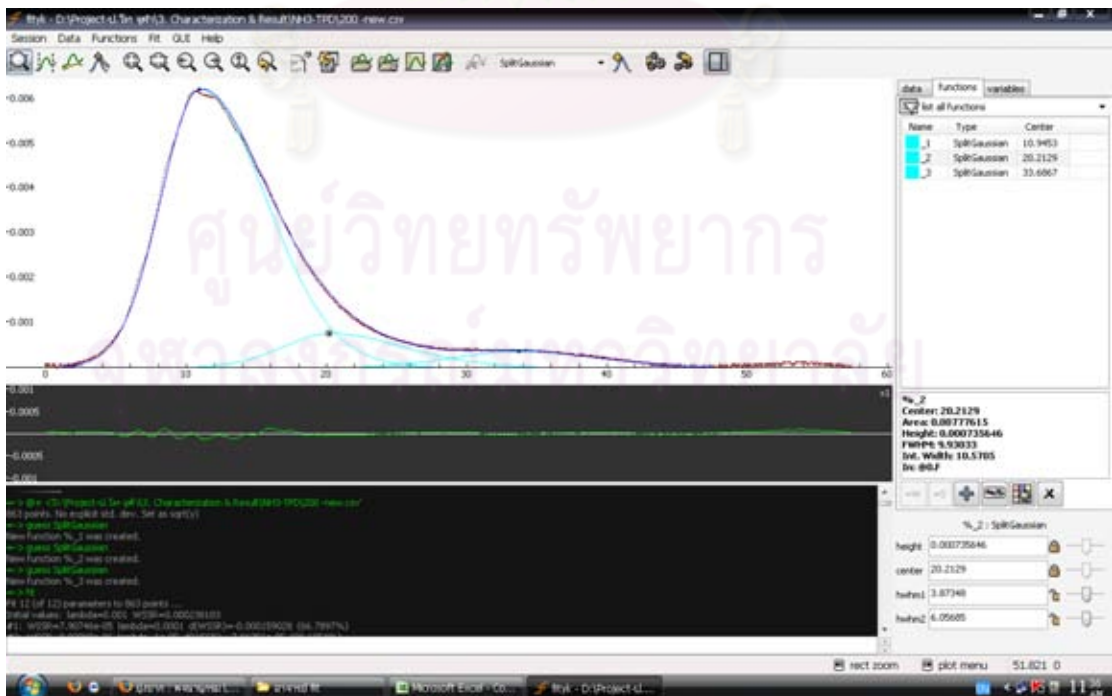


Figure E5 Curve fitting of Co-TS-1(591).

## APPENDIX F

### CALCULATION OF METAL QUANTITY

#### Example of the calculation of the metal quantity in catalyst

The XRF results were reported in the amount of metal oxide as shown in table F1

**Table F1** Data of TS-1(1) from XRF technique

Metal oxide	Concentration (% wt)
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.058
SiO <sub>2</sub>	97.203
CaO	0.03
TiO <sub>2</sub>	2.566
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.041

Molecular weights of the metal oxides are shown as follow:

Metal Oxide	Molecular weight (MW)
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	101.9613
SiO <sub>2</sub>	60.0843
CaO	56.0774
TiO <sub>2</sub>	79.8658
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	159.6922
CoO	74.9326

#### 1. Mole of metal oxides

$$\text{Mole of } Al_2O_3 = \frac{\text{weight of } Al_2O_3}{\text{molecular weight of } Al_2O_3}$$

$$\text{Mole of } Al_2O_3 = \frac{0.058}{101.9613} = 5.69 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mole}$$



## 2. Mole of cation (e.g. Aluminium: Al)

Mole of cation = (number of cation atom) × (mole of metal oxide)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Mole of Al} &= (2) \times (5.69 \times 10^{-4}) \\ &= 0.001707 \text{ mole} \end{aligned}$$

## 3. Mole percent of cation (e.g. Aluminium: Al)

$$\text{Mole \% of Al} = \frac{\text{mole of Al}}{\text{total mole of cations}}$$

$$\text{Mole \% of Al} = \frac{0.001707}{6.60317} = 0.000258 \text{ mole\%}$$

Calculated weight%, mole of metal oxide, mole of metal and mole% of cation are illustrated in

**Table F2** Calculated weight of TS-1(1)

TS-1(1)			mole of metal oxide	mole of cation	mole % of cation	Mol %
Compound	% wt	MW				
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.058	101.9613	5.69E-04	0.001707	0.000258	0.025844
SiO <sub>2</sub>	97.203	60.0843	1.617777	6.471108	0.98	98.00002
CaO	0.03	56.0774	5.35E-04	0.00107	0.000162	0.016204
TiO <sub>2</sub>	2.566	79.8658	3.21E-02	0.128516	0.019463	1.946271
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.041	159.6922	2.57E-04	0.00077	0.000117	0.011665

**Table F3** Calculated weight of TS-1(3)

TS-1(3)			mole of metal oxide	mole of cation	mole % of cation	Mol %
Compound	% wt	MW				
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.072	101.9613	7.06E-04	0.002118	0.000323	0.032269
SiO <sub>2</sub>	95.99	60.0843	1.597589	6.390355	0.97341	97.34101
CaO	0.0199	56.0774	3.55E-04	0.00071	0.000108	0.010811
TiO <sub>2</sub>	3.418	79.8658	4.28E-02	0.171187	0.026076	2.607607
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.029	159.6922	1.82E-04	0.000545	0.000083	0.008299

**Table F4** Calculated weight of Co-TS-1(955)

Co-TS-1(150)			mole of metal oxide	mole of cation	mole % of cation	Mol %
Compound	% wt	MW				
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.041	101.9613	4.02E-04	1.21E-03	0.00018	0.018365
SiO <sub>2</sub>	96.07	60.0843	1.598920	6.395681	0.97366	97.36552
SO <sub>3</sub>	0.321	80.0622	4.01E-03	-	-	-
TiO <sub>2</sub>	3.285	79.8658	4.11E-02	1.65E-01	0.02505	2.504684
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.033	159.6922	2.07E-04	6.20E-04	0.00009	0.009438
CoO	0.251	74.9326	3.35E-03	6.70E-03	0.00102	0.101989

**Table F5** Calculated weight of Co-TS-1(791)

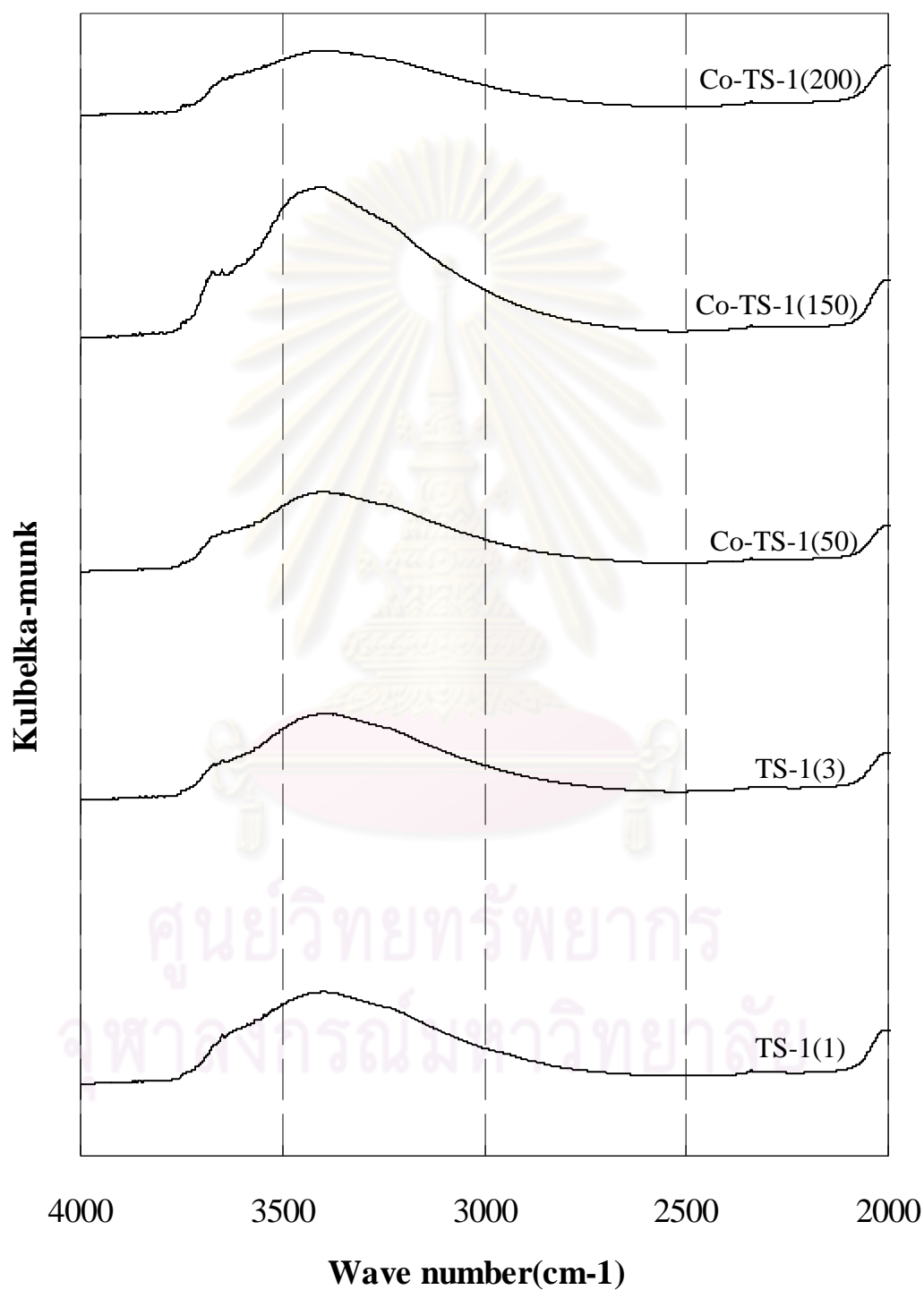
Co-TS-1(50)			mole of metal oxide	mole of cation	mole % of cation	Mol %
Compound	% wt	MW				
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.098	101.9613	9.61E-04	2.88E-03	0.00044	0.043929
SiO <sub>2</sub>	96.696	60.0843	1.609339	6.437356	0.98072	98.0722
SO <sub>3</sub>	0.56	80.0622	6.99E-03	-	-	-
TiO <sub>2</sub>	2.286	79.8658	2.86E-02	1.14E-01	0.01744	1.74427
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.053	159.6922	3.32E-04	9.96E-04	0.00015	0.015169
CoO	0.306	74.9326	4.08E-03	8.17E-03	0.00124	0.124428

**Table F6** Calculated weight of Co-TS-1(591)

Co-TS-1(200)			mole of metal oxide	mole of cation	mole % of cation	Mol %
Compound	% wt	MW				
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.07	101.9613	6.87E-04	2.06E-03	0.00031	0.031349
SiO <sub>2</sub>	96.215	60.0843	1.601333	6.405334	0.97496	97.49626
SO <sub>3</sub>	0.261	80.0622	3.26E-03	-	-	-
TiO <sub>2</sub>	3.013	79.8658	3.77E-02	1.51E-01	0.02297	2.296913
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.034	159.6922	2.13E-04	6.39E-04	0.00010	0.009722
CoO	0.408	74.9326	5.44E-03	1.09E-02	0.00166	0.165755

## APPENDIX G

## FT-IR



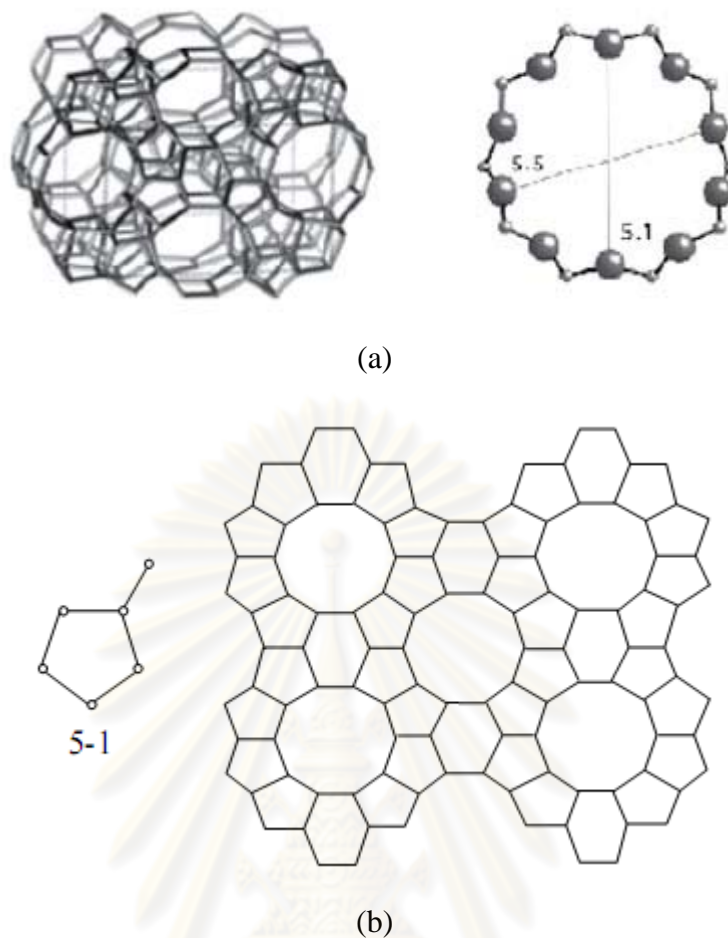
**Figure G1** The absorption band of TS-1 and Co-TS-1 in wave number range between 2000 – 4000 cm<sup>-1</sup>

## Appendix H

### Titanium silicalite-1

Zeolites are hydratedaluminosilicate that are built from an infinite extending three dimension of  $\text{AlO}_4$  and  $\text{SiO}_4$  tetrahedra linked to each other by the sharing of oxygen atom. Each  $\text{AlO}_4$  tetrahedron in the framework bears a net negative charge which is balanced by a cation, normally from group IA or IIA. The framework contains channels and interconnected voids which are occupied by the cation and water molecules. The cations are movable and may usually be exchanged by other cations.

The topology of the zeolite framework is given by a unique three-letter code which is not related to the composition of the material. ZSM-5 and silicalite-1 are material with MFI topology. As previously mention, the cation may be exchanged and if  $\text{Si}^{4+}$  exchange with  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  these zeolite is called “Titanium silicalite-1”. The MFI structure is a common pattern of crystalline zeolite that is built up by 5-1 secondary building unit (SBU: the smallest number of  $\text{TiO}_4$  units, where T is Si or Al but in case of TS-1 at T position is replacing with Si or Ti, from which zeolite topology is built) which are link together to form chain and the interconnection of these chains leads to the formation of the channel system in the structure. The MFI structure has a three dimensional pore system consisting of sinusoidal 10-ring channels ( $5.1 \times 5.5 \text{ \AA}$ ) and intersecting straight 10-ring channels ( $5.3 \times 5.6 \text{ \AA}$ ) (Tosheva et al., 1999). The MFI structure shows in **Figure H1**.



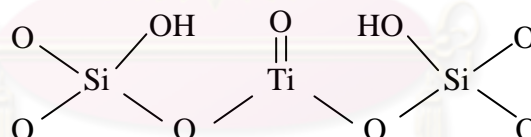
**Figure H1** MFI structure in three dimensional (a) and a 5-1 secondary building unit (b)

Titanium has a stable valence of 4 and in an oxidizing medium it is very likely that this valence is maintained. An examination of the chemistry of  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  compounds immediately shows that  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  has a strong tendency to assume a high coordination number: with oxygen, six groups in octahedral coordination form a stable and very frequently observed configuration, but to do this  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  must have near neighbours capable of increasing their coordination number to satisfy at the same time titanium valency of four and coordination of six. When bulky groups are linked to  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$ , tetrahedral coordination is also observed. Coordination of seven in a pentagonal pyramidal arrangement like in peroxo compounds and of eight like in  $\text{Ti}(\text{NO}_3)_4$  are also observed.

From the crystalline structure and the regular change in unit cell parameters which are consistent with isomorphous substitution of  $\text{Si}^{4+}$  with  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  it seems justified

to represent TS-1 as a silicalite in which few  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  have taken the place of  $\text{Si}^{4+}$ . The interpretation of the catalytic activity of TS-1 must take into consideration the role played by these few  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$ : in fact pure silicalite is totally inactive, and other phases containing Ti have not been identified. Due to the fact that TS-1 crystallizes from a homogeneous solution, it is reasonable to assume that the distribution of  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  in the crystal lattice is at random; since the silicon/titanium ratio is in the range 40 - 90 in typical preparations, most  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  must be isolated from each other by long sequences of -O-Si-O-Si-O-. If  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  replaces a  $\text{Si}^{4+}$  it should be tetrahedrally coordinated by O= however, the presence of a band at  $980\text{ cm}^{-1}$  closely corresponds to the band observed in other titanium compounds containing the  $\text{Ti} = \text{O}$  group, whose stretching frequency is  $975\text{ cm}^{-1}$  with bond distances of  $1.66 - 1.79\text{ \AA}$ ; furthermore, hydroxyl groups are present at the surface as shown by the increase in selectivity which is obtained upon silylation.

Finally, near neighbour positions of  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  are occupied by  $\text{Si}^{4+}$  which in a field of O= is stable only in tetrahedral coordination. A simple representation of the sites where substitution has occurred which takes into consideration the various pieces of experimental evidence could be



The amount of titanium positioned within the framework of the molecular sieve is believed to be important and beneficial in many reactions. However, it is also widely believed that non-framework Ti-species, on the exterior or interior surfaces of crystals may decrease the catalytic effectiveness of titanium-silicate molecular sieves. Similar deleterious effects may be caused by other contaminants such as aluminum and alkali elements. In particular, extra-framework massive Ti-oxides as well as other contaminants cause undesirable side reactions and consequence losses of activity and selectivity of the catalyst.



**APPENDIX I****MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET****Toluene****Safety data for toluene****General**

Synonyms: methylbenzene, phenylmethane, toluol, antisal 1A, CP 25, methacide, methylbenzol

Molecular formula:  $C_6H_5(CH_3)$

**Physical data**

Appearance: Colourless liquid with a benzene-like odour (odour threshold 0.17 ppm)

Melting point:  $-93\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

Boiling point:  $110.6\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

Specific gravity: 0.865

Vapour pressure: 22 mm Hg at  $20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  (vapour density 3.2)

Flash point:  $4\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

Explosion limits: 1% - 7%

Autoignition temperature:  $536\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

**Stability**

Stable. Substances to be avoided: oxidizing agents, oxygen, moisture. Highly flammable. Hygroscopic.

## **Toxicology**

Toxic by inhalation, ingestion or by absorption through skin. Serious irritant. Experimental teratogen.

## **Personal protection**

Safety glasses. Good ventilation.

## **Hydrogen Peroxide, 30% solution**

### **Safety data for hydrogen peroxide, 30% solution**

#### **General**

Synonyms: albone 30, albone 35, albone 50, albone 70, albone 35cg, albone 50cg, albone 70cg, interox, kastone, perone 30, perone 35, perone 50. Data also applies to solutions of similar strength.

Note: Typical concentrations lie in the range 3%-35%. Solutions of much higher concentration (e.g. 60% and above) present significantly increased risks, and should not be used unless such strength is absolutely essential.

#### **Physical data**

Appearance: colourless liquid

Melting point: ca. -28 °C

Boiling point: ca. 114 °C

Specific gravity: typically near 1.19

Vapour pressure: 23.3 at 30 °C

#### **Stability**

Unstable - readily decomposes to water and oxygen. Light sensitive. May develop pressure in the bottle - take care when opening. Forms potentially explosive compounds with ketones, ethers, alcohols, hydrazine, glycerine, aniline, sodium borate, urea, sodium carbonate, triethylamine, sodium fluoride, sodium pyrophosphate

and carboxylic acid anhydrides. Materials to avoid include combustibles, strong reducing agents, most common metals, organic materials, metallic salts, alkali, porous materials, especially wood, asbestos, soil, rust, strong oxidizing agents.

### **Toxicology**

Toxic. Corrosive - can causes serious burns. Eye contact can cause serious injury, possibly blindness. Harmful by inhalation, ingestion and skin contact. Typical OEL 1 ppm.

### **Personal protection**

Safety glasses are essential; acid-resistant gloves are suggested. Suitable ventilation.

### **Benzaldehyde**

#### **Safety data for bezaldehyde**

#### **General**

Synonyms: benzoic aldehyde, almond artificial essential oil, benzenecarbonal, benzene carboxaldehyde, artificial almond oil, NCI-C56133, oil of bitter almond

Molecular formula:  $C_6H_5CHO$

#### **Physical data**

Appearance: colourless to yellow liquid with an almond-like odour

Melting point:  $-56\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

Boiling point:  $179\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

Vapour density: 3.6 (air = 1)

Vapour pressure: 1 mm Hg at 26 °C

Density (g cm<sup>-3</sup>): 1.04

Flash point: 63 °C (closed cup)

Explosion limits: 2.1 - 13.5 %

Autoignition temperature: 192 °C

Water solubility: slight

### **Stability**

Stable. Combustible. Incompatible with strong oxidizing agents, strong acids, reducing agents, steam. Air, light and moisture-sensitive.

### **Toxicology**

Eye irritant. Harmful by inhalation or ingestion. May be harmful by skin contact. May cause allergic reaction. Slight local anesthetic properties. There is limited evidence that this chemical may act as a carcinogen in laboratory animals. Narcotic in high concentration.

### **Transport information**

-

### **Personal protection**

Safety glasses, adequate ventilation.

### **o-cresol**

#### **Safety data for o-cresol**

#### **General**

Synonyms: 2-cresol, o-cresylic acid, 1-hydroxy-2-methylbenzene, o-methylphenol, 2-methylphenol, o-toluol, 2-hydroxytoluene, o-hydroxytoluene

Molecular formula: C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)(OH)

#### **Physical data**

Appearance: colourless to light yellow liquid

Melting point: 32 - 34 °C

Boiling point: 191 °C

Vapour density: 3.72

Vapour pressure: 0.3 mm Hg at 20 °C

Specific gravity: 1.048

Flash point: 81 °C

Explosion limits:

Autoignition temperature: 598 °C

### **Stability**

Stable, but light and air sensitive. Combustible. Incompatible with oxidizing agents, bases.

### **Toxicology**

Highly toxic. May be fatal if inhaled, swallowed or absorbed through skin. Experimental neoplastigen. Human mutagenic data. Readily absorbed through the skin. Very destructive of mucous membranes. Causes burns. Inhalation may cause spasm. Severe skin and eye irritant.

### **Personal protection**

Safety glasses, gloves, good ventilation.

## p-cresol

### data for p-cresol

#### General

Synonyms: 1-hydroxy-4-methylbenzene, 4-methylphenol, p-cresylic acid, 4-cresol, p-hydroxytoluene, 4-hydroxytoluene, p-methylphenol, para-cresol, p-tolyl alcohol, p-toluol

Molecular formula:  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{OH}$

#### Physical data

Appearance: crystals

Melting point: 34 °C

Boiling point: 202 °C

Vapour density: 3.7 (air = 1)

Vapour pressure: 0.1 mm Hg at 20 °C

Density ( $\text{g cm}^{-3}$ ): 1.03

Flash point: 86 (closed cup)

Explosion limits:

Autoignition temperature:

Water solubility: moderate

#### Stability

Stable. Combustible. Incompatible with strong oxidizing agents. Light-sensitive.



**Toxicology**

Poison. May be fatal if swallowed. Readily absorbed through the skin.

Harmful if swallowed or inhaled, and in contact with skin. Corrosive - causes severe burns. Experimental neoplastigen. May cause serious eye damage. Severe skin and eye irritant. Typical TLV/TWA 5 ppm. Typical PEL 5 ppm.

**Personal protection**

Safety glasses, gloves, adequate ventilation.



ศูนย์วิทยทรัพยากร  
จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

**APPENDIX J****LIST OF PUBLICATION**

Rojarek Passasadee and Tharathorn Mongkhonsi, “Production of cresol from toluene in a one-step reaction”, 18<sup>th</sup> Thailand Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry Conference, Chonburi, Thailand, October, 2008, Ref. No.R030-KC-004-02 (oral presentation).



ศูนย์วิทยทรัพยากร  
จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย



ภาควิชาวิศวกรรมเคมี คณะวิศวกรรมศาสตร์ ม.มหิดล  
สมาคมวิศวกรรมเคมีและเคมีประยุกต์แห่งประเทศไทย



# TICHE 18

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### **Production of cresol from toluene in an one step reaction**

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Cresol is an organic compound which is widely used in several manufacture processes such as synthesis resins, to dissolve other chemical or used as insecticides. Cresol solutions are used as household cleaners and disinfectants. At present, cresol is mainly produced from the methyl alkylation of phenol process which produces a mixture of anisol and mixed cresol (ortho-, meta- and para-cresol). Beginning from aromatic reactant, the current route also has another drawback it consists of two steps : (1) the conversion of benzene to phenol via the cumene process (2) the methanol alkylation of phenol process to produce cresol. Therefore, the present work introduce a new route to produce cresol in an one step reaction via the hydroxylation of toluene (which is always co-produced with benzene from the reforming process). The present route uses  $H_2O_2$  as the oxidant and titanium silicalite-I (TS-1) as the catalyst. In addition TS-1 is further modified by adding Co to improve the catalytic selectivity of the catalyst. The catalysts (modified and unmodified) are prepared using different procedures i.e. conventional hydrothermal method (stirring during crystal formation) and static hydrothermal (no stirring during crystal formation). The samples were characterized by XRD, BET, FT-IR and catalytically tested using a three-phase slurry reactor (three neck bottom, 250 ml used as the reactor). XRD shows that all samples have the typical MFI structure. The surface areas are in the range of 324-344  $m^2/g$ . FT-IR shows the absorption band of  $Ti^{4+}$  at  $960\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the MFI structure. The hydroxylation of toluene at  $70^\circ\text{C}$  shows that TS-1 prepared from the static hydrothermal with 1 day aging yields the highest selectivity of cresols (48.50% p-cresol and 8.60% o-cresol). While the catalyst prepared from the static hydrothermal with 3 day aging shows the highest conversion but leads to the formation of benzaldehyde.

**Keywords:** titanium silicalite-1 (TS-1), hydrothermal, modified TS-1, hydroxylation of toluene, cresol



## Production of cresol from toluene in an one step reaction

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**Abstract** Cresol can be produced by hydroxylation of toluene with hydrogen peroxide as an oxidant and titanium silicalite-1 (TS-1) as the catalyst. The samples (modified by adding Co and unmodified TS-1 catalysts) are prepared using hydrothermal method. The catalyst samples were characterized by XRD, BET, FT-IR and catalytically tested using the hydroxylation reaction in the slurry reactor. Addition of Co to the TS-1 improves the cresol selectivity of the catalyst. The finding indicates that the prepared catalysts have typical MFI structure and does not appear TiO<sub>2</sub> in the anatase phase. FT-IR shows the absorption band at 960 cm<sup>-1</sup> which indicates the existence Ti<sup>4+</sup> in the MFI structure. The hydroxylation of toluene at 70°C shows that Co-TS-1 with atomic ratio of Si/Co equals to 150 has highest conversion of toluene and selectivity toward cresol.

### 1. Introduction

Cresol is an organic compound which is widely used in several manufacture processes such as synthesis of resins, to dissolve other chemical or used as insecticides. Cresol solutions are used as household cleaners and disinfectants. Cresols (ortho, meta and para isomers) were originally obtained only from coal tar, and after World War II, they were also obtained from spent refinery caustic. Since the mid-1960s, cresols have been produced synthetically on an increasingly large scale so called "Synthetic cresol"[1]. At present, cresol is mainly produced from the methyl alkylation of phenol process which produces a mixture of anisol and mixed cresol (ortho-, meta- and para-cresol). Beginning from aromatic reactant, the current route also has another drawback i.e. it consists of two steps : (1) the conversion of benzene to phenol via the cumene process (2) the methanol alkylation of phenol process to produce cresol. Therefore, a shorter synthesis routes is still needed.

Titanium silicalite-1 (TS-1) with the MFI structure has been noted as one of the very effective catalyst and attracted much attention because of its unique catalytic properties for the selective oxidation at low temperature such as aromatic hydroxylation [2], propylene epoxidation [3], and styrene

oxidation [4]. Although, TS-1 has unique catalytic properties at low temperature but it's still has low activity. Many researches have studied several methods to improve the catalytic activity and selectivity of this catalyst. For example, Pirutko et al.[5] had added second metals (Al, V, Cr, Fe, Co and Ru) to modified the catalytic activity of TS-1. They found that Fe-TS-1 could catalyze the oxidation of benzene to phenol with high activity and selectivity. Eakawut [6] has synthesized modified TS-1 by adding Cu, Co, Cr and V during the synthesis step. The results indicated that the second metal ions and titanium ion could simultaneously and homogeneously incorporated into the framework of TS-1. Pornapa [7] has study the catalytic performances of TS-1 and TS-1 modified with second metals (Al, Co, V and Fe) in the hydroxylation toluene and ethyl benzene in a slurry reactor. The results showed that all prepared catalysts could produced cresol(s) but the one modified with Co has the maximum selectivity of cresol.

The main objective of the present work is an extension of a previous study [7]. The present work studies the potential to produce cresol in an one step reaction via the hydroxylation of toluene with TS-1 and TS-1 modified by adding. All catalyst samples used in the present work were prepared by a static hydrothermal method. The reaction is carried out using a stirred slurry reactor under a triphase condition.

### 2. Experimental

#### 2.1 Catalyst preparation

The sources of cations are Co(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O for Co, Ti[O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub> for Ti, and sodium silicate for Si. TPABr (Tetra-n-propyl ammonium bromide [(CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>N]Br) is used as the organic template. The atomic ratio, in the preparation recipe, of Si/Ti is set at 50 and Si/Co is set at 50 and 150, respectively. The detail of the recipes are listed in table 1.

In this study, TS-1 with 1 and 3 days hydrothermal aging are named TS-1(1) and TS-1(3) respectively. The TS-1 modified by adding different amount of Co with 3 days aging are named Co-TS-1(150) and Co-TS-1(50) respectively.

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**Table 1** Reagents used for the preparation of TS-1 and Co-TS-1.

Solution for the gel preparation		Solution for decant-solution preparation	
<b>Solution A1</b>		<b>Solution A2</b>	
Ti[(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>4</sub>	2.2085 g	Ti[(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> ]	2.2085 g
TPABr	5.72 g	TPABr	7.53 g
NaCl	11.95 g	De-ionized water	60 ml
Co(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O	x g	Co(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O	x g
De-ionized water	60 ml	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (conc.)	3.4 ml
H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (conc.)	3.4 ml		
<b>Solution B1</b>		<b>Solution B2</b>	
Sodium silicate	69 g	Sodium silicate	69 g
De-ionized water	45 ml	De-ionized water	45 ml
<b>Solution C1</b>		<b>Solution C2</b>	
TPABr	2.16 g	NaCl	26.27 g
NaCl	40.59 g	De-ionized water	104 ml
NaOH	2.39 g		
De-ionized water	208 ml		
H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (conc.)	1.55 ml		

Firstly, a gel mixture is prepared by adding solution A-1 and solution B-1 into solution C-1 drop-wise with vigorous stirring using a magnetic stirrer at room temperature. The pH of the gel mixture is maintained within the range 9-11. The gel mixture is separated from the supernatant liquid by a centrifuge. Secondly, a decantation solution is prepared by adding solution A-2 and solution B-2 into solution C-2, same as for the preparation of gel mixture.

The colourless liquids from A-2, B-2 and C-2 are separated from the mixture by a centrifuge then mixed together again with the milled gel mixture and filled into a pyrex glass which is placed in a stainless steel autoclave. The atmosphere in the autoclave is replaced by nitrogen gas and pressurized up to 3 kg/cm<sup>2</sup> gauge. Then, the autoclave is heated from room temperature to 180°C and kept at this temperature for 1 or 3 days, followed by cooling the mixture to room temperature in the autoclave. The obtained product crystals are washed with de-ionized water by a centrifuge. Then the crystals are dried in an oven at 110°C following by calcination in an air stream at 550°C for 7 h. Before using the catalyst, each catalyst is immersed in a nitric acid solution (5 M) at 80°C for 3 h. After that, the catalyst is washed with distilled water until pH 7, dried at 110°C and calcined again at 540°C for 7 h in static air.

## 2.2 Catalyst characterization

The crystallinity of the catalysts was identified by a X-ray diffractometer SIEMENS D5000 connected with a computer with Diffract AT version 3.3 programme for fully control of the XRD analyzer. The measurements were carried out by using Cu K $\alpha$  radiation. Measurements were performed over the 2 theta ranges from 6 to 30 degree with step size 0.04 °/sec.

The functional group on the catalyst surface is determined by FT-IR using Nicolet model Impact 400. Each sample is measured in diffuse reflectance mode. Infrared spectra are recorded between 400 and 1300 cm<sup>-1</sup> on a microcomputer.

The chemical composition analysis of elements of the catalyst is performed by X-ray fluorescence (XRF) using Oxford model ED2000.

The surface area is measured using the BET technique using Micromeritics ASAP 2020. The sample cell which contained 0.1 g of sample was used for each measurement.

## 2.3 Catalytic Performance

The hydroxylation of toluene with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (30 wt% in water, Merk) is carried out in a 250 ml, water jacketed, three-necked, glass flask fitted with a condenser and a magnetic stirrer placed in a stirring an oil bath. The reaction is performed at atmospheric pressure. Typically, 1 g of the catalyst is reacted with reactants i.e. toluene to H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> molar ratio equals to 1 to 1 and 50 ml of water. In the beginning, the catalyst and water, using for dispersion of the catalyst, are added into the reactor at 90°C for 1 h to drive out gases in pores of the catalyst. Then the reactor is cooled down to 70°C and 1 ml of toluene is added into the reactor. H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> is slowly injected drop-wise by using a 1 ml syringe at 70°C for 2 h. After that the reaction is terminated by rapid cooling and 50 ml of ethanol is added into reactor to homogenize the aqueous phase and the organic phase. The products are analyzed by a gas chromatograph equipped with a FID detector (SHIMADZU GC9A).

## 3. Result and discussion

### 3.1 Characterization of catalysts

#### 3.1.1 X-ray diffraction (XRD)

The XRD spectra of TS-1 and modified with Co (Co-TS-1) are shown in Figure 1. All spectra consist of six main characteristic peaks at 2 theta  $\approx$  8°, 8.8°, 14.8°, 23.1°, 24° and 26.7° [8] that indicate the typical MFI pattern and high crystallinity. The absence of the pattern of anatase 2 theta  $\approx$  25.3° confirms that anatase does not exist in the prepared catalysts. The single peaks at 2 theta  $\approx$  24.4 and 26° indicate an orthorhombic symmetry typical of TS-1 with a framework Si/Ti < 100 [9].

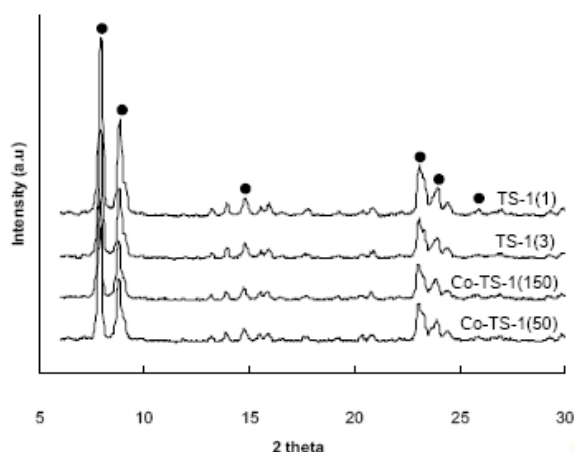


Figure 1 XRD pattern of TS-1 and modified TS-1.

### 3.1.2 Fourier-transform Infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR)

FT-IR is a useful tool to characterize framework titanium. The catalytic performance of TS-1 is related to the amount of Ti in the framework [9]. FT-IR spectra of all samples are shown in Figure 2. The characteristic absorption band of tetrahedral  $Ti^{4+}$  in the TS-1 and Co-TS-1 appears at about  $960\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , which indicates that titanium has been incorporated into the framework [2,10].

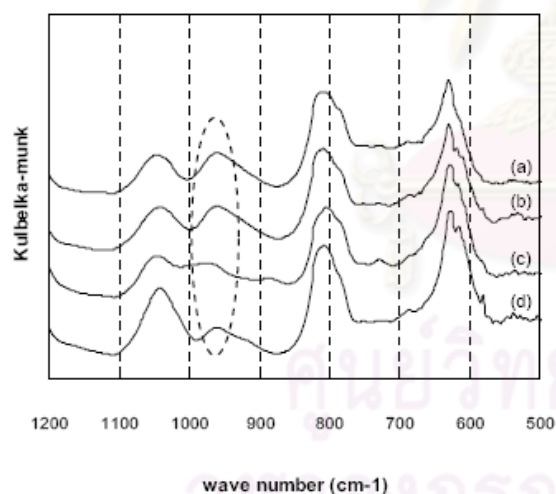


Figure 2 IR spectra of TS-1 and modified TS-1 : TS-1(1) (a), TS-1(3) (b), Co-TS-1(150) (c) and Co-TS-1(50) (d).

### 3.1.3 Determination of composition by X-ray Fluorescence spectroscopy (XRF).

The compositions of TS-1 and modified TS-1 are shown in Table 3 below. It should be noted here that though the same amount of Ti was used for each catalyst, the amount of Ti atoms can be incorporated in the TS-1 structure are not the same. This suggests that the presence of another metal species affects the ability of  $Ti^{4+}$  ion in the formation of TS-1

structure. The mechanism why the second metal ion affects the incorporation of  $Ti^{4+}$  has yet to be a subject of further studied.

Table 2 XRF analysis TS-1 and Co-TS-1

Samples	%Si	%Ti	%Co	%Si/Ti	%Si/Co
TS-1(1)	97.20	2.57	none	37.88	none
TS-1(3)	95.90	3.42	none	28.06	none
Co-TS-1(150)	93.35	4.19	1.32	22.27	70.72
Co-TS-1(50)	94.05	3.99	1.58	23.57	59.53

### 3.1.4 Determination of surface area by BET

The surface areas of all catalysts investigated that the surface areas of TS-1 and Co-TS-1 are in range of 320-340  $m^2/g$ .

### 3.2 The catalytic reaction of hydroxylation of toluene

The results of the hydroxylation of toluene using TS-1 and modified TS-1 with Co (Co-TS-1) at  $70^\circ\text{C}$  for 2 h are shown in Figure 3. All samples give the same reaction products : benzaldehyde, o- cresol and p- cresol. The catalytic activity is in the following order Co-TS-1(150) > TS-1(1) > Co-TS-1(50) > TS-1(3). The maximum conversion was achieved with Co-TS-1(150) about 0.908. The absence of m-cresol is due to the fact that the methyl group ( $-\text{CH}_3$ ) is an ortho- and para-directing group for the electrophilic substitution of the benzene ring.

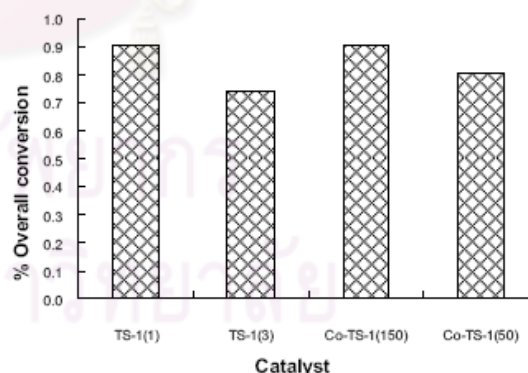


Figure 3 The hydroxylation of toluene at  $70^\circ\text{C}$ .

The selectivity of each catalyst is shown in Figure 4. In case of unmodified TS-1, TS-1(1) has higher selectivity of o-cresol and p-cresol than TS-1(3). But after adding Co to TS-1(3), the formation of benzaldehyde is suppressed and the selectivity towards cresols increases. In addition, it is found that Co-TS-1(150) performs better selectivity towards cresols than Co-TS-1(50).

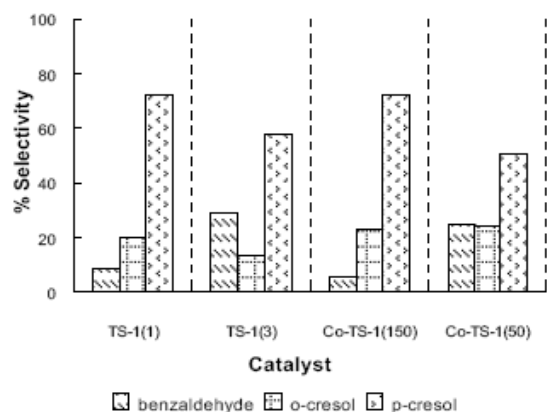


Figure 4. The selectivity of hydroxylation of toluene at 70°C

The productivity of all catalysts is shown in Figure 4. The figure clearly shows that, among the catalysts investigated, Co-TS-1(150) exhibits the best catalytic activity and selectivity towards both of *o*- and *p*-cresol.

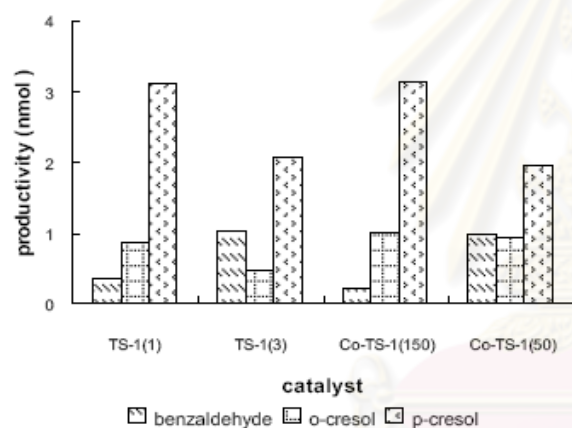


Figure 5 The productivity of TS-1 and Co-TS-1

#### 4. Conclusion

The present work found that *o*- and *p*-cresol can be produced in a single step reaction, the hydroxylation of toluene by H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> using TS-1 and TS-1 modified by adding Co. All catalysts investigated in the present study have MFI structure and does not appear Ti in anatase phase. The hydroxylation of toluene produced *o*-cresol, *p*-cresol and benzaldehyde. The modification of TS-1 with an appropriate amount of Co can improved catalytic activity and selectivity. The catalytic activity observed in the present study is in the following order Co-TS-1(150) > Co-TS-1(50) > TS-1(1) > TS-1(3).

#### 5. Acknowledgement

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