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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US91/06590 (22) International Filing Date: 13 September 1991 (13.09.91) (30) Priority data: 591,304 1 October 1990 (01.10.90) US (71) Applicant: EXXON RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING COMPANY [US/US]; 180 Park Avenue, P.O. Box 390, Florham Park, NJ 07932 (US). (72) Inventors: SOLED, Stuart, Leon ; RD #1 Box 117, Pittstown, NJ 08867 (US). MISEO, Sabato ; RD #3 Box 187, Pittstown, NJ 08867 (US). IGLESIA, Enrique ; 3 Spruce Run Road, Clinton, NJ 08809 (US). FIATO, Rocco, Anthony ; 27 Wexford Way, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920 (US).		(74) Agents: SIMON, Jay. et al.; Exxon Research and Engineering Company, 180 Park Avenue, Florham Park, NJ 07932 (US). (81) Designated States: AT (European patent), BE (European patent), CA, CH (European patent), DE (European patent), DK (European patent), ES (European patent), FR (European patent), GB (European patent), GR (European patent), IT (European patent), LU (European patent), NL (European patent), NO, SE (European patent). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: IRON-ZINC BASED CATALYSTS AND CONVERSION OF SYNTHESIS GAS TO ALPHA-OLEFINS USING THE CATALYSTS (57) Abstract New copper-potassium promoted iron-zinc catalysts wherein the iron:zinc atomic ratio is 5:1 or greater, exhibit improved activity, selectivity and stability in the synthesis of alpha-olefins from hydrogen and carbon monoxide.		

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IRON-ZINC BASED CATALYSTS AND CONVERSION OF SYNTHESIS GAS
TO ALPHAOLEFINS USING THE CATALYSTS

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to iron-zinc based catalysts containing copper and a Group I metal promoter, and their use in a process for the conversion of synthesis gas to alpha olefins.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The search for processes to provide alternate feedstocks for chemicals, and particularly low to intermediate range olefins, has been prompted by the potential shortage of traditional petroleum reserves, and the increasing instability of international hydrocarbon resources.

One approach to the problem has been the utilization of the Fischer-Tropsch synthesis in producing a selective product distribution of olefinic hydrocarbons also containing paraffins, in varying olefin/paraffin ratios, depending on the catalyst composition, pretreatment procedures, and reaction conditions. Catalysts having various combinations of elements have been tested in the past, and the chief constituent element of the catalyst has been nickel, cobalt, iron or ruthenium.

Ruhrchemie Aktiengesellschaft disclosed in GB No. 1,512,743, GB No. 1,553,361 GB No. 1,553,362 and GB No. 1,553,363 catalysts pertaining to the selective production of C₂-C₆ olefins from synthesis gas, comprising carbon monoxide and hydrogen. The inventions

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embody a process for the production of one or more unsaturated hydrocarbons comprising catalytic hydrogenation of carbon monoxide with hydrogen at 250°C to below 350°C and a total pressure of 10 to 30 bars in the presence of a catalyst which contains (a) one or more oxides selected from difficult-to-reduce oxides of metals from Group IVB of the Periodic Table or a lower oxide of Group V and/or Group VII; and (b) one or more metals selected from Group VIII of the Periodic table, the ratio by weight of the metal or metals of the one or more oxides (a) to the one or more oxides (b) being in the range 1:2 to 1:10. Additionally, the catalysts can contain a Group 1A alkali metal, MgO and ZnO-promoters. Good yields of unsaturated hydrocarbons, especially gaseous olefins were reported with these catalysts.

U.K. Patent No. 833,976 discloses a catalyst for the production of ethylene from carbon monoxide and hydrogen consisting of four components: the first a group including zinc oxides; the second group preferably being cobalt, although iron also can be used, with the proviso that the Group VIII metal component constitute not more than 10% of the total weight of the catalyst, and being activated by compounds which may include manganese oxide; a third group including an oxide of titanium and/or the rare earth elements; and the fourth group being a carbonate, oxide or hydroxide of an alkali metal. The reaction preferably is conducted at a temperature of 350°C to 520°C, preferably 350°C to 450°C.

U.S. Patent No. 4,199,523 discloses a Fischer-Tropsch catalyst containing at least 60% iron. In addition, promoters such as copper and/or silver and

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alkali are described. Other additives, such as alkaline earth metal compounds, zinc oxide, manganese oxide, cerium oxide, vanadium oxide, chromium oxide and the like may be used.

U.S. Patent No. 4,639,431 discloses a Fischer-Tropsch catalyst containing iron, a Group IIB metal such as zinc, with Group IA metal promoters with a lanthanide metal such as cerium which is sintered at temperatures ranging from 800-1200°C.

Benbenek et al in Prezm Chem, Vol 65 (3) pp. 136-138 (1986) disclose a four component catalyst for converting synthesis gas to olefins; the catalyst comprising iron:copper:zinc oxide:potassium oxide in a weight ratio of 100:20:10:8.

However, what is desired in the art and which none of the above-identified art disclosures teach is a catalyst which exhibits high activity in the production of C₂-C₂₀ alpha-olefins while concurrently maintaining high activity and selectivity under olefin producing conditions. Especially preferred is a catalyst which can generate high levels of alpha olefins in a hydrogen rich environment, where the H₂/CO molar ratio is 2/1 or higher, which is normally conducive to good activity maintenance but otherwise leads to a significant decrease in olefin/paraffin ratios.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Iron-zinc based catalysts containing copper and a Group I, preferably potassium, promoter wherein the ratio of iron:zinc components is about 5:1 or higher, exhibit enhanced activity and selectivity to

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alpha-olefins during Fischer-Tropsch olefin synthesis. These catalysts also maintain high olefin/paraffin ratios under slurry reaction conditions.

The olefin synthesis activity and selectivity of these catalysts can be enhanced greatly when the alkali:copper promoter ratio is 1:1 or greater, preferably at least about 2:1, and the total alkali content of the catalyst is about 6% g-atom or lower, based on the total metal content of the catalyst.

These catalysts may be prepared by controlled pH precipitation of solutions containing soluble iron and zinc compounds with ammonium carbonate or ammonium hydroxide or via decomposition of iron-zinc containing ammonium glycolate complexes. The preparation of the catalyst employed in this invention may be initiated from a variety of precursors. Preferred precursors are the nitrate salts of iron and zinc, although carbonyls and carboxylates may also be used.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The active catalyst is prepared from an iron-zinc containing oxide phase, wherein the relative Fe:Zn atomic ratio is about 5:1 or greater. Thus, if the oxide phase is a spinel $\text{Fe}_{3-x}\text{Zn}_x\text{O}_4$, the ratio $[3-x]/x$ is equal to or greater than 5/1, and if the oxide contains iron in a corundum phase, isomorphous with Fe_2O_3 , the ratio of Fe:Zn is equal to or greater than 5/1. Catalysts derived from mixed oxide phases wherein the total Fe:Zn atomic ratio is in the specified range are expected to give acceptable performance, although it is preferred to operate with a single phase

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catalyst precursor so as to preclude any irregular behavior in subsequent activation procedures.

Copper and alkali promoters are added to the iron-zinc oxide precursor, the copper preferably being added as a solution of the nitrate salt, although other copper compounds such as carboxylates may be used, and the alkali metal preferably being added as a solution of the carbonate, bicarbonate or hydroxide. Preferred alkali promoters are potassium, rubidium, cesium, or mixtures thereof. Especially preferred is potassium.

The catalyst precursor may then be dried at temperatures up to about 125°C after which the precursor is calcined, that is, treated with an oxygen containing gas to convert the metal salts or metal compounds, as the case may be, to the oxide form. Calcining may be effected at temperatures ranging from about 150°C to about 500°C, preferably about 250°C to 400°C.

After calcination the material may be ground to any suitable size for use in either a slurry or fixed bed reactor. Particle sizes for a slurry process may range from 5 to about 100 microns, for fixed bed from about 100 to 500 microns.

The copper-alkali metal, promoted iron-zinc oxide catalyst is first subjected to a pretreatment procedure comprising exposure of the oxide to a reducing gas containing hydrogen, carbon monoxide or mixtures thereof. This procedure can be conducted in a separate vessel or in the Fischer-Tropsch synthesis reactor. Pretreatment in the reactor is preferred in order to eliminate the need for a potentially costly

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and sensitive transfer step to the olefin synthesis reactor. In situ pretreatment is especially preferred when operating the catalyst in a slurry reactor.

A preferred slurry pretreatment procedure involves suspending the catalyst in a relatively non-volatile hydrocarbon phase, introducing synthesis gas comprising hydrogen and carbon monoxide with an $H_2:CO$ molar ratio ranging from about 0.5/1 to about 3/1 into the two phase mixture and increasing the temperature up to 150-350°C so as to convert the catalyst to an active phase. The pretreatment can be conducted at pressures ranging from 1 to about 40 atm, the preferred pressure range being from 2 to about 20 atm.

The slurry Fischer-Tropsch synthesis process of the present invention may be conducted with from about 2 to about 30% wt or more of the catalyst suspended in a liquid phase. The liquid phase is usually comprised of an inert hydrocarbon that is relatively nonvolatile under reaction conditions. Representative materials include synthetic paraffins with 10 or more carbon atoms or higher molecular weight hydrocarbons generated from the synthesis gas conversion process. Other liquids such as high boiling alcohols, ethers, esters and the like can also be used without departing from the scope of this invention. The process is operated at temperatures ranging from about 200°C to about 350°C, preferably from 250-300°C. The pressure of the slurry process can range from 1 to about 40 atm, preferably from 5-20 atm. Synthesis gas containing from 0.5/1 to about 3/1 $H_2:CO$ molar ratios may be employed, preferably from about 1/1 to about 2/1. The synthesis gas feed rate can range from about 2,000 to about 30,000 vol feed gas per volume of

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catalyst per hour (v/v/h), preferably from about 5,000 to about 15,000 v/v/h. Under these conditions, the catalysts of the present invention exhibit olefin productivities that are three to five times higher than those previously disclosed. (Olefin productivity is defined as volumes of CO converted to olefins per volume of catalyst per hour.)

The Fischer-Tropsch synthesis process using the catalyst described herein produces primarily liquids, that is, the C_5+/C_4- product ratio is at least about 4.5/1, preferably at least about 5/1 and usually about 5/1 to 10/1. Of the liquid product the olefin/paraffin ratio may range from about 2.5:1 or greater, usually 2.8:1 to 3.8:1, and the alpha olefin to internal ratio is at least about 10:1, usually 10:1 to greater than 50:1.

EXAMPLES

Catalyst Preparation

Example 1. Preparation of $Fe_{2.8}Zn_{0.2}O_4$ Spinel from Ammonium Glycolate Precursors

A solution of iron-zinc salts was prepared by mixing 100 cc of water containing 97.3 g of dissolved $Fe(NO_3)_3 \cdot 9(H_2O)$ together with 10 cc of water containing 5.4 g of dissolved $Zn(NO_3)_2 \cdot x(H_2O)$ (30.2% H_2O). To 23.1 g of 85% glycolic acid, a sufficient amount of ammonium hydroxide was added (ca. 23 cc) to dissolve the glycolic acid and raise the pH to 6.5. This solution was added to the Fe-Zn nitrate solution and allowed to dry, during which a foaming amorphous product was formed. The material was then calcined in

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air for one hour at 350°C. X-ray diffraction showed this material to be a single phase spinel.

The spinel was promoted with 2% g-atom K and 1% g-atom Cu in the following manner. 7 g of the spinel was impregnated by incipient wetness with 0.124 g of K_2CO_3 dissolved in 14 cc of water. The resulting material was dried at 110°C, and then treated with 14 cc of water containing 0.22 g of $Cu(NO_3)_2 \cdot 3(H_2O)$ by incipient wetness. The resulting material was dried in similar fashion.

Example 2. Preparation of Fe-Zn-O Catalyst with
Fe:Zn of 14:1 by Ascending pH Precipitation

A solution containing 5.38 g of $Zn(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6(H_2O)$ and 97.3 g of $Fe(NO_3)_3 \cdot 9(H_2O)$ in 110 cc of water was heated to 80°C and a sufficient quantity of concentrated ca. 14M ammonium hydroxide was added to form a precipitate, while raising the final pH to 9. The precipitate was filtered, washed thoroughly with water and dried at 100°C. The resulting material was calcined in air at 350°C for one hour. X-ray diffraction of this material indicated a corundum containing oxide phase.

(a) Promotion with 2% g-atom K

7 g of the oxide was treated with 0.124 g of K_2CO_3 dissolved in 2.8 cc of water by the incipient wetness impregnation procedure, the resulting material dried at 110°C.

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(b) Promotion with 1% g-atom Cu

7 g of the oxide was treated with 0.22 g of $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 3(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ dissolved in 2.8 cc of water by the incipient wetness impregnation procedure, the resulting material dried at 110°C.

(c) Promotion with 2% g-atom K and 1% g-atom Cu

7 g of the oxide was treated according to the procedure of Example 2(a) and the resulting material then treated with 0.22 g of $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 3(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ dissolved in 2.8 cc of water by the incipient wetness impregnation procedure.

The resulting material was dried at 110°C.

Example 3. Preparation of Fe-Zn-O with Fe:Zn
14:1 by Controlled pH Precipitation

A 1M solution of Fe^{+3} was prepared by dissolving 808 g of $\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 9(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ with water in a 2 liter volumetric flask. A 1 M solution of Zn^{+2} was prepared by dissolving 271 g of $\text{Zn}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot x(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ (30.2 % H_2O) with water into a 1 liter volumetric flask. An iron-zinc nitrate solution was prepared by adding 105 cc of the 1M Zn^{+2} solution to 2 liters of the 1M Fe^{+3} solution. A 1M solution of ammonium carbonate was prepared by dissolving 192 g of $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$ with water into a 2 liter volumetric flask.

The mixed iron-zinc nitrate solution was added at a rate of ca. 15 cc per minute via a controlled feed pump into a large flask which initially contained 300 cc of water. The contents of the large

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flask were continuously circulated through a centrifugal pump to achieve thorough mixing. The ammonium carbonate solution was fed through a second feed pump that was interfaced through a computerized controller. The ammonium carbonate solution flow was controlled to keep the pH of the well circulated slurry at a level of 7. Within 20-30 seconds of initiating this process, the pH reached a level of 7(+ or - 0.2) and was maintained in this narrow range throughout the addition procedure which lasted 40-60 min. The resulting precipitate was washed thoroughly with water, dried at 110°C overnight and calcined at 350°C in air for one hour. X-ray analysis of the resulting material showed a corundum oxide phase to be present.

(a) Promotion with 2% g-atom K and 1% g-atom Cu

2.5 g of the oxide was treated with 0.045 g of K_2CO_3 dissolved in 1 cc of water by the incipient wetness impregnation procedure. The resulting material was dried at 110°C followed by treatment with a solution of 0.083 g of $Cu(NO_3)_2 \cdot 3(H_2O)$ in 1 cc of water by the incipient wetness impregnation procedure. The resulting material was then dried at 110°C.

Example 4. Preparation of $Fe_{2.3}Zn_{0.7}O_4$ Spinel
From Ammonium Glycolate Precursors

A solution was prepared containing 38.2 g of $Fe(NO_3)_3 \cdot 9(H_2O)$ and 7.8 g of $Zn(NO_3)_2 \cdot x(H_2O)$ (30.2 % H_2O) in 85 cc of water. To 10.1 g of 85% glycolic acid, a sufficient amount of ammonium hydroxide was added (ca. 23 cc) to raise the pH to 6.5. This solution was added to the Fe-Zn solution and then allowed to dry, thereby forming a foaming amorphous product.

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The resulting solid was calcined in air for one hour at 350°C. X-ray analysis indicated a single phase spinel had formed.

(a) Promotion with 2% g-atom K and 1% g-atom Cu

To 5 g of the spinel was added 8 cc of water containing 0.087 g of dissolved K_2CO_3 by the incipient wetness impregnation procedure followed by drying at 110°C. Following this, 0.16 g of $Cu(NO_3)_2 \cdot 3(H_2O)$ dissolved in 8 cc of water was added by the incipient wetness impregnation procedure, the resulting material dried at 110°C.

Example 5. Preparation of $Fe_{2.45}Zn_{0.55}O_4$
From Ammonium Glycolate Precursors

A solution was prepared containing 84.8 g of $Fe(NO_3)_3 \cdot 9(H_2O)$ and 13.37.8 g of $Zn(NO_3)_2 \cdot x(H_2O)$ (30.2 % H_2O) in 115 cc of water. A solution of 20.4 g of 85% glycolic acid was prepared and sufficient ammonium hydroxide added to raise the pH to 6.5. This solution was added to the Fe-Zn solution and on drying led to the formation of a foaming amorphous product. The material was calcined in air for one hour at 350°C. X-ray analysis indicated the formation of a single phase spinel.

(a) Promotion with 2% g-atom K and 1% g-atom Cu

To 4 g of the spinel was added 8 cc of water containing 0.07 g of dissolved K_2CO_3 by the incipient wetness impregnation procedure followed by drying at 110°C. Following this, 0.12 g of $Cu(NO_3)_2 \cdot 3(H_2O)$ dissolved in 8 cc of water was added by the incipient

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wetness impregnation procedure, the resulting material dried at 110°C.

Example 6. Effect of Fe:Zn Atomic
Ratio on Catalyst Performance

A series of comparative performance tests were conducted with 2 g samples of each of the catalysts from Examples 1, 4(a) and 5(a). The individual catalyst was charged together with 72 g of octacosane to a 300 cc Parr CSTR reactor. Synthesis gas ($H_2:CO = 2:1$) was introduced at a rate of 180 cc/min to the reactor at 75 psig and the temperature raised to 270°C. An additional 20 cc/min of nitrogen was fed to the reactor as an internal standard for subsequent analytical tests. The results of experiments conducted over 40-100+ hour periods are shown below for the respective catalyst systems.

Catalyst	$Fe_{2.8}Zn_{0.2}O_4$	$Fe_{2.55}Zn_{0.45}O_4$	$Fe_{2.3}Zn_{0.7}O_4$
% CO Conversion	80	84	32
% Carbon Selectivity to CH_4	1.7	1.7	2.3
% Olefin in C_2-C_4	93	92	85
% Alpha-Olefin in C_{10} Fraction	63	61	(#)

(#) This catalyst did not give meaningful yields of liquids at the conditions tested.

This data illustrates that the Fe:Zn ratio must be maintained at a level greater than 5:1 to obtain high activity and selectivity to C_2-C_{10+} olefins.

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Example 7. Effect of Dual K and Cu Promoters

Comparative tests of Fe:Zn 14:1 catalysts from Example 2(a), 2(b) and 2(c) were conducted in a 300 cc Parr CSTR to determine the effect of dual promoters on olefin synthesis performance under the test conditions used in Example 6. In each run listed below, a 2 g sample of catalyst was suspended in 72 g of octacosane and, after a 2-4 hour activation period, the runs were followed for a 40-100+ hour period.

Catalyst	2(c)	2(a)	2(b)
% g-atom K	2	2	0
% g-atom Cu	1	0	1
% CO Conversion	73	33	34
% Carbon Selectivity to CH ₄	1.9	2.0	10.1
Olefin/Paraffin Ratio in C ₄ Fraction	7.9	8.0	4.4

The results shown above illustrate that the K and Cu promoters must be present together in order to achieve the highest activity, lowest methane selectivity and highest olefin/paraffin ratio in a single catalyst system.

Example 8. Olefin/Paraffin Ratio from a Controlled pH Precipitated Catalyst

A 2.5 g sample of catalyst 3(a) was loaded into a 300 cc Autoclave Engineers CSTR together with 100 g of distilled (150+°C) Fischer-Tropsch wax as a slurry solvent. The unit was equipped with an online capillary gc which was able to monitor products containing up to 10 carbon atoms. The reactor was maintained at a temperature of 270°C, 75 psig with 370

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cc/min of a 2/1 H₂/CO feed. The superficial space-velocity (v/v/h) based on an initial catalyst density of 1.8 g/cc was approximately 15,000 v/v/h. CO conversions in excess of 60% were maintained during the initial 80 hour test period, while methane selectivities of 4.5% (CO₂ free basis) was observed. The C₅+ selectivities with this catalyst is >75% on a CO₂ free basis. The olefin/paraffin ratios observed for the C₂-C₁₀ products measured at 81 hours on stream time are summarized below.

<u>Carbon Number</u>	<u>Olefin/Paraffin Ratio</u>
2	4.7
3	5.8
4	4.3
5	4.1
6	3.9
7	3.8
8	3.6
9	3.6
10	3.6

The data from the examples above shows that the Fe-Zn spinel and corundum containing catalysts with an Fe:Zn ratio > 5, containing the dual K and Cu promoters in the levels defined in the instant invention, will provide a highly active, stable and selective catalyst for production of C₂-C₁₀+ olefins when conducted according to the process of the instant invention.

Earlier, the catalyst of Benbenek et al was referred to as having all of the components of the present invention. However, the Benbenek system does not contain copper and alkali metal in the proportions

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disclosed herein. Specifically, Benbenek operates with a catalyst comprising Fe:Cu:ZnO:K₂O of 100:20:10:8, i.e., alkali:copper ratio <1:1 and a Cu:Zn ratio >1:1. At 300°C, 150 psi, 400 v/v/hr with 1:1 H₂/CO, the Benbenek system only gives 55% conversion (relative to 60% conversion at 15,000 v/v/hr with the catalytic process of the present invention) and >10% CH₄ (the catalyst of the present invention gives <5% CH₄). Another major difference in the performance of these catalysts is in C₅+ selectivity where the Benbenek catalyst produces <40% liquid products while the catalytic process of the instant invention generates >75% liquids. By carefully controlling the addition and relationship of promoters, the system disclosed herein achieves greater CO conversion rates than reported by Benbenek et al, as well as greater selectivity to olefins, all of which is accomplished at lower pressures and higher space velocities.

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CLAIMS:

1. A composition comprising
 - iron
 - zinc
 - copper
 - an alkali metal selected from the group consisting of potassium, rubidium, cesium, or mixtures thereof, wherein
the iron:zinc atomic ratio is at least about 5:1, and the alkali metal:copper atomic ratio is at least about 2:1.
2. The composition of claim 1 wherein the total alkali metal content of the composition is no greater than 6% g-atom, based on total metal content.
3. The composition of claim 2 wherein the alkali metal is potassium.
4. The composition of claim 1 wherein the iron and zinc are derived from spinel.
5. The composition of claim 1 wherein the iron is derived from a corundum phase.
6. A process for preparing a product containing olefins and paraffins which comprises reacting, at suitable reaction conditions, hydrogen and carbon monoxide in the presence of a catalyst comprising
 - iron
 - zinc

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- copper
- an alkali metal selected from the group consisting of potassium, rubidium, cesium, and mixtures thereof, wherein the iron:zinc atomic ratio is at least 5:1, and the alkali:metal atomic ratio is at least about 1:1.

7. The process of claim 6 wherein the total alkali metal content of the catalyst is no greater than about 6% g-atom, based on total metal content.

8. The process of claim 7 wherein the alkali metal:copper is at least about 2:1.

9. The process of claim 8 wherein the alkali metal is potassium.

10. The process of claim 9 wherein the $H_2:CO$ ratio is about 0:5:1 to about 3:1.

11. The process of claim 10 wherein the reaction temperature ranges from about 200°C to about 350°F and reaction pressure is about 1-40 atm.

12. The process of claim 6 wherein the catalyst is dispersed in a slurry liquid.

13. The catalyst of claim 11 wherein the catalyst is dispersed in a slurry liquid.

14. The process of claim 6 wherein the olefin/paraffin ratio of the product is at least about 2.5/1 in the liquid product.

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15. The process of claim 6 wherein the C₅⁺/C₄⁻ ratio of the product is at least about 4.5/1.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/US91/06590

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (if several classification symbols apply, indicate all) ³ According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC INT. CLASS. B01J 23/72, 23/78, 23/80, C07C1/04, 27/06 U.S. CLASS. 502/329; 518/700, 713						
II. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum Documentation Searched ⁴ <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%; border: none;">Classification System</td> <td style="border: none;">Classification Symbols</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none; vertical-align: top;">U.S.</td> <td style="border: none; vertical-align: top;">502/329 518/700; 518/713</td> </tr> </table> Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched ⁶			Classification System	Classification Symbols	U.S.	502/329 518/700; 518/713
Classification System	Classification Symbols					
U.S.	502/329 518/700; 518/713					
III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT ¹⁴						
Category *	Citation of Document, ¹⁶ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹⁷	Relevant to Claim No. ¹⁸				
X	US, A, 4,199,523 (Rottig) 22 April 1980 See Example 3 (column 7, Line 15 to Column 8, Line 19)	6,7,12,14, 15				
X	Benbenek et al., Prezmyslchem., Vol. 65(3), PP. 136-138 (1986). (See Attached Abstract)	6,7,12,14, 15				
A	US, A, 4,478,955 (Pesa et al) 23 October 1984					
* Special categories of cited documents: ¹⁵ "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family						
IV. CERTIFICATION						
Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search ²		Date of Mailing of this International Search Report ³				
22 OCTOBER 1991		19 DEC 1991				
International Searching Authority ¹		Signature of Authorized Officer ²⁰				
ISA/US		 William J. Shine				

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET

V. ☐ OBSERVATIONS WHERE CERTAIN CLAIMS WERE FOUND UNSEARCHABLE¹

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2) (a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claim numbers _____, because they relate to subject matter¹ not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claim numbers _____, because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out¹, specifically:

3. ☐ Claim numbers _____, because they are dependent claims not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of PCT Rule 6.4(a).

VI. ☒ OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING²

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application as follows:

claims 1-5 to a catalyst composition
claims 6-15 to a catalyst process

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims of the international application.
2. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims of the international application for which fees were paid, specifically claims:

3. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claim numbers:

4. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the International Searching Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by applicant's protest.
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.