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Production of biomass-derived chemicals by deoxydehydration reaction using heterogenized Re oxide catalysts

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PURPOSE OF THE ABSTRACT

Biomass is an attractive starting material in order to substitute fossil resources such as petroleum. Oxygen content is usually high in these biomass-derived materials compared with most useful petroleum-based chemicals. Therefore, the methods for the decrease of the oxygen content become more important. A typical method for the deoxygenation is hydrodeoxygenation such as C-O hydrogenolysis, for example, glycerol to 1,2-and 1,3-propanediols and so on. Another method is deoxydehydration (DODH), which converts vicinal OH groups to one C=C double bond. A typical DODH catalyst is homogeneous CH3ReO3(1). The DODH reaction requires the reductant, and non-H2 reductants such as PPh3 or alcohols have been usually used, and H2 is not suitable reductant from the viewpoint of yields of the DODH products. Recently, heterogeneous ReOx?M/CeO2 (M=Pd and Au) catalysts have been developed and these enabled H2 as a reductant (2-8).

CeO2 (Daiichi Kigenso Co., Ltd., HS, BET surface area: 87 m2 g-1, after calcination at 873 K for 3 h) was used. The ReOx/CeO2 catalyst were prepared by impregnating CeO2 with the aqueous solution of NH4ReO3. The ReOx?M/CeO2 (M=Pd, Au) catalysts were prepared by impregnating ReOx/CeO2 after drying at 383 K for 12 h with aqueous solution of Pd(NO3)2 and HAuCl4. The activity tests were carried out using the autoclave reactor.

The ReOx?Pd/CeO2 was effective to the conversion of 1,4-anhydroerythritol to tetrahydrofuran and erythritol to butanediols. These reactions contain the combination of the DODH catalyzed by ReOx on CeO2 and the subsequent hydrogenation of C-C double bond in the DODH products catalyzed by Pd metal particles. From the characterization results, it is found that the DODH reaction proceeds by the redox cycle of monomeric Re species on CeO2 surface between Re4+ and Re6+. At the same time, the Pd metal species promotes the reduction of Re species from Re6+ to Re4+ species by H2 activation and spillover. An important role of CeO2 is to stabilize Re4+ species to suppress the over-reduction to inactive Re species.

ReOx?Pd/CeO2 was also applied to the DODH+hydrogenation of various methyl glycoside with cis-vicinal OH groups to corresponding dideoxy derivatives, and obtained products were also converted to value-added chemicals such as chiral triols and so on.

The ReOx?Au/CeO2 catalyzed DODH of glycerol to allyl alcohol and erythritol to 1,3-butadiene with H2 and high yields were obtained as shown below. The role of Au is to activate H2 and to promote the reduction of Re species like the case of Pd-modified catalyst, however, the activity of C=C hydrogenation on Au is much lower than that on Pd, and the DODH products were obtained on ReOx?Au/CeO2. We recently reported that ReOx?Au/CeO2 also catalyzed DODH of methyl glycoside with cis-vicinal OH groups to corresponding unsaturated sugar derivatives.

It is recently found that the combination of ReOx?Au/CeO2 with ReOx/C enabled the one-pot conversion of 1,4-anhydroerythritol to 1,4-butanediol in high yield (~90%). The reaction route includes DODH of 1,4-anhydroerythritol, isomerization of 2,5-dihydrofuran to 2,3-dihydrofuran, H2O addition of 2,3-dihydrofuran, ring-opening to 4-hydroxybutanal, and subsequent hydrogenation of 4-hydroxybutanal to 1,4-butanediol. References

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FIGURE 1

FIGURE 2

KEYWORDS

biomass | heterogeneous catalysis | deoxydehydration

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