

Raman Spectroscopic Investigation of the Effect of H₂O on the Molybdenum Surface Species in MoO₃/Al₂O₃ Catalysts¹

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The Raman spectroscopic characterization of a set of MoO₃/Al₂O₃ catalysts containing 3 to 25 wt% MoO₃ is presented. Controlled atmosphere measurements show that the Raman spectra of these catalysts are influenced drastically by the water content of the samples. Catalysts calcined in O₂ at 500°C have spectra very different from previously reported spectra. The Mo=O stretching vibration is at about 1000 cm⁻¹ in calcined samples, whereas in H₂O-exposed samples the frequency is near 950 cm⁻¹. The position of the Mo=O stretching vibration is shown by repeated H₂O exposure, O₂ calcination cycles to be reversible between 950 and 1000 cm⁻¹. Models for the interaction of H₂O with the surface molybdate species are presented and discussed with respect to the Raman data. © 1984 Academic Press, Inc.

INTRODUCTION

Raman spectroscopy has become an important tool for investigating the interaction of molybdenum and tungsten oxides with high surface area supports such as Al₂O₃ and SiO₂. As early as 1977, Brown *et al.* (1-3) reported on the Raman spectra from MoO₃/Al₂O₃ hydrodesulfurization catalysts in which crystalline MoO₃ and Al₂(MoO₄)₃ were identified; in addition, a broad asymmetric band located near 950 cm⁻¹, assigned to a vibrational mode associated with monolayer molybdena species interacting with the Al₂O₃ support, was briefly discussed with respect to effects of catalyst drying. Subsequently, a number of studies were conducted on MoO₃/Al₂O₃, CoO-MoO₃/Al₂O₃, and WO₃/Al₂O₃ in which Raman spectroscopy was used to follow the genesis of surface and crystalline species as a function of metal loading, metal impreg-

nation sequence, and method of impregnation (4-11).

In general, previous results have shown that the shape and breadth of the Raman band associated with molybdate or tungstate surface species are approximately equal, whereas the frequency of this band is 10-30 cm⁻¹ higher for WO₃/Al₂O₃. Such a frequency difference is in agreement with that for the symmetric tungsten-oxygen stretching vibration in bulk, crystalline molybdates and tungstates (5, 7, 8). However, the identification of the surface species producing this "950 cm⁻¹" band is still a matter of debate.

In a Raman study of MoO₃/Al₂O₃, Sombrét *et al.* (6) showed that the frequency of the band associated with the molybdate surface species increased from 930 to 966 cm⁻¹ as the concentration of MoO₃ was increased from 4 to 24 wt%. As a result of this frequency increase with increasing MoO₃ concentration and of a corresponding growth in intensity of a band near 220 cm⁻¹, the genesis of the molybdate surface species was described in terms of isolated tet-

¹ Reference in this report to any specific commercial product, process, or service is to facilitate understanding and does not necessarily imply its endorsement or favoring by the United States Department of Energy.

rahedral species at concentrations less than 4 wt% MoO₃; these species are condensed and form distorted octahedral, polymeric species for concentrations above 4 wt% MoO₃. Thomas *et al.* (11) observed shifts in frequency from 940 to 975 cm⁻¹ of a Raman mode for the molybdate surface species as the concentration of MoO₃ was increased from 2 to 20 wt%. However, the surface species causing the shift was described as containing octahedral symmetry. Wang and Hall (9) suggested that the ratio of intensities at 950 and 970 cm⁻¹ could be taken as a measure of the ratio of tetrahedrally to octahedrally coordinated molybdenum surface species. This interpretation was based on the comparisons of their spectra, acquired with samples exposed to atmospheric conditions, with previously reported data also acquired with samples exposed to atmospheric conditions (12, 13). The present communication addresses the interpretations of previous publications (1-13) concerning the correlation of Raman frequencies from MoO₃/Al₂O₃ catalysts with those from monomeric and polymeric molybdenum-containing models. This fundamental question is addressed by performing *in situ* Raman analyses of MoO₃/Al₂O₃ as a function of Mo concentration. The spectra of calcined catalysts will be shown to be fundamentally different than spectra of catalysts exposed to ambient conditions. In particular, the water content of the catalysts will be shown to control the appearance and position of the Raman bands of the molybdate surface species.

EXPERIMENTAL

Sample preparation. The MoO₃/Al₂O₃ catalysts were prepared using Harshaw Al-4104E 1/32-in. γ -Al₂O₃ (Harshaw Chemical Co.) having a surface area of approximately 200 m²/g. The Al₂O₃ extrudates were ground with a mortar and pestle and then sieved to -100 mesh. Water suspension was used to remove fines from the ground Al₂O₃. The Al₂O₃ was then dried overnight at 120°C. For Mo impregnation, a predeter-

mined amount of (NH₄)₆Mo₇O₂₄ · 4H₂O (Baker, Analyzed Reagent) was dissolved in distilled water, and this solution was used to saturate the dried Al₂O₃ to incipient wetness. Concentrations of Mo above 15% MoO₃ required two-step impregnations. The impregnated samples were allowed to sit at 25°C for 0.5 hr before subsequent drying at 120°C with occasional stirring. The samples were then calcined in air overnight at 500°C.

Raman spectral acquisition. The air-calcined, powdered catalysts were pressed into 13-mm-diameter wafers. These wafered samples were attached to a rotary feedthrough in a sample cell containing a quartz optical flat. This cell could be evacuated, flushed with selected gases, heated in a tubular furnace, and positioned at the entrance optics of the Raman spectrometer. Evacuation was facilitated with ultrahigh vacuum, stainless steel hardware having a turbomolecular pump as the primary pumping station. No vacuum grease or oil is present in this system.

The cell permitted the environment of the catalysts to be controlled before and during spectral acquisition. Typically, a Raman spectrum of the air-exposed catalyst was obtained while the catalyst was in the cell. The cell containing the sample was then evacuated to $\sim 10^{-5}$ Torr, backfilled with 760 Torr of O₂ (Matheson, Research Grade), and then heated at 550°C. During this O₂ calcination, the sample cell was evacuated and backfilled with O₂ at least three times to ensure complete calcination. For catalysts exposed to distilled, deionized H₂O or D₂O (Wilmad, 99.8% D), the cell was evacuated to 10⁻⁵ Torr and then backfilled to 10-25 Torr with the selected gas while the sample was at 25°C. Similar experimental procedure was used to expose the samples to anhydrous NH₃ (Matheson). The O₂, H₂O, D₂O, or NH₃ was left in the sample cell during spectral acquisition.

The Raman spectra were recorded on a Spex Ramalog spectrometer equipped with holographic gratings. A Spectra Physics

Model 165 argon-ion laser was used to supply 45 mW at 5145 Å to the rotating sample. The spectral slit width was maintained at 4 cm^{-1} throughout the experiments. Data handling was facilitated by use of a Spex Datamate.

RESULTS

Figure 1 shows Raman spectra of the (3–25) wt% $\text{MoO}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ catalyst series (6.1×10^{13} – 5.5×10^{14} Mo/cm^2) acquired while the catalysts were exposed to atmospheric conditions. The position of the most intense Raman band varies from 938 to 970 cm^{-1} as the MoO_3 concentration is increased. This band has been associated with the symmetric $\text{Mo}=\text{O}$ stretching mode of a molybdate surface species. Another Raman band can be observed between 320 and 370 cm^{-1} . It is observable with as little as 3% MoO_3 when it has maximum intensity at 325 cm^{-1} . At a loading of 5% MoO_3 , this peak becomes asymmetric toward higher wave numbers; at a loading of 10% MoO_3 , it becomes a

distinct doublet located at approximately 330 and 360 cm^{-1} . Simultaneous with the appearance of this doublet is the appearance of a Raman mode at 215 cm^{-1} . The 215 cm^{-1} mode shifts to 208 cm^{-1} at 15% MoO_3 loading and concurrently becomes more intense. At 20% MoO_3 , the 208 cm^{-1} band appears as an ill-defined doublet located at 205 and 215 cm^{-1} . Also at 20% MoO_3 , the intensity of the bands in the 320 to 370 cm^{-1} region is primarily associated with a band at 365 cm^{-1} . At 25% MoO_3 loading, a value in excess of that needed for monolayer coverage (7), peaks are at 377, 820, 997, 1005, and 1025 cm^{-1} . The frequencies of these peaks agree with those expected for bulk MoO_3 and $\text{Al}_2(\text{MoO}_4)_3$; X-ray diffraction has confirmed the existence of crystalline MoO_3 and $\text{Al}_2(\text{MoO}_4)_3$ in the 25% $\text{MoO}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ catalyst. In addition, Raman bands are at 204, 288, and 968 cm^{-1} for the 25% $\text{MoO}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ sample.

The data in Fig. 1 were obtained within three days of the preparation of the cata-

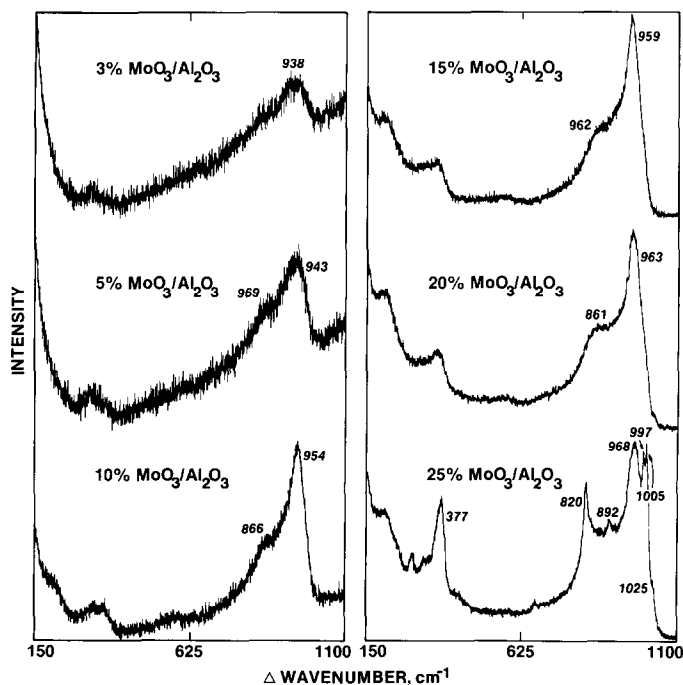


FIG. 1. Raman spectra of the catalyst series (3–25) wt% $\text{MoO}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ acquired within 3 days of catalyst synthesis and with the catalysts exposed to atmospheric conditions.

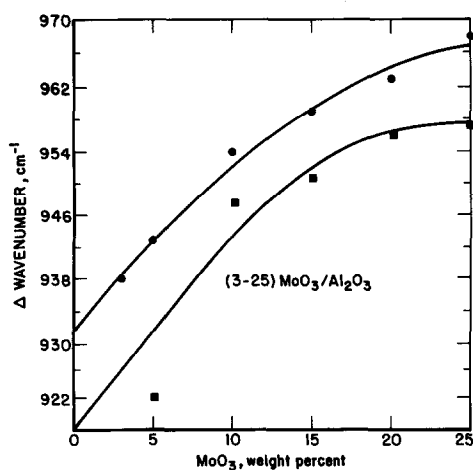


FIG. 2. Plot of the band position of the molybdenum-oxygen stretching frequency as a function of molybdenum concentration. ●: Spectra acquired in air within 3 days of catalyst synthesis. ■: Spectra acquired 3 months after catalyst synthesis.

lysts and while the sample wafers were exposed to atmospheric conditions during data acquisition. Acquiring Raman data from these catalysts after they had been exposed to atmospheric conditions for another three months produced spectra similar to those shown in Fig. 1 except that the frequency of the stretching mode of the molybdate species decreased 10 to 20 cm^{-1} . This decrease is shown in Fig. 2 and suggests that control of the environment around the sample is important in obtaining accurate and repeatable Raman analyses.

Figure 3a shows a Raman spectrum from 700 to 1100 cm^{-1} of the 15% $\text{MoO}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ catalyst after extended exposure to atmospheric conditions. Figure 3b shows the Raman spectrum from the same sample after O_2 calcination at 550°C. This spectrum was acquired while an O_2 pressure of 760 Torr was in the sample cell. The O_2 calcination has shifted the peak to 1006 cm^{-1} from its original 951 cm^{-1} position. The cell was then evacuated to 10^{-5} Torr, and with the sample at 25°C, the cell was backfilled with 11 Torr of H_2O vapor. After a 1-hr equilibration, the Raman spectrum of the H_2O -exposed sample (Fig. 3c) is nearly identical

to that from the air-exposed sample (Fig. 3a). This sequence of O_2 calcination and H_2O exposure was repeated again on the same 15% $\text{MoO}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ sample and showed reversibility in the position of the Raman bands. The lower frequency region from 100 to 700 cm^{-1} (Fig. 4b) for the O_2 -calcined catalyst contains a very weak Raman band at 210 cm^{-1} and a broad, ill-defined band in the 250 to 360 cm^{-1} region (Fig. 4a).

After two sequences of O_2 calcination and H_2O exposure, the cell containing the 15% $\text{MoO}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ catalyst was evacuated for 2 days to a final pressure of 1×10^{-6} Torr. During this 25°C evacuation, the catalyst turned to a dark-brown color; attempts to obtain a Raman spectrum from this sample failed because of an intense fluorescent background. Exposure of this brown sample to O_2 while it was at 550°C changed the sample color to a pale yellow, as previously observed for the dried catalyst. Addition-

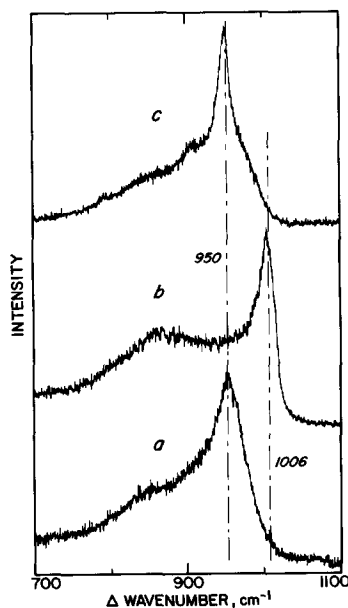


FIG. 3. Raman spectra of 15% $\text{MoO}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ for (a) the catalyst exposed to atmospheric conditions for three months, (b) the catalyst calcined in 760 Torr O_2 at 550°C for 1 hr with O_2 in the sample cell during spectral acquisition, and (c) the catalyst after exposure to 11 Torr of H_2O vapor at 25°C for 1 hr subsequent to O_2 calcination.

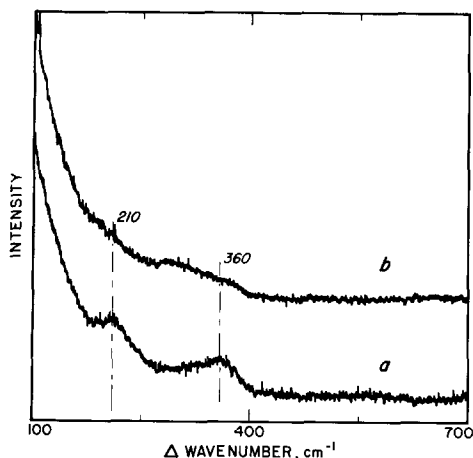


FIG. 4. The Raman spectra from 100 to 700 cm^{-1} for 15% $\text{MoO}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ for (a) the catalyst exposed to atmospheric conditions and (b) after calcination in O_2 at 550°C with the catalyst in a controlled- O_2 environment during spectral acquisition.

ally, Raman spectra of good quality were again easily obtained and had structure identical to that in Figs. 3b and 4b.

After calcination, the O_2 was evacuated and then the catalyst was exposed to 11 Torr of D_2O for 1 hr at 25°C. The Raman spectrum obtained from this D_2O -exposed sample was identical to that shown in Fig. 3c, with the frequency of the most intense Raman band at 950 cm^{-1} . Such a result indicates that the frequency of this Raman band is not dependent on a mass effect; instead, an electronic effect is possibly causing the observed frequency shift.

The relative importance of the contribution of H_2O to the frequency shifts shown in Figs. 1 to 3 versus the contribution of structural polymerization of the molybdate surface species was investigated by obtaining Raman spectra of a 5% $\text{MoO}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ sample as a function of O_2 - H_2O treatment cycles. These spectra are shown in Fig. 5. The position of the 922 cm^{-1} band (Fig. 5a) for this catalyst shifted to 985 cm^{-1} (Fig. 5b) after O_2 calcination at 550°C. Subsequent exposure of the sample to 20 Torr H_2O or D_2O for 1 hr shifted the band down to 965 cm^{-1} (Fig. 5c). With an extended 3-day exposure

of the catalyst to 20 Torr H_2O or D_2O at 25°C, the 965 cm^{-1} band was slowly replaced by a band at 922 cm^{-1} , a position in agreement with that for the original air-exposed sample. Thus, although 5% $\text{MoO}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ does not react as fast to H_2O or D_2O , it does show reversibility in the band position of the $\text{Mo}=\text{O}$ stretching mode.

To provide more information concerning the origin of shifts in Raman band positions, the Raman spectra of a 15% $\text{MoO}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ catalyst after calcination in O_2 and exposure to NH_3 were obtained. Figure 6a shows the spectrum of the 500°C calcined catalyst, and Fig. 6b shows the spectrum after exposure of the catalyst to 20 Torr anhydrous NH_3 . The frequency of the $\text{Mo}=\text{O}$ stretching mode shifts from 1006 to 975 cm^{-1} with a 1-hr equilibration to NH_3 vapor. At an exposure of 50 Torr NH_3 for 1 hr, the frequency of this band is further shifted to 958 cm^{-1} . In the 100 to 700 cm^{-1}

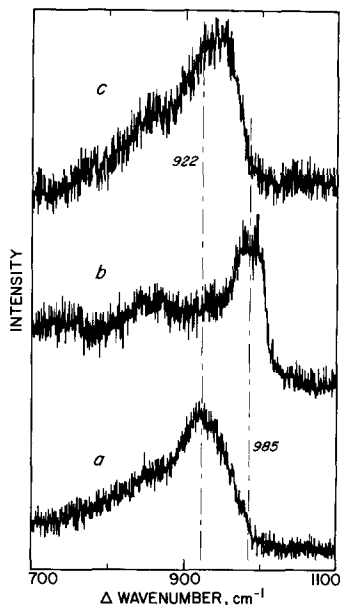


FIG. 5. Raman spectra of 5% $\text{MoO}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ for (a) the catalyst exposed to atmospheric conditions for 3 months, (b) the catalyst calcined in 760 Torr O_2 at 550°C for 1 hr with O_2 in the sample cell during spectral acquisition, and (c) the catalyst after exposure to 40 Torr H_2O vapor at 25°C for 3 days subsequent to O_2 calcination.

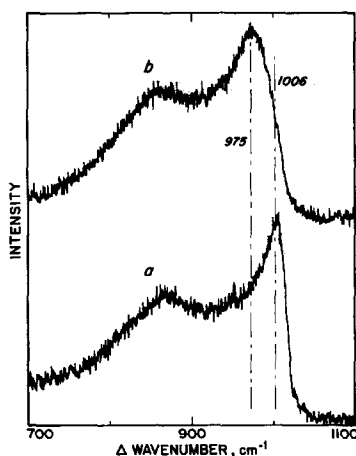


FIG. 6. Raman spectra of 15% MoO₃/Al₂O₃ (a) after O₂ calcination at 550°C and (b) after exposure to 20 Torr anhydrous NH₃ at 25°C for 1 hr.

region the spectral characteristics of the NH₃-exposed catalyst do not differ from those of the O₂-calcined precursor. Hence, only the Mo=O stretching vibrational mode is affected by NH₃ exposure in a manner similar to H₂O or D₂O exposure.

DISCUSSION

Most Raman spectroscopic characterization studies of catalysts in their oxidic state have not addressed the effect that adsorbed H₂O may have on the spectral characteristics of the catalysts. Recently, Wang and Hall (14) showed that the adsorption of H₂O onto calcined rhenia-alumina catalysts caused a substantial decrease in the frequency of a band attributed to a Re=O stretching vibration. This information on rhenia-alumina is the only data that the authors are aware of that explicitly show reversibility in the Raman band structure of highly dispersed, supported metal oxides during O₂ calcination-H₂O exposure cycles. However, Kasztelan *et al.* (15) do allude to changes in the frequency of the stretching vibration of the molybdate surface species that accompany hydration of MoO₃/Al₂O₃ catalysts. In addition, Kasztelan *et al.* (15) briefly discuss interpretation difficulties that subsequently arise when

comparing Raman spectra of MoO₃/Al₂O₃ catalysts with those of model compounds. In the present discussion, the data in Fig. 2 provide an explanation for the differences in frequency that have been observed from supposedly identical MoO₃/Al₂O₃ catalysts. Thomas *et al.* (11) determined that the most intense Raman band for a 4% MoO₃ concentration was located at 940 cm⁻¹, while Sombret *et al.* (6) measured 933 cm⁻¹. At a concentration near 15% MoO₃, Thomas and co-workers found 975 cm⁻¹, while Sombret's spectra showed 956 cm⁻¹. Hence, the frequency of the most intense Raman peak in Thomas's spectra was consistently larger than that from Sombret's spectra. Such a result can be expected for two sets of catalysts exposed to atmospheric conditions for different lengths of time. Hence, the Raman spectroscopic characterization of MoO₃/Al₂O₃ catalysts is sensitive to the extent of interaction or surface coverage with atmospheric constituents that has involved the surface molybdate species.

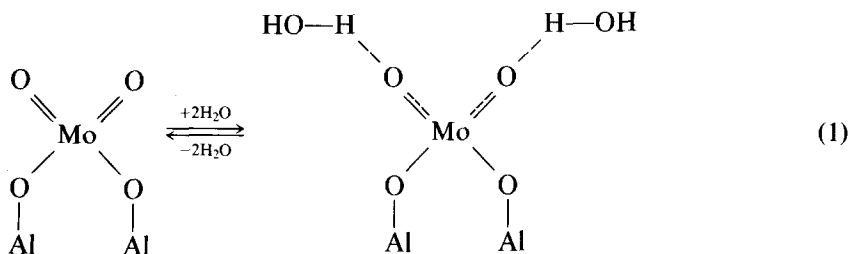
Cotton and Wing (16) have shown that a smooth, monotonic relationship exists between the bond orders, the stretching-force constants, and the bond lengths for molybdenum-oxygen compounds. Hence, it may be expected that as the bond order of Mo=O decreases, the Raman frequency associated with this bond vibration should also decrease. For example, it is known that the Raman frequency of the Mo=O stretching mode in crystalline ammonium molybdates is sensitive to the coordination of the molybdenum (17). This contribution to the change in Raman frequencies for MoO₃/Al₂O₃ has been discussed previously (4-13) without careful analysis of the effect of equilibration with atmospheric H₂O on the MoO₃/Al₂O₃ catalysts. In crystalline tungstates, the frequency of the W=O stretching mode in WO₄ units increases in going from pure WO₄ units to alternating WO₄-WO₆ units, possibly as a result of decreasing W=O bond length (18). Within the MoO₃/Al₂O₃ catalysts discussed here, this argument of changing bond orders and/

or lengths may in part provide an explanation for the frequency shifts of the Raman band in the 920 to 1000 cm^{-1} region as a function of molybdena concentration and O_2 - H_2O exposure cycles.

In addition to bond order and/or length changes, a concentration-dependent degree of hydration may also provide a simple explanation for the frequency shifts in the Raman spectra. However, reducibility studies have shown that the intrinsic reactivity of the surface molybdate is highly dependent on the Mo concentration (19-21). Hence, the chemical nature of the Mo may be a function of the Mo concentration. This concentration dependency could be the result of (a) having the degree of aggregation of the molybdate surface species dependent on the Mo concentration and (b) having the interaction of the molybdate surface spe-

cies with the Al_2O_3 dependent on the Mo concentration. It is not possible to present a definitive conclusion; both of the above factors could be true, affecting Raman frequencies in the same or opposite direction. However, the effect of H_2O on the frequency of the molybdate stretching mode does offer insight into possible models of the molybdate surface species.

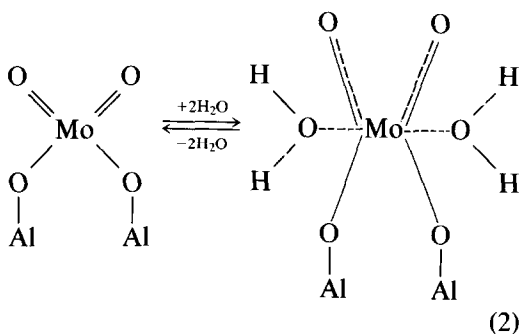
Studies of $\text{MoO}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ catalysts have suggested that the Mo is tetrahedrally coordinated when the MoO_3 concentration is less than 7 wt% and that the amount of octahedrally coordinated Mo increases at concentrations greater than 7% MoO_3 (7). However, assuming no change in the coordination of the Mo as a consequence of H_2O exposure or O_2 calcination, a simple model of the interaction of H_2O with a tetrahedral species could be as follows:



Such an interaction of H_2O with the terminal oxygen in the $\text{Mo}=\text{O}$ bond decreases its bond order. The association of the OH is not known; indeed, the alumina surface may help to stabilize such a configuration. As a result of this hydration, the frequencies in the Raman spectra of the H_2O -exposed catalysts should tend to agree with those observed for polymolybdates (5, 17). The interaction of H_2O could also occur in the $\text{Mo}-\text{O}-\text{Al}$ or in bridging $\text{Mo}-\text{O}-\text{Mo}$ bonds. However, such an interaction would not be expected to affect the $\text{Mo}=\text{O}$ vibrational mode as much as direct interaction with the terminal oxygen. In addition, the frequency of $\text{Mo}-\text{O}-\text{Mo}$ stretching modes would be expected to be in the 700 to 900 cm^{-1} region, whereas the spectra of dried,

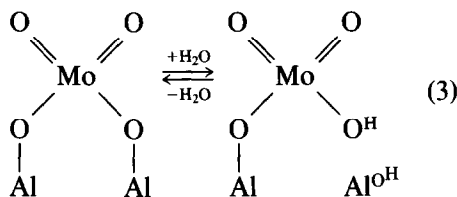
H_2O -exposed, or D_2O -exposed catalysts have similar band structures in this region.

Another model able to define the interaction of H_2O with the molybdate species and to cause shifts in Raman frequencies could be the following:



This model would imply increased coordination of the Mo and a change in symmetry from tetrahedral to octahedral. Simultaneously, the order of the terminal Mo=O bonds would be decreased, causing a decrease in the stretching frequency of the molybdate surface species and providing agreement between band positions of H₂O-exposed MoO₃/Al₂O₃ and polymolybdates. In addition, this model agrees with a Brønsted-site model proposed to explain enhanced sulfiding of MoO₃/Al₂O₃ in the presence of H₂O (22).

Finally, a possible model of the H₂O interacting with Mo–O–Al bonds could also occur, as shown in (3):



Hydrolysis of a Mo–O–Al bond may occur during exposure of the calcined catalysts to H₂O; indeed, an interpretation that was proposed to explain the effect of H₂O on the Raman band structure of rhenia-alumina catalysts involved hydrolysis of Re–O–Al bonds (14). Also, this model does explain Brønsted-site assisted sulfidation. However, it is not obvious, considering the stability of the molybdate surface layer, how such a model would affect the terminal Mo=O bond length and/or order.

Features of the Raman spectra of the MoO₃/Al₂O₃ catalysts in the 100 to 700 cm⁻¹ region as a function of O₂ calcination, H₂O or D₂O exposure, and NH₃ exposure also provide direction for deciding between models (1), (2), or (3). Since D₂O- and H₂O-exposed catalysts have identical spectral characteristics in this region, the bands at 210 and 360 cm⁻¹ are not expected to involve significant motion of the hydrogen or deuterium. The extremely weak 210 cm⁻¹ band in O₂-calcined and NH₃-exposed catalysts may suggest that this mode is symme-

try-sensitive to the presence of H₂O-like species. It is possible that the 210 cm⁻¹ band in the H₂O-exposed catalyst is the result of a O···Mo···O symmetric stretching mode in a sixfold coordinated Mo. Such an assignment is somewhat contrary to previous assignments in that the presence of the 210 cm⁻¹ band would be directly dependent on the presence of water instead of on the degree of cross-linking in the molybdate species. The absence of this band with MoO₃ concentrations below 10 wt% could be a result of the weak intensity associated with the O···Mo···O stretching mode and/or a result of a low concentration of such scattering centers. Alternately, the effect of H₂O may be to help bridge near-by Mo surface units to create what has frequently been referred to as polymeric structures. However, the use of Raman spectra acquired without controlled sample environments to discern between such polymeric or monomeric species is questionable since the data in Fig. 2 clearly shows that interpretations based only on band positions may be dependent upon previous H₂O exposure.

The 1006 cm⁻¹ position of the Mo=O stretching frequency for O₂-calcined 15% MoO₃/Al₂O₃ versus the 985 cm⁻¹ position for O₂-calcined 5% MoO₃/Al₂O₃ suggests that previous interpretations (4–13) concerning aggregate size- or symmetry-dependent frequency shifts may still be realistic. However, the mode of interaction between H₂O and the surface molybdate is still not understood; its elucidation will provide impetus for discerning between the three models and will possibly provide fundamental insight into the interaction of metal oxides with Al₂O₃ supports.

CONCLUSIONS

The Raman spectroscopic studies of calcined MoO₃/Al₂O₃ catalysts using controlled environmental conditions during data acquisition have shown that the Mo=O vibrational mode is 50 to 60 cm⁻¹ above the positions previously reported for

this mode. For calcined 5% MoO₃/Al₂O₃, this mode is at 985 cm⁻¹, while for calcined 15% MoO₃/Al₂O₃, the position is 1006 cm⁻¹. This 20 cm⁻¹ frequency difference could be the result of symmetry and coordination differences between the Mo in the 5% MoO₃/Al₂O₃ and 15% MoO₃/Al₂O₃ catalysts. In addition, such a frequency difference could be the result of a frequency dependence on the size of the Mo aggregates and/or on the extent of interaction of the Mo with the Al₂O₃ surface. Upon atmospheric or controlled H₂O exposure, the Mo=O bond is weakened, thereby causing a downshift in frequency to positions that have been reported previously in the literature. Controlled D₂O or NH₃ exposure of the calcined catalysts also causes frequency shifts to lower positions. Catalysts with lower concentrations of Mo react more slowly to hydration than do catalysts with near-monolayer Mo coverage of the Al₂O₃.

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