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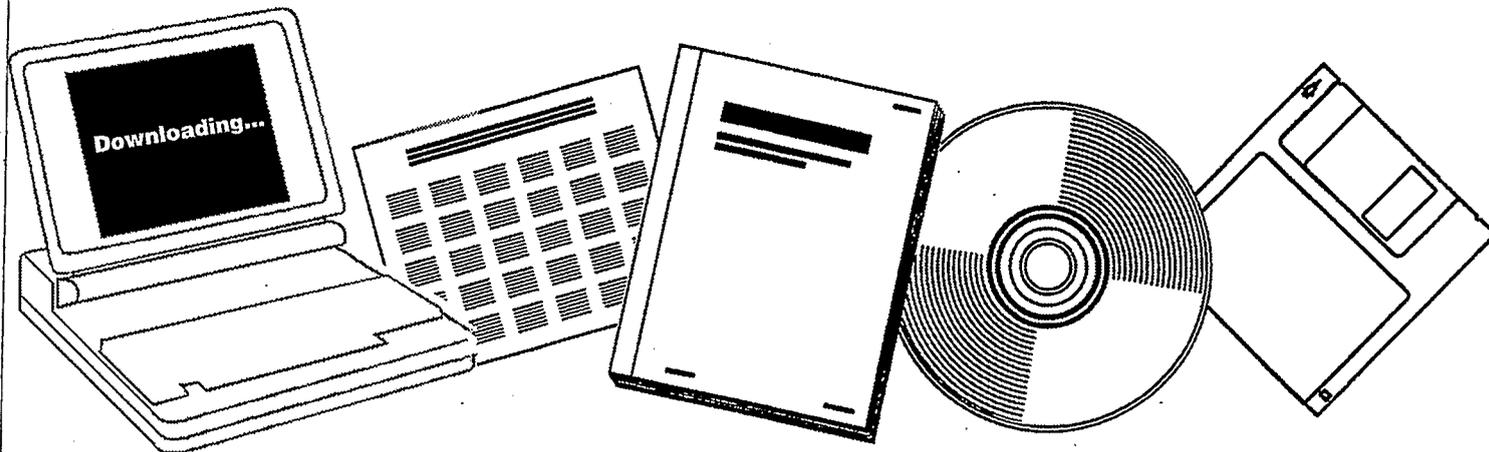
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**PROBE MOLECULE STUDIES: ACTIVE SPECIES IN
ALCOHOL SYNTHESIS. FINAL REPORT, JULY
1993--JULY 1994**

**PITTSBURGH UNIV., PA. DEPT. OF CHEMICAL
AND PETROLEUM ENGINEERING**

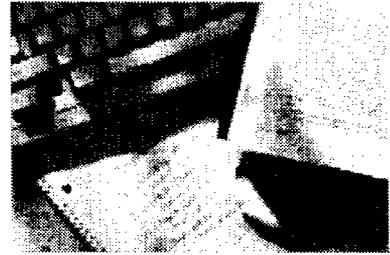
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**PROBE MOLECULE STUDIES:
ACTIVE SPECIES IN ALCOHOL SYNTHESIS**

Final Report

July 1993 - July 1994

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ABSTRACT

To develop a better understanding of the mechanism of C_{2+} alcohol formation from CO/H_2 over Co-Cu based catalysts, investigations were carried out by several physical and chemical catalyst characterization techniques, alteration of catalyst reduction condition, CO hydrogenation reaction and in-situ addition of nitromethane as a probe molecule to CO/H_2 at steady state. It was demonstrated that the presence of cobalt in a Cu/ZnO based catalyst drastically reduced the activity of Cu for methanol synthesis and significantly suppressed the promotional effect of CO_2 on methanol formation by blocking or deactivating the copper metal sites, and the co-presence of cobalt metal and copper metal did not necessarily promote the formation rates of C_{2+} alcohols. The reduction treatments using high H_2 partial pressure (≥ 1 atm) at high temperature ($> 300^\circ C$) were found possible to improve extent of reduction of cobalt without causing sintering of copper metal particles, which consequently increased the local atomic ratio of Co^0/Cu^0 and resulted in dramatic enhancement in the catalyst activity and selectivity for the synthesis of $C_2\sim C_6$ alcohols. A reasonable particle size of cobalt metal in contact with copper metal was suggested to be a key factor in constructing the active sites for the formation of C_{2+} alcohols. The interaction of CH_3NO_2 with the reaction network of CO hydrogenation over the Cu and Co-Cu based catalysts provided evidence suggesting that the aldehydic methanol intermediate formed from CO and H_2 was also involved in the chain growth of C_{2+} alcohol formation.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The synthesis of mixed alcohols ($C_1\sim C_6$ alcohols) from CO/H_2 mixtures or syngas is one of the known pathways of indirect liquid fuels synthesis. Increased attention has recently been paid to the synthesis of higher molecular weight alcohols (C_{2+} alcohols) from syngas over heterogeneous catalysts^{(1-7)*} due to the significant requirement of oxygenates in fuels by the Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA) of 1990 to improve engine performance and decrease pollution. Extensive efforts were put into the production of mixed alcohols from syngas as octane enhancers in gasoline blends during the 1980's⁽¹⁾. Compared with low priced methanol, C_{2+} alcohols have higher blending octane numbers and energy content (calorific value), which are key fuels properties, and lower blending vapor pressure (another important fuel property). In addition, using higher alcohols in fuel blends helps to prevent phase separation caused by the presence of a small amount of water.

Various catalyst systems for the synthesis of higher alcohols from CO/H_2 have been developed and widely studied. They can be generally divided into three groups: (1) modified methanol synthesis catalysts (Cu/ZnO-based), (2) group VIII metal based catalysts (Rh, Pd-based; modified Fe, Co and Ni), and (3) modified molybdenum catalysts (MoS_x -based; Mo/support-based). The production of higher alcohols over these catalysts is often accompanied by formation of methanol and hydrocarbon products. The activity and

* Parenthetical references placed superior to the line of text refer to the bibliography.

selectivity of higher alcohol synthesis from these catalytic reactions are not very high. There is still a lack of mechanistic knowledge required for the rational design and preparation of catalysts with high activity and satisfactory selectivity as well as for kinetic modeling and process design. A fundamental understanding of the reaction pathways and a clear delineation of critical catalyst structure/performance relationships are desirable from both an industrial and an academic point of view, but this is hampered by the complexity of the process which involves multiple reaction pathways and various catalytic components.

To achieve an understanding of observed activity and selectivity patterns, researchers have attempted to study: (1) the nature of the catalytic sites which are active in the formation of the desired alcohol products; (2) the nature of the surface intermediates or precursors which lead the reaction towards the desired alcohol products; (3) the elementary reactions which make up the reaction pathways, including identification of the rate limiting step. Many experimental methods have been employed to investigate the adsorptive and reactive properties of alcohol synthesis catalysts. Infrared spectroscopy has been used to analyze the bonding state of surface species^(8, 9). Many other characterization techniques, such as XRD, TEM, adsorption measurements, X-Ray photoelectron spectroscopy, UV spectroscopy, have been applied to generate information about the nature of the surface⁽⁸⁻¹³⁾. Kinetic parameter studies have been reported to give some suggestions on reaction mechanisms⁽¹⁴⁾. Isotopic labeling of reactants has been introduced to distinguish reaction pathways⁽¹⁵⁻¹⁹⁾. Addition of probe molecules has also been widely used as a tool for mechanistic studies⁽¹⁶⁻²⁸⁾.

A wide variety of mechanisms of higher alcohol formation has been proposed based on different experimental results for different catalyst systems^(2-7, 9, 10, 18-23, 28-44). The alkali (Cs, K, Na) promoted Cu/ZnO methanol synthesis catalysts have been most extensively studied^(2-4, 15, 18). Catalyst systems based on supported Group VIII metals as well as supported Mo have also been widely studied^(2-4, 6, 7, 16, 17, 19, 23). The inclusion of Group VIII metals (Co, Fe) in the Cu/ZnO methanol synthesis catalyst system has been studied to a much lesser extent^(5, 10, 22, 40), although the Co/Cu/Zn/Al and Co/Cu/Zn/Cr catalyst systems have been developed in the 80's⁽⁴²⁻⁴⁴⁾ for the production of C₁-C₆ alcohols from syngas. The preparation procedures are believed to be critical to the performance of the final catalyst in HAS. Different views on the mechanism of the formation of C₂+ alcohols from CO/H₂ over this type of catalyst have been proposed in the literature, but a consensus has not been reached concerning either the reaction pathways^(2, 6, 22, 40) or the nature of the active sites^(6, 40, 45-50).

The objectives of this project are to investigate the role(s) of cobalt and copper in constructing the active sites for the formation of higher alcohols from CO/H₂ over the Co-Cu based catalysts by using different reduction treatments and applying selected characterization tools such as TPR, TPD, XRD and XPS as well as to generate mechanistic information on the reaction pathway(s) and key intermediate(s) of higher alcohol synthesis from CO/H₂ over Co-Cu/ZnO catalysts by the approach of *in-situ* addition of a probe molecule (nitromethane).

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Mechanisms of Relevant Reactions

Methanol formation, hydrocarbon formation, and the water gas shift reaction are major side reactions in higher alcohol synthesis (HAS) from CO/H₂. Understanding the reaction mechanisms of HAS requires an understanding of these related reactions. Some of the important issues which have been reported in the literature are briefly given below.

2.1.1 CH₃OH Synthesis

The mechanism of methanol synthesis is still the subject of much debate and controversy even though it has been intensively studied^(3, 14, 16, 18, 21, 29, 40, 51-85).

2.1.1.1 Cu/ZnO Based Catalysts. It has been generally accepted that CH₃OH is formed via a non-dissociative mechanism. Conclusive evidence of this mechanism was provided by kinetic studies with isotopic labeling and spectroscopic observation of reaction intermediates⁽⁶⁸⁾. Many intermediates, such as formyl, formate, dioxo-methylene, and methoxy, have been reported to play a role in CH₃OH synthesis^(53, 68-71, 82). Three active states of copper have been proposed and strongly supported in the literature for the active surface sites: (a) metallic copper supported by ZnO matrix, (b) Cu^{δ+} dispersed

in ZnO matrix, and (c) a combination of Cu^0 and $\text{Cu}^{\delta+}$ species that must be in close proximity to one another, and both must be fairly highly dispersed⁽³⁾. In short, studies concerning the nature of active intermediates and catalytic centers for Cu/ZnO-based catalysts are the subjects of continued research^(3, 8, 14, 54-61). An induction period for the freshly reduced Cu/ZnO-based catalyst prior to steady state activity in CH_3OH synthesis has been widely observed and not well understood yet.

Experimental results have shown that the presence of CO_2 in syngas can improve the activity and selectivity towards CH_3OH dramatically whereas the absence of CO_2 accelerates deactivation^(3, 51, 52). Great attention has been drawn to define the function of CO_2 . Different mechanisms have been proposed, considering CO_2 acting either as true reactant or as a promoter^(3, 4, 15, 68, 78, 79, 83, 84). Recent studies have concluded that the pathway of methanol formation from CO/H_2 is independent of the pathway from CO_2/H_2 ^(78, 83). Copper metal has been proposed to compose the active sites for the low pressure methanol synthesis from CO_2/H_2 ^(52, 83, 84).

2.1.1.2 Group VIII Metal Based Catalysts. Metals like Pd, Pt, or Ir, as well as Rh, chemisorbing CO associatively, have been cited most frequently^(7, 11, 12, 16, 35, 36, 60, 62-67, 72-77) as being active and selective (though less selective than Cu/ZnO catalysts) in CH_3OH synthesis. This suggests that CH_3OH formation over these catalysts also occurs via a non dissociative mechanism. Isotopic evidence of this mechanism was demonstrated for the case of Rh/ TiO_2 by using a 50-50 mixture of $^{13}\text{C}^{16}\text{O}$ and $^{12}\text{C}^{18}\text{O}$ ⁽⁶⁰⁾.

Compared with Cu/ZnO-based catalysts, some significant differences

have been reported:

- CO₂ and H₂O have only a minor effect on the synthesis rates over Pd/SiO₂⁽³⁰⁾, which is substantially different from the effects observed over Cu/ZnO-based catalysts;

- alkali addition to Pd/oxide suppresses the activity of CH₃OH formation, and does not promote C₂+ oxygenate formation⁽³⁰⁾;

- hydrocarbon formation almost always accompanies alcohol synthesis which results in lower selectivity to CH₃OH than can generally be achieved over Cu/ZnO catalysts.

The observed significant selectivity to CH₃OH over Pd/oxide catalysts has drawn much attention^(4, 11, 16, 35, 36, 63-67, 72-77). However, research efforts dealing with CH₃OH formation over this group of catalysts have been less extensive than the work with Cu/ZnO catalysts.

2.1.2 Fischer-Tropsch Synthesis

The mechanisms of hydrocarbon formation from CO/H₂ over Fischer-Tropsch (F-T) synthesis catalysts have been relatively well studied and reviewed⁽⁸⁵⁻⁸⁸⁾. It is commonly accepted that the reaction proceeds via a reactive surface carbidic carbon species CH_x* as shown in Figure 1. The C-C chain grows through a stepwise CH_x* insertion or condensation. The hydrogenation of C_nH_z* species leads to the products of F-T reaction with the observed Anderson-Schulz-Flory (ASF) distribution^(89, 90). The ASF equation can be expressed as:

$$\log (W_n/n) = n \log \alpha + \log ((1-\alpha)^2/\alpha) \quad (2-1)$$

where W_n represents the weight fraction of all hydrocarbons containing n carbon atoms, and α represents the chain growth probability defined by

$$\alpha = R_p / (R_p + R_t) \quad (2-2)$$

where R_p represents the rate of chain propagation and R_t represents the rate of chain termination.

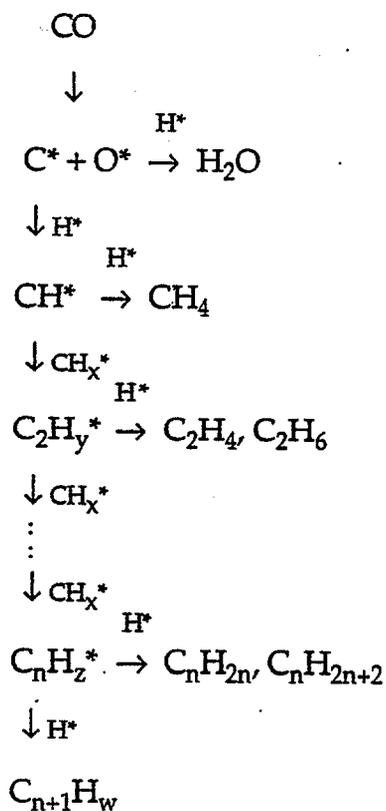
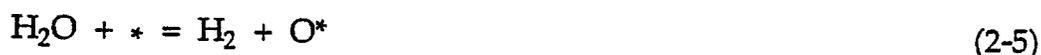
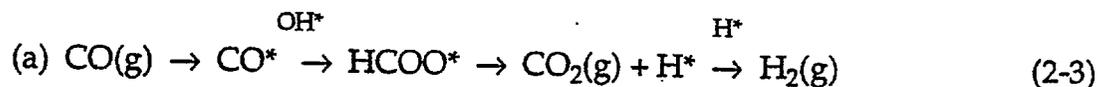


Figure 1 A General Reaction Scheme of Fischer-Tropsch Synthesis⁽⁸⁴⁻⁸⁷⁾

2.1.3 Water Gas Shift Reaction

It is known that the presence of the water-gas-shift (WGS) reaction adjusts the ratio between the gas-phase concentration of CO, CO₂, H₂ and H₂O, and possibly also the ratio of the reduced and oxygen-covered part of the metal(s)⁽¹⁶⁾.

Studies on Cu-, Fe₃O₄- and Cs/Co/Mo-based catalysts^(15, 39, 79, 88) have suggested the following two mechanisms which are most commonly cited:



The active surface intermediates suggested are the surface formate species in case (a) and the surface O* in case (b). Mechanism (b), the so-called regenerative mechanism^(5, 15, 79, 88), has been shown to be a dominant⁽⁹¹⁾ and sensitive⁽⁷⁹⁾ reaction on copper-cased catalysts.

2.2 Mechanism of Higher Alcohol Synthesis

Among the wide variety of proposed mechanisms of HAS, there are clear differences between the mechanisms developed for modified CH₃OH synthesis catalysts and those for modified F-T synthesis catalysts. The most significant experimental difference is that the first group of catalysts produce

large amounts of branched alcohols while the second produce mainly linear primary alcohols. Since Co-Cu based catalysts contain both Group VIII metal and the metal for methanol synthesis, the background on the mechanistic studies of higher alcohol formation over both modified methanol synthesis catalysts and modified Group VIII metal catalysts is very important in the mechanistic study of higher alcohol formation over Co-Cu based catalysts.

2.2.1 Modified CH₃OH Synthesis Catalysts

Since early 1930's, different mechanisms of HAS from CO/H₂ over modified CH₃OH synthesis catalysts have been proposed^(2, 18, 21, 30-32, 37, 39, 78) based on various studies by many research groups.

A general scheme based on a surface C₁ intermediate with an intact C-O bond (CO, HCO or HCHO) adding to an growing alcohol chain was proposed^(30, 31) (see Figure 2), which includes the aldol-condensation mechanism. This mechanism has been most widely accepted. Another study focusing on identifying surface intermediates⁽⁹²⁾ proposed that the stepwise addition of CO into an oxygenated surface species was the primary C-C bond forming step in the chain growth (see Figure 3.)

Although each proposed chain growth scheme^(2, 30, 31, 39) explains the formation of branched products, there is still no general agreement on the reaction pathways, the nature of surface intermediates, or the active catalytic centers.

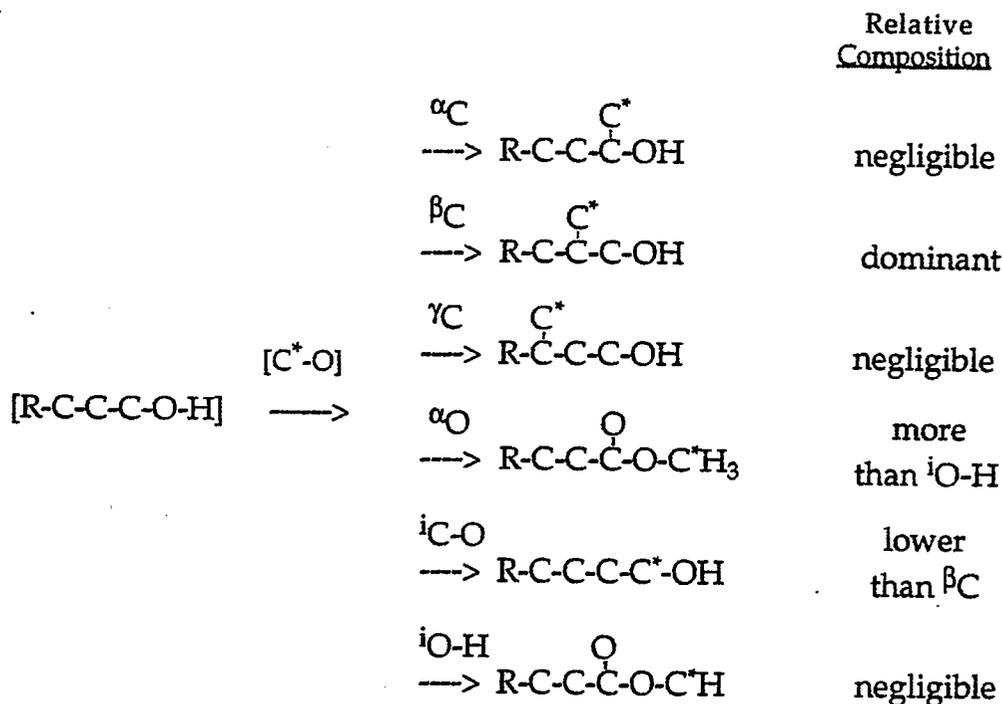


Figure 2 A Proposed Scheme of Higher Alcohol Synthesis Based on C_1 Intermediate Adding to a Growing Alcohol Chain^(30, 31)

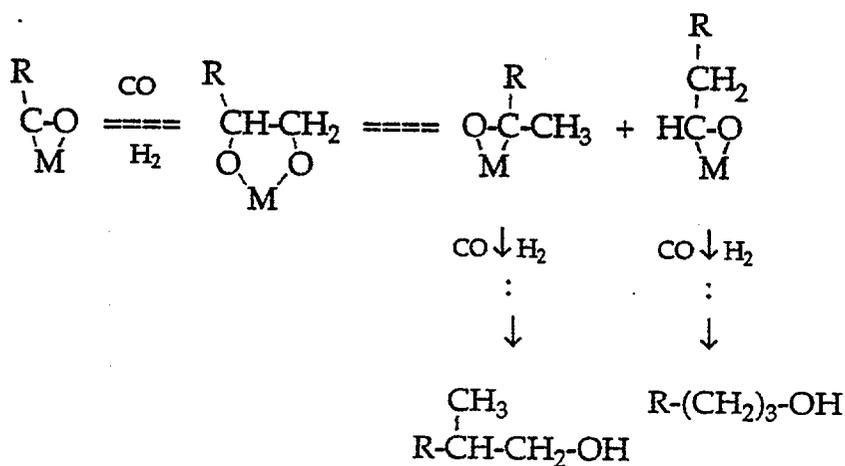
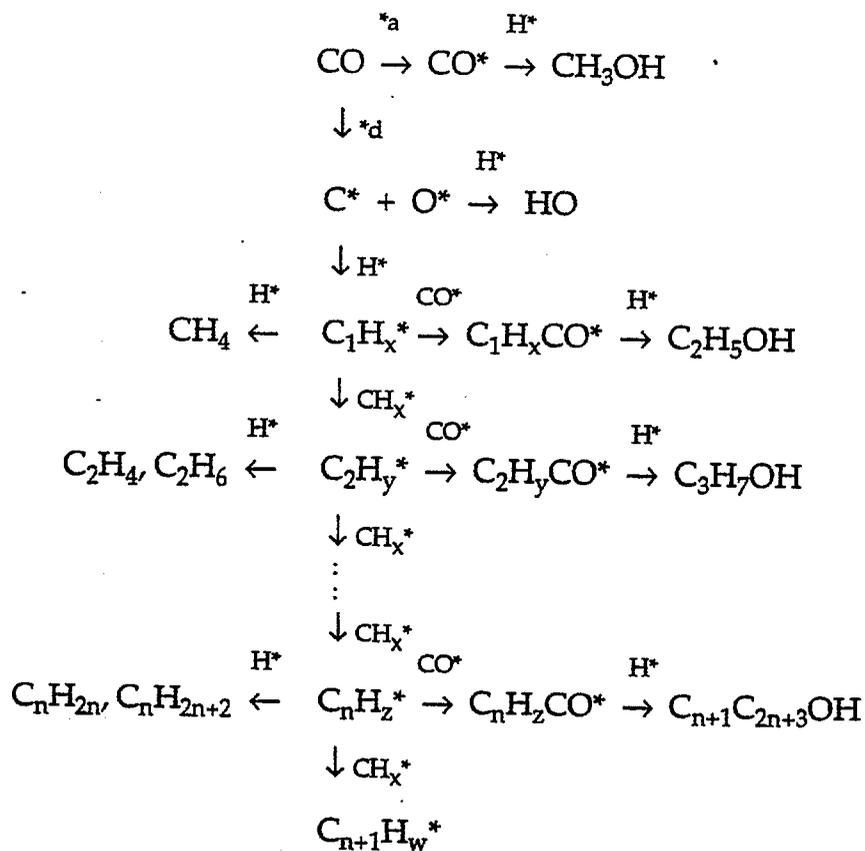


Figure 3 A Proposed Scheme of Higher Alcohol Synthesis Based on Stepwise Addition of CO on an Oxygenated Surface Species⁽⁹²⁾

2.2.2 Group VIII Metal Based Catalysts

Most studies have suggested that CO insertion into C_xH_y surface species^(5, 21, 22, 29, 34, 36, 37, 93, 94) is an important step in HAS over the group VIII metal based catalysts. However, many details concerning this type of mechanism are still not well understood. There is disagreement on whether the CO insertion reaction is the initiation, propagation or termination step in the C-C chain growth process for alcohol synthesis. The studies of C_2 and C_{2+} oxygenates formation^(21, 34, 37) suggest that CO insertion may play an important role in chain initiation. However, in the proposed scheme for the formation of both CH_3OH and C_{2+} alcohols^(4, 5, 95), CO insertion represents the termination step, which can be shown in Figure 4. It was demonstrated that the CH_x^* species as shown in Figure 4 are not saturated, and CH_3 adsorbed on the metal does not lead to further chain growth nor to insertion. According to this scheme, the reaction is expected to produce a series of straight chain terminal alcohols and nonbranched hydrocarbons, each following its own specific ASF distribution. It was suggested that the chain growth for both types of products does not proceed at equal rates because the CO insertion rate decreases upon increasing the alkyl chain length⁽⁹⁵⁾. The formation of higher alcohols based on this scheme seems to require an ensemble of sites containing both the F-T synthesis sites (for chain propagation) and the sites that adsorb CO associatively (for chain termination.)

In another proposed scheme (see Figure 5) for the formation of C_{2+} alcohols⁽²⁾, CO insertion is considered as a propagation step, and an acyl intermediate can form. In addition to the alcohols, an alkyl group may be



$x, n, z,$ and w are integers;

H^* = site for H_2 dissociation ($\text{Rh}^0, \text{Cu}^0, \text{Co}^0$);

$*a$ = site for associative CO adsorption ($\text{Rh}^{\delta+}, \text{Cu}^{\delta+}, \text{Co}^{\delta+}$);

$*d$ = site for dissociative CO adsorption (Rh^0 or Co^0).

Figure 4 A Proposed Scheme of Alcohol Formation Considering CO Insertion as a Termination Step^(4, 5, 95)

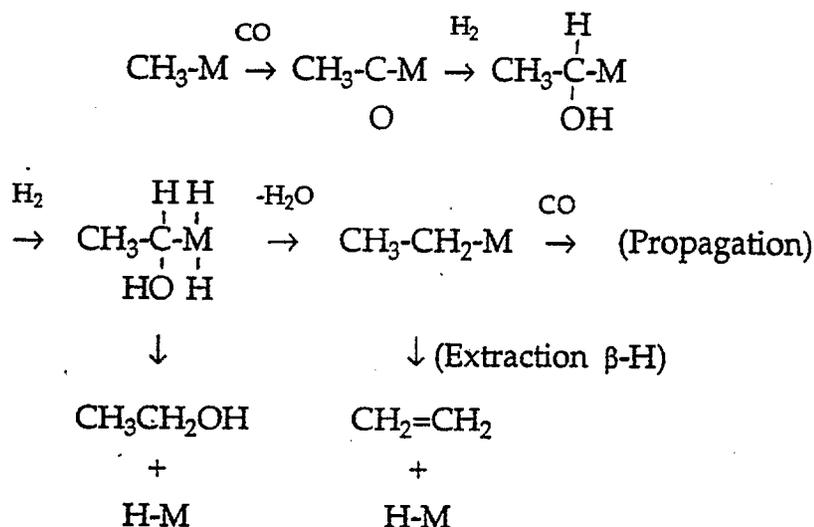


Figure 5 A Proposed Scheme of Alcohol Formation Considering CO Insertion as a Propagation Step⁽²⁾

produced by dehydration followed by the formation of the corresponding olefin by β -hydrogen abstraction.

Strong arguments have been given based on theoretical work, studies from homogeneous catalysts and analysis of literature data^(4, 93) to propose that it is the alkyl group migration rather than CO insertion that actually occurs on the catalyst surface, as in hydroformylation reactions over homogeneous metal carbonyl complexes. The presence of hydroformylation type reactions (Oxo process⁽⁹⁶⁾) was also suggested by adding probe molecules to the CO/H₂ feed over heterogeneous Mo/SiO₂⁽²¹⁾ and Rh-based⁽³⁸⁾ catalysts. An early study of alcohol formation over alkali Co or Fe catalysts⁽⁹³⁾ proposed that the insertion/addition of hydroxycarbene species ($\text{*}=\text{CH-OH}$)

rather than "CO insertion" was the termination step in a mechanism involving methylene groups in chain growth. A similar idea was proposed again later⁽²²⁾ for HAS over Co-Cu based catalysts.

There are other questions about the mechanisms of HAS from CO/H₂ remaining to be answered. For example, (a) what is the role of M⁰ and M^{δ+} in the reaction? (b) what is the role of CO₂ other than the function of an oxidizing agent? (c) what is the nature of the active C₁ and C₂₊ oxygenated intermediate?

2.2.3 Co-Cu Based Catalysts

Although it has been known that catalysts containing cobalt and copper can be prepared carefully to obtain reasonable activity and selectivity for the synthesis of C₁-C₆ alcohols from CO/H₂ with hydrocarbons, CO₂ and H₂O as major by products, the selectivity of these catalysts for the synthesis of C₂₊ alcohols is generally not high. According to the patent literature^(42, 44), more than 50%, by weight, of alcohol products is methanol and about 30% of total alcohol and hydrocarbon products were hydrocarbons. Mechanistic understanding of higher alcohol formation over this type of catalysts has not been well developed. The states and the roles of Co and Cu in the synthesis of C₂-C₆ alcohols are still not well understood.

The formation of mainly linear (normal primary) alcohols over Co-Cu based catalysts has led to the suggestion of chain growth via F-T mechanism^(22, 40). Experimental results suggesting the involvement of oxygen-contained C₁ species in the formation of C₂₊ alcohols has also been

reported⁽²²⁾. Consensus has not been reached concerning the reaction pathways and there is a lack of experimental evidences.

Many studies in the literature^(6, 40, 45-50, 97, 98) have suggested that the enrichment of Co-Cu contact in the catalyst is beneficial for the selective synthesis of C₂₊ alcohols. However, opinions on the nature of Co-Cu contact have been contradictory. Cosimo et. al.⁽⁵⁰⁾ proposed that cobalt ions in combination with metallic Cu or Cu-Co phases are important for oxygenate synthesis. Baker et. al.^(46, 47) concluded that the bimetallic particles of copper and cobalt are not the active site for C₂₊ alcohol synthesis and more complete reduction of cobalt would be disadvantageous although the formation of higher alcohols would be due to the presence of a small amount of metallic cobalt intimately mixed with the copper. They proposed that the key components of a higher alcohol synthesis catalyst are metallic cobalt and un-reduced cobalt ions. Bailliard-Letournel et al.⁽⁹⁹⁾ reported based on magnetic measurements that bulk Co-Cu alloy was never formed with any relative concentration of these two elements or reduction temperature. Assisted by CO-Co FTIR observations, they proposed a so called "cherry model" with a core of pure Co⁰ surrounded by a shell of Co-Cu alloy. Dalmon et al⁽⁶⁾ proposed that the Co-Cu alloy formed after reduction was the site that activates CO both in a dissociative and non-dissociative way for the formation of higher alcohols. In all the studies mentioned above, the catalysts were activated at atmospheric pressure, 200~450°C in dilute H₂.

2.3 Probe Molecule Addition in CO Hydrogenation

In-situ addition of probe molecules has been demonstrated as a technique capable of providing important insights into the mechanisms of catalytic CO hydrogenation reactions dating from the early 1950s^(2, 12, 18-26, 32, 34, 37). The probe molecules are added in attempts either to generate the same surface species as the precursors or intermediates of the desired products or to react in a specific manner with some of the active surface species. The pathway(s) through which the probe molecules or its fragments are incorporated into the products can be deduced by analyzing the reaction products in absence and presence of the probe molecule. Labeling of the probe molecule with specific isotopes can assist the interpretation of experimental results. An ideal probe molecule is one that can participate in the reactions occurring on the catalyst surface with minimal undesired effects, such as significant perturbation of the ongoing reaction or poisoning of surface sites. Some examples of using probe molecule addition to gain mechanistic information for CO/H₂ reactions are briefly described as following.

Probe molecules such as ethylene, propylene, methanol, ethanol, and acetaldehyde, were added to CO/H₂ feeds over KCl-promoted and un-promoted Mo/SiO₂ catalysts to clarify the reaction paths for the formation of hydrocarbons and alcohols^(21, 37). The results of olefin addition suggested the presence of mechanistic steps identical with those in the hydrocarbonylation of olefins. Alcohol addition led to the proposal that CO insertion into the alkyl-metal bond is the main reaction path for higher alcohol formation from CO/H₂. The poor incorporation of acetaldehyde into C₃-oxygenates was

considered as the evidence against the intermediacy of aldehydes in the chain growth of alcohols.

Acetylenic compounds was used as probe molecules for CO hydrogenation over fused Fe catalysts⁽²³⁾ and the results suggested that monosubstituted acetylenes play the role of an initiator in the synthesis of higher hydrocarbons and oxygenates from CO and H₂. The effect of ethene addition during F-T synthesis over a reduced commercial Co catalyst⁽²⁴⁾ suggested that C₂ species can participate as a chain initiator.

¹³C enriched methanol was added as a probe molecule to CO and H₂ for the synthesis of ethanol over methanol synthesis catalysts⁽³²⁾. The results were consistent with a proposed mechanism that involves a C₁ species which is an intermediate in the formation of both ethanol and methanol. Addition of ¹³C-enriched CH₃OH and C₂H₅OH to a CO/H₂ stream over a Cs/Cu/ZnO catalyst suggested that chain growth in C₃⁺ primary alcohol formation occurs in a stepwise manner dominated by condensation of a C₁-oxygenated intermediate at the β carbon of the C_n-oxygenated intermediate while also proceeding via C₁ linear addition⁽²⁸⁾. Using isotopically labeled methanol (CD₃OD, ¹³CH₃OH) as a probe molecule on a cobalt catalyst⁽³⁴⁾, ethanol formation by hydrogenation of an ester was proposed.

In previous work by Blackmond and coworkers⁽²⁵⁻²⁷⁾, ¹³CH₃NO₂ was successfully used as a probe molecule to provide dynamic evidence of the active intermediates and reaction pathways for the formation of hydrocarbons in F-T synthesis. In those studies, CH₃NO₂ was used to generate CH₂ surface species over supported Ru catalysts. The substantial random incorporation of ¹³C into the hydrocarbon product revealed that CH₂* is the

active intermediate in F-T synthesis and showed that the probe molecule could act as a chain initiator and propagator. It was also demonstrated that the changes in the product distribution took place without significant disturbance of the main reaction pathways leading to hydrocarbon formation. This work suggested the present extension of the use of CH_3NO_2 as a probe molecule in the study of the mechanism of higher alcohol formation from CO/H_2 .

3.0 EXPERIMENTAL

3.1 Catalysts

3.1.1 Catalyst Preparation and Pretreatment

3.1.1.1 Co Added to a Commercial Cu/ZnO/Al₂O₃ Catalyst by Incipient Wetness Impregnation. Two Co/Cu/ZnO/Al₂O₃ catalysts were prepared by incipient wetness impregnation of a commercial methanol synthesis catalyst (United Catalysts, Inc.) with aqueous solutions of cobalt nitrate using nominal weight loadings of 5% and 11% Co. Prior to impregnation, the commercial methanol synthesis catalyst was calcined in O₂ (2% O₂ in He, 80 cc/min) at 400°C for 8 hours. The impregnated samples were dried at 90°C overnight in air. The dried samples were calcined in O₂ (2% O₂ in He, 80 cc/min) at 400°C for 8 hours after increasing the temperature from 25°C at 0.5°C/min. A Co(0%)/Cu/ZnO/Al₂O₃ catalyst was prepared as a base catalyst by performing an incipient wetness impregnation using HNO₃ instead of Co(NO₃)₂·6H₂O to obtain an aqueous solution with a pH value equivalent to the cobalt-containing samples. The subsequent treatments for this catalyst were the same as for the 5% Co and 11% Co samples. In the rest of the text; these three catalysts will be referred as 00Co-IW, 05Co-IW and 11Co-IW based on the nominal weight loadings of Co over the commercial Cu/ZnO/Al₂O₃ sample. The catalyst composition is listed in Table 1.

Table 1 Catalyst Composition^a

Catalyst	Composition						
	Co	Cu	Co ₃ O ₄	CuO	ZnO	Al ₂ O ₃	SiO ₂
	(wt %)						
00Co-IW	-	43.9	-	55.0	36.0	8.0	1.0
05Co-IW	5.4	40.7	7.3	51.0	33.4	7.4	0.9
11Co-IW	10.8	37.7	14.2	47.2	30.9	6.9	0.9
11Co-CP	10.6	22.9	14.5	28.6	36.7	20.2	-
			Co	Cu	Zn	Al	Si
	(atomic ratio, %)						
00Co-IW			-	52.9	33.8	12.0	1.3
05Co-IW			7.1	49.2	31.4	11.1	1.2
11Co-IW			14.1	45.5	29.1	10.3	1.1
11Co-CP			13.0	26.0	32.5	28.6	-

a: Based on the data information (H₂O-free) provided by original sample suppliers (refer the text).

3.1.1.2 Co/Cu/Zn/Al Prepared by Coprecipitation. Another catalyst studied was prepared by coprecipitation by Cosimo's group⁽⁴⁵⁾, which contains Co, Cu, Zn, and Al with atomic ratio of 10.6 wt% Co (see Table 1). The amorphous precursor was prepared by means of the citric complexing method, decomposed either in air at 500°C or in N₂ at 280°C, and calcined in air at 500°C. This catalyst will be further referred as 11Co-CP.

3.1.2 Reduction Treatments

Six different reduction conditions, as listed in Table 2, have been used to activate the catalysts in the reactor prior to CO hydrogenation reaction. In all six cases, the total gas flow rate was controlled at 70 cc/min, the temperature was ramped from 35°C at the rate of 0.5°C/min at which the sample was flushed overnight in the reducing gas, to 350°C and kept at 350°C for 8 hours. The temperature was then lowered to 290°C and the pressure was adjusted before beginning reaction studies. In the first reduction condition (A), 3~5% H₂ was mixed with He and the total pressure was kept at atmospheric pressure. In the second reduction condition (B), the same ratio of H₂ to He was used but the total pressure was controlled at 35 atm. In the third condition (C), pure H₂ was used at atmospheric pressure. In order to check the effect of reduction extent achieved in different treatments, three additional reduction conditions (D, E and F) were used in which the catalyst sample first experienced reduction A (in D and E) or C (in F) and then, after cooling down

Table 2 Reduction Treatments Applied for Catalyst Activation^a

Descriptors	Pressure, (atm)	% of H ₂ in He
A (standard)	1	3~5
B (high pressure)	34	3~5
C (pure H ₂)	1	100
D = A then B		
E = A then C		
F = C then B		

a: Total flow rate = 70 cc/min, weight of sample in the reactor = 250±2 mg.

to room temperature, underwent reduction B (in D and F) or C (in E). Reduction treatment A resembles the typical reduction conditions reported in the literature^(42-44, 50) for activation of the Co-Cu based catalysts.

3.2 Catalyst Characterization

3.2.1 BET Surface Area Measurement

BET surface area measurements were performed with the as received commercial CuO/ZnO/Al₂O₃ methanol synthesis catalyst and 05Co-IW as well as the post reaction sample of 00Co-IW to check whether the treatments in preparing the catalysts by impregnation method as well as the reduction and CO hydrogenation reaction processes caused any significant surface area loss.

The experiments were carried out on a standard static system with computerized data acquisition. The sample cell could be connected to either vacuum or gas source by solenoid valves to permit evacuation of the cell at one time and introduction of gas at another. The valve control and the pressure reading above the cell were through the computer interfaced with the system. The volumes of the cell as well as the gas storage section above the cell were all pre-calibrated and installed in the computer program.

N₂ was used as the adsorption gas and the cell containing the catalyst sample was kept in a liquid N₂ bath (i.e. at -195.8°C) during the adsorption measurements. About 300 mg of each catalyst sample was used for each measurement. Prior to the adsorption measurement, the sample in the cell

was evacuated overnight at room temperature. The number of monolayers of N_2 adsorbed on the catalyst sample was obtained by introducing known amount of N_2 (known volume and pressure at room temperature, with the pressure kept below the normal vapor pressure of N_2 at -195.8°C) to the cell step by step from ~ 20 torr to ~ 260 torr in an interval of ~ 40 torr. At each step, the pressure readings were recorded both before introducing N_2 to the cell and after it was exposed to the sample and allowed to reach equilibrium. The BET equation⁽¹⁰⁰⁾ was applied to obtain the monolayer capacity:

$$\frac{P}{X(P_o - P)} = \frac{1}{X_m C} + \frac{P(C-1)}{P_o X_m C} \quad (3-1)$$

where X = volume adsorbed, X_m = monolayer capacity, P_o = saturated vapor pressure of N_2 at liquid N_2 temperature, $C = \exp[(H_a - H_1)/RT]$, H_a = enthalpy of adsorption in the first layer, H_1 = enthalpy liberated on forming the second and subsequent layers. The value of C could be obtained by performing the experiment with a sample with known surface area. X_m as well as C can be obtained from the slope and interception of $P/X(P_o - P)$ v.s. P/P_o .

3.2.2 Measurements by Thermal Methods

3.2.2.1 Thermogravimetric Analysis. To measure the water content in the catalyst samples, thermogravimetric Analysis (TGA) was performed on Hi-Res TGA 2950 Thermogravimetric analyzer (TA Instruments) with the as received $\text{CuO}/\text{ZnO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ sample as well as with 00Co-IW, 05Co-IW, 11Co-

IW and 11Co-CP. Each sample (16~18 mg) was heated in N_2 (~90 cc/min) from 30°C to 500°C at the rate of 2°C/min and held at 500°C for 12 hours. The H_2O content in each sample was calculated based on the percentage of its weight loss after this treatment.

3.2.2.2 Temperature Programmed Reduction. To estimate the relative reduction extent of cobalt in different catalyst samples by the reduction using dilute H_2 at atmospheric pressure, one series of TPR experiments were performed with all the catalyst samples listed in Table 1 using a temperature programmed system (Altamira Instruments, Inc. AMI-1) equipped with a TCD detector to measure hydrogen uptake directly. Prior to TPR, the catalyst sample (50~60 mg) loaded in a fixed bed quartz reactor was first heated in flowing O_2 (5% O_2 in He, 30 cc/min) to 350°C at 5°C/min, held for 8 hours, then cooled to 50°C. After flushing with Ar (30 cc/min) at 50°C for 30 min, TPR was started with 5% H_2 in Ar flowing at 20 cc/min, and the temperature was increased at 1°C/min to 500°C. H_2 uptake by the catalyst during the reduction process was calculated based on the peak area of the TCD response vs. time. Prior or post to every run, the TCD response was calibrated with controlled pulse(s) of Ar into a stream of 5% H_2 in Ar (20 cc/min). In the estimation of reduction extent of Co_3O_4 from the amount of H_2 uptake, complete reduction of CuO was assumed for each sample and the contents of CuO and Co_3O_4 in each catalyst sample were calculated considering the H_2O content measured from TGA experiment. The experimental errors were obtained from repeated runs.

To study the reduction extent of the catalyst samples from different

reduction treatments as described in section 3.1.2, another series of TPR experiments were performed with $^{11}\text{Co-CP}$, $^{11}\text{Co-IW}$ and $^{00}\text{Co-IW}$ using the catalytic reaction system. Due to the the high pressure and the high concentration of H_2 in the reduction gas used in treatments B and C, respectively, H_2 uptake during reduction in this series of experiments was measured by detecting the H_2O exiting the reactor using the on-line mass spectrometer. The mass spectrometer response for H_2O was calibrated by saturating the reduction carrier gases (5% H_2 in He, 100% H_2 , $\text{H}_2:\text{He}=2$ and 100% He) with H_2O at a known temperature and different equilibrium total pressure to produce curves of H_2O concentration in the gas stream vs. mass 18 signal on MS. Although the measurement of H_2 uptake based on H_2O detection from MS is less accurate than TCD detection of H_2 change in Ar, the trend of the detection from MS is relevant (or representative) to the true values. Experimental descriptions on the reactor system and MS detection set-up are given in section 3.3.2 and 3.3.5.

3.2.2.3 Temperature Programmed Desorption of H_2 . To generate information about the reduced catalyst surface, temperature programmed desorption of H_2 , H_2 -TPD was carried out using the same Altamira Instruments, Inc. (AMI-1) apparatus as described in section 3.2.2.2. The catalysts studied by H_2 -TPD were $^{00}\text{Co-IW}$, $^{11}\text{Co-IW}$ and $^{11}\text{Co-CP}$. Each catalyst sample (~100 mg) was first reduced in either 5% H_2 in Ar (50 cc/min) or in pure H_2 (50 cc/min) at 350°C for 8 hours after ramping from 30°C to 350°C at $1^\circ\text{C}/\text{min}$, and then cooled to 50°C naturally in the reduction gas stream. Prior to H_2 -TPD, the gas phase H_2 in the system was flushed away with Ar (50 cc/min). H_2 -TPD was then started

in Ar (50 cc/min) at the temperature program of 50°C to 300°C at 20°C/min. Prior or post to every run, the TCD response was calibrated with controlled pulse(s) of Ar into a stream of 5% H₂ in Ar (50 cc/min).

3.2.3 X-Ray Diffraction Measurement

To gain information about the bulk states of the catalyst components in different samples, series of XRD experiments were performed on a Philips X'Pert system using CuK α source with the catalyst samples listed in Table 3. The samples post reduction and post reaction were all passivated with 2% O₂ in He (70 cc/min) at room temperature and atmospheric pressure.

Table 3 Catalyst Samples for XRD Experiments

Catalyst	Reduction Treatment ^a	Catalyst Samples Used for XRD Experiments			
		Calcined ^b	Reduced ^c	Post CO/H ₂ ^d	Post CO/H ₂ /+CH ₃ NO ₂ ^e
00Co-IW	A	00Co-IW-O	00Co-IW-A	-	-
05Co-IW	A	05Co-IW-O	05Co-IW-A	-	-
11Co-IW	A	11Co-IW-O	11Co-IW-A	11Co-IW-A-R	
11Co-IW	B	11Co-IW-O	11Co-IW-B	-	11Co-IW-B-R'
11Co-CP	A	11Co-CP-O	11Co-CP-A	-	11Co-CP-A-R'
11Co-CP	B	11Co-CP-O	11Co-CP-B	11Co-CP-B-R	11Co-CP-B-R'
11Co-CP	C	11Co-CP-O	11Co-CP-C	11Co-CP-C-R	-

a: Refer to section 3.1.2 or Table 2 for the description of reduction conditions.

b: Designation O is an indication for calcined samples.

c: Designations A, B and C are the indications for the reduction treatment applied.

d: R and R' indicate the samples post reaction without and with CH₃NO₂ respectively.

3.2.4 X-Ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy Measurement

With the catalyst samples listed in Table 4, X-Ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy studies were carried out on a modified AEI ES200 spectrometer equipped with aluminum anode (Al K α = 1486.6 eV) at a power of 240 W (12 KV and 20 mA). Zn 2p (1022.1 eV⁽¹⁰¹⁾) was used as the reference of binding energy values. The instrument was operated in the fixed retardation ratio mode and the analysis pressure was $< 5 \cdot 10^{-8}$ torr. The sample reduction treatments were performed *in-situ* prior to taking XPS spectrum.

Table 4 Catalyst Samples for XPS Experiments

Catalyst	Reduction ^a	Catalyst Samples for XPS Experiments	
		<u>Calcined^b</u>	<u>Reduced^c</u>
00Co-IW	A	00Co-IW-O	00Co-IW-A
11Co-IW	A	11Co-IW-O	11Co-IW-A
11Co-CP	A	11Co-CP-O	11Co-CP-A
11Co-CP	C	11Co-CP-O	11Co-CP-C

a: Refer to section 3.1.2 or Table 2 for the description of reduction conditions.

b: Designation O is an indication for calcined samples.

c: Designations A and B are the indications for the reduction treatment applied.

The atomic ratio of Co^o/Cu^o on the reduced catalyst surfaces were estimated using the following equation⁽¹⁰²⁾:

$$\frac{\text{Co}^\circ}{\text{Cu}^\circ} = \frac{\text{PA}_{\text{Co}^\circ}/S_{\text{Co}}}{\text{PA}_{\text{Cu}^\circ}/S_{\text{Cu}}} \quad (3-2)$$

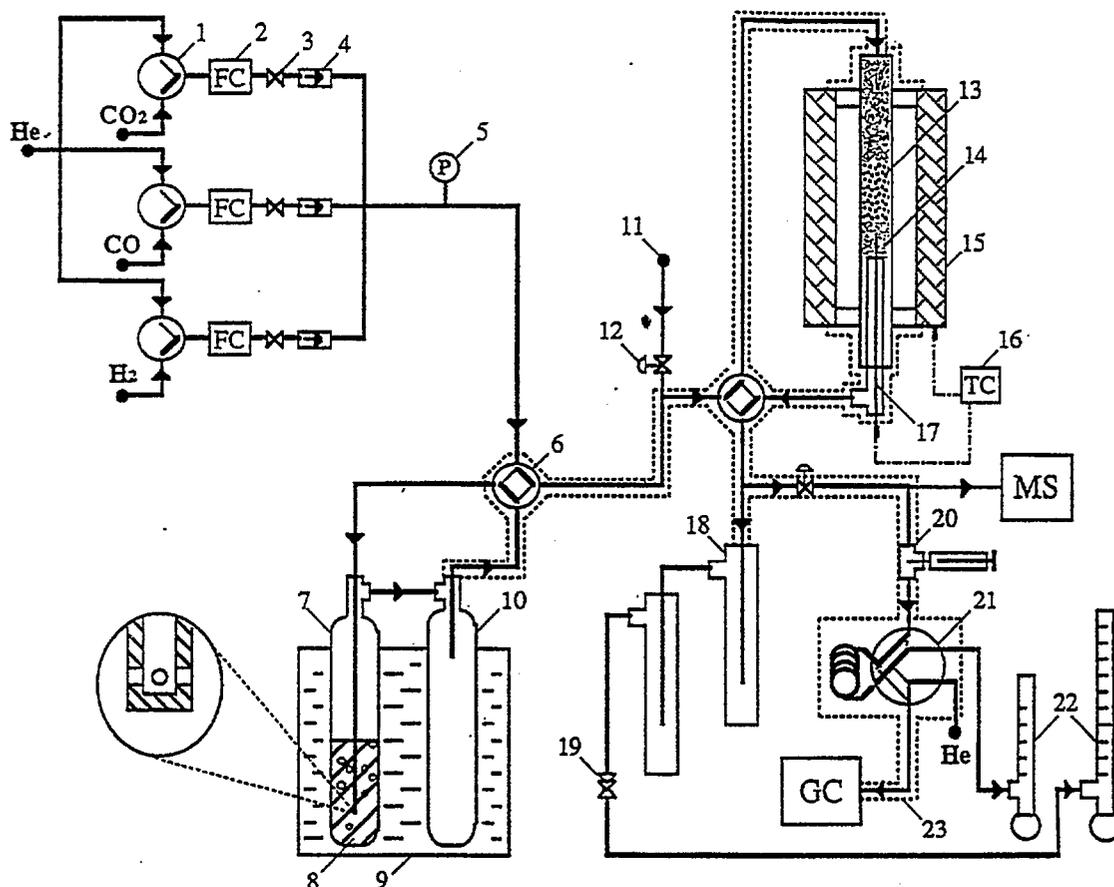
where PA represents the peak area of corresponding metal peak in its XPS 2p spectrum and S is the atomic sensitivity factor. The values of S for cobalt and copper used in the calculation were 2.5 and 4.2, respectively, which were reported in reference (102).

3.3 Catalytic Reaction

The catalytic reaction system used for higher alcohol synthesis from H₂/CO is shown by Figure 6, which has the capabilities of adding small amount of probe molecules, either gas or liquid phase, *in-situ* to the steady state reaction and analyzing the products on-line by both GC and MS. Detailed descriptions of the system as well as the experimental conditions and procedures are given below.

3.3.1 Gas Handling

H₂ (UHP, Liquid Carbonic Specialty Gas Co.), CO (CP grade, Liquid Carbonic Specialty Gas Co.) and CO₂ (Precision Aquator, Matheson Gas Products, Inc.) were employed as reaction gases. He (UHP, Liquid Carbonic Specialty Gas Co.) was used for pretreatments, blank tests and system flushing. 4A molecular sieve traps (Linde high pressure purifiers) were installed on



1: 3-way valve, 2: flow control meter, 3: on/off valve, 4: check valve,
 5: pressure gauge, 6: 4-way valve, 7: probe molecule saturator, 8: liquid
 probe molecule, 9: temperature controlled bath, 10: trap, 11: gas probe
 molecule, 12: metering valve, 13: catalyst, 14: glass wool, 15: furnace,
 16: temperature controller, 17: thermocouple, 18: products trap, 19: backup
 pressure regulator, 20: syringe sampler, 21: 6-way sampling valve,
 22: bubble flow meter, 23: heating tape/insulator.

Figure 6 Reaction System for Studies on Alcohol Synthesis from CO/H₂
 Capable of *In-situ* Addition of Probe Molecules

each gas introduction line to remove traces of H_2O . An Activated Carbon high pressure purifier (Scott) was used on the CO line to remove traces of hydrocarbons and metal carbonyls. H_2 , CO, CO_2 and He could be introduced to the system either separately or mixed in a desired combination. The flow rate of each gas was controlled by mass flow controllers and could be calibrated with a bubble flow meter at the outlet.

He (UHP) and H_2 (UHP) and HC-free compressed air (Ultra Zero, THC < 0.1 ppm, all Liquid Carbonic Specialty Gas Co.) were used for GC analysis. An oxygen trap (Scott Specialty Gases) was used on the H_2 .

3.3.2 Reactor System

The catalyst sample (50~500 mg) was placed in the middle section of a fixed bed reactor (14" long, 3/8" O.D. stainless steel tube) filled with glass wool. The reactant gas mixture was introduced from the top of the reactor and the reaction products exited the reactor from the bottom. The reactor was heated by an external shell furnace which could be programmed to ramp and hold at desired temperatures. The temperature inside the reactor was measured by a thermocouple positioned directly beneath the catalyst bed. The system pressure was controlled by a back pressure regulator downstream and measured by a pressure gauge upstream from the reactor.

3.3.3 CO Hydrogenation Reaction Conditions

CO hydrogenation reactions were carried out at 500 psig, 290°C, $H_2/CO=2$, GHSV=6000~60000 hr^{-1} . The total carbon conversion was controlled at ~2% by varying the catalyst sample amount. The effect of CO_2 on the CO hydrogenation reactions over the non-cobalt and cobalt-containing catalysts was studied by switching the gas mixture of $H_2:CO:CO_2:He = 80:40:0:2$ to $H_2:CO:CO_2:He = 80:40:2:0$ (cc/min).

After the reduction treatment, the gas mixture of $H_2+He = 80+40$ cc/min was initiated and the system pressure was increased to 500 psig (after reduction I and III) with the reactor temperature controlled at 290°C. The gas flow was then switched to bypass the reactor, and the reaction gas mixture of $H_2+CO = 80+40$ cc/min was initiated, switching back to flowing through the reactor to begin the CO hydrogenation study.

3.3.4 Probe Molecule Introduction

Liquid probe molecules were stored in a saturator which was set in a temperature controlled bath. The probe molecule was added by diverting the gas mixture through the saturator via a 4-way valve. Prior to CO hydrogenation reaction, the pressure in the saturator was increased to the reaction pressure with the reactant gas mixture after pre-flushing. The amount of probe molecule added into the reactant stream could be varied by varying the temperature of the bath.

Gas phase probe molecules were added through a high pressure, high

temperature, chemicals-resistant metering valve placed before the 4-way valve for the reactor. The amount of probe molecule added into the reactant stream could be varied by adjusting the metering valve at a constant upstream pressure of the probe molecule.

The probe molecule was added at preset concentrations into the H₂/CO stream (120±2 cc/min) after the reaction attained steady state. After a new steady state of the reaction in the presence of the probe molecule was achieved (3~5 hours), the probe molecule addition was stopped by switching the gas flow to bypass the saturator. The CO hydrogenation reaction was then continuously monitored to observe if the original steady state could be reestablished, as an indication of any poisoning effects introduced by the presence of the probe molecule.

3.3.5 Products Sampling and Analysis

A high pressure, high temperature, chemicals-resistant metering valve was installed on a line diverted from the reactor outlet before the first trap to allow a small gas flow to a GC sampling valve and an on-line mass spectrometer (Dycor Electronics Inc., M 100M). All the lines from the reactor outlet to the on-line sampling section were heated to avoid product condensation. The GC (Varian 3000) was equipped with both FID and TCD detectors and with a Porapak-R and a Porapak-Q column in series.

In order to be able to detect products formed in amounts too small to be detected by on-line gas phase sample injection, the products from the outlet of the reactor were collected during the reaction period by two traps in series

cooled with ice in water. The traps were placed downstream after the metering valve for GC sampling and before the back pressure regulator. The lines before the first trap from the reactor were heated during the reaction to prevent product condensation. The liquid sample(s) from the trap(s) after the reaction were analyzed by a GC-MS (Extrel Series 800) using He (UHP, Liquid Carbonic Specialty Gas Co.) as carrier gas.

4.0 CATALYST CHARACTERIZATION

4.1 Results

4.1.1 Physical Measurements

4.1.1.1 BET Surface Area Measurement. Table 5 shows the results of surface area measurement with the selected catalyst samples. The preparation and reduction treatments caused an increase in the surface area of the as received CuO/ZnO/Al₂O₃. No significant change in sample surface area was caused by the addition of cobalt to the commercial CuO/ZnO/Al₂O₃ catalyst. The catalyst prepared by coprecipitation had similar surface area to those prepared by impregnation.

Table 5 Results of BET Surface Area Measurement

Catalyst ^a	BET Surface Area	
	Average, (m ² /g)	Error, % ^b
CuO/ZnO/Al ₂ O ₃	41	0.7
00Co-IW-A-R	57	5.6
05Co-IW-A	60	6.8
11Co-CP	60~65 ^c	

a: Refer to Table 3 for sample name.

b: Determined from repeated runs.

c: Obtained from reference (45).

4.1.1.2 Thermogravimetric Analysis. Table 6 lists the water content in each catalyst sample measured by its weight loss from the TGA experiments. It was used to obtain the sample composition in the estimation of sample reduction extent based on H₂-uptakes of TPR experiments (see Table 10).

4.1.1.3. X-Ray Diffraction Measurement. The XRD spectra of the samples listed in Table 3 are shown by Figure A1~A7 in Appendix A. Table 7 shows the comparison between the spectra of different samples which received different treatments in Figure A1~A7.

The XRD spectra of calcined samples in Figure A1~A4 indicated that in all the samples prior to reduction copper was present in the state of CuO and cobalt was in the state of Co₃O₄ which are the most stable oxidation states of these two elements. The XRD spectra of reduced samples in Figure A1~A4 indicated that in all the catalyst samples reduced by different reduction

Table 6 H₂O Content of the Catalyst Samples Measured by Weight Loss from TGA Experiments^a

Catalyst	Sample Size (mg)	Weight loss (mg)	H ₂ O Content (wt%)
00Co-IW	17.65	0.43	2.4
05Co-IW	16.29	0.81	5.0
11Co-IW	17.92	0.79	4.4
11Co-CP	17.19	2.34	13.6

a: Each sample (16~18 mg) was heated in N₂ (~90 cc/min) from 30°C to 500°C at the rate of 2°C/min and held at 500°C for 12 hours.

Table 7 Comparison of XRD Spectra^a

Figure	XRD Spectra of Catalyst Samples Compared in Figures A1~A6			
	<u>Effect of Stepwise Experience</u>			
#	<u>Calcined</u>	<u>Reduced</u>	<u>Post CO/H₂</u>	<u>Post CO/H₂/±CH₃NO₂</u>
A1 (a)	11Co-CP-O	11Co-CP-A	-	11Co-CP-A-R'
A1 (b)	11Co-CP-O	11Co-CP-B	11Co-CP-B-R	11Co-CP-B-R'
A1 (c)	11Co-CP-O	11Co-CP-C	11Co-CP-C-R	-
A2 (a)	11Co-IW-O	11Co-IW-A	11Co-IW-A-R	-
A2 (b)	11Co-IW-O	11Co-IW-B	-	11Co-IW-B-R'
A3	05Co-IW-O	05Co-IW-A	-	-
A4	00Co-IW-O	00Co-IW-A	-	-
	<u>Effect of Coablt-Addition</u>			
	<u>00Co-IW</u>	<u>05Co-IW</u>	<u>11Co-IW</u>	
A5 (x)	00Co-IW-O	05Co-IW-O	11Co-IW-O	
A5 (y)	00Co-IW-A	05Co-IW-A	11Co-IW-A	
	<u>Effect of Different Reduction Treatment</u>			
	<u>Reduction A</u>	<u>Reduction B</u>	<u>Reduction C</u>	
A6 (x)	11Co-CP-A	11Co-CP-B	11Co-CP-C	
A6 (y)	11Co-CP-A-R'	11Co-CP-B-R	11Co-CP-C-R	
A7 (x)	11Co-IW-A	11Co-IW-B	-	
A7 (y)	11Co-IW-A-R	11Co-IW-B-R'	-	

a: The XRD spectra are presented in Figure A1~A7 of Appendix A.

Table 8 Phases Detected by XRD in the Catalyst Samples

Catalyst name	[Metal] component	Calcined samples	Reduced samples	Post CO/H ₂ samples	Post CO/H ₂ /±CH ₃ NO ₂ samples
11Co-CP	[Co]	Co ₃ O ₄	*	Co ₃ O ₄	Co ₃ O ₄
	[Cu]	CuO	Cu°	Cu°	Cu°
	[Zn]	ZnO	ZnO	ZnO	ZnO
11Co-IW	[Co]	Co ₃ O ₄	*	*	*
	[Cu]	CuO	Cu°	Cu°	Cu°
	[Zn]	ZnO	ZnO	ZnO	ZnO
05Co-IW	[Co]	*	*	*	*
	[Cu]	CuO	Cu°	Cu°	Cu°
	[Zn]	ZnO	ZnO	ZnO	ZnO
00Co-IW	[Cu]	CuO	Cu°	Cu°	Cu°
	[Zn]	ZnO	ZnO	ZnO	ZnO

* No phase was detected.

treatments copper was completely reduced and the cobalt-containing phases could not be detected by XRD. The XRD spectra of post reaction samples in Figure A1 and A2 indicated the presence of Co₃O₄ particles in the 11Co-CP samples but not in the 11Co-IW samples. A summary of the phases detected by XRD in each catalyst sample is given in Table 8.

Comparison between the XRD spectra of 00Co-IW, 05Co-IW and 11Co-IW samples prior to reduction in Figure A5 (x) and post reduction A in Figure A5 (y) indicated that no sintering of the Cu, CuO or ZnO particles was caused by the addition of cobalt using the impregnation method. Comparisons between

the XRD spectra of the reduced samples of 11Co-CP in Figure A6 (x) and 11Co-IW in Figure A7 (x), as well as between the post reaction samples of 11Co-CP in Figure A6 (y) and 11Co-IW in Figure A7 (y) showed no significant differences in the particle size of Cu, CuO and ZnO formed by different reduction treatments. Comparison between the XRD spectra of 11Co-CP-O in Figure A1 and 11Co-IW-O in Figure A2 indicated that the particle sizes of Co_3O_4 , CuO and ZnO in 11Co-CP-O were all relatively smaller than those in 11Co-IW-O. The fact that no Co_3O_4 was shown in the XRD spectrum of 05Co-IW-O indicated that the average particle size of Co_3O_4 in 05Co-IW-O was significantly smaller than in 11Co-IW-O and 11Co-CP-O. Comparison between the XRD spectra of 11Co-CP-A in Figure A1 (a) and 11Co-IW-A in Figure A2 (a) indicated that the particle size of Cu° was smaller in 11Co-CP-A than in 11Co-IW-A and the difference in the particle size of ZnO was not as significant as of Cu° .

4.1.1.4 X-Ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy Measurement. Figures 7~11 show the XPS Cu 2*p* and Co 2*p* spectra of the catalyst samples listed in Table 4. Table B in Appendix B lists Cu 2*p*_{3/2} binding energy values, the Cu Auger energy (LMM) and the Auger parameter for Cu compounds, oxidized and reduced catalyst samples. The reduction extents of cobalt and copper on the surfaces of 11Co-CP-A and 11Co-CP-C obtained by curve fitting of the Co 2*p* spectra (b) and (c) in Figure 11 are shown in Figure C of Appendix C and Table 9. The peak representative for Co° in the XPS Co 2*p* spectrum of 11Co-IW-A was too small to apply the curve fitting method. Also shown in Table 9 is the atomic ratio of $\text{Co}^\circ/\text{Cu}^\circ$ estimated using the peak area values from Figure C. Some

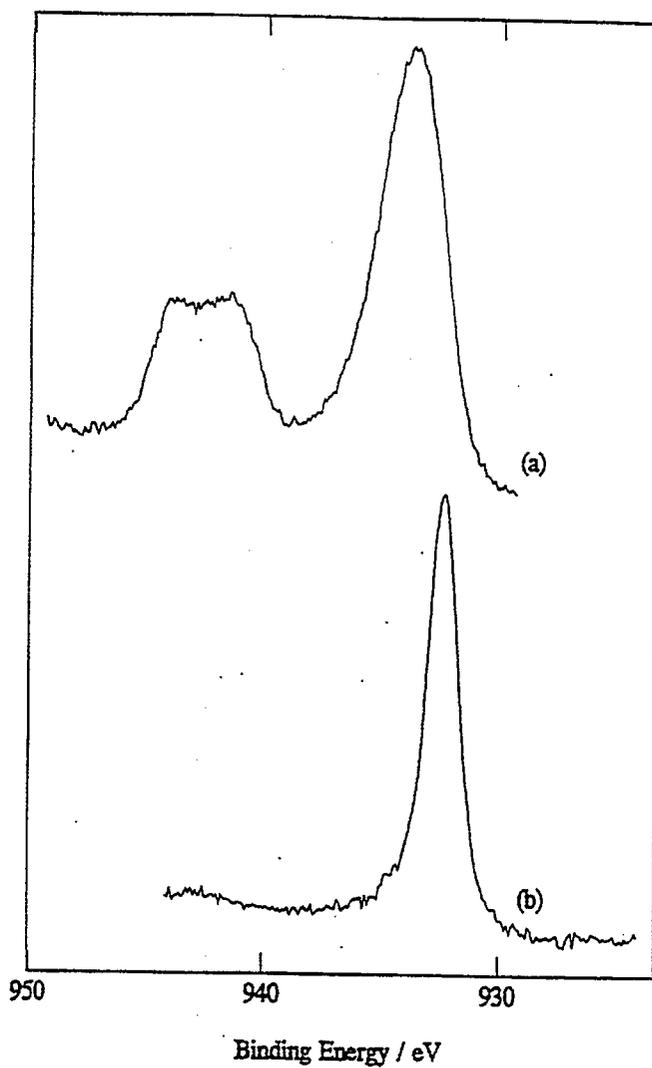


Figure 7 XPS Cu 2p Spectra of (a) 00Co-IW-O and (b) 00Co-IW-A

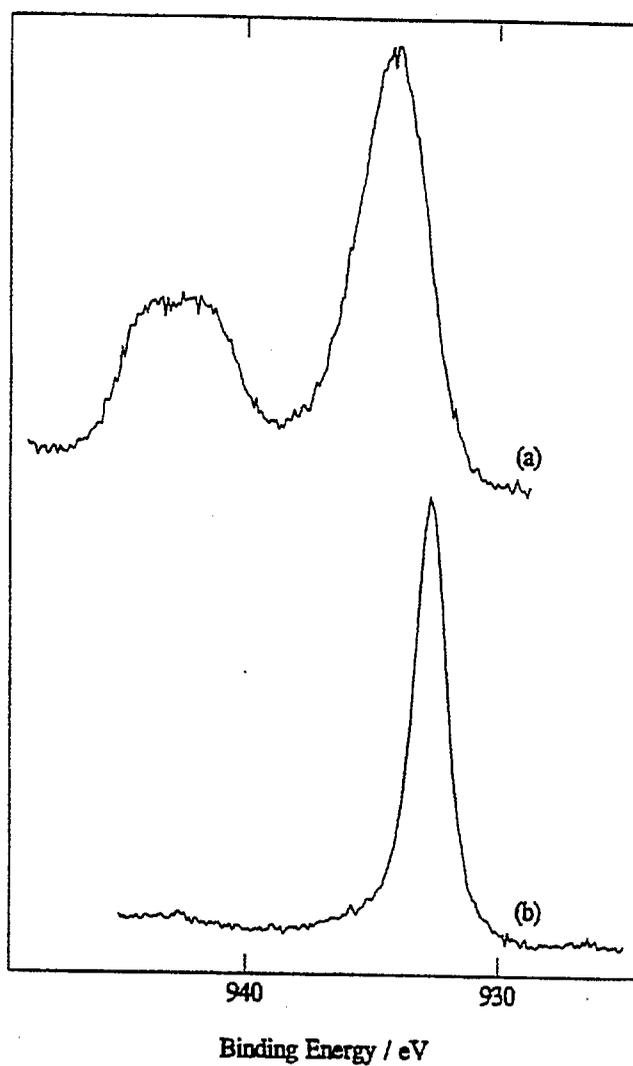


Figure 8 XPS Cu 2p Spectra of (a) 11Co-IW-O and (b) 11Co-IW-A

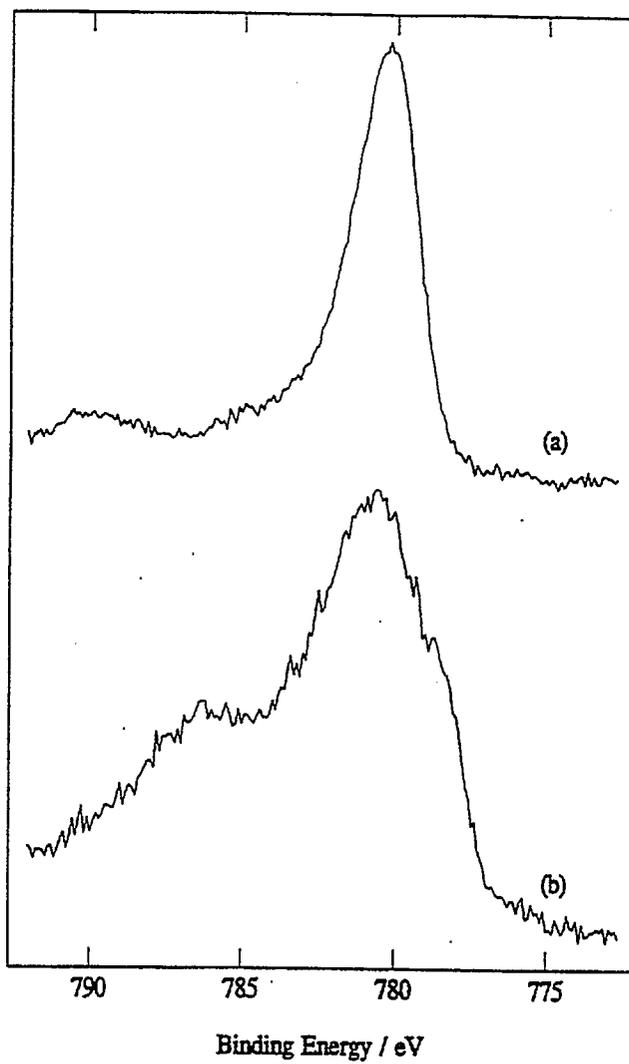


Figure 9 XPS Co 2p Spectra of (a) 11Co-IW-O and (b) 11Co-IW-A

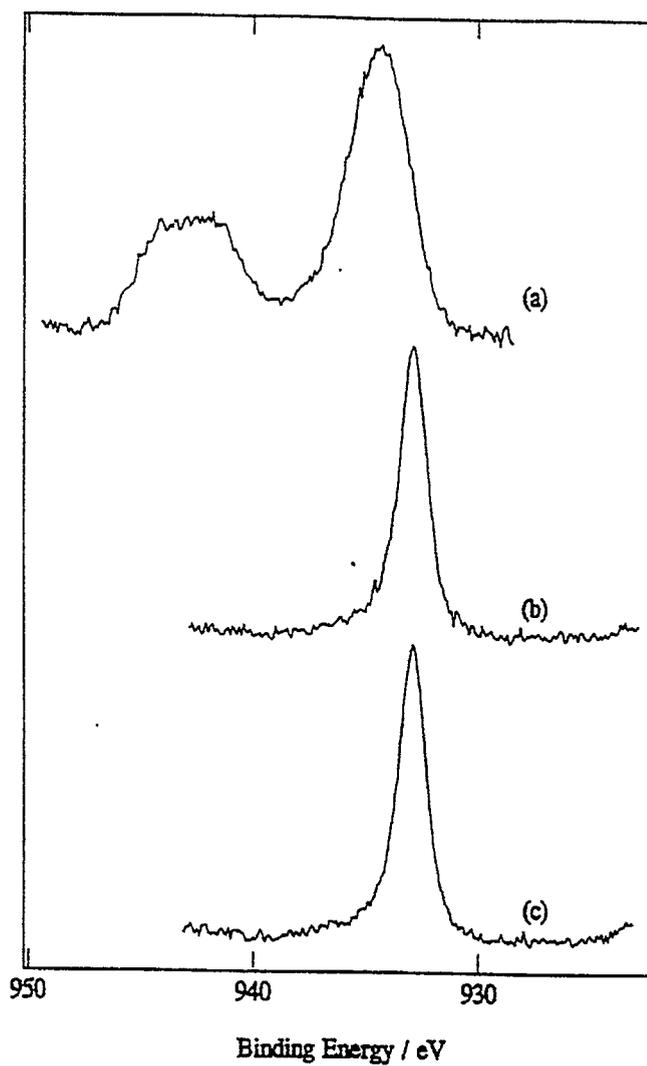


Figure 10 XPS Cu 2p Spectra of (a) 11Co-CP-O, (b) 11Co-CP-A and (c) 11Co-CP-C

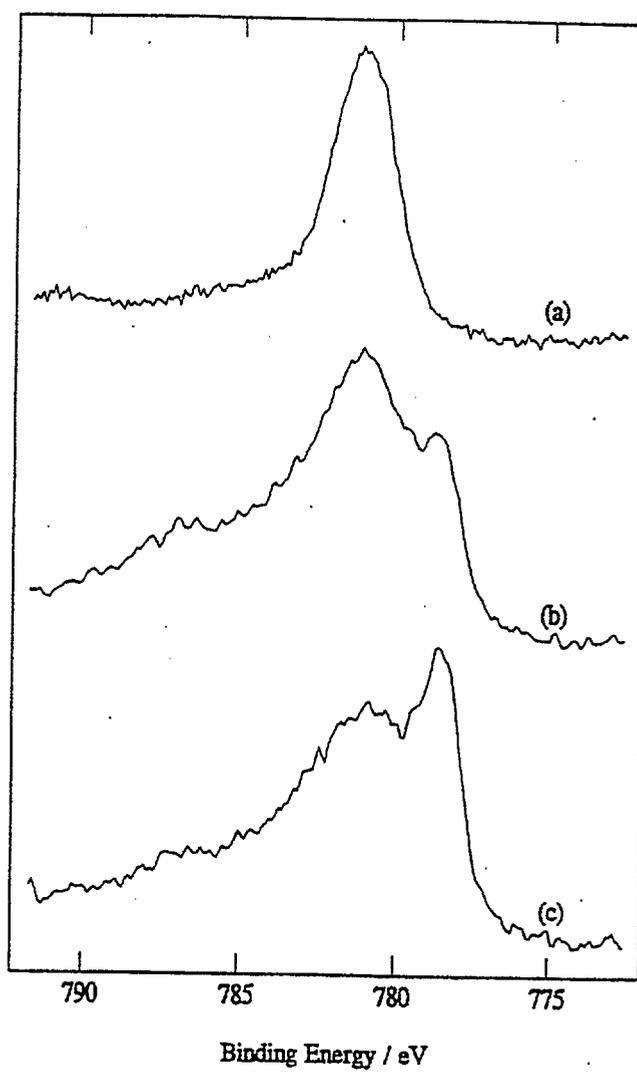


Figure 11 XPS Co 2p Spectra of (a) 11Co-CP-O, (b) 11Co-CP-A and (c) 11Co-CP-C

Table 9 Extent of Reduction of Cobalt and Copper and $\text{Co}^\circ/\text{Cu}^\circ$ Atomic Ratio on the Surfaces of 11Co-CP-A and 11Co-CP-C

Reduction ^a Condition	Metal Reduction Extent ^b		Atomic Ratio ^c $\text{Co}^\circ/\text{Cu}^\circ$
	% of Co°	% of Cu°	
A	28	100	0.54
C	48	100	1.02

a: Refer to Table 2 for detailed description.

b: % of $\text{M}^\circ = \text{M}^\circ / (\text{M}^\circ + \Sigma \text{M}^{\text{m}+})$, $m=1, 2, 3$. % of Co° was obtained from curve fitting of the Co 2p spectra of 11Co-CP-A and 11Co-CP-C (see Figure C in Appendix C.)

c: Estimated using $\text{Co}^\circ/\text{Cu}^\circ = (\text{PA}_{\text{Co}^\circ}/S_{\text{Co}}) / (\text{PA}_{\text{Cu}^\circ}/S_{\text{Cu}})$ in which the PA, i.e. peak area, values were obtained from the XPS spectra and the values for S_{Co} and S_{Cu} were taken from reference (102).

residue carbonate species left from catalyst preparation were detected from XPS measurement in 11Co-CP samples but not in 00Co-IW and 11Co-IW samples.

As shown by spectra (a) in Figure 7, 8 and 10, the XPS Cu 2p spectra of the calcined samples all demonstrated the shape and the satellite structure that are representative for the presence of surface Cu^{2+} ions. As indicated in Table B, the binding energy values of the Cu 2p_{3/2} peaks in the spectra of the calcined samples were all about the same as the corresponding binding energy value obtained for CuO. The XPS Cu 2p spectra of the reduced samples shown in Figure 7, 8 and 10 showed no satellite structure but only the peak with the shape characteristic of Cu° . The position of these Cu 2p peaks, as shown in Table B, was about the same as the value obtained from Cu° . This indicated that copper was present in the state of CuO on the surface of the catalyst

samples prior to reduction treatment and was completely reduced on the surface of the catalyst samples receiving reduction treatment A or C.

As shown by spectra (a) in Figure 9 and 11, the XPS Co 2*p* spectra of the calcined samples all showed the Co 2*p* peak shape and position (~781 eV) representative for Co₃O₄ phase indicating that cobalt was present in the state of Co₃O₄ on the surface of the catalyst samples prior to reduction. The XPS Co 2*p* spectra of the reduced samples shown in Figure 9 and 11 all showed the peak shape resembling a mixture of Co⁰/Co²⁺/Co³⁺, indicating partial reduction of cobalt on the surface of the catalyst samples receiving reduction treatment A or C. The peak at 778~779 eV in the (b) and (c) spectra of Figure 9 and 11 was located at the position of Co⁰ and indicated the presence of Co⁰ on the surface. Comparison between the relative intensities of the cobalt metal peaks compared to the cobalt ion peaks in spectra (b) and (c) of Figure 9 and 11 indicated that the percentage of cobalt reduction was much lower on the surface of 11Co-CP-A than on 11Co-CP-C and the reduction percentage of cobalt on the surface of 11Co-IW-A was even lower than on the surface of 11Co-CP-A. The data obtained from curve fitting of the spectra in Figure 11 (see Figure C and Table 9) indicated that 28% of cobalt was reduced on the surface of 11Co-CP by reduction treatment A and 48% by reduction treatment C. It was also shown in Table 9 that the atomic ratio of Co⁰/Cu⁰ on the catalyst surface increased from 0.5 on 11Co-CP-A to 1.0 on 11Co-CP-C. A similar comparison of the relative intensities of the peak representative for Co⁰ to the peak for Cu⁰ in the XPS spectra of 11Co-IW-A with the XPS spectra of 11Co-CP-A indicated that the local atomic ratio of Co⁰/Cu⁰ in 11Co-IW-A was lower than in 11Co-CP-A.

4.1.2 Chemical Measurements

4.1.2.1 Temperature Programmed Reduction. Figure 12 shows the TPR profiles of all four catalyst samples reduced by dilute H₂ (5%) in Ar at atmospheric pressure (treatment A, refer to Table 2.) The integrated amounts of total H₂-uptake from these TPR profiles were compared in Table 10 with the H₂-uptake calculated for complete reduction of CuO and Co₃O₄ in these samples.

Table 10 Estimation of the Reduction Extent of Cobalt Phase Based on the Results of TPR Experiment^a

Catalyst	H ₂ -Consumption ($\mu\text{mol}/\text{mg-cat}$)			Co Reduction ^{b, c} (%)
	Measured ^c CuO+Co ₃ O ₄	Calculated ^d		
		CuO	Co ₃ O ₄	
00Co-IW	5.24±0.12	5.24	-	-
05Co-IW	5.87±0.04	5.10	0.85	91±5
11Co-IW	5.83±0.01	5.10	1.70	43±1
11Co-CP	4.60±0.02	3.60	2.40	42±1

a: Heating from 50°C to 500°C at 1°C/min in dilute H₂ (5% in Ar, 20 cc/min) at 1 atm (Treatment A.)

b: Assuming 100% reduction of copper.

c: Error was determined by making repeated runs.

d: Assuming 100% reduction of copper and cobalt phases. The composition of these two phases was calculated considering the content of water measured by TGA experiment.

The TPR profiles shown in Figure 12 demonstrated a shift of the major TPR peak towards higher temperature with the inclusion of increasing amounts of cobalt in the CuO/ZnO based catalyst, i.e. the peak temperature of 00Co-IW < 05Co-IW < 11Co-IW < 11Co-CP (refer Table 1 for catalyst composition). All the major TPR peaks in Figure 12 were at temperatures below 250°C. The data in Table 10 showed that reduction A resulted in ~90% reduction of cobalt in 05Co-IW and ~40% in 11Co-IW and 11Co-CP.

The results of the other set of TPR and related testing experiments with 11Co-CP, 11Co-IW and 00Co-IW performed on the reaction system using H₂O detection by MS were outlined in Table 11. The spectra of H₂O detection from each of the experiments listed in Table 11 (described in detail by Table D in Appendix D) were shown in Figure 13~15 and Figure D1 and D2 (in Appendix D). Due to the generally poor quantification performance of MS, the results were viewed qualitatively only.

Comparison between the TPR profiles of cobalt containing samples (11Co-CP and 11Co-IW) and non-cobalt sample (00Co-IW) obtained from reduction A and B indicated that reduction B of cobalt containing samples resulted in TPR peaks much broader than those from reduction A (see Figure 13 and 14), while reduction B of non-cobalt sample resulted in a sharp TPR peak similar to the one from reduction A (see Figure 15). Comparison of the TPR profiles obtained from reduction C with A indicated that the low temperature peaks obtained from reduction C were all shifted to lower temperatures (by ~60°C with 11Co-CP, ~30°C with 11Co-IW and ~40°C with 00Co-IW) with increased H₂ partial pressure of the reducing gas. However, the intensity of the low temperature peak of 11Co-CP from reduction C

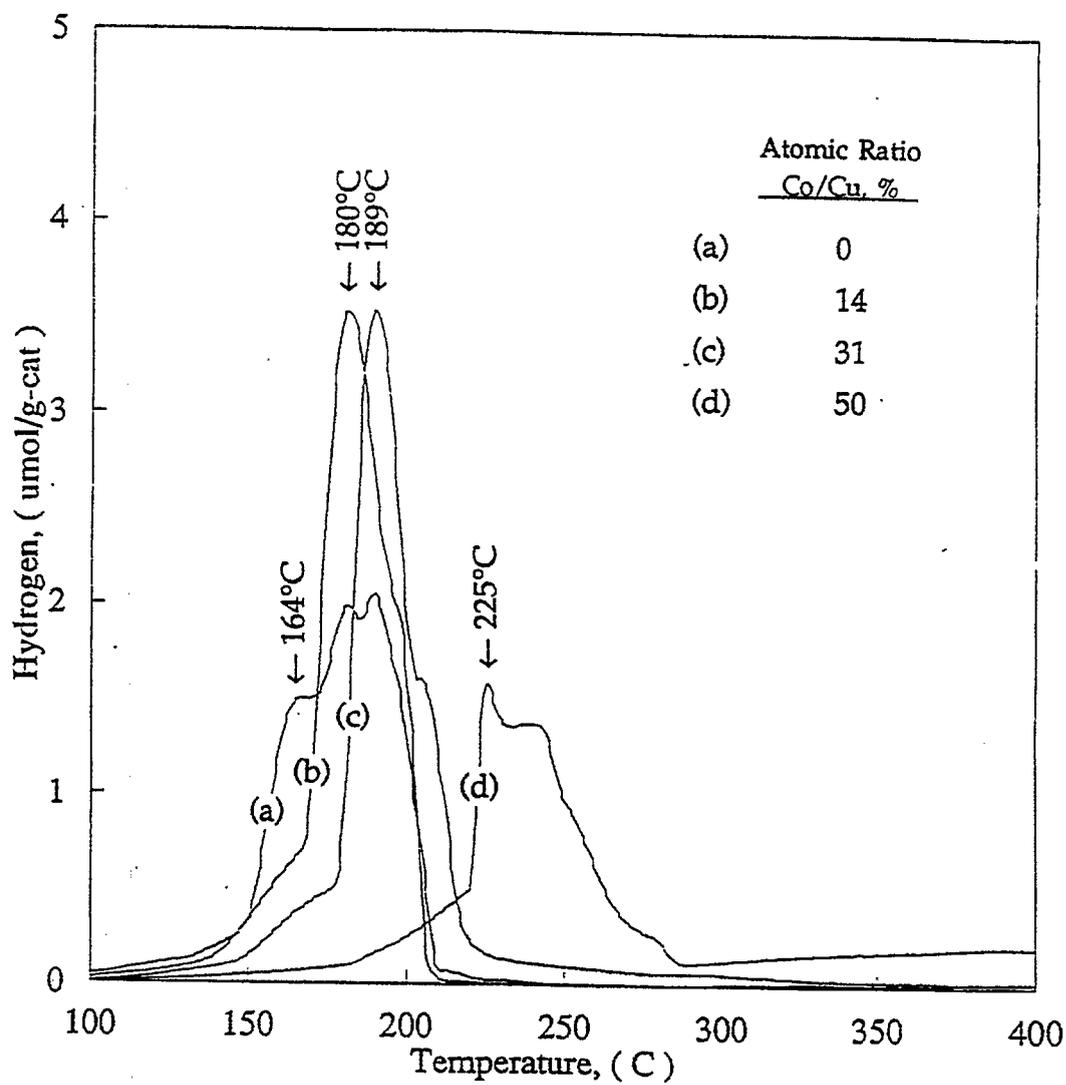


Figure 12 TPR Profiles of (a) 00Co-IW, (b) 05Co-IW, (c) 11Co-IW and (d) 11Co-CP Reduced in Dilute H_2 (5% in Ar, 20 cc/min) at Atmospheric Pressure (Treatment A)

Table 11 Outline of the Results of the TPR and Related Testing Experiments Using H₂O Detection by MS

<u>Descriptor</u>	<u>Treatments^a</u>			<u>Spectra of H₂O Detection (Figure #)</u>		
	<u>P (atm)</u>	<u>T (°C)</u>	<u>H₂ (%)</u>	<u>11Co-CP</u>	<u>11Co-IW</u>	<u>00Co-IW</u>
TPR:						
A	1	34→350	5	13 (a)	14 (a)	15 (a)
B	35	34→350	5	13 (b)	14 (b)	15 (b)
C	1	34→350	100	13 (c)	14 (c)	15 (c)
D = A	~	~	~	~	-	-
↓						
B	~	~	~	13 (d)	-	-
E = A	~	~	~	~	-	-
↓						
C	~	~	~	13 (e)	-	-
F = C	~	~	~	~	-	-
↓						
B	~	~	~	13 (f)	-	-
Testing:						
G = G'	1	34→350	0	D1 (g')	D2 (g')	-
↓						
G''	1	350→500	0	D1 (g'')	D2 (g'')	-
H = A	~	~	~	~	-	-
↓						
G''	~	~	~	D1 (h)	-	-
I = A	~	~	~	~	-	-
↓						
I'	1→35	290	77	D1 (i')	-	-
↓						
I''	35	290→350	77	D1 (i'')	-	-
↓						
G''	~	~	~	*	-	-

a: See Table D in Appendix D for detailed description of the conditions and procedures.

~: Information is already given in the same table.

-: No experiment was performed.

*: No water was detected.

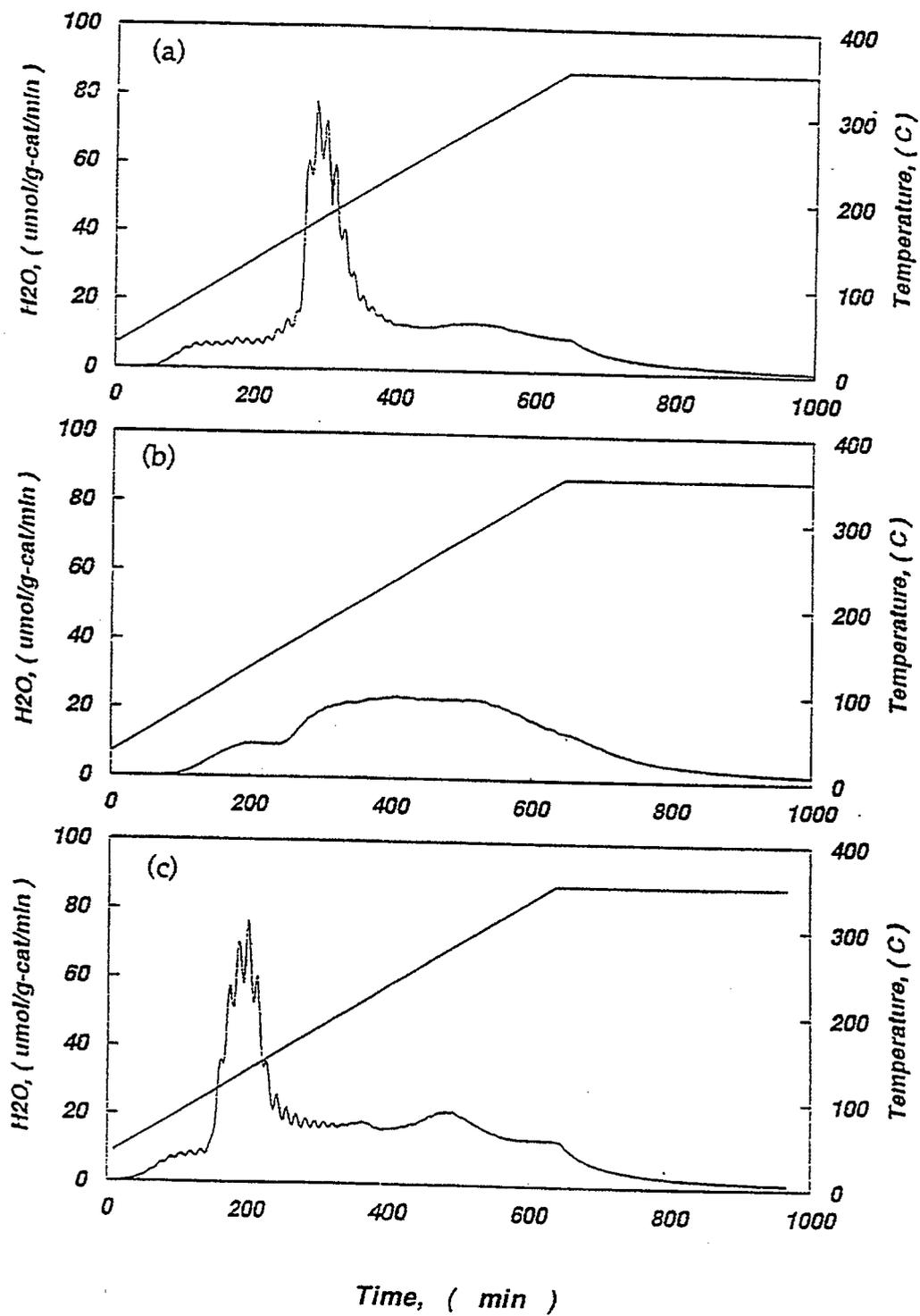


Figure 13 (a~c) TPR Profiles of 11Co-CP Reduced at Condition, (a) A, (b) B, and (c) C as Described in Table 11 & D

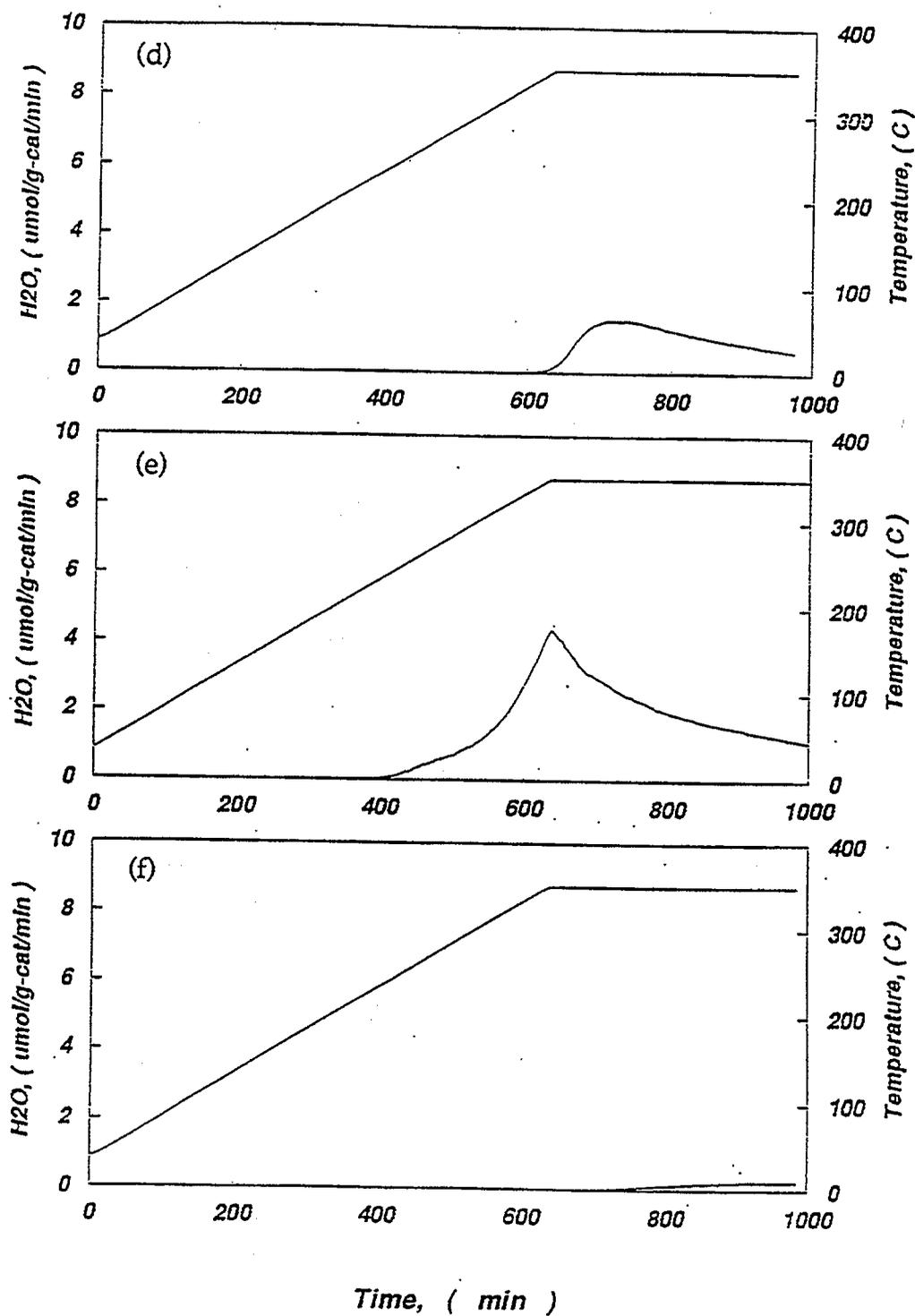


Figure 13 (d~f) TPR Profiles of 11Co-CP Reduced at Condition (d) D, (e) E, and (f) F as Described in Table 11 and D

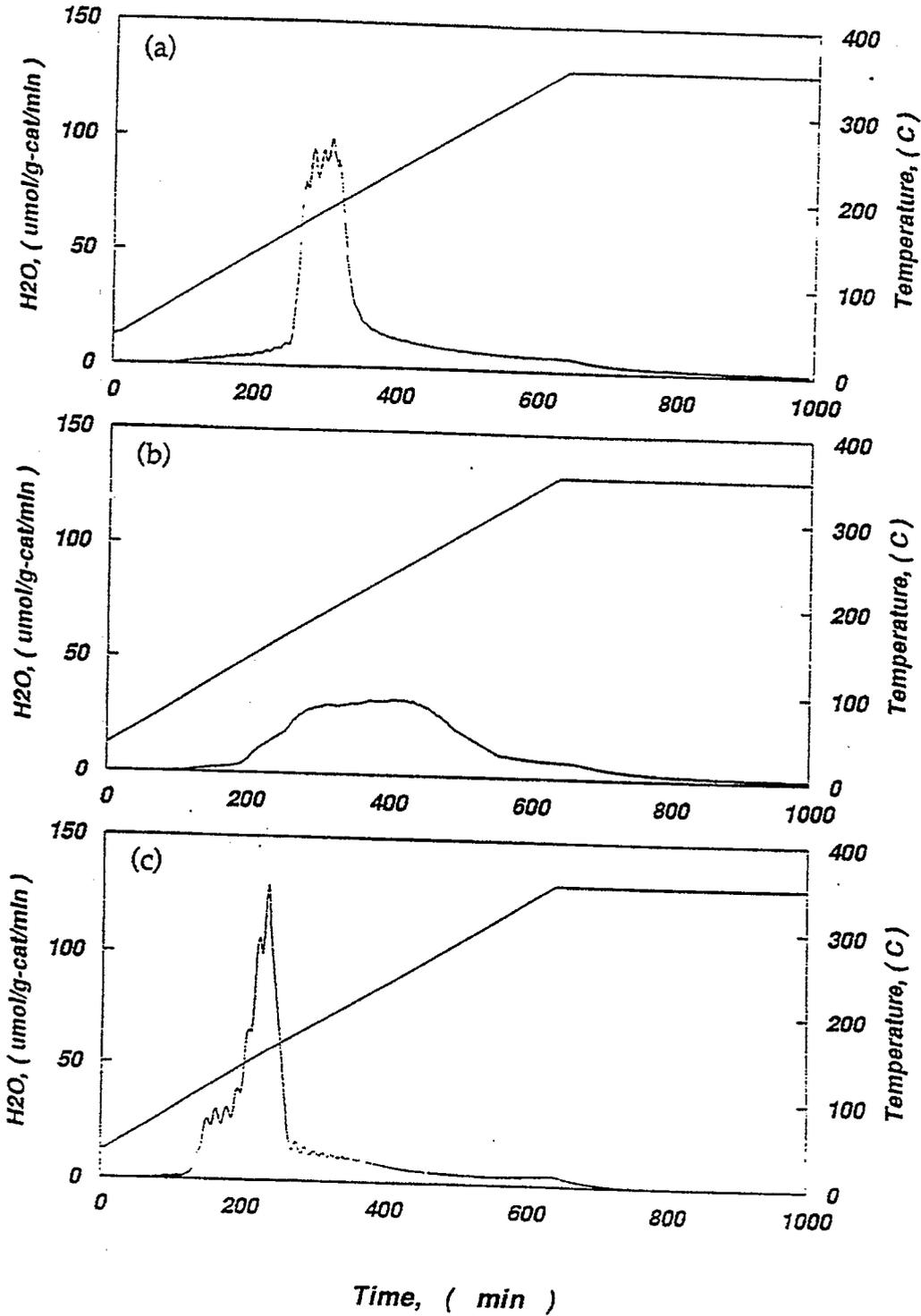


Figure 14 TPR Profiles of 11Co-IW Reduced at Condition (a) A, (b) B, and (c) C as Described in Table 11 & D

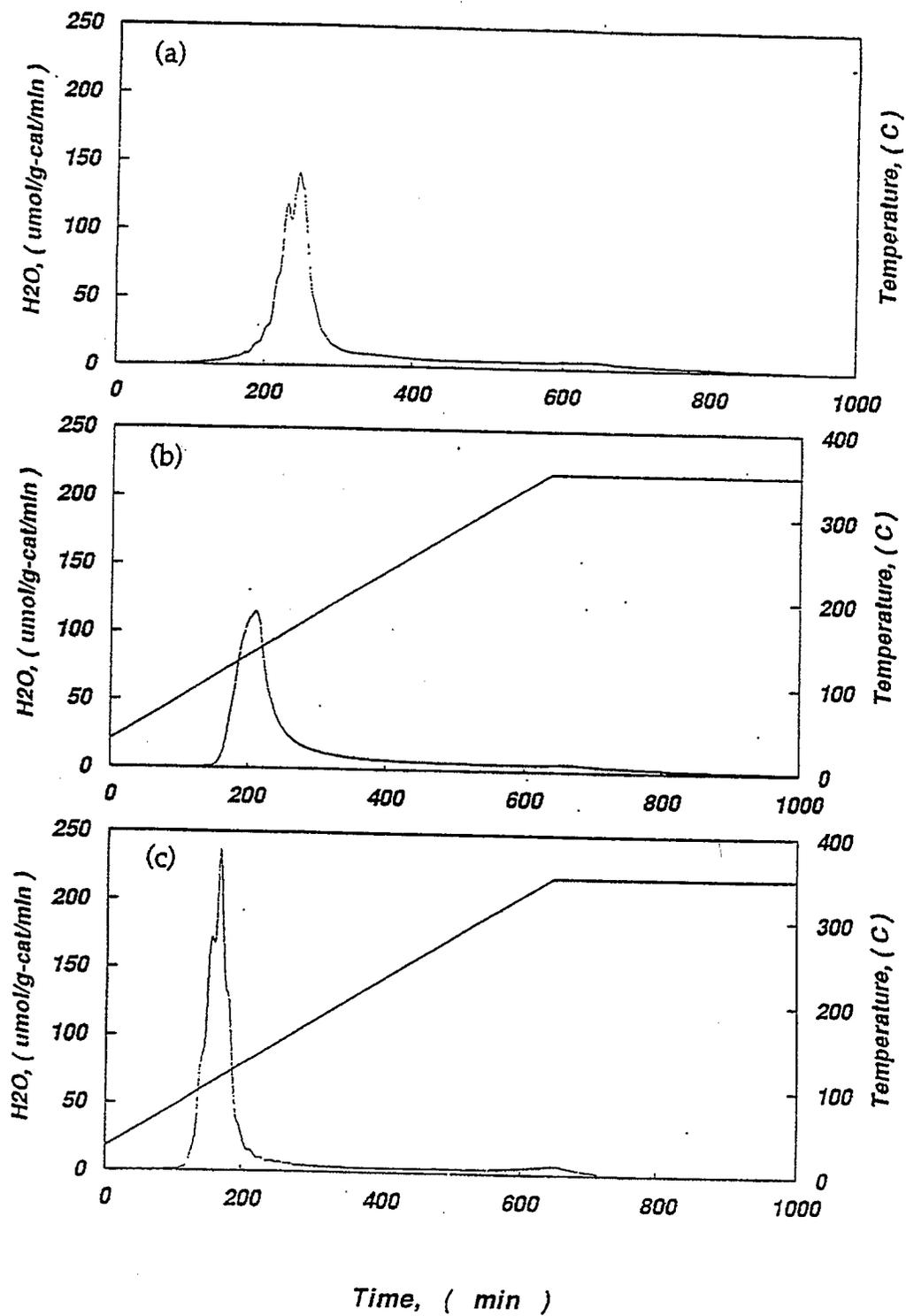


Figure 15 TPR Profiles of 00Co-IW Reduced at Condition (a) A, (b) B, and (c) C as Described in Table 11 & D

remained the same as from reduction A while the intensity of the low temperature peaks of both 00Co-IW and 11Co-IW from reduction C increased significantly. The TPR profile of 11Co-CP obtained from reduction C demonstrated a high temperature peak more intense than the one from reduction A, mainly located at 250~300°C, which suggested a further sample reduction in 11Co-CP-C.

The TPR profiles shown in Figure 13 (d) and 13 (e) demonstrated further detection of H₂O from the reduction treatment B and C after treatment A for 11Co-CP. The H₂O was detected mainly at temperatures higher than 290°C, and the peak intensity of treatment C after A was higher than the one of treatment B after A. It suggested that both treatment B and C caused a higher extent of reduction of 11Co-CP than treatment A. The further detection of H₂O in experiment F from B after C, see Figure 13 (f), was relatively insignificant, indicating that the treatment C of 11Co-CP resulted in a reduction extent limit which treatment B could hardly exceed.

Blank TPR runs indicated that the H₂O presented in the catalysts prior to the TPR experiments was very small for both 11Co-IW and 11Co-CP (refer to Figure D1&2 (g')). High temperature testing experiments indicated that little strongly adsorbed H₂O was left in the catalyst samples after TPR runs (refer to Figure D1&2 (g'')). This provided further evidence that an increased sample reduction extent in 11Co-CP-C caused the high temperature peak of 11Co-CP-C to be more intense than the one of 11Co-CP-A as well as the further H₂O detection during the treatment C after A in experiment E. The amounts of H₂O detected from treatments A, B and C for 11Co-CP increased in the order A < B < C, which indicated that the reduction extent of 11Co-CP increased

with the reduction treatments in the order of $A < B < C$. In addition, increasing H_2 partial pressure at $290^\circ C$ (reaction temperature) after reduction treatment A did not cause significant further reduction of the sample but increasing temperature from $290^\circ C$ to $350^\circ C$ under high H_2 partial pressure did (refer to Figure D1 (i')). This suggested that the reduction temperature was also a key factor in enhancing sample reduction. However, little difference in the total amounts of H_2O detection was shown with 11Co-IW and 00Co-IW samples receiving treatments A, B and C, demonstrating that the improvement in sample reduction extent with treatment B or C was not observed with the non-cobalt containing sample neither with the cobalt containing sample prepared by impregnation.

4.1.2.2 Temperature Programmed Desorption of H_2 . The results of H_2 -TPD experiments were summarized in Table 12. As listed in Table 12, the TPD spectra of the reduced samples were presented in Figure 16~19.

The H_2 -TPD spectra of 00Co-IW-A and 00Co-IW-C shown in Figure 16 demonstrated similar profiles with a low temperature maximum at $\sim 170^\circ C$ and a high temperature maximum at $\sim 450^\circ C$, indicating similar surface distribution of copper metal sites.

The TPD spectra of 11Co-IW-A and 11Co-IW-C shown in Figure 17 demonstrated the poorly resolved profiles with a low temperature maximum at $\sim 150^\circ C$ and a high temperature maximum at $\sim 450^\circ C$. However, the intensity of the low temperature peak of 11Co-IW-C was much higher than the one of 11Co-IW-A while the intensity of the high temperature peaks were about the same and hence the total H_2 -uptake on 11Co-IW-C was significantly

Table 12 Results of H₂-TPD Experiments^a

Catalyst	Reduction ^b	Figure #	H ₂ Coverage		
			$\mu\text{mol-H}$ /mg-cat	$\mu\text{mol-H}$ /mg-Cu&Co	$\mu\text{mol-H}^c$ /mg-Co°&Cu°
00Co-IW	A	16 (a)	0.40	0.9	0.9
	C	16 (b)	0.46	1.0	1.0
11Co-IW	A	17 (a)	0.38	0.8	0.9
	C	17 (b)	0.72	1.5	1.7
11Co-CP	A	18 (a)	0.56	1.7	2.0
	C	18 (b)	0.58	1.7	2.1
20Co/SiO ₂ ^d	C	19	0.15	0.8	-

- a: After reduction treatment at 350°C, the sample (~100 mg) was cooled in the reduction gas stream to 50°C at which the gas phase H₂ was flushed away with Ar (50 cc/min). H₂-TPD was then started from 50°C to 500°C at 20°C/min in Ar (50 cc/min).
- b: A and C are equivalent to the reduction treatments listed in Table 2.
- c: Assuming complete reduction of copper in all samples, and applying the data of cobalt reduction extent in Table 10 for the amounts of Co° in 11Co-IW-A and 11Co-CP-A.
- d: A catalyst sample prepared by incipient wetness impregnation method and used to check the TPD peak position contributed by cobalt metal surface alone.
- : No experimental data for cobalt reduction extent.

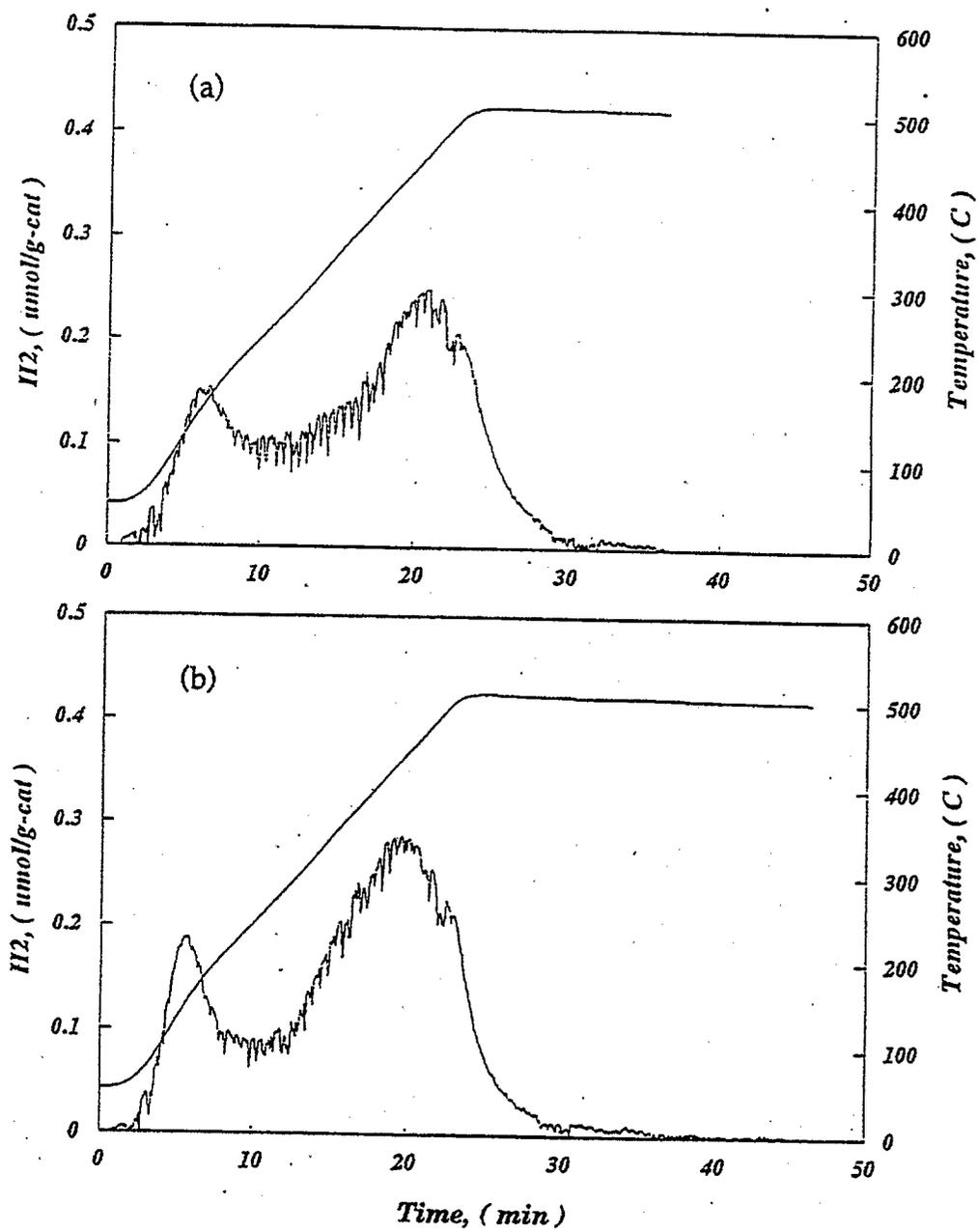


Figure 16 TPD Profiles of 00Co-IW Samples Reduced at 1 atm, (a) in 5% H_2 (in Ar), and (b) in 100% H_2

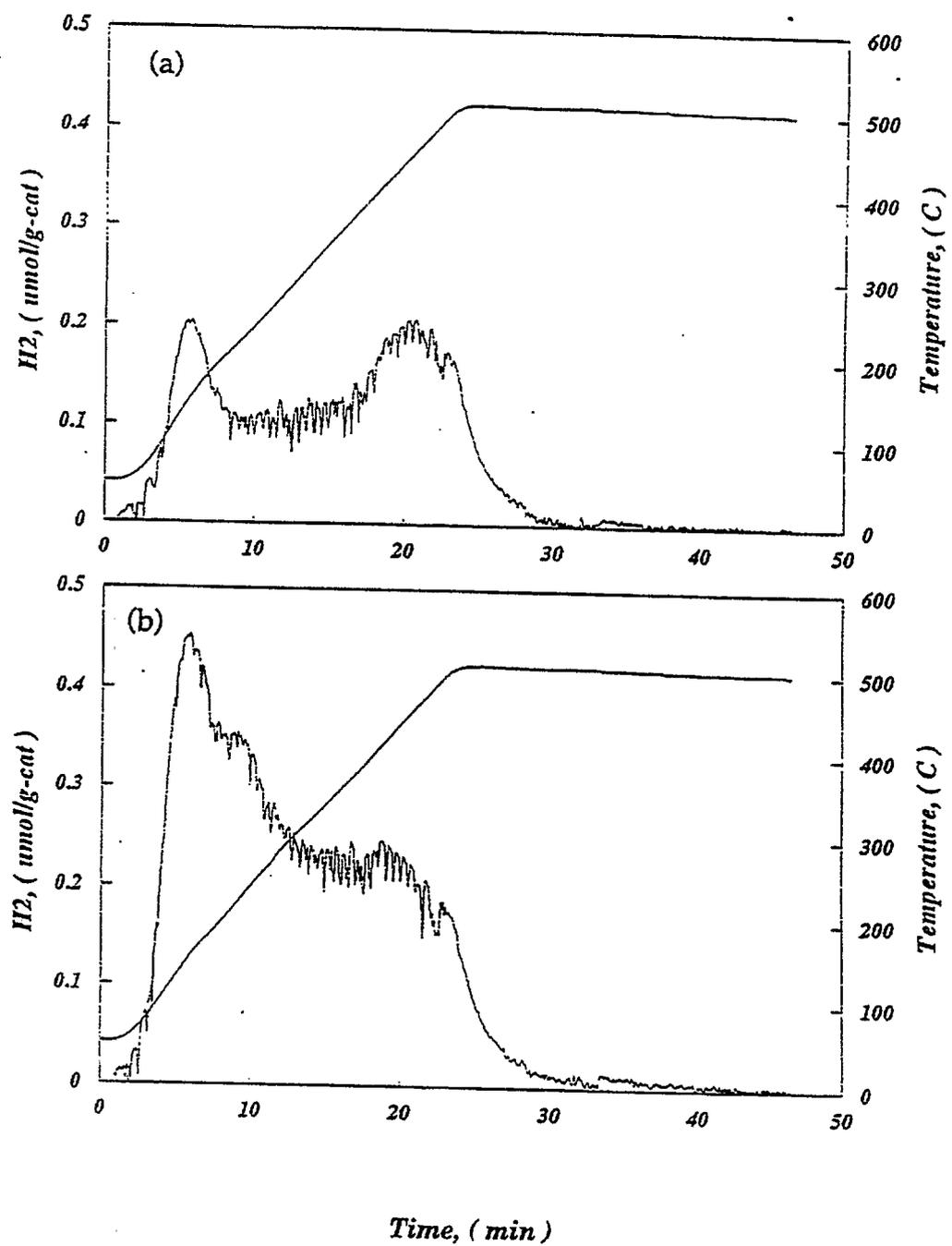


Figure 17 TPD Profiles of ¹¹Co-IW Samples Reduced at 1 atm, (a) in 5% H₂ (in Ar), and (b) in 100% H₂

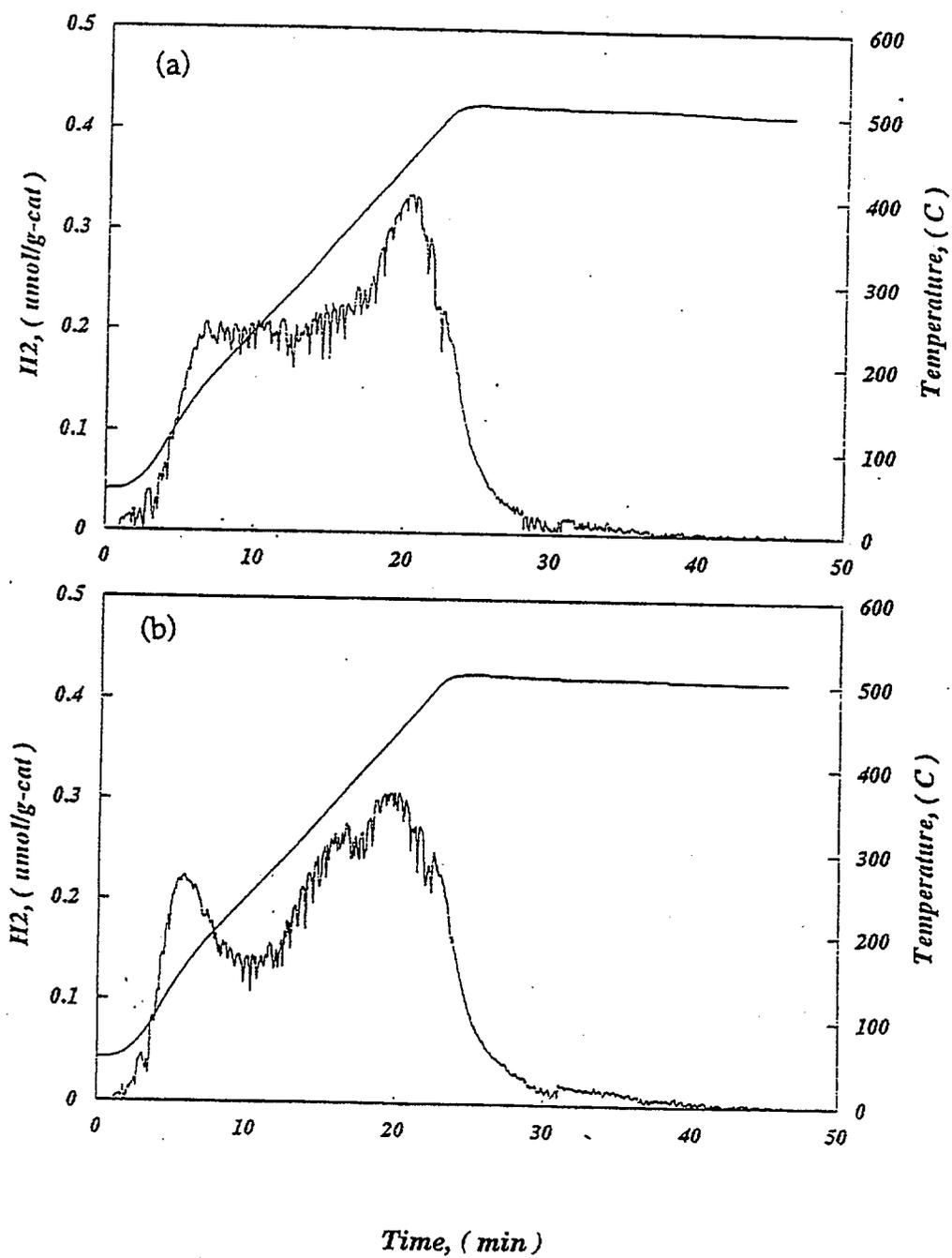


Figure 18 TPD Profiles of ^{11}Co -CP Samples Reduced at 1 atm, (a) in 5% H_2 (in Ar), and (b) in 100% H_2

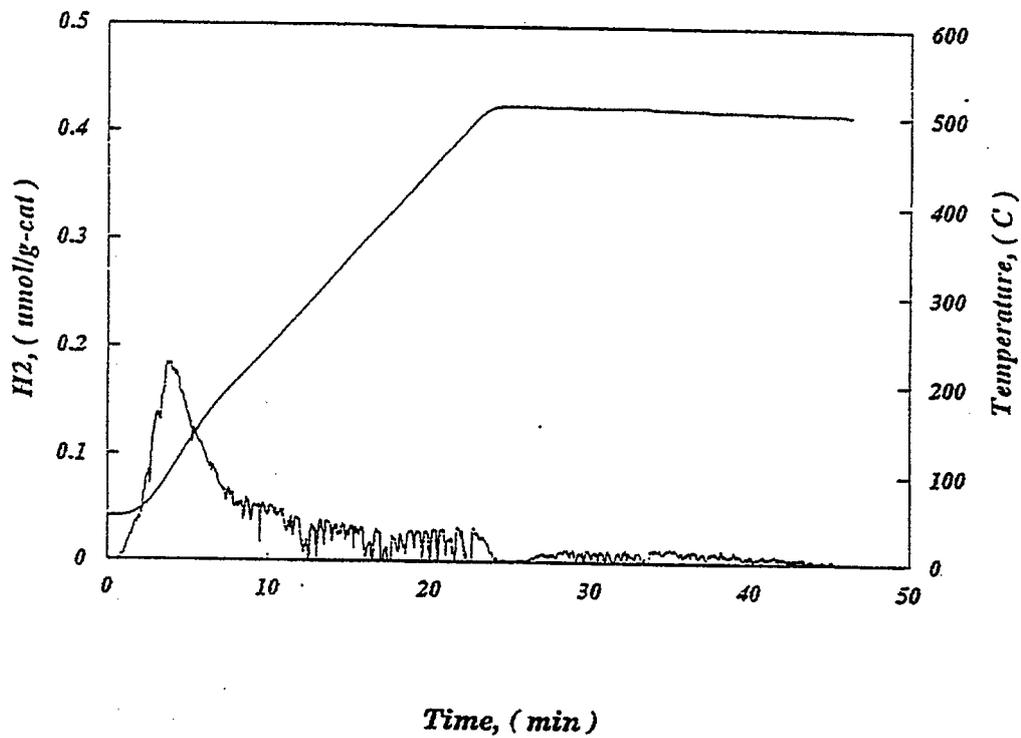


Figure 19 TPD Profiles of Co(20%)/SiO₂ Sample Reduced at 1 atm in 100% H₂

higher than on 11Co-IW-A. Compared with the spectrum of 00Co-IW-A, the spectrum of 11Co-IW-A showed higher intensity in the low temperature peak and lower intensity in the high temperature peak, while the total H₂-uptake on 11Co-IW-A was about the same as on 00Co-IW-A.

The TPD spectra of 11Co-CP-A and 11Co-CP-C shown in Figure 18 demonstrated similar poorly resolved profiles with a low temperature maximum at ~170°C and a high temperature maximum at ~450°C. The intensity of the low temperature peak of 11Co-CP-C was slightly higher than the one of 11Co-CP-A and the intensity of the high temperature peak of 11Co-CP-C was slightly lower than the one of 11Co-CP-A, while the total H₂-uptake on 11Co-CP-C, as shown in Table 12, was almost the same as on 11Co-CP-A. It was also shown that the H₂-uptake on 11Co-CP-A was higher than on 11Co-IW-A and 00Co-IW-A.

As shown in Figure 19, the TPD spectrum of 20Co/SiO₂-A, a sample used to test the H₂-TPD peak location due to Co⁰, showed a single low temperature maximum at 100°C with a tailing ranging upto 500°C. Considering the poorly resolved and widely spread H₂-TPD profiles obtained from 00Co-IW as well as from 11Co-IW and 11Co-CP, it indicated that on a surface of Co-Cu based catalyst the H₂-TPD peak from Co⁰ would overlap with the peak(s) from Cu⁰ but would mainly show up in the low-temperature-peak range representing the weak-H₂-adsorption sites.

4.2 Discussion

4.2.1 Physical Measurements

4.2.1.1 Effect of Cobalt-Inclusion in Cu/ZnO. The slight difference observed in BET surface area of the samples prior to and post cobalt-addition by impregnation as well as post reduction/reaction suggested that no particle sintering was caused by the addition of cobalt to CuO/ZnO/Al₂O₃ in either the un-reduced or the reduced catalyst samples. This was supported by the XRD result shown in Figure A5 indicating that no sintering in the crystallized particle size of Cu, CuO or ZnO was caused by the addition of cobalt. Any significant differences in either adsorptive or catalytic properties between the non-cobalt and cobalt-containing samples would be due to the kind of change more subtle than a bulk change such as sample sintering.

4.2.1.2 Chemical and Physical States of Cobalt and Copper. The results of XRD and XPS measurements consistently indicated that copper was present in the state of CuO with cobalt in Co₃O₄ in all the catalyst samples prior to reduction and that copper was completely reduced to Cu⁰ in all the samples after any of the reduction treatments. As indicated by BET and XRD results, the particle sizes of CuO and ZnO were similar in the pre-reduction samples of 00Co-IW, 05Co-IW and 11Co-IW, but relatively larger than in those of 11Co-CP. The XRD results indicated that the particle sizes of Co₃O₄ in the pre-reduction samples were in the order of 11Co-IW-O > 11Co-CP-O > 05Co-IW-O, and the particle size of Cu⁰ in 11Co-IW-A was about the same as in 05Co-IW-A as well

as in 11Co-IW-B and 11Co-IW-C but larger than in 11Co-CP-A which was the same as in 11Co-CP-B and 11Co-CP-C.

Since the XPS results indicated that cobalt was partially reduced on the surface after either treatment A or C, the disappearance of Co_3O_4 peaks in the XRD spectra of reduced cobalt-containing samples could be mainly due to the partial reduction of the Co_3O_4 particles which divided the particles of cobalt-containing phases into the sizes too small for XRD detection. The reappearance of the Co_3O_4 peaks in the XRD spectra of 11Co-CP samples post CO hydrogenation reaction could be due to either re-oxidation of the reduced cobalt or agglomeration of the Co_3O_4 particles. The fact that no cobalt-containing phase was detected by XRD in the 11Co-IW samples post reaction could be due to either less re-oxidation of the reduced cobalt or less agglomeration of the Co_3O_4 particles.

An important point revealed by the XPS results is that the percentage of cobalt reduction to Co° as well as the local atomic ratio of $\text{Co}^\circ/\text{Cu}^\circ$ on the catalyst surface increased significantly in the order of 11Co-IW-A < 11Co-CP-A < 11Co-CP-C. The fact that different reduction treatments did not cause any significant difference between the XRD spectra of reduced samples, which did not showed cobalt-containing phases, indicated that the reduction of cobalt, either to low or high extent, did not form large Co° particles with average diameter larger than 5 nm in any of the reduced catalyst samples and had no significant effect on the particle size of Cu° as well as ZnO. In other words, it indicated that in any of the reduced samples both Co° and Co_3O_4 particles were finely dispersed on the surface of Cu/ZnO without affecting the bulk structure of Cu/ZnO. Therefore, the surface contact between Co° and Cu° is

suggested to be greater in 11Co-CP-C than in 11Co-CP-A and than in 11Co-IW-A.

4.2.2 Chemical Measurements

4.2.2.1 Extent of Reduction of Cobalt. An important point revealed by the TPR measurements was that the extent of reduction of cobalt in each catalyst sample could be varied with different reduction treatments, different amounts of cobalt relative to the amount of copper, and different catalyst preparation methods.

Since XRD and XPS measurements indicated that copper was completely reduced in all the samples receiving any of the reduction treatments, all evidences of further sample reduction provided by TPR experiments could be attributed to further reduction of cobalt. The trends of the variations in cobalt reduction extent detected by both TPR and XPS measurements are compared in Table 13. Knowing that XPS measurement detects the top layers of the catalyst surface and TPR measurement probes the bulk properties of the catalyst, it is not surprising to observe different values of cobalt reduction extent with the same sample by the two different techniques. In fact, it could help understand the interaction of Co with Cu and distribution of Co in the catalyst, which is discussed in the following sections.

4.2.2.2 Interaction between Cobalt and Copper. Interaction between cobalt and copper has been proposed as a key factor in the selective synthesis of C₂+ alcohols from CO/H₂ over Co-Cu based catalysts^(6, 40, 45-50, 97, 98). Different

Table 13 Variation in Reduction Extent of Cobalt in Different Samples

Variable	Technique	Trend in Cobalt Reduction Extent (Co ⁰ /Co, %)
Cu:Co Ratio:	TPR1 ^a (bulk)	05Co-IW-A (91%) > 11Co-IW-A (43%)
Preparation Method:	TPR1 ^a (bulk)	11Co-CP-A (42%) ≈ 11Co-IW-A (43%)
	XPS (surface)	11Co-CP-A (28%) > 11Co-IW-A
Reduction Treatment:	TPR2 ^b (bulk)	11Co-CP-C > 11Co-CP-B > 11Co-CP-A 11Co-IW-C ≈ 11Co-IW-B ≈ 11Co-IW-A
	XPS (surface)	11Co-CP-C (48%) > 11Co-CP-A (28%)
	TPD ^c (surface)	11Co-IW-C > 11Co-IW-A

a: The TPR measurements on Altamira system using H₂-uptake detection by TCD.

b: The TPR measurements on the reaction system using H₂O detection by MS.

c: Assuming the increase in H₂-uptake was mainly due to further reduction of cobalt.

extents of interaction between cobalt and copper in the catalyst samples of this study have been indicated by the results of TPR measurements and supported by the results of physical measurements.

The shifts of the major TPR peaks with inclusion of increasing amount of cobalt in CuO/ZnO shown by Figure 12 was consistent with the fact that the reduction of cobalt oxides is more difficult than copper oxides, and suggested that the interaction between cobalt and copper inhibited the reduction of copper. On the other hand, the TPR studies of supported cobalt catalysts^(47, 103)

showed that the major TPR peak for cobalt on SiO_2 or Al_2O_3 appeared between 250~500°C, but Figure 12 showed no peak in this range of temperature. This suggested that the reduction temperature of cobalt was lowered by the presence of copper, which also indicated the presence of cobalt-copper interaction. As indicated in both Table 10 and Table 13, the reduction extent of cobalt in 05Co-IW-A was significantly higher than in 11Co-IW-A, apparently related to the higher atomic ratio of Cu:Co in 05Co-IW than in 11Co-IW. This is consistent with the interpretation that the interaction of copper with cobalt promoted the reduction of cobalt. The observations of cobalt reduction aided by copper have also been reported in the literature^(6, 40, 48, 97). The broadening of the TPR peak caused by reduction B could be due to both the interaction of cobalt with copper and a diffusion effect of increased total pressure, which again indicates the Co-Cu interaction.

The increasing trend in cobalt reduction extent of 11Co-CP with the reduction treatments observed from TPR measurements, as shown in Table 13, was consistent with the result of XPS measurement. This indicates that using a reducing gas with a high H_2 partial pressure could enhance the extent of reduction of cobalt significantly. Nevertheless, this trend in reduction extent was hardly observed with 11Co-IW samples. A reasonable explanation for this is that the extent of interaction between cobalt and copper in 11Co-IW was significantly less than in 11Co-CP, which could be related to the premixing state of the metal oxides resulted from catalyst preparation.

Since XRD and XPS results indicated that copper was always completely reduced with any reduction treatment, the fact observed from TPR experiments that compared with treatment A in Figure 13 treatment C of

11Co-CP caused no change in the intensity of the down-shifted low temperature peak but an increase in the intensity of the unshifted high temperature peak indicated a further reduction of cobalt with only small enhancement in the rate of copper reduction at low temperature. The fact that compared with treatment A in Figure 14 treatment C of 11Co-IW caused a significant increase of the down-shifted low temperature peak without any increase in the high temperature range indicated little further cobalt reduction but significant enhancement in the rate of copper reduction at low temperature. This observation again suggested that the cobalt-copper interaction in 11Co-CP was more abundant than in 11Co-IW, which promoted the further reduction of cobalt and inhibited the enhancement in copper reduction rate at low temperature.

4.2.2.3 Location of Co^0 on the Catalyst Surface. Another issue addressed by the characterization studies was the location of cobalt metal atoms or particles on the catalyst surface. This is important for understanding the role(s) of Co^0 in constructing the active sites for the synthesis of C_2^+ alcohols.

The fact that the TPR result indicated similar reduction extent of cobalt in 11Co-CP-A and 11Co-IW-A while the XPS result indicated the reduction extent of cobalt on the surface of 11Co-CP-A was higher than on 11Co-IW-A, refer Table 13, suggested that the distribution of cobalt metal atoms in 11Co-CP-A was more concentrated on the surface than in 11Co-IW-A. What could be the reason that caused this distribution? As discussed in the previous section, interaction of copper with cobalt was found to assist the reduction of cobalt, which suggested that the extent of cobalt-copper interaction in 11Co-CP

was more abundant than in 11Co-IW. It implies that cobalt oxides adjacent to copper phase would be easier to be reduced, and more interfacial contact between cobalt oxide phase and copper oxide phase would result in more cobalt reduction. Therefore, the higher concentration of Co° atoms on the surface of 11Co-CP-A than on 11Co-IW-A could result from either higher copper surface area or higher dispersion of cobalt phase in 11Co-CP than in 11Co-IW, and the Co° phase located near to the copper metal surface. In fact, the XRD spectra of 11Co-CP-O and 11Co-IW-O did not show significant difference in the particle size of Co_3O_4 , but the XRD spectra of 11Co-CP-A and 11Co-IW-A indicated that the overall particle size of Cu° in 11Co-CP-A was smaller than in 11Co-IW-A. In addition, the H_2 -TPD results (see Table 12) showed significantly higher hydrogen coverage per milligram of $\text{Co}^\circ + \text{Cu}^\circ$ on 11Co-CP-A than on 11Co-IW-A while the TPR results (see Table 10) showed similar extent of reduction of cobalt in these two samples, which also suggests higher Cu° dispersion in 11Co-CP-A than in 11Co-IW-A. This implies that it was the higher surface area of copper metal in 11Co-CP-A that played a key role in resulting the higher concentration of Co° on the surface than in 11Co-IW-A. In other words, it suggested that in 11Co-CP-A, the Co° atoms were mostly associated with the copper metal surface while in 11Co-IW-A, the Co° phase had less contact with the copper metal surface. As it was indicated by the BET and XRD results that no significant sintering in particle size was caused by the addition of cobalt; the fact that addition of cobalt to Cu/ZnO (comparing 11Co-IW-A with 00Co-IW-A in Table 12) caused little change in H_2 -uptake capability of the surface suggested that the surface cobalt metal atoms were mostly on top of copper metal atoms. The TPR and XPS results

indicated that reduction extent of cobalt was higher in 11Co-CP-C than in 11Co-CP-A, XRD and XPS results indicated complete reduction of copper in both samples, and no significant sintering of Cu^0 particle was shown by XRD spectra, but the TPD results showed almost the same amount of H_2 -uptake on 11Co-CP-C as on 11Co-CP-A. This suggested that the further reduced cobalt in 11Co-CP-C was on top of surface copper metal which blocked some of the H_2 -uptake sites of copper metal and formed new H_2 -uptake sites. Compared with the TPD spectrum of 11Co-CP-A, the slight increase in the low temperature peak of 11Co-IW-C accompanied with a slight decrease in the high temperature peak was consistent with interpretation that the further formed Co^0 was mostly on top of Co^0 in 11Co-CP-C. The fact that H_2 -uptake on 11Co-IW-C was significantly higher than on 11Co-IW-A and the extra H_2 -uptake was mainly desorbed at low temperatures suggested that reduction C of 11Co-IW resulted in more weak H_2 adsorption sites but not necessarily more Co^0 on top of Cu metal. Since the TPR result showed little further bulk reduction in 11Co-IW-C compared with 11Co-IW-A, the increase in weak- H_2 -adsorption could be attributed mainly to increased dispersion of Co^0 on the surface of oxides.

4.3 Conclusions

The characterization studies of the different Co-Cu catalyst samples receiving different reduction treatments provided information that could help in understanding the roles of key catalyst components in constructing the active sites for the selective synthesis of C_2+ alcohols from CO/H_2 . A

summary of the information revealed by the catalyst characterization studies is given below.

(1) Prior to reduction treatment, all four catalyst samples had similar BET surface area; copper was present in the state of CuO and cobalt in Co_3O_4 ; the dispersion of Co_3O_4 particles was in the order of 05Co-IW-O > 11Co-CP-O > 11Co-IW-O; the Co_3O_4 was better mixed with CuO in 11Co-CP-O than in 11Co-IW-O.

(2) Post reduction treatment A, copper was completely reduced in all four samples; cobalt was almost totally reduced in 05Co-IW-A and partially reduced in 11Co-IW-A and 11Co-CP-A; the local atomic ratio of $\text{Co}^\circ/\text{Cu}^\circ$ on the surface of 11Co-CP-A was significantly higher than on 11Co-IW-A; the amount of hydrogen adsorption sites on 11Co-IW-A was about the same as on 00Co-IW-A but lower than on 11Co-CP-A; the Co° in 11Co-IW samples was suggested to be to a large extent on top of surface copper metal sites.

(3) Post reduction treatment B and C, copper was completely reduced in all cases and cobalt was partially reduced; the particle sizes of Cu° were similar to those of the corresponding samples receiving treatment A; the reduction extents of cobalt in the bulk of 11Co-CP samples were in the order of 11Co-CP-C > 11Co-CP-B > 11Co-CP-A, but the reduction extents of cobalt in the bulk of 11Co-IW-B and 11Co-IW-C were about the same as in 11Co-IW-A; the amount of H_2 -adsorption sites was higher on the surface of 11Co-CP samples than on 11Co-IW samples; the Co° on 11Co-CP samples was suggested to be mostly on top of surface copper metal, but on 11Co-IW samples was less associated with the surface of copper metal than on 11Co-CP samples.

(4) Post CO hydrogenation reaction, no significant loss in BET surface

area with little sintering of Cu° was observed; agglomeration or re-oxidation of Co_3O_4 in 11Co-CP samples was indicated but not in 11Co-IW samples.

5.0 CO HYDROGENATION

5.1 Results

The activities and selectivities of CO hydrogenation reactions at steady state over the catalysts pretreated by different reduction treatments are summarized in Table 14 and 15. The formation of higher alcohols over these Co-Cu catalysts did not follow ASF kinetics although hydrocarbon formation did (see Figure E1~E6 in Appendix E).

5.1.1 Reduction Treatment A

Comparison between the data obtained over non-cobalt and cobalt-containing samples (for all treatments) showed that the inclusion of cobalt in Cu/ZnO reduced methanol and dimethylether formation drastically (by almost an order of magnitude) and the changes in selectivity with the cobalt addition were mainly due to this selective suppression of methanol.

The increase in Co loading from 5% to 11% resulted in slight further suppression of methanol and dimethyl ether formation with small increases in C₂+ alcohols and methane but little effect on C₂+ hydrocarbons. With treatment A, the two samples with same amount of cobalt loading but different atomic ratio of Co:Cu and prepared by different methods, 11Co-CP-A and 11Co-IW-A, demonstrated similar activities for the formation of C₂+ alcohols. The higher selectivity for C₂+ alcohols formation over 11Co-CP-A than 11Co-IW-A was mainly due to the lower formation rate of methanol

Table 14 Activities of CO Hydrogenation Reactions at Steady State^a

Catalyst:	11Co-CP						11Co-IW			05Co-IW		00Co-IW	
	A	B	C	D	E	F	A	B	C	A	A	B	
Reduction Condition ^b :	A	B	C	D	E	F	A	B	C	A	A	B	
	17.3	54.4	68.7	69.5	34.6	51.1	52.6	72.3	65.8	53.7	439.3	565.2	
OXYGENATES:							ACTIVITY, (g/kg-cat/hr)						
Methanol	7.5	13.9	18.2	18.0	12.6	16.1	42.8	55.5	53.7	45.9	411.4	545.3	
Dimethylether	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	0.2	0.3	2.2	15.9	15.8	
Ethanol	6.6	13.9	16.7	17.6	9.5	14.4	6.1	8.2	6.3	4.1	11.4	3.1	
n-Propanol	2.0	6.6	8.2	8.2	5.4	7.5	2.8	5.7	4.1	1.5	0.6	1.0	
n-Butanol	1.2	7.0	8.1	8.1	3.8	6.2	0.4	1.8	1.0	0	0	0	
n-Pentanol	0	6.1	7.4	9.9	2.0	4.2	0	0.9	0.4	0	0	0	
n-Hexanol	0	6.9	10.1	7.7	1.3	2.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	
HYDROCARBONS:	13.9	30.4	32.6	35.5	17.2	24.6	15.0	15.5	17.5	11.4	14.0	12.2	
Methane	5.4	12.5	13.5	14.1	7.2	10.0	9.2	9.2	10.7	5.1	5.9	4.9	
C ₂ HCS	2.8	5.7	6.3	6.8	3.3	4.8	3.6	3.6	4.3	3.3	1.1	2.2	
C ₃ + HCs	5.7	12.2	12.8	14.6	6.7	9.8	2.2	2.7	2.5	3.0	7.0	5.1	
OXYs + HCs :	31.2	84.2	101.3	105.0	51.8	75.7	67.6	87.8	83.3	65.1	453.3	577.4	
CO ₂ :	91.7	157.9	168.2	185.5	99.4	150.7	53.8	51.2	48.8	43.1	43.5	25.5	
CATALYST WEIGHT, (mg/bed) :	463.5	249.5	249.3	250.5	251.5	252.3	470.2	505.4	500.8	536.1	75.0	59.8	
	1.6	1.9	2.1	2.2	1.2	1.7	1.7	2.2	2.1	1.6	1.1	1.0	

CO CONVERSION, (mol%)

a: Refer section 3.3.3 for reaction conditions. b: Refer section 3.1.2 for reduction conditions.

Table 15 Selectivities of CO Hydrogenation Reactions at Steady State^a

Catalyst:	11Co-CP						11Co-IW			05Co-IW			00Co-IW			
	A	B	C	D	E	F	A	B	C	A	A	A	A	A	B	
Reduction Condition ^b :																
C ₂ +Alc./C ₁ -C ₆ Alc.:	56.7	74.5	73.6	74.0	63.5	68.6	18.6	22.9	18.2	14.4	6.3	3.5				
OXYGENATES:	55.4	64.2	67.8	66.2	66.8	67.5	77.8	82.3	79.0	82.4	96.9	97.9				
Methanol	24.0	16.4	17.9	17.2	24.4	21.2	63.3	63.3	64.4	70.5	90.8	94.4				
Dimethylether	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.7	0.2	0.3	3.4	3.5	2.7				
Ethanol	21.2	16.4	16.5	16.7	18.3	19.0	9.0	9.3	7.6	6.2	2.5	0.5				
n-Propanol	6.4	7.8	8.1	7.9	10.4	10.0	4.2	6.5	4.9	2.3	0.1	0.2				
n-Butanol	3.8	8.3	8.0	7.7	7.3	8.2	0.6	2.1	1.3	0	0	0				
n-Pentanol	0	7.2	7.3	9.4	3.9	5.6	0	1.0	0.5	0	0	0				
n-Hexanol	0	8.1	10.0	7.3	2.5	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0				
HYDROCARBONS:	44.6	35.8	32.2	33.8	33.2	32.5	22.2	17.7	21.0	17.6	3.1	2.1				
Methane	17.3	14.7	13.3	13.4	14.0	13.2	13.7	10.5	12.9	7.8	1.3	0.8				
C ₂ HCS	9.0	6.7	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.4	5.3	4.1	5.1	5.1	0.2	0.4				
C ₃ +HCS	18.3	14.4	12.6	13.9	12.7	12.9	3.2	3.1	3.0	4.7	1.6	0.9				

SELECTIVITY, (wt%)

a: Refer section 3.3.3 for reaction conditions.
 b: Refer section 3.1.2 for reduction conditions.
 c: CO₂ is not included.

over 11Co-CP-A than 11Co-IW-A.

5.1.2 Reduction Treatment B and C

Comparison between the data for 11Co-CP samples receiving different reduction treatments showed dramatic differences in the activities for the formation of all alcohols and hydrocarbons as well as the selectivities for C_{2+} alcohol formation. The activities increased in the order of $A \ll B < C$, and the selectivities for C_{2+} alcohol formation increased in the order of $A < B \approx C$. Treatments B and C for 11Co-CP resulted in a more than 3-fold increase in the activities of oxygenates formation and C_5 and C_6 alcohols were observed under these conditions. Compared with treatment A, treatments D, E and F for 11Co-CP also resulted in similar increases in the activity and selectivity of oxygenates with significant detection of C_5 and C_6 alcohols, although the selectivity of E is closer to A.

Over 11Co-IW, the activities for the formation of all alcohols and the selectivities for C_{2+} alcohols also increased with different reduction treatments in the order of $A < C < B$ while hydrocarbons were hardly affected. However, the promotion effect of reduction treatment B and C on the synthesis of C_{2+} alcohols was much less significant with 11Co-IW.

Over 00Co-IW, reduction A and B resulted in almost the same activities and selectivities of the CO hydrogenation reaction products except for a relatively small increase in methanol formation with reduction B.

5.1.3 Effect of CO₂ Addition

Figure 20 presents the effect of CO₂ addition to the CO/H₂ reaction on the formation rates of CO hydrogenation products over (a) 00Co-IW and (b) 11Co-IW, both receiving reduction treatment A. The addition of CO₂ promoted the rate of methanol formation by 3 times over 00Co-IW but only 0.3 times over 11Co-IW. This showed that another significant effect of the cobalt addition to Cu/ZnO was to suppress the promotion effect of CO₂ on methanol formation.

5.2 Discussion

5.2.1 Effect of Presence of Co in Cu/ZnO

The observation that cobalt addition to Cu/ZnO/Al₂O₃ caused a drastic suppression of methanol formation and therefore significantly dropped the overall activities of the catalysts is consistent with the activity data of the Co-Cu type of catalysts reported in the patent literature⁽⁴²⁻⁴⁴⁾ for the synthesis of C₂₊ alcohols from CO and H₂. The insignificant changes in both BET surface area and the XRD spectrum of Cu/ZnO/Al₂O₃ with the addition of Co implied that the dramatic changes in activity and selectivity were mainly caused by surface modification. As studies in the literature^(52, 79, 83) suggest that the formation of methanol from CO₂/H₂ requires Cu⁰ sites, the suppression of CO₂ promotion effect on methanol formation by cobalt addition suggested a blockage or deactivation of copper metal sites by cobalt addition. The fact that both XRD and XPS results showed complete reduction

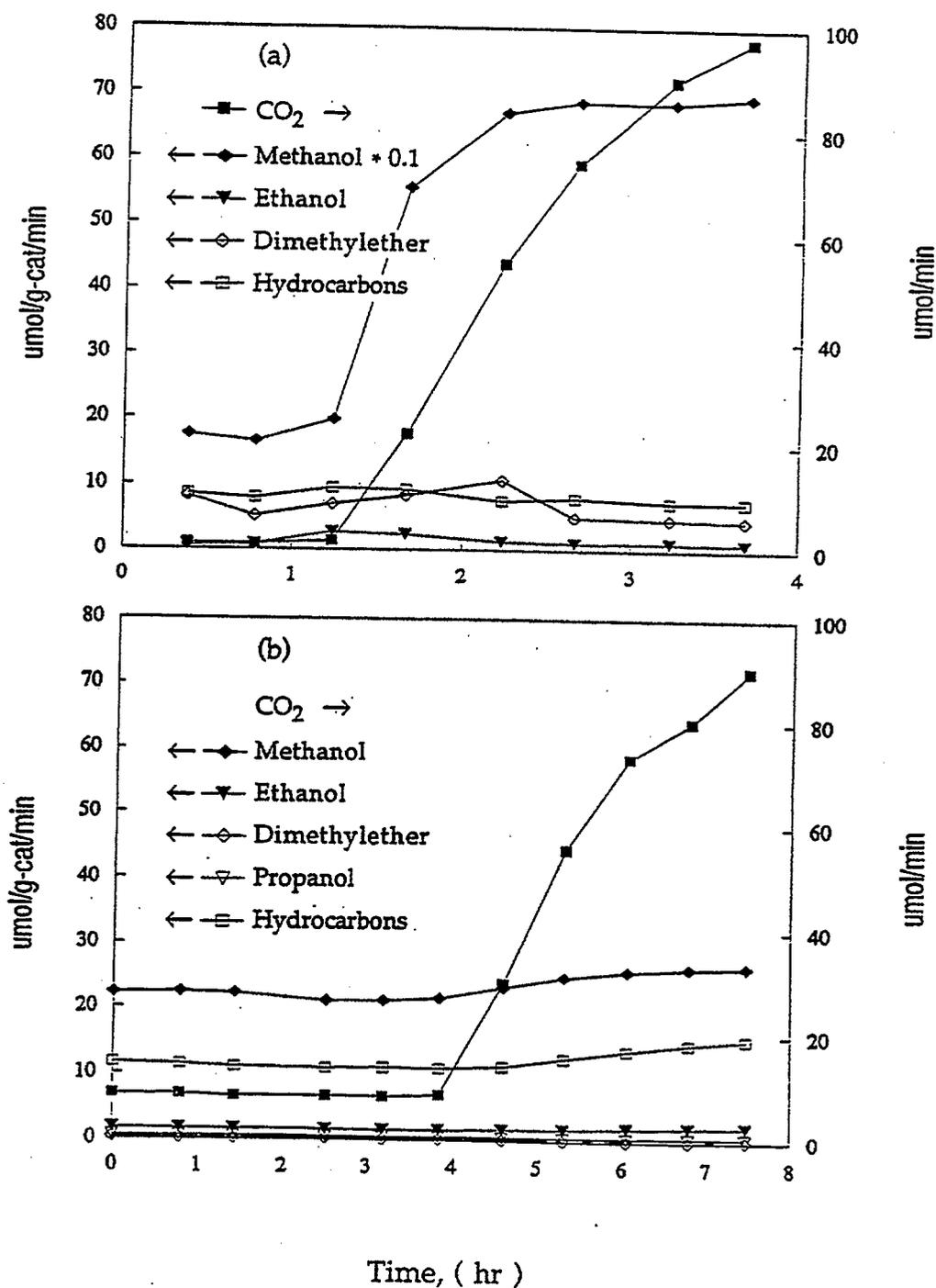


Figure 20 Effect of CO₂ Addition to CO/H₂ Stream on the Formation Rates of CO Hydrogenation Products over (a) 00Co-IW and (b) 11Co-IW at 500 psig, 290°C, CO/H₂/He/CO₂ = 40/80/2-x/x, x=0-2, cc/min

of copper after any of the reduction treatment with either non-cobalt or cobalt-containing catalyst also suggested that the suppression of methanol by the addition of cobalt could mainly be due to a blockage or deactivation of the active Cu° sites by cobalt. This is consistent with the TPD results in section 4.0 which suggested that the cobalt addition caused a partial coverage of surface Cu° by Co° . Lin and Pennella⁽⁹⁷⁾ observed a similar phenomenon where even very small amounts of Co resulted in significant suppression of methanol formation and caused little change in the bulk properties of the catalyst. In that study, it was suggested that the suppression of methanol was attributed to the selective interaction of the cobalt with the active sites of methanol synthesis on the Cu/ZnO surface. Therefore, the drastic and selective suppression of methanol as well as dimethylether formation upon inclusion of cobalt in Cu/ZnO is suggested to be attributed to the coverage of surface copper metal sites by cobalt.

The relatively insignificant difference in the formation rates of methanol and dimethyl ether observed between the data of 11Co-IW-A with 05Co-IW-A suggests that the increase in cobalt loading from 5% to 11% did not significantly increase the coverage of copper metal sites with cobalt. This is consistent with the XRD results indicating that the dispersion of cobalt-containing phase in 05Co-IW sample was significantly higher than in 11Co-IW sample. Comparing with the data of 11Co-IW-A and 05Co-IW-A, the significantly lower rates of methanol and dimethyl ether formation over 11Co-CP-A was apparently related to the lower amount of copper in 11Co-CP sample. However, it could also be due to a much higher coverage of copper metal surface with cobalt on 11Co-CP-A, which was consistent with the fact

indicated by XPS result that the atomic ratio of Co^0/Cu^0 was higher on the surface of 11Co-CP-A than on 11Co-IW-A.

The observation from the characterization results that copper assisted the reduction of cobalt in close contact with copper and that the cobalt metal particles were very finely dispersed in the catalyst samples suggested that the cobalt covering copper surface was very finely dispersed. Therefore, the insignificant changes in the formation rates of C_2+ alcohols and hydrocarbons with the inclusion of cobalt observed from comparing the data of 05-Co-IW-A, 11Co-IW-A and 11Co-CP-A with 00Co-IW-A implied that the very finely dispersed Co^0 on the copper metal surface, which drastically suppressed methanol formation, had little activity for the synthesis of either C_2+ alcohols or hydrocarbons. It could be due to that the surface area of Co^0 was too low for carbon chain growth, or, when Co^0 particle was too small the electronic influence of copper metal might significantly change the CO hydrogenation property of cobalt metal.

5.2.2 Effect of Reduction Treatment

The significant increase in C_2+ alcohols that came about as a result of treatment at higher hydrogen partial pressures suggests a crucial change related to the nature of the active sites for alcohol synthesis. The fact that 00Co-IW samples receiving reduction treatment A and B gave almost the same activity and selectivity provided strong evidence indicating that cobalt metal played a key role in constructing these active sites over Co-Cu based catalysts for the synthesis of C_2+ alcohols.

Consistent with the characterization results that the further reduced cobalt metal in 11Co-CP-C was mostly in close contact with surface copper metal, the significant enhancement of activity and selectivity of higher alcohol synthesis over 11Co-CP-C was apparently related to the significant improvement in local atomic ratio of $\text{Co}^\circ/\text{Cu}^\circ$ caused by reductions using high H_2 partial pressure. As cobalt alone has been well known as an active metal for hydrocarbon synthesis from CO/H_2 , it is not surprising to observe an increase in hydrocarbon formation with increased cobalt reduction extent. Since the TPR results indicated that treatment B, D, E and F of 11Co-CP all resulted in further reduction of cobalt comparing with treatment A, the fact that these treatments also resulted in significant increase in the formation rates of $\text{C}_2\sim\text{C}_6$ alcohols provided further evidence that improving the condition of $\text{Co}^\circ\text{-Cu}^\circ$ contact prior to CO hydrogenation reaction could create more active sites for higher alcohol synthesis. In fact, this explanation has strong support from the studies in the literature^(6, 40, 45-50, 97, 98) which all suggested that the local contact between Co and Cu in the catalyst is an essential factor for selective production of $\text{C}_2\sim\text{C}_6$ alcohols.

However, as discussed above, it was also suggested that the very finely dispersed Co° on Cu° had little activity for C_2+ alcohol synthesis. It indicated that only a specific type of contact between cobalt and copper could form the active sites for $\text{C}_2\sim\text{C}_6$ alcohol synthesis. The fact that increased local atomic ratio of $\text{Co}^\circ/\text{Cu}^\circ$ was shown to be related to the active sites for $\text{C}_2\sim\text{C}_6$ alcohol synthesis could be an indication that a reasonable particle size of Co° on Cu° was required for the Co° to have significant activity, such as CO dissociation or chain growth probability, for the formation of C_2+ alcohols.

Over 00Co-IW-C, the slight increase in methanol formation rate was consistent with the TPD result indicating a slight increase in the dispersion of copper metal which could not be detected by XRD. This observation also provided a suggestion that the increase in methanol formation with treatment B or C observed over 11Co-IW and 11Co-CP samples was caused by the same reason even though the TPD results of cobalt-containing samples could not differentiate the surface Co° from surface Cu° . The fact that TPR measurements did not show increase in overall reduction extent of cobalt in 11Co-IW-B and 11Co-IW-C but the activities and selectivities of C_2+ alcohol synthesis over 11Co-IW-B and C were slightly improved could be caused by a slight change in the distribution of Co° in these samples related to the slight increase in surface area of copper metal, i.e. a slight increase in the amount of Co° on Cu° on the surface without changing the overall reduction extent of cobalt. This interpretation is supported by the TPD results showing large increase in low temperature peak of 11Co-IW-C compared with 11Co-IW-A.

5.2.3 Effect of Catalyst Preparation Method

Another point revealed by the experimental results is that the cobalt added to the $\text{CuO}/\text{ZnO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ by impregnation resulted in the Co° sites that could adsorb H_2 but did not have significant activity for the reaction. The TPD results indicated that the amount of weakly adsorbed H_2 was much higher on 11Co-IW-C than on 11Co-IW-A but about the same on 11Co-CP-C as on 11Co-CP-A. However, the formation rates of oxygenates increased much less significantly on 11Co-IW-C than on 11Co-CP-C and hydrocarbon formation

was hardly changed on 11Co-IW-C. This suggested that most of those "weak- H_2 -adsorption-sites" observed with treatment C of 11Co-IW were not active sites for the CO hydrogenation reaction.

As discussed in the section above, only a specific type of contact between cobalt and copper could form the active sites for $C_2\sim C_6$ alcohol synthesis, and appropriate local atomic ratio of Co^0/Cu^0 was related to the active sites for $C_2\sim C_6$ alcohol synthesis. Therefore, the less significant improvement in the activities of C_2+ alcohol formation over 11Co-IW-B and 11Co-IW-C compared to the 11Co-CP samples indicated that the cobalt added to $CuO/ZnO/Al_2O_3$ by impregnation method did not result in the proper local contact between Co^0 and Cu^0 that has been suggested to be essential in constructing the active sites for higher alcohol synthesis.

5.3 Conclusions

The CO hydrogenation reaction results indicated that the inclusion of cobalt in Cu/ZnO selectively and significantly suppressed the rate of methanol and dimethyl ether formation, as well as the promotion effect of CO_2 on methanol formation, without significantly enhancing the formation rates of hydrocarbon products (treatment A). Consistent with the characterization results, these effects are attributed to the coverage of the surface copper metal by cobalt which was partially reduced and finely dispersed.

Supported by both the characterization results and studies reported in the literature, the effect of reduction treatments on the activity and selectivity of CO hydrogenation reaction over Co-Cu based catalysts in comparison with

over the non-cobalt Cu based catalysts revealed that local atomic ratio of Co^0/Cu^0 or proper contact between Co^0 and Cu^0 on the surface of Co-Cu based catalyst was a key factor in constructing the active sites for higher alcohol synthesis, and improving the reduction extent of cobalt in contact with Cu could generate more active sites for higher alcohol synthesis if the proper Co-Cu contact could be established. However, the comparison between the activity and selectivity results obtained over the Co-Cu catalysts prepared by coprecipitation and impregnation methods showed that adding cobalt by impregnation method did not result in sufficient Co-Cu contact or local atomic ratio of Co^0/Cu^0 necessary for construction of the active sites for higher alcohol formation.

6.0 ADDITION OF NITROMETHANE AS A PROBE MOLECULE

6.1 Results

The effects of CH_3NO_2 addition to H_2/CO on the steady state rates of CO hydrogenation products over 00Co-IW-A, 05Co-IW-A, 11Co-IW-A&B and 11Co-CP-A&B are presented in Table 16 and Figures F1~F6 (in Appendix F). Products other than CO hydrogenation products detected during the addition of CH_3NO_2 were methylamines and NH_3 with $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$ as the major product. No CH_3NO_2 was detected in the outlet stream. Since the level of $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}$, CH_3NH_2 and NH_3 in the products stream was very low and MS detection of products is not very accurate for quantification, the rates for $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}$, CH_3NH_2 and NH_3 should be considered as qualitative values. (Figures F7~F12 in Appendix F show the detection of $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}$, CH_3NH_2 and NH_3 by MS.)

CH_3NO_2 addition to CO/H_2 over the non-Co catalyst caused large increase in CO_2 and doubled methanol formation rate, while over the Co-Cu based catalysts caused suppression of methanol formation with much less or no increase in CO_2 formation. Over both the non-Co and Co-Cu catalysts, it resulted in the formation of methylamines and ammonia, i.e. $(\text{CH}_3)_{3-n}\text{NH}_n$, $n = 0, 1, 2, 3$. The effects of CH_3NO_2 addition over the Co-Cu based catalysts on the formation rates of C_2+ alcohols, hydrocarbons and CO_2 were dependent on the specific catalyst and reduction treatment. After the addition of CH_3NO_2 was stopped, the formation rates of $(\text{CH}_3)_{3-n}\text{NH}_n$ products dropped to zero while the rates of CO hydrogenation products resembled the original steady states. Nitrogen balance during CH_3NO_2 addition was obtained with 00Co-IW,

Table 16 Effects of CH_3NO_2 Addition to H_2/CO on the CO Hydrogenation^a over 00Co-IW-A, 05Co-IW-A, 11Co-IW-A&B and 11Co-CP-A&B^b (to be continued)

Catalysts: g-cat/bed: Figure # ^c :	00Co-IW-A				05Co-IW-A			
	0.075				0.536			
	F1				F2			
Steady States ^d :	I	II	I'	II/I	I	II	I'	II/I
	$(\mu\text{mol/g-cat/min})$				$(\mu\text{mol/g-cat/min})$			
CH_3NO_2 :	0	20.0	0	-	0	3.1	0	-
PRODUCTS:								
Methanol	214.3	457.9	232.4	2.1	23.9	14.7	25.4	0.6
Dimethyl ether	5.8	5.2	5.9	0.9	0.8	0.1	0.9	0.1
Ethanol	4.2	5.4	5.7	1.3	1.5	0.9	1.4	0.6
n-Propanol	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.5
n-Butanol	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-
n-Pentanol	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-
n-Hexanol	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-
Methane	6.4	5.6	5.9	0.9	5.3	6.6	5.2	1.2
C_2 HCs	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.9	1.8	1.8	0.9
C_3+ HCs	3.3	4.0	2.7	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.1
CO_2	16.5	127.9	23.3	7.8	16.3	31.0	16.2	1.9
$(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$	0	16.6	0	-	0	2.9	0	-
$(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}$	0	1.0	0	-	0	0.1	0	-
CH_3NH_2	0	2.6	0	-	0	0.1	0	-
NH_3	0	0.4	0	-	0	0.0	0	-
N Conversion, % ^e :	-	103	-	-	-	100	-	-

a: 500 psig, 290°C, $\text{H}_2:\text{CO}=2$, GHSV=6,000-60,000 hr^{-1} .

b: Refer section 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 for the descriptions of catalysts and reduction treatments.

c: Figures presented in Appendix F.

d: I: prior to CH_3NO_2 addition, I': post to CH_3NO_2 addition, II: during CH_3NO_2 addition,

e: N conversion from CH_3NO_2 to methylamines and NH_3 . "-": N/A.

Table 16 Effects of CH_3NO_2 Addition to H_2/CO on the CO Hydrogenation^a over 00Co-IW-A, 05Co-IW-A, 11Co-IW-A&B and 11Co-CP-A&B^b (continued)

Catalysts:	11Co-IW-A				11Co-IW-B			
g-cat/bed:	0.470				0.505			
Figure # ^c :	F3				F4			
Steady States ^d :	I	II	I'	II/I	I	II	I'	II/I
	(μmol/g-cat/min)				(μmol/g-cat/min)			
CH_3NO_2 :	0	3.0	0	—	0	4.2	0	—
PRODUCTS:								
Methanol	22.3	13.7	21.4	0.6	28.9	14.1	29.6	0.5
Dimethyl ether	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Ethanol	2.2	1.6	2.1	0.7	3.0	3.1	3.9	1.0
n-Propanol	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.6	1.5	1.6	0.9
n-Butanol	0.1	0.6	0.1	6.0	0.4	1.4	0.4	3.5
n-Pentanol	0	0	0	—	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5
n-Hexanol	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	—
Methane	9.7	15.8	10.6	1.6	9.5	25.1	13.4	2.6
C_2 HCs	2.0	2.8	2.0	1.4	2.0	3.8	2.3	1.9
C_3+ HCs	0.8	1.1	0.9	1.4	0.9	1.9	1.1	2.1
CO_2	20.4	40.3	20.8	2.0	18.8	22.6	22.3	1.2
$(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$	0	2.0	0	—	0	3.4	0	—
$(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}$	0	0.2	0	—	0	0.3	0	—
CH_3NH_2	0	0.3	0	—	0	0.5	0	—
NH_3	0	0.1	0	—	0	0.0	0	—
N Conversion, % ^e :	—	87	—	—	—	100	—	—

a: 500 psig, 290°C, $\text{H}_2:\text{CO}=2$, GHSV=6,000~60,000 hr^{-1} .

b: Refer section 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 for the descriptions of catalysts and reduction treatments.

c: Figures presented in Appendix F.

d: I: prior to CH_3NO_2 addition, I': post to CH_3NO_2 addition, II: during CH_3NO_2 addition,

e: N conversion from CH_3NO_2 to methylamines and NH_3 . "—": N/A.

Table 16 Effects of CH_3NO_2 Addition to H_2/CO on the CO Hydrogenation^a over 00Co-IW-A, 05Co-IW-A, 11Co-IW-A&B and 11Co-CP-A&B^b (continued)

Catalysts:	11Co-CP-A				11Co-CP-B			
g-cat/bed:	0.464				0.250			
Figure # ^c :	F5				F6			
Steady States ^d :	I	II	I'	II/I	I	II	I'	II/I
	($\mu\text{mol/g-cat/min}$)				($\mu\text{mol/g-cat/min}$)			
CH_3NO_2 :	0	3.2	0	-	0	6.0	0	-
PRODUCTS:								
Methanol	4.6	2.7	5.2	0.6	7.2	4.7	9.3	0.6
Dimethyl ether	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-
Ethanol	2.6	1.7	3.1	0.7	5.0	3.0	6.8	0.6
n-Propanol	0.9	0.7	1.3	0.8	1.8	1.1	2.1	0.6
n-Butanol	0.5	0.9	0.7	1.8	1.6	1.1	1.7	0.7
n-Pentanol	0	0	0	-	1.2	1.0	1.3	0.8
n-Hexanol	0	0	0	-	1.1	0.9	1.3	0.8
Methane	4.5	3.6	5.8	0.8	13.0	13.3	15.6	1.0
C_2 HCs	1.3	1.0	2.1	0.8	3.3	3.5	4.8	1.1
C_3+ HCs	1.9	1.2	3.0	0.6	3.9	3.8	5.9	1.0
CO_2	31.6	20.5	43.4	0.6	55.5	58.0	76.8	1.0
$(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$	0	0.5	0	-	0	1.0	0	-
$(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}$	0	0.0	0	-	0	0.3	0	-
CH_3NH_2	0	0.3	0	-	0	0.5	0	-
NH_3	0	0.2	0	-	0	0.5	0	-
N Conversion, % ^e :	-	31	-	-	-	38	-	-

a: 500 psig, 290°C, $\text{H}_2:\text{CO}=2$, GHSV=6,000~60,000 hr^{-1} .

b: Refer section 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 for the descriptions of catalysts and reduction treatments.

c: Figures presented in Appendix F.

d: I: prior to CH_3NO_2 addition, I': post to CH_3NO_2 addition, II: during CH_3NO_2 addition,

e: N conversion from CH_3NO_2 to methylamines and NH_3 . "-": N/A.

05Co-IW and 11Co-IW samples but not with 11Co-CP samples.

00Co-IW-A and 05Co-IW-A

Over 00Co-IW-A, a large increase in CO_2 , from about 20 to 130 $\mu\text{mol/g-cat/min}$, was observed upon the addition of CH_3NO_2 and the formation rate of methanol was doubled; the rates of dimethylether, ethanol, propanol and hydrocarbons were not significantly affected; methylamines and NH_3 were formed with nearly 80% nitrogen conversion to trimethylamine.

Over 05Co-IW-A, the formation rates of $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_3$ alcohols were each suppressed to a similar extent, i.e., by 40~50%; the formation rates of hydrocarbons were hardly affected except for approximately 20% increase in CH_4 ; CO_2 increased from 16 to 31 $\mu\text{mol/g-cat/min}$; and methylamines were formed with ~90% nitrogen conversion to trimethylamine.

11Co-IW-A and 11Co-IW-B

Over 11Co-IW-A, the formation rates of methanol, ethanol and propanol were each suppressed by ~40%, ~30% and ~20% respectively while butanol was promoted to the same level as propanol formation; the formation rates of all hydrocarbons were enhanced by 40~60%; CO_2 increased from ~20 to ~40 $\mu\text{mol/g-cat/min}$; methylamines and a very small amount of NH_3 were formed with about 70% nitrogen conversion to trimethylamine.

Over 11Co-IW-B, the formation rate of methanol was suppressed by 50% and butanol was promoted to the level of propanol formation while the rates of ethanol and propanol were hardly affected and pentanol dropped by half; the formation rates of hydrocarbons doubled for C_2+ and tripled for CH_4 ; CO_2 formation was not affected; and nitrogen conversion to trimethylamine was above 80%.

11Co-CP-A and 11Co-CP-B

Over 11Co-CP-A, the formation rates of methanol, ethanol and propanol were suppressed by about 40%, 30% and 20% respectively while butanol was promoted to the level of propanol formation; the formation rates of hydrocarbons were also suppressed by 20~40%; CO₂ decreased by about ~40%; small amounts of methylamines and NH₃ were formed with only ~16% nitrogen conversion to trimethylamine.

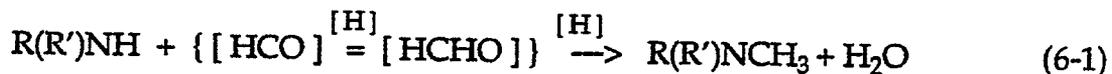
Over 11Co-CP-B, the formation rates of C₁~C₃ alcohols were each suppressed by ~40% while butanol suppressed by ~30% and C₄ and C₅ alcohols by 20%; the formation rates of hydrocarbons as well as CO₂ were not affected; small amounts of methylamines and NH₃ were formed with less than 20% nitrogen conversion to trimethylamine.

6.2 Discussion

6.2.1 00Co-IW-A and 05Co-IW-A

In the previous studies using probe molecule addition to CO hydrogenation over supported Ru catalysts⁽²⁵⁻²⁷⁾, CH₃NO₂ was found to generate CH_x (x≤3) surface species via C-N bond cleavage, and these CH_x (x≤3) surface species acted as chain growth intermediates in the formation of C₂+ hydrocarbons. The fact that the addition of CH₃NO₂ to the CO hydrogenation over 00Co-IW-A resulted in complete conversion of nitrogen into methylamines without promoting the formation of hydrocarbons indicates that the CH_x (x≤3) surface species were not selectively formed from CH₃NO₂ over

Cu/ZnO. The formation of methylamines suggests a route through reduction of CH_3NO_2 to CH_3NH_2 followed by alkylation. The high conversion of N from CH_3NO_2 into $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$ indicates that C in $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$ came from CO. As supporting evidence, the low conversion of nitrogen from CH_3NO_2 to NH_3 suggests that disproportionation of methylamines was not the dominant pathway for the formation of $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$ as well as $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}$. This observation is consistent with the mechanism of methanol synthesis from CO/ H_2 over Cu/ZnO catalyst revealed by a chemical trapping study⁽⁸²⁾. In that study, it was concluded that the lower substituted amines, $\text{R}(\text{R}')\text{NH}$, trapped the aldehydic methanol intermediate, CH_xO ($x=1,2$), to form higher substituted amines, $\text{R}(\text{R}')\text{NCH}_3$, i.e.



It is also consistent with the current understanding of the mechanism of amine alkylation from alcohol and amine or ammonia over Cu catalysts⁽¹⁰³⁾, in which the N-containing species react with the surface aldehydic species formed from decomposition of the alcohol to give the alkylation products. Therefore, the involvement of CO in the formation of $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$ during CH_3NO_2 addition to CO/ H_2 over 00Co-IW-A suggests that the CH_3NH_2 formed from CH_3NO_2 reduction diverted methanol intermediate to form higher substituted methylamines.

Knowing that Cu is a very active WGS catalyst, the striking increase in CO_2 upon the addition of CH_3NO_2 over 00Co-IW-A suggests that in addition to converting all the oxygen from CH_3NO_2 to CO_2 on Cu the H_2O formed

from the pathway of trimethylamine formation (6-1) was also converted to CO_2 . The promotion effect of this large increase in CO_2 on methanol formation over 00Co-IW-A (shown by Table 16 and Figure F1 (a & c)) was consistent with the result of CO_2 addition to CO hydrogenation over 00Co-IW-A (see Figure 20). The increase in the formation rate of methanol was so large, by more than 100%, that the suppression effect on methanol formation by diverting methanol intermediate to form higher substituted methylamines became difficult to deconvolute.

The observation of complete conversion of CH_3NO_2 into methylamines with $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$ as the major product over 05Co-IW-A resembles the observation over 00Co-IW-A which as discussed above indicates a significant involvement of C from CO in the formation of $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$. The suppression of methanol upon CH_3NO_2 addition over 05Co-IW-A provided strong further evidence that the formation of the higher substituted methylamines diverted the methanol intermediate. As shown in chapter 5.0, the addition of cobalt on Cu/ZnO suppressed the promotion effect of CO_2 on methanol formation and hence the diversion of the methanol intermediate could be readily observed.

The intriguing point raised from the result over 05Co-IW-A is that upon CH_3NO_2 addition ethanol and propanol were all suppressed simultaneously and to similar extents as methanol while the formation of C_2+ hydrocarbons was not affected. This leads to the suggestion that the methanol intermediate formed from CO/H_2 , $[\text{HCO}]$ or $[\text{HCHO}]$ as shown in (6-1), was also involved in the pathway of C_2+ alcohol formation. A reaction scheme shown in Figure 21 is proposed to describe the interaction of CH_3NO_2 with the common intermediate for the formation of alcohols in the CO hydrogenation reaction

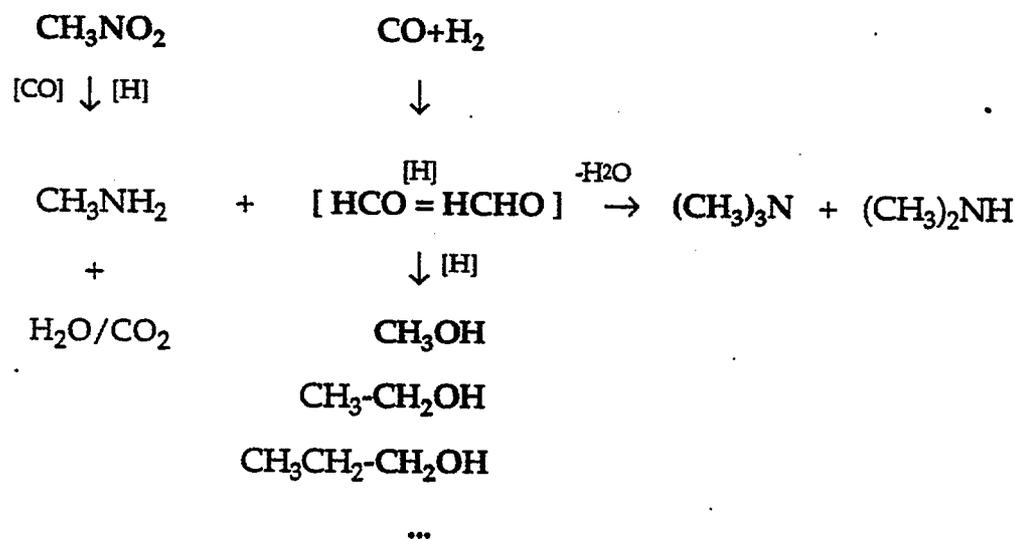


Figure 21 Proposed Reaction Scheme for the Interaction of CH_3NO_2 with the Formation of Alcohols from CO/H_2 on a Co Modified Cu Catalyst Surface

over these Co modified Cu based catalysts.

As indicated by the characterization and CO hydrogenation results, the very finely dispersed Co^0 on copper metal surface of 05Co-IW-A did not promote the formation rates of C_2+ alcohols but significantly suppressed the formation rate of methanol as well as the promotional effect of CO_2 on methanol formation. This suggested that the modification of copper metal surface by very finely dispersed Co^0 did not form new active sites for C_2+ alcohol synthesis hence did not change the dominant pathway of C_2+ alcohol formation over 05Co-IW-A from over 00Co-IW-A. Therefore, the reaction scheme proposed in Figure 21 is valid for both over copper metal surface along, i.e. 00Co-IW-A, and over the copper metal surface modified by very

finely dispersed Co° , i.e. 05Co-IW-A.

The fact that over 00Co-IW-A the increase in CO_2 did not promote C_2+ alcohol formation but only methanol, which was shown by both Figure 20 and Figure F1 (a), suggests that the promotion of methanol formation by CO_2 on Cu/ZnO occurred via a different intermediate, such as surface formate $[\text{HCOO}]$ ^(51, 52, 79, 83), to the dominant one formed from CO/H_2 . This also provides a supporting evidence that the pathway of methanol formation from CO_2/H_2 was different to from CO/H_2 , which has been argued in the literature.

6.2.2 11Co-IW-A, 11Co-IW-B

Over 11Co-IW-A, the suppression of methanol with high N conversion to trimethylamine and an increase in CO_2 upon the addition of CH_3NO_2 were similar to the effects observed over 05Co-IW-A. This suggests that similar reaction pathways as shown in Figure 21 occurred over 11Co-IW-A. The high conversion of N to methylamines could be mainly attributed to the presence of Cu metal sites which as discussed above was very active for alkylation of N- species.

However, different from the observation over 05Co-IW-A, CH_3NO_2 addition over 11Co-IW-A caused significant increase in the formation rates of hydrocarbons and promoted butanol formation while ethanol and propanol were suppressed to lesser extent than over 05Co-IW-A. This suggests that other reaction pathways might be important over 11Co-IW. Considering the similarity of Co° and Ru° for hydrocarbon synthesis, the increase in the

formation rates of hydrocarbons with CH_3NO_2 addition suggests that some CH_x ($x \leq 3$) surface species were formed from CH_3NO_2 over 11Co-IW-A. Chain growth of these CH_x species to produce C_2+ hydrocarbons could occur over the Co° similar to Ru. And, formation of butanol at the expense of ethanol and propanol could also be related to coupling of CH_x species. This suggestion is, in fact, supported by the characterization and CO hydrogenation reaction results that, compared to 05Co-IW-A, the higher formation rates of C_2+ alcohols over 11Co-IW-B was due to a higher amount of Co° on Cu° on 11Co-IW-B. It is reasonable to assume that the behavior of Co was closer to Ru with increased amount of Co° on Cu° (or larger particle size of Co° on Cu°) since it should have less influence of copper metal. Consequently, the increase in butanol formation rate and the relatively less decrease in ethanol and propanol with CH_3NO_2 addition suggest that the CH_x ($x \leq 3$) surface species formed from CH_3NO_2 also participated in the formation of C_2+ alcohols.

The fact that CH_3NO_2 addition over 11Co-IW-B also showed the promotion effect on the formation of hydrocarbons and butanol with suppression of methanol formation and little effect on ethanol and propanol formation provided supporting evidence that some CH_x ($x \leq 3$) surface species were formed from CH_3NO_2 on the Co° similar to Ru and also participated in the formation of C_2+ alcohols while N from CH_3NO_2 was competitively converted to methylamines, mainly $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$. The minor effect of CH_3NO_2 addition on CO_2 formation over 11Co-IW-B could be due to the increased amount of cobalt on the catalyst surface which reduced the water-gas shift capability of Cu° .

Considering the chain termination step, CO insertion into the alkyl

group^(22, 98) and combination of surface formyl, [HCO], or surface formate, [HCOO], with the surface alkyl group⁽²²⁾ have been proposed. There is little experimental evidence in the literature that can distinguish the proposed chain termination steps for the formation of C₂₊ alcohols over Co-Cu based catalysts. As suggested by the interaction of CH₃NO₂ with the formation of alcohols and hydrocarbons over 00Co-IW, 05Co-IW and 11Co-IW samples, both the aldehydic methanol intermediate and the CH_x species were involved in the formation of C₂₊ alcohols. It, therefore, suggests that combination of aldehydic surface C₁ species, [HCO] or [HCHO], with the surface alkyl group could be the termination step in the formation of C₂₊ alcohols. The results of catalyst characterization and CO hydrogenation studies were consistent with this proposal in the sense that proper size of Co⁰ and surface copper metal would provide the opportunity or possibility for both chain growth on Co⁰ and termination by the methanol intermediate on Cu⁰.

6.2.3 11Co-CP-A and 11Co-CP-B

The low conversion of CH₃NO₂ to methylamines and ammonia over 11Co-CP samples could be due to lack of copper metal sites that were not strongly affected by cobalt. This is consistent with the relatively lower composition of copper in 11Co-CP samples than in 11Co-IW and the characterization results that indicated more interaction between cobalt and copper in the 11Co-CP samples than in 11Co-IW. As a result, the imbalance of N over the 11Co-CP samples might be an indication of surface holdup of N-species. The surface holdup of N might occur by forming nitrides, Cu₃N or

Co_3N_2 , with the very finely dispersed metal particles that had strong influence of metal oxides, $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4/\text{ZnO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$. It might also be possible that a small portion of nitrogen was converted to N_2 with a concentration below the detectability of the system. This is discussed further below.

Over 11Co-CP-A, 30% N conversion to the $(\text{CH}_3)_{3-x}\text{NH}_x$ products was detected with CH_3NO_2 added at $3 \mu\text{mol/g-cat/min}$ for about 4 hours. Assuming that all the undetected N reacted with copper to form Cu_3N , it would convert 34% of the copper atoms in per gram sample within 4 hours. This significant loss of Cu° would be able to be observed by XRD pattern of copper metal crystalline. Therefore, the fact that the XRD results (see Figure A1 (a)) did not show decrease in Cu° particle size neither detection of Cu_3N eliminated the possibility that the N-imbalance was due to formation of Cu_3N . If it is assumed that all the undetected N reacted with Co° to form Co_3N_2 , considering 42% reduction of cobalt in 11Co-CP-A (see section 4.1.2.1), it would convert all the Co° in 4 hours. This is contradictory to the fact that butanol was promoted and formation rates of hydrocarbons reached new steady state about an hour after adding CH_3NO_2 , and therefore is eliminated from consideration. Consequently, formation of N_2 seems more likely. An explanation for the suppression of hydrocarbon formation could be that surface N^* was formed via C-N dissociation on Co° but could not be readily converted to the $(\text{CH}_3)_{3-x}\text{N}_x$ products due to lack of Co° sites or to N_2 due to strong influence of Cu° on very finely dispersed Co° in contact with it, and remained on the surface with longer residence time. The surface N^* was converted to N_2 at certain rate that kept part of the Co° sites occupied by N^* . The decrease in CO_2 formation rate could be considered due to both the low

water-gas shift activity of 11Co-IW-A and the decrease in hydrocarbon formation.

The suppression of C_1 - C_3 alcohol formation could still be considered due to the formation of $(CH_3)_{3-x}NH_x$, $x=0$ and 1, through diversion of methanol intermediate as shown in Figure 21. The fact that over 11Co-IW-A butanol was promoted and the suppression extents of C_1 - C_3 alcohols decreased in the order of methanol > ethanol > propanol suggested the occurrence of C-N dissociation to form the CH_x species on Co^0 over 11Co-CP-A. As discussed above, the C-N bond dissociation could leave N- species on the surface if the copper metal surround could not effectively convert them into $(CH_3)_{3-x}NH_x$ products.

Over 11Co-CP-B, 38% N conversion to the $(CH_3)_{3-x}NH_x$ products was detected with CH_3NO_2 added at $6 \mu\text{mol/g-cat/min}$ for 7~8 hours. It would completely convert the copper in 11Co-CP to Cu_3N in 7 hours and Co^0 to Co_3N_2 in 4 hours, which is contradictory to the XRD results and the steady formation rates of hydrocarbons. This again suggested that the undetected N during CH_3NO_2 addition over 11Co-CP samples was converted to N_2 . As suggested by the characterization and CO hydrogenation results, the reduction extent of cobalt and atomic ratio of Co^0/Cu^0 were higher on 11Co-CP-B than on 11Co-CP-A. The fact that the formation rates of hydrocarbons were not changed with CH_3NO_2 addition could, then, be explained as that the conversion rate of surface N^* to N_2 increased with the increase of surface Co^0/Cu^0 ratio. The suppression of all C_1 - C_6 alcohols with CH_3NO_2 addition (by ~40% for C_1 - C_3 alcohols, ~30% for butanol, ~20% for pentanol and hexanol) was consistent with the suggested effect of diverting methanol

intermediate by $(\text{CH}_3)_{3-x}\text{NH}_x$, $x \geq 1$, to form $(\text{CH}_3)_{3-x}\text{NH}_x$, $x \leq 2$, as discussed in section 6.2.1.

6.3 Conclusions

Over 00Co-IW, 05Co-IW and 11Co-IW samples, the CH_3NO_2 added to CO/H_2 was readily reduced to CH_3NH_2 over copper metal sites and CH_3NH_2 further reacted with the aldehydic methanol intermediate formed from CO and H_2 to form $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}$ and $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$. The high conversion of CH_3NO_2 to $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$ accompanied with the suppression of methanol and C_2+ alcohol formation over 05Co-IW and 11Co-IW samples provided evidence suggesting that the aldehydic methanol intermediate formed from CO and H_2 was also involved in the formation of C_2+ alcohols.

The observation that over 11Co-IW samples CH_3NO_2 addition promoted hydrocarbon and butanol formation with less suppression effect on ethanol and propanol formation than over 05Co-IW suggested that some CH_x , $x \leq 3$, species were generated from CH_3NO_2 over 11Co-IW and participated in the chain growth of both hydrocarbon and C_2+ alcohol formation. Assisted by the results of characterization and CO hydrogenation, it was revealed that the CH_x , $x \leq 3$, species were not selectively generated from CH_3NO_2 on the surface with only very finely dispersed Co° on copper metal surface (over 05Co-IW-A), but competitively formed on the cobalt metal sites that was large enough to reduce the effect of Cu° (over 11Co-IW-A&B as well as 11Co-CP-A&B).

Combination of aldehydic surface species, $[\text{HCO}]$ or $[\text{HCHO}]$, with the surface alkyl group was proposed as the termination step in the formation of

C₂+ alcohols over Co-Cu based catalysts.

The nitrogen imbalance observed with ¹¹Co-CP samples was attributed to that lack of surface copper metal left the N- species generated from CH₃NO₂ unable to be readily converted to methylamines and ammonia and resulted in the conversion of the N from CH₃NO₂ into N₂ which was beyond the detecting ability of the analysis method.

7.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

C_{2+} alcohol formation from CO and H_2 over Cu-Co based catalysts was investigated by characterization, CO hydrogenation and *in-situ* CH_3NO_2 -addition studies of Cu-only and Co-Cu based catalysts with differences in cobalt loading, preparation methods, and reduction treatment conditions. The experimental results provided mechanistic information from different aspects to delineate the states and roles of cobalt and copper in constructing the active sites for the synthesis of C_{2+} alcohols and the key surface intermediate(s) involved in the reaction pathway of C_{2+} alcohol formation. The major findings of this work are summarized below.

(1) The presence of cobalt in a Cu/ZnO based catalyst drastically reduced the catalyst activity for methanol synthesis and suppressed the promotional effect of CO_2 on methanol formation by blocking or deactivating the copper metal sites.

(2) Although cobalt in the states of $Co^0/Co^{2+}/Co^{3+}$ played a key role in constructing the active sites for C_{2+} alcohol synthesis, its presence alone was not sufficient for the promotion effect to occur.

(3) Proper local atomic ratio of Co^0/Cu^0 or contact between Co^0 and Cu^0 was suggested to be the key to creating the active sites, which could be obtained in increased amount by good mixing of the oxides of the key components through coprecipitation methods and by improving the reduction extent of cobalt in the resulting catalyst.

(4) Reduction using high H_2 partial pressure, even pure H_2 , at temperatures above $300^\circ C$, was found to have significant effects in improving

the activity and selectivity of Co-Cu based catalysts for the synthesis of C_{2+} alcohols without unacceptable increases in hydrocarbon formation.

(5) The interaction of CH_3NO_2 with the reaction network of CO hydrogenation over the Cu and Co-Cu based catalysts suggested that the C_1 aldehydic intermediate formed from CO and H_2 was also involved in the formation of C_{2+} alcohols, and that CH_x ($x < 3$) species was involved in the chain growth of C_{2+} alcohol formation.

APPENDIX A

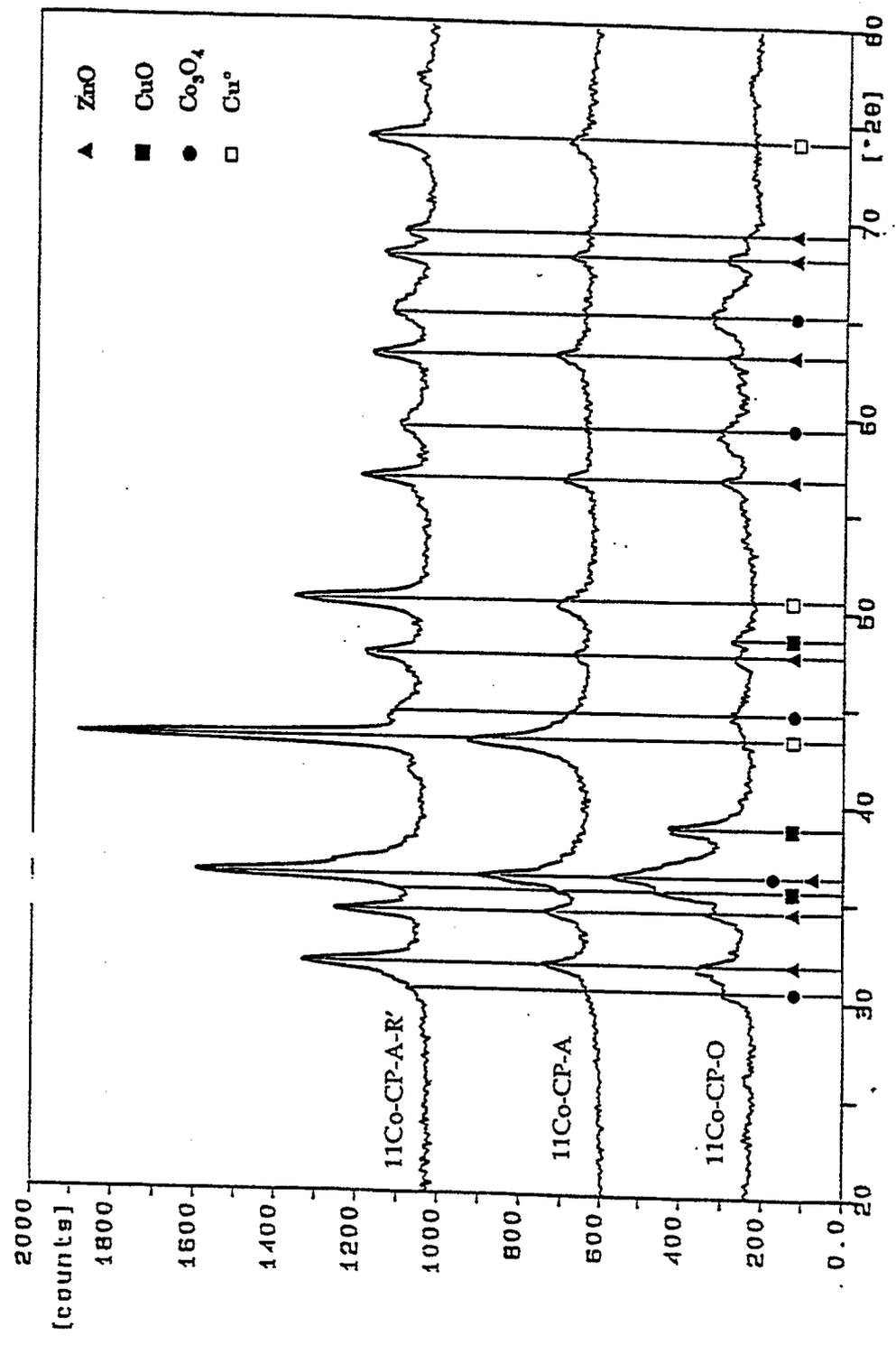


Figure A1 (a) XRD Spectra of 11Co-CP-O, 11Co-CP-A, 11Co-CP-A-R'

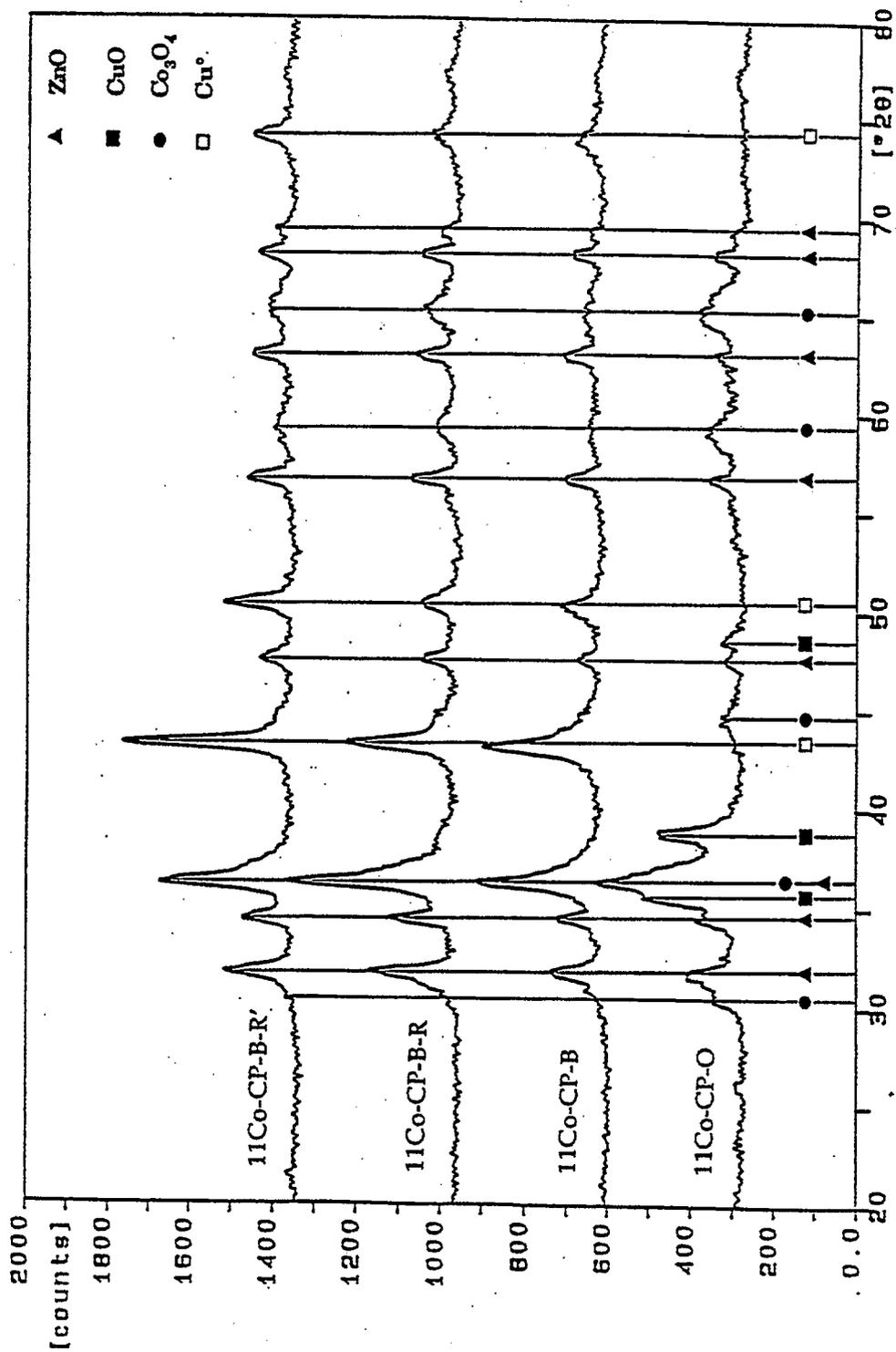


Figure A1 (b) XRD Spectra of 11Co-CP-O, 11Co-CP-B, 11Co-CP-B-R and 11Co-CP-B-R'

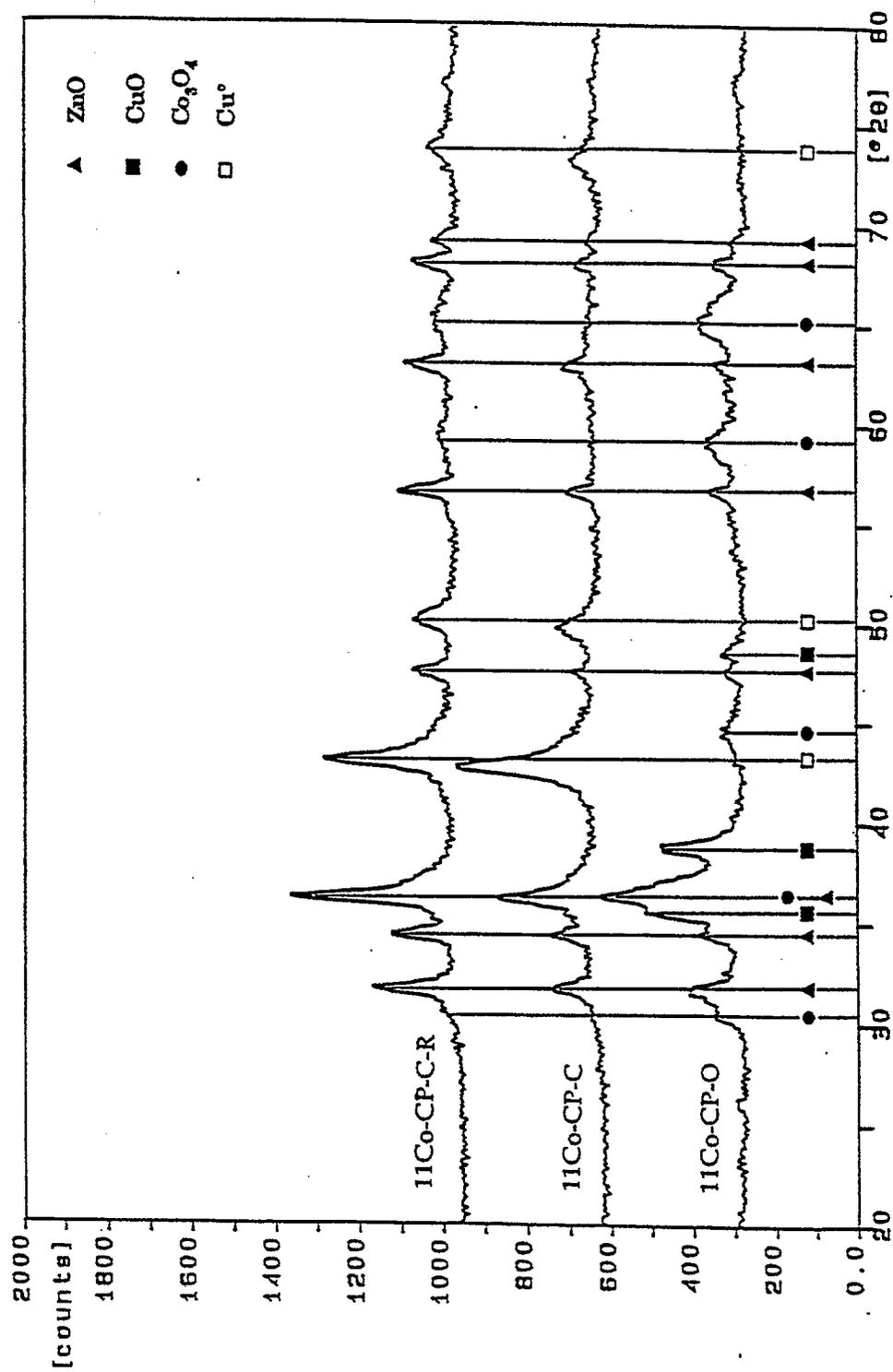


Figure A1 (c) XRD Spectra of 11Co-CP-O, 11Co-CP-C and 11Co-CP-C-R

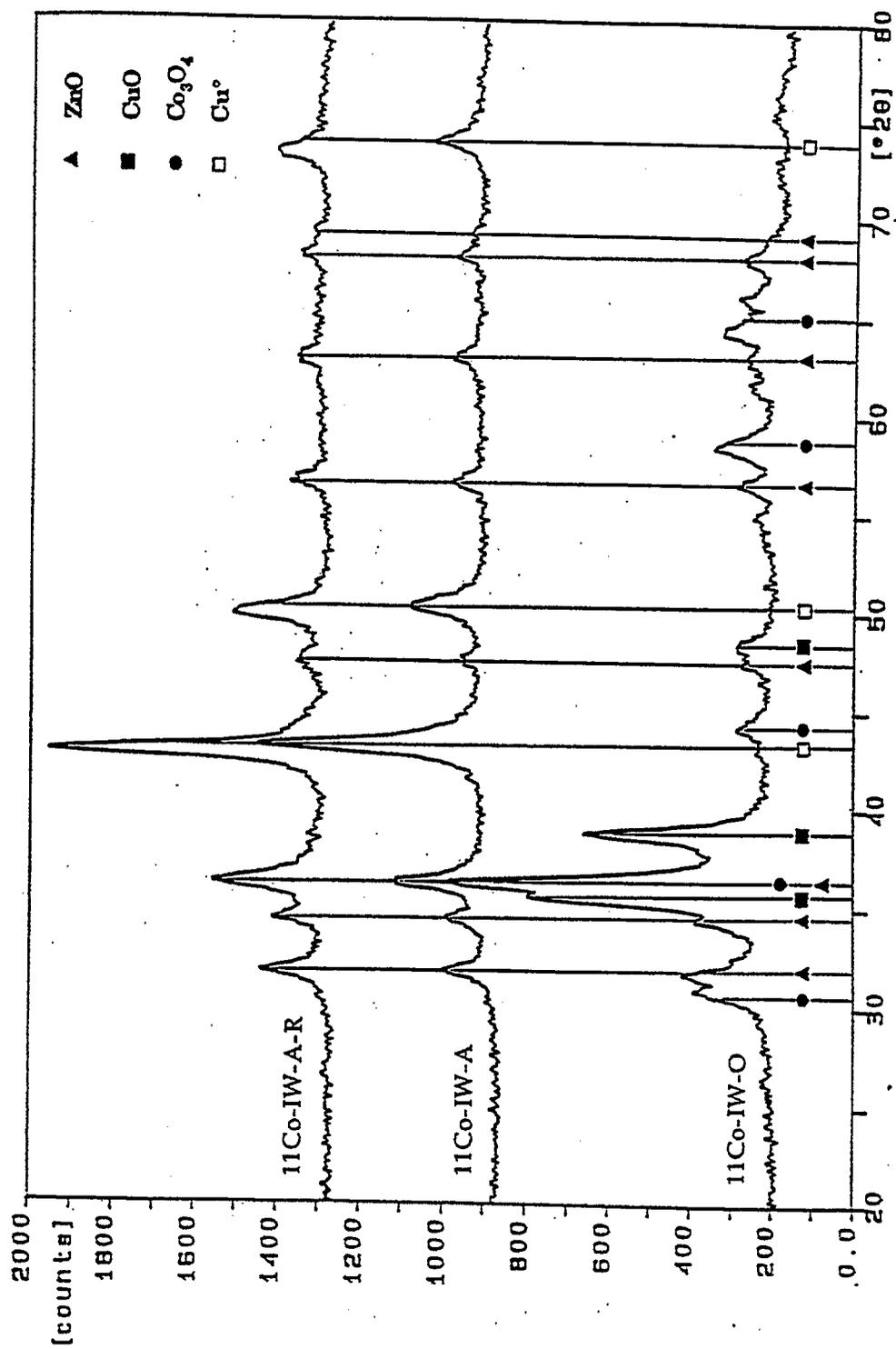


Figure A2 (a) XRD Spectra of 11Co-IW-O, 11Co-IW-A and 11Co-IW-A-R

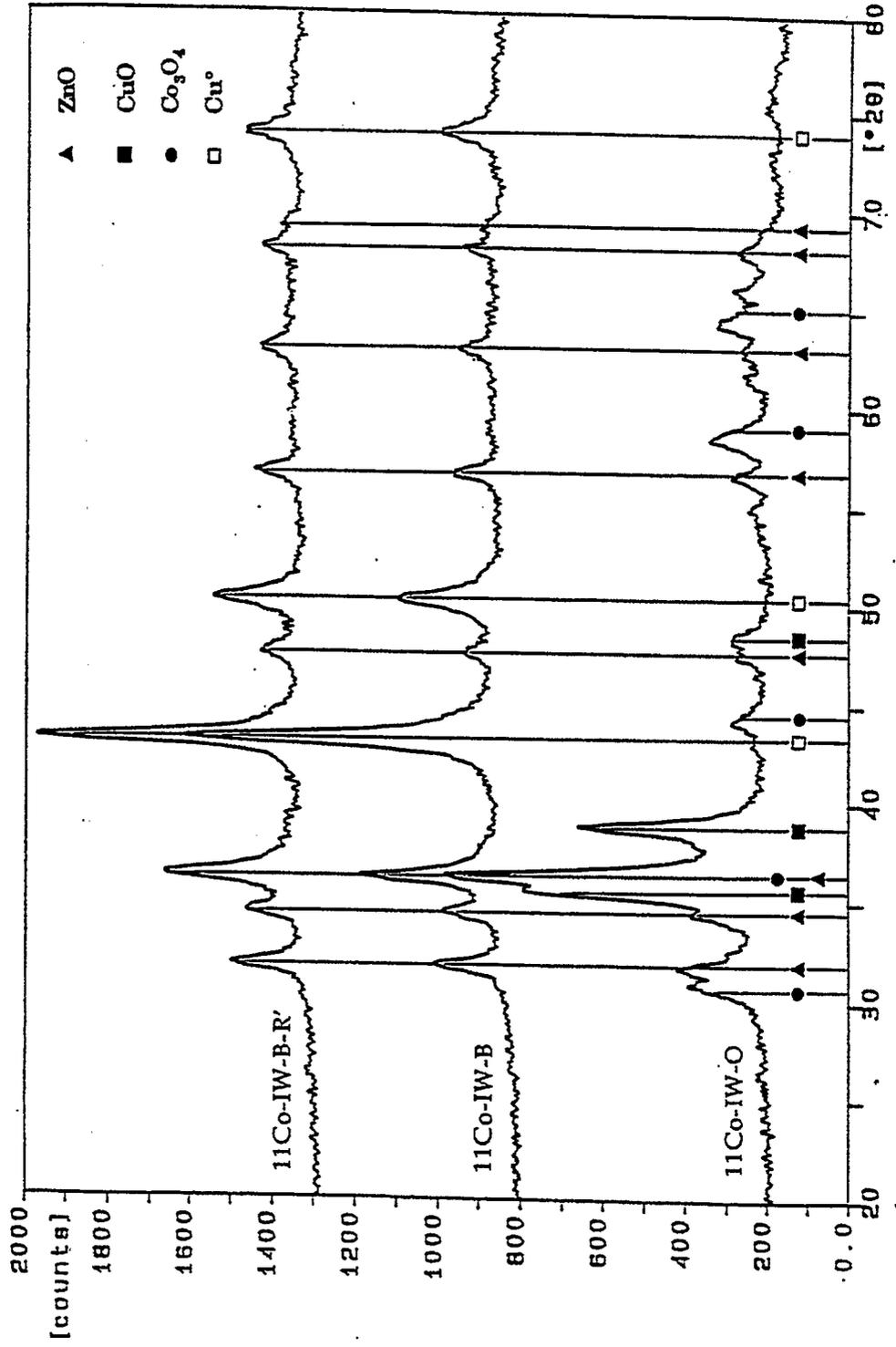


Figure A2 (b) XRD Spectra of 11Co-IW-O, 11Co-IW-B and 11Co-IW-B-R'

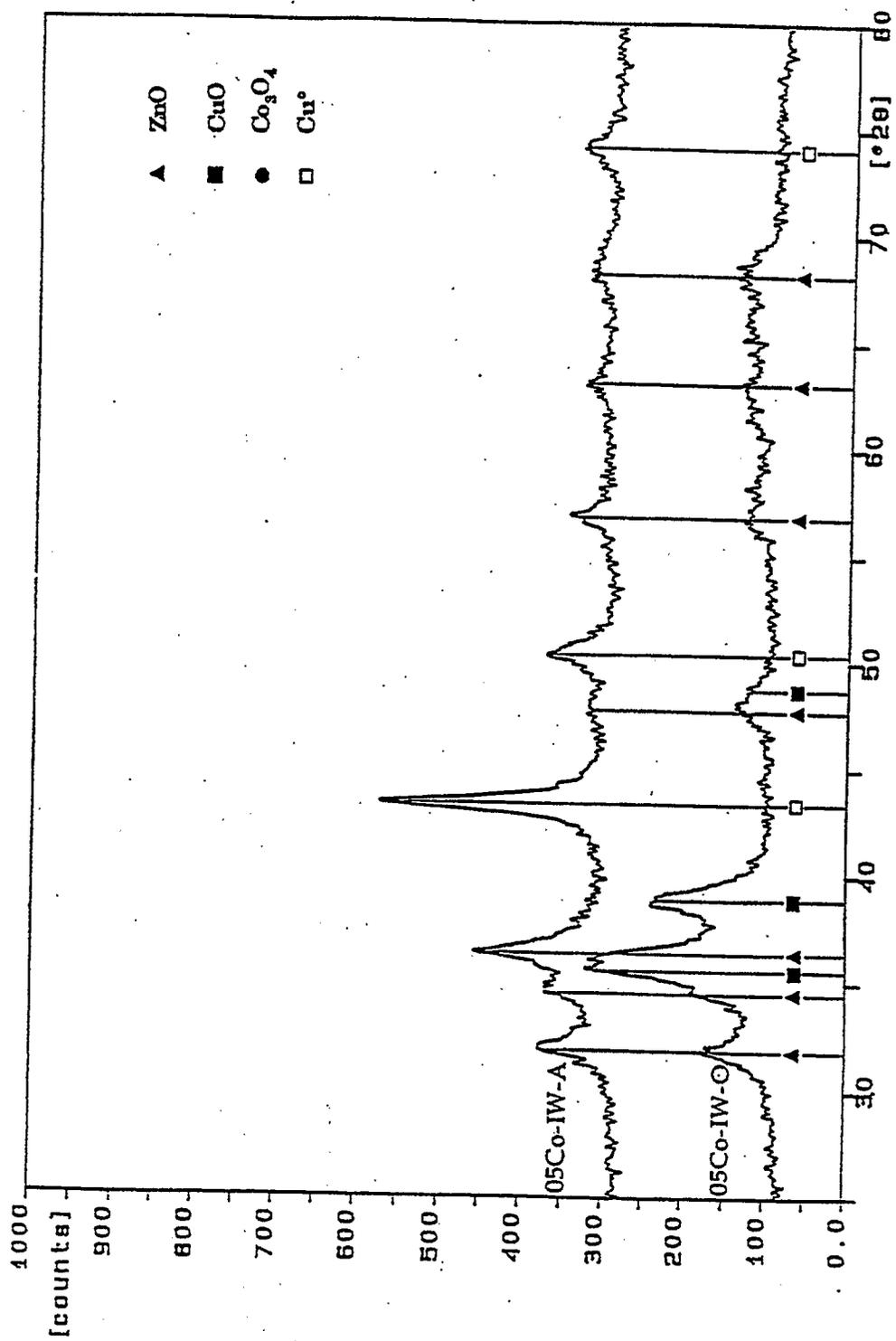


Figure A3 XRD Spectra of 05Co-IW-O and 05Co-IW-A

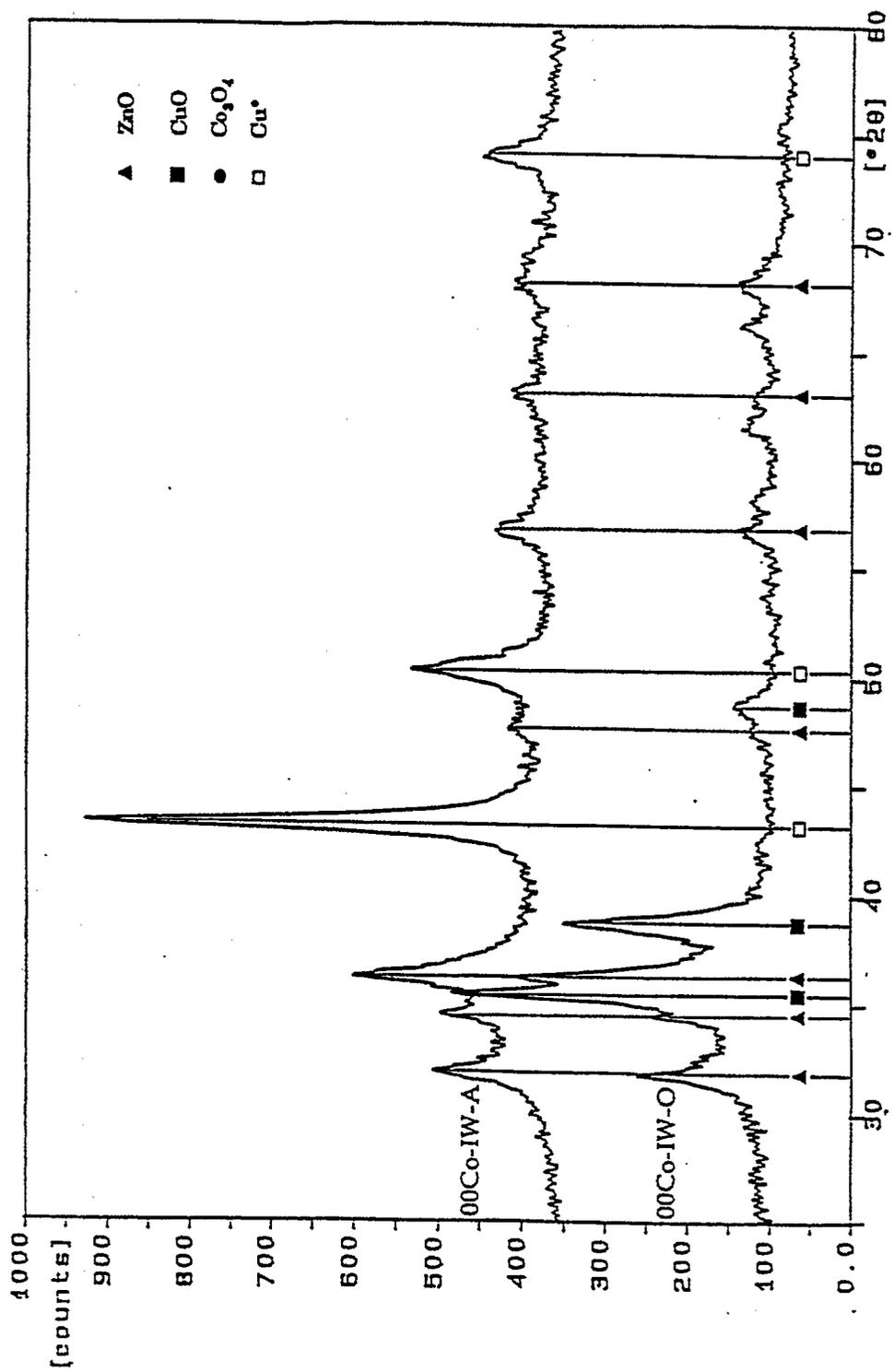


Figure A4 XRD Spectra of 00Co-IW-O and 00Co-IW-A

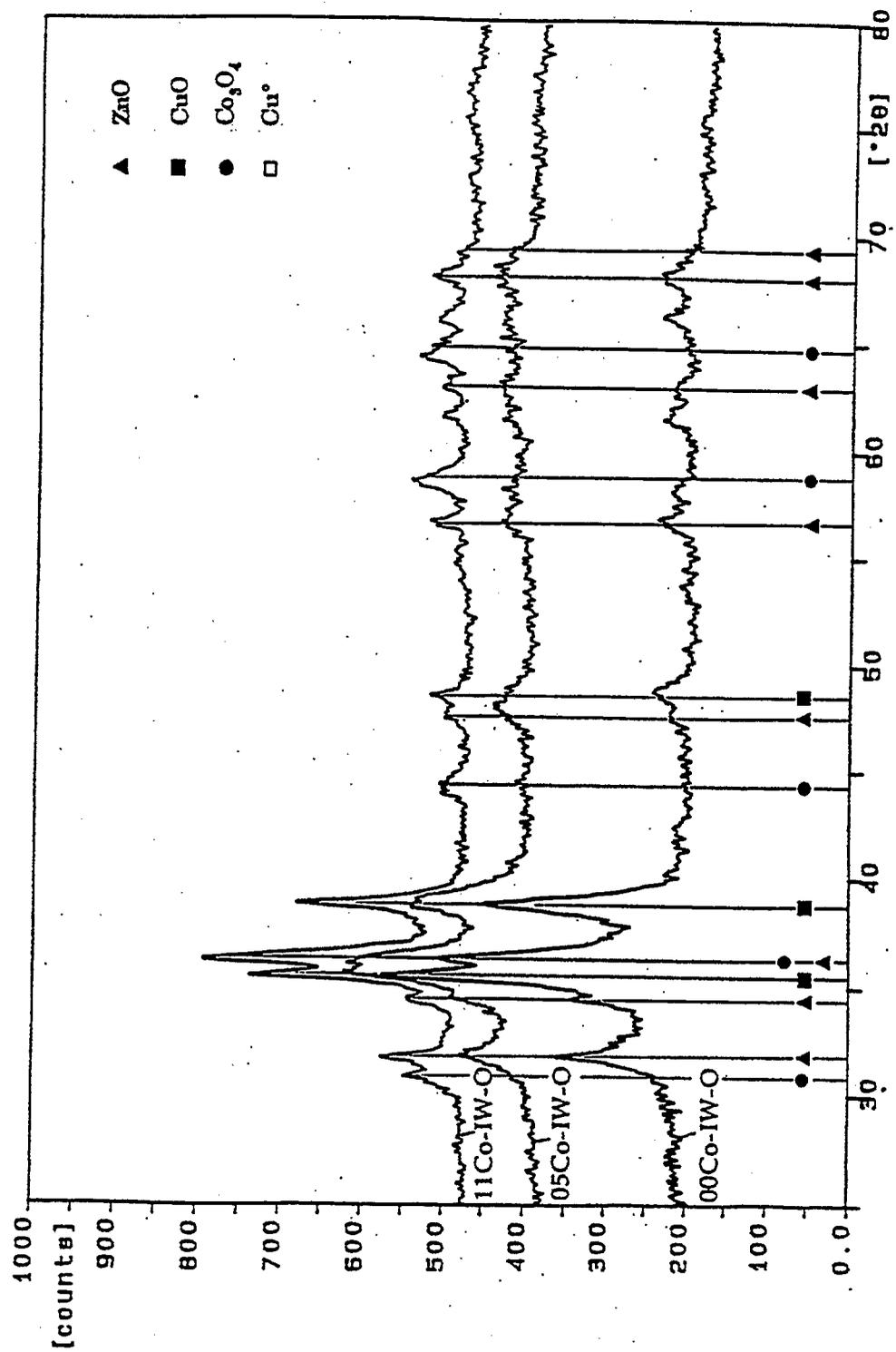


Figure A5 (x) XRD Spectra of 00Co-IW-O, 05Co-IW-O and 11Co-IW-O

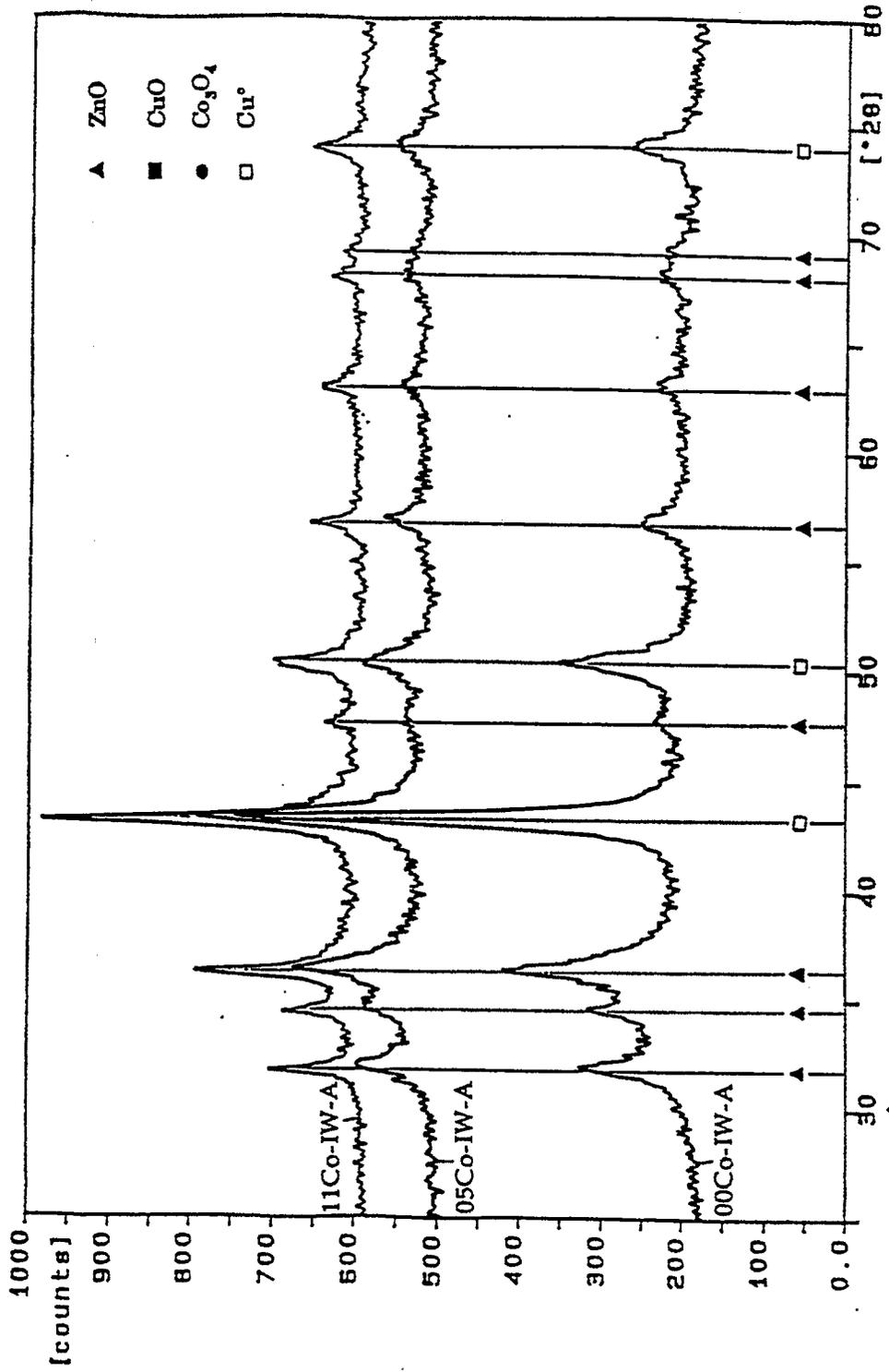


Figure A5 (y) XRD Spectra of 00Co-IW-A, 05Co-IW-A and 11Co-IW-A

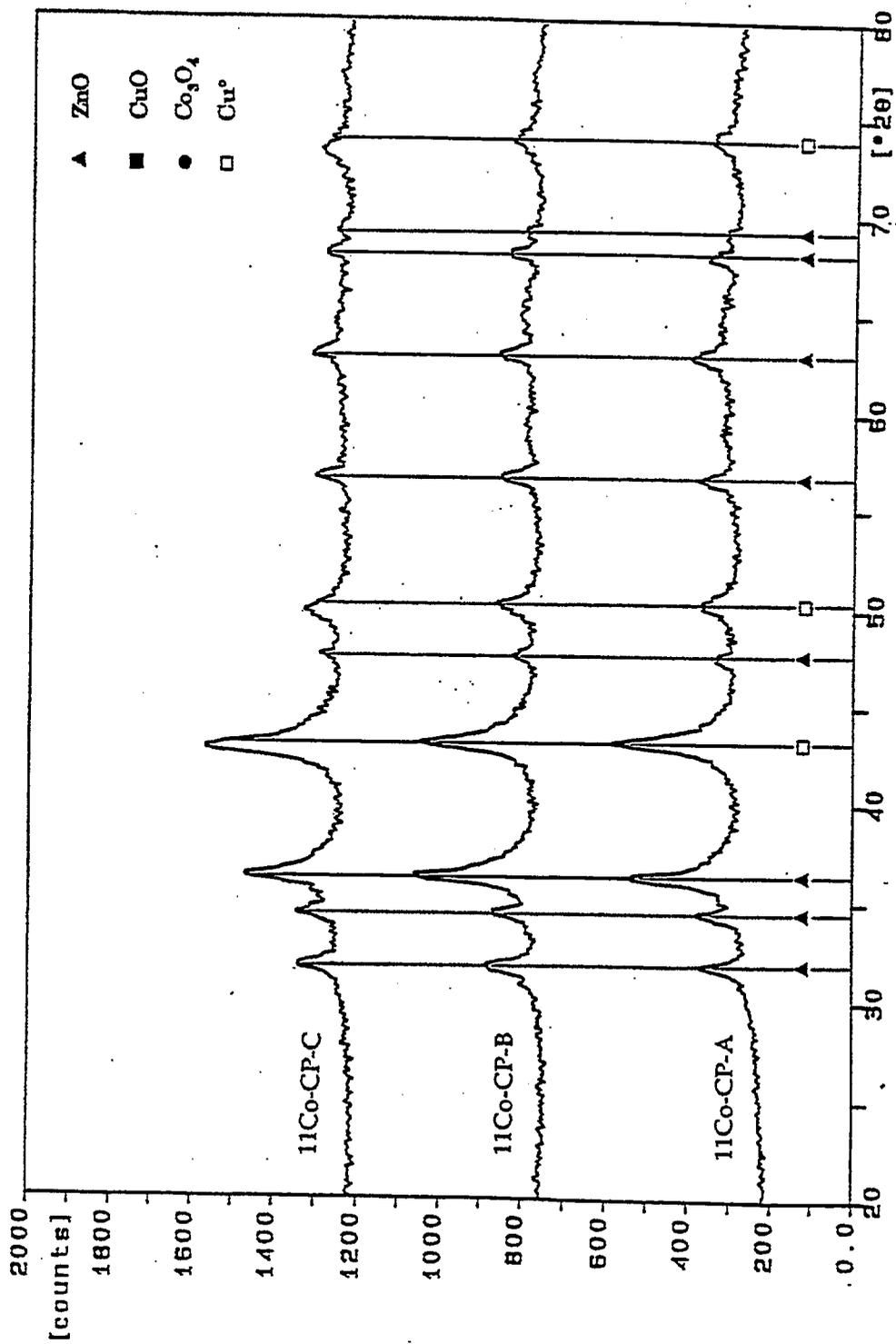


Figure A6 (x) XRD Spectra of 11Co-CP-A, 11Co-CP-B and 11Co-CP-C

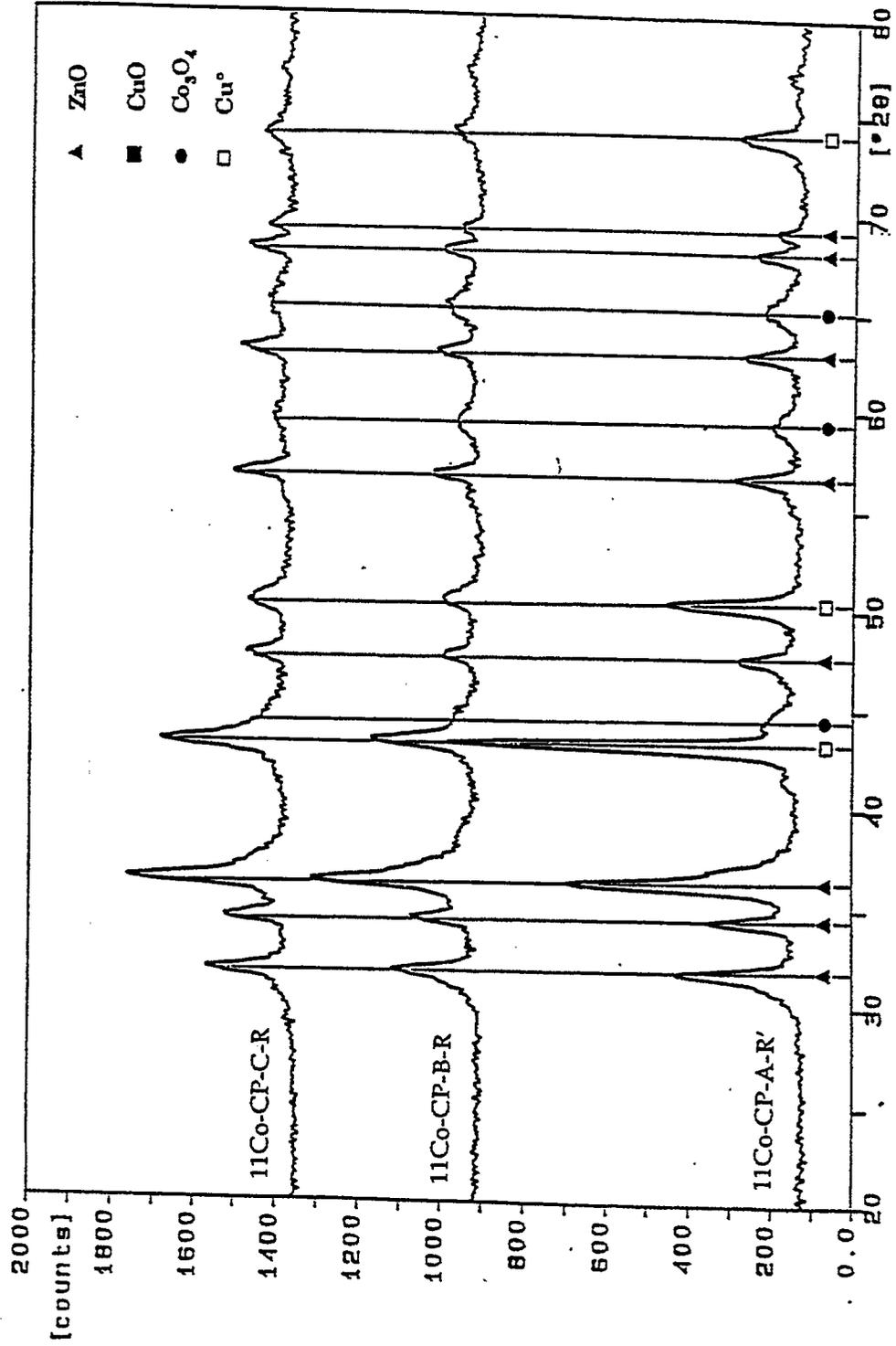


Figure A6 (y) XRD Spectra of 11Co-CP-A-R, 11Co-CP-B-R and 11Co-CP-C-R

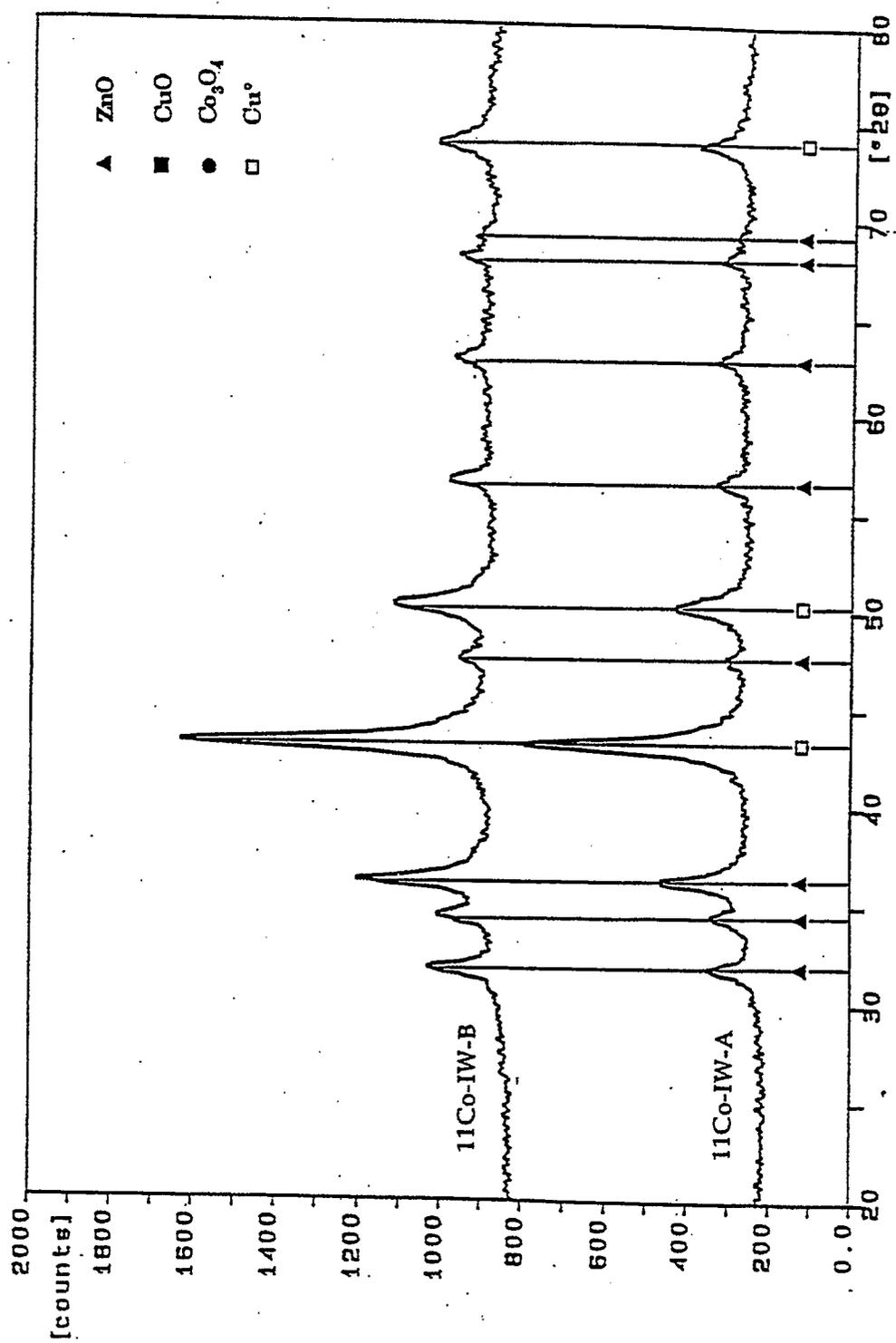


Figure A7 (x) XRD Spectra of 11Co-IW-A and 11Co-IW-B

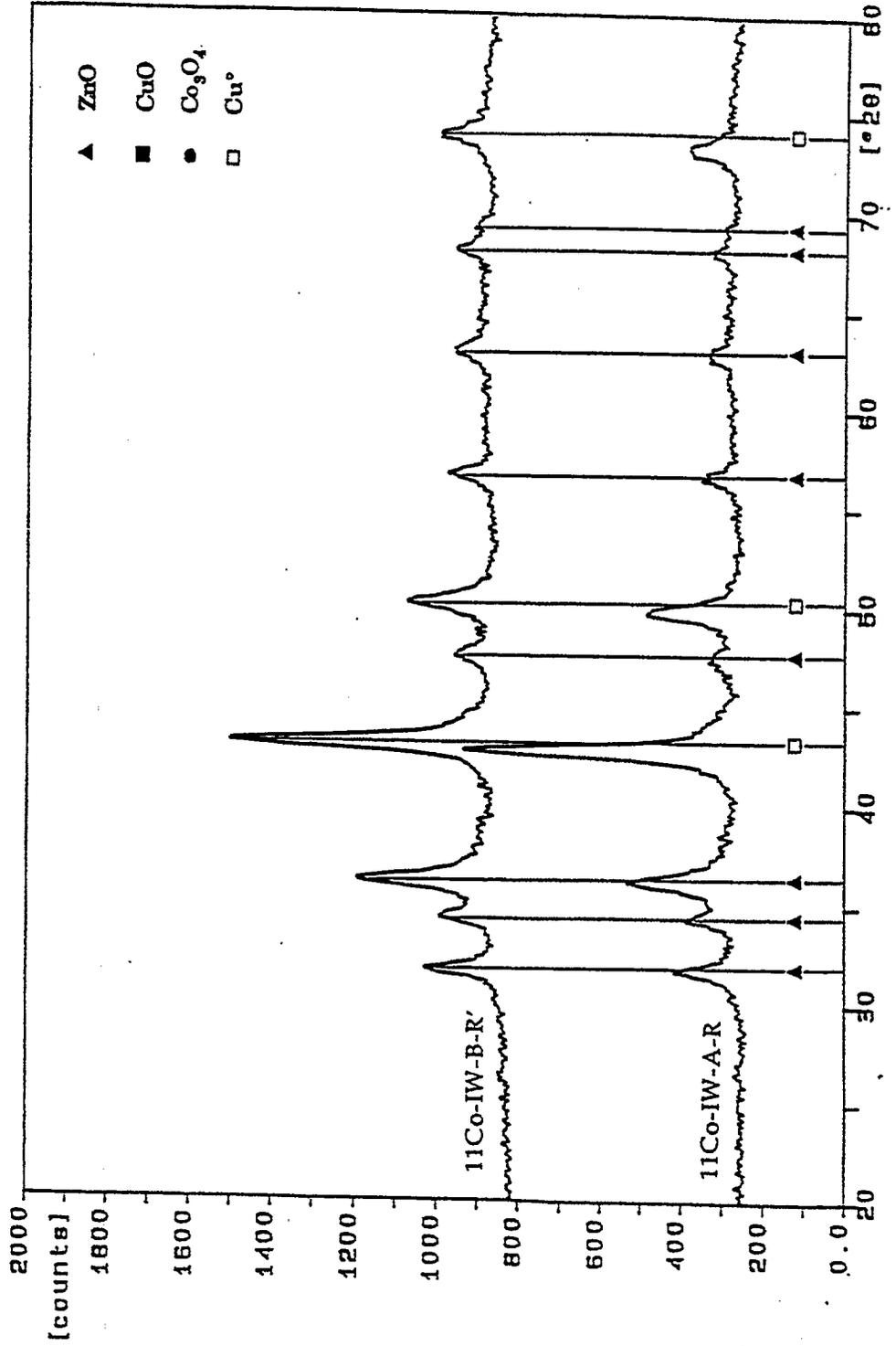
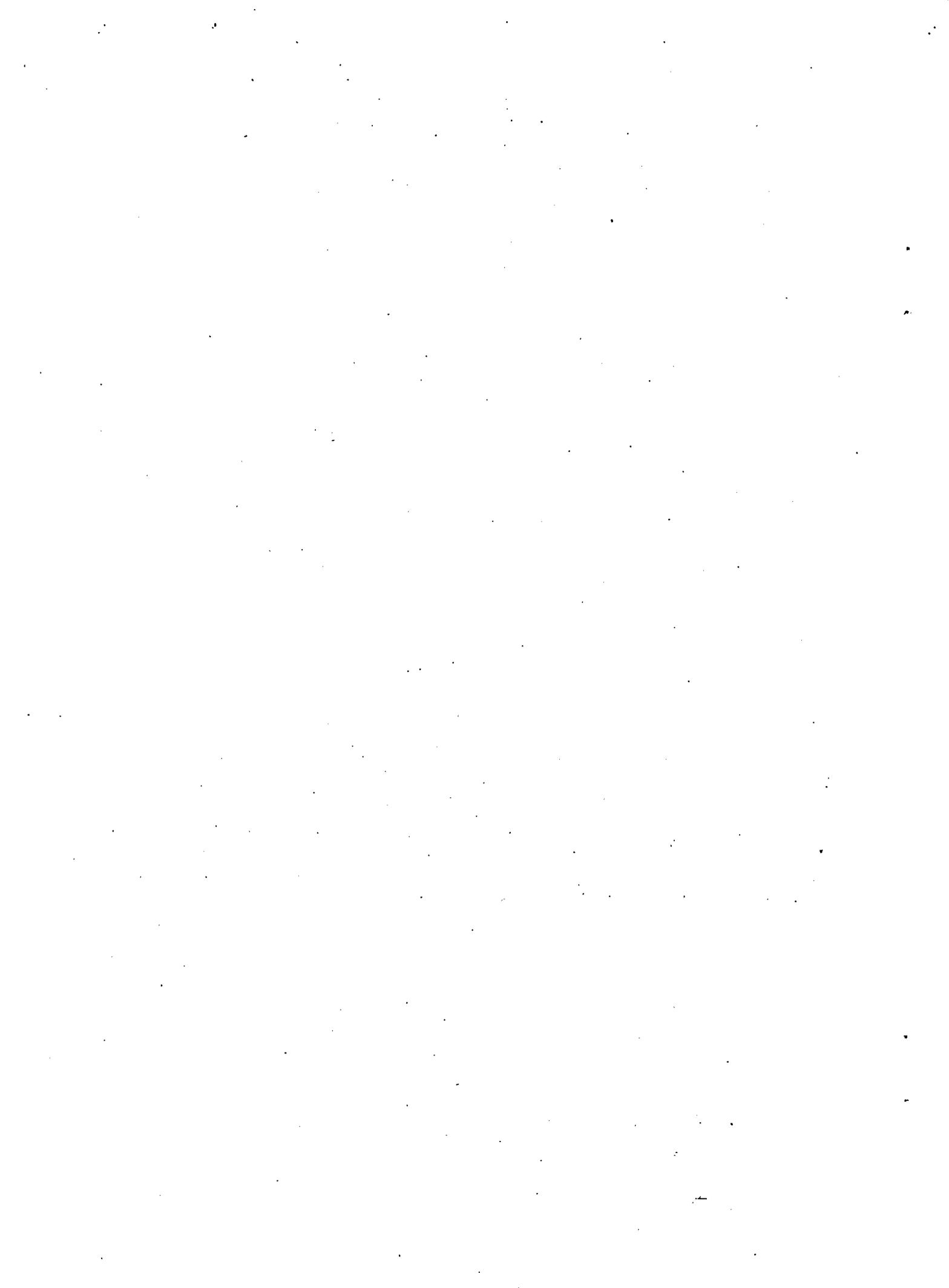


Figure A7 (y) XRD Spectra of 11Co-IW-A-R and 11Co-IW-B-R'



APPENDIX B

APPENDIX B

Table B1 Measured and Reference Values of Photoelectron, Auger Energy and Auger Parameter (α) for Copper

Catalyst Sample ^a	Binding Energy ($2p_{3/2}$, eV)	Auger Energy (LMM, eV)	α (eV)
00Co-IW-O	933.8	569.0	1851.3
11Co-IW-O	934.1	569.2	1851.5
11Co-CP-O	934.4	569.7	1851.3
00Co-IW-A	923.4	567.8	1851.3
11Co-IW-A	932.7	568.0	1851.2
11Co-CP-A	932.9	568.2	1851.3
11Co-CP-C	932.9	568.2	1851.3
Copper^b			
Cu	932.7	568.0	1851.3
Cu ₂ O	932.4	569.8	1849.4
CuO	933.8	568.7	1851.7

a: Refer Table 4 in section 3.2.4 for sample name.

b: The data are from reference (24).

APPENDIX C

APPENDIX C

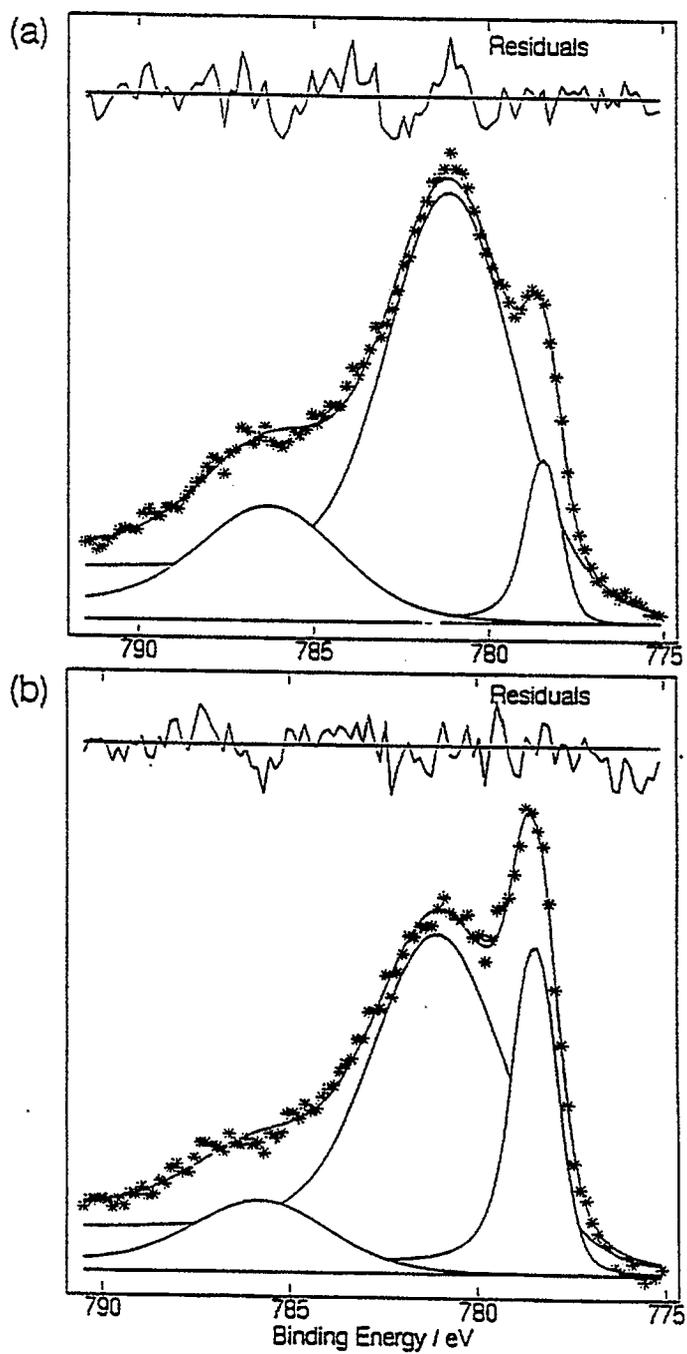


Figure C1 Curve Fitting Results of the Co 2p Spectra of (a) 11Co-CP-A and (b) 11Co-CP-C



APPENDIX D

Table D1 Description of Conditions and Procedures of the TPR and Related Testing Experiments with H₂O by MS

Title ^a	Experimental Conditions and Procedures
A	{ 34°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 350°C (8 hr) } <-1atm, 5% H ₂ in He, 60~70 cc/min ->
B	{ 34°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 350°C (8 hr) } <- 35atm, 5% H ₂ in He, 60~70 cc/min ->
C	{ 34°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 350°C (8 hr) } <- 1atm, pure H ₂ , 60~70 cc/min ->
D	{ 34°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 350°C (8 hr) } => { 34°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 350°C (8 hr) } (A=>B) <-1atm, 5% H ₂ in He, 60~70 cc/min -> <-35atm, 5% H ₂ in He, 60~70cc/min->
E	{ 34°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 350°C (8 hr) } => { 34°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 350°C (8 hr) } (A=>C) <-1atm, 5% H ₂ in He, 60~70 cc/min -> <- 1atm, pure H ₂ , 60~70 cc/min ->
F	{ 34°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 350°C (8 hr) } => { 34°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 350°C (8 hr) } (C=>B) <- 1atm, pure H ₂ , 60~70 cc/min -> <-35atm, 5% H ₂ in He, 60~70 cc/min->
G	{ 34°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 350°C (8 hr) } => { 350°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 500°C (8 hr) } (G'=>G'') <- 1atm, pure He, 60~70 cc/min -> <- 1atm, pure He, 60~70 cc/min ->
H	{ 34°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 350°C (8 hr) } => { 350°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 500°C (8 hr) } (A=>G'') <-1atm, 3~5 H ₂ in He, 60~70 cc/min -> <- 1atm, pure He, 60~70 cc/min ->
I	(A => I', reach pre-CO/H ₂ -reaction-condition => I'' => G'')
	{34°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 350°C(8 hr) -> 290°C(∞)}
	<- 1atm, 5% H ₂ in He, 60~70 cc/min ->
	=> { 1 atm ----> 35 atm (6 hr) }
	<- 290°C, H ₂ :He=2, 120 cc/min ->
	=> { 290°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 350°C(8 hr) }
	<- 35 atm, H ₂ :He=2, 120 cc/min ->
	=> { 350°C -(0.5°C/min)-> 500°C(8 hr) }
	<- 1atm, pure He, 60~70 cc/min ->

a: A~F are equivalent to the treatments described in Table 2.

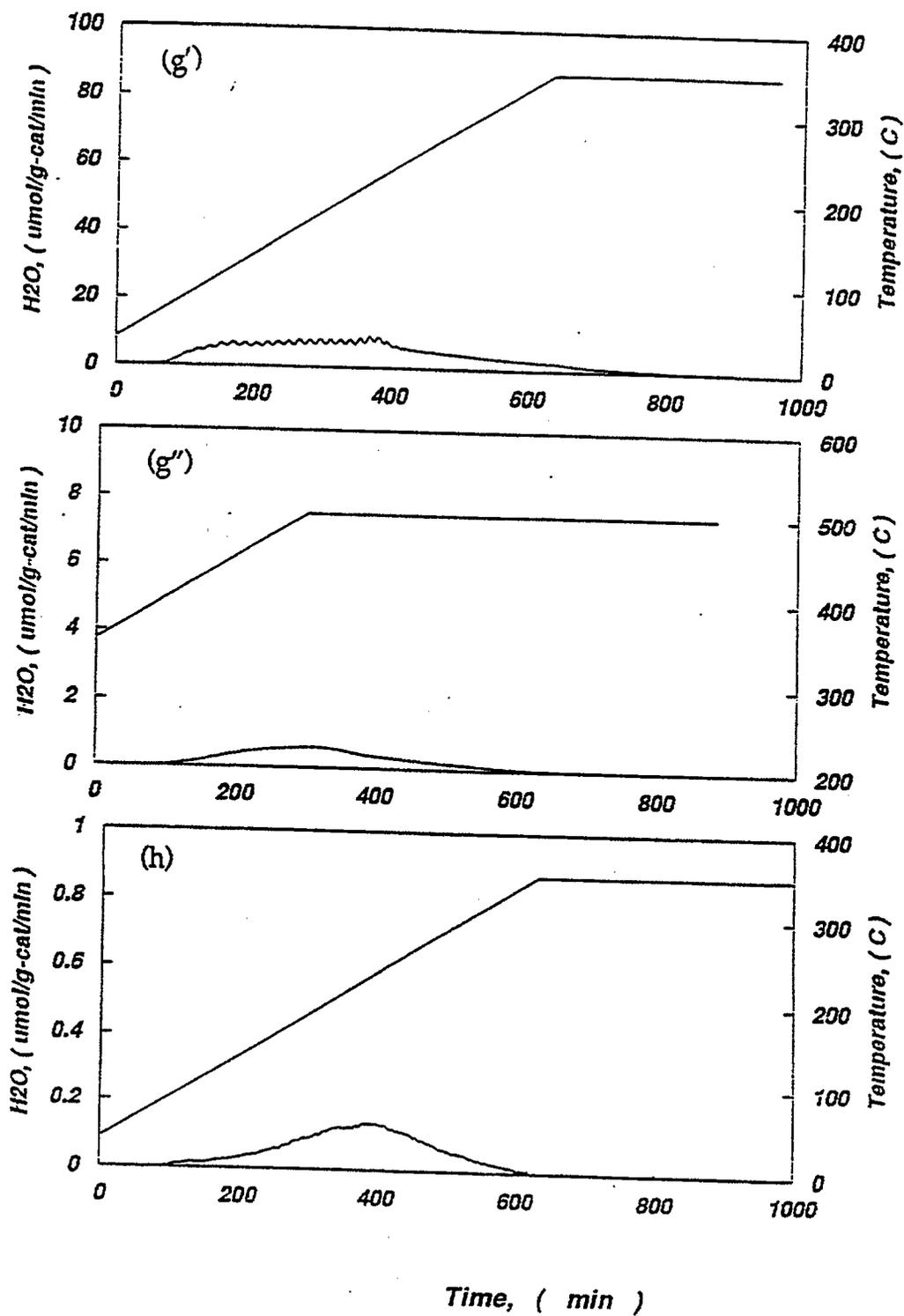


Figure D1 (g', g'', h) Blank TPR Profiles of 11Co-CP by Condition (g') G, (g'') G'' and (h) H as Described in Table 11 & D

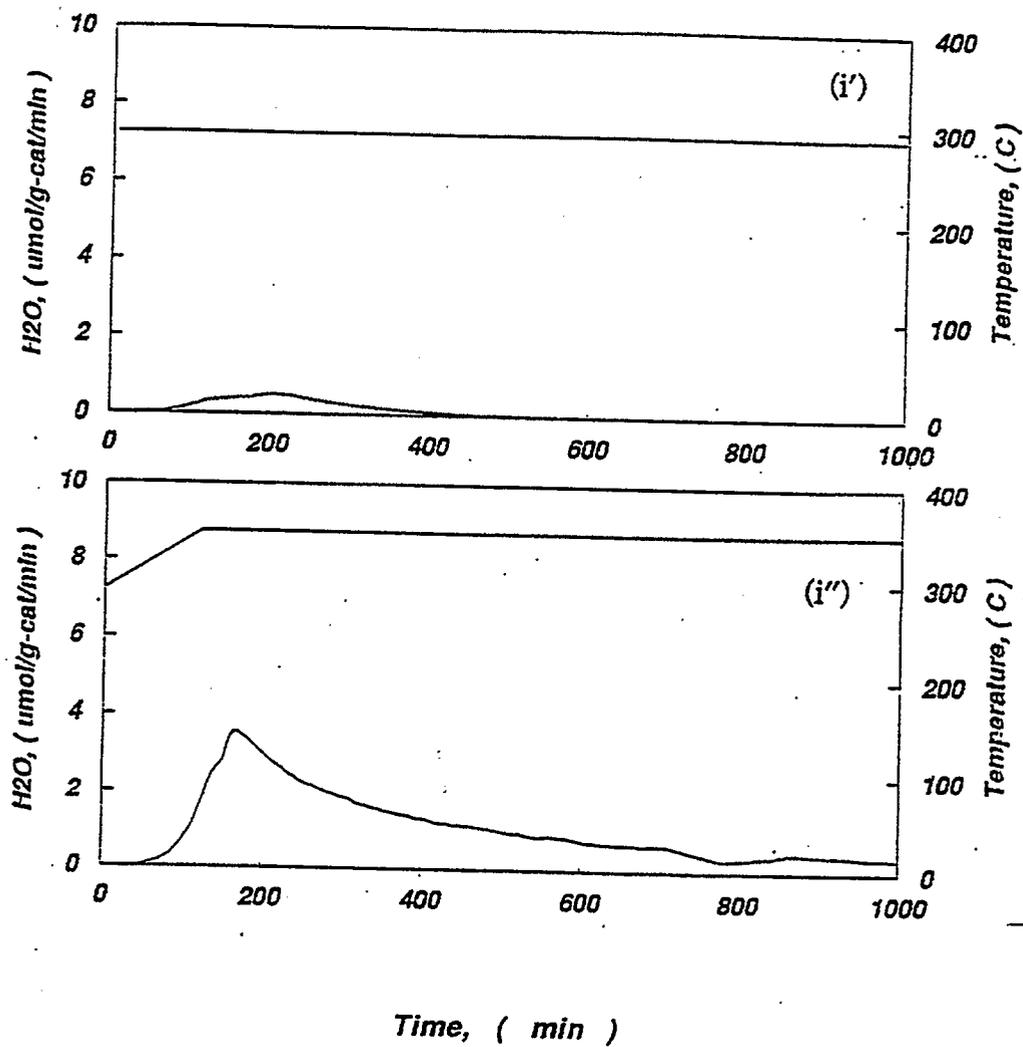


Figure D1 (i', i'') TPR Profiles of 11Co-CP Reduced at Condition (i') I', and (i'') I'' as Described in Table 11 & D

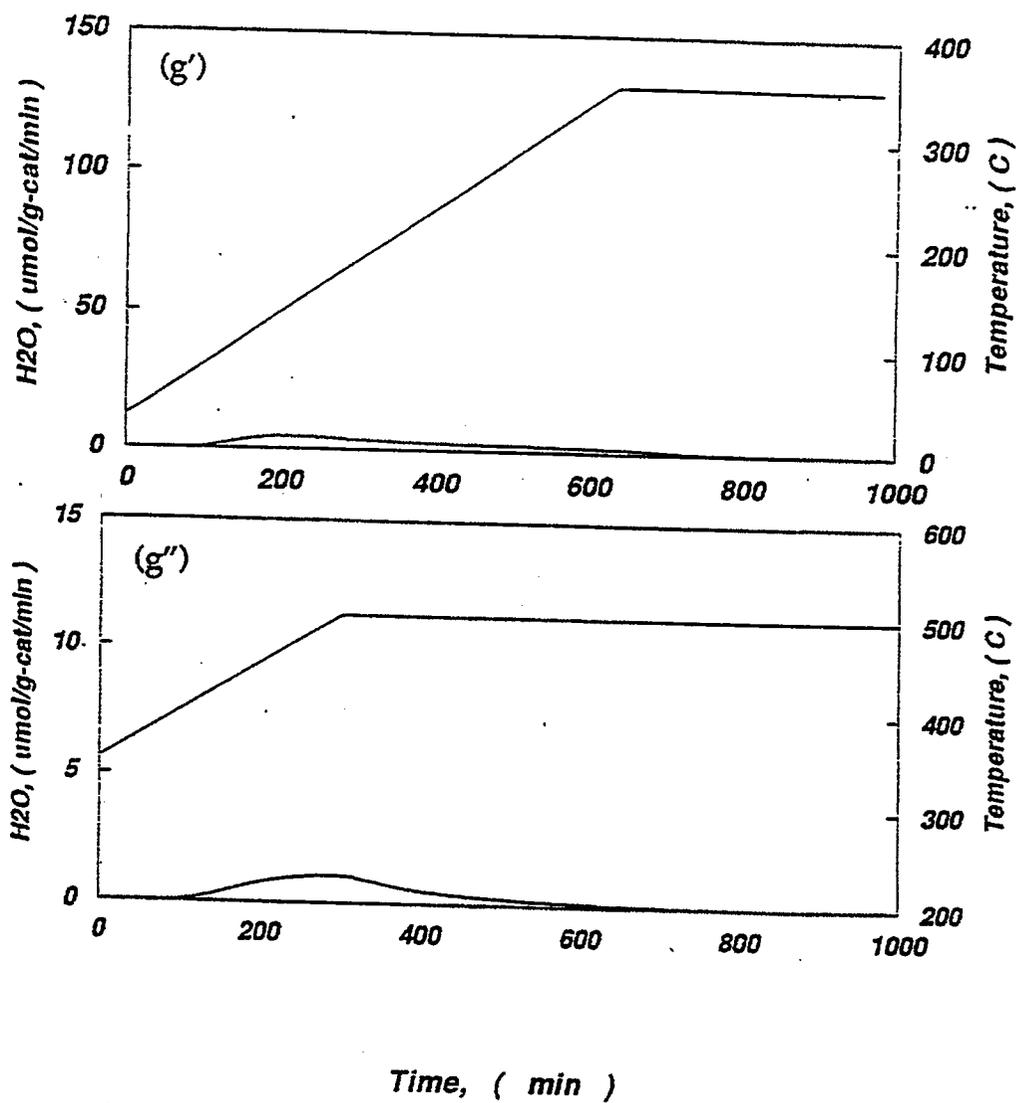


Figure D2 Blank TPR Profiles of 11Co-IW by Condition (g') G' and (g'') G'' as Described in Table 11 & D

APPENDIX E

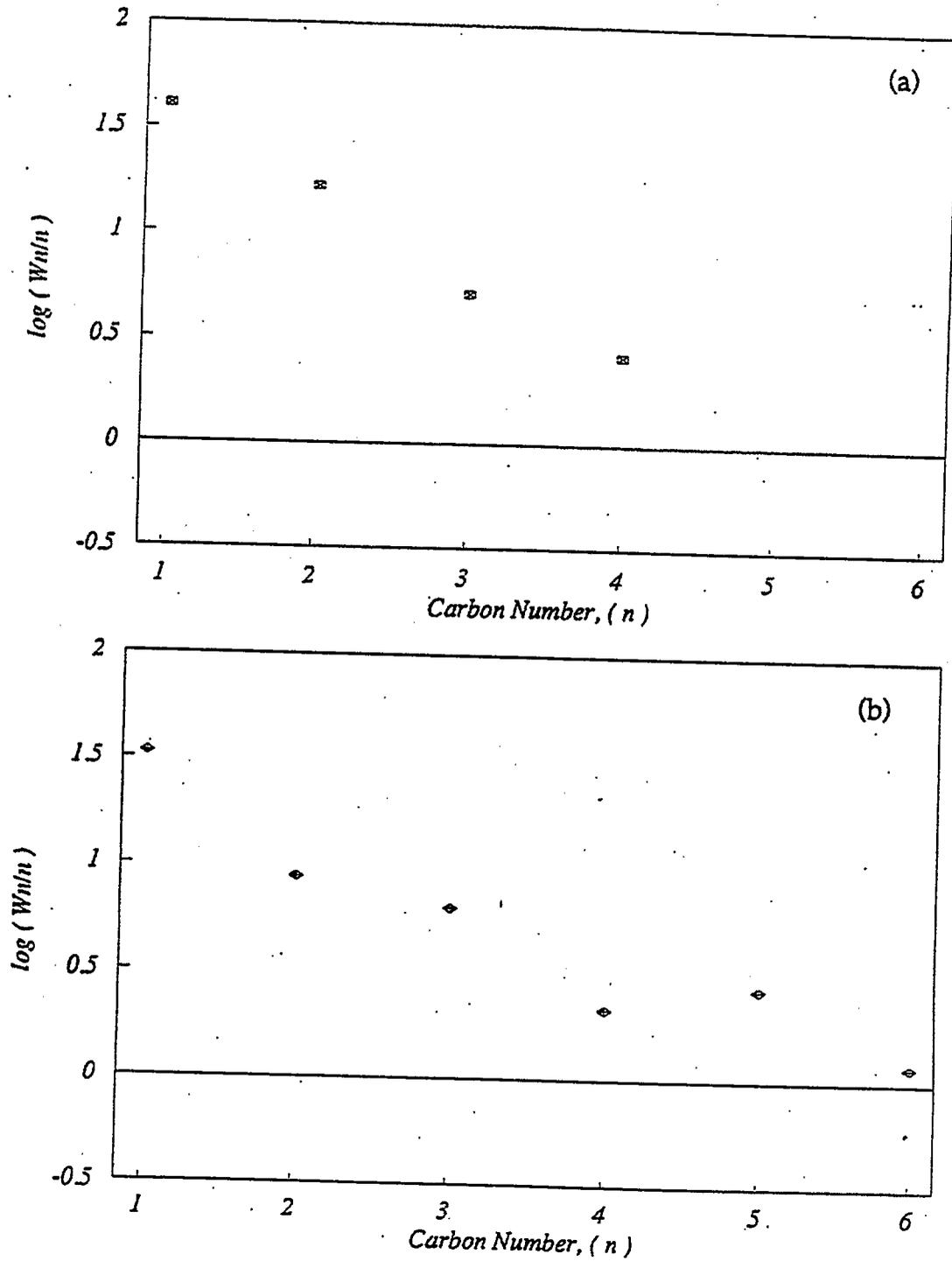


Figure E1 ASF Plots for (a) C₁-C₆ Alcohols and (b) C₁-C₆ Hydrocarbons Produced over 11Co-CP Received Reduction Treatment A

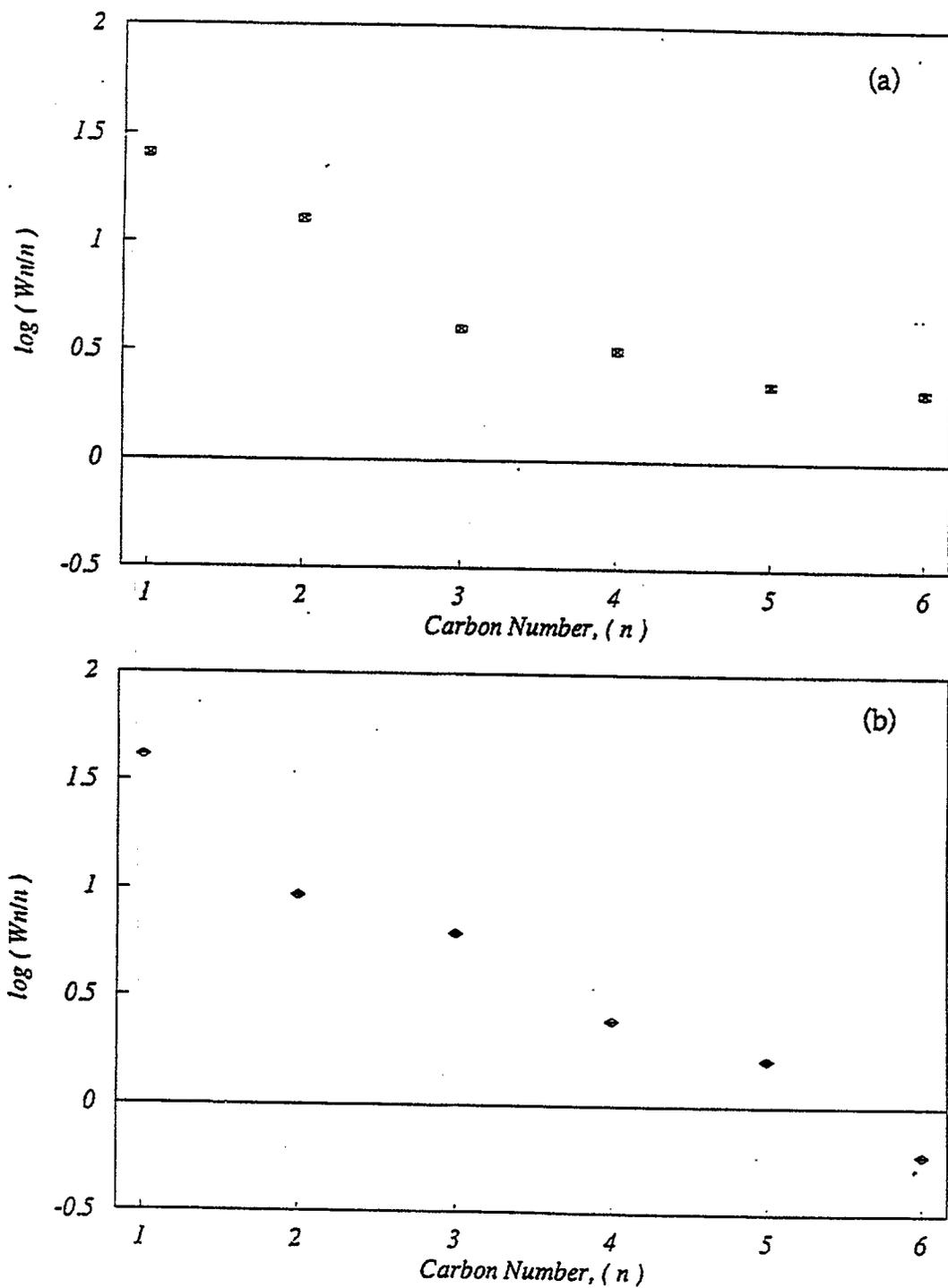


Figure E2 ASF Plots for (a) C₁-C₆ Alcohols and (b) C₁-C₆ Hydrocarbons Produced over 11Co-CP Received Reduction Treatment B

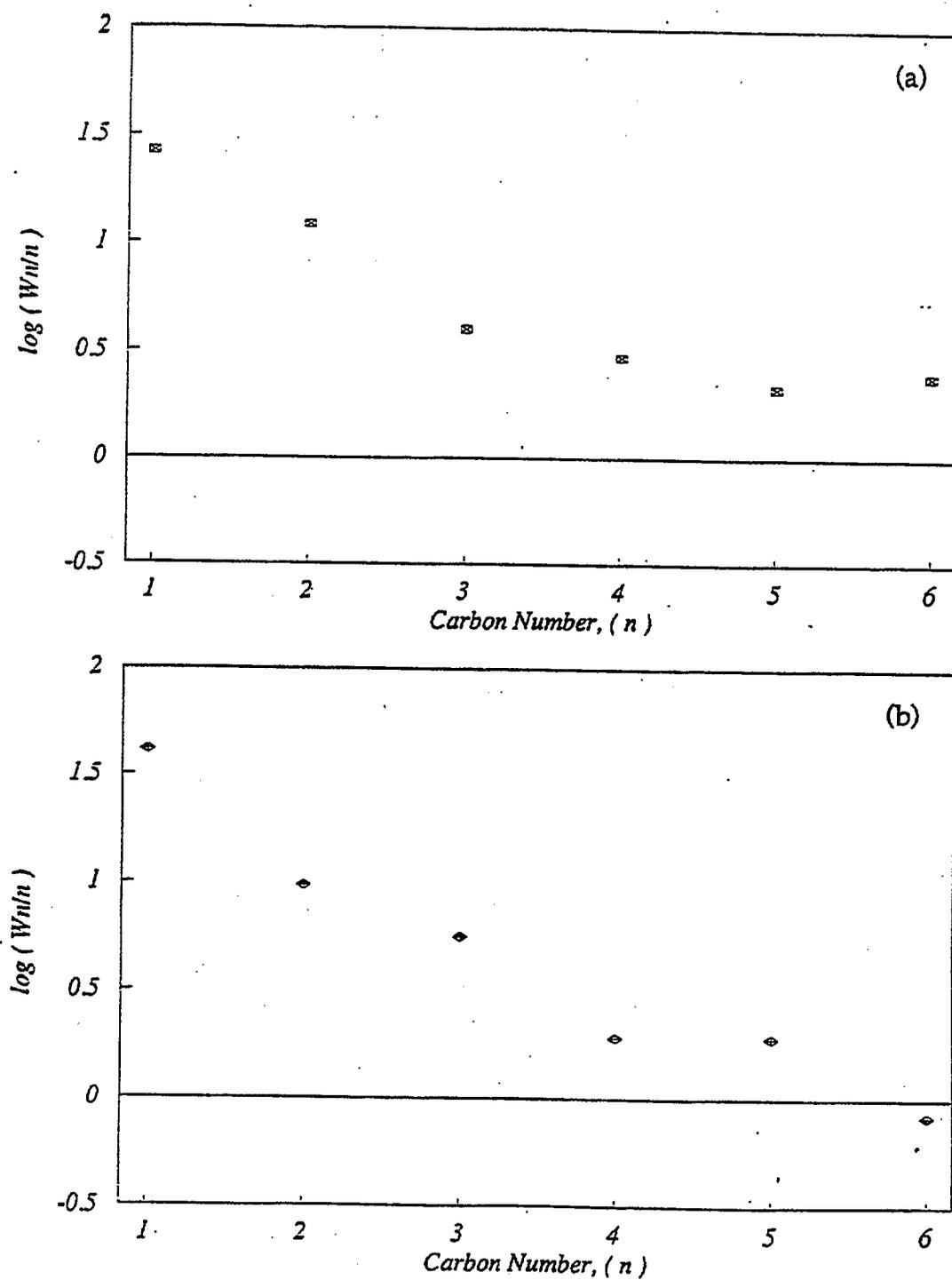


Figure E3 ASF Plots for (a) C₁-C₆ Alcohols and (b) C₁-C₆ Hydrocarbons Produced over 11Co-CP Received Reduction Treatment C

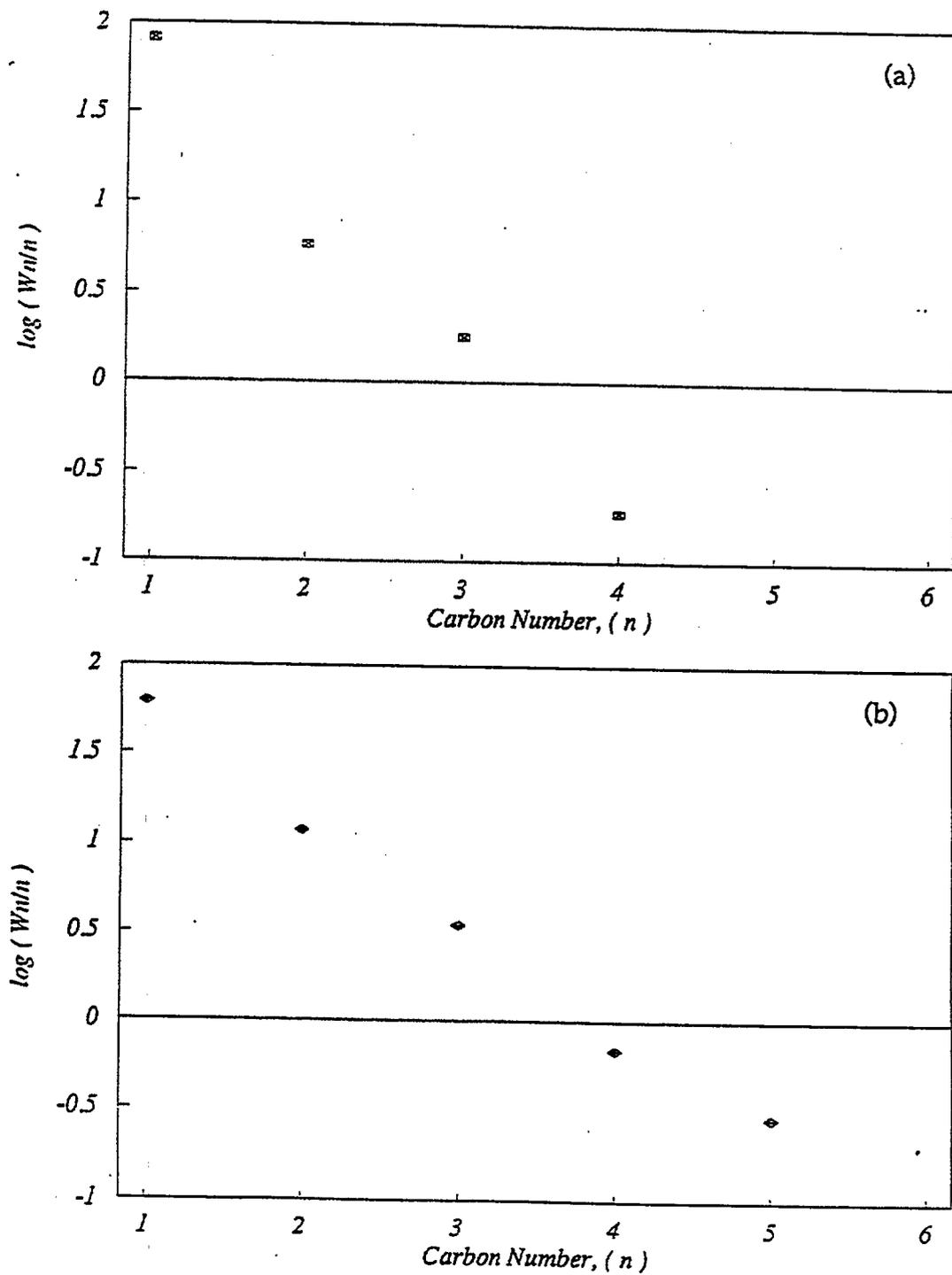


Figure E4 ASF Plots for (a) C₁-C₆ Alcohols and (b) C₁-C₆ Hydrocarbons Produced over 11Co-IW Received Reduction Treatment A

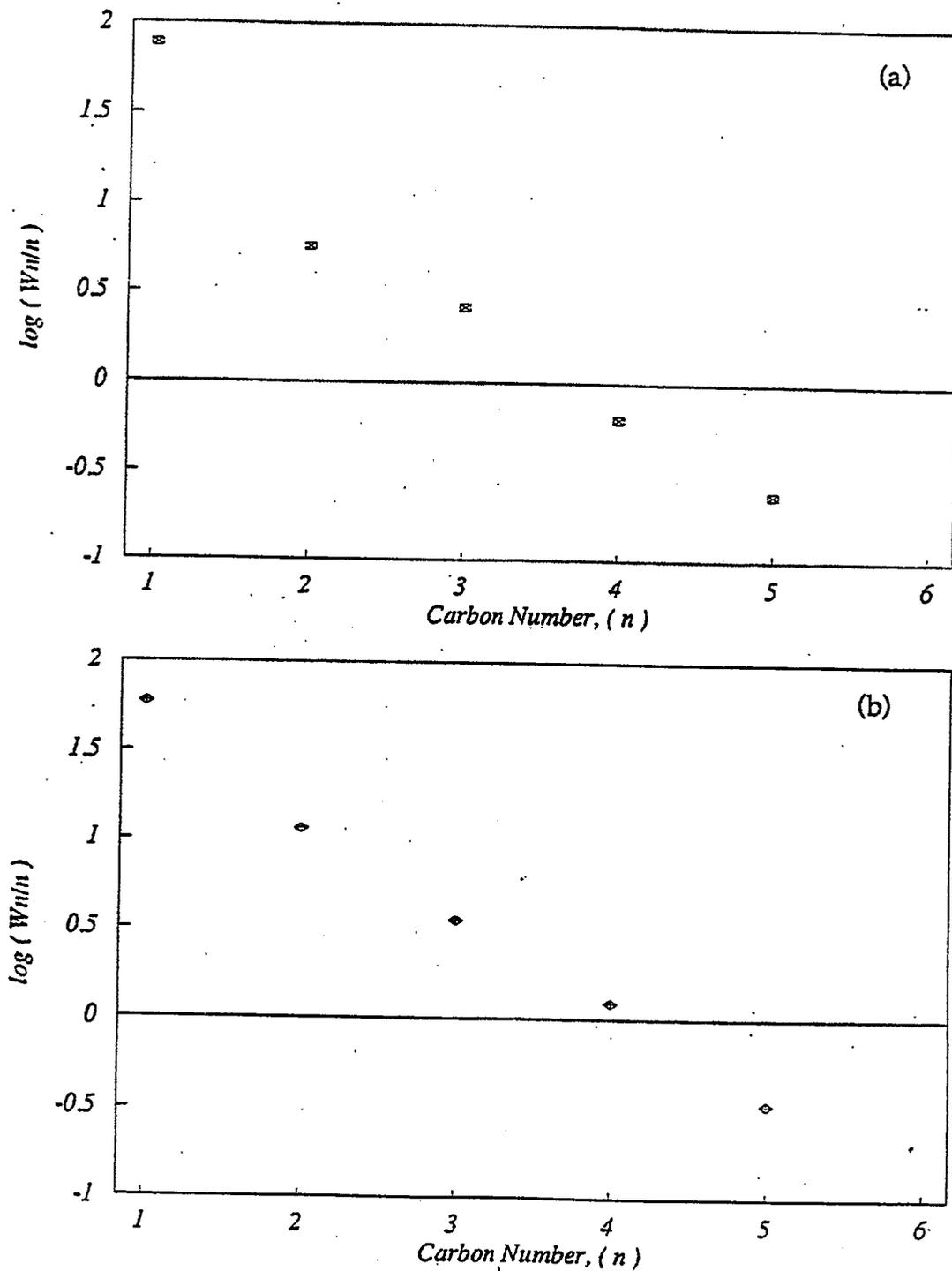


Figure E5 ASF Plots for (a) C_1 - C_6 Alcohols and (b) C_1 - C_6 Hydrocarbons Produced over 11Co-IW Received Reduction Treatment B

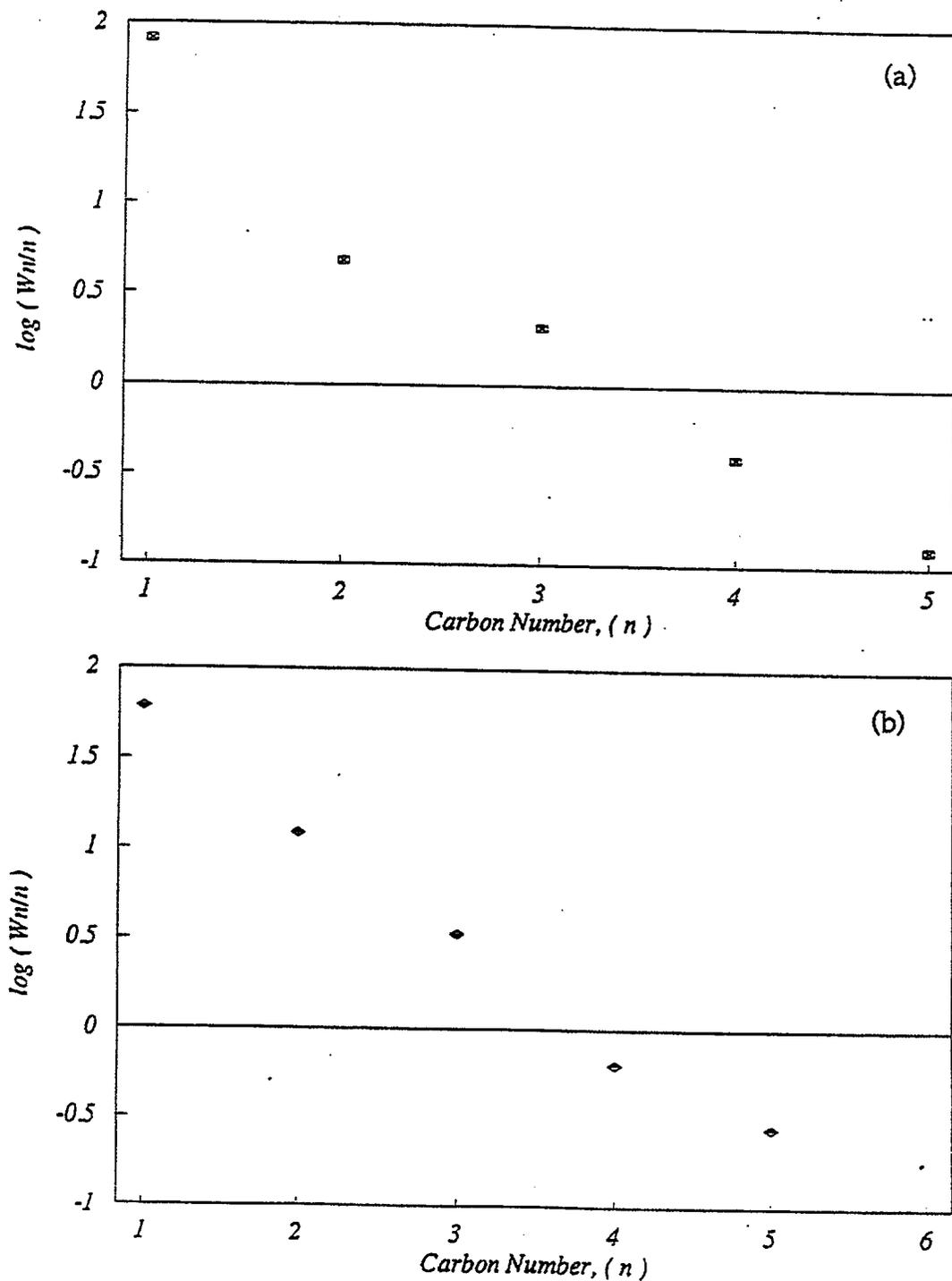
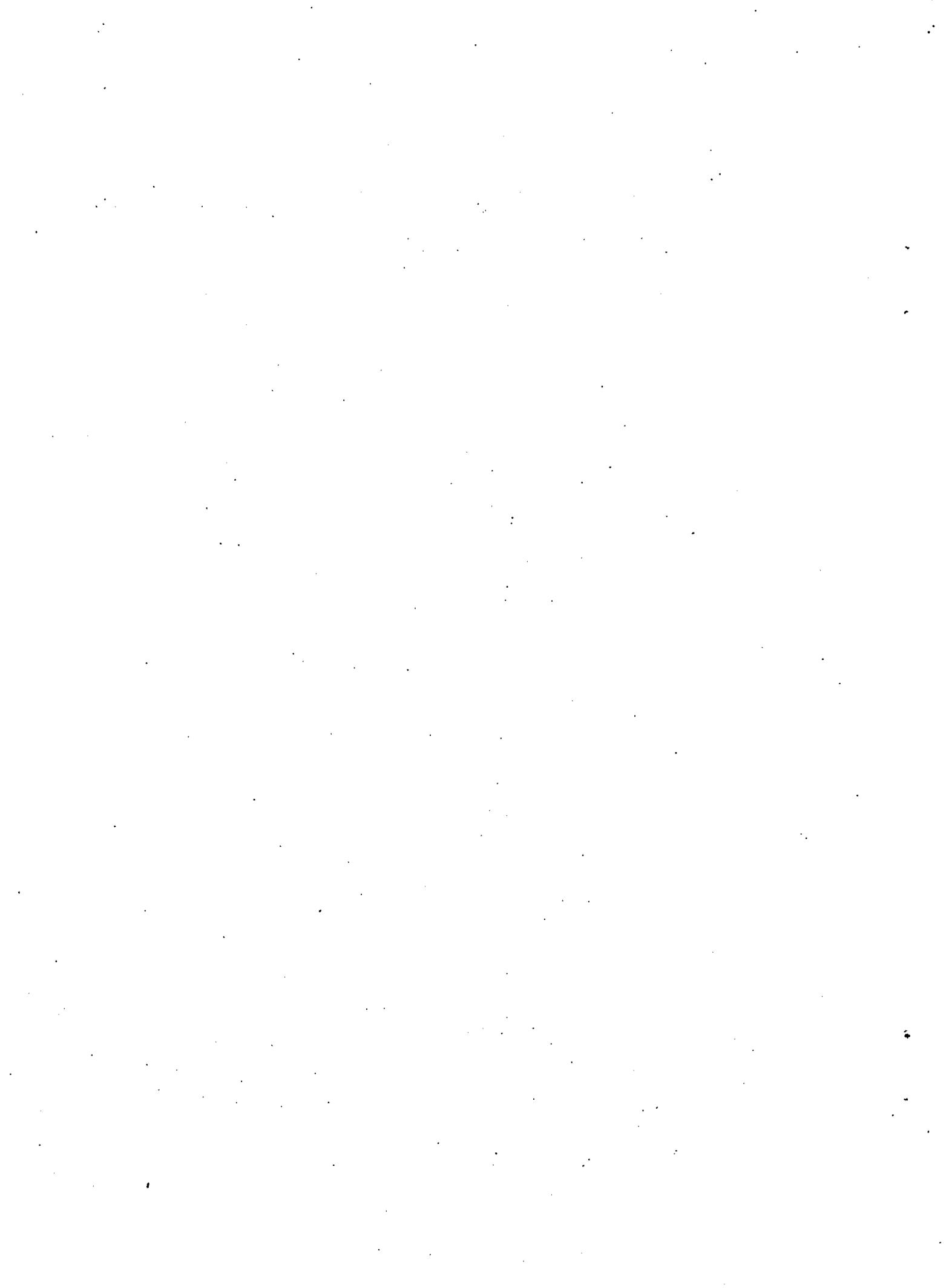


Figure E6 ASF Plots for (a) C₁-C₆ Alcohols and (b) C₁-C₆ Hydrocarbons Produced over 11Co-IW Received Reduction Treatment C



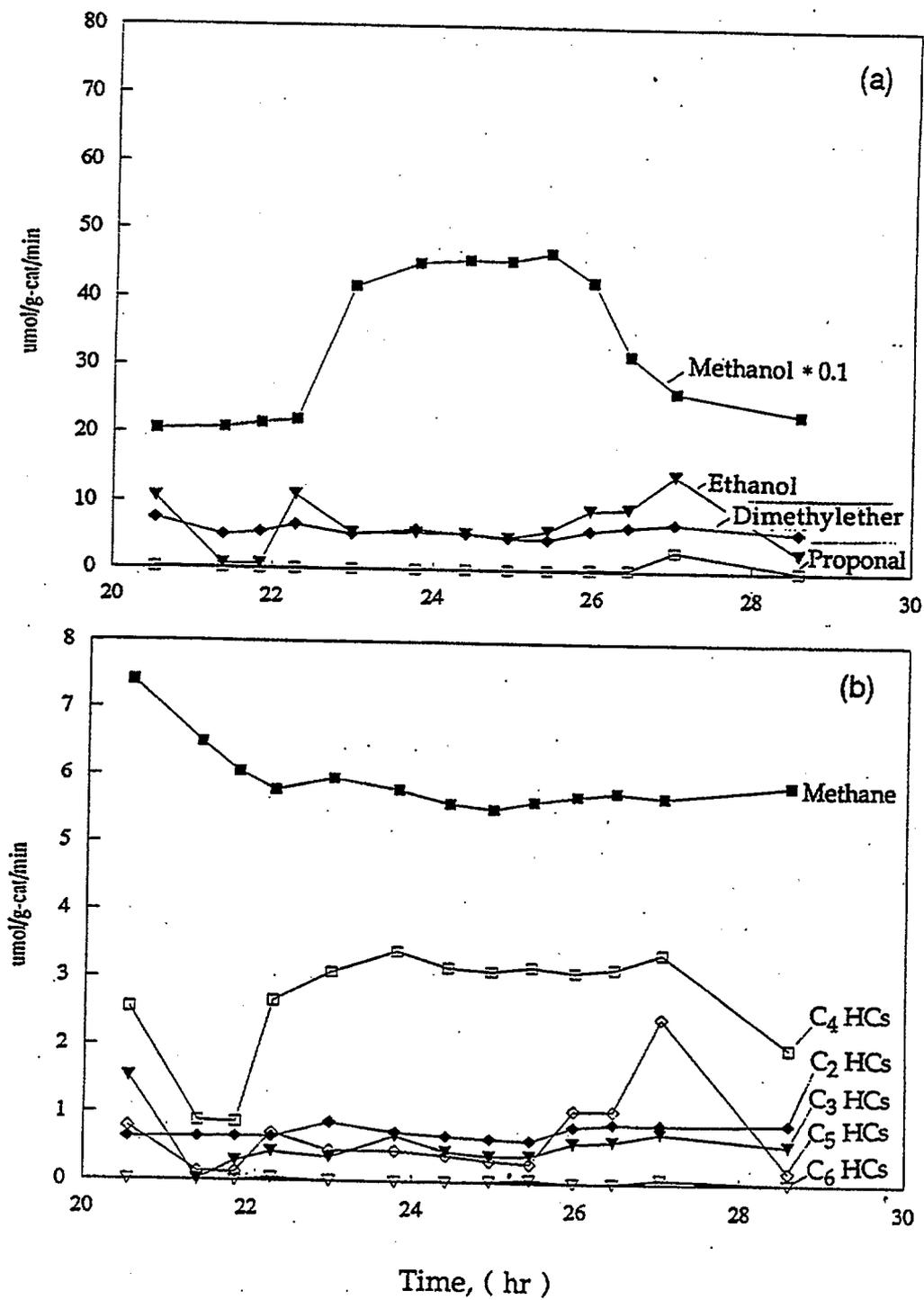


Figure F1 Formation Rates of (a) Alcohols and (b) Hydrocarbons without and with CH_3NO_2 Addition to CO/H_2 over 00Co-IW-A

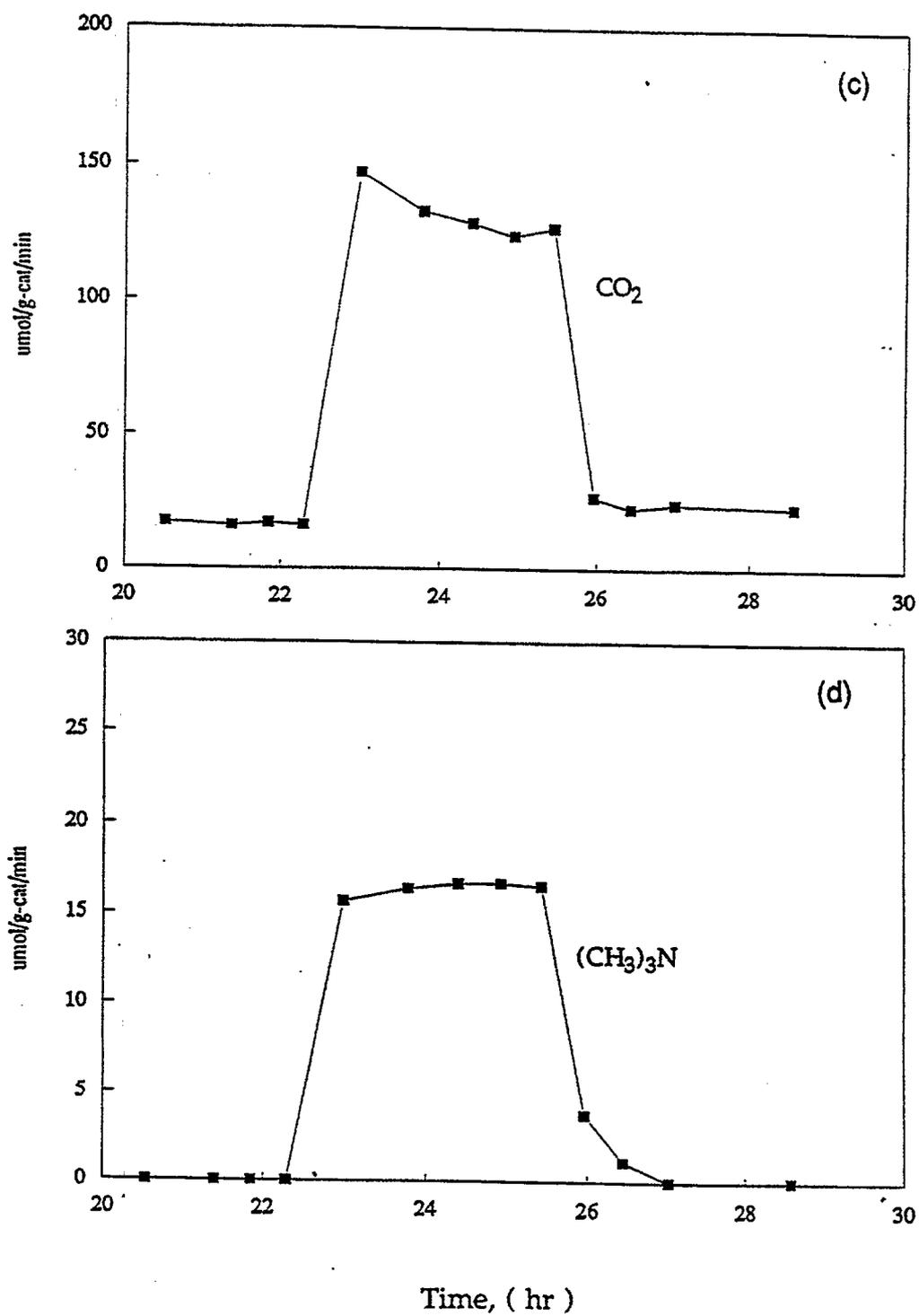


Figure F1 (Continued) Formation Rates of (c) CO_2 and (d) $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$ without and with CH_3NO_2 Addition to CO/H_2 over 00Co-IW-A

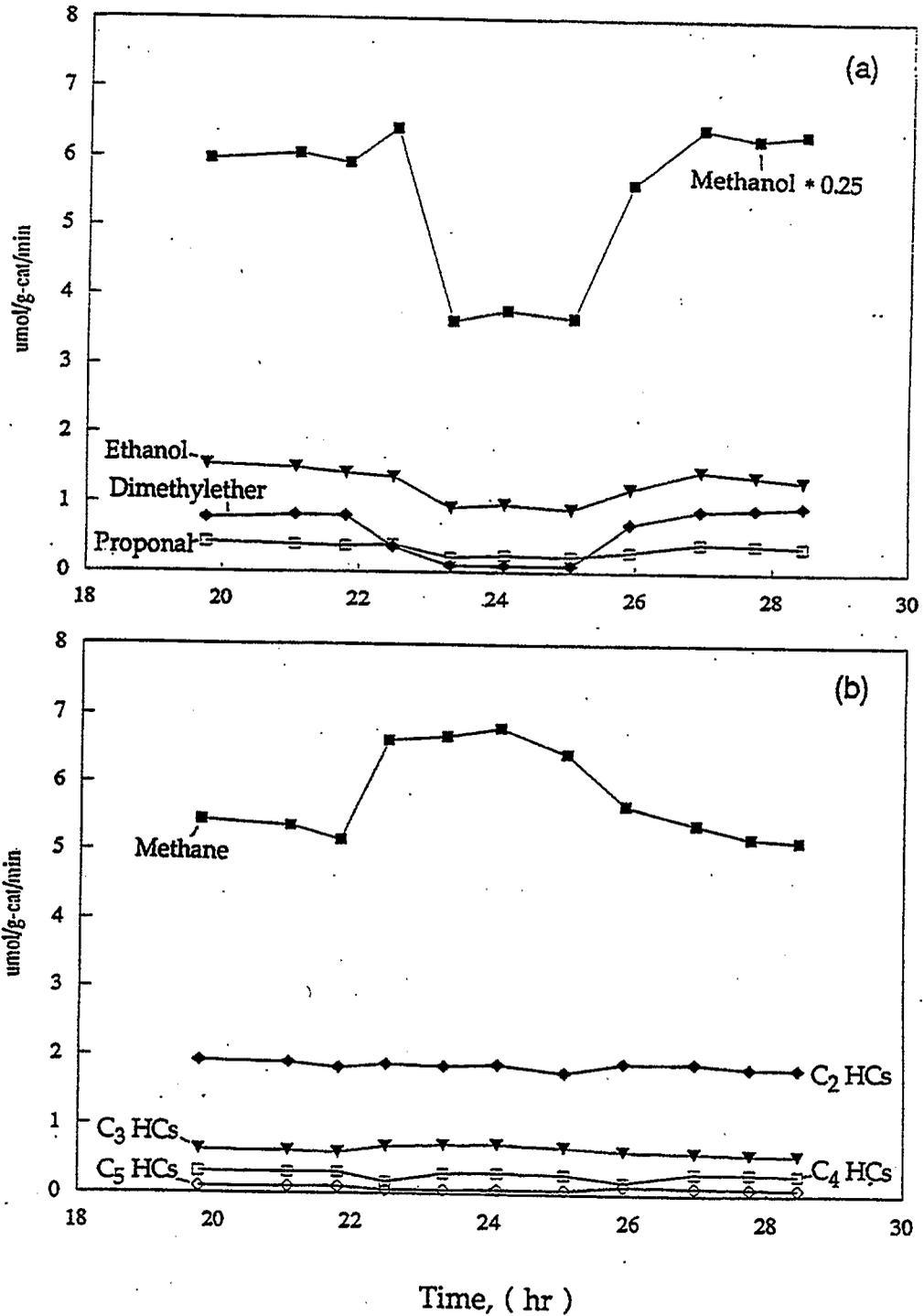


Figure F2 Formation Rates of (a) Alcohols and (b) Hydrocarbons without and with CH_3NO_2 Addition to CO/H_2 over 05Co-IW-A

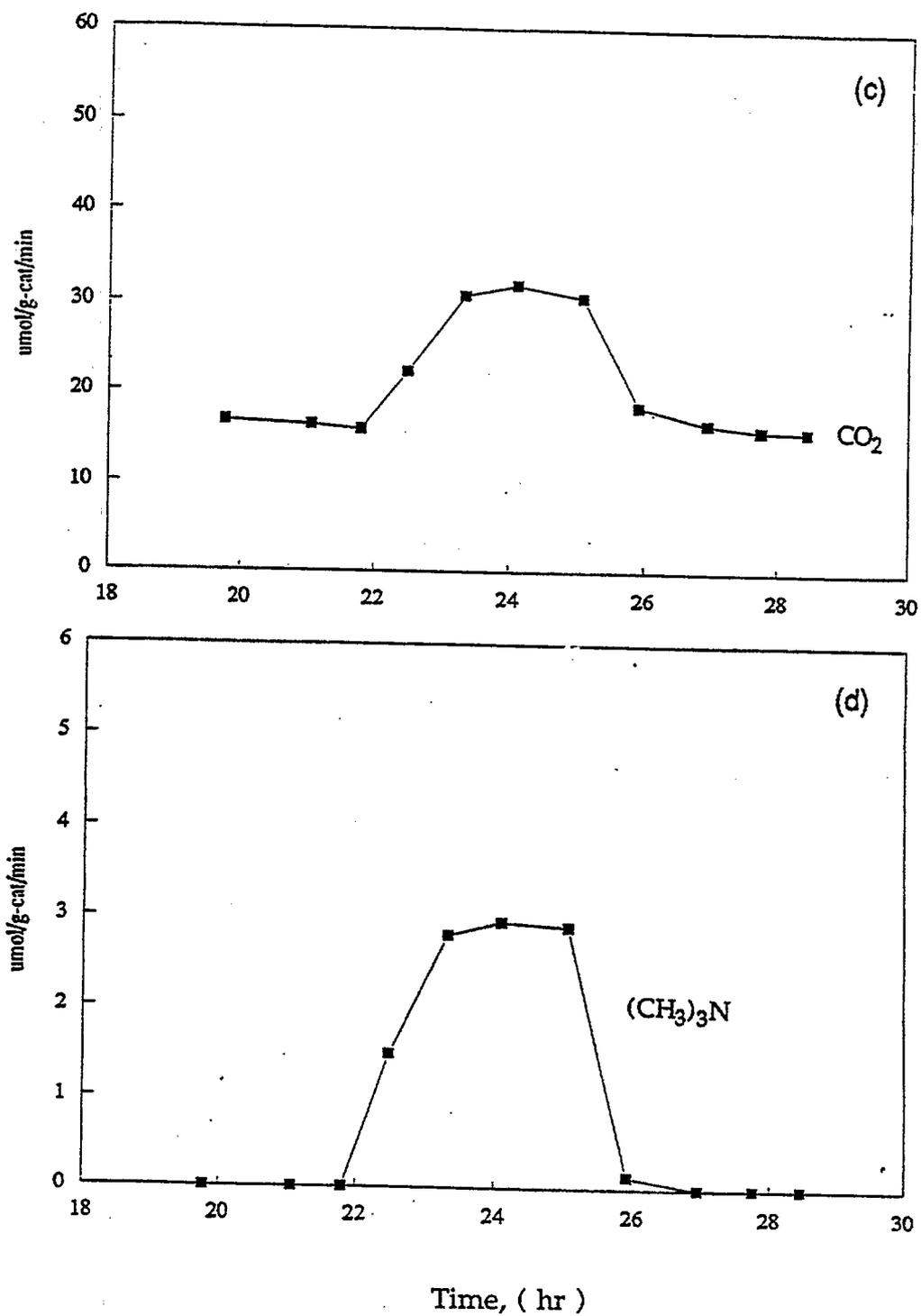


Figure F2 (Continued) Formation Rates of (c) CO₂ and (d) (CH₃)₃N without and with CH₃NO₂ Addition to CO/H₂ over 05Co-IW-A

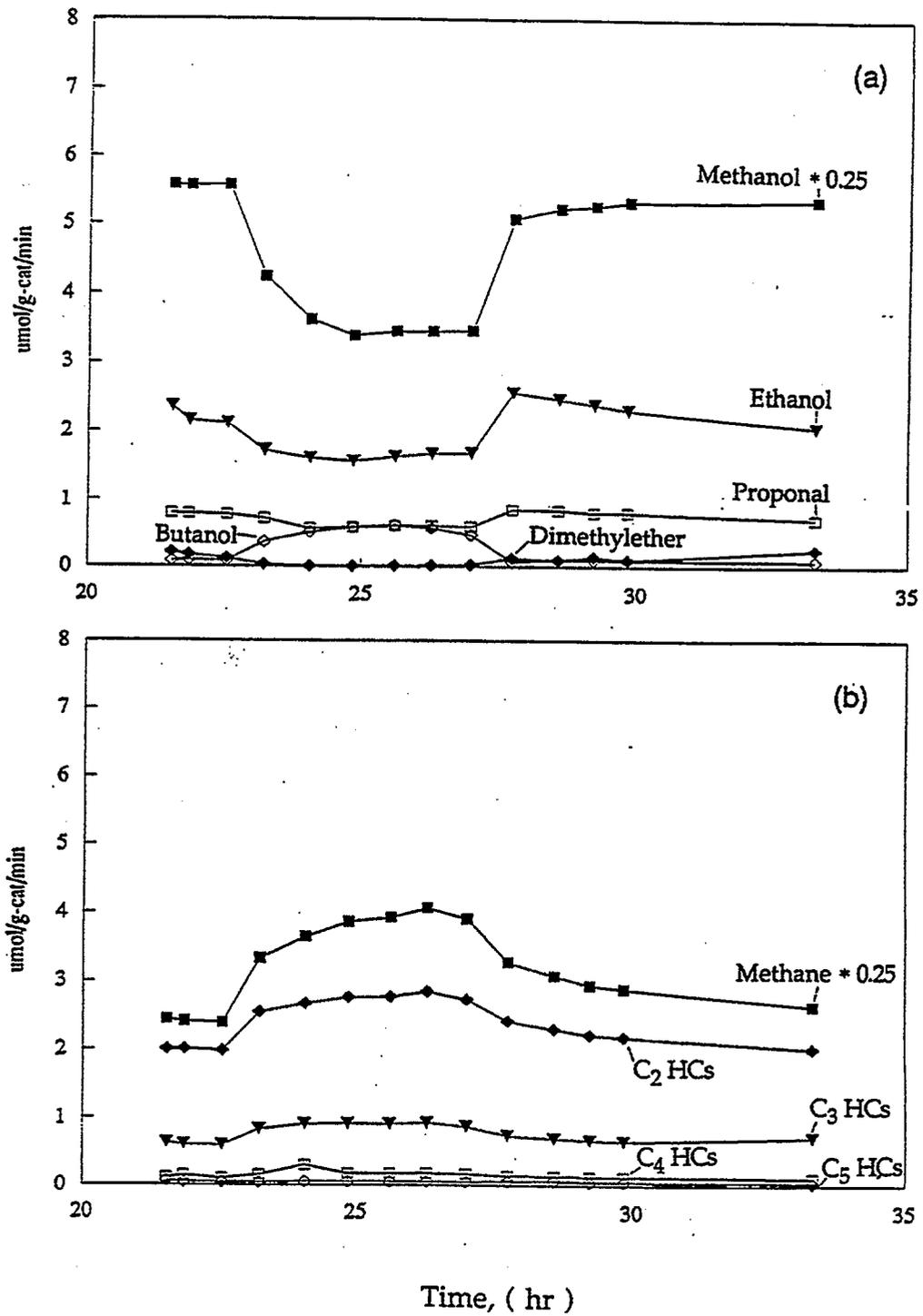


Figure F3 Formation Rates of (a) Alcohols and (b) Hydrocarbons without and with CH_3NO_2 Addition to CO/H_2 over 11Co-IW-A

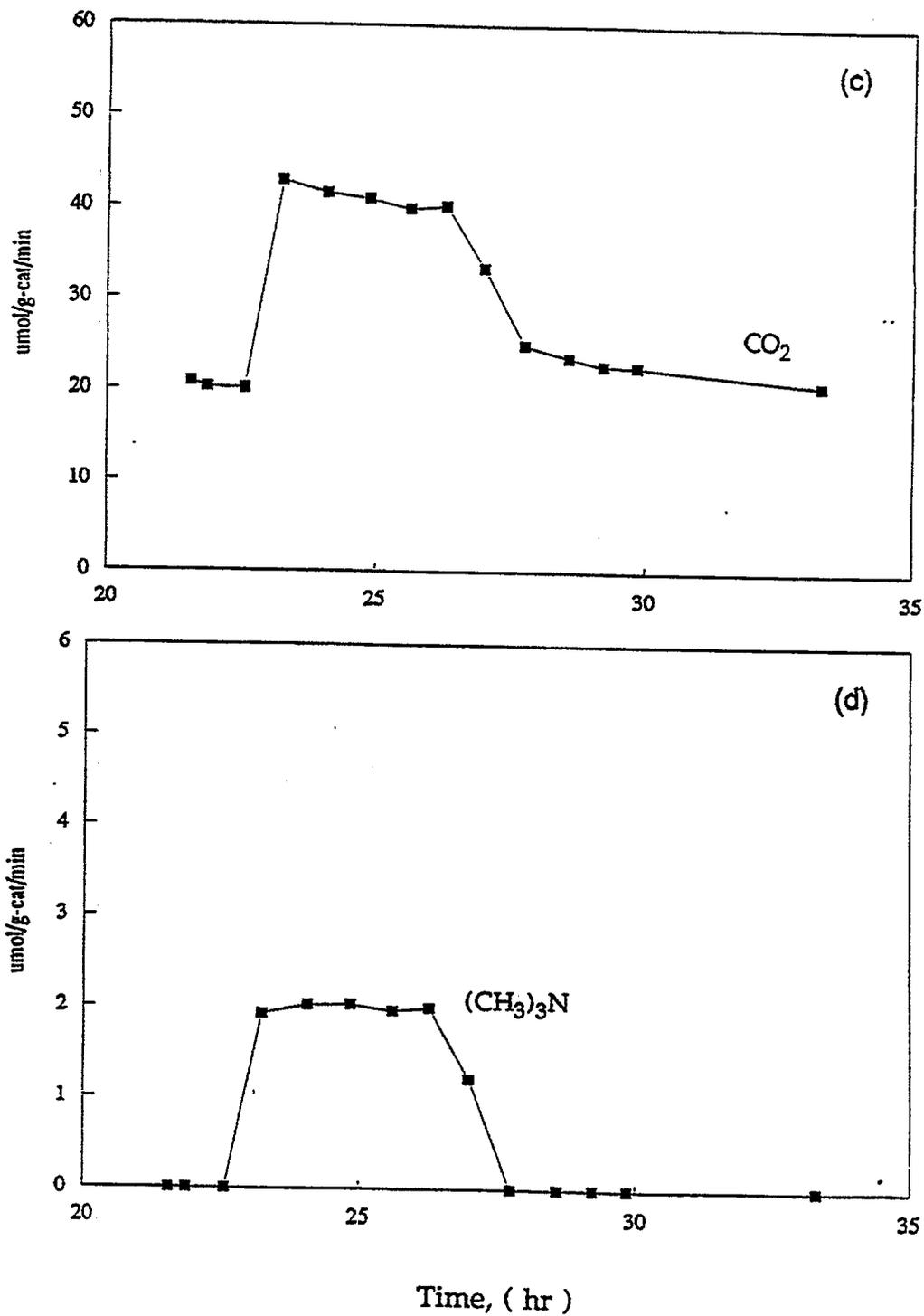


Figure F3 (Continued) Formation Rates of (c) CO₂ and (d) (CH₃)₃N without and with CH₃NO₂ Addition to CO/H₂ over 11Co-IW-A

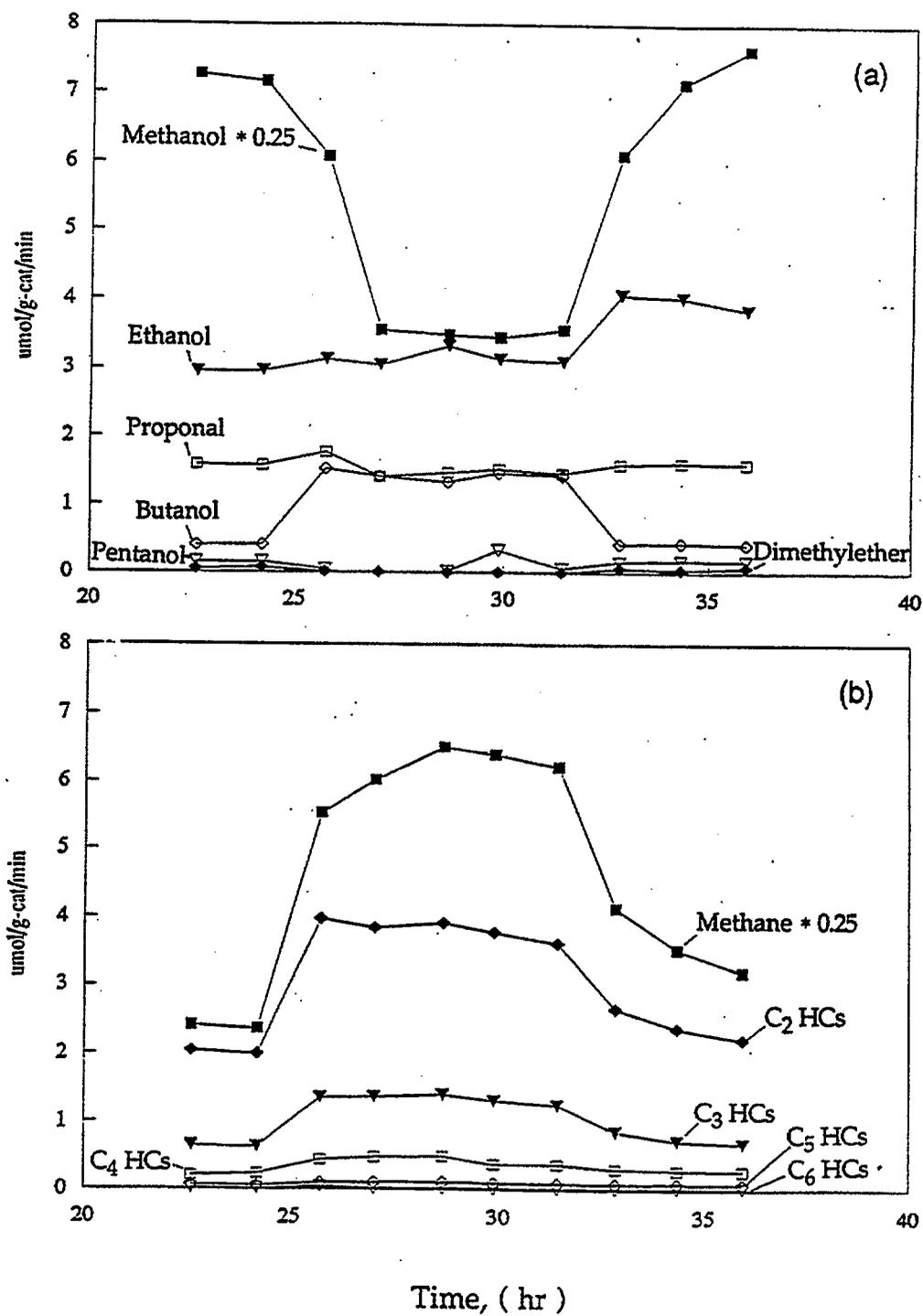


Figure F4 Formation Rates of (a) Alcohols and (b) Hydrocarbons without and with CH_3NO_2 Addition to CO/H_2 over 11Co-IW-B

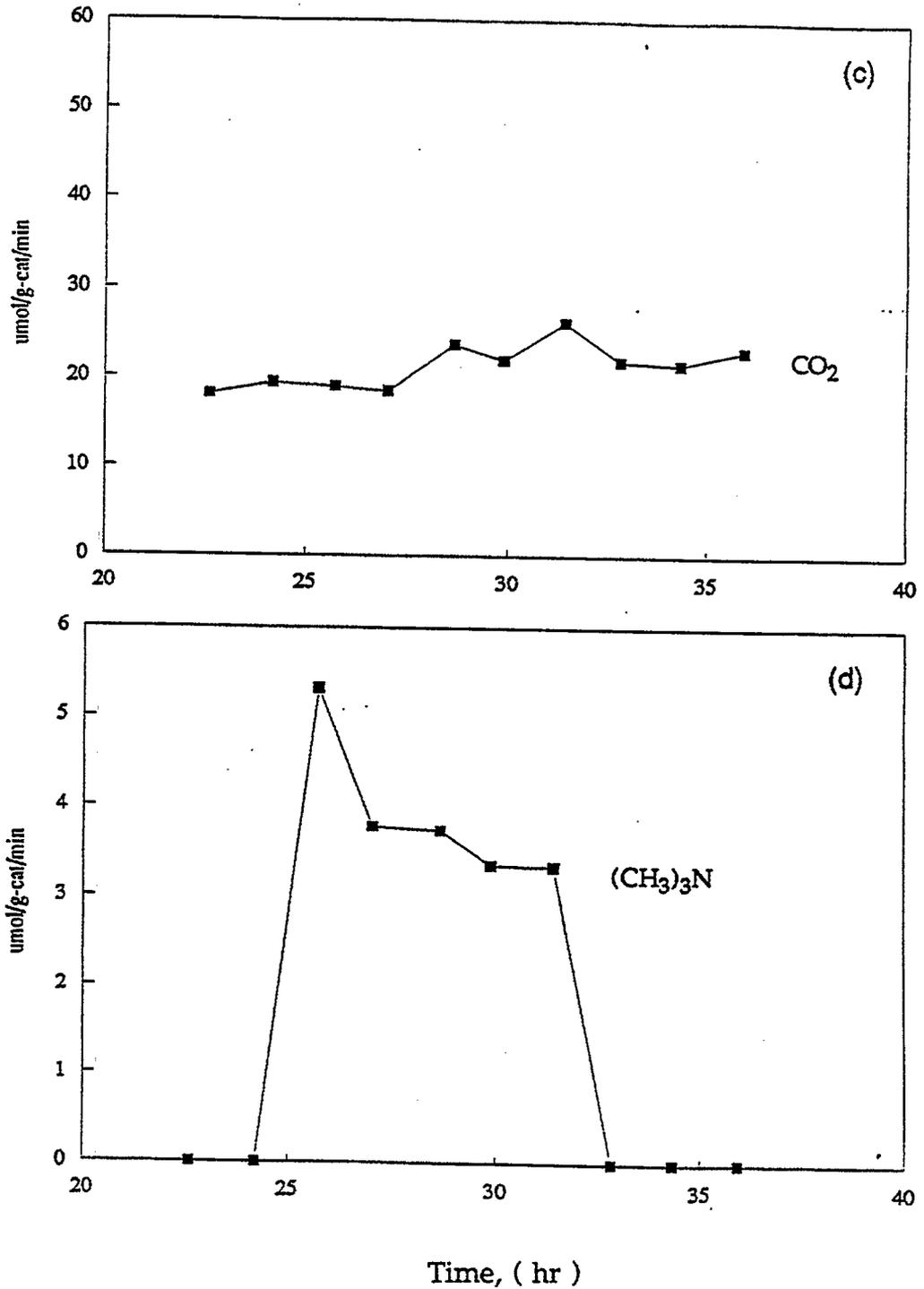


Figure F4 (Continued) Formation Rates of (c) CO_2 and (d) $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$ without and with CH_3NO_2 Addition to CO/H_2 over 11Co-IW-B

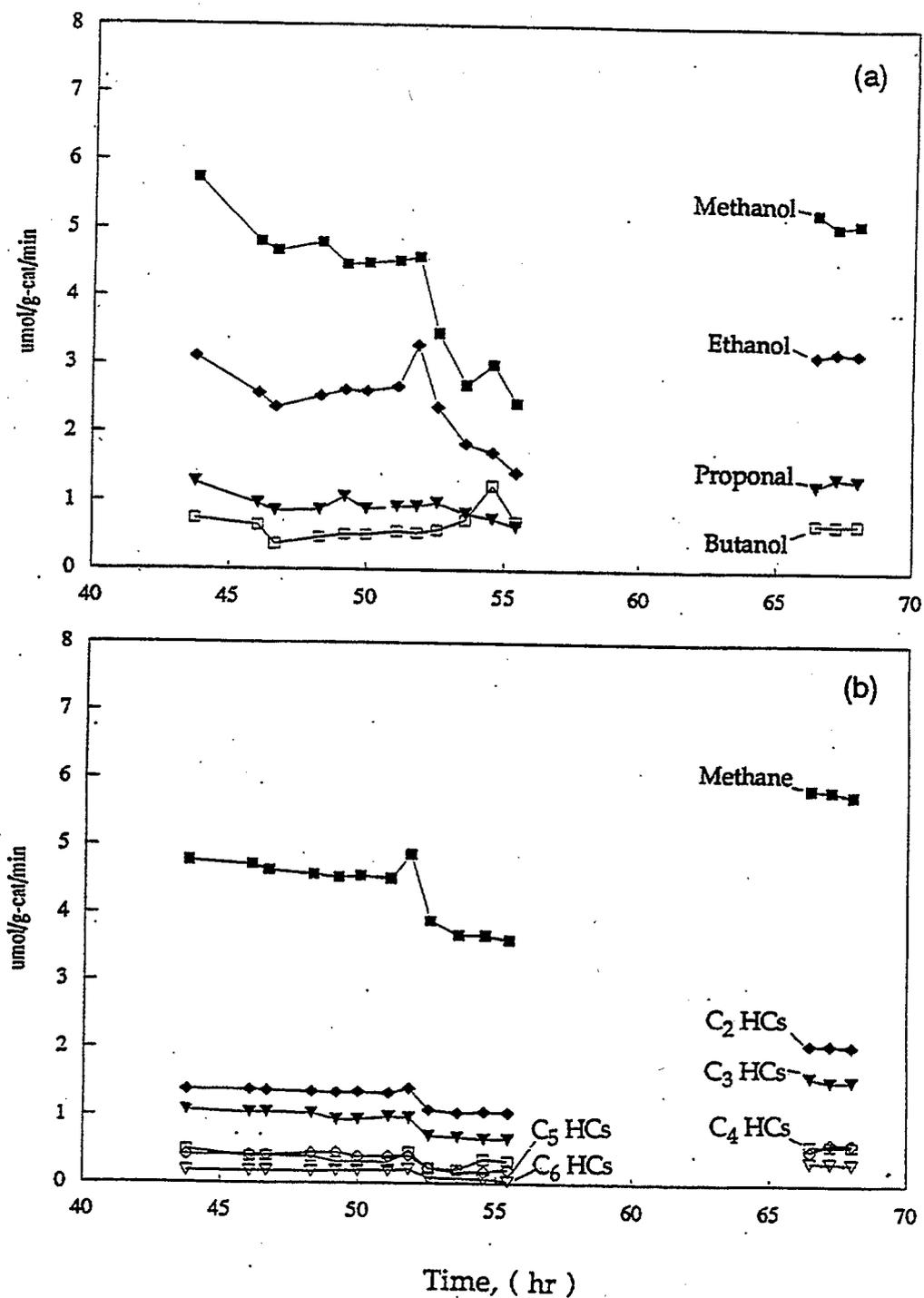


Figure F5 Formation Rates of (a) Alcohols and (b) Hydrocarbons without and with CH_3NO_2 Addition to CO/H_2 over 11Co-CP-A

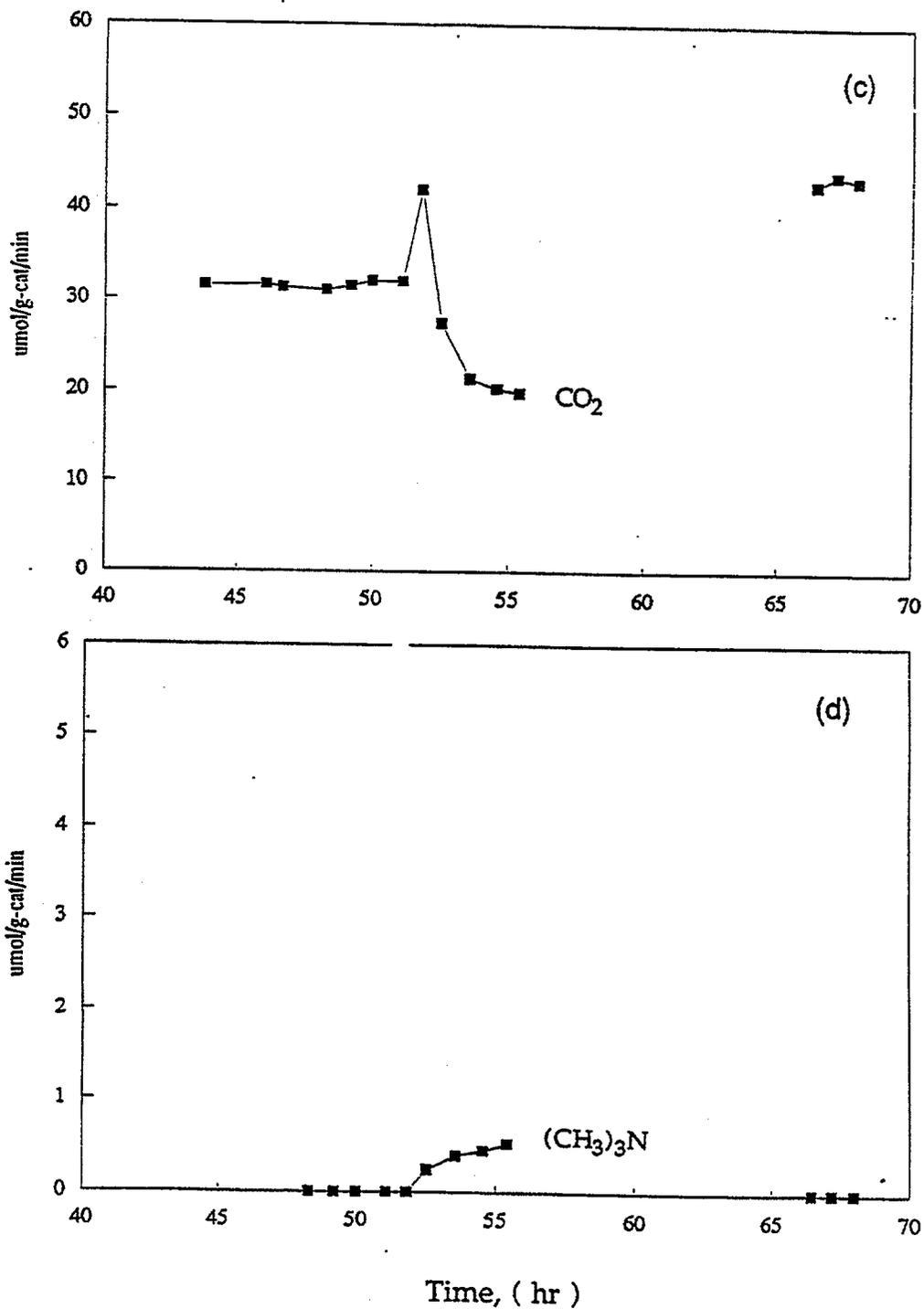


Figure F5 (Continued) Formation Rates of (c) CO_2 and (d) $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$ without and with CH_3NO_2 Addition to CO/H_2 over 11Co-CP-A

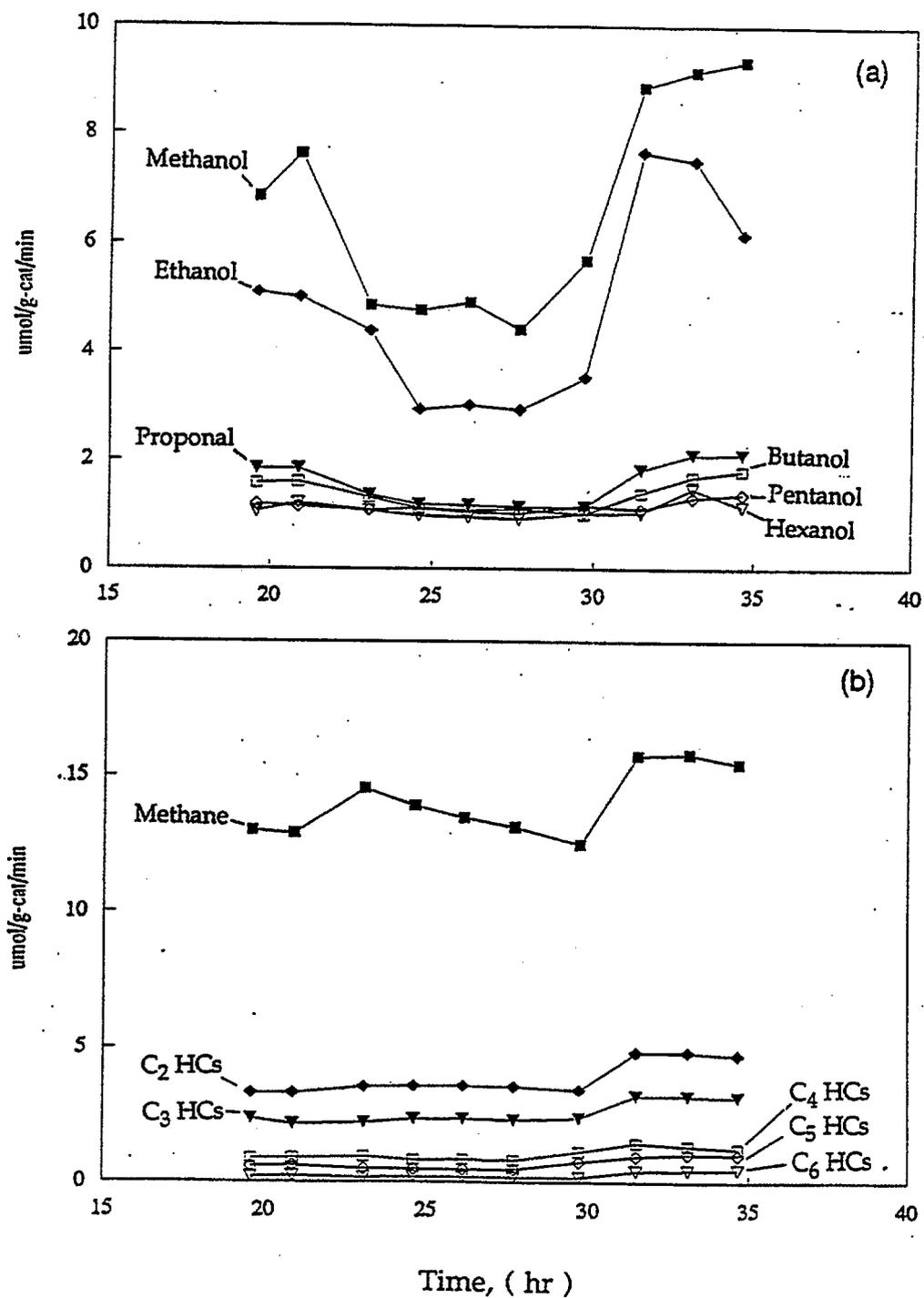


Figure F6 Formation Rates of (a) Alcohols and (b) Hydrocarbons without and with CH₃NO₂ Addition to CO/H₂ over 11Co-CP-B

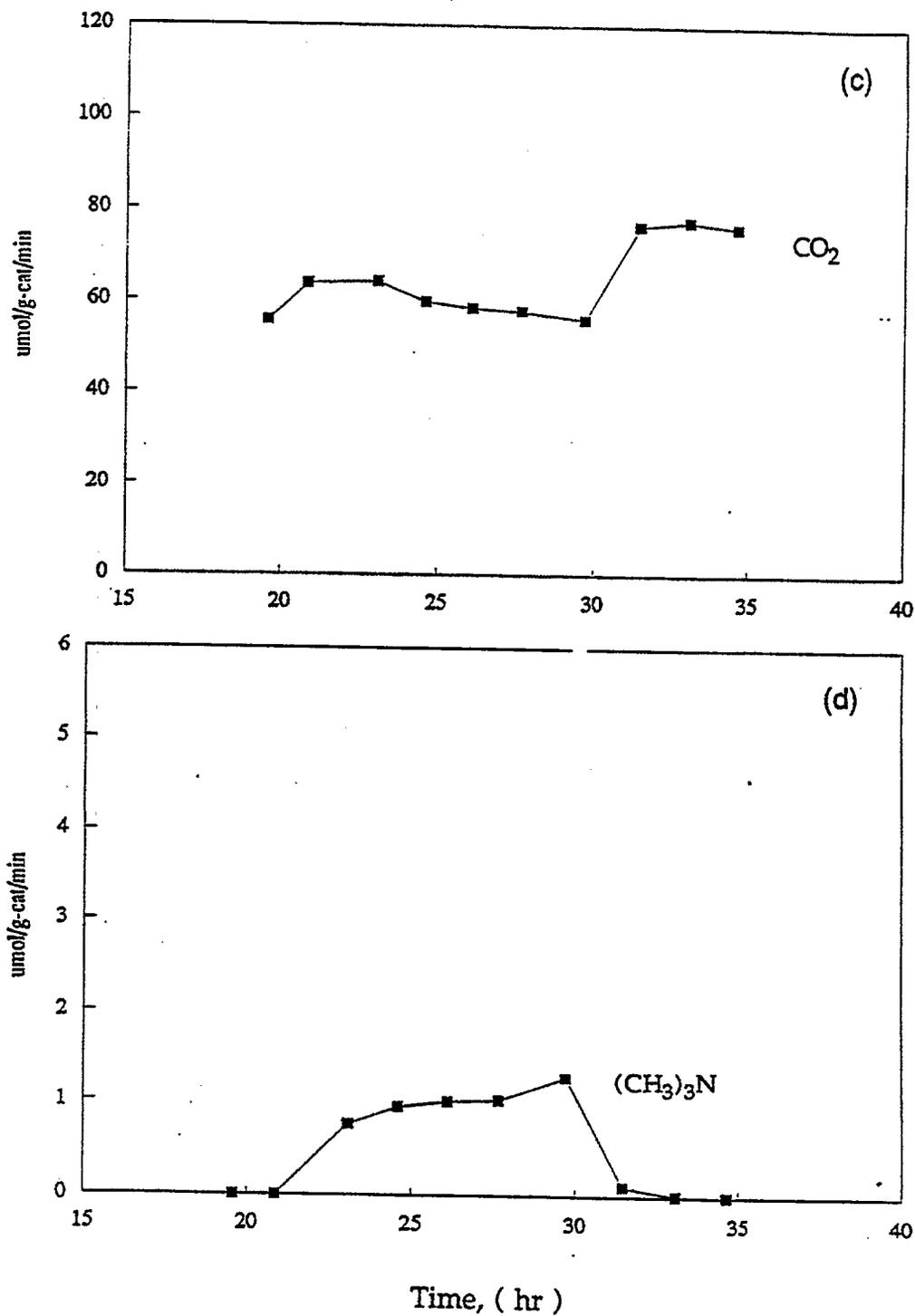


Figure F6 (Continued) Formation Rates of (c) CO_2 and (d) $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$ without and with CH_3NO_2 Addition to CO/H_2 over 11Co-CP-B

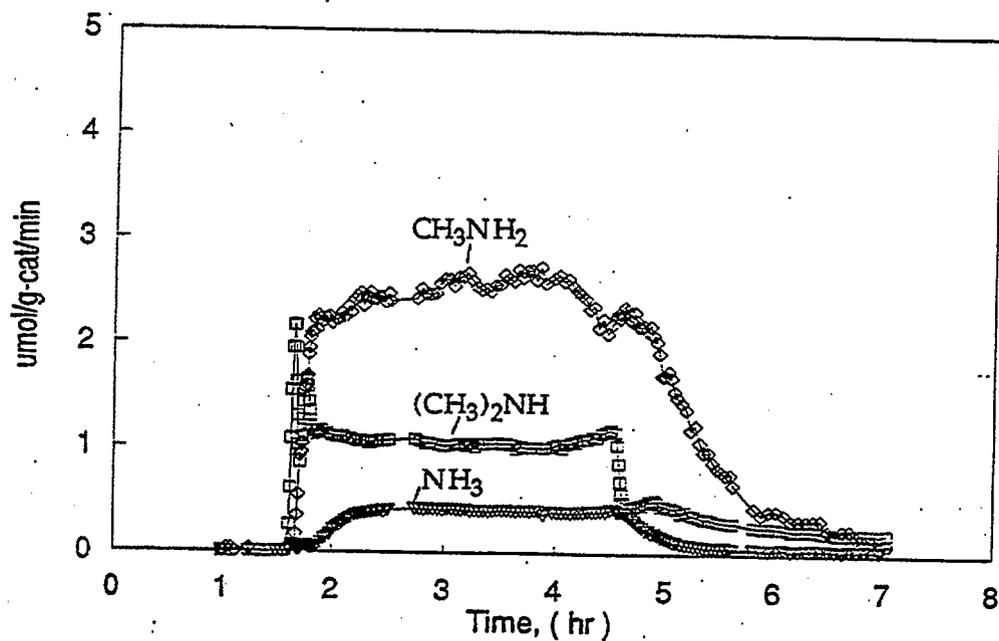


Figure F7 Formation of $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}$, CH_3NH_2 and NH_3 during the Addition of CH_3NO_2 to CO/H_2 over 00Co-IW-A

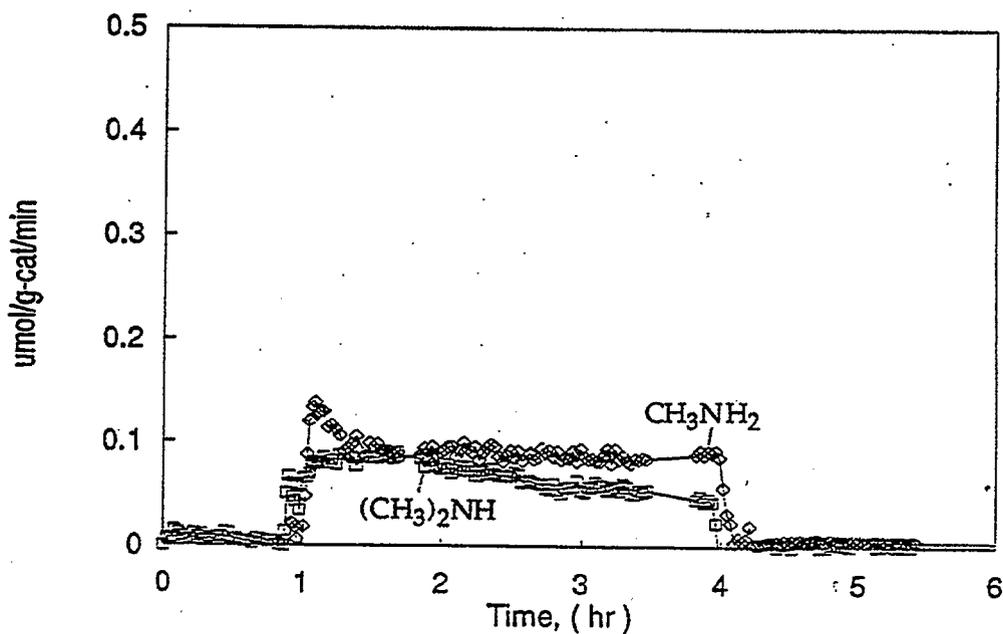


Figure F8 Formation of $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}$, CH_3NH_2 and NH_3 during the Addition of CH_3NO_2 to CO/H_2 over 05Co-IW-A

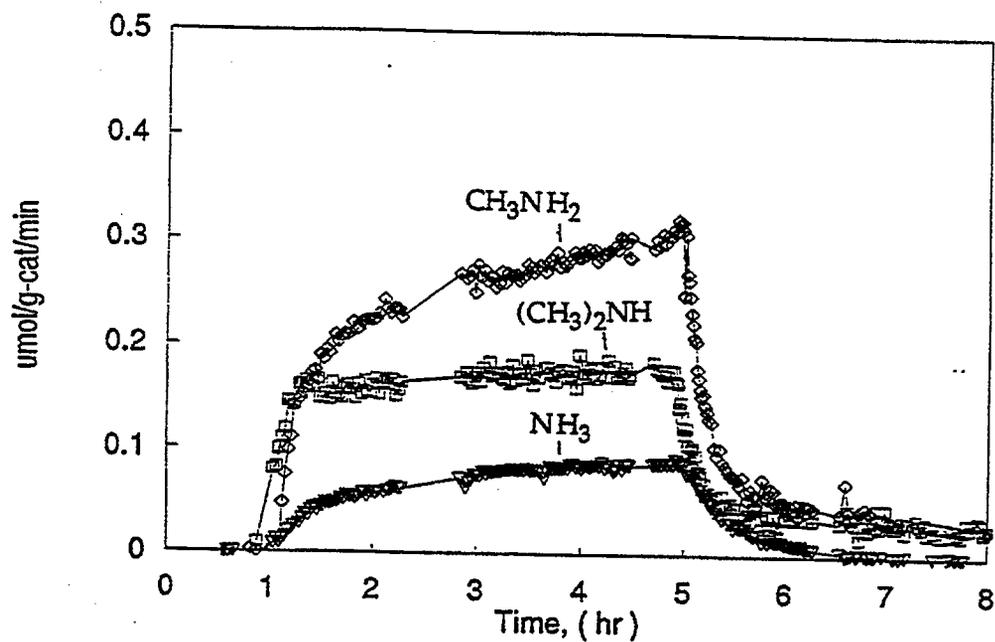


Figure F9 Formation of $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}$, CH_3NH_2 and NH_3 during the Addition of CH_3NO_2 to CO/H_2 over 11Co-IW-A

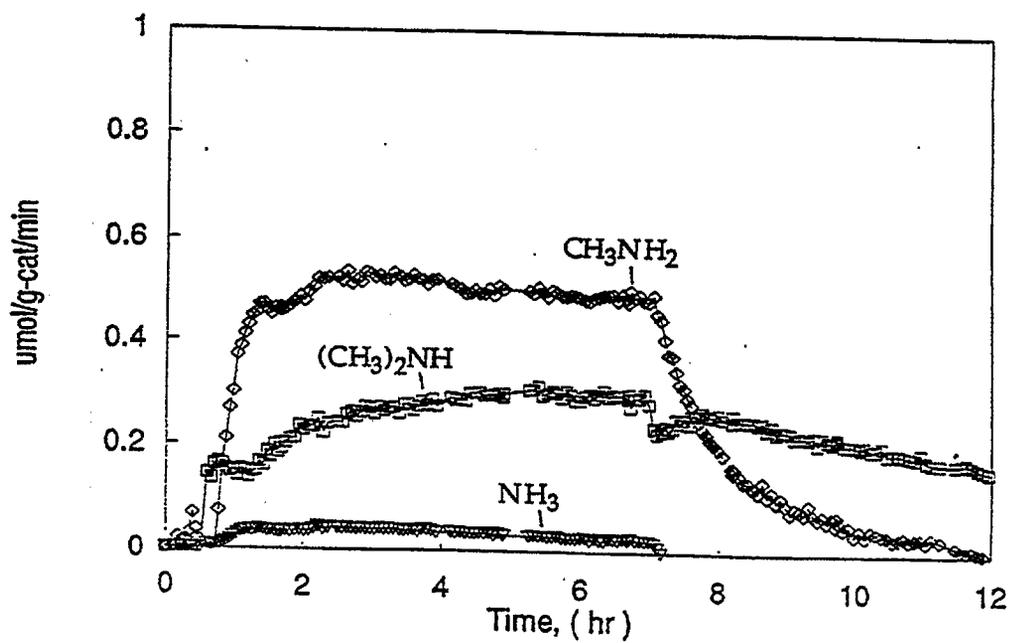


Figure F10 Formation of $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}$, CH_3NH_2 and NH_3 during the Addition of CH_3NO_2 to CO/H_2 over 11Co-IW-B

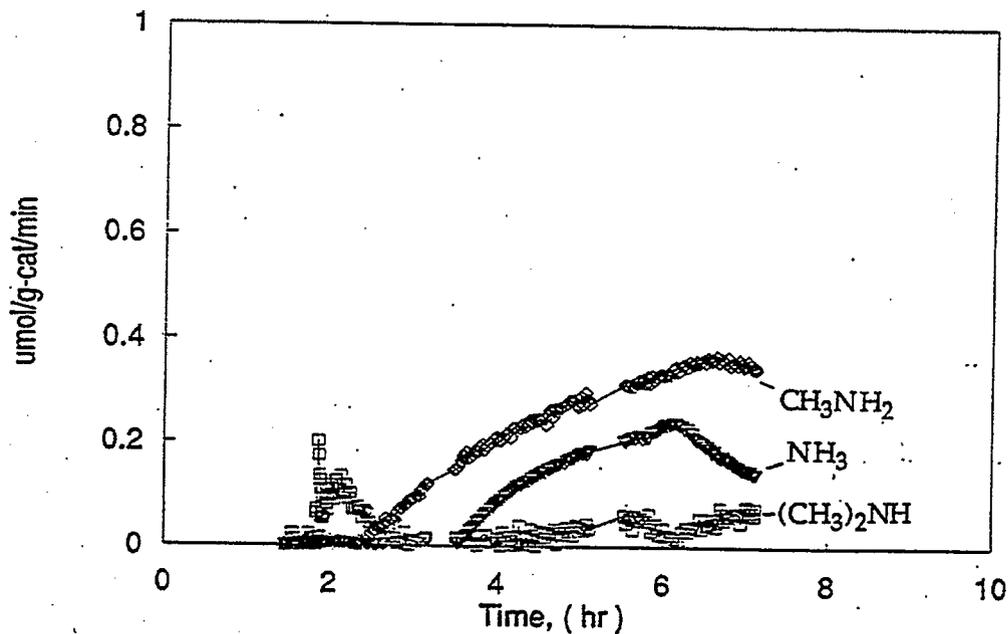


Figure F11 Formation of $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}$, CH_3NH_2 and NH_3 during the Addition of CH_3NO_2 to CO/H_2 over 11Co-CP-A

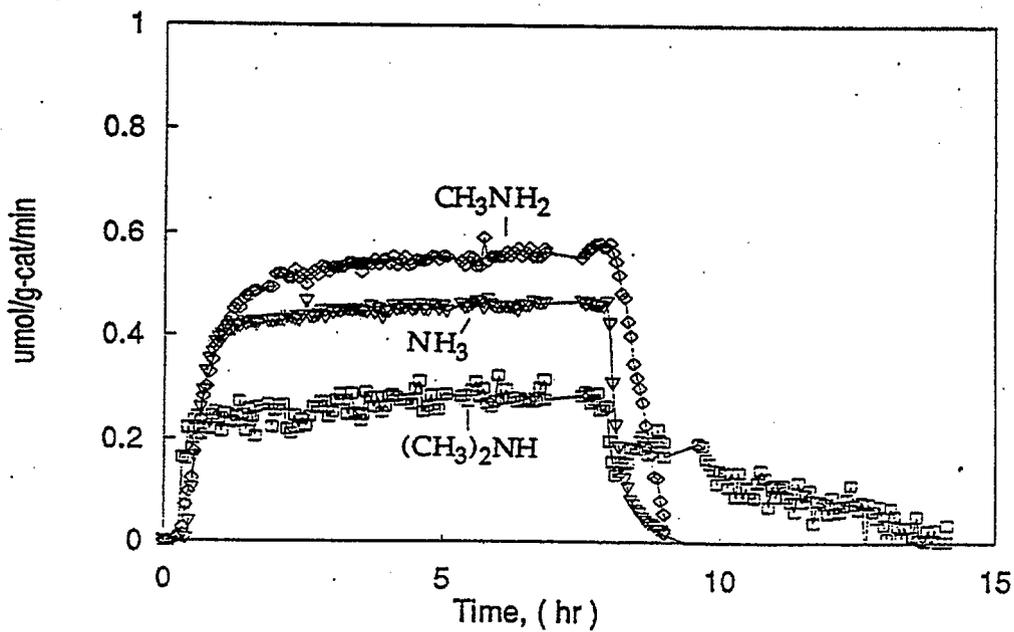


Figure F12 Formation of $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}$, CH_3NH_2 and NH_3 during the Addition of CH_3NO_2 to CO/H_2 over 11Co-CP-B

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