Sociedade I 23º Rei	Brasileira de Química união Anual
Poços de Caldas,	23 a 26 de maio de 2000
AT	ESTADO
Atestamos que foi apresentado na 23ª Re	eunião Anual da Sociedade Brasileira de Química
o trabalho SILICA - ZIRCONIA MIXED OXIDE V AND SOME PROPERTIES	VITH SURFACE BONDED ANTIMONY: SYNTHESIS
QM-131	
de autoria de ZAITSEVA, G.	GUSHIKEM, Y.
	Poços de Caldas, 26 de maio de 2000
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## SILICA – ZIRCONIUM MIXED OXIDE WITH SURFACE BONDED ANTIMONY: CHARACTERIZATION OF THE MICROPOROSITY BY NITROGEN ADSORPTION

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Characterization of the microporosity of silica mixed oxides is an important stage in their application as catalysts or adsorbents. Several methods have been developed to analyze of nitrogen gas adsorption isotherm for silica-zirconium mixed oxides with surface bonded antimony (V). Specific surface area (S<sub>a</sub>) was calculated by the BET method and the external surface area (S<sub>ext</sub>) - by the t-plot. Cumulative surface area of pore (S<sub>p</sub>) was obtained from MP-method data. The internal surface area (S<sub>int</sub>) was calculated by the subtracting S<sub>ext</sub> from S<sub>a</sub>. Micropore volume (V<sub>mp</sub>) was estimated by the MP, t-plot and Horvath-Kawasoe (H-K) methods. The average micropore size (radius R<sub>mp</sub> or diameter D<sub>mp</sub>) and the pore size distribution were evaluated by the H-K and MP methods. The results are presented in Table.

Sample ID	Zr,	Sb,	S <sub>a</sub> ,	S <sub>int</sub> ,	MP			t-plot		H-K	
	%	%	m²/g	m²/g	S <sub>p</sub> ,	V <sub>mp</sub> ,	R <sub>mp</sub> ,	V <sub>mp</sub> ,	S <sub>ext</sub> ,	V <sub>mp</sub> ,	D <sub>mp</sub> ,
			BET		m²/g	m³/g	nm	m³/́g	m²/g	m³/g	nm
Si,Zr1	8.4	-	649	422	732	0.29	0.39	0.17	226	0.28	0.76
Si,Zr2	11.6	-	327	275	422	0.14	0.34	0.11	51	0.14	0.66
Si,Zr3	15.4	-	276	241	378	0.12	0.32	0.10	35	0.12	0.64
(Si,Zr1)Sb	8.1	6.3	590	458	691	0.26	0.37	0.18	132	0.25	0.73
(Si,Zr2)Sb	10.3	13.1	344	299	461	0.15	0.32	0.12	44	0.15	0.64
(Si,Zr3)Sb	14.9	11.4	440	365	519	0.18	0.34	0.15	75	0.18	0.69

Table. Chemical composition of mixed oxides and their porous parameters

All materials showed a Langmuir Type I isotherms indicating that the mixed oxides obtained are microporous. The S<sub>a</sub> and S<sub>ext</sub> values for (Si,Zr1)Sb decreased compared to Si,Zr1. The change in V<sub>mp</sub> for these oxides was low. On the contrary, the S<sub>a</sub> and S<sub>ext</sub> values for (Si,Zr2)Sb and (Si,Zr3)Sb increased compared to Si,Zr2 and Si,Zr3. Particularly, this increase was sizeable for (Si,Zr3)Sb. The change in V<sub>mp</sub> and S<sub>a</sub> for (Si,Zr2)Sb and (Si,Zr3)Sb showed a similar trend. The ratio S<sub>int</sub>/S<sub>a</sub> was constant for (Si,Zr2)Sb and (Si,Zr3)Sb compared to Si,Zr2 and Si,Zr3 and increased in case of (Si,Zr1)Sb. The pore size distribution calculated by H-K and MP- methods showed peaks at 0.8; 0.7; 0.6 nm for Si,Zr1, Si,Zr2, Si,Zr3 and at 0.7; 0.6; 0.7 nm for (Si,Zr1)Sb, (Si,Zr2)Sb and (Si,Zr3)Sb, correspondingly indicating ultramicroporosity of the material obtained.

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