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# EXPERMENTAL STUDY ON SEQUENCE HEATING REACTION BETWEEN NITRIC OXIDE AMMONIA

Wenfeng Hao\*

<sup>\*</sup>Department of Applied Chemistry, School of New Energy, Shenyang Institute of Engineering, Shenyang 110136, China

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#### ABSTRACT

A tubular reactor with a sequence heating device is used to discuss the effects of operational parameters for the reaction between nitric oxide and ammonia. Experimental results showed that denitration efficiencies had been developed to become a parabola with the change of reaction time under a certain NH<sub>3</sub>/NO mole ratio and under a certain temperature and that denitration efficiencies also had changed to become a parabola with the increase of the reaction temperature when a NH<sub>3</sub>/NO mole ratio was identified. Denitration efficiencies of 91.6 percent could be reached when the optimal NH<sub>3</sub>/NO mole ratio, optimal reaction temperature, and reaction time respectively were 1.2, 320 °C and 14min in this work.

KEYWORDS: Nitric oxide, Ammonia, Sequence heating, Experiment, Denitration efficiency.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Nitrogen oxide is one of the main pollutants of flue gas emitted by coal burning boiler, which has a large proportion in the air pollutant. In order to solve the pollution problem of nitrogen oxide in industrial production and in daily life, a great deal of measures of control and of emission reduction have been adopted. Currently control tactics and emission reduction measures commonly used in technology are NO<sub>x</sub> control technology during combustion such as circulating fluidized bed combustion technology, low nitrogen combustion technology, integrated coal based combined cycle, NO<sub>x</sub> control technology before combustion such as clean coal power generation technology and NO<sub>x</sub> control technology with post-treatment after combustion such as flue gas denitration technology based on selective catalytic reduction (SCR), selective non-catalytic reduction (SNCR) and SCR/SNCR joint technology. Although these technologies of nitrogen oxide removal had had better effects for NO<sub>x</sub> denitration efficiency, it still had broad research space to discuss their issues of gas mixing, transfer process and chemical reaction. Thus, a denitration reactor of selective catalytic reduction with a preheating section, a high temperature section and a reaction section for the mixed gas was used to investigate the effects of reaction time, NH<sub>3</sub>/NO mole ratio and reaction temperature on denitration efficiency when nitric oxide and ammonia were flue gas simulated and reduction agent, respectively.

# **EXPERIMENTAL**

#### Apparatus

The schematic diagram of the denitration unit is plotted in Figure 1. Steel cylinder 1, 2, 3 and 4 are filled with argon gas, oxygen gas, ammonia gas and nitric oxide gas, respectively. Flow controller 5 controls various gases from cylinder 1, 2, 3 and 4 by operational key panel. After the gases from cylinder 1, 2, 3 and 4 are premixed in pipeline 6 they will in turn pass the preheating section 8, high temperature section 9 and reaction section 10 purged by blower and simultaneously will react in these sections. Finally, exhaust gases are discharged by pipeline 11. In this system reactor 10 is a cylinder with size  $\Phi 100 \times 650$  which is filled with catalyst inside and is covered with thermal coat of insulation cotton outside. The catalyst is composed of TiO<sub>2</sub>, V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and WO<sub>3</sub> with a mass fraction of 0.9, 0.03 and 0.07.

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Figure 1 Schematic diagram of denitration unit

# Procedure

- 1) Turn on power switch and open ventilation equipment to ensure that there is adequate ventilation in the laboratory. Then put the exhaust pipeline outlet to outdoors.
- 2) Turn on the switch of the equipment and open the air blower to ensure that gas flow of the reaction section is smooth. Afterwards, turn on switches of the preheating section and the high temperature section and set their temperatures value. After the temperature of the reaction section reaches the experimental temperature of 270 °C, close the air blower.
- 3) Open steel cylinder valves of argon gas, oxygen gas and nitric oxide gas respectively and orderly and make volumetric flow rate in pipeline be 0.01 L·min<sup>-1</sup>, 0.01 L·min<sup>-1</sup> and 0.38 L·min<sup>-1</sup>. Afterwards, open steel cylinder valve of ammonia gas and make its flow rate be 0.46 L·min<sup>-1</sup>. Adjust these four valves and make the NH<sub>3</sub>/NO volumetric flow rate ratio is 1.2 and the time record begins.
- 4) Observe and record denitration efficiencies shown by data analyzer at 0 min, 5 min, 10 min, 15 min, and 20 min.
- 5) Adjust respectively the temperature of the reaction section to 290°C, 300°C, 320°C, and 350°C and repeat abovementioned procedures. Afterwards, identify optimal reaction time.
- 6) Adjust and set respectively the NH<sub>3</sub>/NO volume ratio to 0.8, 1.0, 1.2, 1.4 and 1.6 under reaction temperature 290°C. Repeat steps 1, 2, 3, and 4 when reaction time is optimal reaction time.
- 7) Repeat steps 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 when the reaction temperature is respectively set to be 300°C, 320 °C, 350°C and 270°C. Afterwards, identify the optimal process parameters in this work.

# **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### Effect of reaction time on denitration efficiency

The effect of reaction time on denitration efficiency was studied in five experiments. Schematic diagram effect of reaction time on denitration efficiency, were drawn using those five-group experimental data, as shown in Figure 2. Five curves were plotted under NH<sub>3</sub>/NO mole ratio 1.2 and under five different reaction temperatures. As seen in Figure 2, under reaction temperature 270°C denitration efficiencies' change area were from 31.2% to 40.5% when reaction time from 5 min to 20 min. The denitration efficiency first increased and then decreased, finally form a parabola. Under the reaction temperatures 290°C, 300°C, 320°C, and 350°C observing other four curves parabolas form also were found similarly. Besides, there existed optimal operational temperature. When reaction time was 14min, these five curves could reach the maximal values, in which 91.6% denitration efficiency value of the highest point at 320°C could be reached.



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Figure 2 Effect of reaction time on denitration efficiency Effect of reaction temperature and of NH<sub>3</sub>/NO mole ratio on denitration efficiency

Effect curves of reaction temperature on denitration efficiency were plotted when NH<sub>3</sub>/NO mole ratio was variable parameter, as shown in Figure 3. Under the condition of NH<sub>3</sub>/NO mole ratio 0.8, the denitration efficiency was respectively 35.1%, 36.2 %, 41.3%, 39.3%, and 33.8% at reaction temperature 270°C, 290°C, 300°C, 320°C, and 350°C. From the view of the tendency, the denitration efficiency first increased and later decreased with the increase of reaction temperature, finally formed a parabola. Besides, four parabolic curves similarly could be achieved under the conditions of NH<sub>3</sub>/NO mole ratio 1.0, 1.2, 1.4, and 1.6. With the increase of NH<sub>3</sub>/NO mole ratio the denitration efficiency also increased. But the denitration results did not turn better and better with the increase of NH<sub>3</sub>/NO mole ratio. Moreover, in the change intervals of those NH<sub>3</sub>/NO mole ratio there existed an optimized value, 1.2. After maximal values of those denitration efficiency were compared the data results showed that 91.6% denitration efficiency, the highest value in experiments, could be gotten at NH<sub>3</sub>/NO mole ratio 1.2.



Figure 3 Effect of reaction temperature and of NH<sub>3</sub>/NO mole ratio on denitration efficiency

# Conclusions

Experimental results of sequence heating reaction between nitric oxide and ammonia showed that denitration efficiencies had been developed to become a parabola with the change of reaction time under a certain  $NH_3/NO$  mole ratio and under a certain temperature and that denitration efficiencies also had changed to become a parabola with the increase of the reaction temperature when a  $NH_3/NO$  mole ratio was identified. Under the optimal  $NH_3/NO$  mole ratio, 1.2, optimal reaction temperature, 320°C, and reaction time 14min 91.6% denitration efficiencies could be reached in this work.

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