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Letter of retraction

Retraction of "Some evidence refuting the alkenyl mechanism for chain growth in iron-based Fischer–Tropsch synthesis" [Catalysis Today 71 (2002) 343–349]☆

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The senior authors of this paper have asked for the opportunity to correct the content and intent of this paper. They state that they should not have published the paper since the model compound study described in it does not give evidence to refute the alkenyl mechanism for the Fischer–Tropsch reaction.

They write: "The paper reports results of a preliminary study which were not suitable for publication. It contains errors and misconceptions and the results were obtained using poorly characterised model compounds. Furthermore, the paper claims too much concerning the mechanism of the Fischer–Tropsch reaction. The alkenyl mechanism for Fischer–Tropsch proposed by Maitlis and co-workers (J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 286 (1989)) against which it argues was based on evidence accumulated using good scientific practice. The model compound study reported in our paper has no bearing on the validity of the alkenyl mechanism for chain growth in the Fischer–Tropsch process proposed by Maitlis et al. and provides no new evidence to support or refute it. We would like to apologise sincerely to Professor Maitlis and his co-workers for questioning in any way their scientific integrity."

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