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The Catalytic Activities of Poly Acid/Apatites in the Epoxidation Using Urea-Hydrogen Peroxide

Junko Ichihara^a; Shunro Yamaguchi^a; Hirokazu Nakayama^b; Katsuma Iteya^c; Takeshi Shinkawa^c; Yoh Sasaki^c

^a Osaka University, Japan ^b Kobe Pharmaceutical University, Japan ^c Kinki University, Japan

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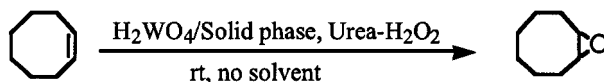
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THE CATALYTIC ACTIVITIES OF POLY ACID/APATITES IN THE EPOXIDATION USING UREA-HYDROGEN PEROXIDE

*Junko Ichihara,^a Shunro Yamaguchi,^a Hirokazu Nakayama,^b
 Katsuma Iteya,^c Takeshi Shinkawa,^c and Yoh Sasaki^c
 Osaka University, Japan;^a Kobe Pharmaceutical University,
 Japan;^b and Kinki University, Japan^c*

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Apatites, $\text{Ca}_{10}(\text{PO}_4)_6\text{X}_2$, which form the mineral component of bones and teeth, are handled as a harmless solid to environment. We have found that tungstic acid catalyst dispersed on apatite solid phase ($\text{H}_2\text{WO}_4/\text{apatite}$) is effective as the environmentally benign solid catalyst for the epoxidation of alkenes and allylic alcohols with solid urea-hydrogen peroxide complex (urea- H_2O_2).¹



For comparing the utility of the solid phase, silica gel, calcium fluoride, tricalcium phosphate (α -TCP) and apatites (HAp, FAp) were used in the epoxidation reaction of cyclooctene with H_2WO_4 catalyst and urea- H_2O_2 . The order of catalytic activities of $\text{H}_2\text{WO}_4/\text{solid}$ was $\text{FAp} \sim \text{HAp} > \text{CaF}_2 \sim \text{silica gel} > \alpha\text{-TCP}$. Under solvent-free conditions, in general, the surface area of solid phase is the most important factor for accelerating the reaction. However, the activities order was inconsistent with the order of the solid surface area, silica gel \gg HAp \sim FAp \sim $\text{CaF}_2 > \alpha\text{-TCP}$. Apatite having low surface area was the most effective as the solid disperse phase. Because of cation and anion-exchange ability and affinity for organic compound, apatite may moderately interact with both the inorganic catalyst and alkenes to assist the tungstic acid-catalyzed epoxidation reactions.

Address correspondence to Junko Ichihara, Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research, Osaka University, Ibaraki 567-0047, Japan.
 E-mail: ichihara@sanken.osaka-u.ac.jp

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