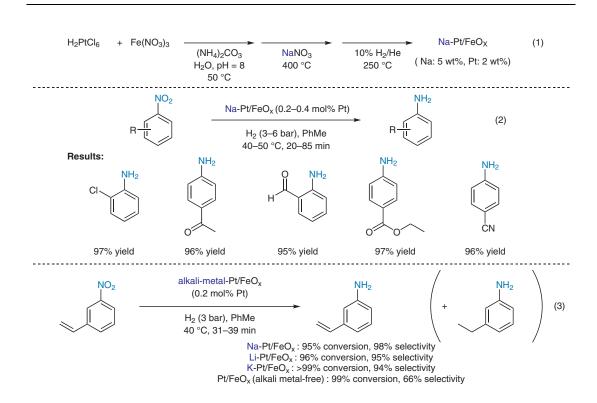
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Remarkable Effect of Alkalis on the Chemoselective Hydrogenation of Functionalized Nitroarenes over High-Loading Pt/FeO_x Catalysts

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Chemoselective Hydrogenation of Functionalized Nitroarenes to Anilines



Significance: A sodium-containing FeO_x -supported platinum catalyst (Na-Pt/FeO_x) was prepared by mixing H_2PtCl_6 and $Fe(NO_3)_3$ with $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ in water, followed by the treatment with NaNO₃, calcination, and reduction with hydrogen (eq.1). Na-Pt/FeO_x catalyzed the chemoselective hydrogenation of substituted nitroarenes under hydrogen pressure to afford the corresponding anilines in 95–97% yield (eq. 2). In the hydrogenation of 3-nitrostyrene, Na-Pt/FeO_x promoted the hydrogenation of the nitro group to give 3-aminostyrene in 95% conversion with 98% selectivity (eq. 3). The catalyst was reused three times without significant loss of its catalytic activity or chemoselectivity.

Comment: Other alkali-metal-containing Pt/FeO $_{\rm x}$ catalysts (Li-Pt/FeO $_{\rm x}$ and K-Pt/FeO $_{\rm x}$) also promoted the selective hydrogenation of 3-nitrostyrene to 3-aminostyrene in 96 to >99% conversion and 94–95% selectivity. Compared with alkali-metal-containing catalysts, alkali-metal-free Pt/FeO $_{\rm x}$ showed a lower selectivity (99% conversion and 66% selectivity). The authors have previously reported the chemoselective hydrogenation of functionalized nitroarenes to the corresponding anilines by using FeO $_{\rm x}$ -supported platinum catalysts prepared from H $_2$ PtCl $_6$, Fe(NO $_3$) $_3$, and Na $_2$ CO $_3$ (Nat. Commun. 2014, 5, 5634).

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