

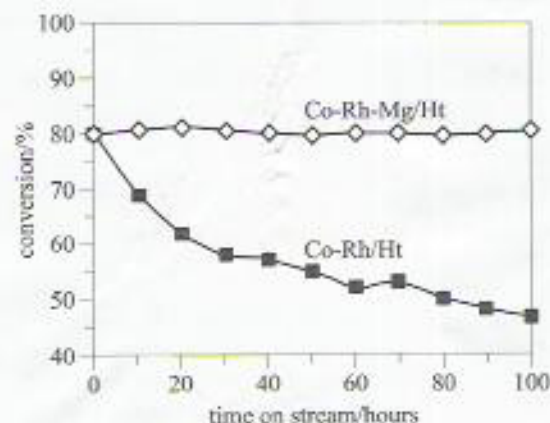
**Figure 3** Reduction of  $N_2O$  over Co-Rh/Ht and Fe-ZSM5, with propene added to the exhaust stream entering the catalyst bed: (a)  $N_2O$  conversion into  $N_2$  and (b) propene consumption, as functions of temperature.

(ii) The propene added in advance of the second bed may chemically reduce the catalyst surface and/or take part as a reactant in the reduction of  $N_2O$ . The concentration of  $C_3H_6$  in the gases leaving the bed is shown as a function of temperature in Figure 3b. For each catalyst, compare the temperature range over which the hydrocarbon is consumed with that over which the  $N_2O$  activity of the catalyst changes (Figure 3a). Hence, discuss very briefly whether it is possible to identify which, if either, of the processes involving propene predominates. (three or four sentences)

(iii) For the Co-Rh/Ht catalyst and for the same material with added magnesium, Co-Rh-Mg/Ht, both operated at 425 °C, Figure 4 shows the variation in  $N_2O$  reduction activity with time on stream. Outline possible reasons for the continuous decrease in the activity of Co-Rh/Ht. (About 50 words)

It is clear that magnesium does not play a direct chemical role in the catalytic process because its addition has no effect on the initial reaction rate. Suggest what its function may be in maintaining the

$N_2O$  reduction activity at a constant level. (one or two sentences)



**Figure 4** Reduction of  $N_2O$  over Co-Rh/Ht and Co-Rh-Mg/Ht at 425 °C, with propene added to the exhaust stream entering the catalyst bed, as a function of time on stream.