MS13-1-20 New layered titanate, NaTi $_2O_3(OH)_3$, obtained in hydrothermal environments at gigapascal pressures #MS13-1-20

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Abstract

TiO₂-based materials are widely used in a variety of applications, such as photocatalysis, lithium-ion batteries and etc., due to their peculiar chemical and physical properties¹. Since Kasuga et. al.² for the first time synthesized long uniform titanate nanotubes in hydrothermal conditions the interest in the method and its potential use for the development of titanates with novel morphologies and/or structures has only been increasing. Despite that, only subcritical hydrothermal conditions have been studied, with pressures (p) and temperatures (T) below the critical point (cp) of water ($T_{cp} = 374$ °C and $p_{cp} = 22.1$ MPa). In this work we are extending the synthesis to deep supercritical hydrothermal conditions in the range still accessible on industrial scale (T = 25 - 300 °C and p = 0.1 - 3 GPa). Such conditions are known³ to allow access to kinetically favoured phases and new morphologies.

Here we present new sodium hydroxo titanate, $NaTi_2O_3(OH)_3$, obtained by the hydrothermal conversion of amorphous titania and aqueous sodium hydroxide mixture at 1.3 - 1.5 GPa and 170 - 190 °C. Its crystal structure was characterized from powder X-ray and continuous rotational electron diffraction data (space group C2/m (No. 12), a = 5.2685(1) Å, b = 9.1256(2) Å, c = 9.4581(4) Å, β = 90.0503(9) °). The monoclinic structure constitutes layers of edge-condensed TiO₆ octahedra, one quarter of which is missing and replaced by basal triangles of NaO₆ octahedra from the adjacent layers. The channel-like layered structure and its stability in strongly acidic and alkaline environments promise a wide use of the novel sodium hydroxo titanate in adsorbent applications, such as the removal of organic molecules and radioactive toxic metal ions from water.

References

- 1. Zhang Y. et al. RSC Adv., 2015, 5, 79479–79510.
- 2. Kasuga T. et al. Langmuir, 1998, 14, 3160–3163.
- 3. Spektor K. et al. Inorg. Chem.I, 2016, 55, 8048-8058.

Structure, SEM and TEM images of the new titanate

