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Solubility and phase diagrams of hydroxyl manganese chloride

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Abstract: In the course of the basic research on the ammonia-evaporation reaction of manganese monoxide (MnO), hydroxyl manganese chloride ($Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$) was found. The solubility and phase diagrams of the hydroxyl manganese chloride were investigated. The aqueous thermostat and vibrating bed were used to determine the solubility of hydroxyl manganese chloride in water, ammonium chloride and manganese chloride system, and the phase diagrams of multicomponent system were drawn. The research results indicate that hydroxyl manganese chloride has been produced in laboratory and is in favor of the solid-liquid separation at high temperature.

Key words: ammonia-evaporation; hydroxyl manganese chloride; solubility; phase diagram

1 Introduction

A new integrated technological system "The acid-alkali joint production and its regeneration cycle" was developed, and extensive efforts on its basic theory and application were given out[1–4]. The new system mainly contains the decomposition of ammonium chloride into ammonia and hydrogen chloride at the presence of medium (MnO), and their regeneration cycle.

The previous research indicated that the ammonia-evaporation reaction of manganese monoxide (MnO) plays very important role in the acid-alkali joint production. The ammonia-evaporation reaction obeys reaction (1). The $Mn(OH)_2$ reacts with $MnCl_2$ to form complex hydroxyl manganese chloride ($Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$) with a neglectable solubility, following reactions (2) and (3). The formation of hydroxyl manganese chloride provides the condition of solid-liquid separation.

 $MnO+2NH_4Cl \xrightarrow{>120^{\circ}C} MnCl_2+2NH_3+H_2O$ (1)

$$MnO+H_2O \to Mn(OH)_2$$
(2)

$$MnCl_2 + 3Mn(OH)_2 \rightarrow 2Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$$
(3)

After ammonia-evaporation reaction, the solid reactant is separated. The analytical results of the solid reactant by XRD (powder X-ray diffraction) proved the existence of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$. $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ was discovered at south Siberian altiplano in chloro-amakinite ore[5]. Usually, ammonia-evaporation reaction uses magnesium oxide (MgO) as the transforming agent[6–7]. The researches were focused on the basic property of another complex-magnesium hydroxychloride (MgOHCl)[8–10]. The basic chemical property of hydroxyl manganese chloride has not been reported yet. In this work, referring to some relative literatures[11–17], the phase diagrams of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl-MnCl_2-NH_4Cl-H_2O$ system and the solubility of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ were studied in detail.

2 Experimental

2.1 Reagent and instrument

All reagents used were analytical pure. MnO of 98% purity was got from Xiangtan of Hunan Province, China, MnCl₂·4H₂O was purchased from Tianjin Chemical Regent Factory. HZS-H aqueous thermostat oscillator is made by Harbin East-union Electronic Technology Exploitation Ltd., whose precision is ± 0.1 °C.

2.2 Production of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl

MnO and MnCl₂ (MnCl₂ is surplus 20%) were mixed on molar ratio of 3:1.2. 200 g MnO and 141.9 g MnCl₂ and 400 mL H₂O were put into a high pressure

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reactor, sealed and mixed at 120 °C for 1 h, then the mixture was discharged and hot filtered. The solid was preserved for ready-use; the concentrations of the manganese and chloride in solid phase were analyzed, and the XRD (X'Pert-Pro, the harrow material is copper) analysis was carried out after the solid sample was dried at 120 °C.

2.3 Experimental procedure

2.3.1 Determination of solubility of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl in water

1.5-3.0 g Mn₂(OH)₃Cl prepared was put in a pyxis containing 50 mL H₂O, then the pyxis was sealed, and three prepared pyxises were placed in an aqueous thermostat under a certain temperature, such as 25, 40, 55, 65, 80 °C. Those pyxises were vibrated for a while, then was filtered to separate solid and liquid phase. The concentration of manganese in liquid phase was analyzed in order to calculate the solubility of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl in water. This step was repeated several times to make sure the system to reach a equilibrium condition).

2.3.2 Phase diagram of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl–NH₄Cl–H₂O

Eight samples of 1.5-3.0 g Mn₂(OH)₃Cl prepared were weighed, and those eight samples were put into eight pyxises containing 50 mL NH₄Cl solution with concentrations of 30, 60, 90, 120, 150, 180, 210 and 250 g/L, respectively. Then the pyxises were sealed and placed in an aqueous thermostat under a certain temperature, were vibrated for a while, then were taken out (this step can be repeated several times to make sure the system to reach a equilibrium condition), and filtered to separate solid and liquid phase. Finally, the content of manganese in liquid was analyzed. So the phase diagram was drawn with the obtained data. The above procedure was repeated under a set of different temperature conditions.

2.3.3 Phase diagram of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl-MnCl₂-H₂O

Six samples of 1.5-3.0 g $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ prepared were weighed and put into six pyxises containing 50 mL MnCl₂ solution with concentrations of 5, 20, 35, 50, 65, 80 g/L, respectively. Those pyxises were sealed and placed in an aqueous thermostat under a certain temperature, vibrated for a while, then were taken out (also sampling and analyzing preliminary to sometime, in order to contrast whether the system has reached the equilibrium), filtered to separate solid and liquid phase. The concentration of manganese in liquid was analyzed, so the phase diagram was drawn with the obtained data. The above procedure was repeated under a set of different temperature conditions.

2.3.4 Phase diagram of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl-NH₄Cl-MnCl₂-H₂O system

Nine samples of 1.5-3.0 g Mn₂(OH)₃Cl prepared were weighed and placed into pyxises containing 50 mL

 NH_4Cl and $MnCl_2$ solution with concentrations of 250 and 0, 220 and 10, 190 and 20, 160 and 30, 130 and 40, 100 and 50, 70 and 60, 40 and 70, 0 and 80 g/L, respectively. Those pyxises were sealed and placed in an aqueous thermostat under a certain temperature, vibrated for a while taken out, filtered to separate solid and liquid, and the concentration of manganese in liquid was analyzed, and the phase diagram was drawn with the obtained data. The above procedure was respeated under a set of different temperature conditions.

2.4 Analytical methods

The concentrations of manganese in samples were determined by ICP-AES (Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectra, PE DV5300), and the content of Cl⁻ was analyzed by mercurimetry.

3 Results and discussion

3.1 Analysis of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl

The lab-made $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ was prepared and then analyzed by the method mentioned. The experimentally determined molar ratio of manganese to chloride in the $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ is 2.05, which coincides with the theoretical value of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$. The XRD pattern of the lab-made $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ is shown in Fig.1.



Fig.1 XRD pattern of lab-made Mn₂(OH)₃Cl

Comparison of the measured pattern with the standard one of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ in XRD analytical database shows that the prepared substance is hydroxyl manganese chloride.

3.2 Solubility of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl in water

The solubility of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ in water under different temperatures was obtained, and is shown in Fig.2.

The experimental results indicate that the solubility of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ in water is very small, and it is between microsolubility substance and infusibility substance.

Using this property of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$, the separation of manganese chloride and ammonium chloride can be realized at high temperature.



Fig.2 Solubility of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl in water

3.3 Solubility of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl in Mn₂(OH)₃Cl-NH₄Cl-H₂O system

The solubilities of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ in the $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl-NH_4Cl-H_2O$ system under different temperatures are shown in Fig.3.

The experimental results indicate that the solubility of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ increases with the increase of concentration of NH₄Cl in the Mn₂(OH)₃Cl–NH₄Cl–H₂O system under a constant temperature. When NH₄Cl in the system decomposes continually, its concentration decreases, resulting in the decrease of solubility and precipitation of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl. This is favorable to the transformation of MnCl₂ to Mn₂(OH)₃Cl (Reaction (3)). Moreover, when NH₄Cl concentration in the system keeps constant, the solubility of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl slightly increases with the increase of temperature, but the increasing amplitude is small. When the concentration of NH₄Cl is low, the variation of the solubility of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl is negligible at different temperatures. This



Fig.3 Solubility values of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ in $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ -NH₄Cl-H₂O system at different temperatures

result indicates the separation feasibility of NH_4Cl and $MnCl_2$ in the slurry after ammonia-evaporation reaction of MnO at high temperature.

3.4 Solubility of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl in Mn₂(OH)₃Cl-MnCl₂-H₂O system

The solubility data of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ in the $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl-MnCl_2-H_2O$ system at different temperatures are shown in Fig.4.



Fig.4 Solubility values of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl in Mn₂(OH)₃Cl-MnCl₂-H₂O system at different temperatures

The experimental results indicate that the solubility of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl decreases gradually with the increase of MnCl₂ concentration in the Mn₂(OH)₃Cl-MnCl₂-H₂O system at a constant temperature, and the solubility is very small because MnCl₂ has strong salting-out action on Mn₂(OH)₃Cl. This result is in favor of the reaction course of the ammonia-evaporation of MnO. Along with the proceeding of the reaction, MnCl₂ continuously transforms into Mn₂(OH)₃Cl, so the MnCl₂ concentration in the reaction system keeps at low level (<100 g/L) and the reaction proceeds forward. Moreover, when MnCl₂ concentration in the reaction system keeps constant, the solubility of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl has a little increment with the increase of temperature, but the increasing amplitude is small. The result provides a evidence to realize solid-liquid separation of the slurry of ammoniaevaporation reaction of MnO at higher temperature.

3.5 Solubility of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl in Mn₂(OH)₃Cl-NH₄Cl-MnCl₂-H₂O system

The solubility data of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ in the $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl-NH_4Cl-MnCl_2-H_2O$ system at different temperatures are shown in Figs.5–7.

The experimental results indicate that, firstly, the change of NH_4Cl concentration is the major factor to influence the change of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ concentration in the

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Fig.5 Solubility of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ in $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl-NH_4Cl-MnCl_2-H_2O$ system at 25 °C



Fig.6 Solubility of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ in $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl-NH_4Cl-MnCl_2-H_2O$ system at 55 °C



Fig.7 Solubility of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl in Mn₂(OH)₃Cl-NH₄Cl-MnCl₂-H₂O system at 80 °C

Mn₂(OH)₃Cl-NH₄Cl-MnCl₂-H₂O system. The higher the concentration of NH₄Cl is, the larger the solubility of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl. Whereas, when the NH₄Cl continuously decomposes to form ammonia and emits from the system, the concentration of NH₄Cl decreases, resulting in the decrease of the solubility of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl. The results are in agreement with the analytical results mentioned in section 3.3. Secondly, the phase diagram of quaternary system indicates that the influence of the change of the MnCl₂ concentration on the change of the Mn₂(OH)₃Cl concentration is negligible, and the results are in agreement with the analytical results mentioned in sections 3.3 and 3.4, respectively. Thirdly, the influence of temperature on the quaternary system is the same as it on the ternary system. This result proves that the solid-liquid separation of the Mn₂(OH)₃Cl-NH₄Cl- $MnCl_2-H_2O$ system at high temperature is feasible.

4 Conclusions

1) $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ is prepared successfully. The experimental data of the solubility and the ternary system and quaternary system phase diagrams of $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ indicate that $Mn_2(OH)_3Cl$ has microsolubility; the influence of the concentration of NH_4Cl on its solubility is large, and the influence of temperature and the concentration of $MnCl_2$ on its solubility is slight.

2) The solubility of Mn₂(OH)₃Cl and the ternary system and quaternary system phase diagrams of ammonia-evaporation system offer the evidence for the solid-liquid separation at high temperature.

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羟基氯化锰的溶解度及相图性质

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摘 要:在进行氧化亚锰(MnO)蒸氨反应的基础研究过程中,发现羟基氯化锰(Mn₂(OH)₃Cl)这一物质。对该羟基 氯化锰的溶解度和相图等进行系统研究;利用恒温水浴和摇床测定不同温度下羟基氯化锰在水中、氯化铵中及氯 化锰等体系中的溶解度,并绘制其在多元体系中的相图。实验制备了该物质,并得出羟基氯化锰有利于蒸氨反应 中高温固液分离的结论。

关键词: 蒸氨; 羟基氯化锰; 溶解度; 相图

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