MODIFICATION TECHNOLOGY OF MONTMORILLONITE BY POLYIONENES

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Abstract

Technology of obtaining montmorillonite modified by polyionenes is developed. Macromolecular polymer intercalation of a quaternary ammonium salt of montmorillonite intercrystalline space is shown to be accompanied with increased interlayer distances from 1.08 nm to 1.67 nm. The technique of synthesis of montmorillonite modified by polyionenes is suggested. Optimal conditions for sorption of polyionenes molecules with montmorillonite are found to be: the concentration of aqueous dispersion of montmorillonite is 1%, the temperature of the reaction medium is 40 °C, the montmorillonite-polyionene ratio is 3 : 1, the processing time is 24 hours. The mechanism of montmorillonite modification is suggested to involve the next steps: connection of organic cations to montmorillonite surface determined by attachment of organic cations to exchange position during ion-exchange adsorption and adsorption of organic cations with acid sylanol groups, i.e. torn bonds on crystal faces. These processes are shown to result in more perfect structure by organic cations adsorption with acid sylanol groups (torn bonds on crystal faces).

Keywords: modification, montmorillonite, polyionenes, exfoliation.

TEХНОЛОГІЯ МОДИФІКАЦІЇ МОНТМОРІЛЛОНІТА ПОЛІІОНЕНАМИ

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Анотація

Розроблено технологію отримання монтмориллоніту, модифікованого полііоненами. Показано, що інтеркаляція високомолекулярних полімерів четвертинної амонієвої солі монтмориллонітного міжкристалічного простору супроводжується збільшенням міжшарової відстані від 1,08 нм до 1,67 нм. Техніка синтезу монтмориллоніту модифікований полііоненами розроблено. Оптимальні умови для адсорбції молекул полііоненів з монтмориллонітом: концентрація водної дисперсії монтмориллоніту становить 1%, температура реакційного середовища 40 °C, співвідношення монтмориллоніту-полііонену 3 : 1, час обробки 24 годин. Розроблений механізм модифікації монтмориллоніту включає наступні стадії: з’єднання органічних катіонів з поверхнею монтмориллоніту, що визначається приєднанням органічних катіонів до обмінної позиції при адсорбції та адсорбції органічних катіонів з кислотними синанольними групами, тобто розірваними зв’язками на поверхнях кристалів. Показано, що ці процеси призводять до більш досконалої структури за рахунок адсорбції органічних катіонів кислотними синанольними групами (розірваними зв’язками на поверхнях кристалів).

Ключові слова: модифікація, монтмориллоніт, полііонени, екфоліація.
**TEХНОЛОГИЯ МОДИФИКАЦИИ МОНТМОРИЛЛОНИТА ПОЛИОНЕНАМИ**

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**Introduction**

Global trends of miniaturization indicate objects of science and technology to be decreased up to nano-size because of depletion of miniaturization possibilities with traditional technologies [1–3].

Nano-phase materials science is differed from traditional materials science by developing of innovative materials, their functional parameters being determined not only by microdomain properties but processes occur to be on atomic and molecular level in monolayers and nanovolumes.

Such design can be realized only with molecular clusters and nano-sized particles. Furthermore, micro- nanotechnology transition is not only quantitative but qualitative, physical parameters (fusion temperature, bond energy, interatomic distances, ionic and electronic conductivity, optical and magnetic properties) are revealed non-monotonic dependence on size [4; 5]. Thermodynamical method allows revealing control factors based on homogenic and heterogenic nucleation and studies of particles growth dynamic and structural organisation.

Intercalation of ionogenic organic compounds into porous and layered nanostructures followed by post-intercalation processes is of the utmost interest [6; 7].

Notwithstanding clay mineral modification method certain criteria and general principles of directed regulation of colloid-chemical properties of disperse bodies and their systems ought to be applied [8]. These principles concern with comprehensive investigation of [9–12]:

- structure of disperse phase, i.e. determination of their fine structure, nature, value and energy state of surface;
- structure formation mechanism and influence of various factors on their structural-adsorptive characteristics;
- interaction colloidal phase and disperse medium;
- structure formation in disperse system due to interaction both particles and medium.

These principles are the base for methods of obtaining a lot of clay minerals.

Water-soluble surfactant species with various functional groups are of great significance for control of disperse system properties, such substances being polyionenes included quaternary nitrogen atom in backbone chain. Polyionenes-clay minerals interaction resulted in far-reaching changes of their chemical, surface and porous structure. Increasing of mineral adsorption capacity for hydro carbons is resulted from these processes, it being accompanied with expansive growth of swelling and thixotropic gelation of organic derivatives in disperse media with various polarity.

Replacement of clay mineral exchange cations with organic cations is stated to be accompanied by expanding of crystal gratings along z-axis and internal surface activation [11; 12]. Highly developed microporous structure occurs to be accessible for adsorption of hydrocarbon molecules and inert gases. According to imbedded ion size, pores diameter and sorbent selectivity to determined substances can be controlled.

Ключевые слова: модификация, монтмориллонит, полионены, эксколация.
With that surface hydrophobisation results in affinity of molecular surface properties for organic media with various polarities. It is supported with increasing of adsorption of some hydrocarbons [15], humification and dispergation and heat emission resulted from innerphase solvate interaction with solvent molecules [16].

Interaction of modified minerals and liquid disperse media appears to reveal their important properties, i.e. swelling and thixotropic coagulation structurization which are determined by used polyionenes, modification extent, concentration and anisotropy of disperse phase properties, presence of polar additives and solvative ability of disperse medium [15; 17; 18].

Accordingly, the first main task for modeling of processes dealt with conversion of materials filled with fine particles is focused on determination of particles-aggregates interaction energy. Therefore, the second main task for obtaining of polymeric composites with using of nanomaterials is concerned with arrangement of energetic conditions for nanoparticles division followed by their equal distribution. These conditions can be obtained due to choice of optimal ratios operating parameters-design working elements of equipment.

**Experimental**

Montmorillonite obtained from bentonite BR (‘Dashukov bentonites Ltd’, Cherkassy minefield, Ukraine) is studied in present work. Bentonite is grey powder consisted about of 85% of montmorillonite.

Polyionene based on epoxide diene rubber ED-20 is synthesized by known techniques. Solutions in isopropyl alcohol of both 10% ED-20 and dimethylaminehydrochloride are mixed up in equimolar ratio. The reaction mixture was incubated at 25°C during two hours when stirred continuously. Then, polyionene is synthesized with chloramine obtained by addition polymerization. The reaction mixture is incubated at 60°C during six hours.

Polyionene obtaining reaction is given below [19]:

![Reaction equation]

Montmorillonite surface lamenes modification involves the next steps: elutriation, lamenes surface activation polyionene modification. Elutriation was carried out to separation of montmorillonite fraction from bentonite. Lamene surface was activated for transformation of Ca²⁺-montmorillonite into Na⁺-montmorillonite by

Synthesized polyionene represents as solid white-yellow precipitate. To remove the solvent stub polyionene is incubated in dessicator at 60°C during 6 hours. Molecular mass of polyionene determined with end groups' titration is stated to be 4500.
montmorillonite because of cationic activity of Na+-montmorillonite exceeds by degree of order cationic activity of Ca²⁺-montmorillonite and Mg²⁺-montmorillonite that resulted in exceeding efficiency exchange reaction of Na⁺ and N⁺(R₃).

Montmorillonite modification with polyionene concerns with substitution of exchangeable cation on polyionene cation.

Modified montmorillonite is synthesized according to the next techniques:
- elutriation of montmorillonite fraction;
- preparing of 1% bentonite water dispersion;
- desilting of dispersion during 1 hour followed by separation of montmorillonite dispersion;
- separation and drying of precipitate;
- preparing of 1% montmorillonite suspension, desilting during 1 hour and decantation of high disperse fraction;
- immixture with water at ratio 1:100, disilting during 1 hour and decantation of high disperse fraction.
- elutriation repeated 3–4 time;

Elutriation is carried out to separate high disperse montmorillonite fraction of bentonite.

- activation is carried out by addition 5% water solution of Na₂CO₃ to 1% montmorillonite water dispersion followed by incubating at 85–85 °C during 15 min. Then montmorillonite with modified lamenes surface is obtained.

- Modification is carried out according to techniques. Water solution of 15% polyionenes is added into water dispersion of 1% of activated montmorillonite when stirred intensively. Mixture is incubated at 40 °C when stirred during 24 hours. The solid phase is separated with centrifuge and vacuum-dried at 60 °C up to constant mass. Dry residue is comminuted, bolted through №250 and dried in air circulated oven at 80 °C.

**Results and discussion**

To determine optimal parameters of montmorillonite modification processes influence of temperature and equivalence ratio on process kinetic of polyionene sedimentation on surface of crystal layers (lamenes) is studied.

Kinetic curves of polyionenes sedimentation processes at various temperatures are given on Fig. 1. According to these data all of kinetic curves are S-shaped. Polyionenes sedimentation rate increases when temperature risen. It reach a maximum at 40 °C (Fig. 2).

So, process of montmorillonite modification with synthesized polymeric quaternary ammonium salt is revealed to be more effective at 40 °C.

Also, influence of montmorillonite-polyionene ratio in water dispersion on polyionene content in modified montmorillonite was studied.

As it appears from represented data, modification rate and polyionene content in modified montmorillonite is strongly affected by components ratio (Fig. 3, 4).
In pursuance of correlation dependence polyanion-montmorillonite ratio in water dispersion vs. polyanion-montmorillonite ratio in modified montmorillonite (Fig. 4) concentration of polyanions on lamenes surface is observed to abruptly increase when polyanion content achieved 20%. It is supposed to be resulted from associates’ formation on lamenes surface in these conditions.

Thereby, optimal regime parameters of montmorillonite polyanione modification processes are temperature of 40 °С (Fig. 1, 2) during 24 hours (Fig. 1) and montmorillonite-polyionene ratio in water dispersion 3 : 1 (Fig. 3, 4).

WAXS data for montmorillonite allow to estimate a rate of cristallinity of montmorillonite and to reveal a periodicity of montmorillonite crystalline layers (lamenes) order, it being resulted in determination both of distance between montmorillonite layers and their dimension and as a consequence in identification of nanosized modified montmorillonite. WAXS profiles of studied montmorillonite are given on Fig. 5.

The unmodified montmorillonite reveal a little diffusive peak at $2\theta = 8.6^\circ$ corresponded technically to a distance between crystal layers $d = 1.03$ nm. For montmorillonite modified with polyanion peak is observed to shift into low-angles-region $2\theta = 5.8^\circ$. Substitution of interlayer exchange ions on polymeric cations is accompanied with increasing of distance between crystalline layers up to 1.67 nm, both position and shape of wide angle maximum (intensivity and half-width) being changed because of direct coupling with crystallinity of macrolattice, i.e. paracrystalline order.

Increasing of interplanar spacing gives an evidence of intercalation of macromolecules fragments of modifying additive into interlayer space of montmorillonite. Accordingly, replacement of interlayer metal cations to polyaniones cations occur to resulted in decay of interlayer bonds.

Synthesized organic montmorillonites are studied by DTA method. Thermograms of initial montmorillonite, montmorillonite modified with polyanione and polyanionene are given on Fig. 6.

Initial montmorillonite thermograms are characterized with double thermic endoeffect at 130 °С and 200 °С corresponded to adsorbed water loss and endoeffect at 540 °С resulted from dehydroxilation of mineral.
In the region of valence vibrations of structural hydroxide groups (bands at 3690, 3670, 3620 cm\(^{-1}\)) changes are not observed. However, interesting situation occur to be in the region of valence vibrations of Si–O. Band of 1120 cm\(^{-1}\) corresponded with valence vibrations of Si–O with normal change of dipole moment against packages plane [21] reveal no distinction between initial and modified montmorillonite, but band at 970 cm\(^{-1}\) for initial montmorillonite is doubled into two bands at 1030 and 1010 cm\(^{-1}\) for modified montmorillonite, these being accorded with valence vibrations of Si–O with parallel change of dipole moment against packages plane.

As for octahedral and tetrahedral montmorillonite layers have combine oxygen atoms lattice [22], position of valence Si–O–vibrations bands is indubitably affected by cations nature. Bands of Si–O–vibrations with dipole change in parallel to layers surface are notices to become more diffusive and shift toward low frequencies when montmorillonite structure defectiveness increased, i.e. when bonds on crystal faces torn and octahedral lattices disfigured. So, modification results in more perfect mineral structure.

Having been analyzed character of amines nitrogen atoms lattice with valence vibrations [23]. Apparently, interaction of such type could be suggested. However, quaternary nitrogen atom is known to be incapable for hydrogen bond formation because of lack of undivided electron pair [23].

In that case, connection of organic cations to montmorillonite surface is assumed to be determined by attachment of organic cations to exchange position during ion-exchange adsorption and adsorption of organic cations with acid sylanol groups, i.e. torn bonds on crystal faces.

This conclusion is confirmed by comparing of the bands 770 and 730 cm\(^{-1}\). So, according to [24] these bands are corresponded to deformaive vibrations of lattice hydroxyl groups with dipole polarization normal to layers flat surface. This conclusion is also confirmed by comparison of the bands 770 and 730 cm\(^{-1}\) for initial and modified montmorillonite. For example, these bands are related to deformaive vibrations of lattice hydroxyl groups with dipole polarization normal to layers flat surface [22]. For modified montmorillonite these bands are observed to be
of more less intensity as compared with the initial montmorillonite, their absolute intensitivity being almost equal.

Conclusions

Technology of obtaining of modified montmorillonite with thermostable and thermoplastic at the processing temperatures polymer quaternary ammonium salts is developed for further application when polymer nanocomposites synthesized.

Suggested mechanism of montmorillonite modification involves the next steps: connection of organic cations to montmorillonite surface determined by attachment of organic cations to exchange position during ion-exchange adsorption and adsorption of organic cations with acid sylanol groups, i.e. torn bonds on crystal faces. So, these processes result in more perfect structure by organic cations adsorption with acid sylanol groups (torn bonds on crystal faces).

Optimal conditions of polyionene molecules sorption with montmorillonite are stated to be: the concentration of aqueous dispersion of montmorillonite is 3%, the temperature of the reaction medium is 40 °C, the montmorillonite-polyionene ratio is 3 : 1, and the processing time is 24 hours.

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