Synthesis, characterization, and thermal behavior of amidosulfonates of transition metals in air and nitrogen atmosphere

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ABSTRACT: The amidosulfonates of Mn²⁺, Co²⁺, Ni²⁺, Cu²⁺ and Zn²⁺ were prepared by the direct reaction between the metal carbonate and the amidosulfonic acid with heating and stirring. The compounds were characterized by infrared absorption spectroscopy (IRFT), elemental analysis, thermal analysis (TG and DTA) and X-ray diffraction by the powder method. The absorptions observed in IR spectra are associated with N-H and O-H stretching, as well as symmetrical and asymmetric S-O stretching in the sulfonic group. The compounds present X-ray diffraction pattern with well-defined reflections, showing no evidence of isomorphism. The TG-DTA curves allowed to establish the stoichiometry of compounds as M(NH₂SO₃)₂·xH₂O, where M = Mn²⁺, Co²⁺, Ni²⁺, Cu²⁺ and Zn²⁺ and x ranging from 1 to 4. Dehydration leads to the formation of stable anhydrous. In all cases the respective sulfates are formed as an intermediate. After consecutive steps of decomposition, the respective oxides were obtained: Mn₃O₄, CoO, NiO, CuO and ZnO. The TG-DTA curves are characteristic for each sample, with thermal events related to dehydration and ligand decomposition.

1. Introduction

The amidosulfonic acid or sulfamic acid (NH₂SO₃H) has molar mass 97.10 g mol⁻¹. When dry it is stable, but in solution, it is easily hydrolyzed, forming ammonium bisulfate. It is relatively soluble in water, moderately soluble in alcohol, insoluble in ether and very soluble in nitrogenous bases, liquid ammonia, pyridine, formamide and dimethylformamide. It is classified as a strong acid (pH = 1.2 in 1% aqueous solution and 25 °C). It is used as standard in alkalimetry, in steel cleaning, in removal of nitrites and stabilization of chlorine in pool water. It is a toxic compound, used as poison for rats. Handling requires careful care as it easily irritates the skin and mucous membrane. It forms orthorhombic crystals and has melting point near 205 °C¹. In recent years sulfamic acid has been used as an efficient heterogeneous catalyst in a series of organic reactions, such as acetylation, esterification, condensation, transesterification, among others². It is a ZWITTERION, in other words, a dipolar ion having opposite charges on different atoms. In the formation of metal complexes, both amine and sulfonate groups participate in the coordination with the metal ion.

Few studies report the chemical and thermal properties of metal salts containing sulfonic acid derivatives, although the preparation of these salts
is easy to perform. Maksin and Standritchuk studied the water solubility of Ni(II) and Co(II) sulfamates. Budurov et al. studied by DSC the phase transformations that occur in the heating of some amidosulfonates, determining the energy involved in the processes represented by endothermic peaks. Also, by DSC, Thege investigated the thermal behavior of (NH₄)₂SO₄, NH₄HSO₄ and NH₄NH₂SO₃. The crystalline structure and growth of Li[NH₂SO₃] monocrystals was studied by Stade, Held and Bohaty, and it was possible to establish the spatial group, cell parameters and refractive index for the crystals obtained. The elastic properties of sulfamic acid and various sulfamates were studied by Haussül and reported phase transformations. Shimizau et al. determined the crystallographic properties of silver amidosulfonate and described a lamellar structure with potential chemical applications. Squattrito and coworkers studied the layered structures of metal salts of sulfonic acid derivatives. Jaishree et al. studied the optical and thermal properties of a monocry stal of amidosulfonic acid and reported the absorption bands in the infrared region. The main absorptions were attributed to the vibrational modes of the -SO₃⁻ and -NH₄⁺ group. Brahmaji et al. also identified the functional groups by FTIR and reported the changes observed in the pure crystals and doped with Tb. Wickleder studied the synthesis, crystal structure, and thermal behavior of some rare earth amidosulfonates. Luiz, Nunes and Matos studied the thermal behavior of all the amidosulfonates of the rare earth series and observed a mass gain between 250 °C and 350 °C, attributed to an oxidative process SO₃⁻ → SO₂⁻, which is more evident in a lower heating rate. Brahmaji et al. also observed mass gain in this temperature range.

2. Materials and Methods

All chemicals used in this study were of analytical grade. Metallic chlorides were obtained from Sigma Aldrich, while the sodium hydrogen carbonate and silver nitrate were obtained from Merck and were used without further purification.

2.1 Metal Carbonates

Carbonates of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II) and Zn(II) were prepared by adding slowly, with continuous stirring, a saturated sodium hydrogen carbonate solution to aqueous solutions of metal chloride, until total precipitation of the metal ions. The precipitates were washed with distilled water until the elimination of chloride ions (qualitative test with AgNO₃/HNO₃ solution for chloride) and was placed in vacuum desiccator until constant mass.

2.2 Metal Amidosulfonates

The compounds were prepared by the direct reaction between the aqueous suspension of the metal carbonates (Mn, Co, Ni, Cu and Zn) and the amidosulfonic acid, with heating at 80 °C and stirring. The acid in powder form was slowly added until a small amount of the metal carbonate remained. The carbonate in excess was removed by filtration and the aqueous solution was evaporated slowly near to dryness. Subsequently, the solution was kept in vacuum desiccator until constant mass.

2.3 Characterization of samples

The infrared spectroscopy for amidosulfonic acid and its metal amidosulfonates were run on a Perkin-Elmer Spectrum 100 ATR FTIR spectrophotometer using ATR accessory with germanium crystal. The FTIR spectra were recorded with 16 scans per spectrum a resolution of 4 cm⁻¹.

The X-ray powder patterns were obtained by using a BRUKER System D8 Advance Diffractometer, employing CuKα radiation (λ = 1.541 Å), 25 mA, 40 kV, 10 rpm rotation, 0.02 step, 0.6 slit mm, time 0.3 s, in the range 20 from 10 to 70 degrees. Elemental analysis for H, N and S was performed using a Leco CHNS Analyzer.

The thermal behavior was evaluated by thermogravimetry (TG) and differential thermal analysis (DTA) in the simultaneous module TG-DTA 6200 Exstar 6000 from Seiko SII, with sample mass of the order of 3 to 10 mg, heating ratio β = 20 °C min⁻¹ (30 to 900 °C), alumina crucible, dynamic atmosphere of synthetic air and nitrogen, with flow of 100 mL min⁻¹. As reference for DTA, previously calcined alumina was used.
3. Results and discussion

The elemental analysis results are presented in Tab. 1 and are in agreement with the proposed general formula M(NH$_2$SO$_3$)$_2$.xH$_2$O, where M = Mn$^{2+}$, Co$^{2+}$, Ni$^{2+}$, Cu$^{2+}$ and Zn$^{2+}$ and x the number of water molecules ranging from 1 to 4, where x = 4 for Mn$^{2+}$, 3 for Co$^{2+}$ and Zn$^{2+}$, 2 for Ni$^{2+}$ and 1 for Cu$^{2+}$.

Table 1. Elemental analysis of the solid compounds.

| Compound         | % N  | % H  | % S  |
|------------------|------|------|------|
|                  | Calc. | EA   | Calc. | EA   | Calc. | EA   |
| Mn(NH$_2$SO$_3$)$_2$.4H$_2$O | 8.78 | 8.77 | 3.80 | 3.79 | 20.10 | 20.08 |
| Co(NH$_2$SO$_3$)$_2$.3H$_2$O | 9.18 | 9.31 | 3.30 | 3.54 | 20.01 | 21.30 |
| Ni(NH$_2$SO$_3$)$_2$.2H$_2$O | 9.76 | 9.63 | 2.81 | 2.78 | 22.36 | 22.04 |
| Cu(NH$_2$SO$_3$)$_2$.H$_2$O | 10.24 | 10.20 | 2.21 | 2.21 | 23.43 | 23.35 |
| Zn(NH$_2$SO$_3$)$_2$.3H$_2$O | 8.99 | 9.08 | 3.24 | 3.27 | 20.58 | 20.78 |

The main infrared absorption bands were associated with the N-H stretching, namely, a NH$_3^+$ broad band at 3400-3300 cm$^{-1}$, the N-H stretching as a weak band at 2873 cm$^{-1}$ and the absorptions observed at 1533 and 1433 cm$^{-1}$ due to symmetric stretching mode of NH$_3^+$ while at 1567 cm$^{-1}$ is due to asymmetric mode. The SO$_3^-$ stretching vibration was observed in a 1065 cm$^{-1}$ and at 685 cm$^{-1}$, the N-S stretching mode can be seen, all these absorptions agree with the literature$^{4-14}$. The absence of that weak band of N-H stretching is an evidence that de coordination of the metal ions occurred by NH$_3^+$ group. Another fact is the increase observed in the wavenumber for the N-S stretching, suggesting that the N-S bond becomes strongest. The vibrational spectra in the infrared region of amidosulfonic acid and metal amidosulfonates are show in the Fig. 1.

The X-ray powder pattern of the metal amidosulfonates are shown in the Fig. 2. The X-ray diffractograms indicate that the compounds were obtained with a certain crystallinity degree, showing no evidence of isomorphism. The compounds showed low relative intensity (I _o ) reflections: Mn (2$\theta$ = 19.0; I _o = 845); Co (2$\theta$ = 19.3; I _o = 3621); Ni (2$\theta$ = 26.3; I _o = 6534); Cu (2$\theta$ = 25.4; I _o = 4010); Zn (2$\theta$ = 19.4; I _o = 4146).

By the TG/DTA curves it was possible to establish the stoichiometry of the compounds, such as: ML$_2$.xH$_2$O, where M represents the metallic ions M = Mn$^{2+}$, Co$^{2+}$, Ni$^{2+}$, Cu$^{2+}$ and Zn$^{2+}$; L represents the anion NH$_2$SO$_3^-$ and x the number of water molecules ranging from 1 to 4, where x = 4 for Mn$^{2+}$, 3 for Co$^{2+}$ and Zn$^{2+}$, 2 for Ni$^{2+}$ and 1 for Cu$^{2+}$. In a synthetic air atmosphere, the events associated with the thermal decomposition of the ligand occur at slightly lower temperatures than in a nitrogen atmosphere. Tables 2 and 3 show the results extracted from the TG and DTA curves in the atmosphere of synthetic air and nitrogen. Figures 3 and 4 show the TG and DTA curves in the atmosphere of synthetic air and nitrogen, respectively.

![Vibrational spectra in the infrared region of amidosulfonic acid and metal amidosulfonates.](image-url)
Figure 2. X-ray diffraction pattern of the metal amidosulfonates.

Table 2. Results extracted from the TG curves.

| Samples | Molar mass / g mol⁻¹ | Metal / % | H₂O / % | Residue / % |
|---------|----------------------|-----------|----------|-------------|
|         | Calc. | TG | Calc. | TG | Calc. | TG | Calc. | TG |
| Mn(L)₂·4H₂O (air) | 319.17 | 318.99 | 319.90 | 17.21 | 17.22 | 17.17 | 22.57 | 22.58 | 22.75 | ? | ? | Mn₃O₄ |
| Mn(L)₂·4H₂O (N₂) | 305.14 | 301.35 | 300.79 | 19.31 | 19.56 | 19.59 | 17.71 | 16.67 | 16.52 | 24.56 | 24.86 | 24.91 | CoO |
| Co(L)₂·3H₂O (air) | 286.90 | 290.40 | 291.72 | 20.46 | 20.21 | 20.11 | 12.55 | 13.61 | 14.00 | 26.03 | 25.77 | 25.60 | NiO |
| Co(L)₂·3H₂O (N₂) | 273.75 | 274.58 | 274.81 | 23.21 | 23.15 | 23.13 | 6.58 | 6.86 | 6.94 | 29.06 | 28.93 | 28.95 | CuO |
| Ni(L)₂·2H₂O (air) | 311.61 | 309.07 | 308.32 | 20.98 | 21.16 | 21.21 | 17.34 | 17.66 | 16.46 | 26.12 | 26.33 | ? | ZnO |

Figure 3. TG and DTA curves of the obtained compounds, in a synthetic air atmosphere. Sample mass: Mn = 9.680 mg, Co = 2.980 mg, Ni = 10.194 mg, Cu = 10.314 mg and Zn = 10.064 mg.

Figure 4. TG and DTA curves of the obtained compounds, in a nitrogen atmosphere. Sample mass: Mn = 10.383 mg, Co = 3.794 mg, Ni = 2.984 mg, Cu = 10.414 mg and Zn = 10.193 mg.
range in which the experiments were performed (850 °C begins to decompose with an endothermic event MnSO₄).

This stage leads to another endotherm (439 °C) with an exothermic (386 °C) peak at 289 °C. Although no mass change was observed in this temperature range, there is an exothermic peak at 289 °C (synthetic air and N₂) which may be associated with a crystallization process. Brahajji et al.⁴ also reported a gain in mass in this range temperature, however this thermal event needs to be further investigated.

Budurov et al.⁵ reported endothermic peaks attributed to phase transition at 177 °C (KHN₂SO₃) and 182 °C (NaNH₂SO₃). Haussühl and Haussühl⁶ also detected phase transformation in CsNH₂SO₃.

The thermal decomposition of the compounds occurs in two distinct steps. The first step begins with an exothermic (386 °C) process followed by another endotherm (439 °C) at both atmospheres. This stage leads to the formation of an intermediate, stable over a wide temperature range: 450 °C to 800 °C (synthetic air) and 443 °C and 820 °C (N₂). This intermediate is probably MnSO₄ (Calc. = 47.31 %, TG = 47.34 %), that begins to decompose with an endothermic event (850 °C) to produce the oxide. In the temperature range in which the experiments were performed (30 °C → 900 °C) the formation of the residual oxide could not be observed.

### 3.1 Mn(NH₂SO₃)₂·4H₂O

Dehydration of the manganese (II) amidosulfonate occurs in two consecutive steps with the elimination of one and subsequently three water molecules, between 30 and 220 °C, with mass loss about 22 %.

This stage leads to another endotherm (439 °C) with an exothermic (386 °C) peak at 289 °C. Although no mass change was observed in this temperature range, there is an exothermic peak at 289 °C (synthetic air and N₂) which may be associated with a crystallization process. Brahajji et al.⁴ also reported a gain in mass in this range temperature, however this thermal event needs to be further investigated.

Budurov et al.⁵ reported endothermic peaks attributed to phase transition at 177 °C (KHN₂SO₃) and 182 °C (NaNH₂SO₃). Haussühl and Haussühl⁶ also detected phase transformation in CsNH₂SO₃.

The thermal decomposition of the compounds occurs in two distinct steps. The first step begins with an exothermic (386 °C) process followed by another endotherm (439 °C) at both atmospheres. This stage leads to the formation of an intermediate, stable over a wide temperature range: 450 °C to 800 °C (synthetic air) and 443 °C and 820 °C (N₂). This intermediate is probably MnSO₄ (Calc. = 47.31 %, TG = 47.34 %), that begins to decompose with an endothermic event (850 °C) to produce the oxide. In the temperature range in which the experiments were performed (30 °C → 900 °C) the formation of the residual oxide could not be observed.

### 3.2 Co(NH₂SO₃)₂·3H₂O

The dehydration process of the cobalt (II) amidosulfonate occurs in a single step, with simultaneous elimination of three water molecules between 85 and 220 °C and loss of mass of 16.6 %. In this stage two endothermic peak are observed around 112 °C and 157 °C (synthetic air) and 111 °C and 164 °C (N₂). After the anhydrous formation, an exothermic peak is observed around 210 °C, which may be associated with a crystallization process. The decomposition of the ligand occurs in two distinct stages: between 245 °C and 450 °C (synthetic air) and between 258 °C and 442 °C (N₂), both with formation of the CoSO₄ intermediate. In this stage two endothermic DTA peaks are observed: 392 °C and 426 °C (synthetic air) and 400 °C and 433 °C (N₂). The CoSO₄ intermediate (Calc. = 50.80 %, TG = 51.80 %) remains stable over a wide temperature range: between 442 °C and 720 °C (synthetic air) and between 450 °C and 716 °C (N₂). The formation of the residue occurs at 861 °C, with mass loss of the order of 26 %, compatible with the formation of CoO, in both atmospheres.

### 3.3 Ni(NH₂SO₃)₂·2H₂O

The dehydration of the nickel (II) amidosulfonate occurs in a two overlapping steps, with elimination of two water molecules between 90 and 192 °C (synthetic air) between 100 °C and 206 °C (N₂) with mass loss of order of 13.5 %. At this stage, endothermic peaks are observed at 134 °C and 164 °C (synthetic air) and 132 °C (N₂). After the anhydrous formation, an intense exothermic peak is observed at 203 °C (synthetic air) and 204 °C (N₂). The formation of the CoSO₄ intermediate (Calc. = 50.80 %, TG = 51.80 %) remains stable over a wide temperature range: between 442 °C and 720 °C (synthetic air) and between 450 °C and 716 °C (N₂). The formation of the residue occurs at 861 °C, with mass loss of the order of 26 %, compatible with the formation of CoO, in both atmospheres.

| Samples              | DTA Peak (Tp) / °C |
|----------------------|--------------------|
|                      | endo | endo | exo | exo | endo | endo | endo | endo | endo |
| Mn(L₂)·4H₂O (air)   | 89.59| 148.4| 289.0| 387.2| 439.4| 671.3| 874.0|
| Mn(L₂)·4H₂O (N₂)    | 84.64| 146.8| 289.0| 383.8| 439.4| 699.4| 872.8|
| Co(L₂)·3H₂O (air)   | 112.4| 156.5| 210.5| 392.0| 426.4| 854.8|
| Co(L₂)·3H₂O (N₂)    | 110.8| 164.8| 209.0| 400.2| 432.9| 853.2|
| Ni(L₂)·2H₂O (air)   | 133.9| 164.2| 203.0| 303.4| 411.3| 462.0| 824.1|
| Ni(L₂)·2H₂O (N₂)    | 132.0| 200.7| 323.6| 395.3| 450.0| 814.0|
| Cu(L₂)·1H₂O (air)   | 89.60| 195.9| 210.5| 343.0| 419.8| 436.2| 741.9| 799.1|
| Cu(L₂)·1H₂O (N₂)    | 89.60| 195.9| 212.4| 344.6| 411.7| 426.4| 719.2| 773.0|
| Zn(L₂)·3H₂O (air)   | 97.10| 162.1| 203.0| 364.2| 457.4| 804.2| 900.0|
| Zn(L₂)·3H₂O (N₂)    | 97.10| 164.8| 201.6| 364.2| 465.4| 789.4| 912.0|

Table 3. Results extracted from the DTA curves.
air) and 201 °C (N₂) of low intensity, which may be associated with a crystallization process. The decomposition of the ligand occurs in two distinct stages: between 251 °C and 479 °C (synthetic air) and between 294 °C and 461 °C (N₂), both with formation of the NiSO₄ intermediate. In this stage endothermic DTA peaks are observed at: 304 °C, 411 °C and 462 °C (synthetic air) and 324 °C, 395 °C and 450 °C (N₂). The NiSO₄ intermediate (Calc. = 53.94 %, TG = 53.30 %) remains stable over a wide temperature range: between 474 °C and 720 °C (synthetic air) and between 459 °C and 716 °C (N₂). The formation of the residue occurs at 831 °C (synthetic air and N₂) with loss mass in the order of 26 %, compatible with the formation of NiO, in both atmospheres.

3.4 Cu(NH₂SO₄)₂·1H₂O

The dehydration of the copper (II) amidosulfonate occurs in two overlapping steps, eliminating one water molecule between 73 °C and 199 °C (synthetic air) and between 65 °C and 203 °C (N₂) with mass loss of 6.9 % in both atmospheres. At this stage, two endothermic peaks were observed at 89.6 °C and 196 °C in both atmospheres. After the anhydrous formation, an exothermic peak around 211 °C (synthetic air and N₂) of low intensity is observed, which may be associated with a crystallization process. The decomposition of the ligand occurs in two distinct stages: between 200 °C and 450 °C (synthetic air) and between 206 °C and 440 °C (N₂), both with formation of the CuSO₄ intermediate (Calc. = 58.31 %, TG = 58.13 %). In this stage endothermic DTA peaks are observed: 343 °C, 420 °C and 436 °C (synthetic air) and 345 °C, 412 °C and 426 °C (N₂). The CuSO₄ intermediate remains stable over a wide temperature range: between 444 °C and 694 °C (synthetic air) and between 440 °C and 618 °C (N₂). In this stage endothermic peaks are observed at 741 °C and 799 °C (synthetic air) and 718 °C and 773 °C (N₂). The formation of the residue supposed CuO occurs at 810 °C (synthetic air) and 780 °C (N₂). Under N₂ atmosphere a new stage of mass loss appears, which begins at 840 °C and probably ends at temperatures above 900 °C. The DTA profile of the beginning of this stage has endothermic characteristics, suggesting a Cu²⁺ → Cu⁺ reduction process.

3.5 Zn(NH₂SO₄)₂·3H₂O

Dehydration Zn(NH₂SO₄)₂·3H₂O occurs two overlapping steps, between 64 °C and 195 °C (synthetic air and N₂), equivalent to the consecutive release of one and two water molecules, respectively, with losses of the order of 17 %. Endothermic peaks are observed at 97 °C and 163 °C (synthetic air and N₂). After formation of the anhydrous compounds, an exothermic peak was observed around 202 °C (synthetic air and N₂). The anhydrous compound remains stable between 190 °C and 295 °C (synthetic air) and 196 °C and 322 °C (N₂). The decomposition of the ligand in synthetic air starts at 304 °C, with endothermic peaks at 364 °C and 457 °C (synthetic air) and 364 °C and 465 °C (N₂). This stage leads to the formation of intermediate ZnSO₄ (Calc. = 51.80 %, TG = 52.40 %), which remains stable over a wide temperature range of 467 °C to 688 °C (synthetic air) and 471 °C to 684 °C (N₂). In a synthetic air atmosphere, the decomposition to ZnO occurs from 690 °C and ends at 913 °C, presenting endothermic peaks at 804 °C and 900 °C. In nitrogen atmosphere, residual oxide formation is not completed until 920 °C and endothermic peaks are observed at 744 °C, 789 °C and 912 °C.

4. Conclusions

The main absorptions in the infrared: νO-H (3600 - 2700 cm⁻¹) in the salts; νN-H (3400-3300 cm⁻¹) in amidosulfonic acid; νS-O (1260-1140 cm⁻¹) and νasS-O (1040-1020 cm⁻¹) emphasize the differences between the spectra of the salts and of the amidosulfonic acid, evidence the bond to the metal suggesting that the coordination occurs by the sulphonic grouping.

The X-ray diffrapectograms indicate that the compounds were obtained with a certain crystallinity degree, showing no evidence of isomorphism. The compounds showed relatively low intensity reflections.

The thermoanalytical results (TG/DTA) allowed to establish the stoichiometry of the compounds as: ML₂·xH₂O, where M represents the metallic ions Mn²⁺, Co²⁺, Ni²⁺, Cu²⁺ and Zn²⁺; L represents the anion NH₂SO₄⁻; x represents the number of water molecules, where x = 4 for Mn²⁺; x = 3 for Co²⁺; and Zn²⁺; x = 2 for Ni²⁺ and x = 1 for Cu²⁺. No significant differences were observed
between the analysis carried out in synthetic air or nitrogen atmosphere, only the thermal decomposition of the ligand in synthetic air atmosphere occur at slightly lower temperatures that in a nitrogen atmosphere. For all compounds, the MSO₄ stable intermediate was observed, which later decomposes to the respective oxide, that is: Mn₃O₄, CoO, NiO, CuO and ZnO. In some samples the residual oxide is produced at temperatures above 950 ºC.

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