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HIGH LITHIUM-ION CYCLABLITIY IN A NOVEL NANOPOROUS HYBRID-CHANNEL HOST

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Well-ordered crystalline solids with both large and hybrid pores are exceedingly rare or lacking. We report the synthesis and structure of a novel nanoporous organo-phosphonate involving mixed vanadium-gallium metals. It adopts intersecting hydrophobic large pores, chinese vase-like cage with dimensions of 11 - 14 Å, with thermally stable up to 550 oC. Two fascinating intercalation methodologies were conducted. First, conducting polyaniline filaments have been encapsulated in the hybrid channels. Second, it reveals a highly reversible lithium-ion intercalation and de-intercalation cycling between the applied potential limits +3 and +5 volts; such preliminary cyclability is thought to be a key aspect of rechargeable lithium battery cathode materials.

Keywords: MICROPOROUS, HYBRID, LITHIUM INSERSION

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CRYSTAL STRUCTURE OF A NEW ZINC GALLOPHOSPHATE WITH AN OPEN-FRAMEWORK

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The synthesis of open-framework metal phosphates has attracted much attention for their rich structural chemistry, zeolitic properties and potentional application as molecular sieves, catalysts and ion exchangers. The new zinc gallophosphate, NH4(Ga,Zn)(PO4)2, has been synthesized under hydrothermal conditions at 443 K and the structure determined using 150 K single-crystal Xray diffraction data (monoclinic, space group C2/c; a = 13.370(03), b = 13.190(3), c = 8.998(2) Å, β = 100.46(3)°, V = 1560.4(6) Å³, Z = 8, R1 = 0.0232 and wR2 = 0.0592). The compound has a three-dimensional anionic framework assembled from corner sharing (Ga,Zn)O4 and PO4 tetrahedra. The tetrahedra form eight-membered rings with channels occupied by undisordered NH4⁺ cations counterbalancing the charge on the framework. The structure is isostructural with that of K(Co,Al)₂(PO₄)₂ and [(NH₄)_x (NH₃)_{0.5-x}]Al_{1-x}Co_xPO₄, where x is less or equal 0.4. The presence of NH₃ groups in the latter was based on the observation that the refinement gave an occupancy ratio of Co:Al = 0.38:0.63. In our case the atomic ratio of Zn to Ga determinated from singlecrystal structure refinement 1: 1 was further confirmed by electron probe microanalysis data 1.07: 1.00.

Keywords: MICROPOROUS INORGANIC MATERIALS

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STRUCTURE OF A NOVEL NANOPOROUS CRYSTAL OF Rb₃Ta₅O₁₄ AND CHARACTERISATION OF RELATED Rb-Ta-O AND Cs-Ta-O COMPOUNDS

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Single crystals of $Rb_3Ta_5O_{14}$ were grown by the flux method and the structure was determined by the synchrotron X-ray single crystal diffraction. The compound crystallises in an orthorhombic *Pnma* symmetry with a = 7.3677(3), b = 14.7904(19), c = 25.379(3) Å, and has a three dimensional framework comprised of edge or corner-shared TaO₆ and TaO₅ polyhedra. The structure includes nanometer-sized cavities which act as the Rb reservoirs. The cavities are interconnected with each other through the subnanometer-sized openings. The structural features suggest that the Rb-exchanged products would behave as an excellent ionic conductor of Li and H. The Rb:Ta ratio of the present system is 3:5 which is close to 4:6 of the well-known photocatalytic compounds $A_4B_6O_{17}$ (A = K, Rb, B = Nb,Ta). However, the 3:5 compound is structurally different from the 4:6 compounds which are characterised by the layered BO6 octahedral sheets. A powder diffractogram of the product obtained by the flux growth experiment of $Rb_3Ta_5O_{14}$ (Rb/Ta ratio = 0.600) suggested an existence of additional minor phase ascribed to Rb₄Ta₆O₁₇ (Rb/Ta ratio = 0.667). Powder diffractograms of the compounds fired at 1473 K with various Rb/Ta ratios in the range 0.567 -- 0.733 showed that the major component was Rb₃Ta₅O₁₄ for all products, while Rb₄Ta₆O₁₇ was detected only in the products with Rb/Ta ratio above 0.700 inclusive.

Keywords: NANOPOROUS FRAMEWORK RUBIDIUM TANTALATE SYNCHROTRON X-RAY SINGLE CRYSTAL DIFFRACTION

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POWDER DIFFRACTION STUDY OF FE AND GA SILICALITES <u>D. Viterbo¹</u> M. Milanesio¹ L. Palin² C. Lamberti³ G. Marra⁴ R. Aiello⁵ F. Testa⁵

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High resolution XRD powder profiles were collected at room temperature on a variety of Ga and Fe silicalite samples, synthesized from fluoride media [Testa et Al, in Porous Materials in Environmentally Friendly Processes, Stud.Surf.Sci.Cat, 125, 165 (1999)] from a gel composition: $10SiO_{2+x}Het(FeNO_3)_{3,9}H_2O + yMF + 1.25TPABr + 300H_2O$, where Het = Fe and Ga and $M = NH_4^+$, Na^+ , K_+ , Cs_+ . Both as made and calcined samples were investigated. At first, the same Na-Fe-silicalite sample employed for the single crystal analysis [Milanesio et Al., J.Phys.Chem. B,104, 9951 (2000)] was measured, after grinding, to make sure that the results obtained from single crystal are not biased by twinning. In particular, after Rietveld refinement, the extra-framework peak near T9 was located in the difference Fourier map in the same position obtained from single crystal analysis. NH⁴⁺ and C^{s+} derivatives have a relatively high framework heteroatom content as revealed by the significant increase in cell volume with respect to pure silicalite, and do not give single crystals, but just spherical aggregates of 1 micron crystallites. The volume increase is smaller for Ga-silicalites than for Fe-silicalites in agreement with the smaller ionic radius of Ga³⁺ with respect to Fe³⁺. The high brilliance of the synchrotron source permitted to find the presence of traces of impurities (NaFe, Na₃F₆, K₂SiF₆, Cs₂SiF₆), yielding a better understanding of the destiny of the M⁺ and F⁻ ions. For a Ga derivative data were collected just before and on the Ga absorption edge in order to exploit the resonant scattering effect to locate the Ga atoms in the MFI framework.