# SYNTHESIS AND TG/DTA STUDY ON TWO NEW METALLO(VI)–ARSENATO(V) HETEROPOLYACIDS CONTAINING VANADIUM(V)

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## Abstract

An improved method for the synthesis of two heteropolyacids of the same type:  $H_5[AsMo_{10}V_2O_{40}] \cdot 13H_2O$  and  $H_5[AsW_{10}V_2O_{40}] \cdot 16H_2O$  was elaborated. The studied compounds were characterized by elemental analysis, IR spectra and thermal behaviour over 20–800°C temperature range.

Keywords: IR spectra, Keggin triheteropolyacids, thermal behaviour

## Introduction

Keggin triheteropolyacids and their compounds have special redox properties that have been the subject of electrochemical studies in order to investigate their electrochemical [1–7] or analytical behaviour [8–10].

In this work the following heteropolyacids with 12 metal centres:  $H_5[AsM_{10}V_2O_{40}] \cdot nH_2O$  (*M*=Mo or W) were obtained and characterized (Table 1).

The thermal behaviour of these compounds was studied by means of TG/DTA measurements. To characterise the compounds atomic emission spectrometry and IR spectra were performed.

## **Experimental**

The heteropolyacids were obtained by a modified version of Kokorin's synthesis  $H_x[EM'_yM'_zO_{40}]\cdot nH_2O$  (*E*=P, Si; *M*'=Mo, W; *M*"=V, W) methods [11–14]. The new method used the following molar ratios between the reagents and the following recipe: an aqueous solution of As<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (0.005 mol) were treated with an aqueous solution

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of a mixture of:  $NaVO_3 \cdot 2H_2O$  (0.02 mol) and  $Na_2MoO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$  (0.10 mol), respectively,  $Na_2WO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$  (0.1 mol).

For either the compound, the obtained hot solution pH was adjusted to the value of 1.5 using 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and then 2 h boiled. The free H<sub>5</sub>[AsM<sub>10</sub>V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>40</sub>] $\cdot$ nH<sub>2</sub>O (*M*=Mo or W) with red-orange colours were obtained from the solution by double ether extraction and recrystallized in the presence of water at room temperature in darkness, with considerable yield, between 79 and 83% (Table 1).

Compound		η	Comment	Analysis/%		
			Component	calc.	found	
1	$H_{3}[AsW_{10}V_{2}O_{40}] \cdot 16H_{2}O$	83%	W V As H <sub>2</sub> O (constitution) H <sub>2</sub> O (crystallization)	62.35 3.45 2.54 1.34 9.77	62.21 3.36 2.45 1.25 9.68	
2	H <sub>5</sub> [AsMo <sub>10</sub> V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>40</sub> ]·13H <sub>2</sub> O	79%	Mo V As H <sub>2</sub> O (constitution) H <sub>2</sub> O (crystallization)	47.60 5.05 3.71 2.00 11.62	47.43 4.90 3.39 1.64 11.48	

Table 1 Some elemental analytical data of the studied heteropolyacids

The metal contents (Mo, W, V) of the sample were determined by atomic emission spectrometry with frame on Baird Spectrovac 2000 (The Netherlands). For the As content determination the heteropolyacid was treated with Zn and conc. HCl therefore AsH<sub>3</sub> was obtained. Then AsH<sub>3</sub> were captured in HNO<sub>3</sub> to obtain H<sub>3</sub>AsO<sub>4</sub> which was spectrophotometric determinate as reduced arsenomolybdate at 840 nm [15].

The  $H_2O$  content was calculated from the TG curves. The IR spectra were recorded in KBr pellets with an UR-20 spectrophotometer.

The thermal behaviour was studied with an OD-103 MOM derivatograph (Hungary), sample mass:  $200\pm1-2$  mg, the sensitivity of the balance 50 mg, heating rate:  $10^{\circ}$ C min<sup>-1</sup>, reference material: Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, atmosphere: static air.

### **Results and discussions**

In the modified synthesis method suggested in the present paper the output increases from 50 to 83% comparatively to the classical method [11–14]. Two new factors optimizing the synthesis reaction of the two compounds, namely the reagents ratios and the value of the media pH-s stabilized at 1.5 (this class of heteropolyacids are stable in aqueous medium at this pH value, as was suggested in the electrochemical cyclic voltammetry studies [1–7]).

The obtained heteropolycompounds are highly soluble in water and decompose in aqueous medium at pH>5.

#### IR spectra

At room temperature the IR spectra of the two compounds present absorption bands in the 468-1623 cm<sup>-1</sup> region of the spectrum (Table 2).

Peaks/cm<sup>-1</sup> at assign (*M*=W, Mo) Compound  $H_2O$ V–O М-О-М M-O As–O (crystallization) 780 902 983 1623 H<sub>5</sub>[AsW<sub>10</sub>V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>40</sub>]·16H<sub>2</sub>O 518 1 2 769 893 961 1617 H<sub>5</sub>[AsMo<sub>10</sub>V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>40</sub>]·13H<sub>2</sub>O 512

Table 2 IR spectrum peaks and their assignment

The bands from 1623 and 1617 were assigned to the crystallization water molecules in agreement with X-ray diffraction effectuated on diheteropolyacids [15, 16]. The mentioned studies showed the involvement of these water molecules in hydrogen bonds between the molecules placed inside the heteropolyacid molecule or between the molecules themselves.

The other peaks were assigned to: V–O, M–O, M–O–M (*M*=Mo, W) and As–O valence vibration in conformity to other Keggin triheteropolyacids IR spectra [17–23].

The two obtained triheteropolyacids are Keggin ungapping type because the As–O valence vibration peak it is not fork [22–27], that means that all As–O bonds are length equal.

All the bands from those two studied compounds spectra are lightly displace in lower frequencies dominium  $468-1623 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  comparatively to  $680-1700 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  for the following triheteropolyacids:  $H_5[PMo_{10}V_2O_{40}] \cdot nH_2O$ ,  $H_5[PW_{10}V_2O_{40}] \cdot nH_2O$ ,  $H_5[SiMo_{10}V_2O_{40}] \cdot nH_2O$  and  $H_4[PMo_6W_6O_{40}] \cdot nH_2O$ , [22] fact that can be explained by the nature of P or Si central atom. Therefore the As–O bounds strength for the studied heteropolyacids are lower than the E–O (*E*=P, Si) bounds strength for the upper mentioned heteropolyacids.

#### Thermal analysis

The two studied compounds show similar thermal behaviour. Figure 1 shows one representative TG, DTG and DTA curves recorded for  $H_5[AsW_{10}V_2O_{40}] \cdot 16H_2O$ .

The main processes and their characterisation are given in Table 3. The dehydration is a two-step process. The first loss of the crystallisation water (also named lattice water) occurs at ~120°C. The constitution water determines an increase of the lattice cohesion by the formation of hydrogen bonds with the terminal oxygen atom [16], confirmed by the  $t_{\text{max}}$  value of the reaction, which increases as  $t_1 < t_2$ , in agreement with the increase of number of the crystallisation water molecules.

The second step in the dehydration is also an endothermic process and it involves the loss of the constitution water (also named structure water). This loss sig-



Fig. 1 TG, DTG and DTA curves of  $H_5[AsW_{10}V_2O_{40}]$ ·16 $H_2O$ 

nificantly influences the geometry of the molecule, leading to a new structural rearrangement of the polyanionic complex for the compounds at  $\sim$ 300°C.

<b>Table 3</b> Thermal data of the triheteropolya	icid	ls
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Commenced	Temp.	DTA peak/°C		TG data/%		Assign	
Compound	range/°C	endo	exo	calcd.	found	Assign.	
	20–400	115	_	9.77	10.12	16H <sub>2</sub> O	
		350	- 303	1.53 3.91	1.94 3.56	$2.5H_2O$ $0.5As_2O_5$	
1 $H_5[AsW_{10}V_2O_{40}]$ ·16 $H_2O$	400-1000	470	_	_	_	_	
		610 722	-	—	-		
		122	_	_	_	and WO <sub>3</sub>	
	20-400	108	_	11.62	12.50	13H <sub>2</sub> O	
		355	307	2.25 5.73	2.48 5.40	$2.5H_2O$ 0.5As <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	
2 H <sub>5</sub> [AsMo <sub>10</sub> V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>40</sub> ]·13H <sub>2</sub> O		000		0170	0110	_	
	400-1000	485	_	_	_	_	
		738	_	_	_	$V_2O_5$ and $MoO_3$	

In the DTG curve of the compounds the peak at 350°C, respectively, at 355°C was assigned to a mass loss corresponding both to 0.5 mol  $As_2O_5$  (in good agreement with the transformation of  $As_2O_5$  into  $As_2O_3$  and the volatilization of  $As_2O_3$ ) and to the obtained residue witch corresponds to the stoichiometric ratio of the metal oxides. The elemental analysis shows the absence of As in the solid residues.

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The endothermic reactions from 470–738°C in DTA curves correspond to the crystalline phase transformation of the oxides: at ~480°C WO<sub>3</sub> changes its geometry from tetragonal to rhombic, at ~600°C one can observe the melting of V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and in the 720–740°C temperature range, the tetragonal MoO<sub>3</sub> and WO<sub>3</sub> becomes rhombic [28].

The crystalline phase formed at 400°C is a mixture of metal oxides in stoichiometric ratios  $10WO_3+V_2O_5$  and  $10MoO_3+V_2O_5$ , results obtained by comparing the obtained and the calculated calcinations residue.

## Conclusions

The triheteropolyacids synthesis method suggested in the present paper increases the efficiency comparatively to the classical method. The obtained compounds were characterized by elemental analysis, IR spectra and thermal behaviour over 20–800°C temperature range and their determinate formula is:

H<sub>5</sub>[AsW<sub>10</sub>V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>40</sub>]·16H<sub>2</sub>O, respectively, H<sub>5</sub>[AsMo<sub>10</sub>V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>40</sub>]·13H<sub>2</sub>O.

The crystalline phase formed at 400°C is a mixture of metal oxides in stoichiometric ratios, results that allow us to propose an alternative method for the synthesis of a mixture of two oxides with a known composition, a method which consists of calcinations of the compounds at ~400°C.

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