

# Thermochemistry of hydrated lithium monoborates

Zhu Lixia\*, Gao Shiyang, Xia Shuping

Xi'an Branch, Institute of Salt Lakes, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Xi'an Road, Xi'an 710043, Shaanxi, PR China

Received 23 September 2003; received in revised form 19 January 2004; accepted 29 January 2004

Available online 8 April 2004

## Abstract

The enthalpies of solution of two hydrated lithium monoborates in approximately  $1 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  aqueous hydrochloric acid were determined. From these results and the enthalpies of solution of  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$  in approximately  $1 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$   $\text{HCl}(\text{aq})$ , and of  $\text{LiCl}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in aqueous (hydrochloric acid + boric acid), combining with the standard molar enthalpies of formation of  $\text{LiCl}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{s})$ ,  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3(\text{s})$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$ , the standard molar enthalpies of formation of  $-1627.46 \pm 0.90$  and  $-3397.00 \pm 0.94 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  for  $\text{LiBO}_2\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{LiBO}_2\cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$  were obtained. The standard molar entropies of formation of  $\text{LiBO}_2\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{LiBO}_2\cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$  were calculated from the thermodynamic relation with the standard molar Gibbs free energy of formation of  $\text{LiBO}_2\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{LiBO}_2\cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$  computed from a group contribution method.

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**Keywords:** Hydrated lithium monoborate; Standard molar enthalpy of formation; Solution calorimetry; Molar enthalpy of solution; Aqueous hydrochloric acid solution

## 1. Introduction

The synthesis, structural, and dehydration studies of borates and especially of hydrated lithium borates have attracted great attention in these past few years. The main reason is that lithium borates have various physical properties like, piezoelectricity for  $\text{Li}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7$  [1] or non-linear optical behavior of  $\text{LiB}_3\text{O}_5$  [2]. There exist three hydrated lithium borates, namely monoborate, tetraborate and pentaborate, in  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}-\text{B}_2\text{O}_3-\text{H}_2\text{O}$  system [3] at different temperature, among which the standard molar enthalpies of formation of  $\text{Li}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7\cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{LiB}_5\text{O}_8\cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$  have been reported by Li [4]. There are no reports on the standard molar enthalpies of formation of hydrated lithium monoborates in the literature. As a part of the serial studies [5–9] on the thermochemistry of hydrated borates, in this paper, the standard molar enthalpies of formation  $\Delta_f H_m^0$  of hydrated lithium monoborate  $\text{LiBO}_2\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{LiBO}_2\cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$  have been determined by solution calorimetry and other thermochemical parameters have also been calculated.

## 2. Experimental

All the reagents used in the synthesis were analytic grade. The  $\text{LiBO}_2\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{LiBO}_2\cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$  were synthesized at laboratory according to thermodynamic equilibrium state phase diagram of  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}-\text{B}_2\text{O}_3-\text{H}_2\text{O}$  system at  $T = 313 \text{ K}$  [3]. The compounds were characterized by chemical analysis, powder X-ray diffraction, FT-IR spectrum, Raman spectrum and thermal analysis. The powder X-ray diffraction data of the synthesized compounds were obtained using Rigaku D/MAX-2400 with  $\text{Cu-K}\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.5418 \text{ \AA}$ ) (Fig. 1). Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) and DSC were conducted on a NETZSCH-Gerätebau STA 449c, in a flow of  $\text{N}_2$  with a heating rate of  $10^\circ\text{C min}^{-1}$ . FT-IR spectra were recorded in the  $4000-400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  region on a Nicolet NEXUS 670 FT-IR spectrometer using KBr pellets; Raman spectra on a Nicolet Omega Dispersive Raman spectrometer (Fig. 2). All spectroscopic data are in excellent agreement with the literature [10,11]. The analytic data of two compounds are given in Table 1. The data shows that the compounds obtained are pure and have the general formulas  $\text{LiBO}_2\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{LiBO}_2\cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and they are suitable for calorimetric experiment.

Thermochemical reaction used for getting the derivation of  $\Delta_f H_m^0$  of  $\text{LiBO}_2\cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was:

\* Corresponding author. Tel.: +86-29-85535340;

fax: +86-29-85520341.

E-mail address: [gaoshi@pub.xaonline.com](mailto:gaoshi@pub.xaonline.com) (Z. Lixia).

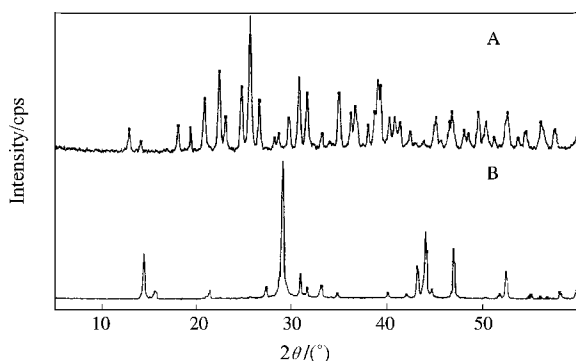
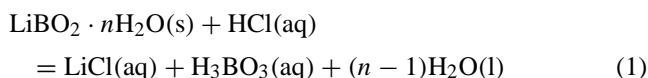


Fig. 1. The XRD of hydrated lithium monoborates (A)  $\text{LiBO}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , (B)  $\text{LiBO}_2 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .



The standard molar enthalpies of formation of  $\text{LiBO}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{LiBO}_2 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$  could be obtained by solution calorimetry in combination with the standard molar enthalpies of formation of  $\text{LiCl} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{s})$ ,  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3(\text{s})$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$ . The  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3(\text{s})$  and  $\text{LiBO}_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}(n = 2 \text{ and } 8)(\text{s})$  were dissolved in approximately  $1 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  aqueous hydrochloric acid, and the calculated amount of  $\text{LiCl} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{s})$  was dissolved in aqueous (hydrochloric acid + boric acid) which consisted of approximately  $1 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$   $\text{HCl}(\text{aq})$  and the calculated amount of  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$ . The  $\text{HCl}$  standard solution was prepared from azeotropic hydrochloric acid and deionized water, and its concentration was determined by titration with standard borax.

An RD496-III microcalorimeter (made in the Southwest Institute of Electronic Engineering, PR China) was used. The sensitivity of the instrument was measured through electrical calibration and the accuracy and precision were determined by chemical calibration. The temperature of the calorimetric experiments was  $298.15 \pm 0.05 \text{ K}$ . The experimental data

Table 1  
The chemical composition of hydrated lithium monoborates (mass%)

Borate	Experimental			Calculated		
	$\text{Li}_2\text{O}$	$\text{B}_2\text{O}_3$	$\text{H}_2\text{O}^{\text{a}}$	$\text{Li}_2\text{O}$	$\text{B}_2\text{O}_3$	$\text{H}_2\text{O}$
$\text{LiBO}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	17.34	40.68	41.98	17.43	40.59	41.98
$\text{LiBO}_2 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$	7.73	18.04	74.23	7.71	17.97	74.32

<sup>a</sup> Determined by thermal analysis method.

are saved and processed by using a computer. A detailed description is given elsewhere [12]. A glass ampoule containing a sample to be measured, put in the stainless steel reaction cell of the microcalorimeter and broken after thermal equilibrium was reached for (at least 2 h). The total time required for the complete reaction was about 1 h, depending on the samples. No solid residues were observed in the solution after the calorimetric experiments.

### 3. Results and discussion

To check the performance of the RD496-III microcalorimeter, the enthalpy of solution of  $\text{KCl}$  in deionized water was measured at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ . The experimental value  $17.24 \pm 0.06 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  is in excellent agreement with the value  $17.241 \pm 0.018 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  reported in the literature [13]. This result indicated that the device used in this work was reliable.

Table 2 gives the results of the calorimetric experiments. In this table,  $m$  is the mass of the sample,  $\Delta_{\text{sol}}H_{\text{m}}$  is the molar enthalpy of solution of solute. Tables 3 and 4 give the thermochemical cycles for the derivation of the standard molar enthalpies of formation of  $\text{LiBO}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}(n = 2 \text{ and } 8)$ . The molar enthalpies of solution of  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3(\text{s})$  of  $21.83 \pm 0.08 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  in approximately  $1 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$   $\text{HCl}(\text{aq})$  and of  $\text{LiCl} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{s})$  of  $-14.36 \pm 0.11 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  in the mixture of  $\text{HCl}$  and  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$  were taken from our previous works

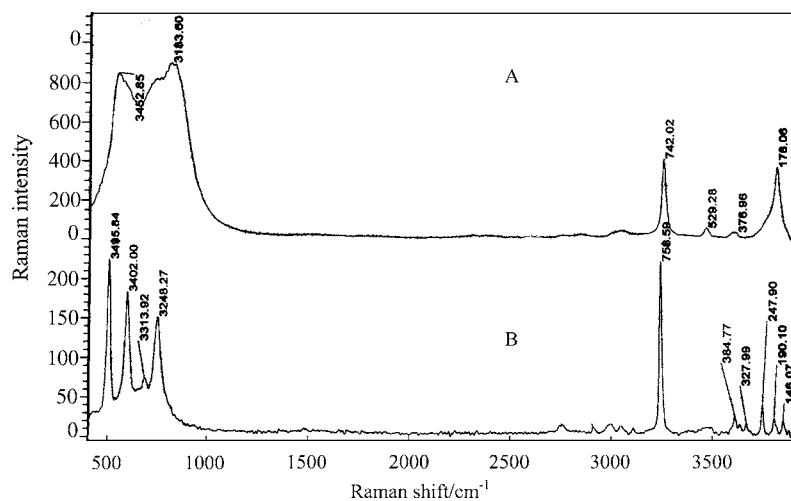


Fig. 2. Raman spectra of hydrated lithium monoborates (A)  $\text{LiBO}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , (B)  $\text{LiBO}_2 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

Table 2

The molar enthalpies of solution  $\Delta_{\text{sol}}H_m$  of hydrated lithium monoborates in approximately 1 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> HCl(aq) at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}^a$

No	$m$ (mg)	$\Delta_{\text{sol}}H_m$ (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )
LiBO <sub>2</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O(s)		
1	4.00	-8.16
2	4.03	-8.18
3	4.05	-8.07
4	4.04	-8.19
5	4.06	-8.22
Mean		-8.16 ± 0.11
LiBO <sub>2</sub> ·8H <sub>2</sub> O(s)		
1	6.17	46.32
2	6.15	46.23
3	6.13	46.44
4	6.16	46.41
5	6.19	46.39
Mean		43.36 ± 0.16

<sup>a</sup> In each experiment, 2.00 cm<sup>3</sup> of HCl(aq) was used.

separately [4,5]. The standard molar enthalpies of formation of H<sub>2</sub>O(l) and H<sub>3</sub>BO<sub>3</sub>(s) were taken from the CODATA Key Values [14], namely  $-285.830 \pm 0.04$  and  $-1094.8 \pm 0.8 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ , respectively. The standard molar enthalpy of formation of LiCl·H<sub>2</sub>O(s) of  $-712.58 \pm 0.36 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  was taken from NBS tables [15], and that of dilution of HCl(aq) at a given concentration was also calculated from the NBS tables [15]. Therefore, the standard molar enthalpies of formation of LiBO<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O and LiBO<sub>2</sub>·8H<sub>2</sub>O(s) could be calculated and the results are  $-1627.46 \pm 0.90 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  and  $-3397.00 \pm 0.94 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ , respectively. Applying a group

contribution method developed by Li [16] for the calculation of thermodynamic properties of hydrated borates, the  $\Delta_f H_m^0$  and  $\Delta_f G_m^0$  of a hydrated borate should be the sum of the contributions of the corresponding cation in aqueous solution, of the polyborate anion and of liquid water, and could be expressed by Eqs. (2) and (3):

$$\Delta_f H_m^0(\text{LiBO}_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}) = \Delta_f H_m^0(\text{Li}^+, \text{aq}) + \Delta_f H_m^0\{[\text{B}(\text{OH})_4]^{-}\} + (n-2)\Delta_f H_m^0(\text{H}_2\text{O}, \text{l}) \quad (2)$$

$$\Delta_f G_m^0(\text{LiBO}_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}) = \Delta_f G_m^0(\text{Li}^+, \text{aq}) + \Delta_f G_m^0\{[\text{B}(\text{OH})_4]^{-}\} + (n-2)\Delta_f G_m^0(\text{H}_2\text{O}, \text{l}) \quad (3)$$

where  $n = 2$  and  $8$ .

we calculated  $\Delta_f H_m^0$  of LiBO<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O and LiBO<sub>2</sub>·8H<sub>2</sub>O to be  $-1623.94$  and  $-3366.46 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ , respectively. These values agree with the experimental results. The relative errors are 0.21 and 0.90%, respectively. The  $\Delta_f G_m^0$  of LiBO<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O and LiBO<sub>2</sub>·8H<sub>2</sub>O have also been calculated to be  $-1453.17$  and  $-2876.85 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ , respectively. By using experimental standard molar enthalpies of formation of LiBO<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O and LiBO<sub>2</sub>·8H<sub>2</sub>O, the standard molar entropies of formation of LiBO<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O(s) and LiBO<sub>2</sub>·8H<sub>2</sub>O(s) have been calculated as  $-584.57$  and  $-1744.59 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$ , according to the following equation:

$$\Delta_f S_m^0 = \frac{(\Delta_f H_m^0 - \Delta_f G_m^0)}{T} \quad (4)$$

Otherwise, the standard molar entropies of LiBO<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O(s) and LiBO<sub>2</sub>·8H<sub>2</sub>O(s) have been calculated to be 121.68 and

Table 3

Thermochemical cycles and results for the derivation of  $\Delta_f H_m^0$  (LiBO<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O,  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ )

Reaction	$\Delta_r H_m$ (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )
1. LiBO <sub>2</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O(s) + 41.86(HCl·54.530H <sub>2</sub> O) = Li <sup>+</sup> (aq) + Cl <sup>-</sup> (aq) + H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> (aq) + 40.86(HCl·55.889H <sub>2</sub> O)	-8.16 ± 0.11
2. H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> (aq) + 40.86(HCl·55.864H <sub>2</sub> O) = H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> (s) + 40.86(HCl·55.864H <sub>2</sub> O)	-21.83 ± 0.08
3. Li <sup>+</sup> (aq) + Cl <sup>-</sup> (aq) + H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> (aq) + 40.86(HCl·55.889H <sub>2</sub> O) = LiCl·H <sub>2</sub> O(s) + H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> (aq) + 40.86(HCl·55.864H <sub>2</sub> O)	14.36 ± 0.11
4. 41.86(HCl·55.864H <sub>2</sub> O) = 41.86(HCl·54.530H <sub>2</sub> O) + 55.841H <sub>2</sub> O(l)	1.14 ± 0.04
5. (1/2)H <sub>2</sub> (g) + (1/2)Cl <sub>2</sub> (g) + 55.864H <sub>2</sub> O(l) = (HCl·55.864H <sub>2</sub> O)	-165.43 ± 0.08
6. LiCl·H <sub>2</sub> O(s) = Li(s) + (1/2)Cl <sub>2</sub> (g) + H <sub>2</sub> (g) + (1/2)O <sub>2</sub> (g)	712.58 ± 0.36
7. H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> (s) = B(s) + (3/2)H <sub>2</sub> (g) + (3/2)O <sub>2</sub> (g)	1094.80 ± 0.80
8. LiBO <sub>2</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O(s) = Li(s) + B(s) + 2H <sub>2</sub> (g) + 2O <sub>2</sub> (g)	1627.46 ± 0.90

Table 4

Thermochemical cycles and results for the derivation of  $\Delta_f H_m^0$  (LiBO<sub>2</sub>·8H<sub>2</sub>O,  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ )

Reaction	$\Delta_r H_m$ (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )
1. LiBO <sub>2</sub> ·8H <sub>2</sub> O(s) + 63.033(HCl·54.530H <sub>2</sub> O) = Li <sup>+</sup> (aq) + Cl <sup>-</sup> (aq) + H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> (aq) + 62.033(HCl·55.522H <sub>2</sub> O)	46.36 ± 0.16
2. H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> (aq) + 62.033(HCl·55.506H <sub>2</sub> O) = H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> (s) + 62.033(HCl·55.506H <sub>2</sub> O)	-21.83 ± 0.08
3. Li <sup>+</sup> (aq) + Cl <sup>-</sup> (aq) + H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> (aq) + 62.033(HCl·55.522H <sub>2</sub> O) = LiCl·H <sub>2</sub> O(s) + H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> (aq) + 62.033(HCl·55.506H <sub>2</sub> O)	14.36 ± 0.11
4. 63.033(HCl·55.506H <sub>2</sub> O) = 63.033(HCl·54.530H <sub>2</sub> O) + 61.520H <sub>2</sub> O(l)	1.18 ± 0.04
5. (1/2)H <sub>2</sub> (g) + (1/2)Cl <sub>2</sub> (g) + 55.506H <sub>2</sub> O(l) = (HCl·55.506H <sub>2</sub> O)	-165.43 ± 0.08
6. LiCl·H <sub>2</sub> O(s) = Li(s) + (1/2)Cl <sub>2</sub> (g) + H <sub>2</sub> (g) + (1/2)O <sub>2</sub> (g)	712.58 ± 0.36
7. H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> (s) = B(s) + (3/2)H <sub>2</sub> (g) + (3/2)O <sub>2</sub> (g)	1094.80 ± 0.80
8. 6H <sub>2</sub> O(l) = 6H <sub>2</sub> (g) + 3O <sub>2</sub> (g)	1714.98 ± 0.24
9. LiBO <sub>2</sub> ·8H <sub>2</sub> O(s) = Li(s) + B(s) + 8H <sub>2</sub> (g) + 5O <sub>2</sub> (g)	3397.00 ± 0.94

360.21 J K<sup>-1</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, according to reaction (8) in Table 3 and (9) in Table 4. The standard molar entropies of the elements were taken from CODATA Key Values as 29.12, 5.90, 130.571, and 205.043 J K<sup>-1</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup> for Li(s), B(s), H<sub>2</sub>(g), and O<sub>2</sub>(g), respectively.

### Acknowledgements

The financial support provided by the National Nature Science Foundation of China is gratefully acknowledged (No: 20271051).

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