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Metal-cluster Ion Intercalated Clay and Stage n-like Structure

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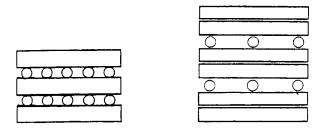
Various metal-cluster ion intercalated clays with first stage- and second stage-like structures were successfully synthesized and their physicochemical properties were examined briefly.

<u>Keywords:</u> metal-cluster ion; pillared clay; stage *n*-like structure; fluor-mica; rectorite; catalytic property

INTRODUCTION

Microporous pillared clay is an intercalation compound in which 'Al₁₃' oxide pillars as guest cations intercalate between every anionic layers of host clay. However, the applicability of pillared clay as a catalytic material has been restricted due to its scant cation-exchange capacity unlike zeolite, so that a catalytically-active transition metal cannot be incorporated into pillared clay. A solution to this problem was provided by American ceramists^[11] who employed the chemical reduction of interlayer copper ions in Cu²⁺-exchanged montmorillonite by ethyleneglycol. This material is regarded as metal-cluster ion pillared clay. On the other hand, we found that the interlayer cations, such as La³⁺ and Li⁺, are peculiarly and

irreversibly fixed by heating onto the cation-exchange sites in a swellable fluor-mica as host clay and the type of cations control the structures of pillared FM by 'Al₁₃' ions either first stage- or second stage-like^[2]. Here we report a successful attempt to synthesize various metal-cluster ion pillared clays with stage *I*- and stage *2*-like structures as shown in Fig. 1 and their physicochemical properties.



Stage 1-like

Stage 2-like

FIGURE 1 Stage 1- and stage 2-like structured metal-cluster pillared clays.

EXPERIMENTAL

The clay samples employed here are as follows; montmorillonite [Na_{1/3}(Al₂. $_{1/3}$ Mg_{1/3})(Si₄)O₁₀(OH)₂] (Kunipia F / Kunimine Ind.), hectorite [Na_{1/3}(Mg₃. $_{1/3}$ Li_{1/3})(Si₄)O₁₀(OH)₂] (DPI-AW / American Colloid Co.), saponite [Na_{1/3} (Mg₃)(Si_{4-1/3}Al_{1/3})O₁₀(OH)₂] (Benesa, Spain), fluor-mica^[2] [Na(Mg_{2.68})(Si₄) O₁₀F₂] (ME / CO-OP Chemical Co.), rectorite^[3] (Ohtoge, Japan). The Li[†]-fixed fluor-mica was prepared as described in the previous paper^[2].

Various metal-cluster ion pillared clay were prepared as follows. First, various metal ion-exchanged clays were prepared from the starting Na⁺ form clay using each metal ion aqueous solution by the common cation exchange

method at room temperature. Then, the dried metal ion-exchanged clay was dispersed in ethyleneglycol as a reducing agent and stirred as increasing the temperature. The formation of cluster-ion was visually observed by the color change of dispersed solution during the temperature range of 150-200°C. The product was separated by centrifugation, washed three times with methanol and air-dried overnight at 60 °C.

X-ray diffraction (XRD) analysis was carried out employing an oriented clay film spread on a glass slide. The nitrogen adsorption on the sample was measured at -195 °C in order to examine its porous nature.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Heating Cu²⁺-exchanged montmorillonite (Cu²⁺-M) in ethyleneglycol at about 200 °C causes the reduction of interlayer Cu²⁺ ions, accompanied with the change of solution color from blue to red. Fig. 2 illustrates the XRD spectra of Cu²⁺-M and Cu⁰-cluster ion pillared one (Cu⁰-PM). Comparing (a) - (b) with (c) - (d) in Fig. 2, it seems that the calcination at 200 °C for 1 h brings about a collapse of interlayer space for Cu²⁺-M, but not for Cu⁰-PM. This indicates that the Cu⁰-cluster ions with size of 5-6 A are not only formed but also stably kept within montomorillonite interlayer space even at high temperature of 200 °C. The pillaring by Cu⁰-cluster ions brings about a marked increase in surface area from 20 m²/g for Cu²⁺-M to 172 m²/g for Cu⁰-PM. The isotherm for N₂ gas adsorption over Cu⁰-PM fits a Langmuir-type well, indicating its microporous nature. By employing original clays other than montmorillonite, or hectorite, saponite and swellable fluor-mica, the Cu⁰cluster ion pillared clays were also synthesized. Every pillared clay has a

similar basal spacing (d₀₀₁) of 15.2-15.6 Å, demonstrating a formation of 'first stage-like' structure in which Cu⁰-cluster ions with a similar size (5.6-6.0 Å) intercalate into every clay layers (thickness of 9.6Å). **Various** metal cluster pillared montmorillonites were also obtained by using several metal ions except for Cu²⁺. The easiness of reduction depends on the type of cations as follows; Ni,Cu,Ru(200°C) < Rh(175) < Ir, Pt(160) < Pd, Au (140). The value in each parenthesis means the temperature where the This order fairly correlates with the color change by reduction begins. standard oxidation-reduction potential of metal ions. The pillared one (Pd, Au) produced at lower temperature has smaller interlayer distance (I.D.;3-4Å) and lower specific surface area (S.A.;20-30 m²/g), while the pillared one (Ni,Cu,Ru) formed at relatively higher temperature has larger I.D.(5-6Å) and higher S.A. (about 100 m²/g).

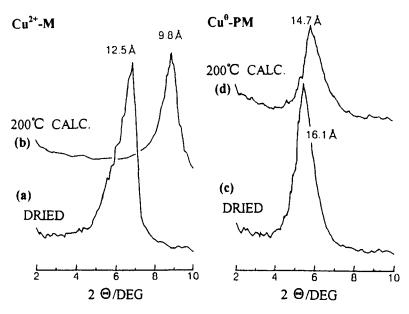


FIGURE 2 XRD spectra of Cu²⁺-M (a,b) and Cu⁰-PM (c,d).

In order to synthesize 'second stage-like' structured pillared clays, a rectorite and Li⁺-fixed FM were adopted as starting clays. Rectorite^[3] belongs to the class of regularly interstratified clay, or a natural one having a stage 2-like structure. Li⁺-fixed FM (Li⁺-FM) has been recently found by ourselves^[2] to form a stage 2-like structured pillared clay by 'Al₁₃' ions. Fig. 3 illustrates XRD spectra of Cu⁰-cluster pillared rectorite (Cu⁰-PR) and Ni⁰-cluster pillared Li⁺-FM (Ni⁰-P(Li⁺-FM)) together with a stage 1-like structured Cu⁰-cluster pillared FM (Cu⁰-PFM) without Li⁺ fixation treatment. The XRD peaks of Cu⁰-PR show d₀₀₁=25.2 and d₀₀₂=12.3 Å, indicating a formation of stage 2-like structure where Cu⁰ clusters with size of 6 Å are held regularly between two clay layers (thickness of 19,2 Å). For Ni⁰-P(Li⁺-FM), a stage 2-like structure was also formed as well as a stage 1-like structure that was only formed in Cu⁰-PFM.

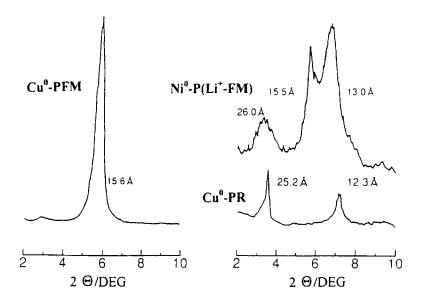


FIGURE 3 XRD spectra of Cu⁰-PR, Ni⁰-P(Li⁺-FM) and Cu⁰-PFM.

The thermal stability of metal cluster intercalated into interlayer space seems to be dominated by the type of host clay, especially the difference of isomorphous substitution. The pillared derivatives from *tetrahedrally* substituted clay, or saponite and rectorite^[3], are much more heat-stable than those from octahedrally substituted one, hectorite and fluor-mica. Interestingly, the XRD spectrum of Cu^0 -PR hardly changes by heating up to 500 °C. Thus, the Ni-cluster ion intercalated saponite and rectorite work as efficient catalysts for the selective ether formation reaction from *n*-butyl alcohol.

In summary, the first stage-like structured metal-cluster pillared clays are obtained by ethyleneglycol reduction of metal ion-exchanged *smectites* and the easiness of reduction depends on the type of metal ion. On the other hand, the second stage-like structured ones are synthesized using a regularly interstratified *rectorite* and *Li**-fixed FM as starting clays.

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