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The study of the qualitative functions of hybrid powder AgI-SiO₂ material as a new ice-forming reagent

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Abstract

Low rain clouds and fog can have a negative impact on human activities. At the moment, there is a significant need for the development of new reagents for artificial climate control technologies in order to prevent negative consequences from natural adverse atmospheric phenomena.

Hybrid powder materials (HPM) based on mesoporous silicon dioxide (MCM-41) doped with silver iodide were obtained in the process of template hydrothermal synthesis by the co-condensation method.

The effect of the concentration of the active substance (silver iodide) in the HPM on the textural, structural and morphological properties of the AgI-SiO₂ systems was studied.

The method of X-ray phase analysis (XPA) in the small-angle range has shown that practically in all the considered samples of AgI-SiO₂, an organized pore structure corresponding to the silica matrix MCM-41 is determined.

According to the results of XRD, the ratio of the components of the synthesis [Ag]/[Si] ≤ 0.045 was established, making it possible to obtain HPM samples, in which silver iodide is determined in the form of target crystal structures – iodargyrite (Iodargyrite, β-AgI).

It was shown by the method of low-temperature nitrogen sorption that the AgI-SiO₂ samples obtained in the process of template co-condensation under hydrothermal conditions have a high specific surface area – 925-346 m²/g.

New powder materials can be promising reagents for the fight against fog and low clouds due to their multifunctional nature: an inert matrix capable of active moisture absorption, and a crystalline modifier that identifies phase transitions "liquid water – solid ice crystal".

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