

Proceeding



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Preliminary synthesis of calcium carbonate using CO_2 bubbling method for biomedical application

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ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION : Calcium carbonate (CaCO_3) is widely used in biomedical application such as biomaterial for bone substitute, drug delivery system, calcium supplement and others. CaCO_3 natural form can be easily found either in a limestone processing. Carbonation or CO_2 bubbling method is required to obtain CaCO_3 from bulk limestone. **Objective :** The aim of this study was to synthesize CaCO_3 from Palimanan limestone by CO_2 bubbling method. **Materials and methods:** Limestone was calcinated at 900°C to get calcium oxide (CaO). Then, 84 gr CaO was hydrated in 1.5L water at 50°C in an hour to get lime slurry ($\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$). Lime slurry carbonated by bubbling method with temperature 60°C , constant flow rate of CO_2 at 10L/min and stirred at 300 rpm to obtain CaCO_3 particles. Particles of CaCO_3 are then characterized by Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy (EDS), and X-Ray Diffraction (XRD). **Result :** Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy showed elements forming was CaCO_3 . X-Ray Diffraction pattern of CaCO_3 produced trigonal calcite crystalline structure. **Conclusion :** CaCO_3 successfully synthesized using CO_2 bubbling method. Hopefully this CaCO_3 particles might be used widely in biomedical application. Further study is awaited based on these initial findings.

Keywords: Synthesize of CaCO_3 , CO_2 bubbling, EDS, XRD

INTRODUCTION

Calcium carbonate (CaCO_3) is widely used in biomedical application. Biomaterial for bone substitute and drug delivery system for osteomyelitis during bone surgery^{1,2}. CaCO_3 can be used as abrasive material in toothpaste³. CaCO_3 also can be used as therapy for dentine hypersensitivity from prophylaxis paste. Calcite form of CaCO_3 can be used as dentifrices and polishing materials⁴. CaCO_3 natural form can be easily found either in a limestone processing⁵. Carbonation or CO_2 bubbling method is required to obtain CaCO_3 from bulk limestone⁶.

Natural CaCO_3 can be found at several forms like mollusc shells and egg shells. This shells fossil can be found in limestone which is almost 90% contain CaCO_3 . The worldwide availability of CaCO_3 compatibility and non-toxicity towards the human body make synthesis of this material an interesting and attractive topic for scientists and researcher to delve into. Therefore, so many research have been undertaken to stabilize specific CaCO_3 polymorphs at different size and morphology⁵.

Two main CaCO_3 synthesis methods there are biomimetic method and CO_2 bubbling method. Biomimetic method attempts to imitate nature's ability to synthesize various shapes and size by using physiological parameters and soluble organics. The current industrial synthesis is CO_2 bubbling method which use CO_2 bubble into slaked lime to get CaCO_3 particles⁵.

CO_2 bubbling method is very efficient at producing micro or nano sized particles which are the most needed size in industry and research. The morphology that can mainly be achieved are cubic or rhombohedral⁵.

CaCO_3 have three polymorphs, they are calcite which is thermodynamically stable, vaterite, and aragonite^{1,7}. An important factor during carbonation process is temperature⁸. Scalenohedral CaCO_3 formed at 41-90°C⁹. Another research showed needle like form aragonite formed at 60°C¹⁰. Different shapes can be exhibited by CaCO_3 like spheres, cubes, irregular, pyramid, hollows, and many else⁵. The aim of this study was to synthesize CaCO_3 from Palimanan limestone by CO_2 bubbling method at 60°C.

METHODS

Limestone was calcinated at 900°C to get calcium oxide (CaO). Then, 84 gr CaO was hydrated in 1.5L water at 50°C in an hour to get lime slurry (Ca(OH)_2). Lime slurry carbonated by bubbling method with temperature 60°C, constant flow rate of CO_2 at 10L/min and stirred at 300 rpm until suspension reach neutral pH to obtain CaCO_3 particles. Fig.1 showed carbonation processing. Particles of CaCO_3 then characterized by Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy (EDS), and X-Ray Diffraction (XRD).

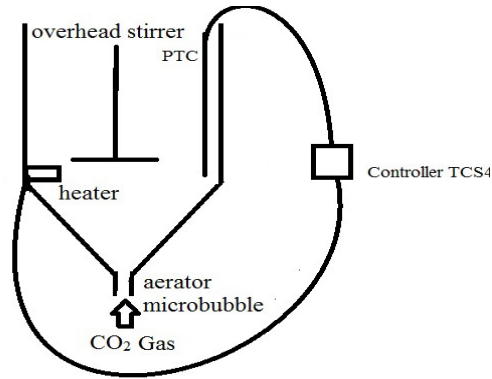
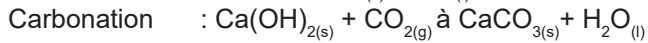
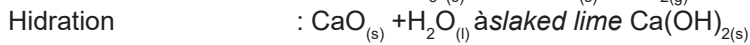
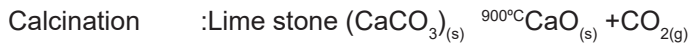
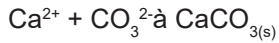
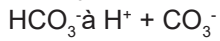
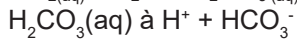
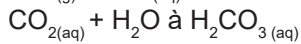
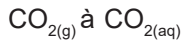


Figure 1. Carbonation or CO₂ bubbling method

Hypothesis of reactions described below:



Detailed reaction of carbonation ¹¹:



RESULTS

Carbonation process is run for 15 minutes until the suspension gets neutral pH (6, 5). Initial CaO mass is 84 gr and final CaCO₃ mass is 90,90 gr.

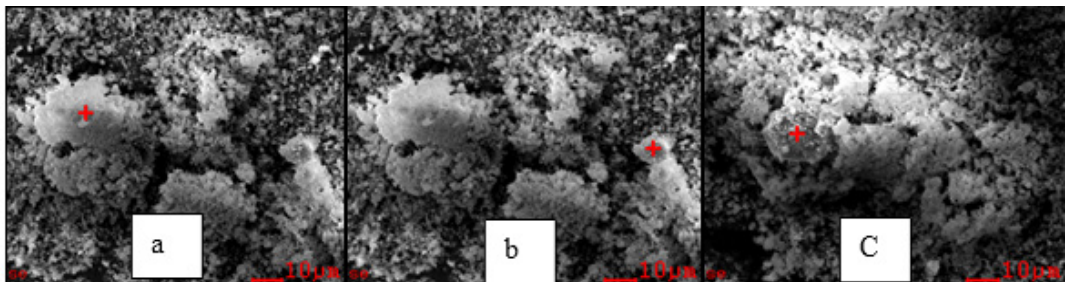


Figure 3. Three dots, during EDS characterization

Table 1. EDS result of CaCO₃

Element	A		B		C	
	Weight%	Atomic %	Weight%	Atomic %	Weight %	Atomic %
C	13,07	21,31	2,39	20,61	10,12	17,52
O	49,22	60,26	47,59	59,44	45,89	59,66
Ca	37,71	18,43	40,02	19,95	43,99	22,83

Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy showed elements forming was CaCO₃.

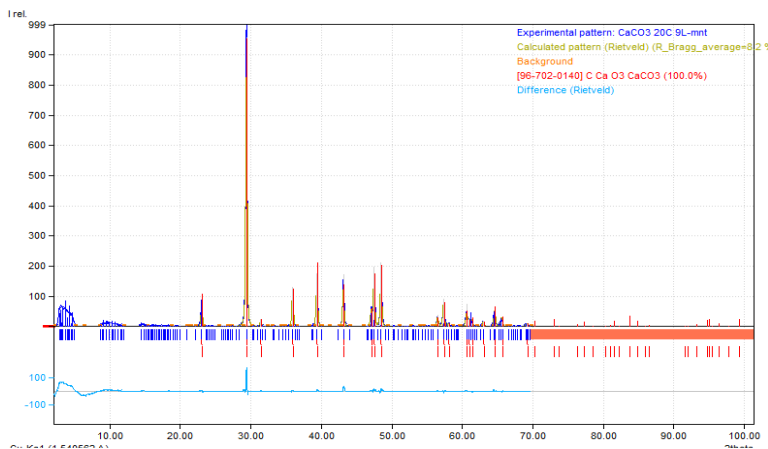


Figure 4. XRD pattern of CaCO₃

X-Ray Diffraction pattern of CaCO₃ produced trigonal calcite crystalline structure with 2.737g/cm³ density. Fig.4 showed that the particles are 100% CaCO₃ with their peaks. The highest peak is at 2θ degree 30°. This peak same as peak of CaCO₃ in reference

DISCUSSION

CaCO₃ morphology result from this research is different from another research which shows that aragonite is formed at temperature 60°C. Beside, in this research XRD pattern showed calcite formation at the same temperature¹². Temperature also influences particle size of CaCO₃⁸. Small particle (1,5µm) of CaCO₃ is formed at 25°C and the size increases due to agglomeration at 35°C and at 50°C particles begin non agglomerate until reach smallest particle size 1,2 µm at 60°C⁸.

Biomedical products that can be obtain from this research are CaCO₃ and Ca(OH)₂. These products can be utilized as dental product when the products meet each standard like physical properties, mechanical properties, and biocompatibility of the materials. Further research is needed to investigate if these materials are eligible as the desired materials

CaCO₃ which used in dentifrices is different from CaCO₃ used as other dental materials. CaCO₃ is widely used as dentifrices which act as abrasive materials to remove plaque or stain and polish tooth surface. A discussion of dentifrices would not be complete without mentioning of the ADA acceptance program for these materials like abrasivity value of 250 (also limit for ISO standard) ¹³.

Recent research showed CaCO₃ role as precursor of carbonate apatite based bone cement and drug delivery system for osteomyelitis disease ^{1,14}. CaCO₃ acts as donor of CO₃⁻ and Ca²⁺ that has similarity with inorganic content of bone ¹⁴. CaCO₃ shows unique advantages due to the potential and its ideal biocompatibility as delivery system for loading different categories of drugs. CaCO₃ is nominated as suitable drug delivery carrier because of their accessibility, slow biodegradability, osteoconductivity, safety, low cost, pH-sensitive properties and biocompatibility ¹.

Another product that can be found in this research is Ca(OH)₂ which is widely known for its application in pulp protection as cement base materials ¹³.

CONCLUSION

CaCO₃ is successfully synthesized by CO₂ bubbling method. Hopefully this CaCO₃ particles might be used widely in biomedical application. Further study is awaited based on these initial findings.

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