Research Article

Heat Capacity and Thermodynamic Property of Cesium Tetraborate Pentahydrate

Kangrui Sun, Kaiyu Zhao, Long Li, Yafei Guo [ID], and Tianlong Deng [ID]

Tianjin Key Laboratory of Marine Resources and Chemistry, College of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, Tianjin University of Science and Technology, Tianjin 300457, China

Correspondence should be addressed to Yafei Guo; guoyafei@tust.edu.cn and Tianlong Deng; tldeng@tust.edu.cn

In order to recover cesium tetraborate pentahydrate ($Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$) from the high concentration cesium-containing salt lake brines and geothermal water resources, the molar heat capacity of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ has been measured with a precision calorimeter at the temperature from 303 to 349 K. It was found that there is no phase transition and thermal anomalies. The molar heat capacity of cesium tetraborate pentahydrate is fitted as $C_{p,m}$ ($J \cdot mol^{-1} \cdot K^{-1}$) $= 593.85705 + 48.0694[T - (T_{max} + T_{min})/2]/(T_{max} - T_{min})/2] + 24.86395[(T - (T_{max} + T_{min})/2)/(T_{max} - T_{min})/2]^2 + 0.53077[(T - (T_{max} + T_{min})/2)/(T_{max} - T_{min})/2]^3$, and the relevant thermodynamic functions of enthalpy, entropy, and Gibbs free energy of cesium tetraborate pentahydrate are also obtained at intervals of 2 K from 303 to 349 K.

1. Introduction

The demands for cesium and its compounds have been sharply increased for their excellent properties and crucially commercial values in recent years [1]. Cesium ion with the biggest hydration in the periodic table determines its prominent properties and applications, such as large solubility and weak hydration in alkali borates. In addition, cesium compounds are applied in many modern high-tech fields owing to tremendous actinochemistry and excellent photoelectrical effect, and cesium borates also serve as the basic materials in new hybrid nonlinear optical materials [2]. Cesium resources were distributed and dispersed in the crust, associated with other minerals [3]; hence, the study of thermodynamic properties for cesium borates was necessary for synthesizing materials and extracting cesium borates from salt lake brines.

Heat capacity is a significant parameter to study the chemical engineering thermodynamics, which reflects the ability of matter to absorb or release heat without phase change [4], and it is beneficial to optimize the process route and improve the separation technology. There have been reported on the standard molar enthalpy of formation as well as the thermodynamic properties of aqueous solutions of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ with the group contribution method [5]. Sun [2] also accurately determined its density, electrical conductivity, and pH at 298.15 and 333.15 K. The crystal structure of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ has been analyzed from single-crystal X-ray diffraction [6]. Zhang et al. [7] measured the molar heat capacity of aqueous $Li_2B_4O_7$ solution with a precision automated adiabatic calorimeter from 80 to 356 K, and the heat capacity of lithium pentaborate pentahydrate has been reported previously in the range from 297 to 375 K using the SETARAM BT 2.15 adiabatic calorimeter [8]. However, there is no report on the molar heat capacity of solid minerals of $Cs_2B_4O_7 \cdot 5H_2O$ in the literature till now.

In this paper, in order to make full use of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ as well as its potential value, the heat capacity of cesium tetraborate pentahydrate was measured in the range 303 to 349 K, and the relevant thermodynamic functions of enthalpy, entropy, and Gibbs free energy were also carried out for the first time.
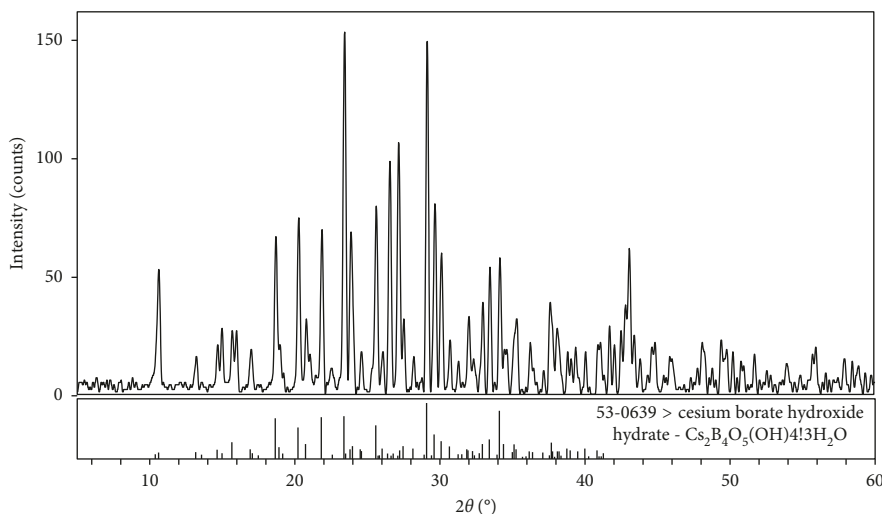
FIGURE 1: The X-ray diffraction pattern of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$.

2. Experimental

2.1. Synthesis of $Cs_2B_4O_7 \cdot 5H_2O$.

The compound of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ was synthesized according to the literature [9]. Briefly, a certain amount of H_3BO_3, Cs_2CO_3, and deionized distilled water (DDW) was added accurately in a beaker, and then heated at 323.15 K and stirred for at least more than 30 min at 150 rpm until dissolved completely. Then, the solution was filtered in an attemperator, and the clear solution was crystallized in a thermostat water bath at 303 K. Finally, the solid phase was separated after washing three times with DDW and absolute ethyl alcohol separately, and then dried in a desiccator before use.

2.2. Identification and Analytical Methods of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$.

The power X-ray diffraction pattern of the synthesized compound in Figure 1 was obtained by using a PERSEE XD-3 polycrystalline X-ray diffractometer with Cu-Kα radiation at $4\,min^{-1}$, which corresponds to $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$. TG and DSC were characterized by using a SETARAM LABSYS thermal analyzer under an N_2 atmosphere with a heating rate of $10\,K \cdot min^{-1}$ from 298.15 to 823.15 K. The TG-DSC curve in Figure 2 shows that the weight loss of 17.42% corresponds to the loss of five water molecules, which is in good agreement with the calculated value of 17.60%.

The concentration of B_2O_3 was determined by the gravimetric method with sodium hydroxide standard solution in the presence of mannitol and double indicator of methyl red and phenolphthalein, and the uncertainty of the results was less than 0.0005 in mass fraction [10]. The cesium ion content was obtained by using an inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometer (Prodigy, Leman Corporation, America) with a precision of ±0.005 in mass fraction. The H_2O content was analyzed by the differential subtraction. The chemical analysis results are shown in Table 1. The results, along with X-ray power diffraction analysis and TG curve, show that the compound has high purity and is suitable for thermodynamic experiments.

2.3. Calorimetry and Experiment Method.

The high-precision SETARAM LABSYS (France) was used for heat capacity experiment, which requires three groups of experiments, namely, blank experiment, reference experiment and sample experiment, and alumina as reference experiment. To verify the performance, the heat capacity of KCl was measured, and the average experimental value for five times of $0.6860\,J \cdot g^{-1} \cdot K^{-1}$ was in accordance with $0.6879\,J \cdot g^{-1} \cdot K^{-1}$ reported in the literature [11], for which the deviation was 0.0028. The heat capacity of sample was carried out in the range 303 to 349 K with a heating rate of 1 K/min, putting about 250 mg of samples in the crucible weighted with an accuracy of 0.00001 g, and the flow rate of N_2 was 20 mL/min.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Heat Capacity.

The heat capacity of sample was measured in the range 303 K to 349 K with a heating rate of 1 K/min using the calorimeter with the standard uncertainty $0.05\,J \cdot mol^{-1} \cdot K^{-1}$. The resulting molar heat capacity of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ is listed in Table 2 and shown in Figure 3. It can be seen from Figure 3 that the specific heat capacity gradually increases with the increase of temperature, increases slowly from 303 to 330 K, and increases fast after 330 K. No phase change was observed within the temperature range of the experiment and no other thermal abnormalities occurred.

For the sake of observing the heat capacity data and getting a heat capacity at a temperature quickly, the molar heat capacity of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ obtained from the experiment was fitted, which can be expressed in the following polynomial equation (1) with the correlation coefficient $r = 0.9987$ and be drawn in Figure 3.
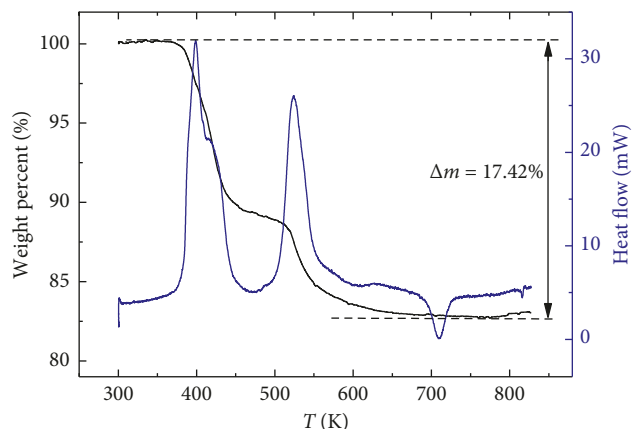
Figure 2: The TG curve of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$.

Table 1: Chemical analytical results of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ in mass fraction[a].

	Cs_2O	B_2O_3	H_2O	n ($Cs_2O : B_2O_3 : H_2O$)
Experimental	0.5533	0.2724	0.1742	1.00 : 1.99 : 4.93
Theoretical	0.5515	0.2724	0.1761	1.00 : 2.00 : 5.00

[a]Standard uncertainties u are $u(Cs_2O) = 0.0053$, $u(B_2O_3) = 0.0005$, and $u(H_2O) = 0.0055$ in mass fraction.

Table 2: Molar heat capacity of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ (molecular mass (M) = 511.127 $g \cdot mol^{-1}$).

T/K[a]	$C_{p,m}$ $J \cdot mol^{-1} \cdot K^{-1}$	T/K	$C_{p,m}$ $J \cdot mol^{-1} \cdot K^{-1}$	T/K	$C_{p,m}$ $J \cdot mol^{-1} \cdot K^{-1}$
303.33	570.00	319.35	581.92	335.24	617.95
304.18	570.56	320.20	583.56	336.2	621.95
305.19	570.62	321.23	585.56	337.8	624.74
306.28	571.10	322.32	586.09	338.35	627.63
307.37	571.23	323.15	587.36	339.35	629.92
308.49	571.49	324.24	589.06	340.31	631.70
309.34	572.79	325.24	591.47	341.42	635.84
310.26	572.65	326.19	593.77	342.4	637.49
311.19	572.73	327.20	596.56	343.23	640.9
312.29	573.54	328.28	599.75	344.32	644.88
313.18	574.82	329.19	602.72	345.58	652.60
314.19	575.47	330.27	605.53	346.27	656.45
315.26	576.57	331.18	607.64	347.28	662.18
316.32	577.17	332.19	611.02	348.55	669.30
317.29	578.53	333.17	612.41		
318.36	579.41	334.33	614.99		

[a]Uncertainty of temperature $u(T) = 0.01$ K and the molar heat capacity uncertainty $u(C_{p,m}) = 0.05$ $J \cdot mol^{-1} \cdot K^{-1}$.

$$C_{p,m}\left(J \cdot mol^{-1} \cdot K^{-1}\right) = 593.85705$$
$$+ 48.0694 \frac{[T - (T_{max} + T_{min})/2]}{[(T_{max} - T_{min})/2]}$$
$$+ 24.86395 \left\{ \frac{[T - (T_{max} + T_{min})/2]}{[(T_{max} - T_{min})/2]} \right\}^2$$
$$+ 0.53077 \left\{ \frac{[T - (T_{max} + T_{min})/2]}{[(T_{max} - T_{min})/2]} \right\}^3,$$
$$(1)$$

where $C_{p,m}$ is the molar heat capacity of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$, T is the absolute temperature in kelvin, and T_{max} and T_{min} express the maximum and minimum temperatures, i.e., 349 and 303, respectively. The molar heat capacity of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ at 303 K can be calculated as 370 $J \cdot mol^{-1} \cdot K^{-1}$ according to the above equation, and all deviations between the experimental values, $C_{p,exp}$, and the fitted values, $C_{p,fit}$, were within 0.005, as shown in Figure 4.

3.2. Enthalpy, Entropy, and Gibbs Free Energy. The thermodynamic functions of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ were obtained by the following thermodynamic equations:
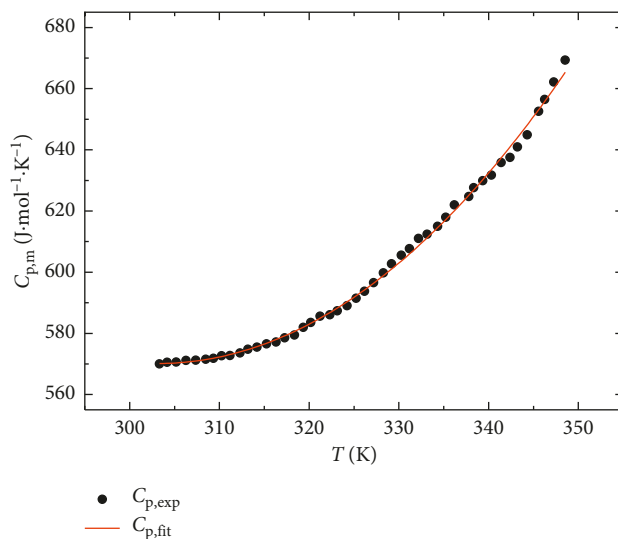
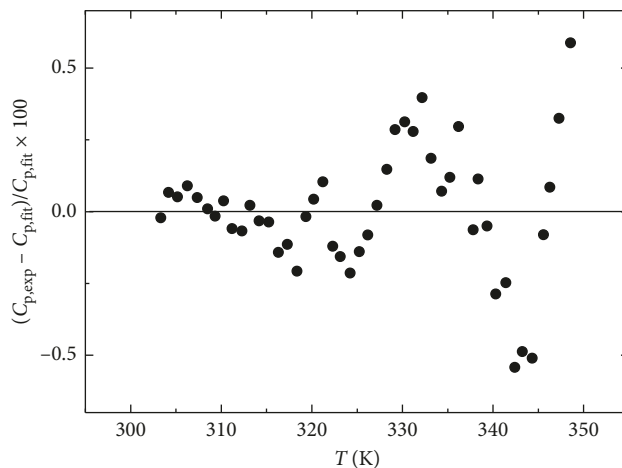FIGURE 3: Experimental and fitting molar heat capacity of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ in the range of 303 to 349 K.

FIGURE 4: The deviations of the experimental and fitting values.

TABLE 3: Molar heat capacity and thermodynamic functions of $Cs_2O \cdot 2B_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$.

T/K	$C_{p,m}$ J·mol^{-1}·K^{-1}	$H_T - H_{303}$ kJ·mol^{-1}	$S_T - S_{303}$ J·mol^{-1}·K^{-1}	$G_T - G_{303}$ kJ·mol^{-1}
303	570.12	0	0	0
305	570.29	6.763	−6.940	8.880
307	570.82	13.468	−14.009	17.769
309	571.69	20.114	−21.203	26.666
311	572.93	26.703	−28.520	35.572
313	574.53	33.232	−35.957	44.487
315	576.49	39.704	−43.512	53.410
317	578.82	46.117	−51.182	62.342
319	581.51	52.473	−58.965	71.283
321	584.58	58.770	−66.859	80.232
323	588.01	65.010	−74.861	89.190
325	591.81	71.192	−82.969	98.157
327	595.99	77.317	−91.181	107.133
329	600.55	83.384	−99.493	116.117
331	605.48	89.394	−107.905	125.110
333	610.80	95.346	−116.414	134.112

Table 3: Continued.

T/K	$C_{p,m}$ J·mol^{-1}·K^{-1}	$H_T - H_{303}$ kJ·mol^{-1}	$S_T - S_{303}$ J·mol^{-1}·K^{-1}	$G_T - G_{303}$ kJ·mol^{-1}
335	616.50	101.242	−125.017	143.122
337	622.59	107.080	−133.713	152.142
339	629.07	112.862	−142.500	161.169
341	635.93	118.587	−151.374	170.206
343	643.18	124.255	−160.335	179.250
345	650.83	129.868	−169.380	188.304
347	658.88	135.424	−178.507	197.366

$$H_T - H_{303} = \int_{303}^{T} C_{p,m} dT, \tag{2}$$

$$S_T - S_{303} = \int_{303}^{T} \left[\frac{C_{p,m}}{T} \right] dT, \tag{3}$$

$$G_T - G_{303} = \int_{303}^{T} C_{p,m} dT - T \int_{303}^{T} \left[\frac{C_{p,m}}{T} \right] dT. \tag{4}$$

The values of the molar heat capacity and thermodynamic functions of $(H_T - H_{303})$, $(S_T - S_{303})$, and $(G_T - G_{303})$ are listed in Table 3 at an interval of 2 K. As can be seen from Table 3, the molar heat capacity and thermodynamic functions of $(H_T - H_{303})$ and $(G_T - G_{303})$ are increased with the rise of temperature, but the entropy $(S_T - S_{303})$ is decreased.

4. Conclusions

The heat capacity of cesium tetraborate pentahydrate was measured ranging from 303 to 349 K with a heating rate of 1 K/min using the high-precision calorimeter without phase transition and thermal anomaly, which were fitted and shown as $C_{p,m}$(J·mol^{-1}·K^{-1}) = 593.85705 + 48.0694$[T - (T_{max} + T_{min})/2]/$ $(T_{max} - T_{min})/2]$ + 24.86395$[(T - (T_{max} + T_{min})/2)/(T_{max} - T_{min})/$ $2]^2$ + 0.53077$[(T - (T_{max} + T_{min})/2)/(T_{max} - T_{min})/2]^3$. The molar heat capacity and thermodynamic functions of $(H_T - H_{303})$, $(S_T - S_{303})$, and $(G_T - G_{303})$ are obtained with the temperature of 2 K interval.

Data Availability

The data used to support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon request.
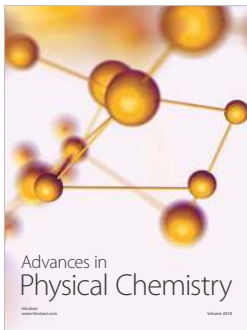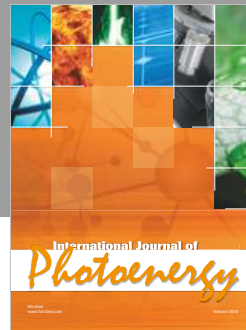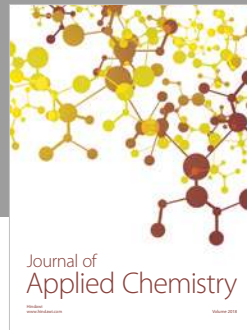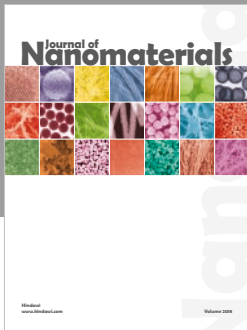
Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

Acknowledgments

References

[1] P. H. Sun, C. H. Fang, Y. Fang et al., "Physicochemical properties and Raman spectra of cesium tetraborate solution," *Journal of Salt Lake Research*, vol. 24, no. 1, pp. 29–37, 2016.

[2] P. H. Sun, *Structure of Aqueous Cesium Borate Solution*, University of Chinese Academy of Science, Beijing, China, 2016.

[3] W. J. Song, S. Z. Yang, and B. Z. Mu, "Determination methods for rubidium and cesium in salt lake brine," *Inorganic Chemicals Industry*, vol. 46, no. 11, pp. 55–58, 2014.

[4] H. Lu, D. C. Feng, and J. Y. Yang, "Comparison of differential scanning calorimetry and modulated differential scanning calorimetry in measurement of specific heat capacities," *Analytical Instrument*, vol. 3, pp. 70–74, 2011.

[5] Z. Liu, S. Li, and M. Hu, "Thermodynamic properties of Cs$_2$B$_4$O$_5$(OH)$_4$·3H$_2$O," *Journal of Chemical Thermodynamics*, vol. 37, no. 9, pp. 1003–1006, 2005.

[6] M. Touboul, N. Penin, and G. Nowogrocki, "Crystal structure and thermal behavior of Cs$_2$B$_4$O$_5$(OH)$_4$3H$_2$O," *Journal of Solid State Chemistry*, vol. 143, no. 2, pp. 260–265, 1999.

[7] Z.-H. Zhang, G.-Y. Yin, Z.-C. Tan, Y. Yao, and L.-X. Sun, "Heat capacities and thermodynamic properties of a H$_2$O + Li$_2$B$_4$O$_7$ solution in the temperature range from 80 to 356 K," *Journal of Solution Chemistry*, vol. 35, no. 10, pp. 1347–1355, 2006.

[8] W. Cui, L. Li, Y. Guo, S. Zhang, and T. Deng, "Heat capacity and thermodynamic property of lithium pentaborate pentahydrate," *Journal of Chemistry*, vol. 2018, no. 6, Article ID 7962739, 4 pages, 2018.

[9] Z. H. Liu, B. Gao, M. C. Hu et al., "FT-IR and Raman spectroscopic analysis of hydrated cesium borates and their saturated aqueous solution," *Spectrochimica Acta Part A: Molecular and Biomolecular Spectroscopy*, vol. 59, no. 12, pp. 2741–2745, 2003.

[10] Qinghai Institute of Salt Lakes of CAS, *Analytical Methods of Brines and Salts*, Chinese Science Press, Beijing, China, 2nd edition, 1988.

[11] J. G. Speight, *Lange's Handbook of Chemistry*, McGraw-Hill, New York, NY, USA, 16th edition, 2005.