

EFFICIENT CONCENTRATION OF PB FROM WATER BY REACTIONS WITH LAYERED ALKALI SILICATES, MAGADIITE AND OCTOSILICATE

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Abstract—Human health problems are often related to contamination of the aqueous environment by toxic metal ions. In the present study, two layered alkali silicates (magadiite and octosilicate) were examined to assess removal of Pb^{2+} from aqueous solutions in terms of quantity and kinetics. The ion-exchange reaction between the silicates and aqueous solutions of lead(II) acetate at various concentrations was examined at room temperature for 24 h. The adsorption isotherms were H-type, showing the strong interactions between Pb²⁺ and the silicates. The amounts of Pb²⁺ adsorbed were as much as 1.23 mmol Pb/g magadiite and 2.32 mmol Pb/g octosilicate, which are larger than the reported values for various ion exchangers. They were larger than the theoretical cation exchange capacities (2.2 and 3.7 meq/g for magadiite and octosilicate, respectively), suggesting that the collection of Pb^{2+} included the precipitation as basic lead salts in addition to the ion exchange. The adsorption isotherms for magadiite and octosilicate fitted the Langmuir equation with correlation coefficients, R^2 , of 0.9991 and 0.9972, respectively. The adsorption of Pb^{2+} onto the layered alkali silicates from acidic aqueous solution was examined to obtain smaller amounts of adsorbed Pb^{2+} (0.32 mmol Pb/g magadiite and 0.34 mmol Pb/g octosilicate), confirming the important role of pH on the surface charge of the layered silicates in terms of ion exchange. The adsorption of Pb^{2+} reached equilibrium within 5 min for magadiite while it took 60 min for octosilicate. The difference was in the particle morphology; smoother diffusion of Pb^{2+} was possible through flower-shaped aggregates of particles of magadiite.

Keywords—Layered alkali silicate \cdot Magadiite \cdot Octosilicate \cdot Pb²⁺ collection \cdot Water purification

INTRODUCTION

Collection of metal ions from aqueous environments has been investigated to concentrate useful metal ions from nature and waste and to remove toxic metal ions as part of the remediation of contaminated water. In addition to membrane separation and precipitation for the collection of target metals (Divrikli et al., [2007](#page-7-0); Chen et al., [2009;](#page-7-0) Jiang et al., [2011\)](#page-8-0), adsorption onto solids (adsorbents) is another useful way to collect metal ions and metal oxo ions from aqueous environments (Li et al., [2002](#page-8-0); Dabrowski et al., [2004;](#page-7-0) Guerra et al., [2010;](#page-7-0) Benkhatou et al., [2016;](#page-7-0) Attar et al., [2019\)](#page-7-0). Various natural and synthetic ion exchangers are available for a variety of target ions to be collected. Parameters such as adsorbent– adsorbate interactions for adsorption from low concentration, capacity of the adsorption, and kinetics have been examined to find suitable adsorbents and conditions.

Some inorganic layered solids are known as ion exchangers, and they are characterized by greater chemical and thermal stabilities over organic and polymeric ion exchangers (Clearfield, [1996\)](#page-7-0). Ion-exchangeable layered solids such as the

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smectite group of clay minerals (Okada et al., [2014](#page-8-0); Otunola and Ololade, [2020](#page-8-0)), layered alkali silicates (Murakami et al., [2006](#page-8-0); Homhuan et al., [2017b](#page-8-0); Sirinakorn et al., [2018a](#page-8-0)), layered alkali titanates (Komatsu et al., [1982](#page-8-0); Ide et al., [2014](#page-8-0)), and layered double hydroxides (Miyata, [1983;](#page-8-0) Kaneko & Ogawa, [2013;](#page-8-0) Mandel et al., [2013;](#page-8-0) Selvam et al., [2014](#page-8-0)), are non-toxic and environmentally friendly adsorbents. Layered solids with various ion-exchange capacities are known, while the experimentally determined amounts of ions collected are not always consistent with the cation exchange capacities (CECs), which are derived from the chemical formula, probably due to the stability of the adsorbents, the pH dependence of the ion exchange sites, etc. The kinetics of the ion exchange and the ion selectivity have also been investigated (Googerdchian et al., [2012;](#page-7-0) Liu et al., [2016;](#page-8-0) Mousa et al., [2016;](#page-8-0) Hong et al., [2020](#page-8-0)).

Layered alkali silicates such as kanemite, makatite, octosilicate, magadiite, and kenyaite are composed of silicate sheets and charge-neutralizing alkali cations in the interlayer space (Schwieger et al., [2004;](#page-8-0) Selvam et al., [2014](#page-8-0)). The theoretical CEC values (derived from the chemical formulae) of magadiite and octosilicate are 2.2 and 3.7 meq/g (Lagaly et al., [1975](#page-8-0); Selvam et al., [2014](#page-8-0)), which are large if compared with conventional inorganic ion exchangers such as zeolites and bentonite $(\sim 1.0 \text{ meg/g})$ (Auerbach et al., [2004\)](#page-7-0). The collection of Zn^{2+} (Hatsushika, [1996](#page-7-0); Murakami et al., [2006](#page-8-0); Ide et al., 2011), $Co²⁺$ (Hatsushika, [1996;](#page-7-0) Ogawa and Takahashi, [2007](#page-8-0)), Cu²⁺ (Murakami et al., [2006](#page-8-0); Mokhtar et al., [2018](#page-8-0)), In³⁺ (Homhuan et al., [2017a](#page-8-0)), Eu^{3+} (Mizukami et al., [2002\)](#page-8-0), and $As³⁺$ (Guerra et al., [2008](#page-7-0)) by magadiite has been reported

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previously, while few reports exist on the ion exchange of octosilicate. Thus, in the present study, layered alkali silicates (magadiite and octosilicate) were examined for their ability to remove Pb^{2+} from aqueous solution. In addition, the kinetic aspects of Pb^{2+} adsorption on the various particle morphologies of layered alkali silicates (magadiite and octosilicate) were also investigated.

EXPERIMENTAL

Materials

Silica gel $(SiO₂•0.002H₂O, silica gel 60, particle size of$ 0.063–0.100 mm, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany), sodium hydroxide pellets (NaOH >97%, Ajax Finechem, New South Wales, Australia), lead(II) acetate trihydrate $((CH₃COO)₂Pb·3H₂O, abbreviated as Pb(ac)₂, >99.5%, Merck$ KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany), and aqueous $HNO₃$ solution (65%, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany) were used without further purification. Milli-Q water (ELGA, model: OS007BPM1, Type II 15 MΩ•cm, High Wycombe, UK) was used throughout.

Preparation of Magadiite and Octosilicate

Na-magadiite was prepared by the hydrothermal reaction of NaOH and $SiO₂$ as reported previously (Kosuge et al., [1992;](#page-8-0) Ide & Ogawa, [2007\)](#page-8-0). NaOH (4.14 g) was dissolved in water (150 mL) and 28.4 g of silica gel was added to the NaOH solution. The gel was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The mixture was sealed in a Teflon-lined stainless steel bottle and treated hydrothermally at 150°C for 2 days. The product was collected by centrifugation, washed with a dilute aqueous solution of NaOH (pH 10.0), and dried in air at 40°C for 2 days. Na-octosilicate was prepared by a hydrothermal reaction as reported previously (Endo et al., [1994\)](#page-7-0). NaOH (25.8 g) was dissolved in water (150 mL) and 81.5 g of silica gel was added to the NaOH solution. The gel was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The mixture was sealed in a Teflon-lined stainless steel bottle and treated hydrothermally at 100°C for 1 month. The product was collected by centrifugation and dried in air at 40°C for 2 days.

Adsorption of Pb^{2+} from Aqueous Solution

Adsorption of Pb^{2+} onto the layered alkali silicates was examined by means of the reaction between the layered alkali silicates and aqueous solution of $Pb(ac)$. A layered alkali silicate (0.1 g) was dispersed in water (25 mL) and stirred magnetically for 1 h. An aqueous solution of $Pb(ac)$ (25 mL) was mixed with the aqueous suspension of the layered alkali silicates and the mixture was stirred magnetically at room temperature for 24 h. The initial concentration of Pb^{2+} was 0.2, 0.6, 1.0, 2.2, 2.8, 3.6, and 4.0 mM for magadiite and 0.2, 0.6, 1.0, 3.7, 4.0, 5.0, and 6.0 mM for octosilicate. The solids were collected by centrifugation using models CR22N and R20A2 rotors, from Hitachi Koki (Tokyo, Japan) at 20,000 rpm (48,000×g) for 10 min and dried in air at 40°C for 2 days. The concentration of Pb^{2+} in the supernatant was determined by inductively coupled plasma-optical emission spectroscopy (ICP-OES), from Agilent Technologies 700 Series instrument (California, USA). Adsorption of Pb^{2+} onto the layered alkali silicates from acidic

aqueous solution was also examined using the aqueous solution of the Pb(ac)₂ (3.7 mM and pH = 2, which was adjusted by the addition of $HNO₃$ solution).

The ion-exchange reactions were performed by varying reaction times (2, 5, 10, 30, 60, 120, and 180 min) in order to follow Pb^{2+} adsorption kinetics by the following condition: a layered alkali silicate (0.1 g) was dispersed in water (25 mL) and stirred magnetically for 1 h. Pb(ac)₂ solution (25 mL, 2.2 mM for magadiite and 3.7 mM for octosilicate) was added into the suspension. The solids were collected by centrifugation using models CR22N and R20A2 rotors, Hitachi Koki (Tokyo, Japan) at 20,000 rpm $(48,000 \times g)$ for 10 min after mixing for various times (2, 5, 10, 30, 60, 120 and 180 min) at room temperature. The concentration of Pb^{2+} in the supernatant was determined by ICP-OES.

Characterization

X-ray powder diffraction (XRD) patterns were recorded on a Bruker (Karlsruhe, Germany) NEW D8 ADVANCE X-ray powder diffractometer using Ni-filtered CuKα irradiation operated at 40 kV and 40 mA. Inductively coupled plasmaoptical emission spectroscopy (ICP-OES) was performed on an Agilent Technologies (California, USA) 700 Series instrument. Calibration curves (R factor > 0.99) were made for each measurement using standard $Pb(ac)_2$ solution. Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) was done using a JEOL (Tokyo, Japan) JSM-7610F scanning electron microscope for samples coated with Pt. Elemental mapping was obtained using an energy dispersive X-ray fluorescence spectrometer (X-Max 150 mm2 , Oxford, UK) attached to the SEM.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Preparation of Magadiite and Octosilicate

The formation of magadiite and octosilicate (Kosuge et al., [1992](#page-8-0); Endo et al., [1994;](#page-7-0) Ide & Ogawa, [2007](#page-8-0)) was confirmed by the XRD patterns (Figs. [1a](#page-2-0) and [2a\)](#page-2-0) and SEM images (Figs. [3a](#page-3-0) and [4a\)](#page-3-0).

Adsorption of Pb^{2+} on Magadiite and Octosilicate

The XRD patterns of magadiite and octosilicate after reaction with Pb^{2+} Pb^{2+} Pb^{2+} are shown in Figs. [1](#page-2-0) and 2. The basal spacing (d_{001}) of magadiite decreased from 1.57 nm to 1.42 nm after the reaction with Pb²⁺, suggesting ion exchange between Pb^{2+} and Na in the interlayer space. The intensity of the d_{001} reflection became weaker after the adsorption of Pb^{2+} . The interlayer space was calculated from the observed basal spacing (1.42 nm) by subtracting the thickness of the silica layer of magadiite, which was estimated from the basal spacing of the H-magadiite (Rojo et al. [1988](#page-8-0)), to be 0.30 nm, thus giving a final value of 1.12 nm. The observed basal spacing (1.42 nm) was similar to that (1.43 nm) reported for the Pb^{2+} -exchanged magadiite (Hatsushika, [1996](#page-7-0)). The basal spacing (d_{001}) of octosilicate decreased from 1.10 nm to 0.88 nm after reaction with Pb^{2+} , suggesting ion exchange between Na and Pb^{2+} in the interlayer space. Because the thickness of the silicate layer of octosilicate is 0.74 nm (Vortmann et al., [1997\)](#page-8-0), the

Fig. 1 XRD patterns of magadiite: a before and b–h after the reactions with initial aqueous solutions of Pb(ac) of b 0.2, c 0.6, d 1.0, e 2.2, f 2.8, g 3.6, and h 4.0 mM

interlayer space of the Pb^{2+} -adsorbed octosilicate was estimated (by subtracting the thickness of the silicate layer from the observed basal spacing) to be 0.14 nm. The observed basal spacing (0.88 nm) is consistent with the value (0.85 nm) reported for Pb^{2+} exchanged octosilicate (Lim et al., [2017\)](#page-8-0). Those authors reported that the shrinkage of the basal spacing was caused by dehydration after the adsorption of Pb^{2+} . The difference in the interlayer spaces for Pb^{2+} adsorbed magadiite (0.30 nm) and octosilicate (0.14 nm) in the present study was due to the difference in the hydration of the interlayer Pb^{2+} as well as the silicate framework deterioration.

The SEM images and elemental mapping of magadiite (Fig. [3](#page-3-0)) and octosilicate (Fig. [4\)](#page-3-0) before and after reaction with the aqueous solution of $Pb(ac)_2$ (the initial concentration of 4.0 mM for magadiite and 6.0 mM of octosilicate) revealed that, even though the XRD peaks became weaker after the reaction with Pb^{2+} (Figs. 1 and 2), the flower-shaped morphology (4–5 μm) of magadiite composed of aggregated platy particles $(1-2 \mu m)$ and the platy morphology of octosilicate $(2-4 \mu m)$ were retained. Pb²⁺ was distributed homogeneously in/on the silicate particles for both magadiite (Fig. [3\)](#page-3-0) and octosilicate (Fig. [4\)](#page-3-0) systems, confirming the successful ion exchange.

Adsorption Isotherm of Pb^{2+} on Magadiite and Octosilicate

The adsorption isotherms of Pb^{2+} on magadiite and octosilicate (Fig. [5](#page-4-0)) were of type H, according to the classification by Giles et al. [\(1960\)](#page-7-0), suggesting significant affinity

Fig. 2 XRD patterns of octosilicate: a before and **b–h** after the reaction the with initial aqueous solutions of Pb(ac)₂ of **b** 0.2, c 0.6, d 1.0, e 3.7, f 4.0, g 5.0, and h 6.0 mM

Fig. 3 SEM images and elemental mapping of magadiite: a before and b after the reaction with a Pb(ac)₂ solution concentration of 4.0 mM

between Pb^{2+} and the layered alkali silicates. The ideal cation exchange capacities of magadiite (2.2 meq/g) and octosilicate (3.7 meq/g), which are derived from the chemical formulae (magadiite, $Na₂Si₁₄O₂₉·10H₂O$, and octosilicate, $Na₂Si₈O₁₇·8H₂O$, are shown by the dotted lines (Fig. [5\)](#page-4-0) to confirm that the amounts of Pb^{2+} adsorbed were larger than the calculated CEC values, especially for octosilicate. The adsorption of Pb^{2+} on magadiite reached the theoretical CEC value (2.2 meq/g) when the initial concentration of $Pb(ac)_2$ was 2.2 mM. When solutions of higher concentrations (2.8, 3.6, 4.0 mM) were used, the amounts of Pb^{2+} adsorbed were slightly more than the theoretical CEC value (2.2 meq/g) and the maximum amount of Pb^{2+} adsorbed was 1.27 mmol Pb/g magadiite (initial pH = 6.0). The adsorption of Pb^{2+} on octosilicate reached the theoretical CEC value (3.7 meq/g) when the initial concentration of $Pb(ac)_2$ was 3.7 mM. When solutions of greater concentrations (4.0, 5.0, 6.0 mM) were used, the amounts of Pb^{2+} adsorbed were greater than the theoretical CEC (3.7 meg/g) and the maximum was 2.34 mmol Pb/g octosilicate $(i$ nitial p $H = 6.0$).

The reported collection of Pb^{2+} from aquous solution by means of ion exchangers such as Na-bentonite (Glatstein & Francisca, [2015\)](#page-7-0), carbon nanotubes (Li et al., [2002](#page-8-0); Abbas et al., [2016;](#page-7-0) Aliyu et al., [2017](#page-7-0)), activated carbon (Goel et al., [2005](#page-7-0); Chen et al., [2014](#page-7-0)), fly ash (Al-Zboon et al., [2011](#page-7-0); Barbosa et al., [2014\)](#page-7-0), zeolite (Jamil et al., [2010](#page-8-0)), and natural apatite (Kaludjerovic-Radoicic & Raicevic, [2010\)](#page-8-0) is summa-rized in Table [1](#page-4-0). The amounts of Pb^{2+} adsorbed by magadiite (1.27 mmol/g) and octosilicate (2.34 mmol/g) in the present study were greater than those reported for other adsorbents (Table [1](#page-4-0)), confirming the advantages of using magadiite and, in particular, octosilicate, as very high-capacity adsorbents of Pb^{2+} .

Literature reports of the amount of Pb^{2+} adsorbed by magadiite vary widely (Table [1\)](#page-4-0). Benkhatou et al. ([2016](#page-7-0)) reported 0.048 mmol Pb/g (initial $pH = 7.0$), whereas Lim et al. ([2017](#page-8-0)) reported that the adsorption of Pb^{2+} from aqueous NaCl solution could reach as high as 0.97 mmol Pb/g magadiite and 1.5 mmol Pb/g octosilicate. The experimental conditions (pH, Pb^{2+} concentration, presence of competing ions, as well as the amount of adsorbent) may account for this difference. Because the negative charge of the layered alkali silicates is pH dependent (Schwieger et al., 2004), protons may compete with Pb^{2+} for the exchange with Na at lower pH. For example, in the present study, the initial pH of the $Pb(ac)_2$ solution was in the range 5.9–6.0 and that of the silicate suspension was in the range 9.5–10.0. After mixing the solution and the suspension, the pH of the mixture was in the range 6.1–8.8 for the magadiite system and 6.6–9.3 for the octosilicate system.

Fig. 4 SEM images and elemental mapping of octosilicate: a before and b after the reaction with a Pb(ac)₂ solution concentration of 6.0 mM

Fig. 5 Adsorption isotherms of Pb^{2+} on magadiite (triangle) and octosilicate (circle) from an aqueous solution at room temperature

After reaction for 24 h, the ranges became 5.6–9.0 for magadiite and 5.8–9.1 for octosilicate, so the proton was not exchanged with Na. The adsorption of Pb^{2+} under these conditions was 1.27 mmol/g for magadiite and 2.34 mmol/g for octosilicate (Table 1), but from acidic solution, the amounts adsorbed decreased to 0.32 (pH 3.64) and 0.34 (pH 3.95), respectively, confirming the important role of pH.

The Langmuir model (Langmuir, [1918\)](#page-8-0) was used to describe the adsorption isotherms, and the parameters are summarized in Table [2,](#page-5-0) together with the reported values. The Langmuir model is expressed as:

$$
\frac{C_{\rm e}}{q_{\rm e}} = \frac{C_{\rm e}}{q_{\rm m}} + \frac{1}{q_{\rm m} \mathbf{K}_{\rm L}}
$$

where C_e is the equilibrium concentration (mmol/L), q_e is the amount adsorbed (mmol/g), q_m is the maximum adsorption capacity of the adsorbent (mmol/g), and K_L is the Langmuir constant (L/mmol) related to the free energy of the adsorption (ΔG). By plotting C_e/q_e (vertical axis) versus C_e (horizontal axis), the values of q_m and K_L were determined from the slope and intercept of the linear plot, respectively. The Langmuir plot (Fig. [6a\)](#page-5-0) fitted magadiite with a high correlation coefficient $(R^2 = 0.9991)$. The Langmuir constant (K_L), which may correlate with the ΔG value (the larger K_L value corresponded to the more negative ΔG), was high (812 L/mmol) for magadiite when compared with the

Table 1 Examples of the amounts of Pb^{2+} adsorbed on layered alkali silicates and various other ion exchangers

Adsorbents	Experimental conditions	Amount of adsorbent/solution (g/mL)	Pb^{2+} salt	Initial concentration of Pb^{2+} salt (ppm)	Amount of Pb^{2+} adsorbed (mmol Pb/g)	Reference
Natural Na-bentonite	pH < 7.0	0.0125/50	$Pb(NO_3)$, 365		0.96	(Glatstein & Francisca, 2015
Granular activated carbon	$pH = 5.0$	0.1/50	$Pb(NO_3)$	70	0.10	(Goel et al., 2005)
Zeolite	$pH = 7.5$	0.8/100	Pb(ac)	20	0.012	(Jamil et al., 2010)
Carbon nanotube	$pH = 5.0$	0.05/100	$Pb(NO_3)$ ₂ 14		0.072	(Li et al., 2002)
Synthetic hydroxylapatite	$pH = 5.1$	0.2/50	$Pb(NO_3)$ ₂ 500		0.442	(Kaludjerovic-Radoicic & Raicevic, 2010)
Natural apatite	$pH = 5.6$	0.2/50	$Pb(NO_3)$ ₂ 100		0.40	(Kaludjerovic-Radoicic & Raicevic, 2010)
Attapulgite modified with ethylenediamine	$pH = 4.0$	0.02/25	$Pb(NO_3)$ ₂ 20		0.48	(Deng et al., 2013)
Magadiite	$pH = 7.0$	0.05/100	$Pb(NO_3)$ ₂ 80		0.048	(Benkhatou et al., 2016
Magadiite modified with $N-(2-methoxyphenyl)$ -- N'-(2-methylphenyl)-- thiourea	$pH = 7.0$	0.05/100	$Pb(NO_3)$ ₂ 80		0.096	(Benkhatou et al., 2016
Magadiite modified with N-(2-methoxyphenyl)-- N'-(2-methoxyphenyl)-- thiourea	$pH = 5.0$	0.05/100	$Pb(NO_3)$, 80		0.16	(Benkhatou et al., 2016
Alginate and magadiite/di (2-ethylhexyl)phosphoric acid	$pH = 4.0$	0.01/10	$Pb(NO_3)$, 1000		0.95	(Attar et al., 2019)
$[C_{22}H_{45} - N^+C_5H_8N]$ -magadiite		0.05/100	PbCl ₂	50	0.25	(Ding et al., 2018)
Magadiite	aqueous NaCl	0.08/100	$Pb(NO_3)$	200	0.88	(Lim et al., 2017)
Octosilicate	aqueous NaCl	0.08/200	Pb(NO ₃) ₂	200	1.5	(Lim et al., 2017)
Magadiite	$pH = 6.0$	0.1/50	$Pb(ac)_{2}$	750	1.27	This study
Octosilicate	$pH = 6.0$	0.1/50	Pb(ac) ₂	1250	2.34	This study

Adsorbents	Initial pH	$q_{\rm m}$ (mmol/g)	K_I (L/mmol)	References
Carbon nanotubes	5.0	0.084	38	(Li et al., 2002)
Hydroxylapatite-alginate composite	5.0	1.30	18	(Googerdchian et al., 2012)
Attapulgite modified with ethylenediamine	4.0	1.25	11	(Deng et al., 2013)
Magadiite	7.0	$0.048 - 0.096$	$0.04 - 0.098$	(Benkhatou et al., 2016)
Magadiite	4.0	0.95	0.0055	(Attar et al., 2019)
Magadiite in NaCl		0.97	9.8	(Lim et al., 2017)
Magadiite	6.0	1.23	812	This study
Octosilicate	6.0	2.32	51	This study

Table 2 Langmuir parameters for the adsorption of Pb^{2+} on the layered alkali silicates and various other ion exchangers

previous studes (Benkhatou et al., [2016;](#page-7-0) Lim et al., [2017;](#page-8-0) Attar et al., [2019](#page-7-0)), suggesting the high affinity between the silicate surface and Pb^{2+} ions.

In the case of octosilicate, the Langmuir model was fitted with a high correlation coefficient ($R^2 = 0.9972$) at concentrations between 0.6 and 6.0 mM (Fig. 6b). The deviation of the plot from the Langmuir model at concentrations of <0.6 mM has not been explained clearly thus far; the precipitation of Pb salt may have contributed to the change in the concentration of Pb^{2+} . In order to discuss the point, the precipitation of Pb^{2+} salts was proposed as a mechanism for collection of Pb^{2+} , in addition to the cation exchange. Precipitation of Pb salts may occur as a result of the change in pH caused by ion exchange. The Na released from the layered silicates caused an increase in pH as mentioned above; the pH of the $Pb(ac)_2$ solution was in the range 5.9–6.0, while that of the suspension after the reactions between the Pb^{2+} and the layered silicates was in the range 5.6–9.0 for magadiite and 5.8–9.1 for octosilicate. The precipitation of $Pb_2(OH)Cl_3$ during the reaction between magadiite and Pb(II) nitrate in aqueous NaCl solution was reported by Lim et al. [\(2017](#page-8-0)). The precipitation of $In(OH)$ ₃ during the reaction between layered alkali titanates and In(III) chloride in water was reported by Sirinakorn et al. ([2018b\)](#page-8-0) and the precipitation of cadmium carbonate $(Cd(CO_3)_2)$ during the reaction between layered alkali titanates and Cd(II) acetate in water was reported by Sirinakorn et al. (2019) (2019) . Pb $(OH)_2$ precipiates from water at a pH of >6.5 (Baes & Mesmer, [1976](#page-7-0)) and PbCO₃ precipitates from water at $pH < 9.5$ (Taylor & Lopata, [1984](#page-8-0)). The solubility product constants $(K_{\rm sn})$ of Pb(OH)₂ and PbCO₃ are 1.2×10^{-15} and 7.4×10^{-14} , respectively. In the present study, the pH of the suspension after the adsorption experiment was 5.6–9.0 for magadiite and 5.8–9.1 for octosilicate, so that the precipitation of $Pb(OH)$ ₂ and/or $PbCO_3$ was a plausible mechanism for the amount of Pb^{2+} adsorbed above the value of the CEC, especially in the case of octosilicate. The complicated Langmuir plot supported the hypothesis that the removal of Pb^{2+} by the reaction with octosilicate involved ion exchange and the precipitation of Pb salts.

Scanning electron microscopy images of magadiite and octosilicate before and after reaction with $Pb(ac)_2$ solution of 4.0 mM for magadiite and 6.0 mM for octosilicate are shown in Fig. [7.](#page-6-0) Irregularly shaped particles <100 nm wide were observed on the edge surface of the silicate particles (Fig. [7b,d\)](#page-6-0). The particles were thought to be $Pb(OH)$ ₂ and/or PbCO₃, though crystalline Pb(OH)₂ and PbCO₃ were not detected in the XRD patterns (Figs [1,](#page-2-0) [2\)](#page-2-0) and showing the absence of Si in the small particles by SEM/EDX analyses was not possible.

Kinetics of Adsorption of Pb^{2+} on Magadiite and Octosilicate Pb^{2+} adsorption on magadiite reached equilibrium within 5 min, while the adsorption of Pb^{2+} on octosilicate took 60 min to reach equilibrium. The reaction time reported for the adsorption of Pb^{2+} on magnetite (Hong et al., [2020](#page-8-0)), hydroxylapatite

Fig. 6 Langmuir plots of the adsorption of Pb^{2+} onto a magadiite (triangles) and b octosilicate (circles)

Fig. 7 SEM images of a magadiite and c octosilicate before and after the reaction with Pb(ac)₂ solution at a concentration of b 4.0 mM for magadiite and d 6.0 mM for octosilicate

(Dong et al., [2010](#page-7-0); Googerdchian et al., [2012;](#page-7-0) Choudhury et al., [2015](#page-7-0)), ferroxane (Moattari et al., [2015\)](#page-8-0), attapulgite (Deng et al., [2013\)](#page-7-0), and carbon nanotubes (Wang et al., [2007;](#page-8-0) Kabbashi et al., [2009](#page-8-0); Robati, [2013\)](#page-8-0) are summarized in Table 3. The short reaction time (5 min) for the removal of Pb^{2+} is an advantage of magadiite as an adsorbent. The particle morphology (platy

particles a few μm wide for octosilicate and flower-like aggregates of platy particles 1–2 μm across for magadiite) affected the reaction time; the flower-like aggregates of magadiite particles were suitable for smooth diffusion of Pb^{2+} . This characteristic is worthy of further investigation for the adsorption of various metal ions on magadiite.

Adsorbents	Amount of adsorbent/solution pH (g/mL)	Initial	Initial concentration (ppm)	Amount of Pb^{2+} adsorbed (q_e) (mmol) Pb/g)	Time to reach equilibrium References for Pb^{2+} adsorption (min)	
Carbon nanotube	0.005/250	5.0	20	0.1814	80	(Kabbashi et al., 2009)
Carbon nanotube	0.010/250	5.0	40	0.0904	80	(Kabbashi et al., 2009)
Hydroxylapatite	0.075/30	5.0	900	0.93	240	(Googerdchian et al., 2012)
Ferroxane	0.141/25	6.3	5	0.017	180	(Moattari et al., 2015)
Attapulgite modified with ethylenediamine	0.03/25	5.5	20	0.078	100	(Deng et al., 2013)
Magadiite	0.05/50	7.0	100	0.188	60	(Benkhatou et al., 2016
Magadiite	0.1/10	4.0	50	0.024	180	(Attar et al., 2019)
Magadiite	0.1/50	6.0	455	1.10	5	This study
Octosilicate	0.1/50	6.0	767	1.84	60	This study

Table 3 Examples of the kinetics of adsorption of Pb^{2+} on various ion exchangers

CONCLUSIONS

Magadiite and octosilicate concentrated Pb^{2+} from aqueous solution at room temperature (25°C) under pH 6.0. The maximum amounts of Pb^{2+} adsorbed were 1.27 mmol Pb/g magadiite and 2.34 mmol Pb/g octosilicate, which were greater than the theoretical CEC values (2.2 meq/g for magadiite, 3.7 meq/g for octosilicate), suggesting the mechanisms of ion exchange and precipitation. The amounts of Pb^{2+} adsorbed on magadiite and octosilicate were large when compared with previous reports (carbon nanotube, activated carbon, fly ash, and clay minerals), confirming high-capacity adsorption of Pb^{2+} from aqueous solution by magadiite and octosilicate. Pb^{2+} adsorption reached equilibrium within 5 min for magadiite, another advantage for the collection of Pb^{2+} from water.

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DECLARATIONS

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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