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Research Article

SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF LEAD CHLORIDE NANOPARTICLES

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Abstract

Lead chloride nanoparticles were synthesized via chemical co-precipitation method from lead nitrate and sodium chloride. Structural and compositional properties were characterized by XRD, SEM, FTIR and UV spectroscopy. X-ray diffraction (XRD) confirmed the preferential growth of lead chloride nanoparticles that width is 80.03nm. The SEM image shows the synthesized lead chloride show well crystallized particles with spherical like morphology. The FTIR spectrum is used to study the stretching and bending frequencies of molecular functional groups in the sample. From UV spectrum, the band gap of lead chloride nanoparticles is found.

Keywords: XRD, SEM, FTIR, UV.

Introduction

Nanoparticles have one dimension that measures 100 nanometers or less. Nanoparticles have a greater surface area per weight than larger particles which causes them to be more reactive to some other molecules. Nanoparticle research is currently an area of intense scientific interest due to a wide variety of potential applications in biomedical, optical and electronic fields. Nanoparticles are of great scientific interest as they are effectively a bridge between bulk materials and atomic or molecular structures. A bulk material should have constant physical properties regardless of its size, but at the nano-scale size-dependent properties are often observed. Thus, the properties of materials change as their size approaches the nanoscale and as the percentage of atoms at the surface of a material becomes significant. For bulk materials larger than one micrometer (or micron), the percentage of atoms at the surface is insignificant in relation to the number of atoms in the bulk of the material. The interesting and sometimes unexpected properties of nanoparticles are therefore largely due to the large surface area of the material, which dominates

the contributions made by the small bulk of the material [1].

Lead chloride is used in making many basic chlorides, such as Pattison's lead white, Turner's Patent Yellow, and Verona Yellow, used as pigments. Also, it is used as a flux for galvanizing steel; as a flame retardant in nylon wire coatings; as a cathode for seawater batteries; to remove H₂S and ozone from effluent gases; as a sterilization indicator; as a polymerization catalyst for alphaolefins; and as a co-catalyst in manufacturing acrylonitrile.

This paper is discussing about easy, simple and low cost preparation i.e. chemical co precipitation of Lead chloride nanoparticles and its characterizations – XRD, SEM, FTIR and UV.

Materials and Methods

Nano particles of Lead chloride were prepared by chemical co-precipitation method by adding lead nitrate

and sodium chloride. Precise amounts of reagents taking into account their purity were weighed and dissolved separately in distilled water into 0.1M concentration. After obtaining a homogeneous solution, the reagents were mixed using magnetic stirring. The precipitate was separated from the reaction mixture and washed several times with distilled water and ethanol. The wet precipitate was dried and thoroughly ground using agate mortar to obtain the samples in the form of fine powder.

X-ray diffraction is an ideal technique for the determination of crystallite size of the powder samples. The basic principle for such a determination involves precise quantification of the broadening of the peaks. XRD line broadening method of particle size estimation was chosen in this investigation for determining the crystallite size of the powder sample. XRD study of the powder samples was carried out at Alagappa University, Karaikudi. The morphology of the powder samples was studied by the scanning electron microscope (SEM) analysis taken at STIC Cochin. The infra red spectroscopic (IR) studies of lead chloride nanoparticles were made by using 'SHIMADZU' FTIR 8400S model spectrometer through KBr method. The

UV spectrum was taken in the absorbance mode in the wavelength range from 200 to 800 nm.

Results and Discussion

XRD studies

XRD – Particle Size Calculation

The XRD patterns of the prepared samples of Lead chloride are shown in fig.1. XRD studies reveal that the samples are nano sized and crystalline. The fine particle nature of the samples is reflected in the X-ray line broadening. The size of the synthesized lead chloride nanoparticles are calculated using Scherrer equation

$$D = 0.9 \lambda / \cos \theta \quad (1)$$

where λ represents wavelength of X rays, β represents half width at full maximum and θ is the diffraction angle[2]. The average grain size of the particles is found to be 80.03nm. The peak list in the XRD pattern is given in table-1.

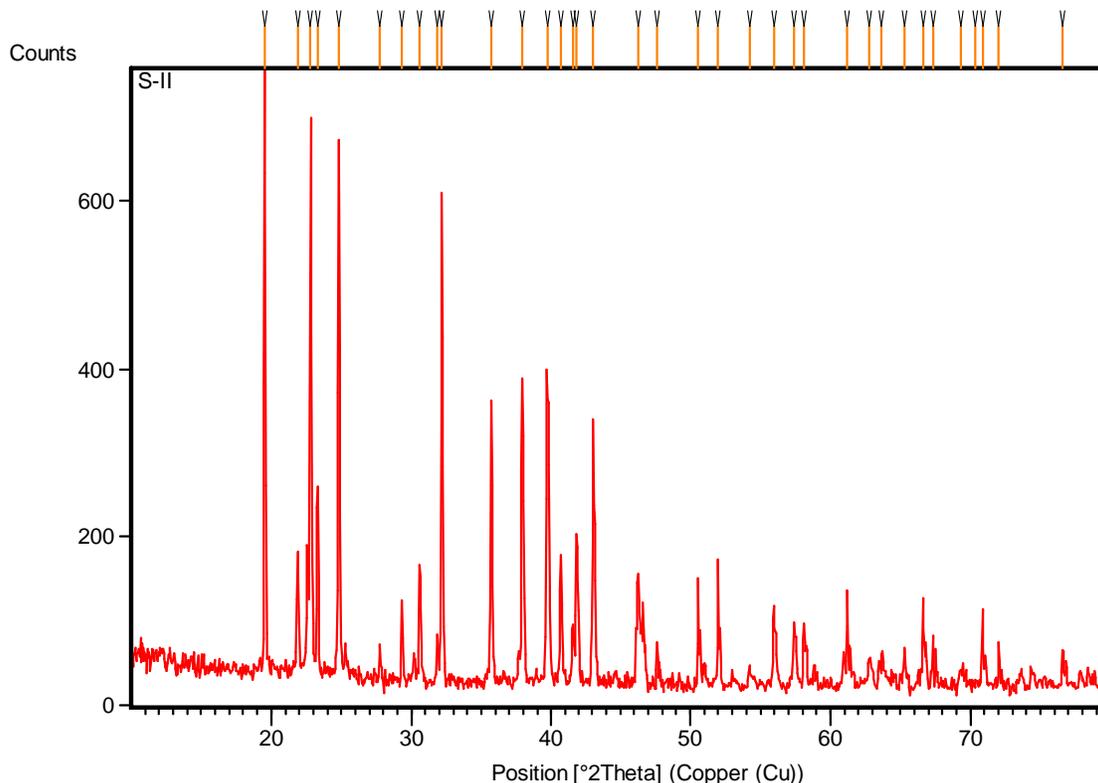


Fig.1 XRD pattern of lead chloride nanoparticles.

| Pos.[°2Th] | Height[cts] | FWHM[° 2Th] | d-spacing [Å °] | Rel.Int[%] |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 19.527 | 592 | 0.101 | 4.54231 | 100 |
| 23.290 | 180 | 0.10 | 3.81622 | 30.32 |
| 24.813 | 505 | 0.10 | 3.58534 | 85.26 |
| 27.75 | 24 | 0.10 | 3.21192 | 4.02 |
| 31.848 | 55 | 0.07 | 2.80762 | 9.26 |
| 32.167 | 545 | 0.094 | 2.78050 | 92.08 |
| 37.920 | 355 | 0.11 | 2.37085 | 59.99 |
| 39.705 | 323 | 0.17 | 2.26826 | 54.54 |
| 40.656 | 42 | 0.10 | 2.21734 | 24.01 |
| 41.597 | 69 | 0.1 | 2.16934 | 11.66 |
| 43.072 | 298 | 0.11 | 2.09842 | 50.37 |
| 47.640 | 51 | 0.07 | 1.90731 | 8.59 |
| 51.978 | 145 | 0.07 | 1.75787 | 24.49 |
| 54.244 | 36 | 0.07 | 1.68967 | 6.03 |
| 57.406 | 76 | 0.14 | 1.60389 | 1287 |
| 58.128 | 74 | 0.12 | 1.58567 | 12.45 |
| 61.215 | 111 | 0.09 | 1.51289 | 18.69 |
| 62.79 | 25 | 0.2 | 1.47873 | 4.22 |
| 63.66 | 22 | 0.4 | 1.46050 | 3.65 |
| 65.29 | 35 | 0.14 | 1.42798 | 5.9 |
| 66.634 | 95 | 0.11 | 1.40240 | 16.04 |
| 67.331 | 54 | 0.09 | 1.38957 | 9.18 |
| 69.34 | 14 | 0.3 | 1.35410 | 2.43 |
| 70.873 | 81 | 0.1 | 1.32856 | 13.64 |
| 72.036 | 39 | 0.1 | 1.30995 | 6.64 |

Table-1. Intensity of XRD peaks.

A good agreement between the Experimental diffraction angle [2 θ] and Standard diffraction angle [2 θ] of specimen is confirming standard of the specimen. Twenty five peaks at 2 θ values of lead chloride is observed and tabulated in table-2 and

compared with the standard powder diffraction card of Joint Committee on Powder Diffraction Standards (JCPDS), lead chloride file No. 86-1130. The d-spacing values of experimental is also confirming to the standard values.

| Experimental | | Standard – JCPDS 86-1130 | |
|---|---------------|---|---------------|
| Diffraction angle (2 θ in degrees) | D spacing (Å) | Diffraction angle (2 θ in degrees) | D spacing (Å) |
| 20.39 | 4.54231 | 20.4 | 4.35 |
| 23.290 | 3.81622 | 23.097 | 3.8476 |
| 24.813 | 3.58534 | 24.097 | 3.6902 |
| 27.75 | 3.21192 | 27.550 | 3.2351 |
| 31.848 | 2.80762 | 31.965 | 2.7976 |
| 32.167 | 2.78050 | 32.905 | 2.7198 |
| 37.920 | 2.37085 | 37.400 | 2.4025 |
| 39.705 | 2.26826 | 39.648 | 2.2714 |
| 40.656 | 2.21734 | 40.432 | 2.2291 |
| 41.597 | 2.16934 | 41.484 | 2.1750 |
| 43.072 | 2.09842 | 43.555 | 2.0762 |
| 47.640 | 1.90731 | 47.207 | 1.9238 |
| 51.978 | 1.75787 | 51.047 | 1.7877 |
| 54.244 | 1.68967 | 54.296 | 1.6881 |
| 57.406 | 1.60389 | 57.074 | 1.6124 |

| | | | |
|--------|---------|--------|--------|
| 58.128 | 1.58567 | 58.063 | 1.5873 |
| 61.215 | 1.51289 | 61.186 | 1.5135 |
| 62.79 | 1.47873 | 62.645 | 1.4817 |
| 63.66 | 1.46050 | 63.523 | 1.4633 |
| 65.29 | 1.42798 | 65.724 | 1.4196 |
| 66.634 | 1.40240 | 66.827 | 1.3988 |
| 67.331 | 1.38957 | 69.437 | 1.3524 |
| 69.34 | 1.35410 | 70.254 | 1.3387 |
| 70.873 | 1.32856 | 70.938 | 1.3275 |
| 72.036 | 1.30995 | 72.165 | 1.3079 |

Table.2. Experimental and standard diffraction angles of lead chloride specimen.**XRD - Expected 2θ Positions**

The value of d (the interplanar spacing between the atoms) is calculated using Bragg's Law:

$$2d \sin \theta = n \lambda$$

$$d = \frac{\lambda}{2 \sin \theta} \quad (n = 1)$$

Wavelength = 1.5418 Å for Cu Kα

The expected 2θ positions of all the peaks in the diffraction pattern and the interplanar Spacing d for each peak is calculated using following formula and the details are shown in table-3.

$$\frac{1}{d^2} = \frac{h^2}{a^2} + \frac{k^2}{b^2} + \frac{l^2}{c^2}$$

Bragg's Law is used to determine the 2θ value: The expected 2θ and d values are close with the experimental 2θ and d values [2].

| hkl | 2θ(deg) | | D(Å) | |
|-------|------------|----------|------------|----------|
| | Experiment | Expected | Experiment | Expected |
| 0 2 0 | 20.39 | 20.4 | 4.35 | 4.35 |
| 0 1 1 | 23.086 | 23.097 | 3.8490 | 3.8476 |
| 1 2 0 | 24.082 | 24.097 | 3.6911 | 3.6902 |
| 2 1 0 | 27.532 | 27.550 | 3.2359 | 3.2351 |
| 1 2 1 | 31.943 | 31.965 | 2.7984 | 2.7976 |
| 2 2 0 | 32.882 | 32.905 | 2.7206 | 2.7198 |
| 0 3 1 | 37.298 | 37.400 | 2.4028 | 2.4025 |
| 1 3 1 | 39.628 | 39.648 | 2.2716 | 2.2714 |
| 2 3 0 | 40.411 | 40.432 | 2.2294 | 2.2291 |
| 0 4 0 | 41.467 | 41.484 | 2.175 | 2.175 |
| 1 4 0 | 43.541 | 43.555 | 2.0761 | 2.0762 |
| 0 2 2 | 47.180 | 47.207 | 1.9241 | 1.9238 |
| 2 1 2 | 51.021 | 51.047 | 1.7879 | 1.7877 |
| 1 5 0 | 54.276 | 54.296 | 1.6881 | 1.6881 |
| 4 0 1 | 56.966 | 57.074 | 1.6146 | 1.6124 |
| 3 4 0 | 58.022 | 58.022 | 1.5877 | 1.5873 |
| 4 2 1 | 61.148 | 61.186 | 1.5138 | 1.5135 |
| 3 2 2 | 62.616 | 62.645 | 1.4818 | 1.4817 |
| 2 5 1 | 63.494 | 63.523 | 1.4634 | 1.4633 |
| 1 6 0 | 65.695 | 65.724 | 1.4196 | 1.4196 |
| 2 4 2 | 66.793 | 66.827 | 1.3989 | 1.3988 |
| 4 0 2 | 69.405 | 69.437 | 1.3525 | 1.3524 |
| 2 6 0 | 70.219 | 70.254 | 1.3388 | 1.3387 |
| 1 5 2 | 70.962 | 70.938 | 1.3266 | 1.3275 |
| 2 1 3 | 72.165 | 72.165 | 1.3079 | 1.3079 |

Table-3. The Lattice plane and the lattice spacing from d from XRD

XRD – Dislocation Density

The dislocation density is defined as the length of dislocation lines per unit volume of the crystal. In materials science, a dislocation is a crystallographic defect, or irregularity, within a crystal structure. The presence of dislocations strongly influences many of the properties of materials. The movement of a dislocation is impeded by other dislocations present in the sample. Thus, a larger dislocation density implies a larger hardness.

The X-ray line profile analysis has been used to determine the dislocation density. The dislocation

density can also be calculated from

$$\delta = \frac{1}{D^2} \quad (2)$$

Where δ is dislocation density and D is the crystallite size. Results of the dislocation density calculated from both the formulas are given in table-4. The number of unit cell is calculated from

$$n = \pi (4/3) \times (D/2)^3 \times (1/V) \quad (3)$$

Where D is the crystallite size and V is the cell volume of the sample [2].

| 2 (deg) | Particle Size D (nm) | Dislocation Density (m²) = 1 / D² X10¹⁴ | Number of Unit Cells X10⁵ |
|----------------|-----------------------------|---|---|
| 19.527 | 80.03 | 1.5613 | 10.312 |
| 23.290 | 81.33 | 1.5118 | 10.822 |
| 24.813 | 81.56 | 1.5033 | 10.914 |
| 27.75 | 82.05 | 1.4854 | 11.11 |
| 31.848 | 118.34 | 7.1406 | 33.34 |
| 32.167 | 88.19 | 1.2858 | 13.79 |
| 37.920 | 76.57 | 1.7056 | 9.03 |
| 39.705 | 49.81 | 4.0306 | 2.51 |
| 40.656 | 84.94 | 1.3860 | 12.33 |
| 41.597 | 85.21 | 1.3773 | 12.45 |
| 43.072 | 77.85 | 1.6499 | 9.49 |
| 47.640 | 124.39 | 6.4629 | 38.72 |
| 51.978 | 126.59 | 6.2402 | 40.81 |
| 54.244 | 127.86 | 6.1169 | 42.05 |
| 57.406 | 64.87 | 2.3764 | 5.49 |
| 58.128 | 75.94 | 1.7340 | 8.81 |
| 61.215 | 102.83 | 9.4572 | 21.87 |
| 62.79 | 46.66 | 4.5931 | 2.04 |
| 63.66 | 23.44 | 1.8201 | 0.26 |
| 65.29 | 67.57 | 2.1902 | 6.21 |
| 66.634 | 86.66 | 1.3316 | 13.09 |
| 67.331 | 106.34 | 8.8431 | 24.19 |
| 69.34 | 39.81 | 6.3098 | 1.27 |
| 70.873 | 97.76 | 1.0464 | 15.0 |
| 72.036 | 98.49 | 1.0309 | 19.21 |

Table-4. Dislocation Density and Number of Unit Cells from XRD.

It is observed from these tabulated details, and from fig..2, 3 & 4, dislocation density is indirectly proportional to particle size and number of unit cell.

Dislocation density increases while both particle size and number of unit cell decreases [2].

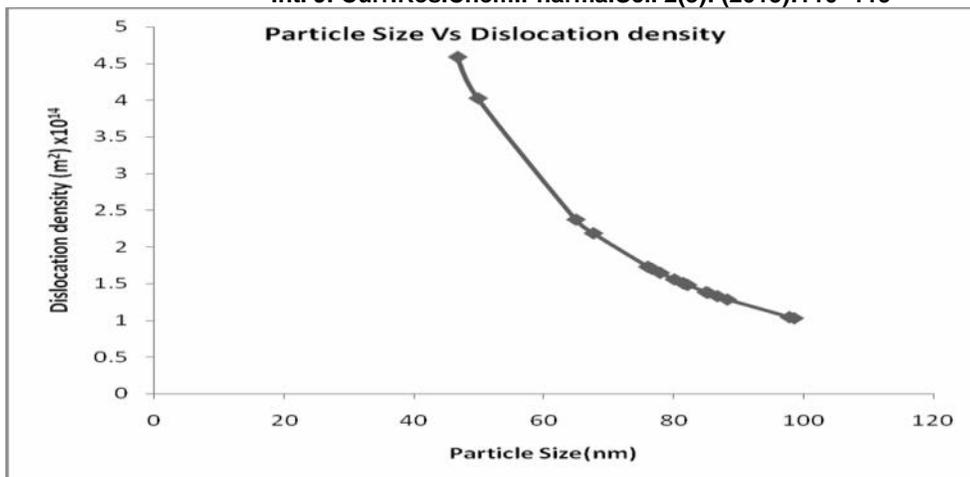


Fig.2 Particle size Vs Dislocation density

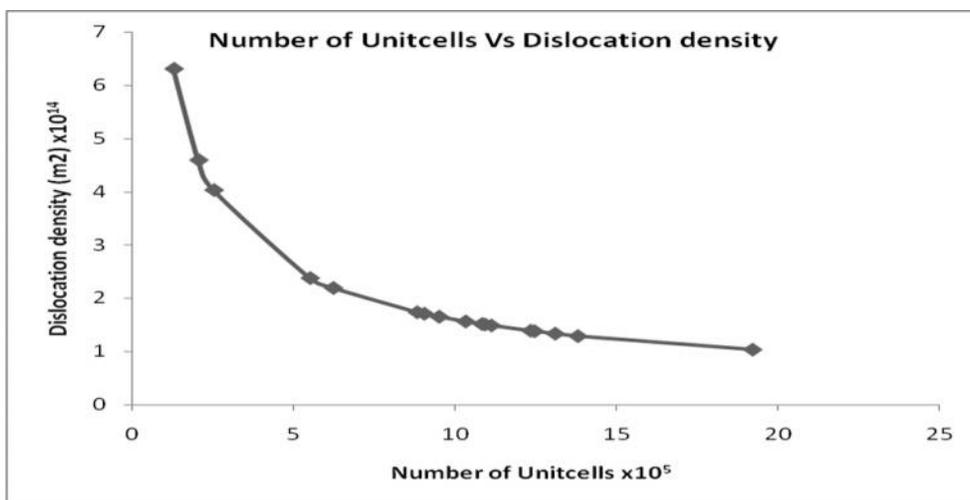


Fig.3 Number of Unit cells Vs Dislocation density.

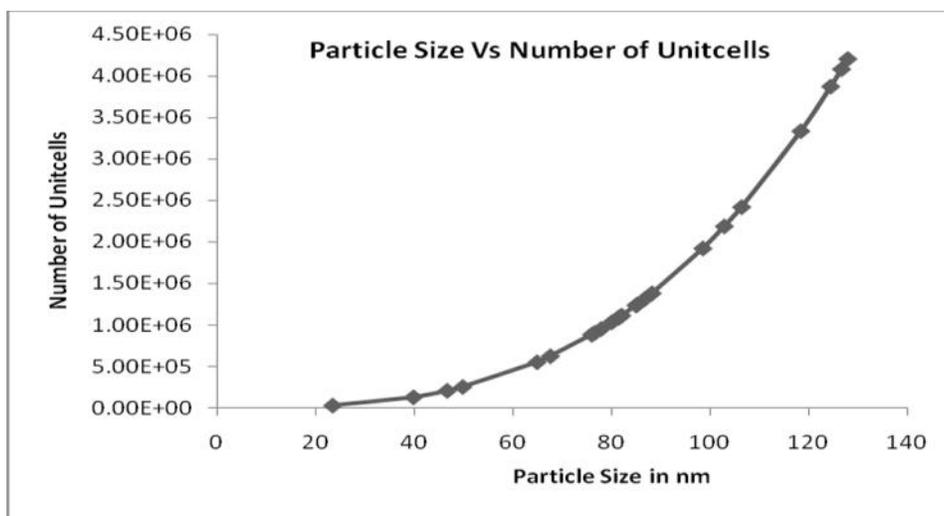


Fig.4 Particle Size Vs Number of Unitcells.

XRD – Morphology Index

A XRD morphology index (MI) is calculated from FWHM of XRD data using the relation

$$M.I = \frac{FWHM_h}{FWHM_h + FWHM_p} \quad (5)$$

Where M.I. is morphology index, $FWHM_h$ is highest FWHM value obtained from peaks and $FWHM_p$ is value of particular peak's FWHM for which M.I. is to be calculated. The relation between morphology index and particle size is shown in table-5.

| FWHM () radians | Particle Size(D) nm | Morphology Index (unitless) |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 0.00176 | 80.03 | 0.5 |
| 0.00174 | 81.33 | 0.5022 |
| 0.00174 | 81.56 | 0.5022 |
| 0.00174 | 82.05 | 0.5022 |
| 0.00122 | 118.34 | 0.5904 |
| 0.00164 | 88.19 | 0.5177 |
| 0.00192 | 76.57 | 0.4784 |
| 0.00297 | 49.81 | 0.3724 |
| 0.00174 | 84.94 | 0.5022 |
| 0.00174 | 85.21 | 0.5022 |
| 0.00192 | 77.85 | 0.3724 |
| 0.00122 | 124.39 | 0.5904 |
| 0.00122 | 126.59 | 0.5904 |
| 0.00122 | 127.86 | 0.5904 |
| 0.00244 | 64.87 | 0.4188 |
| 0.00209 | 75.94 | 0.4567 |
| 0.00157 | 102.83 | 0.5285 |
| 0.00349 | 46.66 | 0.3353 |
| 0.00698 | 23.44 | 0.2014 |
| 0.00244 | 67.57 | 0.4188 |
| 0.00192 | 86.66 | 0.4784 |
| 0.00157 | 106.34 | 0.5285 |
| 0.00523 | 39.81 | 0.2517 |
| 0.00174 | 97.76 | 0.5022 |
| 0.00174 | 98.49 | 0.5022 |

Table-5. Relation between Morphology Index and Particle size.

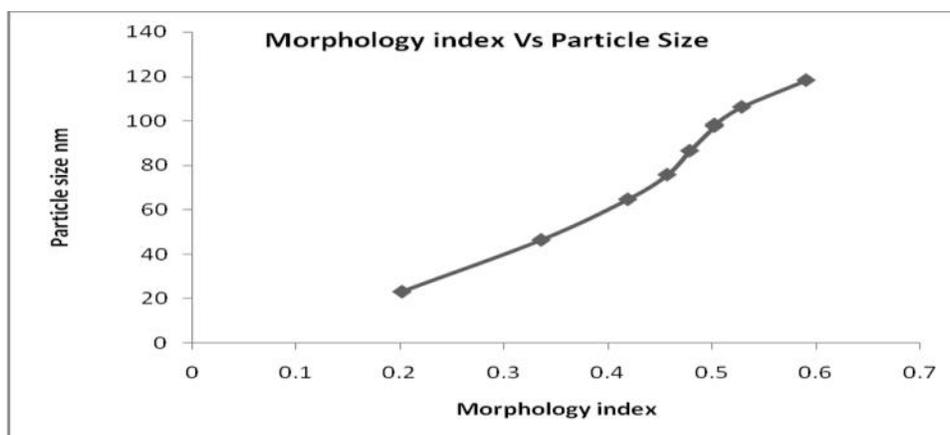


Fig.5 Morphology index of lead chloride nanoparticles.

It is observed that MI has direct relationship with particle size [2] and the results are shown in Fig.5.

XRD – Unit Cell Parameters

Unit cell parameters values calculated from XRD are enumerated in table-6.

| Parameters | Values |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Structure | Primitive |
| Space group | Pnam(62) |
| Symmetry of lattice | Orthorhombic |
| Particle size | 80.03 nm |
| Lattice parameters | a = 6.97;b = 8.70;c = 4.29 |
| Vol.unit cell(V) | 260.14 |
| Density () | 7.101 |
| Dislocation Density | 1.5613x10 ¹⁴ |
| Mass | 278.11amu |

Table-6. XRD parameters of lead chloride nanoparticles.

SEM studies

Scanning electron microscopy was used to analyze the morphology and size of the synthesized lead chloride nanoparticles. Fig.6, Fig.7, and Fig.8 show the SEM images of the lead chloride nanoparticles at

various magnifications. The SEM images of lead chloride nanoparticles show well crystallized particles with spherical shape. In this case the particles sizes are slightly increased and is also observed that the particles are distributed with agglomeration.

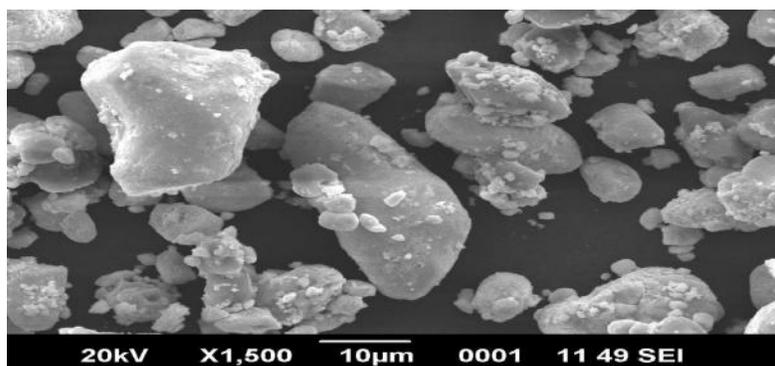


Fig.6 SEM image at 1500 magnifications

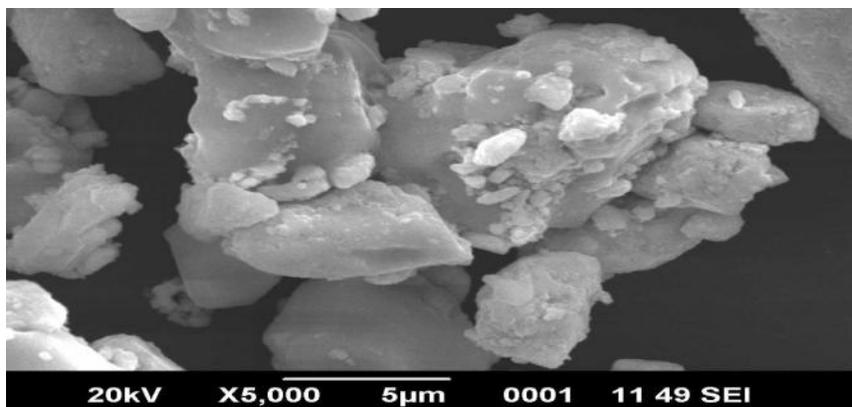


Fig.7 SEM image at 5000 magnifications

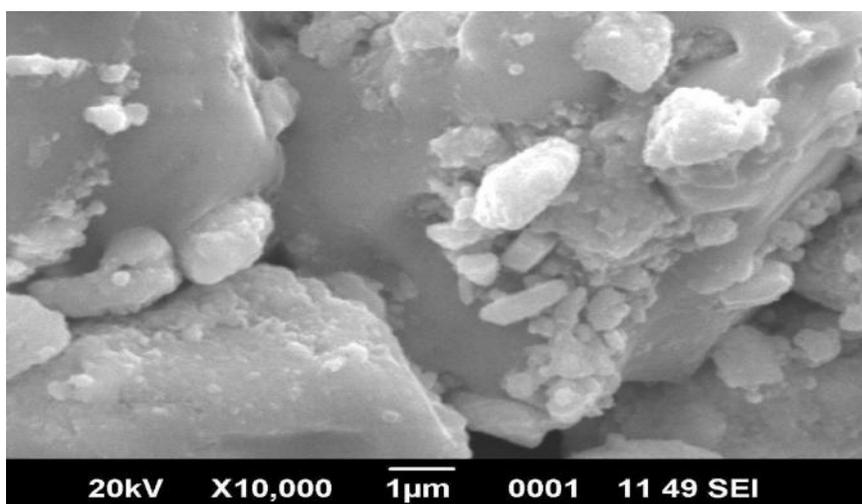


Fig.8 SEM image at 10000 magnifications

FTIR Studies

The FTIR spectrum of the lead chloride sample is shown in the fig.9. The FTIR spectrum for lead chloride shows a strong peak at 3450.65cm^{-1} corresponding to O-H group [1] and the peak at 1680.00 , 1649.14 cm^{-1} ,

1562.34cm^{-1} , 1543.05 cm^{-1} and 1516.05 cm^{-1} are due to bending mode of the hydroxyl group of water molecules [3]. The spectrum also show peaks at 744.52 cm^{-1} and 673.16 cm^{-1} indicating chloride and the peak at 451.34cm^{-1} is due to the presence of lead [2].

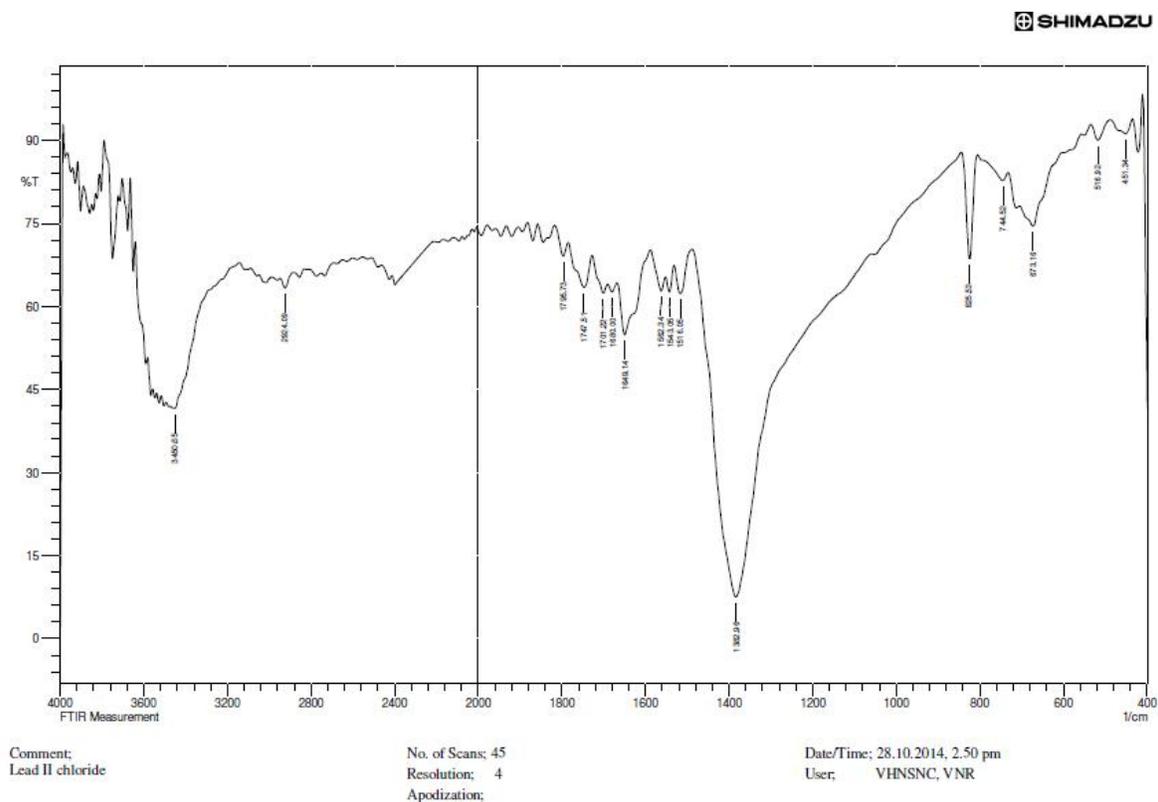


Fig.9 FTIR spectra of lead chloride nanoparticles.

UV Studies

The band gap of the prepared sample lead chloride was determined by using UV visible studies. From the UV spectrum the optical band gap of lead chloride is

3.5eV. Fig.10 shows the graph to find the band gap of lead chloride

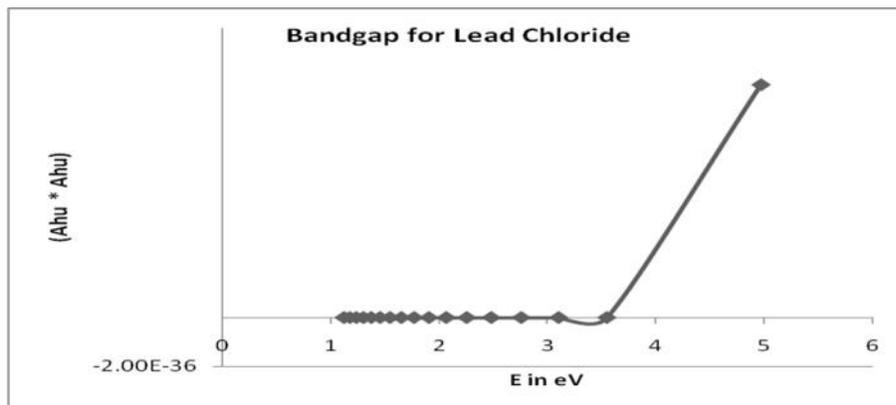


Fig.10 Graph to find the band gap of lead chloride nanoparticles

Conclusion

The lead chloride nanoparticles have been prepared by chemical co-precipitation method. XRD analysis suggests that the average particle size is in the nano range (80.03nm). The SEM picture reveals the well crystallized particles with spherical morphology. From the FTIR spectrum, the stretching and bending frequencies of the molecular functional groups in the sample are studied. From the UV spectra, the band gap was found.

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