## Accepted Manuscript

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 PII:
 S1004-9541(16)30122-7

 DOI:
 doi: 10.1016/j.cjche.2016.04.024

 Reference:
 CJCHE 526



To appear in:

Received date:28 February 2016Revised date:18 April 2016Accepted date:21 April 2016

Please cite this article as: Chengjun Liu, Qing Zhao, Yeguang Wang, Peiyang Shi, Maofa Jiang, Hydrothermal Synthesis of Calcium Sulfate Whisker from Flue Gas Desulfurization Gypsum, (2016), doi: 10.1016/j.cjche.2016.04.024

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## **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

## Hydrothermal Synthesis of Calcium Sulfate Whisker from Flue Gas Desulfurization Gypsum

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Abstract Plenty of flue gas desulfurization (FGD) gypsum generated from coal-fired power plants for sulfur

dioxide sequestration caused many environmental issues. Preparing calcium sulfate whisker (CSW) from FGD

gypsum by hydrothermal synthesis is considered to be a promising approach to solve this troublesome problem and

utilize calcium sulfate in a high-value-added way. The effects of particle size of FGD gypsum, slurry concentration,

and additives on CSW were investigated in this work. The results indicated that fine particle size of FGD gypsum

and moderately high slurry concentration were beneficial for crystal nucleation and growth. Three additives of

magnesium chloride, citric acid, and sodium dodecyl benzene sulfonate (SDBS) were employed in this study. It was

found that mean length and aspect ratio of CSW were both decreased by the usage of magnesium chloride, while a

small quantity of citric acid or SDBS could improve the CSW morphology. When multi-additives of citric

acid-SDBS were employed, the mean length and aspect ratio increased more than 20%. Moreover, surface

morphology of CSW went better, and the particle size and crystal shape became more uniform.

<sup>\*</sup>Supports by the Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 51374059, No. 51304042), and the Fundamental Research Funds for The Central Universities of China (No. N130402020).

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