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Enhanced performance arising from low-temperature preparation of α-alumina membranes via titania doping assisted sol-gel method

Xianfu Chen, Dong Zou, Yuqing Lin¹, Wei Zhang, Minghui Qiu, Yiqun Fan*

State Key Laboratory of Materials-Oriented Chemical Engineering, College of Chemical Engineering, Nanjing Tech University, Nanjing, 210009, P. R. China

¹Yuqing Lin is now working in Singapore Membrane Technology Centre, Nanyang Environment and Water Research Institute, Nanyang Technological University

*Corresponding author: Tel.: +86 25 83172277; Fax: +86 25 83172292.

E-mail: yiqunfan@njtech.edu.cn

Abstract

A high-efficiency alumina-titania membrane was proposed and fabricated, by using a titania-doping assisted sol-gel method. Two kinds of aqueous titania sols with different particle size distributions were introduced into boehmite sol. The phase transition temperature of alumina from γ to α phase is prone to reducing with the aid of titania doping of 10 dwb%, thus a good α phase membrane was obtained under a relatively lower thermal treatment of 1050 °C. Compared to the α -alumina membrane without the titania addition, the resultant Al₂O₃-TiO₂ membrane presented a better separation precision and higher water permeability. The average pore size was decreased from 16.0 to 9.8 nm, while the pure water permeability was improved from 200 to 233 L·m⁻²·h⁻¹·bar⁻¹.

Keywords: ceramic membrane, mesoporous, *a*-alumina, titania doping, phase transition

1. Introduction

Membrane technologies play an increasingly important role in many separation processes in the petrochemical, food, environmental, and other industries [1, 2]. Ceramic membranes have a number of advantages compared to polymeric ones: they offer a higher mechanical strength, they are very resistant to organic solvents and some can be used in rather wide pH and temperature Download English Version:

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