Chemical Syntheses of the Conducting Material Formed by Heteropolyacids and Polyaniline

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ABSTRACT: Here we report a hybrid organic-inorganic conducting material formed by vanadium-containing silicotungstic/molybdic or phosphotungstic/molybdic acid and polyaniline (PAN) with a one-step or a two-step chemical reaction involving oxidation of aniline with ammonium persulfate in the presence of vanadium-containing silicotungstic/ molybdic or phosphotungstic/molybdic acid. Polymer structure was examined by elemental analysis, IR, XRD, XPS, and thermal stability and conducting behavior was studied. Results showed that the composition and structure of main chain with one-step method were similar to that with two-step method. However, some differences in XRD spectra between the polymer with one-step and two-step methods were observed, which may be due to differences of doping methods. Conductivity of materials with a one-step method was bigger than that with a two-step method when the percentage of doping was determined. When heteropolyacid as doping agent was determinate, conductivity increased with doping percentage at the beginning and rate of conductivity was faster in the two-step method than in the one-step method. However conductivity did not increase with doping percentage when the doping percentage increased to a certain range. The conductivity of the materials descended after the materials were heated. One reason was dedoping or degradation of the materials.

KEY WORDS Polyaniline / Heteropolyacid / Hybrid Material / Conductivity /

Polyaniline (PAN) has attracted considerable attention because of its excellent environmental stability and possible technical applications as electronic material.^{1,2} Recently many new synthetic methods and potential applications on PAN are found.³⁻⁵ Aniline polymers have the general formula $[(-B-NH-B-NH)_{\nu}(B-N=Q=$ $N-)_{1-y}]_x$, where B represents a benzenoid ring while Q represents a quinonoed ring. They can be rendered conductive through appropriate oxidation or reduction. Chemically synthesized polyaniline is usually obtained in protonated form through oxidative polymerization of aniline in the presence of suitable acids. When the PAN base is doped by a protonic acid, protonation occurs at imine nitrogen sites to yield polysemiquinone, in which the polarons delocalize along the chain.⁶ Generally the more the protonic acid doped is, the better the conductivity of the material.⁷ As a strong acid, heteropoly acid (HPA) can give proton and it is possible to obtain heteropolyanion-doped polyaniline in a chemical method.^{5,8} M. Hasik et al. thought that the Keggin units inserted in conjugated polymers are bound with the matrix via quasi-ionic bonds and are molecularly dispersed.⁹ In this case heteropoly anions are incorporated into the polymer matrix during polymerization. Growing chains are cationic and require the presence of heteropoly anionic to preserve the neutrality of the system. This doping of the PAN base with heteropoly acid can be achieved in one-step or two-step process. As for two-step process, the conductivity behavior of material is a low threshold because the protonated phase is limited to the surface and penetration into the bulk of the polymer is difficult.¹⁰

We selected $(NH_4)_2S_2O_8$ as the oxidant in the one-step method and doping was achieved *via* preparation of polyaniline in the presence of the vanadium-containing

silicotungstic/molybdic or phosphotungstic/molybdic acid, the two-step method was also used for comparison. The obtained products were characterized by elemental analysis, IR, XRD, XPS, and the thermal stability. The conducting property of doped PAN was studied.

EXPERIMENTAL

Reagents and Measurements

All chemicals used were of analytical grade. The aniline used was distilled twice under vacuum. A PE2400 CHN element analyzer was used (USA). FT-IR studies were carried out on 5DX-FT-IR spectrophotometer (Nicolet) with KBr pellets. X-Ray powder patterns were taken on XD-3A X-Ray diffraction spectrometer with monochromatized Cu- K_{α} radiation. XPS were recorded on X-Ray photoelectron spectrometer (Shimadzu). TG measurements were carried out on a TGA-7 thermal analyzer under a constant nitrogen flow, scanning rate was 10.0°C min⁻¹. Conductivity was measured using a standard 4-probe method, disk shape samples were prepared from powders using 120 Mpa pressure at room temperature.¹¹

Synthesis of HPA

 $H_4PVW_{11}O_{40}$, $9H_2O$, $H_5SiVW_{11}O_{40}$, $6H_2O$ were prepared according to ref 12 and $H_4PVMo_{11}O_{40}$, $7H_2O$, $H_5SiVMo_{11}O_{40}$, $9H_2O$ were prepared according to ref 13. They were all examined by using elemental analysis, and IR methods.

One-Step Chemical Synthesis of the Hybrid PAN/HPA

Freshly distilled aniline (2 mL) and vanadiumcontaining heteropolyacid (10 mmol) was dissolved in 3.5 mL acetonitrile and yellowish complexes were formed immediately. A solution with 4 g of ammonium persulfate was dissolved in 5 mL distilled water and

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added dropwise to aniline-heteropolyacid-acetonitrile solution and stirred for 24 h at room temperature. It was then terminated by pouring the reaction mixture into 200 mL methanol which caused immediate black precipitation, then filter and the precipitate was repeatedly washed with methanol until the filtrate was colourless, then washed with distilled water several times. The powder was dried under vacuum until constant mass was reached. Yield: ~71%.

Chemical Synthesis of the Polyemeraldine Base

5 g $H_4SiW_{12}O_{40}$ were dissolved in 30 mL acetonitrile. 1.3 mL freshly distilled aniline were added, then a solution with 2.6 g of ammonium persulfate was dissolved in 6 mL of distilled water and added dropwise to above mixture, stirred for 24 h at room temperature, and terminated by pouring the reaction mixture into 125 mL methanol which caused immediate black precipitation, then filter, the precipitate was repeatedly washed with methanol until the filtrate was colourless. The precipitate was dipped for 4 h in 0.5 mol L⁻¹ NH₃H₂O, then filter, and the precipitate was washed with distilled water until the solution is neuter. Precipitate was dried under vacuum 40°C for 48 h. Yield: 73%. All above the yield are calculated based on the amount of aniline monomer.

Two-Step Chemical Synthesis of the Hybrid PAN/HPA

Vanadium-containing heteropolyacid (1.68 mmol) was dissolved in 25 mL distilled water, 0.5 g polyemeraldine base was added, stirred for 24 h at room temperature, then filter, the precipitate was washed with distilled water until pH of the filtrate was 7. The powder was dried under vacuum until constant mass was reached. Yield: ~86%. Yield was calculated based on the amount of polyaniline base.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Elemental Analysis

According to results of elemental analysis (Table I), we give the following empirical formula. One-step method:

- $S_1 = (C_6H_{4.5}N)_{18.2}(H_4PVW_{11}O_{40});$ $S_1 = (C_1H_1N) + (H_2SiVM_2O_1)$
- $S_2 = (C_6H_{4.5}N)_{10.3}(H_5SiVMo_{11}O_{40});$
- $\mathbf{S}_{3} \qquad (C_{6}H_{4.5}N)_{12.5}(H_{4}PVMo_{11}O_{40});$
- $S_4 \qquad (C_6H_{4.5}N)_{9.4}(H_5SiVW_{11}O_{40}),$
- two-step method:
- $S_1' = (C_6H_{4.5}N)_{56}(H_4PVW_{11}O_{40});$
- $S_{2}^{-\prime} \quad \ (C_{6}H_{4.5}N)_{45.3}(H_{5}SiVMo_{11}O_{40});$
- $S_{3}^{-'} \quad (C_{6}H_{4.5}N)_{49.3}(H_{4}PVMo_{11}O_{40});$
- $S_4' = (C_6H_{4.5}N)_{42.9}(H_5SiVW_{11}O_{40}).$

These show that the doped percentage of HPA in the one-step was higher than that in the two-step.

IR Spectra

IR spectra of the materials in one-step and two-step methods are shown in Figure 1. All samples exhibit similar IR spectral patterns. Ring stretching of quinoid and benzenoid forms was observed at ca. 1582 and 1492 cm^{-1} respectively. The bands in the range of 1200–1400 cm⁻¹ are C-N stretching bands of an aromatic amine, 1380 cm^{-1} is QBQ (Q: quinoid ring, B: benzenoid ring); 1302 cm^{-1} is QBQ, QBB, and BBB and 1240 cm^{-1} is BBB. Compared with IR spectra of the materials with two-step method, 1380 cm^{-1} band of the materials with one-step method disappeared. The quinoid structure of the products with one-step method may disappear, indicating that the polyaniline molecule has been protonated. The disappearance of the band at $1162 \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$, which is PAN base characteristic peak,¹⁴ and the appearance of the band at 1144 cm^{-1} , which is the characteristic band of the protonated states,¹⁵ supports this point of view. Though the band at 1380 cm^{-1} was kept with two-step method, the disappearance of the band at 1162 cm^{-1} and the appearance of the band at 1144 cm^{-1} show that the polyaniline has been protonted in the twostep method.

One reason of the band kept at 1380 cm^{-1} during protonation with two-step method is that HPA, as a big molecule, is difficult to penetrate the bulk of the polyaniline, because the protonated phase is limited to the surface in solid-liquid reaction. Also vanadium-containing HPA has a stronger oxidization, the HPA oxidizes the PAN while the PAN is doped with the PAN, so the band at 1380 cm^{-1} was kept in the two-step method. The

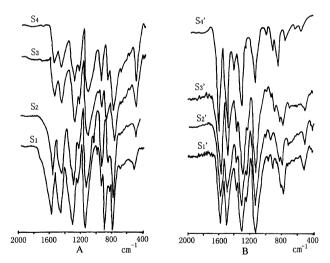


Table I.Elemental analysis (%) of PAN/HPA materials

Sample	С	Н	N	W(Mo)	v	Sample	С	Н	N	W(Mo)	V
S_1	29.02	2.23	5.70	44.92	1.17	S_1'	52.54	4.15	11.78	30.23	0.79
\mathbf{S}_{2}^{1}	27.00	2.31	5.14	37.39	1.88	$\mathbf{S}_{2}^{1'}$	47.39	4.11	9.32	15.86	0.79
$\tilde{S_3}$	30.01	2.31	5.69	35.09	1.74	\mathbf{S}_{3}^{-}	47.35	3.95	10.36	15.34	0.76
$\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{A}}$	18.35	1.47	3.61	55.58	1.47	$\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{A}}$	47.40	3.97	9.61	32.23	0.83

Table II. IR characteristic bands of samples

Sample	N = Q = N	N-B-N		C–N		$Q = NH^+ - B$	V _{asW(Mo)-Od}	V _{asSi(P)-Oa}	VasW(Mo)-Ob-W(Mo)	VasW(Mo)-Oc-W(Mo)
S_1	1577	1487	1301		1244	1140	956	1068	880	799
$\mathbf{S}_2^{'}$	1577	1488	1306		1245	1144	941	897	834	788
$\tilde{S_3}$	1577	1487	1306		1245	1144	949	1016	863	790
$\tilde{S_4}$	1577	1477	1301		1244	1136	949	903	880	790
\mathbf{S}_{1}^{\prime}	1588	1493	1375	1312	1244	1146	947	1060	835	700
\mathbf{S}_{2}	1583	1494	1376	1302	1244	1142	968	919	832	798
\mathbf{S}_{3}	1580	1494	1376	1302	1244	1142	944	1010	834	800
$\tilde{S_4'}$	1584	1498	1379	1305	1246	1144	945	900	837	798

Table III. XPS N_{1S} and O_{1S} data of PAN/HPA materials

Sample	N_{1S}	Binding energies	/eV	Proportion/%	O_{1S} Binding energies/eV		
	-N=	-NH-	N ⁺	N+	O^{2-}	OH^-	H_2O
S_1	398.4	399.8	401.3	20.2	530.4	531.8	533.4
\mathbf{S}_2	398.1	399.4	401.4	24.5	530.5	531.7	533.3
$\tilde{\mathbf{S}_3}$	398.8	399.4	401.5	18.3	530.4	531.8	533.2
$\tilde{S_4}$	398.4	399.7	401.3	24.2	530.4	531.7	533.2
\mathbf{S}_{1}^{*}	398.2	399.5	401.4	7.3	530.5	531.8	533.3
$\hat{S_2}$	398.4	399.8	401.2	10.7	530.4	531.7	533.4
$\tilde{S_{3}}$	398.3	399.8	401.3	10.5	530.3	531.9	533.4
$\mathbf{S}_{4}^{\mathbf{o}'}$	398.4	399.7	401.3	10.9	530.3	531.9	533.4

bands in the spectral range between $700-1100 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ corresponding to Keggin-unit structural vibrations can be distinguished easily¹⁶ (Table II). HPA protonate PAN and their identity are preserved in this process, because the IR characteristic bonds of HPA after synthesis and purification processes can be found, so we think the polyacid in products still keep its structure.

Absorption intensity of HPA in the materials by using one-step method is more than that by using two-step method. This indicates that the quantity-doped of HPA in one-step method is more than that in two-step method. Heteropolyanions are introduced to the polymer matrix and preserve structural identity during protonation.

XPS Spectra

XPS give quantitative differentiation of imine (-N=), amine (-NH-) and positively charged nitrogens (N^+) in PAN/HPA. Deconvolution was carried out assuming in this case the same weighing of Gaussian (75%) and Lorentzian (25%) functions. Under these conditions the binding energy $E_{\rm b}$ = 398.3 eV is ascribed to the imine nitrogen (-N=), the binding energy $E_{\rm b}$ =399.4 eV to the amine nitrogen (-NH-), and the binding energy $E_{\rm b}$ = 401.8 eV to the protonated nitrogens (N⁺). The O_{1s} XPS of polyemeraldine base has two peaks. 531.1 eV is ascribed to surface OH⁻ anions and 533.6 eV is ascribed to water molecules. Deconvolution of O_{1s} XPS spectra of doped PAN has three peaks indicating that the sample has three different oxygen atoms. The peak whose binding energy is 530.4 \dot{eV} is ascribed to O^{2-} (oxygen of HPA). The binding energy $E_{\rm b}$ =531.1 eV is ascribed to oxygen of OH⁻. The binding energy $E_{\rm b}$ =533.6 eV is ascribed to oxygen of H₂O. The proportion of protonated nitrogen species (symbol N⁺) is shown in Table III. This proportion is generally viewed as indicator of doping of the individual molecules. The degree of doping corresponds to the proportion of N^+ in the two-step method. However, it is not completely correspond to in the one-

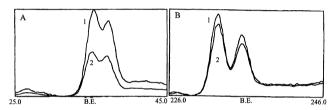


Figure 2. W(4f) (A) and Mo(3d) (B) XPS spectra of PAN doped by $SiW_{11}V$ and $SiMo_{11}V$ in a one-step method (1) and two-step method (2).

step method. The reason might be that the species with one-step method have also enclosed charged nitrogens, resulting from undesired side reactions, crosslinking and branching. Doping way is very important for properties of materials.

XPS spectra of W(or Mo) in the samples are similar. Figure 2 shows the Mo_{3d} doublet obtained for S_3 comprising peaks at 235.6 and 232.5 eV, and the W_{4f} doublet obtained for S_1 comprising peaks at 35.4 and 37.3 eV. The spectrum can be fitted with only one doublet due to $Mo_{3d5/2}$, $Mo_{3d3/2}$, and $W_{4f7/2}$, $W_{4f5/2}$ transitions. Chemical shifts are typical of Mo(VI) and W(VI). Therefore no Mo or W is present in oxidation lower than +6 in the above samples.¹⁷ XPS spectra of W(or Mo) indicated that the polyacid still kept their structure after synthesis and purification processes.

XRD Spectra

X-Ray diffraction patterns of the polyanilines prepared in the presence of HPA are the same in Figure 3. There is a sharp peak at d = 12.3 Å close to the polymer repeat distance¹⁸ and two very broad overlapping halos in the samples in the one-step method. PAN protonation with simple inorganic acids such as, for example, HCl leads to a more ordered structure with relatively distinct Bragg reflections.¹⁹ The X-Ray diffraction patterns of doping PAN with the preparation method (one-step or

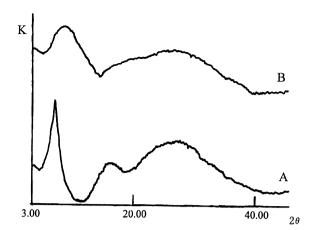


Figure 3. XRD of PAN doped with $SiW_{11}V$ in one-step (A) and two-step (B) method.

two-step) are very similar and give no indication of a crystalline phase. However, comparing with the one-step method, we can also find that the sharp peak at d = 12.3 Å become passive in samples by two-step method. This indicates that the molecule order of the samples became weak from one-step to two-step method.²⁰ No peaks from any crystalline form of heteropoly acid can be observed indicating that Keggin units are inserted into the polymer matrix.¹⁵

Conductivity

A polyaniline base is insulating with the conductivity of the order of 10^{-12} S cm⁻¹, and its protonation gives rise to increase of electronic conductivity by several orders of magnitude.²⁰ The conductivity of polyaniline doped with HPA is usually 10^{-3} — 10^{-6} S cm⁻¹. Here the conductivity of polyaniline doped with vanadium-containing HPA is higher than before, *i.e.*, S₁: 2.07×10⁻¹, S₂: 2.50×10⁻², S₃: 1.26×10⁻², S₄: 6.14×10⁻¹, S₁': 7.03×10⁻⁵, S₂': 1.06×10⁻³, S₃': 6.16×10⁻⁴, S₄': 1.25×10⁻³ S cm⁻¹. This indicates that the one-step procedure has higher conductivity than the two-step procedure.

Polyaniline in the form of polyleucoemeraldine can be oxidatively doped by withdrawal of electrons from its π bonds. Two approaches to "doping" can be used: 1. HPA can be incorporated into the growing polymeric matrix during electrochemical or chemical polymerization of a suitable monomer. In this case growing polymer chains are cationic and the inserted HPA serves as chargecompensating species. 2. HPA can be incorporated into the polymer matrix via the so-called doping reaction. In this case polymer matrix formation and the incorporation of HPA into this matrix are separated in time. HPA is introduced into the already formed, neutral solid polymer. The doping consists therefore of transformation of neutral polymer chains into polycations and the simultaneous incorporation of HPA. This doping can be oxidative in acid-base.

The doping of polyaniline is different from other conjugated conducting polymers, polyaniline base can be doped to a conducting form without changing the number of π -electrons thought protonation by exposure to an appropriate protonic acid in aqueous solution. PAN of

 Table IV.
 Results of elemental analysis (%)

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Empirical formula	С	Н	Ν	W
$C_6H_{4.5}N(SiW_{11}V)_{0.042}^{a}$	35.01	2.40	6.73	41.29
$C_6H_{4.5}N(SiW_{11}V)_{0.066}$ ^a	26.50	1.94	5.22	49.11
$C_6H_{4.5}N(SiW_{11}V)_{0.106}^{a}$	18.35	1.47	3.61	55.58
$C_6H_{4.5}N(SiW_{11}V)_{0.142}$ a	14.99	1.42	2.94	59.76
$C_6H_{4.5}N(SiW_{11}V)_{0.161}^{a}$	13.51	1.27	2.71	61.12
$C_6H_{4.5}N(SiW_{11}V)_{0.008}$	64.02	4.33	12.47	14.38
$C_6H_{4.5}N(SiW_{11}V)_{0.024}^{b}$	45.86	3.97	8.61	31.17
$C_6H_{4.5}N(SiW_{11}V)_{0.031}^{b}$	41.00	2.90	8.03	35.70
$C_6H_{4.5}N(SiW_{11}V)_{0.074}^{b}$	24.51	1.77	4.91	50.94
$\begin{array}{c} {}_{6}{}^{-6}{}^{+4.5}{}^{+1.5}{}^{(15W_{11}V)_{0.161}}_{b} \\ {}_{6}{}^{H}{}_{4.5}{}^{N}{}^{(5W_{11}V)_{0.161}}_{b} \\ {}_{6}{}^{H}{}_{4.5}{}^{N}{}^{(5W_{11}V)_{0.024}}_{b} \\ {}_{6}{}^{e}{}^{H}{}_{4.5}{}^{N}{}^{(5W_{11}V)_{0.024}}_{b} \\ {}_{6}{}^{e}{}^{H}{}_{4.5}{}^{N}{}^{(5W_{11}V)_{0.031}}_{b} \\ {}_{6}{}^{e}{}^{H}{}_{4.5}{}^{N}{}^{(5W_{11}V)_{0.077}}_{b} \\ {}_{6}{}^{e}{}^{H}{}_{4.5}{}^{N}{}^{(5W_{11}V)_{0.097}}_{b} \end{array}$	20.18	1.54	4.01	54.96

^a One-step method. ^b Two-step method.

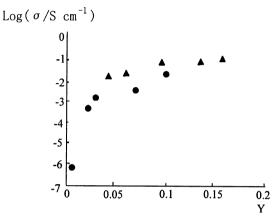


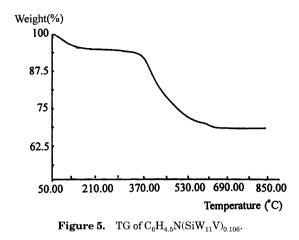
Figure 4. Conductivity *vs.* HPA content (y) in the materials $(C_6H_{4.5}N)(SiW_{11}V)_y$: \blacktriangle one-step method; $\textcircled{\bullet}$ two-step method.

ideal emeraldine base form contains alternating amine and imine repeat units. When emeraldine base is doped by a protonic acid, protonation occurs at imine nitrogen sites to yield polysemiquinone, in which the polarons delocalize along the chain.⁶ Heteropolyacid is a stronger protonic acid, and PAN doped with HPA may have the same conducting mechanism. We think that the doping in the two-step method is necessarily connected with chemisorption of HPA at the surface of PAN and HPA may not be evenly distributed throughout the whole volume of PAN. The protonated phase is limited to the surface and the rate of its penetration into the bulk of PAN is lower, so the conductivity is lower.

Since the conductivity of polyaniline depends on water vapour pressure in air,¹⁰ all samples were dried under vacuum 40° C for 48 h. We think that there is no water or other solvents in the polymers.

To investigate the effects of different doping degrees on conductivity, we synthesized materials that had different doping degrees by the one-step and two-step methods. $H_5SiW_{11}VO_{40}$ as dopant, the method of synthesis is the same as before, but $H_5SiW_{11}VO_{40}$ was 4, 7, 10, 12, and 14 mmol with one-step method and 1.1, 1.8, 2.9, 3.6, and 5.5 mmol with the two-step method. To show the degree of doping directly, we change the empirical formula to $(C_6H_{4.5}N)(SiW_{11}V)_y$, so the number of y shows the number of HPA which have been doped. The results of elemental analysis are shown in Table IV.

Conductivity of above materials at room temperature is shown in Figure 4. Figure 4 indicates that conductivity increases with the doping at the beginning and the



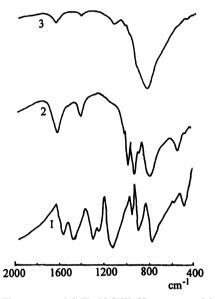


Figure 6. IR spectra of $C_6H_{4.5}N(SiW_{11}V)_{0.106}$ treated by heating at different temperature. 1, $210^{\circ}C$; 2, $450^{\circ}C$; 3, $620^{\circ}C$.

rate of conductivity is faster with the two-step method than with the one-step method. However conductivity may not increase with doping when doping is in a certain range.

The conductivity of materials descended when the materials were heated. Figure 5 shows the thermogravimetric measurements in nitrogen atmosphere of the $C_6H_{4.5}N(SiW_{11}V)_{0.106}$. This polymer shows weight loss starting before 140°C. This is the loss of absorbed and crystal water. Weight of the material keeps relatively stable between 140°C and 360°C. The material is thus not degradated during 140—360°C. Sharp degradation followed by a majority weight loss at beginning of about 450°C.

The majority weight loss at beginning of about 450° C is due to degradation of polymer backbone as indicated by the IR spectrum of material heated at 450° C for 60 min (see Figure 6). However, HPA at 450° C keeps its Keggin structure. The material degrades completely at 620° C (Figure 6). The effect of thermal treatment on the conductivity of C₆H_{4.5}N(SiW₁₁V)_{0.106} is shown in Figure 7.

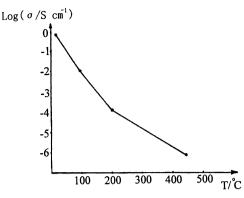


Figure 7. Effects of thermal treatment on the conductivity of $C_{6}H_{4.5}N(SiW_{11}V)_{0.106}$.

As shown in Figure 7, the conductivity of $C_6H_{4.5}N$ -(SiW₁₁V)_{0.106} decreased when the material was heated. Compared with IR spectra and thermogravimetric curve of $C_6H_{4.5}N(SiW_{11}V)_{0.106}$ treated by heating at different temperatures, the material was not degrated before 360 °C, but the conductivity of the material decrease with treatment of heating. This suggests that the conductivity decreases below 360 °C for $C_6H_{4.5}N(SiW_{11}V)_{0.106}$ studied in this work is not due to the elimination or decomposition of the HPA and it is also not due to the decomposition of the PAN. The conductivity decrease may thus be due to change in the arrangement of polyaniline or chemical reactions between HPA and PAN.

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