A Study on the Peptization Reaction in Anatase TiO₂ Film Preparation by Sol-Gel Method

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We investigated the effects of peptization as a continuous process after aging in TiO2 sol preparation process on characterization of calcined TiO2 particles in this study. From the results, we found that there was no crystallinity and microstructure changes of calcined TiO2 particles as well as TiO2 sol particles according to peptization. But there was a decrease of average pore diameter in TiO2 sol particles at the beginning of the peptization. It shows that the adsorbed H2O molecules on agglomerated TiO2 sol particles were replaced by H3O+ of added peptization agent and then TiO2 sol particles were repulsed against each other. As the result, the macropores within TiO2 sol particles disappeared. Here, the peptization phenomenon occurred since agglomerated particles binded hydrogen bonds and olation bonds have been broken their bonds by the added H3O+, there was happened to be peptization phenomenon. In summary, we concluded that microstructure of calcined TiO2, particles was controlled by aging stage in sol preparation process and peptization was the process of finely suspended TiO2 sol preparation.