Laser desorption ionisation (LDI) quadrupole ion trap time-of-flight mass spectrometric study of (WO₃)_n clusters formation in gas phase

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Tungsten oxide (WO₃) exhibits wide range of applications in biomedicine, cosmetics, electronics, coatings and plastics, catalysis, etc. [1]. Laser desorption ionization and quadrupole ion trap time of flight mass spectrometry (LDI-QIT-TOF-MS) is important and suitable tool to study formation of clusters in gas phase [2-3].

In this work using LDI and/or MALDI (Matrix Assisted Laser Desorption Ionisation) of WO₃ (while using carbonaceous matrices such as nanodiamonds or C₆₀ fullerene) the formation of tungsten oxide clusters in gas phase was followed. Mass spectra in negative ion mode were more complex than in positive one. Mostly, $(WO_3)_n^-$ (n=1-17) clusters were observed. This series of WO₃ clusters is different from that one described by Singh et. al. [2]. In addition, some other $W_x O_y^{+/-}$ clusters with lower or higher number of oxygens were also detected and only traces of WC clusters were observed.

References:

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