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## Effect of sulfate ion on silicate ion substitution on hydroxyapatite

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### ABSTRACT

Several hydroxyapatite powders were prepared by wet chemical precipitation route at 25°C in presence of different concentration of silicate and sulfate. The powders were characterized using chemical analysis, SEM, XRD and FTIR spectroscopy. The substitution of sulfate ion in the structure of HAP raised silicate substitution up to 9.9 % wt. Increasing silicate and sulfate ions substitutions are associated with increasing carbonate ion substitutions for phosphates and vacancies in the OH<sup>-</sup> site. Silicate and sulfate substitution took place via three charge compensation mechanism acting simultaneously. The first is; SiO<sub>4</sub><sup>4-</sup> group substitute one PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup> group and vacancy form in the OH<sup>-</sup> site. The second is; SiO<sub>4</sub><sup>4-</sup> and SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> groups substitute two PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup> groups. The third is; SiO<sub>4</sub><sup>4-</sup> and CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> groups substitute two PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup> groups. © 2011 Trade Science Inc. - INDIA

### KEYWORDS

Hydroxyapatite;  
Silicate substitution;  
Sulfate substitution;  
Crystallinity;  
FTIR.

### INTRODUCTION

Calcium phosphate compounds are becoming of increasingly great importance in the field of biomaterials<sup>[1]</sup>. Calcium phosphates are the chemical compounds of a special interest in many interdisciplinary fields of science, including geology, chemistry, biology and medicine<sup>[2]</sup>. A convenient way to classify calcium phosphate compounds is by groups of definite Ca/P ratios. Generally, various types of calcium phosphates, having different Ca/P ratios from 2.0 to 0.5<sup>[3,4]</sup>, can be synthesized by mixing a calcium and phosphate ion solution under acid or alkaline conditions. TABLE 1 shows various types of synthetic calcium phosphates. The calcium phosphate with the highest Ca/P ratio is

hilgenstockite and is represented as Ca<sub>4</sub>O(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>. The calcium phosphate with the lowest Ca/P ratio is monocalcium phosphate monohydrate, the chemical formula of which is Ca(H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O or Ca(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>. The Ca/P ratios of other calcium phosphates are lower than that of hilgenstockite and higher than that of monocalcium phosphate monohydrate or calcium metaphosphate<sup>[3]</sup>. Hydroxyapatite (Ca<sub>10</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>6</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub>, HAP), fluorapatite (Ca<sub>10</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>6</sub>F<sub>2</sub>, FAP) and tricalcium phosphate (Ca<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, TCP) phases are the common calcium phosphate bioceramics because their chemical composition is similar to that of bone mineral<sup>[5-12]</sup>.

A number of novel processing routes have been developed for preparing fine hydroxyapatite powders, including precipitation<sup>[13,14]</sup>, solid-state reaction<sup>[15]</sup>, sol-

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TABLE 1 : Various calcium phosphates

Ca/P	Formula	Name	Abbreviation
2.0	$\text{Ca}_4\text{O}(\text{PO}_4)_2$	Tetracalcium phosphate (Hilgenstockite)	TeCP (TTCP)
1.67	$\text{Ca}_{10}(\text{PO}_4)_6(\text{OH})_2$ $\text{Ca}_{10-x}\text{H}_{2x}(\text{PO}_4)_6(\text{OH})_2$	Hydroxyapatite Amorphous calcium phosphate	HAP ACP
1.50	$\text{Ca}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2$	Tricalcium phosphate ( $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ )	TCP
1.33	$\text{Ca}_8\text{H}_2(\text{PO}_4)_6 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Octacalcium phosphate	OCP
1.0	$\text{CaHPO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Dicalcium phosphate dehydrate (Brushite)	DCPD
1.0	$\text{CaHPO}_4$	Dicalcium phosphate (Monetite)	DCP
1.0	$\text{Ca}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$	Calcium pyrophosphate ( $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ )	CPP
1.0	$\text{Ca}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Calcium pyrophosphate dihydrate	CPPD
0.7	$\text{Ca}_7(\text{P}_5\text{O}_{16})_2$	Heptacalcium phosphate (Tromelite)	HCP
0.67	$\text{Ca}_4\text{H}_2\text{P}_6\text{O}_{20}$	Tetracalcium dihydrogen phosphate	TDHP
0.5	$\text{Ca}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	Monocalcium phosphate monohydrate	MCPM
0.5	$\text{Ca}(\text{PO}_3)_2$	Calcium metaphosphate ( $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ )	CMP

gel syntheses<sup>[16-19]</sup>, hydrothermal reactions<sup>[20,21]</sup>, emulsion and microemulsion syntheses<sup>[22,23]</sup>, mechanochemical syntheses<sup>[24-27]</sup>, and a combination of mechanochemical and hydrothermal<sup>[28]</sup> and ultrasonically assisted reaction<sup>[29]</sup>. Depending on the techniques used, HAP with various morphologies, specific surface, composition, and crystalline degree have been obtained and shown to have different effects on the bioactivity, mechanical properties and dissolution behavior in biological environment<sup>[30-32]</sup>. The most commonly used technique for the formation of HAP powder is the wet methods in aqueous solutions both by simple precipitation method<sup>[30,33]</sup> or hydrolysis of acidic calcium phosphate salts<sup>[34-36]</sup>.

Hydroxyapatite crystal structure can be modified with varieties of ion substitutions<sup>[37]</sup>. The list of possible additives includes (but is not limited to) the following cations:  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{H}^+$  and anions:  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ ,  $\text{HPO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-$ ,  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ ,  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{HSO}_4^-$ ,  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{F}^-$ ,  $\text{SiO}_4^{4-}$ <sup>[38]</sup>. The incorporation of these substituents affects the mechanisms of formation, the stabilities, the morphologies, and the solubility of hydroxyapatite crystals<sup>[39]</sup>.

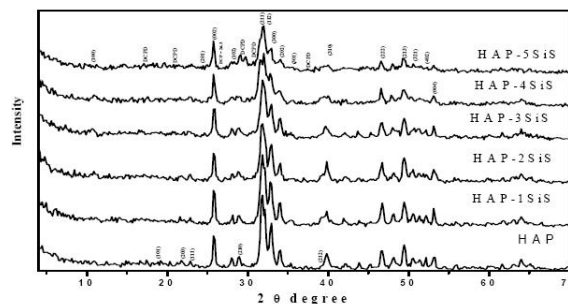


Figure 1 : XRD patterns of hydroxyapatite powder dried at 105°C for 24 hours

Both experimental and theoretical research have been tried to solve the complexity of these types of substitutions<sup>[40,41]</sup>. However, the types and extents of most of these substitutions are incompletely understood because of many practical complications. One of these complications is the difficulty in establishing the mechanisms of charge compensations due to coupled and multiplied substitutions<sup>[42]</sup>.

Although the existence of natural silicophosphates, silicosulfo-phosphates and silicosulfate apatites is known, only limited synthesis studies have been reported<sup>[43]</sup>. Both silica and sulfur are found as trace elements in human hard tissue<sup>[44]</sup>. Also, carbonate substitutions are labeled as A- and B-type, depending on whether they occupy the  $\text{OH}^-$  or  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  sites in the hydroxyapatite, respectively<sup>[45,46]</sup>. Substitutions of carbonate groups in phosphate positions are observed in human bone mineral<sup>[47]</sup>. The role of silicates substitutions in the hydroxyapatite lattice is important with respect to physicochemical properties and bioactivity<sup>[42]</sup>.

Studies carried out by Carlisle<sup>[48,49]</sup> indicated the importance of the silicon on bone formation and calcification. Recently, it has been observed that the addition of Si during the HAP synthesis leads to an improvement of the bioactive behavior<sup>[50,51]</sup>. It means that the implant is able to join chemically to the bone through a strong "bioactive bond". In this way, the osteointegration and the good performance of the implant are ensured<sup>[52,53]</sup>. Silicon substitutions in HAP have been studied by many investigators, but no one have determined the maximum extent of substitution<sup>[42]</sup>.

The aim of this research is to prepare and characterize several silicate and sulfate substituted hydroxyapatite powders (HAP-SiS) using silicic acid ( $\text{H}_4\text{SiO}_4$ ) and sulfuric acid as a precursors of silicate and sulfate, respectively, under  $\text{N}_2$  gas to prevent  $\text{CO}_2$  contamina-

tion. There was expected that sulfate substitution will increase the amount of silicate substitution in hydroxyapatite structure.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Pure  $\text{CaCO}_3$  powder was heated at  $1100^\circ\text{C}$  for 4 hours, and the resultant  $\text{CaO}$  powder was used as it is. All the other chemicals were analytical grades. Hydroxyapatite powders were prepared by aqueous precipitation method. The precipitation was carried out in a polyethylene bottle close under  $\text{N}_2$  gas at room temperature. Precipitations were carried out by titrating 1000 mL suspension of  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  (0.200 M) simultaneously with 500 mL solution of  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$ , 500 mL  $\text{H}_4\text{SiO}_4$  and 500 mL  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  based on the methods described elsewhere<sup>[42]</sup>. Five grades of silicate and sulfate-substituted hydroxyapatite (HAP-SiS) powders were synthesised by maintaining the  $\text{Ca}/(\text{P}+\text{Si}+\text{S})$  ratios fixed at 1.67, as shown TABLE 2 which shows the expected chemical composition (% wt), expected molar ratios and formulas of different silicate and sulfate co-substituted hydroxyapatite. All the preparations of hydroxyapatite were dried at  $105^\circ\text{C}$  for 24 hours.

The chemical analysis was measured by X-ray fluorescence (XRF). The carbonate content was determined by CHN analysis using a Perkin Elmer 2400 CHN analyser.

X-ray diffraction (XRD) analysis was performed using an automated diffractometer (Philips type: PW1840), at a step size of  $0.02^\circ$ , scanning rate of  $2^\circ$  in  $2\theta/\text{min.}$ , and a  $2\theta$  range from  $4^\circ$  to  $60^\circ$ . The values of full width at half-maximum of (FWHM) of the peak of the (002) plane, representative of the crystallites along the c axis, and of the peak of the (300) plane, representative of the crystallites along the a axis, were used in the calculation according Scherrer's formula<sup>[54]</sup>.

$$D = K\lambda / [\beta_{1/2} \cos\theta]$$

where D is the crystallite size in  $\text{A}^\circ$ , K is Scherrer constant (0.89),  $\lambda$  is the wavelength of X-rays beam ( $1.5405 \text{ A}^\circ$ ),  $\theta$  is the diffraction angle ( $12.92^\circ$  for the reflection (002) and  $16.45^\circ$  for reflection (300)), and  $\beta_{1/2}$  is defined as the diffraction peak width at half maximum height, expressed in radian.

The powders morphology was investigated using SEM (JOEL, Model: JSM-5600, Japan.) equipped

with secondary electron detector and EDX. All samples were coated with gold. FTIR spectroscopic measurements were carried out using a spectrometer (FTIR, JASCO 470). The samples were mixed with KBr with a sample/KBr weight ratio of  $\sim 1/100$  and compressed to give self-supporting pellets.

## RESULTS

### Characterization

XRD Diffractograms of HAP-SiS powders as shown in figure 1, revealed no secondary phases, such as tricalcium phosphate (TCP), tetracalcium phosphate (TTCP), or calcium oxide (CaO) besides hydroxyapatite phase on the basis of JCPDS Card No. 9-432<sup>[55]</sup> in samples from HAP to HAP-4SiS. Reflections of the silicon and sulfate-containing hydroxyapatites (HAP-SiS) are in general broader than those of the pure hydroxyapatite (HAP). In sample HAP-5SiS, the maxima are characteristic to (002), (300), (212) and (202) reflections. Similar results have been observed for HAP-Si coatings obtained via sputtering deposition<sup>[56]</sup> or sol-gel coating<sup>[57]</sup>. This indicates a decrease of crystallinity with the increasing of silicate and sulfate contents, which could be attributed to different charge compensation mechanism for isomorphous substitution of  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  by  $\text{SiO}_4^{4-}$ , and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ . However, the broadening of the XRD peaks could result from an effective decrease in the crystallite size. As being previously observed in other study<sup>[58]</sup>.

XRD data of HAP-5SiS sample indicates to the formation of dicalcium phosphate dihydrate (brushite) on the basis of JCPDS Card No. 72-0713 as minor phase beside hydroxyapatite. The formation of this phase may be attributed to decrease in the amount of phosphate with respect to amount of calcium as confirmed by Ca/P of 3.615 for sample HAP-5SiS as shown by XRF analysis Table 3. It was found that drops in P concentration were related to the formation of brushite,  $\text{CaHPO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ <sup>[59]</sup>. Oliveira et al.<sup>[60]</sup> was found that a gradual reduction of HAP crystals simultaneously with the growth of brushite crystals, until the complete HAP disappearance. Also, it could be expected that increased Si amount would cause HAP crystals to be more soluble, releasing more  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{P}^{5+}$  ions into the culture medium; thus rapidly re-precipitating and devel-

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oping a newly formed CaP-rich<sup>[61,62]</sup>.

The crystal sizes as determined using Scherrer's equation along a crystallographic axis and along c crystallographic axis are shown in TABLE 3. The crystal size for all HAP-SiS samples except HAP-3SiS along a axis decreases with the increases of silicate and sulfate contents, while the crystal size along c axis increases with the increase of silicate and sulfate contents. The crystal size for HAP-3SiS sample along a axis and along c axis is increased and decreased respectively. Silicon substitution results in a decrease in the a axis, an increase in the c axis of the unit cell of hydroxyapatite and a slight decrease in the actual unit volume<sup>[58]</sup>. Rouse and Dunn<sup>[63]</sup> noted that, the Si:S ratio is essentially constant at 1:1 and the mean of the effective radii of  $\text{SiO}_4^{4-}$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  is equal to the effective radius of  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ . Thus changes in the (Si, S): P ratio should not affect the size of the unit cell. Carbonate groups in a precipitated hydroxyapatite was known to cause a reduction in a axis and a slight increase in c axis values related to the stoichiometric ones<sup>[31,64]</sup>, while systematic decrease in carbonate content as the principal causes of the increase in a axis and c axis<sup>[63]</sup>. The change of the lattice constants of ion substituted hydroxyapatite clearly demonstrates that silicate and sulfate ions are structurally incorporated, they do not just cover the surface of hydroxyapatite. The presence of  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and silicate reduce the growth of (100) and (010) and enhance the growth of (001) face. The products consisted of uniform apatite phase and had the XRD reflections characteristic of the (100), (200) and (300) planes. These results indicate that the present apatite gives preferred orientation in the c axis direction of the hexagonal crystal, leading to develop the a or b plane of the apatite crystal<sup>[65]</sup>.

Generally the aspect ratios (length/diameter) increase with increasing sulfate and silicate contents, the range of 1.5-3.1.

Chemical composition of the HAP powder is one of the most crucial parameters in determining different properties like solubility, thermal stabilities and sintering properties<sup>[5]</sup>. The chemical compositions determined by using XRF and CHN analysis of all samples are given in TABLE 2 and TABLE 3. The contents of silicon, sulfur, calcium and phosphorus are smaller than those present in the initial mixes. This implies that some

of silicate, sulfate and phosphate ions remained in the mother liquor solution after precipitation. Incorporation of carbonate ions from the atmosphere also contributes to the decrease in Si, S, P and Ca contents in the final powders. The most notable effect is the increase of carbonate contents as the silicate contents increase<sup>[66]</sup>. Carbonates are usually, observed in HAP powders<sup>[37,58]</sup> and coatings<sup>[57]</sup> deposited by the sol-gel technique. Sprio et al.<sup>[67]</sup> have been stated that there was a competition between  $\text{SiO}_4^{4-}$  and  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  for substitution in  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  position. While in the present investigation, silicate and sulfate ions substitutions induce carbonate ions co-substitutions which was dissolved from atmosphere.

The Ca/P molar ratio is one of the important characteristics of the biomaterial to be used for bone substitution, because of scaling its phase purity, chemical homogeneity, and solubility<sup>[68]</sup>. Therefore, the Ca/P molar ratio of the all samples were determined by XRF, it was found to be 1.66 for HAP sample, which is quite similar to that of pure HAP (1.67). The slight increase in the Ca/P ratio for other samples can be attributed to the substitution of silicate, sulfate and carbonate into apatite, indicating the formation of anion substituted-HAP. It also shows that the amount of  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  substitution is very low. The calculated Ca/(P+Si+S) ratio of samples from HAP-1SiS to HAP-4SiS is ranged from 1.52 to 1.65 appreciable and fits quite well with that of calcium deficient hydroxyapatite<sup>[69]</sup>. While, the deviation of the value of Ca/(P+Si+S) for sample HAP-5SiS is attributed to the formation of brushite as a secondary phase beside hydroxyapatite.

Comparing the expected chemical composition in TABLE 2 and the found chemical composition in TABLE 3. The found sulfur, phosphorous and calcium are lower than expected. However silicon contents are higher than expected. These are due to the higher solubility of  $\text{CaSO}_4$  which causes loss of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  in the mother liquor. Comparing the maximum amounts of silicon with previous study conducted with the same group<sup>[42]</sup>, we found a high silicon percent in the present results.

Microstructure of samples HAP, HAP-3SiS and HAP-5SiS did not show any differences between Si-substituted and unsubstituted hydroxyapatite. All powders consist of hard sub micrometer agglomerates

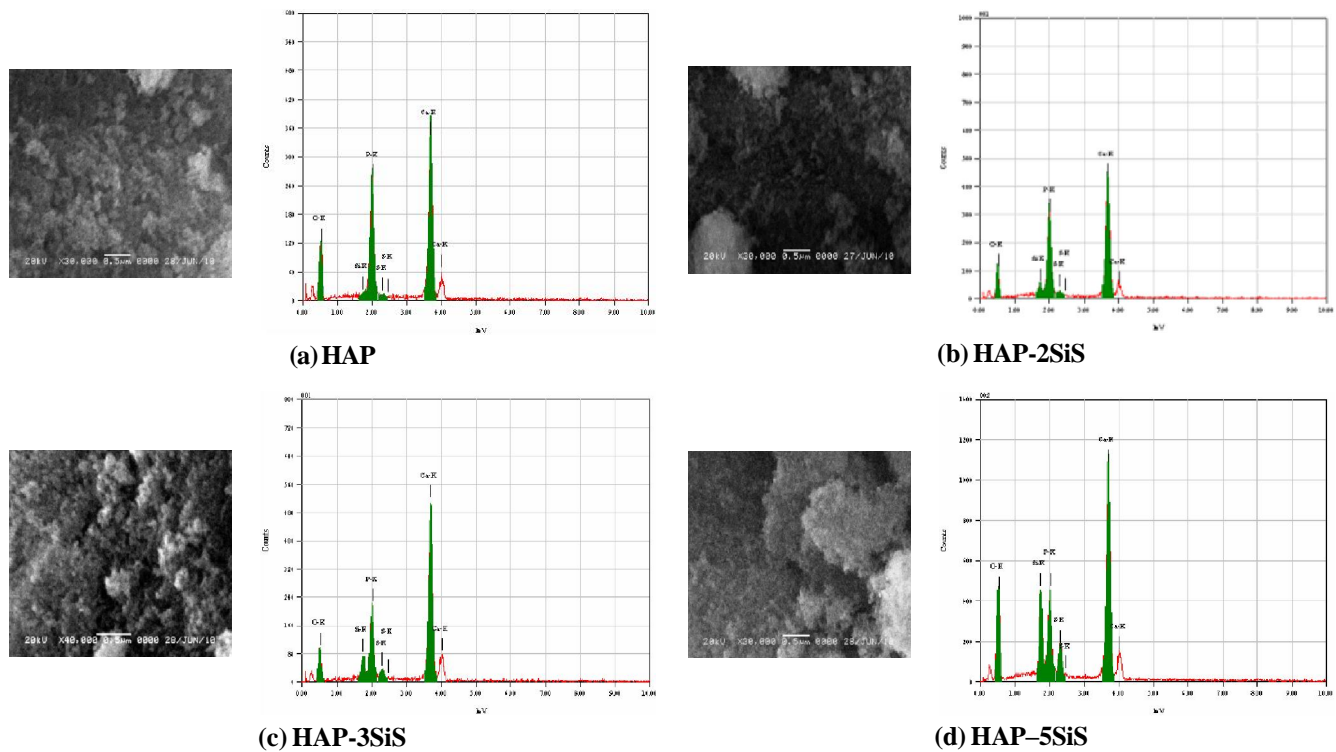


Figure 2 : Scanning electron micrographs and EDS plots of; (a) HAP, (b) HAP-2SiS, (c) HAP-3SiS and (d) HAP-5SiS

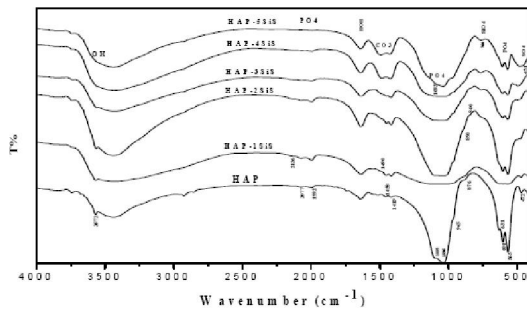


Figure 3 : FTIR spectra of different hydroxyapatite powders dried at 105°C for 24 hours

which are composed of fine crystallites. Generally, these agglomerate particles are hard to break down even with long time ultrasonication. However, EDS analyses, as shown also in figure 2, clearly depict the progress of increasing silicate and sulfate contents of samples HAP, HAP-2SiS, HAP-3SiS and HAP-5SiS.

### FTIR spectroscopy

FTIR spectroscopy was used to study the types of constituting groups in the synthesized hydroxyapatite and substituted hydroxyapatite powders. The effect of the substituted ions namely; silicon (Si), sulfur (S), and carbonate ( $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ ) on the different functional groups; such as hydroxyl and phosphate groups, of hydroxyapatite

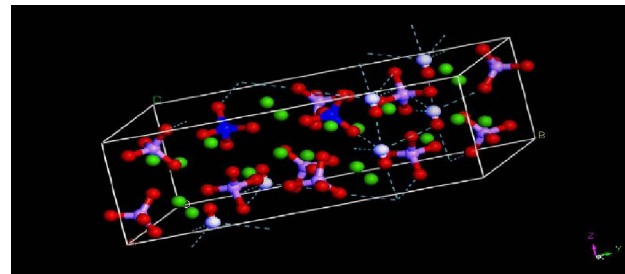


Figure 4 : The bent hydrogen bond between O-H and silicate group ( $\text{O-H} \cdots \text{SiPO}_3$ ) Si=blue, H=white, O=red, Ca=green and P=\*\*\*

has been verified. In addition, the position of the carbonate ion whether in the phosphate (B) and/ or hydroxyl (A) sites in the different apatite powders, was determined.

Valuable information on the short-range ordering in materials can be obtained by infrared absorption (FT-IR) spectra. Figure 3, depicts FT-IR spectra of synthesized hydroxyapatite and substituted hydroxyapatite powders dried at 105°C for 24 hours. All spectra possess a broad band at 3400-3200  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , due to stretching vibrations of O-H groups in adsorbed  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . This broadening is due to the formation of hydrogen bonding with a wide range of strengths<sup>[70,71]</sup>. It is well known that as hydrogen bonding strength increases,

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**TABLE 2 : Expected chemical composition (% wt), and formulas of different silicate and sulfate co-substituted hydroxyapatite (HAP-SiS)**

Sample	Formulas	%Ca	%P	%Si	%S	Predicted [Ca/(P+Si+S)]
HAP	$\text{Ca}_{10}(\text{PO}_4)_6(\text{OH})_2$	39.8939	18.499	0	0	1.67
HAP-1SiS	$\text{Ca}_{10}(\text{PO}_4)_{5.905}(\text{SiO}_4)_{0.0475}(\text{SO}_4)_{0.0475}(\text{OH})_2$	39.8973	18.2	0.1328	0.1516	1.67
HAP-2SiS	$\text{Ca}_{10}(\text{PO}_4)_{5.4}(\text{SiO}_4)_{0.3}(\text{SO}_4)_{0.3}(\text{OH})_2$	39.915	16.657980	8.8391550	9.5804	1.67
HAP-3SiS	$\text{Ca}_{10}(\text{PO}_4)_5(\text{SiO}_4)_{0.5}(\text{SO}_4)_{0.5}(\text{OH})_2$	39.929615	4.2967	1.399	1.5973	1.67
HAP-4SiS	$\text{Ca}_{10}(\text{PO}_4)_4(\text{SiO}_4)(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH})_2$	39.9654	12.3548	2.8007	3.19749	1.67
HAP-5SiS	$\text{Ca}_{10}(\text{PO}_4)_2(\text{SiO}_4)_2(\text{SO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_2$	40.037	6.18848	5.61147	6.40647	1.67

**TABLE 4 : CHN analysis of different silicate and sulfate-substituted hydroxyapatite (HAP-SiS) powderes**

Sample	% C	% H
HAP	0.07	0.64
HAP-1SiS	0.35	0.72
HAP-2SiS	0.27	0.76
HAP-3SiS	0.57	0.73
HAP-4SiS	0.44	0.97
HAP-5SiS	0.60	0.95

the stretching vibrations frequency of O-H group decreases<sup>[72]</sup>. The bending vibration band of molecular  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  appears at  $1632\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The bands at  $1400\text{-}1550\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is assignable to  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ <sup>[73]</sup>.

The strong bands in the wavenumber range  $900\text{-}1200\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , correspond to P-O stretching vibration modes of the phosphate groups. The doublet bands at  $603\text{-}565\text{ cm}^{-1}$  correspond to the O-P-O bending mode. The bands at  $3572$  and  $631\text{ cm}^{-1}$  correspond to the stretching and bending modes, respectively, of the hydroxyl groups in hexagonal channels.

Comparing the FT-IR spectra of different hydroxyapatites, there are some systematic changes in phosphate, hydroxyl, carbonate, sulfate and silicate. These group of bands will be discussed separately for convince.

### Phosphate bands

The spectral range  $900\text{-}1200\text{ cm}^{-1}$  contains the symmetric and the asymmetric P-O stretching modes of the phosphate groups. It is well known that for hydroxyapatite, the symmetric P-O stretching mode occurs at  $964\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , while the asymmetric stretching modes occur at  $1036$  and  $1095\text{ cm}^{-1}$ <sup>[37,74]</sup>. As shown in figure 3, the infrared symmetric and the asymmetric P-O stretching bands of phosphate groups decrease and become less resolved as the silicate and sulfate contents are increased

**TABLE 3 : Crystallite sizes along a axis and along c axis of different hydroxyapatite**

Sample	Crystallite size along a-axis (nm)	Crystallite size along c-axis (nm)	Aspect ratio
HAP	31.1	47.4	1.52
HAP-1SiS	28.7	48.9	1.70
HAP-2SiS	27.6	49.7	1.80
HAP-3SiS	26.7	41.7	1.57
HAP-4SiS	17.9	55.7	3.11
HAP-5SiS	18.8	50.4	2.68

**TABLE 5 : Chemical analysis (% wt.) and molar ratios of different silicate and sulfate-substituted hydroxyapatite (HAP-SiS) powderes**

Sample	% Ca	% P	% Si	% S	Ca/P	Ca/P+Si+S
HAP	37.74	17.52	0	0	1.665	1.665
HAP-1SiS	37.46	17	0.407	0.0801	1.703	1.652
HAP-2SiS	35.835	16.2	1.44	0.425	1.710	1.522
HAP-3SiS	35.32	14.8	2.16	0.681	1.844	1.531
HAP-4SiS	34.44	10.9	4.4	1.51	2.441	1.547
HAP-5SiS	30.08	6.43	9.92	2.13	3.615	1.197

in all the samples<sup>[37,74]</sup>. Sample HAP-5SiS is excluded from this observation due to the formation of secondary phases<sup>[75]</sup>. Similar changes were also observed in the doublet at  $603\text{-}565\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , corresponds to the anti-symmetric bending motion of phosphate groups<sup>[37,74]</sup>.

The group of weak intensity bands at the wavenumber range of  $2200\text{ cm}^{-1}$  to  $1950\text{ cm}^{-1}$  region derives from overtones and combinations of the  $\nu_3$  and  $\nu_1\text{ PO}_4$  modes<sup>[15,76]</sup>. The sharpness of bands, especially sharpness of the  $631\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $601\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $574\text{ cm}^{-1}$  bands, indicate a well-crystallized HAP<sup>[74]</sup>. However, both, stretching and bending bands positions of phosphate groups are quite obviously unaffected by the silicate substitution.

### Carbonate bands ( $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ )

The carbonate bands appear in all samples at wavenumbers  $1468\text{-}1418\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $875\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , correspond to the  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  groups substituting for phosphate groups in the apatite structure<sup>[37]</sup>. These correspond to a B-type carbonate-hydroxyapatite, similar to biological apatites<sup>[71]</sup>. As seen in figure 3, the  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  bands intensify as the silicate contents increases. This was confirmed by CHN analysis (TABLE 3.2).

### Hydroxyl bands

The most notable effect of silicate substitution on

**TABLE 6 : The effect of silicate and sulfate substitution on the O-H vibration wavenumber**

Sample	HAPHAP-1SiS	HAP-2SiS	HAP-3SiS	HAP-4SiS	HAP-5SiS
Stretching( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	3572	3568	3567.5	3564	3560
Shift( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	N/A	-4	-3.5	-8	-12
Bending( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	632.5	625			
Shift( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	N/A	-7.5			

FT-IR spectra of hydroxyapatite is the change in the hydroxyl stretching band at 3572 and bending band at 631  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . In figure 3, intensities at 3572 and 631  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  of silicate and sulfate substituted samples decrease with increasing silicate and sulfate substitution level and both bands nearly disappear for sample HAP-4SiS. Many investigators<sup>[58,77-79]</sup> have been accounted this due to the charge compensation mechanism in which HAP unit cell loss one OH group for every silicate substituted from phosphate.

Another remarkable effect of silicate substitution is the negative shifts on both O-H stretching and bending bands, as shown in TABLE 3.3. These negative shifts increase with increasing silicate and sulfate contents. It is well known that, the shift in O-H bands is a marker for hydrogen bonding. Hydroxyl groups capable of two types of hydrogen bonding in hydroxyapatite structure. O-H makes hydrogen bonding with other O-H in the same hexagonal channels<sup>[15]</sup>. Stronger hydrogen bond formation of the type O-H...O-H is usually associated with downward shift in the O-H stretching band and upward shift in O-H bending band<sup>[15]</sup>. However, in the present case both O-H stretching and bending bands show downward shift. Thus, this type of hydrogen bonding is not responsible for the observed shift in O-H vibrations. Increasing silicate substitution accompanied by a decrease of the O-H contents which will also debilitate O-H...O-H hydrogen bonding<sup>[15,80]</sup>.

The second type of weak hydrogen bonding is commonly observed between O-H and the closest oxygen of the three phosphate groups, which surround the O-H ion<sup>[81]</sup>. An O-H...O-PO<sub>3</sub> hydrogen bonding, would be bent because of the O-H bond direction along the c axis; however, bent O-H...O-PO<sub>3</sub> bonds are common hydroxyapatites<sup>[82]</sup>. The wavenumber of O-H vibration band is different for HAP (3572  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) and HAP-3SiS (3564  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) (TABLE 3.4). These values point out a stronger hydrogen bond in the silicate substituted

hydroxyapatite than for unsubstituted hydroxyapatite. This attributes to the difference between O-Si and O-P bonds in both polarity and length. Thus, silicate ions are capable of forming stronger hydrogen bonding with O-H group than phosphate ions<sup>[83]</sup>. DFT (density functional theory) calculations of Astala et al.<sup>[83]</sup> have been indicated that the PO<sub>4</sub> group has a weaker affinity for H than the SiO<sub>4</sub>. Figure 3.4 shows the bent type strong hydrogen bonding between O-H and silicate group (O-H...O-SiPO<sub>3</sub>).

### Silicate bands

It is well known that, the most intense spectral features of silicates appear as a complex group of bands in the range of 1100-900  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , are attributed to asymmetrical stretching vibrations of SiO<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra<sup>[84]</sup>. The second most intense silicate bands are broadly characterized as O-Si-O deformation or bending modes, which occur in the 556-400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region. Figure 3.3, clearly shows that the stretching vibration bands of silicate interfere with phosphate stretching vibration bands, resulting in the observed broadening of the later with increasing silicate substitutions. The band at 766  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is observed in all hydroxyapatites containing silicate and its intensity progressively increases as silicate contents increases<sup>[85]</sup>. Starz et al.<sup>[86]</sup> relate the bands at 750-810  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  to the presence of a combination of vibrations of Si-O-Si, Si-O-P and P-O-P bridges.

It is common to see additional peaks in silicate substituted hydroxyapatites. Gibson et al.<sup>[78]</sup> was able to detected peaks at 945, 890 and 840  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for hydroxyapatite powder with a 0.4 % wt. of Si. According to those findings, the presence of a peak at 945  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  could justify the broadening of the 960  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  band observed in silicate substituted hydroxyapatites. In figure 3.2, two new (shoulder shaped) bands at 931 and 892  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  occur. Tanizaw et al.<sup>[87]</sup> have been also related these bands to the presence of silicate in the apatite structure.

Yu et al.<sup>[88]</sup> was able to assign band at 811  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  due to Si-O stretching of dimmer silicate chains. This band appears very weak in sample HAP-2SiS and HAP-3SiS at 828  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and increases with increase silicate substitution, indicating silicate polymerization.

### Sulfate bands

The SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> ion possesses tetrahedral symmetry<sup>[89]</sup> with four active fundamentals in the infrared,  $\nu_1$  at 981

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$\text{cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu_2$  at  $451 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu_3$  at  $1104 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $\nu_4$  at  $613 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Only the absorption band at  $456 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  appears very weak in spectrum of sample HAP-5SiS, confirms the presence of  $\nu_1 \text{ SO}_4^{2-}$  and the other three bands are interfere with the phosphate bands.

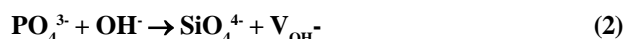
### DISCUSSION

Hydroxyapatite prepared in absence of silicate and sulfate ions (HAP) incorporates minor amount of  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  in its lattice. FTIR spectroscopy showed that carbonate ions substitute for phosphate ions (B-type hydroxyapatite). The chemical analysis of HAP sample suggested that the most probable charge compensation took place with the following mechanism<sup>[70]</sup>:



where,  $\text{V}_{\text{Ca}^{2+}}$  represents a vacancy in site occupied by  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ions. This conclusion is also supported by thermal stability of this sample at  $1100^\circ\text{C}$ . Decomposition of calcium deficient hydroxyapatite starts at  $900^\circ\text{C}$  to form tricalcium phosphate<sup>[5]</sup>. However, carbonate ions substitutions stabilize the HAP powder at high temperatures ( $1100^\circ\text{C}$ ). The increase in carbonate content increases the Ca/P ratio (TABLE 3.2 and 3.3). When the carbonates are removed at high temperature ( $900^\circ\text{C}$ ), the HAP phase is rendered more stable, due to the increase of Ca/P ratio over the stoichiometric ratio (1.67)<sup>[84]</sup>.

The decrease in O-H stretching and bending bands intensities with increasing silicate content, indicates the decrease of the hydroxyl content as the degree of substitution increases. X-ray and neutron diffraction studies<sup>[51,90]</sup> have shown that silicate ions replace phosphate ions. Thus, the extra negative charge of the  $\text{SiO}_4^{4-}$  groups is compensated by formation of vacancies at the OH sites. This suggests the first charge compensation mechanism for silicate substitution, to be as follows:



where  $\text{V}_{\text{OH}^-}$  represents a vacancy in site occupied by  $\text{OH}^-$  ion. If this is the only working mechanism, the composition of the powders could be described by the formula;  $\text{Ca}_{10}(\text{PO}_4)_{6-y}(\text{SiO}_4)_y(\text{OH})_{2-y}$ . Dunfield et al.<sup>[91]</sup> have reported that, at doping level above 0.2 mole  $\text{SiO}_2$ /mole hydroxyapatite, the stretching mode falls to zero, for samples prepared at controlled conditions without

carbonates. However, in the present investigation, the stretching mode of OH is detected up to 1.48 mole  $\text{SiO}_2$ /mole hydroxyapatite (sample HAP-3SiS). This points out that the pervious charge compensation mechanism cannot account for all silicate substitutions. In the present study, the chemical analysis and the FTIR spectra show that sulfate groups in phosphate sites increases as silicate contents increases. This suggests that the second charge compensation proceeds according to the following mechanism:



Considering only the previous substitution mechanism, the composition of the powders could be described by the formula;  $\text{Ca}_{10}(\text{PO}_4)_{6-2z}(\text{SiO}_4)_z(\text{SO}_4)_z(\text{OH})_2$ . When the number of moles of sulfate is equal to that of silicate, no hydroxyl vacancies will be created.

Some authors<sup>[57,79]</sup> observed that the amount of carbonate ions increases with the  $\text{Si}(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_3)_4$  addition. They suggested that the competition between  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{SiO}_4^{4-}$  groups for the phosphate sites causes some of the silicate to stay free without being incorporated into the hydroxyapatite. However in the present study, the chemical analysis and the FT IR spectra show that all the powders (with and without Si) contain carbonate groups in phosphate sites and carbonate content increases as silicate contents increases.



This type of charges compensation are expected to be similar to happen in part in the formation of bone. Assuming that only the mechanical structure can be formulated in general as follows:  $\text{Ca}_{10}(\text{PO}_4)_{6-2z}(\text{SiO}_4)_z(\text{CO}_3)_z(\text{OH})_2$ .

### CONCLUSIONS

Hydroxyapatite powder pure and several silicate and sulfate substituted hydroxyapatite powders (HAP-SiS) were successfully prepared by wet chemical precipitation route using silicic acid ( $\text{H}_4\text{SiO}_4$ ) and sulfuric acid as precursors of silicate and sulfate, respectively, under  $\text{N}_2$  gas to prevent  $\text{CO}_2$  contamination at room temperature. The introduction of sulfate ion in the structure of HAP raised the percentage of silicate up to 9.9 % wt. Si. Increasing substitution of  $\text{SiO}_4^{4-}$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$



for  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  is accompanied by increase of  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  substitutions for  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  and decrease of  $\text{OH}^-$  contents in hydroxyapatite crystal structure. Incorporation of carbonate ions from the atmosphere also contributes to the decrease in Si, S, P and Ca contents in the final powders. While the competition between  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{SiO}_4^{4-}$  groups for the phosphate sites causes some of the sulfate ions to stay free without being incorporated into the hydroxyapatite in the HAP-5SiS sample. Although powder crystallinity is strongly reduced as the extent of the substitution increases, but there are no signs exist where the apatite structure collapses and an amorphous phase forms.

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