



The research and application of marine evaporite minerals: A Review

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Received: 📅 April 24, 2023

Published: 📅 May 9, 2023

Abstract

Marine evaporite minerals have gained attention for their potential applications in various industries, including agriculture, medicine, and manufacturing. These minerals contain essential nutrients and have unique physical properties that make them valuable for different uses, such as fertilizers, animal feed, and pharmaceuticals. However, researchers must also address the challenges that come with extracting, processing, and using these minerals sustainably and effectively. They must develop more efficient and environmentally friendly extraction methods, implement quality control measures, reduce environmental impact, and anticipate future market trends and demands. Collaboration between industry, government, and academia is necessary to unlock the full potential of marine evaporite minerals and promote their safe and sustainable use. With these efforts, researchers can pave the way for a brighter future and explore new possibilities for these valuable minerals.

Keywords: Marine evaporite minerals; sustainability; extraction methods; quality control; market demand

Introduction

Marine evaporite minerals are a class of mineral deposits that form through the evaporation of seawater, leaving behind concentrated solutions of various salts and minerals [1]. These deposits are found in coastal areas and shallow marine basins all around the world and have been studied extensively for their geological, economic, and environmental significance [2-4]. The importance of studying marine evaporite minerals lies in their role as indicators of ancient climates, sources of economically valuable minerals, and potential applications in various fields [5-7]. By examining the geological processes that lead to their formation, we can gain insights into the past and present oceanic and atmospheric conditions [8]. Moreover, many of these minerals are important natural resources, with applications ranging from food seasoning to construction materials, pharmaceuticals, and even energy production [9]. This comprehensive review article aims to provide an overview of the

current state of research on marine evaporite minerals, including their formation, distribution, classification, methods of study, applications, and future prospects [10]. The article will cover widely researched marine evaporite minerals such as halite, gypsum, and anhydrite, as well as emerging areas of research, such as geochemistry and microbiology. The article is divided into several chapters, each of which explores different aspects of marine evaporite mineral research [11-14]. The first chapter provides a brief introduction to the topic, defining the concept of marine evaporite minerals and highlighting their significance. This chapter also presents an overview of the article, outlining the main topics covered in subsequent sections.

As we delve deeper into the topic of marine evaporite minerals in subsequent sections, it will become apparent how the study of these mineral deposits has contributed significantly to our un-

derstanding of Earth's geological history, provided us with useful resources for various industries, and offered potential solutions to some of our environmental challenges. Overall, this review article aims to provide readers with a comprehensive understanding of marine evaporite minerals, their formation, properties, applications, and future prospects, with the hope of inspiring further research and innovation in this area.

Formation and Distribution of Marine Evaporite Minerals

The formation of marine evaporite minerals begins with the evaporation of seawater, which leaves behind concentrated solutions of various salts and minerals. As these solutions become increasingly concentrated, they eventually reach a saturation point, at which point the excess minerals begin to crystallize out of solution and form solid mineral deposits [15-20]. The rate and extent of evaporation, as well as the initial composition of seawater, are crucial factors determining the types and amounts of minerals that will precipitate out of solution. Temperature, pressure, and the availability of nucleation sites also play important roles in determining the crystal structure and morphology of the resulting minerals [21-23]. Marine evaporite minerals can occur in a variety of geological settings, including coastal lagoons, salt pans, sabkhas, and shallow marine basins. The distribution of these deposits is influenced by a range of factors, including climate, tectonic activity, and sea level fluctuations [24-28]. One of the most widely studied marine evaporite minerals is halite, or rock salt. Halite deposits form in areas where evaporation rates exceed the influx of fresh water, such as arid regions with limited precipitation or high rates of evapotranspiration [29-30]. These deposits are often associated with sedimentary basins, where they can form thick layers of pure halite or interbedded with other sedimentary rocks. Gypsum and anhydrite are two other common marine evaporite minerals that form through the evaporation of seawater [31-33].

Gypsum typically forms in shallower, more freshwater-influenced environments than halite, where it can accumulate as mas-

sive beds or crystals. Anhydrite, on the other hand, tends to form in deeper marine basins, where it can occur as bedded deposits or nodules [34]. In addition to these three minerals, marine evaporite deposits can contain a wide range of other minerals, including sylvite, carnallite, polyhalite, and many others [35]. The distribution and composition of these deposits can vary greatly depending on local geology, climate, and hydrology. Geological processes such as tectonic activity and sea level fluctuations have played a significant role in the formation and distribution of marine evaporite minerals throughout Earth's history [36-40]. For example, during periods of global sea level rise, shallow marine basins may become inundated with seawater, leading to widespread evaporite deposition. Conversely, during periods of global cooling and glaciation, evaporation rates may decrease, limiting the formation of evaporite minerals. Modern-day evaporite deposits are found in a variety of locations around the world, from the salt flats of Bolivia and Chile to the Sabkhas of the Arabian Peninsula and the salars of Tibet [41-43]. These deposits continue to be important sources of economic and scientific interest, providing crucial insights into Earth's past and present environments and serving as valuable natural resources for various industries. The formation and distribution of marine evaporite minerals is a complex process influenced by a range of geological, climatic, and hydrological factors. The resulting mineral deposits are found in diverse geological settings around the world and provide valuable insights into Earth's history and resources for various industries [44-47]. Further research into the formation and distribution of these minerals will continue to shed light on our planet's past and present environments and inform future innovations in fields ranging from mining to environmental science.

Classification of Marine Evaporite Minerals

Marine evaporite minerals are formed through the process of evaporation of seawater. The dissolved salts in seawater are left behind when water evaporates, leading to the formation of various types of evaporite minerals [48-53]. The classification of these minerals is based on their chemical composition, crystal structure and physical properties (Table 1).

Table 1: Common marine evaporite minerals and their chemical compositions.

| Mineral | Chemical Composition |
|------------|---|
| Halite | NaCl (sodium chloride) |
| Sylvite | KCl (potassium chloride) |
| Gypsum | CaSO ₄ ·2H ₂ O (calcium sulfate dihydrate) |
| Anhydrite | CaSO ₄ (calcium sulfate) |
| Polyhalite | K ₂ Ca ₂ Mg(SO ₄) ₄ ·2H ₂ O (potassium calcium magnesium sulfate) |
| Carnallite | KMgCl ₃ ·6H ₂ O (potassium magnesium chloride hexahydrate) |
| Bischofite | MgCl ₂ ·6H ₂ O (magnesium chloride hexahydrate) |
| Mirabilite | Na ₂ SO ₄ ·10H ₂ O (sodium sulfate decahydrate) |
| Epsomite | MgSO ₄ ·7H ₂ O (magnesium sulfate heptahydrate) |

Chemical Composition

The chemical composition of marine evaporite minerals is diverse and includes a range of elements such as sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, chlorine, sulfur, bromine and iodine. Based on the predominant element, they can be classified into several groups:

Sodium Chloride Group

This group of minerals contains predominantly sodium and chlorine ions. The most common mineral in this group is halite (NaCl), which is also known as rock salt. Other minerals in this group include sylvite (KCl) and carnallite (KMgCl₃·6H₂O).

Calcium Sulfate Group

This group of minerals contains predominantly calcium and sulfate ions. The most common mineral in this group is gypsum

(CaSO₄·2H₂O). Anhydrite (CaSO₄) is another mineral in this group that forms when gypsum is dehydrated.

Magnesium Chloride Group

This group of minerals contains predominantly magnesium and chlorine ions. The most common mineral in this group is bischofite (MgCl₂·6H₂O). Other minerals in this group include carnallite (KMgCl₃·6H₂O) and kainite (KMg (SO₄) Cl·3H₂O).

Potassium Sulfate Group

This group of minerals contains predominantly potassium and sulfate ions. The most common mineral in this group is langbeinite (K₂Mg₂(SO₄)₃). Other minerals in this group include polyhalite

(K₂Ca₂Mg (SO₄)₄·2H₂O) and kainite (KMg (SO₄) Cl·3H₂O) (Table 2).

Table 2: Common marine evaporite minerals and their crystal structures.

| Mineral | Crystal Structure |
|------------|-------------------|
| Halite | Cubic |
| Sylvite | Cubic |
| Gypsum | Monoclinic |
| Anhydrite | Orthorhombic |
| Polyhalite | Triclinic |
| Carnallite | Orthorhombic |
| Bischofite | Monoclinic |
| Mirabilite | Monoclinic |
| Epsomite | Orthorhombic |

Crystal Structure

The crystal structure of marine evaporite minerals is determined by the arrangement of atoms in their lattice. Based on their crystal structure, they can be classified into several groups:

Cubic Minerals

Cubic minerals have a cubic crystal structure and include halite (NaCl), sylvite (KCl) and fluorite (CaF₂).

Orthorhombic Minerals

Orthorhombic minerals have an orthorhombic crystal structure and include gypsum (CaSO₄·2H₂O), anhydrite (CaSO₄) and langbeinite (K₂Mg₂(SO₄)₃).

Monoclinic Minerals

Monoclinic minerals have a monoclinic crystal structure and include bischofite (MgCl₂·6H₂O) and carnallite (KMgCl₃·6H₂O) (Table 3).

Table 3: Common marine evaporite minerals and their physical properties.

| Mineral | Color | Hardness | Density | Cleavage | Fracture |
|---------|---|----------|------------------------|--|------------|
| Halite | Colorless or white; may be other colors due to impurities | 2.5 | 2.17 g/cm ³ | Three directions of perfect cleavage, often cubic | Conchoidal |
| Sylvite | Colorless or white; may be other colors due to impurities | 2 - 2.5 | 1.99 g/cm ³ | Two directions of poor cleavage, cubic | Conchoidal |
| Gypsum | Colorless or white; may be other colors due to impurities | 2 | 2.31 g/cm ³ | One perfect cleavage direction, often parallel to crystal length | Splintery |

| | | | | | |
|------------|---|---------|------------------------|--|------------|
| Anhydrite | Colorless or white; may be other colors due to impurities | 3.5 - 4 | 2.98 g/cm ³ | Three directions of good cleavage, often rectangular | Conchoidal |
| Polyhalite | Colorless or white; may be shades of gray, pink, or reddish-brown | 3.5 - 4 | 2.84 g/cm ³ | Three directions of perfect cleavage, often prismatic | Conchoidal |
| Carnallite | Colorless or white; may be shades of yellow, pink, or red | 2 - 2.5 | 1.6 g/cm ³ | Perfect basal cleavage | Conchoidal |
| Bischofite | Colorless or white; may be shades of yellow, brown, or green | 2.5 | 1.6 g/cm ³ | None | Conchoidal |
| Mirabilite | Colorless or white; may be shades of gray, yellow, or brown | 1 - 2 | 1.46 g/cm ³ | Perfect prismatic cleavage | Splintery |
| Epsomite | Colorless or white; may be shades of gray, green, or blue | 2 | 1.68 g/cm ³ | One perfect cleavage direction, often parallel to crystal length | Fibrous |

Physical Properties

The physical properties of marine evaporite minerals are determined by their chemical composition and crystal structure. Based on their physical properties, they can be classified into several groups:

Soluble Minerals

Soluble minerals dissolve easily in water and include halite (NaCl), sylvite (KCl), gypsum (CaSO₄·2H₂O) and bischofite (Mg-Cl₂·6H₂O).

Insoluble Minerals

Insoluble minerals do not dissolve easily in water and include anhydrite (CaSO₄) and langbeinite (K₂Mg₂(SO₄)₃).

Hydrated Minerals

Hydrated minerals contain water molecules in their crystal structure and include gypsum (CaSO₄·2H₂O), bischofite (Mg-Cl₂·6H₂O) and carnallite (KMgCl₃·6H₂O). In conclusion, the classification of marine evaporite minerals is based on their chemical composition, crystal structure and physical properties. Understand-

ing the classification of these minerals is important in identifying and exploring potential mineral deposits in marine environments [54-57].

Methods for Studying Marine Evaporite Minerals

Marine evaporite minerals are formed through the process of evaporation of seawater, resulting in the deposition of various soluble salts. The study of these minerals is important in understanding their origin, distribution and potential use in different industries [58-63]. There are several methods available for studying marine evaporite minerals, including fieldwork, laboratory analysis and remote sensing (Table 4).

Fieldwork

Fieldwork involves visiting salt flats, coastal areas and other locations where evaporite minerals are present to collect samples and observe the features of the deposit [64-67]. This method provides an opportunity to study the mineral deposit in its natural context and to understand the geological processes that led to its formation. Some of the techniques used in fieldwork include:

Table 4: Methods for studying marine evaporite minerals.

| Method | Category | Subcategory |
|--|---|---|
| Fieldwork | Data collection | Sampling |
| | | Mapping |
| | | Petrographic analysis of outcrop samples |
| Laboratory Analysis | Mineral identification and quantification | X-ray diffraction (XRD) |
| Crystal morphology and microstructure analysis | Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) | |
| Elemental composition analysis | Atomic absorption spectroscopy (AAS) | |
| Remote Sensing | Satellite imagery analysis | Inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS) |
| | | Multispectral imaging |
| | | Thermal infrared imaging |
| | | Light detection and ranging (LiDAR) |

Sampling

Sampling involves collecting representative samples of the mineral deposit for laboratory analysis. The samples are collected using hand tools or drilling equipment depending on the size and depth of the deposit.

Mapping

Mapping involves producing detailed maps of the mineral deposit and its surrounding areas. This can be done using aerial photography, satellite imagery, ground-based surveying equipment and other methods.

Petrographic Analysis

Petrographic analysis involves studying thin sections of the mineral sample under a microscope to identify its mineral composition and texture.

Laboratory Analysis

Laboratory analysis involves studying the physical, chemical and mineralogical properties of the marine evaporite minerals. This method allows for precise measurements and controlled conditions and includes the following techniques:

X-Ray Diffraction (XRD)

XRD is a technique that uses X-rays to study the crystal structure of minerals. It helps identify the mineral species and estimate the relative abundance of each mineral in the sample.

Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

SEM is a technique that uses electrons to study the surface features of minerals. It provides high-resolution images of the mineral's morphology and structure.

Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy (AAS)

AAS is a technique used to determine the concentration of metallic elements in the mineral sample. It involves measuring the amount of light absorbed by the elements when it passes through the sample.

Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS)

ICP-MS is a technique that measures the concentration of trace elements in the mineral sample. It involves ionizing the sample and detecting the ions produced using a mass spectrometer.

Remote Sensing

Remote sensing involves using satellite imagery to study the distribution and characteristics of marine evaporite minerals over

large areas. This method provides a broad overview of the deposit and helps identify potential areas for further investigation. Some of the techniques used in remote sensing include:

Multispectral Imaging

Multispectral imaging involves capturing images of the mineral deposit at different wavelengths. This helps identify the mineral composition and texture of the deposit.

Thermal Infrared Imaging

Thermal infrared imaging involves measuring the temperature of the mineral deposit from a distance. This method can help locate areas with high evaporation rates and estimate the thickness of the deposit.

Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR)

LiDAR involves firing laser beams at the mineral deposit and measuring the time taken for the beam to reflect back. This method provides detailed information about the topography and structure of the deposit. In conclusion, the study of marine evaporite minerals is important for understanding their geological origins, physical and chemical properties, and potential applications. Fieldwork, laboratory analysis, and remote sensing are all valuable methods for conducting such studies [68-70]. A combination of these techniques can provide a comprehensive understanding of the mineral deposit and its characteristics.

Applications of Marine Evaporite Minerals

Marine evaporite minerals have a wide range of applications in various industries, including agriculture, construction, and manufacturing [71-73]. The unique physical and chemical properties of these minerals make them valuable resources for many industrial processes. In this chapter, we will explore the different applications of marine evaporite minerals.

Agriculture

Marine evaporite minerals are used as fertilizers in agriculture due to their high nutrient content. Potassium chloride (KCl), for example, is a common fertilizer that contains potassium, an essential nutrient for plant growth. It is commonly used to increase crop yields and improve plant quality [74-77]. Other marine evaporite minerals, such as gypsum ($\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$) and magnesium sulfate ($\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$), are also used as soil amendments to improve soil structure and nutrient availability. Gypsum is often used to enhance soil quality and improve crop productivity. It is an excellent source of calcium and sulfur, which are essential plant nutrients. Gypsum helps to break up compacted soils, allowing better root penetration and nutrient uptake by plants, resulting in increased crop yields. Furthermore, it can remediate heavy metal-contaminated soils by

binding with the contaminants and preventing them from being absorbed by plants. Besides its use as a soil amendment, gypsum is also utilized in animal feed. Its rich calcium content makes it an excellent supplement for livestock health, particularly for bone development.

Gypsum can prevent digestive issues in livestock, such as acidosis and bloat. Halite, or rock salt, is another marine evaporite mineral that has agricultural uses. Halite is typically employed as a de-icing agent for roads and sidewalks during winter months. However, halite is also useful in agriculture, primarily in regions where soil salinity is a concern. Halite can remove excess salt from soil, minimizing salinity stress and improving soil quality, leading to better crop growth. Halite is also a valuable feed supplement for livestock. When halite is added to animal feed, it offers critical minerals like sodium and chloride, which are essential for maintaining proper fluid balance and overall health.

Construction

Marine evaporite minerals have a wide range of applications in the construction industry due to their unique physical and chemical properties. These minerals are formed by the evaporation of seawater and consist of various compounds such as gypsum, halite, anhydrite, and sylvite among others. In this article, we will discuss the various construction applications of marine evaporite minerals. Gypsum is a soft sulfate mineral that is commonly used in the construction industry as a building material. It is used to make plasterboard, cement, and other materials for interior and exterior walls. Gypsum is known for its fire-resistant properties, which makes it an ideal material for building structures that require protection against fire. Additionally, gypsum is also used as a soil conditioner to improve the quality of soil. Halite, also known as rock salt, is a mineral that is used in the construction industry for a variety of purposes. One of its most common uses is as a de-icing agent for roads and highways during the winter season. It is also used as a source of sodium chloride for the production of chlorine gas, caustic soda, and other chemicals.

Halite can also be used as a decorative material for landscaping and architectural projects. Anhydrite is a mineral that is commonly used as a drying agent in the construction industry. It is often used to reduce the water content in concrete, which helps to increase its strength and durability. Anhydrite is also used as a filler material in cement and as a raw material for manufacturing gypsum. Sylvite, also known as potassium chloride, is a mineral that is primarily used as a fertilizer in the agriculture industry. However, it also has several applications in the construction industry. Sylvite can be used as a de-icing agent for roads and highways during the winter season, similar to halite. It can also be used as a source of potassium for the production of various chemicals such as fertilizers and glass.

In conclusion, marine evaporite minerals have a significant role in the construction industry. Gypsum, halite, anhydrite, and sylvite are just a few examples of the many different types of minerals that can be found in seawater. These minerals offer unique physical and chemical properties that make them ideal for a variety of applications in the construction industry [78]. From building materials to de-icing agents and fertilizers, marine evaporite minerals are essential components of modern construction practices.

Manufacturing

Marine evaporite minerals have a wide range of manufacturing applications due to their unique physical and chemical properties. These minerals are formed by the evaporation of seawater and consist of various compounds such as gypsum, halite, anhydrite, and sylvite among others. In this article, we will discuss the various manufacturing applications of marine evaporite minerals. Gypsum is a soft sulfate mineral that is commonly used in the manufacturing industry for a variety of purposes [79]. It is used to make plasterboard, cement, and other materials for interior and exterior walls. Additionally, gypsum is also used in the production of molds for casting metal parts and dental impressions. Gypsum is known for its fire-resistant properties, which makes it an ideal material for manufacturing products that require protection against fire. It is also used as a soil conditioner to improve the quality of soil. Halite, also known as rock salt, is a mineral that is used in the manufacturing industry for a variety of purposes. One of its most common uses is as a source of sodium chloride for the production of chlorine gas, caustic soda, and other chemicals. Halite is also used in the production of table salt and as a food preservative. Additionally, halite can be used as a decorative material for landscaping and architectural projects. Anhydrite is a mineral that is commonly used in the manufacturing industry as a drying agent. It is often used to reduce the water content in concrete, which helps to increase its strength and durability. Anhydrite is also used as a filler material in cement and as a raw material for manufacturing gypsum. Additionally, it is used in the production of sulfuric acid, which is a key component in the production of fertilizers and other chemicals. Sylvite, also known as potassium chloride, is a mineral that is primarily used in the manufacturing industry as a source of potassium. It is used in the production of various chemicals such as fertilizers and glass. Additionally, sylvite can be used as a de-icing agent for roads and highways during the winter season, similar to halite.

In conclusion, marine evaporite minerals have a significant role in the manufacturing industry. Gypsum, halite, anhydrite, and sylvite are just a few examples of the many different types of minerals that can be found in seawater. These minerals offer unique physical and chemical properties that make them ideal for a variety of applications in the manufacturing industry. From building materials to

food preservatives and chemical production, marine evaporite minerals are essential components of modern manufacturing practices.

Environmental Remediation

Marine evaporite minerals have unique properties that make them useful in a variety of environmental remediation applications. These minerals, which are formed by the evaporation of seawater, include gypsum, halite, anhydrite, and sylvite among others. In this article, we will discuss the various environmental remediation applications of marine evaporite minerals. Gypsum is a mineral that is commonly used in environmental remediation projects due to its ability to improve soil quality. When added to soil, gypsum can help to reduce soil erosion and increase water infiltration. Additionally, gypsum can also be used to treat contaminated soils by reducing heavy metal concentrations through chemical reactions. This makes gypsum an effective tool for remediating contaminated sites such as industrial landfills or former mining areas. Halite is a mineral that has been used for many years as a natural de-icing agent for roads and highways. However, it also has potential applications in environmental remediation. For example, halite can be used to treat contaminated groundwater by acting as an ion exchanger. It can remove contaminants such as heavy metals and radioactive isotopes from water through adsorption, precipitation, or co-precipitation. Halite can also be used as a barrier to prevent the spread of contaminated groundwater. Anhydrite is a mineral that can be used in environmental remediation projects to stabilize contaminated soils and waste materials.

This is because anhydrite can chemically bind with heavy metals and other contaminants, immobilizing them and preventing them from leaching into the environment. Anhydrite can also be used to treat acid mine drainage by neutralizing the acidic water and removing heavy metals. Sylvite, which is primarily used as a source of potassium in the manufacturing industry, also has potential applications in environmental remediation. It can be used to treat contaminated soils by promoting plant growth, which can help to break down and remove contaminants from the soil. Additionally, sylvite can be used to promote the growth of microorganisms that can biodegrade organic pollutants in the soil. In conclusion, marine evaporite minerals offer unique properties that make them useful in a variety of environmental remediation applications. Gypsum, halite, anhydrite, and sylvite are just a few examples of the many different types of minerals that can be found in seawater [80]. These minerals have the potential to improve soil quality, treat contaminated groundwater, stabilize waste materials, and promote the growth of plants and microorganisms that can help to break down and remove contaminants from the environment. As such, marine evaporite minerals are important tools for environmental scientists and engineers working to remediate contaminated sites and protect the environment.

Medical Applications

Marine evaporite minerals offer numerous medical applications due to their unique properties and characteristics. These minerals include gypsum, halite, anhydrite, and sylvite, each of which has distinct medicinal benefits. Gypsum, for example, is commonly used in the production of plaster casts for broken bones. The mineral's porous structure allows it to absorb water, leading to a rapid hardening process that creates a strong and rigid cast. Gypsum is also used in dentistry as a material for making dental impressions, temporary crowns, and study models. Halite is another mineral with important medical applications. Its salt content makes it an effective antiseptic, particularly when used in saline solutions for wound care and irrigation. Halite can also be used in inhalation therapy to treat respiratory ailments such as asthma and bronchitis. Anhydrite is used in medicine as a filler material for tablets and capsules, allowing for more accurate dosing and improved drug delivery. The mineral's thermal stability and low solubility make it ideal for use in sustained-release formulations that gradually release medication over time. Sylvite, also known as potassium chloride, is an essential nutrient that plays a critical role in maintaining healthy bodily functions. It is commonly used in intravenous fluids to replenish potassium levels in patients suffering from dehydration or other medical conditions. Sylvite is also used to produce oral rehydration solutions that help prevent dehydration caused by diarrhea, vomiting, or excessive sweating. Beyond these direct medical applications, marine evaporite minerals also play important roles in medical research and development. For example, gypsum is used to create artificial bone scaffolds for tissue engineering and regenerative medicine. These scaffolds provide a framework for living cells to grow and develop, allowing damaged tissues to be repaired and regenerated. Anhydrite has been shown to have potential anti-inflammatory and anti-cancer properties and is being studied as a potential treatment for a range of medical conditions, including arthritis and cancer. Halite is also being investigated for its potential therapeutic applications, particularly in the treatment of respiratory diseases and skin disorders. In conclusion, marine evaporite minerals have significant medical applications that span a wide range of uses, from wound care and drug delivery to regenerative medicine and cancer treatment. As researchers continue to explore the unique properties and characteristics of these minerals, it is likely that their medical applications will expand even further, contributing to improved health outcomes for patients around the world.

Conclusion

In conclusion, marine evaporite minerals offer a wealth of potential applications in various industries, including agriculture, medicine, and manufacturing. However, researchers must also

consider the challenges that come with their extraction, processing, and use. Efficient and sustainable extraction methods, environmental impact, quality control, and market demand are some of the significant challenges facing researchers in the field. To address these challenges, a collaborative effort between industry, government, and academia is necessary. Developing more sustainable extraction methods is a crucial step toward reducing the environmental impact of marine evaporite mineral mining. This can be achieved through the implementation of best practices, such as reducing waste and pollution and using renewable energy sources. Quality control measures and standardization protocols must also be established to ensure consistent quality, purity, and safety in the use of marine evaporite minerals across different industries. This can help increase consumer confidence and promote consistent usage of these minerals in various applications. Anticipating future market trends and demands is essential for researchers to remain competitive and relevant in the field. They must keep track of new developments and technologies and adapt their research and production processes accordingly. Overall, marine evaporite minerals present exciting opportunities for various industries, but researchers must approach their extraction, processing, and use with sustainability, safety, and quality in mind. Collaboration and innovation will be key to unlocking the full potential of these minerals and paving the way for a brighter future.

Acknowledgement

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to China Petroleum & Chemical Corporation's Science and Technology Department for funding this research project, entitled "Optimal Evaluation of Strategic Areas and Mining Rights in the Tarim Basin" (Project No. P21086-3). This financial support has enabled us to carry out a comprehensive study on evaporite minerals in the region. We would also like to thank all the participants who contributed their time, expertise, and resources to the success of this project. Their contributions have been indispensable in achieving our research goals.

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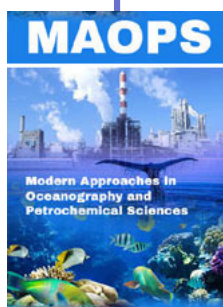
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DOI: [10.32474/MAOPS.2023.03.000165](https://doi.org/10.32474/MAOPS.2023.03.000165)



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