

The standard partial molal thermodynamic properties of Nd³⁺ aqua ion and Nd chloride aqueous species based on calorimetric experiments from 25 to 250 °C

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Rare earth elements (REE) are important critical elements used in permanent magnets, catalysts, and electronics devices. Aqueous fluids play an important role in the formation of REE mineral deposits [1], with thermodynamic modeling providing insights into REE mobility in such magmatic-hydrothermal systems. However, a comparison of experimental studies with thermodynamic predictions [2,3] indicates that many of the REE aqueous species still need to be more accurately determined. Here, solution calorimetric experiments were carried out from 25 to 150 °C to determine the enthalpy of solution ($\Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\circ$) for the dissolution of Nd hydroxide and Nd chloride solids in perchloric and hydrochloric acid based aqueous solutions (with a starting pH of 2). The standard partial molal thermodynamic properties of Nd³⁺ and Nd chloride species were derived from those calorimetric $\Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\circ$ measurements. Comparison of the experimentally derived heat capacity function with the predictions based on Shock et al. [4], reveals a good agreement between calorimetric data and the C_p values based on the Helgeson-Kirkham-Flowers (HKF) equation of state. In contrast, the enthalpy of formation (Δ_fH°) values derived in this study indicate a systematic shift by 8 kJ/mol in comparison to the values derived from Shock et al. [4]. The resulting Gibbs energy of formation of Nd³⁺ ($\Delta_fG^\circ_{298}$) was used to model the solubility of monazite, which results in excellent agreement with previous experiments by Van Hoozen et al. [5] to 250 °C. The measured $\Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\circ$ values for Nd chloride dissolution differ by up to 25 kJ/mol from the predicted values calculated using the HKF parameters for NdCl₂²⁺ or NdCl₂⁺ [2]. Hence, calorimetric experiments point to a needed to revise the Δ_fH° values for REE aqueous species to allow formulating better high temperature extrapolations. This work is supported by the U.S. Department of Energy under Award DE-SC0021106.

[1] Gysi et al. (2016) *Econ. Geol.* 111, 1241–1276; [2] Migdisov et al. (2016), *Chem. Geol.* 439, 13–42; [3] Pan et al. (2024), *Chem. Geol.* 643, 121817.; [4] Shock et al. (1997), *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* 61, 907–950; [5] Van Hoozen et al. (2020), *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* 280, 302–316.