



How to get PVC from eraser shavings

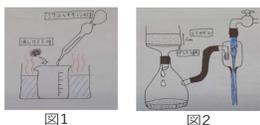
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Motivation

When I was studying, I came up with eraser shavings can be available for making new eraser.

Previous Research

We mixed eraser shavings with cyclohexanone and dissolved in hot water, then filtered it using glass filter paper and silica gel, which have the property of absorbing graphite. We mix it with a plasticizer and heated to solidify.



How to research

① Collect white eraser shavings.

② Mix with an organic solvent called acetone for 30 min to dissolve the eraser shavings.

(eraser shavings:acetone)
= (1:9 1:5 1:10 1:20)



③ Filter the mixture by placing silica gel on filter paper and adding methanol to the filtrate.

④ We identify what is the white substance

1) burn it

2) burn it with a heated copper wire

⑤ We change the heating time, which use the most white substance appeared ratio

(30min 35min 40min)

⑥ collection rate calculation

collection rate = the amount of the substance / the amount of eraser shaving * 100



Hypothesis

When the ratio between eraser shavings and acetone is 1:20, the eraser shavings dissolve well and we can get a large amount of PVC. Also, the longer the heating time is, the more PVC we can get.

References

- ・「消しカスを活かす～そして未来を照らす～」山口県下関西高等学校 自然科学科 化学1班
- ・塩素の入ったプラスチックの見分け方 <http://qualita.co.jp/recycle-plastic.html>

Result

① Experiment of changing the ratio between eraser shavings and acetone



ratio	result
1:9	couldn't filter
1:5	couldn't dissolve
1:10	couldn't filter
1:20	white substance appeared(0.01g)



② Experiment of changing heating time

heating time	result
30 min	white substance appeared (0.01g)
35 min	white substance appeared(0.1g)
40 min	white substance appeared(0.4g)



③ Identification of the substance

1) Black smoke occurred.

2) fire turned it green.



④ calculate collection rate

appeared substance(g)/eraser shaving(g)
= 0.4/2.5 = 0.16

so the collection rate is 16%



Consideration

When the ratio is 1:20, we could get the substance more. Also, the longer the heating time, the more the substance appeared. From result ③, it is believed that the appeared substance is PVC. However, the recovery rate when the most PVC appeared was 16%, so that it can be said that the way we experimented with is not efficient.

Perspective

We could not get accurate data because the number of studies was small and we could not keep the temperature below 50°C.