

SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF NOVEL-MIXED-  
METAL-ORTHOBORATES

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SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF NOVEL-MIXED-  
METAL-ORTHOBORATES

by  
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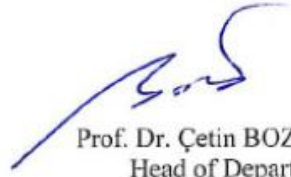
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Approval of the Graduate School of Natural and Applied Sciences



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I certify that this thesis satisfies all the requirements as a thesis for the degree of Master of Science.



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## **ABSTRACT**

### **SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF NOVEL-MIXED-METAL- ORTHOBORATES**

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In this study, magnesium orthoborate and novel-mixed-metal orthoborates were synthesized by high temperature solid state reaction method and the characterization of products were examined by powder X-ray Diffraction (XRD), Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR), Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM), and Thermogravimetric/Differential Thermal Analysis (TG/DTA) methods.

In the first part of this study, magnesium orthoborate,  $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , was synthesized using different magnesium sources,  $\text{MgO}$ ,  $\text{MgCO}_3$ ,  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , by conventional ceramic method. It was found that the magnesium orthoborate with the highest purity was prepared from the  $\text{MgSO}_4$ .

In the second part of this study, different amounts of manganese (II) ion were doped to magnesium, cobalt and nickel orthoborate to obtain novel-mixed-metal

orthoborate compounds, at the formula  $M_{3-x}Mn_x(BO_3)_2$  ( $M = Mg, Co, Ni$ ;  $0 \leq x \leq 0.10$ ).

All these compounds obtained were indexed in the orthorhombic crystal system and their unit cell parameters refined by Jana2006 are given as follows;

For magnesium manganese orthoborates,  $Mg_{3-x}Mn_x(BO_3)_2$  ( $0 \leq x \leq 0.10$ ),

$Mg_{2.99}Mn_{0.01}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a = 5.406(3)$ ,  $b = 8.430(4)$ ,  $c = 4.508(4)$ ,

$Mg_{2.95}Mn_{0.05}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a = 5.410(4)$ ,  $b = 8.436(2)$ ,  $c = 4.507(8)$ ,

$Mg_{2.90}Mn_{0.1}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a = 5.144(4)$ ,  $b = 8.444(3)$ ,  $c = 4.512(0)$  Å;

For cobalt manganese orthoborates,  $Co_{3-x}Mn_x(BO_3)_2$  ( $0 \leq x \leq 0.10$ ),

$Co_{2.99}Mn_{0.01}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a = 5.469(7)$ ,  $b = 8.451(2)$ ,  $c = 4.533(5)$ ,

$Co_{2.95}Mn_{0.05}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a = 5.469(9)$ ,  $b = 8.452(8)$ ,  $c = 4.533(8)$ ,

$Co_{2.90}Mn_{0.1}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a = 4.483(4)$ ,  $b = 8.476(4)$ ,  $c = 4.538(4)$  Å;

For nickel manganese orthoborates,  $Ni_{3-x}Mn_x(BO_3)_2$  ( $0 \leq x \leq 0.10$ ),

$Ni_{2.99}Mn_{0.01}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a = 5.397(4)$ ,  $b = 8.301(8)$ ,  $c = 4.458(9)$ ,

$Ni_{2.95}Mn_{0.05}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a = 5.403(6)$ ,  $b = 8.311(6)$ ,  $c = 4.463(3)$ ,

$Ni_{2.50}Mn_{0.50}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a = 5.405(8)$ ,  $b = 8.313(3)$ ,  $c = 4.465(2)$  Å.

It was determined that all these compounds were found isostructural with kotoite type of borates,  $M_3(BO_3)_2$  ( $M = Mg, Ni, Co$ ).

The IR study showed that these borates have the  $BO_3$  units in planar triangles. Besides, SEM images showed that these compounds were homogeneous. It was also detected that these orthoborates prepared were thermodynamically stable in the temperature range of 20-1200 °C by TG/DTA method.

**Keywords:** Mixed-Metal Orthoborate, Kotoite, Mn (II) doped borate, XRD, FTIR, TG/DTA, SEM.

## ÖZET

### YENİ KARMA-METAL-ORTOBORATLARIN SENTEZİ VE KARAKTERİZASYONU

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Bu çalışmada, magnezyum ortoborat ve karma metal ortoboratlar yüksek sıcaklık katı hal yöntemi ile sentezlenmiş ve bu ürünlerin karakterizasyonu X-ışını Kırınımı (XRD), Kızılötesi spekturumu (FTIR), Taramalı Elektron Mikroskopu (SEM), ve Termogravimetrik analiz-difransiyal ısısal analiz (TG/DTA) gibi yöntemlerle karşılaştırmalı olarak incelenmiştir.

Bu çalışmanın ilk bölümünde, magnezyum metal ortoboratu,  $Mg_3(BO_3)_2$ ,  $MgO$ ,  $MgCO_3$ ,  $MgSO_4$  gibi farklı magnezyum kaynakları kullanılarak sentezlenmiştir. Yüksek saflıkta magnezyum borat, magnezyum kaynağı olarak  $MgSO_4$  kullanılmasıyla elde edildiği bulunmuştur.

Bu çalışmanın ikinci bölümünde,  $M_{3-x}Mn_x(BO_3)_2$  ( $M = Ni, Mg, Co; 0 \leq x \leq 0.10$ ) formülünde yeni karma metal ortoboratlar elde etmek için magnezyum, nikel ve cobalt ortoborat'a değişik oranlarda mangan (II) katkılanmıştır.

Bu reaksiyonlardan elde edilen ürünlerin tamamı ortorombik kristal sistemde indekslenmiştir ve birim hücre boyutları Jana2006 kullanılarak aşağıda gösterildiği gibi hesaplanmıştır.

Magnezyum mangan ortoborat  $Mg_{3-x}Mn_x(BO_3)_2$  ( $0 \leq x \leq 0.10$ ), için,

$Mg_{2.99}Mn_{0.01}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a= 5.406(3)$ ,  $b= 8.430(4)$ ,  $c= 4.508(4)$ ,

$Mg_{2.95}Mn_{0.05}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a= 5.410(4)$ ,  $b= 8.436(2)$ ,  $c= 4.507(8)$ ,

$Mg_{2.90}Mn_{0.1}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a= 5.144(4)$ ,  $b= 8.444(3)$ ,  $c= 4.512(0)$  Å;

Cobalt mangan ortoborat,  $Co_{3-x}Mn_x(BO_3)_2$  ( $0 \leq x \leq 0.10$ ), için,

$Co_{2.99}Mn_{0.01}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a= 5.469(7)$ ,  $b= 8.451(2)$ ,  $c= 4.533(5)$ ,

$Co_{2.95}Mn_{0.05}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a= 5.469(9)$ ,  $b= 8.452(8)$ ,  $c= 4.533(8)$ ,

$Co_{2.90}Mn_{0.1}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a= 4.483(4)$ ,  $b= 8.476(4)$ ,  $c= 4.538(4)$  Å;

Nikel mangan ortoborat,  $Ni_{3-x}Mn_x(BO_3)_2$  ( $0 \leq x \leq 0.10$ ), için,

$Ni_{2.99}Mn_{0.01}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a= 5.397(4)$ ,  $b= 8.301(8)$ ,  $c= 4.458(9)$ ,

$Ni_{2.95}Mn_{0.05}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a= 5.403(6)$ ,  $b= 8.311(6)$ ,  $c= 4.463(3)$ ,

$Ni_{2.50}Mn_{0.50}(BO_3)_2$ :  $a= 5.405(8)$ ,  $b= 8.313(3)$ ,  $c= 4.465(2)$  Å.

Bu elde edilen bileşiklerinin tamamının kotoit tipindeki boratlarla izomorf olduğu belirlenmiştir.

IR çalışmaları sentezlenen boratların üçgen düzlem  $BO_3$  birimine sahip olduklarını göstermiştir. Ayrıca bileşiklerin homojen oldukları SEM analizi ile belirlendi. Ayrıca, Bu ortoboratların 20-1200°C sıcaklıkları arasında termodinamik olarak kararlı oldukları TG/DTA yöntemiyle belirlenmiştir.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Karma Metal Ortoborat, Kotoit, Boratlara Mn(II) katkılanması, XRD, FTIR, TG/DTA, SEM.

*To My Family...*

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

|      |                                           |
|------|-------------------------------------------|
| XRD  | X-ray Diffraction Spectroscopy            |
| FTIR | Foruier-Transform Infrared Spectroscopy   |
| ICDD | International Centre For Diffraction Data |
| SEM  | Scanning Electron Microscope              |
| EDX  | Energy Dispersive X-ray Analysis          |

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. BORON

Boron is a unique and exciting element. Over the years it has proved a constant challenge and stimulus not only to preparative chemists and theoreticians, but also to industrial chemists and technologists. Boron is found in Group 13 of the periodic table. The atomic number and relative atomic mass of boron are 5 and 10.81 amu, respectively. There are two stable isotopes of boron, which are  $^{10}\text{B}$  and  $^{11}\text{B}$  distributed as 19.78% and 80.22%, respectively in nature. Elemental boron, which finds as a solid at room temperature, is black monoclinic crystal. If it is impure solid, it finds yellow or brown amorphous powder. Although boron crystals are too hard, they are easily broken. It is a metalloid (i.e., semimetal), in other words, it finds between metal and nonmetal elements. For this reason, it has some of characteristics properties like metal and nonmetal. For instance; it shows many similarities to its nonmetal neighbours, carbon and silicon, like a marked propensity to form covalent and molecular compounds, but it differs sharply from them in having one less valence electron. This situation sometimes has referred as “electron deficiency”, which has a dominant effect on its chemistry. In addition to these, boron gives reaction with other chemicals, by heat treatments since

it is extremely stable at low temperatures [1-5].

#### **1.1.1. History of Boron**

Compounds of boron probably have been used for nearly sixty thousand years, even though pure boron was not discovered until 1808. At a lot of countries, such as Egypt, China, Tibet and Arabia, using of such compounds are established in their daily life in ancient times [6].

The first civilization in China and the Middle East used borax for different kinds of aims, despite of rare. Goldsmiths and Silversmiths melted borax used as a flux, which is a substance that removes unwanted impurities from metals. Civilization continued to use borax in the same way until end of eighteenth century. They discovered new resources of borax in the beginning of nineteenth century. As a consequence, borax became less expensive, and scientist started to study of the chemistry of boron compounds [5].

Also, French chemists, who are Joseph-Louis Gay-Lussac and Louis-Jacques Thénard, and English chemist, Humphry Davy, isolated independently elemental boron by reducing boron trioxide with potassium and by electrolysis with boric acid, but their compound was impure form (almost 50%) [7].

#### **1.1.2. Boron Minerals and Reserves**

Although elemental boron do not found in pure form on Earth, there are approximately 250 different natural boron compounds, in the form of inorganic borates called as mineral. Table 1.1 gives commonly used some boron minerals

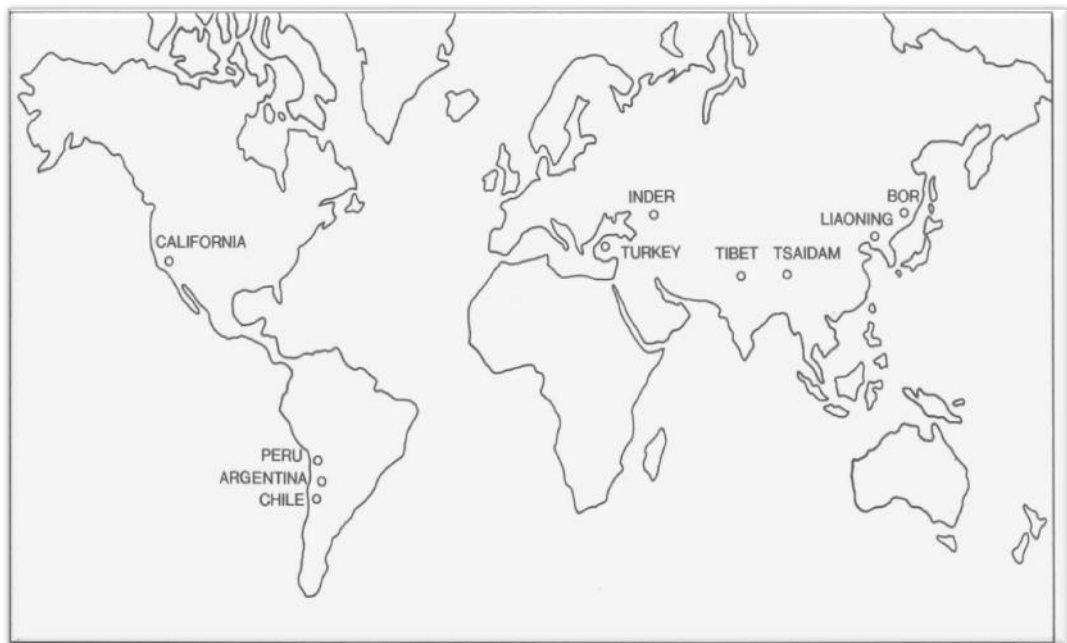
worldwide. These minerals are commercially important, though more than 200 minerals contain boron.

Common minerals, such as tourmaline which is the most abundant boron mineral, also contain boron, but have no economic potential because the boron content is usually very small about 10%.

**Table 1.1** Commonly Used Boron Minerals Worldwide [8]

| <b>Mineral</b>             | <b>Formula</b>                                                    | <b>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub><br/>(%)</b> | <b>Regions of mineral</b>           |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Kernite (Rasortie)         | Na <sub>2</sub> B <sub>4</sub> O <sub>7</sub> ·4H <sub>2</sub> O  | 51.0                                      | Kırka, USA, and Argentina           |
| Pandermite (Priceite)      | CaB <sub>10</sub> O <sub>19</sub> ·7H <sub>2</sub> O              | 49.8                                      | Sultançayır and Bigadiç             |
| Ulexite (Boronatrocalcite) | NaCa B <sub>5</sub> O <sub>9</sub> ·8H <sub>2</sub> O             | 43.0                                      | Kırka, Bigadiç, Emet, and Argentina |
| Colemanite                 | Ca <sub>2</sub> B <sub>6</sub> O <sub>11</sub> ·5H <sub>2</sub> O | 50.8                                      | Emet, Bigadiç, Küçükler, and USA    |
| Probertite (Kramerite)     | NaCaB <sub>5</sub> O <sub>9</sub> ·5H <sub>2</sub> O              | 49.6                                      | Kestelek, Emet, and USA             |
| Szaibelyite (Ascharite)    | MgBO <sub>2</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O                              | 41.4                                      | Russia                              |
| Boraxs (Tincal)            | Na <sub>2</sub> B <sub>4</sub> O <sub>7</sub> ·10H <sub>2</sub> O | 36.6                                      | Kırka, Emet, Bigadiç, and USA       |
| Boracite (Stassfurite)     | Mg <sub>6</sub> B <sub>14</sub> O <sub>26</sub> C <sub>12</sub>   | 62.2                                      | Germany                             |
| Hydroboracite              | CaMgB <sub>6</sub> O <sub>11</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O             | 50.5                                      | Emet                                |

Boron is a commonly existing element in the earth, in soil, rocks and water. Boron minerals occur mostly as borates which are deposited from volcanic gases or hot springs near volcanic activities, and current borates reserves of world are given Figure 1.1. Boron reserves having high concentration and economical extent are found mostly in Turkey and in arid, volcanic and high hydrothermal activity regions of U.S. as compounds of boron attached to oxygen. The largest boron reserves in the world are located in Emet, Kırka, Bigadiç regions of Turkey and in California, USA [10]. World boron reserves are given Table 1.2 and Turkey boron reserves are given Table 1.2.



**Figure 1.1** Current world sources of borates. [9]

**Table 1.2** The world boron reserves (million metric tons) [11]

| County Name | Region and type                                                                                 | Total Ore | Contained B <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> | B <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Reserve | B <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Reserve Base | B <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Total Reserve |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Turkey      | Bigadiç-Balikesir (Ca-NaCa types)                                                               | 935       | 330                                     | (1030-360)                            | 624                                        | 851                                         |
|             | Emet-Kütahya (Ca-type)                                                                          | 545       | 200                                     | (890-310)                             |                                            |                                             |
|             | Kestelek (Ca-type)                                                                              | 7         | 3                                       | (8-3)                                 |                                            |                                             |
|             |                                                                                                 | 520       | 140                                     | (519-130)                             |                                            |                                             |
|             | Kırka (Na-type)                                                                                 | 2007      | 673                                     |                                       |                                            |                                             |
|             | Subtotal                                                                                        |           |                                         | 227                                   |                                            |                                             |
| USA         | Boron-(Na-type)                                                                                 | 113       | 26                                      |                                       | 40                                         | 80                                          |
|             | (Ca-type)                                                                                       | 198       | 20                                      |                                       |                                            |                                             |
|             | Subtotal                                                                                        | 311       | 46                                      |                                       |                                            |                                             |
|             | Searles Lake, Death Valley, Hector, Owens Lake, Salton Sea, Four Corners, Muddy Mountains, etc. | 255       | 77                                      | 40                                    |                                            |                                             |
|             | Subtotal                                                                                        | 566       | 123                                     |                                       |                                            |                                             |
| Russia      | Dalnegorsk, etc.                                                                                | 700       | 64                                      | 40                                    | 60                                         | 100                                         |
| China       | Liaoning, etc.                                                                                  | 480       | 65                                      | 27                                    | 9                                          | 36                                          |
| Mexico      | Mesa del Amo, Vitro, Tubutama, etc.                                                             | 140       | 13.5                                    | -                                     | -                                          | -                                           |
| Argentina   | Loma Blanca, Sijes, Tincalayu, Salars, etc.                                                     | 100       | 20.5                                    | 2                                     | 7                                          | 9                                           |

**Table 1.2** The world boron reserves (million metric tons) (continue)

|            |                            |      |      |     |     |      |
|------------|----------------------------|------|------|-----|-----|------|
| Chile      | Surire,<br>Atacama, etc.   | 60   | 76   | 8   | 33  | 41   |
| Serbia     | Jarandol,<br>Raska, etc.   | 40   | 8    | 3   | -   | 3    |
| Kazakhstan | Inder,<br>Satimola, etc.   | 77   | 5    | 14  | 1   | 15   |
| Bolivia    | Salars,<br>Uyuni, etc.     | 20   | 15   | 4   | 15  | 19   |
| Peru       | Salars de<br>Salinas, etc. | 20   | 5    | 4   | 18  | 22   |
| Others     | Iran,<br>Germany,<br>etc.  | 100  | 10   |     |     |      |
| General    | Total                      | 4310 | 1078 | 369 | 807 | 1176 |

### 1.1.3. Utilization Area of Boron

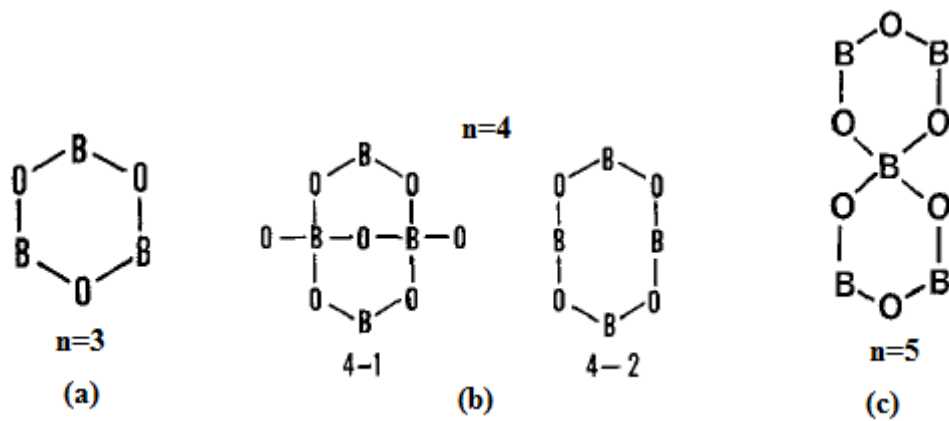
As boron compounds have been used for thousands of years for different purposes, there are very range application area of compounds of boron; glass [12], ceramic [13], cleaning and bleaching [14], flame retardant [15], agriculture [16], metallurgy [17], nuclear applications [18], boron fibers [19], aerospace [20], energy [21], health [22], cement [23]. Table 1.3 gives important boron products and their utilization areas.

**Table 1.3** Important boron products and their utilization areas [24]

| <b>Product</b>                          | <b>Utilization Areas</b>                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Colemanite                              | Textile quality fiberglass, Boron alloys, metallurgical slag formation agent                                                                                                               |
| Ulexite and Probertite                  | Isolation fiberglass, Borosilicate glass, antiseptics, boron alloys, nuclear reactors, fire retarder, nylon, photography, textile, fertilizer, catalyst, glass, fiber glass, enamel, glaze |
| Anhydrous Borax                         | Fertilizer, glass, fiberglass, metallurgical slag former, enamel glaze, fire retarder                                                                                                      |
| Sodium Perborate                        | Detergent and whiteness, textile                                                                                                                                                           |
| Sodium Metaborate                       | Detergent, agricultural medicine, photography, textile                                                                                                                                     |
| Sodium Pentaborate                      | Fire retarder, fertilizer                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Boric Acid                              | Glass, ceramic, glass fibre, as industrial and antiseptic use                                                                                                                              |
| Amorphous and Crystalline Boron Element | Military purpose, nuclear weapons and protector in nuclear reactors                                                                                                                        |
| Sodium Boron Hydride                    | Cleaning of metal surfaces, paper whitener and special chemical refining                                                                                                                   |
| Boron Alloys                            | Surface hardening of nucleus                                                                                                                                                               |
| Boron Nitride                           | Cubical boron nitride cutting tools in place of diamond                                                                                                                                    |
| Boron Carbide                           | Abrasive material, manufacture of special hard protecting material and nuclear reactors                                                                                                    |
| Boron Flammable                         | Composites for Aerospace, composites for sporting material                                                                                                                                 |
| Boron Halides                           | Medicine Industry, catalysts, electronic pieces, boron filaments and fiber optics                                                                                                          |
| Boron Esters                            | Catalysts for polymerization reactions, fire retarder                                                                                                                                      |
| Special Sodium Borates                  | Chemicals for photography, adhesives, textile, “finishing” compounds, materials of detergency and cleaning, fire retarder, fertilizer and agricultural medicines                           |

## 1.2. BORATES

Borates are defined as minerals containing boric oxide or boron-oxygen molecules. These can generally be expressed on the basis of  $B_2O_3$  in combination with a major cation [25]. According to Carpeni, borates are classified in three group: ortho- or metaborates, tetraborates and pentaborates, shown in Fig.1.2. The classification was made according to the number of boron atoms in the anion and according to the basicity of the anion [26].



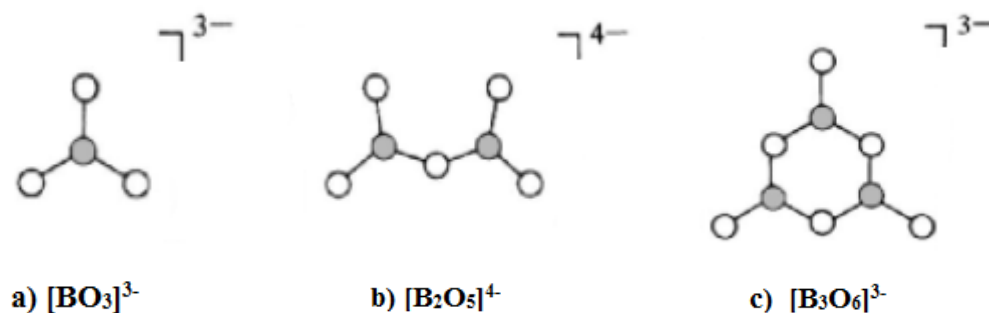
**Figure 1.2** Structure of a) metaborate, b) tetraborate, c) pentaborate [27]

Borates are known in which the structural unit is mononuclear (1 B atom), bi-, tri-, tetra- or pentanuclear, or in which there are polydimensional networks including glasses. The main structural principles underlying the bonding in crystalline metal borates are as follows [1]:

1. Boron can link either three oxygens to form a triangle,  $BO_3$ , or four oxygens to form a tetrahedron,  $BO_4$ .

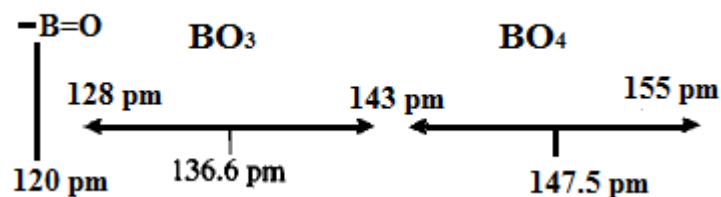
2. Polynuclear anions are formed by cornersharing only of boron-oxygen triangles and tetrahedra in such a manner that a compact insular group results.
3. In the hydrated borates, protonatable oxygen atoms will be protonated in the following sequence: available protons are first assigned to free  $O^{2-}$  ions to convert these to free  $OH^-$  ions; additional protons are assigned to tetrahedral oxygens in the borate ion, and then to triangular oxygens in the borate ion; finally any remaining protons are assigned to free  $OH^-$  ions to form  $H_2O$  molecules.
4. The hydrated insular groups may polymerize in various ways by splitting out water; this process may be accompanied by the breaking of boron-oxygen bonds within the poly anion framework.
5. Complex borate polyanions may be modified by attachment of an individual side group, such as (but not limited to) an extra borate tetrahedron, an extra borate triangle, 2 linked triangles, an arsenate tetrahedron, and so on.
6. Isolated  $B(OH)_3$  groups, or polymers of these, may exist in the presence of other anions.

Examples of minerals and compounds containing monomeric triangular,  $BO_3^{3-}$  units are the rare-earth orthoborates  $M^{III}BO_3$ , the minerals  $CaSn^{IV}(BO_3)_2$ , kotoite  $Mg_3(BO_3)_2$ , hambergite and orthoborates, shown in Fig.1.2.a. Binuclear trigonal planar units,  $B_2O_5^{4-}$ , are found in the pyroborates  $Mg_2B_2O_5$ ,  $ThB_2O_5$ ,  $Co^{II}_2B_2O_5$  and  $Fe^{II}_2B_2O_5$ , shown in Fig.1.2.b. Trinuclear chain units,  $B_3O_6^{3-}$ , are present in  $NaBO_2$ ,  $KBO_2$ , metaboric acid, shown in Fig.1.2.c [1].



**Figure 1.3** Different structure of boron oxygen compounds a) orthoborates, b) pyroborates, c) metaborates

B-O bond distances show wide diversity in different structures like shown in Fig. 1.3, the distance increases with increase in coordination:



**Figure 1.4** The change of bond distances of borates

### 1.2.1. Orthoborates

The salts in which isolated  $\text{BO}_3^{3-}$  and  $\text{BO}_4^{5-}$  ion known as orthoborates, and boron:oxygen ratio is 1:3. Structure of orthoborate resembles with nitrates and carbonates. Generally, orthoborates have  $\text{MBO}_3$  molecule structure. At 1968, the structure of some orthoborates like  $\text{ScBO}_3$ ,  $\text{InBO}_3$ ,  $\text{GaBO}_3$ ,  $\text{CrBO}_3$ ,  $\text{TiBO}_3$ ,  $\text{VBO}_3$ , which are isostructural with mineral calcite, were described by Waugh [28]. Similarly, rare earth orthoborates,  $\text{LnBO}_3$ , are isomorphous with  $\text{CaCO}_3$ .  $\text{LaBO}_3$ ,

$\text{dBO}_3$ ,  $\text{YbBO}_3$ ,  $\text{SmBO}_3$  crystallize in aragonite, vaterite and calcite forms similar to that of  $\text{CaCO}_3$  [29].

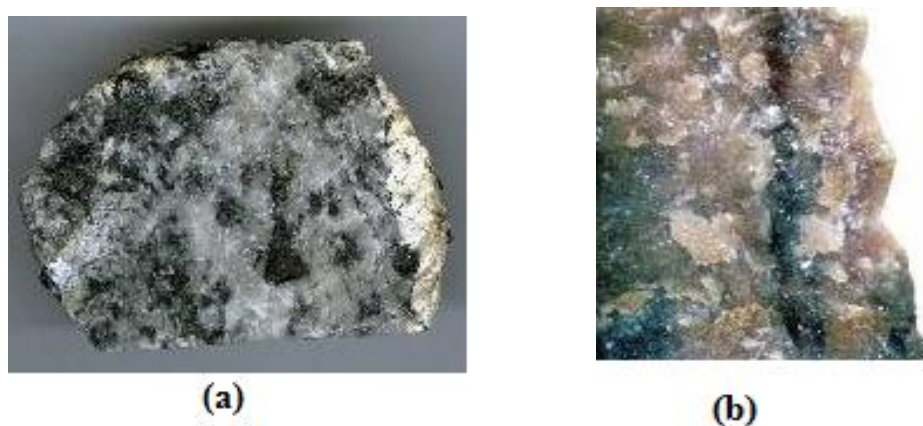
### 1.2.2. Metal Orthoborates

Various metal borates, such as lithium borate, beryllium borate, aluminum borate, calcium borate, nickel borate, copper borate, zinc borate, strontium borate, lead borate, barium borate, and magnesium borate have attracted much attention in recent years, due to their potential applications as reinforcements in electronic ceramics, wide band gap semiconductors, antiwear additive, plastics or aluminum/magnesium matrix alloys, luminescent materials, nonlinear optical and laser devices [30]. Owing to unique properties of metal borates, which are their light weight, high strength, high heat resistance, corrosion-resistance etc., metal borates provides distinctive opportunities with discovery and identification of new compounds [31].

Metal orthoborates with the general formula of  $\text{M}_3\text{B}_2\text{O}_6$  ( $\text{M} = \text{Ca}, \text{Sr}, \text{Ni}, \text{Mg}, \text{Mn}, \text{Ba}, \text{Cd}, \text{Co}$ , etc.) have been synthesized as an interesting subject of study by many workers (e.g. Weir and Schroeder, 1964; Van der Voort et al., 1992). Among these borates group, to date only  $\text{Mg}_3\text{B}_2\text{O}_6$  (kotoite) and  $\text{Mn}_3\text{B}_2\text{O}_6$  (jimboite) have been identified in nature, shown in Fig. 1.5 [32].

Ebelmen (1851), Mallard (1887), Le Chatelier (1891), Oувrard (1901), Guertler (1904) and Hofmann Höschele (1914) have described cobalt and magnesium orthoborate crystals. They pointed out that magnesium and cobalt orthoborates are isomorphous with each other and orthorhombic with a rather perfect cleavage parallel to 110 [33].

Magnesium orthoborate,  $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , which was also discovered by Watanabe (1938), is an uncommon mineral, which included 62.78% of MgO and 35.20% of  $\text{B}_2\text{O}_5$ , typically formed in the contact zone of magnesium rich skarn borate deposits [34]. The mineral is orthorhombic with point group:  $2/m\ 2/m\ 2/m$ , and the cell data is space group:  $\text{Pnmm}$ ,  $a = 5.401$ ,  $b = 8.422$ ,  $c = 4.507\ \text{\AA}$  and  $Z = 2$  [35].

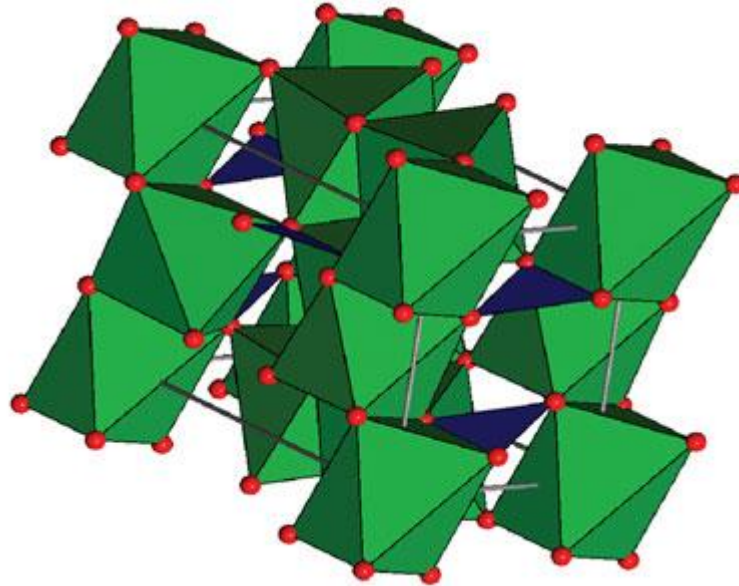


**Figure 1.5 a) Kotoite and b) Jimboite mineral [34]**

The crystal structure of kotoite was simultaneously determined by Sadanga (1948) and Berger (1949). Berger reported that the crystal structure of the isomorphous cobalt and magnesium orthoborates is found with  $2\text{Me}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$  formula in the orthorhombic system, and  $\text{BO}_3^{3-}$  triangles unit is the nearly equilateral and  $(\text{MeO}_6)^{10-}$  is octahedron. As a result of evidence of the existence of  $\text{BO}_3^{3-}$ , Berger pointed out that the formula must be written as  $\text{Me}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$  [33].

In the crystal structure of Kotoite,  $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , the Mg atoms are surrounded by an octahedron of oxygen atoms in each crystal, shown in Figure 1.6. Boron atoms

are always surrounded by three oxygens,  $\text{BO}_3$ , in a triangular configuration and single links  $\text{BO}_3$  chains of oxygen octahedra [36].



**Figure 1.6** The Crystal Structure of Kotoite

Various synthesis methods for the preparation of magnesium borates have been reported thus far, but recent studies focus on nanoscale structure of magnesium borates. Jiang Zhang et al. have synthesized orthorhombic magnesium borate nanobelt,  $\text{Mg}_3\text{B}_2\text{O}_6$ , by heating mixed powders of boron and  $\text{MgO}$  under flowing  $\text{Ar}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$  gases at  $1100^\circ\text{C}$ . Typical widths with the nanobelts are in the range of 100–300 nm and lengths are up to tens of micrometers. [37].

Afterwards, magnesium orthoborate,  $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , has been prepared by solid state reactions using microwave and thermal energy at above  $600^\circ\text{C}$  for 3hrs [38].

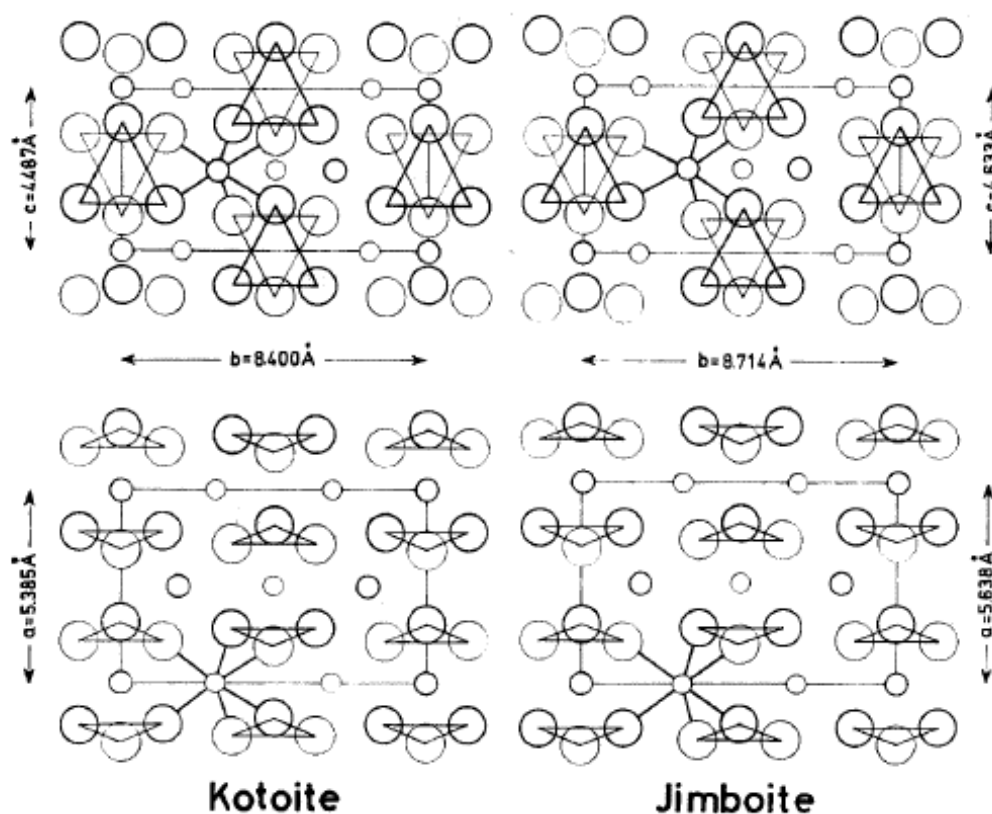
Single-phase  $\text{Mg}_3\text{B}_2\text{O}_6$  has been synthesized from using the starting chemicals which are stoichiometric  $\text{MgO}$  and excess of 11 wt.% and 14 wt.%  $\text{B}_2\text{O}_3$  by high temperature solid state reaction techniques. The mixed starting materials have been

heated 10 hours at 600, 900, 1000, 1100, 1200 °C, respectively. The ceramic compound,  $\text{Mg}_3\text{B}_2\text{O}_6$ , has been characterized structurally and dielectrically [39].

Recently, magnesium borate compound,  $\text{Mg}_3\text{B}_2\text{O}_6$ , has been synthesized from  $\text{B}_2\text{O}_3/\text{MgO}$  powder blends by mechanically activated annealing under air. The effects of  $\text{B}_2\text{O}_3/\text{MgO}$  mole ratios, milling durations (30 minutes and 1 and 2 hours), annealing durations (2 and 5 hours), and annealing temperatures (973, 1173, and 1273 K (700, 900, and 1000 °C) on the formation and microstructure of magnesium borate have also been investigated [40].

The mean time, Ray L. Frost and Yunfei Xi have characterised a natural kotoite, obtained from The Mineralogical Research Company, using vibrational spectroscopy and assess the structure of the mineral with Raman spectra. They reported that vibration of symmetric stretching mode of tetrahedral boron dominated by very intense band  $835\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in raman spectrum. Raman bands of antisymmetric stretching modes of tetrahedral boron were observed at 919, 985 and  $1015\text{ cm}^{-1}$  [35].

Manganese orthoborate,  $\text{Mn}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , jimboite, also discovered by Watanabe et al. (1963). In 1965, Sadanaga et al. have determined the crystal structure of jimboite,  $\text{Mn}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , with the aid of three-dimensional least squares and Fourier syntheses. Manganese orthoborate consists of  $\text{BO}_3^{3-}$  groups and octahedral coordinations of oxygen ions around manganese ions and is almost isostructural with kotoite having been reported. Aside from the obvious differences between Mn-O and Mg-O distances, the basic features of these two structures are markedly similar to each other as in Fig. 1.7 [41].

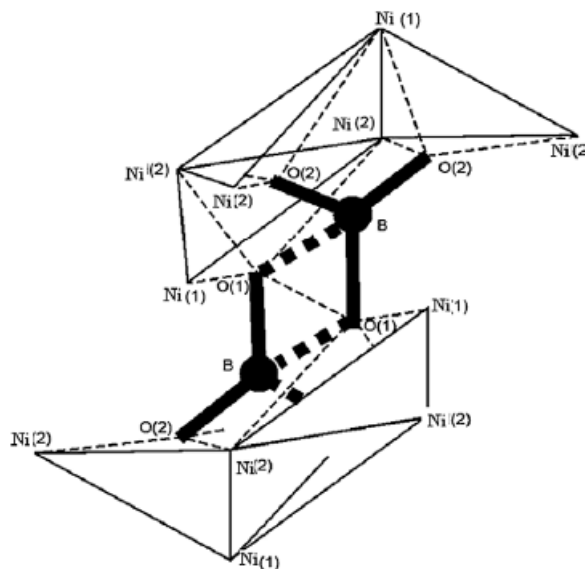


**Figure 1.7** Structures of kotoite and jimboite compared [41]

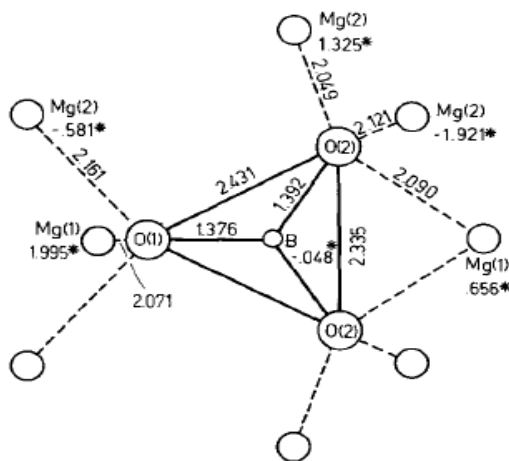
Another metal orthoborate,  $\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$  has been synthesized with formula  $3\text{NiO} \cdot \text{B}_2\text{O}_3$  by Weir & Schroeder. Later, at 1963, Götz has reported that nickel orthoborate,  $\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , is isomorphous with cobalt and magnesium orthoborates, but its crystal structure has been clarified with three dimensional Patterson synthesis and, Pardo et al. reported that nickel orthoborate was crystallized in the orthorhombic system with  $\text{Pnnm}$  space group. Lattice parameters of nickel orthoborates have been found as  $a=5.396 \pm 0.001$ ,  $b=4.459 \pm 0.001$  and  $c=8.297 \pm 0.002$  Å from the Weissenberg photographs [42].

Efenberger and Pertlik have determined crystal structure of kotoite type of borates,  $\text{M}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $\text{M} = \text{Mg}, \text{Co}, \text{and Ni}$ ), which synthesized from melts, with single

crystal X-ray data and structure of  $\text{Mn}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$  has been compared with these orthoborates and decided in kotoite type too. [43].



**Figure 1.8** Structures of kotoite type  $\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$  [44]



**Figure 1.9** Crystal Structure of  $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$

The recent studies focuses on the development of a new route for the synthesis of more pure metal borates at low temperatures and in short reaction periods. Menaka et al. reported new route for the synthesis method of  $\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ .

Monophasic and uniform spherical nanoparticles of nickel borate,  $\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , have been obtained with 25 nm size by thermal decomposition of nickel-boron precursor at 800 °C from the reverse micellar route. The magnetic property of nickel orthoborate has been investigated and found an antiferromagnetic behavior with a Néel temperature of 47 K [44].

Anisotropic nanostructures of nickel borate,  $\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , with controlled size and morphology have been synthesized by a precursor-mediated route. The nickel boron precursor has been prepared through the microemulsions using Tergitol as a surfactant [45]. Recently, nickel borate has been synthesized by sol-gel method using nickel nitrate and boric acid as reactants, citric acid as the foaming agent. Nanorod nickel borates have also been prepared and diameters of nanorods controlled by adjusting the molar ratio of  $\text{Ni}(\text{NO}_3)_2/\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$  [46].

The mean time, pure phase of rod-like micron nickel borate particles,  $\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , have been prepared via a facile flux NaCl by means of following reaction and surfactant poly(oxyethylene)<sub>9</sub>nonylphenol ether (NP-9) assisted thermal conversion route at 750–800 °C for 2.0 h.



The effects of molar ratio of reactants, NaCl and NP-9 have been investigated on the formation of nickel borate,  $\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ . The introduction of NaCl have favorable for the formation of rod like nickel borate particles, while NP-9 cause the smaller size of nickel borate particles [30].

Binary orthoborate,  $\text{Sr}_2\text{Cu}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , which is  $\alpha$ -form at the low-temperature and  $\beta$ -form at the high-temperature, has been synthesized by solid state reaction.

Structures of binary compounds have been established, the  $\alpha$ -phase of  $\text{Sr}_2\text{Cu}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  crystallizes in a monoclinic cell of dimensions  $a = 5.707(1)$ ,  $b = 8.796(2)$ ,  $c = 6.027(1)$  Å, and  $\beta = 116.98(1)^\circ$  with  $Z = 2$ ; the space group is  $P2_1/c$  and the  $\beta$ -phase crystallizes in an orthorhombic cell of dimensions  $a = 7.612(3)$ ,  $b = 10.854(7)$ ,  $c = 13.503(4)$  Å with  $Z = 8$ ; the space group is  $Pnma$  [47].

It was found that  $\text{SrCu}_2(\text{BO}_3)_2$  crystallized in tetragonal crystal structure with the unit cell dimensions  $a = 8.995(1)$ ,  $c = 6.649(1)$  Å, and  $V = 537.9(1)$  Å<sup>3</sup> with  $Z = 4$  and with the space group  $\bar{I}4_2m$  [48].

Later on, Smith and Kezsler have reported the structure of the new orthoborate compound,  $\text{BaZn}_2(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , crystallized in orthorhombic cell with dimensions  $a = 9.305(3)$ ,  $b = 12.128(1)$ , and  $c = 4.9255(8)$  Å; the space group is  $P2_12_12_1$  [49].

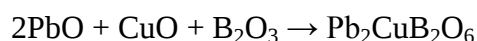
Single crystal structure of another binary orthoborate,  $\text{Ba}_2\text{Zn}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , has been solved and found that the compound was crystallized in orthorhombic system with  $a = 15.068(2)$ ,  $b = 8.720(2)$ , and  $c = 10.128(3)$  Å and space group:  $Pca2_1$  and  $Z = 8$  [50].

Manganese containing single crystal binary pyroborates,  $\text{MnCo}(\text{B}_2\text{O}_5)$  and  $\text{MnMg}(\text{B}_2\text{O}_5)$  have been prepared by using  $\text{B}_2\text{O}_3$  flux techniques in an argon atmosphere. These pyroborates crystallize in triclinic system with space group  $C_2-P_1$ , I:  $a=320.94(10)$ ,  $b=619.20(11)$ ,  $c=939.0(2)$  pm,  $\alpha=104.38(2)^\circ$ ,  $\beta=90.76(2)^\circ$ ,  $\delta=92.046^\circ$ . Their structures are isotypic with  $\text{Co}_2\text{B}_2\text{O}_5$ , and all metal ions are octahedrally coordinated by six oxygen atoms [51].

Later on, low-temperature magnetization, ac susceptibility, and specific heat of powdered  $\text{MnMgB}_2\text{O}_5$  have been measured and the susceptibility has been found down to 2 K. Moreover, the magnetic and specific-heat measurements have been

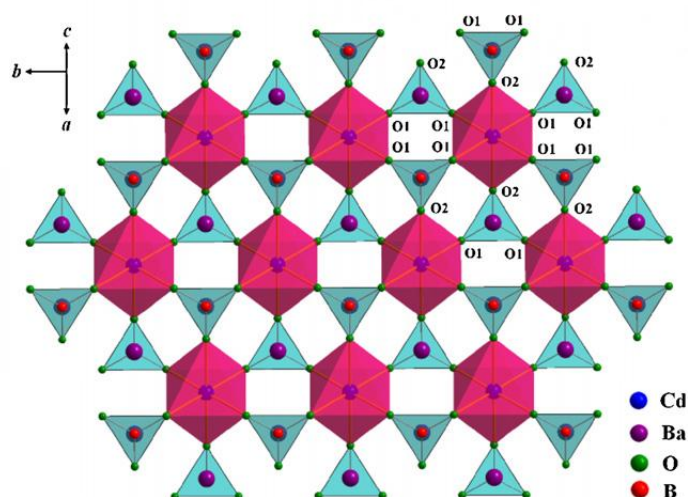
reported that, below 600 mK, the  $\text{MnMgB}_2\text{O}_5$  pyroborate freezes in a glassy state [52].

Single crystal  $\text{Pb}_2\text{CuB}_2\text{O}_6$  has been reported in monoclinic crystal system from a  $\text{PbO/CuO/B}_2\text{O}_3$  flux by means of following reaction. Crystal structure and magnetic properties of  $\text{Pb}_2\text{CuB}_2\text{O}_6$  have been described, which is the first of a new family of lead copper borates in the ternary system,  $\text{PbO-CuO-B}_2\text{O}_3$  [53].



$\text{Co}_2\text{Ni(BO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{CoNi}_2(\text{BO}_3)_2$  have been synthesized by thermally included solid state chemical reaction at 900 °C from  $\text{Co(NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{Ni(NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$  with the mol ratio 2:1:2 and 1:2:2 respectively. It was found that the crystal structure of these borates is kotoite type like previously reported kotoite type compounds,  $\text{M}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$  (M= Mg, Co and Ni). The synthesized compounds are indexed in the orthorhombic system and cell parameters found with refinement  $a = 5.444(8)$ ,  $b = 8.404(0)$ ,  $c = 4.504(1)$  Å,  $Z = 2$ ;  $a = 5.419(9)$ ,  $b = 8.352(0)$ ,  $c = 4.478(8)$  Å and  $Z = 2$ , respectively. Space group of both binary compounds has been determined as  $\text{Pnmm}$  [28-54].

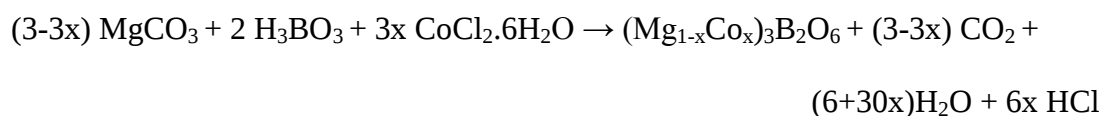
Zhang and coworkers have been reported the synthesis by standard solid state reaction, growth, crystal structure of a novel barium cadmium diborate,  $\text{Ba}_2\text{Cd(BO}_3)_2$  and explained optical properties.  $\text{Ba}_2\text{Cd(BO}_3)_2$  crystallizes in the monoclinic system with space group  $\text{C2/m}$  with  $a = 9.6305(4)$ ,  $b = 5.3626(3)$ ,  $c = 6.5236(2)$  Å,  $\beta = 118.079(3)^\circ$ ,  $Z = 2$ . The crystal structure is composed of isolated  $[\text{BO}_3]$  triangles,  $[\text{CdO}_6]$  octahedra and  $[\text{BaO}_9]$  polyhedra, shown in Fig.1.10 [55].



**Figure 1.10** Crystal Structure of  $\text{Ba}_2\text{Cd}(\text{BO}_3)_2$

Scientists pointed out that metal orthoborates are good host lattices for rare earths, which are of great interest since they are found to be superior in non-linear optical applications [56]. These kind of studies are found in literature from 1974 to today. The difference spectrum the  $\text{Eu}^{2+}$  luminescence in the borates  $\text{X}_2\text{Z}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  has been explained in 1995. Structure of the mixed alkaline earth orthoborate,  $\text{Ba}_2\text{Cd}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , a buetschliite derivative, have been established; crystal data:  $a = 5.343(2)$ ,  $c = 16.520(3) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $V = 406.4(2) \text{ \AA}^3$ ,  $Z = 3$ , space group =  $R\bar{3}m$ .  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  doped powder exhibits a luminescence peak at 606 nm and a Stokes shift of  $11.000\text{cm}^{-1}$  [57].

Synthesis and thermoluminescence properties of  $\text{Sr}_2\text{Mg}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  phosphors doped respectively with  $\text{Tm}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Dy}^{3+}$  as an activator from high temperature solid state method has been explained [58]. Later on, Wang et al. has reported the properties of magnesium borate,  $\text{Mg}_3\text{B}_2\text{O}_6$ , doped with  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  by means of following reaction by the Czochralski technique.



The crystal-field parameter of  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  doped  $\text{Mg}_3\text{B}_2\text{O}_6$  has been found as  $Dq = 943.3 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , the Racah parameter  $B = 821.6 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $Dq/B = 1.15$ . The luminescence life time of  $\text{Co}^{2+}:\text{Mg}_3\text{B}_2\text{O}_6$  corresponding to the transition  ${}^4\text{T}_1(4\text{P}) \rightarrow {}^4\text{T}_2$  centered at 717 nm has been measured [59].

$\text{Ba}_2\text{Mg}(\text{BO}_3)_2:\text{Eu}^{2+}$  has been prepared by combustion-assisted method used stiochiometrically  $\text{Ba}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{Mg}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$  as starting material and  $\text{NH}_2\text{CONH}_2$  as a fuel. It was found that these phosphors are suitable to be excited by an NUV-emitting LED chip due to their broad excitation band from 250 to 400 nm and intense yellow emission [60].

$\text{Sr}_2\text{Mg}(\text{BO}_3)_2:\text{Ce}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Li}^+$  and  $\text{Sr}_2\text{Mg}(\text{BO}_3)_2:\text{Ce}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Li}^+$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  phosphors have been synthesized by conventional solid state reaction technique at  $900^\circ\text{C}$  for 12 hours in reducing atmosphere and the phase purity, photoluminescence properties, thermal stability, energy transfer and luminescent decay curves of these compounds have also been examined [61].

In addition to these, similar type of various metal borates have been reported in literature such as;  $\text{Ba}_2\text{Ca}(\text{BO}_3)_2:\text{Ce}^{3+}$  [62];  $\text{Ba}_2\text{Mg}(\text{BO}_3)_2:\text{Eu}^{3+}$  [63];  $\text{Ba}_2\text{Mg}(\text{BO}_3)_2:\text{Eu}^{2+}$  [64];  $\text{Sr}_2\text{Mg}(\text{BO}_3)_2:\text{Tb}^{3+}$  [65];  $\text{Sr}_2\text{Mg}(\text{BO}_3)_2:\text{Ce}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sr}_2\text{Mg}(\text{BO}_3)_2:\text{Ce}^{3+}$  [66];  $\text{Ba}_2\text{Mg}(\text{BO}_3)_2:\text{Ce}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Ba}_2\text{Ca}(\text{BO}_3)_2:\text{Ce}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sr}_2\text{Mg}(\text{BO}_3)_2:\text{Ce}^{3+}$  [67].

$\text{Cu}_{1-x}\text{Ni}_x\text{B}_2\text{O}_4$ ,  $\text{Cu}_{1-x}\text{Co}_x\text{B}_2\text{O}_4$ ,  $\text{Cu}_{1-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{B}_2\text{O}_4$  compounds ( $x = 0, 0.10, 0.50$ ) prepared by flux method. These compounds crystallize in tetragonal system with space group  $\text{I42d}$  [68].

$\text{Mn}^{2+}$  doped magnesium pyroborates,  $(\text{Mg}_{1-x}\text{Mn}_x)_2\text{B}_2\text{O}_5$  ( $0 \leq x \leq 0.30$ ), have been prepared using solid state reaction method and the crystal structure was found as triclinic system and space group:  $\text{P}\bar{1}$  [69].

Recently, single crystal  $\text{LiMg}_{1-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{BO}_3$  prepared through the solid state technique at 800 °C and has been reported that these compounds crystallized in monoclinic system with the refined cell parameters of  $a = 5.1820(2)$  ,  $b = 8.9241(4)$ ,  $c = 10.1529(6)$  Å ,  $\beta = 91.5824(18)$  [70].

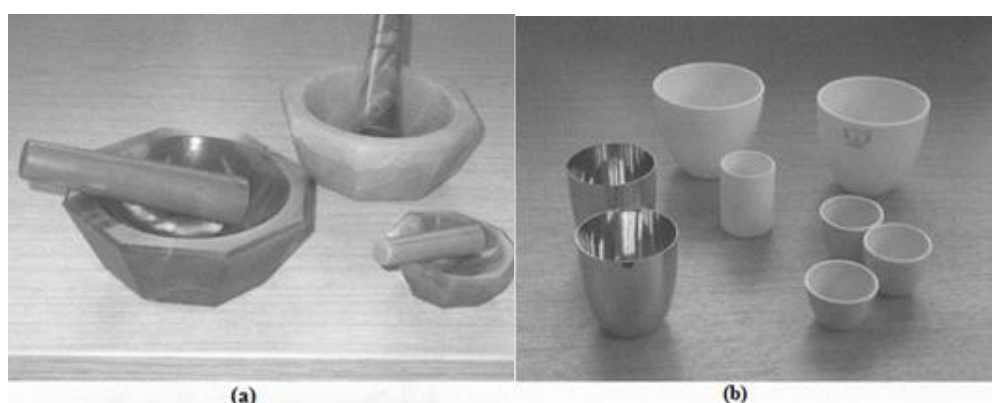
### 1.3. SYNTHESIS METHODS OF BORATES

Various synthesis techniques have been developed to prepare high quality borate compound, such as precipitation, hydrothermal, combustion, microwave synthesis, conventional solid state reaction, co-precipitation technique, spray drying technique, sol-gel method, flux method, solid state combustion synthesis, solution combustion synthesis, mechanochemical methods and etc. All these synthesis methods of powder ceramics are mainly classified in three categories: (i) solid state synthesis methods (ii) solution methods (iii) vapour phase methods [71].

In a solid state reaction, powder solid reactants are mixed and heated to produce new solid compound. Carbonates, nitrates, hydroxides, sulfates, acetates, oxalates, alkoxides, and other metal salts are commonly used as reactants of solid state reactions. Further reaction involves the transport of an atoms, molecules or ions. In powder systems, solid state reaction depend on several parameters which contain the chemical nature of reactants and the products; the size, size distribution, and shape of particles; the uniformity of mixing; the reaction atmosphere; the temperature; and time [72]. Solid state synthesis methods are categorized as conventional ceramic process, metallurgical routes, microwave synthesis method, solid state combustion method, mechanochemical methods.

In scientific area, conventional ceramic process is the most widely used method of solid state synthesis which is the direct reaction of mixture of solid starting

materials. The procedure is to take stoichiometric amounts of the binary oxides, grind them in a pestle and mortar, shown in Fig. 1.5.a to give a uniform small particle size. Reaction between powders occur at elevated temperatures (1000-1500 °C). In this method, platinum, alumina, and silica containers, shown in Fig. 1.4.b are usually used for metal oxides, while graphite containers are suitable for sulphides and other chalcogenides [71-74].



**Figure 1.11 (a)** Pestles and mortars **(b)** Platinum, alumina and porcelain crucibles[75]

The advantages of solid-state reactions are the ready availability of oxide precursors and the low cost for powder production on the industrial scale. These reactions are also convenient for laboratory-scale preparations [75].

#### 1.4. PURPOSE OF THE WORK

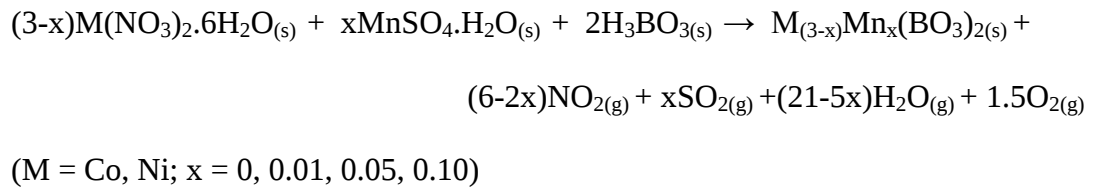
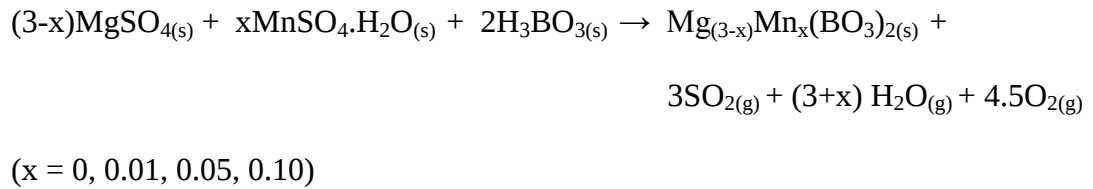
The importance and the aim of this thesis is the preparation and characterization of some new novel-mixed-metal orthoborates as  $M_{3-x}Mn_x(BO_3)_2$  ( $M = Ni, Mg, Co$ ) by high temperature solid state method and pure  $Mg_3(BO_3)_2$  from different starting reagents.

In the first part of this work, the kotoite type of compound,  $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , was prepared from different starting materials by conventional ceramic process and characterise by X-ray diffraction (XRD) and Infrared spectroscopy (IR).

In the second part of this study, the aim is

- to prepare the novel-mixed-metal orthoborates by doping manganese (II) ion to magnesium, nickel and cobalt orthoborates, with the formula of  $\text{M}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $\text{M} = \text{Mg, Co, Ni}$ ;  $0 \leq x \leq 0.10$ ),
- to examine their crystal structures by X-ray diffraction (XRD),
- to refine their unit cell parameters with the aid computer programs,
- to investigate the vibrational motions of B-O bonds in triangular  $\text{BO}_3$  units by IR technique,
- to study the thermal behaviors using TG/DTA
- to observe the morphology of prepared orthoborates by SEM.

The proposed reactions are given as follows:



## CHAPTER II

### EXPERIMENTAL TECHNIQUES

#### 2.1. CHEMICALS

The following chemicals were used in the synthesis of the products:

MnSO<sub>4</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O: Lachema (pure %99.00)

MgO: Merck (pure %99.00)

MgCO<sub>3</sub>: Merck (pure %99.00)

MgSO<sub>4</sub>: Lachema (pure %99.00)

Ni(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O: Aldrich

Co(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O: Lachema (pure %99.00)

H<sub>3</sub>BO<sub>3</sub>: Fluka (pure 99.5%)

Gd<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Merck (pure 99.9%)

KBr: Spectroscopic grade and it was used for making IR pellets.

It was dried at 180°C about 2 hours before using.

#### 2.2. INSTRUMENTATION

##### i.) X-Ray Powder Diffractometer

X-ray powder diffraction patterns ( XRD ) were recorded on Rigaku miniflex, BD127412, and CuK $\alpha$  (30-40 kV, 10-20 mA,  $\lambda$ =1.54056 Å) radiation. Indexing of

the XRD pattern was accomplished by a program developed in our laboratory and checked by the POWD program. The least square refinement procedure of the unit cell parameters was done by Jana2006.

## **ii.) Infrared Spectrophotometer**

Shimadzu Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) Spectrophotometer was used to obtain the spectra of the products in the region of the 4000-400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Spectra of solid samples were taken from KBr pellets using 0.0003:0.00050 (wt/wt) product to KBr ratio.

## **iii.) Thermogravimetric-Differential Thermal Analyzer (TG / DTA)**

TG /DTA 6300, SII EXSTAR 6000 Differential Thermal Analyser was used to investigate the thermal properties of products in the range of 20°C to 1400°C.

## **iv.) Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM)- Energy Dispersive X-ray (EDX)**

SEM-EDX photographs were taken using Jeol JSM 6390LV. The samples used for SEM were coated with carbon.

## **v.) Furnaces**

All the reactions have been carried out in air with the aid of Nuve MF 1400, Nuve 1200 and Protherm 1600 furnaces. Heating ranges were 450-900 °C.

## 2.3. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

### 2.3.1. Synthesis of $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ from $\text{MgO}$

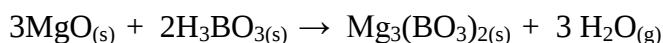
Stoichiometric amount of  $\text{MgO}$  and  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$  were mixed and grinded together in an agate mortar. Homogenized mixtures was transfered into a convenient porcelain crucible and placed into the furnace. The main products were obtained in four steps;

Firstly, the temperature was raised up to  $450^\circ\text{C}$  with an increase of  $15^\circ\text{C}$  per minute. After being held for 4 hours at  $450^\circ\text{C}$ , the mixture was taken out from the oven and cooled down and placed to the oven back again after crushing and blending well.

Secondly, the temperature was raised up to  $600^\circ\text{C}$  with an increase of  $1^\circ\text{C}$  per min and the mixture was held for 3 hours at  $600^\circ\text{C}$ . In the third stage, the specimen was heated four times to  $900^\circ\text{C}$  with an increase of  $1^\circ\text{C}$  per min and was held for 12 hours.

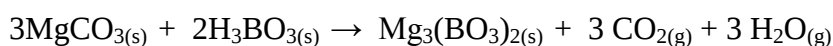
Finally, the product was cooled down to the room temperature with a decrease of  $1^\circ\text{C}$  per min [28,77,78].

At the end of each heating period, the mixtures were weighed, ground well and subjected to X-ray and IR analysis. The following reaction is predicted:



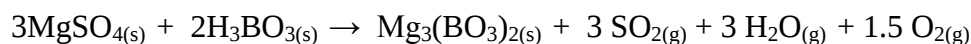
### 2.3.2. Synthesis of $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ from $\text{MgCO}_3$

The reaction mixture was prepared by weighing the stoichiometric amounts of reactants,  $\text{MgCO}_3$  and  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$ , separately and grinding together in an agate mortar, then heating by means of section 2.3.1. The expected reaction is:



### 2.3.3. Synthesis of $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ from $\text{MgSO}_4$

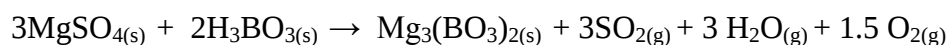
$\text{MgSO}_4$  and  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$  were used as magnesium and boron sources, respectively and the same procedure was followed in weighing, grinding and heating as mentioned in section 2.3.1. The desired reaction is;



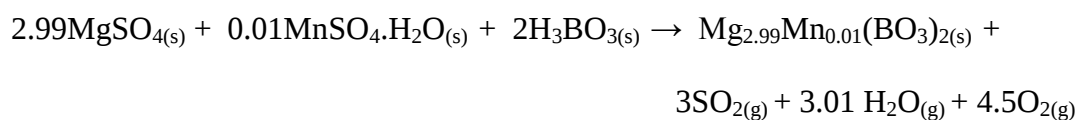
### 2.3.4. Solid State Reactions of $(3-x)\text{MgSO}_4 + x\text{MnSO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O} + 2\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$

The reaction mixtures were prepared for every x values ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.10$ ) by weighing separately the stoichiometric amounts of reactants,  $\text{MgSO}_4$ ,  $\text{MnSO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$ , and grinding homogeneously together in an agate mortar then each of them transferred into porcelain crucibles and placed into the furnace, then heating same procedure in section 2.3.1. The following reactions are expected:

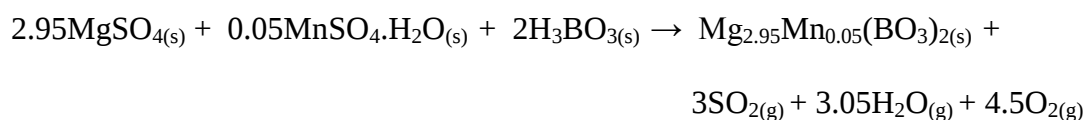
For  $x=0$ ;



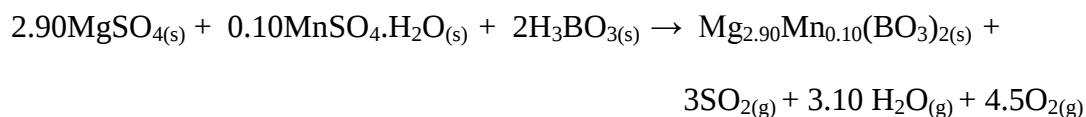
For  $x=0.01$ ;



For  $x=0.05$ ;



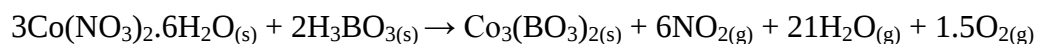
For x=0.10;



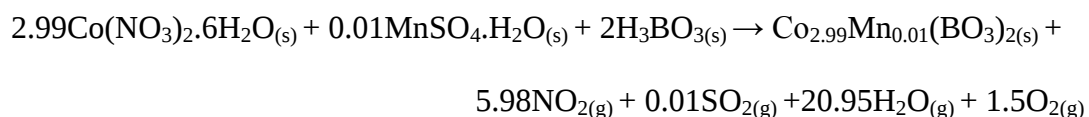
### 2.3.5. Solid State Reactions of $(3-x)\text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O} + x\text{MnSO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O} + 2\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$

Stoichiometric amounts of  $\text{Ni}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{MnSO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$  were used as a starting materials for each x values ( x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.10) and grinding homogeneously together in an agate mortar then each of them transferred into the porcelain crucibles and placed into the furnace, then heating same procedure in section 2.3.1. The following reactions are predicted:

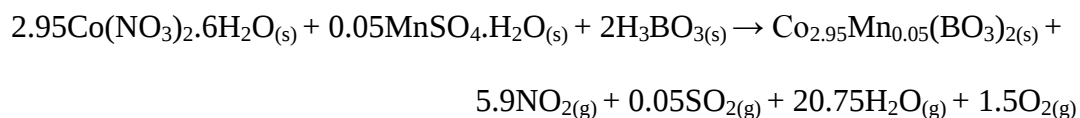
For x= 0,



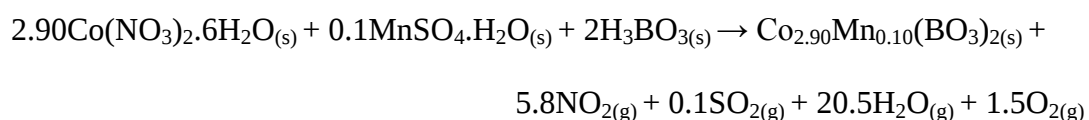
For x= 0.01,



For x= 0.05,



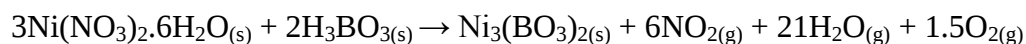
For x= 0.10,



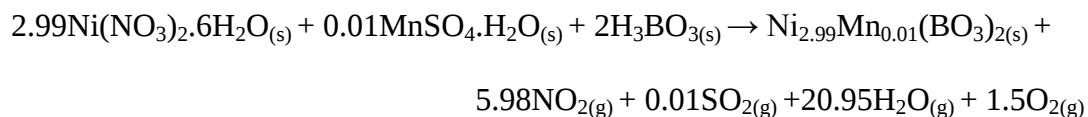
### 2.3.6. Solid State Reactions of $(3-x)\text{Ni}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O} + x\text{MnSO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O} + 2\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$

The amounts of starting materials calculated with the molar ratios changing  $x$  values,  $\text{Ni}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O} : \text{MnSO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O} : \text{H}_3\text{BO}_3 = 3-x : x : 2$  ( $x=0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.10$ ). Taken stoichiometric amounts of these powders were weighted separately and homogeneously mixed in an agate mortar with a pestle. Each homogenized mixtures was transferred into a convenient porcelain crucible and placed into the furnace. The main products were obtained with four periods in section 2.3.1. The following reactions are predicted:

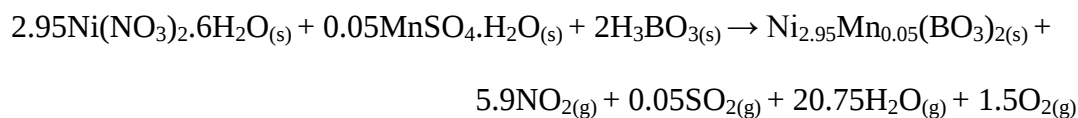
For  $x=0$ ,



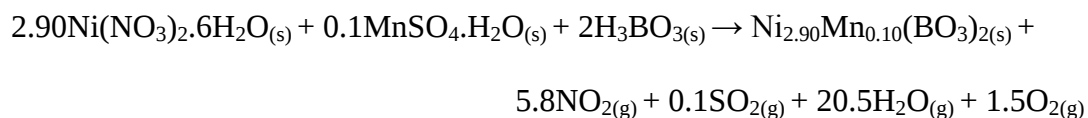
For  $x=0.01$ ,



For  $x=0.05$ ,



For  $x=0.10$ ,

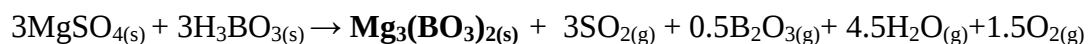
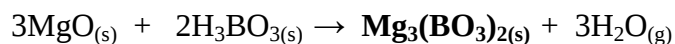


## CHAPTER III

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1. Synthesis of Magnesium Orthoborate, $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$

Various magnesium sources,  $\text{MgO}$ ,  $\text{MgCO}_3$ , and  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , were used to prepare magnesium orthoborate,  $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$  in pure form. Mg/B ratio was used in 3/2 mol ratios and heated at 450 °C for 4 hours, at 600 °C for 3 hours, and four times at 900 °C for 12hours. Then, Mg/B ratio was chaged to 3/3 and heated in the same procedure for the reaction of  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$  with  $\text{MgSO}_4$ . The following reactions were predicted;

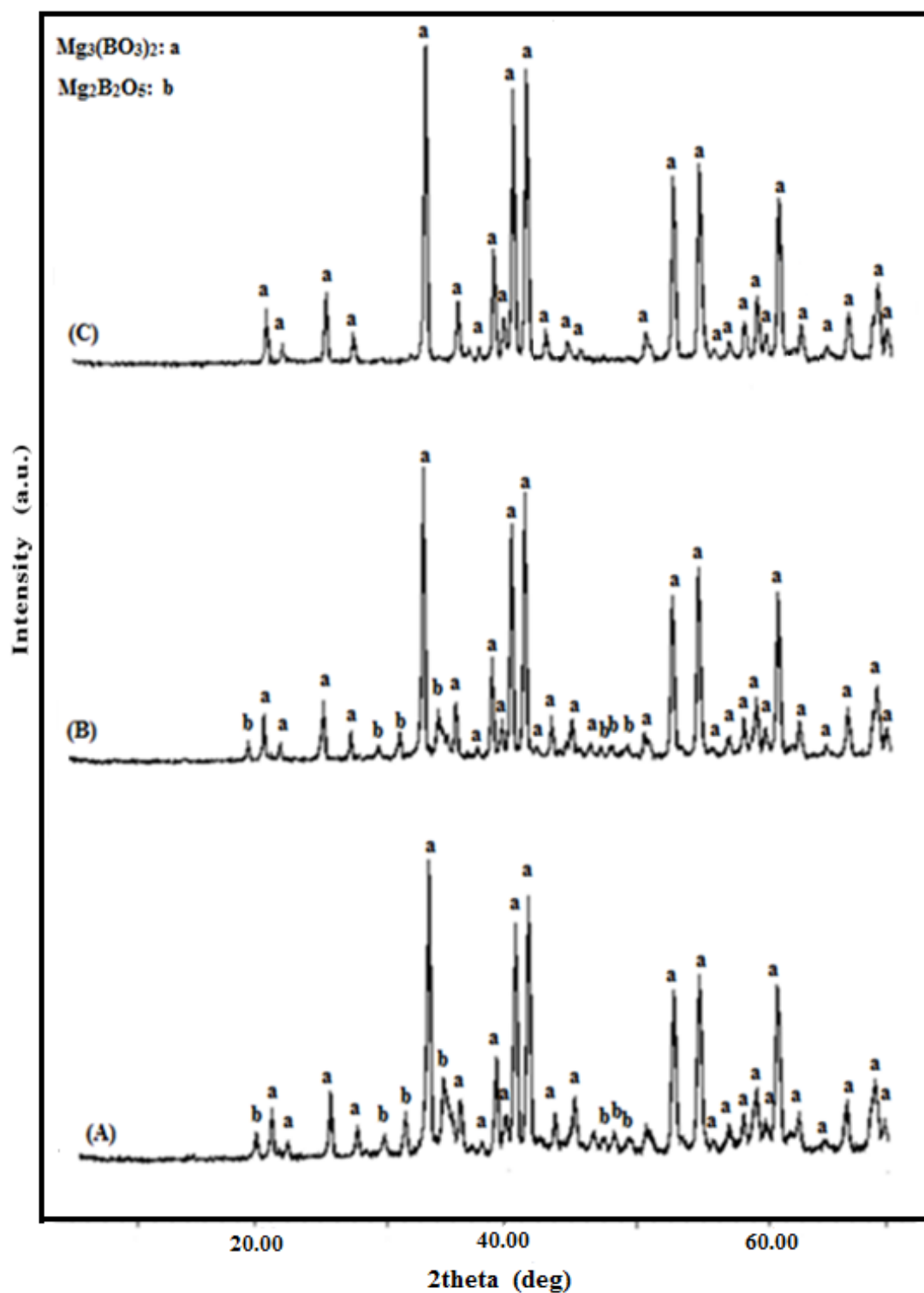


### 3.1.1. X-ray Powder Diffraction (XRD) Studies

Figure 3.1 shows X-ray powder diffraction patterns of magnesium orthoborates having kotoite type structure synthesized from different magnesium sources.

Examination of XRD patterns reveals that the products obtained by the reaction of MgO and MgCO<sub>3</sub> with H<sub>3</sub>BO<sub>3</sub> were kotoite, Mg<sub>3</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, and suanite, Mg<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>. The assignments of the characteristic reflections are made by comparing the patterns with the available data in ICDD cards 75–1807 for kotoite type magnesium orthoborate and 83–0625 for suanite type magnesium pyroborate.

However, in the XRD pattern of product prepared through the reaction of  $3\text{MgSO}_4 + 2\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$ , the lines belong to kotoite type of Mg<sub>3</sub>(BO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> as single phase was observed.



**Figure 3.1** XRD Patterns of synthesized  $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$  from (A) MgO, (B)  $\text{MgCO}_3$ , (C)  $\text{MgSO}_4$  as starting materials

### 3.1.2. Infrared Spectroscopy Studies

The infrared spectra of kotoite type magnesium orthoborates are given Figure 3.2. In the FTIR spectrum of borates, the vibrational bands concentrated on the wave number range of 2000–500  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and vibrational modes of the borate network have three region. The 1200-1600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  band is the first region, which is due to asymmetric stretching relaxation of the B-O bond of trigonal  $\text{BO}_3$  units. The second region is located between 800 and 1200  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and is due to the B-O bond stretching of tetrahedral  $\text{BO}_4$  units and the last band around 700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is due to the bending of B-O-B linkages in the borate network [78-82].

The structure of the  $\text{B}_2\text{O}_5$  group consists of two nonidentical  $\text{BO}_3$  triangles with one common oxygen atom. For this reason, the infrared spectrum of  $\text{Mg}_2\text{B}_2\text{O}_5$  can be interpreted on the basis of these two, non-identical joined triangles[83].

The FTIR spectrum of magnesium borate obtained from reaction of excess boric acid with magnesium sulphate are presented in Figure 3.2.a, the vibrational bands are observed at 1496, 1288, 1271, 1172, 1024, 837, 711, 660, 609, 496 and 449  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  which showed the existence of two different phases, kotoite,  $\text{Mg}_3\text{B}_2\text{O}_6$ , and synthetic suanite,  $\text{Mg}_2\text{B}_2\text{O}_5$  [83,84].

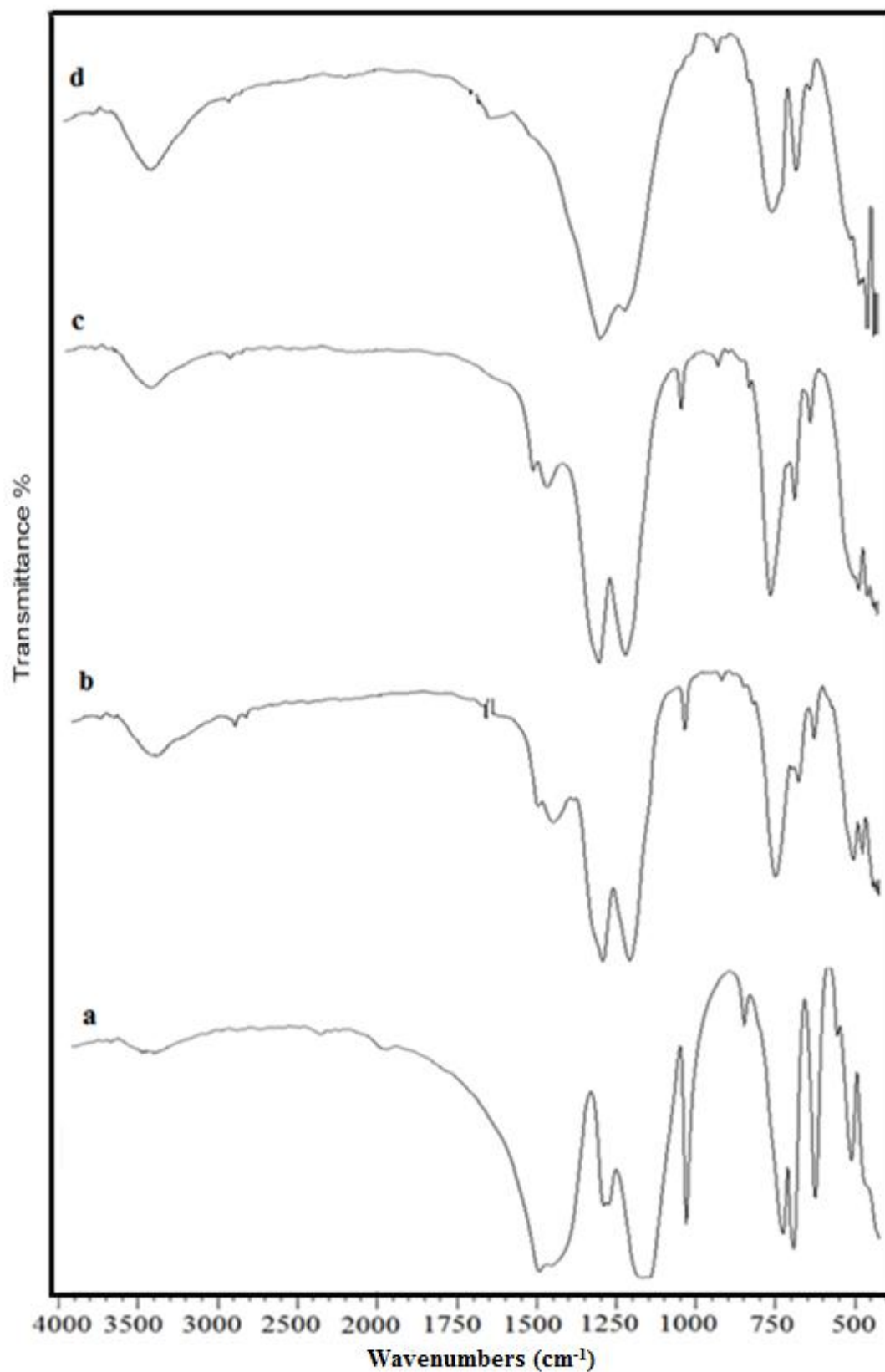
The band around 1293 and 1203  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are due to B-O stretching vibrations of  $\text{BO}_3^{3-}$  unit in orthoborates, other peaks appeared at 736, 661, 610, 486 and 420  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are due to the product synthesized from MgO. In addition to these, the vibration modes of magnesium pyroborates are shown as second phase at 1448, 1497, and 1028  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  [83,84].

In the FTIR spectrum of synthesized from  $\text{MgCO}_3$ , the asymmetric stretching, out of plane and in plane bending modes of B-O at 1290, 1205, 746, 664,

611, 462, and 430  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Also, second phase magnesium pyroborate vibrational bands are observed at 1502, 1455, and 1028  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  [83,84].

1278, 1196, 724, 664, 611, 496 and 420  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  vibrational bands, assigned as kotoite type borates, were observed in the infrared spectrum of magnesium orthoborate, synthesized from  $\text{MgSO}_4$ . It is obtained as single phase orthoborate in the form of kotoite, shown in Fig.3.2.d.

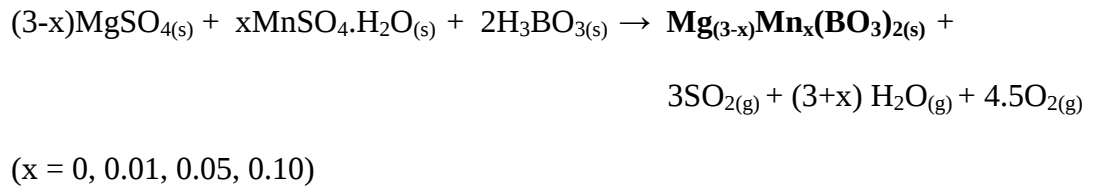
Similarly, the band in the region of 3200–3600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is ascribed to the vibrational motions of water groups. The absorption band at 3421 $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is attributed to symmetric OH stretching mode [80].



**Figure 3.2** IR Spectra of synthesized  $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$  from **a)** excess amount of  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3 + \text{MgSO}_4$  **b)**  $\text{MgO}$ , **c)**  $\text{MgCO}_3$ , **d)**  $\text{MgSO}_4$

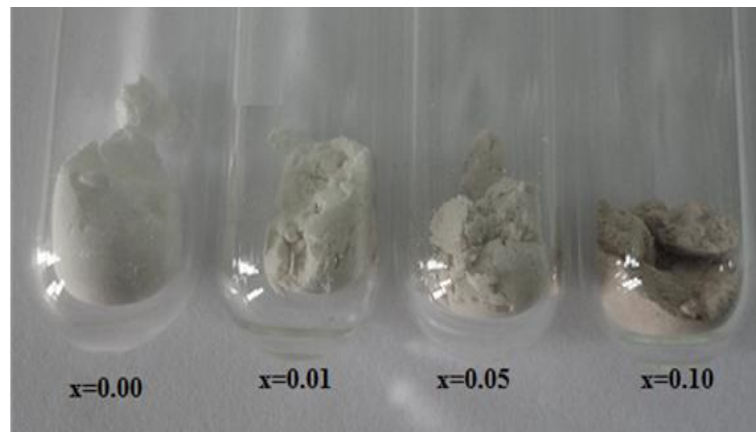
### 3.2. Synthesis of $\text{Mg}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, \text{ and } 0.10$ )

The stoichiometric mixture of reactants,  $\text{MgSO}_4$ ,  $\text{MnSO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$ , were heated at  $450^\circ\text{C}$  for 4 hours,  $600^\circ\text{C}$  for 3 hours, and 4 times at  $900^\circ\text{C}$  for 12 hours, to form of the compounds,  $\text{Mg}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  (  $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, \text{ and } 0.10$ ). The following reaction is expected;



#### 3.2.1. X-ray Power Diffraction ( XRD) Studies

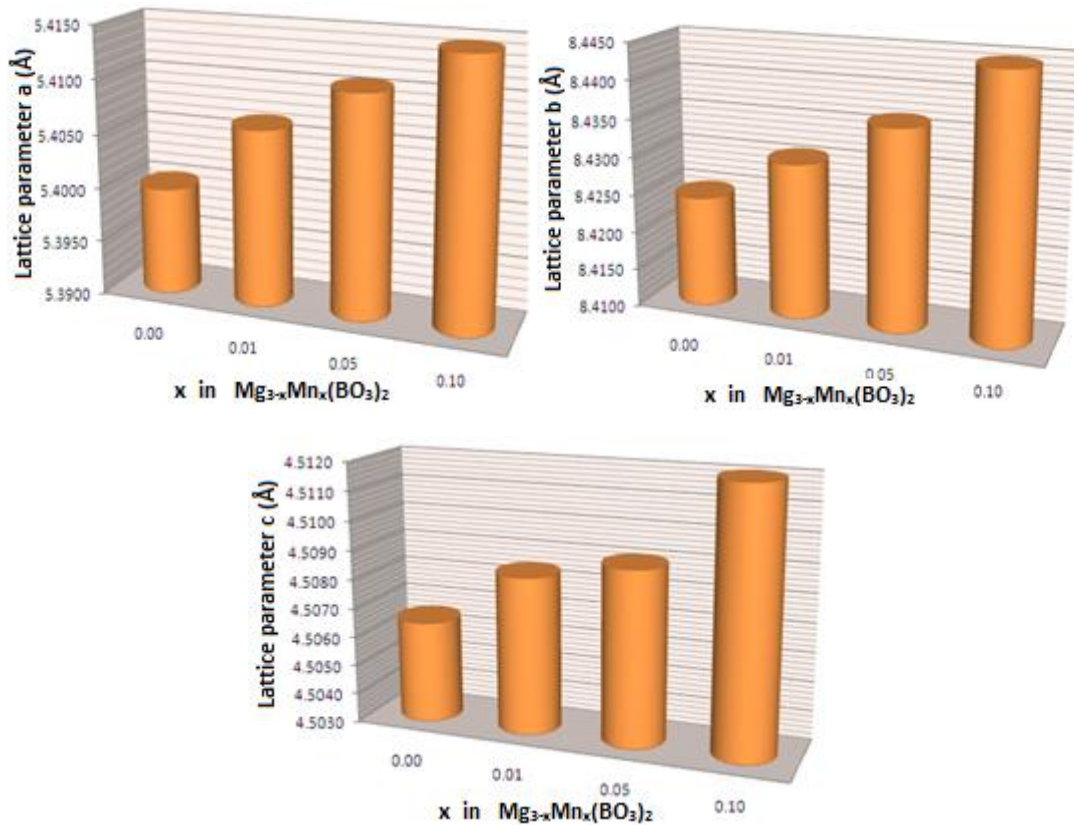
The X-ray powder diffraction patterns of the each products,  $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{Mg}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{Mg}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , and  $\text{Mg}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , were shown in Figure 3.5. The color of products became darker from white to brown with increasing doping amount of manganese (II) (Fig. 3.3.).



**Figure 3.3** Digital photos of  $\text{Mg}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  (  $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05 \text{ and } 0.10$ )

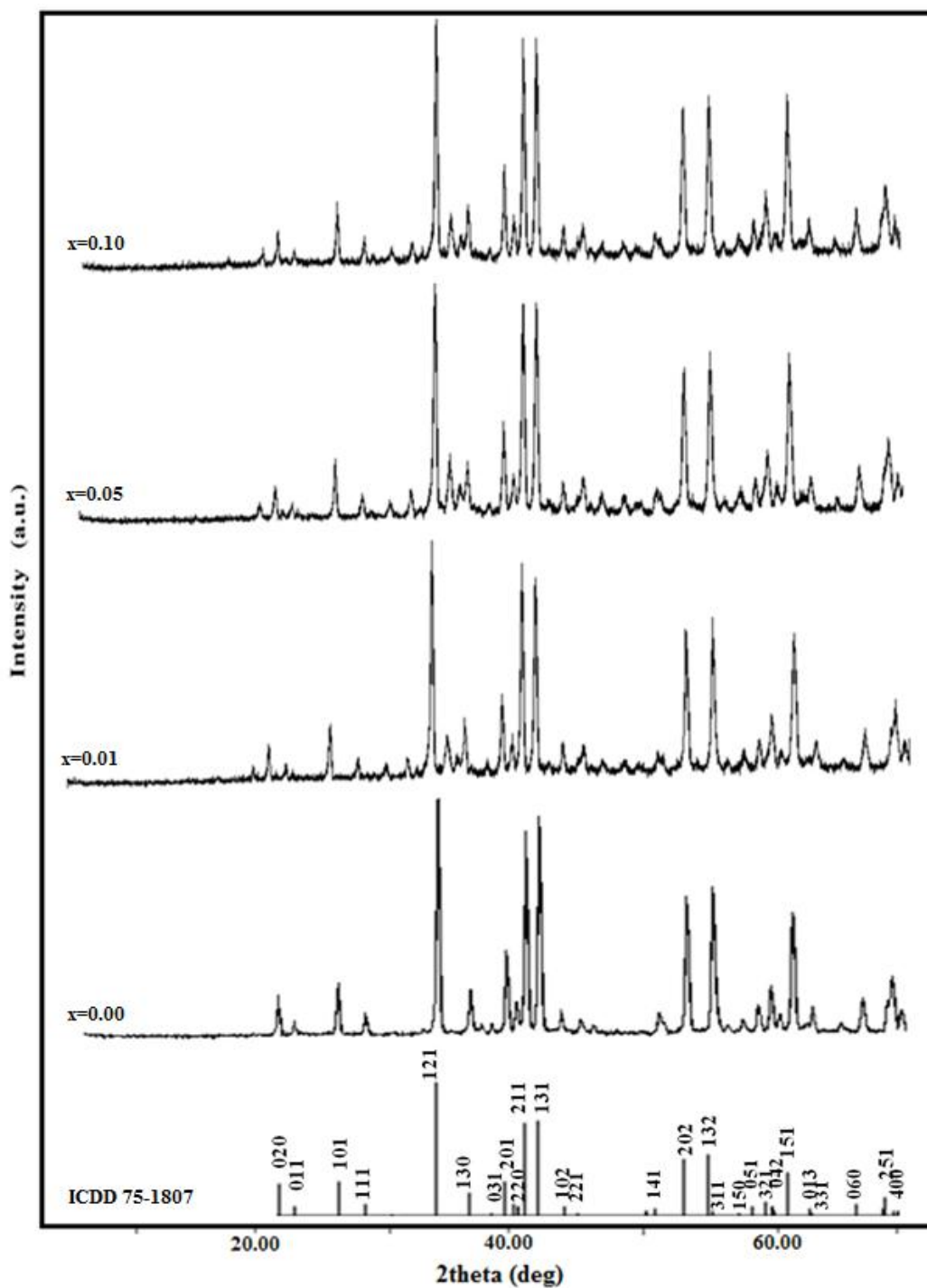
In the XRD patterns, all lines of the kotoite type of  $\text{Mg}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{Mg}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , and  $\text{Mg}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  were indexed in the orthorhombic crystal system. The observed and calculated d values were given in Table 3.1 to 3.3. The refined unit cell parameters were found as  $a= 5.406(3)$ ,  $b= 8.430(4)$ ,  $c= 4.508(4)$  Å;  $a= 5.410(4)$ ,  $b= 8.436(2)$ ,  $c= 4.507(8)$  Å and  $a= 5.144(4)$ ,  $b= 8.444(3)$ ,  $c=4.512(0)$  Å, respectively, in good agreement with the unit cell parameters of previously reported kotoite type magnesium orthoborate, so these compounds are isostructural each other [33,43].

Figure 3.4 shows the variation of the lattice parameters of  $\text{Mg}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  with the different values of x. It is observed that the cell parameters linearly increase with increasing of manganese ion concentration because of the larger ionic radius of manganese ion,  $r_{\text{Mn(II)}} = 0.97$  Å, than that of magnesium ion  $r_{\text{Mg(II)}} = 0.86$  Å [85].



**Figure 3.4** Lattice parameters of  $\text{Mg}_{(3-x)}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  as a function of substitution Mn content

The XRD patterns of the compounds are very similar to that of kotoite form of magnesium orthoborate, ICDD card No. 75-1807. However, through these patterns, small impurity lines were observed, these lines belong to suanite types of borate,  $\text{Mg}_2\text{B}_2\text{O}_5$  (ICDD card no. 83-0625)



**Figure 3.5** XRD Patterns of  $\text{Mg}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  (  $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05$  and  $0.10$  ) and ICDD 75-1807

**Table 3.1** The X-ray Powder Diffraction Data of  $\text{Mg}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ; orthorhombic with  $a= 5.406(3)$ ,  $b= 8.430(4)$ ,  $c= 4.508(4)$  Å

| No | hkl | $I/I_0$ | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{obs}}$ | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{cal}}$ | $d_{\text{obs}}$<br>(Å) | $d_{\text{cal}}$<br>(Å) | XRD data of<br>$\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$<br>(ICDD 75-1807) |         |
|----|-----|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
|    |     |         |                               |                               |                         |                         | d values                                                      | $I/I_0$ |
| 1  | 020 | 18      | 0.0340                        | 0.0336                        | 4.176                   | 4.202                   | 4.208                                                         | 25      |
| 2  | 011 | 7       | 0.0380                        | 0.0380                        | 3.952                   | 3.951                   | 3.966                                                         | 9       |
| 3  | 101 | 24      | 0.0503                        | 0.0500                        | 3.435                   | 3.445                   | 3.455                                                         | 27      |
| 4  | 111 | 12      | 0.0588                        | 0.0584                        | 3.181                   | 3.187                   | 3.196                                                         | 10      |
| 5  | 121 | 100     | 0.0838                        | 0.0836                        | 2.660                   | 2.664                   | 2.670                                                         | 100     |
| 6  | 130 | 22      | 0.0967                        | 0.0961                        | 2.476                   | 2.485                   | 2.489                                                         | 19      |
| 7  | 031 | 7       | 0.1052                        | 0.1052                        | 2.375                   | 2.374                   | 2.380                                                         | 4       |
| 8  | 201 | 41      | 0.1115                        | 0.1113                        | 2.307                   | 2.309                   | 2.314                                                         | 27      |
| 9  | 220 | 18      | 0.1159                        | 0.1154                        | 2.263                   | 2.267                   | 2.272                                                         | 11      |
| 10 | 211 | 88      | 0.1200                        | 0.1197                        | 2.223                   | 2.226                   | 2.231                                                         | 70      |
| 11 | 131 | 95      | 0.1259                        | 0.1256                        | 2.171                   | 2.174                   | 2.178                                                         | 71      |
| 12 | 102 | 17      | 0.1382                        | 0.1386                        | 2.072                   | 2.069                   | 2.076                                                         | 9       |
| 13 | 221 | 10      | 0.1455                        | 0.1449                        | 2.018                   | 2.024                   | 2.028                                                         | 4       |
| 14 | 112 | 14      | 0.1476                        | 0.1471                        | 2.005                   | 2.008                   | 2.015                                                         | 2       |
| 15 | 141 | 13      | 0.1847                        | 0.1844                        | 1.792                   | 1.794                   | 1.797                                                         | 7       |
| 16 | 202 | 63      | 0.1995                        | 0.1999                        | 1.724                   | 1.723                   | 1.728                                                         | 43      |
| 17 | 132 | 64      | 0.2136                        | 0.2140                        | 1.667                   | 1.665                   | 1.669                                                         | 46      |
| 18 | 311 | 8       | 0.2221                        | 0.2219                        | 1.635                   | 1.635                   | 1.639                                                         | 2       |
| 19 | 150 | 9       | 0.2307                        | 0.2304                        | 1.604                   | 1.605                   | 1.607                                                         | 4       |
| 20 | 051 | 16      | 0.2397                        | 0.2396                        | 1.573                   | 1.574                   | 1.576                                                         | 9       |
| 21 | 321 | 26      | 0.2467                        | 0.2470                        | 1.551                   | 1.550                   | 1.553                                                         | 13      |
| 22 | 042 | 12      | 0.2522                        | 0.2526                        | 1.534                   | 1.533                   | 1.536                                                         | 5       |
| 23 | 151 | 61      | 0.2595                        | 0.2599                        | 1.512                   | 1.511                   | 1.515                                                         | 33      |
| 24 | 330 | 61      | 0.2595                        | 0.2595                        | 1.512                   | 1.512                   | 1.515                                                         | 33      |
| 25 | 013 | 15      | 0.2724                        | 0.2743                        | 1.476                   | 1.471                   | 1.476                                                         | 7       |
| 26 | 331 | 7       | 0.2897                        | 0.2892                        | 1.431                   | 1.432                   | 1.435                                                         | 3       |
| 27 | 060 | 21      | 0.3019                        | 0.3023                        | 1.402                   | 1.401                   | 1.403                                                         | 10      |
| 28 | 251 | 29      | 0.3208                        | 0.3213                        | 1.360                   | 1.359                   | 1.361                                                         | 15      |
| 29 | 400 | 17      | 0.3270                        | 0.3270                        | 1.347                   | 1.347                   | 1.349                                                         | 6       |

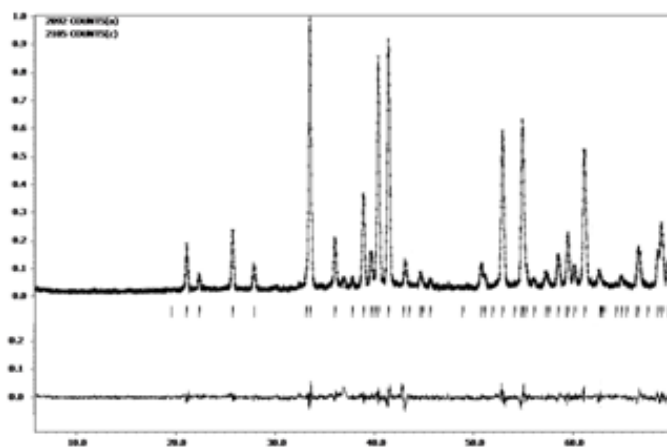
**Table 3.2** The X-ray Powder Diffraction Data of  $\text{Mg}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ; orthorhombic with  $a= 5.410(4)$ ,  $b= 8.436(2)$ ,  $c= 4.508(8)$  Å

| No | hkl | $I/I_0$ | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{obs}}$ | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{cal}}$ | $d_{\text{obs}}$<br>(Å) | $d_{\text{cal}}$<br>(Å) | XRD data of<br>$\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$<br>(ICDD 75-1807) |         |
|----|-----|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
|    |     |         |                               |                               |                         |                         | d values                                                      | $I/I_0$ |
| 1  | 020 | 17      | 0.0341                        | 0.0341                        | 4.174                   | 4.171                   | 4.208                                                         | 25      |
| 2  | 011 | 10      | 0.0383                        | 0.0383                        | 3.936                   | 3.936                   | 3.966                                                         | 9       |
| 3  | 101 | 28      | 0.0504                        | 0.0502                        | 3.432                   | 3.438                   | 3.455                                                         | 27      |
| 4  | 111 | 13      | 0.0586                        | 0.0587                        | 3.181                   | 3.179                   | 3.196                                                         | 10      |
| 5  | 121 | 100     | 0.0839                        | 0.0842                        | 2.659                   | 2.654                   | 2.670                                                         | 100     |
| 6  | 130 | 27      | 0.0967                        | 0.0971                        | 2.477                   | 2.472                   | 2.489                                                         | 19      |
| 7  | 031 | 10      | 0.1054                        | 0.1058                        | 2.373                   | 2.368                   | 2.380                                                         | 4       |
| 8  | 201 | 42      | 0.1116                        | 0.1115                        | 2.306                   | 2.307                   | 2.314                                                         | 27      |
| 9  | 220 | 22      | 0.1157                        | 0.1158                        | 2.264                   | 2.264                   | 2.272                                                         | 11      |
| 10 | 211 | 88      | 0.1198                        | 0.1199                        | 2.225                   | 2.224                   | 2.231                                                         | 70      |
| 11 | 131 | 89      | 0.1256                        | 0.1260                        | 2.173                   | 2.170                   | 2.178                                                         | 71      |
| 12 | 102 | 18      | 0.1382                        | 0.1388                        | 2.072                   | 2.068                   | 2.076                                                         | 9       |
| 13 | 112 | 11      | 0.1513                        | 0.1517                        | 1.980                   | 1.978                   | 2.015                                                         | 2       |
| 14 | 141 | 14      | 0.1847                        | 0.1851                        | 1.792                   | 1.790                   | 1.797                                                         | 7       |
| 15 | 202 | 63      | 0.1995                        | 0.2000                        | 1.724                   | 1.722                   | 1.728                                                         | 43      |
| 16 | 132 | 69      | 0.2136                        | 0.2140                        | 1.667                   | 1.665                   | 1.669                                                         | 46      |
| 17 | 311 | 12      | 0.2215                        | 0.2219                        | 1.637                   | 1.635                   | 1.639                                                         | 2       |
| 18 | 150 | 17      | 0.2310                        | 0.2312                        | 1.603                   | 1.602                   | 1.607                                                         | 4       |
| 29 | 051 | 19      | 0.2393                        | 0.2394                        | 1.574                   | 1.574                   | 1.576                                                         | 9       |
| 20 | 321 | 29      | 0.2465                        | 0.2461                        | 1.551                   | 1.552                   | 1.553                                                         | 13      |
| 21 | 042 | 17      | 0.2517                        | 0.2519                        | 1.535                   | 1.535                   | 1.536                                                         | 5       |
| 22 | 151 | 69      | 0.2594                        | 0.2597                        | 1.512                   | 1.512                   | 1.515                                                         | 33      |
| 23 | 330 | 69      | 0.2594                        | 0.2598                        | 1.512                   | 1.512                   | 1.515                                                         | 33      |
| 24 | 013 | 20      | 0.2722                        | 0.2726                        | 1.476                   | 1.475                   | 1.476                                                         | 7       |
| 25 | 331 | 11      | 0.2881                        | 0.2890                        | 1.435                   | 1.433                   | 1.435                                                         | 3       |
| 26 | 060 | 24      | 0.3022                        | 0.3032                        | 1.401                   | 1.398                   | 1.403                                                         | 10      |
| 27 | 251 | 36      | 0.3202                        | 0.3206                        | 1.361                   | 1.360                   | 1.361                                                         | 15      |
| 28 | 400 | 22      | 0.3262                        | 0.3262                        | 1.349                   | 1.349                   | 1.349                                                         | 6       |

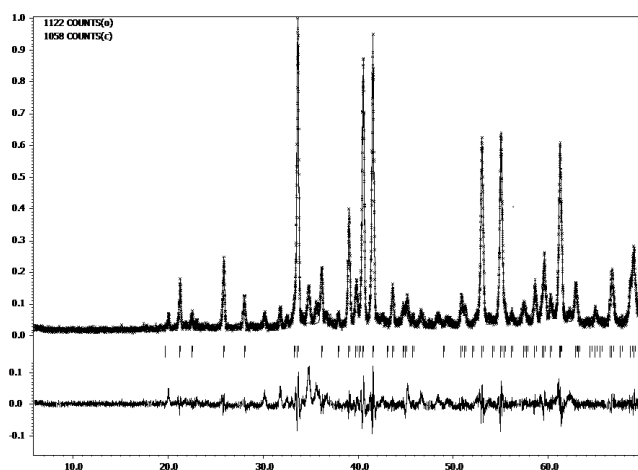
**Table 3.3** The X-ray Powder Diffraction Data of  $\text{Mg}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ; orthorhombic: with  $a= 5.144(4)$ ,  $b= 8.436(2)$ ,  $c= 4.512(0)$  Å

| No | hkl | $I/I_0$ | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{obs}}$ | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{cal}}$ | $d_{\text{obs}}$<br>(Å) | $d_{\text{cal}}$<br>(Å) | XRD data of<br>$\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$<br>(ICDD 75-1807) |         |
|----|-----|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
|    |     |         |                               |                               |                         |                         | d values                                                      | $I/I_0$ |
| 1  | 020 | 17      | 0.0342                        | 0.0341                        | 4.166                   | 4.171                   | 4.208                                                         | 25      |
| 2  | 011 | 10      | 0.0383                        | 0.0382                        | 3.938                   | 3.941                   | 3.966                                                         | 9       |
| 3  | 101 | 28      | 0.0504                        | 0.0502                        | 3.431                   | 3.437                   | 3.455                                                         | 27      |
| 4  | 111 | 15      | 0.0589                        | 0.0587                        | 3.173                   | 3.179                   | 3.196                                                         | 10      |
| 5  | 121 | 100     | 0.0840                        | 0.0843                        | 2.657                   | 2.653                   | 2.670                                                         | 100     |
| 6  | 130 | 26      | 0.0965                        | 0.0970                        | 2.479                   | 2.473                   | 2.489                                                         | 19      |
| 7  | 031 | 11      | 0.1052                        | 0.1056                        | 2.374                   | 2.370                   | 2.380                                                         | 4       |
| 8  | 201 | 43      | 0.1117                        | 0.1113                        | 2.304                   | 2.308                   | 2.314                                                         | 27      |
| 9  | 220 | 24      | 0.1159                        | 0.1155                        | 2.262                   | 2.266                   | 2.272                                                         | 11      |
| 10 | 211 | 90      | 0.1199                        | 0.1197                        | 2.224                   | 2.226                   | 2.231                                                         | 70      |
| 11 | 131 | 90      | 0.1259                        | 0.1261                        | 2.170                   | 2.169                   | 2.178                                                         | 71      |
| 12 | 102 | 18      | 0.1382                        | 0.1386                        | 2.072                   | 2.069                   | 2.076                                                         | 9       |
| 13 | 221 | 15      | 0.1452                        | 0.1450                        | 2.022                   | 2.023                   | 2.028                                                         | 4       |
| 14 | 112 | 20      | 0.1479                        | 0.1474                        | 2.003                   | 2.007                   | 2.015                                                         | 2       |
| 15 | 141 | 17      | 0.1847                        | 0.1851                        | 1.793                   | 1.790                   | 1.797                                                         | 7       |
| 16 | 202 | 64      | 0.1995                        | 0.2000                        | 1.723                   | 1.722                   | 1.728                                                         | 43      |
| 17 | 132 | 66      | 0.2139                        | 0.2144                        | 1.666                   | 1.666                   | 1.669                                                         | 46      |
| 18 | 311 | 14      | 0.2221                        | 0.2220                        | 1.635                   | 1.635                   | 1.639                                                         | 2       |
| 19 | 150 | 16      | 0.2313                        | 0.2316                        | 1.602                   | 1.601                   | 1.607                                                         | 4       |
| 20 | 051 | 19      | 0.2393                        | 0.2401                        | 1.575                   | 1.572                   | 1.576                                                         | 9       |
| 21 | 321 | 33      | 0.2467                        | 0.2471                        | 1.551                   | 1.550                   | 1.553                                                         | 13      |
| 22 | 042 | 12      | 0.2522                        | 0.2528                        | 1.534                   | 1.532                   | 1.536                                                         | 5       |
| 23 | 151 | 69      | 0.2594                        | 0.2596                        | 1.512                   | 1.512                   | 1.515                                                         | 33      |
| 24 | 330 | 69      | 0.2594                        | 0.2598                        | 1.512                   | 1.211                   | 1.515                                                         | 33      |
| 25 | 013 | 22      | 0.2722                        | 0.2730                        | 1.476                   | 1.474                   | 1.476                                                         | 7       |
| 26 | 331 | 14      | 0.2885                        | 0.2889                        | 1.434                   | 1.433                   | 1.435                                                         | 3       |
| 27 | 060 | 26      | 0.3017                        | 0.3042                        | 1.402                   | 1.397                   | 1.403                                                         | 10      |
| 28 | 251 | 33      | 0.3199                        | 0.3203                        | 1.362                   | 1.361                   | 1.361                                                         | 15      |
| 29 | 400 | 23      | 0.3271                        | 0.3272                        | 1.349                   | 1.346                   | 1.349                                                         | 6       |

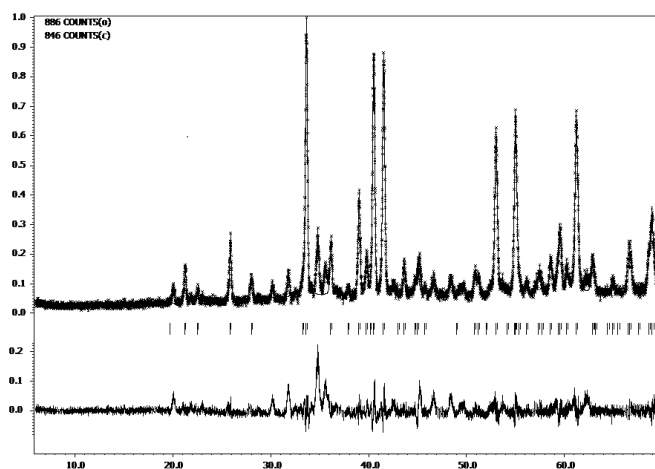
Refinement are made by using the program Jana2006 and the refinement patterns of compounds are shown in Figure 3.6 to 3.9



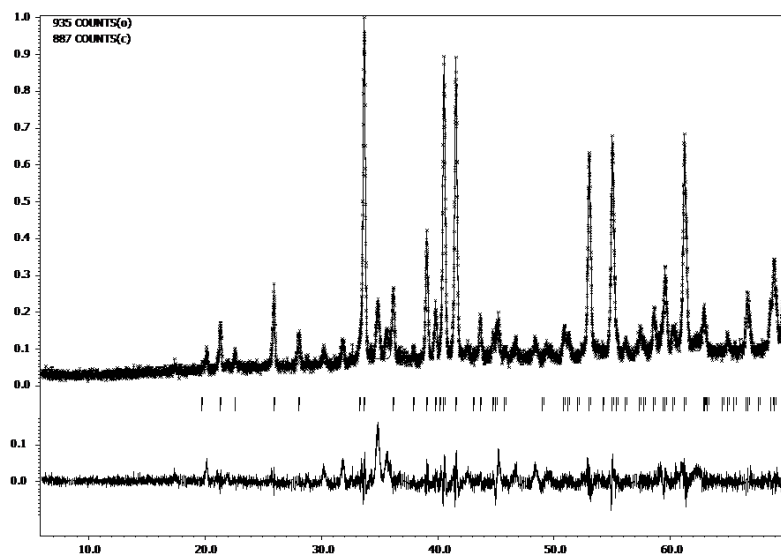
**Figure 3.6** Jana2006 refinement pattern of  $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$



**Figure 3.7** Jana2006 refinement pattern of  $\text{Mg}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



**Figure 3.8** Jana2006 refinement pattern of  $\text{Mg}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



**Figure 3.9** Jana2006 refinement pattern of  $\text{Mg}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$

The XRD data enable to investigate the effect of doped manganese (II) ion on structural parameters such as crystallite size ( $t$ ), density ( $d$ ), specific surface area ( $S$ ) of orthoborates. These parameters and details of Jana2006 refinement data and are given Table 3.4. It can be seen from the table that the value of crystallite size increases with increasing 'x' values of the formula;  $\text{Mg}_{(3-x)}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05$ , and  $0.10$ ). Obviously, it proves that doping of manganese (II) ion affect crystallite size of compounds.

**Table 3.4** Details of Jana2006 refinement and structural parameters of  $\text{Mg}_{(3-x)}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05$ , and  $0.10$ )

| <b>Samples</b>                                                     | <b><math>x = 0.00</math></b> | <b><math>x = 0.01</math></b> | <b><math>x = 0.05</math></b> | <b><math>x = 0.10</math></b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b><i>Diffractometer</i></b>                                       | Rigaku                       | Rigaku                       | Rigaku                       | Rigaku                       |
| <b><i>Radiation type</i></b>                                       | Cu K $\alpha$                | Cu K $\alpha$                | Cu K $\alpha$                | Cu K $\alpha$                |
| <b><i>Monochromator</i></b>                                        | Graphite                     | Graphite                     | Graphite                     | Graphite                     |
| <b><i>Wavelength (<math>\text{\AA}</math>)</i></b>                 | 1.5405                       | 1.5405                       | 1.5405                       | 1.5405                       |
| <b><i>Refined profile range (<math>^{\circ}2\theta</math>)</i></b> | 6.00-70.00                   | 6.00-70.00                   | 6.00-70.00                   | 6.00-70.00                   |
| <b><i>Step size (<math>^{\circ}2\theta</math>)</i></b>             | 0.02                         | 0.02                         | 0.02                         | 0.02                         |
| <b><i>GOF</i></b>                                                  | 1.90                         | 1.69                         | 1.73                         | 1.51                         |
| <b><i>R<sub>p</sub></i></b>                                        | 8.92                         | 10.2                         | 12.64                        | 10.93                        |
| <b><i>R<sub>WP</sub></i></b>                                       | 15.35                        | 13.29                        | 15.35                        | 15.41                        |
| <b><i>Symmetry</i></b>                                             | orthorhombic                 | orthorhombic                 | Orthorhombic                 | orthorhombic                 |
| <b><i>Space Group</i></b>                                          | Pnnm                         | Pnnm                         | Pnnm                         | Pnnm                         |
| <b><i>a (<math>\text{\AA}</math>)</i></b>                          | 5.399(9)                     | 5.406(3)                     | 5.410(4)                     | 5.414(4)                     |
| <b><i>b (<math>\text{\AA}</math>)</i></b>                          | 8.424(6)                     | 8.430(4)                     | 8.436(2)                     | 8.444(3)                     |
| <b><i>c (<math>\text{\AA}</math>)</i></b>                          | 4.506(5)                     | 4.508(4)                     | 4.508(8)                     | 4.512(0)                     |
| <b><i><math>\alpha</math> (<math>^{\circ}</math> degree)</i></b>   | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       |
| <b><i><math>\beta</math> (<math>^{\circ}</math> degree)</i></b>    | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       |
| <b><i><math>\delta</math> (<math>^{\circ}</math> degree)</i></b>   | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       |
| <b><i>V (<math>\text{\AA}^3</math>)</i></b>                        | 205.0                        | 205.5                        | 205.7                        | 206.3                        |
| <b><i>d (g/cm<sup>3</sup>)</i></b>                                 | 12.35                        | 12.36                        | 12.40                        | 12.56                        |
| <b><i>t (nm)</i></b>                                               | 30.29                        | 32.14                        | 36.16                        | 39.94                        |
| <b><i>S (m<sup>2</sup>/g)</i></b>                                  | 16.04                        | 15.05                        | 13.45                        | 11.96                        |

***GOF, R<sub>p</sub>, R<sub>WP</sub>***: agreement factors, ***a, b, and c***: lattice constants, ***V***: volume, ***t***: crystallite size, ***d***: density and ***S***: specific surface area

### 3.2.2. Infrared Spectroscopy Studies

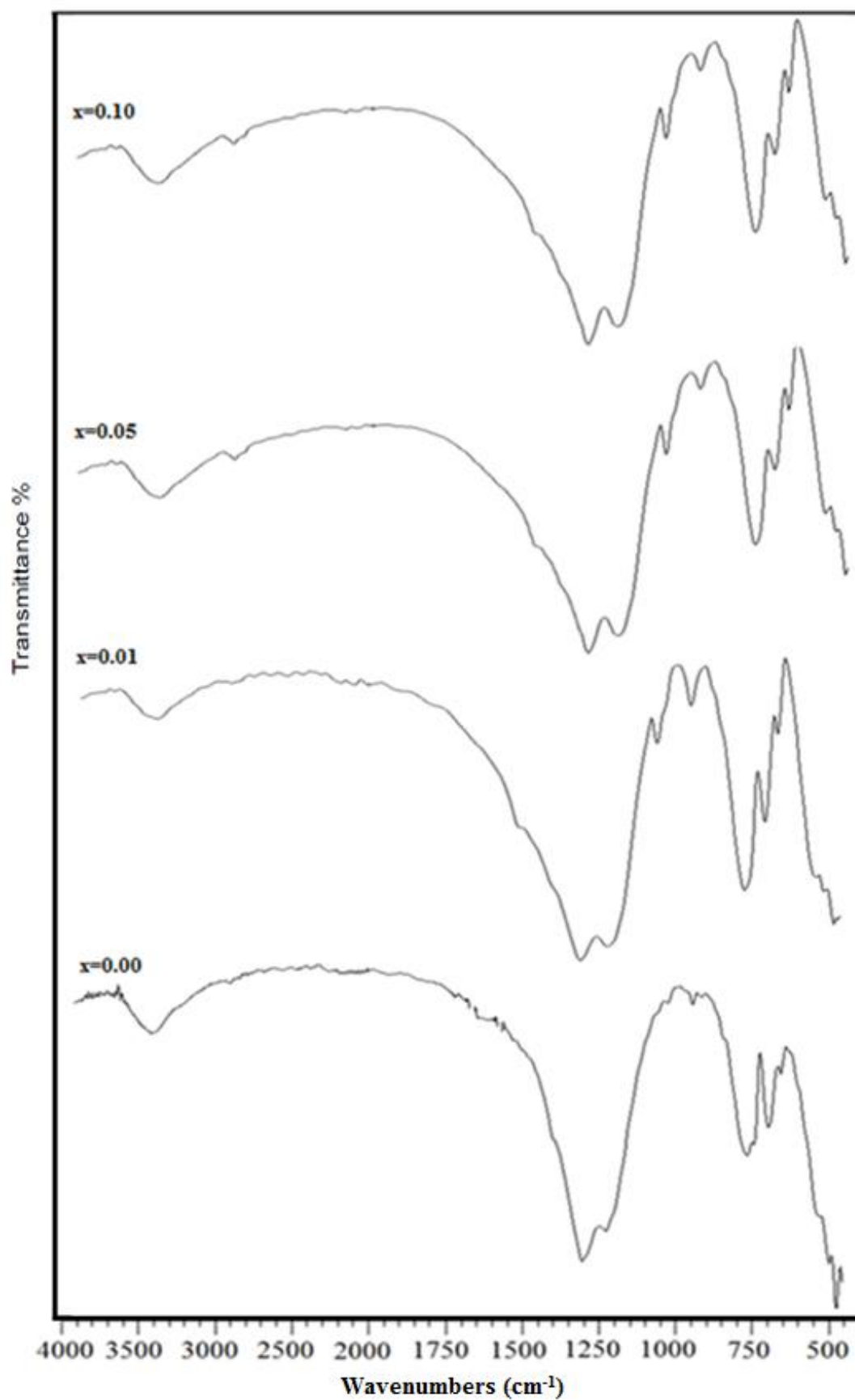
The IR spectra of borate were investigated in literature [78-82] and the characteristic vibration bands are dominated by six strong peaks, situated at 1000 and 1300  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; at 900 and 1000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and at 710 and 450  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  assigned to the antisymmetric stretching ( $\nu_3$ ), the symmetric bending ( $\nu_1$ ) and out/in of plane bend ( $\nu_2$ ) vibrational modes of the B-O ions, respectively.

The IR spectra of products were given in Figure 3.10 and the comparison of IR data of  $\text{Mg}_{(3-x)}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x= 0.01, 0.05$ , and  $0.10$ ) with kotoite type of magnesium orthoborate prove that all compounds have similar kotoite vibrational bands, and an additional peak of relatively small intensity around 1020  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . This band belongs to  $\text{BO}_3$  group of impurity phase,  $\text{Mg}_2\text{B}_2\text{O}_5$ . Our results are summarized in Table 3.5.

In the IR region between 2800 $\text{cm}^{-1}$ -3800 $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , the broad bands correspond to the stretching vibration of water molecules [80].

**Table 3.5** Infrared band wave numbers ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) and Assignments for  $\text{Mg}_{(3-x)}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x= 0, 0.01, 0.05$ , and  $0.10$ )

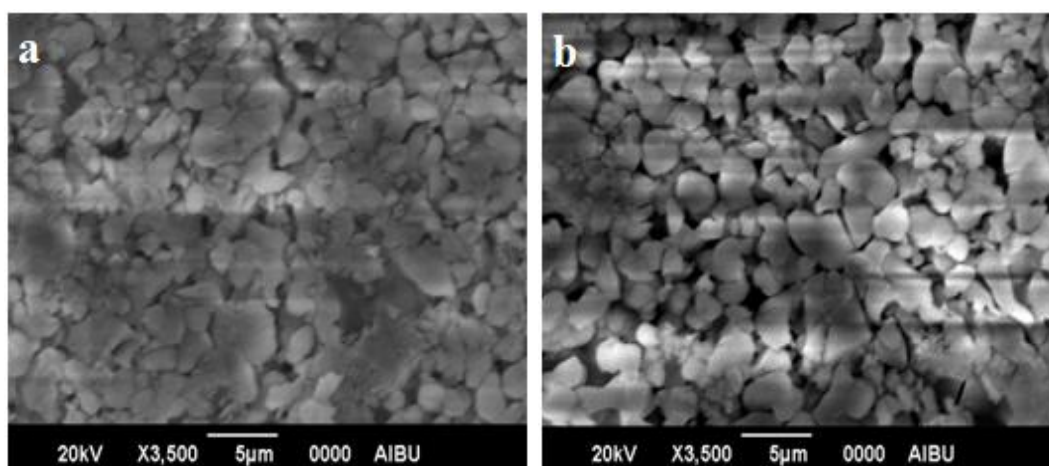
| Assignment           | x= 0.00    | x= 0.01    | x= 0.05    | x= 0.10    |
|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| $\nu_2(\text{BO}_3)$ | 733, 657   | 727, 657   | 721, 667   | 723,660    |
| $\nu_1(\text{BO}_3)$ | 910        | 908        | 908        | 908        |
| $\nu_3(\text{BO}_3)$ | 1285, 1202 | 1285, 1194 | 1285, 1180 | 1283, 1182 |
| $\nu_{\text{OH}}$    | 3379       | 3419       | 3373       | 3443       |



**Figure 3.10** IR Spectra of  $\text{Mg}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0.00, 0.01, 0.05$  and  $0.10$ )

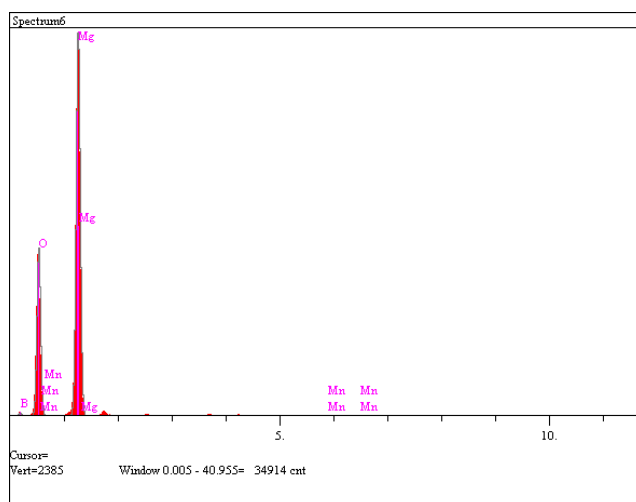
### 3.2.3. SEM and EDX Analysis of $\text{Mg}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$

The SEM images of samples,  $\text{Mg}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{Mg}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  are shown in Figure 3.11. The images give information about the particle size and the morphology of products. It can be clearly seen that the uniformity of specimens, regularly grained powder, and the images of  $\text{Mg}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{Mg}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  are very similar with each other.

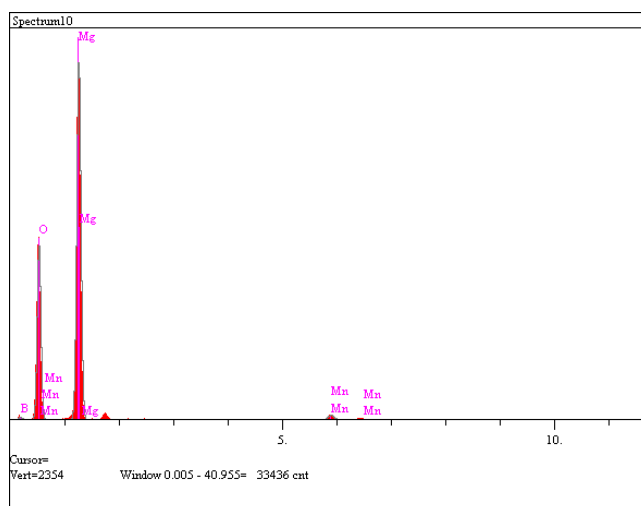


**Figure 3.11** SEM images of a)  $\text{Mg}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  and b)  $\text{Mg}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$

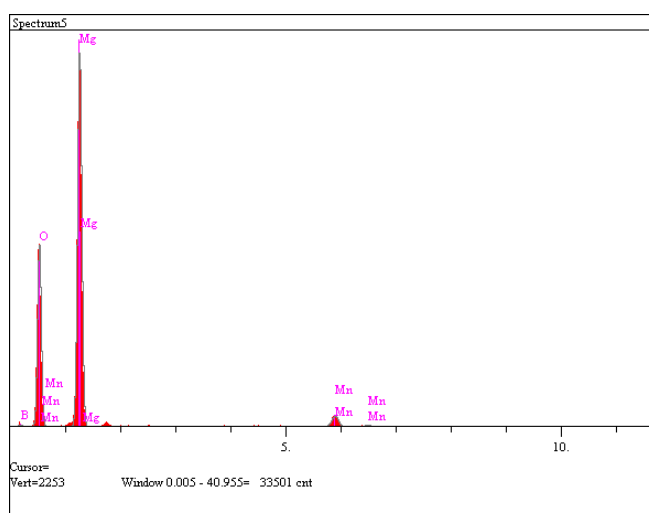
Through EDX analysis, shown in Figure 3.12 to 3.14, it was determined that the intensities of peaks attributed to manganese increase with increasing 'x' values at formula,  $\text{Mg}_{(3-x)}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  as 0.01, 0.05, and 0.10 as expected.



**Figure 3.12** EDX spectrum of  $\text{Mg}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



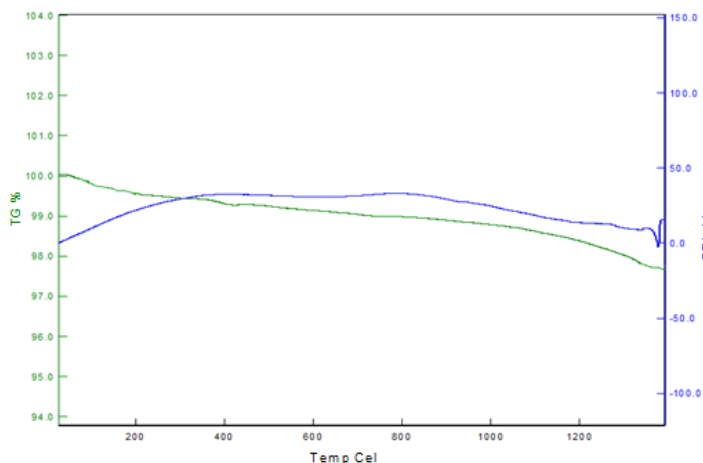
**Figure 3.13** EDX spectrum of  $\text{Mg}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



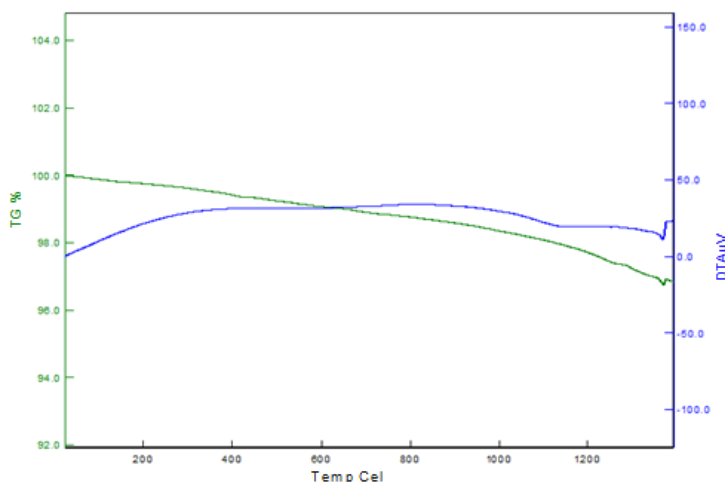
**Figure 3.14** EDX spectrum of  $\text{Mg}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$

### 3.2.4. Thermal Studies (DTA-TG) of $\text{Mg}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, \text{and } 0.10$ )

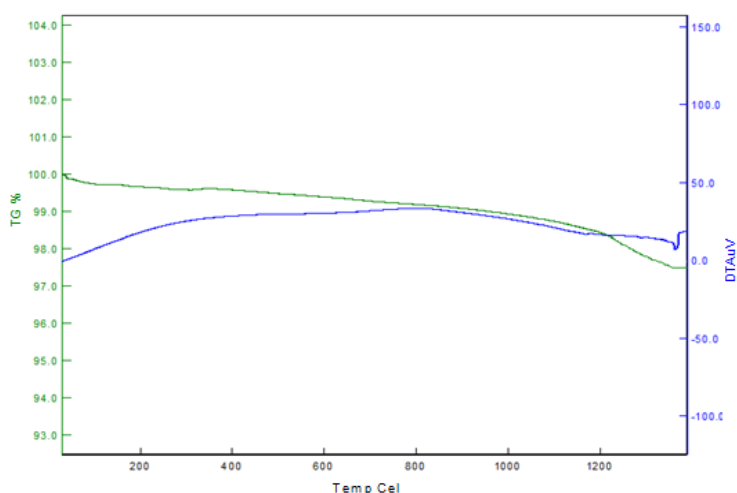
The DTA/TG curves of the magnesium orthoborate with manganese(II),  $\text{Mg}_{(3-x)}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, \text{and } 0.10$ ) are given from Figure 3.15 to Figure 3.18, respectively. The heating rate was  $10^\circ\text{C}/\text{min}$  in temperature range from room temperature to  $1400^\circ\text{C}$ . The curves indicate that these doped compounds are thermodynamically stable up to  $1380^\circ\text{C}$  and there are very small amount of weight loss in these temperature ranges. In addition to these, as amount of manganese increases, the melting point of doped samples changes. It proves that manganese presences in kotoite type of magnesium orthoborate.



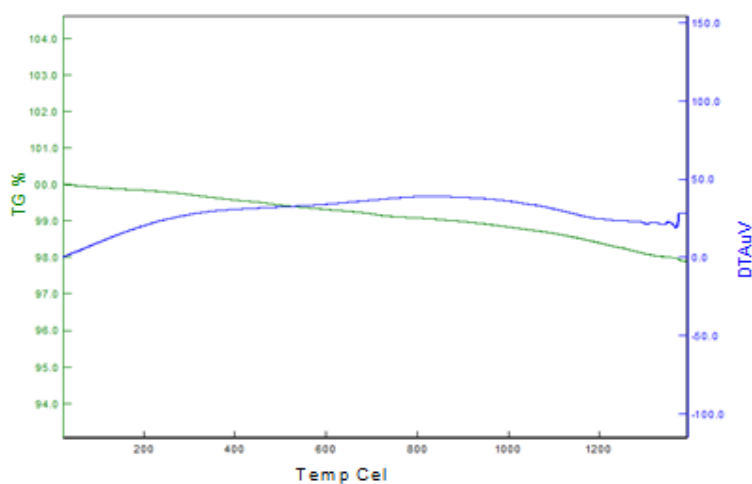
**Figure 3.15** DTA/TG of  $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$



**Figure 3.16** DTA/TG of  $\text{Mg}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



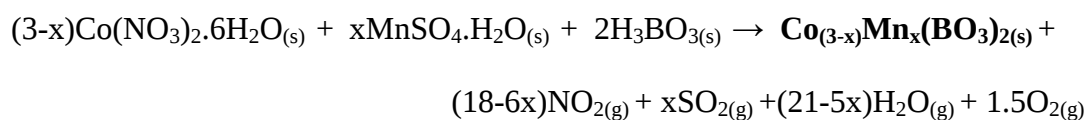
**Figure 3.17** DTA/TG of  $\text{Mg}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



**Figure 3.18** DTA/TG of  $\text{Mg}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$

### 3.3. Synthesis of $\text{Co}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, \text{ and } 0.10$ )

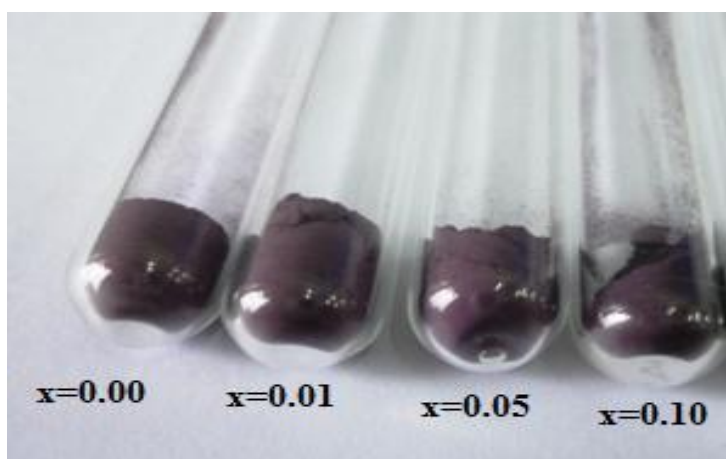
The chemical reactions for the solid state synthesis of manganese (II) ion doped to cobalt orthoborate to obtain the  $\text{Co}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  (  $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.10$  ) compounds, not reported in the literature, could be predicted as below;



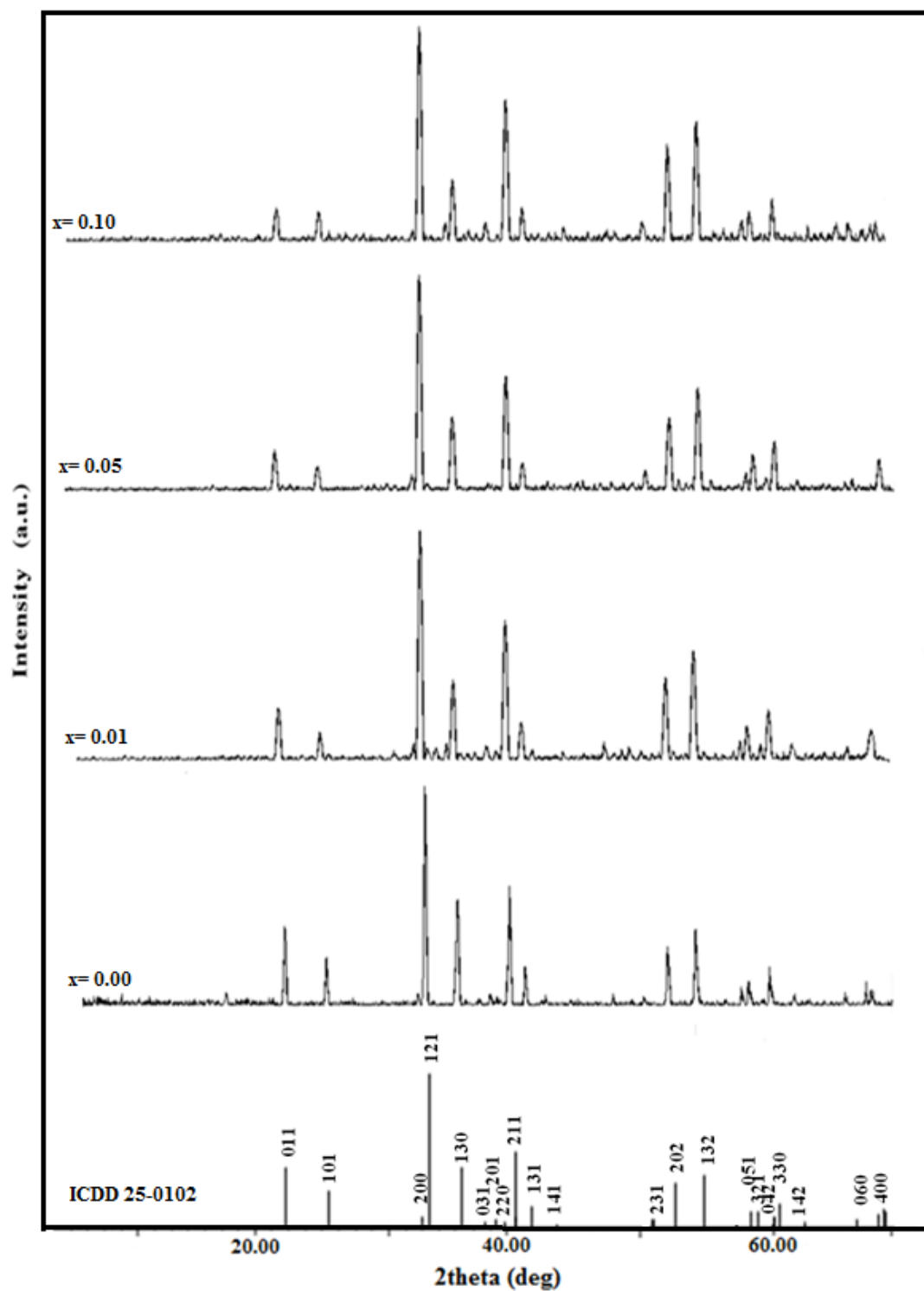
(  $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.10$  )

### 3.3.1. X-ray Power Diffraction ( XRD) Studies

The products obtained from different doped amount of magnesium (II) ions to cobalt orthoborate were subjected to X-ray powder diffraction analysis. The diffraction patterns observed for the each products  $\text{Co}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{Co}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{Co}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , and  $\text{Co}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  were found to be similar (Figure 3.20). The color of products became darker from purple to dark purple with increasing doping amount of manganese (II), digital photo of  $\text{Co}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05$  and  $0.10$ ) were given in Figure 3.19.



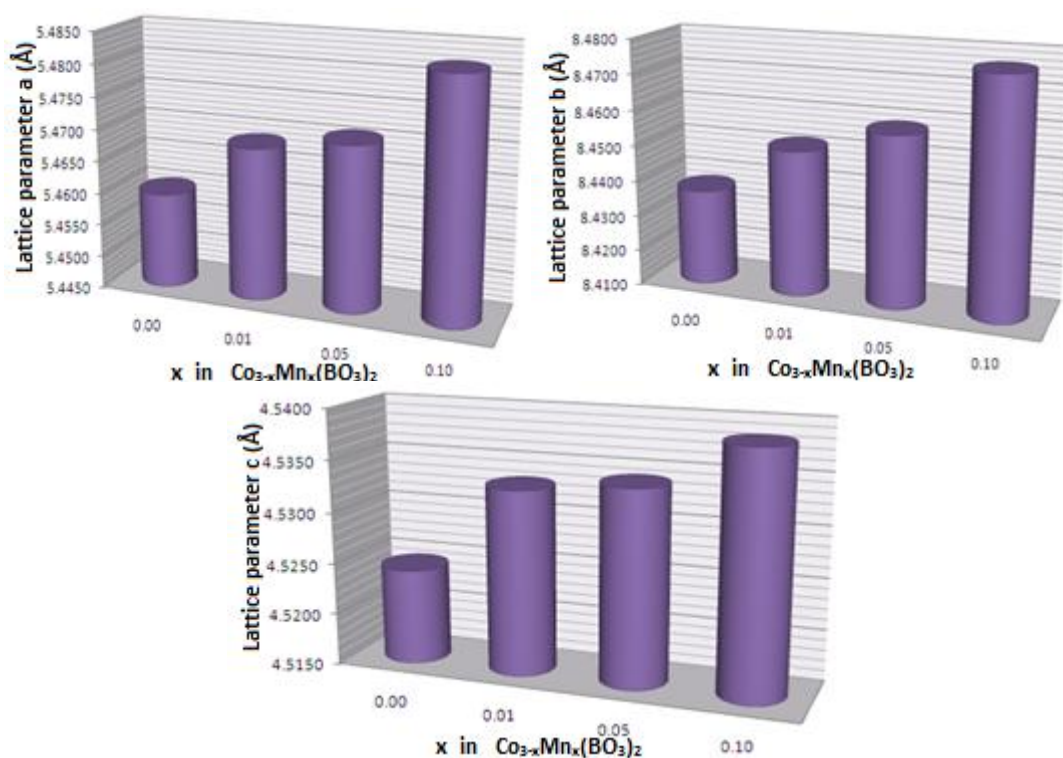
**Figure 3.19** Digital photo of  $\text{Co}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05$  and  $0.10$ )



**Figure 3.20** XRD Patterns of  $\text{Co}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05$  and  $0.10$ ) and ICDD 25-0102

In the analysis of the XRD patterns of the products,  $\text{Co}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0.01, 0.05, 0.10$ ), kotoite form of cobalt orthoborate lines (ICDD card No. 25-0102) were clearly observed and all lines in the XRD patterns were indexed in the orthorhombic crystal system, and details of indexes were given in Table 3.6 to 3.8, sequentially.

The refined unit cell parameters were calculated as  $a = 5.469(7)$ ,  $b = 8.451(2)$ ,  $c = 4.533(5)$  Å for  $\text{Co}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ;  $a = 5.469(9)$ ,  $b = 8.452(8)$ ,  $c = 4.533(8)$  Å for  $\text{Co}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  and  $a = 4.483(4)$ ,  $b = 8.476(4)$ ,  $c = 4.538(4)$  Å for  $\text{Co}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ . It is clearly seen that the powder data of products were found to be almost identical with previously reported kotoite type of  $\text{Co}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$  [33,43]. Change of lattice parameters with increasing Mn content  $x$  is shown in Fig. 3.21. The probable reason can be related that manganese ion,  $r_{\text{Mn(II)}} = 0.97$  Å, has the larger ionic radius than cobalt ion,  $r_{\text{Co(II)}} = 0.88$  Å [85].



**Figure 3.21** Lattice parameters of  $\text{Co}_{(3-x)}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  as a function of substitution Mn content

**Table 3.6** The X-ray Powder Diffraction Data of  $\text{Co}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  with refined cell parameters,  $a= 5.469(7)$ ,  $b= 8.451(2)$ ,  $c= 4.533(5)$  Å

| No | hkl | I/I <sub>0</sub> | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{obs}}$ | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{cal}}$ | $d_{\text{obs}}$<br>(Å) | $d_{\text{cal}}$<br>(Å) | XRD data of<br>$\text{Co}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$<br>(ICDD 25-0102) |                  |
|----|-----|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
|    |     |                  |                               |                               |                         |                         | d values                                                      | I/I <sub>0</sub> |
| 1  | 011 | 23               | 0.0377                        | 0.0374                        | 3.969                   | 3.988                   | 3.994                                                         | 40               |
| 2  | 101 | 11               | 0.0494                        | 0.0491                        | 3.465                   | 3.476                   | 3.489                                                         | 25               |
| 3  | 200 | 7                | 0.0805                        | 0.0802                        | 2.715                   | 2.719                   | 2.734                                                         | 9                |
| 4  | 121 | 100              | 0.0828                        | 0.0827                        | 2.677                   | 2.678                   | 2.689                                                         | 100              |
| 5  | 130 | 34               | 0.0955                        | 0.0956                        | 2.492                   | 2.491                   | 2.503                                                         | 40               |
| 6  | 031 | 4                | 0.1044                        | 0.1046                        | 2.384                   | 2.381                   | 2.391                                                         | 6                |
| 7  | 201 | 6                | 0.1095                        | 0.1092                        | 2.328                   | 2.331                   | 2.341                                                         | 8                |
| 8  | 220 | 3                | 0.1133                        | 0.1137                        | 2.288                   | 2.284                   | 2.295                                                         | 6                |
| 9  | 211 | 60               | 0.1174                        | 0.1176                        | 2.248                   | 2.246                   | 2.255                                                         | 50               |
| 10 | 131 | 17               | 0.1246                        | 0.1247                        | 2.182                   | 2.181                   | 2.190                                                         | 16               |
| 11 | 231 | 4                | 0.1836                        | 0.1841                        | 1.798                   | 1.795                   | 1.800                                                         | 8                |
| 12 | 202 | 35               | 0.1961                        | 0.1962                        | 1.739                   | 1.739                   | 1.744                                                         | 30               |
| 13 | 132 | 48               | 0.2118                        | 0.2113                        | 1.674                   | 1.675                   | 1.678                                                         | 35               |
| 14 | 051 | 6                | 0.2378                        | 0.2377                        | 1.579                   | 1.580                   | 1.582                                                         | 12               |
| 15 | 321 | 14               | 0.2425                        | 0.2425                        | 1.564                   | 1.564                   | 1.569                                                         | 13               |
| 16 | 042 | 6                | 0.2506                        | 0.2497                        | 1.539                   | 1.541                   | 1.544                                                         | 4                |
| 17 | 330 | 21               | 0.2546                        | 0.2550                        | 1.526                   | 1.525                   | 1.529                                                         | 18               |
| 18 | 142 | 7                | 0.2687                        | 0.2695                        | 1.486                   | 1.484                   | 1.486                                                         | 6                |
| 19 | 060 | 6                | 0.3031                        | 0.3005                        | 1.398                   | 1.405                   | 1.376                                                         | 10               |
| 20 | 400 | 13               | 0.3180                        | 0.3201                        | 1.366                   | 1.361                   | 1.366                                                         | 12               |

**Table 3.7** The X-ray Powder Diffraction Data of  $\text{Co}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  with refined cell parameters,  $a = 5.469(9)$ ,  $b = 8.452(8)$ ,  $c = 4.533(8)$  Å

| No | hkl | $I/I_0$ | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{obs}}$ | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{cal}}$ | $d_{\text{obs}}$<br>(Å) | $d_{\text{cal}}$<br>(Å) | XRD data of<br>$\text{Co}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$<br>(ICDD 25-0102) |         |
|----|-----|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
|    |     |         |                               |                               |                         |                         | d values                                                      | $I/I_0$ |
| 1  | 011 | 19      | 0.0378                        | 0.0375                        | 3.959                   | 3.978                   | 3.994                                                         | 40      |
| 2  | 101 | 11      | 0.0494                        | 0.0492                        | 3.465                   | 3.473                   | 3.489                                                         | 25      |
| 3  | 200 | 7       | 0.0892                        | 0.0802                        | 2.719                   | 2.719                   | 2.734                                                         | 9       |
| 4  | 121 | 100     | 0.0831                        | 0.0827                        | 2.672                   | 2.678                   | 2.689                                                         | 100     |
| 5  | 130 | 34      | 0.0955                        | 0.0954                        | 2.492                   | 2.494                   | 2.503                                                         | 40      |
| 6  | 201 | 3       | 0.1102                        | 0.1096                        | 2.320                   | 2.326                   | 2.341                                                         | 8       |
| 7  | 220 | 2       | 0.1135                        | 0.1136                        | 2.288                   | 2.285                   | 2.295                                                         | 6       |
| 8  | 211 | 53      | 0.1175                        | 0.1177                        | 2.246                   | 2.245                   | 2.255                                                         | 50      |
| 9  | 131 | 13      | 0.1248                        | 0.1246                        | 2.180                   | 2.182                   | 2.190                                                         | 16      |
| 10 | 141 | 3       | 0.1776                        | 0.1832                        | 1.827                   | 1.800                   | 1.805                                                         | 7       |
| 11 | 231 | 9       | 0.1841                        | 0.1846                        | 1.795                   | 1.793                   | 1.800                                                         | 8       |
| 12 | 202 | 34      | 0.1966                        | 0.1967                        | 1.737                   | 1.737                   | 1.744                                                         | 30      |
| 13 | 132 | 47      | 0.2118                        | 0.2120                        | 1.673                   | 1.673                   | 1.678                                                         | 35      |
| 14 | 051 | 7       | 0.2384                        | 0.2386                        | 1.577                   | 1.577                   | 1.582                                                         | 12      |
| 15 | 321 | 16      | 0.2431                        | 0.2430                        | 1.562                   | 1.562                   | 1.569                                                         | 13      |
| 16 | 042 | 5       | 0.2513                        | 0.2506                        | 1.536                   | 1.538                   | 1.544                                                         | 4       |
| 17 | 330 | 23      | 0.2552                        | 0.2557                        | 1.524                   | 1.523                   | 1.529                                                         | 18      |
| 18 | 142 | 5       | 0.2687                        | 0.2706                        | 1.485                   | 1.481                   | 1.486                                                         | 6       |
| 19 | 060 | 5       | 0.3019                        | 0.3016                        | 1.401                   | 1.402                   | 1.376                                                         | 10      |
| 20 | 400 | 14      | 0.3183                        | 0.3191                        | 1.365                   | 1.364                   | 1.366                                                         | 12      |

**Table 3.8** The X-ray Powder Diffraction Data of  $\text{Co}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  with refined cell parameters,  $a= 4.483(4)$ ,  $b= 8.476(4)$ ,  $c= 4.538(4)$  Å

| No | hkl | $I/I_0$ | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{obs}}$ | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{cal}}$ | $d_{\text{obs}}$<br>(Å) | $d_{\text{cal}}$<br>(Å) | XRD data of<br>$\text{Co}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$<br>(ICDD 25-0102) |         |
|----|-----|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
|    |     |         |                               |                               |                         |                         | d values                                                      | $I/I_0$ |
| 1  | 011 | 16      | 0.0383                        | 0.0381                        | 3.934                   | 3.948                   | 3.994                                                         | 40      |
| 2  | 101 | 14      | 0.0501                        | 0.0498                        | 3.441                   | 3.451                   | 3.489                                                         | 25      |
| 3  | 200 | 4       | 0.0809                        | 0.0810                        | 2.707                   | 2.706                   | 2.734                                                         | 9       |
| 4  | 121 | 100     | 0.0836                        | 0.0838                        | 2.663                   | 2.661                   | 2.689                                                         | 100     |
| 5  | 130 | 29      | 0.0964                        | 0.0967                        | 2.481                   | 2.476                   | 2.503                                                         | 40      |
| 6  | 031 | 6       | 0.1027                        | 0.1060                        | 2.403                   | 2.365                   | 2.391                                                         | 6       |
| 7  | 201 | 9       | 0.1099                        | 0.1101                        | 2.324                   | 2.312                   | 2.341                                                         | 8       |
| 8  | 220 | 3       | 0.1147                        | 0.1150                        | 2.274                   | 2.271                   | 2.295                                                         | 6       |
| 9  | 211 | 67      | 0.1183                        | 0.1188                        | 2.240                   | 2.234                   | 2.255                                                         | 50      |
| 10 | 131 | 16      | 0.1256                        | 0.1259                        | 2.174                   | 2.171                   | 2.190                                                         | 16      |
| 11 | 231 | 9       | 0.1837                        | 0.1870                        | 1.798                   | 1.781                   | 1.800                                                         | 8       |
| 12 | 202 | 44      | 0.1972                        | 0.1982                        | 1.734                   | 1.730                   | 1.744                                                         | 30      |
| 13 | 132 | 55      | 0.2124                        | 0.2129                        | 1.672                   | 1.669                   | 1.678                                                         | 35      |
| 14 | 051 | 8       | 0.2379                        | 0.2381                        | 1.579                   | 1.578                   | 1.582                                                         | 12      |
| 15 | 321 | 13      | 0.2423                        | 0.2427                        | 1.565                   | 1.563                   | 1.569                                                         | 13      |
| 16 | 330 | 20      | 0.2561                        | 0.2563                        | 1.522                   | 1.521                   | 1.529                                                         | 18      |
| 17 | 142 | 6       | 0.2774                        | 0.2775                        | 1.462                   | 1.462                   | 1.486                                                         | 6       |
| 18 | 060 | 7       | 0.2942                        | 0.2946                        | 1.420                   | 1.419                   | 1.407                                                         | 7       |
| 19 | 123 | 8       | 0.3013                        | 0.3015                        | 1.403                   | 1.403                   | 1.376                                                         | 10      |
| 20 | 251 | 7       | 0.3157                        | 0.3152                        | 1.370                   | 1.363                   | 1.369                                                         | 14      |
| 21 | 400 | 10      | 0.3186                        | 0.3191                        | 1.364                   | 1.364                   | 1.366                                                         | 12      |

Refined unit cell parameters are found using the program Jana2006, refinement details of Jana2006 and calculated structural parameters of  $\text{Co}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0.01, 0.05, 0.10$ ) such as crystallite size (t), density (d) and specific surface area (S) to observe the effect of doping of manganese (II) to orthoborate are given in Table 3.9. The measurements show that these compounds have slightly greater crystallite size than  $\text{Co}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , and as doping amount of manganese (II) increases, linearly increasing of the crystallite size of these compounds was observed.

**Table 3.9** Details of Jana2006 refinement and structural parameters of  $\text{Co}_{(3-x)}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, \text{ and } 0.10$ )

| <b>Samples</b>                                                    | <b><math>x = 0.00</math></b> | <b><math>x = 0.01</math></b> | <b><math>x = 0.05</math></b> | <b><math>x = 0.10</math></b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b><i>Diffractometer</i></b>                                      | Rigaku                       | Rigaku                       | Rigaku                       | Rigaku                       |
| <b><i>Radiation type</i></b>                                      | Cu K $\alpha$                | Cu K $\alpha$                | Cu K $\alpha$                | Cu K $\alpha$                |
| <b><i>Monochromator</i></b>                                       | Graphite                     | Graphite                     | Graphite                     | Graphite                     |
| <b><i>Wavelength (<math>\text{\AA}</math>)</i></b>                | 1.5405                       | 1.5405                       | 1.5405                       | 1.5405                       |
| <b><i>Refined profile range (<math>^\circ 2\theta</math>)</i></b> | 6.00-70.00                   | 6.00-70.00                   | 6.00-70.00                   | 6.00-70.00                   |
| <b><i>Step size (<math>^\circ 2\theta</math>)</i></b>             | 0.02                         | 0.02                         | 0.02                         | 0.02                         |
| <b><i>GOF</i></b>                                                 | 1.29                         | 1.01                         | 1.02                         | 1.03                         |
| <b><i>R<sub>p</sub></i></b>                                       | 2.26                         | 2.83                         | 2.83                         | 3.00                         |
| <b><i>R<sub>WP</sub></i></b>                                      | 3.21                         | 3.67                         | 3.65                         | 3.90                         |
| <b><i>Symmetry</i></b>                                            | orthorhombic                 | orthorhombic                 | orthorhombic                 | orthorhombic                 |
| <b><i>Space Group</i></b>                                         | Pnnm                         | Pnnm                         | Pnnm                         | Pnnm                         |
| <b><i>a (<math>\text{\AA}</math>)</i></b>                         | 5.459(8)                     | 5.469(7)                     | 5.469(9)                     | 5.483(4)                     |
| <b><i>b (<math>\text{\AA}</math>)</i></b>                         | 8.434(9)                     | 8.451(2)                     | 8.452(8)                     | 8.476(4)                     |
| <b><i>c (<math>\text{\AA}</math>)</i></b>                         | 4.524(3)                     | 4.533(5)                     | 4.533(8)                     | 4.538(4)                     |
| <b><i><math>\alpha</math> (<math>^\circ</math> degree)</i></b>    | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       |
| <b><i><math>\beta</math> (<math>^\circ</math> degree)</i></b>     | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       |
| <b><i><math>\delta</math> (<math>^\circ</math> degree)</i></b>    | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       |
| <b><i>V (<math>\text{\AA}^3</math>)</i></b>                       | 208.4                        | 209.6                        | 209.6                        | 210.9                        |
| <b><i>d (g/cm<sup>3</sup>)</i></b>                                | 18.77                        | 18.66                        | 18.64                        | 18.51                        |
| <b><i>t (nm)</i></b>                                              | 38.85                        | 39.42                        | 41.30                        | 43.38                        |
| <b><i>S (m<sup>2</sup>/g)</i></b>                                 | 8.23                         | 8.15                         | 7.79                         | 7.47                         |

***GOF, R<sub>p</sub>, R<sub>WP</sub>***: agreement factors, ***a, b, and c***: lattice constants, ***V***: volume, ***t***: crystallite size, ***d***: density and ***S***: specific surface area

### 3.3.2. Infrared Spectroscopy Studies

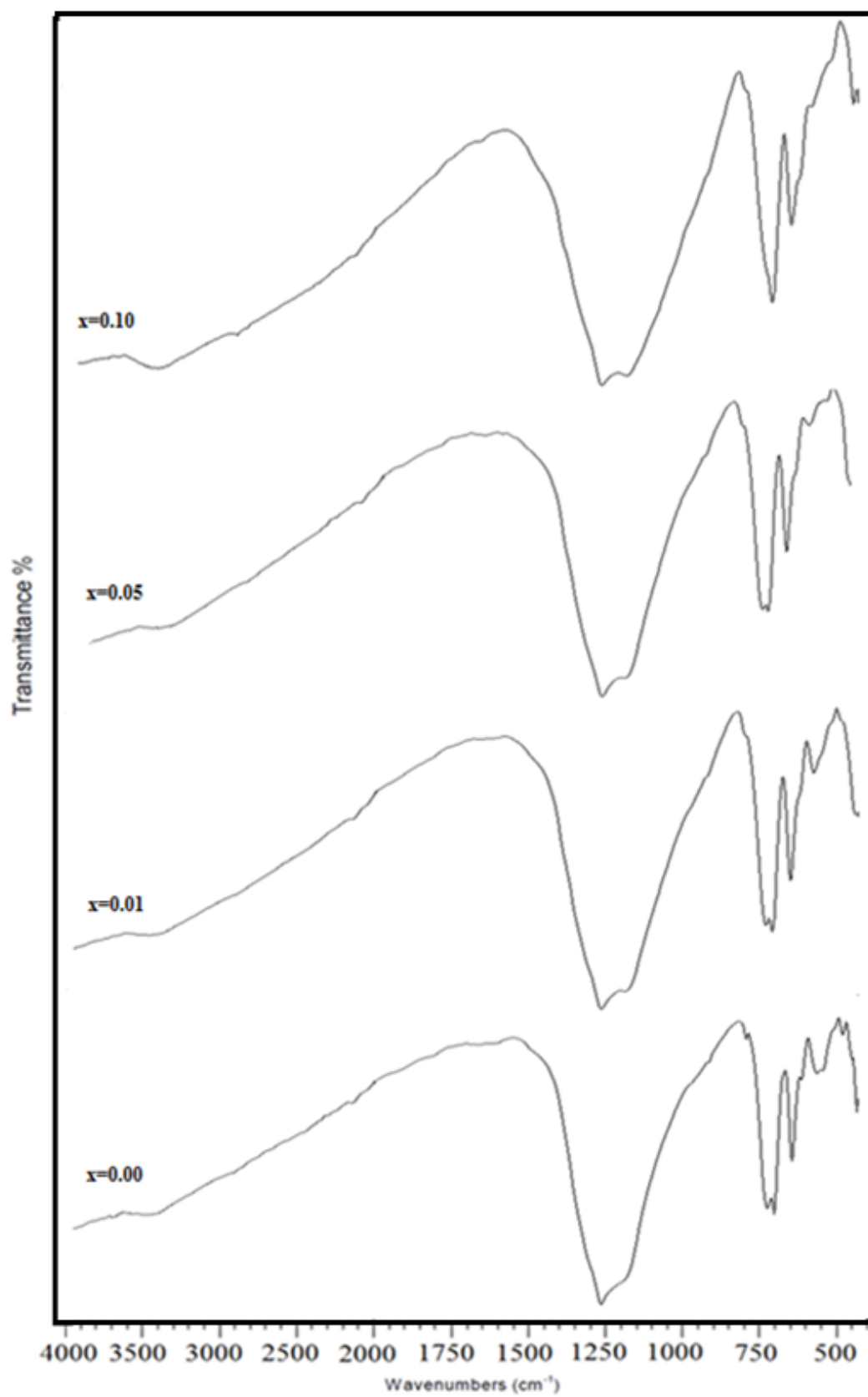
Infrared spectra of the kotoite type cobalt orthoborate compounds doped with different amount of manganese (II) ion are shown in Fig. 3.22, where the bands at around  $1250\text{ cm}^{-1}$  may be assigned as the  $\text{BO}_3$  antisymmetric stretching vibrations ( $\nu_3$ ); the bands in the frequency range  $900\text{ cm}^{-1}$  owing to symmetric stretching vibrations; the bands in the frequency range  $624.9\text{--}705.9\text{ cm}^{-1}$  caused by the out-of-plane bending vibrations ( $\nu_2$ ); the bands at about  $540.0\text{ cm}^{-1}$  due to the in plane bending modes ( $\nu_1$ ), and those below  $500\text{ cm}^{-1}$  attributed to lattice vibrations [ 28-54].

The characteristic stretching and bending vibration modes of assigned as the  $\text{BO}_3^{3-}$  in  $\text{Co}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  are at  $\nu_3$ :  $1251, 1175\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu_2$ :  $705, 682, 623\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu_1$ :  $546\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

$1252, 1171\text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( $\nu_3$ );  $708, 681, 625\text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( $\nu_2$ ); and  $547\text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( $\nu_1$ ) vibration bands were observed in the IR spectrum of  $\text{Co}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ .

The absorption bands of  $\text{Co}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  were observed at  $1252, 1167\text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( $\nu_3$ );  $682, 621\text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( $\nu_2$ );  $553\text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( $\nu_1$ ).

It is clearly shown that IR vibration bands of products are in good agreement with that of  $\text{Co}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ . As a summary, the IR spectra for  $\text{Co}_{(3-x)}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x= 0, 0.01, 0.05$ , and  $0.10$ ) compounds confirm the existence of the  $(\text{BO}_3)^{3-}$  groups.

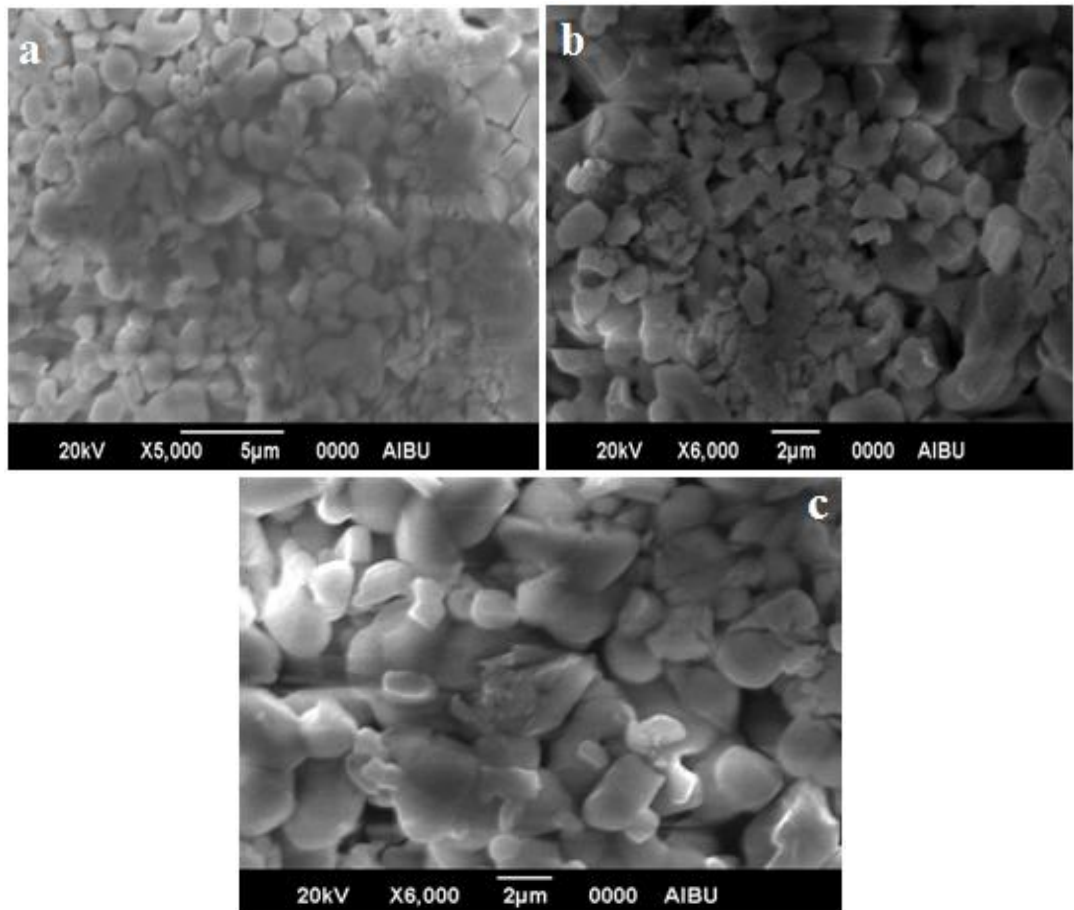


**Figure 3.22** IR Spectra of  $\text{Co}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0.00, 0.01, 0.05$  and  $0.10$ )

### 3.3.3. SEM and EDX Analysis of $\text{Co}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, \text{ and } 0.10$ )

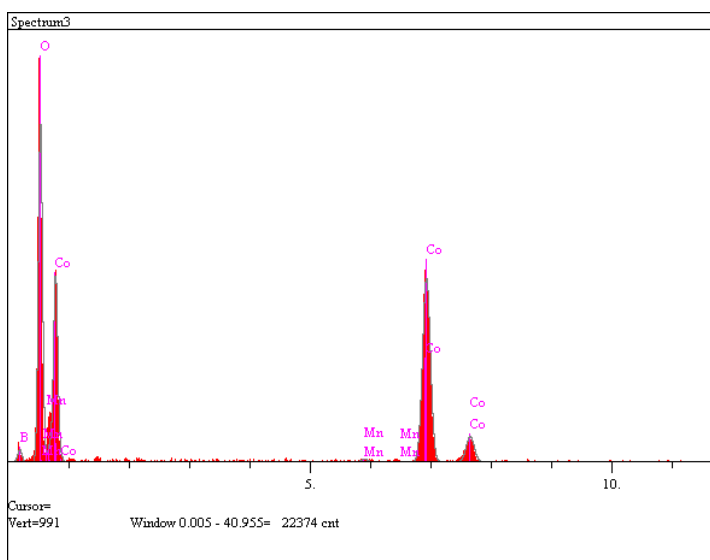
The SEM images of products,  $\text{Co}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{Co}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , and  $\text{Co}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  are shown in Figure 3.23.

It can be seen from the images that particle size of  $\text{Co}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  is smaller and agglomerated together to form larger particles than the others. Moreover, for having more amount of doping manganese (II) samples, its surface is smooth and have fine particles. This indicates that the increasing doping amount of manganese (II) inhibits the particle growth.

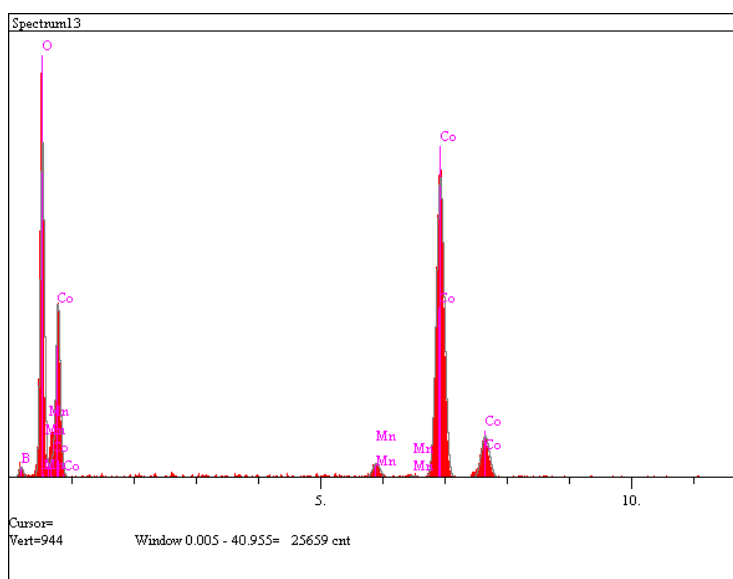


**Figure 3.23** SEM images of a)  $\text{Co}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , b)  $\text{Co}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  and c)  $\text{Co}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$

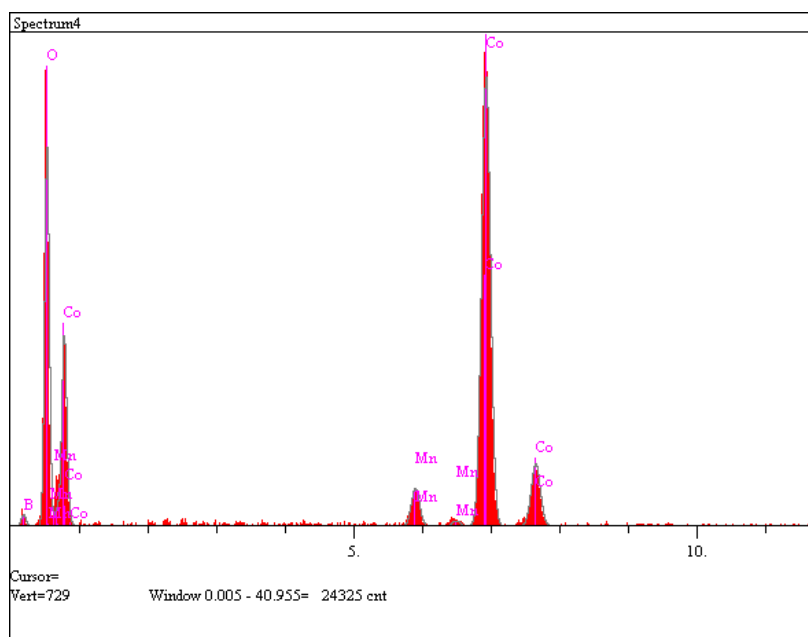
The presence of Co, Mn, B, and O elements in  $\text{Co}_{(3-x)}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x=0.01, 0.05, 0.10$ ) were determined through the EDX analysis of the products, shown in Figure 3.24 to 3.26. The analysis shows that the intensities of peaks attributed to manganese (II) increase as increasing the doping amount of manganese, as expected.



**Figure 3.24** EDX spectrum of  $\text{Co}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



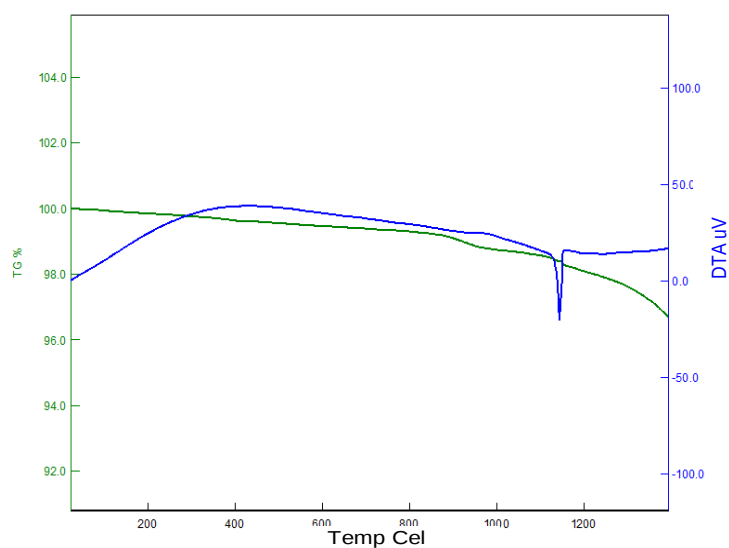
**Figure 3.25** EDX spectrum of  $\text{Co}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



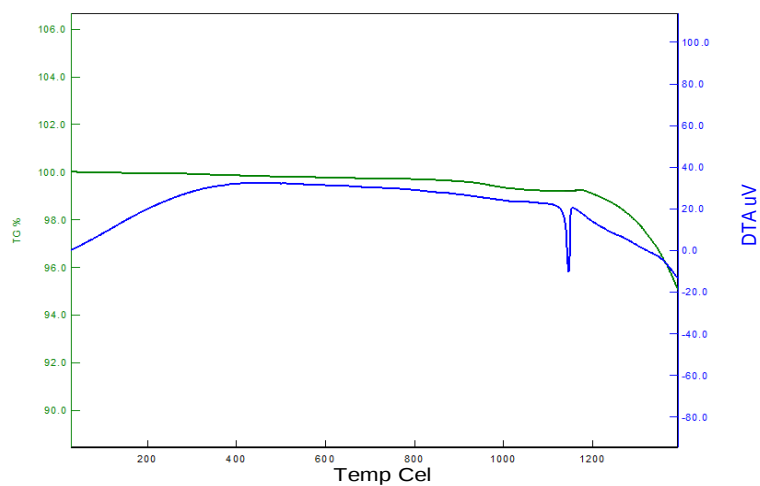
**Figure 3.26** EDX spectrum of  $\text{Co}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$

### 3.3.4. Thermal Studies (DTA-TG) of $\text{Co}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, \text{and } 0.10$ )

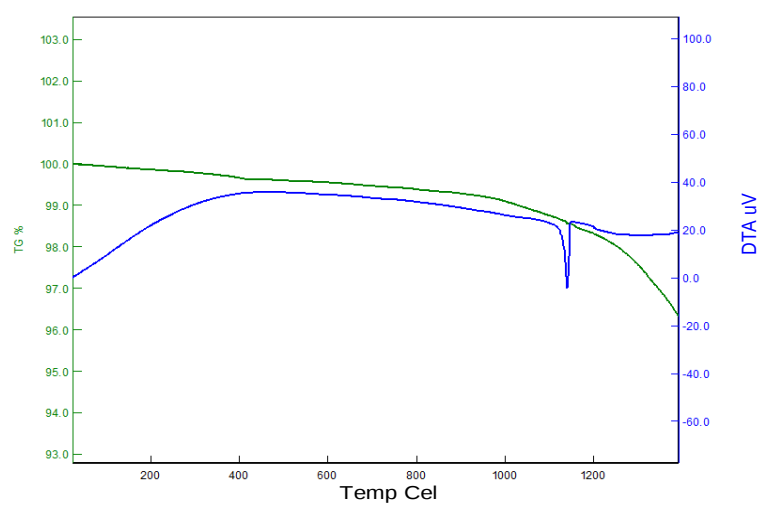
The DTA/TG curves of the cobalt orthoborate with manganese(II),  $\text{Co}_{(3-x)}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, \text{and } 0.10$ ) are given in Figure 3.27 to Figure 3.30, respectively. The curves indicate that there is no weight loss from 20 to 1170 °C. Moreover, it shows that these compounds are thermally stable within these temperature ranges. In addition to these, as amount of manganese increases, the melting point of doped samples changes. These changes exhibit that manganese existences in kotoite type of cobalt orthoborate.



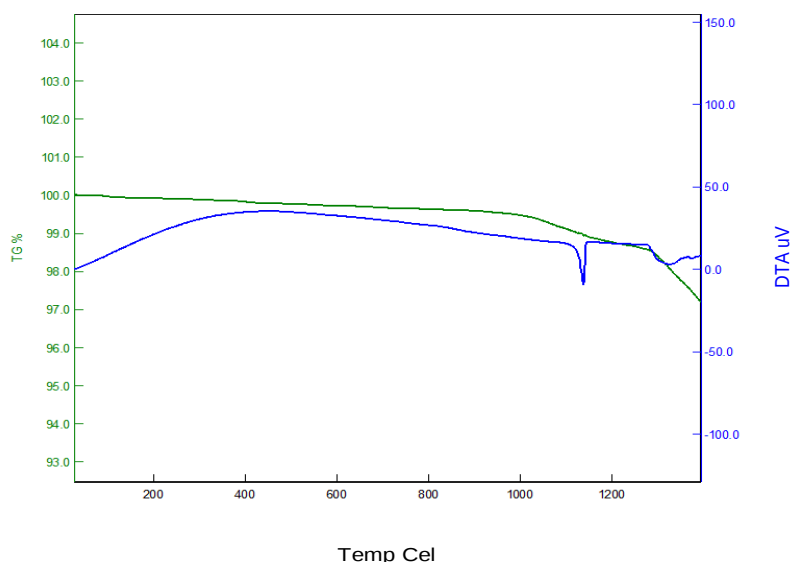
**Figure 3.27** DTA/TG of  $\text{Co}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$



**Figure 3.28** DTA/TG of  $\text{Co}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



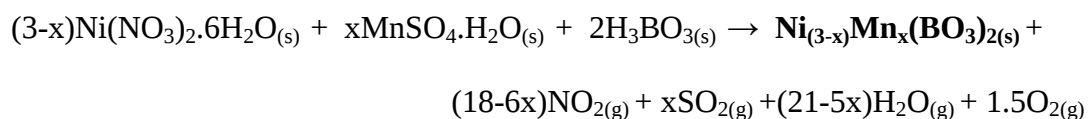
**Figure 3.29** DTA/TG of  $\text{Co}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



**Figure 3.30** DTA/TG of  $\text{Co}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$

### 3.4. Synthesis of $\text{Ni}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, \text{ and } 0.10$ )

$\text{Ni}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  (  $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.10$  ) were prepared at 450 °C for 4 hours, 600 °C for 3 hours, and 4 times at 900 °C for 12 hours by using the following scheme:



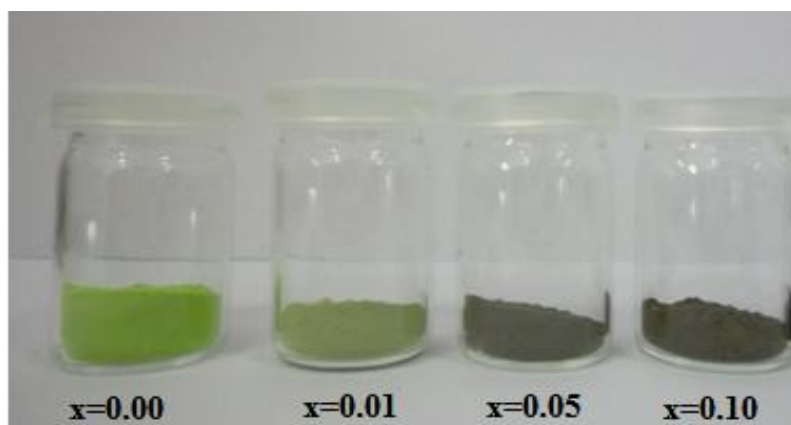
(  $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.10$  )

#### 3.4.1. X-ray Power Diffraction ( XRD ) Studies

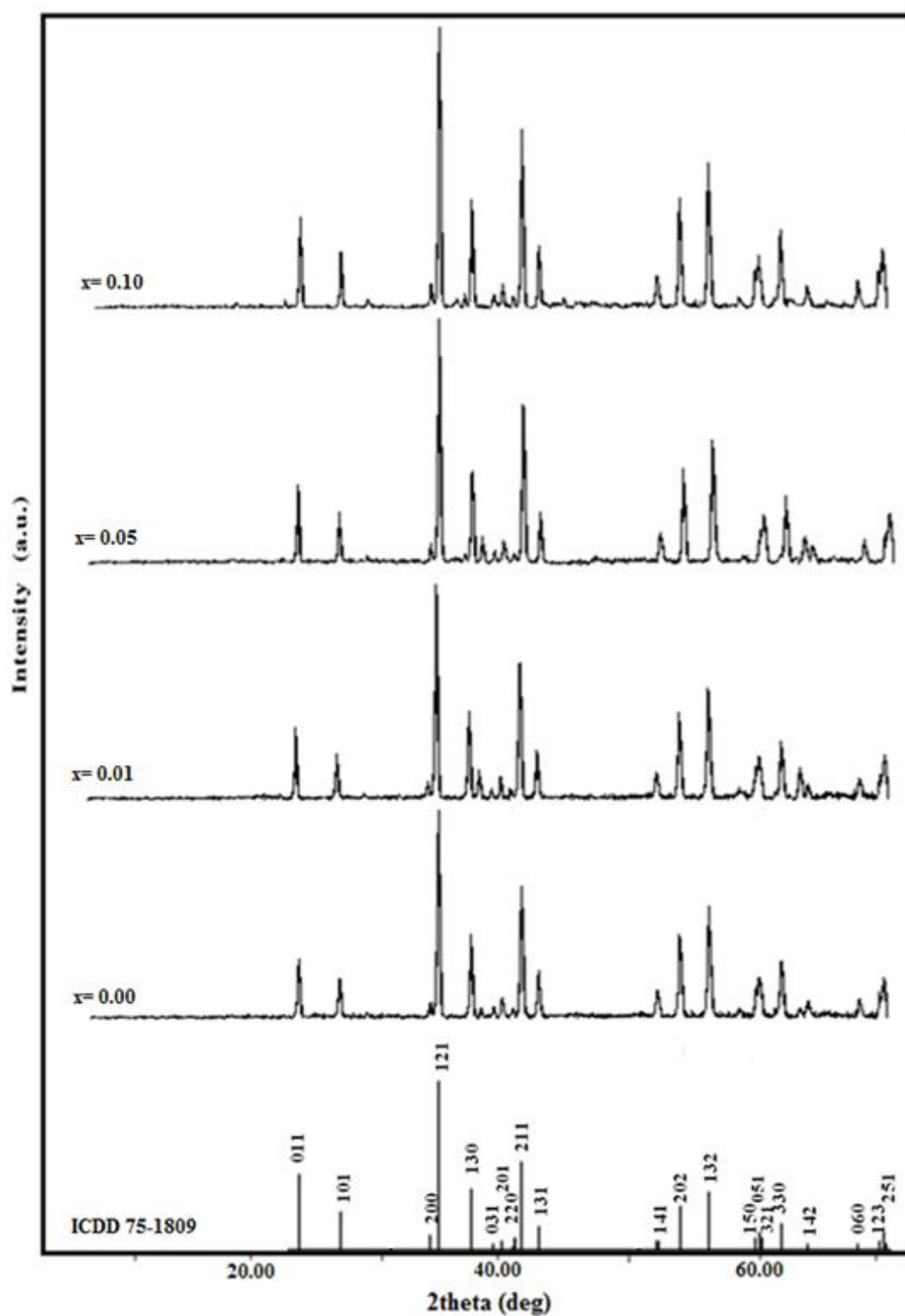
The XRD patterns of obtained products,  $\text{Ni}_{(3-x)}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , from the reactions of different amount of  $\text{MnSO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  with  $\text{Ni}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$  were shown in Figure 3.32. When the powder data of products were compared the XRD data of

kotite type of  $\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , ICDD card No. 75-1809, it was found that results are very similar.

The color of products became darker with increasing of doping amount manganese;  $\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$  (parrot green),  $\text{Ni}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  (peanut green),  $\text{Ni}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  (greenish brown), and  $\text{Ni}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  (dark greenish brown), photos of products were shown in Figure 3.31.



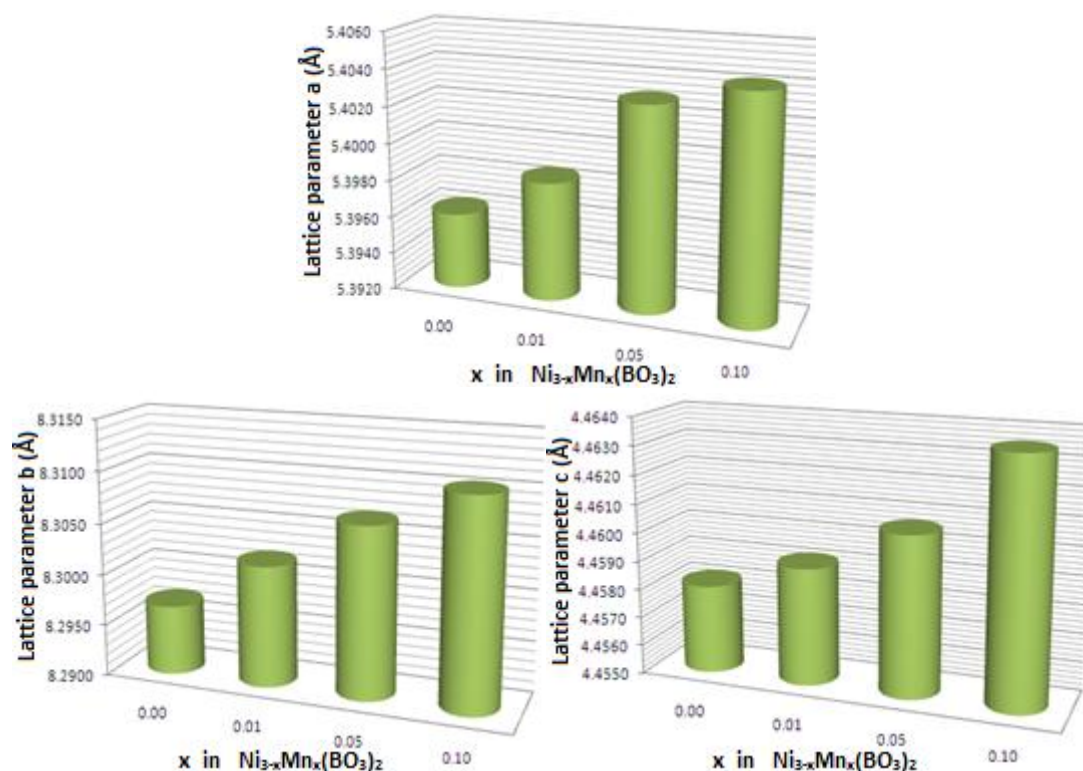
**Figure 3.31** Digital photo of  $\text{Ni}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x=0, 0.01, 0.05$ , and  $0.10$ )



**Figure 3.32** XRD Patterns of  $\text{Ni}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05$ , and  $0.10$ ) and ICDD 75-1809

Table 3.10 to 3.12 show the details of XRD data of products,  $\text{Ni}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{Ni}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , and  $\text{Ni}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , were indexed in the orthorhombic crystal system.

The refined unit cell parameters of  $\text{Ni}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  are found as  $a = 5.397(4)$ ,  $b = 8.301(8)$ ,  $c = 4.458(9)$  for  $x=0.01$ ;  $a = 5.403(6)$ ,  $b = 8.306(6)$ ,  $c = 4.460(3)$  and for  $x=0.05$   $a = 5.404(1)$ ,  $b = 8.310(2)$ ,  $c = 4.463(5)$  for  $x = 0.10$  using the program Jana2006. These unit cell parameters are close to the reported parameters of the kotoite type,  $\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$  [42,43]. In addition to these, lattice parameters change with the increasing degree of incorporation of  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  ions instead of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  ions place in the crystal lattice (Fig.3.33).



**Figure 3.33** Lattice parameters of  $\text{Ni}_{(3-x)}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  as a function of substitution Mn content

**Table 3.10** The X-ray Powder Diffraction Data of  $\text{Ni}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  with refined cell parameters,  $a= 5.397(4)$ ,  $b= 8.301(8)$ ,  $c= 4.458(9)$  Å

| No | hkl | $I/I_0$ | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{obs}}$ | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{cal}}$ | $d_{\text{obs}}$<br>(Å) | $d_{\text{cal}}$<br>(Å) | XRD data of<br>$\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$<br>(ICDD 75-1809) |         |
|----|-----|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
|    |     |         |                               |                               |                         |                         | d values                                                      | $I/I_0$ |
| 1  | 020 | 3       | 0.0345                        | 0.0345                        | 4.145                   | 4.147                   | 4.148                                                         | 3       |
| 2  | 011 | 33      | 0.0386                        | 0.0385                        | 3.917                   | 3.925                   | 3.928                                                         | 45      |
| 3  | 101 | 22      | 0.0504                        | 0.0502                        | 3.429                   | 3.437                   | 3.437                                                         | 24      |
| 4  | 111 | 3       | 0.0591                        | 0.0589                        | 3.168                   | 3.174                   | 3.176                                                         | 2       |
| 5  | 200 | 9       | 0.0817                        | 0.0816                        | 2.695                   | 2.696                   | 2.698                                                         | 10      |
| 6  | 121 | 100     | 0.0848                        | 0.0848                        | 2.644                   | 2.645                   | 2.647                                                         | 100     |
| 7  | 130 | 41      | 0.0982                        | 0.0980                        | 2.458                   | 2.460                   | 2.461                                                         | 37      |
| 8  | 031 | 6       | 0.1078                        | 0.1075                        | 2.346                   | 2.349                   | 2.350                                                         | 5       |
| 9  | 201 | 11      | 0.1116                        | 0.1114                        | 2.305                   | 2.308                   | 2.308                                                         | 7       |
| 10 | 220 | 5       | 0.1160                        | 0.1160                        | 2.262                   | 2.262                   | 2.262                                                         | 4       |
| 11 | 211 | 63      | 0.1201                        | 0.1200                        | 2.222                   | 2.224                   | 2.224                                                         | 54      |
| 12 | 131 | 23      | 0.1278                        | 0.1280                        | 2.154                   | 2.153                   | 2.155                                                         | 16      |
| 13 | 141 | 13      | 0.1886                        | 0.1882                        | 1.774                   | 1.776                   | 1.776                                                         | 7       |
| 14 | 202 | 40      | 0.2010                        | 0.2010                        | 1.718                   | 1.718                   | 1.719                                                         | 27      |
| 15 | 132 | 51      | 0.2174                        | 0.2174                        | 1.652                   | 1.652                   | 1.652                                                         | 36      |
| 16 | 150 | 6       | 0.2359                        | 0.2359                        | 1.586                   | 1.586                   | 1.586                                                         | 2       |
| 17 | 051 | 16      | 0.2453                        | 0.2454                        | 1.555                   | 1.555                   | 1.555                                                         | 9       |
| 18 | 321 | 19      | 0.2476                        | 0.2478                        | 1.548                   | 1.547                   | 1.548                                                         | 13      |
| 19 | 330 | 27      | 0.2608                        | 0.2611                        | 1.508                   | 1.508                   | 1.508                                                         | 18      |
| 20 | 142 | 15      | 0.2725                        | 0.2777                        | 1.476                   | 1.462                   | 1.463                                                         | 5       |
| 21 | 060 | 10      | 0.3102                        | 0.3104                        | 1.383                   | 1.383                   | 1.383                                                         | 6       |
| 22 | 123 | 12      | 0.3233                        | 0.3236                        | 1.355                   | 1.354                   | 1.354                                                         | 8       |
| 23 | 251 | 21      | 0.3262                        | 0.3269                        | 1.349                   | 1.357                   | 1.347                                                         | 12      |

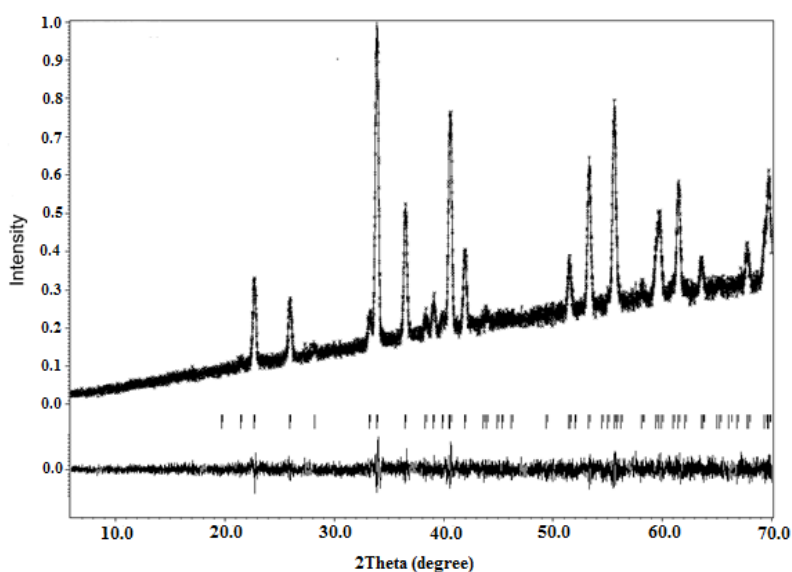
**Table 3.11** The X-ray Powder Diffraction Data of  $\text{Ni}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  with refined cell parameters,  $a= 5.403(6)$ ,  $b= 8.306(6)$ ,  $c= 4.460(3)$  Å

| No | hkl | I/I <sub>0</sub> | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{obs}}$ | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{cal}}$ | $d_{\text{obs}}$<br>(Å) | $d_{\text{cal}}$<br>(Å) | XRD data of<br>$\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$<br>(ICDD 75-1809) |                  |
|----|-----|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
|    |     |                  |                               |                               |                         |                         | d values                                                      | I/I <sub>0</sub> |
| 1  | 020 | 4                | 0.0345                        | 0.0345                        | 4.152                   | 4.147                   | 4.148                                                         | 3                |
| 2  | 011 | 33               | 0.0385                        | 0.03855                       | 3.924                   | 3.926                   | 3.928                                                         | 45               |
| 3  | 101 | 22               | 0.0494                        | 0.0498                        | 3.429                   | 3.452                   | 3.437                                                         | 24               |
| 4  | 111 | 4                | 0.0592                        | 0.0589                        | 3.164                   | 3.173                   | 3.176                                                         | 2                |
| 5  | 200 | 9                | 0.0816                        | 0.0816                        | 2.696                   | 2.696                   | 2.698                                                         | 10               |
| 6  | 121 | 100              | 0.0848                        | 0.0847                        | 2.645                   | 2.647                   | 2.647                                                         | 100              |
| 7  | 130 | 39               | 0.0979                        | 0.0980                        | 2.462                   | 2.461                   | 2.461                                                         | 37               |
| 8  | 031 | 7                | 0.1076                        | 0.1074                        | 2.348                   | 2.350                   | 2.350                                                         | 5                |
| 9  | 201 | 10               | 0.1113                        | 0.1114                        | 2.308                   | 2.308                   | 2.308                                                         | 7                |
| 10 | 220 | 6                | 0.1162                        | 0.1161                        | 2.260                   | 2.261                   | 2.262                                                         | 4                |
| 11 | 211 | 66               | 0.1200                        | 0.1200                        | 2.223                   | 2.224                   | 2.224                                                         | 54               |
| 12 | 131 | 22               | 0.1277                        | 0.1277                        | 2.155                   | 2.155                   | 2.155                                                         | 16               |
| 13 | 141 | 14               | 0.1886                        | 0.1882                        | 1.774                   | 1.775                   | 1.776                                                         | 7                |
| 14 | 202 | 41               | 0.2009                        | 0.2009                        | 1.718                   | 1.718                   | 1.719                                                         | 27               |
| 15 | 132 | 52               | 0.2172                        | 0.2173                        | 1.652                   | 1.652                   | 1.652                                                         | 36               |
| 16 | 150 | 4                | 0.2358                        | 0.2359                        | 1.586                   | 1.586                   | 1.586                                                         | 2                |
| 17 | 051 | 15               | 0.2449                        | 0.2453                        | 1.556                   | 1.555                   | 1.555                                                         | 9                |
| 18 | 321 | 21               | 0.2476                        | 0.2475                        | 1.548                   | 1.548                   | 1.548                                                         | 13               |
| 19 | 330 | 29               | 0.2608                        | 0.2610                        | 1.508                   | 1.507                   | 1.508                                                         | 18               |
| 20 | 142 | 11               | 0.2725                        | 0.2777                        | 1.475                   | 1.462                   | 1.463                                                         | 5                |
| 21 | 060 | 11               | 0.3099                        | 0.3103                        | 1.383                   | 1.383                   | 1.383                                                         | 6                |
| 22 | 123 | 14               | 0.3233                        | 0.3235                        | 1.354                   | 1.354                   | 1.354                                                         | 8                |
| 23 | 251 | 21               | 0.3262                        | 0.3268                        | 1.348                   | 1.347                   | 1.347                                                         | 12               |

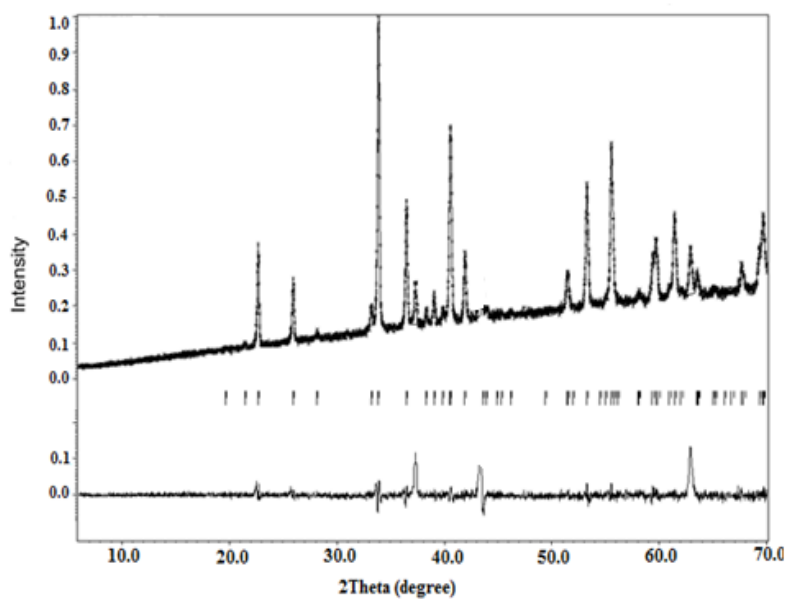
**Table 3.12** The X-ray Powder Diffraction Data of  $\text{Ni}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$  with refined cell parameters,  $a= 5.404(1)$ ,  $b= 8.310(2)$ ,  $c= 4.463(5)$  Å

| No | hkl | I/I <sub>0</sub> | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{obs}}$ | $\sin^2(\theta)_{\text{cal}}$ | $d_{\text{obs}}$<br>(Å) | $d_{\text{cal}}$<br>(Å) | XRD data of<br>$\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$<br>(ICDD 75-1809) |                  |
|----|-----|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
|    |     |                  |                               |                               |                         |                         | d values                                                      | I/I <sub>0</sub> |
| 1  | 020 | 4                | 0.0344                        | 0.0344                        | 4.152                   | 4.153                   | 4.148                                                         | 3                |
| 2  | 011 | 33               | 0.0385                        | 0.0384                        | 3.927                   | 3.931                   | 3.928                                                         | 45               |
| 3  | 101 | 22               | 0.0502                        | 0.0502                        | 3.437                   | 3.438                   | 3.437                                                         | 24               |
| 4  | 111 | 4                | 0.0588                        | 0.0588                        | 3.175                   | 3.177                   | 3.176                                                         | 2                |
| 5  | 200 | 10               | 0.0813                        | 0.0814                        | 2.701                   | 2.699                   | 2.698                                                         | 10               |
| 6  | 121 | 100              | 0.0846                        | 0.0861                        | 2.648                   | 2.648                   | 2.647                                                         | 100              |
| 7  | 130 | 39               | 0.0978                        | 0.0978                        | 2.463                   | 2.463                   | 2.461                                                         | 37               |
| 8  | 031 | 7                | 0.1072                        | 0.1073                        | 2.352                   | 2.352                   | 2.350                                                         | 5                |
| 9  | 201 | 10               | 0.1111                        | 0.1112                        | 2.311                   | 2.310                   | 2.308                                                         | 7                |
| 10 | 220 | 4                | 0.1155                        | 0.1158                        | 2.266                   | 2.264                   | 2.262                                                         | 4                |
| 11 | 211 | 66               | 0.1198                        | 0.1198                        | 2.225                   | 2.225                   | 2.224                                                         | 54               |
| 12 | 131 | 23               | 0.1275                        | 0.1276                        | 2.157                   | 2.156                   | 2.155                                                         | 16               |
| 13 | 102 | 5                | 0.1396                        | 0.1396                        | 2.062                   | 2.062                   | 2.061                                                         | 3                |
| 14 | 141 | 14               | 0.1882                        | 0.1879                        | 1.775                   | 1.777                   | 1.776                                                         | 7                |
| 15 | 202 | 40               | 0.2005                        | 0.2006                        | 1.720                   | 1.720                   | 1.719                                                         | 27               |
| 16 | 132 | 52               | 0.2168                        | 0.2171                        | 1.654                   | 1.653                   | 1.652                                                         | 36               |
| 17 | 150 | 7                | 0.2350                        | 0.2356                        | 1.588                   | 1.587                   | 1.586                                                         | 2                |
| 18 | 051 | 15               | 0.2446                        | 0.2450                        | 1.557                   | 1.556                   | 1.555                                                         | 9                |
| 19 | 321 | 20               | 0.2473                        | 0.2474                        | 1.549                   | 1.549                   | 1.548                                                         | 13               |
| 20 | 330 | 29               | 0.2602                        | 0.2606                        | 1.510                   | 1.509                   | 1.508                                                         | 18               |
| 21 | 142 | 10               | 0.2764                        | 0.2773                        | 1.465                   | 1.463                   | 1.463                                                         | 5                |
| 22 | 060 | 12               | 0.3096                        | 0.3099                        | 1.384                   | 1.383                   | 1.383                                                         | 6                |
| 23 | 123 | 14               | 0.3228                        | 0.3231                        | 1.355                   | 1.355                   | 1.354                                                         | 8                |
| 24 | 251 | 21               | 0.3259                        | 0.3264                        | 1.349                   | 1.348                   | 1.347                                                         | 12               |

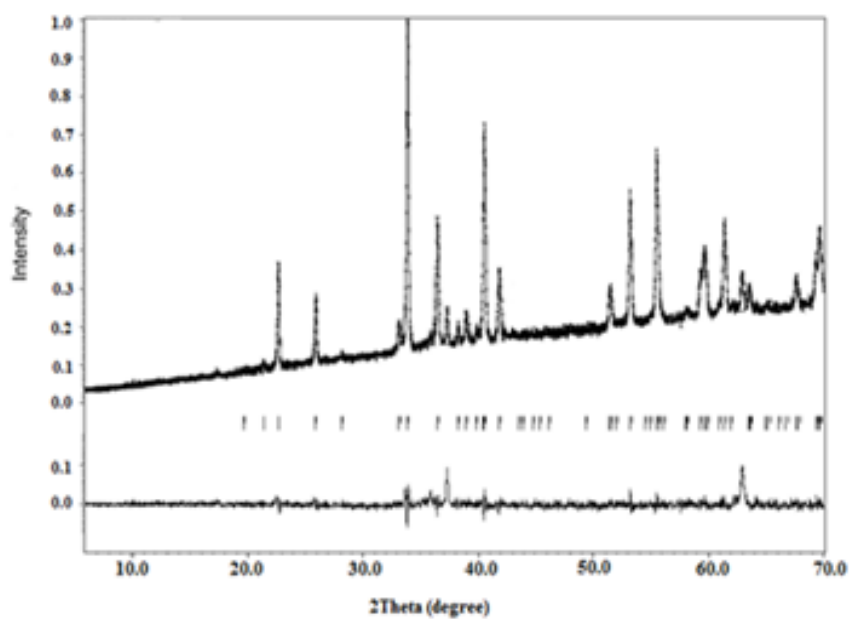
Refinement patterns of compounds are shown in Figure 3.34 to 3.37 and details of Jana2006 refinement patterns of products and structural parameters such as crystallite size (t), density (d) and specific surface area (S) of products are given Table 3.13. The crystallite size of compounds increased with increasing amount of manganese (II), and it show that these variations are attributed to doped manganese (II).



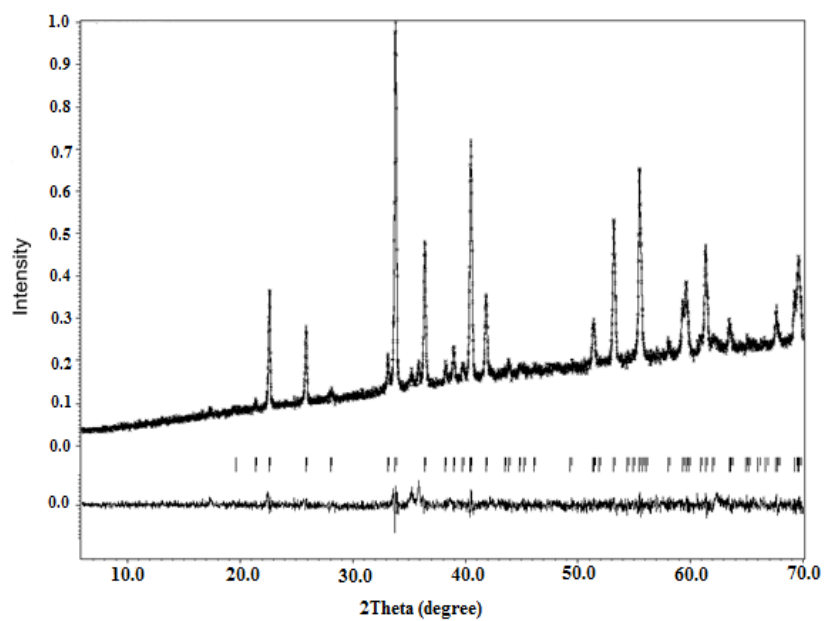
**Figure 3.34** Jana2006 refinement pattern of  $\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$



**Figure 3.35** Jana2006 refinement pattern of  $\text{Ni}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



**Figure 3.36** Jana2006 refinement pattern of  $\text{Ni}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



**Figure 3.37** Jana2006 refinement pattern of  $\text{Ni}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$

**Table 3.13** Details of Jana2006 refinement and structural parameters of  $\text{Ni}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.10$ , and  $0.50$ )

| <b>Samples</b>                                                 | <b><math>x = 0.00</math></b> | <b><math>x = 0.01</math></b> | <b><math>x = 0.05</math></b> | <b><math>x = 0.10</math></b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b><i>Diffractometer</i></b>                                   | Rigaku                       | Rigaku                       | Rigaku                       | Rigaku                       |
| <b><i>Radiation type</i></b>                                   | Cu K $\alpha$                | Cu K $\alpha$                | Cu K $\alpha$                | Cu K $\alpha$                |
| <b><i>Monochromator</i></b>                                    | Graphite                     | Graphite                     | Graphite                     | Graphite                     |
| <b><i>Wavelength (<math>\text{\AA}</math>)</i></b>             | 1.5405                       | 1.5405                       | 1.5405                       | 1.5405                       |
| <b><i>Refined profile range (<math>2\theta</math>)</i></b>     | 6.00-70.00                   | 6.00-70.00                   | 6.00-70.00                   | 6.00-70.00                   |
| <b><i>Step size (<math>2\theta</math>)</i></b>                 | 0.02                         | 0.02                         | 0.02                         | 0.02                         |
| <b><i>GOF</i></b>                                              | 1.07                         | 2.25                         | 1.94                         | 1.28                         |
| <b><i>R<sub>p</sub></i></b>                                    | 4.11                         | 3.92                         | 3.89                         | 3.36                         |
| <b><i>R<sub>WP</sub></i></b>                                   | 5.39                         | 7.45                         | 6.46                         | 4.53                         |
| <b><i>Symmetry</i></b>                                         | orthorhombic                 | Orthorhombic                 | orthorhombic                 | orthorhombic                 |
| <b><i>Space Group</i></b>                                      | Pnnm                         | Pnnm                         | Pnnm                         | Pnnm                         |
| <b><i>a (<math>\text{\AA}</math>)</i></b>                      | 5.396(1)                     | 5.397(4)                     | 5.403(6)                     | 5.404(1)                     |
| <b><i>b (<math>\text{\AA}</math>)</i></b>                      | 8.296(8)                     | 8.301(8)                     | 8.306(6)                     | 8.310(2)                     |
| <b><i>c (<math>\text{\AA}</math>)</i></b>                      | 4.458(5)                     | 4.458(9)                     | 4.460(3)                     | 4.463(5)                     |
| <b><i><math>\alpha</math> (<math>^\circ</math> degree)</i></b> | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       |
| <b><i><math>\beta</math> (<math>^\circ</math> degree)</i></b>  | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       |
| <b><i><math>\delta</math> (<math>^\circ</math> degree)</i></b> | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       | 90.000                       |
| <b><i>V (<math>\text{\AA}^3</math>)</i></b>                    | 196.60                       | 199.80                       | 200.50                       | 200.50                       |
| <b><i>d (g/cm<sup>3</sup>)</i></b>                             | 19.543                       | 19.526                       | 19.451                       | 19.439                       |
| <b><i>t (nm)</i></b>                                           | 24.811                       | 39.468                       | 39.473                       | 41.343                       |
| <b><i>S (m<sup>2</sup>/g)</i></b>                              | 12.376                       | 7.785                        | 7.815                        | 7.466                        |

***GOF, R<sub>p</sub>, R<sub>WP</sub>***: agreement factors, ***a, b, and c***: lattice constants, ***V***: volume, ***t***: crystallite size, ***d***: density and ***S***: specific surface area

### 3.4.2. Infrared Spectroscopy Studies

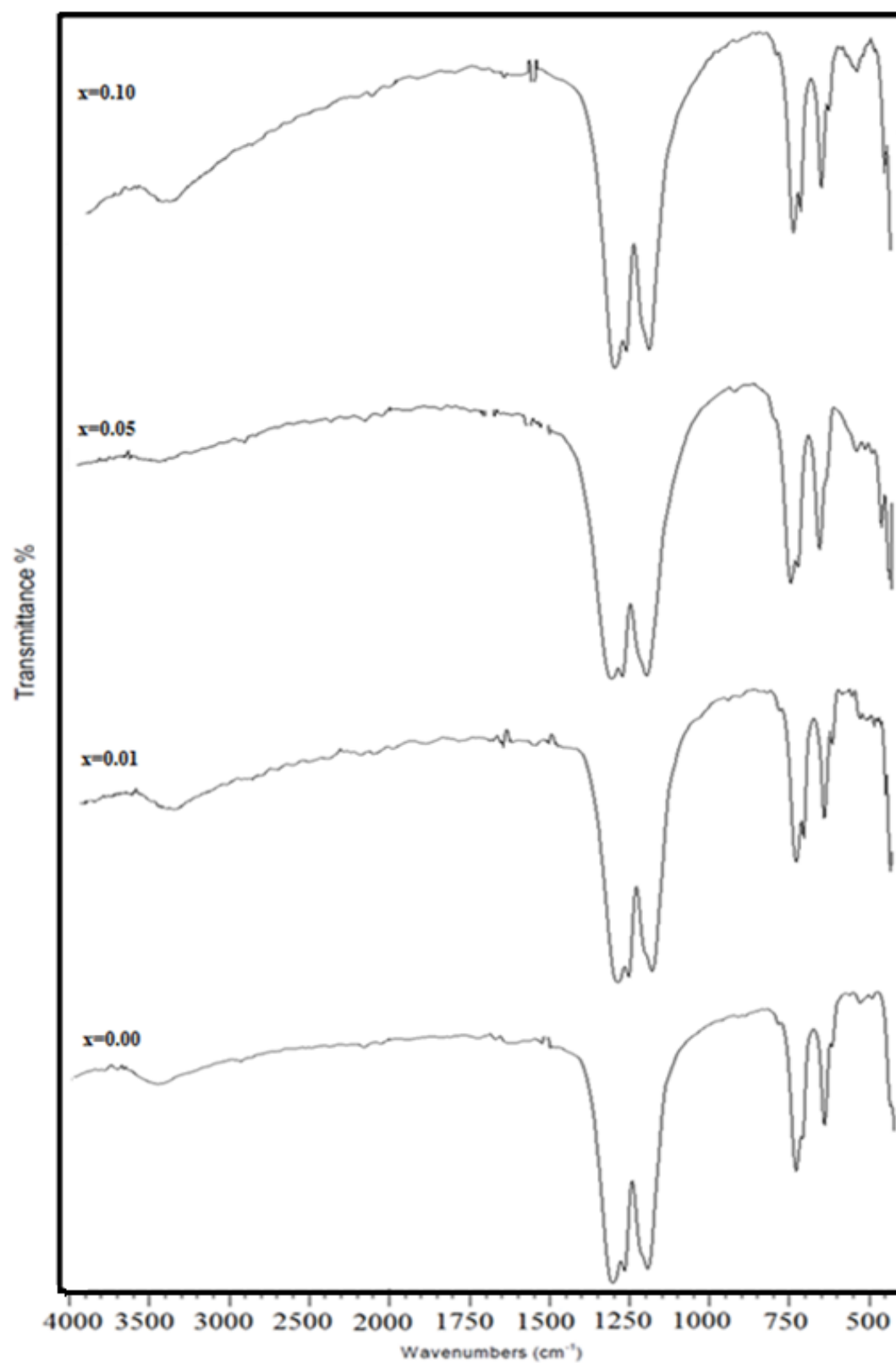
Figure 3.38 shows the infrared spectra of nickel orthoborate doped with manganese(II),  $\text{Ni}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05$ , and  $0.10$ ). In these figures bands are observed in good agreement with that of the kotoite type nickel orthoborate [30,44].

The characteristic bands are the stretching bands of the highest intensity at around  $1178\text{--}1298\text{ cm}^{-1}$  may be assigned as the  $\text{BO}_3$  antisymmetric stretching vibrations; the bands in the frequency range  $628.2\text{--}721.4\text{ cm}^{-1}$  caused by the out-of-plane bending vibrations; bands at about  $513.0\text{ cm}^{-1}$  due to the in plane bending modes, and those below  $500\text{ cm}^{-1}$  attributed to lattice vibrations. Similarly, the absorption band at  $3200\text{--}3600\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is attributed to water groups [80].

The vibrations and corresponding assignments of products,  $\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{Ni}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{Ni}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , and  $\text{Ni}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , are summarized in Table 3.14. Obviously, It was seen that  $\text{Ni}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05$ , and  $0.10$ ) compounds contains characteristic  $\text{BO}_3^{3-}$  groups as their basic structural units.

**Table 3.14** Infrared band wave numbers ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) and Assignments for  $\text{Ni}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{Ni}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , and  $\text{Ni}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$

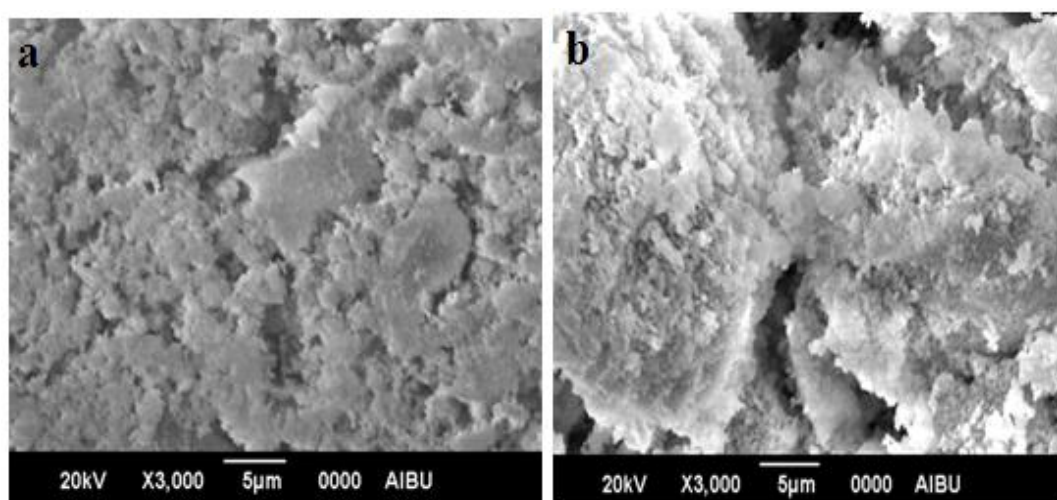
| Assignment           | $\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$ | $\text{Ni}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ | $\text{Ni}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ | $\text{Ni}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ |
|----------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| $\nu_2(\text{BO}_3)$ | 603                          | 603                                               | 603                                               | 604                                               |
| $\nu_1(\text{BO}_3)$ | 721, 696, 632                | 721, 696, 631                                     | 721, 696, 628                                     | 719, 696, 631                                     |
| $\nu_3(\text{BO}_3)$ | 1294, 1261, 1188             | 1292, 1257, 1182                                  | 1292, 1257, 1178                                  | 1298, 1259, 1184                                  |
| $\nu_{\text{OH}}$    | 3412                         | 3399                                              | 3470                                              | 3470                                              |



**Figure 3.38** IR Spectra of  $\text{Ni}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.10$ )

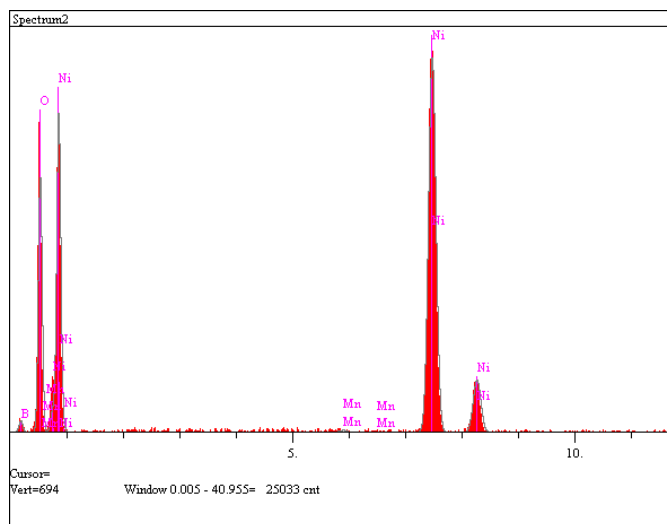
### 3.4.3. SEM and EDX Analysis of $\text{Ni}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$

The same morphological feature was also observed in SEM images of the featured surface (Fig 3.39). The image investigations show that the products composition is quite homogeneous and have regularly grained powder. The images of  $\text{Ni}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}$  are very similar with that of  $\text{Ni}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ .

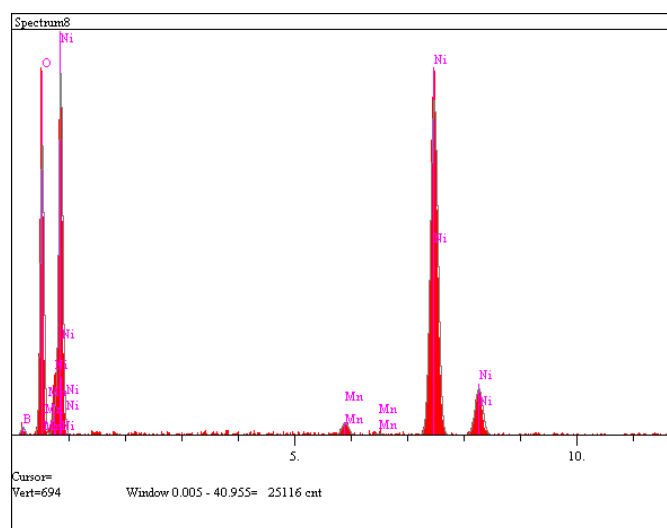


**Figure 3.39** SEM images of **a)**  $\text{Ni}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$ , and **b)**  $\text{Ni}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$

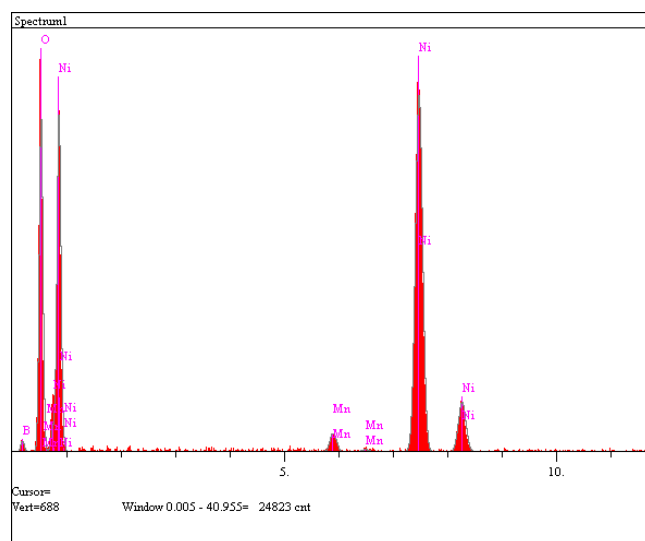
The existence of Ni, Mn, B and O elements determined by the EDX analysis of products. The increasing of intensities of peaks attributed to manganese (II) ion is clearly seen in Figures 3.40 to 3.42, when x values increase at formula,  $\text{Ni}_{(3-x)}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  ( $x = 0.01, 0.05, 0.10$ ).



**Figure 3.40** EDX Spectrum of  $\text{Ni}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



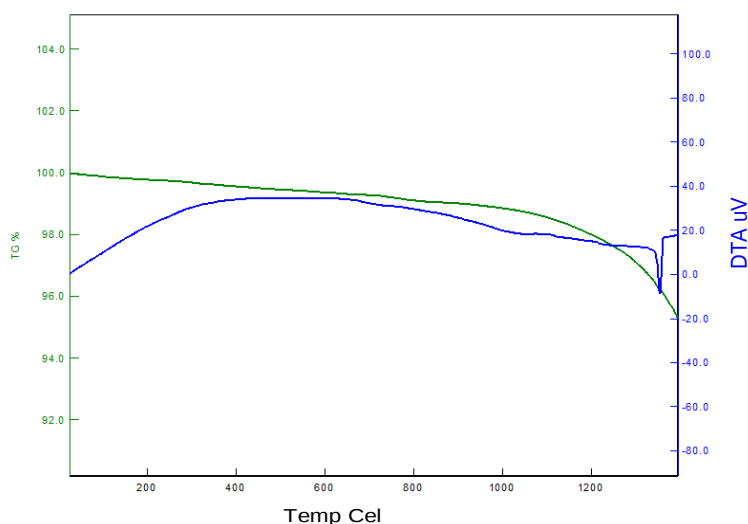
**Figure 3.41** EDX Spectrum of  $\text{Ni}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



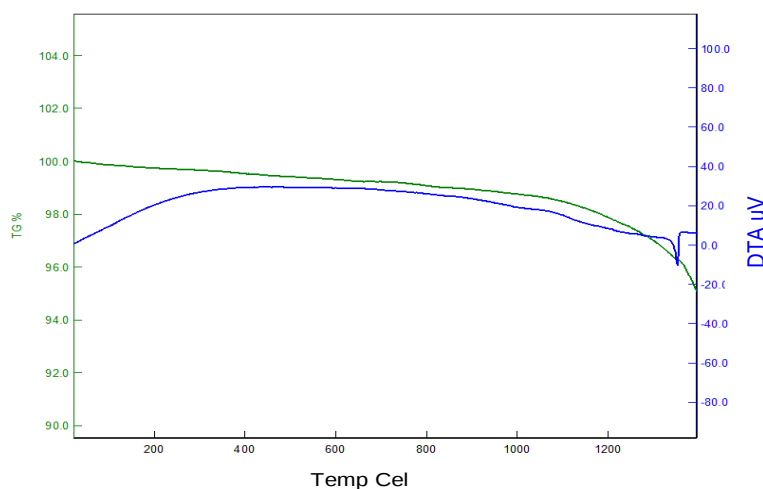
**Figure 3.42** EDX Spectrum of  $\text{Ni}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$

### 3.4.4. Thermal Studies (DTA-TG) of $\text{Ni}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05$ and $0.10$ )

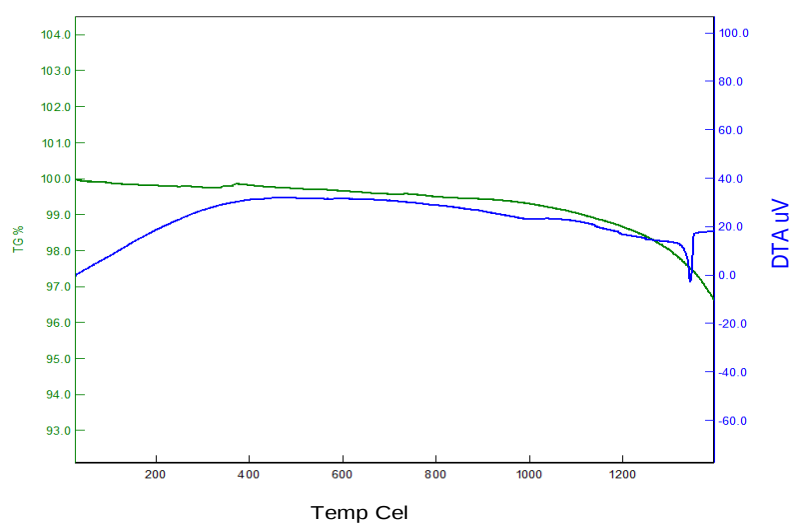
The thermal stability of the nickel orthoborate with manganese(II),  $\text{Ni}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  (  $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05$ , and  $0.10$  ) was investigated by differential thermal analysis and shown in Figure 3.43 to Figure 3.46, respectively. The DTA analysis indicate that these compounds stabilize as thermal below about  $1350^\circ\text{C}$  to room temperature. In addition to these, as amount of manganese increases, the melting point of products changes. It proves that manganese presences in kotoite type of nickel orthoborate.



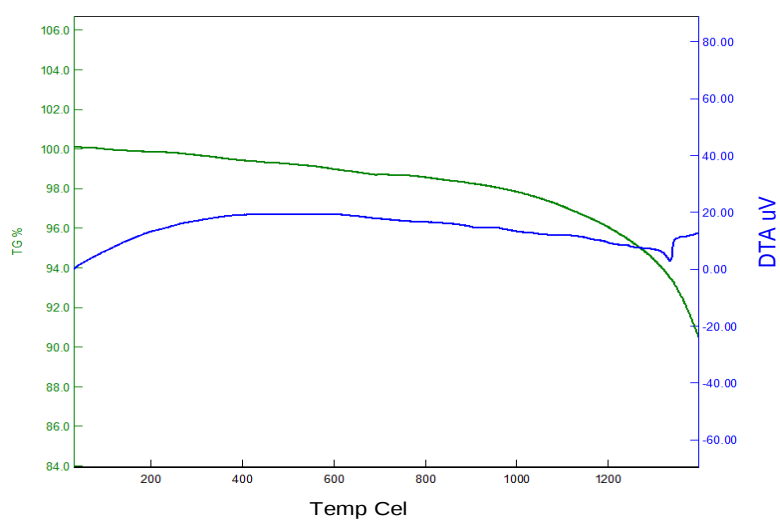
**Figure 3.43** DTA/TG of  $\text{Ni}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$



**Figure 3.44** DTA/TG of  $\text{Ni}_{2.99}\text{Mn}_{0.01}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



**Figure 3.45** DTA/TG of  $\text{Ni}_{2.95}\text{Mn}_{0.05}(\text{BO}_3)_2$



**Figure 3.46** DTA/TG of  $\text{Ni}_{2.90}\text{Mn}_{0.10}(\text{BO}_3)_2$

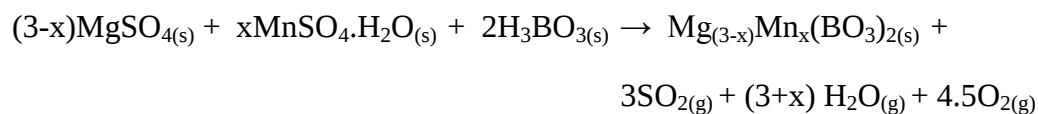
## CHAPTER 4

### GENERAL REVIEW AND CONCLUSION

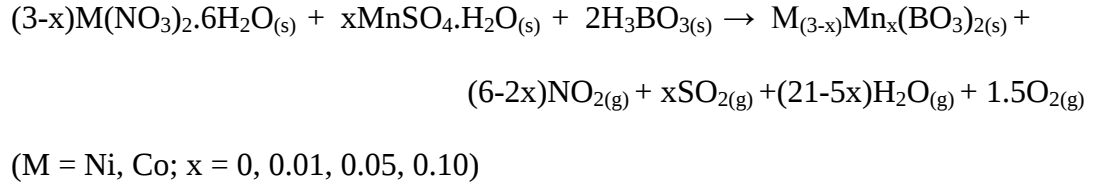
This work covers firstly the effect of starting materials on the preparation of  $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$  and secondly the synthesis of new mixed metal orthoborates  $\text{M}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  (M: Mg, Co, and Ni;  $0 \leq x \leq 0.10$ ) via high temperature solid state reactions. Studying of XRD, IR, SEM and TG/DTA of these borates obtained in this thesis led to following conclusions.

In the first part of this study, the effect of starting materials such as MgO,  $\text{MgCO}_3$  and  $\text{MgSO}_4$  on synthesis of  $\text{Mg}_3(\text{BO}_3)_2$  was investigated and it was found that very pure magnesium orthoborate was successfully prepared from  $\text{MgSO}_4$  source through high temperature solid state reactions.

In the second part,  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  ion was doped to the kotite type of metal orthoborates to synthesize products,  $\text{M}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  (M: Mg, Co, and Ni;  $0 \leq x \leq 0.10$ ), first time by the following reactions;



( $x = 0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.10$ )



The powder X-ray diffraction studies showed that the synthesized mixed metal orthoborates,  $M_{3-x}Mn_x(BO_3)_2$  (M: Mg, Co, and Ni;  $0 \leq x \leq 0.10$ ), were crystallized the orthorhombic crystal system with space group Pnnm given as follows.

- The XRD data of  $Mg_{2.99}Mn_{0.01}(BO_3)_2$ ,  $Mg_{2.95}Mn_{0.05}(BO_3)_2$ , and  $Mg_{2.90}Mn_{0.1}(BO_3)_2$ , were indexed and refined with Jana2006. The refined unit cell parameters of these borates were found as  $a= 5.406(3)$ ,  $b= 8.430(4)$ ,  $c= 4.508(4)$  Å;  $a= 5.410(4)$ ,  $b= 8.436(2)$ ,  $c= 4.507(8)$  Å and  $a= 5.144(4)$ ,  $b= 8.444(3)$ ,  $c=4.512(0)$  Å, respectively.
- The refined unit cell parameters of  $Co_{2.99}Mn_{0.01}(BO_3)_2$ ,  $Co_{2.95}Mn_{0.05}(BO_3)_2$ , and  $Co_{2.90}Mn_{0.1}(BO_3)_2$  were calculated as  $a= 5.469(7)$ ,  $b= 8.451(2)$ ,  $c= 4.533(5)$  Å;  $a= 5.469(9)$ ,  $b= 8.452(8)$ ,  $c= 4.533(8)$  Å and  $a= 4.483(4)$ ,  $b= 8.476(4)$ ,  $c= 4.538(4)$  Å, respectively.
- The examination of XRD patterns of  $Ni_{2.99}Mn_{0.01}(BO_3)_2$ ,  $Ni_{2.95}Mn_{0.05}(BO_3)_2$ , and  $Ni_{2.90}Mn_{0.1}(BO_3)_2$  showed that the refined unit cell parameters of  $a = 5.397(4)$ ,  $b= 8.301(8)$ ,  $c= 4.458(9)$ ;  $a=5.403(6)$ ,  $b= 8.311(6)$ ,  $c= 4.463(3)$ ;  $a=5.404(1)$ ,  $b=8.310(2)$ ,  $c= 4.463(5)$  and  $a= 5.405(8)$ ,  $b= 8.313(3)$ ,  $c= 4.465(2)$  Å, respectively.

The unit cell parameters and hkl values of the magnesium, cobalt and nickel doped with Mn (II) ion are good agreement with kotoite type of  $M_3(BO_3)_2$  (M: Mg, Co, and Ni). Therefore, it was concluded that these borates obtained in this work were isomorphous with kotoite type of borates.

The vibrational bands of trigonal planar  $\text{BO}_3$  units were clearly observed from the infrared spectra of  $\text{Mg}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{Co}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{Ni}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  (  $x=0.00, 0.01, 0.05, 0.10$  ).

The SEM images and surface analysis of the mixed metal orthoborates prepared indicated that these borates have uniform specimens and regularly grained powder.

Crystallite size and volume of magnesium, cobalt and nickel doped with  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  ion increased with increasing adding amount  $\text{Mn}(\text{II})$  ion, whereas their specific surface area decreased. Although these products are structurally and spectroscopically similar to each other, they have different morphologic observations. On the other hand, densities of  $\text{Mg}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  increased whereas that of  $\text{Co}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{Ni}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  decreased with increasing amount of  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  ion, (  $x=0.00, 0.01, 0.05, 0.10$  ), depending on the order of ionic radii of corresponding metals,  $\text{Mg} > \text{Mn} > \text{Co} > \text{Ni}$ .

Through TG/DTA method, it was determined that  $\text{Mg}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{Co}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{Ni}_{3-x}\text{Mn}_x(\text{BO}_3)_2$  were thermodynamically stable up to 1380, 1170, 1350 °C, respectively.

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