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precipitation

in sol-gel processing

Sedimentation of a solid material (a precipitate) from a liquid solution in which the material is present in amounts greater than its solubility in the liquid.
Note:
When precipitation occurs in sol-gel processing, sol particles have aggregated to a size where gravitational forces cause them to sink or float. Generally, aggregation arises from a change in the sol that reduces the interparticle repulsion.

Source:
PAC, 2007, *79*, 1801 *(Definitions of terms relating to the structure and processing of sols, gels, networks, and inorganic-organic hybrid materials (IUPAC Recommendations 2007))* on page 1824

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