POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE (KMnO₄):

Preparation

This is the most important and well known salt of permanganic acid and is prepared from the pyrolusite ore. It is prepared by fusing pyrolusite ore either with KOH or K_2CO_3 in presence of atmospheric oxygen or any other oxidising agent such as KNO_3 . The fused mass turns green with the formation of potassium manganate, K_3MnO_3 .

$$\begin{array}{lll} 2MnO_2 + 4KOH + O_2 & \longrightarrow 2K_2MnO_4 + 2H_2O \\ 2MnO_2 + 2K_2CO_3 + O_2 & \longrightarrow 2K_2MnO_4 + 2CO_2 \end{array}$$

The fused mass is extracted with water and the solution is now treated with a current of chlorine or ozone or carbon dioxide to convert manganate into permanganate.

$$\begin{array}{lll} 2 \text{K}_2 \text{MnO}_4 + \text{CI}_2 & \longrightarrow & 2 \text{KMnO}_4 + 2 \text{KCI} \\ 2 \text{K}_2 \text{MnO}_4 + \text{H}_2 \text{O} + \text{O}_3 & \longrightarrow & 2 \text{KMnO}_4 + 2 \text{KOH} + \text{O}_2 \\ 3 \text{K}_2 \text{MnO}_4 + 2 \text{CO}_2 & \longrightarrow & 2 \text{KMnO}_4 + \text{MnO}_2 + 2 \text{K}_2 \text{CO}_3 \end{array}$$

$$MnO_4^{2-}$$
 (green) \longrightarrow MnO_4^{-} (purple) + e⁻

Recording

Continue..

Properties

(a) Physical:

It is purple coloured crystalline compound. It is moderately soluble in water at room temperature.

(b) Chemical:

(i) Effect of heating

When heated alone or with an alkali, it decomposes evolving oxygen.

$$\begin{split} 2\mathsf{KMnO}_4 & \xrightarrow{750\mathsf{K}} \mathsf{K}_2\mathsf{MnO}_4 + \mathsf{MnO}_2 + \mathsf{O}_2 \\ 2\mathsf{K}_2\mathsf{MnO}_4 & \xrightarrow{\mathsf{Red}} 2\mathsf{K}_2\mathsf{MnO}_3 + \mathsf{O}_2 \\ 4\mathsf{KMnO}_4 + 4\mathsf{KOH} & \xrightarrow{} 4\mathsf{K}_2\mathsf{MnO}_4 + 2\mathsf{H}_2\mathsf{O} + \mathsf{O}_2 \\ & \mathsf{or} \\ \end{split}$$

 MnO_4^{2-} in dilute alkaline, water and acidic solutions is unstable and disproportionates to give MnO_4^- and MnO_2 .

$$3MnO_4^{2-} + 4H^+ \longrightarrow 2MnO_4^{-} + MnO_2 \downarrow + 2H_2O$$

 $3MnO_4^{2-} + 2H_2O \longrightarrow 2MnO_4^{-} + MnO_2 \downarrow + 4OH^-$

Continue..

On treatment with concentrated $\rm H_2SO_4$ (KMnO₄ is taken in excess), it forms manganese heptoxide via permanganyl sulphate which decomposes explosively on heating.

$$\begin{split} & 2\mathsf{KMnO_4} + 3\mathsf{H_2SO_4} \longrightarrow 2\mathsf{KHSO_4} + (\mathsf{MnO_3})_2\mathsf{SO_4} + 2\mathsf{H_2O} \\ & (\mathsf{MnO_3})_2\mathsf{SO_4} + \mathsf{H_2O} \longrightarrow \mathsf{Mn_2O_7} + \mathsf{H_2SO_4} \\ & \mathsf{Mn_2O_7} \longrightarrow 2\mathsf{MnO_2} + \frac{3}{2}\,\mathsf{O_2} \\ & \mathsf{KMnO_4} + 3\mathsf{H_2SO_4} \, (\mathsf{conc.}) \longrightarrow \mathsf{K}^+ + \mathsf{MnO_3}^+ \, (\mathsf{green}) + 3\mathsf{HSO_4}^- + \mathsf{H_3O^+}. \end{split}$$

Potassium permanganate is a powerful oxidising agent.

Potassium permanganate acts as an oxidising agent in alkaline, neutral or acidic solutions.

In alkaline & neutral medium:

In strongly alkaline medium KMnO₄ is reduced to manganate.

$$2KMnO_4 + 2KOH (conc.) \xrightarrow{} 2K_2 MnO_4 + H_2O + [O]$$
or
$$e^- + MnO_4 \xrightarrow{} MnO_4^{2-}$$

However if solution is dilute then $\rm K_2MnO_4$ is converted in to $\rm MnO_2$ which appears as a brownish precipitate.

$$\begin{split} 2 \text{K}_2 \text{MnO}_4 + 2 \text{H}_2 \text{O} & \longrightarrow 2 \text{MnO}_2 + 4 \text{KOH} + 2 [\text{O}] \\ \text{or} \\ 2 \text{e}^- + 2 \text{H}_2 \text{O} + \text{MnO}_4^{2-} & \longrightarrow \text{MnO}_2 + 4 \text{OH}^- \end{split}$$

Continue..

(a) It oxidises ethene to glycol.

In alkaline medium KMnO₄ solution is also known as Bayer's reagent (1% alkaline KMnO₄ solution).

(b) It oxidises iodide into iodate.

(c) H₂S is oxidised into sulphur:

$$2MnO_4^- + 3H_2S \longrightarrow 2MnO_2 + 2OH^- + 2H_2O + 3S$$

Continue..

(a) It oxidises ethene to glycol.

$$CH_2$$

 \parallel + H_2O + $[O]$ \longrightarrow \downarrow CH_2OH
 CH_2

In alkaline medium KMnO₄ solution is also known as Bayer's reagent (1% alkaline KMnO₄ solution).

(b) It oxidises iodide into iodate.

$$3e^{-} + 2H_{2}O + MnO_{4}^{-} \longrightarrow MnO_{2} + 4OH^{-} \times [2]$$

$$6OH^{-} + I^{-} \longrightarrow IO_{3}^{-} + 3H_{2}O + 6e^{-}$$

$$2MnO_{4}^{-} + I^{-} + H_{2}O \longrightarrow 2MnO_{2} + IO_{3}^{-} + 2OH^{-}$$

(c) H₂S is oxidised into sulphur:

$$2MnO_4^- + 3H_2S \longrightarrow 2MnO_2 + 2OH^- + 2H_2O + 3S$$

Continue..

In acidic medium (in presence of dilute H2SO4):

 $\label{lem:manganous sulphate} \mbox{Manganous sulphate is formed. The solution becomes colourless.}$

This medium is used in quantitative (volumetric) estimations. The equivalent mass of KMnO₄ in

acidic medium is =
$$\frac{\text{Molecular mass}}{5}$$
.

SO, is oxidised to H2SO4:

$$2MnO_4^- + 5SO_2 + 2H_2O \longrightarrow 5SO_4^{2-} + 2Mn^{2+} + 4H^+$$

Nitrites are oxidised to nitrates:

$$2MnO_4^- + 5NO_2^- + 6H^+ \longrightarrow 2Mn^{2+} + 3H_2O + 5NO_3^-$$

Oxalic acid is oxidised to CO,:

This reaction is slow at room temperature, but is rapid at 60°C.

Mn(II) ions produced catalyse the reaction; thus the reaction is autocatalytic

$$2MnO_A^- + 16H^+ + 5C_2O_A^{2-} \xrightarrow{-60^{\circ}C} 2Mn^{2+} + 8H_2O + 10CO_2$$

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