

Irrigation water-sulphate ion analysis by conductometry

Expt No. 1

Date: 14/12/2017

Principle

Electrolyte solutions conduct electricity due to the presence of ions in solution. In case of precipitation titration between BaCl_2 and Na_2SO_4 , the conductance decreases slowly due to the replacement of Na^+ ion by SO_4^{2-} upto the equivalence point. After the equivalence point the conductance increases rapidly due to the excess addition of BaCl_2 which remains in solution as Ba^{2+} and Cl^- . This makes detection of neutralization point easy from the conductance trend plotted as a graph. This principle is used in the estimation of SO_4^{2-} from an effluent sample.

Apparatus required

TDS-Conductivity bridge, conductivity cell, burette, pipette, volumetric flasks, glass rod and 100 mL beaker.

Chemicals required

BaCl_2 , Na_2SO_4 , unknown sulphate solution and distilled water.

Procedure

Calibration of TDS-Conductivity meter:

Place a freshly prepared 0.01 N KCl solution (given in bottle) in a 100 mL beaker and dip the conductivity cell in this solution and connect to the TDS-Conductivity meter. Press "CAL" button and complete the internal calibration of the instrument

Standardization of BaCl_2 :

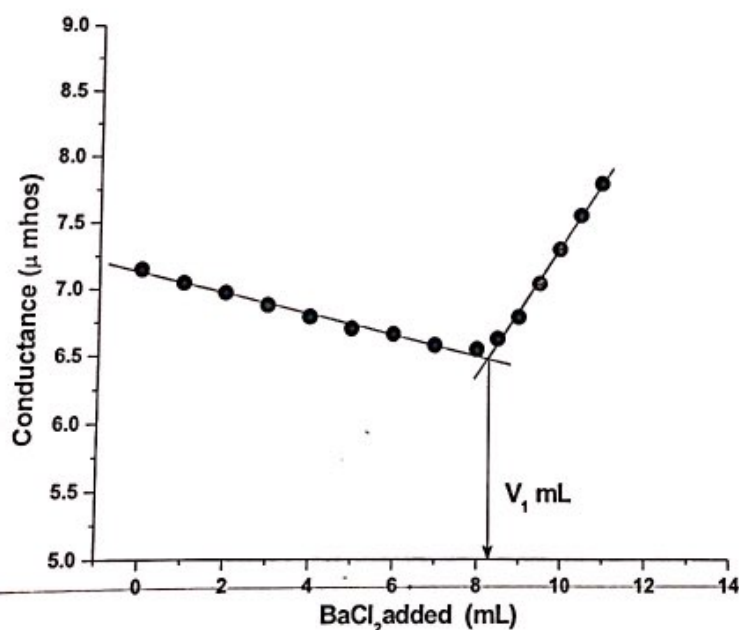
Standard flask A contains Na_2SO_4 which after making up to 50 mL will result in a solution containing 0.96 mg/mL of sulphate ions. Pipette out 20 mL of this solution and add 20 mL of distilled water to it in a 100 mL beaker. The conductivity cell is dipped into the beaker and connected to TDS conductivity meter. Fill the burette with BaCl_2 solution (Solution B). Record the conductivity of the sulphate solution as 0th reading. Add 0.5 mL portion of known concentration of BaCl_2 into the beaker, stir with glass rod and note down the conductance. Continue the addition of BaCl_2 (0.5 mL each time) and note the conductance after each

addition. Continue the titration beyond the equivalence point for about 3mL. The conductance will decrease till complete precipitation of BaSO_4 and then starts increasing on continuing the addition of BaCl_2 . A graph is now drawn by plotting conductance Vs volume of BaCl_2 added and the intersection point from the graph gives the volume of BaCl_2 required for precipitating the sulphate from the known sample.

Table. 1. Standardization of BaCl_2

Volume of BaCl_2 added (mL)	Conductance (μ mhos)	Volume of BaCl_2 added (mL)	Conductance (μ mhos)
0.0	4.8	5.5 11.0	3.8
0.5 1.0	4.7	6.0 12.0	4.1
1.0 2.0	4.6	6.5 13.0	4.2
1.5 3.0	4.4	7.0 14.0	4.4
2.0 4.0	4.3	7.5 15.0	4.6
2.5 5.0	4.2	8.0 16.0	4.7
3.0 6.0	4.1	8.5 17.0	4.9
3.5 7.0	4.0	9.0 18.0	5.0
4.0 8.0	3.9	9.5 19.0	
4.5 9.0	3.8	10.0	
5.0 10.0	3.7	10.5	

Fig. Model graph-1 for TDS-Conductometric estimation of known sulphate sample solution



Estimation of unknown sulphate in the given solution:

Make up the unknown sulphate solution given in standard flask B up the 50 mL mark. Pipette out 20 mL of this solution into a 100 mL beaker and add 20 mL distilled water to it. Dip the conductivity cell and repeat the above procedure with the unknown sulphate solution and determine the amount of BaCl_2 required for precipitating the unknown sulphate in the sample.

From the two titrations carried out, calculate the amount of sulphate present in the effluent sample.

Table. 2 Estimation of unknown sulphate solution

Volume of BaCl_2	Conductance	Volume of BaCl_2	Conductance
0.0	4.7	5.5 11.0	3.8
0.5 1.0	4.6	6.0 12.0	3.9
1.0 2.0	4.5	6.5 13.0	4.1
1.5 3.0	4.3	7.0 14.0	4.3
2.0 4.0	4.2	7.5 15.0	4.4
2.5 5.0	4.1	8.0 16.0	4.6
3.0 6.0	4.0	8.5 17.0	4.7
3.5 7.0	3.9	9.0 18.0	4.9
4.0 8.0	3.8	9.5	
4.5 9.0	3.7	10	
5.0 10.0	3.7	10.5	

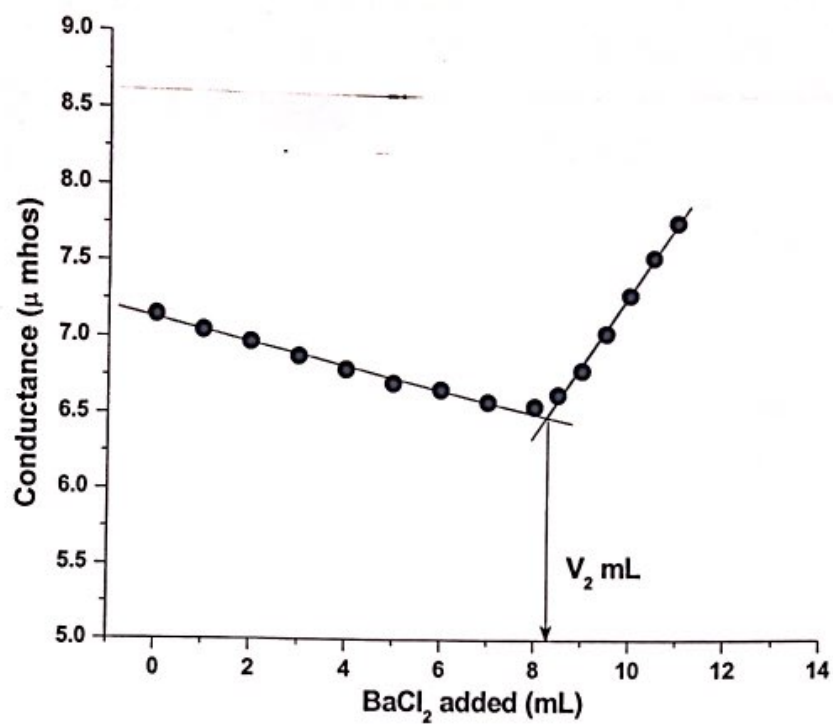


Fig. Model graph-2 for TDS-Conductometric estimation of unknown sulphate sample solution

Calculations:

A) Standardization of BaCl_2 :

From the first plot,

20 mL of known sulphate solution required V_1 mL of BaCl_2 for complete precipitation of sulphate.

142 g of Na_2SO_4 contains 96 g of SO_4^{2-}

Therefore, 0.02N of 1 L Na_2SO_4 contains 0.96 g of SO_4^{2-} ions

20 mL of 0.02N of Na_2SO_4 contains 0.024 g = 24 mg of SO_4^{2-} ions

Therefore, 1 mL of BaCl_2 will precipitate $24/V_1$ = 23.04...mg of sulphate (Y)

B) Estimation of unknown sulphate:

From the second plot,

20 mL of unknown sulphate consumed V_2 mL of BaCl_2 for complete precipitation of sulphate.

Sulphate present in 20 mL of the unknown solution = $V_2 \times Y$ = 23.04... mg (Z)

Sulphate present in 1 L of unknown solution = $\frac{Z \times 1000}{20}$ ppm

Result

Amount of sulphate present in the given sample = 1152...ppm. (1052) ppm

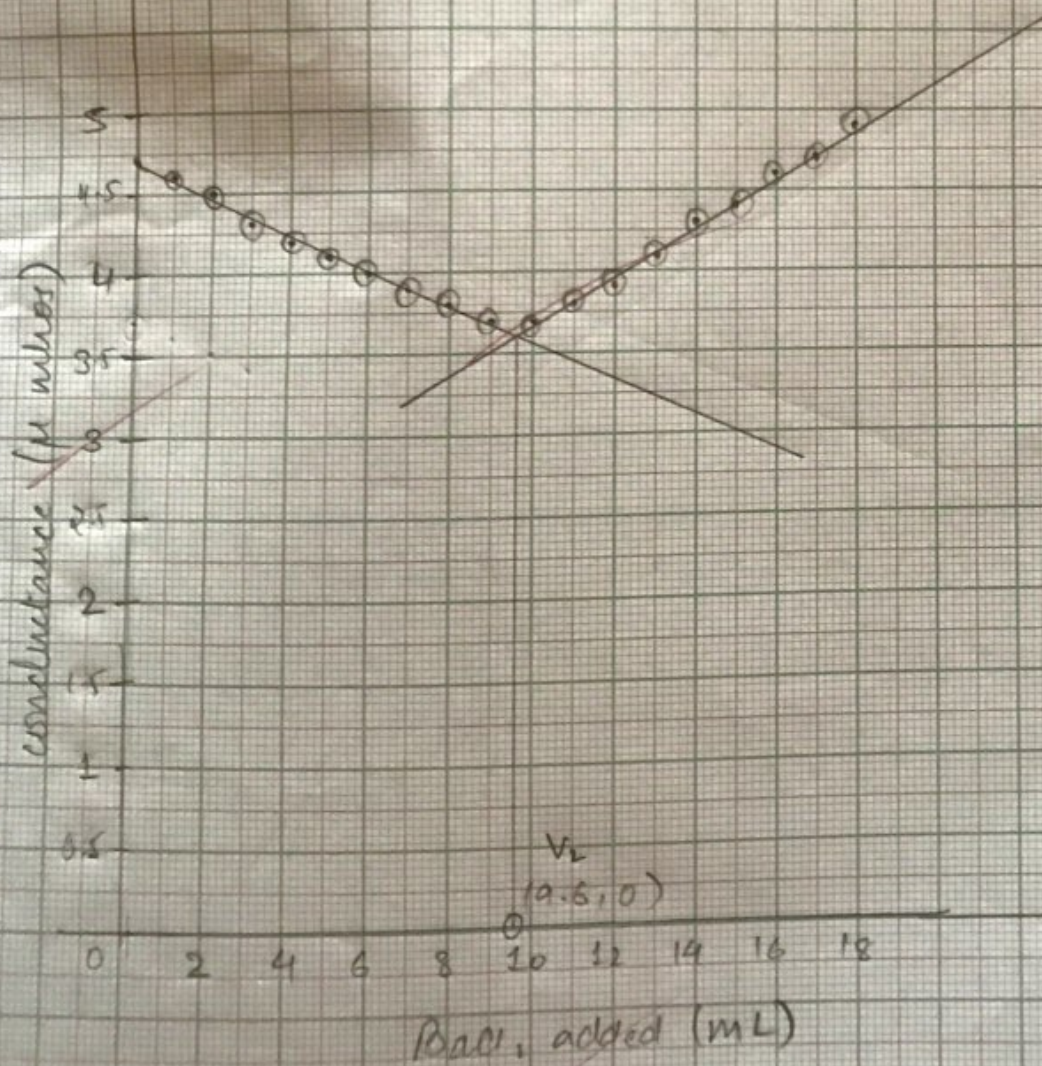
Evaluation of result

Sample number	Experimental value	Actual Value	Percentage of error	Marks awarded
	1152	1100	2.1	$\frac{100}{1.952} \times 100 = 9.5$ $\frac{8}{8}$ 29/12/12

SCALE:

Along x-axis: $1 \text{ BD} = 2 \text{ mL}$

Along y-axis: $1 \text{ BD} = 0.5 \text{ mhos}$



SCALE:

Along x-axis: - 1 BD = 2 ml

Along y-axis: - 1 BD = 0.5 μ mhos

