

## Thermo. Titr. Application Note No. H-020

**Title:** Determination of Chromium in Leather Waste Solutions

**Scope:** Determination of chromium in leather waste solutions in range 1000-30,000ppm

**Principle:** Chromium (III) is complexed with an excess of Na<sub>4</sub>EDTA, the solution made ammoniacal with an NH<sub>3</sub>/NH<sub>4</sub>Cl buffer, and back-titrated with a standard copper solution. Although the stability constant of the Cr (III)/EDTA complex is high (pS=24.0), it reacts slowly with EDTA. It is necessary to heat the solution to ensure complete complexation with EDTA. The endpoint is revealed by the difference in the heats of complexation of Cu with EDTA and Cu with ammonia.

**Reagents:** ~1mol/L CuSO<sub>4</sub> solution  
1mol/L Na<sub>4</sub>EDTA solution. Prepared from Na<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>EDTA, neutralized with NaOH  
NH<sub>3</sub>/NH<sub>4</sub>Cl buffer. Add 142mL conc. NH<sub>3</sub> solution to 17.5g NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, and dilute to 250mL with D.I. water  
Standard Zn solution, 0.5mol/L, prepared from A.R. Zn and HCl

**Method:** Basic Experimental Parameters:

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Data rate (per second)          | 10  |
| Titrant delivery rate (mL/min.) | 1.5 |
| No. of exothermic endpoints     | 1   |
| Data smoothing factor           | 40  |

Procedure: Pipette 50.00mL leather waste solution into a 150mL beaker equipped with a spin bar. Add 25.00mL ~1M Na<sub>4</sub>EDTA solution. Cover beaker with a watch glass, and heat on a hot plate/magnetic stirrer to ~70°C for ~5 minutes. Allow to cool and transfer quantitatively to a 100mL volumetric flask. Make to volume and mix well.

Pipette a 20mL aliquot of this solution (equivalent to 10mL sample solution and 5mL Na<sub>4</sub>EDTA solution) into a 140mL polypropylene titration beaker equipped with a spinning. Add 10mL of NH<sub>3</sub>/NH<sub>4</sub>Cl buffer, and titrate to an inflection

with standard  $\text{CuSO}_4$  solution. Record back titre as  $V_{BT}$  mL.

$\text{CuSO}_4$  and  $\text{Na}_4\text{EDTA}$  Standardisation. Pipette 5.00 mL  $\text{Na}_4\text{EDTA}$  solution into a titration beaker containing a spinning. Add 10 mL  $\text{NH}_3/\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  buffer, and 10 mL D.I. water. Titrate to an inflection. Record the volume of  $\text{CuSO}_4$  solution required to titrate it as  $V_{BL}$  mL. Repeat this titration at least in triplicate, and average values of  $V_{BL}$

Now pipette 5.00 mL  $\text{Na}_4\text{EDTA}$  solution into a titration beaker containing a spinning. Also pipette in 5 mL standard Zn solution (molarity =  $M_{Zn}$ , volume =  $V_{Zn}$ ), and add 10 mL  $\text{NH}_3/\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  buffer, and 5 mL D.I. water. Back titrate with  $\text{CuSO}_4$  solution, recording volume as  $V_{BS}$  mL. Perform this titration at least in triplicate.

Determine molarity of  $\text{CuSO}_4$  solution from:

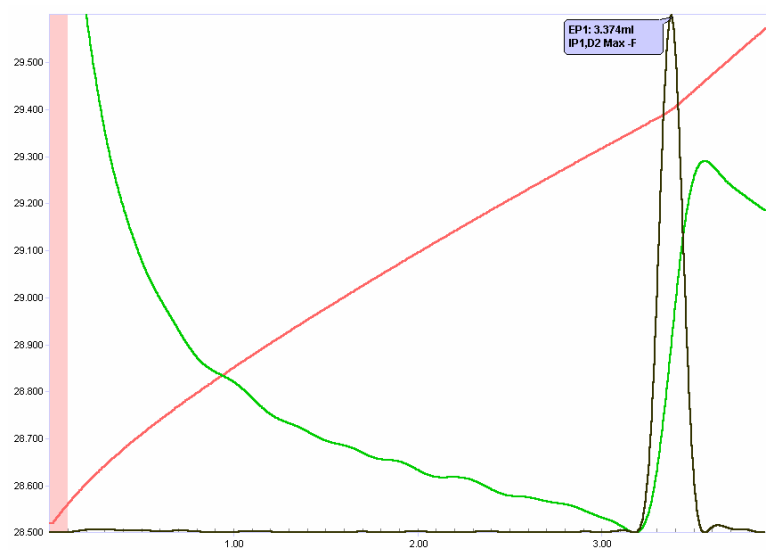
$$M_{\text{CuSO}_4} = \frac{M_{Zn} \times V_{Zn}}{(V_{BL} - V_{BS})}$$

As long as the same volume of  $\text{Na}_4\text{EDTA}$  from the same batch is used throughout the determinations, the value of  $V_{BL}$  used during the standardisation can be used for the computations.

| <b>Results:</b> |        | Analysis of leather waste solutions |
|-----------------|--------|-------------------------------------|
|                 | Sample | Cr(III), mg/L                       |
|                 | A      | 8687±23 (n=4)                       |
|                 | B      | 7698±6 (n=4)                        |

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Calculation:</b> | $\text{ppm Cr(III)} = \frac{((V_{BL} - V_{BT}) \times M_{\text{CuSO}_4} \times \text{FW Cr} \times 1000)}{\text{Sample vol., mL}}$ $\text{ppm Cr(III)} = \frac{((5.00 - 3.555) \times 0.9158 \times 58.693 \times 1000)}{10}$ $= 7703 \text{ mg/L}$ |
|---------------------|---|

**Thermometric Titration Plot:**



Legend:

Red = solution temperature curve

Green = first derivative curve

Black = second derivative curve