Complexation and EDTA Titrations

We have already used metal complexation in Week 2 to detect Fe²⁺ with Colorimetry:

 $Fe^{2+} + 3 Fz^{2-} => Fe(Fz)_3^{4-}$



Ferrozine (Fz²⁻) is a metal ligand



Three Ferrozine will form a metal-ligand complex with Fe²⁺

Prof. Rob Corn - Chem M3LC

HQS Fluorimetry for Detecting Metal Ions

8-hydroxyquinoline (8-HQ) can be used to to detect Mg²⁺:





8-hydroxyquinoline (8-HQ)

Two 8-HQ form a fluorescent complex with divalent Cations

8-HQ is also called oxine

8-hydroxyquinoline: a metal chelator that fluoresces upon binding!

HQS Fluorimetry for Detecting Metal Ions

This week we will use 8-hydroxyquinoline-5-sulfonic Acid (HQS) to detect Mg²⁺:





8-hydroxyquinoline-5-sulfonic Acid (HQS)

HQS is more water soluble than 8-HQ.

Two HQS will form a fluorescent complex with divalent cations

Three HQS also can form a fluorescent complex with trivalent cations like Al³⁺

HQS Fluorimetric Detection of Mg²⁺ in Seawater



8-hydroxyquinoline-5-sulfonic Acid (HQS)



Figure 1. pH dependence of the fluorescnece intensities of group II metal-HQS chelates: Cd, 2 μ M; all other metals in this and following figures, 20 μ M; HQS, 1 mM.

We can use either a linear calibration curve or standard addition methods to quantitate the HQS fluorimetry.

In sea water, there may be some background due to Ca²⁺.

Ammonia: A Weak Metal Complexation Agent

Four different Zn²⁺-ammonia species co-exist in solution!

Zinc Complexation

1. Zinc-ammonia complexation

$Zn^{2+} + NH_3 = Zn(NH_3)^{2+}$	$K_1 = 180$	$\beta_1 = K_1 = 180$
$Zn(NH_3)^{2+} + NH_3 = Zn(NH_3)_2^{2+}$	K ₂ = 220	$\beta_2 = K_1 K_2 = 3.96 \text{ x } 10^4$
$Zn(NH_3)_2^{2+} + NH_3 = Zn(NH_3)_3^{2+}$	$K_3 = 250$	$\beta_3 = K_1 K_2 K_3 = 9.90 \text{ x } 10^6$
$Zn(NH_3)_3^{2+} + NH_3 = Zn(NH_3)_4^{2+}$	$K_4 = 110$	$\beta_4 = K_1 K_2 K_3 K_4 = 1.09 \text{ x } 10^9$

Weak Metal Complex Formation Constants have similar values of K_1 to K_n

Ammonia: A Weak Metal Complexation Agent

1. Zinc-ammonia complexation

${}^{\alpha}Zn^{2+} = 1 + K_1[NH_3] + K_1K_2[NH_3]^2 + K_1K_2K_3[NH_3]^3 + K_1K_2K_3K_4[NH_3]^4$					
1					
$Zn(NH_3)_3^{2+} + NH_3 = Zn(NH_3)_4^{2+}$	K ₄ = 110	$\beta_4 = K_1 K_2 K_3 K_4 = 1.09 \text{ x } 10^9$			
$Zn(NH_3)_2^{2+} + NH_3 = Zn(NH_3)_3^{2+}$	K ₃ = 250	$\beta_3 = K_1 K_2 K_3 = 9.90 \text{ x } 10^6$			
$Zn(NH_3)^{2+} + NH_3 = Zn(NH_3)_2^{2+}$	K ₂ = 220	$\beta_2 = K_1 K_2 = 3.96 \text{ x } 10^4$			
$Zn^{2+} + NH_3 = Zn(NH_3)^{2+}$	$K_1 = 180$	$\beta_1 = K_1 = 180$			

We can use the alpha fraction for Zn^{2+} to calculate the amount of free Zn^{2+} in solution.

$$Zn(OH)_{2(s)} \rightleftharpoons Zn^{2+} + 2OH^{-}$$
 $K_{sp} = 3 \times 10^{-17} *$
 $K_{sp} = [Zn^{2+}][OH^{-}]^{2}$

I) At pH 10.0, what is the Zn²⁺ concentration at which zinc hydroxide just begins to precipitate?

* The true K_{sp} for Zn(OH)_{2(s)} is 3 x 10⁻¹⁷. An effective K_{sp} value of 3 x 10⁻¹⁶ is often used to include zinc hydroxide complexation effects; we will ignore hydroxide complexation in this calculation.

$$Zn(OH)_{2(s)} \rightleftharpoons Zn^{2+} + 2OH^{-} \qquad K_{sp} = 3 \times 10^{-17}$$
$$K_{sp} = [Zn^{2+}][OH^{-}]^{2}$$

I) At pH=10.0, what is the Zn^{2+} concentration at which zinc hydroxide just begins to precipitate?

$$[OH^{-}] = 1 \times 10^{-4}M$$
$$[Zn^{2+}] = \frac{K_{sp}}{[OH^{-}]^{2}} = \frac{3 \times 10^{-17}}{10^{-8}} = 3 \times 10^{-9}M$$
$$[Zn^{2+}] = 3 \times 10^{-9}M$$

This is the maximum free Zn^{2+} concentration at pH = 10.0.

Consider a solution with a TOTAL Zinc concentration of 1.00×10^{-4} M.

This solution would definitely form a zinc hydroxide precipitate at a solution pH of 10.0.

However, we can use an ammonia buffer to reduce the amount of free Zn^{2+} in solution.

$$[Zn^{2+}] = \alpha_{Zn^{2+}} C_{Zn}^{tot} \qquad C_{Zn}^{tot} = 1.00 \times 10^{-4} M$$
$$\alpha_{Zn^{2+}} = \frac{1}{1 + K_1 [NH_3] + K_1 K_2 [NH_3]^2 + K_1 K_2 K_3 [NH_3]^3 + K_1 K_2 K_3 K_4 [NH_3]^4}$$

We can use a 0.100M ammonia buffer to reduce the amount of free Zn^{2+} in solution.

$$NH_3 + H_2O \rightleftharpoons NH_4^+ + OH^- \qquad pK_b = 4.74$$
$$C_{NH_3}^{tot} = 0.100M$$

At *p*H = 10.0:

$$[NH_3] = \alpha_{NH_3} C_{NH_3}^{tot} = \left(1 + \frac{K_b}{[OH^-]}\right)^{-1} C_{NH_3}^{tot}$$

$$[NH_3] = \left(1 + \frac{10^{-4.74}}{10^{-4}}\right)^{-1} \times 0.100 = 0.0846M$$

Note that α_{NH_3} is an acid-base alpha fraction!

1. Zinc-ammonia complexation

$Zn^{2+} + NH_3 = Zn(NH_3)^{2+}$	$K_1 = 180$	$\beta_1 = K_1 = 180$
$Zn(NH_3)^{2+} + NH_3 = Zn(NH_3)_2^{2+}$	K ₂ = 220	$\beta_2 = K_1 K_2 = 3.96 \text{ x } 10^4$
$Zn(NH_3)_2^{2+} + NH_3 = Zn(NH_3)_3^{2+}$	$K_3 = 250$	$\beta_3 = \mathbf{K}_1 \mathbf{K}_2 \mathbf{K}_3 = 9.90 \text{ x } 10^6$

 $Zn(NH_3)_3^{2+} + NH_3 = Zn(NH_3)_4^{2+}$ $K_4 = 110$ $\beta_4 = K_1K_3^{2+}$

$$B_4 = K_1 K_2 K_3 K_4 = 1.09 \text{ x } 10^9$$

 $\alpha_{Zn^{2+}} = \frac{1}{1 + K_1[NH_3] + K_1K_2[NH_3]^2 + K_1K_2K_3[NH_3]^3 + K_1K_2K_3K_4[NH_3]^4}$

At pH = 10, [NH₃] = 0.0846M and we can calculate:

$$\alpha_{Zn^{2+}} = 1.61 \times 10^{-5}$$

Note that $\alpha_{Zn^{2+}}$ is a complexation alpha fraction!

Zinc - Ammonia Complexation

Consider a solution with a TOTAL Zinc concentration of 1.00×10^{-4} M in a 0.100M Ammonia buffer at pH=10.0:

 $[NH_3] = 0.0846M$ $\alpha_{Zn^{2+}} = 1.61 \times 10^{-5}$ $[Zn^{2+}] = \alpha_{Zn^{2+}}C_{Zn}^{tot} = (1.61 \times 10^{-5})(1.00 \times 10^{-4}M)$ $[Zn^{2+}] = 1.61 \times 10^{-9}M$

This is less than $3 \times 10^{-9} M$, so there is no precipitation!

EDTA Metal Ion Complexation Equilibria



Ethylene Diamine Tetra-acetic Acid (H₄Y)

EDTA - the world's best metal ion chelator

Metal complexation reactions with Y⁴⁻:

$M^{n+} + Y^{4-} \rightarrow MnY^{(n-4)}$		
<u>log K</u> f		
7.32		
8.69		
10.70		
16.31		
16.46		
15.89		
25.10		
25.90		
	(n-4) <u>log K</u> f 7.32 8.69 10.70 16.31 16.46 15.89 25.10 25.90	

Conditional formation constant: $K'_f = \alpha_{Y4}K_f$





EDTA Alpha Fractions



Most EDTA titrations are performed at $pH \ge 10$.

EDTA-Metal ion Complexation.

EDTA is a polyprotic acid - Ethylenediaminetetraacetic Acid. H_4Y .

 $pK_1 = 1.99; pK_2 = 2.67; pK_3 = 6.16; pK_4 = 10.26.$

Alpha fraction for Y⁴⁻:

 $\alpha_{Y^{4-}} = \frac{K_1 K_2 K_3 K_4}{\left[H^+\right]^4 + K_1 \left[H^+\right]^3 + K_1 K_2 \left[H^+\right]^2 + K_1 K_2 K_3 \left[H^+\right] + K_1 K_2 K_3 K_4}$

 $\alpha_{Y^{4-}}$ = 0.355 at pH= 10.0

EDTA titrations are always run in basic solutions to insure that there is enough Y⁴⁻ species

Note that $\alpha_{Y^{4-}}$ is an acid-base alpha fraction!

EDTA Titrations for Divalent Metal Ions

 $Mg^{2+} + Y^{4-} \rightleftharpoons MgY^{2-} \qquad \log K_f = 10.70$ $Ca^{2+} + Y^{4-} \rightleftharpoons CaY^{2-} \qquad \log K_f = 8.69$ $Zn^{2+} + Y^{4-} \rightleftharpoons ZnY^{2-} \qquad \log K_f = 16.50$

EDTA works with many metal ions





pCa can measured at the equivalence point.

Sadly, we cannot measure pCa or pMg directly in our M3LC lab. We must use an indicator to detect the endpoint of the EDTA titration



Calmagite (H₃In)

EDTA will displace weaker ligands -- you will use this process with calmagite to determine the endpoint of an EDTA titration for Mg²⁺

$$MgIn^{-} + Y^{4-} \rightleftharpoons MgY^{2-} + In^{3-}$$
(wine-red) (colorless) (??)*

*what you see will depend on pH

Ca-EDTA Titration: You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00 x 10⁻⁴ M Ca²⁺ solution with a 1.00 x 10⁻⁴ M EDTA solution. Both solutions are buffered to a pH of 10.0. The alpha fraction for Y⁴⁻ is 0.355 at a pH of 10.0.

$$Ca^{2+} + Y^{4-} \rightleftharpoons CaY^{2-} \qquad \log K_f = 8.69$$

What is *pCa* at the equivalence point?

You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00×10^{-4} M Ca²⁺ solution with a 1.00×10^{-4} M EDTA solution.

$$Ca^{2+} + Y^{4-} \rightleftharpoons CaY^{2-}$$
 $\log K_f = 8.69$

Total moles of $Ca^{2+} = (10^{-4}M)(0.050L) = 5 \times 10^{-6}$ moles

Equivalence point volume = 0.100L

$$[CaY^{2-}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5}M$$

We first assume a stoichiometric reaction.

You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a $1.00 \times 10^{-4} M$ Ca²⁺ solution with a $1.00 \times 10^{-4} M$ EDTA solution.

$$Ca^{2+} + Y^{4-} \rightleftharpoons CaY^{2-}$$
 $\log K_f = 8.69$
 $[CaY^{2-}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5}M$

We then assume that a little bit of free Ca^{2+} is formed as required by K_{f} .



You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00 x 10⁻⁴ M Ca^{2+} solution with a 1.00 x 10⁻⁴ M EDTA solution.

$$Ca^{2+} + Y^{4-} \rightleftharpoons CaY^{2-}$$
 $\log K_f = 8.69$
 $[CaY^{2-}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5}M$

We then assume that a little bit of free Ca^{2+} is formed as required by K_{f} .



For every free Ca²⁺, there is a free EDTA species

$$[Ca^{2+}] = C_{EDTA}^{tot}$$

You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a $1.00 \times 10^{-4} M$ Ca²⁺ solution with a $1.00 \times 10^{-4} M$ EDTA solution.

$$Ca^{2+} + Y^{4-} \rightleftharpoons CaY^{2-}$$
 $\log K_f = 8.69$
 $[CaY^{2-}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5}M$

We then assume that a little bit of free Ca^{2+} is formed as required by K_{f} .

$$K_f = \frac{[CaY^{2-}]}{[Ca^{2+}][Y^{4-}]}$$

For every free Ca²⁺, there is a free EDTA species

$$[Ca^{2+}] = C_{EDTA}^{tot}$$

[Y⁴⁻] is obtained using the alpha fraction.

$$[Y^{4-}] = \alpha_{Y^{4-}} C_{EDTA}^{tot} = \alpha_{Y^{4-}} [Ca^{2+}]$$

You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00 x 10-4 M Ca^{2+} solution with a 1.00 x 10⁻⁴ M EDTA solution.

$$Ca^{2+} + Y^{4-} \rightleftharpoons CaY^{2-}$$
 $\log K_f = 8.69$
 $[CaY^{2-}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5}M$

We then assume that a little bit of free Ca²⁺ is formed as required by K_f.

 $K_f = \frac{[CaY^{2-}]}{[Ca^{2+}][Y^{4-}]}$ For every free Ca^{2+} , there is a free EDTA species insert and $[Ca^{2+}] = C_{EDTA}^{tot}$ then solve for [Ca²⁺] [Y⁴⁻] is obtained using the alpha fraction. $[Y^{4-}] = \alpha_{Y^{4-}} C_{EDTA}^{tot} = \alpha_{Y^{4-}} [Ca^{2+}]$

You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00×10^{-4} M Ca²⁺ solution with a 1.00×10^{-4} M EDTA solution.

$$Ca^{2+} + Y^{4-} \rightleftharpoons CaY^{2-}$$
 $\log K_f = 8.69$

$$[CaY^{2-}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5}M$$

@ pH=10 $\alpha_{Y^{4-}} = 0.355$

At the equivalence point:

$$[Ca^{2+}] = \sqrt{\frac{[CaY^{2-}]}{\alpha_{Y^{4-}}K_f}}$$

$$\alpha_{Y^{4-}}K_f = K_f'$$

"conditional formation constant" depends on pH

You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00×10^{-4} M Ca²⁺ solution with a 1.00×10^{-4} M EDTA solution.

$$Ca^{2+} + Y^{4-} \Rightarrow CaY^{2-}$$
 $\log K_f = 8.69$
 $[CaY^{2-}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5}M$ $\alpha_{Y^{4-}} = 0.355$



You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00 x 10^{-4} M Zn²⁺ solution with a 1.00 x 10⁻⁴ M EDTA solution.

Both solutions are buffered to a pH of 10.0 using a 0.100M ammonia buffer.

At the Equivalence Point:

a) How much total free* Zn is left in solution?

b) What is the Zn²⁺ concentration?

* "total free Zn" means all Zn²⁺ not in the ZnY²⁻ complex

You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00 x 10^{-4} M Zn²⁺ solution with a 1.00 x 10⁻⁴ M EDTA solution.

Both solutions are buffered to a pH of 10.0 using a 0.100M ammonia buffer.

 $Zn^{2+} + Y^{4-} \rightleftharpoons ZnY^{2-} \qquad \log K_f = 16.5$ $K_f = \frac{[ZnY^{2-}]}{[Zn^{2+}][Y^{4-}]} \qquad At \ pH=10: \\ \alpha_{Y^{4-}} = 0.355$ $At \ [NH_3] = 0.0846M: \\ \alpha_{Zn^{2+}} = 1.61 \times 10^{-5}$

Note that $\alpha_{Zn^{2+}}$ is a complexation alpha fraction!

You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00 x 10^{-4} M Zn²⁺ solution with a 1.00 x 10⁻⁴ M EDTA solution.

$$K_f = \frac{[ZnY^{2-}]}{[Zn^{2+}][Y^{4-}]} \qquad \qquad \log K_f = 16.5 \\ \alpha_{Y^{4-}} = 0.355 \\ \alpha_{Zn^{2+}} = 1.61 \times 10^{-5}$$

We first assume a stoichiometric reaction:

Total moles of Zinc = 5.0×10^{-6} moles

Equivalence point volume = 0.100L

 $[ZnY^{2-}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5} M$

You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00 x 10^{-4} M Zn²⁺ solution with a 1.00 x 10⁻⁴ M EDTA solution.

$$K_{f} = \frac{[ZnY^{2-}]}{[Zn^{2+}][Y^{4-}]} \qquad \log K_{f} = 16.5$$

$$\alpha_{Y^{4-}} = 0.355$$

$$\alpha_{Zn^{2+}} = 1.61 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$[ZnY^{2-}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5} M$$

a) How much total free* Zn is left in solution at the eq. pt.?

* "total free Zn" means all Zn²⁺ not in the ZnY²⁻ complex, C_{Zn}^{tot}

$$C_{Zn}^{tot} = [Zn^{2+}] + [ZnNH_3^{2+}] + [Zn(NH_3)_2^{2+}] + [Zn(NH_3)_3^{2+}] + [Zn(NH_3)_4^{2+}]$$

You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00 x 10^{-4} M Zn²⁺ solution with a 1.00 x 10⁻⁴ M EDTA solution.

$$K_{f} = \frac{[ZnY^{2-}]}{[Zn^{2+}][Y^{4-}]} \qquad \log K_{f} = 16.5$$

$$\alpha_{Y^{4-}} = 0.355$$

$$\alpha_{Zn^{2+}} = 1.61 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$[ZnY^{2-}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5} M$$

a) How much total free Zn is left in solution at the eq. pt.?

(a) eq. pt:
$$C_{Zn}^{tot} = C_{EDTA}^{tot}$$

$$[Zn^{2+}] = \alpha_{Zn^{2+}}C_{Zn}^{tot}$$

$$K_f = \frac{[ZnY^{2-}]}{\alpha_{Zn^{2+}}C_{Zn}^{tot}\alpha_{Y^{4-}}C_{EDTA}^{tot}}$$

$$[Y^{4-}] = \alpha_{Y^{4-}}C_{EDTA}^{tot}$$
equal

You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00 x 10^{-4} M Zn²⁺ solution with a 1.00 x 10⁻⁴ M EDTA solution.

$$K_{f} = \frac{[ZnY^{2-}]}{[Zn^{2+}][Y^{4-}]} \qquad \log K_{f} = 16.5$$

$$\alpha_{Y^{4-}} = 0.355$$

$$\alpha_{Zn^{2+}} = 1.61 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$[ZnY^{2-}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5} M$$

a) How much total free Zn is left in solution at the eq. pt.?

@ eq. pt:
$$C_{Zn}^{tot} = C_{EDTA}^{tot}$$

 $[Zn^{2+}] = \alpha_{Zn^{2+}}C_{Zn}^{tot}$
 $[Y^{4-}] = \alpha_{Y^{4-}}C_{EDTA}^{tot}$

$$C_{Zn}^{tot} = \sqrt{\frac{[ZnY^{2-}]}{\alpha_{Zn^{2+}}\alpha_{Y^{4-}}K_f}}$$

You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00 x 10^{-4} M Zn²⁺ solution with a 1.00 x 10⁻⁴ M EDTA solution.

$$K_{f} = \frac{[ZnY^{2-}]}{[Zn^{2+}][Y^{4-}]} \qquad \log K_{f} = 16.5$$

$$\alpha_{Y^{4-}} = 0.355$$

$$\alpha_{Zn^{2+}} = 1.61 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$[ZnY^{2-}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5} M$$

a) How much total free Zn is left in solution?

$$C_{Zn}^{tot} = \sqrt{\frac{[ZnY^{2-}]}{\alpha_{Zn^{2+}}\alpha_{Y^{4-}}K_f}}$$

$$C_{Zn}^{tot} = 1.66 \times 10^{-8} M$$

or 0.0166%

 $\alpha_{Zn^{2+}}\alpha_{Y^{4-}}K_f = K_f''$ "double conditional formation constant"

You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00 x 10^{-4} M Zn²⁺ solution with a 1.00 x 10⁻⁴ M EDTA solution.

$$K_f = \frac{[ZnY^{2-}]}{[Zn^{2+}][Y^{4-}]}$$

$$\log K_f = 16.5$$

$$\alpha_{Y^{4-}} = 0.355$$

$$\alpha_{Zn^{2+}} = 1.61 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$[ZnY^{2-}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5} M$$

$$C_{Zn}^{tot} = 1.66 \times 10^{-8} M$$

$$[Zn^{2+}] = \alpha_{Zn^{2+}} C_{Zn}^{tot}$$

You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00 x 10^{-4} M Zn²⁺ solution with a 1.00 x 10⁻⁴ M EDTA solution.

$$K_f = \frac{[ZnY^{2-}]}{[Zn^{2+}][Y^{4-}]}$$

$$\log K_f = 16.5$$

$$\alpha_{Y^{4-}} = 0.355$$

$$\alpha_{Zn^{2+}} = 1.61 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$[ZnY^{2-}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5} M$$

$$C^{tot} = 1.66 \times 10^{-8} M$$

b) What is the Zn²⁺ concentration?

 $C_{Zn}^{tot} = 1.66 \times 10^{-8} M$

$$[Zn^{2+}] = \alpha_{Zn^{2+}} C_{Zn}^{tot}$$

$$1.66 \times 10^{-8} M$$

You would like to perform a titration of 50.00 mL of a 1.00 x 10^{-4} M Zn²⁺ solution with a 1.00 x 10⁻⁴ M EDTA solution.

$$K_f = \frac{[ZnY^{2-}]}{[Zn^{2+}][Y^{4-}]}$$

b) What is the Zn²⁺ concentration?

$$\log K_f = 16.5$$

$$\alpha_{Y^{4-}} = 0.355$$

$$\alpha_{Zn^{2+}} = 1.61 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$[ZnY^{2-}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5} M$$

$$C_{Zn}^{tot} = 1.66 \times 10^{-8} M$$

$$[Zn^{2+}] = 2.67 \times 10^{-13} M$$