Plutonium (IV) Quantification in Technologically Relevant Media Using Potentiometric Sensor Array

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Sensor membrane preparation

The sensor membranes were prepared using a standard protocol. 17 ligands were selected for membrane preparation, based on liquid extraction literature data. The list of the ligands along with corresponding literature references describing their synthesis and extraction behavior is given in the Table S1. All ligands were kindly provided by Khlopin Radium Institute (St. Petersburg, Russia). The polymeric membrane matrix of electrodes was composed of poly(vinyl chloride) (PVC) (33 wt.%) and 2 - nitrophenyloctyl ether (NPOE) as a plasticizer (64–65 wt.%). Potassium tetrakis[3,5-bis(trifluorometyl)phenyl]borate (KTFPB) or the acidic form of chlorinated cobalt dicarbollide (CCD) were used as cation-exchangers (10 mmol/kg). PVC, NPOE and KTFPB were obtained from Merck (Darmstadt, Germany). CCD was kindly provided by Katchem (Prague, Czech Republic). All sensor membranes contained 50 mmol/kg of one of the ligands listed in the Table S1.

In order to prepare the membranes the weighted amounts of membrane components were dissolved in freshly distilled tetrahydrofuran and poured into flat bottomed Teflon beakers. The cocktails were left overnight for solvent evaporation. Three sensor membranes 4 mm in diameter were cut from the parent membrane of each composition and glued upon the end of PVC sensor bodies (6 mm in diameter) with PVC-cyclohexanone mixture. The sensor bodies were equipped with Ag/AgCl inner reference electrodes prepared from 5 mm long pieces of silver wire (0.5 mm in diameter) covered with AgCl layer in the electrochemical process.

Nature of the ligand	Chemical structure	Cation exchanger	Sensor number	Ref.
	N,N',N,N'- Tetraisobutyl diamide of dipicolinic acid	KTFPB	S1	[s1]
Diamides of dipicolinic acid		КТГРВ	S5	[s2]
_	N,N'-Dimethyl-N,N'-dicyclo-hexyldiamide of dipicolinic acid			
		KTFPB	S11	[s2]
	N,N'-Diethyl-N,N'-di(p-fluoro)phenyl diamide of dipicolinic acid			

Table S1. The	components o	f the sensor	membranes.
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	S1	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	S11	S13	S14	S15	S16
La	-0.4	-0.1	0.7	-0.1	0.7	0.4	0.9	-2.4	-0.2	-0.6	-0.7	-1.2	-1.7
Се	-0.4	-0.3	-0.6	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	-1.4	-0.1	-0.8	-0.5	-0.8	-1.4
Pr	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.6	-0.9	0.5	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3	-1.6
Nd	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.4	2.6	-2.0	1.1	-2.6	0.5	-0.5	-1.6	-1.4	-1.9
Sm	0.2	-0.1	0.4	0.3	1.8	-0.7	0.8	-2.6	-0.1	-0.8	-1.5	-1.4	-2.0
Eu	0.2	-0.5	0.0	-0.1	1.4	-0.5	0.6	-3.3	0.2	-0.8	-2.4	-2.0	-3.1
Gd	0.1	-0.5	-0.1	0.1	1.2	-0.8	0.6	-2.5	0.0	-0.8	-1.8	-1.5	-2.5
Yb	0.4	-0.3	0.1	0.0	1.3	-2.3	0.6	-3.7	0.3	-0.8	-3.0	-2.6	-3.2
Th	-0.9	-0.6	-0.9	-0.7	1.3	-1.3	0.1	-2.8	-2.1	-1.6	-2.0	-1.8	-2.3
U	3.1	3.3	3.5	2.2	2.4	3.7	2.5	3.7	2.3	2.8	5.9	6.2	4.1

Table S2. Ig $K(Pu^{4+}/Me^{n+})$ selectivity values of the sensors for selected actinides and lanthanides.



Figure S1. Visual appearance of the developed sensor array.



Figure S2. Sensitivity to Pu^{4+} in the presence of 500 mg/L uranium.



Figure S3. Sensor responses in the simulated PUREX solutions.

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