

VA Application Note No. V - 113

Title: Titanium in PET (polyethylene terephthalate)

Summary: Ti is determined in polyethylene terephthalate (PET) after digestion in sulfuric acid and hydrogen peroxide. Adsorptive stripping voltammetry (AdSV) with mandelic acid as complexing agent is used for this application.

Sample: PET pellets

Sample preparation: 250 mg sample
2 mL w(H₂SO₄) = 96 % suprapur
are put into a flask of the digestion apparatus and heated to 250°C.
1 mL w(H₂O₂) = 30% suprapur is added through a dropping funnel. The mixture reacts intensively. Another 1 mL H₂O₂ is added. After the 2nd addition the mixture was heated to 400° C until SO₃ fumes are formed and the solution remains colorless. After cooling down the solution was filled up to 100 mL.

Analysis of Ti

Electrolyte c(mandelic acid) = 0.4 mol/L in water

Measuring solution 10 mL water
+ 10 µL digestion solution
+ 1 mL electrolyte
adjust the pH to 3.1 with w(NH₃) = 10%.

Auxiliary electrode (AE) Pt

Reference electrode (RE) Ag/AgCl/KCl (3 mol/L)

Parameters

Working electrode	HMDE
Stirrer speed	2000 rpm
Mode	DP
Purge time	300 s
Deposition potential	-600 mV
Deposition time	30 s
Equilibration time	5 s
Pulse amplitude	50 mV

Start potential	-600 mV
End potential	-950 mV
Voltage step	6 mV
Voltage step time	0.1 s
Sweep rate	60 mV/s
Peak potential Ti	-770 mV

Results:	Ti
	4.8 mg/g

Determination of Ti

