



## Application Note AN-T-188

# Iron content in iron ore

## Fast and accurate analysis according to ISO/TS 2597-4

Iron ores occur in igneous, transformed, or sedimentary rocks. The most widely distributed iron-containing minerals are oxides, such as hematite ( $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ ), magnetite ( $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$ ), or limonite ( $\text{FeO}(\text{OH}) \cdot n \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ), but carbonates such as siderite ( $\text{FeCO}_3$ ) are also important.

The total iron content in iron ore plays a central economic role for mining companies. The higher the iron content in the ore, the more profitable the mining operation. Therefore, a fast and

accurate analysis is important to determine the most profitable areas to work.

In this Application Note, the iron determination according to ISO/TS 2597-4 is presented. A sample of iron ore is dissolved in hydrochloric acid at elevated temperatures. Afterwards, the total iron content is determined quickly and accurately by potentiometric titration using the Pt ring electrode and potassium dichromate as titrant.

## SAMPLE AND SAMPLE PREPARATION

The method is demonstrated for various iron ore samples. The iron ore is milled until the grain size

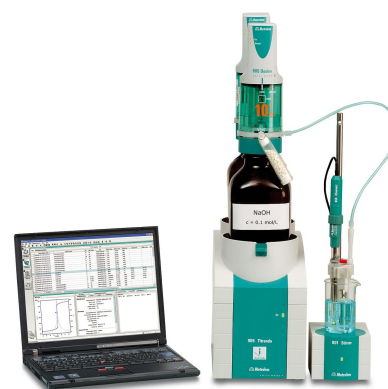
is less than 160  $\mu\text{m}$ .

## EXPERIMENTAL

This analysis is carried out on a 905 Titrando equipped with a rod stirrer, combined Pt ring electrode, and temperature sensor. Additionally, a heating plate is needed.

Hydrochloric acid, deionized water, and few drops of tin(II) hydrochloride are added to a reasonable amount of prepared sample. The mixture is heated for one hour at 80 ° C, followed by 10 minutes at 95 ° C. Afterwards by visual inspection of a color change, iron(III) is reduced with tin(II) chloride, and then titanium(III) chloride is added with an excess, which is then oxidized.

After cooling the sample down to room temperature, deionized water and an acid mixture (phosphoric acid and sulfuric acid) are added. Then the sample is titrated with standardized potassium dichromate until after the equivalence point.



**Figure 1.** 905 Titrando with tiamo. Example setup for the determination of the iron content in iron ore.

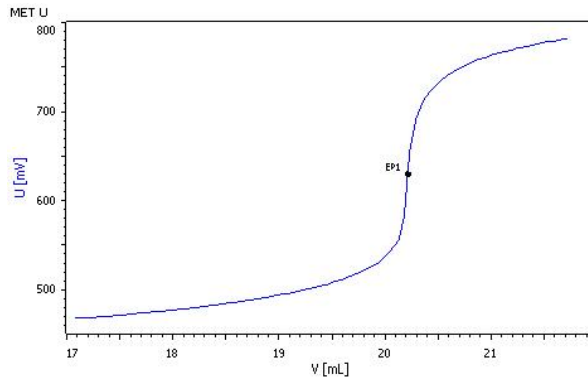
## RESULTS

The analysis demonstrates acceptable results and well-defined titration curves. Results are

summarized in **Table 1**. An example titration curve is displayed in **Figure 2**.

**Table 1.** Mean total iron content of various iron ore samples determined with a Titrando system (n = 4).

Sample	Mean	SD(rel) in %
1	65.11%	0.21%
2	54.25%	0.27%
3	62.81%	0.41%
4	66.78%	0.32%
5	66.18%	0.45%



**Figure 2.** Example titration curve of iron content determination.

## CONCLUSION

After sample preparation, the determination of iron content in iron ores can be performed reliably and cost-efficiently by using a Metrohm autotitrator. Fast and precise determination according to **ISO/TS 2597-4** is possible.

The presented method provides an inexpensive and easily performable approach to estimate if an extraction of iron from iron ore is economically feasible or not.

Internal reference: AW TI CH1-1261-122018

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## CONFIGURATION



### 905 Titrando

用于使用 Dosino 加液系统一个量接口位分析滴定的  
高端滴定。

- 多四套 800 Dosino 加液系
- 等当点滴定(DET)、等量等当点滴定(MET)和点  
定滴定(SET)
- 使用子性量(MEAS CONC)
- 控的加液功能,LQH
- 用于外拌器或加液器系的四个 MSB 接口
- 智能“iTrode”
- USB 接口
- 使用 OMNIS-Software、*tiamo*-件或 Touch  
Control
- 如果需要,足 GMP/GLP 和 FDA 要求,比如 21  
CFR 第 11 部分



### 802 Stirrer 804 Ti Stand

棒式拌器包括拌螺旋 6.1909.010。



### 804

滴定台及802杆式螺旋拌器的控制器,如果与802型杆  
式螺旋拌器用,可在磁力拌器之外提供一。Ti Stand工  
作台有底板、支杆与固定器。



## Pt

陶瓷柱隔膜的合式形。

用于 pH 可的化原滴定,例如:

- 按照温克勒法的含量
- 用  $\text{KMnO}_4$  定化
- 重化滴定

作参考解液并行制使用了  $c(\text{KCl}) = 3 \text{ mol/L}$ 。



## Pt1000 12.5 cm

玻璃材 Pt1000 温度感器(B)。

物品号 6.1110.110 的 Pt1000 温度感器也有 17.8 cm 安装度的版本可供。