

Application Note AN-PAN-1004

ABC Titration: Analysis of alkali, carbonate, hydroxide, and sulfide in pulping liquors

The breakdown process from solid wood to paper involves quite a number of preparative steps. The main process which converts wood into pulp is named the **Kraft process**, which utilizes white liquor (a mixture of sodium hydroxide «NaOH» and sodium sulfide «Na₂S») to break down the lignin and cellulose linkages. In the Kraft pulping process, the wood chips are saturated with white liquor and cooked at high temperatures in pressurized digesters, forming a liquid stream consisting of pulp and black liquor. After a washing step, the resulting pulp is sieved, washed, and bleached to produce paper; and the now weak black liquor continues to the chemical recovery loop into the evaporators. After passing through multiple evaporators, the



now concentrated black liquor enters the recovery boiler, where sodium sulfate (Na_2SO_4) is reduced to Na_2S . Then, the green liquor (containing mostly Na_2S and sodium carbonate (Na_2CO_3)), is sent to the causticizing plant to react with lime (CaO) and regenerate white liquor for the pulping process. Here, the recovery cycle is completed.

In the Kraft recovery cycle, the constant monitoring of residual effective alkali «REA» of black liquor, total titratable alkali «TTA», active alkali «AA», and effective alkali «EA» of green and white liquor, are necessary for maintaining the optimal recovery process, improving reaction yield, and enhancing process optimization. However, these streams are very hot and corrosive (like white liquor), thus there are risks of accidents when sampling manually.

It is also important to consider that variations in one part of the cycle will disturb downstream unit operation. In turn, these disturbances can create further variations, causing a downward spiraling effect. Conventional laboratory analysis leads to long response times between the sampling and the analysis in case of process changes, undermining the recovery efficiency. A great choice for online monitoring alkali,

carbonate, hydroxide, and other such important parameters in pulping liquors is the **2060 Process Analyzer** from Metrohm Process Analytics. Save time, avoid spillages, and increase efficiency without manually sampling process points.

APPLICATION

The 2060 Process Analyzer is used to determine alkali (AA, EA, and TTA), carbonate, hydroxide, sulfide, and causticizing degree «CE%» online in pulping liquors. The analyzer is suitable to analyze white, green, black, and wash liquors with multiple sample lines, outputting results for closed loop control. This method conforms to the standard method SCAN-N 30:85, the pulp and paper industry standard.



Figure 1. (left) Typical Kraft sulfate pulping and recovery process. (Right) 2060 Process Analyzer for ABC titration measurements for the pulp and paper industry.

TYPICAL RANGE

0.1–3 mol/L CO_3^{2-} and S^{2-} , 0.1–6 mol/L OH⁻, alkali 0.1–8 mol/L. Higher and lower ranges are

possible with the use of special preconditioning systems.



REMARKS

Additionally, the **sulfate concentration** can be measured online with thermometric titration in the same instrument. In combination with the ABC titration, this gives a perfect indication for the **degree of reduction** and information about the recovery boiler efficiency, which acts as a reactor. The thermometric titration gives a faster response and avoids the use of toxic chemicals. Other online applications in the pulp and paper industry are during the bleaching process.

BENEFITS FOR ONLINE TITRATION IN PROCESS

- Increased causticizing efficiency
- Reduced TTA and EA variability

- Greater and faster return on investment
- Safe working environment and automated sampling

CONTACT

瑞士万通中国 北京市海淀区上地路1号院 1号楼7702 100085 北京

marketing@metrohm.co m.cn

CONFIGURATION



2060 Process Analyzer

2060 Process Analyzer 是一在湿化学分析,用于无数 用。此程分析提供了一个新的模化概念,由一个称《主 机》的中心平台成。

主机由部分成。上部包含触摸屏和工算机。下部含有 柔性取部,其中放有用于分析的硬件。如果主取部容量 不足以分析挑,那主机可以展多四个外的取部机,以保 有足的空来最具挑性的用。附加机的配置方式使每个 取部机可以与具有集成(非接触式)液位的合使用,以增 加分析的正常行。

2060 Process Analyzer 提供不同的湿化学技:滴定法、舍滴定法、光度定、直接量和准添加入法。

足所有目要求(或足的所有需求),可提供品理系,以保分 析解决方案可靠。我可以提供任何品理系,如冷却或加 、和脱气、等。

Ω Metrohm