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# Potentiometric Titration of Lead(II) by Iodide in Acetone and Formation of Complex PbI<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>

ABDUL AZIZ RAMADAN\*, HASNA MANDIL and MOHAMMAD MAKTABI Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, University of Aleppo, Aleppo, Syria Fax: (96)(321)2633136; E-mail: dramadan@scs-net.org

Potentiometric and differential potentiometric titrations of Pb<sup>2+</sup> by iodide in acetone using different indicator electrodes: Pb, Cu and Pt were studied. Two end-points were observed, the first one according to the following equation: Pb<sup>2+</sup> + 2I<sup>-</sup>  $\rightarrow$  PbI<sub>2</sub> $\downarrow$ . While, the second endpoint according to the following equation: PbI<sub>2</sub> $\downarrow$  + I<sup>-</sup>  $\rightarrow$  PbI<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. The following complex PbI<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> is formed in acetone solution, for the first time, a clearly and consistently log  $\overline{K}$  = -21.92 (dissociation constant) is obtained. Solubility product (SP) of the deposit (PbI<sub>2</sub> $\downarrow$ ) is calculated, the values of log SP<sub>PbI2</sub> $\downarrow$  were between -18.30 to -18.80. A 103.5 µg of Pb<sup>2+</sup> was determined with relative standard deviation not to exceed ± 3.1 %.

Key Words: Potentiometric titration, Lead(II), Iodide, Acetone, Complex  $PbI_3$ .

## **INTRODUCTION**

One of the most widely used applications of electrochemistry is to determine the end point of titrations. Advantages of electrochemical methods over other methods (*e.g.*, visual methods) include greater sensitivity, as well as increasing accuracy and precision. These electrochemical methods are based on simple techniques. Inexpensive motorized pipettes as well as stopper motor-controlled miniature syringe pumps can facilitate titrations in small volumes, both for research and teaching purposes<sup>1</sup>. A number of different titrations are commonly used. These are reviewed in instrumental analysis and quantitative analysis textbooks<sup>2-4</sup>. Potentiometric titrations are the most important electrochemical titrations. The basis of potentiometric titration is the Nernst equation, which relates the concentration of electroactive species at the surface of an electrode (Cs) to the potential of that electrode (E); *i.e.*, for the reaction:

$$Ox + ne^{-} = Red$$

$$E = E^{\circ}_{Ox/Red} + \frac{RT}{nF} ln \frac{[Ox]}{[Red]} = E^{\circ}_{Ox/Red} + \frac{\theta}{n} log \frac{[Ox]}{[Red]}$$
(I)

 $\theta$  = 2.303RT/F = 0.0001983T = 0.0591 + 0.0002 (t-25 °C); (*e.g.*, at 30 °C,  $\theta$  = 0.0601≈0.06), where E° is the formal redox potential of the electron transfer reaction between the indicator electrode and the reference electrode (typically the saturated calomel or the silver/silver chloride electrode), *i.e.*, standard potential<sup>1.5.6</sup>.

Vol. 22, No. 4 (2010)

Potentiometric titration of Pb<sup>2+</sup> by iodide in some alcohols, dimethylformamide and acetonitrile using Pt electrode<sup>7-9</sup> were studied. It was found that, one end-point of the titration was observed according to the following equation:

$$Pb^{2+} + 2I^{-} \rightarrow PbI_{2} \downarrow \tag{1}$$

Potentiometric titration of Pb<sup>2+</sup> by iodide in some alcohols, dimethylformamide and acetonitrile using lead ion-selective electrode<sup>10,11</sup> were studied. It was found that, two clear end-points of the titration in methanol and ethanol were observed, the first one according to the following equation:

$$Pb^{2+} + I^{-} \to PbI^{+}$$
<sup>(2)</sup>

where, the second end-point according to the following equation:

$$PbI^{+} + I^{-} \to PbI_{2} \downarrow \tag{3}$$

In acetonitrile also, two clear end-points of the titration were observed, the first one according to the following equation:

$$Pb^{2+} + 2I^- \rightarrow PbI_2\downarrow$$

While, the second end-point according to the following equation:

$$PbI_2 \downarrow + 2I^- \rightarrow PbI_4^{2-}$$

(4)

The complex [PbI<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup> unstable in aqueous solutions<sup>12</sup>:

 $Pb^{2+} + 3I^- \rightarrow PbI_3^ \beta = [PbI_3^-]/[Pb^{2+}][I^-]^3 = 8.3 \times 10^3$ 

but found in crystal forms, such as:  $\{(C_4H_{12}N)_2[PbI_3]I\cdot 2H_2O\}_n^{13}, (Pr_4N)[PbI_3^-] \text{ and } [Mg(dmf)_6][PbI_3]_2^{14}.$ 

### **EXPERIMENTAL**

In the present measurements study of potentiometric titration of lead(II) by iodide in acetone and formation of complex  $PbI_3^-$  using Pb, Cu and Pt electrodes were carried out.

An automatic potentiometer (702 SM Titrino, Metrohm), automatic burette (806 Exchange Unit, Metrohm), rotating electrode (DI-65-14 with controvit unit-Tacussel), reference electrode (REF 421, Metrohm), magnetic stirrer (728 Stirrer, Metrohm) and sensitive balance (0.01 mg, Sartorius-2474) were used.

**Solutions preparation:** All solutions are prepared with acetone (extra pure, Merck) with analytical-reagent grade chemicals as the following: 0.01 M  $Pb(ClO_4)_2$ ·3H<sub>2</sub>O was prepared by dissolving of 0.46014 g in acetone, then transferred into volumetric flask volume of 100 mL and the final volume was completed to 100 mL using acetone. 0.1 M KI was prepared by dissolving of 1.66010 g in 0.1 mL deionized water, added 60 mL of acetone, then transferred into volumetric flask volume was completed to 100 mL and the final volume transferred into volumetric flask volume of acetone, then transferred into volumetric flask volume of 100 mL and the final volume was completed to 100 mL using acetone. All dilutions of the solutions were made with acetone.

**Procedures:** The appropriate volume of the standard solution of lead is putting in analytical cell, added acetone until the volume 10 mL and then titrated by iodide.

3262 Ramadan et al.

Asian J. Chem.

# **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Potentiometric titrations  $\{E = f(V)\}$  of  $Pb^{2+}$  by iodide in acetone were studied. Two end-points were observed, Fig. 1, the first one according to the following equation:

$$Pb^{2+} + 2I^{-} \rightarrow PbI_2 \downarrow$$

where, the second end-point according to the following equation:

$$PbI_2 \downarrow + I^- \to PbI_3^- \tag{5}$$



Fig. 1. Curves for the potentiometric titration of 10 mL of 0.0015 M Pb<sup>2+</sup> by 0.060 M iodide using different types of indicator electrode (Pb, Cu and Pt ): (1) Pb, (2) Cu and (3) Pt (reference electrode Ag/AgCl)

Vol. 22, No. 4 (2010)

Fig. 1 shows that, the first end-point according to titrating 15 µmol of lead(II) with 30 µmol of added iodide to form 15 µmol of low solubility salt  $PbI_2\downarrow$ . The second end-point according to dissolution of  $PbI_2\downarrow$  after addition of 15 µmol of other iodide to form 15 µmol of complex  $PbI_3^-$  is formed. This can be illustrated as follows:

**To the first end-point of titration:** The chemical reaction (3) is expressed as follows:

$$Pb^{2+} + 2e^{-} \rightarrow Pb \downarrow \tag{6}$$

$$E_1 = E^{\circ}_{Pb^{2+}/Pb} + 1/2 \ \theta \ \log \ [Pb^{2+}] = E^{\circ}_1 + 1/2 \ \theta \ \log \ [Pb^{2+}]; E^{\circ}_1 = E^{\circ}_{Pb^{2+}/Pb}$$
(II)

**Between the first and second end-point of titration:** The chemical reaction 5 is expressed as follows:

$$3PbI_2 \downarrow + 2e^- \rightarrow Pb + 2PbI_3^- \tag{7}$$

$$E_{2} = E^{o}_{PbI_{2}/Pb}, P_{bI_{3}} - 1/2 \ \theta \ \log \ [PbI_{3}^{-}]^{2}$$
  
=  $E^{o}_{1} + 1/2 \ \theta \ \log \ SP_{PbI_{2}} - \theta \ \log \ [PbI_{3}^{-}]$   
=  $E^{o}_{2} - \theta \ \log \ [PbI_{3}^{-}]$  (III)

$$E_{2}^{o'} = E_{1}^{o} + 1/2 \theta \log SP_{PbI_{2}}$$
 (IV)

$$SP_{PbI_2} = [Pb^{2+}][I^{-}]^2$$
(V)

$$PbI_{3}^{-} + 2e^{-} \rightarrow Pb + 3I^{-}$$

$$E_{3} = E^{o}_{PbI_{3}^{-}/Pb, I^{-}} + 1/2 \ \theta \log [PbI_{3}^{-}] - 1/2 \ \theta \log [I^{-}]^{3}$$

$$= E^{o}_{1} + 1/2 \log K + 1/2 \ \theta \log [PbI_{3}^{-}] - 3/2 \ \theta \log [I^{-}]$$

$$= E^{o'}_{3} + 1/2 \ \theta \log [PbI_{3}^{-}] - 3/2 \ \theta \log [I^{-}]$$

$$E^{o'}_{3} = E^{o}_{1} + 1/2 \ \theta \log K$$

$$(VII)$$

$$K = [Pb^{2+}][I^{-}]^{3}/[PbI_{3}^{-}]$$

$$(VIII)$$

**Calculation of standard potential:** Fig. 1 shows that the type of indicator electrodes (Pb, Cu and Pt) affect to very large changes in titration curves and thus standard potentials (Table-1) and the potential bound be more pronounced when Pb electrode is used.

**Calculation of solubility product:** Solubility product (SP) of the deposit ( $PbI_2\downarrow$ ) is calculated according to the equation (IV) using different types of indicator electrodes (Pb, Cu and Pt). It was found that the values of log SP<sub>PbI2</sub> were between -18.30 to -18.80 (Table-2).

**Calculation of dissociation constant of PbI**<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>: Dissociation constant (K) of the complex (PbI<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>) is calculated according to the equation (VII) using different types of indicator electrodes (Pb, Cu and Pt). It was found that the values of log  $K_{PbI_3^-}$  were between -21.87 to -21.97 (Table-3).

Differential potentiometric titrations  $\{dE/dV = f(V)\}$  of  $Pb^{2+}$  by iodide in acetone using different types of indicator electrodes: Pb, Cu and Pt (reference electrode Ag/AgCl) were studied. It was also found that, two end-points were observed (Fig. 2).

3264 Ramadan et al.

IADLE-I
VALUES OF STANDARD POTENTIALS FOR THE POTENTIOMETRIC TITRATION OF
Pb2+ BY IODIDE USING DIFFERENT TYPES OF INDICATOR ELECTRODES: Pb, Cu
AND Pt (REFERENCE ELECTRODE Ag/AgCl)

TADIE 1

Electrode	E°, V	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}^*, \mathbf{V}$	RSD (%)	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}^* \pm \mathbf{SD}, \mathbf{V}$
Pb	$\mathbf{E}^{\mathbf{o}}_{1} = \mathbf{E}^{\mathbf{o}}_{Pb^{2+}/Pb}$	-0.123	2.6	$-0.123 \pm 0.003$
	$E_{2}^{o} = E_{1}^{o} + 1/2 \theta \log SP_{PbI_{2}}$	-0.672	3.1	$-0.672 \pm 0.021$
	$E_{3}^{o} = E_{1}^{o} + 1/2 \theta \log K$	-0.781	3.3	$-0.777 \pm 0.026$
Cu	$\mathbf{E}^{\mathbf{o}}_{1} = \mathbf{E}^{\mathbf{o}}_{Pb^{2+}/Pb}$	+0.054	4.1	$+0.054 \pm 0.002$
	$E_{2}^{o} = E_{1}^{o} + 1/2 \theta \log SP_{PbI_{2}}$	-0.510	4.5	$-0.510 \pm 0.023$
	$E_{3}^{o} = E_{1}^{o} + 1/2 \theta \log K$	-0.605	4.8	$-0.605 \pm 0.029$
Pt	$\mathbf{E^{o}}_{1} = \mathbf{E^{o}}_{Pb^{2+}/Pb}$	+0.504	2.9	$+0.504 \pm 0.015$
	$E_{2}^{o} = E_{1}^{o} + 1/2 \theta \log SP_{PbI_{2}}$	-0.050	3.5	$-0.050 \pm 0.002$
	$E_{3}^{o} = E_{1}^{o} + 1/2 \theta \log K$	-0.152	3.6	$-0.152 \pm 0.005$

\*: Average of five measurements.

TABLE-2

VALUES OF SOLUBILITY PRODUCT (SP) OF THE DEPOSIT (PbI₂↓) FOR THE POTENTIOMETRIC TITRATION OF Pb<sup>2+</sup> BY IODIDE USING DIFFERENT TYPES OF INDICATOR ELECTRODES: Pb, Cu AND Pt (REFERENCE ELECTRODE Ag/AgCl)

Flaatrada		$\text{Log SP}_{\text{PbI}_2}$	
Electione	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}^*$	RSD (%)	$\overline{X} * \pm SD$
Pb	-18.30	2.8	$-18.30 \pm 0.51$
Cu	-18.80	4.3	$-18.80 \pm 0.81$
Pt	-18.47	3.0	$-18.47 \pm 0.55$

\*: Average of five measurements.

TABLE-3

VALUES OF DISSOCIATION CONSTANT (K) OF THE COMPLEX (  $PbI_3^{-})$  FOR THE POTENTIOMETRIC TITRATION OF  $Pb^{2+}$  BY IODIDE USING DIFFERENT TYPES OF INDICATOR ELECTRODES: Pb, Cu AND Pt (REFERENCE ELECTRODE Ag/AgCl )

Flectrode		log K <sub>PbI3</sub> -	
Electrode –	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}^*$	RSD (%)	$\overline{X} * \pm SD$
Pb	-21.93	2.4	$-21.93 \pm 0.52$
Cu	-21.97	3.8	$-21.97 \pm 0.83$
Pt	-21.87	2.6	$-21.87 \pm 0.57$

\*: Average of five measurements.

**Analytical results:** Concentrations of Pb<sup>2+</sup> between  $0.5 \times 10^{-4}$  to  $5.0 \times 10^{-3}$  M using potentiometric titration {E = f(V)} and differential potentiometric titration {dE/dV = f(V)} by iodide in acetone at different types of indicator electrode (Pb, Cu and Pt) were determined. It was found that the results were better when the first end-point is used in all cases, especially when using the lead electrode (Table-4).

Vol. 22, No. 4 (2010)

#### TABLE-4

POTENTIOMETRIC TITRATION {E = f(V)} AND DIFFERENTIAL POTENTIOMETRIC TITRATION {dE/dV = f(V)} OF Pb<sup>2+</sup> BY IODIDE IN ACETONE AT DIFFERENT TYPES OF INDICATOR ELECTRODE: Pb, Cu AND Pt (REFERENCE ELECTRODE Ag/AgCl, V=10 mL)

1	ыe	$C_{Pb^{2+}}$ found × 10 <sup>4</sup> , M							
ſak , N	rod		E = f(V)			dE/dV = f(V)			
$10^{b^{2+}}$	lect	First e	nd-point	Second	end-point	First e	nd-point	Second	end-point
× <sup>II</sup>	- e F	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}^*$	RSD (%)	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}^*$	RSD (%)	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}^*$	RSD (%)	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}^*$	RSD (%)
0.50	Pb	0.49	4.2	_	_	0.50	3.1	_	_
	Cu	-	-	_	_	_	-	-	_
	Pt	0.51	4.9	_	_	0.51	4.0	_	_
	Pb	0.74	4.1	-	_	0.75	3.0	0.73	4.8
0.75	Cu	0.72	7.4	-	_	0.77	7.0	-	-
	Pt	0.74	4.7	_	_	0.76	4.0	0.72	5.6
	Pb	1.02	3.9	0.98	5.3	1.02	3.0	0.97	4.7
1.00	Cu	0.97	7.3	_	_	0.98	6.8	-	_
	Pt	1.01	4.5	0.97	7.1	1.02	3.9	0.98	5.4
	Pb	1.99	3.8	2.02	4.9	2.00	2.9	2.01	4.5
2.00	Cu	1.98	5.0	2.04	6.7	1.99	4.6	2.02	5.3
	Pt	2.01	4.3	1.98	5.8	2.00	3.8	1.98	5.1
	Pb	4.00	3.4	4.01	3.8	4.02	2.8	3.99	4.2
4.00	Cu	3.97	4.8	4.02	5.2	3.98	4.3	4.02	4.8
	Pt	4.01	3.9	3.99	4.8	4.00	3.6	3.99	4.6
6.00	Pb	5.98	3.0	6.01	3.4	5.99	2.6	6.02	3.9
	Cu	6.04	4.5	5.97	4.9	6.02	4.0	5.99	4.4
	Pt	6.02	3.6	5.98	4.3	6.01	3.4	6.00	4.2
8.00	Pb	8.00	2.6	8.01	3.1	7.99	2.5	8.02	3.5
	Cu	8.02	3.4	7.99	4.7	8.01	3.2	8.00	4.2
	Pt	7.99	3.3	8.01	4.1	8.00	3.0	8.01	4.0
10.00	Pb	10.03	2.3	9.99	2.8	10.00	2.2	10.01	3.2
	Cu	9.97	3.3	10.02	4.6	9.98	3.1	10.01	4.1
	Pt	10.00	3.0	9.99	3.9	10.01	2.7	10.00	3.8
15.00	Pb	14.98	2.1	15.01	2.7	15.00	2.0	14.98	3.1
	Cu	15.04	3.2	14.97	4.5	14. 98	3.0	15.02	4.0
	Pt	15.02	2.8	14.91	3.7	15.01	2.5	15.00	3.7
20.00	Pb	20.00	2.0	20.02	2.6	20.01	1.9	19.98	3.0
	Cu	19.96	3.2	20.03	4.4	19.98	2.8	20.02	3.8
	Pt	20.01	2.6	20.00	3.5	20.00	2.3	20.02	3.5

\*: Average of five measurements.

### Conclusion

Potentiometric titrations and differential potentiometric titrations of Pb<sup>2+</sup> by iodide in acetone using different indicator electrode: Pb, Cu and Pt were studied. Two end-points were observed, the first one according to the following equation:  $Pb^{2+} + 2I^- \rightarrow PbI_2 \downarrow$ . And the second end-point is according to the following equation:  $PbI_2 \downarrow + I^- \rightarrow PbI_3^-$ ; where the complex  $PbI_3^-$  is formed, for the first time, clearly and consistently  $\log \overline{K} = -21.92$  (dissociation constant). A 103.5 µg of Pb<sup>2+</sup> was determined with relative standard deviation is did not exceed ± 3.1 %.

3266 Ramadan et al.

Asian J. Chem.



Fig. 2. Curves for the differential potentiometric titration  $\{dE/dV = f(V)\}$  of 10 mL of  $Pb^{2+} 0.0015$  M by iodide 0.060 M using different types of indicator electrode: (1) Pb, (2) Cu and (3) Pt (reference electrode Ag/AgCl)

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