
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Second Semester Examination
Academic session 2003/04

February/March 2004

KAA 502 – Atomic Spectroscopy

Time: 3 hours

Please make sure this paper consists of SIX typed pages before answering the questions.

Answer FIVE questions only.

Only the first five questions answered by the candidate will be marked.

1. (a) In atomic absorption spectrometry, why is it preferable for the source line width to be narrower than the absorption profile? How can this be achieved? What are the requirements for resolution in monochromators for atomic emission and for atomic absorption spectrometry?
(8 marks)
- (b) The maximum burning velocity for an air/acetylene flame is 160 cm s^{-1} whereas that for a nitrous oxide/acetylene flame is 285 cm s^{-1} . How does this influence the kind of slot burners used for both flames?
(4 marks)
- (c) The data which were obtained for the determination of chromium in a wastewater sample from an electroplating company by inductively coupled plasma atomic emission (ICP-AES) is given below. The wastewater sample is diluted 10 times before the determination is carried out.

Flask	Volume of 1 ppm Cr standard (mL)	Volume of sample (mL)	Total volume (mL)	Emission intensity
1	0	5	50	440
2	1	5	50	1540
3	2	5	50	2640
4	4	5	50	4800

Calculate the concentration of chromium in the original wastewater sample.

(8 marks)

2. (a) How would you carry out the determination of calcium in a milk sample using flame atomic absorption spectrometry? Please include the sample preparation method and calibration technique used. Outline all steps taken to ensure that any chemical and physical interferences are overcome. How do you validate your results?
(10 marks)
- (b) If you wished to nebulize sea water with a cross flow/Meinhard nebulizer, what problems would you encounter? Take note that sea water contains 3.5% (w/v) NaCl.
(4 marks)

...3/-

- 3 -

- (c) A monochromator has a focal length of 0.65 m and an echellette grating with 1800 grooves per mm.
- (i) Calculate the reciprocal linear dispersion of the instrument for first order spectra.
 - (ii) If 2.0 cm of the grating is illuminated, what is the resolving power of the monochromator in the first order?
 - (iii) At about 500 nm, what is the minimum wavelength difference that could in theory be completely resolved by this instrument?

(6 marks)

3. (a) An important step in analytical work is sample preparation including solvent extraction where the primary function is to convert the sample as received to a state which can be introduced into flames or plasmas.
- (i) When the metal concentration in the sample is in the ppm or ppb range, discuss briefly the major problems encountered in these sample pretreatment steps.
 - (ii) How can direct solids elemental analysis be performed with the ICP (inductively coupled plasma)? What are the advantages and disadvantages of such an analysis?

(8 marks)

- (b) Increasing amounts of element X has no effect on the absorbance of a 2 ppm solution of Y at the resonance wavelength, λ_1 , for Y. However, at λ_2 for element Y, the absorbance for the same solution increases linearly with increasing amounts of element X. What kind of interference does X have on the determination of Y at λ_2 ? How would you carry out the determination of element Y in a sample containing X?

(6 marks)

- 4 -

- (c) The results in a spectrographic determination of lead in an alloy R are shown below. Magnesium was used as an internal standard in the analysis. Calculate the concentration of Pb in the sample R.

Solution	Readings		Pb concentration (mg mL ⁻¹)
	Mg	Pb	
1	7.3	17.5	0.151
2	8.7	18.5	0.201
3	7.3	11.0	0.301
4	10.3	12.0	0.402
5	11.6	10.4	0.502
R	8.8	15.5	?

(6 marks)

4. (a) Given below are values of sensitivities for several elements using model X of an ICP-AES which has an Echelle monochromator, with axial and radial optics.

Element	Radial (ppb)	Axial (ppb)
Ag	7	0.6
As	53	3.8
Cd	2	0.2
Cr	7	0.4
Pb	42	1.6
Se	75	3.8

Sketch schematic diagrams of an ICP-AES instrument with radial optics and one with axial optics which shows the position of the plasma with respect to the monochromator. Explain the differences in sensitivities obtained.

(9 marks)

...5/-

- 5 -

- (b) Why are atomic spectroscopic techniques such as AAS (atomic absorption), ICP-AES and FES (flame emission spectrometry) almost never used to analyze Cl and F?
- (5 marks)
- (c) How is background correction performed in a flame atomic absorption instrument that uses the Smith-Hieftje background correction technique?
- (6 marks)
5. (a) Flames are much cooler than ICPs (inductively coupled plasma) and therefore do not provide as high an excitation energy as that available from ICPs. Why then are flame spectrophotometers still used for analysis?
- (6 marks)
- (b) Label each of the following processes encountered in atomic absorption spectroscopy:
- | | | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|---------------|--|
| (i) | $\text{FeCl}_3(\text{solution})$ | \rightarrow | $\text{FeCl}_3(\text{aerosol})$ |
| (ii) | $\text{FeCl}_3(\text{g})$ | \rightarrow | $\text{Fe}(\text{g}) + 3\text{Cl}(\text{g})$ |
| (iii) | $\text{FeCl}_3(\text{s})$ | \rightarrow | $\text{FeCl}_3(\text{g})$ |
| (iv) | $\text{Fe}(\text{g})$ | \rightarrow | $\text{Fe}^+(\text{g}) + \text{e}^-$ |
- (4 marks)

- (c) The concentration of Cu was determined by acidifying a 150.0 mL sample of a caustic solution with 20 mL of concentrated acid, adding 1 mL of 27% w/v H₂O₂ and boiling for 30 min. The resulting solution was diluted to 250.0 mL, filtered and analyzed by flame atomic absorption using matrix matched standards. The results for the analysis are as follows:

Solution	Cu (ppm)	Absorbance
Blank	0.000	0.006
Standard 1	0.200	0.014
Standard 2	0.500	0.034
Standard 3	1.000	0.071
Standard 4	2.000	0.142
Sample	?	0.026

Calculate the concentration of copper in the caustic solution.

(10 marks)

6. (a) In ICPMS, an interfering ion $^{40}\text{Ar}^{35}\text{Cl}$ appears at mass 74.9312 and the analyte ion ^{75}As has an atomic mass of 74.9216.
- What is the resolution required to separate the element of interest from the interference?
 - What kind of mass analyzer is capable of resolving such interferences?
 - How is such high resolution achieved?

(10 marks)

- (b) How do you propose that simultaneous ICP atomic emission and mass spectrometry can be carried out in the same instrument? What would be the benefits of such a combination?

(6 marks)

- (c) Explain how matrix modification may lead to more efficient matrix removal in electrothermal atomization. Give an example.

(4 marks)

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Kedua
Sidang Akademik 2003/04

Februari/Mac 2004

KAA 502 – Spektroskopi Atom

Masa: 3 jam

Sila pastikan bahawa kertas peperiksaan ini mengandungi ENAM muka surat yang bercetak sebelum anda memulakan peperiksaan ini.

Jawab LIMA soalan sahaja.

Jika calon menjawab lebih daripada lima soalan hanya lima soalan pertama mengikut susunan dalam skrip jawapan akan diberi markah.

1. (a) Bagi spektrometri penyerapan atom, kenapakah lebar garisan sumber dikehendaki lebih sempit daripada profil penyerapan? Bagaimanakah ini dapat dicapai? Apakah keperluan resolusi bagi monokromator dalam spektrometri pemancaran atom dan penyerapan atom?

(8 markah)

- (b) Halaju pembakaran maksimum bagi nyala udara/asetilena adalah 160 cm s^{-1} manakala halaju bagi nyala nitrus oksida/asetilena adalah 285 cm s^{-1} . Bagaimanakah ini mempengaruhi jenis penunu 'slot' yang digunakan bagi kedua-dua nyala?

(4 markah)

- (c) Data yang diperolehi daripada penentuan kromium dalam sampel air buangan dari kilang elektropenyaduran menggunakan teknik pemancaran atom plasma berganding secara aruhan (ICP-AES), diberikan di bawah. Sampel air buangan tersebut telah dicairkan sebanyak 10 kali sebelum penentuan dilakukan.

Kelalang	Isipadu 1 ppm Cr (mL)	Isipadu sampel (mL)	Isipadu total (mL)	Keamatan pemancaran
1	0	5	50	440
2	1	5	50	1540
3	2	5	50	2640
4	4	5	50	4800

Kira kepekatan kromium dalam sampel air buangan asal.

(8 markah)

2. (a) Bagaimanakah anda akan jalankan penentuan kalsium dalam sampel susu menggunakan spektrometri penyerapan atom nyala. Sila nyatakan kaedah penyediaan sampel serta teknik penentuan yang akan anda gunakan. Sertakan segala langkah yang diambil untuk memastikan sebarang gangguan kimia dan fizik dapat diatasi. Bagaimanakah anda mengesahkan keputusan anda?

(10 markah)

...3/-

- 3 -

- (b) Apakah masalah yang akan timbul jika anda menebulakan air laut menggunakan penebula aliran melintang/Meinhard? Air laut mengandungi 3.5% (w/v) NaCl.

(4 markah)

- (c) Suatu monokromator dengan panjang fokus, 0.65 m dibekalkan dengan parutan echellette yang mempunyai 1800 garisan per milimeter.

- (i) Kira penyerakan linear reciprok alatan tersebut bagi spektrum tertib pertama.
- (ii) Jika 2.0 cm daripada parutan yang disinari, berapakah kuasa resolusi monokromator tersebut pada tertib pertama?
- (iii) Pada lebih kurang 500 nm, berapakah perbezaan panjang gelombang minimum yang dapat diresolusikan oleh alatan tersebut secara teori?

(6 markah)

3. (a) Langkah penting dalam suatu analisis adalah pengolahan sampel termasuk pengekstrakan pelarut. Fungsi utama langkah ini ialah untuk menukar sampel yang diterima kepada suatu keadaan yang mana sampel tersebut boleh dimasukkan ke dalam nyala atau plasma.

- (i) Apabila kepekatan logam dalam sampel adalah dalam julat ppm atau ppb, bincangkan dengan ringkas, masalah utama yang dihadapi dalam langkah pengolahan sampel.
- (ii) Bagaimana dapat dilakukan analisis langsung sampel pepejal dengan ICP (plasma berganding secara aruhan)? Apakah kelebihan dan kelemahan analisis tersebut?

(8 markah)

- (b) Peningkatan amaun unsur X tidak mempengaruhi keserapan suatu larutan 2 ppm Y pada panjang gelombang resonan, λ_1 , bagi Y. Walau bagaimanapun, pada λ_2 bagi unsur Y, keserapan larutan yang sama bertambah secara linear dengan penambahan unsur X. Apakah jenis gangguan unsur X terhadap penentuan Y pada λ_2 ? Bagaimanakah anda akan melakukan penentuan unsur Y dalam sampel yang mengandungi X?

(6 markah)

...4/-

- (c) Keputusan bagi penentuan spektrogram bagi plumbum dalam suatu aloi R ditunjukkan di bawah. Magnesium digunakan sebagai piawai dalaman. Kira kepekatan Pb dalam sampel ini.

Larutan	Bacaan		Kepekatan Pb (mg mL^{-1})
	Mg	Pb	
1	7.3	17.5	0.151
2	8.7	18.5	0.201
3	7.3	11.0	0.301
4	10.3	12.0	0.402
5	11.6	10.4	0.502
R	8.8	15.5	?

(6 markah)

4. (a) Nilai kepekaan beberapa unsur daripada model X spektrometer ICP – AES yang menggunakan monokromator Echelle, bagi optik ‘axial’ dan ‘radial’ adalah seperti di bawah.

Unsur	Radial (ppb)	Axial (ppb)
Ag	7	0.6
As	53	3.8
Cd	2	0.2
Cr	7	0.4
Pb	42	1.6
Se	75	3.8

Lakarkan gambarajah skematik bagi alatan ICP-AES dengan optik ‘radial’ dan juga alatan dengan optik ‘axial’ yang menunjukkan kedudukan plasma merujuk kepada monokromator. Jelaskan tentang perbezaan kepekaan yang diperolehi.

(9 markah)

- (b) Kenapakah teknik spektroskopi atom seperti AAS (spektrometri penyerapan atom), ICP-AES dan FES (spektroskopi pemancaran nyala) jarang digunakan untuk menganalisis Cl dan F?
- (5 markah)
- (c) Bagaimanakah pembetulan latar belakang dilakukan dengan teknik pembetulan latar belakang Smith-Hieftje bagi alatan penyerapan atom nyala?
- (6 markah)
5. (a) Nyala adalah lebih sejuk daripada ICP dan tidak dapat membekalkan tenaga pengujaan setinggi ICP. Oleh itu, kenapakah spektrofotometer nyala masih digunakan untuk menjalankan analisis?
- (6 markah)
- (b) Namakan setiap proses dalam spektroskopi penyerapan atom di bawah:
- | | | | |
|-------|---------------------------------|---------------|--|
| (i) | $\text{FeCl}_3(\text{larutan})$ | \rightarrow | $\text{FeCl}_3(\text{aerosol})$ |
| (ii) | $\text{FeCl}_3(\text{g})$ | \rightarrow | $\text{Fe}(\text{g}) + 3\text{Cl}(\text{g})$ |
| (iii) | $\text{FeCl}_3(\text{s})$ | \rightarrow | $\text{FeCl}_3(\text{g})$ |
| (iv) | $\text{Fe}(\text{g})$ | \rightarrow | $\text{Fe}^+(\text{g}) + \text{e}^-$ |
- (4 markah)

- (c) Kepekatan Cu ditentukan dengan mengasidkan sebanyak 150.0 mL suatu sampel larutan kaustik dengan 20 mL asid pekat, menambah 1 mL 27% (w/v) H_2O_2 , dan mendidihkan larutan selama 30 minit. Larutan yang dihasilkan dicairkan kepada 250.0 mL, ditapis dan dianalisis dengan penyerapan atom nyala. Matriks larutan piawai dipadankan dengan matriks sampel. Keputusan bagi analisis tersebut adalah seperti berikut:

Larutan	Cu (ppm)	Keserapan
Blank	0.000	0.006
Piawai 1	0.200	0.014
Piawai 2	0.500	0.034
Piawai 3	1.000	0.071
Piawai 4	2.000	0.142
Sampel		0.026

Kira kepekatan kuprum dalam larutan kaustik tersebut.

(10 markah)

6. (a) Dalam ICPMS (spektrometri jisim ICP), suatu ion gangguan $^{40}\text{Ar}^{35}\text{Cl}$ muncul pada jisim 74.9312 dan ion analit ^{75}As mempunyai jisim atom 74.9216.

- (i) Berapakah resolusi yang diperlukan untuk memisahkan unsur yang diminati daripada unsur gangguan?
- (ii) Apakah jenis penganalisis jisim yang dapat meresolusikan gangguan tersebut?
- (iii) Bagaimanakah resolusi yang begitu tinggi dapat dihasilkan?

(10 markah)

- (b) Cadangkan bagaimana sistem serentak pemancaran atom ICP dan spektrometri jisim dapat dilaksanakan dalam alatan yang sama. Apakah faedah gabungan ini?

(6 markah)

- (c) Jelaskan bagaimana modifikasi matriks dalam pengatoman elektroterma mengakibatkan penyingkiran matriks yang lebih cekap. Berikan contoh tertentu.

(4 markah)