

# Systematic Qualitative Analysis

## a -Determination of one cation and one anion in a given salt

**Cations:**  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{NH}_4^+$ .

**Anions:**  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ ,  $\text{S}^{2-}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_2^-$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{Br}^-$ ,  $\text{I}^-$ ,  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{O}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$ .

### Qualitative Analysis

Analytical chemistry deals with qualitative and quantitative analysis of the substances. In inorganic qualitative analysis, the given compound is analyzed for the radicals, i.e., cation and the anion, that it contains. Physical procedures like noting the Colour, smell or taste of the substance have very limited scope because of the corrosive, poisonous nature of the chemical compounds. Therefore, what one has to resort to is the chemical analysis of the substance that has to be carried out along with the physical examination of the compound under consideration.

The common procedure for testing any unknown sample is to make its solution and then test this solution for the ions present in it. There are separate procedures for detecting cations and anions. The systematic procedure for qualitative analysis of an inorganic salt involves the following steps.

- Preliminary tests
  - Physical appearance (Colour and smell)
  - Dry heating test
  - Charcoal cavity test
  - Charcoal cavity and cobalt nitrate test
  - Flame test
  - Borax bead test
  - Dilute acid test
  - Potassium permanganate test
  - Concentrated sulfuric acid test
  - Tests for sulphate and phosphate
- Wet tests for acid radicals
- Wet tests for basic radical

### Preliminary Tests

#### (a) Physical Examination of The Salt

The physical examination of the unknown salt involves the study of Colour, smell and density. The test is not much reliable but is certainly helpful in identifying some Coloured cations. Characteristic smell helps to identify some ions such as ammonium, acetate and Sulfide.

Experiment	Observations	Inference
<b>Colour:</b> Note the salt colour	(i) Blue (ii) Green (iii) Light green (iv) Dark green (v) Yellowish brown (vi) Green (vii) Pink (viii) Light pink or flesh Colour (ix) White	$\text{Cu}^{2+}$ $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ $\text{Cr}^{3+}$ $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ $\text{Co}^{2+}$ $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ (i) Shows the absence of $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ , $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ , $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ , $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ , $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ , $\text{CO}^{2+}$ etc. (ii) Shows the presence of $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ , $\text{As}^{3+}$ , $\text{Al}^{3+}$ ,

		$\text{Cd}^{2+}, \text{Ca}^{2+}, \text{Sr}^{2+}, \text{Zn}^{2+}, \text{Mg}^{2+}, \text{Ba}^{2+}, \text{K}^+, \text{Na}^+$ and $\text{NH}_4^+$ etc.
<b>Smell:</b> Take a pinch of the salt between your fingers and rub with a drop of water	(i) Ammoniacal smell (ii) Vinegar like smell (iii) Smell like that of rotten eggs	$\text{NH}_4^+$ $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$ $\text{S}^{2-}$
<b>Density:</b> Guess the salt density by placing it on your palm.	(i) Heavy (ii) Light fluffy powder	Salt of $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ or $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ Carbonate of $\text{Zn}^{2+}, \text{Ca}^{2+}$ or $\text{Mg}^{2+}$
<b>Deliquescence:</b> Take small quantity of salt on a paper and expose to atmosphere for sometimes.	Salt absorbs moisture and becomes paste like	(i) If Coloured, may be $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2, \text{FeCl}_3$ . (ii) If Colourless, may be $\text{Zn}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ , chlorides of $\text{Zn}^{2+}, \text{Mg}^{2+}$ etc.
<b>Physical state:</b> (Amorphous or Crystalline) Write whether the constituent salts of the mixture are amorphous or crystalline.	(i) Salt is amorphous. (ii) Salt is crystalline.	Carbonates of non-alkali metals i.e, $\text{CuCO}_3, \text{CaCO}_3, \text{PbCO}_3, \text{MgCO}_3$ etc. -----

**Note:**

1. If you have touched any salt, wash your hands at once. It may be corrosive to skin.
2. Never taste any salt, it may be poisonous. Salts of arsenic and mercury are highly poisonous.
3. Salts like sodium sulphide, sodium nitrite, potassium nitrite, develop a yellow colour.

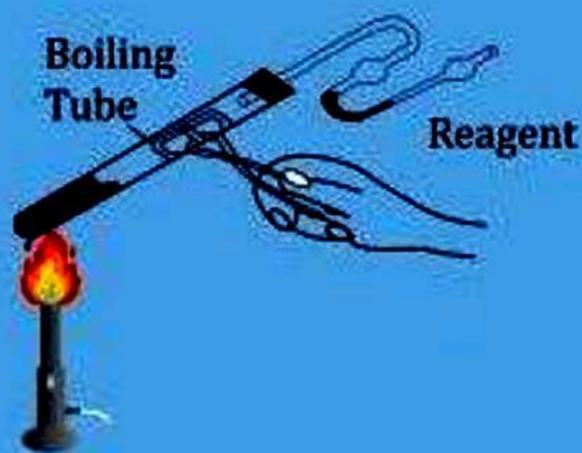
**(b) Dry Heating Test**

This test is performed by heating a small amount of salt in a dry test tube. Quite valuable information can be gathered by carefully performing and noting the observations here. On heating, some salts undergo decomposition thus evolving the gases or may undergo characteristic changes in the Colour of residue. These observations are tabulated below along with the inferences that you can draw.

Dry Heating Test	
Observations	Inference
<b>1. Gas evolved</b>	
<b>(a) Colourless and odourless gas</b> $\text{CO}_2$ gas turns lime water milky	$\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ or $\text{C}_2\text{O}_4$
<b>(b) Colourless gas with an odour</b>	
(i) $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ gas-Smells like rotten eggs and turns lead acetate paper black.	Hydrated $\text{S}^{2-}$
(ii) $\text{SO}_2$ gas-Smells like burning Sulphur and turns acidified potassium dichromate paper green.	$\text{SO}_3^{2-}$

(iii) HCl gas-Pungent smell, white fumes with ammonia, white ppt with silver nitrate solution.	$\text{Cl}^-$
(iv) Acetic acid vapors-Characteristic a vinegar-like smell.	$\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$
(v) $\text{NH}_3$ gas-Characteristic smell turns Nessler's solution brown.	$\text{NH}_4^+$
<b>(c) Coloured gases–Pungent smell</b>	
(i) $\text{NO}_2$ gas-reddish brown turns ferrous sulphate solution black.	$\text{NO}_2^-$ or $\text{NO}_3^-$
(ii) $\text{Cl}_2$ gas-Greenish yellow turns starch iodide paper blue.	$\text{Cl}^-$
(iii) $\text{Br}_2$ vapors-reddish brown turns starch paper orange yellow.	$\text{Br}^-$
(iv) $\text{I}_2$ vapors-Dark violet turns starch paper blue.	$\text{I}^-$
<b>2. Sublimate formed</b>	
(a) White sublimate	$\text{NH}_4^+$
(b) Black sublimate accompanied by violet vapours	$\text{I}^-$
<b>3. Decrepitation</b> The salt decrepitates.	A salt having no water of crystallisation, For example, $\text{Pb}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ , NaCl, KBr.
<b>4. Swelling</b> The salt swells up into a voluminous mass.	$\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ indicated
<b>5. Residue</b> Yellow when hot white when cold Brown when hot and yellow when cold White salt becomes black on heating White residue glows on heating Original salt blue becomes white on heating Coloured salt becomes brown or black on heating.	$\text{Zn}^{2+}$ $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$ indicated $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ , $\text{Sr}^{2+}$ , $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ , etc. Hydrated $\text{CuSO}_4$ indicated $\text{CO}^{2+}$ , $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ , $\text{Mn}^{2+}$

**Note:** Use a perfectly dry test-tube for performing this test. While drying a test-tube, keep it in slanting position with its mouth slightly downwards so that the drops of water which condense on the upper cooler parts, do not fall back on the hot bottom, as this may break the tube.



**Fig. 1. Testing a gas**

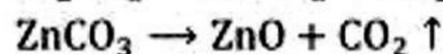
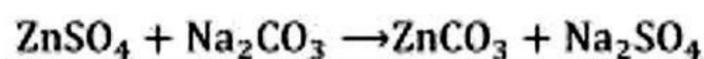
For testing a gas, a filter paper strip dipped in the appropriate reagent is brought near the mouth of the test tube or alternatively the reagent is taken in a gas-detector and the gas is passed through it.

Do not heat the tube strongly at one point as it may break.

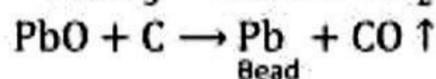
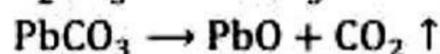
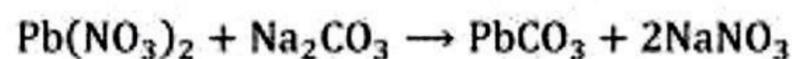
### (c) Charcoal Cavity Test

This test is based on the fact that metallic carbonates when heated in a charcoal cavity decompose to give corresponding oxides. The oxides appear as Coloured incrustation or residue in the cavity. In certain cases, the oxides formed partially undergo reduction to the metallic state producing metallic beads or scales.

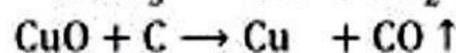
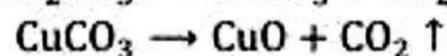
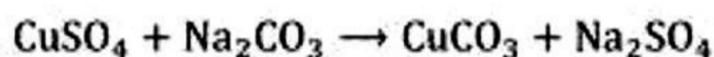
**Examples:**



Yellow when hot,  
white when cold



Bead



Reddish  
scales

### PROCEDURE

While performing the charcoal cavity test, make a small cavity on a charcoal block with the help of a borer as shown in (Fig. 2) Mix a small amount of salt with double its quantity of sodium carbonate. Place it in the cavity made on the block of charcoal. Moisten with a drop of water and direct the reducing flame of the Bunsen Burner on the cavity using a mouth blowpipe as shown in (Fig. 3) Heat strongly for some time and draw inference according to the Table.

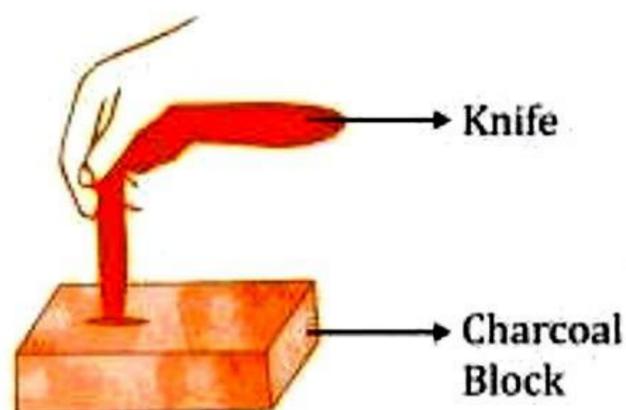


Fig. 2 Making bore on a charcoal block

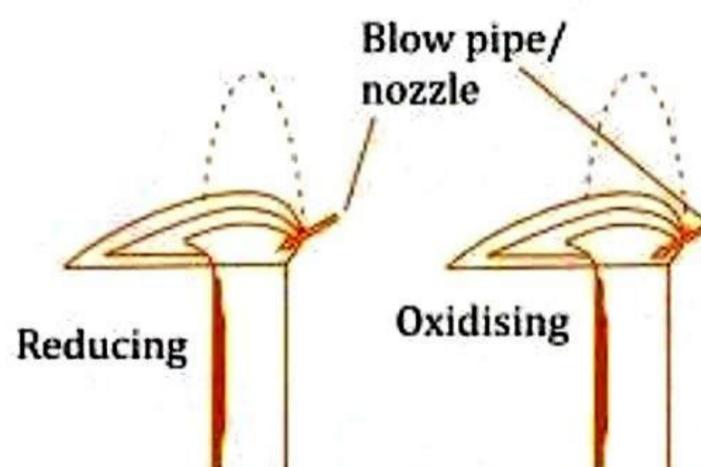


Fig. 3 Directing flame with blowpipe

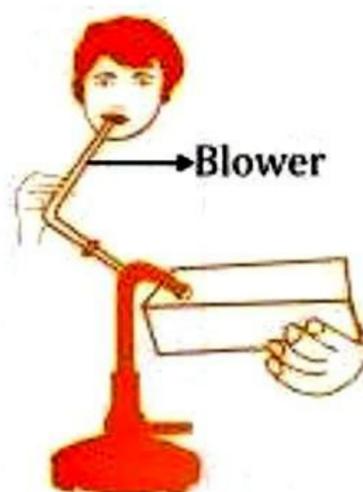


Fig. 4 Blowing flame on the cavity

Observations		Inference
Bead	Incrustation/Residue	
1. Grey soft metallic bead	Brown when hot and yellow when cold	Pb <sup>2+</sup>
2. Red scales	No incrustation	Cu <sup>2+</sup>
3. No bead	White incrustation and garlic smell	As <sup>3+</sup>
4. No bead	Residue which is yellow when hot and white when cold	Zn <sup>2+</sup>
5. No bead	White residue that glows on heating	Al <sup>3+</sup> , Mg <sup>2+</sup> , Ca <sup>2+</sup> , Sr <sup>2+</sup> , Ba <sup>2+</sup> , PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup>
6. No bead	Black residue	Co <sup>2+</sup> , Ni <sup>2+</sup> , Fe <sup>2+</sup>

To obtain a reducing flame with the help of a mouth blowpipe, make the Bunsen Burner flame luminous by closing the air holes of the Burner. Keep the nozzle of the blowpipe just outside the flame and blow gently onto the cavity.

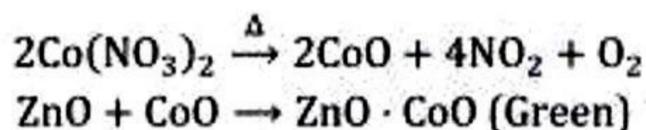
#### (d) Cobalt Nitrate Test

This test is applied to those salts which leave white residue in the charcoal cavity test.

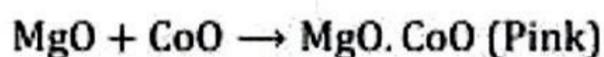
The test is based on the fact that cobalt nitrate decomposes on heating to give cobalt oxide, CoO. This combines with the metallic oxides, present as a white residue in the charcoal cavity forming Coloured compounds. For example, when a magnesium salt undergoes a charcoal cavity test, a white residue of MgO is left behind. This on treatment with cobalt nitrate and subsequent heating forms a double salt of the formula MgO·CoO which is pink in Colour. In addition to metallic oxides, phosphates and borates also react with cobalt oxide to form Co<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and Co<sub>3</sub>(BO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> which are blue.

Some of the reactions involved are given below.

**Zinc salt:**



**Magnesium salt:**



#### PROCEDURE

Put one or two drops of cobalt nitrate solution on the white residue left after the charcoal cavity test. Heat for one or two minutes using a blowpipe in an oxidising flame. Observe the Colour of the residue and draw inferences from Table

#### Cobalt Nitrate-Charcoal Cavity Test

Colour of the Residue	Inference
Green	Zn <sup>2+</sup>
Pink	Mg <sup>2+</sup>
Blue	PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup>

**Note:**

1. Perform this test only if the residue in the charcoal cavity test is white.
2. Do not put more than 2 drops of cobalt nitrate on the white residue. Excess cobalt nitrate may decompose to give cobalt oxide which is black in colour.
3. Use dilute solution of cobalt nitrate.

**(e) Flame Test**

Certain salts on reacting with the conc. HCl from their chlorides, which are volatile in non-luminous flame. Their vapours impart characteristic colour to the flame. This colour can give reliable information about the presence of certain basic radicals.

For proceeding to this test, paste the mixture with a conc. HCl is introduced into the flame with the help of platinum wire (Fig. 5).



**Fig. 5 Flame Test**

**PROCEDURE**

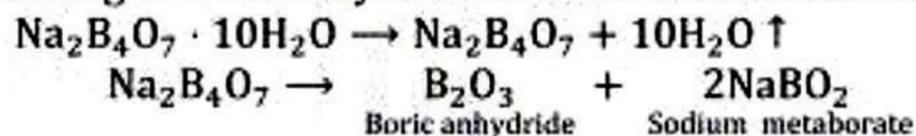
Clean the platinum wire by dipping it in some cones. HCl is taken on a watch glass and then heated strongly in the flame. This process is repeated till the wire imparts no colour to the flame. Now prepare a paste of the mixture with a conc. HCl on a clean watch glass. Place a small amount of this paste on a platinum wire loop and introduce it into the flame. Note the colour imparted to the flame with the naked eye and through blue glass.

Flame colour with naked eye	Flame colour through blue glass	Inference
1. Dark-green	Bluish-green	$\text{Cu}^{2+}$
2. Pink-violet	Pink	$\text{K}^+$
3. Brick-red	Light-green	$\text{Ca}^{2+}$
4. Grassy-green	Bluish-green	$\text{Ba}^{2+}$
5. Crimson (deep-red)	Purple	$\text{Sr}^{2+}$

**(f) Borax Bead Test**

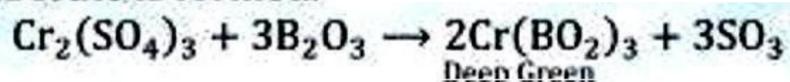
This test is performed only for coloured salts.

Borax,  $\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , on heating gets fused and loses water of crystallisation. It swells up into a fluffy white porous mass which then melts into a colourless liquid which later forms, a clear transparent glassy bead consisting of boric anhydride and sodium metaborate.

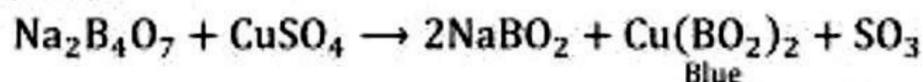


Boric anhydride is non-volatile. When it is reacted with coloured metallic salt, a characteristic

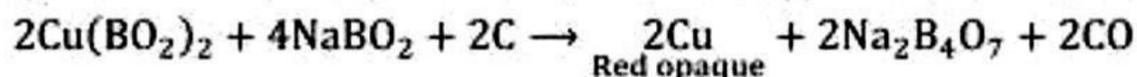
Coloured bead of metal metaborate is formed.



In the cases where different Coloured beads are obtained in the oxidising and reducing flames, metaborates in various oxidation states of metals are formed. For example, in oxidising flame, copper forms blue copper metaborate.



In reducing flame cupric metaborate is reduced to metallic copper, which is red and opaque.



## PROCEDURE

Borax,  $\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is heated in the loop of platinum wire, it swells and forms transparent Colourless glassy bead. When this hot bead is touched with small amount of Coloured salt and is heated again, it acquires a characteristic Colour. The Colour of bead gives indication of the type of the cation present. The Colour of the bead is noted separately in oxidising and in reducing flame (Fig. 6).

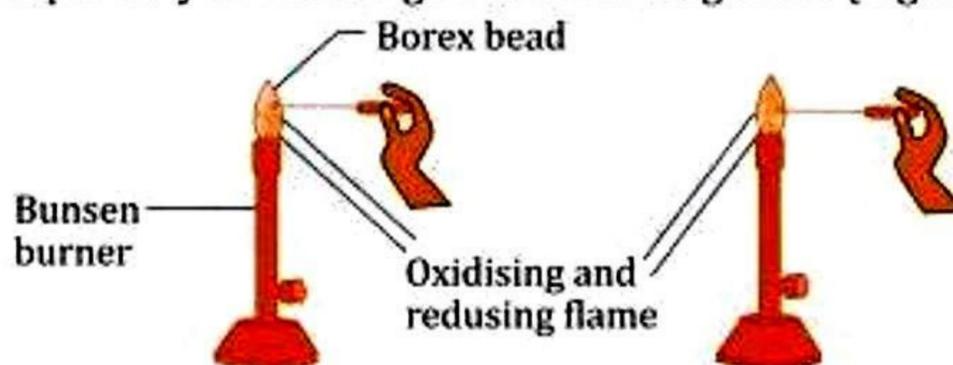


Fig. 6 Borax Bead Test Heating in reducing flame and Heating in an oxidising flame.

Colour of the bead		Inference
In Oxidising flame	In Reducing flame	
1. Green when hot, light blue when cold.	Colourless when hot, red (opaque) when cold.	$\text{Cu}^{2+}$
2. Yellowish brown when hot, pale yellow when cold	Green both when hot and cold.	$\text{Fe}^{2+}$ or $\text{Fe}^{3+}$
3. Pinkish violet in both hot and cold	Colourless in hot and cold.	$\text{Mn}^{2+}$
4. Deep blue in both when hot and cold	Deep blue in both hot and cold	$\text{Co}^{2+}$
5. Reddish brown	Grey black in both hot and cold	$\text{Ni}^{2+}$

To remove the head from the platinum wire, heat the head to redness. Tap the rod with a finger stroke, till the bead jumps off (Fig. 7).

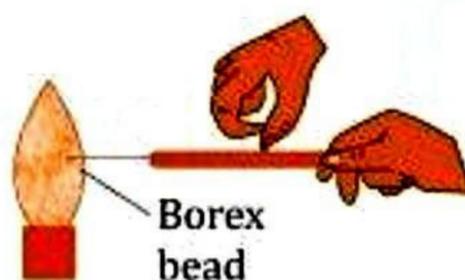


Fig. 7 Removing bead from platinum wire.

## (g) Dilute Acid Test

The identification of the acid radicals is first done based on preliminary tests. The dry heating test is one of the preliminary tests performed earlier which may give some important information about the acid radical present. The other preliminary tests are based on the fact that.

- (i)  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ ,  $\text{S}^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_2^-$  and  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$  react with dil.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  to give out  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ ,  $\text{NO}_2$  and  $\text{SO}_2$  gases respectively which can be identified by certain tests.

(ii)  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{Br}^-$ ,  $\text{I}^-$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{O}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$  react with conc.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  but not with dil.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  to produce characteristic gases.

(iii)  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  react neither with dil.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  nor with conc.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ . These are, therefore, identified by individual tests.

Thus, the acid radicals may be identified by performing the following tests in the order given below.

(i) Dil.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  test. Treat a pinch of the salt with dil.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  and identify the gas evolved.

(ii) Conc.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  test. If no action takes place with dil.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ , warm a pinch of the salt with conc.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  and identify the gas evolved.

(iii) Independent Group. ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ ). If the salt does not react with dil.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  as well as with conc.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ , test for  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  by performing their tests.

Let us now discuss these tests in detail one by one.

Take a small quantity of the salt in a test tube and add 1-2 ml of dilute sulfuric acid. Identify the gas and draw.

Dilute Sulfuric Acid Test		
Observations	Inference	
	Gas	Radical
1. Colourless, odourless gas with brisk effervescence, turns lime water milky.	$\text{CO}_2$	$\text{CO}_3^{2-}$
2. A colourless gas, with a pungent smell, turns acidified potassium dichromate paper or solution green.	$\text{SO}_2$	$\text{SO}_3^{2-}$
3. Colourless gas with a smell like that of rotten eggs turns lead acetate paper black.	$\text{H}_2\text{S}$	$\text{S}^{2-}$
4. Reddish brown gas, pungent smell, turns ferrous sulphate solution black.	$\text{NO}_2$	$\text{NO}_2^-$
5. No gas is evolved.	---	Absence of $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ , $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$ , $\text{S}^{2-}$ and $\text{NO}_2^-$

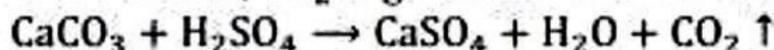
#### Note:

- Do not treat the salt with a large quantity of dilute acid.
- Do not heat the salt with dilute acid.

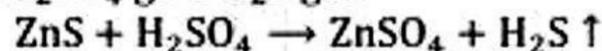
### Chemical Reactions

Dilute  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  (or dilute  $\text{HCl}$ ) decomposes carbonates, sulphides and nitrites in cold to give gases. These gases on identification indicate the nature of the added radical present in the salt.

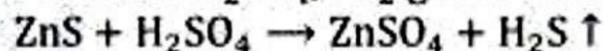
1. **Carbonates:** On treating the solid carbonate,  $\text{CO}_2$  is given off in the cold with brisk effervescence.



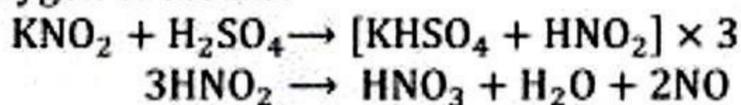
2. **Sulphides:** When treated with dil.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  give  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  gas.

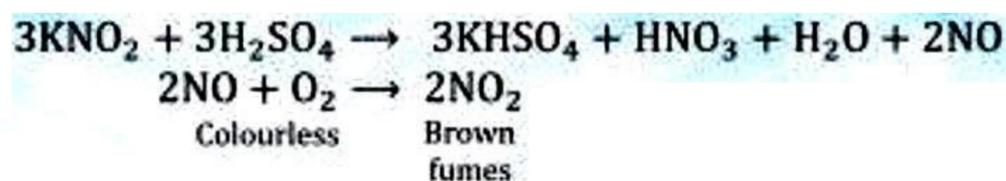


3. **Sulphites:** On treating solid sulphite with dil.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ ,  $\text{SO}_2$  gas is evolved



Nitrites. On treating the solid nitrite with dil.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  nitric oxide ( $\text{NO}$ ) gas is evolved which readily gives dense brown fumes of  $\text{NO}_2$  with the oxygen of the air.





### (h) Potassium Permanganate Test

To a pinch of salt in the test, tube adds about 2 ml of dilute sulfuric acid. Boil off any gas evolved, add a little more dilute acid and then potassium permanganate solution dropwise. Note the changes as given in Table. This test helps in the detection of  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{Br}^-$ ,  $\text{I}^-$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{O}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  radicals.

#### Note:

- As sulphides are oxidised by  $\text{KMnO}_4$  so they have to be completely decomposed by heating with dilute sulphuric acid before this test is performed.
- Potassium permanganate oxidises  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  salts in cold. On  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  acid is added to the salt and heated till sulphides, sulphites and nitrites are completely decomposed. Then  $\text{KMnO}_4$  is added dropwise to cold solution.

Potassium Permanganate Test	
Observations	Inference
1. Potassium permanganate DeColourised without the evolution of any gas.	Presence of $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ salts.
2. Potassium permanganate DeColourised.	
a. In cold <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With the evolution of chlorine.</li> <li>With the evolution of bromine.</li> <li>With the evolution of iodine.</li> </ol> b. On warming c. With evolution of $\text{CO}_2$	$\text{Cl}^-$ $\text{Br}^-$ $\text{I}^-$  $\text{C}_2\text{O}_4^{2-}$
3. $\text{KMnO}_4$ not DeColourised.	Absence of $\text{Cl}^-$ , $\text{Br}^-$ , $\text{I}^-$ , $\text{C}_2\text{O}_4^{2-}$ and $\text{Fe}^{2+}$

#### Chemical Reactions

- Ferrous salts**

$$2\text{KMnO}_4 + 3\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{K}_2\text{SO}_4 + 2\text{MnSO}_4 + 3\text{H}_2\text{O} + 5[\text{O}]$$

$$2\text{FeSO}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 + [\text{O}] \rightarrow \text{Fe}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$$
- Chlorides**

$$\text{NaCl} + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{NaHSO}_4 + \text{HCl}$$

$$2\text{HCl} + [\text{O}] \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{Cl}_2 \uparrow$$
- Bromides**

$$\text{NaBr} + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{NaHSO}_4 + \text{HBr}$$

$$2\text{HBr} + [\text{O}] \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{Br}_2 \uparrow$$
- Iodides**

$$\text{NaI} + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{NaHSO}_4 + \text{HI}$$

$$2\text{HI} + [\text{O}] \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{I}_2 \uparrow$$
- Oxalates**

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{COONa} \\ | \\ \text{COONa} \\ \text{COOH} \end{array} + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \text{COOH} \\ | \\ \text{COOH} \end{array} + \text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{COONa} \\ | \\ \text{COOH} \end{array} + [\text{O}] \rightarrow 2\text{CO}_2 \uparrow + \text{H}_2\text{O}$$

## Concentrated Sulfuric Acid Test

This test is performed by treating small quantity of salt with conc. sulfuric acid (2-3 ml) in a test tube. Identify the gas evolved in cold and then on heating. Draw inferences from table

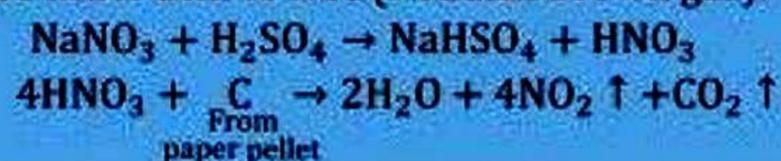
Conc. Sulfuric Acid Test		
Observations	Inference	
	Gas	Radical
1. Colourless gas with a pungent smell, white fumes with aqueous ammonia, white ppt. with solution.	HCl	Cl <sup>-</sup>
2. Reddish brown vapours with a pungent smell turn starch paper yellow. It does not turn the solution black.	Br <sub>2</sub>	Br <sup>-</sup>
3. Deep violet vapours with pungent smell, turn starch paper blue. A sublimate is formed on the sides of the tube.	I <sub>2</sub> vapours	I <sup>-</sup>
4. Reddish brown gas with pungent smell turns solution black.	NO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>
5. Colourless vapours, vinegar smell, turns blue litmus red.	CH <sub>3</sub> COOH vapors	CH <sub>3</sub> COO <sup>-</sup>
6. A Colourless gas with turns lime water milky and also a gas which burns with pale-bluish flame	CO <sub>2</sub> + CO	C <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>
7. No gas/vapors evolved.		Cl <sup>-</sup> , Br <sup>-</sup> , I <sup>-</sup> , NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> , CH <sub>3</sub> COO <sup>-</sup> absent

### Chemical Reactions

- Chlorides  $\text{NaCl} + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{NaHSO}_4 + \text{HCl}$   
Sod. Bisulphate
- Bromides  $\text{NaBr} + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{NaHSO}_4 + \text{HBr}$   
 $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 + 2\text{HBr} \rightarrow \text{SO}_2 + \text{Br}_2 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$
- Iodides  $\text{KI} + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{KHSO}_4 + \text{HI}$   
 $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 + 2\text{HBr} \rightarrow \text{SO}_2 + \text{Br}_2 + 2\text{I}_2$
- Nitrates  $\text{KNO}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{KHSO}_4 + \text{HNO}_3$   
 $4\text{HNO}_3 + \underset{\substack{\text{(Paper} \\ \text{pellet)}}}{\text{C}} \rightarrow 4\text{NO}_2 \uparrow + \text{CO}_2 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$
- Acetates  $\text{CH}_3\text{COONa} + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{NaHSO}_4 + \text{CH}_3\text{COOH}$   
Acetic acid
- Oxalates  $\begin{array}{c} \text{COONa} \\ | \\ \text{COONa} \end{array} + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4 + \text{CO}_2 \uparrow + \text{CO} \uparrow + \text{H}_2\text{O}$

### Note:

- Do not boil the salt with conc. sulphuric acid. On boiling, the acid may decompose to give SO<sub>2</sub> gas.
- Nitrates give vapors of nitric acid (Colourless) when heated with conc. sulphuric acid. When a paper pellet or copper chips is added, dense brown fumes evolve. Paper pellet acts as a reducing agent and reduces nitric acid to NO<sub>2</sub> (Reddish brown gas).



## Tests For Independent Radicals ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ And $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ )

As already discussed, these radicals are not detected by dilute or concentrated  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ . They are tested individually.

### 1. SULPHATE ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ )

Boil a small amount of salt with dilute HCl in a test tube. Filter the contents, and to the filtrate add few drops of  $\text{BaCl}_2$  solution. A white ppt. insoluble in conc. HCl indicates presence of sulphate.

### 2. PHOSPHATE ( $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ )

Add cone.  $\text{HNO}_3$  to the salt in a test tube. Boil the contents and add excess of ammonium molybdate solution. A yellow precipitate indicates presence of phosphate.

## CONFIRMATION OF ACID RADICALS BY WET TESTS

The acid radical indicated by dil.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  tests is further confirmed by wet tests.

Preparation of solution for wet tests of acid radicals.

The confirmatory tests for acid radicals are performed with salt solutions. The solution used for the purpose is any one of the following.

1. **Aqueous solution or 'water extract'** Shake a little of the salt with water. If the salt dissolves, this aqueous solution obtained is used for the wet tests of acid radical and is called 'water extract' or 'W.E.'. If the salt is not completely soluble in water, the salt is shaken with water and is filtered. The filtrate is treated as water extract.

2. **Sodium carbonate extract:** This is prepared only if the salt is insoluble in water. Preparation of Sodium Carbonate Extract. Mix about 1 g of the salt with about 2 g of pure sodium carbonate and boil it for 10-15 minutes with 20-25 ml of distilled water in a small conical flask having a funnel in its mouth (Fig. 8). The funnel acts as a condenser. This arrangement prevents the loss of water due to evaporation. Filter the solution, cool it and label it as sodium carbonate extract or S.E.

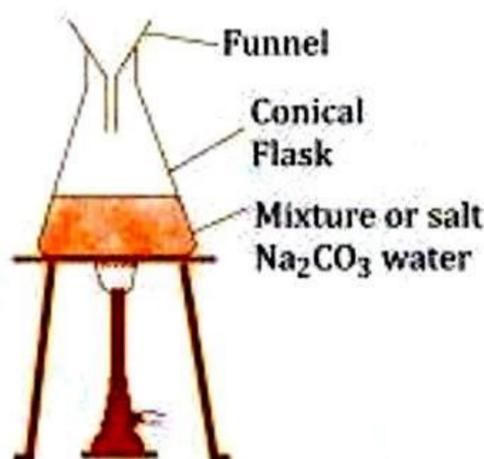
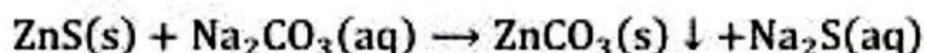


Fig. 8. Preparation of sodium carbonate extract.

Alternatively, sodium carbonate extract can be prepared in a test tube. A pinch of salt is mixed with double the amount of sodium carbonate and is boiled with distilled water for some time. The suspension obtained is filtered. The filtrate is sodium carbonate extract. (Fig. 8.). Preparation of sodium carbonate extract.

## Theory Of Preparation Of Sodium Carbonate Extract

When the salts are boiled with strong solution of sodium carbonate, double decomposition takes place resulting in the formation of the carbonates of heavy metallic radicals and sodium salts of the acid radicals. The sodium salts of corresponding acid radicals being soluble in water pass into the solution and carbonates of heavy metals are precipitated.



## How To Use Sodium Carbonate Extract

Sodium carbonate extract always contains unreacted sodium carbonate in solution which has to be destroyed before using the extract for various tests. To do this, the extract is acidified with some suitable acid and is boiled to expel carbon dioxide. The selection of acid used for destroying excess  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  depends upon the radical to be identified.

Now we describe in detail the confirmatory tests for various acid radicals discussed so far.

### Confirmation of Carbonate, $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$

(Indicated in dilute acid test by occurrence of brisk effervescence and evolution of carbon dioxide).

Confirmation of soluble carbonate	Confirmation of insoluble carbonate
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. If the salt dissolves, soluble carbonate is indicated.</li><li>2. Dil. HCl test</li><li>3. To one portion of the solution, add dil. HCl.</li><li>4. Brisk effervescence and evolution of carbon dioxide which turns lime water milky confirms the presence of soluble carbonate.</li><li>5. Magnesium sulphate test</li><li>6. To another portion of the solution, add magnesium sulphate solution.</li><li>7. Formation of white precipitate in the cold confirms the presence of soluble carbonate.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. If the salt remains insoluble, the presence of insoluble carbonate is indicated.</li><li>2. To the salt add dil. HCl.</li><li>3. Brisk effervescence and evolution of carbon dioxide which turns lime water milky confirms the presence of insoluble carbonate.</li></ol>

### Confirmation Of Sulphite, $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$

(Indicated in dilute acid test by the evolution of hydrogen sulphide).

Experiment	Observations
<b>Barium chloride test</b> Take a portion of aqueous solution (or sodium carbonate extract and dil. acetic acid and boil off $\text{CO}_2$ ). Add barium chloride solution to it. Filter. To a portion of the above ppt. add dil. HCl.	A white ppt. is formed.
<b>KMnO<sub>4</sub> test</b> To a second part of the ppt. from first add a few drops of acidified potassium permanganate solution.	The ppt. dissolves with the evolution of sulphur dioxide. The pink colour is discharged.
<b>K<sub>2</sub>Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> test</b> To a portion of aqueous solution or sodium carbonate extract add potassium dichromate solution acidified with dil. $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ .	A green colour is obtained.

### Confirmation Of Sulphide, $\text{S}^{2-}$

(Indicated in dilute acid test by the evolution of hydrogen sulphide).

Experiment	Observations
<b>Sodium nitroprusside test</b> Take a portion of aqueous solution (or sodium carbonate extract) in a test tube and add a few drops of sodium nitroprusside solution.	Purple or violet colouration is obtained.
<b>Lead acetate test</b> To a portion of aqueous solution (or sodium carbonate extract acidified with dil. acetic acid) add lead acetate solution.	A black ppt. is obtained.

**Cadmium carbonate test**

To a portion of aqueous solution (or sodium carbonate extract) add a suspension of cadmium carbonate in water.

A yellow ppt. is formed.

**Confirmation Of Nitrite,  $\text{NO}_2^-$** 

(Indicated in dilute acid test by the evolution of brown vapors of nitrogen peroxide)

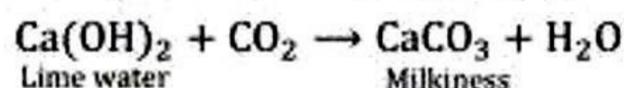
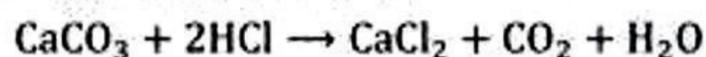
**Note:**

1. Do not use sodium carbonate extract for performing the tests of carbonates because it contains sodium carbonate.
2. Perform magnesium sulphate test only in case of soluble carbonates.

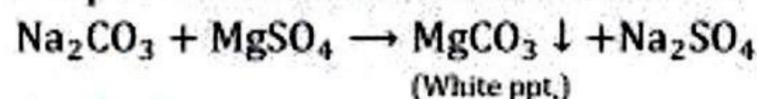
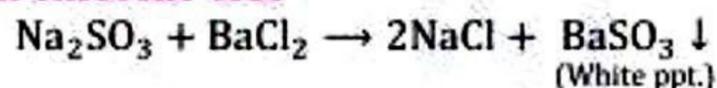
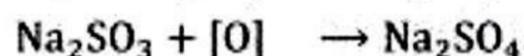
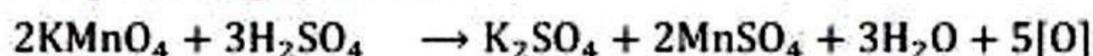
Experiment	Observations
<b>Ferrous sulphate test</b> To a portion of aqueous solution, add some dil. acetic acid and ferrous sulphate solution.	A dark brown or black Colouration is obtained.
<b>Starch-iodide test</b> To a portion of aqueous solution add a few drops of dil. $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and a few drops of potassium iodide solution followed by freshly prepared starch solution.	A blue solution is obtained.
<b>Diphenylamine test</b> To a portion of aqueous solution, add a few drops of diphenylamine.	A deep blue Colouration is obtained.

**Chemical Reaction****Ions Involved in the Confirmation of Carbonate, Sulphide, Sulphite and Nitrite****Carbonate ( $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ )****1. Reaction with dil. HCl**

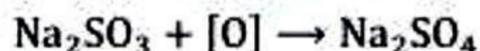
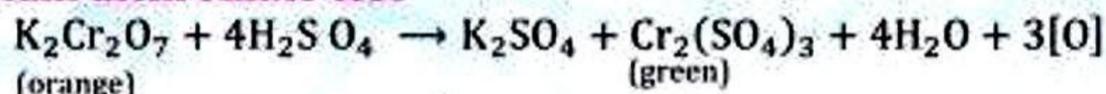
Carbonates on reaction with dil. HCl give  $\text{CO}_2$  gas which turns lime water milky. In case of soluble carbonates this test is performed with water extract and in case of insoluble carbonates this test is performed with the solid salt.

**2. Magnesium sulphate test**

This test is-performed in case of soluble carbonates only

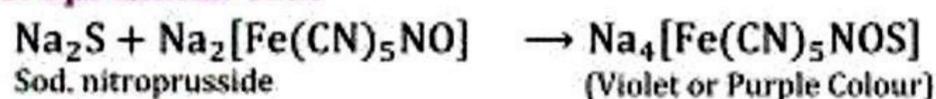
**Sulphite ( $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$ )****1. Barium chloride test****2. Potassium permanganate test**

### 3. Potassium dichromate test

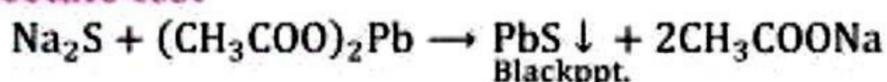


### Sulphide ( $\text{S}^{2-}$ )

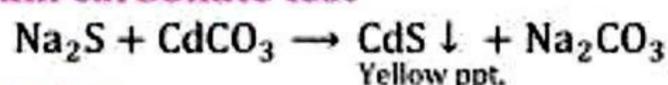
#### 1. Sod. nitroprusside test



#### 2. Lead acetate test

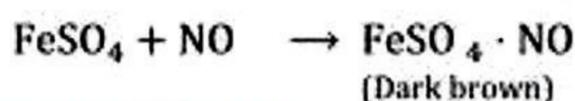
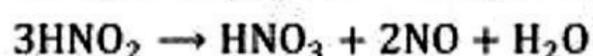
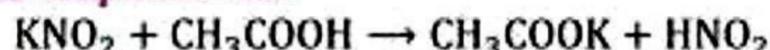


#### 3. Cadmium carbonate test

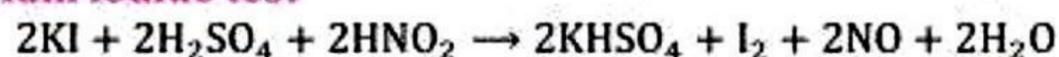


### Nitrite ( $\text{NO}_2^-$ )

#### 1. Ferrous sulphate test



#### 2. Potassium iodide test



$\text{I}_2$  turns starch paper blue.

### Confirmation Of Chloride, $\text{Cl}^-$

(No action with dilute  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  but decomposed by conc.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  with the evolution of  $\text{HCl}$  gas).

Experiment	Observations
<b>Silver nitrate test</b> Acidify a portion of aqueous solution (or sodium carbonate extract) with dil. $\text{HNO}_3$ . Boil for some time, cool and add $\text{AgNO}_3$ solution.	A white ppt. is formed which is soluble in ammonium hydroxide.
<b>Manganese dioxide test</b> Heat a pinch of the salt with a small quantity of $\text{MnO}_2$ and conc. $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ .	Evolution of greenish yellow gas having a pungent irritating smell. It turns moist starch-iodide paper blue.
<b>Chromyl chloride test</b> Mix a small quantity of the salt with a small amount of powdered potassium dichromate. Take the mixture in a test tube and add conc. $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ . Heat the tube and pass the red vapors evolved into the gas detector containing $\text{NaOH}$ solution. To the yellow solution thus obtained, add dil. $\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}$ and lead acetate solution.	A yellow ppt. is formed.

### Confirmation Of Bromide, $\text{Br}^-$

(No action with dilute  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  but decomposed by conc.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  with the evolution of bromine vapors).

Experiment	Observations
<b>Silver nitrate test</b> Acidify a portion of aqueous solution (or sodium carbonate extract) with dil. $\text{HNO}_3$ . Boil, cool and add $\text{AgNO}_3$ solution.	A light-yellow ppt. is obtained which is partially soluble in $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ .
<b>Manganese dioxide test</b> Heat a small quantity of the salt with solid $\text{MnO}_2$ and conc. $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ .	Evolution of yellowish-brown vapors of bromine which turn

	starch paper yellow.
<b>Chlorine water test</b> Acidify a portion of aqueous solution (or sodium carbonate extract) with dil. HCl and add 1-2 ml of carbon disulphide and then chlorine water. Shake vigorously and allow to stand.	Carbon di-sulphide layer acquires orange Colouration.

**Note:** Chlorine water is prepared by adding dropwise cone. HCl to a small volume of  $\text{KMnO}_4$  solution till the pink colour is just discharged, the resulting solution is chlorine water.

### Confirmation Of Iodide, $\text{I}^-$

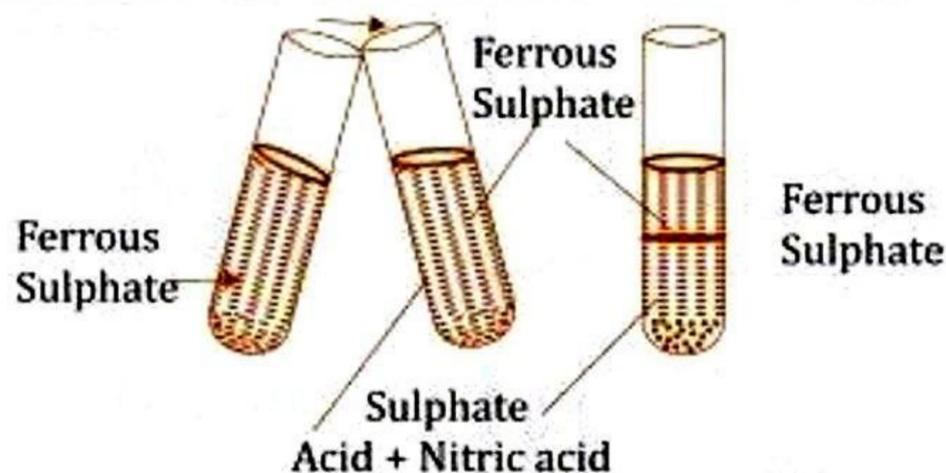
(No action with dilute  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  but decomposed by cone.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  with the evolution of vapors of iodine).

Experiment	Observations
<b>Silver nitrate test</b> Acidify a portion of aqueous solution (or sodium carbonate extract) with dil. $\text{HNO}_3$ . Boil, cool and add $\text{AgNO}_3$ solution.	A yellow ppt. is formed which is insoluble in $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ .
<b>Manganese dioxide test</b> Heat a small quantity of the salt with a little $\text{MnO}_2$ and conc. $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ .	Evolution of violet vapors of iodine which turn starch paper blue.
<b>Chlorine water test</b> Acidify a part of the aqueous solution (or sodium carbonate extract) with dil. HCl, add 1-2 ml of carbon di-sulphide and then chlorine water. Shake vigorously and allow to stand.	Carbon di-sulphide layer acquires a violet Colouration.

### Confirmation Of Nitrate, $\text{NO}_3^-$

(No action with dilute acids but decomposed by conc.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  with the evolution of brown vapors of nitrogen peroxide).

Experiment	Observations
<b>Diphenylamine test</b> Add a few drops of diphenylamine to a part of aqueous solution of the salt.	A deep blue Colouration is obtained.
<b>Copper chips test</b> Heat a small quantity of the original salt with concentrated sulfuric acid and a few copper chips.	Dark brown fumes of nitrogen dioxide are evolved.
<b>Ring Test</b> Add a small quantity of freshly prepared solution of ferrous sulphate to a part of the aqueous solution and then pour concentrated sulfuric acid slowly along the sides of the test tube as shown in (Fig.9).	A dark brown ring is formed at the junction of the layers of the acid and the solution.



**Fig. 9 The brown ring test for nitrates**

## Confirmation Of Acetate, $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$

(No action with dilute acids but decomposed by conc.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  with the evolution of  $\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}$  vapors)

Experiment	Observations
<b>Oxalic acid test</b> Take a small quantity of the salt on a watch glass. Mix it with solid oxalic acid. Prepare paste of it with a few drops of water. Rub the paste and smell.	Smell like that of vinegar.
<b>Ester test</b> Take a small quantity of the salt in a test-tube. Add conc. $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ (2ml) and heat. Now add ethyl alcohol (1 ml). Shake. Pour the contents of the tube in a beaker full of water. Stir.	Pleasant fruity smell of ester.
<b>Ferric chloride test</b> Take water extract of the salt. Add neutral ferric chloride solution. Filter. Divide the filtrate into two portions. i. To one part, add dil. HCl. ii. To second part, add water and boil.	Reddish Coloured filtrate.  Reddish Colour disappears. Reddish brown ppt.

## Confirmation Of Oxalate, $\text{C}_2\text{O}_4^{2-}$

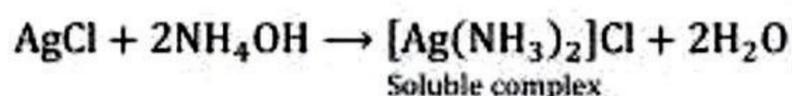
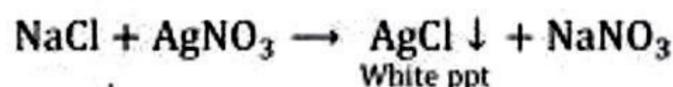
(No action with dilute acids but decomposed by conc.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  with the evolution of  $\text{CO}_2$  and CO gas)

Experiment	Observations
<b>Calcium chloride test</b> Take water extract (or soda extract if salt is insoluble in water). Add small amount dil acetic acid and boil off $\text{CO}_2$ . Add calcium chloride solution. Add dil $\text{HNO}_3$ to the white ppt and warm.	A white ppt. is formed. The ppt. dissolves.
<b>Potassium permanganate test</b> Take a pinch of the salt in test tube and add dil. sulfuric acid. Warm to $60 - 70^\circ\text{C}$ and add 2 - 3 drops of $\text{KMnO}_4$ solution.	The pink Colour of $\text{KMnO}_4$ solution is deColourized with the evolution of $\text{CO}_2$ gas.

Chemical Reactions Involved in the Confirmation of Chloride, Bromide, Iodide, Nitrate Acetate and Oxalate.

## Chloride ( $\text{Cl}^-$ )

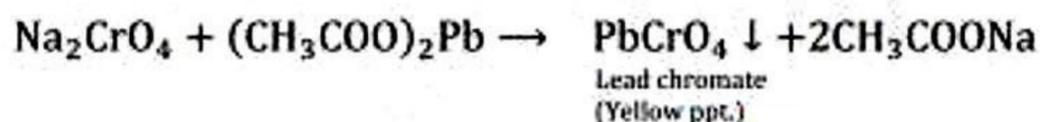
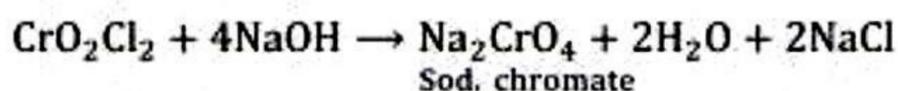
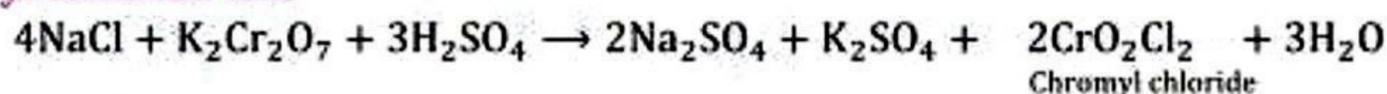
### 1. Silver nitrate test



### 2. $\text{MnO}_2$ test

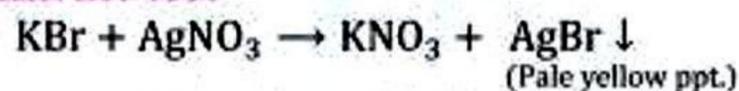


### 3. Chromyl chloride test



## Bromide (Br<sup>-</sup>)

### 1. Silver nitrate test

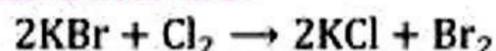


Pale yellow ppt. of silver bromide is sparingly soluble in ammonium hydroxide.

### 2. MnO<sub>2</sub> test



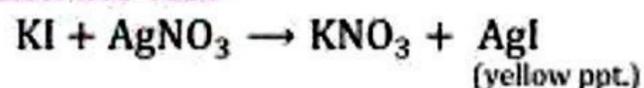
### 3. Chlorine water test



Bromine being soluble in CCl<sub>4</sub> imparts an orange colour to the CCl<sub>4</sub> layer.

## Iodide (I<sup>-</sup>)

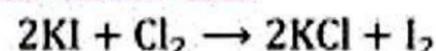
### 1. Silver nitrate test



### 2. MnO<sub>2</sub> test



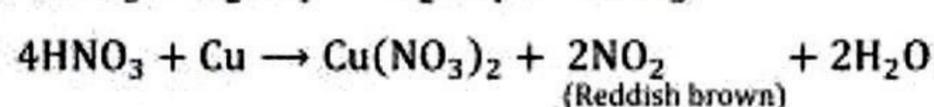
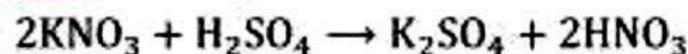
### 3. Chlorine water test



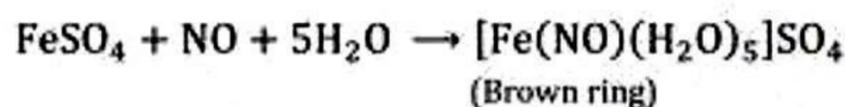
Iodine being soluble in CCl<sub>4</sub> imparts a violet colour to the CCl<sub>4</sub> layer.

## Nitrate (NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>)

### 1. Copper test

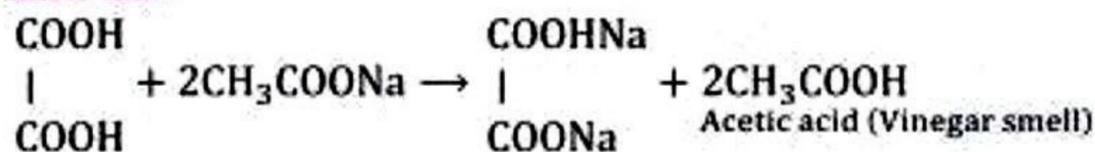


### 2. Ring Test

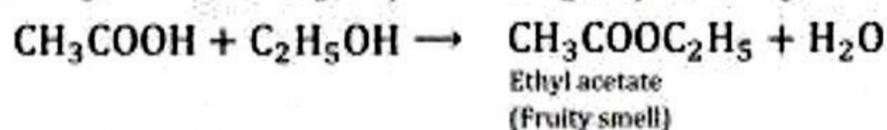
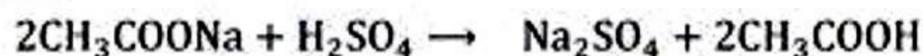


## Acetate (CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>)

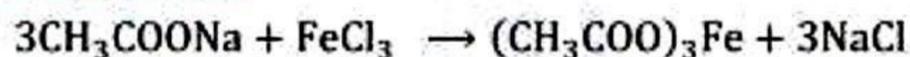
### 1. Oxalic acid test



### 2. Ester test

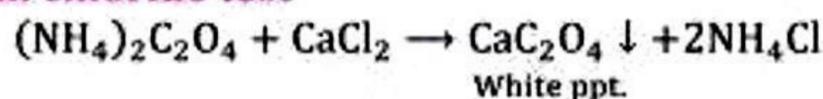


### 3. Ferric chloride test

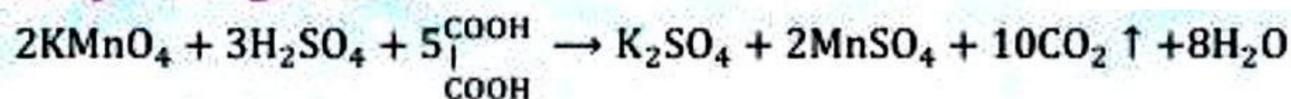


## Oxalate (C<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>)

### 1. Calcium chloride test



## 2. Potassium permanganate test



## Confirmation Of Sulphate, $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$

(Not indicated in dilute and concentrated  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  acid tests).

Experiment	Observations
<b>1. Barium chloride test</b> To a part of the aqueous solution of the salt add barium chloride solution.	A white ppt. is formed which is insoluble in dil HCl.
<b>2. Matchstick test</b> Mix a small amount of the salt with sodium carbonate and a little powdered charcoal so as to get a paste. Take some of this paste on one end of a wooden splinter and heat in the reducing flame till the mass fuses. Dip the fused mass into sodium nitroprusside solution taken in a China dish.	Violet streaks are produced.
<b>3. Lead acetate test</b> To a part of aqueous solution of the salt add lead acetate solution.	A white ppt. is formed which is soluble in excess of hot ammonium acetate solution.

## Confirmation Of Phosphate, $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$

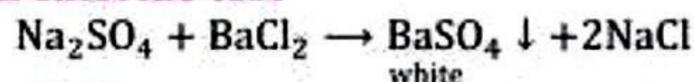
(Not indicated in dilute and concentrated  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  acid test).

Experiment	Observations
<b>Ammonium molybdate test</b> To the aqueous solution or sodium carbonate extract (or the original salt) add concentrated nitric acid and boil. Add ammonium molybdate solution in excess and again boil.	A deep yellow ppt. or Colouration is obtained.
<b>Magnesia mixture test</b> Take a portion of aqueous solution (or a part of sodium carbonate extract, add hydrochloric acid to acidify it and boil off $\text{CO}_2$ ). Add magnesia mixture (to prepare it, add solid $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ to magnesium chloride solution. Boil, cool and add $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ till a strong smell of ammonia is obtained) and allow to stand.	A white ppt. is obtained.

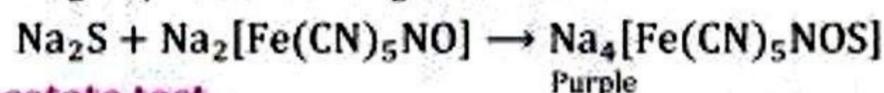
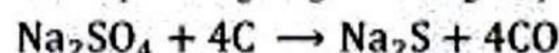
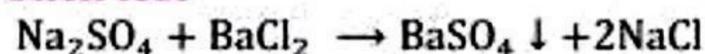
Chemical reactions involved in the confirmation of  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$

## Sulphate ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ )

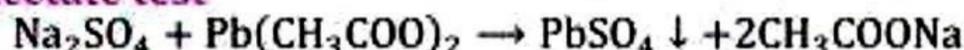
### 1. Barium chloride test



### 2. Match-stick test

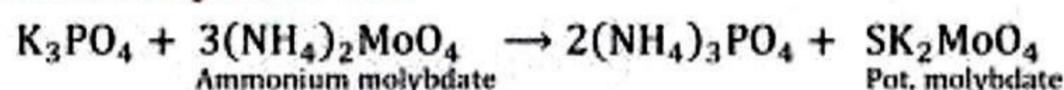


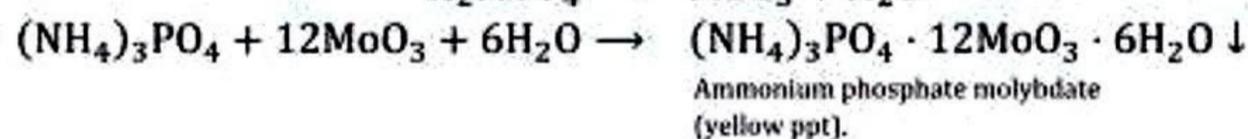
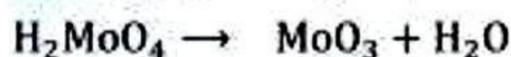
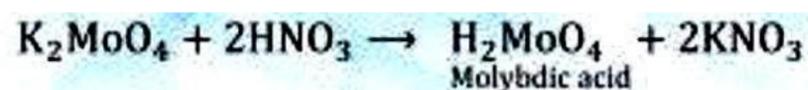
### 3. Lead acetate test



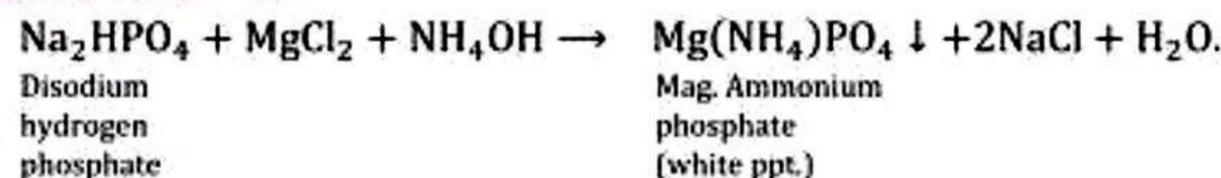
## Phosphate ( $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ )

### 1. Ammonium molybdate test





## 2. Magnesia mixture test



## Wet Tests For Basic (Cations)

Preliminary tests such as dry heating test, charcoal cavity test, flame test and borax bead test may give us some indication about the cation present in the salt. However, the cation is finally detected and confirmed through a systematic analysis involving wet tests. For the sake of qualitative analysis, the cations are Classified into the following groups (Table).

Classification of Cations			
Group	Cation	Group reagent	Colour of the ppt.
Group - 0	$\text{NH}_4^+$ (ammonium)	-	-
Group - I	$\text{Pb}^{2+}$ (lead)	dil. HCl	$\text{PbCl}_2$ (White)
Group - II	$\text{Pb}^{2+}$ (lead) $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ (copper) $\text{Cd}^{2+}$ (cadmium) $\text{As}^{3+}$ (arsenic)	$\text{H}_2\text{S}$ in presence of dis HCl	$\text{PbS}$ (Brownish-black) $\text{CuS}$ (Black) $\text{CdS}$ (Yellow) $\text{As}_2\text{S}_3$ (Yellow)
Group - III	$\text{Fe}^{2+}, \text{Fe}^{3+}$ (iron) $\text{Al}^{3+}$ (aluminium)	Solid $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ + excess $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$	$\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_3$ (Brown) $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$ (Dirty-white)
Group - IV	$\text{Zn}^{2+}$ (zinc) $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ (nickel) $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ (manganese) $\text{Co}^{2+}$ (cobalt)	$\text{H}_2\text{S}$ in presence of $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ + $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$	$\text{ZnS}$ (Dirty-white) $\text{NiS}$ (Black) $\text{MnS}$ (Light-pink) $\text{CoS}$ (Black)
Group - V	$\text{Ba}^{2+}$ (barium) $\text{Sr}^{2+}$ (strontium) $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ (calcium)	$(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$ in presence of $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ and $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$	$\text{BaCO}_3$ (White) $\text{SrCO}_3$ (White) $\text{CaCO}_3$ (White)
Group - VI	$\text{Mg}^{2+}$ (magnesium)	None	-

Before carrying out the wet tests for the analysis of cation, the salt has to be dissolved in some suitable solvent to prepare its solution.

## Preparation Of Solution For Wet Tests Of Basic Radicals

The very first essential step is to prepare a Clear and transparent solution of the salt under investigation. For this purpose, the under-noted solvents are tried one after another in a systematic order. In case the salt does not dissolve in a particular solvent even on heating, try the next solvent. The following solvents are tried.

- (i) Distilled water (cold or hot).
- (ii) Dilute HCl (cold or hot).
- (iii) Cone. HCl (cold or hot).

## Procedure For The Preparation Of Solution

Take a small quantity of the given salt in a test tube. Add some suitable solvent into it and shake. If it does not dissolve even after heating for some time, take the fresh quantity of the salt again and treat it similarly with the next solvent. The Clear solution thus obtained is labelled as the Original Solution (O.S.).

## Important Notes

- (i) In case some gas is evolved during the preparation of the solution, let the reaction cease. Gas must be completely expelled by heating.
- (ii) In case the solution is prepared in dilute HCl, group I is absent. Proceed with group II.
- (iii) If the salt is soluble in hot water, and on cooling white precipitates appear, lead chloride is indicated.
- (iv) It is necessary to dilute the solution if it is made in concentrated acid before proceeding with the analysis.

The following table will help the students in the choice of a suitable solvent.

Solvent	Salts which dissolve
1. Cold water	a) All $\text{NH}_4^+$ , $\text{Na}^+$ and $\text{K}^+$ salts. b) All nitrites, nitrates and acetates. c) Most of the sulphates except those of Pb, Ba, Ca, and Sr. d) All chlorides except that of lead.
2. Hot water	Lead chloride, lead nitrate.
3. Dil. HCl	All carbonates which do not dissolve in water i. e., Carbonates of Ca, Ba, Sr, Mg, Zn, Al, Cu, Ni, Mn, Fe etc., but not of Pb.

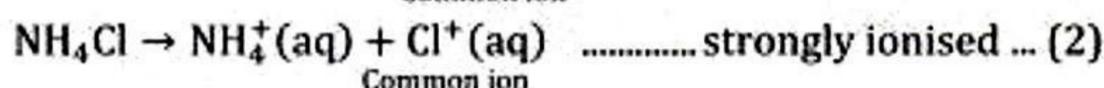
The separation of cations into various groups by making use of suitable reagents (known as group reagents) is based on the differences in the chemical properties of cations. For example, if hydrochloric acid is added to a solution containing all cations, only the chlorides of lead, silver and mercury will precipitate, since all other chlorides are soluble. Thus, these cations form a group of ions which may be precipitated from the solution by the addition of group reagent HCl. Similarly,  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  is a group reagent for group II. The following Table Clearly shows the group reagents for different groups and the form in which cations of the particular group are precipitated out.

## Theory Of Precipitation Of Different Groups

The Classification of cations into different groups in the inorganic qualitative analysis is based upon the knowledge of solubility products of salts of these basic radicals. For example, chlorides of  $\text{Hg}_2^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Ag}^+$  have very low solubility products. Based on this knowledge these radicals are grouped together in group-I and are precipitated as their chlorides by adding dilute HCl to their solutions. For adjusting the conditions for precipitation, another concept called common ion effect plays very important role. Before we consider the precipitation of radicals of other groups, let us discuss in brief the concept of common ion effect.

## Common Ion Effect

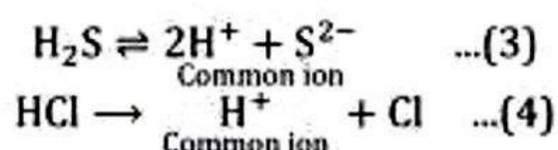
Weak acids and weak bases are ionised only to a small extent in their aqueous solutions. In their solutions, unionised molecules are in dynamic equilibrium with ions. The degree of ionisation of a weak electrolyte (weak acid or weak base) is further suppressed if some strong electrolyte which can furnish some in common with the ions furnished by a weak electrolyte, is added to its solution. This effect is called the common ion effect. For example, the degree of ionisation of  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$  (a weak base) is suppressed by the addition of  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  (a strong electrolyte). The ionisation of  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$  and  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  in solution is represented as follows.



Due to the addition of  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ , which is strongly ionised in the solution, the concentration of  $\text{NH}_4$  ions increase in the solution. Therefore, according to Le-Chatelier's principal equilibrium in equation (1) shifts in the backward direction in favour of unionised  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ . In this way, the addition of  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  suppresses the degree of ionisation of  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ . Thus, the concentration of  $\text{OH}^-$  ions in the solution is considerably reduced and the weak base  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$  becomes a still weaker base.

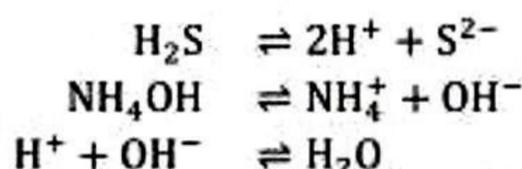
The suppression of the degree of ionisation of a weak electrolyte (weak acid or weak base) by the addition of some strong electrolyte having a common ion, is called the common ion effect.

The application of the concept of the common ion effect in the qualitative analysis is illustrated as follows. The cations of group II ( $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{As}^{3+}$ ) are precipitated as their sulphides. Solubility product of sulphides of group II radicals are very low. Therefore, even with a low concentration of  $\text{S}^{2-}$  ions, the ionic products ( $Q_{sp}$ ) exceed the value of their solubility products ( $K_{sp}$ ) and the radicals of group II get precipitated. The low concentration of  $\text{S}^{2-}$  ions is obtained by passing  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  gas through the solution of the salts in the presence of dil.  $\text{HCl}$  suppresses the degree of ionisation of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  by the common ion effect.



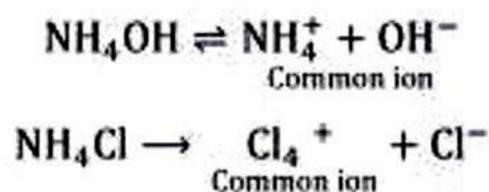
It is necessary to suppress the concentration of  $\text{S}^{2-}$  ions, otherwise, radicals of group IV will also get precipitated along with group II radicals.

Radicals of group IV ( $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ ) are also precipitated as their sulphides. But the solubility products of their sulphides are quite high. So that ionic products exceed solubility products, the concentration of  $\text{S}^{2-}$  ions should be high in this case. A high concentration of sulphide ions is achieved by passing  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  gas through the solutions of the salts in the presence of  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ . Hydroxyl ions from  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$  combine with  $\text{H}^+$  ions from  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ . Due to the removal of  $\text{H}^+$  ions the equilibrium of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  shifts in favour of the ionised form.



Hence, the concentration of  $\text{S}^{2-}$  ions increases. With this increased concentration of  $\text{S}^{2-}$  ions ionic products exceed solubility products and radicals of group IV get precipitated.

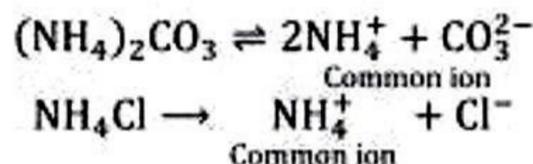
Radicals of group III ( $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ ) are precipitated as their hydroxides by  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$  in the presence of  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ . The purpose of  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  is to suppress the degree of ionisation of  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$  by common ion effect to decrease the concentration of  $\text{OH}^-$  ions.



The solubility products of hydroxides of group III radicals are quite low. Therefore, even with this suppressed concentration of  $\text{OH}^-$  ions their ionic products exceed solubility products and hence they get precipitated. If the concentration of  $\text{OH}^-$  ions is not suppressed, the radicals of groups IV, V and  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  will also be precipitated along with radicals of group III.

Radicals of group V ( $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ) are precipitated as their carbonates by the addition of  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$  in the presence of  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  and  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ .

$\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  suppresses the degree of ionisation of  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$  by common ion effect and hence decreases the concentration of  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  ions.



But solubility products of carbonates of group V radicals are quite low and hence even with the suppressed concentration of  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  ions their ionic products exceed solubility products, and they get precipitated whereas  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  and other radicals of group VI having relatively high solubility products are not precipitated.

### Analysis Of Group Zero ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ )

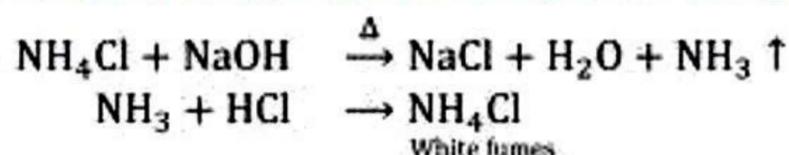
This group includes  $\text{NH}_4^+$  cation. During the analysis of cations,  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  and  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$  are added in many steps. Therefore, the  $\text{NH}_4^+$  ion is detected in the beginning using solid salt.

#### PROCEDURE

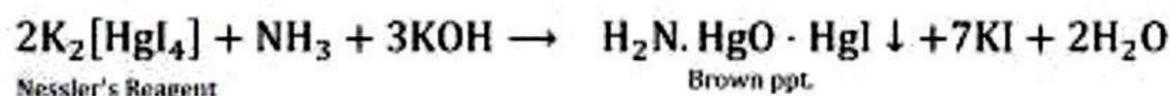
The solid salt is heated with a concentrated solution of sodium hydroxide. In case, ammonia gas is evolved,  $\text{NH}_4^+$  is present. The evolution of  $\text{NH}_3$  gas is confirmed by the following tests.

- (i) Characteristic ammoniacal smell.
- (ii) The gas gives white fumes when a glass rod is dipped in dil.  $\text{HCl}$  is brought near the mouth of the test tube.
- (iii) When the gas is passed through Nessler's reagent, it would give brown ppt. in the case of  $\text{NH}_3$ .

#### Chemical Reactions Involved In Group-Zero Analysis



#### Nessler's Reagent Test



### Analysis Of Group I (Silver Group)

This group includes  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ag}^+$  and  $\text{Hg}_2^{2+}$ . But in the present context, we shall study only  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ . The group reagent for this group is dil. hydrochloric acid.

#### PROCEDURE

To the original solution add dil. hydrochloric acid. If a white precipitate is formed, first group ( $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ ) is present.

Filter and wash the ppt. with cold water and follow the instructions as given below.

#### Analysis Of Group I ( $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ )

Boil the white precipitate with 5 – 10ml of water. Precipitate dissolves. Divide the solution tained into three parts. Confirmation.

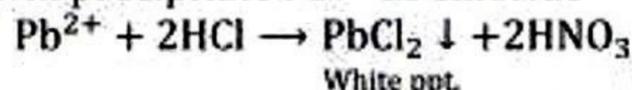
- (i) Cool one part of the solution under tap. White crystalline ppt. separates out.
- (ii) Potassium iodide test. To the second part of the solution, add  $\text{KI}$  solution -yellow ppt.
- (iii) Potassium chromate test. To the third part of the solution add  $\text{K}_2\text{CrO}_4$  solution-yellow ppt.

#### Note:

1. If the original solution is prepared in cold dilute hydrochloric acid, first group is absent.
2. If the original solution is prepared in cone, hydrochloric acid, simply add water. White ppt. shows the presence of first group.

#### Chemical Reactions Involved In Group I Analysis

The addition of  $\text{HCl}$  to the solution will precipitate  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  as chloride

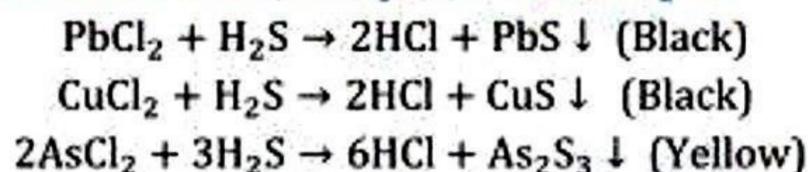


When the white ppt. is boiled with water, the precipitates dissolve because the  $\text{PbCl}_2$  is soluble in hot water.



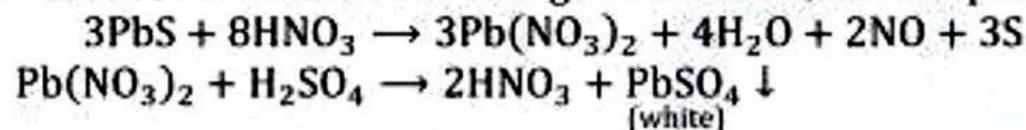
<p>one part, add a few drops of <math>K_2CrO_4</math> solution-Yellow ppt. formed which dissolves in excess of NaOH solution.</p> <p><b>Pb<sup>2+</sup> confirmed.</b></p> <p>2: Potassium iodide test. To the second part, add a few drops of KI solution-Yellow ppt. formed.</p> <p><b>Pb<sup>2+</sup> confirmed.</b></p>	<p>To one part, add <math>NH_4OH</math> solution dropwise-Light blue ppt. first appear but redissolve in excess of <math>NH_4OH</math> giving deep blue solution.</p> <p><b>Cu<sup>2+</sup> confirmed.</b></p> <p>2: Potassium ferrocyanide test. Acidify a portion of the above blue solution or O.S. with dil. acetic acid and then add a few drops of potassium ferrocyanide solution-Chocolate coloured ppt. formed.</p> <p><b>Cu<sup>2+</sup> confirmed.</b></p>	<p>solution add dil. HCl – Yellow ppt. formed.</p> <p><b>As<sup>3+</sup> confirmed.</b></p> <p>Dissolve the yellow ppt. by boiling with conc. <math>HNO_3</math> and divide into two parts.</p> <p>2. Ammonium molybdate test. To one part add 2 – 3mL of ammonium molybdate solution and heat. A yellow ppt.</p> <p><b>As<sup>3+</sup> confirmed.</b></p> <p>3. Magnesia mixture test. To the second part add <math>NH_4OH</math> till it becomes alkaline. To this add magnesia mixture (a mixture containing equal volumes of <math>MgSO_4</math>, <math>NH_4Cl</math> and <math>NH_4OH</math> solutions)-A white ppt.</p> <p><b>As<sup>3+</sup> confirmed.</b></p>
---	---	--

### Chemical Reactions Involved In The Analysis Of Group II

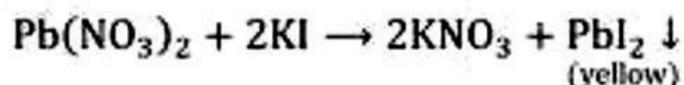


#### Lead (Pb<sup>2+</sup>)

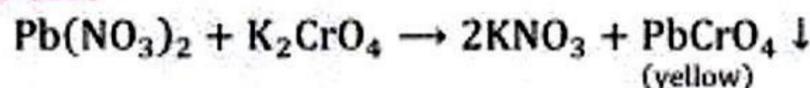
Black ppt. of PbS dissolves in 50% nitric acid. On adding sulfuric acid, lead sulphate precipitates.



#### 1. Potassium iodide test

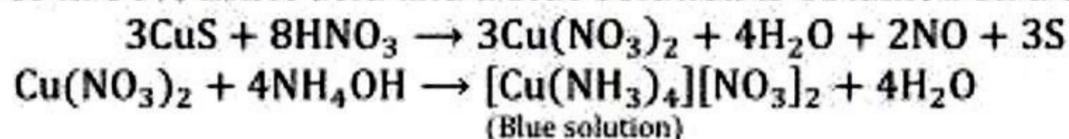


#### 2. Potassium chromate test

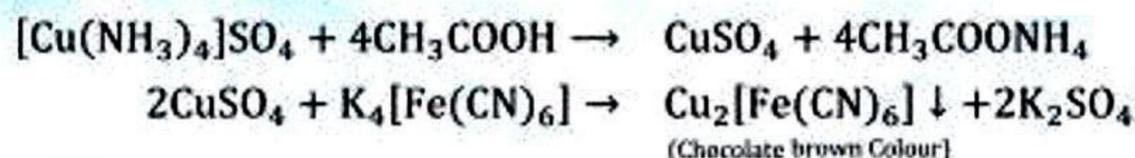


#### Copper (Cu<sup>2+</sup>)

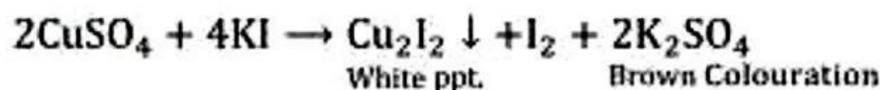
Black ppt. of CuS dissolves in 50% nitric acid and a blue solution is obtained on a excess of  $NH_4OH$ .



### 1. Potassium ferrocyanide test

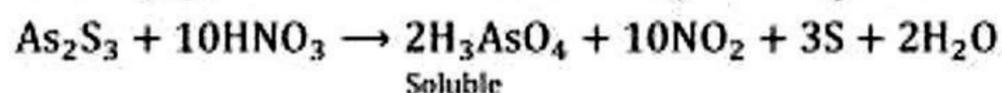


### 2. Potassium iodide test

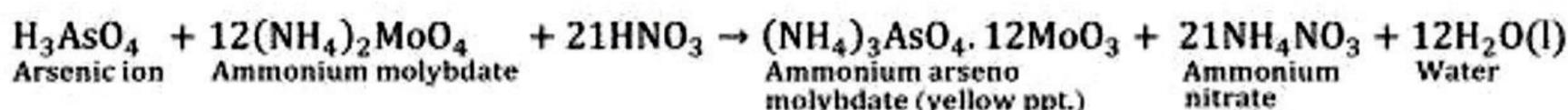
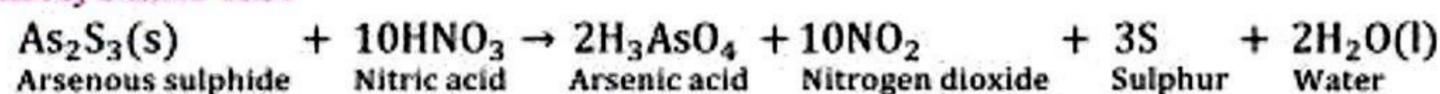


### Arsenic ( $\text{As}^{3+}$ )

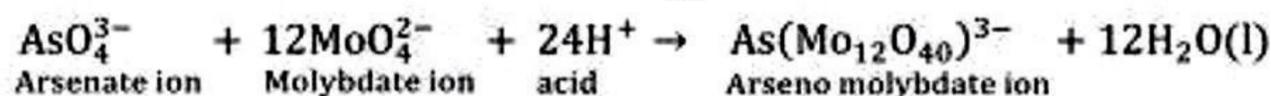
The yellow residue of  $\text{As}_2\text{S}_3$  is dissolved in conc.  $\text{HNO}_3$  forming arsenic acid.



### 1. Ammonium molybdate test



Or



### 2. Magnesia mixture test



### Analysis Of Group III (Iron Group)

The cations present in this group are  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ . Only  $\text{Fe}^{2+}/\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  are included in the syllabus of this Class. These cations are precipitated as hydroxides by adding ammonium hydroxide in presence of ammonium chloride. Thus, group reagent for this group is  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$  in the presence of  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ .

### PROCEDURE

In case, first and second groups are absent proceed for group III with the original solution. Take about 5 ml of the original solution and add 4-5 drops of conc. nitric acid. Boil the solution for some time. Add to it about 2 g of solid  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  and boil again. Cool the solution under tap water. Add excess of ammonium hydroxide to it and shake. A ppt. shows the presence of some cation of group III. Filter the ppt. and wash with water. Note the Colour of the ppt. If the ppt. is reddish brown in Colour, it indicates the presence of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and if the Colour is white, it indicates the presence of  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ . Analyse the ppt. and draw inferences as in Table.

Analysis of Group III ( $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ and $\text{Al}^{3+}$ )	
$\text{Fe}^{3+}$ (Reddish brown ppt.)	$\text{Al}^{3+}$ (Gelatinous White ppt.)
Confirmatory Test	Confirmatory Test
Dissolve the reddish-brown ppt. in dilute HCl, and divide the solution into two parts. 1. <b>Potassium ferrocyanide test:</b> To one part of the above solution add potassium ferrocyanide solution – A deep blue colouration or ppt. 2. <b>Potassium sulphocyanide test:</b> To the second part, add a little potassium	1. <b>Sodium Hydroxide test:</b> To one part of the above solution add NaOH solution. – White ppt. soluble in excess of NaOH solution. 2. <b>Lake test:</b> To the second part of the above solution, add few drops of blue litmus solution –

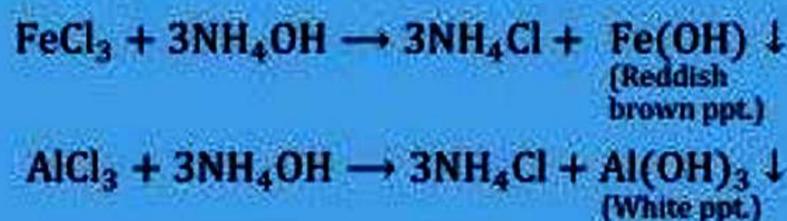
sulphocyanide solution. Blood red Colouration.	Solution turns pink. Now add NH <sub>4</sub> OH solution dropwise till alkaline and shake. Allow it to stand –A blue lake ( a blue ppt. floating in a colourless solution ) is formed.
--	--

**Note:**

1. Test of Fe<sup>2+</sup>. The addition of conc. nitric acid in the analysis of group III serves to oxidise Fe<sup>2+</sup> ions to Fe<sup>3+</sup> ions. Add conc. nitric acid only if the cation is Fe<sup>2+</sup> otherwise the addition of nitric acid may be avoided. To test this, add a few drops of potassium ferricyanide solution to the original salt solution. A deep blue colouration shows Fe<sup>2+</sup>.
2. Use sufficient quantity of ammonium chloride, otherwise the hydroxides of higher group may be precipitated along with the radicals of third group.
3. Add NH<sub>4</sub>OH until the solution gives the smell of ammonia.

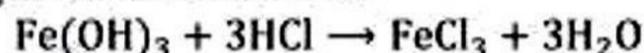
**Chemical Reactions Involved in the Analysis of Group III**

The group III cations are precipitated as hydroxides on the addition of excess of ammonium hydroxide.

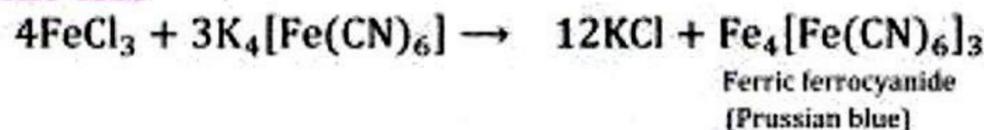


**Iron (Fe<sup>3+</sup>)**

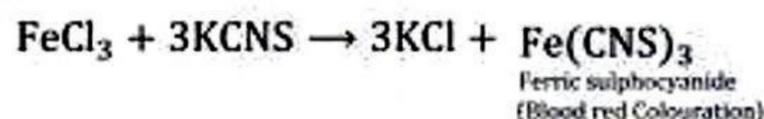
The reddish-brown ppt. of Fe(OH)<sub>3</sub> is dissolved in HCl.



**1. Potassium ferrocyanide test**

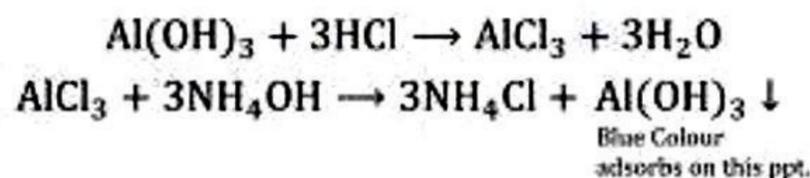


**2. Potassium sulphocyanide test**



**Aluminium (Al<sup>3+</sup>)**

**1. Lake test**



**Analysis Of Group IV (Zinc Group)**

The radicals present in this group are CO<sup>2+</sup>, Ni<sup>2+</sup>, Mn<sup>2+</sup> and Zn<sup>2+</sup>. These are precipitated as sulphides by passing H<sub>2</sub>S gas through the ammoniacal solution of the salt.

The group reagent for this group is H<sub>2</sub>S gas in the presence of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and NH<sub>4</sub>OH.

**PROCEDURE**

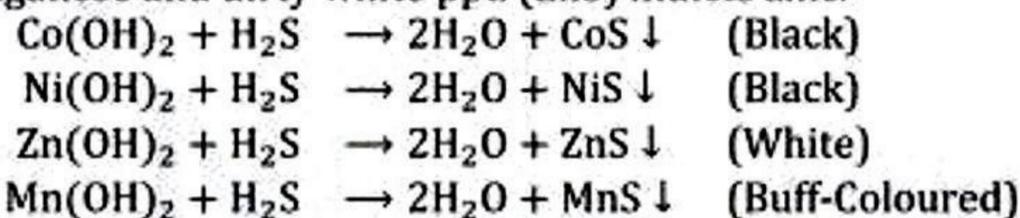
If there is no ppt. in the third group, then use the same ammoniacal solution for the fourth group. Pass H<sub>2</sub>S gas through the solution. If some ppt. is formed, presence of some radical of group IV is indicated. Filter the ppt. and wash it with water. Note the Colour of the ppt. and analyses the ppt. according to the Table.

## Analysis of Group IV Radicals ( $\text{Co}^{2+}$ , $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ , $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ and $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ )

Analysis of Group IV Radicals ( $\text{Co}^{2+}$ , $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ , $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ and $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ )			
Black ppt. ( $\text{Co}^{2+}$ or $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ) Observe the Colour of the original salt. If the salt is purple or deep violet in Colour perform confirmatory tests for $\text{Co}^{2+}$ and if it is greenish perform confirmatory tests for $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ with the original solution.		Buff (flesh) Coloured ppt. $\text{Mn}^{2+}$	Dull white ppt. $\text{Zn}^{2+}$
<p>Confirmation of <math>\text{Co}^{2+}</math></p> <p><b>1. Potassium nitride test</b> To one part of the O.S. add ammonium hydroxide to neutralise the solution. Add acetic acid and a crystal of potassium nitrite. Warm. A yellow ppt. is formed.</p> <p><b>2. Ammonium thiocyanate ether test</b> To another part add ether (1 ml). Add a crystal of Ammonium thiocyanate, shake. Allow to settle. Blue Colour in ethereal layer confirms <math>\text{Co}^{2+}</math>.</p> <p><b>3. Borax bead test</b> Perform borax bead test with the salt. A blue bead is formed.</p>	<p>Confirmation of <math>\text{Ni}^{2+}</math></p> <p><b>1. Dimethyl glyoxime test</b> To one part of O.S. add Ammonium hydroxide solution and few drops of dimethyl glyoxime. Bright rose red ppt. is obtained.</p> <p><b>2. Sodium hydroxide <math>\text{Br}_2</math> test</b> To another part add sodium hydroxide (in excess) and bromine water Boil. A black ppt. is formed.</p> <p><b>3. Borax bead test</b> Perform borax bead test with the salt. Brown bead in oxidizing and grey bead in reducing flame is obtained.</p>	<p>Confirmation of <math>\text{Mn}^{2+}</math></p> <p><b>1. Sodium hydroxide <math>\text{Br}_2</math> test</b> To the O.S. add NaOH solution Shake. A white ppt. is formed. Add <math>\text{Br}_2</math> water to white ppt. It turns black or brown.</p> <p><b>2. Lead peroxide test</b> To black ppt. obtained in above test add conc. <math>\text{HNO}_3</math> and lead peroxide. Boil, cool and allow to settle. Pink-Coloured solution is formed.</p> <p><b>3. Borax bead test</b> Perform borax bead test with the salt. Pinkish bead in oxidizing flame and Colourless bead in reducing flame.</p>	<p>Confirmation of <math>\text{Zn}^{2+}</math></p> <p><b>1. Sodium hydroxide. test</b> To one part of O. S. add sodium hydroxide solution dropwise. A white ppt. is formed. Add more of NaOH. The white ppt. dissolves.</p> <p><b>2. Pot. ferrocyanide test</b> To another part, add pot. ferrocyanide solution White or bluish white ppt. is formed.</p> <p><b>3. Charcoal Cavity/Cobalt Nitrite Test</b> Perform Charcoal Cavity/Cobalt Nitrate test with the salt. Greenish residue is obtained.</p>

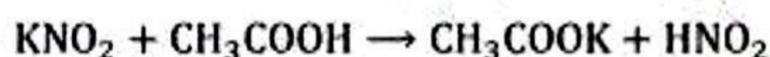
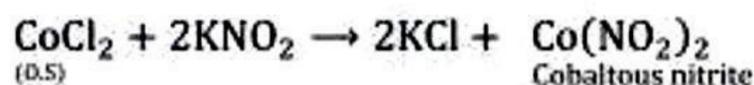
### Chemical Reactions Involved In The Analysis Of Group IV

Passing of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  gas through the group III solution will precipitate the radicals  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  as their sulphides. Formation of black ppt. ( $\text{CoS}$  or  $\text{NiS}$ ) indicates cobalt or nickel. Formation of buff-Coloured ppt. ( $\text{MnS}$ ) indicates manganese and dirty white ppt. ( $\text{ZnS}$ ) indicates zinc.



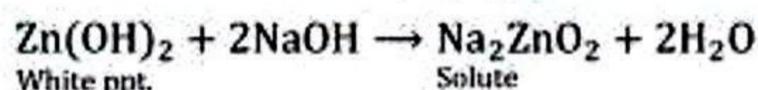
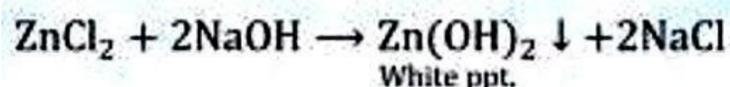
### Cobalt ( $\text{Co}^{2+}$ )

#### 1. Potassium nitrite test

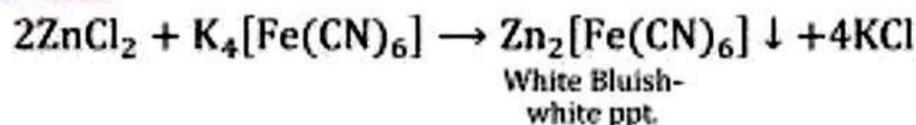




### 1. NaOH test



### 2. Potassium ferrocyanide test



## Analysis Of Group V (Calcium Group)

Group V consists of three radicals.  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . These cations are precipitated as their carbonates.

Group reagent for this group is  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$  in the presence of  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  and  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ .

### PROCEDURE

If the fourth group is absent, then proceed for radicals of group V.

To the O.S. add 2-3 gins of solid  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ , boil, cool and add  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$  till the solution smells of ammonia. Then add  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$  solution. Appearance of white ppt. indicates the presence of group V cation. Filter and wash the ppt. with water. Dissolve the ppt. in hot dil. acetic acid. Divide the solution into three parts and proceed as in table.

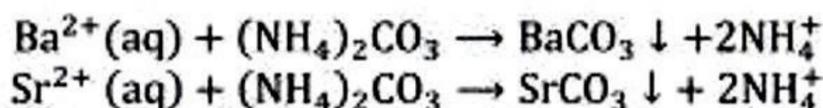
Analysis of Group V ( $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ , $\text{Sr}^{2+}$ , $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ )		
$\text{Ba}^{2+}$	$\text{Sr}^{2+}$	$\text{Ca}^{2+}$
<p><b>1. Potassium chromate test</b> To one part of the solution, add a few drops of potassium chromate solution. Yellow ppt.</p> <p><b>2. Flame test</b> Perform a flame test with the original salt. Grassy green flame.</p>	<p>Test for <math>\text{Sr}^{2+}</math> only if <math>\text{Ba}^{2+}</math> is absent.</p> <p><b>1. Ammonium sulphate test</b> To the second part of the solution, add 1ml of Ammonium sulphate solution and warm. White ppt.</p> <p><b>2. Flame test</b> Perform a flame test with the original salt. Crimson red flame.</p>	<p>Test for <math>\text{Ca}^{2+}</math> only if <math>\text{Ba}^{2+}</math> and <math>\text{Sr}^{2+}</math> are absent.</p> <p><b>1. Ammonium oxalate test</b> To the third portion of the solution, add 1-2 ml of Ammonium oxalate solution. Add a little Ammonium hydroxide to it and scratch the sides. White ppt.</p> <p><b>2. Flame test</b> Perform flame test with the original salt. Brick red flame.</p>

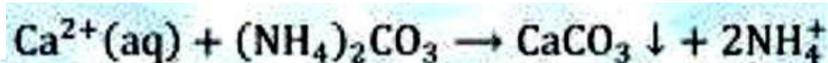
#### Note:

1. Proceed to test for group V cations in the order,  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . If  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$  is confirmed, do not test for  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$  or  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . Similarly if  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$  is confirmed, do not test for  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ .
2. Original solution can be preferably used for testing  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ .

### Chemical Reactions Involved In The Analysis Of Group V Radicals

When  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$  is added to a salt solution containing  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  and  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ , the  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  are precipitated.





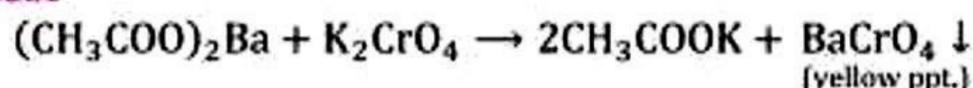
This insoluble carbonate dissolves in acetic acid due to formation of soluble Barium.

### Barium ( $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ )

White ppt. of  $\text{BaCO}_3$  dissolves in hot dilute acetic acid.



#### 1. Potassium chromate test

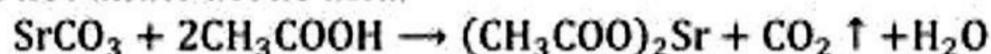


#### 2. Flame test

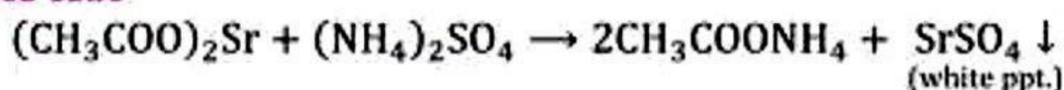
Barium imparts grassy green Colour to the flame.

### Strontium ( $\text{Sr}^{2+}$ )

White ppt. of  $\text{SrCO}_3$  dissolves in hot dilute acetic acid.



#### 1. Ammonium sulphate test



#### 2. Flame test

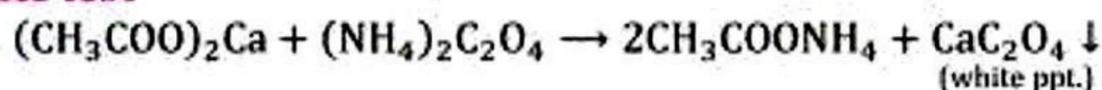
Strontium produces crimson red flame.

### Calcium ( $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ )

White ppt. of  $\text{CaCO}_3$  dissolves in hot dil. acetic acid.



#### 1. Ammonium oxalate test



#### 2. Flame test

Calcium imparts brick red Colour to the flame.

When  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$  is added to a salt solution containing  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  and  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ , the carbonates of  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  are precipitated.

### Analysis Of Group VI ( $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ )

#### 1. Ammonium phosphate test

To a part of the original solution add some solid  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  and  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$  in slight excess. Then add ammonium phosphate solution and rub the sides of the test-tube with a glass rod.

A white ppt. confirms  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ .

#### 2. Charcoal cavity cobalt nitrate test

Perform charcoal cavity cobalt nitrate test with the original salt.

A pink mass is obtained.

#### 3. Ammonium Phosphate Test

Chemical Reactions Involved in Confirmation of  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$



## VIVA VOCE

**Q-1. What do you mean by qualitative and quantitative analysis?**

**Ans.** Qualitative analysis deals with the identification of mere presence of acidic or basic radicals in inorganic salts or presence of extra elements such as N, O, P, S or halogens in an organic compound or testing the presence of functional group in an organic compound.

Quantitative analysis on the other hand helps to estimate the amount/concentration/percentage of these elements present.

**Q-2. Give an example to differentiate between qualitative and quantitative analysis.**

**Ans.** When a given salt e.g., lead salt is analysed say with KI; appearance of yellow ppt. will indicate the qualitative presence of lead ions but in case if an alloy containing lead is dissolved in nitric acid and the amount of lead present is estimated by weighing the exact amount of lead iodide precipitated to calculate the percentage of lead in the alloy; it will be called as quantitative analysis.

**Q-3. What is a radical?**

**Ans.** An atom or a group of atoms having a distinct positive or negative charge on it is called a radical; for example,  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Br}^-$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  etc.

**Q-4. What is the Colour of iron salts?**

**Ans.** Ferrous salts are generally green and ferric salts are brown.

**Q-5. What is the Colour of nickel salts?**

**Ans.** Bluish green or green.

**Q-6. Give one example of red salt.**

**Ans.** Cobalt nitrate is red in Colour.

**Q-7. Generally, what is the Colour of manganese salts?**

**Ans.** Light pink or flesh Coloured.

**Q-8. What are deliquescent salts?**

**Ans.** Salts which absorb moisture from the atmosphere and dissolve in it are called deliquescent salts e.g.,  $\text{MgCl}_2$ ,  $\text{FeCl}_3$ ,  $\text{ZnCl}_2$ .

**Q-9. What are efflorescent salts?**

**Ans.** Salts which give out water of crystallisation are termed as efflorescent salts e.g.,  $\text{FeSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$  or  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$  loses water of crystallisation to become  $\text{FeSO}_4 \cdot x\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ( $3 < x < 7$ ) and  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  (On losing 9 molecules of water of crystallisation).

**Q-10. What is sublimation?**

**Ans.** Sublimation is a process by which a salt directly changes its state from solid to gaseous without melting on heating. On cooling, the vapors condense to give back the solid.

**Q-11. What do you mean by the term decrepitation?**

**Ans.** Some salts that do not contain any water of crystallisation contain some mother liquor entrapped in their crystals during crystallisation.

On heating, these trapped molecules (liquid) of mother liquor escape producing crackling sound called decrepitation. Some examples of such salts are;  $\text{Ba}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{NaCl}$ ,  $\text{Pb}(\text{NO}_3)_2$

**Q-12. Why are silver nitrate and hydrogen peroxide solutions kept in Coloured bottles?**

**Ans.** Because they can get decomposed when exposed to light.

**Q-13. Why do blue crystals of copper sulphate become Colourless on heating?**

**Ans.** Because the blue Coloured hydrated copper sulphate ( $\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) loses its water of crystallisation on heating and become Colourless anhydrous copper sulphate.

## Detection Of Elements In Organic Compounds

Detection of elements present in an organic compound constitutes an important step in its analysis. All the organic compounds contain carbon. Hydrogen is also present in most of the organic compounds (the few exceptions are the compounds such as  $\text{CCl}_4$ ,  $\text{CS}_2$ , etc.). In addition to carbon and hydrogen other elements which are generally present in organic compounds are oxygen, nitrogen, sulphur and halogens.

Since nearly all the organic compounds contain carbon as well as hydrogen it is usually not necessary to carry out tests to detect them and their presence can be assumed without testing for them. Here, we shall study the tests for the detection of nitrogen, sulphur and halogens only.

### Detection of Nitrogen, Sulphur, Chlorine, Bromine and Iodine by Lassaigne's Test

This is the most dependable test for the detection of nitrogen, Sulphur and halogens. This test is also known as sodium fusion test. In order to perform this test, first of all sodium extract or Lassaigne's extract is prepared as described below:

#### Preparation Of Lassaigne's Extract

Take a small piece of dry sodium in a fusion tube. Heat the tube slightly so that it melts to a shining globule. Add a pinch of the organic compound. Heat it slowly to start with so that the compound reacts with sodium metal. Now heat it strongly. Plunge the red-hot tube into a China dish containing distilled water. Crush the contents with a glass rod and heat to boiling. Remove the insoluble matter by filtration. The filtrate is called Lassaigne's extract.

Nitrogen, Sulphur and halogens present in an organic compound are detected by making use of Lassaigne's extract.

#### Detection Of Nitrogen

To a small portion of Lassaigne's extract (usually alkaline), add 2 ml of freshly prepared ferrous sulphate solution and heat. Now add to it 2-3 drops of ferric chloride solution and acidify with cone. hydrochloric acid. A Prussian blue Colouration indicates the presence of nitrogen in the compound.

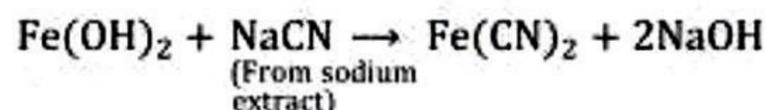
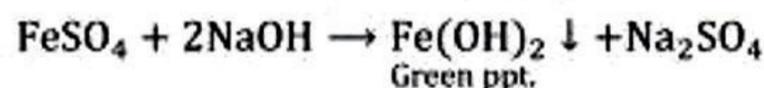
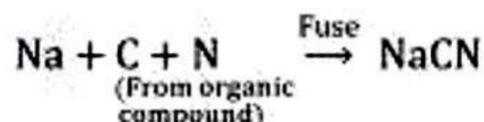
#### Chemistry Of The Test

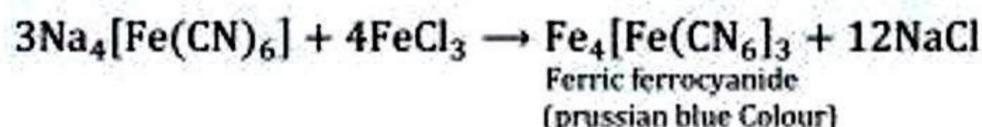
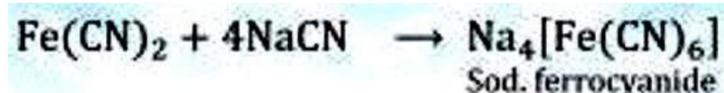
If nitrogen is present in the compound, the sodium extract would contain sodium cyanide formed during fusion. On adding the required reagents, sodium cyanide reacts to form Ferric-Ferro cyanide which has Prussian blue Colour.

#### OBSERVATIONS

Solution in Burette =  $\text{HCl}$ , Solution in pipette =  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ , Indicator = Methyl orange, Colour change = Yellow to light pink

The volume of the pipette = 10 ml

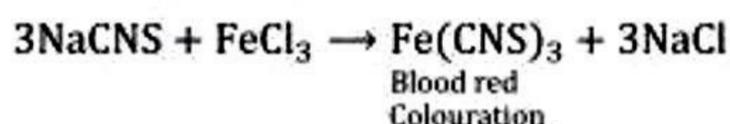
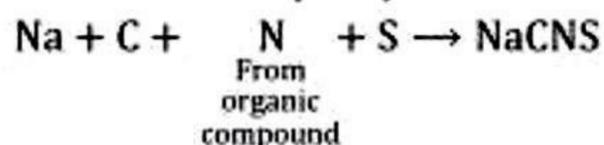




The purpose of acidifying the reaction mixture in the end is to dissolve any green ppt. of  $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_2$  since it may lead to wrong inferences.

## Nitrogen And Sulphur Present Together

If the organic compound contains both nitrogen and Sulphur, sodium sulphocyanide ( $\text{NaCNS}$ ) is formed during preparation of Lassaigne's extract. Sodium sulphocyanide reacts with ferric chloride and gives blood red Colouration due to formation of ferric sulphocyanide.



Thus, appearance of a blood red Colouration on performing Lassaigne's test for nitrogen indicates the presence of both nitrogen and Sulphur in the organic compound.

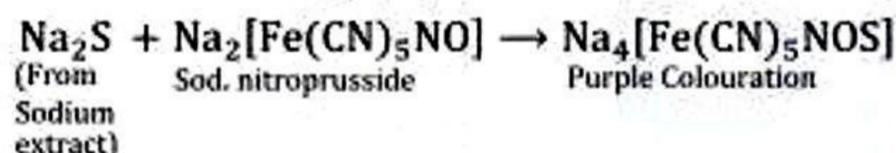
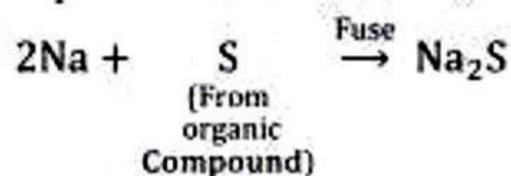
## Detection Of Sulphur

### Sodium Nitroprusside Test

To a small portion of Lassaigne's extract add a few drops of sodium nitroprusside solution. A purple Colouration indicates the presence of Sulphur in the compound.

### Chemistry Of The Test

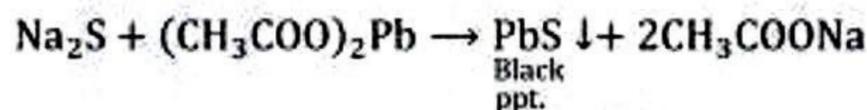
During preparation of Lassaigne's extract Sulphur from the organic compound combines with sodium to form sodium sulphide. Sulphides give purple Colouration on reaction with sodium nitroprusside.



### Lead Acetate Test

Acidify a small portion of Lassaigne's extract with acetic acid and add a few drops of lead acetate solution. The formation of black ppt. indicates the presence of Sulphur in the compound.

### Chemistry Of The Test



## Detection Of Chlorine, Bromine, And Iodine

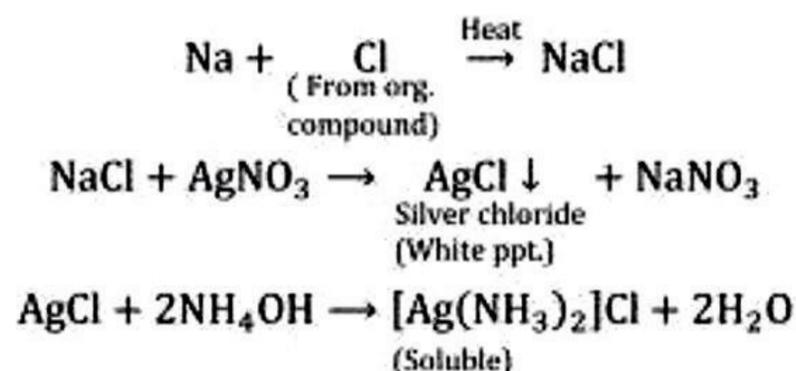
### Silver Nitrate Test

To a small portion about 2 ml of Lassaigne's extract add 1ml of conc. nitric acid and boil for some time. Cool the contents and add to it silver nitrate solution.

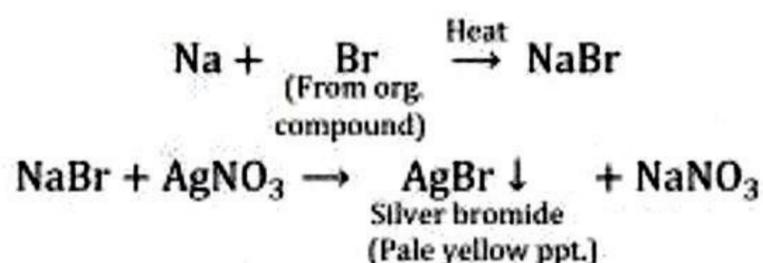
- (i) **White precipitate, soluble in ammonium hydroxide**, indicates the presence of chlorine in the organic compound.
- (ii) **Pale yellow precipitate, sparingly soluble in ammonium hydroxide**, indicates the presence of bromine in the compound.
- (iii) **Yellow precipitate, insoluble in ammonium hydroxide**, indicates the presence of iodine in the organic compound.

### Chemistry Of The Test

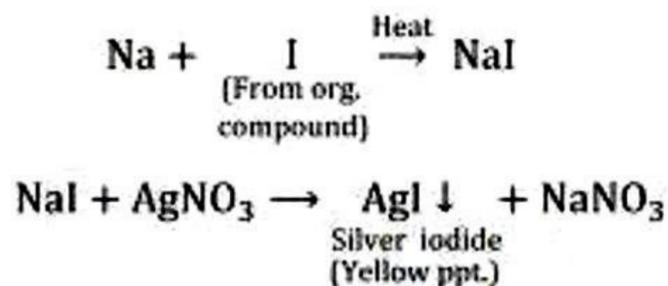
#### (a) For Chlorine



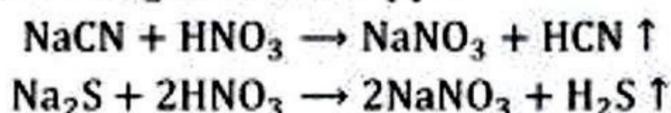
#### (b) For Bromine



#### (c) For Iodine



The function of adding cone.  $\text{HNO}_3$  and boiling is to decompose any sodium cyanide or sodium sulphide present in the extract. Otherwise, these compounds will interfere with the tests of halides since  $\text{NaCN}$  gives a white ppt. with silver nitrate while  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}$  gives a black ppt.



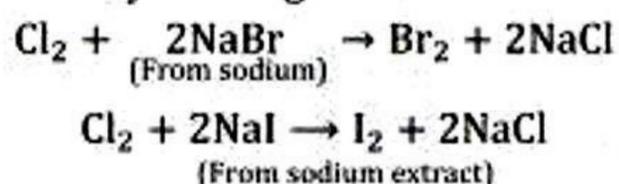
### Carbon Disulphide Test

Acidify a small portion of Lassaigne's extract with dil.  $\text{HCl}$  and add a few drops of carbon disulphide (or  $\text{CCl}_4$  or  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). Now add freshly prepared chlorine water and shake vigorously.

- (i) Appearance of **orange Colour** in the carbon disulphide layer indicates the presence of **bromine**.
- (ii) Appearance of **violet Colour** in the carbon disulphide layer indicates the presence of **iodine**.

### Chemistry Of The Test

Chlorine can displace bromine and iodine from their respective halides in solution. Bromine or iodine thus liberated can turn the carbon disulphide layer orange or violet.



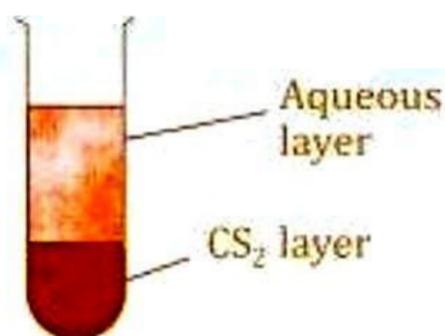


Fig. 1 Carbon disulphide test

TEST FOR NITROGEN		
Experiment	Observation	Inference
<b>Ferrous sulphate test:</b> To 2-3 mL of the Lassaigne's is extract in a test tube, add 2 mL of freshly prepared concentrated solution of ferrous sulphate. In case no green ppt, is formed, add 2 drops of sodium hydroxide solution and boil for a minute. Acidify the hot solution with dilute sulphuric acid and shake.	(i) A deep blue or greenish-blue colouration or ppt. is obtained.	Nitrogen confirmed.
	(ii) A blood red colouration is obtained.	Both nitrogen and sulphur confirmed.
TEST FOR SULPHUR		
<b>(i) Sodium nitroprusside test:</b> To 2-3 mL of Lassaigne's extract add a few drops of freshly prepared sodium nitroprusside solution.	(i) A violet or purple colouration is produced.	(i) Sulphur confirmed.
	(ii) Violet or purple colouration is not produced.	(ii) Sulphur absent.
<b>(ii) Lead acetate test:</b> Acidify 2-3 mL of Lassaigne's extract with dilute acetic acid and then add lead acetate solution to it.	(i) A black ppt. is formed.	(i) Sulphur confirmed
	(ii) Black ppt. is not formed.	(ii) Sulphur absent.
TEST FOR HALOGENS		
<b>(i) Beilstein's test:</b> Perform Beilstein's test with a pinch of the given organic compound.	(i) Blue or greenish-blue flame is produced.	(i) Halogens may be present.
	(ii) Blue or greenish-blue flame is not seen.	(ii) Halogens absent.
<b>(ii) Silver nitrate test:</b> Acidify 2-3 mL of Lassaigne's extract with conc. $\text{HNO}_3$ (slight excess) and boil to expel $\text{HCN}$ and $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ (if present due to nitrogen and sulphur). Cool the solution and add to it silver nitrate solution.	(i) A curdy white ppt. soluble in excess of $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ .	(i) Chlorine confirmed.
	(ii) A pale yellow ppt. sparingly soluble in $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ .	(ii) Bromine confirmed.
	(iii) A yellow ppt. insoluble in $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ .	(iii) Iodine confirmed.
	(iv) Curdy white or yellow ppt. is not obtained.	(iv) Halogens absent.
<b>(iii) Carbon disulphide and chlorine water test:</b> Acidify	(i) A yellow or orange colour in $\text{CS}_2$ layer.	(i) Bromine confirmed.

about 2 mL of Lassaigne's extract with dil. HCl and add to it about 1 mL of CS <sub>2</sub> or CHCl <sub>3</sub> or CCl <sub>4</sub> . Then add a few drops of freshly prepared chlorine water. Shake well and allow to stand.	(ii) A violet colour in CS <sub>2</sub> layer. (iii) CS <sub>2</sub> layer remains colourless.	(ii) Iodine confirmed. (iii) Bromine and iodine absent.
--	---	--

## VIVA VOCE

**Q-1. What is Lassaigne's extract?**

**Ans.** Lassaigne's extract is prepared by fusing the organic compound with sodium metal and the fused product is then extracted with water. The extract so obtained is called L.E. or sodium extract.

**Q-2. Why is sodium kept under kerosene?**

**Ans.** Sodium metal reacts with oxygen and moisture present in air, hence kept under kerosene which prevents it's coming in contact with air.

**Q-3. Can we use potassium in place of sodium in L.E.?**

**Ans.** No, potassium is too reactive metal, hence dangerous to use.

**Q-4. What are extra elements present in an organic compound? Why are they said so?**

**Ans.** Organic compounds generally contain C and H. Other elements than these present in an organic compound are called extra elements. They are S, P, N, O and halogens.

**Q-5. What is the purpose of fusion of organic compound with sodium metal for the preparation of L.E.?**

**Ans.** When the organic compound is heated with sodium, the element such as nitrogen, Sulphur and halogens if present in the compound is converted into sodium salts which are soluble in water. The aqueous solution is then used to identify these elements.

**Q-6. How is sodium extract prepared?**

**Ans.** Sodium extract is prepared by fusing the organic compound with sodium metal. This fused product is further extracted with water. The extract finally formed is known as sodium extract.

- Nitrogen - urea
- Sulphur - thiourea
- Chlorine - chloroform

**Q-7. If we use potassium in the place of sodium in sodium extract, what will happen?**

**Ans.** Since, potassium is more reactive metal, so we cannot use it because it is very dangerous to use.

**Q-8. In the Lassaigne's test for nitrogen, why bluish green Colour appears?**

**Ans.** When few drops of FeCl<sub>3</sub> solution is added to warm the solution of sodium extract and FeSO<sub>4</sub> solution, ferric ferrocyanide Fe<sub>4</sub>[Fe(CN)<sub>6</sub>]<sub>3</sub> is formed which gives bluish green Colour.

**Q-9. In the test of sulphur, why violet Colour appears?**

**Ans.** Because there is a formation of Na<sub>4</sub>[Fe(CN)<sub>5</sub>NOS] which gives violet Colour at glance.

**Q-10. Why CS<sub>2</sub> layer is Coloured in the test of detecting halogen?**

**Ans.** Because Br<sub>2</sub> and I<sub>2</sub> have covalent bonding and hence, are more soluble in organic solvent CS<sub>2</sub> than

in water. Thus CS<sub>2</sub> layer is Coloured.

**Q-11. Why is L.E. usually alkaline?**

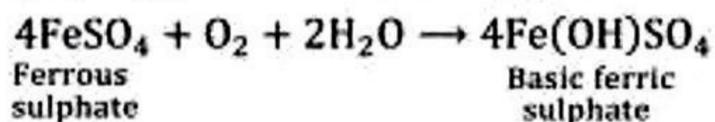
**Ans.** Because during fusion, some sodium is generally left unreacted. This extra sodium when reacts with water forms NaOH solution which is basic in nature.

**Q-12. Why is only distilled water used for preparing L.E.?**

**Ans.** Tap water contains chloride ions, hence only distilled water is recommended.

**Q-13. Why is freshly prepared ferrous sulphate solution used to test for nitrogen?**

**Ans.** Because FeSO<sub>4</sub> solution on keeping gets oxidised to basic ferric sulphate by atmospheric oxygen.



Consequently Fe<sup>2+</sup> ions needed for the test are not available, hence freshly prepared FeSO<sub>4</sub> is used.

**Q-14. What is the formula of sodium nitroprusside?**

**Ans.** Na<sub>2</sub>[Fe(CN)<sub>5</sub>NO].

**Q-15. Why do we get violet Colour in the test for sulphur?**

**Ans.** Due to the formation of Na<sub>4</sub>[Fe(CN)<sub>5</sub>NOS] complex.

**Q-16. In the detection of bromine and iodine, why the CS<sub>2</sub> layer is Coloured and not the aqueous layer?**

**Ans.** Because Br<sub>2</sub> and I<sub>2</sub> have covalent bonding in it and hence are more soluble in organic solvent CS<sub>2</sub> than in water.

**Q-17. How will you test bromine or iodine in the given organic compound?**

**Ans.** Acidify the L.E. with dil HCl. Add to it 1ml of CCl<sub>4</sub> and then a few drops of freshly prepared Cl<sub>2</sub> water and shake. Orange Colour in CCl<sub>4</sub> layer indicates Br<sub>2</sub> while a violet Colour in CCl<sub>4</sub> layer indicates iodine.