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Impact of Sulphide on the Environmental Behavior of Tc-99 : Reaction Kinetics with Pertechnetate ; Growth and Coagulation of Tc₂S₇ Colloid

> *by* M. Simonoff, <u>K. E. Guerman</u>, C. Sergeant and G. Simonoff

UMR 5084, CEN Le Haut Vigneau, B.P. 120 - F 33175, Gradignan Cedex, France An excellent book issued in December 1999: Chemical Thermodynamics of Technetium J. A. Rard, M.H. Rand, G.Anderegg, H. Wanner

- It covers most items being important for Tc environmental studies
- Indicates the remaining problems and among these pointing out the one as:
- "... 7. Either TcS₂(s) or Ts₂S₇(s) could potentially form as a solubility-limiting phase for Tc in ground waters...
 Experimental thermodynamic data are required to replace the rather uncertain estimated values for these compounds".
 /J.Rard/

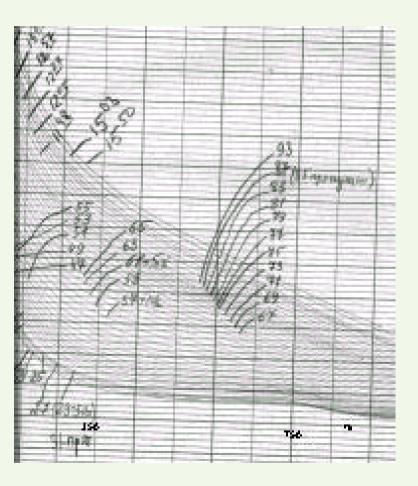
- Ordering http://
 www.nea.fr/html/db
 tdb/cgi-bin/order.pl
- Publisher: North-Holland/Elsevier Science B.
 V., Amsterdam ISBN: 0-444-50378-1 Publishing year: 1999
- 22+544 pages

INSTRUMENTATION *CHEMICAL PREPARATION and SAMPLE TREATEMEN*

- Shimadzu model UV-3100 PC UV-Vis-NIR spectrophotometer (Japan)
- **b**-counting in Ready-Gelä scintillation cocktail (Beckman, USA) at Beckman LS6500 liquid scintillation counter
- Centrifuge MPW-21 (Poland): 0 -15000 rpm
- Microfilterfuge tubes (RAININ Instr.Co) with 30000 NMWL ultrafiltration membranes

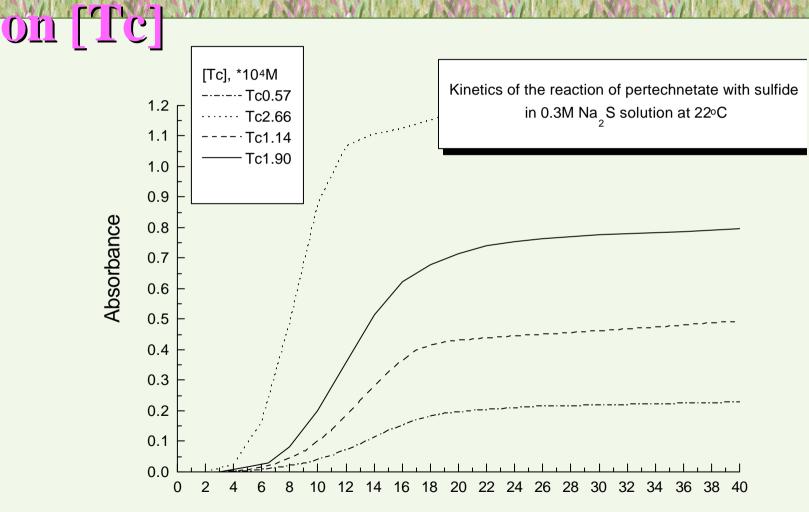
- All chemicals were of analytical grade
- Particle Size Speciacion:
 - → Sedimentation,
 - → centrifuging at 8000 rpm
 - \rightarrow and ultrafiltration
- Media: Na₂S solutions
 - → made always from freshly recrystallized Na₂S*9H₂O
 - → it provide with buffer effect on solution pH
 - → it reduces the sulfide loses in long - term experiments compared to H₂S

Experimental spectrum of Tc $_2$ S $_7$ formation in the TcO $_4$ ⁻ reaction with Na $_2$ S



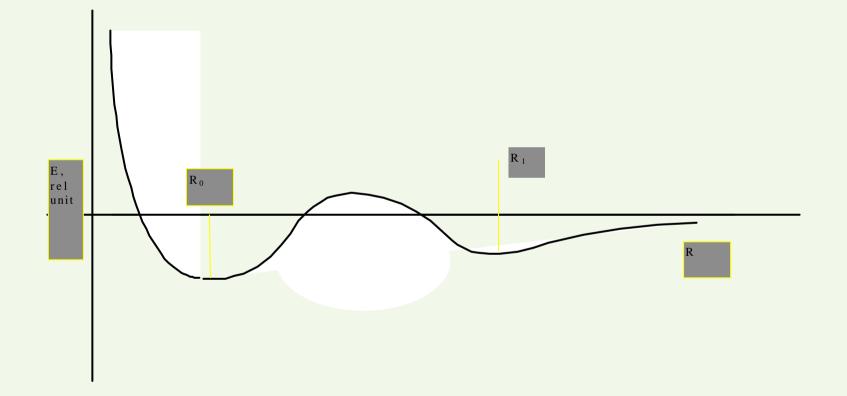
- UV-band is masked by the reagents (TcO₄- and Na₂S)
- Vis-spectrum presents no bands but only shoulders
- The shoulders at 350 nm and 750 nm were used for analyses (with corresponding intensity corrections)

Absorbances at 350 and 750 nm shoulders follow the linear dependence



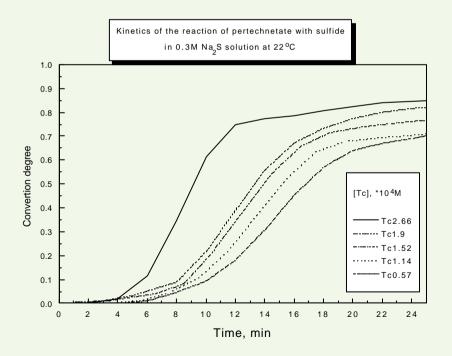
Time, min

Colloid stability results from repulsion zone existing for sertain particles nature, sizes and intra-particle distances



Induction period of the reaction of pertechnetate with Na₂S varies from 4 to 100 minutes depending on the concentration of reagents, pH and T

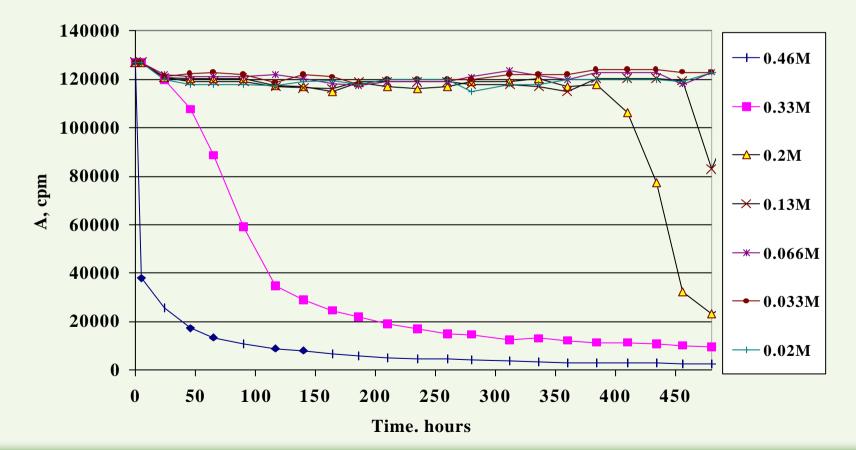
Reaction of pertechnetate with Na₂S is completed within one to ten hours depending on the concentration of reagents



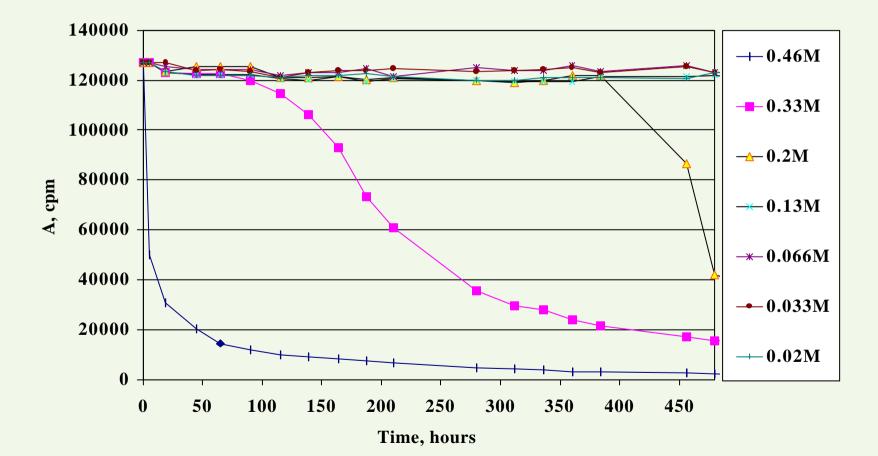
• Reaction is fast if compared to Tc_2S_7 sedimentation (under most conditions) due to colloid formation

Tc₂S₇ separation by centrifuging at 8000 r.p.m.

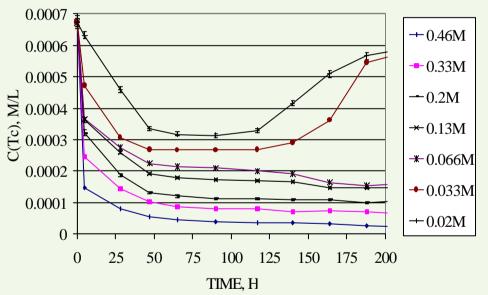
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Tc₂S₇ separation from solution by spontaneous sedimentation



Tc₂S₇ colloid ultrafiltration



 Tc_2S_7 ultrafiltration

- Formation of colloidal Tc₂S₇ is completed in 50 hours under studied conditions
- [Tc] in the solution from 50 to 15 hours presents most likely the solubility of Tc₂S₇
- Longer times give additional information on several reactions occuring in the system (to be studied by EXAFS at

ESRF/ROBL in the next year)



Solubility Tc 2S7 in Na2S solutions

