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## Quantitative Determination of Reactive Species in Alkali Halide Disks

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QUANTITATIVE DETERMINATION OF REACTIVE SPECIES IN ALKALI HALIDE DISKS

KEY WORDS: Infrared spectroscopy, alkali halide disks, quantitative analysis

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As part of an infrared investigation of the kinetics of the reactions of  $\text{KMnO}_4$  in a KI disk and of  $\text{KIO}_4$  in a KI disk, the stoichiometry of the two reactions was needed. A previous study<sup>1</sup> has shown that  $\text{MnO}_4^-$  reacts in a KI matrix to produce  $\text{IO}_4^-$  (which then reacts further to form  $\text{IO}_3^-$ ) and  $\text{MnO}_2$ . Iodate ion is the only observable product in the reaction of  $\text{IO}_4^-$  in a KI matrix<sup>1</sup>. The infrared absorption at  $740\text{cm}^{-1}$ , which is due to the presence of  $\text{IO}_3^-$ , was found to obey the Beer-Lambert Law. However, calibration curves for  $\text{KMnO}_4$  in KI and for  $\text{KIO}_4$  in KI could not be obtained because both species reacted with the dispersing medium during the preparation of the disk<sup>1</sup>. It was also observed that no immediate reaction occurred when KBr or KCl disks containing  $\text{KMnO}_4$ , or  $\text{KIO}_4$  were prepared. Thus, an extrapolation method was sought which would permit the estimation of calibration curves for the reactive species.

EXPERIMENTAL

All the chemicals used in this study except KBr were obtained from Fisher Chemical Co. and were reagent grade. Potassium bromide, spectro-grade, was obtained from Matheson, Coleman and Bell. The grinding and mixing of all samples were done with mortar and pestle. Pressed pellets from these samples were prepared using standard methods.

All spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 457 Infrared Spectrophotometer. The base-lime method was used to determine the initial and final percent transmittance of the peaks of interest and both were corrected for weight variations in the disk<sup>2</sup>.

#### RESULTS

Calibration curves for  $KIO_3$  in  $KCl$ ,  $KBr$ , and  $KI$  are shown in Figure 1. Since these plots obey the Beer-Lambert Law, the slopes of the lines yield the extinction coefficients. It is seen that the extinction coefficients decrease going from the  $KI$  matrix to the  $KCl$  matrix. Calibration curves for  $KMnO_4$  in  $KCl$  and  $KBr$  (Absorption band at  $900\text{cm}^{-1}$  was used.) and for  $KIO_4$  in  $KCl$  and  $KBr$  (Absorption band at  $847\text{cm}^{-1}$  was used.) also obeyed the Beer-Lambert Law. The extinction coefficients obtained from calibration curves thus far discussed are shown in Table 1.

Hester and Krishnan<sup>3</sup> have reported that the vibrational frequencies for metal nitrates are linearly related to the ionic potential ( $z/r$ ) of the metal ion. The linear relationship between the integrated absorption coefficient and the vibrational frequency<sup>4</sup> suggests that a similar relation may exist between the extinction coefficient of an infrared band and the

TABLE 1

Extinction Coefficient ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of  $KMnO_4$ ,  
 $KIO_4$ , and  $KIO_3$  in Alkali Halide Disks

| Alkali Halide substance | KI    | KBr  | KCl  |
|-------------------------|-------|------|------|
| $KIO_3$                 | 7.34  | 5.25 | 2.92 |
| $KIO_4$                 | 7.95* | 5.25 | 3.13 |
| $KMnO_4$                | 1.24* | 3.41 | 9.40 |

\* Extrapolated value.

DETERMINATION OF REACTIVE SPECIES

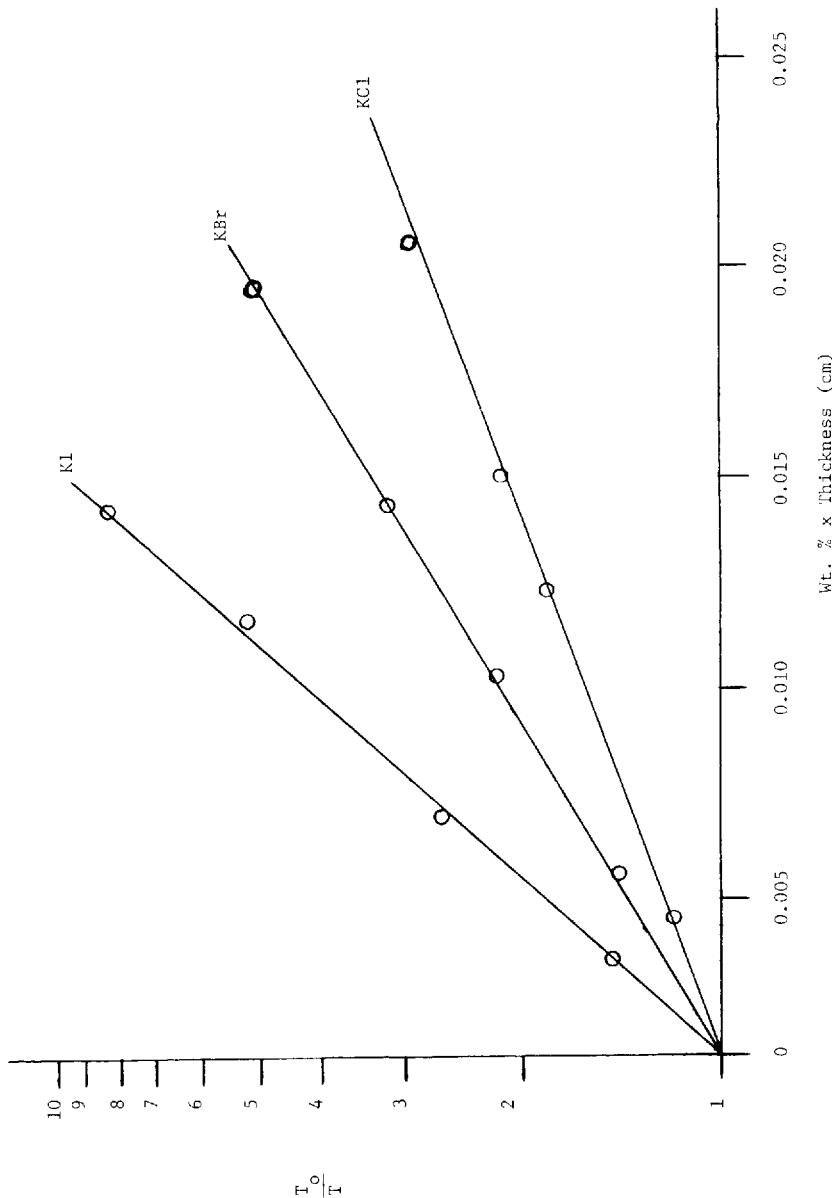


FIG. 1  
Calibration Curves of  $\text{KIO}_3$  in  $\text{KCl}$ ,  $\text{KBr}$ , and  $\text{KI}$ .

reciprocal of the ionic radius; i.e.,  $1/r$ , of the negative ion making up the matrix, e.g.,  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{Br}^-$ , and  $\text{I}^-$ .

A plot of the extinction coefficients of  $\text{KIO}_3$  in  $\text{KCl}$ ,  $\text{KBr}$ , and  $\text{KI}$  versus the reciprocals of the ionic radii of the respective negative ions was linear, as shown in Figure 2. If it is assumed that such plots for  $\text{KMnO}_4$  in  $\text{KCl}$  and  $\text{KBr}$  and for  $\text{KIO}_4$  in  $\text{KCl}$  and  $\text{KBr}$  are linear, then the extinction coefficients for  $\text{KMnO}_4$  in  $\text{KI}$  and  $\text{KIO}_4$  in  $\text{KI}$  can be estimated and calibration curves for these systems can be constructed. These estimated extinction coefficients are shown in Table 1.

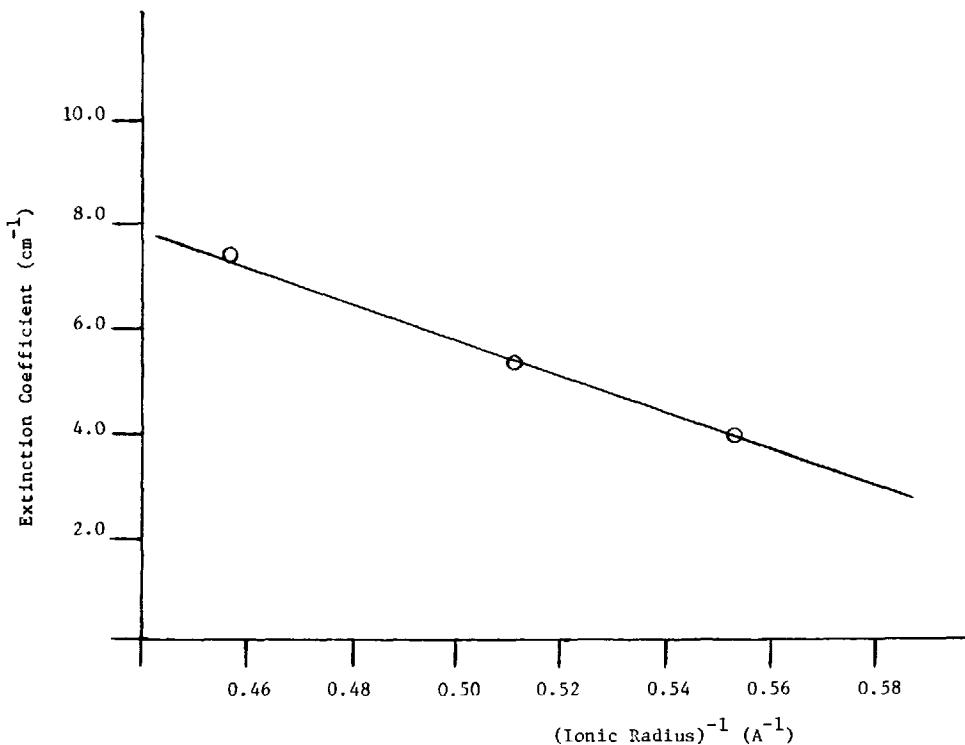


FIG. 2

Extinction Coefficients Vs.  $(\text{Atomic Radius})^{-1}$  of Negative Ion  
For  $\text{KIO}_3$  in  $\text{KCl}$ ,  $\text{KBr}$ , and  $\text{KI}$ .

DETERMINATION OF REACTIVE SPECIES

The calibration curves obtained in this study for  $\text{KMnO}_4$  in KI,  $\text{KIO}_4$  in KI, and  $\text{KIO}_3$  in KI were used to determine the concentrations of these species at various times during the course of the reaction. The consistency of the results obtained in the study of the stoichiometry of the reactions of interest and the work of Hester and Krishnan<sup>2</sup> suggests that the extrapolation method discussed in this communication should yield reliable extinction coefficients when the substance to be studied is not stable in an alkali halide matrix and calibration curves can not be obtained in the conventional manner.

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