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Practical: Determining reacting volumes by titration

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DOIT

Write or record on an MP3 file a short account of how you can carry out a titration. You should describe how the volumes are measured and the procedure used.

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NAILIT!

The burette can be read to the nearest 0.05 cm³ so the results are expressed to 2 decimal places. Please note that zero is recorded as 0.00 not 0 because the burette reads to 0.05 cm³ so results are recorded to 2 decimal places. When acids are neutralised by alkalis there are no visible changes.

To see when the **neutralisation** is complete an **indicator** is added to the reaction mixture. The indicator **changes colour** when the correct volumes of acid and alkali have reacted.

Accurate volumes of acid and alkali are measured using a burette and a pipette. Volumes are expressed to 2 decimal places.



MATHS SKILLS

You may have to read a table of data and use simple mathematical operations such as subtraction and finding the mean of a set of results. Results are expressed to 2 decimal places.

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Chemical changes Practical: Determining reacting volumes by titration

WORKIT!

Given below is a table of results from a titration experiment where an acid is added from the burette to 25.00 cm³ of an alkali.

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There are two results that are within 0.10 cm³ of each other and the average of these is used as the reading.

What is the average titration result for this experiment?

Reading	Rough titration	Accurate titration 1	Accurate titration 2	Accurate titration 3
Final reading/cm ³	19.00	37.20	18.50	37.10
Initial reading/cm ³	0.00	19.00	0.00	18.50
Titre/cm ³	19.00	18.20	18.50	18.60

The average accurate tilre = $(18.50 + 18.60)/2 = 18.55 \text{ cm}^3$

Practical Skills

Titration procedure

The point at which the indicator changes colour is the end-point. The volume of acid needed to reach the end-point is called the titre.

For each titration a known volume of alkali is added to the conical flask using the pipette, followed by a couple of drops of indicator.

The first titration is a rough titration – the acid is added from the burette 1 cm³ at a time until the end-point. This gives an estimate of the volume of acid required in the reaction.

Using the **rough titration** reading, acid is run into alkali until 1.00 cm³ before the end-point for the rough titration and then add the solution drop-by-drop to give an **accurate** titre.

This is repeated until you get two results which are within 0.10 cm³ of each other.

After the rough titration it is good practice to start the next titration where you stopped last time. This means that in the example above we start at 19.00 cm³ and not at 0.00. This saves time and materials.

Note that the recording of results is a very important part of titrations. You need a column for your rough titration and columns for each accurate titration.

1 Name the main apparatus used for a titration.

CHECK

2 What is a rough titration?

- **3** How can you tell when enough acid has been added to the alkali?
- In a titration experiment four accurate results were obtained: 24.20 cm³, 24.50 cm³, 24.60 cm³ and 25.80 cm³.
 - a Which results are rejected?
 - **b** What is the average titre for the experiment?

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