

**AMBERLITE XAD-2 AND XAD-7  
FUNCTIONALIZED/IMPREGENATED WITH CHELATING  
LIGANDS: PREPARATION AND APPLICATIONS AS  
METAL ION EXTRACTANTS**

*By*

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*Submitted  
in fulfillment of the requirements  
of the degree of*

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**

to the



**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, DELHI**

**INDIA**

**OCTOBER, 2000**



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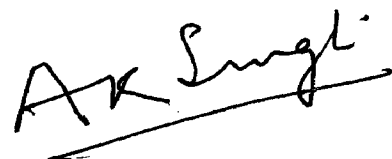
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*Dedicated to*  
*My Parents*  
*&*  
*Swati and Sona*

# CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis entitled, "**AMBERLITE XAD-2 AND XAD-7 FUNCTIONALIZED / IMPREGENATED WITH CHELATING LIGANDS: PREPARATION AND APPLICATIONS AS METAL ION EXTRACTANTS**", being submitted by **Mr. Pankaj Kumar Tewari** to the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi for the award of the degree of **Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry** is a record of bonafide research work carried out by him. **Mr. Pankaj Kumar Tewari** has worked under my guidance and supervision, and has fulfilled the requirements for the submission of this thesis, which to my knowledge has reached the requisite standard.

The results contained in this dissertation have not been submitted in part or full to any other University or Institute for the award of any degree or diploma.



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## Acknowledgements

*It gives me immense pleasure to record my great sense of gratitude and heartfelt thanks to Professor Ajai K. Singh whose sincere and invaluable guidance made me in bringing this thesis work to a successful completion. His critical comments, optimistic and helping attitude has constantly encouraged me to make my work worthy of presentation. He has been a fatherly figure full with affection and patronage. I bow to thee!*

*I would like to thank Professor M. N. Gupta, Head of the Department for providing the necessary facilities. I am grateful to all other faculty members of the Department. I am highly thankful to the services of instrumentation department for providing valuable results.*

*I have no words to express my gratitude to my dear friend Dr. Parvesh Wadhvani who has not been only a sincere advisor but also kept my tempo high in ups and down of trying circumstances and thus made my stay at Delhi a memorable one.*

*My special thanks to Mrs. Sarita Shukla, Mr. K. K. Shukla , Mrs. Shushma Gupta and Mr. Sunil Gupta who have been very cooperative in rendering any type of help and thus made my stay enjoyable at I.I.T., Delhi.*

*Its my great privilege to acknowledge invaluable help and kind cooperation of my lab colleagues, Dr. C. V. Amburose, Dr. J. Sooriyakumar, Dr. M. Kadarkaraisamy, Dr. Sonali Bhandari, Anupama, Vibha and Venkatesh.*

*I am immensely thankful to all my colleagues and friends especially M. Thirumal, Dr. T. Duraisamy, Dr. P. Ayyappan, Dr. I. Charles, Dr. Arif, Dr. N. Venkatesan, Rohit, Vijay, Manjeet, Rajesh, Gunjan, Rupali, Anubhav, Deepika, Minakshi, Sampriya, Anuradha, Ipsita, Ruchi, Satish, Nabin, , Rashmi and Monalisa.*

*I owe a great deal to my parents and parents-in-law, Dhiraj, brother, Preeti, sister-in-law, Mrs. Geeta Pandey, sister, Mr. Umesh Pandey, brother-in-law and beloved Meetu, Prateek and Basu.*

*I shall fail in my duty if I don't acknowledge my beloved wife, Dr. Swati Tewari for her constant inspiration and help particularly in hour of crisis. Contribution of my two year old daughter, Akshita, can't be underestimated as her ever-smiling and innocent face has been a perennial source of emotional support whenever I found myself sulky and depressed.*

*I must record my acknowledgement for financial assistance as fellowship from I. I. T., Delhi and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India.*

*Last but not the least, I bow down to almighty whose invisible hands inspired and guided me in bringing this thesis work to a successful completion.*

  
**PANKAJ KUMAR TEWARI**

## Abstract

Chromotropic acid (4,5-dihydroxynaphthalene-2,7-disulphonic acid, disodium salt dihydrate), thiosalicylic acid and pyrocatechol have been immobilized (through -N=N-coupler) on Amberlite XAD-2 after its nitration, reduction (of NO<sub>2</sub> group) and diazotization (of NH<sub>2</sub> group). All the three resins were characterized by elemental analysis, TGA and IR spectroscopy. Their IR spectra show a characteristic band for azo group apart from some of the bands of the ligands immobilized. TGA curves indicate the presence of 1.0-1.5 molecules of water per repeat unit of polymer. Xylenol orange [*o*-cresolsulfonphthalein-3'-3''-bis(methyliminodiacetic acid sodium salt)] was also sorbed onto Amberlite XAD-7 to prepare a chelating matrix. All the four resins have been used for preconcentration of Cd(II), Co(II), Cu(II), Fe(III), Ni(II), Pb(II) and Zn(II) ions. The optimum pH values for quantitative sorption of these metal ions on chromotropic acid loaded Amberlite XAD-2 are between 3.0 and 8.0. The metal ions can be desorbed with 2 M HCl (except for Pb) or HNO<sub>3</sub> (recovery 96-100%). The elution breakthrough volume has been found between 5 and 10 ml of 2-4 M HCl or HNO<sub>3</sub>. The sorption capacity of the resin is between 58.0 - 186.3 μg g<sup>-1</sup> of resin. Tolerance limits for electrolytes NaCl, NaBr, NaNO<sub>3</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> or Na<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> and Mg(II) or Ca(II) ions (0.001-2.0 M) on the sorption of these metal ions (0.1- 0.5 μg ml<sup>-1</sup>) are reported. The preconcentration factor is between 100 and 200 (metal concentration level: 5-25 μg l<sup>-1</sup>) and loading half time, t<sub>1/2</sub> values between 2.4 and 5.8 min. The detection and quantification limits are 0.06-4.06 μg l<sup>-1</sup> and 0.08-4.42 μg l<sup>-1</sup> respectively.

The sorption on Amberlite XAD-2 anchored with pyrocatechol is quantitative in the pH ranges 3.0 to 7.5, whereas desorption is instantaneous with 2 M HCl (except Pb) or HNO<sub>3</sub>. An elution volume of 6-8 ml of 2 M HCl or HNO<sub>3</sub> was appropriate for quantitative recovery of loaded metal ions. The sorption capacity is in the range 23.1 to 104.7 μmol g<sup>-1</sup> of resin. The tolerance limits for NaCl, NaBr, NaNO<sub>3</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and Na<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> in the sorption of all the seven metal ions (0.2-0.5 μg ml<sup>-1</sup>) are reported. The Mg(II) and Ca(II) are tolerable with each of

them ( $0.2\text{-}0.5\ \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ ) upto a concentration level of  $0.01$  to  $1.0\ \text{M}$ . The enrichment factor has been found to be between  $80$  and  $200$ . The loading half time ( $t_{1/2}$ ) is in the range  $1.4\text{-}15.5\ \text{min}$ . The limit of detection is  $0.06\text{-}3.80\ \mu\text{g l}^{-1}$  and limit of quantification  $0.08\text{-}4.22\ \mu\text{g l}^{-1}$ .

On thiosalicylic acid (TSA) modified Amberlite XAD-2 (AXAD-2) sorption is nearly quantitative ( $92\text{-}98\%$ ) at pH  $3.5\text{-}7.0$  when flow rate is maintained between  $2$  and  $4\ \text{ml min}^{-1}$ . The  $2\ \text{M HCl}$  (except for Pb) or  $\text{HNO}_3$  instantaneously elutes all the metal ions. The breakthrough volume for elution is between  $4$  and  $10\ \text{ml}$  of  $2\ \text{M HCl}$  or  $\text{HNO}_3$ . The sorption capacity is in the range  $47.4\text{-}309.9\ \mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$  whereas preconcentration factor is between  $100$  and  $400$ . The tolerance limits for  $\text{NaCl}$ ,  $\text{NaBr}$ ,  $\text{NaNO}_3$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  or  $\text{Na}_3\text{PO}_4$  and  $\text{Ca(II)}$  or  $\text{Mg(II)}$  in the sorption of all the seven metal ions are reported. The limit of detection is in the range  $0.20\text{-}7.87\ \mu\text{g l}^{-1}$  and the limit of quantification between  $0.29$  and  $8.64\ \mu\text{g l}^{-1}$ . The loading half time  $t_{1/2}$  is less than  $2.0\ \text{min}$ , except for nickel and lead for which the value is  $13.2$  and  $4.5\ \text{min}$ , respectively.

The optimum pH values for nearly quantitative sorption (recovery  $\geq 91\text{-}100\%$ ) on Xylenol Orange coated Amberlite XAD-7 are between  $4.0$  and  $7.0$ . The desorption of metal ions by  $2\ \text{M HCl}$  (except Pb) or  $\text{HNO}_3$  is instantaneous. The elution breakthrough volumes are between  $8$  to  $10\ \text{ml}$  of  $2\ \text{M HCl}$  or  $\text{HNO}_3$ . The sorption capacity of the resin is between  $16.9$  and  $44.3\ \mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$ . The tolerance limits for electrolytes,  $\text{NaCl}$ ,  $\text{NaF}$ ,  $\text{NaI}$ ,  $\text{NaNO}_3$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and  $\text{Mg(II)}$  and  $\text{Ca(II)}$  ions in the sorption of the seven metal ions are reported. Preconcentration factor is  $50$  to  $200$ . The limit of detection:  $0.16\text{-}2.44\ \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ . Limit of quantification:  $0.26\text{-}2.76\ \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ . The  $t_{1/2}$  values for sorption are found to be between  $2.5$  and  $5.3\ \text{min}$ . The preconcentration-coupled FAAS methods based on these four resins have been applied to determine the metal ions in river or tap water samples. The RSD values are generally less than  $8\%$  except in few cases where it is upto  $24.2\%$ . Cobalt content of pharmaceutical samples (vitamin tablets) have also been preconcentrated and determined (RSD of  $< 3.0\%$ ). The simultaneous enrichment and determination of all the metal ions is possible. The performance of present resin is comparable to many commonly known chelating matrices.

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