## A STUDY ON EXTRACTION OF THORIUM WITH PMBP-LOADED POLYURETHANE

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## **ABSTRACT**

PMBP-loaded polyurethane foam as a extractant for thorium mitrate from aqueous solution is investigated. Open-cell polyurethane foam is proved to be effective as supporting material for chelating extraction agent. Thorium nitrate can be quantitatively extracted by PMBP-loaded polyurethane foam over a wide pH range. The effect of equilibrium time, pH of the solution, thorium concentration, various anions and flow rate on the extraction efficiency of thorium is examined. A technique of extraction chromatography column with PMBP-loaded foam cylinder is developed for trace thorium analysis from bulky water samples.

Key words PMBP, polyurethane foam, thorium, extraction, trace analysis, preconcentration.

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mass numbers 127, 109, which indicates the similarity of the structure of acid (3) to mono-

GC-chemical ionizing MS and GC-electronic ionizing MS identification are applied in order to obtain molecular formula and molecular weight. Before analysis the samples are methylated by means of CH<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>.

Analysis of acid (2) indicates that there are seven dialkyl long chain acidic phosphates. In acid (3) there are five monoalkyl long chain acidic phosphates.

Finally a mechanism for the formation of the strong complexes acid (2) and acid (3) through radicals of HDBP,  $H_2MBP$  and  $\mathring{R}$  is proposed.

Key words Degradation, TBP, Dodecane, Complexing agent, Hf index.

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