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# Determination of titanium in orthodontic with modified graphene paste electrode and ionic liquid by potentiometric method

## Sara Sahebnasagh<sup>1</sup>, Mahmoud Ebrahimi<sup>1\*</sup>, Mohammad Reza Bozorgmehr<sup>1</sup>, Mohammad Reza Abedi<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Applied Chemistry, Mashhad Branch, Islamic Azad University, Mashhad, Iran

<sup>2</sup>Department of Applied Chemistry, Quchan Branch, Islamic Azad University, Quchan, Iran

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ABSTRACT

Two new potentiometric methods for determination of titanium in pure form and in its pharmaceutical form are developed. In the first method, new modified carbon paste electrode based on(SAPD) as a chemical modifier. The construction of carbon paste electrodetitanium ion-selective electrode and its use in the potentiometric determination of titanium in pharmaceutical preparations and orthodontic cages is described. The electrode displays a linear log  $[Ti^{3+}]$  versus EMF response over a wide concentration range of  $4.1 \times 10^{-7}$  to  $1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  with nernstian slope of  $19.1 \pm 0.1$  mV/decade with limit of detection  $1.1 \times 10^{-7}$  over the pH range 3.8 - 7.8; a response time of <10 s; and use for at least 3 months without any significant potential divergence the presence of the complex  $Ti(OH)^{2+}$  ion explains the slope of the response curve. The proposed sensor shows reasonable discrimination ability. The modified electrode was applied as indicator electrode to determine Ti(III) in aqueous samples with satisfactory results.

Keywords: Carbon paste; Potentiometry; 2-AAINH; Titaniuml, orthodontic cages

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Corresponding author: Mahmoud Ebrahimi e-mail⊠m.ebrahimi@mshdiau.ac.ir Received: 12/06/2017 Accepted: 21/08/2017

#### INTRODUCTION

The paint, pigment, paper and pulp industries discharge very high amount of titanium. Titanium is a metal that has been used in various and varied medical applications for about 40 years. Although many biomaterials have come and gone during this period, titanium is one of the few that has seen its uses and reputation enhanced over the years. There are various methods for the determination of titanium utilizing a number of ligands such aspyridylazoresorcinol [1], 5bromopyridylazodiethylaminophenol [2] thiazolylazoresorcinol with mordant red 19 [3], solochrome violet relay services (RS), [4] Beryllon (III) and cupferron [5-6].

Determination of titanium by adsorption voltammetry with 2-(5-bromo-2pyridylazo)-5-(diethylamino)-phenol. Carbon nanostructure materials, due to their extremely large surface area and excellent adsorption capacity, have been successfully used as adsorbent in SPE and SPME for trapping or separation of some organic compounds [7]. Graphene (G), which was discovered in 2004, is a relatively new form of carbon made of a single layer of atoms arranged in a honeycomb-shaped lattice and has attracted tremendous attention in recent years [8,9]. It is considered as the basic building block of all the graphitic (including carbon nanotubes, graphite and fullerene C60) [10]. In addition to being the principal component of most carbon based nanomaterials. G also exhibits excellent mechanical, electrical, thermal, optical properties and very high specific surface area. Since the large delocalized electron system of G can form a strong \_stacking interaction with the benzene ring [11,12], it might be also a good candidate as an adsorbent for the extraction of benzenoid form compounds. The introduction of magnetic properties into G would combine the high adsorption capacity of G and the separation convenience of magnetic materials.

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On the other hand, the rolled version of graphene, carbonnanotube (CNT) has excellent electrical. mechanical. catalytic and electrocatalytic properties [12]. Enormous amount of work has' nanotubes(SWCNT) for electrochemical applications [13]. Pristine CNTs are highly hydrophobic and as a result it is impossible to prepare its stable aqueous dispersion [14].Ionic liquid (IL), another material, due to its wide electrochemical windows, high ionic conductivity and good solubility has been widely applied in the fields of analytical chemistry and electrochemical 15-17]. sensors[ The acknowledged advantages of these room temperature ionic liquids (RTILs) include good chemical and thermal stability, almost negligible vapor pressure, good ionic conductivity, and wide electrochemical windows etc [18-22].

In this paper the preparation of a new Ti<sup>+3</sup> ion selective electrode was described, based on graphene paste electrode with SAPD as a selector element and ionic liquid as modifier. The modified electrode was successfully used as an indicator for potentiometric determination of Ti (III)in aqueous sample.

#### **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

The room temperature ionic liquid, 1-butyl-3methylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate ([BMIM] [BF<sub>4</sub>]) was acquired from Spectrochem. All analytical reagent grade chemicals and distilled water were used for preparing all aqueous solutions. The reagents in this experiment including TiCl<sub>3</sub>, NaOH and HCl were purchased from Merck. All solutions were prepared from distilled water. (65%, Merck), HCl(37%, Merck) and Ethanol (98%) were used as received.

### Apparatus

An Ag/AgCl electrode (saturated KCl) was used as the counter and reference electrodes respectively. Modified graphene paste electrode (GPE) was applied as a working electrode. All experiments were usually directed at room temperature. A Metrohm model 780 pH-meter (Herisau, Switzerland) with a combined glass electrode was utilized for pH controlling, and also a Heidolph type of stirrer (MR 2000, Kelheim, Germany) was applied for stirring the solutions.

### **Electrode Preparation**

General procedure to prepare the carbon paste electrode was as follows: Different amounts of nanoparticle with an appropriate amount of graphite powder, ionic liquid, paraffin oil and plasticizer(DBP) were thoroughly mixed. After homogenization of the mixture, the paste was thoroughly packed into the teflone tube and an electrice wire was inserted into the opposite end of the GPE to set up electrical contact. The external surface of the carbon paste was smoothed with soft paper. A new surface was produced by scraping out the old surface and replacing the new carbon paste. The electrode was finally conditioned for 12 h by soaking it in a 1.0×10-4mol L-1 chromium (VI)solution [23-25].

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### Graphene paste electrode composition

The sensing element of a potentiometric ionselective electrode has important role in selectivity behavior of the electrode. The influence of the percent of materials in the carbon paste composition was investigated and the results are summarized in Table 1.

### Measuring range and detection limit

The response of the optimal modified  $Ti^{3+}$  carbon paste electrode (no.2) was tested across  $Ti^{3+}$  ion concentration range of  $3.1 \times 10^{-2} \cdot 4.9 \times 10^{-10}$  mol L<sup>-1</sup>. The applicable range of the proposed sensor extends from  $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  to  $1.0 \times 10^{-1}$  mol L<sup>-1</sup> as seen in Table 1.

### pH effect on the electrode response

In order to study the effect of pH on the response of the optimal modified Cr<sup>6+</sup> sensor (no.6), the potential was measured for a fixed concentration of Ti<sup>3+</sup> ion solutions at different pH values. The pH was varied from (1-8) by addition of concentrated HNO3 or NaOH. The change in potential as a function of pH is shown in Fig.1. The potential was constant and quantitative in the pH range of 1.5-5. At pH < 1.5, the electrode response increased rather irregularly with increasing analyte acidity. At such high acidic solutions, the observed increase in potential indicates that the protonated titanium possesses a poor response to the Ti<sup>3+</sup> ions. The pH dependence of the electrode potential for the sensors is tested in presence of  $4.0 \times 10^{-4}$  mol L<sup>-1</sup> titanium (III) concentration after sensor conditioning. The ionic strength in test solution is maintained constant with 0.1 mol L<sup>-1</sup> NaNO<sub>3</sub>.

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NO	Compositio	Dynamic linear range						
	Graphene	Ionic liquid	Graphene Powder	Plasticizer	Recovery	-		
1	12	5	72	11	94.5	3.1×10 <sup>-3</sup> -4.0×10 <sup>-8</sup>		
2	13	5	71	11	98.3	3.1×10 <sup>-2</sup> -5.2×10 <sup>-10</sup>		
3	10	8	70	12	94.3	1.4×10 <sup>-2</sup> -5.3×10 <sup>-8</sup>		
4	10	6	70	14	91.2	3.0×10 <sup>-3</sup> -5.4×10 <sup>-8</sup>		
5	12	7	71	10	93.1	5.1×10 <sup>-2</sup> -5.5×10 <sup>-8</sup>		
6	12	6	72	10	98.3	3.1×10 <sup>-2</sup> -4.9×10 <sup>-10</sup>		
7	13	7	76	4	98	2.2×10 <sup>-2</sup> -5.5×10 <sup>-6</sup>		
8	15	5	75	5	96.2	43.0×10 <sup>-2</sup> -2.0×10 <sup>-7</sup>		
9	13	7	74	6	94.4	3.5×10 <sup>-3</sup> -3.1×10 <sup>-10</sup>		
10	12	5	75	8	94.0	5.3×10 <sup>-4</sup> -4.2×10 <sup>-6</sup>		





Fig. 1 Effect of pH on the potential response of the Ti<sup>3+</sup> graphene paste electrode in the test solution of Ti<sup>3+</sup> ion (10-3 mol L-1)



Fig. 2 Dynamic response time of the proposed carbon paste electrode (no.6)

Table 2: Selectivity coefficients of various interfering species for proposed sensor (no.6)

Interfering ions	$K_{ij}^{pot}$	Interfering ions	$K_{ij}^{pot}$
Cu <sup>2+</sup>	5.1×10 <sup>-3</sup>	Cd <sup>2+</sup>	1.3×10 <sup>-3</sup>
Mg <sup>2+</sup>	3.2×10-3	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	2.1×10 <sup>-2</sup>
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	2.5×10 <sup>-2</sup>	Sr <sup>2+</sup>	1.1×10 <sup>-3</sup>

The pH values are adjusted by adding small volumes of diluted nitric acid or sodium hydroxide solutions. The potential value is read and the solution pH is measured when the electrode response is stabilized. The results for solutions containing titanium (III) are shown in Fig. 1. The GPE sensible is pH changes, in presence of Ti(III), with a slope of 19.1mVpH<sup>-1</sup> linear behavior.

#### Response time

Response time is an important factor for any sensor. For electrochemical sensors, this parameter is evaluated by measuring the average time required to achieve a potential within  $\pm 0.1$  mV of the final steady-state potential upon successive immersion of a series of interested ions, each having a ten-fold difference in concentration. The measurements of potential versus time were carried out with the Ti (III) solutions from lower ( $1.0 \times 10^{-8}$  M) to

higher  $(1.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ M})$  concentrations (Fig.2). For the proposed modified Cr<sup>6+</sup> sensor, the response time was less than 9s.

### Selectivity

Selectivity is the most important characteristic of any sensor, and describes an ion selective electrode's specificity toward the target ion in the presence of interfering ions, the potentiometric selectivity coefficients of the proposed carbon paste electrode were evaluated by separate solution method (SSM) [26] and the results are depicted in Table 2.

The potential of a cell comprising an ionselective electrode and a reference electrode is measured with two separate solutions, one containing the ion (i) at the activity  $a_i$ , the other one containing the ion(j)at the same activity  $a_i = a_j$ . If the measured values are  $E_i$  and  $E_j$ , respectively, the value of is calculated from the equation:

$$log K_{ij}^{pot} = \left[\frac{Z_i F(E_j - E_i)}{2.303 RT}\right] + log \left[\frac{a_i(i)}{a_j(j)^{Z_i/Z_j}}\right]$$

These results seem to indicate that interference effects upon the performance of the electrode assembly are negligible.

#### **Analytical applications**

The proposed sensor was found to work well under laboratoryconditions. It is clear that the amount of Ti(III) ions can be accuratelydetermined using the proposed sensor.

# Determination of mercury in spiked real sample

One gram of the dry and clean orthodontic cages sample was dissolved in minimally concentrated nitric acid and the solution was transferred to a 100 ml of calibrated flask and diluted to the mark with distilled water. The pH of solution was controlled and the measurement was done. With the use of sensor's calibration curve, the nickel content in our sample, obtained from triplicate measurement with electrode.To assess the applicability of the proposed sensor to real samples,Ti(III) was measured in orthodontic cage. Each sample was analyzed in triplicate, using this sensor by the standardaddition method. The results, in Table 3, show an average recoveryof 92.6% with relative standard deviation (RSD) of 2.43% and indicates the utility of the proposed electrode.

Table3. Recovery of copper ions from different water samples

Sample	Ti <sup>3+</sup> added	Ti3+founded	RR%	RSD% (n=3)
Sample 1	3×10 <sup>-5</sup> M	2.66×10 <sup>-5</sup>	91.5	3.17
Sample 2	3×10 <sup>-5</sup> M	2.44×10 <sup>-5</sup>	92.9	2.91

#### CONCLUSION

In this study, a new chemicallymodified carbon paste electrodebased on  $N, N_{-}$ bis(salicylaldehyde)-phenydiamine as ionophore and ionic liquid was used for Ti(III) determination. The electrodeshows high sensitivity, reasonable selectivity. fast staticresponse, long term stability and applicability over a wide concentrationrange  $(3.1 \times 10^{-2} - 4.9 \times 10^{-10})$ . The modified electrode was applied as indicator electrode in potentiometric method and successfully used to determine titanium(II) in real samples withsatisfactory results.

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