

COMPOSITION OF A MIXTURE

Most matter is a mixture of many substances. For example, crude oil is a mixture. Most of the foods we eat are mixtures. Often it is a mixture of many different compounds of varying molecular mass. It is separated into its component parts such as gasoline and lubricant oil by utilizing the differing physical properties, in this case boiling point. Most mixtures can be separated by physical change

In today's experiment you will determine the percent composition by mass of a sand (SiO_2) and Copper (II)

sulfate (CuSO_4) mixture. It will require separation by physical means. You will use the differences in water solubility to separate the two substances.

Sand (SiO_2) is insoluble in water whereas copper (II) sulfate is water soluble. When water is added to the mixture, the sand will not dissolve, but the copper (II) sulfate will. Then, the sand will be dried. In this way, you will separate sand from the original mixture.



Safety goggles **must** be worn at all times

PROCEDURE

1. Weigh a clean dry (empty) evaporating dish to the nearest 0.01 of a gram. Record the mass below.
2. Obtain an unknown from your instructor. Weigh the unknown mixture in the evaporating dish. Record the exact mass to the nearest 0.01 g.

Make some visual observations about your

mixture: _____

DATA

	Mass, grams
Evaporating Dish	
Evaporating Dish plus Unknown mixture	

3. Carefully, transfer the **entire** unknown sample into a 400 mL beaker.

DO NOT PUT ANY EXCESS CHEMICALS BACK INTO THE REAGENT BOTTLES.

4. Obtain approximately 200 ml of de-ionized water. Pour, with stirring, the water into the beaker. If after stirring for a few minutes there is still solid CuSO_4 , add 25 ml more water. Make sure all of the copper (II) sulfate is dissolved.
5. Allow the sand to settle, then carefully decant the liquid into a 250 mL beaker. See "How to decant " on the next page. This can be done at your bench. Discard the liquid in the beaker if there was no sand loss.
6. Add about 50 mL of deionized water with stirring to wash the sand. Allow the sand to settle and then decant the wash water into the 150 mL beaker.

HOW TO DECANT

Decanting means to let the solid settle to the bottom of the beaker. Then, carefully pour off the top liquid layer. Hold a glass stirring rod on top of the beaker to guide the stream of liquid down into another beaker.

- Repeat step 6 with another 50 mL portion of deionized water. (This is to remove the CuSO_4). What color should the liquid be if all of the CuSO_4 has been removed? _____
- What should you do if you think that some CuSO_4 still remains in the sand? _____
- Transfer all the sand to the evaporating dish with a rubber policeman. Use a stream of deionized water to transfer the last particles of sand. Decant the water used in transferring. Use a medicine dropper to draw off as much of the remaining water as possible without removing any of the sand.
- Prepare a steam bath using your 250 ml beaker. Dry the sand by heating the wet sand in the evaporating dish over the steam bath.
NOTE: Use the evaporating dish tongs (located in the long vertical locker at your lab bench) to handle the hot evaporating dish.
- Stir the sand when it “looks” dry to check for dampness. If the sand still appears dry, remove it, dry the bottom of the dish, and allow it to cool on the base of your ring stand. Weigh the evaporating dish and sand. Record to the mass to ± 0.01 g.
- Reheat the sand for another 5 minutes. Cool and weigh as above. Repeat this process until you have “Dried to Constant Mass” (see below). Two weighings must be within ± 0.2 grams.

DRY TO CONSTANT MASS

You cannot tell by “looking” at the sand whether or not the sand is really dry. You must heat the sand, weigh it, reheat, and then, reweigh the sand. The heating and weighing process is continued until two consecutive weighings are fairly close. This process is called “Drying to Constant Mass”. This is the only way to know if all of the water has been driven off!

DATA

Use the lowest value obtained to calculate the mass of your sand.

	Mass of Evaporating Dish plus Sand
1st Weighing	
2nd Weighing	
3rd Weighing	

12. **After** you have calculated your percent sand and obtained the correct value, dispose of your sand. (If your experimental value is too high your instructor will ask you to reheat and reweigh your sand).

* **DISPOSAL:** Dispose the sand in the waste container labeled "Waste Sand"

CALCULATIONS

1. Calculate the mass of unknown sample.

Answer _____

2. Calculate the mass of sand.

Answer _____

3. Calculate the mass of copper (II) sulfate , CuSO_4 .

Answer _____

4. Calculate the percentage (by weight) of sand in the sample. Write this on your report sheet. Then, ask your instructor for the correct sand. (Do this after you calculate your % Sand).

Answer _____

Accepted value from instructor _____

5. Calculate the percent error.

% Error _____

6. Calculate the percentage (by weight) of copper (II) sulfate , CuSO_4 , in the sample.

Answer _____

Name _____

Date _____

Lab Section _____

Initials _____

EXPERIMENT 8

COMPOSITION OF A MIXTURE

CALCULATIONS:

Show all set-ups.

1. Calculate the mass of unknown sample.

Answer _____

2. Calculate the mass of sand.

Answer _____

3. Calculate the mass of copper (II) sulfate , CuSO_4 .

Answer _____

4. Calculate the percentage (by weight) of sand in the sample.

Answer _____

Correct % Sand _____
(From Instructor)

5. Ask your instructor for the correct percent sand (take your report sheet). Calculate the percent error.

% Error _____

6. Calculate the percentage (by weight) of copper (II) sulfate , CuSO_4 , in the sample.

Answer _____

QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS

1. Give a reason why (other than calculations) your percentage of sand might be lower than the correct value.

2. Give a reason why (other than calculations) your percentage of sand might be higher than the correct value.

3. A mixture of KCl and SiO_2 weighed 4.23 g. The KCl was dissolved in water and then the solution was decanted and dried leaving only 2.76 g of dry sand. Calculate the percent sand in the sample.
Set-up:

Answer _____

4. What are 2 ways that a mixture (example: a mixture of sand and CuSO_4) is different from a compound like (example: CuSO_4 alone)

1) _____

2) _____
