O·I·Analytical

Methodology

Boron by Segmented Flow Analysis (SFA)

(Cartridge Part #319708)

1.0 Scope and Application

1.1 This method is used for the determination of boron in fresh water.

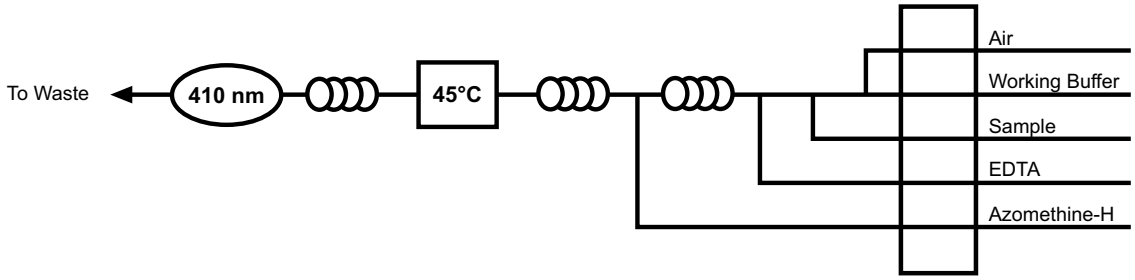
1.2 The Method Detection Limit (MDL) of this method is 0.02 mg/L boron. The applicable range of the method is 0.2–20 mg/L boron. The range may be extended to analyze higher concentrations by sample dilution.

2.0 Summary of Method

2.1 Boron reacts with azomethine-H to form a yellow-colored complex. The absorbance is measured at 410 nm (References 15.1, 15.2, and 15.3).

2.2 The quality of the analysis is assured through reproducible calibration and testing of the Segmented Flow Analysis (SFA) system.

2.3 A general flow diagram of the SFA system is shown below (see Section 17.0 for a detailed flow diagram).



3.0 Definitions

Definitions for terms used in this method are provided in Section 16.0, "Glossary of Definitions and Purposes."

4.0 Interferences

4.1 Cations such as calcium, iron, magnesium, copper, and zinc may interfere with the analysis of boron. The addition of 0.050 M EDTA solution can be used to complex these cations. With the use of the EDTA solution, the presence of less than 500 ppm of calcium, copper (II), or magnesium, or less than 100 ppm of zinc or iron (II) does not significantly interfere with this method.

4.2 Avoid using borosilicate glassware for sample collection or reagent storage. Use polyethylene containers whenever possible.

4.3 Filter or centrifuge turbid samples prior to analysis.

5.0 Safety

5.1 The toxicity or carcinogenicity of each compound or reagent used in this method has not been fully established. Each chemical should be treated as a potential health hazard. Exposure to these chemicals should be reduced to the lowest possible level.

5.2 For reference purposes, a file of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for each chemical used in this method should be available to all personnel involved in this chemical analysis. The preparation of a formal safety plan is also advisable.

5.3 The following chemicals used in this method may be highly toxic or hazardous and should be handled with extreme caution at all times. Consult the appropriate MSDS before handling.

5.3.1 Ammonium Acetate, $NH_4C_2H_3O_2$ (FW 77.08)

5.3.2 Azomethine-H, $C_{17}H_{12}NO_8S_2Na$ (FW 445.4)

5.3.3 Boric Acid, H_3BO_3 (FW 61.83)

5.3.4 Ethylenediaminetetraacetic Acid, Disodium Salt Dihydrate (EDTA), $C_{10}H_{14}N_2O_8Na{\bullet}2H_2O$ (FW 372.24)

5.3.5 Sodium Hypochlorite, 5.25% available chlorine (household bleach), NaOCl (FW 74.44)

5.3.6 Sulfuric Acid, concentrated, H_2SO_4 (FW 98.08)

5.4 Unknown samples may be potentially hazardous and should be handled with extreme caution at all times.

5.5 Proper personal protective equipment (PPE) should be used when handling or working in the presence of chemicals.

5.6 This method does not address all safety issues associated with its use. The laboratory is responsible for maintaining a safe work environment and a current awareness file of OSHA regulations regarding the safe handling of the chemicals specified in this method.

6.0 Apparatus, Equipment, and Supplies

6.1 Segmented Flow Analysis (SFA) System (OI Analytical Flow Solution® IV) consisting of the following:

6.1.1 Model 502 Multichannel Peristaltic Pump

6.1.2 Random Access (RA) Autosampler

6.1.3 Expanded Range (ER) Photometric Detector with 5-mm path length flowcell and 410-nm optical filter

6.1.4 Data Acquisition System (PC or Notebook PC) with WinFLOW™ software

6.1.5 Boron Cartridge (Part #319708)

6.2 Sampling equipment—Sample bottle, high density polyethylene (HDPE), with polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE)-lined cap. Clean by washing with detergent and water, rinsing with two aliquots of reagent water, and drying by baking at 110°–150°C for a minimum of one hour.

6.3 Standard laboratory equipment including volumetric flasks, pipettes, syringes, etc. should all be cleaned, rinsed, and dried per bottle cleaning procedure in Section 6.2.

7.0 Reagents and Calibrants

7.1 Raw Materials

7.1.1 Ascorbic Acid, C_6H_6O (FW 176.12)

7.1.2 Ammonium Acetate, $NH_4C_2H_3O_2$ (FW 77.08)

7.1.3 Azomethine-H, $C_{17}H_{12}NO_8S_2Na$ (FW 445.4)

7.1.4 Brij®-35, 30% w/v (Part # A21-0110-33)

7.1.5 Boric Acid, H_3BO_3 (FW 61.83)

7.1.6 Deionized Water (ASTM Type I or II)

7.1.7 Ethylenediaminetetraacetic Acid, Disodium Salt Dihydrate (EDTA), $C_{10}H_{14}N_2O_8Na \cdot 2H_2O$ (FW 372.24)

7.1.8 Sodium Hypochlorite, 5.25% available chlorine (household bleach), NaOCl (FW 74.44)

7.1.9 Sulfuric Acid, concentrated, H_2SO_4 (FW 98.08)