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Book Reviews

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Book Reviews

Handbuch der analytischen Chemie
Herausgegeben von W. Fresenius und G. Jander
Teil III: Quantitative Bestimmungs- und Trennungsmethoden
Band IIa 2: Elemente der dritten Hauptgruppe. Aluminium Bearbeitet von
H. Bensch, Bonn

2. Auflage

47 Abb., XIX, 716 Seit. 1972. Gebunden DM 198.—; US\$ 61.60
Berlin-Heidelberg-New York: Springer-Verlag

Reviewed by B. Schreiber
Analytical Dept. Pharma, SANDOZ AG
Basle, Switzerland

In the first part of the book, a general discussion is given on all possibilities to determine aluminum in any material. Classical analytical methods (gravimetry, titrimetry, spectrophotometry) are extensively dealt with (1500 references). Then, electro- and spectro-chemical methods (polarography, atomic absorption, emissionspectroscopy, X-ray fluorescence spectroscopy) are discussed. Since the majority of all aluminum determinations are carried out by one of these methods, their comprehensive description is highly valuable to the analyst. Sample preparation, parameters of measurement and possible interferences are described and the procedure is given in a very clear "cookbook" way. Taking into account its importance in modern analytical chemistry, the chapter dealing with atomic absorption could be more extensive (only 4 pages). 400 references cover this field.

The second part of the book gives a synopsis of separation procedures, used to prevent interferences in aluminum determinations (500 references).

In summary, the book should enable the analyst to conveniently choose the optimum procedure for the determination of aluminum in any material and at any concentration. Although especially adapted to industrial needs, the book could also be useful in academic and government research laboratories.

Topics in Current Chemistry

Editor: Boschke, F.

Vol 26

INORGANIC AND ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY

6 fig. II, 112 pages. 1972. Soft cover DM 36.—; US\$11.20

Berlin-Heidelberg-New York: Springer-Verlag

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Contents: (1) Margrave, J. L.; Sharp, K. G.; Wilson, P. W., The Dihalides of Group IVB Elements. (2) Meller, A., The Chemistry of Iminoboranes. (3) Christian, G. D., Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy for the Determination of Elements in Medical Biological Samples.

Chapter 3 contains a discussion on physico-chemical and apparatus aspects of the method. The synopsis covers applications of flame atomic absorption spectroscopy to biological problems between 1967 and 1971. Determinations of metals in blood and urine at physiological, elevated and ultratrace levels are listed, together with improved sample preparation procedures. For ultratrace analysis, enrichment techniques are summarised but little attention is given to flameless methods. Therefore detection limits are not always up to date. Trace elements in plants, tissue, and agricultural material are dealt with in the second part of the review. Finally, indirect determinations of non metals are briefly discussed.

In summary, the paper gives a useful and extensive review of atomic absorption methods, as used in biologic science. Much information is given on prevention of interferences in the measurement of these samples (303 references).