

CONTENTS

| | Page |
|---|-------------|
| Title page | i |
| Approval Sheet | ii |
| Acknowledgements | iii |
| Abstract | iv |
| List of Tables | xiii |
| List of Figures | xxi |
| Abbreviations and Symbols | xxiv |
| 1. INTRODUCTION | |
| 1.1 Anions and Cations Analysis | 1 |
| 1.2 Ion Chromatography | 2 |
| 1.2.1 Instrumental | 3 |
| 1.2.2 Theoretical principle | 12 |
| 1.3 Anions and Cations Analysis by Ion Chromatography | 16 |
| 1.4 The Scope and Aims of This Research | 18 |
| 2. EXPERIMENTAL | |
| 2.1 Apparatus and Chemicals | |
| 2.1.1 Apparatus | 19 |
| 2.1.2 Chemicals | 20 |
| 2.2 Preparation of Solutions | |
| 2.2.1 Preparation of eluent | 22 |
| 2.2.2 Post-column reagent | 23 |
| 2.2.3 Regenerant in the chemical suppression mode | 23 |

| | Page |
|---|-------------|
| 2.2.4 Standard anion stock solutions, 1000 ng/ μ l | 23 |
| 2.2.5 Standard cation stock solutions, 1000 ng/ μ l | 24 |
| 2.2.6 Metal ion standard solutions for atomic absorption spectrophotometer | 24 |
| 2.2.7 Reagents for the determination of anions by spectroanalytical methods | 25 |
| 2.3 Determination of Anions with IonPac AS 4 A Column | 25 |
| 2.3.1 Investigation of retention times of anion of interest | 26 |
| 2.3.2 Optimization of IC conditions | 27 |
| 2.3.3 Determination of linearity | 27 |
| 2.3.4 Detection limit and minimum detectable quantity (MDQ) | 28 |
| 2.3.5 Reproducibility of Results | 29 |
| 2.3.6 Water samples | 30 |
| 2.3.7 Determination of anions in drinking water samples by IC | 30 |
| 2.3.8 % Recovery of anions in drinking water samples | 31 |
| 2.3.9 Analysis of Anions in drinking water samples by ion selective electrode method and spectroanalytical method | 31 |
| 2.4 Determination of Alkaline Earth Metal Ions Using IonPac CS 12 Column | 35 |
| 2.4.1 Investigation of retention times of ions of interest | 36 |
| 2.4.2 Optimization of IC condition | 36 |
| 2.4.3 Determination of linearity | 37 |
| 2.4.4 Detection limit and minimum detectable quantity (MDQ) | 38 |
| 2.4.5 Reproducibility of results | 38 |

| | Page |
|--|-------------|
| 2.4.6 Determination of alkaline earth metal ions in drinking water samples by IC | 38 |
| 2.4.7 % Recovery of each cation in drinking water samples | 39 |
| 2.4.8 Analysis of alkaline earth metal ions in drinking water samples by atomic absorption spectrophotometric method | 40 |
| 2.5 Determination of Metal Ions with IonPac CS 5 Column | |
| 2.5.1 Investigation of the post-column reagent | 41 |
| 2.5.2 Investigation of color-forming reagent | 41 |
| 2.5.3 Investigation of retention times of metal ion of Interest | 42 |
| 2.5.4 Optimization of ion chromatographic conditions | 43 |
| 2.5.5 Determination of linearity | 45 |
| 2.5.6 Determination of detection limit and minimum detectable quantity (MDQ) | 45 |
| 2.5.7 Reproducibility of results | 46 |
| 2.5.8 Determination of heavy metal ions in drinking water samples by IC | 46 |
| 2.5.9 % Recovery of each metal ion in drinking water samples | 47 |
| 2.5.10 Analysis of metal ions in drinking water samples by atomic absorption spectrophotometric method | 48 |
| 3. RESULTS | |
| 3.1 Determination of Anions with IonPac AS 4 A Column | |
| 3.1.1 Investigation of retention times of ions of interest | 49 |
| 3.1.2 Optimization of IC condition | 50 |
| 3.1.3 Results of determination of linearity | 55 |

| | Page |
|--|-------------|
| 3.1.4 Results of detection limit and minimum detectable quantity | 58 |
| 3.1.5 Reproducibility of results | 59 |
| 3.2 Determination of Anions in Drinking Water Sample by IC | 61 |
| 3.2.1 Standard calibration curves of F^- , Cl^- , NO_3^- , PO_4^{3-} and SO_4^{2-} | 61 |
| 3.2.2 The amounts of F^- , Cl^- , NO_3^- , PO_4^{3-} and SO_4^{2-} | 66 |
| 3.2.3 % Recovery of each anion in drinking water samples | 70 |
| 3.2.4 Analysis for F^- , Cl^- , NO_3^- , PO_4^{3-} and SO_4^{2-} by ion selective electrode method and spectrophotometric method | 76 |
| 3.3 Determination of Alkaline Earth Metals Ion with IonPac CS 12 Column | 81 |
| 3.3.1 Investigation of retention times of ions of interest | 81 |
| 3.3.2 Optimization of IC conditions | 82 |
| 3.3.3 Results of determination of linearity | 85 |
| 3.3.4 Results of detection limit and minimum detectable quantity | 88 |
| 3.3.5 Reproducibility of results | 89 |
| 3.4 Determination of Metal Ions in Drinking Water Samples by IC | 91 |
| 3.4.1 Standard calibration curves of Mg^{2+} , Ca^{2+} and Sr^{2+} | 91 |
| 3.4.2 Analysis of cations in drinking water samples | 94 |
| 3.4.3 % Recovery of each cation in drinking water samples | 97 |
| 3.4.4 Analysis for Mg^{2+} , Ca^{2+} and Sr^{2+} by the AAS technique | 99 |

| | Page |
|---|-------------|
| 3.5 Determination of Metal Ions with IonPac CS 5 Column | |
| 3.5.1 Results with investigation of color-forming reagent | 102 |
| 3.5.2 Investigation of retention times of metal ions of interest | 103 |
| 3.5.3 Optimization of ion chromatographic conditions | 104 |
| 3.5.4 Results of determination of linearity | 109 |
| 3.5.5 Results of detection limit and minimum detectable quantity (MDQ) | 112 |
| 3.5.6 Reproducibility of results | 113 |
| 3.6 Determination of Heavy Metal Ions in Drinking Water Samples by IC | 114 |
| 3.6.1 Standard calibration curves of Pb^{2+} , Mn^{2+} , Zn^{2+} and Ni^{2+} | 115 |
| 3.6.2 The amounts of Pb^{2+} , Mn^{2+} , Zn^{2+} and Ni^{2+} | 119 |
| 3.6.3 % Recovery of each metal ion in drinking water samples | 121 |
| 3.6.4 Analysis for Pb^{2+} , Mn^{2+} , Zn^{2+} and Ni^{2+} by AAS technique | 124 |
| 4. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS | |
| 4.1 Discussion | 128 |
| 4.2 Conclusions | 145 |
| REFERENCES | 148 |
| APPENDIX A | 151 |
| APPENDIX B | 152 |
| VITA | 154 |

LIST OF TABLES

| Table | Page |
|---|-------------|
| 1.1 Chemical classification of ion-exchanger resin | 2 |
| 1.2 Equivalent conductivities (λ°) in aqueous solution at 25 °C | 11 |
| 2.1 List of reference for details of the preparation of reagent used in the determination of anions by spectroanalytical methods | 25 |
| 2.2 Standard solutions of studied anions used to determine retention times | 26 |
| 2.3 Standard solutions of studied cations used to determine retention times | 36 |
| 2.4 Standard solutions of studied metal ions used to determine their retention times | 43 |
| 3.1 Retention times of anions obtained with IonPac AS 4 A column using 1.80 mM Na ₂ CO ₃ /1.70 mM NaHCO ₃ as eluent, at flow rate 2 ml/min | 49 |
| 3.2 Effect of eluent concentration to | |
| (a) Retention time | 50 |
| (b) Peak area | 51 |
| (c) Resolution | 51 |
| 3.3 Effect of eluent flow rate on | |
| (a) Retention time | 52 |
| (b) Peak area | 52 |
| (c) Theoretical plates | 53 |
| (d) Resolution | 53 |

| Table | Page |
|--|-------------|
| 3.4 Optimized IC conditions yielding high sensitivity and good resolution of analysis obtained with IonPac AS 4 A | 54 |
| 3.5 Results of determination of linearity | 55 |
| 3.6 Detection limits and minimum detectable quantities of anions obtained with IonPac AS 4 A column and 1.80 mM Na ₂ CO ₃ /1.70 mM NaHCO ₃ as eluent at flow rate 2 ml/min, using a conductivity detector | 58 |
| 3.7 Reproducibility of results obtained with IonPac AS 4 A column, eluent as 1.80 mM Na ₂ CO ₃ /1.70 mM NaHCO ₃ , eluent flow rate 2.00 ml/min conductivity detector with temperature compensation 1.7%/ °C and output range 3 μS | |
| (a) Retention times of each anion investigated | 59 |
| (b) Peak area of each anion investigated | 60 |
| 3.8 The data used for construction of the standard calibration curve of F ⁻ | 61 |
| 3.9 The data used for construction of the standard calibration curve of Cl ⁻ | 62 |
| 3.10 The data used for construction of the standard calibration curve of NO ₃ ⁻ | 62 |
| 3.11 The data used for construction of the standard calibration curve of PO ₄ ³⁻ | 63 |
| 3.12 The data used for construction of the standard calibration curve of SO ₄ ³⁻ | 63 |
| 3.13 Peak areas of anions in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples obtained with IonPac AS 4 A | 67 |

| Table | Page |
|---|-------------|
| 3.14 Concentration of analyte anions in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples obtained with IonPac AS 4 A column | 68 |
| 3.15 % Recovery of F^- in b.w. ₃ sample when spiked with standard F^- at various concentration | 70 |
| 3.16 % Recovery of Cl^- in b.w. ₆ sample when spiked with standard Cl^- at various concentration | 71 |
| 3.17 % Recovery of NO_3^- in b.w. ₆ sample when spiked with standard NO_3^- at various concentration | 71 |
| 3.18 % Recovery of PO_4^{3-} in b.w. ₂ sample when spiked with standard PO_4^{3-} at various concentration | 72 |
| 3.19 % Recovery of SO_4^{2-} in b.w. ₆ sample when spiked with standard SO_4^{2-} at various concentration | 72 |
| 3.20 Comparison of the results of F^- analysis in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples by IC technique and by ISE technique | 76 |
| 3.21 Comparison of the results of Cl^- analysis in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples by IC technique and by mercury (II) thiocyanate method | 77 |
| 3.22 Comparison of the results of NO_3^- analysis in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples by IC technique and by ultraviolet spectrophotometric screening method | 78 |
| 3.23 Comparison of the results of PO_4^{3-} analysis in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples by IC technique and by ascorbic acid method | 79 |

| Table | Page |
|--|-------------|
| 3.24 Comparison of the results of SO_4^{2-} analysis in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples by the IC technique and turbidimetric method | 80 |
| 3.25 Retention times of cations obtained with IonPac CS 12 column using 20 mM MSA as eluent at flow rate 1.0 ml/min and 25 mM TBAOH as regenerant at flow rate 6.0 ml/min | 81 |
| 3.26 Effect of eluent concentration | |
| (a) Retention time | 82 |
| (b) Peak area | 82 |
| (c) Resolution | 82 |
| 3.27 Effect of eluent flow rate | |
| (a) Retention time | 83 |
| (b) Peak area | 83 |
| (c) The resolution | 83 |
| (d) The theoretical plates | 84 |
| 3.28 Optimized ion chromatographic conditions obtained with IonPac CS 12 column | 84 |
| 3.29 Relationship between peak area and concentration of ions for determination of linearity obtained with IonPac CS 12 column 20 mM MSA, flow rate 1.0 ml/min as eluent and 25 mM TBAOH flow rate 6.0 ml/min as regenerant, using a conductivity detector | 85 |
| 3.30 Detection limits and minimum detectable quantities of ions obtained with IonPac CS 12 column, 20 mM MSA as eluent at flow rate 1.0 ml/min, 25 mM TBAOH as regenerant at flow rate 6.0 ml/min | 88 |

| Table | Page |
|--|-------------|
| 3.31 Reproducibility of results obtained with IonPac CS 12 column, 20 mM MSA as eluent at flow rate 1.0 ml/min, 25 mM TBAOH as regenerant at flow rate 6.0 ml/min using a conductivity detector with temperature compensation 1.7%/ °C and output range 10 μ S | 89 |
| (a) Retention times of the cations investigated | 89 |
| (b) Peak area of the cations investigated | 90 |
| 3.32 The data used for construction of the standard calibration curve of Mg^{2+} | 91 |
| 3.33 The data used for construction of the standard calibration curve of Ca^{2+} | 92 |
| 3.34 The data used for construction of the standard calibration curve of Sr^{2+} | 92 |
| 3.35 Peak areas and concentrations of cations in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples obtained with IonPac CS 12 column | 95 |
| 3.36 % Recovery of Mg^{2+} in b.w. ₁ sample when spiked with standard Mg^{2+} at various concentration | 97 |
| 3.37 % Recovery of Ca^{2+} in b.w. ₁ sample when spiked with standard Ca^{2+} at various concentration | 98 |
| 3.38 % Recovery of Sr^{2+} in b.w. ₁ sample when spiked with standard Sr^{2+} at various concentration | 98 |
| 3.39 Comparison of the results of Mg^{2+} determinations in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples by IC technique and by AAS technique | 100 |

| Table | Page |
|---|-------------|
| 3.40 Comparison of the results of Ca^{2+} determinations in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples by IC technique and by AAS technique | 101 |
| 3.41 Absorption maximum wavelength (λ max) and absorbance value of metal-PAR complexes in deionized water | 102 |
| 3.42 Absorption maximum wavelength (λ max) and absorbance value of metal-PAR complexes in 50 mM oxalic acid pH 5.3 | 102 |
| 3.43 Retention times of the mixture standard cations solution obtained with IonPac CS 5 column using 50 mM oxalic acid pH 5.3 at flow rate 1.0 ml/min as eluent, 4×10^{-4} M PAR in 3.0 M NH_4OH /1.0 M CH_3COOH at flow rate 0.5 ml/min as the post-column reagent and λ max 510 nm | 103 |
| 3.44 Resolution of each metal ion pair at various eluent pH | 104 |
| 3.45 Resolution of each metal ion pair at various eluent flow rate | 105 |
| 3.46 The number of the theoretical plates of each metal ion of various eluent flow rates | 106 |
| 3.47 Effects of eluent concentration on | |
| (a) Retention time | 107 |
| (b) Peak area | 107 |
| (c) Resolution | 108 |
| 3.48 Optimized ion chromatographic conditions obtained with IonPac CS 5 column and the post-column derivatization detection system for analysis metal ions in this work | 108 |

| Table | Page |
|--|-------------|
| 3.49 Relationship between peak area and concentration of metal ions for determination of linearity obtained with IonPac CS 5 column, 50 mM oxalic acid pH 5.3 at flow rate 1.0 ml/min as eluent and 4×10^{-4} M PAR in 3.0 M NH_4OH /1.0 M CH_3COOH at flow rate 0.5 ml/min as the post-column reagent, at λ 510 nm | 109 |
| 3.50 Results of determination of the detection limit and the minimum detectable quantity (MDQ) | 112 |
| 3.51 The reproducibility of results obtained with IonPac CS 5 column, 50 mM oxalic acid pH 5.3 at flow rate 1.0 ml/min as eluent and 4×10^{-4} M PAR in 3.0 M NH_4OH /1.0 M CH_3COOH at flow rate 0.5 ml/min as the post-column reagent at λ 510 nm | |
| (a) Retention times of various metal ions investigated | 113 |
| (b) Peak area of various metal ions investigated | 114 |
| 3.52 The data used for construction of the standard curve calibration of Pb^{2+} | 115 |
| 3.53 The data used for construction of the standard curve calibration of Mn^{2+} | 116 |
| 3.54 The data used for construction of the standard curve calibration of Zn^{2+} | 116 |
| 3.55 The data used for construction of the standard curve calibration of Ni^{2+} | 116 |
| 3.56 Peak areas of metal ions in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples obtained with IonPac CS 5 column | 119 |

| Table | Page |
|---|-------------|
| 3.57 Concentration of metal ions in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples obtained with IonPac CS 5 column | 120 |
| 3.58 % Recovery of Pb^{2+} in w.w. ₁ sample when spiked with standard Pb^{2+} at various concentration | 121 |
| 3.59 % Recovery of Mn^{2+} in b.w. ₁ sample when spiked with standard Mn^{2+} at various concentration | 122 |
| 3.60 % Recovery of Zn^{2+} in b.w. ₁ sample when spiked with standard Zn^{2+} at various concentration | 122 |
| 3.61 % Recovery of Ni^{2+} in b.w. ₁ sample when spiked with standard Ni^{2+} at various concentration | 123 |
| 3.62 Comparison of the results of Pb^{2+} in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples by the IC technique and by the AAS technique | 124 |
| 3.63 Comparison of the results of Mn^{2+} in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples by the IC technique and by the AAS technique | 125 |
| 3.64 Comparison of the results of Zn^{2+} in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples by the IC technique and by the AAS technique | 126 |
| 3.65 Comparison of the results of Ni^{2+} in bottled drinking water samples and well water samples by the IC technique and by the AAS technique | 127 |

LIST OF FIGURES

| Figure | Page |
|--|-------------|
| 1.1 Schematic of a dual ion chromatographic system | 4 |
| 1.2 Auto suppression with the anion self-regenerating suppressor (ARSR-I) | 6 |
| 1.3 Chemical suppression with the cation self-regenerating suppressor (CRSR-I) | 8 |
| 1.4 Chromatogram of two components used in the definition of resolution | 13 |
| 1.5 Evaluation of a chromatographic peak for column efficiency | 14 |
| 3.1 Linearity curve for anions obtained with IonPac AS 4 A column and 1.8 mM Na ₂ CO ₃ /1.70 mM NaHCO ₃ as eluent at flow rate 2.0 ml/min, using a conductivity detector | 56 |
| 3.2 Chromatogram of F ⁻ , Cl ⁻ , NO ₂ ⁻ , Br ⁻ , NO ₃ ⁻ , PO ₄ ³⁻ and SO ₄ ²⁻ obtained with IonPac AS 4 A column and 1.80 mM Na ₂ CO ₃ /1.70 mM NaHCO ₃ as eluent at flow rate 2.0 ml/min, using a conductivity detector | 57 |
| 3.3 Chromatogram illustrating peak height, peak-half width and noise level | 58 |
| 3.4 Calibration curve of F ⁻ | 64 |
| 3.5 Calibration curve of Cl ⁻ | 64 |
| 3.6 Calibration curve of NO ₃ ⁻ | 65 |
| 3.7 Calibration curve of PO ₄ ³⁻ | 65 |
| 3.8 Calibration curve of SO ₄ ²⁻ | 66 |
| 3.9 Typical chromatogram of b.w. ₆ water sample obtained with IonPac AS 4 A column | 69 |

| Figure | Page |
|---|-------------|
| 3.10 Typical chromatogram of w.w. ₄ water sample obtained with IonPac AS 4 A column | 69 |
| 3.11 Chromatograms of b.w. ₉ sample (AN 42790) and b.w. ₉ sample with spiked F ⁻ (AN 42795) in comparison | 73 |
| 3.12 Chromatogram of b.w. ₆ sample (AN 42777) and b.w. ₆ sample with spiked Cl ⁻ , NO ₃ ⁻ and SO ₄ ²⁻ (AN 42782) in comparison | 74 |
| 3.13 Chromatograms of b.w. ₂ sample (AN 42802) and b.w. ₂ sample with spiked PO ₄ ³⁻ (AN 42804) in comparison | 75 |
| 3.14 Linearity curve for cations obtained with IonPac CS 12 column, 20 mM MSA as eluent at flow rate 1.0 ml/min, 25 mM TBAOH as regenerant at flow rate 6.0 ml/min using a conductivity detector | 86 |
| 3.15 Chromatogram of Mg ²⁺ , Ca ²⁺ and Sr ²⁺ obtained with IonPac CS 12 column, 20 mM MSA as eluent at flow rate 1.0 ml/min, 25 mM TBAOH as regenerant at flow rate 6.0 ml/min using a conductivity detector | 87 |
| 3.16 Chromatogram illustrating peak-height, peak-half width and noise level | 88 |
| 3.17 Calibration curve of Mg ²⁺ | 93 |
| 3.18 Calibration curve of Ca ²⁺ | 93 |
| 3.19 Calibration curve of Sr ²⁺ | 94 |
| 3.20 Typical chromatogram of b.w. ₂ water sample obtained with IonPac CS 12 column | 96 |
| 3.21 Typical chromatogram of w.w. ₄ water sample obtained with IonPac CS 12 column | 96 |

| Figure | Page |
|---|-------------|
| 3.22 Chromatograms of b.w. ₁ sample (CAT 62966) and b.w. ₁ sample with spiked Mg ²⁺ , Ca ²⁺ and Sr ²⁺ (CAT 62967) in comparison | 99 |
| 3.23 Plot of metal ion pair at various eluent pH | 104 |
| 3.24 Relationship between each metal peak area and the wavelength employed | 105 |
| 3.25 Plot of each metal ion peak area against the eluent flow rate | 106 |
| 3.26 Linearity curve for metal ion obtained with IonPac CS 5 column, 50 mM oxalic acid pH 5.3 as eluent, 4x10 ⁻⁴ M PAR in 3.0 M NH ₄ OH/1.0 M CH ₃ COOH as the post-column reagent, at λ 510 nm | 110 |
| 3.27 Chromatogram of Pb ²⁺ , Cu ²⁺ , Mn ²⁺ , Zn ²⁺ and Ni ²⁺ obtained with IonPac CS 5 column, 50 mM oxalic acid pH 5.3 as eluent, 4x10 ⁻⁴ M PAR in 3.0 M NH ₄ OH/1.0 M CH ₃ COOH as the post-column reagent, at λ 510 nm | 111 |
| 3.28 The noise level of Mn ²⁺ solution obtained at the highest detection sensitivity, output range Mn ²⁺ and detection sensitivity (1000) | 112 |
| 3.29 Calibration curve of Pb ²⁺ | 117 |
| 3.30 Calibration curve of Mn ²⁺ | 117 |
| 3.31 Calibration curve of Zn ²⁺ | 118 |
| 3.32 Calibration curve of Ni ²⁺ | 118 |
| 3.33 Typical chromatogram of w.w. ₅ sample obtained with IonPac CS 5 column | 121 |
| 3.34 Chromatogram of w.w. ₁ sample (CAT 31500) and w.w. ₁ sample with spiked Pb ²⁺ , Cu ²⁺ , Mn ²⁺ , Zn ²⁺ and Ni ²⁺ (CAT 31505) in comparison | 123 |

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

| | |
|---------------|--|
| AAS | atomic absorption spectrophotometer |
| AU | absorbance unit |
| ° C | degree Celsius |
| e.g. | for example |
| <i>et al.</i> | and other people |
| g | gram |
| IC | ion chromatography |
| H | height equivalent to a theoretical plate |
| i.e. | id est; that is |
| l | liter |
| M | molar |
| MDQ | minimum detectable quantity |
| meq | milliequivalent |
| min | minute |
| ml | milliliter |
| mM | millimolar |
| MSA | methanesulfonic acid |
| N | number of theoretical plates |
| n | noise signal |
| NF. | not found |

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| ng | nanogram |
| nm | nanometer |
| PAR | 4-(2-pyridylazo) resorcinol |
| R_s | resolution |
| RSD | relative standard deviation |
| RT | retention time (as in data printouts) |
| S_d | standard deviation |
| sec | second |
| $t_{calc.}$ | calculated t value |
| t_R | retention time |
| TBAOH | tetrabutylammonium hydroxide |
| uv-vis | ultraviolet-visible |
| w | base peak width |
| $w_{1/2}$ | peak width at half height |
| w/w | weight per weight |
| μeq | microequivalent |
| μl | microliter |
| μm | micrometer, micron |
| μS | microsiemens |
| λ_{max} | absorption maximum wavelength |