

USE OF MODERN INSTRUMENTS
IN THE CHEMISTRY CLASS OF HIGH SCHOOL
-- UV AND IR SPECTROMETERS, pH-METERS, AND MICROCOMPUTERS

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Summary

Modern instruments are used in various fields of chemistry. These instruments are useful in teaching high school students in chemistry:

1. Students understand modern methods of studying chemistry.
2. They not only actively study chemistry but also are positively involved in various kinds of experiments in chemistry.
3. They can easily understand several subjects in the field of chemistry.

Examples of Use

1. UV-Spectrometers

1-a. Chemical Kinetics

Phenolphthalein, methylviolet, and malakaitgreen have colors in weak alkali solutions, but they change carbinol types and become colorless in strong alkali solutions. Fig. 1 is an example of them. (phenolphthalein)

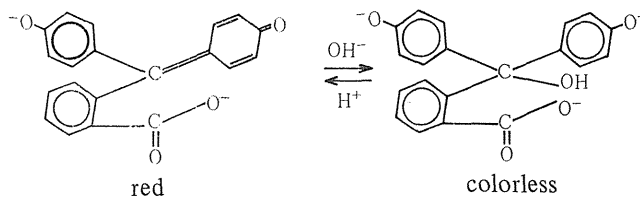


Fig. 1 Phenolphthalein

If the concentrations of dyes is shown as C, the velocities of fading follows the next equation.

$$-\frac{dC}{dt} = kC [\text{OH}^-] \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

In large quantities of $[\text{OH}^-]$, the equation can be considered first-order. Or $[\text{OH}^-]$ can be considered constant.

$$-\ln C = k [\text{OH}^-] t + \text{const} \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

By Beer's law

$$C = K \cdot A \quad (\text{A: Absorption}) \dots\dots\dots (3)$$

And the initial concentration C_0 is equivalent to "const".

$$-\ln KA = k [\text{OH}^-] t - \ln C_0 \dots\dots\dots (4)$$

$$\log A = \log \frac{C_0}{K} - \frac{k [\text{OH}^-]}{2.303} t \dots\dots\dots (5)$$

Absorption is related to time, and the equation is first-order. So if absorption and $[\text{OH}^-]$ are measured, then k will be calculated. This is an useful experiment for teaching chemical kinetics in high school.

Examples of experimental data by students are Fig. 2 and Table 1. Concentrations of dyes are $10^{-6} \sim 10^{-5}$ mol/l, and temperatures are $20 \sim 25^\circ\text{C}$. $[\text{OH}^-]$ is determined with the titration of oxalic acid.

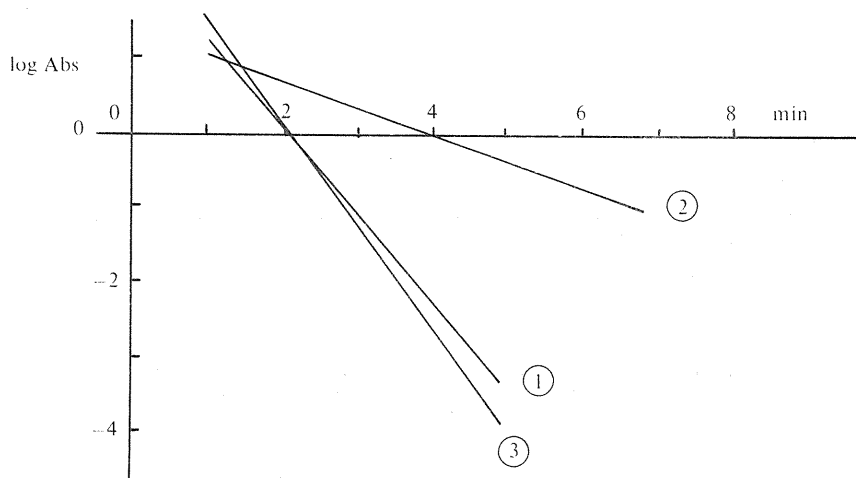


Fig. 2 ① Phenolphthalein ② Methylviolet ③ Malakaitgreen

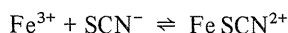
Table 1

	Wave length (nm)	Slope	$[\text{OH}^-]$	k (min^{-1})
phenolphthalein	550	0.130	0.595	1.00
methylviolet	590	0.00175	0.0175	8.95
malakaitgreen	610	0.13	0.0096	62.4

$$k = \frac{\text{slope} \times 2.303}{[\text{OH}^-] \times \frac{1}{2}}$$

1-b. Equilibrium Constant

5 ml of 2.0×10^{-5} mol/l $\text{Fe}_2(\text{NO}_3)_3$ is added to various kinds of concentration of KSCN- 0.5×10^{-3} mol/l, 1.0×10^{-3} mol/l, 2×10^{-3} mol/l, 3.0×10^{-3} mol/l. And absorptions of mixed solutions are measured with spectrometer in 460 nm.



The calibration curve of FeSCN^{2+} is Fig. 3. Examples of students' data are Table 2.

Table 2

	initial $[\text{Fe}^{3+}] \times 10^{-4}$	initial $[\text{SCN}^-] \times 10^{-4}$	absorption 460 nm	$[\text{FeSCN}^{2+}] \times 10^{-4}$	mixed $[\text{Fe}^{3+}] \times 10^{-4}$	mixed $[\text{SCN}^-] \times 10^{-4}$	K (460 nm)
①	9.671	2.56	0.21	0.45	9.226	2.12	228
②		5.12	0.435	0.92	8.749	4.20	251
③		10.24	0.85	1.8	7.871	8.44	271
④		15.36	1.22	2.6	7.071	12.76	2.88

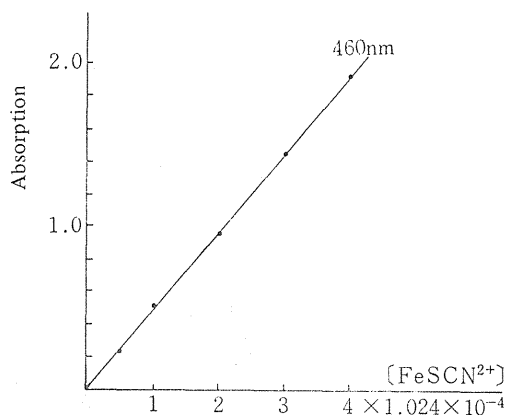


Fig. 3 Calibration Curve

$[\text{FeSCN}^{2+}]$ can be found from absorption data, and $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]$ and $[\text{SCN}^-]$ can be calculated with $[\text{FeSCN}^{2+}]$. So the values of equilibrium constant K are calculated with the next equations.

$$K = \frac{[\text{FeSCN}^{2+}]}{[\text{Fe}^{3+}][\text{SCN}^-]} \dots\dots\dots (6)$$

1-c. Aquation of Praceosalt

Dissolved $\text{trans-Co(en)}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{Cl}$ changes to be cis-form and its Cl^- is replaced with OH^- . This change can be observed with measuring the spectrum from 400 to 800 nm. Initial green color changes to be gray and becomes red finally.

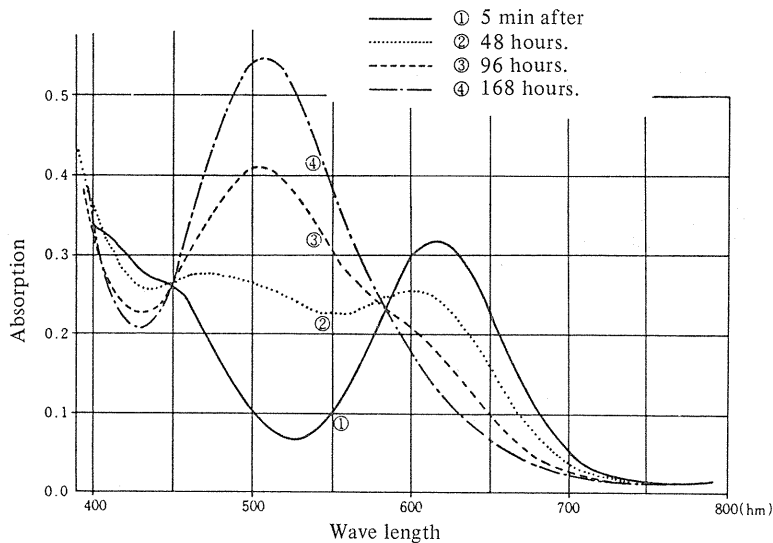


Fig. 4 Spectra of $\text{Co(en)}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{Cl}$

2. IR-Spectrometers

2-a. Synthesis and Measuring

Students synthesize nitrobenzene, aniline, acetanilide and acetate-esters, and take IR-spectrums of the compounds.

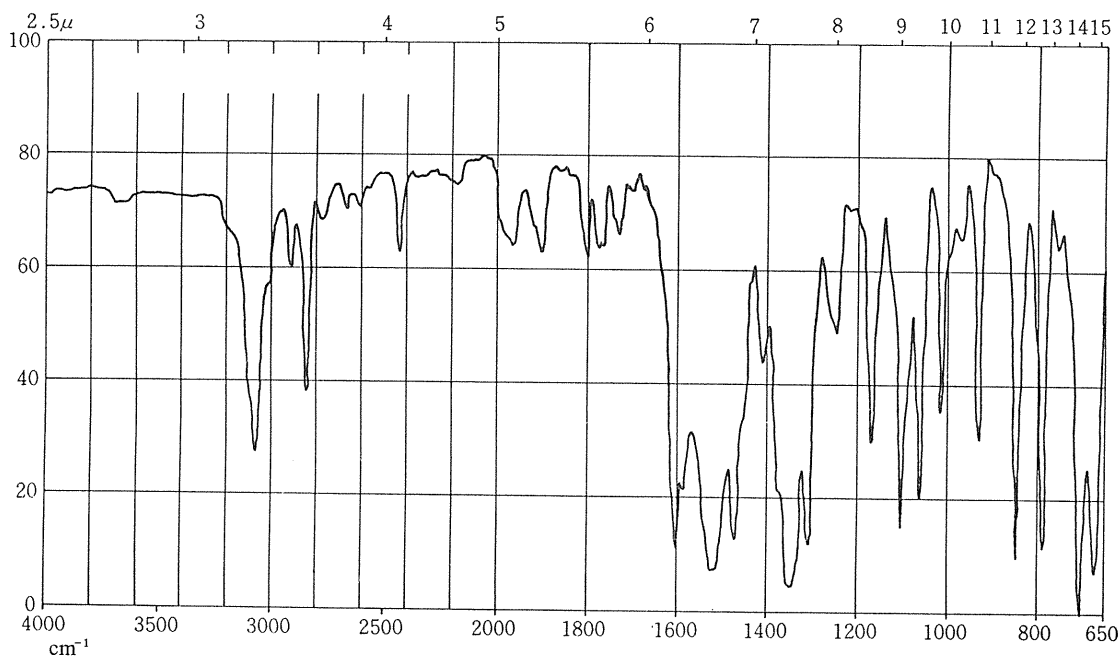


Fig. 5 Nitrobenzene

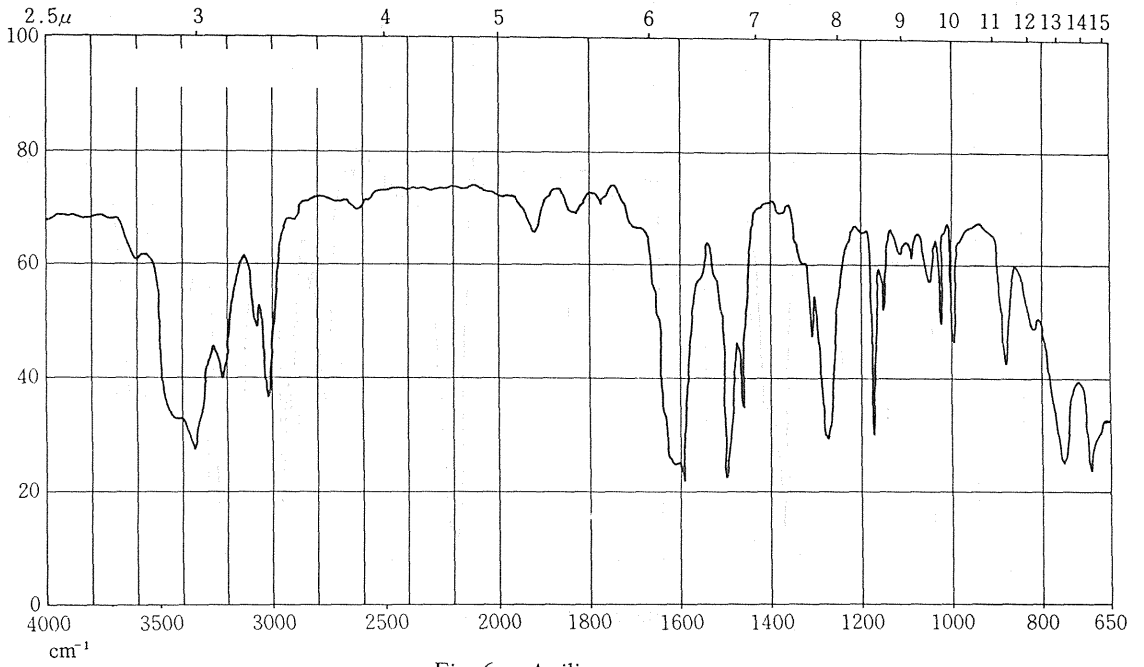


Fig. 6 Aniline

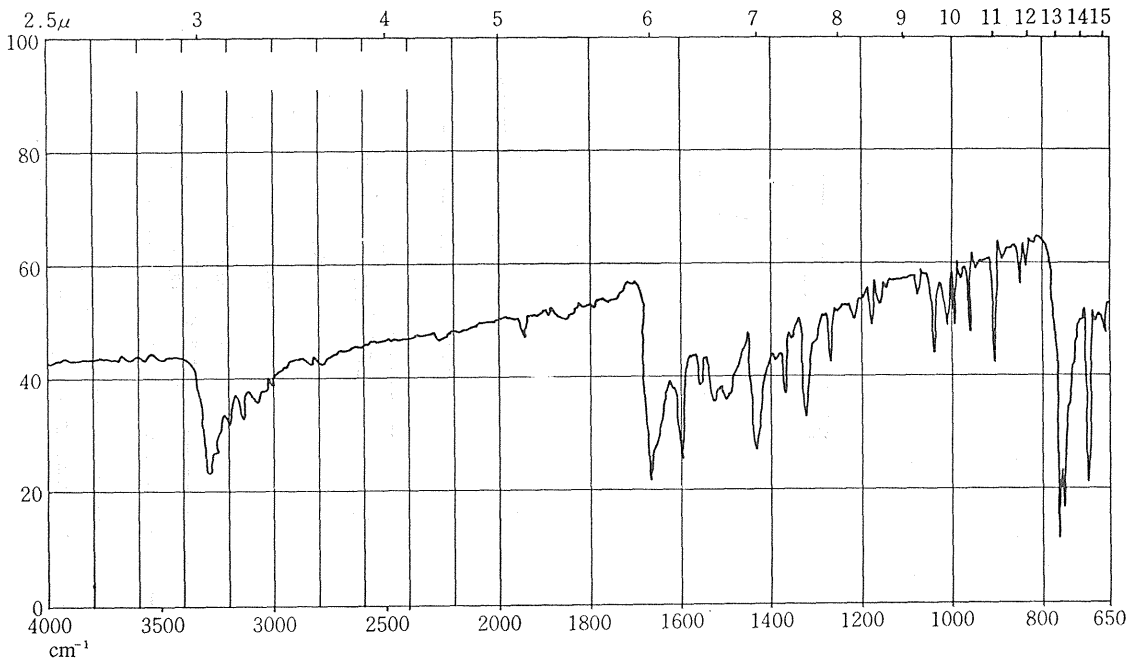


Fig. 7 Acetanilide

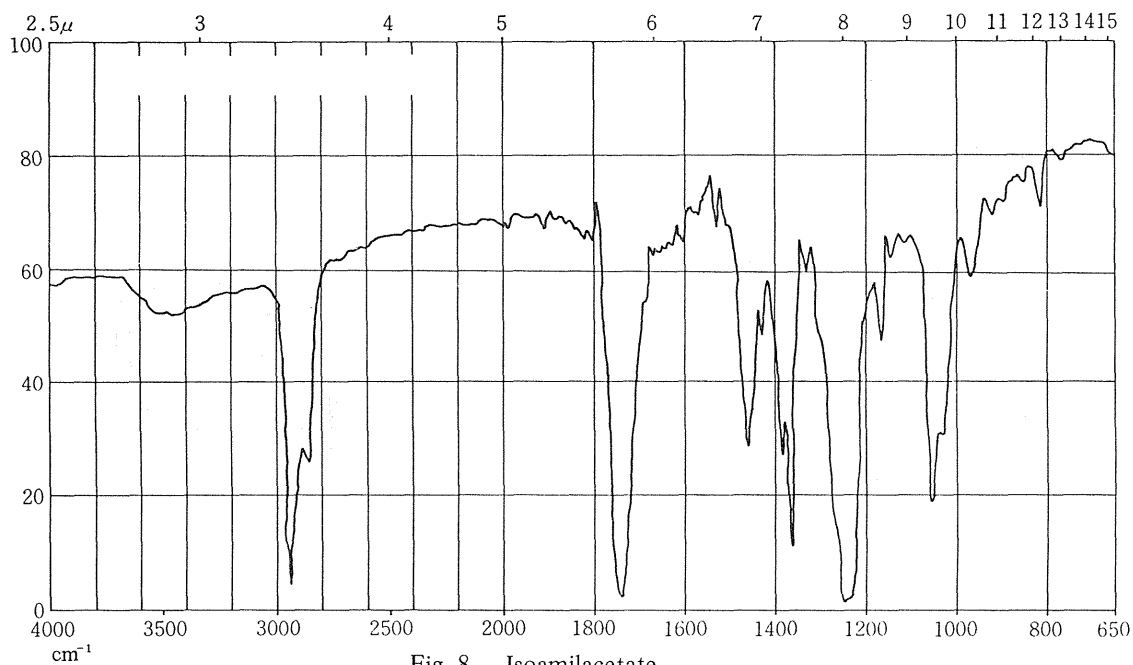


Fig. 8 Isoamilacetate

2-b. Decomposition of Polystyrene

Polystyrene, dissolved in benzene, is decomposed with heating the solution to be stylenemonomer. IR-spectrum of stylenemonomer is measured. Stylenemonomer is polymerized to be polystyrene and its spectrum is measured also.

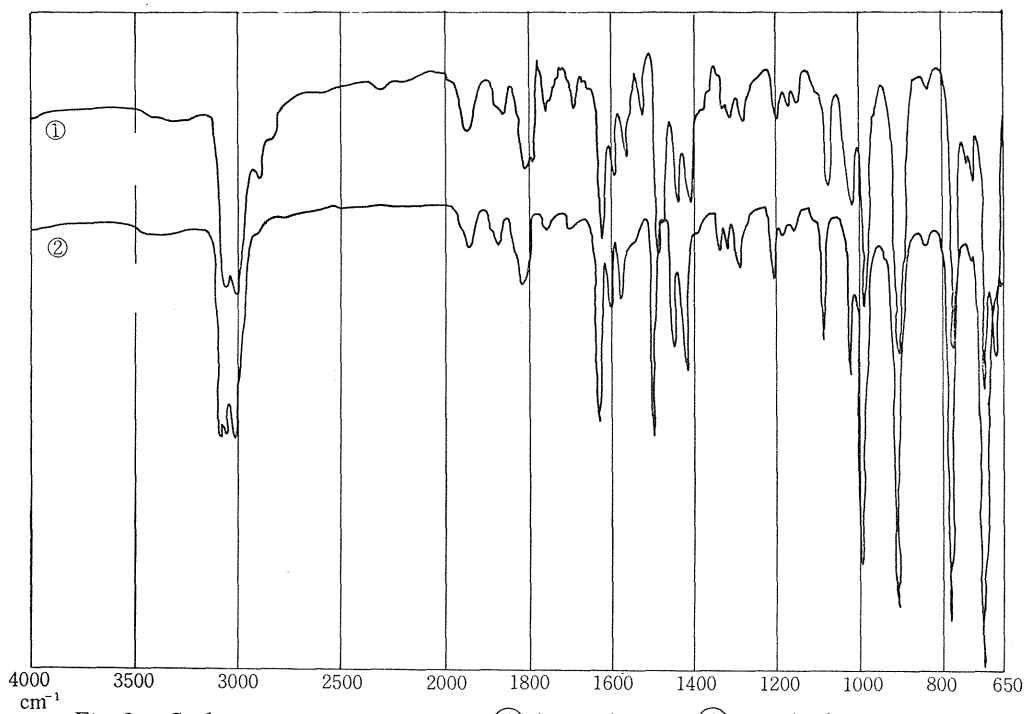


Fig. 9 Stylenemonomer

① by students ② standard

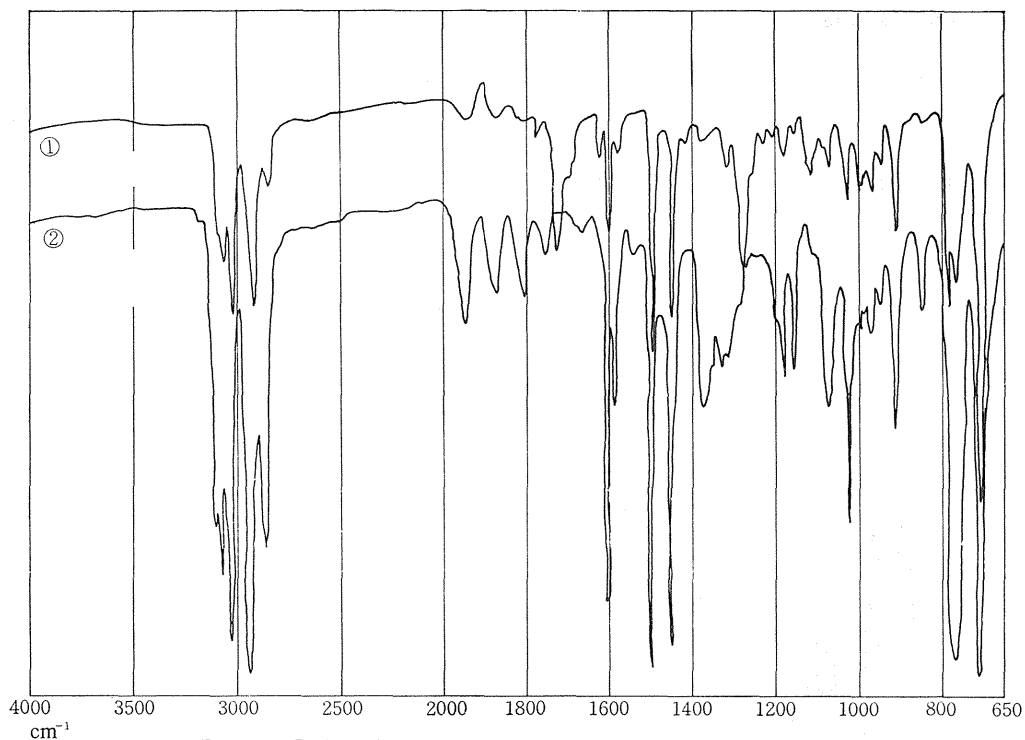


Fig. 10. Polystyrene

① by students ② polystyrene film

3. Microcomputers

3-a. Counting up Isomers of Alcohols and Alkanes

The number of isomers of saturated monohydric alcohols $C_nH_{2n+1}OH$ and alkanes C_nH_{2n+2} can be shown with an asymptotic formula.

If a series of the number of the isomers of the alcohols $C_nH_{2n+1}OH$ is chosen as a_n , the generating function of a_n is shown as next.

$$A(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_nx^n + \dots \quad (7)$$

And the next function can be taken.

$$A(x) = 1 + \frac{x}{6} [\{A(x)\}^3 + 3A(x)A(x^2) + 2A(x^3)] \dots \quad (8)$$

The number of isomers of the alkane C_nH_{2n+2} can be taken with using $A(x)$.

$$C(x) = P(x) - Q(x) + A(x^2) \dots \quad (9)$$

Provided that

$$P(x) = \frac{1}{24} \{ \{A(x)\}^4 + 6\{A(x)\}^2 A(x^2) + 3\{A(x)\}^2 8A(x)A(x) + 6A(x^4) \} \dots \quad (10)$$

$$Q(x) = \frac{1}{2} \{ \{A(x)\}^2 - 2A(x) + A(x^2) \} \dots \quad (11)$$

The beginning of the function C(x) is next.

$$C(x) = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + 2x^4 + 3x^5 + 5x^6 + 9x^7 + \dots \quad (12)$$

The computer programs of formula (8) (9) and the results are shown Fig. 11 and Fig. 12.

```

10 TIME#="00:00:00"
100 REM Enumeration of Isomer Number
110 REM by A.Kato
120 REM
130 DEFDBL A,P,Q,C
140 DIM A(30),A2(30)
150 DEFINT I,J,N
160 LPRINT "      N                A                C                TIME"
170 LPRINT
180 A(0)=1:A2(0)=1
190 FOR N=1 TO 30
200  N1=N-1
210  FOR I=0 TO N1
220    A(N)=A(N)+A(I)*A2(N1-I)
230  NEXT I
240  FOR I=0 TO N1 STEP 2
250    A(N)=A(N)+3*A(I)*A(N1-I)
260  NEXT I
270  A(N)=A(N)-(N1 MOD 3 = 0)*2*A(N1/3)
280  A(N)=INT(A(N)/6+.5)
290  P=- (N1 MOD 2 = 0)*3*A(N1/2)
300  FOR I=0 TO N1
310    P=P+A2(I)*A2(N1-I)
320  NEXT I
330  FOR I=0 TO N1 STEP 2
340    P=P+6*A(I)*A2(N1-I)
350  NEXT I
360  FOR I=0 TO N1 STEP 3
370    P=P+8*A(I)*A(N1-I)
380  NEXT I
390  P=P-(N1 MOD 4 = 0)*6*A(N1/4)
400  P=INT(P/24+.5)
410  FOR I=0 TO N
420    A2(N)=A2(N)+A(I)*A(N-I)
430  NEXT I
440  Q=A2(N)-2*A(N)-(N MOD 2 = 0)*A(N/2)
450  Q=INT(Q/2+.5)
460  C=P-Q-(N MOD 2 = 0)*A(N/2)
470  LPRINT USING "#####";N:
480  LPRINT USING "#####";C:
485  LPRINT "      "+PIGHT$(TIME$.4)
490  NEXT N
500 END

```

Fig. 11 Computer program

M	A	C	TIME
1	1	1	0:03
2	1	1	0:05
3	2	1	0:09
4	4	2	0:12
5	9	3	0:15
6	17	5	0:18
7	39	9	0:21
8	89	18	0:25
9	211	35	0:29
10	527	75	0:31
11	1,308	159	0:35
12	3,057	355	0:38
13	7,679	902	0:42
14	19,341	1,858	0:46
15	48,867	4,347	0:50
16	124,906	10,359	0:53
17	321,193	21,894	0:57
18	830,219	50,523	1:01
19	2,156,010	143,264	1:05
20	5,622,109	366,319	1:09
21	14,715,813	910,726	1:14
22	38,649,152	2,273,658	1:18
23	101,821,927	5,731,590	1:22
24	269,010,485	14,430,245	1:27
25	712,566,567	36,797,588	1:31
26	1,891,993,344	93,339,412	1:36
27	5,074,704,829	240,215,807	1:40
28	13,125,117,806	617,185,714	1:45
29	35,000,590,869	1,590,507,121	1:50
30	95,941,345,388	4,111,746,763	1:54

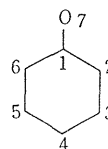
Fig. 12 Number of isomers A: alcohols C: alkanes

3-b. Orientation of the Aromatic Ring

The orientation of the aromatic ring is calculated with M.O method using the micro-computer. Fig. 13 Fig. 14.

<<<< MOLECULAR DIAGRAM >>>>

1.029	0.647	_____	_____	_____	0.647	0.238
0.647	1.010	0.670	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	0.670	1.000	0.664	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	0.664	1.010	0.664	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	0.664	0.999	0.670	_____
0.647	_____	_____	_____	0.670	1.011	_____
0.238	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	1.941

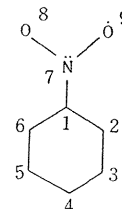


	FRONTIER ELECTRON DENSITY	POLARIZABILITY	SUPER-DELOCALIZABILITY	LOCALIZATION ENERGY
ortho-	0.209	0.487	0.884	2.454
meta-	0.108	0.397	0.832	2.539
para-	0.558	0.482	0.879	2.474

Fig. 13 Phenol (ortho, para)

<<< MOLECULAR DIAGRAM >>>

1.030	0.602	_____	_____	_____	0.603	0.404	_____	_____
0.602	0.943	0.682	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	0.682	1.001	0.656	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	0.656	0.948	0.656	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	0.656	1.001	0.682	_____	_____	_____
0.603	_____	_____	_____	0.682	0.943	_____	_____	_____
0.404	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	1.013	0.637	0.637
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	0.637	1.561	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	0.637	_____	1.561



	FRONTIER ELECTRON DENSITY	POLARIZABILITY	SUPER- DELOCALIZABILITY	LOCALIZATION ENERGY
ortho-	0.500	0.432	0.779	2.552
meta-	0.500	0.395	0.828	2.548
para-	0.000	0.416	0.753	2.625

Fig. 14 Nitrobenzene (meta)

4. pH-meters

Let x be as next in the acid-base titration.

$$x \equiv \frac{\text{the added volume of base (acid)}}{\text{the initial volume of acid (base)}}$$

And if the acid or the base in the initial solution is defined to be p or q, and the base or the acid in the addition solution is defined to be r or s, so each initial concentration of acid and base will be shown as Cap, Cbq, Cbr, Cas.

More

$$A(m) \equiv \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m (i[H^+]^{m-i} \prod_{1 \leq j \leq i} K_{aj})}{\sum_{i=0}^m ((H^+)^{m-i} \prod_{1 \leq j \leq i} K_{aj})} \dots \dots \dots (13)$$

$$B(m) \equiv \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m (i \left(\frac{K_w}{[H^+]}\right)^{m-i} \prod_{1 \leq j \leq i} K_{bj})}{\sum_{i=0}^m \left(\left(\frac{K_w}{[H^+]}\right)^{m-i} \prod_{1 \leq j \leq i} K_{bj}\right)} \dots \dots \dots (14)$$

are defined, and Ap(As) shows the value of A(m) about the acid p(S), and Bq(Br) shows the value of B(m) about the base q(r), so the x is shown with the next formula

$$x = \frac{[\sum_p (A_p C_{ap}) - \sum_q (B_q C_{bq})] (H^+) + K_w - [H^+]^2}{[\sum_r (B_r C_{br}) - \sum_s (A_s C_{as})] (H^+) - K_w + [H^+]^2}$$

The x is calculated, and the titration curve is formulated and compared with the experimental data of pH meters on the system of the oxalic acid-NaOH and the system of the oxalic acid- (ammonia water, pyridine solution).

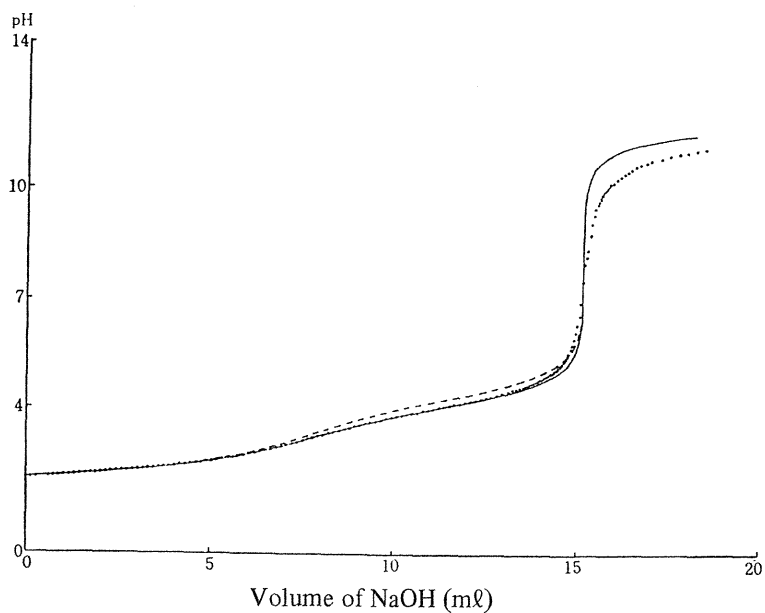


Fig. 15 Oxalic acid- NaOH

$C_a = 1.0238 \times 10^{-2}$ mol/l, $C_b = 4.05 \times 10^{-2}$ mol/l Oxalic acid $K_{a_1} = 5.36 \times 10^{-2}$,
 $K_{a_2} = 5.73 \times 10^{-5}$ (18°C) $K_w = 0.579 \times 10^{-14}$ (18°C)

--- (a) $\gamma = 1$ — (b) Debye-Hückel (c) experiment

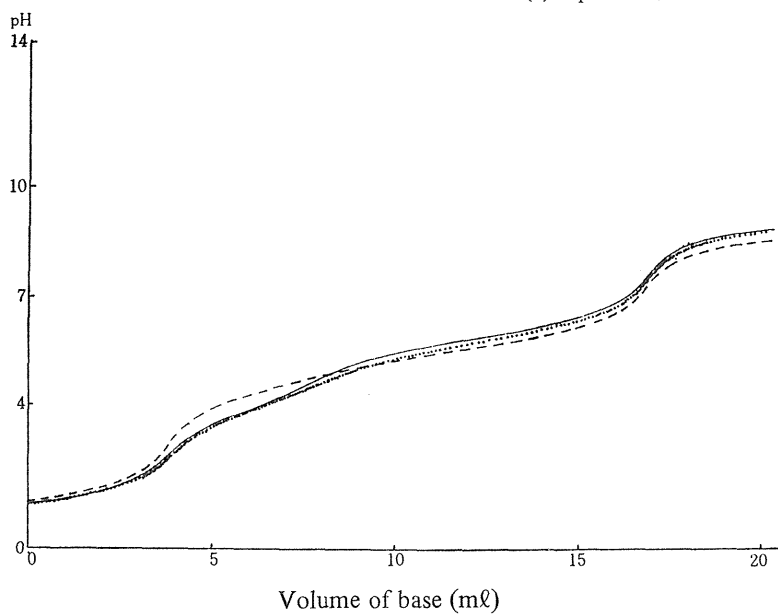


Fig. 16 Oxalic acid- NH_3 , pyridine

$C_a = 0.996 \times 10^{-1}$ mol/l, $C_{b_1} = 0.335$ mol/l (NH_3), $C_{b_2} = 0.432$ mol/l ($\text{C}_5\text{H}_5\text{N}$)
Oxalic acid $K_{a_1} = 5.36 \times 10^{-2}$, $K_{a_2} = 5.49 \times 10^{-5}$ (22.5°C) $\text{NH}_3 K_{b_1} = 1.75 \times 10^{-5}$ (22.5°C),
 $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5\text{N} K_{b_2} = 1.38 \times 10^{-9}$ $K_w = 0.832 \times 10^{-14}$ (22.5°C)