

Titration Solution for Quantitative Analysis of BuLi 2-Propanol 1.0 M in toluene with 0.2% of 1,10-phenanthroline

Product Aldrich #689327

Application

This ready-to-use reagent is for simple determination of BuLi-activity in hydrocarbons. It is designed to analyze product Fluka #20160 or product Aldrich #186171 (both 1.6 M BuLi in hexanes) with an accuracy of up to +/- 3%. The titration's end is shown by a color change of the incorporated indicator 1,10-phenanthroline (see Scheme below). Each stock bottle of 5 mL provides a sufficient volume for one double estimation of 1.6 M BuLi solution.



Composition

1000 mL of titration solution for quantitative analysis of BuLi (product Aldrich #689327) contain:

- 60.1 g of dry 2-propanol (active ingredient for BuLi neutralization, corresponds to c = 1.0 M)
- 2.0 g of 1,10-phenanthroline (indicator)
- in dry toluene

Required Materials

- Min. 4 disposable syringes, volume 1 mL, graduation 0.01 mL (recommended product Aldrich #Z230723)
- Min. 4 disposable needles (recommended product Aldrich #Z192570)
- Min. 20 mL of inert dry solvent e.g. toluene (recommended product Fluka #89677)
- 50 mL three-necked flask (preferred material glass) with matching septa
- Magnetic stirrer and stirring bar
- Ice bath (to realize $0 4 \circ C$)
- Protective gas supply (Argon preferred) with pressure balance valve

Procedure

- Connect the three-necked flask with the protective gas supply. Insert stirring bar, close middle flask-opening with the septum and flush set-up thoroughly with protective gas for 1-2 min (Picture 1).
- Note: Do not over-pressurize the closed flask!
- Minimize gas stream.
- Cool down the set-up to ca. +4 °C using an ice bath.





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Procedure

Inject ca. 10 mL of dry inert solvent (e.g. toluene) followed by exactly 1.0 mL of the BuLi sample solution to be tested (Picture 2). Load the 1 mL syringe with exactly 1.0 mL of titration solution Aldrich #689327 (Picture 3). Dispose exceeding amounts (> 1.0 mL) of titration solution Aldrich #689327. Note: The liquid inside the syringe must be free of bubbles. Picture 2 Picture 3 Inject the first 1.0 mL of *titration solution Aldrich #689327* slowly to the stirred sample solution (Picture 4). Its color will immediately turn to dark red (simultaneously the desired BuLi neutralization by 2-propanol starts). Load the 1 mL syringe with another 1.0 mL (exactly) of titration solution Aldrich #689327 from the stock bottle (Picture 3). Picture 4 Slowly inject the 2nd charge of *titration solution Aldrich* #689327 drop by drop to the stirred sample solution. The color change dark red / yellow indicates the neutralization of all active BuLi in the sample (Picture 5). At the neutralization point in the given example (Picture 5) the piston inside the syringe stopped at scale 0.3 mL. The totally consumed volume of 1.0 mL + 0.7 mL = 1.7 mL represents an active BuLi concentration of 1.7 mol/L.

Picture 5

For verification the above mentioned procedure should be repeated from the same bottle of *titration solution Aldrich #689327*. Please note that the stock bottle's membrane (see Picture 3) does not guarantee complete air tightness once perforated. Follow-up titration experiments should be carried out as soon as possible. Opened bottles are inappropriate for long-time storage.