

# An approximation method for determining key extraction constants in the equilibrium-analysis of Cd(II) extraction with 18-crown-6 ether into some diluents

## Abstract

Three key extraction-constants,  $K_{ex}$ ,  $K_{ex+}$  and  $K_{Cd/CdL}$  were determined at 298K with an approximate method. Here  $K_{ex}$ ,  $K_{ex+}$  and were defined as  $[CdLA_2]_{org} / [Cd^{2+}][L]_{org}[A^-]^2$ ,  $[CdLA^+]_{org} / [Cd^{2+}][L]_{org}[A^-]$  and  $[CdL^{2+}]_{org} / [Cd^{2+}][L]_{org}$ , respectively: L shows 18-crown-6 ether,  $A^-$  does picrate ion, and the subscript "org" denotes an organic phase. Diluents employed as the org phases were *o*-dichlorobenzene, bromobenzene, dibutylether, and nitrobenzene. In order to determine briefly these key constants, the following approximate equations were used:  $K_{ex} \approx D / [L]_{org}[A^-]^2$ , and  $K_{ex} \approx D / [L]_{org}[A^-]$ , where  $K_{Cd/CdL} \approx D / [L]_{org}$  refers to an experimental distribution ratio of Cd(II) between water and the org phases. The former two constants were compared with the corresponding values previously-determined. By comparing other many values, validity of the method was also examined and it was consequently clarified.

**Keywords:** extraction constants, distribution ratio, ion-pair formation constants, primary diagnosis, distribution constant of picrate ion, cadmium picrate, 18-crown-6 ether

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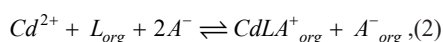
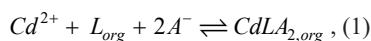
**Abbreviations:** ORG, organic; *o*DCBz, *o*-dichlorobenzene; BBz, bromobenzene; DBE, dibutylether; NB, nitrobenzene; Cd, cadmium; 18C6, 18-crown-6 ether; Pic<sup>-</sup>, picrate ion

## Introduction

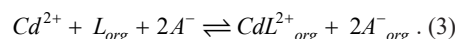
There are many studies for the metal extraction by crown compounds (L) and other extractants similar to L into various diluents, such as benzene, chloroform, 1,2-dichloroethane, and NB.<sup>1-17</sup> In these studies, procedures of equilibrium analyses have become more difficult for primary users or outsiders of the field year by year. The authors have also studied so far for the improvements of such procedures.<sup>9,15-17</sup> However, such improvements seem to reduce the convenience of the procedures especially for the users. So, one of the authors will report here a user-friendly procedure for analyzing the overall extraction equilibrium. As examples, the results of our previous paper<sup>17</sup> reported for the CdPic<sub>2</sub> extraction with 18C6 into *o*DCBz, BBz, DBE, and NB were handled.

## Case presentation

Simplification of the convoluted procedures<sup>3,4,10,12-17</sup> for the divalent-metal, M(II), extraction systems can stimulate an estimate of L functions by many workers. The overall M(II) extraction system with a univalent pairing anion ( $A^-$ ) can be expressed as the following three extraction equilibria:



And



The expressions of these equilibria as equilibrium constants are

$$K_{ex} = [CdLA_2]_{org} / [Cd^{2+}][L]_{org}[A^-]^2 \quad (1a)$$

$$K_{ex\pm} = [CdLA^+]_{org}[A^-]_{org} / [Cd^{2+}][L]_{org}[A^-] \quad (2a)$$

And

$$K_{ex2\pm} = [CdL^{2+}]_{org}([A^-]_{org})^2 / [Cd^{2+}][L]_{org}[A^-]^2 \quad [3,15] \quad (3a)$$

When one defines conditional distribution ratios,  $D_0$ ,  $D_{\pm}$

, and  $D_{2\pm}$  as  $[CdLA_2]_{org} / [Cd^{2+}]$ ,  $[CdLA^+]_{org} / [Cd^{2+}]$ , and  $[CdL^{2+}]_{org} / [Cd^{2+}]$  respectively, Eqs. (1a), (2a), and (3a) become

$$K_{ex} = D_0 / [L]_{org}[A^-]^2 \quad (1b)$$

$$K_{ex\pm} = D_{\pm}[A^-]_{org} / [L]_{org}[A^-]^2 = D_{\pm}K_{D,A} / [L]_{org}[A^-] \quad (2b)$$

And

$$K_{ex2\pm} = D_{2\pm}([A^-]_{org})^2 / [L]_{org}[A^-]^2 = D_{2\pm}(K_{D,A})^2 / [L]_{org} \quad (3b)$$

Moreover, expressing as  $K_{ex\pm} / K_{D,A} = K_{ex\pm}([CdLA^+]_{org} / [Cd^{2+}][L]_{org}[A^-]) / (K_{D,A})^2 = K_{Cd/CdL}([CdL^{2+}]_{org} / [Cd^{2+}][L]_{org})$ ,

Eqs. (2b) and (3b) become

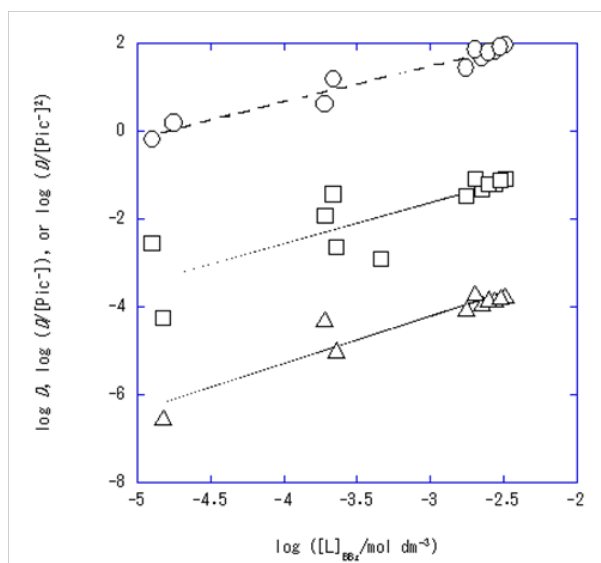
$$K_{ex+} = D_{\pm} / [L]_{org}[A^-] \quad (2C) \quad K_{Cd/CdL} = D_{2\pm} / [L]_{org} \quad (3c)$$

respectively. Here, although it was a rough handling, we assumed that the  $D_0$ ,

$D_{\pm}$ ,  $D_{2\pm}$  values equal the experimental distribution ratio ( $D$ ).

So, these assumptions were examined experimentally by comparison in  $K_{ex}$ ,  $K_{ex+}$ , and  $K_{2,org}$  between the procedures. The  $K_{ex}$  values can be directly compared with each other. The  $K_{ex+}$  values can be also compared with those calculated from the relation  $K_{ex+} = *K_{ex\pm} / (*K_{D,A})$ .<sup>15,17</sup> Furthermore, the  $K_{2,org}$  ( $= [CdLA_2]_{org} / [CdLA^+]_{org} [A^-]_{org}$ ) values calculated from  $K_{ex} / K_{ex+} (*K_{D,A})$  can be compared with those done from  $*K_{ex} / (*K_{ex\pm})$ .<sup>15-17</sup> Here, the symbols  $K$  with the asterisks denote the equilibrium constants determined with the other procedure reported in the previous papers<sup>15,17</sup> and  $K_{D,A}$  denotes a distribution constant,  $[A^-]_{org} / [A^-]$  of single  $A^-$  ion into the org phase. In this report, the author calls this procedure<sup>15,17</sup> reported before “the formal procedure”. In all calculations, the data<sup>17</sup> reported before were re-used.

In the previous paper,<sup>17</sup> the plot of  $(D / [Pic^-]^2)$  versus  $\log [L]_{BBz}$  for  $L = 18C6$  and  $A^- = Pic^-$  has given the straight line with the slope ( $a$ ) of 0.81 and an intercept ( $b$ ) of 3.90, the value corresponding to  $\log \log D$  versus  $\log [L]_{BBz}$  (circle in Figure 1). Here  $[L]_{BBz}$ ,  $[Pic^-]$  and  $[Cd^{2+}]$  have been calculated in terms of a successive approximation.<sup>10,15-17</sup> The same is true of the extraction systems with the other diluents. The slope less than unity shows the dissociation of  $CdLPic_2$  in the  $BBz$  phase.<sup>17</sup>



**Figure 1** The plots (1B) (circle), (2C) (square), and (3C) (triangle) for the  $BBz$  system with  $L = 18C6$ .

The plot of  $\log \log (D / [Pic^-]^2)$  versus  $\log [L]_{BBz}$  yielded a straight line with  $a = 0.93$  and  $b = 1.17$ , the  $b$  value to  $\log K_{ex+}$  (Figure 1). This  $a$  value shows the extraction of  $CdLPic^+$  into the  $BBz$  phase. The plot of  $\log \log \log D$  versus  $\log [L]_{BBz}$  gave a straight line with  $a = 1.08$  and  $b = -0.97$ , the value to  $\log K_{Cd/CdL}$  (Figure 1). This  $a$  value shows the extraction of  $CdL^{2+}$  into the  $BBz$  phase. From these

results, one can easily see the co-extraction of  $CdLPic_2$ ,  $CdLPic^+$  and  $CdL^{2+}$  into the  $BBz$  phase. Here, we call the  $\log [L]_{BBz}$  ( $x$ -axis) plots of  $\log (D / [Pic^-]^2)$ ,  $\log (D / [Pic^-])$  and  $\log D$  the plots (1B), (2C), and (3C), respectively. Similar data calculated for other systems are summarized in Table 1. The plots (1B) clearly indicate the dissociation of  $CdLPic_2$  in the  $oDCBz$  and  $NB$  phases.

In discussing the data obtained from the above plots, it is important to examine the overlap of the  $[L]_{org}$  or ionic strength ( $I$ ) values used for the data analyses; especially, the ( $I_{org}$ ) values of the org phases are important for the latter case. The larger overlaps among the data make comparisons among them possible. Figure 2 shows the overlap of  $IBBz$  among the plots for the extraction system with  $org = BBz$ . On the other hand, Figure 3 shows an example of a minimum  $I_{NB}$  overlap in the report. The  $BBz$  system indicates the better overlap, while the  $NB$  one does the less one. The latter suggests the larger deviation of the data determined with the present approximate procedure from the data with “the formal one”. A degree of the  $I_{org}$  overlap increased with the order,  $org = NB < oDCBz < BBz < DBE$ .

Table 2 lists the data of mainly  $\log K_{ex}$  and  $\log K_{ex+}$  for comparison. The both values agreed with each other within experimental errors, except for the  $NB$  systems. Also, the values for the  $oDCBz$  system were close to those<sup>17</sup> reported before. Considering the order, the both values even for the  $NB$  system agreed with each other. These facts indicate that the procedure proposed here, the approximate one, is effective for the determination of such extraction constants. The approximation procedure can be used for the primary diagnosis of the system at least.

The orders in  $K_{ex}$ ,  $K_{ex+}$ , and  $K_{Cd/CdL}$  were  $DBE \leq BBz \leq oDCBz < NB$ , except for the  $K_{ex}$  order in the reference.<sup>17</sup> Such orders were also observed in the plots, (2C) and (3C), with the  $a$  values of about unity (Table 1). A plot of  $\log$  (approximate  $K_{ex}$ ,  $K_{ex+}$ , or  $K_{2,org}$ ) versus  $\log$  (formal  $*K_{ex}$ ,  $*K_{ex+}$  or  $*K_{2,org}$ ) yielded a straight line of  $a=1.16$  and  $b=-0.74$  at  $R=0.995$  and  $N=13$

(Figure 4). Similarly, these facts indicate that the results of the approximate procedure well reflect those of the formal one.

From the values in Table 2, the following constants were obtainable:

$$K_{1,org} = \left\{ K_{ex+} / K_{Cd/CdL} (*K_{D,Pic}) \right\},$$

$$K_{2,org} = \left\{ K_{ex} / K_{ex+} (*K_{D,Pic}) \right\} [15-17],$$

$$K_{D,CdL} = \left\{ K_{Cd/CdL} K_{D,L} / K_{CdL}; K_{D,L} = [L]_{org} / [L], K_{CdL} = [CdL^{2+}] / [Cd^{2+}] [L] \right\},$$

$$\text{and } K_{ex\pm} = \left\{ K_{Cd/CdL} (*K_{D,Pic})^2 \right\}.$$

These constants  $K_{1,org}$ ,  $K_{2,org}$ , and  $K_{D,CdL}$ , are defined as  $[CdLPic^+]_{org} / [CdL^{2+}]_{org} [Pic^-]_{org}$ ,  $[CdLPic_2]_{org} / [CdLPic^+]_{org} [Pic^-]_{org}$ , and  $[CdL^{2+}]_{org} / [Cd^{2+}]_{org}$ , respectively. Their logarithmic values are summarized in Table 3. The  $K_{1,org}$  values were larger than or equal to the  $K_{2,org}$  ones. These facts suggest that a coordination structure around  $Cd(II)$  does not almost change in the two-step reactions with  $Pic^-$ .<sup>18</sup> Also, the  $K_{2,org}$  values thus-calculated were the same as those done from the formal procedures within experimental errors. As similar to the results in Table 2, these facts show the validity of the present procedure.

Figure 2 & 3 show the degrees of the overlap of the  $IBBz$  and  $INB$  data used for calculation. These degrees, together with those of the other two systems, rationally make comparisons between or among

the data, such as  $K_{ex}$ ,  $K_{ex+}$ , and  $K_{1,org}$ , possible, although the finding of the NB system may create dissatisfaction.

## Discussion

Simplification of the convoluted procedures<sup>3,4,10,12-17</sup> for the M(II) extraction systems, compared with the procedures<sup>1-3,5,6,8,9,11</sup> for the monovalent-metal extraction ones, must stimulate an estimate of L functions by many workers. Unfortunately, there are still complicated treatments for the evaluation of equilibrium concentrations, such as  $[Cd^{2+}]$ ,  $[L]_{org}$  and  $[A^-]$ , by the successive approximation,<sup>17</sup> before

the use of the present procedure. However, the procedure proposed here can be useful for the workers who expect a primary diagnostic determination of some extraction constants, because the procedure uses directly the experimental  $D$  values. Besides, such constants derive valuable component equilibrium-constants from several thermodynamic cycles, as shown in Case Presentation. Additionally, Figure 2 & 3 suggest an importance of the ionic strength for the phases in the determination of the equilibrium constants by the extraction experiments.<sup>1,6,8-11,13</sup>

**Table 1** Data of the plots for composition determination of extracted species in the CdPic2 extraction with 18C6 at 298 K

Diluent	Plot (1B) <sup>1)</sup>		Plot (2C)		Plot (3C)	
	$A^{2)}$	$b^{2,3)}$	$a^{2)}$	$b^{2,4)}$	$a^{2)}$	$b^{2,5)}$
oDCBz	0.76	3.39	1.02	2.01	0.94	-0.51
DBE	1.02	4.61	0.96	0.78	0.99	-1.53
NB	0.55	4.80	0.99	4.92	1.05	3.23

**Table 2** Fundamental data for comparisons between the both procedures

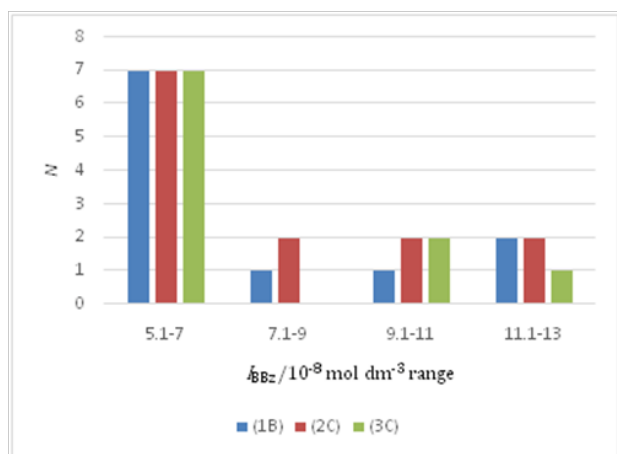
Diluent	$\log K_{ex}$		$\log K_{ex+}$		$\log K_{Cd/CdL}$
	This Report	Ref. [17]1)	This Report	Calculated 1,2)	This Report
oDCBz	$4.4_4 \pm 0.4_6$	4.31, 4.21	$1.9_8 \pm 0.2_2$	$2.4_6 \pm 0.2_8$	$-0.2_5 \pm 0.2_0$
BBz	$4.2_6 \pm 0.4_5$	4.38	$1.7_0 \pm 0.5_7$	$1.9_7 \pm 0.4_2$	$-1.1_1 \pm 0.3_9$
DBE	$3.8_1 \pm 0.5_3$	4.2	$1.1_3 \pm 0.3_4$	$1.8_1 \pm 0.5_3$	$-1.3_3 \pm 0.3_2$
NB	$6.6_3 \pm 0.4_0$	6.14	$4.9_6 \pm 0.0_4$	$4.6_1 \pm 0.1_4$	$2.9_5 \pm 0.0_3$

<sup>1)</sup>Values determined with the formal procedure. <sup>2)</sup>Values calculated from the data in ref. [17] by using  $\log K_{ex+} = \log \{K_{ex+}/(*K_{D,Pic})\}$

**Table 3** Some equilibrium constants estimated from  $K_{ex}$ ,  $K_{ex+}$ , and  $K_{Cd/CdL}$  for the CdPic2 extraction with 18C6 at 298K1)

Diluent ( $\log *K_{D,Pic}$ ) <sup>2)</sup>	$\log K_{1,org}$	$\log K_{2,org}$ ) <sup>2)</sup>	$\log K_{D,CdL}$	$\log K_{ex2+}$
oDCBz (-5.5, -4.2)	$8.2_0 \pm 0.3_7$	$7.9_5 \pm 0.5_3$ (7.3, 7.5)	-1.33	$-11.2_3 \pm 0.2_8$
BBz (-4.6)	$7.7_2 \pm 0.6_1$	$7.2_0 \pm 0.7_5$ (7.0)	-2.18	$-10.3_9 \pm 0.4_9$
DBE (-5.1)	$8.2_1 \pm 0.7_5$	$7.7_5 \pm 0.7_6$ (7.5)	-4.05	$-11.4_8 \pm 0.6_8$
NB (-2.35)	$4.0_2 \pm 0.1_5$	$4.0_2 \pm 0.4_0$ (3.9)	2.00	$-1.7_6 \pm 0.07$

<sup>1)</sup>See the text. <sup>2)</sup>Values reported in ref.<sup>17</sup>

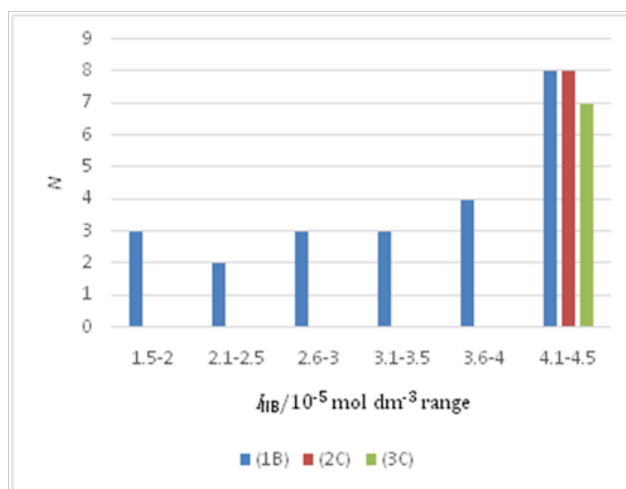


**Figure 2** A distribution in  $I_{BBz}$  among the plots, (1B), (2C), and (3C) for the BBz extraction system. The symbol N refers to the number of data.

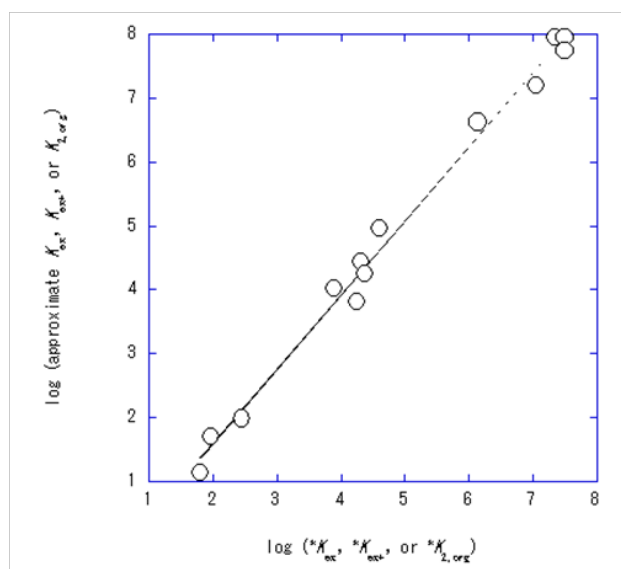
## Conclusion

It was shown that Eqs. (1b), (2c), and (3c) with  $D (= D_0 = D_{\pm} = D_{2\pm})$  are useful for the primary-diagnostic determination of  $K_{ex}$ ,  $K_{ex+}$ , and  $K_{Cd/CdL}$  respectively. In the present extraction systems, the  $K_{1,org}$  and

$K_{ex2+}$  values were newly obtained from the  $K_{ex+}$  and  $K_{Cd/CdL}$  values. These results facilitate applications for next stages with the extraction experiments by other users.



**Figure 3** A distribution in  $I_{NB}$  among the plots, (1B), (2C), and (3C) for the NB extraction system; see Figure 2 for N. This is the case of the minimum overlap in the report.



**Figure 4** A plot of  $\log$  (approximate  $K_{ex}$ ,  $K_{ex+}$ , or  $K_{2,org}$ ) vs.  $\log$  (formal  $*K_{ex}$ ,  $*K_{ex+}$ , or  $*K_{2,org}$ )<sup>17</sup> for the CdPic2 extraction with 18C6.

## Conflicts of interest

Any financial interest or any conflict of interest does not exist in the report.

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