Purification Methods of Organic Compounds

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Opinion Article

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OPINION

Isn't it true that nearly everything we see now-a-days is impure? Purification procedures are also required for the water we drink and the food we consume. Organic substances follow the same pattern. Purification of organic substances can be done in a number of ways. What is the significance of these issues and what can we do to address them? Let's find out everything we can in this chapter!

Types of Purification

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Purification of chemicals can be accomplished using a variety of ways. However, the technique chosen is determined by the type of the material (whether solid or liquid). It also relies on the pollutants that are present. These procedures are widely used to purify chemicals.

- Simple crystallization
- Fractional crystallization
- Simple distillation
- Fractional distillation
- Chromatography

Simple Crystallization

The process by which a solid develops, in which the atoms or molecules are strongly ordered into a structure known as a crystal, is known as crystallization. Crystals form in a variety of processes, including precipitation from a solution, freezing and in rare cases, direct deposition from a gas.

Fractional Crystallization

Fractional crystallization is a chemical technique for purifying compounds based on variations in solubility. It fractionates based on crystallization differences (forming of crystals). If a solution containing two or more compounds is allowed to crystallize, for example by lowering or raising the temperature of the solution, the precipitate will include more of the least soluble material. The solubility products will determine the percentage of components in the precipitate. If the solubility products are too similar to separate completely, a cascade procedure will be required. In chemical engineering, this approach is frequently employed to generate extremely pure chemicals or to recover saleable products from waste solutions. Solid-solid mixtures can be separated via fractional crystallization. Separating KNO₃ and KClO₃ is an example of this.

Simple Distillation

Simple distillation is the process of selectively boiling and condensation to separate components or substances from a liquid mixture. The heating of solid materials to create gaseous products is known as dry distillation (which may condense into liquids or solids). Distillation can produce an almost full separation (almost pure components) or a partial separation (increased concentration of chosen components in the mixture). The method takes use of variations in the relative volatility of the mixture's components in each instance. Distillation is a unit operation of nearly universal relevance in industrial applications, although it is a physical separation process, not a chemical reaction.

Fractional Distillation

Fractional distillation is the process of separating a mixture into its basic constituents, or fractions. Chemical compounds can be separated by heating them to a temperature where one or more parts of the mixture evaporate. To fractionate, it employs distillation. Less than one atmosphere of pressure, the boiling points of the component components should differ by no more than 25°C (45°F). A simple distillation is usually employed when the difference in boiling points is larger than 25°C.

Chromatography

Chromatography can be used for both analytical and preparative applications. Preparative chromatography is a type of purification that is used to separate the components of a mixture for later use. Analytical chromatography uses smaller amounts of material to detect the presence or quantify the relative proportions of analytes in a mixture. It is not necessary for the two to be mutually exclusive.