

CONTENTS

• List of Figures	i
• List of Tables	vi
• List of Abbreviations	viii

CHAPTER 1 Introduction

1.1 General introduction	1
1.2 Background of the work	2
1.3 Research Objective	3
1.4 Outline of the thesis	4

CHAPTER 2 Heavy Metals in Aqueous Solutions: Sources, Effects and Reclamation

2.1 Introduction	6
2.2 Sources of heavy metals in wastes and the need for recycle	7
2.3 Toxic effect of heavy metals on human body	10
2.4 Heavy metal removal from aqueous streams	10
2.4.1 Chemical precipitation	12
2.4.2 Adsorption	13
2.4.3 Electrochemical	13
2.4.4 Coagulation and flocculation	14
2.4.5 Floatation	14
2.4.6 Ion Exchange	15
2.4.7 Membrane Filtration	15
2.5 Solvent Extraction	18
2.5.1 Metal extractants and their classification	20
2.5.2 Cationic /Acidic extractants	20
2.5.3 Anionic/Basic extractants	23
2.5.4 Solvating Extractants	24
2.5.5 Properties of Extractants	25
2.5.6 Selection of extractant	26
2.5.7 Diluent	26

2.5.8 Overview of recent literature	27
2.6 Conclusions	30
References	30
CHAPTER 3 Materials and Methods	
3.1 Materials and reagents	42
3.1.1 Metal bearing aqueous streams as resources	42
3.1.2 Extractants	43
3.1.3 Diluent	44
3.1.4 Strippant	44
3.1.5 Miscellaneous chemicals	45
3.2 Analytical procedures	45
3.2.1 Metal analysis	45
3.2.2 pH measurement	46
3.3 General experimental procedure	46
3.3.1 Chloride, sulfate, nitrate and ammoniacal nitrogen determination	46
3.3.2 Extraction	47
3.3.3 Precipitation-stripping	47
3.4 Characterization of particles	48
References	50
CHAPTER 4 Recovery of Copper and Zinc from Spent Brass Pickle Liquors	
4.1 Introduction	51
4.2 Solvent extraction of copper from chloride media	56
4.2.1 Extraction of copper	56
4.2.2 Extraction using hydroxyoximes	57
4.2.3 Extractants other than hydroxyoximes	59
4.2.4 Mixed extractants	60
4.3 Solvent extraction of zinc from chloride media	60
4.3.1 Extractant types and effects	61

4.3.2	Mixed extractants and mixed solutes	64
4.4	Summary of copper and zinc extraction from chloride media	65
4.5	Experimental	65
4.5.1	Extraction	65
4.5.2	Precipitation-Stripping	66
4.5.3	Characterization of particles	66
4.6	Results and Discussion	67
4.6.1	Copper and zinc speciation in chloride media	67
4.6.2	Strategy of separation	69
4.6.3	Extraction of copper from spent pickle liquor using LIX 84-IC	69
4.6.4	Effect of extractant concentration and maximum loading capacity	71
4.6.5	Effect of equilibrium pH	71
4.6.6	Study of copper complexation with LIX84-IC using IR Spectroscopy	73
4.6.7	Extraction of zinc using D2EHPA	75
4.6.8	Study of zinc complexation with D2EHPA using IR Spectroscopy	76
4.6.9	Precipitation - Stripping of copper and zinc from loaded organic phase	78
4.6.10	Precipitation using oxalic acid: Theoretical considerations	79
4.6.11	Precipitation-stripping of copper from LIX84-IC: Theoretical aspects	81
4.6.12	Precipitation-stripping of zinc from D2EHPA: Theoretical aspects	83
4.6.13	Results of Precipitation-stripping of copper and zinc	84
4.6.14	Characterization of oxalates	85
4.6.15	Oxide preparation by thermal decomposition of oxalate and their characterization	88

4.6.16 Morphology of oxalates and oxides	90
4.7 Development of processing scheme	92
4.8 Conclusions	93
References	96

CHAPTER 5 Reclamation of Copper from Spent Ammoniacal

Printed Circuit Board Etch Solutions

5.1 Introduction	106
5.2 PCB classification and manufacturing process	108
5.3 PCB etching process	109
5.4 Regeneration strategies and copper recovery from spent etch solutions	111
5.5 Experimental	116
5.5.1 Extraction	116
5.5.2 Precipitation-Stripping	116
5.5.3 Characterization	116
5.5.4 Catalytic activity	117
5.6 Results and Discussion: Copper extraction	118
5.6.1 Copper speciation in ammoniacal media	119
5.6.2 Copper extraction from ammoniacal solution	120
5.6.3 Effect of equilibrium pH	120
5.6.4 Effect of extractant concentration	121
5.6.5 Extraction isotherm and counter current simulation	122
5.7 Results and Discussion: Precipitation-Stripping of copper	124
5.7.1 Precipitation-Stripping of copper using oxalic acid solutions	124
5.7.2 Precipitation-stripping of copper in ethanol-oxalic acid mixtures	126
5.8 Results and Discussion: Characterization	130
5.8.1 Characterization of copper oxalate particles	130
5.8.2 Characterization of copper oxide particles	139
5.9 Process scheme for copper recovery	143

5.10	Application of copper oxide for reduction reaction of nitrobenzene to aniline	144
5.10.1	Reduction of nitrobenzene to aniline	145
5.11	Conclusions	148
	References	150

CHAPTER 6 Particle Formation During Precipitation- Stripping

Recovery of Copper and Zinc from Brass Rinse Waters

6.1	Summary of Literature	158
6.2	Experimental	163
6.3	Results and Discussion	164
6.3.1	Extraction	164
6.3.2	Effect of agitation speed and time on the Precipitation-Stripping of copper and zinc	165
6.3.3	Effect of oxalic acid concentration on the Precipitation-Stripping of copper and zinc	171
6.3.4	Effect of metal loading on the Precipitation-Stripping of copper and zinc	176
6.3.5	Characterization of oxalates and oxides	177
6.3.6	Morphology of particles formed by precipitation-stripping	179
6.3.7	Recyclability of extractant	184
6.4	Antibacterial properties of copper and zinc oxide	185
6.5	Conclusions	188
	References	189

CHAPTER 7 CONCLUSIONS

7.1	General outline	193
7.2	Recovery of copper and zinc from brass pickle liquor	194
7.3	Recovery of copper from spent PCB etch solutions	195
7.4	Particle formation during precipitation-stripping	196
7.5	Concluding Remarks	198

PUBLICATIONS