

Technische Universität München Analytical Research Group PD Dr. Thomas Letzel; PD Dr. Johanna Graßmann	Exam Questions Separating and cleaning up substances, basic laboratory techniques
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Questions from the “PAL Prüfungsbuch”
Separating and cleaning up substances, basic laboratory techniques

186: Which operation does *not* lead to a weighing error on an analysis balance?

- 1) Weighing of propanone in a 50 mL beaker glass
- 2) Weighing of ice cold water in a closed weighing glass
- 3) Weighing of benzoic acid in an electrostatically charged polyethylene cup
- 4) Weighing of dried sodium chloride in a weighing scoop
- 5) Weighing of sugar in a 800 mL beaker glass

187: A sample is to be prepared for further processing. Which of the mentioned operations does *not* belong to this?

- 1) Synthesizing
- 2) Dissolving
- 3) Homogenizing
- 4) Grinding
- 5) Aliquoting

188: In preparation for analysis contaminants are to be removed by extraction. What statement is correct?

- 1) The analyte must be equally soluble in the first (raffinate phase) and the second (extraction phase) solvent.
- 2) The solvents must be miscible with each other
- 3) The solvents should have the same density
- 4) The solvents should separate from each other as quickly as possible
- 5) When adding the second solvent (extraction phase) the analyte must precipitate

189: What is understood by Classifying?

- 1) Mechanical disassembly of a solid compound mixture into particles with equal chemical characteristics
- 2) Mechanical disassembly of a solid compound mixture into particles of equal particle size ranges
- 3) Separation of iron from a mixture by using a magnet
- 4) Chemical disassembly of a mixture by decomposition
- 5) Thermal treatment of wastes

190: For which of the named salts temperature has the *least* influence on the solubility in water?

- 1) KNO_3
- 2) NaCl
- 3) KCl
- 4) NaNO_3
- 5) CaCl_2



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197: Which statement about organic solvents is *wrong*?

- 1) Organic solvents can develop vapours whose density is lower than the density of air
- 2) Organic solvents can have a fat solving effect
- 3) Organic solvents can be flammable
- 4) Organic solvents can be absorbed through the skin
- 5) Organic solvents can have an anesthetic effect

198: Which of the five answers shows the correct order of the solvents regarding their increasing polarity (left to right)?

- 1) Pentane, methanol, trichloromethane, water
- 2) Methanol, water, pentane, trichloromethane
- 3) Pentane, trichloromethane, methanol, water
- 4) Trichloromethane, pentane, water, methanol
- 5) Water, methanol, pentane, trichloro-methane

203: What can trigger the crystallisation of a substance?

- 1) Centrifugation
- 2) Seeding
- 3) Decantation
- 4) Extraction
- 5) Absorbing

204: On which of the named answers the sedimentation velocity in a centrifuge does *not* depend?

- 1) Rotational speed of the rotor
- 2) Diameter of the rotor
- 3) Relative centrifugal acceleration (RCF = relative centrifugal force)
- 4) Diameter of the centrifugal tube
- 5) Difference of the densities of the substances that are to be separated

205: Which statement about filtration methods (techniques) is *wrong*?

- 1) Filtrations can be performed at normal pressure, excess pressure and reduced pressure
- 2) In gravimetric determination methods specialty papers are used which ash does not influence the analytical results
- 3) In suction filters and filter crucibles the cake layer has to be mechanically removed (e.g. with a spatula from the inside of the filter crucibles)
- 4) Negative pressure is applied when sucking off with the help of nutsch filters and frits
- 5) Filter aids support the creation of a firm filter cake by the formation of capillaries and therewith promote filtration performance



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206: The filtration performance of a suction filter is to be raised. Which method is *not* appropriate?

- 1) Enlargement of the filter surface area
- 2) Increasing the pressure difference
- 3) Usage of a filter medium with a smaller pore size
- 4) Lowering the viscosity of the liquid
- 5) Increasing the size of the particulate matters in the suspension

207: A very finely dispersed solid matter with a density of $> 1 \text{ g/cm}^3$ is to be separated from the aqueous phase. Which method is most appropriate?

- 1) Centrifugation
- 2) Suction filtration with a paper filter
- 3) Simple filtration
- 4) Suction filtration with a glass or ceramic frit
- 5) Pressure filtration

208: Which circumstance does *not* increase the filtration velocity of a suction filter?

- 1) There is a high liquid layer above the filter cake
- 2) The vacuum in the receiving flask is very good
- 3) The liquid to be sucked off has a very low viscosity
- 4) There is a very thick layer of filter cake on the filtration medium
- 5) A large pored filter is used

209: Which of the named requirements must a solvent amongst others have that is used for solid matter extraction?

- 1) Low density
- 2) Good dissolving capacity
- 3) Low vapour pressure
- 4) High viscosity
- 5) High boiling temperature

210: Which separation process *cannot* be applied for the separation of homogeneous liquid mixtures?

- 1) Rectification
- 2) Extraction
- 3) Filtration
- 4) Steam distillation
- 5) Vacuum distillation



216: Which drying method is chemically effective?

- 1) Drying with silica gel
- 2) Drying with phosphorus(V)-oxide
- 3) Drying with aluminium oxide
- 4) Drying with molecular sieves
- 5) Drying by freeze out

217: Which of the named devices is able to dry a moist solid matter the fastest?

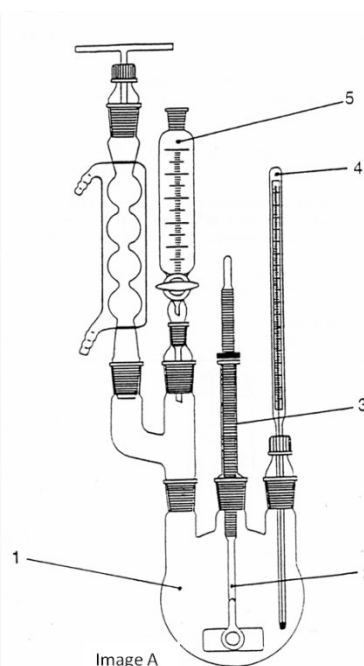
- 1) Desiccator
- 2) Vacuum desiccator
- 3) Water bath
- 4) Drying oven
- 5) Vacuum drying oven

219: Which statement about laboratory heat sources is *wrong*?

- 1) Heating plates are not absolutely safe because flammable vapours may be inflamed by them
- 2) Water baths serve to heat liquids that are not allowed to be heated by an open flame
- 3) Oil baths serve to ensure an even heat transfer mostly at temperatures above 90°C
- 4) Gas burners incinerate fuel gas with air, the maximum combustion temperature is approx. 500°C
- 5) Muffle furnaces reach temperatures of more than 1000°C

246: Image A. Which part of the outlined apparatus is named *incorrectly*?

- 1) Part 1: Three-neck round-bottom flask
- 2) Part 2: Paddle mixer
- 3) Part 3: Bearing bushing/ Stirrer guide
- 4) Part 4: Resistance thermometer
- 5) Part 5: Dropping funnel



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247: What is the principle of rectification?

- 1) The cooling water that is fed into the heat exchanger runs against the steam that is to be condensed
- 2) It is a distillation that is operated with an electric circuit controller to maintain a constant temperature
- 3) The condensate that is formed in the column runs against the upward flowing steam
- 4) It is based on the fact that liquids under vacuum can be distilled at a lower temperature than at normal pressure
- 5) In rectification the forming steam cannot be immediately discharged, so that an opposing dynamic pressure develops

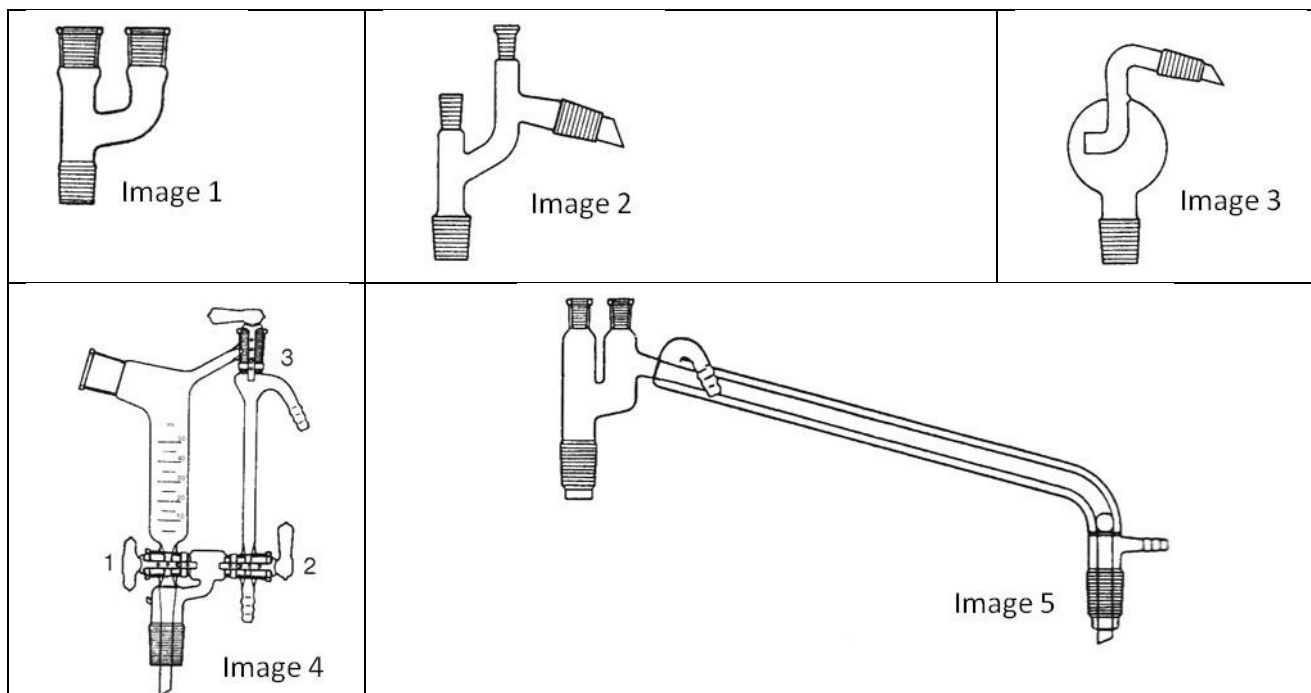
250: Which statement about steam distillation is correct?

- 1) This distillation method is suitable only for matters that are not or only very little soluble in water
- 2) In steam distillation only matters that possess a boiling point below 100°C will distil over
- 3) In steam distillation it has to be made sure that even before starting the distillation process the receiver is filled with water circa half-full
- 4) In steam distillation substance and water always condense in a mass ratio of 1:1
- 5) It is only possible to distill substances with steam that dissolve well in water

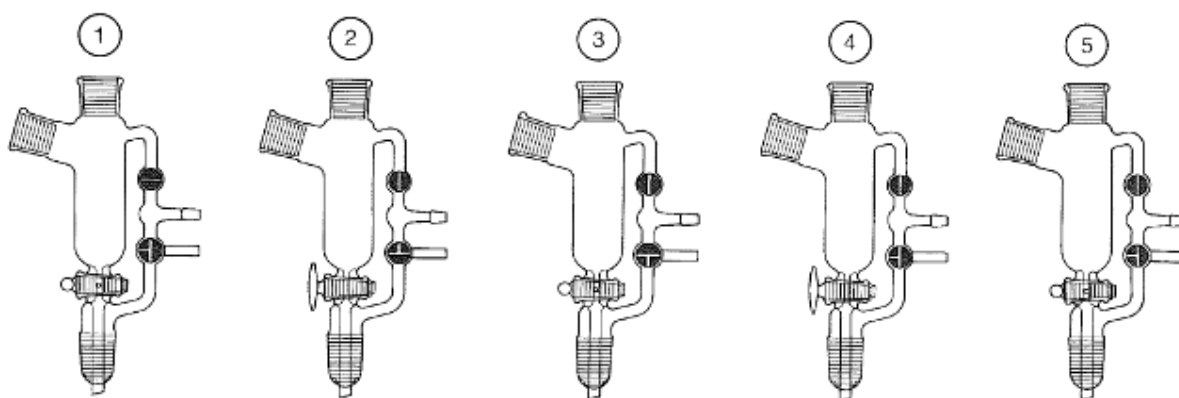


251: Which image shows a distillation condenser adapter?

- 1) Image 1
- 2) Image 2
- 3) Image 3
- 4) Image 4
- 5) Image 5



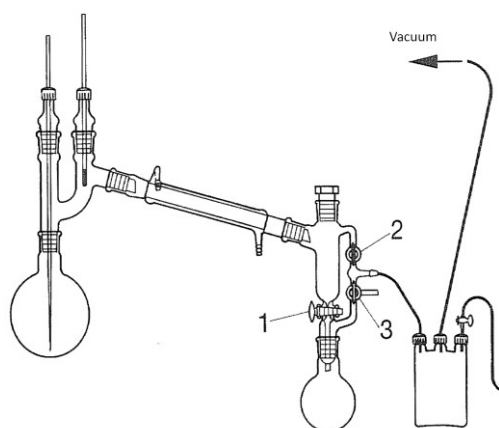
252: Which vacuum alternating adapter shows the correct tap position, if the receiver is to be changed whilst the rest of the apparatus remains under an evacuated condition?



253: In which case is it necessary to conduct a vacuum distillation instead of a standard pressure distillation?

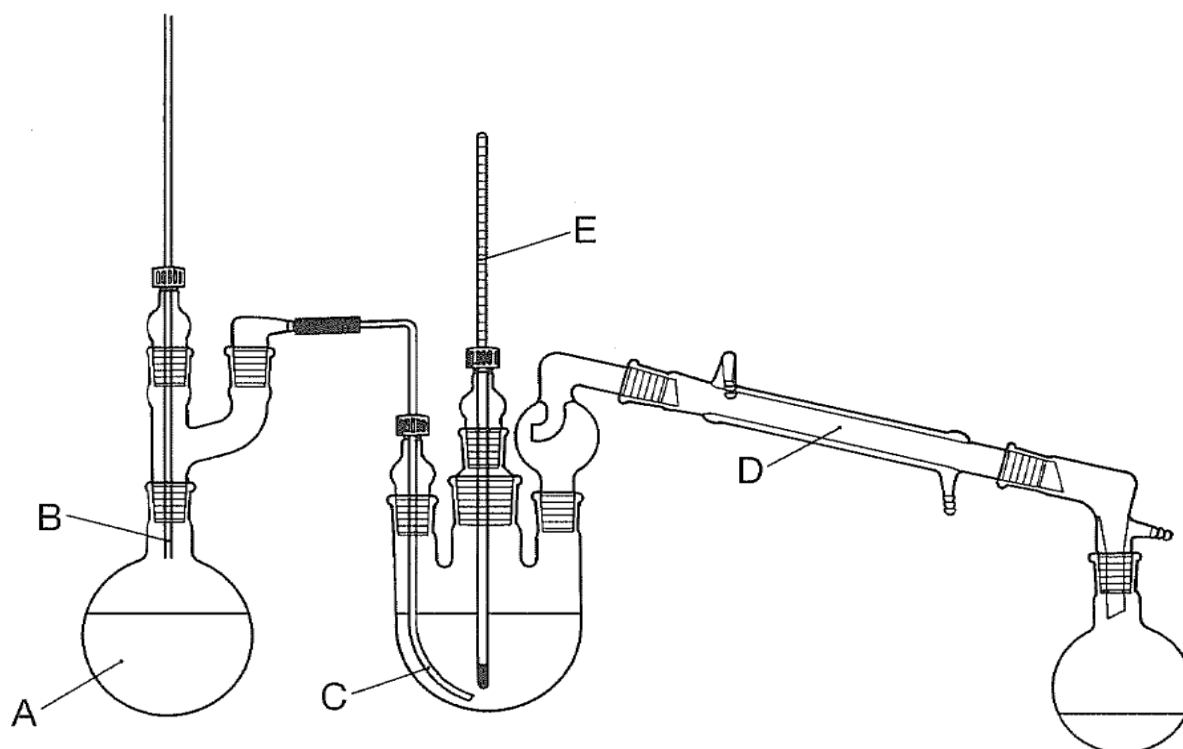
- 1) If the substance that is to be distilled is flammable
- 2) If the decomposition point of the substance lies under the boiling point at standard pressure
- 3) If the substance that is to be distilled is viscous
- 4) If the substance that is to be distilled is sensitive to oxygen
- 5) If the substance does easily crystallize

254: In which order must the valves 1 - 3 of the vacuum alternating adapter be operated so that the receiver can be changed whilst the rest of the apparatus remains under an evacuated condition?



- 1) 1, 2, 3, change receiver, 3, evacuate receiver, 3, 2, 1
- 2) 1, 3, change receiver, 3,2, evacuate receiver, 1, 2, 3
- 3) 2, 1, 3, change receiver, 3, evacuate receiver, 1, 2
- 4) 1, 3, 2, change receiver, 3,2, evacuate receiver, 2, 1
- 5) 1, 3, change receiver, 2,3, evacuate receiver, 2, 1

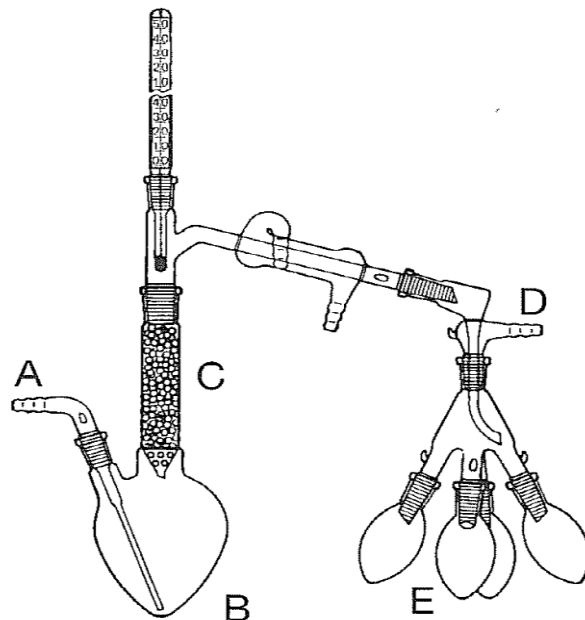
258: Image A shows a steam distillation apparatus. Which detail is *depicted wrong*?



- 1) A thermometer is missing in flask A
- 2) Tube B does not immerse far enough
- 3) Tube C is too long
- 4) Condensor D has to be a coil condenser
- 5) Thermometer E does immerse to deep

259: Which statement about the method of working of the shown vacuum distillation apparatus is *wrong*?

- 1) A is the boiling capillary. Before starting up the glass tube that is immersed into the flask must be pulled out.
- 2) B is a pointed flask. Its advantage to a round-bottom flask it can be distilled out to a smaller residue.
- 3) C is a packed column. With packing bodies a better separation of a liquid mixture is achieved than without.
- 4) D is the vacuum connection. Before the apparatus can be taken into service a tap must be installed that makes it possible to aerate the system when the udder-type receiver is rotated
- 5) E are small flasks that take up the individual fractions



260: The adjoining image shows a vacuum receiving changer according to Anschütz-Thiele. Which of the given answers describes its function *incorrectly*?

- 1) After the receiver has been changed at first tap C must be closed, then tap A can be opened
- 2) To change the receiver first tap B must be closed
- 3) To remove the vacuum in the receiver tap C must be opened
- 4) As soon as the receiver is evacuated tap B is opened
- 5) The vacuum connection is carried out underneath tap C, whilst air is able to stream underneath tap A as soon as it is opened

