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Zhipeng Wang, Songdong Ding, Xiaoyang Hu, Shimeng Li, Dongping Su, Lirong Zhang, Ying Liu, Yongdong Jin

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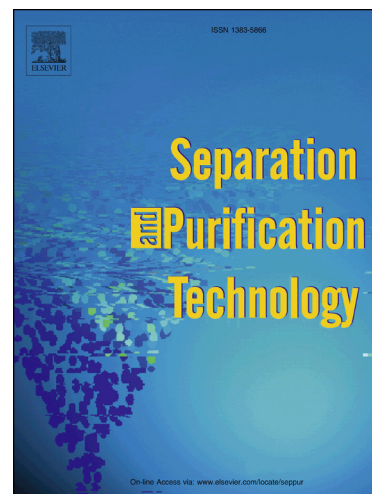
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Selective extraction of Am(III) over Eu(III) in nitric acid solution by NTAamide(C8) using a novel water-soluble bisdiglycolamide as a masking agent

Zhipeng Wang, Songdong Ding*, Xiaoyang Hu, Shimeng Li, Dongping Su, Lirong Zhang, Ying Liu, Yongdong Jin*

(College of Chemistry, Sichuan University, Chengdu 610064, P.R. China)

* Corresponding author. Tel.: +86 28 85412329.

E-mail addresses: dsd68@163.com (S. D. Ding); jinyongdong@scu.edu.cn (Y. D. Jin).

Abstract

A novel water-soluble ligand of *N,N,N''',N'''*-tetraethyl-*N',N''*-ethidene bisdiglycolamide (TEE-BisDGA) was synthesized and used as a masking agent for selective extraction of Am(III) over Eu(III) from HNO₃ solution by *N,N,N',N',N'',N''*-hexaoctylnitrilotriacetamide (NTAamide(C8)) in kerosene. Influences of acidity, concentration of water-soluble ligands and extractant on the distribution ratios (*D*) and separation factors (*SF*) of Am(III) and Eu(III) were investigated. In the range of examined acidity from 0.001 to 0.2 mol/L, *D*_{Am} and *D*_{Eu} decreased with the increase of HNO₃ concentration. Using 0.1 mol/L NTAamide(C8) as an extractant, the maximum *SF*_{Am/Eu} of 26 can be obtained in the presence of 0.01 mol/L TEE-BisDGA in aqueous phase with pH of 3.0, which was significantly higher than that case with no TEE-BisDGA. Job's method and mole ratio method were employed for extraction mechanism research. It has been shown that Am(III) and

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