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Method

Sample Preparation

If the seawater contains traces of solid matter such as sand or seaweed, it must be filtered before use.

Titration

1. Dilute seawater by pipetting a 20 mL sample into a 100 mL volumetric flask and making it up to the mark with distilled water.
2. Pipette a 10 mL aliquot of diluted seawater into a conical flask and add about 50 mL distilled water and 1 mL of chromate indicator.
3. Titrate the sample with 0.1 mol L^{-1} silver nitrate solution. Although the silver chloride that forms is a white precipitate, the chromate indicator initially gives the cloudy solution a faint lemon-yellow colour (figure 1).