



Introduction to radionuclide separation techniques

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Radionuclide separation

- Selective precipitation
- Ion exchange chromatography
- Liquid-liquid extraction
- Extraction chromatography
- Distillation

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Selective precipitation

- Separation based on differences in solubility at different chemical conditions (usually pH)
- One radionuclide stay in solution, other precipitate out => you can separate them
- Examples:
- Sr from Ca with fuming nitric acid
- Ra from Pb by forming Ba(Ra)SO₄ precipitate at pH 3-4







Extraction chromatography

- Combines organic extractant incorporated in to inert resin
- Resemble liquid-liquid extraction but enables column separation
- Examples of chromatographic extraction resin from Eichrom and main application:

UTEVA – uranium separation

TEVA – thorium separation

Sr Resin – Sr separation, Pb separation









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