

## Chemistry

### Lab Technique 8: Decanting

Decantation is a process of separating a liquid or solution from a solid.

Wait until the solid settles to the bottom of the container.

supernatant

precipitate

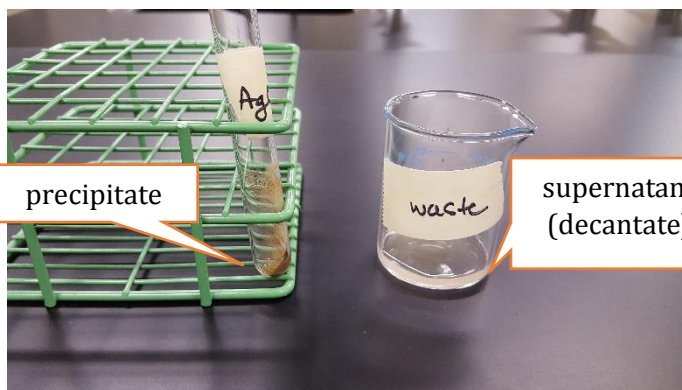


Using a glass rod held to the lip of the container, gently and slowly pour the aqueous portion into another container. Try not to disturb the solid.



precipitate

supernatant  
(decantate)



Notes:

- Use this technique for qualitative purposes since it will not provide a complete separation.
- Do not use this technique when the solid is floating or suspended in the liquid or solution.