



AS PRACTICAL 1

Water of crystallisation (Plan)

Epsom salt have many uses, including use as bath salts, as a laxative and as a plant nutrient. Epsom salt contains hydrated magnesium sulfate which has the formula $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot x\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

You need to plan an experiment to find the value of x in a pure sample of hydrated magnesium sulfate. You should:

- choose an appropriate method citing references used
- give details of your methods including a sequence of steps
- identify suitable apparatus (including suitable resolution where relevant)
- identify measurements that should be taken
- give a full risk assessment (i.e. identify hazards and ways in which any risk can be reduced)

