

# Seawater Analysis Project

## Major ionic species in seawater

Pacific Ocean Water Concentrations /  
mg L<sup>-1</sup>

Ion	CRC values <sup>a</sup>
Na <sup>+</sup>	1.05 × 10 <sup>4</sup>
K <sup>+</sup>	3.80 × 10 <sup>2</sup>
Mg <sup>2+</sup>	1.35 × 10 <sup>3</sup>
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	4.00 × 10 <sup>2</sup>
Cl <sup>-</sup>	1.90 × 10 <sup>4</sup>
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	2.65 × 10 <sup>3</sup>
Br <sup>-</sup>	6.5 × 10 <sup>1</sup>

## Concentrations

Cl<sup>-</sup> - 536 mM

Na<sup>+</sup> - 457 mM

Mg<sup>2+</sup> - 56.3 mM

SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> - 27.6 mM

Ca<sup>2+</sup> - 10.0 mM

K<sup>+</sup> - 9.74 mM

Br<sup>-</sup> - 0.823 mM

<sup>a</sup>CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics, 61st ed.

*We will measure six of the top seven ions in sea water!*

Chem M3LC  
R. Corn

# Seawater Analysis Project

## Concentrations

## Relative molar amounts

$\text{Cl}^-$  - 536 mM

1000

$\text{Na}^+$  - 457 mM

853

$\text{Mg}^{2+}$  - 56.3 mM

105

$\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  - 27.6 mM

51.5

*Chemists use molarity!*

$\text{Ca}^{2+}$  - 10.0 mM

18.7

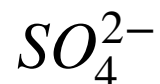
$\text{K}^+$  - 9.74 mM

18.2

$\text{Br}^-$  - 0.823 mM

1.54

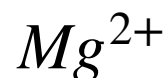
# Seawater Analysis Project



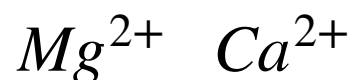
*1. Turbidity Measurements for Sulfate*



*2. Turbidity Measurements for Potassium*



*3. Magnesium Complexometric Fluorometry*



*4. EDTA titrations for Magnesium and Calcium*



*5. AgCl Precipitation titration for Chloride*



*6. Bromide Oxidation and Colorimetric Detection*

# Seawater Analysis Project

*Precipitation Reactions:*

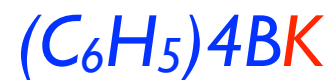
*Detection Methods*



*Precipitation Titration*

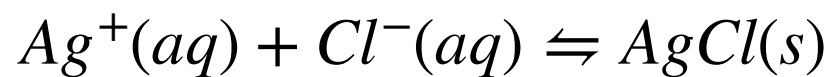
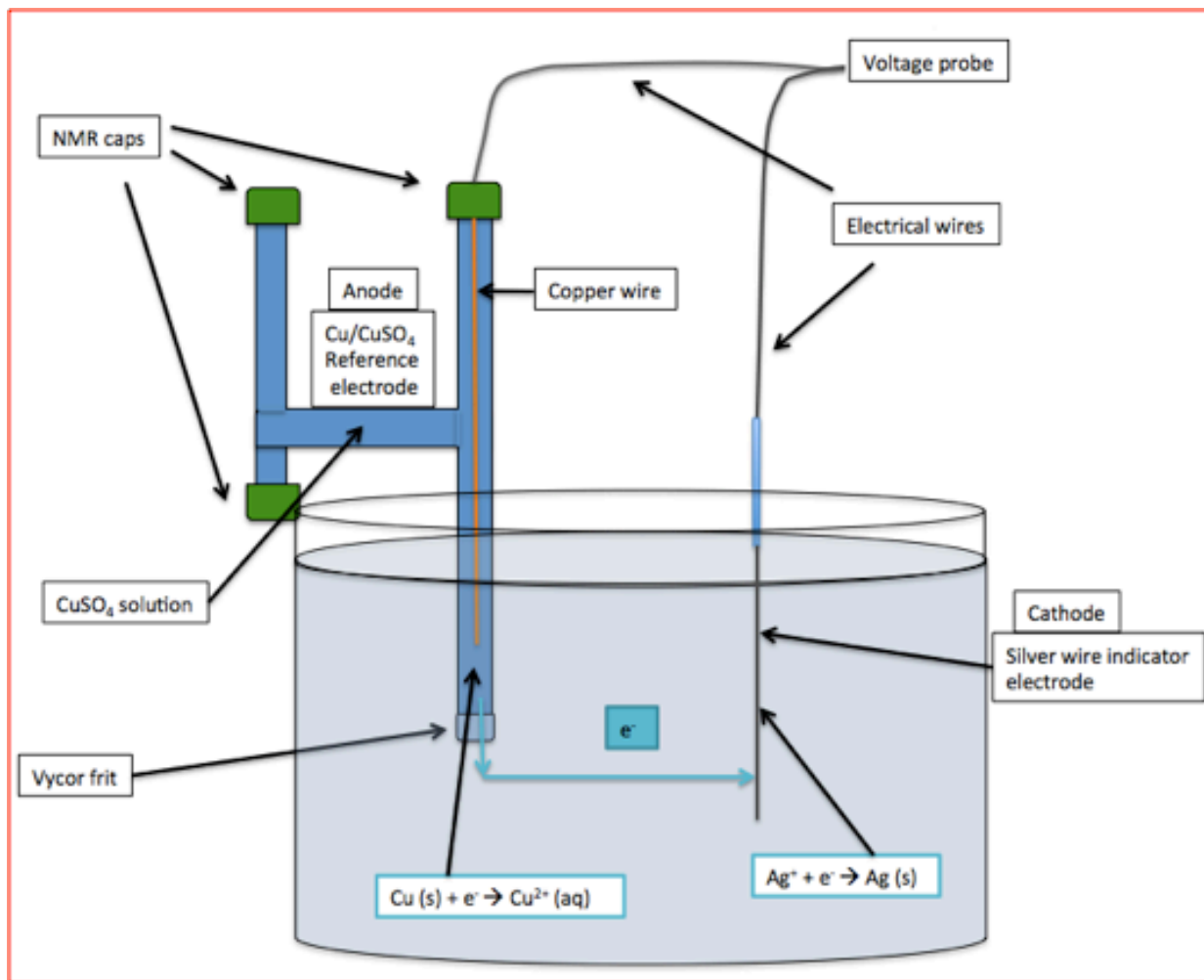


*Turbidity*



*Turbidity*

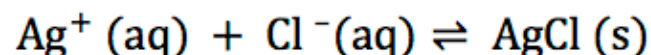
# Potentiometric Titration of Chloride



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Fall 2013

# Potentiometric Titration of Chloride

In this experiment, silver ions will be added to a chloride solution. As  $\text{Ag}^+$  is added to the  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{AgCl}$  will form as follows:



This equation illustrates the solubility equilibrium of silver chloride. Solubility equilibrium exists when a solid compound is in equilibrium with the dissolved ions of that compound. The corresponding solubility constant of  $\text{AgCl}$  is:

$$K_{\text{sp}} = [\text{Ag}^+][\text{Cl}^-] = 1.8 \times 10^{-10}$$

The equilibrium constant,  $K_{\text{T}}$ , of the titration is:

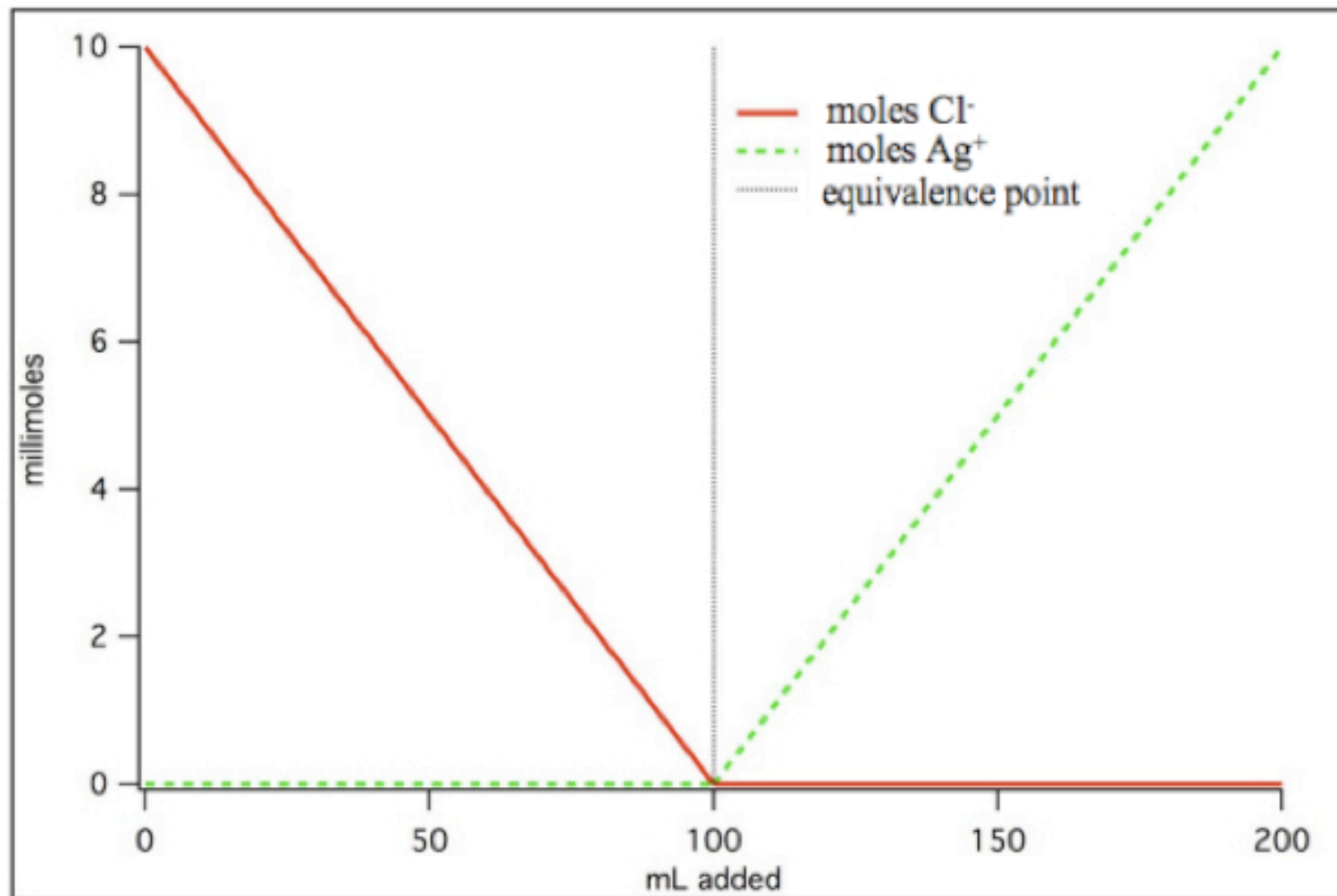
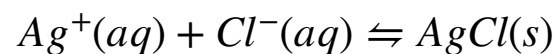
$$K_{\text{T}} = \frac{1}{[\text{Ag}^+][\text{Cl}^-]} = \frac{1}{K_{\text{sp}}} = \frac{1}{1.8 \times 10^{-10}} \gg 1$$

As the titration proceeds, the number of moles of chloride decreases.

At the equivalence point, the number of moles of  $\text{Ag}^+$  *added* is equal to the number of moles of  $\text{Cl}^-$  present *initially*.

We will use Electrochemistry to determine the equivalence point.

# Potentiometric Titration of Chloride



$\text{Ag}^+$  solution is added to react with  $\text{Cl}^-$

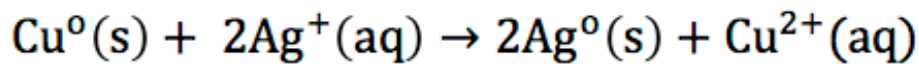
We will use Electrochemistry to determine the equivalence point.

# Potentiometric Titration of Chloride

## Electrochemical cell

In this experiment, a Cu/CuSO<sub>4</sub> **reference electrode** will be used in conjunction with a silver wire **indicator electrode**. The oxidation of copper takes place at the anode while the reduction of silver takes place at the cathode. See the Figure for an illustration of the electrochemical cell.

The balanced electrochemical reaction is as follows:



The line notation for the cell is:



The overall standard electrochemical potential,  $E_{\text{cell}}^0$  is:

$$E_{\text{cell}}^0 = E_{\text{Ag}}^0 - E_{\text{Cu}}^0$$

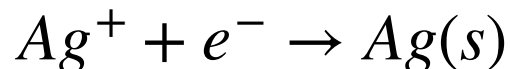
*We use the Nernst Equation to calculate the standard cell potential.*



## Potentiometric Titration of Chloride

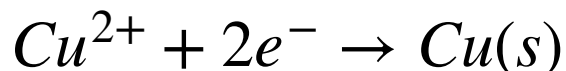


*Silver is being reduced:*



$$E_{Ag} = E_{Ag}^0 - \frac{.0592}{1} \log \left( \frac{1}{[Ag^+]} \right)$$

*Copper is being oxidized:*



$$E_{Cu} = E_{Cu}^0 - \frac{.0592}{2} \log \left( \frac{1}{[Cu^{2+}]} \right)$$

*\*Note: we still use reduction reaction to calculate  $E_{Cu}$*

$$E_{cell} = E_{Red} - E_{Ox} = E_{Ag} - E_{Cu} \quad E_{Cu} \text{ is constant during the titration}$$

# Potentiometric Titration of Chloride

*We measure  $pAg$  during the titration with potentiometry:*

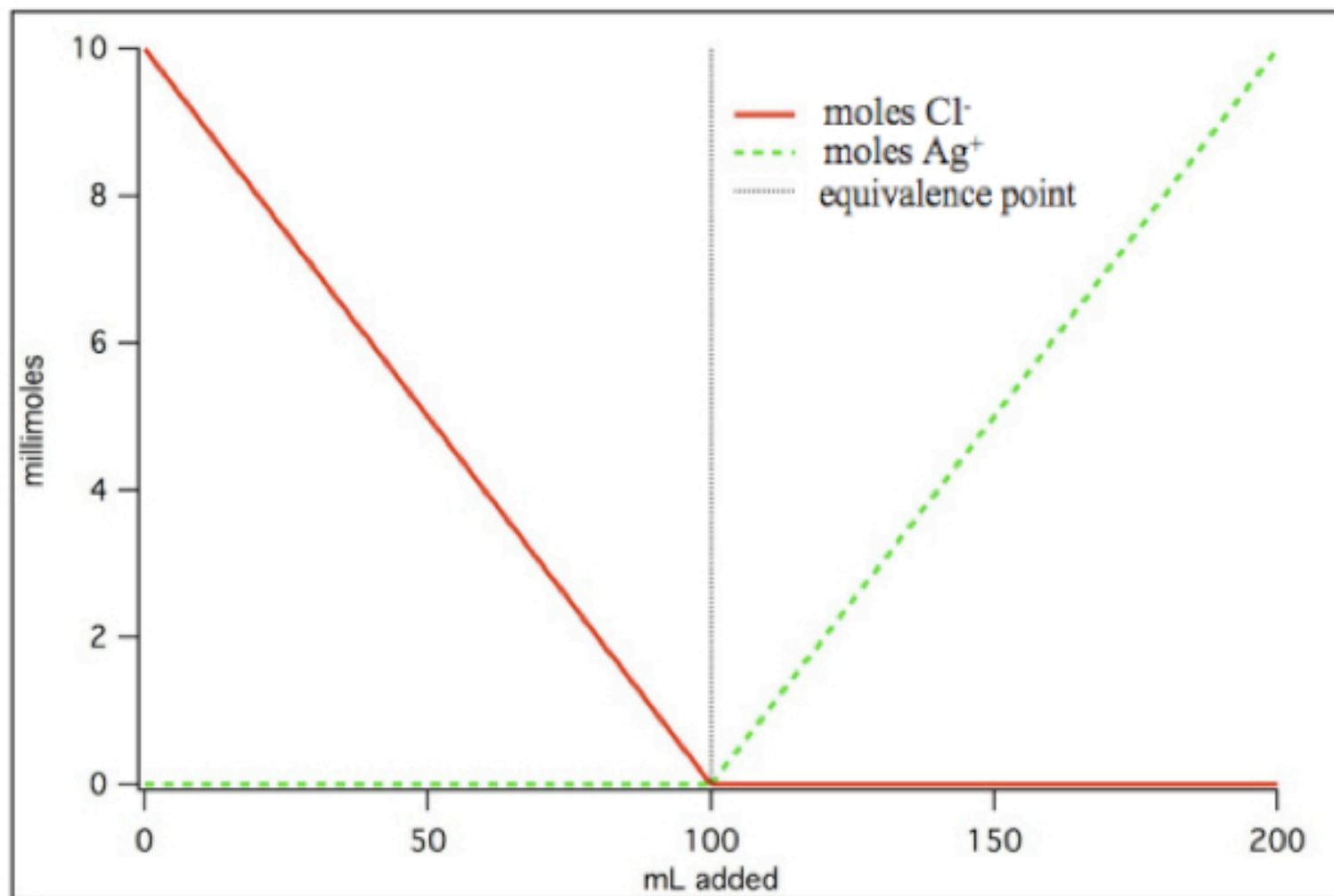
$$pAg = -\log [Ag^+]$$

$$E_{cell} = E_{Ag} - E_{Cu}$$

$$E_{cell} = A + B \times pAg$$

*A and B are constants*

# Potentiometric Titration of Chloride



$\text{Ag}^+$  solution is added to react with  $\text{Cl}^-$

# Potentiometric Titration of Chloride

At the equivalence point,  $[\text{Ag}^+]$  and  $[\text{Cl}^-]$  are almost zero, but not quite!

At the eq. pt:  $K_{\text{sp}} = [\text{Ag}^+][\text{Cl}^-]$

$$[\text{Ag}^+] = [\text{Cl}^-]$$

$$[\text{Ag}^+] = (K_{\text{sp}})^{1/2}$$

$$p\text{Ag} = ??$$

# Potentiometric Titration of Chloride

At the equivalence point,  $[\text{Ag}^+]$  and  $[\text{Cl}^-]$  are almost zero, but not quite!

At the eq. pt:  $K_{sp} = [\text{Ag}^+][\text{Cl}^-]$

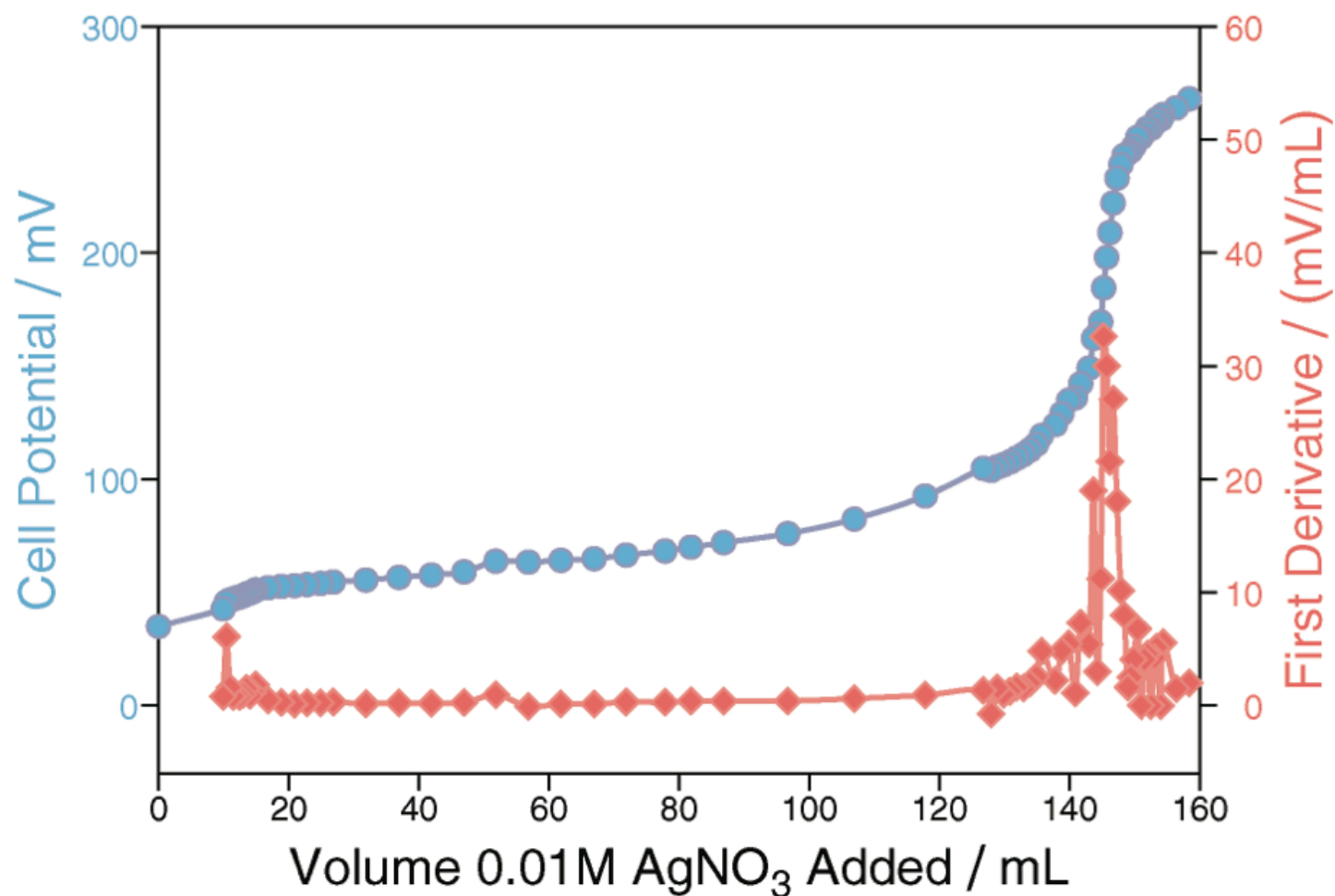
$$[\text{Ag}^+] = [\text{Cl}^-]$$

$$[\text{Ag}^+] = (K_{sp})^{1/2}$$

$$K_{sp} = 1.8 \times 10^{-10}$$

$$p\text{Ag} = 4.87$$

# Potentiometric Titration of Chloride



*Example of Potentiometric Titration Data*

## *Zinc vs. Magnesium Hydroxide Precipitation Separation*

---

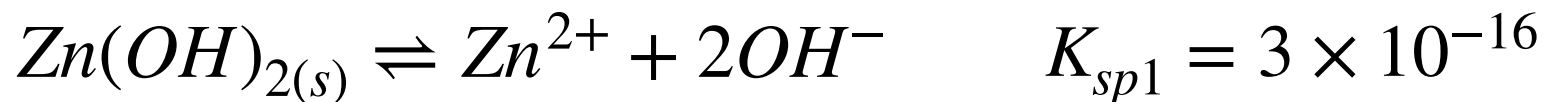


*Initial Solution has 1.00 mM  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and 1.00 mM  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ .*

*1) At what pH does Zinc Hydroxide begin to precipitate?*

## *Zinc vs. Magnesium Hydroxide Precipitation Separation*

---



*Initial Solution has 1.00 mM  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and 1.00 mM  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ .*

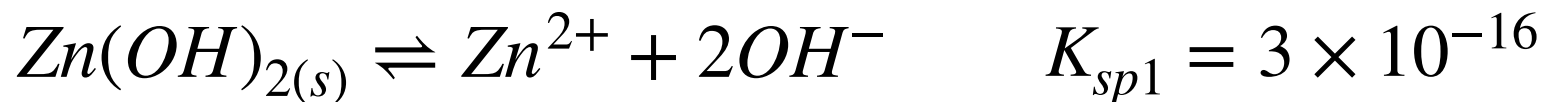
*1) At what pH does Zinc Hydroxide begin to precipitate?*

$$[\text{Zn}^{2+}] = 1.00 \times 10^{-3} M \quad K_{sp1} = [\text{Zn}^{2+}][\text{OH}^-]^2$$



## *Zinc vs. Magnesium Hydroxide Precipitation Separation*

---



*Initial Solution has 1.00 mM  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and 1.00 mM  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ .*

*1) At what pH does Zinc Hydroxide begin to precipitate?*

$$[\text{Zn}^{2+}] = 1.00 \times 10^{-3} \text{M} \quad K_{sp1} = [\text{Zn}^{2+}][\text{OH}^-]^2$$

$$[\text{OH}^-] = \sqrt{\frac{K_{sp1}}{[\text{Zn}^{2+}]}} = \sqrt{\frac{3 \times 10^{-16}}{10^{-3}}} = 5.48 \times 10^{-7} \text{M}$$

*pOH = 6.26  
pH = 7.74*

*Zinc Hydroxide begins to precipitate at pH = 7.74*

## *Zinc vs. Magnesium Hydroxide Precipitation Separation*

---



*Initial Solution has 1.00 mM  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and 1.00 mM  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ .*

*II) At what pH is 99.9% of the  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  removed from solution?*

## *Zinc vs. Magnesium Hydroxide Precipitation Separation*

---



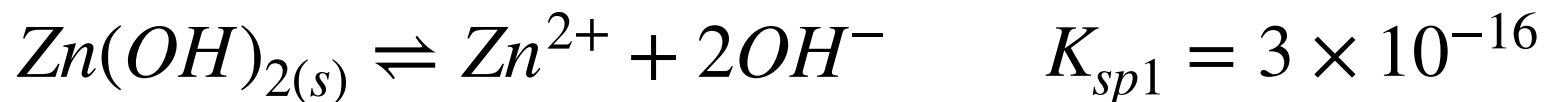
*Initial Solution has 1.00 mM  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and 1.00 mM  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ .*

*II) At what pH is 99.9% of the  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  removed from solution?*

$$[\text{Zn}^{2+}] = 1.00 \times 10^{-6} M \quad K_{sp1} = [\text{Zn}^{2+}][\text{OH}^-]^2$$

## Zinc vs. Magnesium Hydroxide Precipitation Separation

---



*Initial Solution has 1.00 mM  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and 1.00 mM  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ .*

*II) At what pH is 99.9% of the  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  removed from solution?*

$$[\text{Zn}^{2+}] = 1.00 \times 10^{-6} \text{M} \quad K_{sp1} = [\text{Zn}^{2+}][\text{OH}^-]^2$$

$$[\text{OH}^-] = \sqrt{\frac{K_{sp1}}{[\text{Zn}^{2+}]}} = \sqrt{\frac{3 \times 10^{-16}}{10^{-6}}} = 1.73 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pOH} &= 4.76 \\ \text{pH} &= 9.24 \end{aligned}$$

*At pH 9.24 we can remove 99.9% of the  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$*

## *Zinc vs. Magnesium Hydroxide Precipitation Separation*

---



*Initial Solution has 1.00 mM  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and 1.00 mM  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ .*

*III) At what pH does Magnesium Hydroxide begin to precipitate?*

## *Zinc vs. Magnesium Hydroxide Precipitation Separation*

---



*Initial Solution has 1.00 mM  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and 1.00 mM  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ .*

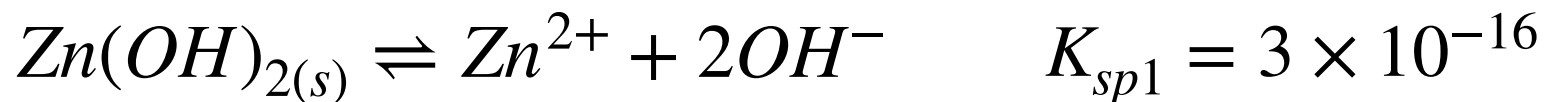
*III) At what pH does Magnesium Hydroxide begin to precipitate?*

$$[\text{Mg}^{2+}] = 1.00 \times 10^{-3} \text{M}$$

$$K_{sp2} = [\text{Mg}^{2+}][\text{OH}^-]^2$$

## *Zinc vs. Magnesium Hydroxide Precipitation Separation*

---



*Initial Solution has 1.00 mM  $Zn^{2+}$  and 1.00 mM  $Mg^{2+}$ .*

*III) At what pH does Magnesium Hydroxide begin to precipitate?*

$$[Mg^{2+}] = 1.00 \times 10^{-3} M$$

$$K_{sp2} = [Mg^{2+}][OH^{-}]^2$$

$$[OH^{-}] = \sqrt{\frac{K_{sp2}}{[Mg^{2+}]}} = \sqrt{\frac{7.1 \times 10^{-12}}{10^{-3}}} = 8.43 \times 10^{-5} M$$

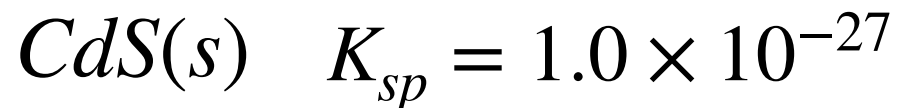
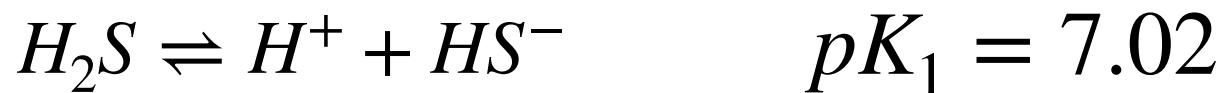
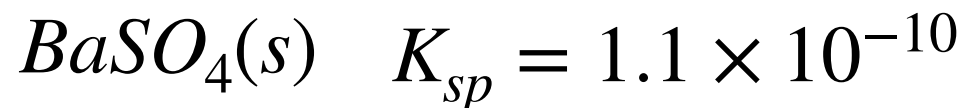
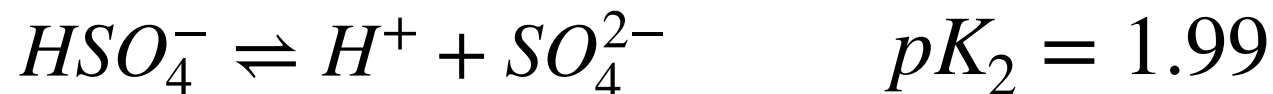
$$\begin{aligned} pOH &= 4.07 \\ pH &= 9.93 \end{aligned}$$

*Magnesium Hydroxide begin to precipitate at pH = 9.93*

*We can separate Zinc and Magnesium!*

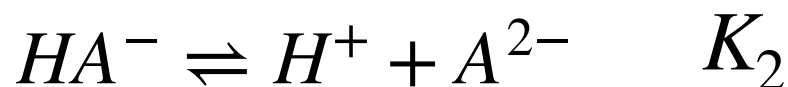
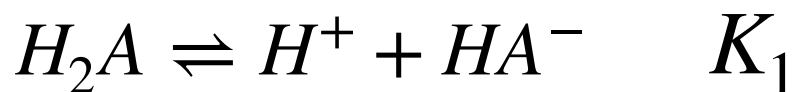
## Diprotic Weak Acids: Sulfuric Acid and Hydrogen Sulfide

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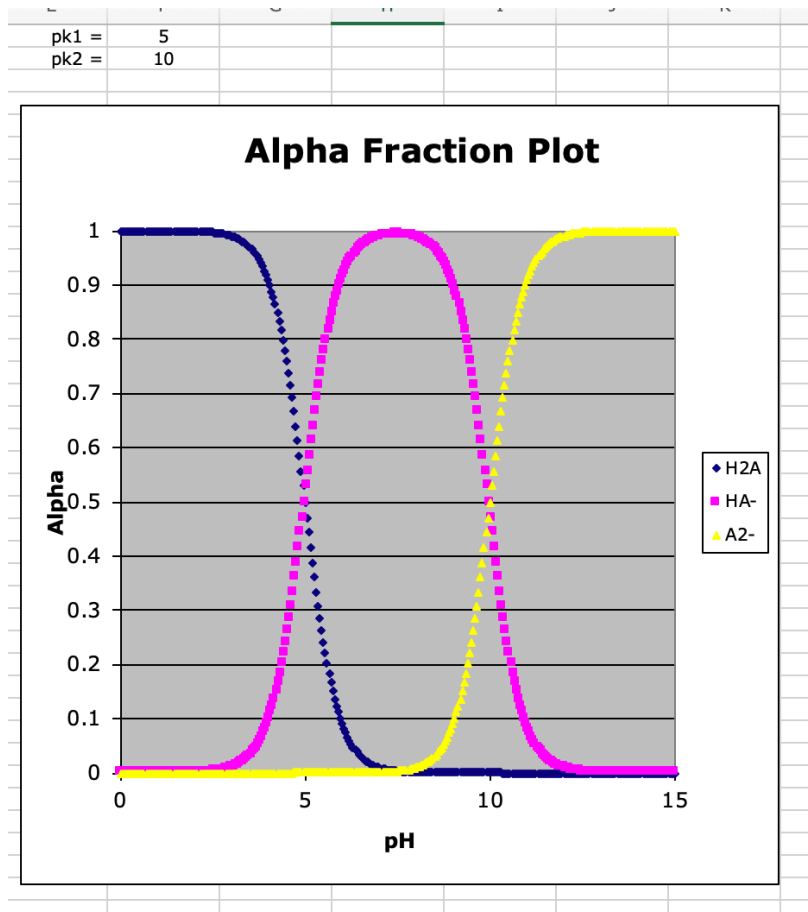




# Diprotic Weak Acids: Alpha Fractions



$$K_1 \gg K_2$$



Diprotic Weak Acid

Constants:  $K_1$ ,  $K_2$ ,  $K_w$ ,  $C_{tot}$

Five species:  $[H_2A]$ ,  $[HA^-]$ ,  $[A^{2-}]$ ,  $[H^+]$ ,  $[OH^-]$

$K_1 = [H^+][HA^-]/[H_2A]$  acid dissociation 1

$K_2 = [H^+][A^{2-}]/[HA^-]$  acid dissociation 2

$K_w = [H^+][OH^-]$  water dissociation

$[H^+] = [HA^-] + 2[A^{2-}] + [OH^-]$  charge balance

$C_{tot} = [H_2A] + [HA^-] + [A^{2-}]$  mass balance

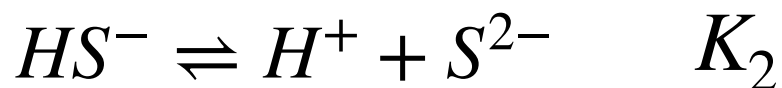
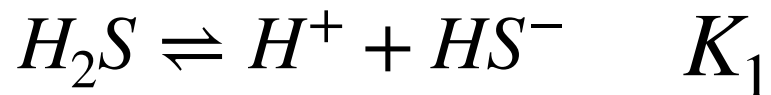
## Alpha Fractions

$$\alpha_{H_2A} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{K_1}{[H^+]} + \frac{K_1 K_2}{[H^+]^2}}$$

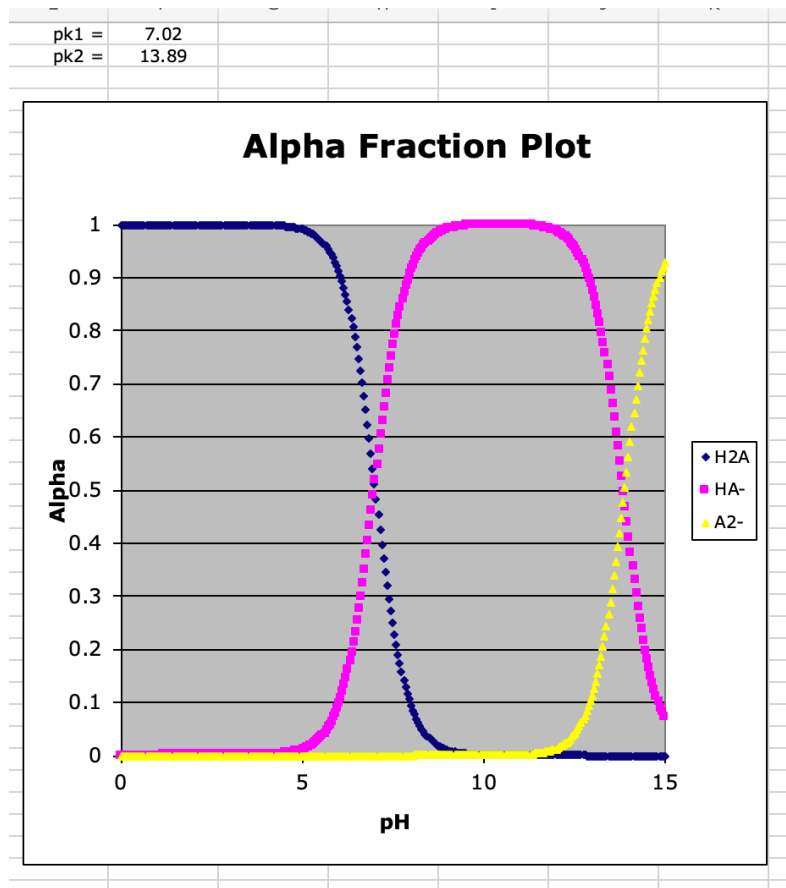
$$\alpha_{HA^-} = \frac{1}{\frac{[H^+]}{K_1} + 1 + \frac{K_2}{[H^+]}}$$

$$\alpha_{A^{2-}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{[H^+]}{K_2} + \frac{[H^+]^2}{K_1 K_2}}$$

# Diprotic Weak Acids: Alpha Fractions and Exact Solutions



$$pK_1 = 7.02 \quad pK_2 = 13.89$$



## Alpha Fractions

$$\alpha_{H_2S} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{K_1}{[H^+]} + \frac{K_1 K_2}{[H^+]^2}}$$

$$\alpha_{HS^-} = \frac{1}{\frac{[H^+]}{K_1} + 1 + \frac{K_2}{[H^+]}}$$

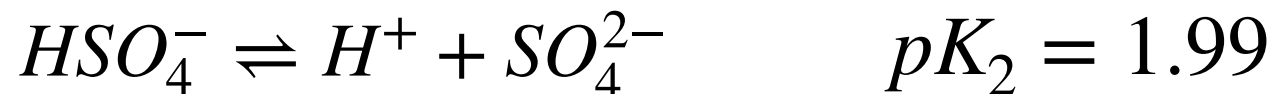
$$\alpha_{S^{2-}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{[H^+]}{K_2} + \frac{[H^+]^2}{K_1 K_2}}$$

$$pH = 13.89 \quad \alpha_{S^{2-}} = 0.5$$

$$pH = 7.02 \quad \alpha_{S^{2-}} = 1.28 \times 10^{-4}$$

## Diprotic Weak Acid: Sulfuric Acid

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*Can be considered a monoprotic acid*

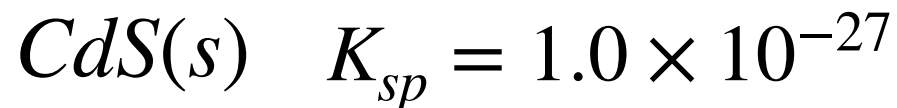
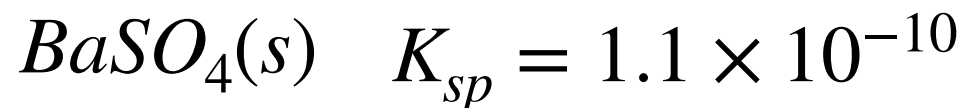
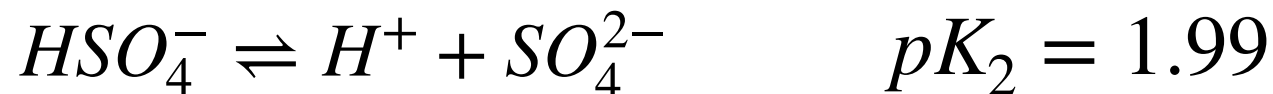
*What is the equilibrium concentration of sulfate in a solution with a total sulfuric acid concentration of 0.200 M and a pH of 1?*

$$\alpha_{SO_4^{2-}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{[H^+]}{K_2}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{10^{-1}}{10^{-1.99}}} = 9.28 \times 10^{-2}$$

$$[SO_4^{2-}] = C_{sulfate}^{tot} \alpha_{SO_4^{2-}} = (0.1)(9.28 \times 10^{-2}) = 9.28 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$$

## Diprotic Weak Acids: Sulfuric Acid and Hydrogen Sulfide

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## Cadmium Sulfide Precipitation Reaction - pH Dependence

---



$$K_{sp} = 1.0 \times 10^{-27}$$

$$[\text{Cd}^{2+}] = C_{\text{sulfide}}^{\text{tot}} = \frac{[\text{S}^{2-}]}{\alpha_{\text{S}^{2-}}}$$

*total Cd = total S*

$$[\text{S}^{2-}] = \alpha_{\text{S}^{2-}} [\text{Cd}^{2+}]$$

$$K_{sp} = [\text{Cd}^{2+}][\text{S}^{2-}]$$

$$[\text{Cd}^{2+}] = \sqrt{\frac{K_{sp}}{\alpha_{\text{S}^{2-}}}}$$

$$\alpha_{\text{S}^{2-}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{[\text{H}^+]}{K_2} + \frac{[\text{H}^+]^2}{K_1 K_2}}$$

$$pK_1 = 7.02$$

$$pK_2 = 13.89$$

## Cadmium Sulfide Precipitation Reaction - pH Dependence



$$[Cd^{2+}] = \sqrt{\frac{K_{sp}}{\alpha_{S^{2-}}}} \quad \alpha_{S^{2-}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{[H^+]}{K_2} + \frac{[H^+]^2}{K_1 K_2}} \quad \begin{array}{l} pK_1 = 7.02 \\ pK_2 = 13.89 \end{array}$$

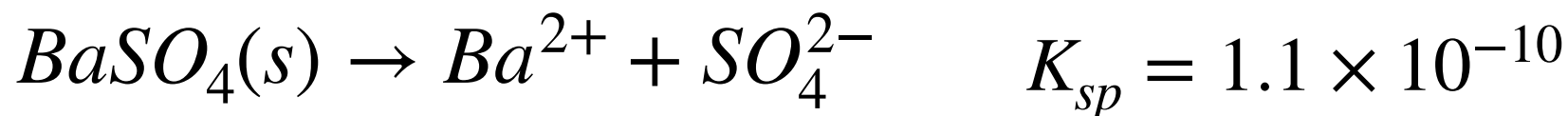
$$pH = 3 \quad \alpha_{S^{2-}} = 1.42 \times 10^{-15} \quad [Cd^{2+}] = 8.39 \times 10^{-7} \text{ M}$$

$$pH = 7.0 \quad \alpha_{S^{2-}} = 1.28 \times 10^{-4} \quad [Cd^{2+}] = 1.26 \times 10^{-10} \text{ M}$$

$$pH = 10.0 \quad \alpha_{S^{2-}} = 6.30 \times 10^{-8} \quad [Cd^{2+}] = 2.80 \times 10^{-12} \text{ M}$$

## Barium Sulfate Precipitation Reaction - pH Dependence

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$$[Ba^{2+}] = C_{sulfate}^{tot} = \frac{[SO_4^{2-}]}{\alpha_{SO_4^{2-}}} \quad \text{total } Ba^{2+} = \text{total sulfate}$$

$$[SO_4^{2-}] = \alpha_{SO_4^{2-}}[Ba^{2+}]$$

$$K_{sp} = [Ba^{2+}][SO_4^{2-}]$$

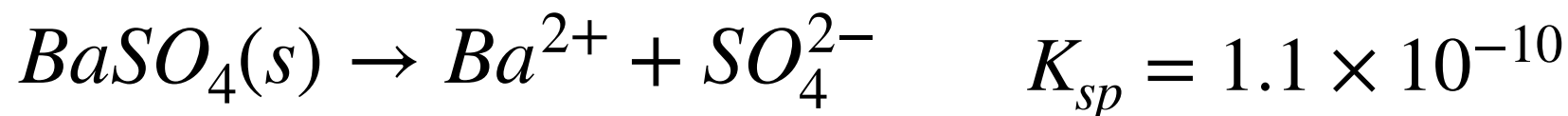
$$[Ba^{2+}] = \sqrt{\frac{K_{sp}}{\alpha_{SO_4^{2-}}}}$$

$$\alpha_{SO_4^{2-}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{[H+]}{K_2} + \frac{[H+]^2}{K_1 K_2}} \approx \frac{1}{1 + \frac{[H+]}{K_2}}$$

$$K_1 = \infty$$
$$pK_2 = 1.99$$

## Barium Sulfate Precipitation Reaction - pH Dependence

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$$[Ba^{2+}] = \sqrt{\frac{K_{sp}}{\alpha_{SO_4^{2-}}}} \quad \alpha_{SO_4^{2-}} \approx \frac{1}{1 + \frac{[H^+]}{K_2}} \quad pK_2 = 1.99$$

$$@ pH = 1 \quad \alpha_{SO_4^{2-}} = 9.28 \times 10^{-2}$$

$$[Ba^{2+}] = 3.44 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$$



# Diprotic Weak Acids: Alpha Fractions and Exact Solutions

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## Exact Solution:

Iterative eqns for  $[H^+]$

$$[H^+][HA^-] = K_1[H_2A]$$

$$[H^+]( [H^+] - [OH^-] - 2[A^{2-}] ) = K_1[H_2A]$$

$$[H^+]^2 - 2[H^+][A^{2-}] - K_w = K_1[H_2A]$$

$$[H^+]^2 = K_1[H_2A] + 2K_2[HA^-] + K_w$$

Initial Guess:  $[H^+] = \sqrt{K_1 C_{tot} + K_w}$

Calculate  $[H_2A]$ ,  $[HA^-]$ ,  $[A^{2-}]$

$$[H^+] = \sqrt{K_1[H_2A] + 2K_2[HA^-] + K_w}$$

## Approximate Solutions:

### $H_2A$ solution

$$[H^+] = \sqrt{K_1 C_{tot}} \quad (\text{Ignore } K_2)$$

### $HA^-$ solution

$$pH = \frac{pK_1 + pK_2}{2} \quad (\text{Ampholyte})$$

### $A^{2-}$ solution

$$[OH^-] = \sqrt{K_{b2} C_{tot}} \quad (\text{Ignore } K_1)$$