Common Ion Effects

If two reactions both involve the same ion, then one reaction can effect the equilibrium position of the other reaction. The ion that appears in both reactions is the common ion. Buffers are made by combining an acid with its conjugate base.

 $CH_3CO_2H(aq) \longrightarrow CH_3CO_2^{-}(aq) + H^+(aq)$

 $CH_3CO_2Na(aq) \longrightarrow CH_3CO_2^{-}(aq) + Na^+(aq)$

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Any common ion Well, the same thing happens in all equilibria.

For CuBr $K_{sp} = 4.2 \times 10^{-8}$

The solubility of CuBr will be lower in a 0.05 M NaBr solution than it would be in pure water.

Let's start with a saturated CuBr solution.

In a saturated CuBr solution

 $4.2 \ge 10^{-8} = [Cu^+][Br^-]$ $[Cu^+] = [Br^-] = 0.000205 \text{ M}$

Now, what is the solubility of CuBr in a 0.050 M NaBr solution?

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Now, what is the solubility of CuBr in a 0.050 M NaBr solution?

Simply set up an equilibrium table that has a starting conc of Br^- = to 0.050 M....

	CuBr	Cu^+	Br ⁻
start	solid	0	0.050
change		+ x	+ x
equilibrium		Х	0.050 + x
-	$4.2 \ge 10^{-8} = (2)^{-8}$	x(0.050 + x)	

small x approx

 $4.2 \ge 10^{-8} = (x)(0.050)$ $x = 8.4 \ge 10^{-7}$ $[Cu^+] = 8.4 \ge 10^{-7} M$ Determine the solubility of CaSO₄, $K_{sp} = 6.1 \times 10^{-5}$, in a 0.0050 M Na₂SO₄ solution.

Determine the solubility of $CaCl_2$ in a 0.0050 M Na₂SO₄ solution.

Determine the solubility of CaSO₄, $K_{sp} = 6.1 \times 10^{-5}$, in a 0.0050 M Na₂SO₄ solution.

$$CaSO_4(s) \longrightarrow Ca^{2+}(aq) + SO_4^{2-}(aq)$$

solid	0	0.0050
solid	$+_{\mathbf{X}}$	$+_{\rm X}$
solid	Х	0.0050 + x

$$x (0.0050 + x) = 6.1 \times 10^{-5}$$

Solubility is 0.0057 M

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Solubility is 0.0057 M

Determine the solubility of $CaCl_2$ in a 0.0050 M Na_2SO_4 solution. (K_{sp} of $CaCl_2 >> K_{sp} CaSO_4$)

CaSO ₄ (s)	Ca ²⁺	$(aq) + SO_4^{2}(aq)$
solid	0	0.0050
solid	$+_{\rm X}$	0
solid	Х	0.0050

 $x (0.0050) = 6.1 \times 10^{-5}$

x = 0.0122

Solubility is 0.012 M

Precipitation

What concentration of NaCl is required to precipitate AgCl from a 0.10 M AgNO₃ solution?

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NaCl(s)
$$\xrightarrow{H_2O}$$
 Na⁺(aq) + Cl⁻(aq) K > 10

$$\begin{array}{c} H_2O \\ AgNO_3(s) \xrightarrow{H_2O} & Ag^+(aq) + NO_3^-(aq) \\ \end{array} \quad K > 10 \end{array}$$

So, all of the NaCl and the AgNO₃ dissolves and dissociates.

NaCl(aq)
$$\longrightarrow$$
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$$AgNO_{3}(s) \xrightarrow{H_{2}O} Ag^{+}(aq) + NO_{3}^{-}(aq) \qquad K > 10$$

Since we are mixing two solution, we know all of the NaCl and the AgNO₃ is dissolved and dissociated.

NaCl(aq)
$$\longrightarrow$$
 Na⁺(aq) + Cl⁻(aq)
AgNO₃(aq) \longrightarrow Ag⁺(aq) + NO₃⁻(aq)

Now, we have to worry about the possibility of a metathesis reaction (ions switching) occurring.

NaNO₃(s)
$$\longrightarrow$$
 Na⁺(aq) + NO₃⁻(aq) K > 10

AgCl(s)
$$\xrightarrow{H_2O}$$
 Ag⁺(aq) + Cl⁻(aq) K = 1.6 x 10⁻¹⁰

Yes, AgCl can precipitate because it is not very soluble

The reaction is

$$AgCI(s) \longrightarrow Ag^{+}(aq) + CI^{-}(aq)$$

 $K_{sp} = 1.6 \text{ x } 10^{-10}$

solid 0.10 ?

and if $Q \ge K$ then a precipitate will form.

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$$\longrightarrow$$
 Ag⁺(aq) + Cl⁻(aq) $K_{sp} = 1.6 \times 10^{-10}$

solid 0.10 ?

and if $Q \ge K$ then a precipitate will form.

 $[Ag^{+}]_{o}[Cl^{-}]_{o} \ge 1.6 \times 10^{-10}$ $0.10 \bullet [Cl^{-}]_{o} \ge 1.6 \times 10^{-10}$ $[Cl^{-}]_{o} \ge 1.6 \times 10^{-9}$

So, if $[NaCl] \ge 1.6 \times 10^{-9}$ then $Q \ge K$ and a precipitate will form. (There is enough Cl⁻ in tap water to cause AgCl to precipitate from a AgNO₃ solution.)

Common ion and pH dependence

The solubility of some materials displays a pH dependence

This is a common ion effect.

for example.... For $Cu(OH)_2 K_{sp} = 2.2 \times 10^{-22}$.

 $Cu(OH)_2(s) \longrightarrow Cu^{2+}(aq) + 2 OH^{-}(s)$

What is the solubility of Cu(OH)₂ in neutral water?

$$K_{sp} = [Cu^{2+}][OH^{-}]^2 = 2.2 \text{ x } 10^{-22}$$

Set up a table, before anything dissolves $[Cu^{2+}] = 0$, and $[OH^{-}] \sim 0$ right?

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Cu(OH)_2 & Cu^{2+} & OH^-\\ solid & 0 & \sim 0 \end{array}$$

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Cu(OH) ₂	Cu^{2+}	OH^{-}
solid	0	~0

NO, OH^- is very small, but it is not zero. In neutral water $[OH^-] = 10^{-7}$ M. This reaction goes only slightly toward the products, so a **concentration of 10**⁻⁷ for one of the products is going to be **significant!**

	$Cu(OH)_2$	Cu^{2+}	OH^-
initial	solid	0	10-7
change		+ x	+ 2 x
equilibrium		Х	$10^{-7} + 2x$

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initial	solid	0	10-7
change		+ x	+ 2 x
equilibrium		Х	$10^{-7} + 2x$

$$2.2 \times 10^{-22} = x(10^{-7} + 2x)^2$$

Small X approx? Well, since 10^{-7} is much bigger than 10^{-22} —by a factor of about 10^{15} —the change, x, is going to be small as compared to 10^{-7} , so let's give the small x approx a try.

$$2.22 \times 10^{-22} = 10^{-14} x$$

 $2.22 \times 10^{-8} = x$

Approximation not valid. 2.22 x $10^{-8}/10^{-7}$ x 100 = 44%

So, I solved it iteratively,

$$x = 2.2 x 10^{-22} / (10^{-7} + 2x)^2$$

I plugged in 2.2×10^{-8} for the x on the right, evaluated the expression, and repeated until the the x's converged in 12 steps to 1.36×10^{-8}

1.0610e-08
1.4972e-08
1.3029e-08
1.3845e-08
1.3493e-08
1.3643e-08
1.3579e-08
1.3606e-08
1.3595e-08
1.3600e-08
1.3597e-08
1.3598e-08
1.3598e-08

So, the molar solubility of $Cu(OH)_2 = 1.36 \times 10^{-8}$ M in neutral water.

What is the solubility of Cu(OH)₂ if the pH of the solution starts at 12.00? (Remember, if you are given the pH of a solution then you know [H⁺], unless is the question says something like starting pH.)

 $Cu(OH)_2(s) \longrightarrow Cu^{2+}(aq) + 2 OH^{-}(s)$

What is the solubility of Cu(OH)₂ if the pH of the solution starts at 12.00? (Remember, if you are given the pH of a solution then you know [H⁺], unless is the question says something like starting pH)

$$\begin{array}{c} Cu(OH)_2(s) & \longleftrightarrow & Cu^{2+}(aq) + 2 \ OH^-(s) \\ \\ \begin{array}{c} Cu(OH)_2 & Cu^{2+} & OH^- \\ initial & solid & 0 & ? \\ change \\ equilibrium \end{array}$$

What is the solubility of Cu(OH)₂ if the pH of the solution starts at 12.00? (Remember if you are given the pH of a solution then you know [H⁺], unless is the question says something like starting pH)

 $\begin{array}{ccc} Cu(OH)_{2}(s) & \longleftarrow & Cu^{2+}(aq) + 2 \ OH^{-}(s) \\ & \begin{array}{ccc} Cu(OH)_{2} & Cu^{2+} & OH^{-} \\ solid & 0 & 10^{-2} \\ change & & +x & +2 \ x \\ equilibrium & x & 10^{-2} + 2x \\ & 10^{-14} & = [10^{-12}][OH^{-}] \\ & [OH^{-}] = 10^{-2} \end{array}$

What is the solubility of Cu(OH)₂ if the pH of the solution starts at 12.00? (Remember if you are given the pH of a solution then you know [H⁺], unless is the question says something like starting pH)

 $\begin{array}{ccc} Cu(OH)_2(s) & \longleftarrow & Cu^{2+}(aq) + 2 \ OH^-(s) \end{array}$ initial solid 0 10⁻² change + x + 2 x equilibrium x 10⁻² + 2x

The change, x, is going to be small as compared to 10^{-2} , so

$$2.2 \times 10^{-22} = [Cu^{2+}](10^{-2})^{2}$$
$$[Cu^{2+}] = 2.2 \times 10^{-22}/10^{-4}$$
$$[Cu^{2+}] = 2.2 \times 10^{-18}$$

Yep, small x approximation is valid. $4.4 \ge 10^{-18}/10^{-2} \ge 100 = 4.4 \ge 10^{-14} \%$

The molar solubility went down a great deal when the pH went from 7 to 12!

You must be careful while doing these calculations. While the solubility is pH dependent pH is not the only factor. Take the following example...

What is the solubility of $Cu(OH)_2$ in a 0.1 M HNO₃ solution?

Find [OH]

$$K_{w} = [H^{+}][OH^{-}]$$

$$10^{-14} = 0.1 \cdot [OH^{-}]$$

$$[OH] = 10^{-13}$$

$$2.2 \times 10^{-22} = x(10^{-13})^{2}$$

$$2.2 \times 10^{-22} = 10^{-26}x$$

$$2.2 \times 10^{4} = x$$

Small x approximation not valid, but lets ignore that fact for a moment and focus and the answer.

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$$2.2 \times 10^{4} = x$$

NO Way is the molar solubility 2.2×10^4 .

That is 22,000 moles of $Cu(OH)_2$ dissolved in 1 L.

OK, is 22,000 not big enough for you?

This solution would have approximately 2,100,000 g of Cu(OH)₂ in a L of water

The problem changed,

$$Cu(OH)_2(s) + 2 H^+(aq) + 2 NO_3^-(aq) \implies Cu^{2+}(aq) + 2 NO_3^-(aq) + 2 H_2O(l)$$

The HNO₃ reacts with the $Cu(OH)_2$ to make water and $Cu(NO_3)_2$, and $Cu(NO_3)_2$ is soluble in water

 $Cu(OH)_2$ continues to dissolve until the HNO₃ is used up. Once the HNO₃ is used up the $[Cu^{2+}] = 0.050 \text{ M}$ The Cu^{2+} concentration is determined using the stoichiometry of the neutralization reaction.

$0.1 \text{ M HNO}_3 \text{ x } \frac{1 \text{ mol } \text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2}{2 \text{ mol } \text{HNO}_3} = 0.050 \text{ M } \text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$

Since $[Cu^{2+}] = 0.050$ M no more $Cu(OH)_2$ will dissolve!

This was an acid base neutralization in disguise.

Less obvious examples of pH dependent solubility

The solubility of any salt that dissociates and forms a weak acid or a weak base will demonstrate pH dependence. For example Ag_2SO_4 is only very slightly soluble in water, K_{sp} for $Ag_2SO_4 = 1.4 \times 10^{-5}$.

 $Ag_2SO_4(s) \longrightarrow 2 Ag^+(aq) + SO_4^{2-}(aq)$

The solubility of Ag_2SO_4 will be higher in 1 M HNO₃. Why?

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 $Ag_2SO_4(s) \longrightarrow 2 Ag^+(aq) + SO_4^{2-}(aq)$

The solubility of Ag₂SO₄ will be higher in 1 M HNO₃. Why?

 $HNO_3(s) \longrightarrow H^+(aq) + NO_3^-(aq)$

Since SO_2^{2-} is a weak base....

 $H^+(aq) + SO_4^{2-}(aq) \implies HSO_4^{-}(aq)$ The K for this reaction is $1/K_a = 1/(1.2x10^{-2}) = 83$

 $Ag_2SO_4(s) \longrightarrow 2 Ag^+(aq) + SO_4^{2-}(aq)$

So, the presence of H⁺ lowers the concentration of SO_4^{2-} , and, according to Le Chätelier's principle, more Ag₂SO₄ will dissolve to replace the SO_4^{2-} that was converted to HSO_4^{-} .

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The solubility of any salt that produces an acid or base when it dissolves in water will be pH dependent.

NaNO₂ K₂SO₄ NaCl LiNO₃

The solubility of any metal that can form an insoluble metal hydroxide will be pH dependent.

```
NaCl FeCl<sub>3</sub> Ba(NO_3)_2 Cu(NO_3)_2
```

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NaNO ₂	K_2SO_4	NaCl	LiNO ₃
yes	yes	no	no

The solubility of any metal that can form an insoluble metal hydroxide will be pH dependent.

NaCl	FeCl ₃	$Ba(NO_3)_2$	$Cu(NO_3)_2$
no	yes	yes	yes