

Washington University in St. Louis Chemistry Tournament
Sample Problems for Individual Round #2: Chemical and Physical Equilibrium

Individual Exam #2: Chemical and Physical Equilibrium

1) The Haber reaction ($\text{N}_2(\text{g}) + 3\text{H}_2(\text{g}) \rightleftharpoons 2\text{NH}_3(\text{g})$) is used commonly in industry, as ammonia is used in the production of fertilizer. Suppose we mixed 0.30 moles of N_2 and 0.25 moles of H_2 in a 1L container at 298 K. If the value of $K_p = 6.8 \times 10^{-5}$ at 298 K, how many moles of N_2 , H_2 , and NH_3 are present in the container at equilibrium? Round your answer to **three** decimal places.

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2) Silver chloride (AgCl) is an insoluble salt ($k_{sp} = 1.77 \times 10^{-10}$) and is prepared by the reaction of sodium chloride (NaCl) and silver nitrate (AgNO₃) in solution. Once the silver chloride is prepared, ammonia can be added to the test tube, causing the dissolution of the precipitate and the formation of a dark blue complex known as diamminesilver(I), [Ag(NH₃)₂]⁺. What is the solubility of silver chloride (in moles per liter) if we added NH_{3(aq)} to the tube until it reached 1.50 M? The equilibrium constant of formation, K_f , for diamminesilver(I) is 1.6 × 10⁷. Give your answer to three decimal places.

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3) Buffers (Adapted from Voet and Voet, *Biochemistry*, 5th ed.)

Glycine is often used as a buffer in the purification of proteins. The neutral form of glycine can act as an acid, while the deprotonated form, glycine⁻, acts as the conjugate base. The pK_a of glycine is 9.60. Suppose you had to run a purification procedure using a glycine buffer, which at equilibrium is 0.1M in glycine and has a pH of 9.2. When you look for this in your storeroom, you find to your dismay that you only have large quantities of pH 9.0 and pH 10.0 solutions, both of which are also 0.1M in glycine at equilibrium. How much of the two should you mix to obtain 1.0L of your required solution?