

Study guide on mole fraction assignment



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Mole Fraction Return to Solutions Menu The mole fraction is: moles of target substance divided by total moles involved The symbol for the mole fraction is the lower-case Greek letter chi, χ . You will often see it with a subscript:

χ_{solute} is an example. Example #1 : 0.100 mole of NaCl is dissolved into 100.0 grams of pure H₂O. What is the mole fraction of NaCl? Solution: $100.0 \text{ g} / 18.0 \text{ g mol}^{-1} = 5.56 \text{ mol}$ of H₂O Add that to the 0.100 mol of NaCl = $5.56 + 0.100 = 5.66 \text{ mol}$ total Mole fraction of NaCl = $0.100 \text{ mol} / 5.66 \text{ mol} = 0.018$ What is the mole fraction of the H₂O? $5.56 \text{ mol} / 5.66 \text{ mol} = 0.982$ By the way, another way to figure out the last substance is 1.00 minus (the total of all other mole fractions). In this case $1.00 - 0.018 = 0.982$.

Remember that all the mole fractions in the solution should total up to one. Notice that the mole fraction has no units on it and is written as a decimal value. Do not change it to percent. Note of caution: you could see the term “mole percent.” It is simply the mole fraction multiplied by 100. For example, in the problem just below, the mole fraction of cinnamic acid is 0.2885. Its mole percent would be 28.85%. The ChemTeam advises against the use of the term “mole percent. However, do what your teacher desires you to do.

Example #2: A solution is prepared by mixing 25.0 g of water, H₂O, and 25.0 g of ethanol, C₂H₅OH. Determine the mole fractions of each substance.

Solution: 1) Determine the moles of each substance: H₂O $25.0 \text{ g} / 18.0 \text{ g mol}^{-1} = 1.34 \text{ mol}$ C₂H₅OH $25.0 \text{ g} / 46.07 \text{ g mol}^{-1} = 0.543 \text{ mol}$ 2) Determine mole fractions: H₂O $1.34 \text{ mol} / (1.34 \text{ mol} + 0.543 \text{ mol}) = 0.71$ C₂H₅OH $0.543 \text{ mol} / (1.34 \text{ mol} + 0.543 \text{ mol}) = 0.29$ Example #3: A solution contains 10.0 g pentane, 10.0 g hexane and 10.0 g benzene. What is the mole fraction of hexane?

Solution: 1) You need to determine the moles of pentane, hexane and benzene: to do this, you need the molecular weights. Here are the formulas: pentane: C_5H_{12} hexane: C_6H_{14} benzene: C_6H_6 2) When you have the moles of each, add them together. 3) Then, divide the moles of hexane by the total. Calculate the mole fractions of sugar and water. Solution: 1) Molality is moles solute / kg of solvent. Therefore we know our solution is: 1.62 mol Cl 21-422011 1.00 kg = 1000 g of water 2) Calculate the moles of water present: $1000 \text{ g} / 18.0152 \text{ gmol} = 55.50868 \text{ mol}$ 3) Determine the mole fraction of the sugar: $1.62 \text{ mol} / (1.2 \text{ mol} + 55.0868 \text{ mol}) = 0.028357 = 0.0284$ (to three sf) 4) you can calculate the mole fraction of the water by subtraction.

Example #5: How many grams of water must be used to dissolve 100.0 grams of sucrose ($C_{12}H_{22}O_{11}$) to prepare a 0.020 mole fraction of sucrose in the solution? Solution: 1) Determine moles of sucrose: $100.0 \text{ g} / 342.2948 \text{ gmol} = 0.292145835 \text{ mol}$ 2) Determine moles of water required to make the solution 0.020 mole fraction of sucrose: $0.020 = 0.292 / (0.292 + x)$ $(0.020)(0.292 + x) = 0.292 \cdot 0.00584 + 0.02x = 0.292 = 0.28616x = 14.308 \text{ mol of H}_2\text{O}$ Comment: you can also do this: 0.292 to 0.2 as x to 0.8 3) Determine grams of water: $14.308 \text{ mol} \times 18.015 \text{ gmol} = 258.0 \text{ g}$

Example #6: Surprisingly, water (in the form of ice) is slightly soluble in liquid nitrogen. At -196 °C, (the boiling point of liquid nitrogen) the mole fraction of water in a saturated solution is 1.00×10^{-5} . Compute the mass of water that can dissolve in 1.00 kg of boiling liquid nitrogen. Solution: 1) Use the definition of mole fraction to set up the following: $x_{\text{water}} = \text{moles water} / (\text{moles water} + \text{moles nitrogen})$ $1.00 \times 10^{-5} = x / (x + 71.3944041)$ I'm going to carry some guard digits until the end of the calculation. 2) Some algebra: 1 .

OOX $7.139440411 \times 10^{-4} = x$ $0.99999x = 7.139440411 \times 10^{-4}$ $x = 7.139511806 \times 10^{-4}$ mol of H₂O

3) Calculate grams of water from moles of water: $7.139511806 \times 10^{-4}$ mol \times 18.0152 g/mol = 1.2862×10^{-2} g 1.29 \times 10^{-2} g (to three sf)

Example #7: What is the mole fraction of cinnamic acid in a mixture that is 50.0% weight urea in cinnamic acid (urea = 60.06 g/mol; cinnamic acid = 148.16 g/mol) 50.0 g is cinnamic 2) Convert grams to moles: urea: $50.0 \text{ g} / 60.06 \text{ g/mol} = 0.8325$ mol cinnamic acid: $50.0 \text{ g} / 148.16 \text{ g/mol} = 0.3375$ mol 3) Determine mole fraction of cinnamic acid: $0.3375 \text{ mol} / 1.1700 \text{ mol} = 0.2885$