Supplementary Example

Calculate the molar solubility of the CuS at pH 8.00

$$CuS(s) = Cu^{2+} + S^{2-}$$
 $K_{sp} = [Cu^{2+}][S^{2-}] = 8e-37$

See answer on next page.

Solve for [Cu²⁺].

Hydrolysis of S²⁻:

$$S^{2} + H_{2}O = HS^{-} + OH^{-}$$

$$K_{b1} = [HS^{-}][OH^{-}]/[S^{2-}] = K_{w}/K_{a2} = K_{w}/1.00e-14 = 1$$

$$HS^{-} + H_{2}O = H_{2}S + OH^{-}$$

$$K_{b2} = [H_2S][OH^-]/[HS^-] = K_w/K_{a1} = K_w/9.5e-8 = 1.1e-7$$

$$[H^+] = 1.00e-8$$
 $[OH^-] = 1.00e-6$

Recognize that solving for [Cu²⁺] will give us CuS solubility Write MBE

$$[Cu^{2+}] = [S^{2-}] + [HS^{-}] + [H_2S]$$

From K_{b1} solve for [HS⁻]

$$K_{b1} = [HS^{-}][OH^{-}]/[S^{2-}]$$

$$[HS^{-}] = K_{b1}[S^{2-}]/[OH^{-}] = 1[S^{2-}]/1.00e-6 = 1.0e6[S^{2-}]$$

Sub into MBE

$$[Cu^{2+}] = [S^{2-}] + 1.0e6[S^{2-}] + [H_2S]$$
 #1

Now for [H₂S]

$$K_{b2} = [H_2S][OH^-]/[HS^-] = [H_2S][OH^-]/1.0e6[S^2-]$$

Solve for [H₂S]

$$[H_2S] = K_{b2}1.0e6[S^{2-}]/[OH^{-}] = 1.1e-7*1.0e6[S^{2-}]/1.00e-6$$

= 1.1e5[S²⁻]

Sub into #1

$$[Cu^{2+}] = [S^{2-}] + 1.0e6[S^{2-}] + 1.1e5[S^{2-}] = 1.1e6[S^{2-}]$$
 #3

Now use K_{sp}

$$K_{sp} = [Cu^{2+}][S^{2-}] = 8e-37$$

Solve for [S²⁻]

$$[S^{2-}] = 8e-37/[Cu^{2+}]$$
 sub into #3

$$[Cu^{2+}] = 1.1e6[S^{2-}] = 8e-37/[Cu^{2+}]$$

$$[Cu^{2+}] = 9e-19 M$$