

Parts Per Million Calculations

1. 0.2500 grams of CaCO_3 is dissolved in HCl and enough water to give 500.0 mL of solution. What is the ppm of calcium ion ($\text{mgCa}^{2+}/\text{L}$ solution) in the solution ?

$$(0.2500 \text{ g CaCO}_3) \left(\frac{1 \text{ mol CaCO}_3}{100.09 \text{ g CaCO}_3} \right) \left(\frac{1 \text{ mol Ca}^{2+}}{1 \text{ mol CaCO}_3} \right) \left(\frac{40.08 \text{ g Ca}^{2+}}{1 \text{ mol Ca}^{2+}} \right) \left(\frac{1000 \text{ mg Ca}^{2+}}{1 \text{ g Ca}^{2+}} \right) = 200.2 \text{ ppm Ca}^{2+}$$

2. 10.0 mL of the above solution is diluted to 100.0 mL. What is the ppm of Ca^{2+} in the dilute solution ?

Use the dilution formula $C_1V_1 = C_2V_2$ where C, concentration can be in units of molarity, ppm, ppb, etc.

$$(200.2 \text{ ppm})(10.0 \text{ mL}) = (C_2)(100.0 \text{ mL})$$

$$C_2 = 20.02 \text{ ppm Ca}^{2+}$$

One can plot a calibration curve of Absorbance versus ppm Ca^{2+} , or other metals, and obtain the slope for the relationship between absorbance and ppm.

3. 5.00 mL of an unknown calcium solution is diluted to a volume of 20.0 mL (soln A).
10.0 mL of solution A is diluted to 50.0 mL to give soln B. Soln B has an absorbance of 0.150. Using a calibration curve of slope 0.200/ppm, what is the ppm of calcium in the unknown ?

Beer's Law is $A = (m)(\text{ppm})$ Then $\text{ppm} = A/m = 0.150/0.200 = 0.750 \text{ ppm}$ for soln B.

$$\text{For soln A: } (10.0 \text{ mL})(\text{ppm}) = (0.750 \text{ ppm})(50.0 \text{ mL})$$

$$\text{Ppm} = 3.75 \text{ ppm}$$

$$\text{For original unknown: } (5.00 \text{ mL})(\text{ppm}) = (20.0 \text{ mL})(3.75 \text{ mL})$$

$$\text{Ppm} = 15.0 \text{ ppm}$$