

The solubility product of $\text{Cu}(\text{OH})_2$ is 4.8×10^{-20} . Calculate the value of pCu^{2+} , i.e. $-\log [\text{Cu}^{2+}]$, in an aqueous solution of NaOH which has a pH of 12.68 and which is saturated with $\text{Cu}(\text{OH})_2$.

$$K_{\text{sp}}(\text{Cu}(\text{OH})_2) = 4.8 \times 10^{-20} = [\text{Cu}^{2+}] [\text{OH}^-]^2$$

$$\text{pOH} = 14 - \text{pH} = 14 - 12.68 = 1.32$$

$$\text{pOH} = -\lg[\text{OH}^-] = 1.32$$

$$[\text{OH}^-] = 0.0479 \text{ M}$$

$$[\text{Cu}^{2+}] = K_{\text{sp}}(\text{Cu}(\text{OH})_2) / [\text{OH}^-]^2$$

$$[\text{Cu}^{2+}] = 4.8 \times 10^{-20} / (0.0479)^2 = 4.8 \times 10^{-20} / 2.2 \times 10^{-3} = 2.2 \times 10^{-17}$$

$$-\lg [\text{Cu}^{2+}] = -(\log 2.2 - 17) = 16.66$$

$$\text{pCu}^{2+} = -\log_{10} [\text{Cu}^{2+}] = 16.66$$

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