WATER AND ITS TREATMENT

Hardness and alkalinity of water: Units and determination

External and internal method of Softening of water

WATER:



- Most precious, wonderful and useful gift of nature
- Covers nearly 70% of the earth's surface
- Water on earth
 - Ocean seas (97%)
 - Polar ice and glaciers (2%)
 - Fresh water (1%) in rivers, lakes, streams, ground water, etc.

Common Impurities in water:

- Water is a very good solvent and hence dissolves many substances.
- The common impurities in water:
 - Dissolved impurities: salts, ions, dyes, gases-change in taste/color/hardness
 - Suspended impurities: like inorganic (clay, sand) organic (oil, plant, and animal matter)
 Make water turbid
 - Colloidal impurities- finely divided silica and clay
 - Microorganisms bacteria, fungi and algae
 Foul smell/cause diseases

Water quality standards:

- Water is used for domestic as well as industrial uses.
- Potential application will determine the quality parameters
- Environmental (ambient) water quality vary significantly according to the source: lakes, rivers, ocean etc.

Water quality parameters broadly fall in three categories

- Physical characteristics (Color, Taste, odor, temperature, etc.)
- Chemical characteristics (pH, hardness, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), dissolved oxygen (DO), Cl⁻, F⁻, NO₃⁻, etc.)
- Biological characteristics (E. coli, coliform, etc.)

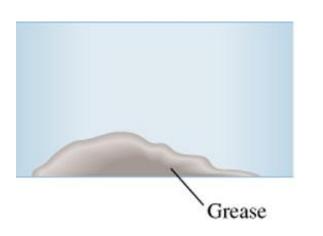
Hardness of water:

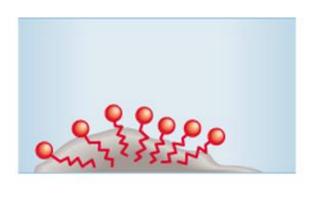
It is defined as a characteristic property of water that prevents the lathering of soap.

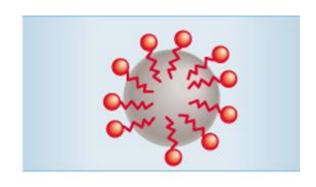
Hardness of water may also be defined as the soapconsuming capacity of water, or the capacity of precipitation of soap.

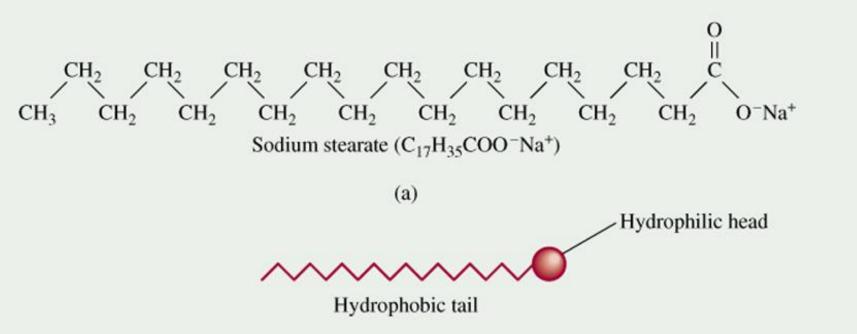
It is due to the presence of soluble salts of Ca, Mg, Al, Fe, Mn, etc. in water.

The Cleansing Action of Soap:









Soap (C₁₇H₃₅COONa) – Sodium or potassium salts of long chain fatty acids.

Hardness of Water: Reduce the cleansing action of soap

Hard water does not produce lather with soap solutions, but produces white precipitate (scum). For example, <u>sodium stearate</u> reacts with calcium or Mg present in hard water.

$$2C_{17}H_{35}COONa + CaCl_2 \rightarrow (C_{17}H_{35}COO)_2Ca + 2NaCl_2$$
 calcium stearate (insoluble in water)

$$2C_{17}H_{35}COONa + MgSO_4 \rightarrow (C_{17}H_{35}COO)_2Mg\downarrow + Na_2SO_4$$

TYPES OF HARDNESS:

Temporary Hardness:

Caused by dissolved bicarbonates of Ca and Mg

Temporary hardness can be removed by boiling of water

$$Ca(HCO_3)_2 \rightarrow CaCO_3 \downarrow + H_2O + CO_2 \uparrow$$

$$Mg(HCO_3)_2 \rightarrow Mg(OH)_2 \downarrow + 2 CO_2 \uparrow$$

Also, known as 'alkaline or carbonate hardness' determined by titration with HCl using methyl orange as indicator

Permanent Hardness: Non-carbonate/non-alkaline hardness

Due to sulphates or chlorides of Ca and Mg (e.g. CaCl₂, MgCl₂, CaSO₄, MgSO₄, etc.,)

Cannot be destroyed on boiling the water

Also known as non-carbonate or non alkaline hardness

Total hardness = Temporary + permanent hardness

= non alkaline + alkaline hardness

Revision:

- Q 1: What is the hardness of water?
- Q 2: What is the chemical composition of soap and how does it work?
- Q 3: Why the cleaning power of soap get reduce in hard water?
- Q 4: How we classified the hardness?
- Q 5: What are temporary and permanent hardness?
- Q 6: How we can remove to the temporary hardness?

11/28/2024

Hard Water

Does not produce lather with soap

Contains Ca and Mg salts

Soap is wasted and cleaning quality is depressed

Boiling point elevated, more time and fuel for cooking

Soft Water

Produces lather easily with soap

Does not contain dissolved Ca and Mg salts

Cleaning quality of soap not depressed.

Less fuel and time required for cooking

<u>Degree Of Hardness Of Drinking Water</u>

•Soft 0-60 mg/L

Medium 60-120 mg/L

•Hard 120-180 mg/L

•Very hard >180 mg/L

EXPRESSION OF HARDNESS:

- Always calculated in terms of equivalent of CaCO₃
 - Calculation is easy as Mol. Wt. of CaCO₃ = 100
 - Insoluble CaCO₃ precipitated out from water:

Hardness of water in equivalent of
$$CaCO_3 = \frac{W \times E}{C.E.}$$
 ppm or mg/l

W = Mass of hardness producing substance

 $E = Equivalent weight of CaCO_3 (50)$

C.E. = Equivalent weight of hardness producing substance

Examples:

• 1. A water sample contain 248 mg CaSO₄/I. Calculate the hardness in terms of CaCO₃ equivalent.

Weight of hardness causing substance i.e. CaSO4=248 mg/l Eq. wt of CaSO₄ =68

Eq. wt of $CaCO_3 = 50$

Hardness of water in terms of CaCO₃ equivalent = <u>W X E</u> C.E.

182.35 CaCO₃ equivalent or ppm or mg/l

2. How many grams of FeSO4 (mol. Wt. = 152) dissolved per liter gives 300 ppm of hardness.

Suppose **A** gram of FeSO₄ giving 300 ppm hardness Equivalent weight of hardness producing substance = 152/2 = 76 $300 = A \times 50/76$

 $A = 300 \times 76/50 = 456 \text{ ppm} = 456 \text{ mg/l} = 0.456 \text{ g/l}$

UNITS OF HARDNESS:

Several different scales used to describe the hardness of water

- 1)ppm: Number of parts by weight of CaCO₃ equivalent hardness present in million (10⁶) parts by weight of water.
- 2) mg/l: Usually defined as one milligram of calcium carbonate (CaCO₃) per liter of water.

1 mg/l = 1 mg of $CaCO_3$ in 1 liter of water

- 3) Clark's Degree(°Cl): One degree Clark is defined as one grain (64.8 mg) of CaCO₃ per Imperial gallon (4.55 liters) of water
- 64.8 mg CaCO₃ present in 4.55 liter or Kg water

 $= 4.55 \times 10^6 \text{ mg water}$

1 mg CaCO₃ will be in = (4.55/64.8) x10⁶ mg water = 70, 000 mg water

Thus 1 °Cl = parts of CaCO₃ equivalent hardness per 70,000 parts of water

1 ppm = 1 mg/l = $0.07 \, ^{\circ}$ Cl

4) Degree French (°F): One degree French is defined as 10 milligrams of calcium carbonate per liter of water.

1ppm= 1 mg/l = 0.07 °Clark =0.1 °F

Q. Convert 50 ppm of CaCO₃ into mg/L, degree Clarke and degree French.

Ans. 1ppm= 1 mg/l =
$$0.07$$
 °Clark = 0.1 °F 50 ppm= 50 mg/l= 3.5 °Cl = 5 °F

Q. Convert 70,000 °Clarke into ppm and °French.

Ans: 70,000 Clark=10⁶ ppm, 70,000 Clark=10⁵ °F

Q 1: A sample of water on analysis was found to $Ca(HCO_3)_2$ = 4 mg/l, $Mg(HCO_3)_2$ = 6 mg/l, $MgSO_4$ = 10 mg/l, $CaSO_4$ = 8 mg/l. Calculate the temporary, permanent and total hardness of water in ppm, °Fr and °Cl. Mol. Wt. of $Ca(HCO_3)_2$ = 162, $Mg(HCO_3)_2$ = 146, $MgSO_4$ = 120, $CaSO_4$ = 136

Constituent	Amount (mg/l)	Eq. of CaCO ₃ (ppm = mg/l)	
Ca(HCO ₃) ₂	4	$4 \times 50/81 = 2.469$	
$Mg(HCO_3)_2$	6	$6 \times 50/73 = 4.11$	
CaSO ₄	8	8 x 50/68 = 5.88	
MgSO ₄	10	$10 \times 50/60 = 8.33$	

- Temporary hardness = 6.579 ppm
 - **Due to** Ca(HCO₃)₂ and Mg(HCO₃)₂
- Permanent hardness = 14.21 ppm
 - Due to (MgSO₄ and CaSO₄
- Total hardness = 20.789 ppm = 20.789 mg/l
- 1 ppm = $0.07 \, ^{\circ}$ Cl,
- $20.789 = 20.789 \times 0.07 = 1.455$ °Cl
- 1 ppm = 0.1 °Fr
- $20.789 = 20.789 \times 0.1 = 2.0789 \circ Fr$

Q 2. Calculate the temporary and permanent hardness of a sample of water containing: $Mg(HCO_3)_2 = 7.3 \text{ mg/L}$; $Ca(HCO_3)_2 = 16.2 \text{ mg/L}$; $MgCl_2 = 9.5 \text{ mg/L}$; $CaSO_4 = 13.6 \text{ mg/L}$.

Ans: Temporary hardness = hardness due to Mg $(HCO_3)_2$ and Ca $(HCO_3)_2$

 $[7.3 \times 100/146 + 16.2 \times 100/162] \text{ mg/l}$

[5 + 10] = 15 mg/l or 15 ppm.

Permanent hardness= hardness due to MgCl₂ and CaSO₄

 $[9.5 \times 100/95 + 13.6 \times 100/136] = [10 + 10] = 20 \text{ mg/l or } 20 \text{ ppm.}$

Determination of hardness:

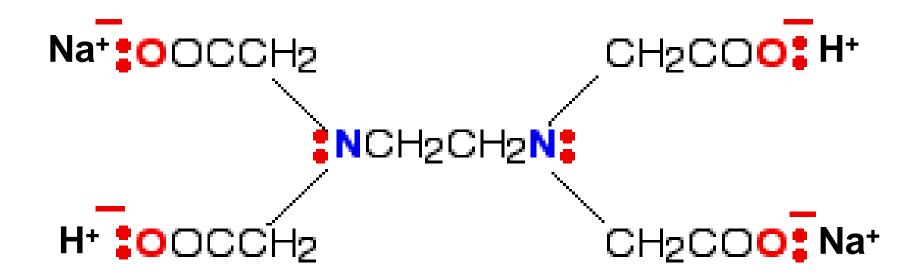
Complexmetric titration:

- Hard water contain Ca, Mg ions
- EDTA is used as standard solution
- EBT (Eriochrome Black T) as indicator
- Titration was performed at pH ~9?

OH
HO

$$M^{2+}$$

Na
 O_2N
Blue
 $M^{2+} = Ca^{2+}/Mg^{2+}$
Pink
Erichrome Black T



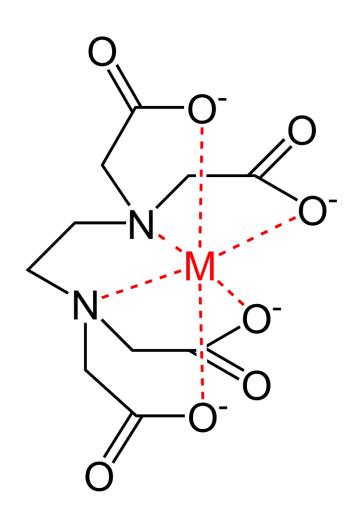
the EDTA4-ion

EDTA is used as the disodium salt since it is more soluble in water than pure EDTA.

It is a strong chelating ligand, forms complex (1:1) with bivalent cations like Ca^{2+} & Mg^{2+}

The complexes formed are stable in alkaline medium i.e. pH= 8-10.

Metal- EDTA complex:



- EDTA being a chelating ligand (hexadentate) react with multivalent metal ions to form stable complex.
- In hard water, bivalent cations like Ca & Mg ions are present which form complex with EDTA.

Flow chart of Complexmetric titration

Take 10 mL of the water sample

Add 2-3 mL ammonium buffer solution to maintain pH~9-10

Add 2-3 drops of the EBT indicator (solution becomes wine red)

Titrate the hard water against the EDTA solution (till the wine red color changes to blue)

Note the EDTA volume used by burette reading

$$Ca^{2+}/Mg^{2+}$$
 + EBT $\xrightarrow{pH \ 10}$ Ca^{2+}/Mg^{2+} EBT complex Wine red (Unstable complex)

$$Ca^{2+}/Mg^{2+}$$
 EBT complex + EDTA $\xrightarrow{pH \ 10}$ Ca^{2+}/Mg^{2+} EDTA complex + EBT Wine red (Unstable complex) Colourless Blue dye

DETERMINATION OF HARDNESS: EDTA METHOD

FOR TOTAL HARDNESS:

$$M_1V_1 = M_2V_2$$

(Hard Water) (Std. EDTA)
 $M_1 = M_2V_2/V_1$
TOT. HARDNESS = $M_1 \times 100 \text{ g/I}$
 $= M_1 \times 100 \times 1000 \text{ ppm}$

Note: Before boiling the water solution this method will give total hardness, after boiling the water sample this methods will give permanent hardness.

Temp. Hardness= Total hardness- permanent hardness

Important: If you use molarity then use molecular weight of CaCO₃ not the equivalent weight.

Example: A 100 ml sample of water required 13.5 ml of 0.02 M EDTA solution for titration using Eriochrome black –T as indicator. Another 100 ml of water from the same source was boiled and precipitate was removed by filtration. The filtrate required 6 ml of 0.02 M EDTA for titration. Calculate total, permanent and temporary hardness of water sample

Since molarity of EDTA is given then we will start with

$$M_1V_1 = M_2V_2$$

$$13.5 \times 0.02 = 100 \times M_2;$$
 $M_2 = 0.0027,$
Total Hardness in g/l = $M_2 \times Mol \times 0$ of CaCO₃
 $= 0.0027 \times 100 = 0.27 \text{ g/l} = 270 \text{ mg/l (ppm)}$
Permanent hardness= $6 \times 0.2 = 100 \times M_3$
 $M_3 = 0.0012$
Permanent hardness = $0.0012 \times 100 \text{ g/l}$
 $= 0.12 \text{ g/l} = 120 \text{ mg/l (ppm)}$

ALKALINITY OF WATER:

• The total amount of those substance present in water, which tend to increase the concentration of hydroxide ions on account of dissociation and hydrolysis.

• It is a measure of ability of water to neutralize acids.

CAUSE OF ALKALINITY:

Presence of HCO₃-, HSiO₃-, SiO₃-, OH-Presence of salts of weak acids Presence of buffer forming salts

CLASSIFICATION OF ALKALINITY:

It is of three types:

- 1) OH- (hydroxyl) *ALKALINITY*
- 2) CO₃²⁻ (carbonate) ALKALINITY
- 3) HCO₃⁻ (bicarbonate) ALKALINITY

Determination of Alkalinity:

The **type** and **extent** of alkalinity of water sample is determined by **TITRIMETRIC METHOD** using acid as standard solution.

$$OH^{-} + H^{+} \rightarrow H_{2}O$$
 $CO_{3}^{2-} + H^{+} \rightarrow HCO_{3}^{-}$
 $HCO_{3}^{-} + H^{+} \rightarrow H_{2}CO_{3}$

Indicator Used:

Phenolphthalein (pink above pH ~8, and colorless below pH ~8),

Methyl orange (yellow above pH ~4 and orange below pH~4)

Structure of phenolphthalein and Methyl orange indicators:

Methyl orange

PROCEDURE:

- Known volume of water sample + 1-2 drops of phenolphthalein.
- Pink color appeared.
- Titration with std. Acid solution.
- Initially hydroxide neutralizes followed by conversion of carbonate into bicarbonate

$$OH^- + H^+ \rightarrow H_2O$$

 $CO_3^{2-} + H^+ \rightarrow HCO_3^-$

Color changes pink to colorless (pH ~8)

Phenolphthalein end point, volume of acid consumed is noted (V_1) .

• Titration continued with same sample with same std. acid by adding 1-2 drops methyl orange Indicator, yellow color appeared.

•
$$HCO_3^- + H^+ \rightarrow H_2O + CO_2$$

- End point, yellow to orange at pH ~4
- methyl orange end point, total volume of acid consumed is noted ('V₁).

CALCULATIONS:

For phenolphthalein alkalinity (P):

$$N_1V_1$$
 = N_2V_2
(AWS) (Std. Acid)
 N_1 = N_2V_2/V_1
P = $N_1 \times 50 \times 1000 \text{ ppm}$

For methyl orange alkalinity (M):

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N_1'V_1 = N_2V_2

(AWS) (Std. Acid)

N_1 = N_2V_2/'V_1

M = N_1 \times 50 \times 1000 \text{ ppm}
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Interpretation of alkalinity values:

Alkalinity	OH-	CO ₃ ²⁻	HCO ₃ -
P = 0	0	0	M
P = ½ M	0	2P	0
P < ½ M	0	2P	M-2P
P > ½ M	2P-M	2(M-P)	0
P = M	P	0	0

Example: A 100 ml water sample required 25 ml of 0.05N sulphuric acid for phenolphthalein end point and another 10 ml for methyl orange end point. Determine the nature and amount of alkalinity

•
$$N_1V_1 = N_2V_2$$

• $100 \times N_1 = 25 \times 0.05$
• $N_1 = 0.00125$

Phen alkalinity as CaCO₃ eq. = 0.00125 x 50 = 0.625 g/l
 = 0.625 x 1000 = 625 mg/l (ppm)

Methyl orange alkalinity: Total Vol of acid used

$$N_2 = 35 \times 0.05/100 = 0.0175$$

MO alkalinity as $CaCO_3$ eq.=0.0175 x 50 =0.875 g/l =875 mg/l (ppm)

Since P> M/2, alkalinity is due to OH- and carbonate ions.

2. 100 ml of water sample required 4 mL of $N/50~H_2SO_4$ for neutralization of phenolphthalein end point. Another 16 mL of the same was needed for further titration to the methyl orange end point. Determine the type of alkalinity and amount of alkalinity.

Solution Volume of water sample for titration = 100 mL Volume used to phenolphthalein end point (A) = 4 mL Volume used to methyl orange end point (B) = 16 mL Total volume used to methyl orange end point (A + B) = 20 mL Phenolphthalein alkalinity (in terms of $CaCO_3$ equivalent)

$$N_1V_1 = N_2V_2$$
(Water) (Acid)
$$N_1 \times 100 = \frac{N}{50} \times 4$$

$$N_1 = \frac{4}{50 \times 100}$$
Strength = $N_1 \times Eq$. wt of CaCO₃

$$\frac{4}{50 \times 100} \times 50$$

Phenolphthalein alkalinity (P) =
$$\frac{4}{50 \times 100} \times 50 \times 1000$$
 ppm
= 40 ppm

Similarly, for methyl orange alkalinity,

$$N_3V_3 = N_4V_4$$
Water Acid
$$N_3 \times 100 = \frac{N}{50} \times 20$$

$$N_3 = \frac{N}{50} \times \frac{20}{100}$$

Methyl orange alkalinity (M) =
$$\frac{1}{50} \times \frac{20}{100} \times 50 \times 1000$$
 ppm

$$M = 200 ppm$$

Hence,

$$P < \frac{1}{2}M$$

$$P(40) < \frac{1}{2}M(100)$$

 $So CO_3^{2-}$ and HCO_3^- ions are present.

Now, alkalinity due to CO_3^{2-} ions = $2P = 2 \times 40$ ppm = 80 ppm alkalinity due to HCO_3^{-} ions = M - 2P = 200 - 80 = 120 ppm

3. 100 ml of a sample of hard water neutralize exactly 12 ml of 0.12 N HCl using methyl orange as indicator. What kind of hardness is present? Express the same in terms of equivalent of $CaCO_3$.

Q. A sample of water on analysis gave the following results: $Ca^{2+}=30$ mg/L; $Mg^{2+}=18$ mg/L; $K^+=19.5$ mg/L; $CO_2=11$ mg/L; $HCO_3^-=122$ mg/L; $Cl^-=35.5$ mg/L; $SO_4^{2-}=48$ mg/L. Calculate total hardness and alkalinity present in water sample.

Ans: $Ca^{2+} = 30 * 100/40 = 75 \text{ mg/L}$ $Mg^{2+} = 18 * 100/24 = 75 \text{ mg/L}$ $C0_2 = 11 * 100/44 = 25 \text{ mg/ mL}$ $HC0_3 = 122 * 100/122 = 100 \text{ mg/L}$

Hardness causing substance are Ca²⁺ and Mg²⁺ only, Since K⁺, CO₂, HCO₃⁻, Cl⁻ and SO₄²⁻ do not cause any hardness

So Total hardness= (hardness due to Ca^{2+} + hardness due to Mg^{2+}) = 75+75= **150 ppm** Alkalinity causing ions available here HCO_3^- , however there is CO_2 also available which cause acidity so total alkalinity will be = HCO_3^- – CO_2 = 100–25=**75 ppm**.

Industrial Uses of water

- 1. Textile Industry
- 2. Sugar Industry
- 3. Dyeing Industry
- 4. Paper Industry
- 5. Pharmaceutical Industry
- 6. In Steam generation in Boilers

Boiler Feed Water:

- On heating, water absorbs large amount of heat and expand to form steam
- The steam is capable of carrying out large quantities of heat
- Thus, water is an ideal raw material for heating and power generation
- A boiler is a closed vessel in which water under pressure is transformed into steam by application of heat.
- The water used in boilers is called boiler feed water.

Characteristics of boiler feed water

- Dissolved and suspended matter and dissolved gases cause boiler problem.
- The amount of impurities permitted in boiler feed water are based on the pressure at which boiler works.
- For pressure upto 100 bar, the boiler feed water should have the following characteristics
 - Dissolved oxygen < 0.02 mg/l
 - Total hardness < 0.5 ppm
 - Total iron below < 0.03 ppm, Cu < 0.01 ppm and Si < 5 ppm
 - Caustic alkalinity (P-alkalinity) < 0.5 ppm and soda (M-alkalinity) <
 1 ppm

Boiler: Troubles due to Hard Water

1. Scale and Sludge formation

2. Caustic embitterment

3. Priming and Foaming

4. Boiler corrosion

SLUDGE FORMATION IN BOILERS:

SLUDGE: Sludge is a soft, loose and slimy precipitate formed within the boiler.

It is formed at comparatively colder portions of the boiler and collects in the area where flow rate is slow.

Formed by substances which have greater solubility in hot water than in cold-water e.g. MgCO₃, MgCl₂, CaCl₂, MgSO₄.

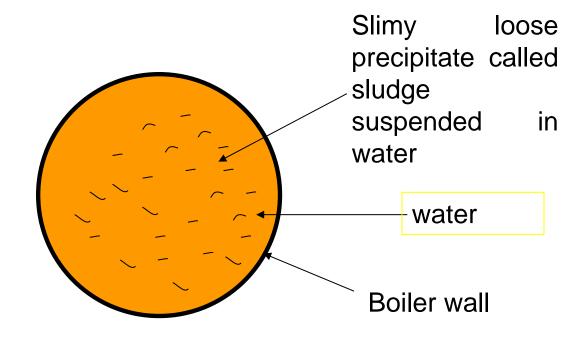
Remedy: Sludge can be removed using wire brush or mild acid.

SCALES are hard substances which sticks very firmly to the inner surfaces of the boiler wall.

Scales are difficult to remove even with the help of a hammer and chisel e.g. CaSO4, CaCO₃, Mg(OH)₂

Remedy: Scales formation can be prevent by using various internal and external treatment.

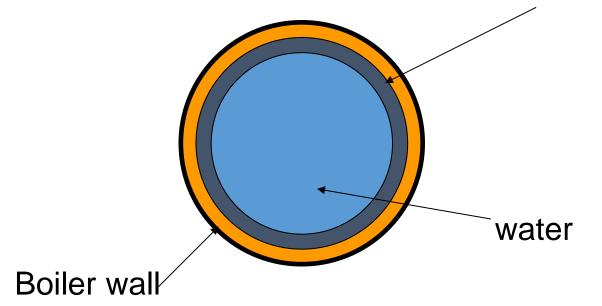
1. Sludge



Remedy: Sludge can be removed using wire brush or mild acid

2. Scale

Hard adherent coating on inner walls of boiler



Scales are hard substances which sticks very firmly to the inner surfaces of the boiler wall.

Scales are difficult to remove even with the help of a hammer and chisel e.g. CaSO₄, CaCO₃, Mg(OH)₂

Reasons for scale formation:

1. Presence of Ca(HCO₃)₂ in low pressure boilers

$$Ca(HCO_3)_2 \rightarrow CaCO_3 + H_2O + CO_2$$

Calcium Carbonate (scale)

In high pressure boilers it is soluble by forming Ca(OH)₂

$$CaCO_3 + H_2O \rightarrow Ca(OH)_2 + CO_2$$

2. Presence of SiO₂

It forms insoluble hard adherent CaSiO₃ and MgSiO₃ as scales

4. Presence of MgCl₂ in high temperature boilers

$$MgCl_2 + 2H_2O \rightarrow Mg(OH)_2 + 2HCl$$

Magnesium chloride soft scale

Mg(OH)₂ can also be generated by thermal decomposition of Mg(HCO₃)₂

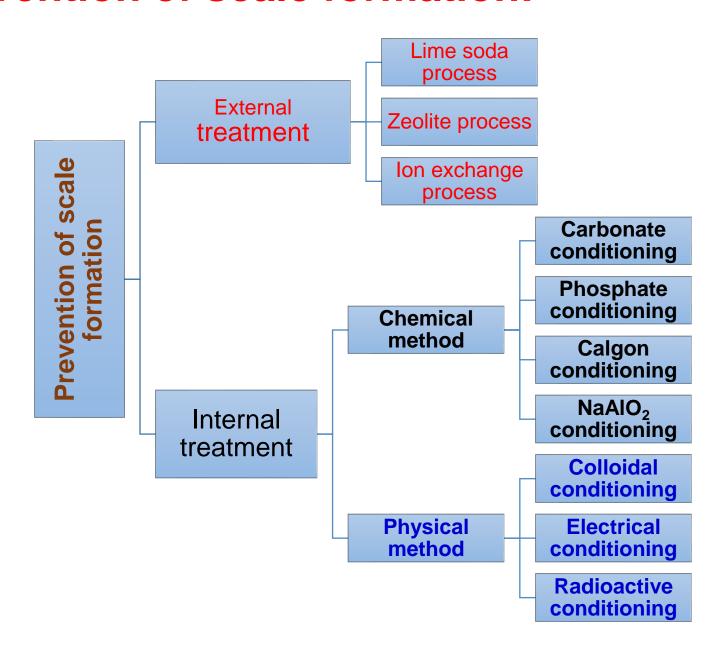
Disadvantages of scale formation

- Fuel wastage: Scales have poor thermal conductivity.
- Lowering boiler safety: Due to poor conductivity of scale, the boiler over heating is required which will make the boiler material softer and weaker. Thus boiler becomes unsafe at high pressure
- Decrease in efficiency: Scale deposition partially chokes the valves and condensers
- Danger of explosion: Due to cracking of scales, a gap between boiler wall and scale is formed. When water comes in contact with overheated boiler walls, it generate the excessive steam which may cause the boiler explosion

Removal of Scale

- Loosely adhering scale can be removed either by scraping or wire brush or by blow down operation.
- Brittle scales by thermal shock (i.e. heating the boiler followed by sudden cooling).
- Hard and adherent scales (CaCO₃) can be dissolved in 5-10% HCl, CaSO₄ can be removed by adding EDTA as Ca-EDTA complex is highly water soluble.

Prevention of scale formation:



External treatment:

Carried out before water enter into the boiler

Internal treatment:

- Conditioning of water in the boiler itself by adding suitable chemicals
- •Involves the treatment of boiler water inside the boiler by adding suitable chemicals which either
 - precipitate the scale forming substance or
 - convert them into compounds, which will remain water soluble.

Internal conditioning of boiler water

Phosphate conditioning – addition of phosphate compound

Carbonate conditioning – addition of carbonate compound

Calgon conditioning – addition of sodium hexametaphosphate

- Colloidal conditioning spreading of organic compounds like tannin, agar gel
- Sodium Aluminate removes oil and silica

Complexometric method – using EDTA

Prevention of scale formation:

1. Phosphate conditioning

Sodium phosphate is added to the boiler water which reacts with the hardness producing ions and forms easily removable phosphate salts of respective ions

$$3CaCl_2$$
 (Boiler water) + 2 Na₃PO₄ \rightarrow Ca₃(PO₄)₂ + 6 NaCl

Calcium chloride

Sodium phosphate

calcium phosphate

(non adherent and can be removed by blow down method)

Selection of Phosphate compound:

The choice of phosphate salt depends upon the alkalinity of the feed water

Calcium can be precipitated at a pH of 9.5 or more, hence the selection of phosphate has to be based on the pH of the boiler feed water.

NaH₂PO₄ (acidic in nature),

Na₂HPO₄ (weakly alkaline in nature),

Na₃PO₄ (Alkaline in nature)

2. Carbonate conditioning

Sodium carbonate is added to the boiler water which reacts with the hardness producing ions and forms easily removable carbonate salts of respective ions

Caution: Excess Na₂CO₃ can result in caustic embrittlement

Caustic embrittlement:

Excess sodium carbonate used for removing hardness can also result in the formation of NaOH in high pressure boilers.

$$Na_2CO_3 + H_2O \rightarrow 2 NaOH + CO_2$$

NaOH has better mobility and can penetrate into fine cracks present in boiler walls.

A tube damaged by caustic embrittlement.



Preventions:

- Addition of tannin or lignin block the minute cracks and prevent the accumulation of NaOH
- Using phosphate salts instead of sodium carbonate
- Using Na₂SO₄ to block the hair cracks
- Avoiding excess use of Na₂CO₃ and adjusting the pH between 8-9

Note: Tannins and lignins are organic compounds found in plants and trees, particularly in bark, leaves, and seeds

3. Calgon conditioning:

Sodiumhexametaphosphate is added to the boiler water which reacts with the hardness producing ions

Calgon –Sodiumhexametaphosphate

$$Na_{2}[Na_{4}(PO_{3})_{6}] \rightarrow 2Na + [Na_{4}P_{6}O_{18}]^{2}$$

Sodiumhexametaphosphate

$$2CaSO_4 + [Na_4P_6O_{18}]^{2-} \rightarrow [Ca_2P_6O_{18}]^{2-} + 2Na_2SO_4$$

Calcium sulfate

Soluble complex ion of calcium - can be removed easily

Calgon tablets are used in the cleaning of washing machine drums

External treatment: Softening of hard water

Softening of hard water can be done by the following methods

- 1. Zeolite methods
- 2.Ion exchange resin method
- 3. Mixed bed deionizer method

WATER AND ITS TREATMENT

External method of Softening of water

Softening of hard water can be done by the following methods

- 1. Zeolite methods
- 2.Ion exchange resin method
- 3. Mixed bed deionizer method

1. Zeolite (Permutit) method of Softening of water

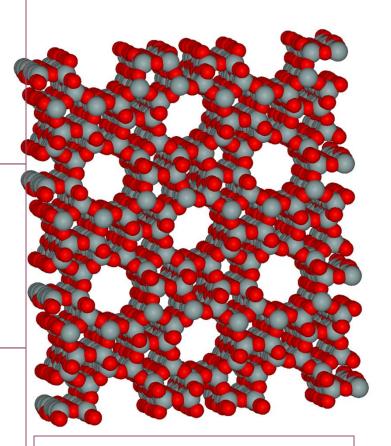
Zeolite (Na₂Ze) is a Hydrated Sodium Alumino Silicate (HSAS), capable of exchanging reversibly its sodium ions for hardness producing ions in water.

The general chemical structure of zeolite is given below Na₂O.Al₂O₃.xSiO₂.yH₂O

(x = 2-10 and y = 2-6)

Why synthetic zeolite is better than natural zeolite for the softening of water?

Ans: Natural zeolites are non-porous



Porous Structure of zeolite

Zeolite (Permutit) method of Softening of water

- Zeolites are synthetic as well as natural
- Synthetic zeolites are used for the water purification due to their porous structure
- Porosity or cavity size of synthetic zeolite structures can be controlled by varying the Si/Al ratio
- Ion-exchange process of zeolite structure is associated with sodium ions

Process of softening by Zeolite method

- The hardness causing ions such as Ca²⁺, Mg²⁺ are retained by the zeolite bed as CaZe and MgZe respectively.
- The outgoing water contains sodium salts. The following reactions takes place during softening process

To remove temporary hardness

$$Na_2Ze + Ca(HCO_3)_2 \rightarrow CaZe + 2NaHCO_3$$

$$Na_2Ze + Mg(HCO_3)_2 \rightarrow MgZe + 2NaHCO_3$$

Process of softening by Zeolite method

To remove permanent hardness

$$Na_2Ze + CaCl_2 \rightarrow CaZe + 2NaCl$$

$$Na_2Ze + MgSO_4 \rightarrow MgZe + Na_2SO_4$$

Regeneration of Zeolite Bed

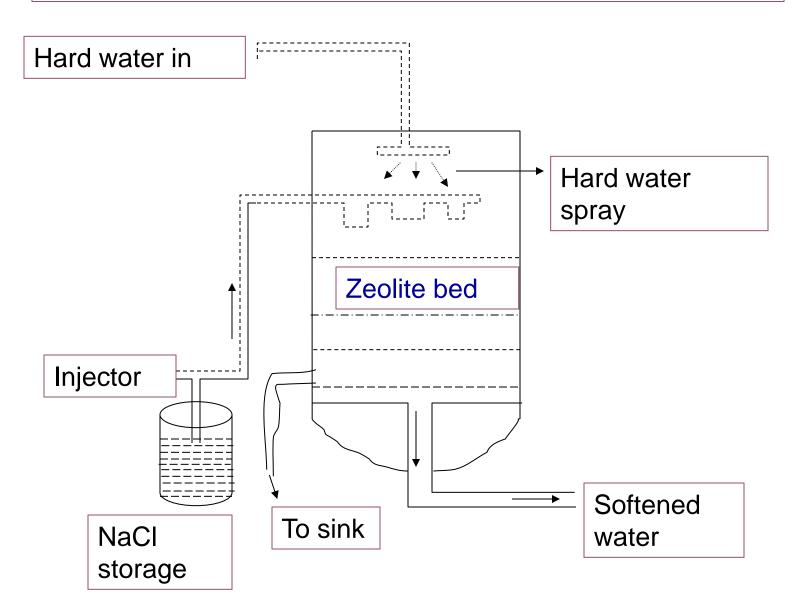
Used Zeolite

10% brine solution

Regenerated Zeolite

Washings drained

Zeolite water softener method:



Limitations of Zeolite process

- 1. If the water is turbid, the turbidity causing particles clogs the pores of the Zeolite and making it inactive
- 2. The ions such as Mn²⁺ and Fe²⁺ forms stable complex Zeolite, the strong and irreversible binding will make the zeolite regeneration extremely difficult.
- 3. Any acid impurity in water will hydrolyze SiO₂ into silicic acid, hence, acidic water should be neutralized with soda before zeolite treatment.

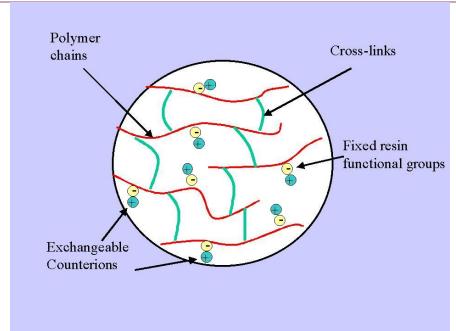
Advantages of Zeolite process

- 1. Soft water with < 10-15 ppm hardness can be produced by this method
- 2. The equipment occupies less space
- 3. No impurities are precipitated, hence no danger of sludge formation in the treated water
- 4. It does not require more time and more skill

Disadvantages of Zeolite process

- 1. Soft water contains more sodium salts than in lime soda process
- 2. It replaces only Ca²⁺ and Mg²⁺ with Na⁺ but leaves all the other ions like HCO₃⁻ and CO₃²⁻ in the softened water (may form NaHCO₃ and Na₂CO₃ which on boiling releases CO₂ and causes corrosion)
- It also causes caustic embitterment when sodium carbonate hydrolyses to give NaOH

2. Ion-Exchange resin (or) deionization (or) demineralization process





Ion exchange resin

• Ion exchange resins are insoluble, cross linked, long chain organic polymers with a microporous structure, and the functional groups attached to the chain is responsible for the "ion-exchange" properties.

Resins are classified into two types:

1. Cation exchange resin (RH+) – Acidic functional group Strongly acidic (SO₃-H+) and weakly acidic (COO-H+) cation exchange resins

2. Anion Exchange resin (ROH⁻) – Basic functional group Strongly basic (R₄N⁺OH⁻) and weakly basic (RNH₂⁺OH⁻) anion exchange resins

Process or Ion-exchange mechanism involved in water softening:

Reactions occurring at Cation exchange resin

 $2 RH^+ + Ca^{2+}$ (hard water) \rightarrow $R_2Ca^{2+} + 2 H^+$

 $2 \text{ RH}^+ + \text{Mg}^{2+} \text{ (hard water)} \rightarrow \text{R}_2 \text{Mg}^{2+} + 2 \text{ H}^+$

Reactions occurring at Anion exchange resin

 $2 \text{ ROH}^- + \text{SO}_4^{2-} \text{ (hard water)} \rightarrow \text{R}_2 \text{SO}_4^{2+} + 2 \text{ OH}^-$

 $2 \text{ ROH}^{-} + \text{Cl}^{-}$ (hard water) \rightarrow $\text{R}_2\text{Cl}^{-} + 2 \text{ OH}^{-}$

At the end of the process

 $H^+ + OH^- \rightarrow H_2O$

Regeneration of ion exchange resins

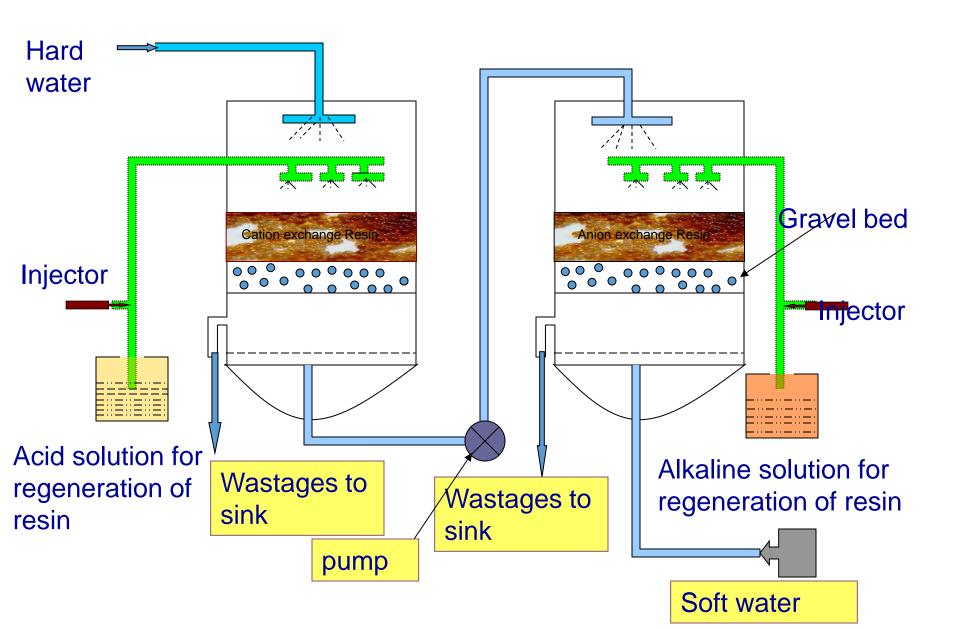
Regeneration of Cation exchange resin

 $R_2Ca^{2+} + 2H^+ (dil. HCl (or) H_2SO_4) \rightarrow 2 RH^+ + Ca^{2+}$

Regeneration of Anion exchange resin

 $R_2SO_4^{2-} + 2OH^- (dil. NaOH) \rightarrow 2 ROH^- + SO_4^{2-}$

Ion exchange purifier or softener



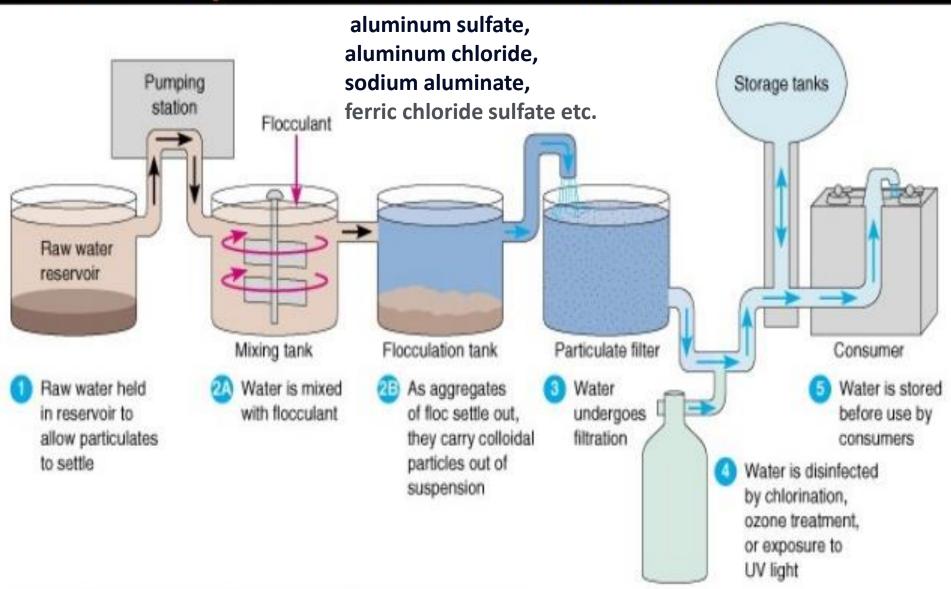
Advantages

- 1. The process can be used to soften highly acidic or alkaline waters
- It produces water of very low hardness of 1-2ppm. So the treated waters by this method can be used in high pressure boilers

Disadvantages

- 1. The setup is costly and it uses costly chemicals
- 2. The water should not be turbid

Municipal Water Purification Plant



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Desalination of seawater

 Desalination, refers to any process that removes some amount of salt and other minerals from water.

Technologies for desalination process

- Reverse Osmosis (Pressure membrane process)
- Electrodialysis membrane process

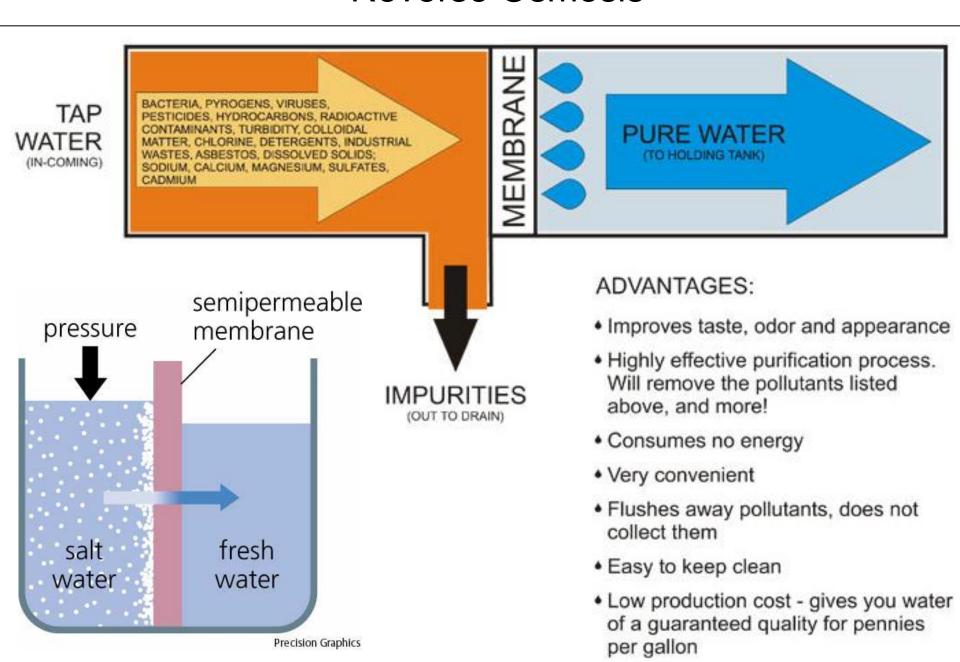
Reverse Osmosis (Pressure Membrane Processes)

- Microfiltration (MF), which can remove particles ranging in size from 10-100 μm. It is operated in the pressure range of 10 psig.
- Ultrafiltration (UF), which can remove particles ranging in size from 0.01 to 10 µm. It is operated in the pressure range of 15 psig.
- Nanofiltration (NF), which can remove particles size from 0.001 μ m to 0.01 μ m. It is operated in the pressure range of 75-250 psig.
- Reverse osmosis (RO), which can remove particles in the size range of 0.1-1.0 nm. It operates in the pressure range of 200-1200 psig.

Principle - Reverse osmosis

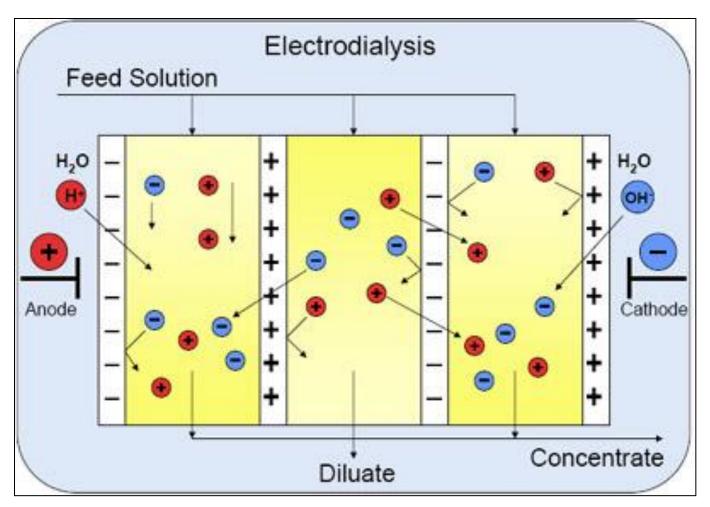
- * When two solutions of unequal concentration are separated by a semipermeable membrane, flow of solvent takes place from dilute to concentration side, due to increase in osmostic pressure, which is termed as osmosis.
- * However, when a hydrostatic pressure in excess of osmotic pressure is applied on the concentrated side, the solvent flow is reversed from concentrated side to dilute side, across the membrane. This principle is termed as reverse osmosis.
- * The semi-permeable membrane (in reverse osmosis) is selective in not permitting the passage of dissolved solute particles such as molecules, ions, etc.) It permits only the flow of water molecules (solvent) from the concentrated to dilute side.
- * Cellulose acetate, polyamide, etc., are used as membrane.
- * Reverse osmosis process requires only mechanical force to generate the required hydrostatic pressure.
- * Hydrostatic pressure generated is in the order of 15-40 Kg m⁻²

Reverse Osmosis



Principle - Electrodialysis

➤ Electrodialysis is an electrochemical process whereby electrically charged particles, ions, are transported from a raw solution (retentate, diluate) into a more concentrated solution (permeate, concentrate) through ion-selective membranes by applying an electric field.



Theory of Electrodialysis

- Electrodialysis chamber comprises of sheet like barriers made out of high-capacity, highly cross-linked ion exchange resins that allow passage of ions but not of water.
- There are two types: (a) Cation exchange and (b) Anion exchange membranes
- Cation exchange membranes consists of an insoluble matrix and mobile cation reside in the pore space that allows the pass through of only cations.
- Anion exchange membranes consists of an insoluble matrix and mobile anion reside in the pore space that allows the pass through of only anions.
- Cation- and Anion- exchange membranes are installed alternatively in the tank.
- By impressing electricity on the electrodes, the positive anode attracts negative ions in solution, while the negative cathode attracts positive ions in the solution.

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Q. The hardness of 25,000 litres of a sample of water was removed by passing it through a zeolite softener. The softener then required 100 litres of NaCl solution, containing 125 gm/L of NaCl for regeneration. Calculate the hardness of the sample of water.

Ans: 1 liter of NaCl solution contain 125 gm of NaCl 100 liters of NaCl solution contain= $100 \times 125 = 12500 \text{ g NaCl}$ In the equivalent of CaCO3 = $12500 \times 50/58.5$ g of CaCO3 eq.= 10683.76 g of CaCO3 eq. 25000 L of sample water has hardness = 10683.76 g of CaCO3 l L of sample water has hardness = 10683.76 / 25000 = 0.427 g/L = 427 mg/L or ppm

Q. A zeolite bed was exhausted after completely removing the total hardness of 10,000L of hard water. The zeolite bed was regenerated using 8 L of NaCl containing 150 gm/L of NaCl. Calculate the hardness of water.

Ans: 1 liter of NaCl solution contain 150 gm of NaCl 8 liters of NaCl solution contain= 8 x 150= 1200 g NaCl In the equivalent of CaCO3 = 1200 x 50/58.5 g of CaCO3 eq.= 1025.64 g of CaCO3 eq. 10, 000 L of sample water has hardness = 1025.64 g of CaCO3 1 L of sample water has hardness = 1025.64 / 10,000 = 0.102 g/L= 102 mg/L or ppm

Q. After treating 10,000 L of water by ion exchanger, the cationic resin required 200 L of 0.1 N HCl and anionic resin required 200 L of 0.1 N NaOH solutions. Find the hardness of the water sample.

Ans: Hardness of 10000 L of water = 200 L of 0.1 N HCl = 200 L of 0.1 N CaCO3 eq. = 20 L of 1 N CaCO3 eq. = $20 \times 50 \text{ g}$ of CaCO3 eq. = 1000 g CaCO3 eq. Hardness in 1L in water = 1000 / 10,000 g of CaCO3 = 0.1 g/L of CaCO3 eq. = 100 mg/L or ppm