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How would you prepare an 800 mL phosphate buffer solution at 0.5 M using 1M H_2PO_4^- and 0.6M HPO_4^{2-} at pH 6.0? (pKa 6.86)

1st calculate the total mols of phosphate you need!

$$800 \text{ mL} \times \frac{0.5 \text{ mol}}{1000 \text{ mL}} = \underline{0.4 \text{ mols total phosphate}}$$

Now, using the H-H equation, calculate the amt's of conjugate base and weak acid:

$$\text{pH} = \text{pKa} + \log\left(\frac{[\text{A}^-]}{[\text{HA}]}\right)$$

$$6.0 = 6.86 + \log \frac{\text{A}^-}{\text{HA}}$$

$$-0.86 = \log\left(\frac{[\text{A}^-]}{[\text{HA}]}\right)$$

$$\frac{0.14}{1} = \frac{[\text{A}^-]}{[\text{HA}]}$$

remembering that $[\text{A}^-] + [\text{HA}] = 0.4 \text{ mols}$, and solving for $[\text{A}^-] = 0.4 - [\text{HA}]$, plug this back into the ratio equation

$$\frac{0.14}{1} = \frac{0.4 - [\text{HA}]}{[\text{HA}]}$$

$$0.14[\text{HA}] = 0.4 - [\text{HA}]$$

$$[\text{HA}] = \underline{0.35 \text{ mols}}$$

now solve for $[\text{A}^-]$

calculate vol. of HA in sol'n

$$\frac{0.35 \text{ mols}}{x} = \frac{1 \text{ mol H}_2\text{PO}_4^-}{1000 \text{ mL}}$$

$$x = 350 \text{ mL of } 1 \text{ M H}_2\text{PO}_4^-$$

$$[\text{A}^-] + 0.35 \text{ mols} = 0.4 \text{ mols}$$

$$[\text{A}^-] = \underline{0.05 \text{ mols}}$$

calculate vol. of $[\text{A}^-]$ in sol'n

$$\frac{0.05 \text{ mols}}{x} = \frac{0.6 \text{ mols HPO}_4^{2-}}{1000 \text{ mL}}$$

$$x = 83.3 \text{ mL of } 0.6 \text{ M HPO}_4^{2-}$$

so,

$$+ 350 \text{ mL } 1 \text{ M H}_2\text{PO}_4^-$$
$$+ 83.3 \text{ mL } 0.6 \text{ M HPO}_4^{2-}$$

$$\hline 433.3 \text{ mL}$$

$$+ \boxed{366.7 \text{ mL H}_2\text{O}}$$

800 mL total phosphate solution