

How much KNO₃ must be dissolved in 100 g of water at 40 degrees Celsius to create a saturated solution?

According to the reference 1 solubility of KNO₃ at 40 degrees Celsius is 38.6, in this reference solubility has following definition:

$$\text{Solubility(KNO}_3\text{)} = \frac{m(\text{KNO}_3) \times 100}{m(\text{H}_2\text{O}) + m(\text{KNO}_3)} = 38.6$$

From this equation we need to find $m(\text{KNO}_3)$. Based on the solubility formula we will create equation using x as $m(\text{KNO}_3)$ and 100 as $m(\text{H}_2\text{O})$:

$$\frac{x \times 100}{100 + x} = 38.6 \quad 38.6 \times (100 + x) = x \times 100 \quad 3860 + 38.6x = 100x$$

$$100x - 38.6x = 3860 \quad 61.4x = 3860 \quad x = \frac{3860}{61.4} = 62.9$$

Answer: 62.9 g of KNO₃ must be dissolved in 100 g of water at 40 degrees Celsius to create saturated solution.

Reference 1. W.M. Haynes. (2016). CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics. CRC Press. page 5-169

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