• Calculate the molar solubility of silver sulfide, Ag₂S, given that K_{sp} is 8×10^{-51} at 25 °C.

Marks 3

The dissolution reaction and solubility product are:

$$Ag_2S(s) \implies 2Ag^+(aq) + S^{2-}(aq) \qquad K_{sp} = [Ag^+(aq)]^2[S^{2-}(aq)]$$

If x mol of Ag₂S dissolve in one litre, then $[Ag^+(aq)] = 2x M$ and $[S^{2-}(aq)] = x M$. Hence:

$$K_{\rm sp} = (2x)^2(x) = 4x^3 = 8 \times 10^{-51}$$
 so $x = 1 \times 10^{-17}$

Answer: 1×10^{-17}