

Equilibrium constants for hydrolysis and associated equilibria in critical compilations

Mercury(II)

Equilibrium reactions	lgK at infinite dilution and T = 298 K		
	Baes and Mesmer, 1976	Powell et al., 2005	Brown and Ekberg, 2016
$\text{Hg}^{2+} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{HgOH}^+ + \text{H}^+$	-3.40	-3.40 ± 0.08	-3.40 ± 0.08
$\text{Hg}^{2+} + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{Hg(OH)}_2 + 2 \text{H}^+$	-6.17	-5.98 ± 0.06	-5.96 ± 0.07
$\text{Hg}^{2+} + 3 \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{Hg(OH)}_3^- + 3 \text{H}^+$	-21.1	-21.1 ± 0.3	
$\text{HgO(s)} + 2 \text{H}^+ \rightleftharpoons \text{Hg}^{2+} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	2.56	2.37 ± 0.08	2.37 ± 0.08

C.F. Baes and R.E. Mesmer, The Hydrolysis of Cations. Wiley, New York, 1976, p. 312.

P.L. Brown and C. Ekberg, Hydrolysis of Metal Ions. Wiley, 2016, pp. 741-755.

K.J. Powell, P.L. Brown, R.H. Byrne, T. Gajda, G. Hefter, S. Sjöberg, H. Wanner, Chemical speciation of environmentally significant heavy metals with inorganic ligands. Part 1: the Hg^{2+} – Cl^- , OH^- , CO_3^{2-} , SO_4^{2-} , and PO_4^{3-} aqueous systems (IUPAC technical report). Pure Appl. Chem. 77, 739–800 (2005).

Distribution diagrams

These diagrams have been computed at two Hg(II) concentrations (1 mM = 1×10^{-3} mol L⁻¹ and 1 µM = 1×10^{-6} mol L⁻¹) with the ‘best’ equilibrium constants above (in green). Calculations assume $T = 298$ K for the limiting case of zero ionic strength (*i.e.*, even neglecting plotted ions).

