

Water Potential

$$\Psi = \Psi_P + \Psi_S$$



Math Monday #4

Water Potenial

Scientists are trying to determine under what conditions a plant can survive. They collect the following data and would like to know the water potential of the plant cell. The solute potential is -0.6 MPa and the pressure potential is -1.0 MPa. What is the water potential.

Water Potential

$$\Psi = \Psi_P + \Psi_S$$



 ψ_S = solute potential ψ_P = pressure potential

$$\Psi = -1.0 \text{ MPa} + -0.6 \text{ MPa}$$

$$\Psi = -1.6 \text{ MPa}$$

Example Problem

Water Potential

A plant cell with a Ψ_s of -7.5 bars keeps a constant volume when immersed in an open-beaker solution that has a Ψ_s of -4 bars. What is the cell's Ψ_P ?

Water Potential

$$\Psi = \Psi_P + \Psi_S$$



$$\Psi = \Psi_p + -7.5$$
 bars

$$\Psi = 0$$
 bars $+ -4$ bars

$$-4 \text{ bars} = \Psi_p + -7.5 \text{ bars}$$

3.5 bars =
$$\Psi_p$$