Friday Worksh	eet
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Name:

Gravimetric 2

The strength of the eggshell of birds is determined by the calcium carbonate, CaCO₃, content of the eggshell.

The percentage of calcium carbonate in the eggshell can be determined by gravimetric analysis.

0.402 g of clean, dry eggshell was completely dissolved in a minimum volume of dilute hydrochloric acid.

$$CaCO_3(s) + 2H^+(aq) \rightarrow Ca^{2+}(aq) + CO_2(g) + H_2O(l)$$

An excess of a basic solution of ammonium oxalate, (NH₄)₂C₂O₄, was then added to form crystals of

calcium oxalate monohydrate, CaC₂O₄.H₂O.

The suspension was filtered and the crystals were then dried to constant mass. 0.543 g of CaC₂O₄.H₂O was collected.

a. Write a balanced ionic equation for the formation of the calcium oxalate monohydrate precipitate.

b. Determine the percentage, by mass, of calcium carbonate in the eggshell.