

diluent (in solvent extraction)

The liquid or homogeneous mixture of liquids in which extractant(s) and possible modifier(s) may be dissolved to form the solvent phase.

Notes:

- i. The term carrier, which implies an inert diluent is not recommended.
- ii. Although the diluent may well be a single liquid or even the major portion of the extracting phase, the term solvent should not be used in this sense as it has a much wider meaning in the context of liquid-liquid extraction, although the term cosolvent may be used in certain circumstances.
- iii. The diluent by itself does not extract the main (extractable) solute appreciably.

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