What is the percent composition of Carbon in the compound $C_2H_6$ ?
What is the empirical formula for the compound C₂H₆?
What are some compounds that may have the empirical formula CH₃?
A compound has an empirical formula of CH$_2$. Its gram formula mass is 126 g. What is the molecular formula?
Reverse Percent Composition:

- Used in spectral analysis of stars and meteors
- Used to identify rocks
Example: A rock sample contains 58.81% Barium, 13.74% Sulfur and 27.45% Oxygen by mass. What is the empirical formula for the compound?

Assume you have a 100 gram sample.
Step 1: Find the moles of each element in the sample:
Step 2: Make the simplest whole number ratio by dividing by the smallest factor

Step 3: Use the whole numbers as subscripts for each element in the empirical formula.
Complete the practice problem on your activity handout.