

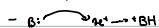
Acids and bases

- 19.1 Lewis acids and bases - the acid-base concept can be extended to reactions that don't involve proton transfer.

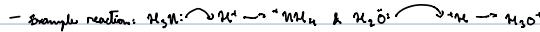
Lewis theory (inorganic chemistry)

- In Brønsted-Lowry acid-base theory, a base is defined as a proton acceptor & an acid is a proton donor.

- When a base accepts a proton it donates an electron pair to the proton, shown as:



- B^- represents a base (with one or more lone pairs of electrons), H^+ represents the proton, BH^+ the conjugate acid and the curved arrows represent the movement of an electron pair to form a coordinate covalent bond.



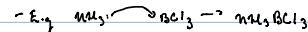
- A **lewis acid** is defined as a substance that can accept a pair of electrons from another atom to form a coordinate covalent bond.

- A **lewis base** is defined as a substance that can donate a pair of electrons to another atom to form a coordinate (coordinate) covalent bond.

- All Brønsted-Lowry bases are lewis acid-bases, but not vice versa.

- Lewis-acid bases are more general than Brønsted-Lowry.

- Reactions with no protons involved, water is absent and the reactions frequently occur in a gas phase.

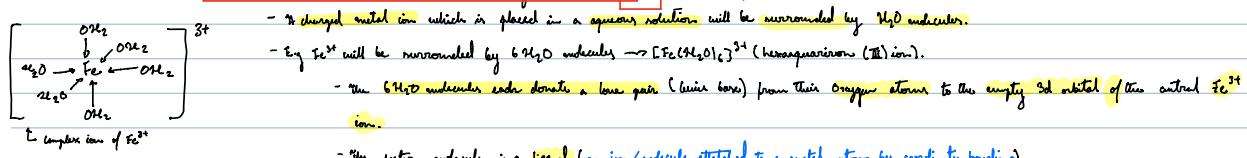


- Bromine is the lewis base and the Boron Trichloride is the lewis acid (pair acceptor).

- the reaction occurred because of the fact that Boron (being a lewis acid (pair acceptor)) wants to have a full shell.

Transition metal complexes

- Lewis bonding is found in complex ions formed by transition metals. Explanation of Lewis bonding with complex ion



Isomerization of transition metal complexes

- Isomerism **isomers** are compounds with the same formula but that differ in to which atoms are coordinated and which are present as counter ions.



- When dissolved in water, the different isomers will release different ions due to the fact that the H_2O will separate the ion by separating the counter ions & the anion coordinated.



- Cl^- & Br^- are the counter ions.

- Isomers can be distinguished by one another because of the fact that adding a reagent such as $HgCl$ would result in different precipitates occurring.

- $[CrCl_3 \cdot 6H_2O]$ also isomers: $[Cr(H_2O)_6]Cl_3$ (violet), $[Cr(H_2O)_5Cl]Cl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ (green), and the green $[Cr(H_2O)_4Cl_2]Cl \cdot 2H_2O$.

- The extra H_2O molecule (molecule on the right side of the equation) can be removed with dehydration.

- Conductivity can be used to see what the exact isomer it is.

- Ions are 4,3,2 for $[Cr(H_2O)_6]Cl_3$, $[Cr(H_2O)_5Cl]Cl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$, and $[Cr(H_2O)_4Cl_2]Cl \cdot 2H_2O$, respectively.

Lewis Theory (organic chemistry)

Nucleophiles and electrophiles

- like many reactions, an organic reaction results from a process of breaking covalent bonds and forming new ones.

- this involves electron pair transfers.

- Ionic mechanisms, such as nucleophilic substitution and electrophilic substitution, also involve electron transfers, and are therefore Lewis acid-base theory.

- **Nucleophilic substitution** is where an electron rich nucleophile (chemical substance that donates an electron pair to form a chemical bond in relation to a reaction) Lewis base

relatively bonds with or attacks the positive partial positive charge of an atom or a group of atoms to replace a leaving group.

- **Electrophilic substitution** reactions are chemical reactions in which an electrophile (positively charged or neutral species with vacant orbitals that are Lewis acid attracted to an electron rich center (electron pair acceptor)) displaces a functional group in a compound.

- By definition lewis bases have high presence of electron density while lewis acids are low electron density centers.

- One electron pair donated by the lewis base to the lewis acid is used to form a single sigma bond to the electron deficient acid center.

- most lewis bases contain lone pairs of electrons/electron bonding pairs.

- H_2O (water) for example is a lewis base as it has two lone pairs.

- lewis acids instead usually contain one negatively charged, a full positive charge (cation), or partial positive charges (atoms with a lower electron

negatively compared to the atoms they're bonded with).

- carbon cations (carocations) are examples of Lewis acids.

- Example Lewis acid-base reaction:



- As can be seen in the diagram above an electron pair from the oxygen is used to form a sigma bond to the central carbon in the carocation.

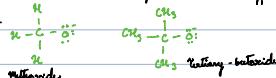
Bases (Brønsted-Lowry) vs nucleophilic behavior

- A Brønsted-Lowry base is a proton acceptor while a Lewis base (nucleophile) is a electron-pair donor.

- A nucleophile wants to bond with an electron deficient center, protons, or other atoms (mainly carbon). While Brønsted-Lowry bases want to bond with protons/ H^+ ions.

- In a acid-base reaction, the size of the base rarely matters, while in a nucleophile reaction the size of the base does impact matter.

- The smaller the nucleophile the more effective they are.



- The methoxide is a more effective nucleophile because it is smaller than the tertiary-butoxide even though the oxygen in the same and they have a similar structure, and are similar bases.

- The larger the base the harder it is for it to reach the electrophilic center, as its usually a carbon which is in the middle of the molecular structure. This doesn't matter for Brønsted bases because acidic protons are usually on the surface of the molecule.

Classification of Lewis acids

- A Lewis acid must have at least one empty orbital in its valence shell in one of its atoms to accept an electron pair from a Lewis base.

- Classified as:

- molecules which contain a central atom with an incomplete octet.

- Usually Lewis acids are electron-deficient molecules such as the halides (compound of a halogen with another element or atom from another group of Bowen, Boron, and aluminum). E.g. BCl_3 , BF_3 , and AlCl_3 .

- Molecules with a central atom with an empty d-orbital.

- some molecules can accept electron pairs in the d-orbital forming adducts (product of an addition between two compounds) with halide ions (halogen ion) and organic bases.

- simple cations

- theoretically all simple cations are potentially Lewis acids.

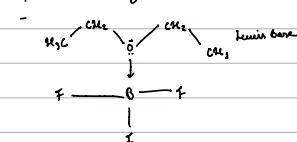
- the Lewis acid strength increases with an increase in the charge and increases when the ionic radius decreases.

- molecules with a multiple bond between atoms of different electronegativity

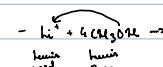
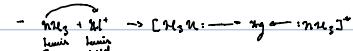
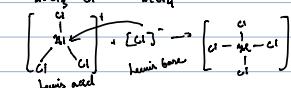
- e.g. CO , NO_2 , SO_3 . Oxygen electronegativity is greater than carbon so the pi electrons (in pi bond) are pulled away from the carbon or sulfur atoms making them electron deficient, making them able to accept an electron pair from a Lewis base.

Question: How to write Lewis acid-base equations?

- Acids trifluoroacetic + ethoxyethane ($\text{O}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2$) $_2$.



- $\text{NaCl}_3 + \text{Cl}^- \rightarrow \text{NaCl}_4$



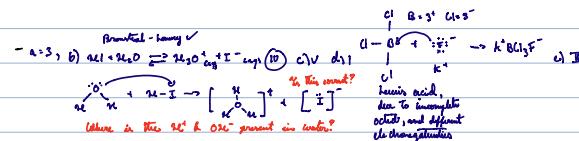
- Nucleophile stronger than water

- The Brønsted-Lowry can be applied to other solvents other than water.
- **Acids** are the liquid in which a solute is dissolved to form a solution.
- **Bases** are also amphotropic (can act as a Brønsted-Lowry acid or base).
- In an acid: $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+ \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{H}^+$
- As a base: $\text{NaOH} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{NaO}^- + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+$
In liquid ammonia solution
- **Ammmonium Chloride**, $[\text{NH}_4^+ \text{Cl}^-]$, behaves as a strong acid; and **potassium amide**, $[\text{Na}^+ \text{NH}_2^-]$, behaves as a strong base.
- In liquid ammonia, an acid can be defined as a substance that provides NH_3^+ ions. While a base is a substance that produces the anions characteristic of the solvent.
- Generally, in a self-ionising solvent an acid is a substance that produces the cations characteristic of the solvent, and a base is a substance that produces the anions characteristic of the solvent.
- The **amphotropic solvent** is a solvent whose molecules don't donate a proton.
- Example does this sit?
- Neutralising effect or Explain
 - Non-aqueous solvents that are good proton donors, e.g. liquid ammonia, encourage acidic behaviour in them.
 - Meaning that when a **weak** acid is put in a basic solvent, it will fully dissociate in the **solvent** rather than only partially dissociate like when it's placed in an aqueous solution. Therefore, in a basic solvent all acids are **strong**.
 - The solvent is said to show a **greater leveling effect** on the acid, since the strength of the acid can't be greater than the protonated solvent.
 - E.g. in aqueous solution, no acidic species can exist that is stronger than $\text{H}^+/\text{H}_2\text{O}^+$.
 - In acidic solvents, liquid sulfuric acid, ionisation of bases is promoted.
 - Most acids are relatively weak under these conditions.

- Summary of the various acid and base theories

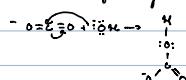
Theory	Basic principles
Traditional approach	Has a substance that has certain properties (e.g. sour taste, turns litmus red)
Nucleophiles	Acid: H^+ present in aqueous solution Basic: OH^- present in aqueous solution \Rightarrow neutrality: $[\text{H}^+] = [\text{OH}^-]$
Brønsted-Lowry	Acid: H^+ donor Base: H^+ acceptor \Rightarrow concept of neutrality
LeBron	Acid: lone pair acceptor Base: lone pair donor
Amphotropic	Acid: It neutralises that donates a cation, or accepts an anion, or an electron Base: a substance that donates an anion, or an electron, or accepts a cation

- Questions

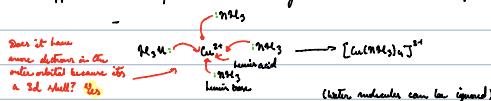


- Applying Lewis' acid-base Theory to inorganic and organic chemistry to identify the role of the reacting species

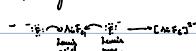
- Carbon dioxide molecules reacting with hydroxide ion to form hydrogen carbonate ion



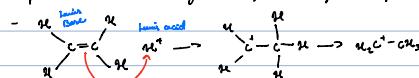
- Copper (II) ions in aqueous solution reacting with ammonia molecules to form the complex **hexamminecopper (II)** ion:



- Fluoride ions reacting with a nitroso thiophane molecule to form the nitroso thiophane ion:



- The pi bond of an ethene molecule reacting with a proton (hydrogen) to form an ethyl carbocation:



- A cyanide ion (**anion**) reacting with the carbon atom of the carbonyl group of a nitrile molecule (to form a tetrahedral intermediate):



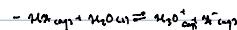
- 18.2 Calculations involving acids and bases

- Acid - base reactions or equilibrium

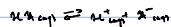
- most acids & bases are weak.

- the equilibrium law can be used to the extent to which a base or acid ionizes or dissociates.

- H_2O acid equilibrium can be represented in either of the following ways, depending on whether the hydrated proton is represented as H_3O^+ (conventional) or H^+ :



or



- water is omitted from the equilibrium expression written as:

$$K_w = \frac{[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+][\text{OH}^-]}{[\text{H}_2\text{O}]} \quad \text{or} \quad K_w = \frac{[\text{H}^+][\text{OH}^-]}{[\text{H}_2\text{O}]}$$

- the magnitude of the ionises of the acid or base is strong or weak by showing its dissociation level in water.

- the larger the value of K_w , the stronger the acid.

- $pK_w = -\log_{10} K_w$ is another measure of acid strength. The smaller the value of pK_w , the stronger the acid.

Calculations involving acids and bases

- the basic product of water

- the reason that distilled water is a poor electrical conductor is because of the water not dissociating a lot: $\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}^+ + \text{OH}^-$ or $\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_3\text{O}^+ + \text{O}H^-$.

- K_w represents the ionise product constant of water.

- $K_w = 10^{-14}$ (25°C) the measured concentration of H^+ ions & OH^- ions in pure water are $1 \cdot 10^{-7}$ mol dm^{-3} .

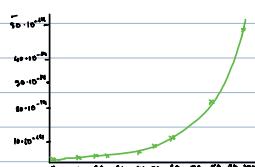
$$K_w = [\text{H}^+][\text{OH}^-] = 1 \cdot 10^{-14} \text{ mol}^2 \text{ dm}^{-6} \rightarrow K_w = K_a \cdot K_b$$

- $K_w = 10^{-14}$ mol dm^{-3}

- this changes with temperature.

- as the temperature increases the pH will decrease even if the solution is chemically neutral since the concentrations of H^+ & OH^- are still equal.

- graphical representation:



- the dissociation of water is exothermic reaction as energy is required to break bonds between oppositely charged ions.

- this also shows that the dissociation of water is an endothermic reaction as Le Chatelier's principle will favour the reaction which will lower the temperature (endothermic). Using more dissociation will occur, shifting equilibrium to the right and dissociating water even more.

- this increases K_w .

- Questions:

$$\begin{aligned} -60^\circ\text{C}: K_w &= 9.55 \cdot 10^{-14} \text{ mol}^2 \text{ dm}^{-6} & 9.55 \cdot 10^{-14} &= [\text{H}^+][\text{OH}^-] \\ &9.55 \cdot 10^{-14} &= x^2 \\ &x &= \sqrt{9.55 \cdot 10^{-14}} \\ &x &= 3.10 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \end{aligned}$$

- By definition the pH of an aqueous solution is the measure of its hydrogen ion concentration.

- it depends on the temp because the degree of dissociation of an acid does, the change.

- Neutrality of a substance is independent of the pH: a neutral solution is one where the concentration of H^+ ions equals the concentration of OH^- ions.

- Corresponding to 7 at 25°C.

- pH and pOH scales

- pH and pOH is the negative log base 10 of the concentration of H^+ ions & OH^- ions in a substance.

$$-\text{pH} = -\log_{10} [\text{H}^+] \quad \text{&} \quad \text{pOH} = -\log_{10} [\text{OH}^-]$$

$$-\text{pH} + \text{pOH} = 14$$

$$-\text{pH} = -\log_{10} [\text{H}^+] \rightarrow 10^{-\text{pH}} \text{ mol}^2 \text{ dm}^{-6} = [\text{H}^+][\text{OH}^-]$$

$$-\text{pOH} = -\log_{10} [\text{OH}^-]$$

- Questions:

$$-0.01 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \text{ HCl} \text{ has } \text{pH} = 2$$

$$-\text{pH} = 12$$

- Since there are two OH^- ions, the concentration must be doubled. Therefore, concentration of OH^- ions is 0.02 mol/dm³ rather than 0.01 mol/dm³. Therefore, $p\text{OH} = -\log_{10}[0.02] \rightarrow 14 - 1.7 = 12.3$ pH another method: $\frac{1.16 \cdot 10^{-14}}{0.02} = 56^2 \rightarrow 56^2 \cdot 3 = 5 \cdot 10^{-13} \rightarrow -\log(5 \cdot 10^{-13}) = 12.3$ pH

- $\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons 2 \text{H}^+$ therefore $[\text{H}^+] = 0.02 \text{ mol/dm}^3 \rightarrow \text{pH} = 1.7$

- To calculate the concentration of H^+ & OH^- ions the following formulas are used:

$$[\text{H}^+] = 10^{-\text{pH}} \quad [\text{OH}^-] = 10^{-14-\text{pH}}$$

- Questions:

$$\begin{aligned} - [\text{H}^+] &= 10^{-1.7} \\ - [\text{H}^+] &= 1.7 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ mol/dm}^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} - 100\text{M NaCl} &\Rightarrow 1.36 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ mol/dm}^3 \quad C = \frac{1.36 \cdot 10^{-2}}{0.1} = 1.36 \text{ mol/dm}^3 \quad \text{pH} = -\log(0.2) \\ - 1.36 \cdot 10^{-2} &= 1.36 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ mol/dm}^3 \end{aligned}$$

- $0_1 = 0.01 \text{ dm}^3 \quad 0_2 = 1 \text{ dm}^3 \quad \text{change} = 10^3 = 100 \text{ times original amount. } \Delta \text{pH} = +2 \text{ pH value}$

- They don't give you any values in the book to calculate the pH value therefore final pH can't be calculated.

- pH scale is used to describe both acidic & basic solutions.

- Basic solution have a low concentration of H^+ ions from the dissociation of H_2O .

- pH can also be used to find acidity of how acidic a solution is.

- Questions:

$$- \log_{10}(0.1) = 1 \quad \text{pH} = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} - \text{C}\text{H}_3\text{COO}^- &= 10^{-5.02} \\ &\times 10^{-2} \\ &= 0.01 \text{ mol/dm}^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} - [\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-] &= 10^{-5} \\ &\times 1 \\ &= 13 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} - [\text{H}^+] &= 10^{-5} \quad [\text{OH}^-] = 10^{-12} \text{ mol/dm}^3 \quad \text{pH} = 5 \quad \checkmark \\ &\text{pH} = 12 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

- Acid dissociation constant

- % weak monohydric acid with only one H^+ ion), 4%, reacts with NaOH :

$$- \text{acid cap} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}^+ + \text{base cap}$$

- This will give the acid dissociation constant (strength of an acid in a solution), K_a :

$$- K_a = \frac{[\text{H}^+][\text{base}]}{[\text{acid}]}$$

- The K_a is a measure of the strengths of a weak acid.

- The larger the value for K_a , the stronger the acid as it dissociates more.

- K_a is usually small, therefore its usually expressed as pK_a :

$$- \text{pK}_a = -\log_{10} K_a$$

- The lower the value of pK_a the stronger the acid.

- K_a & pK_a aren't affected by concentration but rather only temperature changes.

- Measuring acid strength comes with temp.

- Since $[\text{H}^+] = [\text{OH}^-]$ in a solution with only acid is present:

$$- K_a = \frac{[\text{H}^+]^2}{[\text{acid}]} \rightarrow [\text{H}^+] = \sqrt{[\text{acid}] \cdot K_a} \rightarrow \text{pH} = -\log [\text{H}^+]$$

- Questions:

$$- K_a = \frac{[\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-][\text{H}^+]}{[\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}]} \quad \begin{aligned} - [\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-] &= 10^{-5} \\ - [\text{H}^+] &= 7.44 \cdot 10^{-5} \end{aligned}$$

$$- \frac{10^{-5} \cdot 7.44 \cdot 10^{-5}}{0.01} = 6.31 \cdot 10^{-9}$$

- $6.31 \cdot 10^{-9}$ is wrong.

- $\text{CH}_3\text{COOH} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}^+ + \text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$ $\text{K}_a = 1.9 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ mol/dm}^{-3}$

$$\begin{aligned} - 1.9 \cdot 10^{-5} &= \frac{[\text{H}^+]^2}{0.1} \\ - [\text{H}^+] &= \sqrt{1.9 \cdot 10^{-5}} \\ - [\text{H}^+] &= 1.38 \cdot 10^{-2.5} \end{aligned}$$

$$- \text{pH} = -\log [\text{H}^+] = 2.57$$

- Base dissociation constant

- % weak base can be either monohydric (neutral), or an anion, such as ethanoate.

- % weak base: 1 means a soluble base solution.

- $\text{[OH}^-] \cdot \text{[H}_3\text{O}^+ \rightleftharpoons \text{[H}_2\text{O}^+\text{OH}^- + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+\text{OH}^-$

- $\text{[OH}^-] \cdot \text{[H}_3\text{O}^+ \rightleftharpoons \text{[H}_2\text{O}^+\text{OH}^- + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+\text{OH}^-$

- Base dissociation constant, k_b :

- $k_b = \frac{[\text{BH}^+][\text{B}^-]}{[\text{B}]}$ or $\frac{[\text{BH}^+][\text{B}^-]}{[\text{B}]}$

- $[\text{OH}^-] = \frac{[\text{H}_2\text{O}^+]}{k_w}$ or $[\text{OH}^-] = \frac{[\text{H}_2\text{O}^+]}{k_w}$

- Question:

- $[\text{OH}^-] = \sqrt{K_w \cdot 10^{-14}}$ $p\text{OH}^- = -\log(10^{-14})$

$\sqrt{10^{-14}} = 10^{-7}$ $p\text{OH}^- = 7$

$\approx 10^{-7} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ $p\text{OH}^- = 7$

$\text{Base without B occurs in}$

cong

- Question:

- $[\text{OH}^-] = 10^{-6.5}$ ✓ $k_w = (1.58 \cdot 10^{-7})(1.58 \cdot 10^{-7})$

$\approx 1.58 \cdot 10^{-14}$ ✓ $k_w = 2.50 \cdot 10^{-14} \text{ mol}^2 \text{ dm}^{-6}$

$[\text{OH}^-] = 1.58 \cdot 10^{-7}$ ✓

- $10^{-9.0} = 6.3 \cdot 10^{-4} \cdot [\text{OH}^-]^2$, $[\text{OH}^-]^2 = 1.56 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ mol}^2 \text{ dm}^{-6}$

$p\text{OH}^- = 0.2 \text{ mol}^2 \cdot [\text{OH}^-]^2 = 1 \cdot 10^{-11}$, mean of the OH = $(22.94 + (6.41, 0.1)) \rightarrow 22.94$

$\approx 10^{-11} \cdot 0.2$ $\approx 0.2 \text{ mol}^2$

$\approx 0.2 \text{ mol}^2$

$\text{[OH}^-] = \frac{1 \cdot 10^{-11}}{0.1} = [\text{OH}^-]$

- $b = 0.05 \text{ dm}^3$, $c = 0.5 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ $p\text{OH}^- = -\log_{10} 0.5$ $p\text{OH}^- = 0.5$ ✓

- $p\text{OH}^- = -\log_{10} k_a$ $[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] = \sqrt{K_w \cdot 10^{-14}}$

$k_a = 10^{-6.76}$

$k_a = 1.76 \cdot 10^{-7}$

$p\text{OH}^- = 2.83$

- $p\text{OH}^- = -\log_{10} k_b$ $[\text{OH}^-] = \sqrt{K_w \cdot 10^{-14}}$

$k_b = 10^{-9.13}$

$k_b = 1.93 \cdot 10^{-10}$

$p\text{OH}^- = 9.13$

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- $0.05 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \cdot p\text{OH}^- = 0.5$ $[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] = 1.93 \cdot 10^{-10}$

$p\text{OH}^- = 9.13$

- $0.05 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \cdot p\text{OH}^- = 0.5$ $[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] = 1.93 \cdot 10^{-10}$

$p\text{OH}^- = 9.13$

- $0.05 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \cdot p\text{OH}^- = 0.5$ $k_a = \frac{(1.93 \cdot 10^{-10})^2}{0.05}$

$k_a = 3.81 \cdot 10^{-10}$

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- $p\text{OH}^- = 1.01 \times 10^{-10}$ $k_a = 1.9 \cdot 10^{-10}$

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$p\text{OH}^- = 1.01 \times 10^{-10}$

- $1.01 \times 10^{-10} \cdot k_a = 1.9 \cdot 10^{-10}$

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- Decreasing the relative strengths of acids and bases values of k_a , $p\text{OH}^-$, k_b , and $p\text{OH}^-$.

- The figure shows the relative strengths of Brønsted-Lowry acids & bases. It shows there is an **inverses** relationship between k_a ($\propto k_b$), and $p\text{OH}^-$ ($\propto p\text{OH}^-$).





- the graph shows that as the value for K_a increases then the value for pH will decrease. the same will occur with a base.

- the reason that pH doesn't decrease is because of the fact that the pH formula is given by: $pH = pK_a + \log \frac{[A^-]}{[HA]}$, meaning the lower the value for pK_a , the higher the pH.

- some examples: $C_6H_5CO_2^- (K_a = 1.5 \cdot 10^{-5})$, $(CH_3)_3N (K_b = 4.8 \cdot 10^{-5})$, $C_6H_5NH^+ (K_b = 1.7 \cdot 10^{-9})$

- the conjugate acids for these bases are (arranged in increasing acidity): $(CH_3)_3N^+ < C_6H_5NH^+ < C_6H_5CO_2^-$

- the weaker the base the stronger the conjugate acid. meaning that the lower the K_b value is the stronger the conjugate acid will be.

- Assumptions and simplifications

- for weak acids approximately 1% of the acid is dissociated.

- Worked example

$$[CH_3CO_2^-] = (1 - x) \cdot [CH_3CO_2H] + x \cdot [CH_3CO_2^+]$$

$$7.2 \cdot 10^{-5} = \frac{x^2}{(1-x)}$$

$$x^2 + 7.2 \cdot 10^{-5} = 7.2 \cdot 10^{-5}$$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$= \frac{(-7.2 \cdot 10^{-5}) \pm \sqrt{(7.2 \cdot 10^{-5})^2 - 4(-7.2 \cdot 10^{-5})}}{2}$$

$$x = 0.0265 \quad [CH_3CO_2^-] = 2.65 \cdot 10^{-3} = \log_{10}(2.65 \cdot 10^{-3}) = pK_a$$

$$pK_a = 1.6$$

- Relationship between K_a for a weak acid and K_b for its conjugate base

- the relationship between K_a for a weak acid and K_b for its conjugate base is:

$$K_a (CH_3CO_2^-) K_b (CH_3CO_2H) = K_{w,0} (1 \cdot 10^{-14})$$

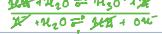
$$pK_a (CH_3CO_2^-) + pK_b (CH_3CO_2H) = pK_w (14)$$

- the stronger the acid, the larger K_a and the smaller pK_a . similarly, larger K_b the smaller pK_b .

- this equation is proof that the stronger the acid/base the weaker its conjugate base/acid.

- weak acid: $B + 2e^- + 2H_2O \rightleftharpoons B^{2+} + 2H^- \quad K_a (B^{2+}) = \frac{[B^{2+}][2H^-]}{[B][2H_2O]}$

- Conjugate base:



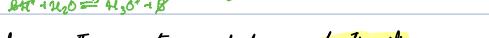
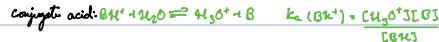
- Relationship between K_b for a weak base and K_a for its conjugate acid

$$- K_a (B) \cdot K_b (B^{2+}) = K_w = 1 \cdot 10^{-14} \quad (B = \text{weak base}, B^{2+} = \text{strong conjugate acid})$$

$$pK_a (B) + pK_b (B^{2+}) = pK_w (14)$$

- Brønsted equations:

$$\text{Weak base: } B + 2H_2O \rightleftharpoons B^{2+} + OH^- \quad K_b (B^{2+}) = \frac{[B^{2+}][OH^-]}{[B][2H_2O]}$$



- acids which release more than one proton per molecule are polyprotic acids.

- Buffer solutions

- a buffer solution is an aqueous solution whose pH (pH in concentration) remains unchanged by dilutions with water or when small amounts of acid or base are added to it.

- Eventually, buffers resist changes in pH.

- Buffers are necessary in stomach acids as well as salts.

- Other uses are in shampoos & soaps, overall as physiological systems are always buffered.

- Types of buffers

- There are three types of buffers:

- Acid buffers, which are prepared from a weak acid and a salt of the acid.

 e.g. ethanoic acid and sodium ethanoate.

- Basic or alkaline buffers, which are prepared from a weak base and a salt of the base; for example ammonia and ammonium chloride.

- Neutral buffer, which are usually prepared from phosphoric acid and its salts.

- Action of buffer solutions

- Acid buffers

- Since ethanoic acid (CH_3COOH) is only slightly dissociated & sodium ethanoate (CH_3COONa) is completely dissociated,

a mixture of the two contains a relatively low concentration of ions.

 Why is that? The H^+ ions are from the weak acid, meaning that not many are released.



Different buffers are one they mixed together to make a single one mixed together.

- If an acid is added to the buffer, the additional H^+ ions will be removed by combination with ethanoate ions to form undissociated acid molecules coming from new acid.

- The large amount of ethanoate ions are used to "get rid" of additional hydrogen ions from an acid due to the presence of sodium ethanoate.

- If an alkali is added, then the OH^- ions combine with the H^+ ions to form water.

- Ethanoic acid molecules are there so that when OH^- ions are added they will dissociate to make up for the OH^- ions being removed.

- Basic buffers

- Since ammonia is only slightly dissociated & ammonium chloride is completely dissociated, a mixture of the two contains a relatively low concentration of OH^- ions, but a lot of ammonia molecules & ammonium ions:



- If an acid is added, the H^+ ions will combine with OH^- ions to form water.

- Leading to more ammonia molecules reacting with water & releasing OH^- ions.

- If an alkali is added, the OH^- ions react with the ammonium ions from NH_4Cl to form ammonia & water.

- Calculations involving buffer solutions

- The two assumptions made with buffer solutions:

- In a buffer solution, the weak base or weak acid won't dissociate, because of the presence of ions from the dissociation of its salts will prevent dissociation of the acid or base molecules.

- The assumption that all the ions present in the buffer are produced from the dissociation of the salt: now come from the acid or base.

- Acid buffers

$$-\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a - \log_{10} \frac{[\text{H}^+]}{[\text{A}^-]}$$

- This is the Henderson-Hasselbalch equation. This indicates:

- The pH of a buffer solution depends on the $\text{p}K_a$ of the weak acid.

- The pH of a buffer solution depends upon the ratio of the concentrations of the acid and its conjugate base and not on their actual concentrations.

- Basic buffers

$$-\text{pOH} = \text{p}K_b - \log_{10} \frac{[\text{B}^+]}{[\text{A}^-]}$$

- Calculating the pH of a buffer mixture

- 0.2 mol of sodium ethanoate, 0.5 dm^{-3} ; $C = 0.1 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$, $K_a = 1.8 \cdot 10^{-5}$

$$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a + \log_{10} \frac{C}{[A^-]} = 5.35 + \frac{0.2}{0.5} = 5.35$$

$$\text{pH} = 5.35$$

- Basic method

$$-\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a + \log_{10} \frac{C}{[A^-]}$$

$$-\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a + \log_{10} \frac{0.2}{0.1} = 5.35$$

$$\text{pH} = 5.35$$

- Calculating the mass of a salt required to give an acidic buffer solution with a specific pH.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - \text{Acetic acid: } M = 96.07 \text{ g/mol}^{-1}, V = 1 \text{ dm}^3, c = 1 \text{ mol/dm}^{-3} \text{ (conjugate acid) } pK_a = 4.77, \text{ pH of buffer } = 4.8 \\
 & - [H^+] = 10^{-4.8} \quad K_a = 1.10 \cdot 10^{-4.77} \quad K_a = \frac{[H^+][CH_3COO^-]}{[CH_3COOH]} \quad 1.10 \cdot 10^{-4.8} = \frac{(3.16 \cdot 10^{-5}) (c)}{[CH_3COOH]} \\
 & \quad = 3.16 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ mol/dm}^{-3} \quad = 1.55 \cdot 10^{-5} \quad \therefore c = \frac{1}{1.55 \cdot 10^{-5}} \\
 & \quad = 0.427 \text{ mol/dm}^{-3} \quad = 0.427 \text{ mol}
 \end{aligned}$$

- Characteristics of buffer solutions

- Solutions

- The Henderson-Hasselbalch equation ($pH = pK_a + \log \frac{[CH_3COO^-]}{[CH_3COOH]}$) shows that the pH of a buffer solution will depend only on the ratio of the concentrations of the acid and their conjugate base, so dilution of the buffer solution should have no effect.

- Due to the fact that when you dilute a buffer with distilled water you will dilute the acidic & alkaline portions equally.

- Buffering capacity

- too much acid is used to absorb the additional base added, and the dissociated base is used for acids.

- Buffer solutions have a limited capacity to resist pH changes.

- If too much strong acid or base is added to the buffer, no more buffering action is possible.

- The buffering capacity increases as the concentration of the buffer salt/acid solution increases.

- The closer the buffered pH is to the pK_a , the greater the buffering capacity.

- If NaCl is placed in a buffer containing stearic acid ($CH_3COOCH_{17}CH_3$) and sodium stearate (CH_3COONa) the Na^+ will initially donate its Cl^- ion to the CH_3COO^- forming $CH_3COONa + Cl^-$.

- This will lower the pH by lowering the $\frac{[CH_3COO^-]}{[CH_3COONa]}$ ratio, but as long as there is a lot of CH_3COO^- present the pH won't decrease significantly. Can't move CH_3COO^- far enough by CH_3COONa dissociating to re-establish equilibrium? In reaction $CH_3COO^- + H^+ \rightarrow CH_3COOH$. Added $NaCl$ will mean that the equilibrium will shift to the left or there is an excess of products. Therefore, weak buffers are best used for bases rather than acids.

- Once the base has run out the pH will decrease significantly.

- Known as the "breaking the buffer solution".

- The amount of acid that the buffer can absorb before it breaks is the "buffer capacity of addition of strong acid".

- The same will occur with a base when all of the weak acid will be used.

- The ability of a buffer to absorb strong acids & strong bases depends on the individual concentrations of the strong & weak base.

- Preparation of a buffer

- To prepare an acidic buffer solution, a weak base would have to be mixed with its own conjugate base which is in its salt.

- The conjugate base comes from an aqueous salt which dissociates in water giving the base.

- For a basic buffer, a weak acid is mixed with its conjugate acid.

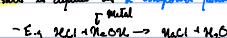
- The base & acid can never be strong because that would mean that the initial solution would be 100% dissociated.

- Therefore, the acid and base will always have to be weak.

- 18.3 salt curves

- Salt hydrolysis

- A salt is defined as a compound formed when the hydrogen of an acid is completely or partially replaced by a metal.



- If all of the hydrogen is replaced then the salt formed is a "normal salt".

- If only some of the hydrogen is replaced, then the salt formed is an "acidic salt".

- Acid salts can only be formed diprotic or tripotic acids. Monoprotic acids will always form normal salts.

- Chart with example acids:

Acid	Salt	Example(s)	Classification
Hydrochloric acid, HCl	Chlorides	Sodium chloride, NaCl	Normal
Nitric acid, HNO ₃	Nitrates	Sodium nitrate, NaNO ₃	Normal
Ethanoic acid	Ethanoates	Sodium ethanoate, CH ₃ COONa	Normal
Sulfuric acid, H ₂ SO ₄	Sulfates and hydrogensulfates	Sodium sulfate, Na ₂ SO ₄ , and sodium hydrogensulfate, NaHSO ₄	Normal and acidic
Carbonic acid, H ₂ CO ₃	Carbonates and hydrogencarbonates	Sodium carbonate, Na ₂ CO ₃ , and sodium hydrogen carbonate, NaHCO ₃	Normal and acidic
Cyanic acid, HCN	Cyanides	Sodium cyanide, NaCN	Normal

- If the acid salts are soluble in water, will dissolve to form acidic solutions.
- E.g. sodium hydrogencarbonate ionises to release hydrogen, sulphate and sodium ions: $\text{NaHSO}_4(\text{aq}) \rightarrow \text{Na}^+(\text{aq}) + \text{H}^+(\text{aq}) + \text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{aq})$.
- new dissolved acid salt displays typical acidic properties.
- Normal salts on the other hand if they are soluble will form neutral solutions.
- E.g. $\text{NaCl}(\text{aq}) \rightarrow \text{Na}^+(\text{aq}) + \text{Cl}^-(\text{aq})$
- Although some normal salts will dissolve in water to form either acidic or alkaline solutions.
- This is because one of the ions reacts with water to release an excess of either hydroxide or hydrogen ions. This is called salt hydrolysis.
- E.g. Na_2CO_3 (sodium is a spectator ion so it can be excluded) $\text{CO}_3^{2-} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{HCO}_3^- + \text{OH}^-$
weak base
- This is an example of hydrolysis of a salt of a weak acid and a strong base, which is which?
- OH^- ions are in excess making the solution alkaline.
- Similar reactions will occur between cation and the anion of the salt formed from a weak acid and strong base. I have explained
- E.g. $\text{NH}_4^+(\text{aq}) + \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l}) \rightleftharpoons \text{NH}_3(\text{aq}) + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+(\text{aq})$
- Examples of hydrolysis of a salt of a weak acid and weak base in CH_3COONa (aq):
 $\text{Na}^+(\text{aq}) + \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l}) \rightleftharpoons \text{NaOH}(\text{aq}) + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+(\text{aq})$ or $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-(\text{aq}) + \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l}) \rightleftharpoons \text{CH}_3\text{COOH}(\text{aq}) + \text{OH}^-(\text{aq})$
- Both of the ions (Na^+ & CH_3COO^-) react with water and undergo hydrolysis.
- Other hydrolysis occur with salts that contain metal cation which are small & highly charged.
- E.g. copper (II) sulphate, CuSO_4 , ammonium sulphate, $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$, and iron (II) chloride FeCl_2 .
- These types of hydrolysis occur very readily with tripositive cations (Fe^{3+}), much less with Cu^{2+} , and not at all with unipositive ions (Mg^{2+}).
- The acidity also varies with the ionic radius: the smaller the ion, the greater the hydrolysis.
- Predicting the relative pH of aqueous salt solutions formed by the different combinations of strong and weak acid and base
- The F formed by NaOH reacted with HCl
 $\text{NaOH} + \text{HCl} \rightarrow \text{NaF} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{Na}^+ + \text{F}^-$
Why is it a weak base?
The reason being that it comes from a strong base, and the stronger the base the weaker the conjugate acid, and vice versa.
- The pH of NaF will be higher than 7 because of the fact that F^- is a very weak conjugate acid of NaOH . While F^- ions is a strong conjugate base of HF as its basic enough to remove a H^+ ion from water. $\text{F}^- + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{OH}^- + \text{HF}$ making the solution alkaline as there will be excess OH^- ions.
- Acid-base titration - titration curve for strong and weak acids & bases
- Titration of a strong acid against a strong alkali
- If we have 0.1 mol dm^{-3} of HCl in a flask initially, then the pH will be $1 (\text{pH} = -\log_{10}[\text{H}^+])$.
- Once 25 cm^3 of 0.1 mol dm^{-3} of NaOH is added to 25 cm^3 of 0.1 mol dm^{-3} of HCl, the pH will change becoming more alkaline.
- The amount of HCl which has been removed is given by $\text{Volume} = \frac{\text{Volume}}{\text{Initial}} \cdot 100 = \frac{25}{25} \cdot 100 = 100\%$ neutralised.
- 10% of original HCl volume remains unneutralised.
- The new concentration of H^+ ions can be determined by multiplying the original concentration by the new volume: $0.1 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \cdot 0.1 = 0.01 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$.
- Given by the formula: $\text{pH} = -\log_{10}[\text{H}^+]$.
- The new pH value is now 2.
- These calculations ignore the dilution effect which follows that the addition of NaOH not only adds OH^- ions, but also increases the volume and therefore the concentration of the resulting solution.
- Therefore, the new equation is: $\text{new } [\text{H}^+] = \text{old } [\text{H}^+] \cdot \text{concentration} \cdot \text{unneutralised percentage} \cdot \text{dilution effect} \left(\frac{V_1}{V_1 + V_2} \right)$
- Therefore, the new $[\text{H}^+] = 5.26 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$. Using new $\text{pH} = -\log_{10}(5.26 \cdot 10^{-3}) \rightarrow 2.29$
- Further examples
- 25.75 cm^3 of 0.1 mol dm^{-3} NaOH added to 25 cm^3 of 0.1 mol dm^{-3} of HCl without dilution effect: $0.1 \cdot \left(1 - \frac{25.75}{25}\right)$
 $= 0.0475 \cdot 0.1 \cdot \left(1 - \frac{25.75}{25}\right) \cdot \frac{25}{49.75} \text{ pH} = -\log_{10}(4.98 \cdot 10^{-5})$
 $= 4.98 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ $\text{pH} = 4.30$
 $= 0.001 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$
- 24.9999 cm^3 of NaOH, 0.1 mol dm^{-3} , 25 cm^3 of HCl, 0.1 mol dm^{-3}
 $= [0.1] \cdot 0.1 \cdot \left(1 - \frac{24.9999}{25}\right) \cdot \frac{25}{44.9999} \text{ pH} = -\log_{10}(4.9999 \cdot 10^{-4})$
 $= 4.9999 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ $\text{pH} = 4.4$
- 24.9999 cm^3 of NaOH, 0.1 mol dm^{-3} , 25 cm^3 of HCl, 0.1 mol dm^{-3}
 $= [0.1] \cdot 0.1 \cdot \left(1 - \frac{24.9999}{25}\right) \cdot \frac{25}{44.9999} \text{ pH} = -\log_{10}(4.9999 \cdot 10^{-4})$
 $= 4.9999 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ $\text{pH} = 4.4$
- These calculations show that the pH rises very quickly near the end-point or equivalence point where the reacting volumes will be equal.
- The equivalence point is the point at which the reacting are of equal quantities.

- When 25 cm³ of more is added to 25 cm³ of 0.1 mol dm⁻³ it gives a pH of exactly 7, since the OH⁻ & H⁺ ions are in a 1:1 ratio.
- If aqueous NaOH is continually added beyond the end-point, there will be excess OH⁻ ions since all of the H⁺ ions were used up in neutralisation.
- The OH⁻ concentration begins to rise as quickly after the end point as the hydrogen ion concentration decreased before the end-point.

- The pH after 25 cm³ of 0.1 mol dm⁻³ sodium hydroxide added to 25 cm³ of 0.1 mol dm⁻³ HCl.

$$\text{reaction factor} = \left(\frac{25.5 - 25}{25} \right) \times \frac{0.5}{25} = 0.02$$

- Approx pH (ignoring dilution effect):

$$-0.1 - 0.02 = 0.02 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} (\text{OH}^-) \quad \text{pH} = -\log 0.02 = 2.69 \quad \text{pH} = 14 - \text{pH} = 11.3$$

Titration of a weak acid against a strong alkali:

- 25 cm³ of 0.1 mol dm⁻³ ethanoic acid requires exactly 25 cm³ of 0.1 mol dm⁻³ of more to reach the equivalence point.

- When the volumes react, neutralisation occurs and only sodium ethanoate and water will remain.



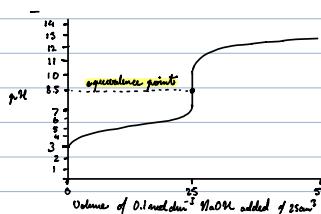
- The resulting solution won't be neutral because ethanoic acid is a weak acid and forms H⁺ ions as well as a conjugate base when dissociating.

- This is why the equivalence point will be higher, because the conjugate base of the ethanoic acid will bond with the sodium ion to form a salt (product of the neutralisation of a strong base (NaOH) and a weak acid (CH₃COOH)). When this salt is in water (formed from reaction), it will react with the water to form its conjugate and more OH⁻ ions. The Na⁺ & OH⁻ won't react as they are from a strong base and the reaction is always to the right.

- At the beginning of the titration the pH will be about 3 since CH₃COOH is a weak acid.

- Adding NaOH will result in OH⁻ ions being added, forming water & shifting the equilibrium for ethanoic acid to the right.

- Titration curve for the titration of 25 cm³ of 0.1 mol dm⁻³ ethanoic acid with 0.1 mol dm⁻³ sodium hydroxide



- The CH₃COONa can be seen that it's a weak acid because of its relatively high starting pH and its a like stage.

- This is due to the fact that ethanoic acid being a weak acid will mean that only a small percentage of the substance will dissociate. Therefore the lack of H⁺ ions will result in a higher pH value.

- The dissociation of CH₃COONa will be gradual since it's a weak acid and as more OH⁻ ions are added, more H⁺ ions will be formed from the shift in the equilibrium.

- The reason that the pH at the equivalence point will be higher than 7, is because of the fact that CH₃COONa will dissolve in the water formed from reacting NaOH with CH₃COOH. The CH₃COO⁻ is a salt from a strong base and a weak acid, meaning it's an alkaline salt, and when it's dissolved in water it will dissociate to form: CH₃COO⁻ + H₂O ⇌ CH₃COOH + OH⁻ ⇌ CH₃COO⁻ + H₃O⁺ ⇌ CH₃COOH + OH⁻.

- The forward reaction is heavily favored (CH₃COO⁻ + H₂O reaction).

- When a base is added to a weak acid (seen in figure above), the steady increase shows where the last buffering action occurs, known as buffer regions.

- The titration curve of a weak acid also shows the pKa and in turn the K_a.

- To do so the half-equivalence point (12.5 cm³ of alkali) corresponds to the pH of the acid during the titration of CH₃COOH the NaOH will gradually convert the CH₃COOH into ions, so halfway to the end-point half of the ethanoic acid molecules will have been converted to ethanoate ions.

$$\text{- Meaning } [\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-] = [\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}]$$

$$\text{- Therefore } \text{K}_a = \frac{[\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-]^2}{[\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}]}$$

$$\text{K}_a = \text{CH}_3\text{COOH} \cdot \text{I}$$

$$\text{K}_a = [\text{H}^+]$$

$$\text{pK}_a = \text{pH}$$

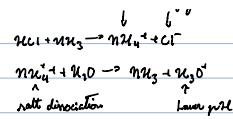
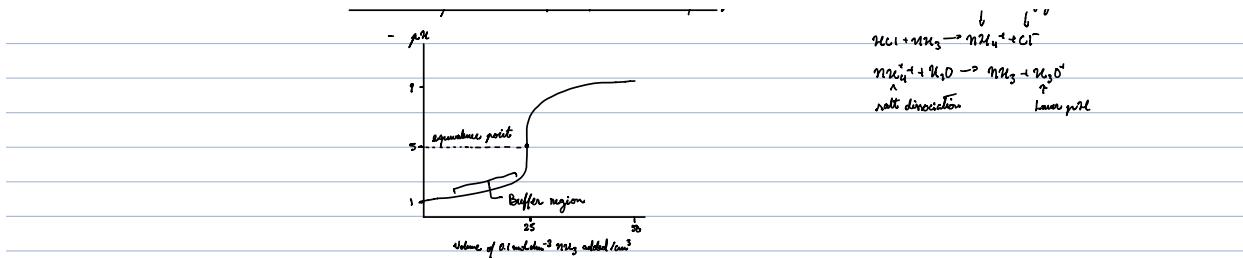
Titration of a strong acid against a weak alkali

- If 0.1 mol dm⁻³ of HCl is titrated against 0.1 mol dm⁻³ aqueous ammonia (NH₃), then the pH will change by a very small amount until it near the equivalence point, where it changes quickly.

- The equivalence point will be low (≈ pH 5) since ammonia is a weak base.

- Titration curve of the titration of 25 cm³ of HCl with 25 cm³ of NH₃.

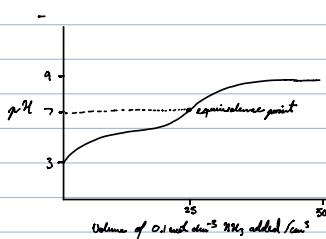
salt conjugate base



- titration of a weak acid against a weak alkali

- If 0.1 mol dm⁻³ of ethanoic acid is titrated against 0.1 mol dm⁻³ of ammonia, the titration curve formed will be much more gradual with no sharp change in pH, meaning no critical reaction.

- No indicator is suitable for this process.



- Indicators

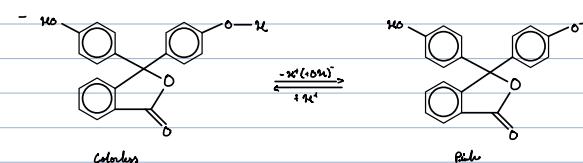
- nature of indicators

- Acid-base indicators are soluble dyes which change color according to the hydrogen ion concentrations, that is, the pH.

- Indicators are usually weak acids where the acid molecule and its conjugate base are different colors.

- The wavelength of the light absorbed by the acid changes greatly when a proton is lost to form the conjugate base.

- Monoprotic indicator structure.



- nature of indicators

- example indicator: HIn (acid), In⁻ (conjugate base), InH⁺ (conjugate acid).



- Bromothymol blue has a yellow color when it's a molecule, and it's blue when it's dissociated.

- When the indicator is placed in a neutral substance, the color will be yellow because the acid won't dissociate much. Therefore, there will be a relatively high concentration of InH⁺ molecules.

- Addition of acid:

- If the indicator is placed in a solution with an excess of H⁺ ions, then the equilibrium will shift to the left according to the Le Chatelier principle. This will increase the concentration of HIn.

- Addition of an alkali:

- When there will be an excess of OH⁻ ions, then the H⁺ ions that are from the dissociated acid will bond with them to then shift the equilibrium to the right to produce more In⁻ ions, making the color blue.

$$-\frac{[\text{InH}^+]}{[\text{In}^-]} = \frac{[\text{H}^+]^{1-x}}{[\text{H}^+]^x}$$

- This equation shows that the color of an indicator depends not only on the hydrogen ion concentration, that is the pH, but also on the value of the acid dissociation constant, K_a.

$$-\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a - \log_{10} \frac{[\text{InH}^+]}{[\text{In}^-]}$$

- pH range of indicator

- In general, the color change takes place over a range of 2 pH units, specifically from pH = pK_a - 1 to pH = pK_a + 1, so from 10% of one form of the indicator to 10% of the other form.

- It has indicators undergo more than one change. E.g. Phenolphthalein at pHs 1.2 - 2.8 & 8.0 - 9.6.

- the reason being that the undissociated acid is in equilibrium with two colored forms.

- Indicator as weak base

- methyl orange is a weak base which can be represented on Brønsted's acid when it's dissociated, and yellow when it's a molecule.

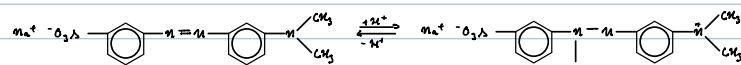
- Addition of acid:

- If an acid (H^+ ion) is added to a solution of the indicator, the equilibrium will shift to the right because there will be a deficit of OH^- ions, this will increase the concentration of its conjugate acid, meaning the color will become red.

- Addition of a base:

- If OH^- ions are added then the equilibrium will shift to the left, because there will be an excess, this will make the solution yellow.

- Structure of methyl orange:



- The best indicator to choose is an indicator that changes in the vertical section of the acid dissociation point. This is indicated in section 22 of the textbook.

- Conductometric titration

- The conductivity can show the end point because as base is added to the acid or vice versa, the H^+ and OH^- ions will form water decreasing the conductivity of the solution.

- At the endpoint the conductivity should be zero or in the case of titration between a weak acid/base with a strong base/acid, there will be some ions present but it will be the lowest value.