

Reversible Reactions and Chemical Equilibria

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Purpose:

- Study 5 different reversible reactions and their equilibrium
- Observe the effect of Le Chatelier's principle and the common ion effect
- Observe the formation of a precipitate in over saturated solution and the conditions that forms the precipitate
- Reason out an explanation when an unexpected result occurs in an experiment

Reference:

- (1) Kateley, L. J., *Introduction to Chemistry in the Laboratory*, 20th Ed., Lake Forest College, 2021, Experiment 6_Reversible_Reactions, Appendix

Weak Acid Equilibrium

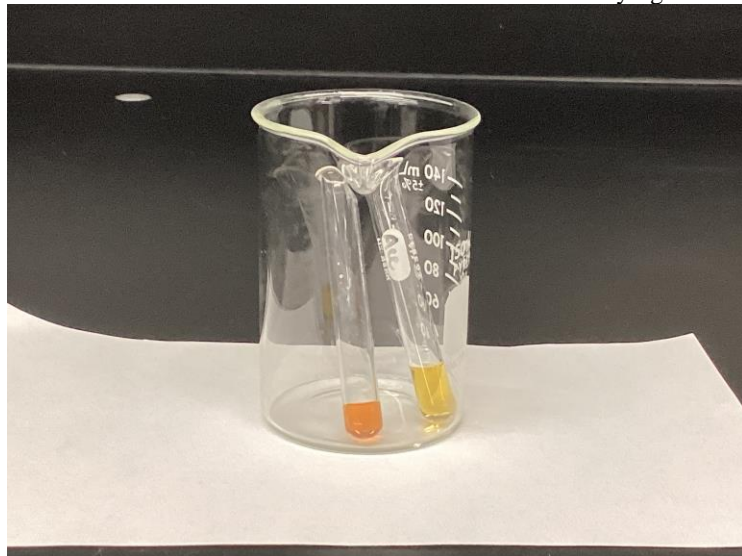


Acetic acid \rightleftharpoons acetate ion + hydrogen ion/proton

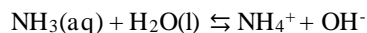
- Acetic acid (CH_3COOH) of 0.1M is a clear colorless liquid
- Orange methyl orange indicator added
- The orange gold color indicated that the pH is between 3 and 4
- 5 drops of 1.0M sodium acetate (CH_3COONa) was added
- Acetate ions/ CH_3COO^- are added and the solution turned the solution golden yellow
- The golden yellow color indicated that the pH is greater than 4.4

Conclusion #1:

- Equilibrium shifted left
- The acetate caused the reaction to shift left obeying Le Chatelier's principle (the common ion effect)



Weak Base Reaction



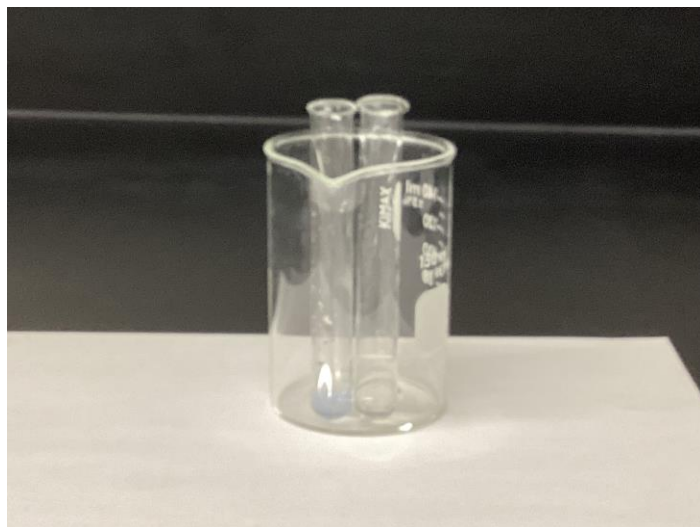
Ammonia + water \rightleftharpoons ammonium + hydroxide

- 10 drops of 0.1M ammonia is a clear colorless solution
- 2 drop of Thymolphthalein indicator added
- The lack of color change indicated that the pH is below 9.3
- 10 drops of ammonium chloride (NH_4Cl) was added Molarity???

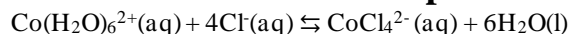
- Ammonium ions/ NH_4^+ are added and the solution did not change color
- The lack of change in color indicated that the pH is still below 9.3

Conclusion #2:

- Based on Le Chatelier's principle the reaction should have shifted left and the pH should have increased turning the solution blue
- The equilibrium did not shift enough to change the pH
- The NH_4^+ was not concentrated enough or the indicator was not working



Complex Ion Equilibrium Reaction



Cobalt chloride + chloride ions \rightleftharpoons tetrachlorocobaltate + water

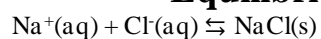
- 0.1M cobalt chloride is a clear orange pink solution
- 5 drops of 12M hydrochloric acid from the hood created a layer of blue solution on the bottom of the test tube
- When shaken the solution turned clear
- 2 more drops added turning the solution violet
- 5 more drops added turning the solution an intense blue
- The equilibrium shifted right
- Adding water reversed the solution back to pink
- The equilibrium was reversed and shifted left

Conclusion #3:

- The equilibrium shifted right when hydrochloric acid was added and left when water was added
- The hydrochloric acid caused the reaction to shift left obeying Le Chatelier's principle (the common ion effect)
- The water caused the acid to shift left obeying Le Chatelier's principle



Equilibrium of a Saturated Solution of Sodium Chloride



Sodium ions + chloride ions \rightleftharpoons sodium chloride precipitate

- 10 drops of 5.41M clear colorless NaCl solution were added to a test tube
- A few drops of clear colorless 12M HCl added creating a white precipitate of NaCl

Calculations:

$$1358\text{g} (1\text{mL}/1.200\text{g})(1 \times 10^{-3}\text{L}/1\text{mL}) = 1.132\text{L}$$

$$358\text{g}(1\text{mol}/58.5\text{g}) = 6.12\text{mol}$$

$$6.12\text{mol}/1.132\text{L} = 5.41\text{M of saturated NaCl}$$

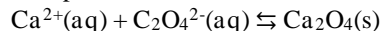
Conclusions #4:

- The addition of HCl oversaturated the solution creating a physical change
- The oversaturation of Cl^- ions caused NaCl to form and be knocked out of the solution forming a precipitate, right shift?



Simultaneous Chemical Equilibria and Maximizing Precipitate

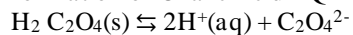
Precipitation of Calcium Oxalate



Calcium ion + oxalate ion \rightleftharpoons calcium oxalate

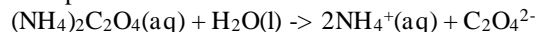
- This reaction was optimized to maximize precipitate

Ionization of Oxalic Acid EQ2



Oxalic acid \rightleftharpoons hydrogen ions + oxalate ions

Complete Ionization of a Soluble Salt



Ammonium oxalate + water \rightleftharpoons ammonium ions + oxalate ions

- 5 drops of 0.1M clear colorless calcium chlorate were added to 2 test tubes
- 5 drops of 0.5M clear colorless ammonium oxalate is added to one test tube (Tube #1)
- The solution turned cloudy white
- 5 drops of clear colorless 0.5M oxalic acid is added to the other test tube (Tube #2)
- The solution formed a cloudy white precipitate at the bottom of the test tube
- 5 drops of 5M hydrochloric acid were added to Tube #2
- The cloudiness of the solution cleared and it returned to a clear colorless solution

Conclusion #5:

- Ammonium oxalate is a better choice to precipitate calcium oxalate
- Adding HCl shifts the equations, Eq2 to the left following Le Chatelier's principle,