

Ionic Equilibrium

Electrolytes and Non-electrolytes

- Electrolytes: strong and weak; dissociation in water
- Non-electrolytes: no ionization in solution

Degree of Ionization (α)

- α = fraction of molecules ionized
- α increases with dilution
- For weak electrolytes: $\alpha = \sqrt{K/C}$

Ostwald's Dilution Law

- Applies to weak electrolytes
- $\alpha = \sqrt{K/C}$, valid only if α is small

Ionic Product of Water (K_w)

- $K_w = [H^+][OH^-] = 1 \times 10^{-14}$ at $25^\circ C$
- K_w increases with temperature

pH and pOH

- $pH = -\log[H^+]$, $pOH = -\log[OH^-]$
- $pH + pOH = 14$ at $25^\circ C$

Weak Acids and Bases

- K_a and K_b define acid/base strength
- $K_a \times K_b = K_w$
- $pK_a = -\log(K_a)$, $pK_b = -\log(K_b)$

Common Ion Effect

- Suppresses ionization of weak electrolytes
- Example: $CH_3COOH + CH_3COO^- \rightarrow$ reduced ionization

Buffer Solutions

- Resist pH change upon dilution or small acid/base addition
- Acidic buffer: weak acid + salt of acid
- Basic buffer: weak base + salt of base
- Henderson-Hasselbalch: Acidic: $pH = pK_a + \log([salt]/[acid])$; Basic: $pOH = pK_b + \log([salt]/[base])$

Salt Hydrolysis

- Salt + water \rightarrow acidic/basic solution
- Cases:
 - Strong acid + strong base: neutral
 - Strong acid + weak base: acidic
 - Weak acid + strong base: basic
 - Weak acid + weak base: depends on K_a and K_b

Hydrolysis Constant and pH

- For salt of weak acid: $K_h = K_w / K_a$, $[H^+] = \sqrt{K_w/K_a}$
- For salt of weak base: $K_h = K_w / K_b$, $[OH^-] = \sqrt{K_w/K_b}$
- For salt of weak acid and weak base: $K_h = K_w / (K_a K_b)$

Solubility and Solubility Product (K_{sp})

- $K_{sp} = [cation]^m \times [anion]^n$
- Saturated: product = K_{sp}
- Precipitation if ionic product $> K_{sp}$

Factors Affecting Solubility

- Common ion: decreases solubility
- Complex formation: increases solubility
- pH: affects salts of weak acids/bases

Titrations and Indicators

- Strong acid + strong base: equivalence $pH = 7$
- Weak acid + strong base: $pH > 7$ at equivalence
- Weak base + strong acid: $pH < 7$ at equivalence
- Indicator choice based on expected equivalence pH