

Acid-Base Chemistry: Electrolyte Theory

Arrhenius Theory

- Electrolyte dissolution behaviour
- Acids ionize to generate proton \rightarrow H⁺ (aq), whereas bases ionize to produce hydroxide \rightarrow OH⁻ (aq)

Strong Acid
$$HCI (aq) \rightarrow H^+ (aq) + CI^- (aq)$$

Strong Base $NaOH (aq) \rightarrow Na^+ (aq) + OH^- (aq)$

- Theory applicable to protic acids & metal hydroxides in water, however many exceptions → BF₃ and NH₃
- Neutralization reaction: Net Ionic Equation

$$H^+$$
 (aq) + OH^- (aq) $\rightarrow H_2O$ (I)

Refer to Ch. 16-1

Nobel Prize 1903 → Electrolytic Theory

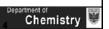
Acid-Base Chemistry: Focus on H+

Brønsted-Lowry Theory

- acid = H⁺ donor, base = H⁺ acceptor
- acid/base reactants & conjugate acid/base products:

• H₂O is an amphoteric species (behaves as both an acid or a base)

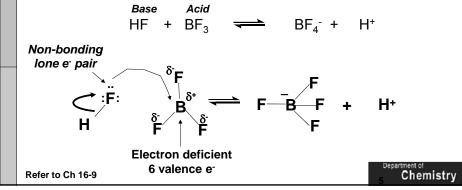
Refer to Ch. 16-2 (note in 9th ed. arrows go in wrong direction in text)



Acid-Base Chemistry: Electron Flow!

Lewis Theory

- Acid = e⁻ pair acceptor, base = e⁻ pair donor; an electron pair is shared.
- Least restrictive definition that describes aqueous/non-aqueous solvents, as well as unusual non-protic acid systems.



iClicker Question #1

Identify the Brønsted-Lowry <u>acid</u> in the following reaction:

$$OH^{-}(aq) + HCO_3^{-}(aq) \rightarrow CO_3^{2-}(aq) + H_2O(I)$$

a.OH-

b.CO₃²⁻

 $c.HCO_3^-$

d. This isn't a Brønsted-Lowry acid/base reaction



Acid-Base Chemistry: Electron Flow!

Strong Acids/Bases

Brønsted-Lowry description:

Acid Base Conjugate Base Conjugate Acid
$$HCI(aq) + H_2O(I) \rightarrow CI^-(aq) + H_3O^+(aq)$$

Lewis description:

 $\rm H_2O$ is a stronger base than Cl⁻/ HCl is a stronger acid than $\rm H_3O^+$

$$K_a > 1.0 \times 10^6 (25^{\circ} C)$$

Refer to Ch 16-4



Acid-Base Equilibrium: Weak acid & Ka

Acid Base
$$K_a$$
 Conjugate Base Conjugate Acid CH_3COOH (aq) + H_2O (I) \leftarrow CH_3COO^- (aq) + H_3O^+ (aq)

$$K_a = \frac{[\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-][\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]}{[\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}]} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$$

Equilibrium favours <u>reverse</u> process:

Acidity of $H_3O^+ > CH_3COOH$

Basicity of CH₃COO⁻ > H₂O



Acid-Base Equilibrium: Weak base & K_b

Base
$$H_3$$
 (aq) + H_2 O (I) H_4 + (aq) + H_4 - (aq)

$$K_b = \frac{[NH_4^+][HO^-]}{[NH_3]} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$$

Equilibrium favours <u>reverse</u> process:

Basicity of OH⁻ > NH₃

Acidity of $NH_4^+ > H_2O$



Auto-ionization of Water & pH Scale

- Water is amphoteric & undergoes acid-base reaction with itself
- Auto-ionization with defined equilibrium forms the basis of pH scale

$$H_2O(I) + H_2O(I) \xrightarrow{K_W} H_3O^+(aq) + OH^-(aq)$$

$$K_{\rm w} = [{\rm H_3O^+}] [{\rm OH^-}] = 1.0 \times 10^{-14}$$

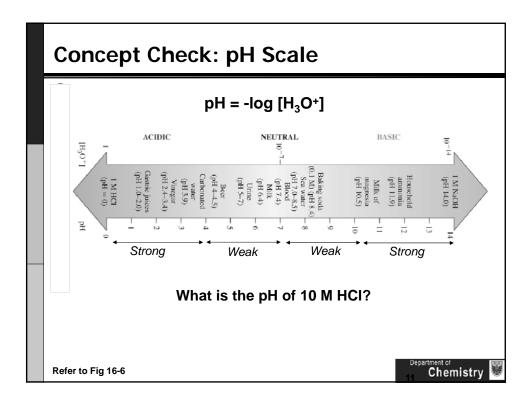
■ Wide concentration range of H_3O^+/OH^- → Use log_{10} scale!

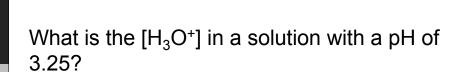
$$-\log \{K_w = [H_3O^+][OH^-] = 1.0 \times 10^{-14}\}$$

-log
$$K_w = -log [H_3O^+] + (-log [OH^-]) = 14.0$$

 $pK_w = pH + pOH = 14.0$ Aqueous solution



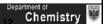




- a.10^{pH}
- $b.10^{14-pH}$
- $c.10^{-(14-pH)}$

iClicker Question #2

- $d.10^{-pH}$
- e.10^{pKw-pH}



pH Scale Demo: The pHrice Is Right

pH of household items and some salts

Trends observed:

Weak acids - edibles

Bases - cleaners

Salts: NaCl (neutral); NH₄Cl (acidic); NaCH₃COO (basic)



Strong Acids/Bases

- Strong acids to know (6):
 HCI, HBr, HI, HCIO₄, HNO₃, H₂SO₄
- Strong bases to know:

Grp I & Grp II hydroxides (many Grp II partially soluble) hydrides (H⁻)

oxides (O²⁻)



Take-Home Problem

Determine the pH of a 0.350M solution of Ca(OH)₂ (assume 100% dissociation)

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a.0.155 Ca(OH)_2 (aq) \rightarrow Ca^{2+}(aq) + 2 OH^{-}(aq)
b.11.636 0.350 \text{ M } Ca(OH)_2 \text{ provides } 2 (0.350 \text{ M}) \text{ of } OH^{-}(aq)
c.13.845 [OH^{-}] = 0.700 \text{ M}
d.12.112 pOH = -log_{10}[OH^{-}] = -log_{10}[0.700]
e.13.544 pOH = 0.154_9
pH + pOH = 14
pH = 13.845 \text{ (answer C)}
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Department of Chemistry

Weak Acids/Bases

- Weak acids/bases undergo partial reversible ionization in H₂O
- Extent of equilibrium ionization described by magnitude of K_a or K_b

Acid Base
$$K_a$$
 Conjugate Base Conjugate Acid CH_3COOH (aq) + H_2O (I) \longrightarrow CH_3COO^- (aq) + H_3O^+ (aq)

$$K_a = 1.8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ or } pK_a = -\log(K_a) = 4.74$$

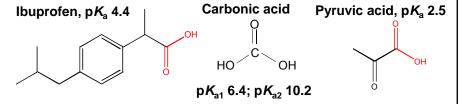
For acid: Smaller $pK_a = more$ acidic

For base: Smaller $pK_b = more basic$

Refer to Ch 16-5

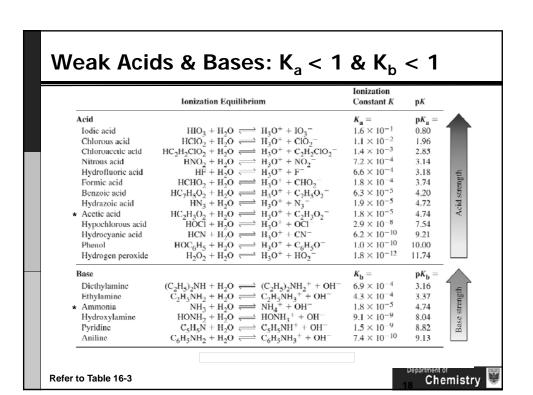
Weak Acids/Bases

Many organic molecules have weakly acidic carboxylic acid groups



Many weak bases are centered around N

$$NH_3$$
 CH_3NH_2 $(CH_3CH_2)_2NH$ ammonia methylamine diethylamine $pK_b = 4.74$ $pK_b = 3.36$ $pK_b = 3.16$



pK_a & pK_b Relationship for Conjugate Pairs

Refer to Ch 16-7

Acid

Base

$$K_a$$

Conjugate Base

Conjugate Acid

 K_a

Conjugate Base

 $CH_3COO^ CH_3COO^ CH_3COO^ CH_3COO^ CH_3COO^ CH_3COO^ CH_3COO^ CH_3COO^ CH_3COOH$
 CH_3COOH
 CH_3COOH

pK_a & pK_b Relationship

$$pK_w = pK_a + pK_b = 14.0$$
 For a conjugate acid-base pair

NH₃ as Weak Base vs. NH₄+ as Weak Acid

$$K_b = 1.8 \times 10^{-5} \longrightarrow pK_b = 4.74 \longrightarrow pK_a = 14.0 - 4.74 = 9.26$$

 $K_a = 10^{-9.26} = 5.5 \times 10^{-10}$

CH₃COOH as Weak Acid vs. CH₃COO as Weak Base

$$K_a = 1.8 \times 10^{-5} \longrightarrow pK_a = 4.74 \longrightarrow pK_b = 14.0 - 4.74 = 9.26$$

 $K_b = 10^{-9.26} = 5.5 \times 10^{-10}$

CH₃COOH & NH₄⁺ are both weak acids ($K_a < 1$) NH₃ & CH₃COO⁻ are both weak bases ($K_b < 1$)

Refer to Ch 16-7

Relative Strength of Acid-Base Conjugate

The favoured direction of an acid-base reaction is from the stronger to the weaker member of the conjugate acid-base pair

Stronger the acid (or base) → Weaker its conjugate base (or acid)

Refer to Table 16-1



Weak Acids/Bases: Calculations

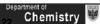
Determine the pH and % ionization of a 0.100 M solution of acetic acid. K_a (CH₃COOH = 1.8 × 10⁻⁵)

→ Write down the chemistry – correctly!

$$K_a = \frac{[\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-][\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]}{[\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}]} = \frac{x^2}{0.100 - x} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$$

Assume x << 0.100, then $(0.100 - x) \approx 0.100$

Refer to Ex 16-6, pg 677



Weak Acids/Bases: Assumptions

Assuming x is small avoids a quadratic solution... HOWEVER – we must check if the assumption is valid!

Check: If
$$\frac{[HA]}{K_a} > 100$$
 then assumption is valid (< 5% error):
$$\frac{0.100}{1.8 \times 10^{-5}} = 5.6 \times 10^3, \text{ which is } > 100$$

$$\frac{0.100}{1.8 \times 10^{-5}} = 5.6 \times 10^3$$
, which is > 100

Then:
$$x^2 = (0.100)(1.8 \times 10^{-5}); x = [H_3O^+] = 1.3_4 \times 10^{-3}$$

and: pH = -log
$$(1.34 \times 10^{-3})$$
 = **2.87**

% Ionization

$$\frac{[H_3O^+]}{[HA]_{initial}} \times 100 = \frac{1.3_4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}}{0.100 \text{ M}} \times 100 = \boxed{1.3\%}$$

http://odyb.net/food-cooking/62-little-known-uses-of-vinegar/

Chemistry

Weak Acids/Bases: Quadratic Equation

Determine the pH and % ionization of 0.00050% by mass acetic acid.

Assume 1.0 L \therefore [1000g/L x (5.0 x 10⁻⁴/100)] / 60.022g/mol = 8.3₃ x 10⁻⁵ M

$$\downarrow$$
 K_a CH₃COOH (aq) + H₂O (I) \rightleftharpoons CH₃COO⁻ (aq) + H₃O⁺ (aq)

Initial
$$8.3_3 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$$

$$K_a = \frac{[CH_3COO^-][H_3O^+]}{[CH_3COOH]} = \frac{x^2}{8.3_3 \times 10^{-5} - x} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$$

< 100

Require use of quadratic equation because of the dilute conc. of weak acid!



Weak Acids/Bases: Quadratic Equation

Quadratic equation:

$$x^2 + 1.8 \times 10^{-5} \times -1.5 \times 10^{-9}$$
. Solve for x

$$x = \frac{-b \pm (b^2 - 4ac)^{1/2}}{2a} = \frac{-1.8 \times 10^{-5} \pm 7.95 \times 10^{-5}}{2} = 3.0_8 \times 10^{-5} M$$

$$pH = 4.51$$

% Ionization

$$\frac{[H_3O^+]}{[HA]_{initial}} \quad X \ 100 = \frac{3.0_8 \times 10^{-5} M}{8.3_3 \times 10^{-5} M} \ X \ 100 = 37 \%$$

Dilution of vinegar results in lower acidity & higher % ionization!



Take-Home Problem

Determine the pH of a 0.245 M solution of formic acid ($K_a = 1.8 \times 10^{-4}$)

a. 3.98 b. 2.18 c. 3.11 d. 1.64 e. 2

HCOOH (aq) +
$$H_2O$$
 (I) $\stackrel{K_a}{\Longrightarrow}$ HCOO- (aq) + H_3O^+ (aq)

nitial 0.245 M

Initial 0.245 M
Change -x +x +x

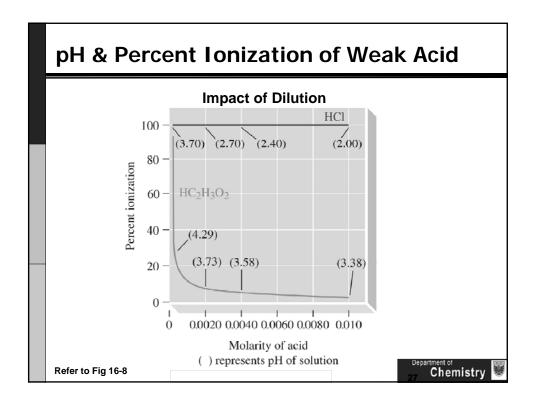
Eqm 0.245 – x M x x

$$K_a = \frac{[HCOO^-][H_3O^+]}{[HCOOH]} = \frac{x^2}{0.245 - x} = 1.8 \times 10^{-4}$$

Assume x << 0.245, then $(0.245 - x) \approx 0.245$

 $\frac{[HA]}{K_a} > 100$ Assumption is valid

Then: $x^2 = (0.245)(1.8 \times 10^{-4}); x = [H_3O^+] = 6.64 \times 10^{-3}$ and: $pH = -log (6.64 \times 10^{-3}) = 2.18$



pH of Salt Solutions

What is the pH of 0.1 M NaCl(aq)?

The salt is soluble, and dissociates in water:

NaCl (aq) \rightarrow Na⁺ (aq) + Cl⁻ (aq) • but what happens to the ions?

Na⁺ (aq) + H₂O (I) \rightarrow No Reaction Neither ion reacts with H₂O CI⁻ (aq) + H₂O (I) \rightarrow No Reaction \therefore pH = 7 (Neutral)

pH of Salt Solutions

What is the pH of 0.1 M NH₄Cl(aq)?

$${
m NH_4Cl~(aq)} \ o \ {
m NH_4^+~(aq)} \ + \ {
m Cl^-~(aq)}$$
 • salt dissolves what happens to the ions?

$$CI^{-}$$
 (aq) + H_2O (I) \rightarrow No Reaction
 NH_4^+ (aq) + H_2O (I) \Longrightarrow NH_3 (aq) + H_3O^+ (aq)

pH < 7 (acidic)



pH of Salt Solutions

What is the pH of 0.1 M CH₃COONa (aq)?

$${\rm CH_3COONa~(aq)} \to {\rm Na^+~(aq)} + {\rm CH_3COO^-(aq)}$$
 • salt dissolves what happens to the ions?

Na
$$^+$$
 (aq) + H $_2$ O (I) \rightarrow No Reaction
CH $_3$ COO $^-$ (aq) + H $_2$ O (I) \Longrightarrow OH $^-$ (aq) + CH $_3$ COOH (aq)

pH > 7 (alkaline)



pH of Salt Solutions: Practice Problem

What is the pH of 0.1 M NH₄CH₃COO dissolved in de-ionized water? K_a (CH₃COOH) = 1.8 × 10⁻⁵, K_b (NH₃) = 1.8 × 10⁻⁵

 $\mathrm{NH_4CH_3COO}$ (aq) \rightarrow $\mathrm{NH_4^+}$ (aq) + $\mathrm{CH_3COO^-}$ (aq) and the ions:

 CH_3COO^- (aq) + H_2O (I) \leftarrow CH_3COOH (aq) + OH^- (aq)

$$NH_4^+$$
 (aq) + H_2O (I) $\stackrel{\mathcal{K}_a}{\longleftarrow}$ NH_3 (aq) + H_3O^+ (aq)

Acidic or Alkaline Solution?

$$K_{\rm b} = 5.5 \text{ x } 10^{-10} \text{ and } K_{\rm a} = 5.5 \text{ x } 10^{-10}$$

pH = 7 (Neutral) because of equal magnitudes of K_a & K_b (larger magnitude K prevails)

Refer to Ch 16-7



iClicker Question #3

What is the pH of 0.1 M NaF (aq)? (no calculations required)

- a. Acidic
- b.Basic
- c. Neutral



Take-Home Problem

What is the pH of a 0.350 M solution of NaF? (K_a HF = 6.6 x 10⁻⁴)

$$F^{-}$$
 (aq) + H_2O (I)

$$H_2O(I)$$

0.350 M Initial

Change

Egm

$$0.350 - x M$$

+χ

$$K_b = \frac{[HF][OH^-]}{[F^-]} = \frac{x^2}{0.350 - x} = \frac{1.0 \times 10^{-14}}{6.6 \times 10^{-4}} = 1.5_2 \times 10^{-11}$$

Assume x << 0.350, then $(0.350 - x) \approx 0.350$

$$\frac{[\text{base}]}{\kappa} > 100 \quad \text{Assumption is valid}$$

 K_{b}

Then:
$$x^2 = (0.350)(1.5_2 \times 10^{-11}); x = [OH^-] = 2.31 \times 10^{-6}$$

And: pOH = $-\log (2.31 \times 10^{-6}) = 5.636$; pH = 14.00 - 5.636 = 8.36



Molecular Structure & Acid-Base Behavior

- Relative strength of acid & bases
- 1) Can be deduced by Lewis molecular structure and chemical bonding principles
- 2) Anion/conjugate base (X⁻) stability predicts acid strength. The more stable X⁻ the stronger the acid (and vice versa for bases).

$$HX (aq) + H2O (I) \longrightarrow X- (aq) + H3O+ (aq)$$



Molecular Structure & Acid-Base Behavior

■ Binary Acids: Trends Down a Group!

HI > HBr > HCl > HF
$$pK_a$$
 -9.0 < -8.0 < -6.1 < 3.2 \leftarrow Less acidic!

HF is actually a weak acid in water!

ŀ

In water, the larger anion disperses the negative charge most effectively, causing I- to be the most stable anion in this series.

Refer to Ch 16-8



Molecular Structure & Acid-Base Behaviour: Binary Acids

■ Trends Across a Period:

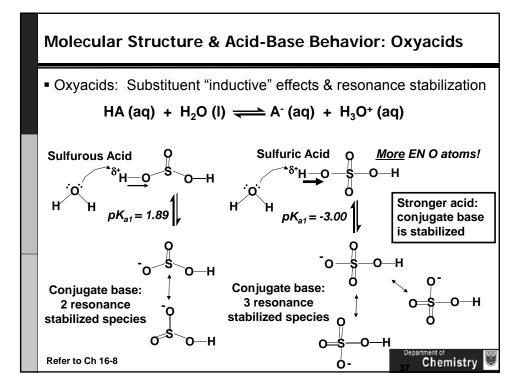
$$CH_4$$
 < NH_3 < H_2O < HF pK_a 60 > 36 > 15.7 > 3.2 — More acidic!

Electronegativity (△EN) of H-X bond is very important. All anions are close to equal in size. The anion bearing the most electronegative atom will be most stable.

$$NH_3 (aq) + H_2O (I) \rightarrow NH_2^- (aq) + H_3O^+ (aq)$$

$$HF (aq) + H_2O (I) \longrightarrow F^- (aq) + H_3O^+ (aq)$$





Molecular Structure & Acid-Base Behaviour: Oxyacids

 For systems with same number of O atoms, the electronegativity of the central atom differentiates strength (<u>negative charge is always on oxygen</u>):

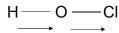
$$K_a = 2.9 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$K_a = 2.1 \times 10^{-9}$$

$$EN(CI) = 3.0$$

$$EN (Br) = 2.8$$

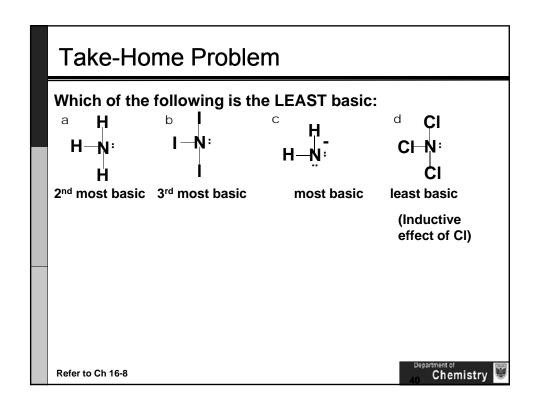
Inductive effect:



Higher EN of CI (vs. Br) attracts electron density away from the H-O bond

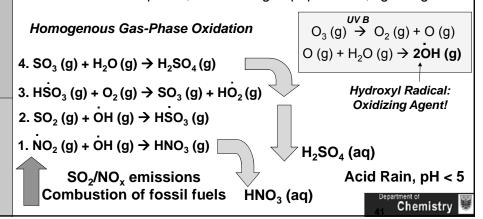
H-O bond is weakened in HOCI





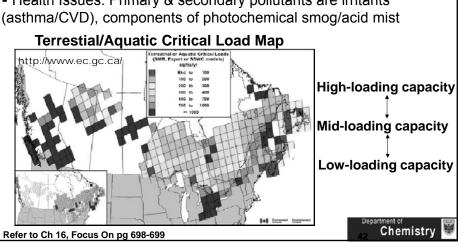
Acid Rain: Primary VS Secondary Pollutants

- Most natural water is weakly acidic (pH \approx 5.6) due to dissolution of carbon dioxide \rightarrow CO₂ is a minor trace gas > 380 ppm
- Other acidic gases are SO₂ & NO_x → Natural sources (< 0.01 ppm)</p> include volcanic eruptions, microbe/algae populations, lightning etc.



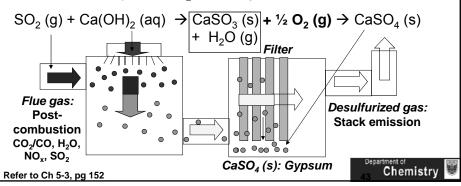
Acid Rain: Areas of Concern & Impact

- Environmental Impact: Acidification of soil/water, high [H₃O⁺] & leached Al3+ metals toxic to aquatic organisms & plants/trees
- Health Issues: Primary & secondary pollutants are irritants



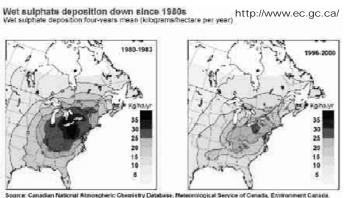
Remediation & Flue Gas Desulfurization

- Certain lakes can resist acidification by neutralization reaction:
 CaCO₃ (s) + 2H⁺ (aq) → Ca²⁺ (aq) + H₂O (I) + CO₂ (g)
- Acidified lakes can also be remediated through CaO addition!
- Best policy is to reduce SO_2 gas emissions from sources via "slaked lime" slurry, $Ca(OH)_2$ → Flue gas desulfurization!



Acid Rain Remediation: A Success Story?

Reduction in H_2SO_4 fraction of acid rain with flue gas desulfurization practices in industry \rightarrow Clean Air Act (1990)



No significant change in HNO_3 fraction of acid rain because of increasing automobile usage \rightarrow Acidification still a problem!

Refer to Ch 16, Focus On pg 698-699