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## **Experiment 2: Acid-Base titration:**

**Aim: To determine the unknown concentration of given acids using titrimetric method.**

The chemical reaction involved in acid-base titration is known as neutralization reaction. It involves the combination of  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  ions with  $\text{OH}^-$  ions to form water. In acid-base titrations, solutions of alkali are titrated against standard acid solutions. The estimation of an alkali solution using a standard acid solution is called *acidimetry*. Similarly, the estimation of an acid solution using a standard alkali solution is called *alkalimetry*.

### **The Theory of Acid–Base Indicators:**

Ostwald, developed a theory of acid base indicators which gives an explanation for the colour change with change in pH. According to this theory, a hydrogen ion indicator is a weak organic acid or base. The undissociated molecule will have one colour and the ion formed by its dissociation will have a different colour.

Let the indicator be a weak organic acid of formulae  $\text{HIn}$ . It has dissociated into  $\text{H}^+$  and  $\text{In}^-$ . The unionized molecule has one colour, say colour (1), while the ion,  $\text{In}^-$  has a different colour, say colour (2). Since  $\text{HIn}$  and  $\text{In}^-$  have different colours, the actual colour of the indicator will dependent upon the hydrogen ion concentration  $[\text{H}^+]$ . When the solution is acidic, that is the  $\text{H}^+$  ions present in excess, the indicator will show predominantly colour (1). On other hand, when the solution is alkaline, that is, when  $\text{OH}^-$  ions present in excess, the  $\text{H}^+$  ions furnished by the indicator will be taken out to form undissociated water. Therefore, there will be larger concentration of the ions,  $\text{In}^-$ . thus, the indicator will show predominantly colour (2).

Some indicators can be used to determine pH because of their colour changes somewhere along the change in pH range. Some common indicators and their respective colour changes are given below.

Indicator	Colour on Acidic Side	Range of Colour Change	Colour on Basic Side
Methyl Orange	Red	3.1 - 4.4	Yellow
Methyl Red	Red	4.4 - 6.2	Yellow
Phenolphthalein	Colourless	8.3 - 10.0	Pink

i.e., at pH value below 5, litmus is red; above 8 it is blue. Between these values, it is a mixture of two colours.

### Indicators Used for Various Titrations:

#### 1. Strong Acid against a Strong Base:

Let us consider the titration of HCl and NaOH. The pH values of different stages of titration shows that, at first the pH changes very slowly and rise to only about 4. Further addition of such a small amount as 0.01 mL of the alkali raises the pH value by about 3 units to pH 7. Now the acid is completely neutralized. Further of about 0.01 mL of 0.1 M NaOH will amount to adding hydrogen ions and the pH value will jump to about 9. Thus, near the end point, there is a rapid increase of pH from about 4 to 9.

An indicator is suitable only if it undergoes a change of colour at the pH near the end point. Thus the indicators like *methyl orange*, *methyl red* and *phenolphthalein* can show the colour change in the pH range of 4 to 10. Thus, in strong acid- strong base titrations, any one of the above indicators can be used.

#### 2. Weak Acid against Strong Base:

Let us consider the titration of acetic acid against NaOH. The titration shows the end point lies between pH 8 and 10. This is due to the hydrolysis of sodium acetate formed. Hence *phenolphthalein* is a suitable indicator as its pH range is 8-9.8. However, methyl orange is not suitable as its pH range is 3.1 to 4.5.

#### 3. Strong Acid against Weak Base:

Let us consider the titration ammonium hydroxide against HCl. Due to the hydrolysis of the salt,  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ , formed during the reaction, the pH lies in the acid range. Thus, the pH at end point lies in the range of 4 to 6. Thus *methyl orange* is a suitable indicator while phenolphthalein is not suitable.

Strong Acids	Strong Bases	Weak Acids	Weak Bases
HCl	NaOH	Acetic acid	Ammonia
$\text{HNO}_3$	KOH	Hydrocyanic acid	Magnesium hydroxide
HBr	Etc.	HF	Pyridine
$\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$		Oxalic acid	Sodium carbonate
HI		Ethanoic acid	Potassium carbonate
$\text{HClO}_4$		Etc.	Etc.

### Procedure:

- Choose the titrant.
- Choose the titrate.
- Select the normality of the titrate.
- Choose the volume of the liquid to be pipetted out.
- Select the indicator.
- Start titration.
- End point is noted at the colour change of the solution.
- From the final reading the normality of titrant can be calculated by the equation:

$$N_1 V_1 = N_2 V_2$$

### Points to Remember while Performing the Experiment in a Real Laboratory:

1. Always wear lab coat and gloves when you are in the lab. When you enter the lab, switch on the exhaust fan and make sure that all the chemicals and reagents required for the experiment are available. If they are not available, prepare the reagents using the components for reagent preparation.
2. Properly adjust the flame of the Bunsen burner. The proper flame is a small blue cone; it is not a large plume, nor is it orange.
3. Make sure to clean all your working apparatus with chromic acid and distilled water and ensure that all the apparatus are free from water droplets while performing the experiment.
4. Make sure to calibrate the electronic weigh balance before taking the measurements.
5. Clean all glassware with soap and distilled water. Once the experiment is completed, recap the reagent bottles. Switch off the light, exhaust fan and gas cylinder before leaving the lab.
6. Discard used gloves in a waste bin.

### Observations:


No .	Acid	Base	Indicator	Volume (mL)	Remark
1	HCl	NaOH	Methyl Orange	2	It turns brown
2	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	NaOH	Methyl Orange	2	It turns brown
3	Hydrobromic acid	NaOH	Methyl Orange	2	It turns brown
4	Oxalic acid	NaOH	Methyl Orange	-	Invalid Indicator
5	Acetic acid	NaOH	Methyl Orange	-	Invalid Indicator
6	HCl	NaOH	Phenolphthalein	2	It becomes colourless
7	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	NaOH	Phenolphthalein	2	It becomes colourless
8	Hydrobromic acid	NaOH	Phenolphthalein	2	It becomes colourless
9	Oxalic acid	NaOH	Phenolphthalein	2	It becomes colorless

10	Acetic acid	NaOH	Phenolphthalein	2	It becomes colourless
11	HCl	NaOH	Methyl Red	2	It turns maroon red
12	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	NaOH	Methyl Red	2	It turns maroon red
13	Hydrobromic acid	NaOH	Methyl Red	2	It turns maroon red
14	Oxalic acid	NaOH	Methyl Red	-	Invalid Indicator
15	Acetic acid	NaOH	Methyl Red	-	Invalid Indicator
16	HCl	KOH	Methyl Orange	2	It turns brown
17	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	KOH	Methyl Orange	2	It turns brown
18	Hydrobromic acid	KOH	Methyl Orange	2	It turns brown
19	Oxalic acid	KOH	Methyl Orange	-	Invalid Indicator
20	Acetic acid	KOH	Methyl Orange	-	Invalid Indicator
21	HCl	KOH	Phenolphthalein	2	It becomes colourless
22	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	KOH	Phenolphthalein	2	It becomes colorless
23	Hydrobromic acid	KOH	Phenolphthalein	2	It becomes colorless
24	Oxalic acid	KOH	Phenolphthalein	2	It becomes colorless
25	Acetic acid	KOH	Phenolphthalein	2	It becomes colorless
26	HCl	KOH	Methyl Red	2	It turns maroon red
27	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	KOH	Methyl Red	2	It turns maroon red
28	Hydrobromic acid	KOH	Methyl Red	2	It turns maroon red
29	Oxalic acid	KOH	Methyl Red	-	Invalid Indicator
30	Acetic acid	KOH	Methyl Red	-	Invalid Indicator
31	HCl	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Methyl Orange	2	It turns brown
32	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Methyl Orange	2	It turns brown
33	Hydrobromic acid	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Methyl Orange	2	It turns brown
34	Oxalic acid	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Methyl Orange	-	Invalid Indicator
35	Acetic acid	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Methyl Orange	-	Invalid Indicator
36	HCl	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Phenolphthalein	-	Invalid Indicator
37	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Phenolphthalein	-	Invalid Indicator
38	Hydrobromic acid	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Phenolphthalein	-	Invalid Indicator
39	Oxalic acid	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Phenolphthalein	-	Invalid Indicator
40	Acetic acid	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Phenolphthalein	-	Invalid Indicator
41	HCl	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Methyl Red	2	It turns maroon red
42	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Methyl Red	2	It turns maroon red
43	Hydrobromic acid	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Methyl Red	2	It turns maroon red
44	Oxalic acid	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Methyl Red	-	Invalid Indicator
45	Acetic acid	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Methyl Red	-	Invalid Indicator
46	HCl	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Methyl Orange	2	It turns brown
47	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Methyl Orange	2	It turns brown

48	Hydrobromic acid	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Methyl Orange	2	It turns brown
49	Oxalic acid	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Methyl Orange	-	Invalid Indicator
50	Acetic acid	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Methyl Orange	-	Invalid Indicator
51	HCl	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Phenolphthalein	-	Invalid Indicator
52	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Phenolphthalein	-	Invalid Indicator
53	Hydrobromic acid	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Phenolphthalein	-	Invalid Indicator
54	Oxalic acid	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Phenolphthalein	-	Invalid Indicator
55	Acetic acid	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Phenolphthalein	-	Invalid Indicator
56	HCl	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Methyl Red	2	It turns maroon red
57	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Methyl Red	2	It turns maroon red
58	Hydrobromic acid	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Methyl Red	2	It turns maroon red
59	Oxalic acid	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Methyl Red	-	Invalid Indicator
60	Acetic acid	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Methyl Red	-	Invalid Indicator

## Screenshot output-

Acid-Base Titration



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**VARIABLES**

**Titrant:**  
Hydrobromic acid

**Speed of titrant :** 0.1

**Titrate :**  
Potassium hydroxide

**Normality of titrate :** 0.1 N

**Volume of titrate :** 20 ml

**Indicators :**  
Phenolphthalein

START

RESET

**RESULT**


Titrant used : 2 ml

Titrant- Hydrobromic Acid

Titrate- Potassium Hydroxide

Indicator- Phenolphthalein

Acid Base Titration



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**VARIABLES**

Titrant:  
Hydrobromic acid

Speed of titrant : 0.1

Titrate :  
Ammonia

Normality of titrate : 0.1 N

Volume of titrate : 20 ml

Indicators :  
Phenolphthalein

Invalid indicator ! Please try again...

START

RESET

RESULT

Titrant- Hydrobromic Acid

Titrate- Ammonia

Indicator- Phenolphthalein

# Acid Base Titration

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VARIABLES

**Titrant:**  
Sulphuric acid

**Speed of titrant : 0.1**

**Titrate :**  
Ammonia

**Normality of titrate : 0.1 N**

**Volume of titrate : 20 ml**

**Indicators :**  
Methyl red

START

RESET

RESULT

Titrant used : 2 ml

Titrant- Sulphuric Acid

Titrate- Ammonia

Indicator- Methyl Red

$$N_1 V_1 = N_2 V_2$$

**Acid   Vs   Base**

$$N_1 * 2\text{ml} = 0.1 * 20 \text{ mL}$$

$$N_1 = 1\text{N}$$

**Result:** Normality of the acid is = 1N