Topic 7

Acids, Bases, Buffers, Titrations, **Polyprotic acids**

Conjugate acids & bases



Strengths of acids & bases

• A strong acid or strong base is completely dissociated in aqueous solution.

$$HCl(aq) \longrightarrow H^{+} + Cl^{-}$$
$$KOH(aq) \longrightarrow K^{+} + OH^{-}$$

Weak Acids and Weak Bases

$$HA \stackrel{K_{a}}{\Longrightarrow} H^{+} + A^{-} \qquad K_{a} = \frac{[H^{+}][A^{-}]}{[HA]}$$
$$B + H_{2}O \stackrel{K_{b}}{\Longrightarrow} BH^{+} + OH^{-} \qquad K_{b} = \frac{[BH^{+}][OH^{-}]}{[B]}$$

Carboxylic Acids Are Weak Acids and Amines Are Weak Bases



Buffers

Buffered solution resists changes in pH when small amounts of acids or base are added or when



The Henderson-Hasselbalch eqn

$$HA_{(aq)} \longleftrightarrow H^{+}(aq) + A^{-}(aq) \qquad K_{a} = \frac{\left[H^{+}\right]\left[A^{-}\right]}{\left[HA\right]}$$
$$-\log K_{a} = -\log \left[H^{+}\right] - \log \frac{\left[A^{-}\right]}{\left[HA\right]}$$
$$pK_{a} = pH - \log \frac{\left[A^{-}\right]}{\left[HA\right]}$$
$$\Rightarrow pH = pK_{a} + \log \frac{\left[base\right]}{\left[acid\right]}$$
$$pH = pK_{a} \qquad \text{when } \left[A^{-}\right] = \left[HA\right]$$

If pH = pKa, $[HA] = [A^-]$ If pH < pKa, $[HA] > [A^-]$ If pH > pKa, $[HA] < [A^-]$

| [A ⁻] / [HA] | pН |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 100:1 | р <i>К</i> _а + 2 |
| 10:1 | р <i>К</i> _а + 1 |
| 1:1 | р <i>К</i> _а |
| 1:10 | р <i>К</i> _а - 1 |
| 1:100 | р <i>К</i> _а - 2 |

Preparing a Buffer in Real Life

- Suppose you wish to prepare 1.00 L of buffer containing 0.100 M tris at pH 7.60. When we say 0.100 M tris, we mean that the total concentration of tris plus tris H+ will be 0.100M.
- 1. Weigh out 0.100 mol tris hydrochloride and dissolve it in a beaker containing about 800 mL water and a stirring bar.
- 2. Place a pH electrode in the solution and monitor the pH.
- 3. Add NaOH solution until the pH is exactly 7.60. The electrode does not respond instantly.
- 4. Transfer the solution to a volumetric flask and wash the beaker and stirring bar a few times. Add the washings to the volumetric flask.
- 5. Dilute to the mark and mix.

Buffer capacity

Buffer capacity measures how well a solution resists changes in pH when acid or base is added. The greater the buffer capacity, the less the pH changes.

The amount of H⁺ or OH⁻ that buffered solution can absorb without a significant change in pH



Buffer capacity

2) Magnitudes of [HA] and [A⁻]

- \Rightarrow the capacity of a buffered soln.
- Ex : soln A : 5.00 M HOAc + 5.00 M NaOAc soln B : 0.05 M HOAc + 0.05 M NaOAc pH change when 0.01 mol of HCl(g) is added

A:

$$\left\langle \frac{\left[A^{-}\right]}{\left[HA\right]} = \frac{5.00}{5.00} = 1 \right\rangle \xrightarrow{+0.01 \text{ mol H}^{+}} \left\langle \frac{\left[A^{-}\right]}{\left[HA\right]} = \frac{4.99}{5.01} = 0.996 \right\rangle$$
B:

$$\left\langle \frac{\left[A^{-}\right]}{\left[HA\right]} = \frac{0.05}{0.05} = 1 \right\rangle \xrightarrow{+0.01 \text{ mol H}^{+}} \left\langle \frac{\left[A^{-}\right]}{\left[HA\right]} = \frac{0.04}{0.06} = 0.67 \right\rangle$$

Buffer capacity

3) [A⁻] / [HA] ratio \Rightarrow the pH of a buffered soln.



How indicators work

 Usually a weak organic acid or base that has distinctly different colors in its nonionized & ionized forms.

 $\begin{array}{ll} HIn_{(aq)} \leftrightarrows H^{+}_{(aq)} + In^{-}_{(aq)} & pK_{HIn} \\ nonionized & ionized \\ form & form \end{array}$

How indicators work

2) $\frac{[\text{HIn}]}{[\text{In}^-]} \ge 10 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \text{show the color of HIn} \\ \text{pH} \le \text{pK}_{\text{HIn}} - 1 \end{cases}$ $\frac{\left|In^{-}\right|}{\left[HIn\right]} \ge 10 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \text{show the color of } In^{-} \\ pH \ge pK_{HIn} + 1 \end{cases}$ [HIn]≈ In⁻] \Rightarrow combination of the color of Hln & ln⁻

How indicators work

3) The useful pH range for indicator is pK_{HIn} ± 1 ↓ encompass the pH at equivalence point of

titration curve

4) Not all indicators change color at the same pH.

TABLE 14-1

Some Important Acid/Base Indicators

| Common Name | Transition Range, pH | pKa* | Color Change [†] | Indicator Type [‡] |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Thymol blue | 1.2-2.8 | 1.65§ | R – Y | 1 |
| | 8.0-9.6 | 8.96§ | Y - B | |
| Methyl yellow | 2.9-4.0 | | R - Y | 2 |
| Methyl orange | 3.1-4.4 | 3.46§ | R – O | 2 |
| Bromocresol green | 3.8-5.4 | 4.66§ | Y - B | 1 |
| Methyl red | 4.2-6.3 | 5.00§ | R - Y | 2 |
| Bromocresol purple | 5.2-6.8 | 6.12§ | Y - P | 1 |
| Bromothymol blue | 6.2-7.6 | 7.10§ | Y - B | 1 |
| Phenol red | 6.8-8.4 | 7.81§ | Y - R | 1 |
| Cresol purple | 7.6–9.2 | | Y - P | 1 |
| Phenolphthalein | 8.3-10.0 | | C - R | 1 |
| Thymolphthalein | 9.3-10.5 | | C - B | 1 |
| Alizarin yellow GG | 10-12 | | C - Y | 2 |

*At ionic strength of 0.1.

 ${}^{\dagger}B = blue; C = colorless; O = orange; P = purple; R = red; Y = yellow.$ ${}^{\ddagger}(1)$ Acid type: HIn + H₂O \rightleftharpoons H₃O⁺ + In⁻; (2) Base type: In + H₂O \rightleftharpoons InH⁺ + OH⁻ ${}^{\$}$ For the reaction InH⁺ + H₂O \rightleftharpoons H₃O⁺ + In

Acid-Base Titrations

1) Strong base + Strong acid 3 regions : a) excess base b) equivalence point (pH = 7.00)c) excess acid



2) Weak acid + Strong base
4 regions:
a) excess weak acid

- b) buffer region
- c) equivalence point (pH > 7.0)

d) excess base



- 3) Weak base + Strong acid
 4 regions:
 - a) excess weak base
 - b) buffer region
 - c) equivalence point (pH < 7.00)
 - d) excess acid

b) Using a pH Electrode to Find the End Point

using titration curve



Practical Notes

- Primary standards: Acids and bases can be purchased in forms pure enough.
- NaOH, KOH must be standardized against a primary standard
- Alkaline solutions: (ex: NaOH) OH⁻ + CO₂ \rightarrow HCO₃⁻
- Strong base attacks glass.

Practical Notes

TABLE 10-4 Primary standards Formula mass Compound Notes ACIDS 204.22 The pure solid is dried at 105°C and used to standardize CO₂H base. A phenolphthalein end point is satisfactory. $CO_{\overline{2}}$ CO_2H CO₂K $+ OH^{-} -$ Potassium hydrogen phthalate $+ H_2O$ $CO_{\overline{2}}$ $CO_{\overline{2}}$ $KH(IO_3)_2$ 389.91 This is a strong acid, so any indicator with an end point between ~ 5 and ~ 9 is adequate. Potassium hydrogen iodate BASES $H_2NC(CH_2OH)_3$ 121.14 The pure solid is dried at 100°–103°C and titrated with strong acid. The end point is in the range pH 4.5-5. Tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane (also called tris or tham) $H_2NC(CH_2OH)_3 + H^+ \longrightarrow H_3^+NC(CH_2OH)_3$ 105.99 Primary standard grade Na₂CO₃ is titrated with acid to an Na₂CO₃ end point of pH 4-5. Just before the end point, the solution Sodium carbonate is boiled to expel CO_2 . 381.37 The recrystallized material is dried in a chamber containing $Na_2B_4O_7 \cdot 10H_2O$ an aqueous solution saturated with NaCl and sucrose. This Borax procedure gives the decahydrate in pure form. The standard is titrated with acid to a methyl red end point.

 $"B_4O_7^{2-} \cdot 10H_2O" + 2H^+ \longrightarrow 4B(OH)_3 + 5H_2O$

Typical applications of neutralization titrations : Kjeldahl Nitrogen Analysis

Developed in 1883, the analysis remains one of the most widely used methods for determining nitrogen in organic substances such as protein, cereal, and flour. The solid is digested (decomposed and dissolved) in boiling sulfuric acid to convert nitrogen into ammonium ion, NH_4^+ , in a long-neck Kjeldahl flask



Kjeldahl digestion:

organic C, H, N $\xrightarrow{\text{boiling}}_{\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4}$ NH⁺₄ + CO₂ + H₂O



Melamine contaminated milk



Neutralization of NH_4^+ : $NH_4^+ + OH^- \longrightarrow NH_3(g) + H_2O$ (10-5)Distillation of NH_3 into standard HCl: $NH_3 + H^+ \longrightarrow NH_4^+$ (10-6)Titration of unreacted HCl with NaOH: $H^+ + OH^- \longrightarrow H_2O$ (10-7)

Kjeldahl Nitrogen Analysis: Chemistry **Behind the Health**

Melamine (66.6wt% nitrogen) •



Cyanuric acid (32.6 wt% N) ۲



| Protein source | Weight% nitrogen |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Meat | 16.0 |
| Blood plasma | 15.3 |
| Milk | 15.6 |
| Flour | 17.5 |
| Egg | 14.9 |
| | |

s-triazine-2,4,6-triol

s-triazine-2,4,6-trione

Polyprotic Acids and Bases

Amino acids are polyprotic

Amino acids from which proteins are built have an acidic carboxylic acid group, a basic amino group, and a variable substituent designated R:



The resulting structure, with positive and negative sites, is called a zwitterion.

Amino acids are polyprotic



| Table 11-1 Acid dissociation constants of amino acids ^a | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| Amino acid ^b | Substituent | Carboxylic acid pK_a | Ammonium pK _a | Substituent pK_a | Molecular mass | | |
| Alanine (A) | | 2.344 | 9.868 | | 89.09 | | |
| Arginine (R) | ⁺ NH ₂ | 1.823 | 8.991 | 12.1 | 174.20 | | |
| 5 | -CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ NHC | | | | | | |
| | NH ₂ | | | | | | |
| | Q | | | | | | |
| Asparagine (N) | -CH ₂ CNH ₂ | 2.16 | 8.73 | | 132.12 | | |
| Aspartic acid (D) | -CH ₂ CO ₂ H | 1.990 | 10.002 | 3.900 | 133.10 | | |
| Cysteine (C) | -CH ₂ SH | (1.7) | 10.74 | 8.36 | 121.16 | | |
| Glutamic acid (E) | -CH ₂ CH ₂ CO ₂ H | 2.16 | 9.96 | 4.30 | 147.13 | | |
| | O. | | | | | | |
| Glutamine (O) | -CH ₂ CH ₂ CNH ₂ | 2 19 | 9.00 | | 146 15 | | |
| Glycine (G) | —Н | 2.350 | 9.778 | | 75.07 | | |
| 0.,0 | ~ + | 2.000 | 211.10 | | 10101 | | |
| Histidine (H) | -CH2-NH | (1.6) | 9.28 | 5 97 | 155.16 | | |
| | NH | (1.0) | 7.20 | 0.01 | 100110 | | |
| Isoleucine (I) | -CH(CH ₂)(CH ₂ CH ₂) | 2 318 | 9 758 | | 131.17 | | |
| Leucine (L) | $-CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$ | 2.328 | 9.744 | | 131.17 | | |
| Lysine (K) | -CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ NH ⁺ ₃ | (1.77) | 9.07 | 10.82 | 146.19 | | |
| Methionine (M) | -CH ₂ CH ₂ SCH ₃ | 2.18 | 9.08 | | 149.21 | | |
| Phenylalanine (F) | -CH2- | 2.20 | 9.31 | | 165.19 | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Proline (P) | H ₂ N Structure | 1.952 | 10.640 | | 115.13 | | |
| | HO_2C \leftarrow of entire | | | | | | |
| Desire (D) | amino acid | 0 107 | 0.200 | | 105.00 | | |
| Serine (S) | $-CH_2OH$ | 2.187 | 9.209 | | 105.09 | | |
| Theoline (1) | -CH(CH ₃)(OH) | 2.088 | 9.100 | | 119.12 | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Tryptophan (W) | | 2.37 | 9.33 | | 204.23 | | |
| | H | | | | | | |
| Tyrosine (V) | | 2.41 | 8.67 | 11.01 | 181 10 | | |
| ryrosnie (1) | | 2.41 | 0.07 | 11.01 | 101.19 | | |
| Valine (V) | | 2.286 | 9.719 | | 117.15 | | |

Titration of polyprotic acids (ex) H₃PO₄ (H₃A)



2) solutions containing Amphoteric Anions (H_2A^-) as the only A-B major species

$$H_{2}A^{-}_{(aq)} + H_{2}A^{-}_{(aq)} \leftrightarrow H_{3}A_{(aq)} + HA^{2-}_{(aq)}$$
$$K = \frac{\left[H_{3}A\right]\left[HA^{2-}\right]}{\left[H_{2}A^{-}\right]^{2}} = \frac{K_{a_{2}}}{K_{a_{1}}}$$
$$\left[H_{3}A\right] = \left[HA^{2-}\right]$$

(1)
$$\Rightarrow K = \frac{[H_{3}A]^{2}}{[H_{2}A^{-}]^{2}} = \frac{K_{a_{2}}}{K_{a_{1}}}$$

from $H_{3}A_{(aq)} \leftrightarrow H^{+} + H_{2}A^{-}$
 $K_{a_{1}} = \frac{[H^{+}][H_{2}A^{-}]}{[H_{3}A]}$
(2) $K_{a_{1}} = \frac{[H^{+}][H_{2}A^{-}]}{[H_{3}A]} \Rightarrow \frac{[H^{+}]}{K_{a_{1}}} = \frac{[H_{3}A]}{[H_{2}A^{-}]}$

 $\left[\mathsf{H}^{+}\right] = \sqrt{\mathsf{K}_{a_{1}}\mathsf{K}_{a_{2}}}$ $\Rightarrow pH = \frac{pK_{a_1} + pK_{a_2}}{2}$

Which is the principle species ?



Which is the principle species ?

2) For H_2A

$$pH = pK_{a_1} + \frac{\left[HA^{-}\right]}{\left[H_2A\right]}$$
$$pH = pK_{a_2} + \frac{\left[A^{2-}\right]}{\left[HA^{-}\right]}$$



• 3) For H₃A



Ex

What is the principal form of arginine at pH 10.0? Approximately what fraction is in this form? What is the second most abundant form at this pH?



Proteins are polyprotic acids and bases



Titrations in Polyprotic Systems

Isoelectric pH (isoionic pH) The pH at which the average charge of the polyprotic acid is zero

Titrations in Polyprotic Systems



isoelectric pH : most form as HA & $[H_2A^+] \approx [A^-]$ where pH = $\frac{1}{2}(pK_1 + pK_2)$

Titrations in Polyprotic Systems

Isoelectric focusing : A technique of protein separation

pH gradient design Protein stop migrating in an electric field at isoelectric pH



Homework

- Draw the structures of the predominant forms of glutamine acid and tyrosine at pH 9.0 and pH 10.0. What is the second most abundant species at each pH?
- 2. Calculate the pH of 0.10M solution of each of the following amino acids in the form drawn:

