

## 6. IONIC EQUILIBRIUM

### 1. OSTWALD DILUTION LAW :

○ Dissociation constant of weak acid ( $K_a$ ) , 
$$K_a = \frac{[H^+][A^-]}{[HA]} = \frac{[C\alpha][C\alpha]}{C(1-\alpha)} = \frac{C\alpha^2}{1-\alpha}$$

If  $\alpha \ll 1$  , then  $1 - \alpha \cong 1$  or  $K_a = C\alpha^2$  or  $\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{K_a}{C}} = \sqrt{K_a \times V}$

○ Similarly for a weak base ,  $\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{K_b}{C}}$  . Higher the value of  $K_a / K_b$  , strong is the acid / base.

### Acidity and pH scale :

$\therefore$   $pH = -\log a_{H^+}$  (where  $a_{H^+}$  is the activity of  $H^+$  ions = molar concentration for dilute solution).

**[Note : pH can also be negative or > 14]**

$$\begin{aligned} pH &= -\log [H^+] ; & [H^+] &= 10^{-pH} \\ pOH &= -\log [OH^-] ; & [OH^-] &= 10^{-pOH} \\ pKa &= -\log Ka ; & Ka &= 10^{-pKa} \\ pKb &= -\log Kb ; & Kb &= 10^{-pKb} \end{aligned}$$

### PROPERTIES OF WATER :

1. In pure water  $[H^+] = [OH^-]$  so it is Neutral.
2. Molar concentration / Molarity of water = 55.56 M.

### 3. Ionic product of water ( $K_w$ ) :

$K_w = [H^+][OH^-] = 10^{-14}$  at 25° (experimentally)

$pH = 7 = pOH \Rightarrow$  neutral

$pH < 7$  or  $pOH > 7 \Rightarrow$  acidic

$pH > 7$  or  $pOH < 7 \Rightarrow$  Basic

### 4. Degree of dissociation of water :

$$\alpha = \frac{\text{no. of moles dissociated}}{\text{Total No. of moles initially taken}} = \frac{10^{-7}}{55.55} = 18 \times 10^{-10} \text{ or } 1.8 \times 10^{-7}\%$$

### 5. Absolute dissociation constant of water :

$$K_a = K_b = \frac{[H^+][OH^-]}{[H_2O]} = \frac{10^{-7} \times 10^{-7}}{55.55} = 1.8 \times 10^{-16}$$

$$pK_a = pK_b = -\log (1.8 \times 10^{-16}) = 16 - \log 1.8 = 15.74$$

$$K_a \times K_b = [H^+][OH^-] = K_w$$

⇒ **Note: for a conjugate acid- base pairs**

$$pK_a + pK_b = pK_w = 14 \quad \text{at } 25^\circ\text{C.}$$

$$pK_a \text{ of } H_3O^+ \text{ ions} = -1.74$$

$$pK_b \text{ of } OH^- \text{ ions} = -1.74.$$

## ○ pH Calculations of Different Types of Solutions :

### (a) Strong acid solution :

- (i) If concentration is greater than  $10^{-6}$  M  
In this case  $H^+$  ions coming from water can be neglected,
- (ii) If concentration is less than  $10^{-6}$  M  
In this case  $H^+$  ions coming from water cannot be neglected

### (b) Strong base solution :

Using similar method as in part (a) calculate first  $[OH^-]$  and then use  $[H^+] \times [OH^-] = 10^{-14}$

### (c) pH of mixture of two strong acids :

$$\text{Number of } H^+ \text{ ions from I-solution} = N_1 V_1$$

$$\text{Number of } H^+ \text{ ions from II-solution} = N_2 V_2$$

$$[H^+] = N = \frac{N_1 V_1 + N_2 V_2}{V_1 + V_2}$$

### (d) pH of mixture of two strong bases :

$$[OH^-] = N = \frac{N_1 V_1 + N_2 V_2}{V_1 + V_2}$$

### (e) pH of mixture of a strong acid and a strong base :

$$\text{If } N_1 V_1 > N_2 V_2, \text{ then solution will be acidic in nature and } [H^+] = N = \frac{N_1 V_1 - N_2 V_2}{V_1 + V_2}$$

$$\text{If } N_2 V_2 > N_1 V_1, \text{ then solution will be basic in nature and } [OH^-] = N = \frac{N_2 V_2 - N_1 V_1}{V_1 + V_2}$$

### (f) pH of a weak acid(monoprotic) solution :

$$K_a = \frac{[H^+][OH^-]}{[HA]} = \frac{C\alpha^2}{1-\alpha}$$

$$\text{if } \alpha \ll 1 \Rightarrow (1 - \alpha) \approx 1 \Rightarrow K_a \approx C\alpha^2 \Rightarrow \alpha = \sqrt{\frac{K_a}{C}} \quad (\text{is valid if } \alpha < 0.1 \text{ or } 10\%)$$

$$\text{On increasing the dilution} \Rightarrow C \downarrow \Rightarrow \alpha \uparrow \quad \text{and } [H^+] \downarrow \Rightarrow \text{pH} \uparrow$$

### (g) pH of a solution of a polyprotic weak acid :

$$\text{pH} = \frac{1}{2} (pK_{a1} - \log C).$$

### RELATIVE STRENGTH OF TWO ACIDS :

$$\frac{[\text{H}^+] \text{ furnished by I acid}}{[\text{H}^+] \text{ furnished by II acid}} = \frac{c_1 \alpha_1}{c_2 \alpha_2} = \sqrt{\frac{k_{a1} c_1}{k_{a2} c_2}}$$

(h) pH of a mixture of two weak acid(both monoprotic) solutions :

$$(\alpha_1 \ll 1) \text{ and } (\alpha_2 \ll 1) \Rightarrow \frac{K_{a1}}{K_{a2}} = \frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_2}$$

$$[\text{H}^+] = C_1 \alpha_1 + C_2 \alpha_2 = \sqrt{C_1 K_{a1} + C_2 K_{a2}}$$

\*\* If water is again considered third weak acid in solution of two weak acid then

$$[\text{H}^+] = \sqrt{K_{a1} C_1 + K_{a2} C_2 + K_w}$$

$$C_w K_{aw} = 10^{-14} = K_w$$

$$[\text{H}^+] = \sqrt{C_1 K_{a1} + C_2 K_{a2} + 10^{-14}}$$

(i) pH of a mixture of weak acid(monoprotic) and a strong acid solution :

If  $[\text{SA}] = C_1$  and  $[\text{WA}] = C_2$ , then  $[\text{H}^+]$  from SA =  $C_1$  and  $[\text{H}^+]$  from WA =  $C_2$   
Let HA is a weak acid.

$$[\text{H}^+] = \frac{C_1 + \sqrt{C_1^2 + 4K_a C_2}}{2}$$

\*\* If a strong acid of low conc is added in water then  $[\text{H}^+]$  of solution can be calculated as

$$[\text{H}^+] = \frac{C_1 + \sqrt{C_1^2 + 4K_w}}{2}$$

### ○ SALT HYDROLYSIS :

Salt of	Type of hydrolysis	$k_h$	$h$	pH
(a) weak acid & strong base	anionic	$\frac{k_w}{k_a}$	$\sqrt{\frac{k_w}{k_a c}}$	$7 + \frac{1}{2} p k_a + \frac{1}{2} \log c$
(b) strong acid & weak base	cationic	$\frac{k_w}{k_b}$	$\sqrt{\frac{k_w}{k_b c}}$	$7 - \frac{1}{2} p k_b - \frac{1}{2} \log c$
(c) weak acid & weak base	both	$\frac{k_w}{k_a k_b}$	$\sqrt{\frac{k_w}{k_a k_b}}$	$7 + \frac{1}{2} p k_a - \frac{1}{2} p k_b$
(d) Strong acid & strong base	-----do not hydrolysed-----			pH = 7

### Hydrolysis of polyvalent anions or cations

For  $[\text{Na}_3\text{PO}_4] = C$ .

$$K_{a1} \times K_{h3} = K_w$$

$$K_{a1} \times K_{h2} = K_w$$

$$K_{a3} \times K_{h1} = K_w$$

Generally pH is calculated only using the first step Hydrolysis

$$K_{h1} = \frac{Ch^2}{1-h} \approx Ch^2$$

$$h = \sqrt{\frac{K_{h1}}{c}} \Rightarrow [OH^-] = ch = \sqrt{K_{h1} \times c} \Rightarrow [H^+] = \sqrt{\frac{K_w \times K_{a3}}{c}}$$

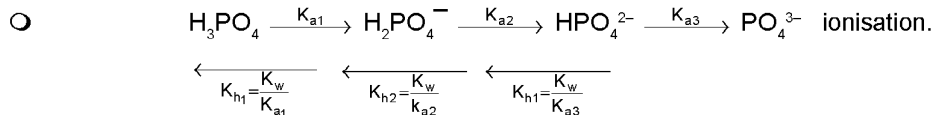
So 
$$pH = \frac{1}{2} [pK_w + pK_{a3} + \log C]$$

**Hydrolysis of Amphoteric Anion. (Cation is not Hydrolysed e.g.  $NaHCO_3$ ,  $NaHS$ , etc.)**

$$pH(HCO_3^-) = \left( \frac{pK_{a1} + pK_{a2}}{2} \right)$$

(b) Similarly for  $H_2PO_4^-$  and  $HPO_4^{2-}$  amphoteric anions.

$$pH(H_2PO_4^-) = \left( \frac{pK_{a1} + pK_{a2}}{2} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad pH(HPO_4^{2-}) = \left( \frac{pK_{a2} + pK_{a3}}{2} \right)$$



The  $pH$  of  $H_3PO_4 = \frac{1}{2} (pK_{a1} - \log C)$   $\therefore K_{a1} \gg K_{a2} \gg K_{a3}$

$$pH \text{ of } NaH_2PO_4 = \frac{1}{2} (pK_{a1} + pK_{a2})$$

$$pH \text{ of } Na_2HPO_4 = \frac{1}{2} (pK_{a2} + pK_{a3})$$

$$pH \text{ of } Na_3PO_4 = \frac{1}{2} (pK_w + pK_{a3} + \log C) \therefore \text{Sec hydrolysis can neglect.}$$

## BUFFER SOLUTION :

(a) **Acidic Buffer** : e.g.  $CH_3COOH$  and  $CH_3COONa$ . (weak acid and salt of its conjugate base).

$$pH = pK_a + \log \frac{[Salt]}{[Acid]} \quad \text{[Henderson's equation]}$$

(b) **Basic Buffer** : e.g.  $NH_4OH$  and  $NH_4Cl$ . (weak base and salt of its conjugate acid).

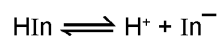
$$pOH = pK_b + \log \frac{[Salt]}{[Base]}$$

## Buffer capacity (index) :

$$\text{Buffer capacity} = \frac{\text{Total no. of moles of acid /alkali added per litre}}{\text{Change in pH}}$$

$$\text{Buffer capacity} = \frac{dx}{d\Delta pH} = 2.303 \frac{(a+x)(b-x)}{a+b}$$

## INDICATOR :



$$\text{or} \quad [\text{H}^+] = K_{\text{HIn}} \times \frac{[\text{HIn}]}{[\text{In}^-]}$$

$$\therefore \text{pH} = \text{p}K_{\text{HIn}} + \log \frac{[\text{In}^-]}{[\text{HIn}]} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{pH} = \text{p}K_{\text{HIn}} + \log \frac{[\text{Ionised form}]}{[\text{Unionised form}]}$$

## SIGNIFICANCE OF INDICATORS :

☞ Extent of reaction of different bases with acid (HCl) using two indicators :

	<b>Phenolphthalein</b>	<b>Methyl Orange</b>
NaOH	100% reaction is indicated $\text{NaOH} + \text{HCl} \rightarrow \text{NaCl} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	100% reaction is indicated $\text{NaOH} + \text{HCl} \rightarrow \text{NaCl} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
$\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$	50% reaction upto $\text{NaHCO}_3$ stage is indicated $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 + \text{HCl} \rightarrow \text{NaHCO}_3 + \text{NaCl}$	100% reaction is indicated $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 + 2\text{HCl} \rightarrow 2\text{NaCl} + \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{CO}_2$
$\text{NaHCO}_3$	No reaction is indicated	100% reaction is indicated $\text{NaHCO}_3 + \text{HCl} \rightarrow \text{NaCl} + \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{CO}_2$

## ○ ISOELECTRIC POINT :

$$[\text{H}^+] = \sqrt{K_{a1}K_{a2}}$$

$$\text{pH} = \frac{\text{p}K_{a1} + \text{p}K_{a2}}{2}$$

## SOLUBILITY PRODUCT :

$$K_{\text{SP}} = (\text{xs})^x (\text{ys})^y = \text{x}^x \cdot \text{y}^y \cdot (\text{s})^{x+y}$$

## CONDITION FOR PRECIPITATION :

If ionic product  $K_{\text{I.P}} > K_{\text{SP}}$  precipitation occurs,

if  $K_{\text{I.P}} = K_{\text{SP}}$  saturated solution (precipitation just begins or is just prevented).