# 19

# Ionic Equilibria II: Buffers and Titration Curves



# OUTLINE

- **19-1** The Common Ion Effect and Buffer Solutions
- **19-2** Buffering Action
- **19-3** Preparation of Buffer Solutions
- **19-4** Acid–Base Indicators

# **Titration Curves**

- **19-5** Strong Acid/Strong Base Titration Curves
- **19-6** Weak Acid/Strong Base Titration Curves
- **19-7** Weak Acid/Weak Base Titration Curves
- **19-8** Summary of Acid–Base Calculations



The red anthocyanin pigment in the common geranium is a naturally occurring acid-base indicator.

# **OBJECTIVES**

#### After you have studied this chapter, you should be able to

- Explain the common ion effect and give illustrations of its operation
- Recognize buffer solutions and describe their chemistry
- Describe how to prepare a buffer solution of a specified pH
- Carry out calculations related to buffer solutions and their action
- Explain what acid-base indicators are and how they function
- Describe what species are present at various stages of titration curves for (a) strong acids and strong bases, (b) weak acids and strong bases, and (c) weak acids and weak bases
- Carry out calculations based on titration curves for (a) strong acids and strong bases and (b) weak acids and strong bases

n the previous chapter we calculated the acidity or basicity of aqueous solutions of strong acids, strong bases, weak acids, weak bases, and their salts. In this chapter we will study (1) solutions that have both weak acids and weak bases present, (2) indicators, and (3) titration curves.

It can be a challenge to recognize the type of solution present. Recognition can be even more difficult if the solution is formed by a partial or total neutralization reaction. To help you to recognize the various solutions, a summary table (Table 19-7) is included in Section 19.8. We encourage you to look at the table often as you progress through this chapter and as you review this and the previous chapter.

# **19-1** THE COMMON ION EFFECT AND BUFFER SOLUTIONS

In laboratory reactions, in industrial processes, and in the bodies of plants and animals, it is often necessary to keep the pH nearly constant despite the addition of acids or bases.

Buffer systems resist changes in pH.

The oxygen-carrying capacity of the hemoglobin in your blood and the activity of the enzymes in your cells are very sensitive to the pH of your body fluids. Our bodies use a combination of compounds known as a *buffer system* to keep the pH within a narrow range.

A buffer solution contains a conjugate acid–base pair with both the acid and base in reasonable concentrations. The acidic component reacts with added strong bases. The basic component reacts with added strong acids.

The operation of a buffer solution depends on the *common ion effect*, a special case of LeChatelier's Principle.

When a solution of a weak electrolyte is altered by adding one of its ions from another source, the ionization of the weak electrolyte is suppressed. This behavior is termed the **common ion effect.** 

Many types of solutions exhibit this behavior. Two of the most frequently encountered kinds are

- A solution of a weak acid *plus* a soluble ionic salt of the weak acid (e.g., CH<sub>3</sub>COOH plus NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO)
- 2. A solution of a weak base *plus* a soluble ionic salt of the weak base (e.g., NH<sub>3</sub> plus NH<sub>4</sub>Cl)

# Weak Acids Plus Salts of Weak Acids

Consider a solution that contains acetic acid *and* sodium acetate, a soluble ionic salt of CH<sub>3</sub>COOH. The NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO is completely dissociated into its constituent ions, but CH<sub>3</sub>COOH is only slightly ionized.

$$NaCH_{3}COO \xrightarrow{H_{2}O} Na^{+} + \begin{bmatrix} CH_{3}COO^{-} \\ CH_{3}COOH + H_{2}O \rightleftharpoons H_{3}O^{+} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} CH_{3}COO^{-} \\ CH_{3}COO^{-} \end{bmatrix}$$
(to completion) (reversible)

Both CH<sub>3</sub>COOH and NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO are sources of CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup> ions. The completely dissociated NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO provides a high [CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>]. This shifts the ionization equilibrium of CH<sub>3</sub>COOH far to the left as CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup> combines with H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> to form nonionized CH<sub>3</sub>COOH and H<sub>2</sub>O. The result is a drastic decrease in [H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup>] in the solution.

Solutions that contain a weak acid plus a salt of the weak acid are always less acidic than solutions that contain the same concentration of the weak acid alone.

# **EXAMPLE 19-1** Weak Acid/Salt of Weak Acid Buffer Solution

Calculate the concentration of  $H_3O^+$  and the pH of a buffer solution that is 0.10 *M* in CH<sub>3</sub>COOH and 0.20 *M* in NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO.

LeChatelier's Principle (Section 17-6) is applicable to equilibria in aqueous solution.

# Plan

Write the appropriate equations for both NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO and CH<sub>3</sub>COOH and the ionization constant expression for CH<sub>3</sub>COOH. Then, represent the equilibrium concentrations algebraically and substitute into the  $K_2$  expression.

# Solution

The appropriate equations and ionization constant expression are

rxn 1 NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO 
$$\longrightarrow$$
 Na<sup>+</sup> + CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup> (to completion) The general equations  
rxn 2 CH<sub>3</sub>COOH + H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightleftharpoons$  H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> + CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup> (reversible) NaA  $\longrightarrow$  Na<sup>+</sup> + A<sup>-</sup>  
 $K_a = \frac{[H_3O^+][CH_3COO^-]}{[CH_3COOH]} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$  HA  $\rightleftharpoons$  H<sup>+</sup> + A<sup>-</sup>

This  $K_a$  expression is valid for *all solutions* that contain CH<sub>3</sub>COOH. In solutions that contain both CH<sub>3</sub>COOH and NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO, CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup> ions come from two sources. The ionization constant is satisfied by the *total* CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup> concentration.

Because NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO is completely dissociated, the [CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>] from NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO will be 0.20 mol/L. Let  $x = [CH_3COOH]$  that ionizes; then x is also equal to  $[H_3O^+]$  and equal to  $[CH_3COO^-]$  from  $CH_3COOH$ . The total concentration of  $CH_3COO^-$  is (0.20 + x) M. The concentration of nonionized CH<sub>3</sub>COOH is (0.10 - x) M.

Substitution into the ionization constant expression for CH3COOH gives

$$K_{\rm a} = \frac{[{\rm H}_3{\rm O}^+][{\rm CH}_3{\rm COO}^-]}{[{\rm CH}_3{\rm COOH}]} = \frac{(x)(0.20+x)}{(0.10-x)} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$$

The small value of  $K_{a}$  suggests that x is very small. This leads to two assumptions.

Assumption	Implication			
$x \ll 0.20$ , so $(0.20 + x) \approx 0.20$	Most of the CH <sub>3</sub> COO <sup><math>-</math></sup> comes from NaCH <sub>3</sub> COO (rxn 1) and very little CH <sub>3</sub> COO <sup><math>-</math></sup> comes from ionization of CH <sub>3</sub> COOH (rxn 2)			
$x \ll 0.10$ , so $(0.10 - x) \approx 0.10$	Very little of the CH <sub>3</sub> COOH ionizes (rxn 2)			

It is reasonable to assume that x (from the ionization of  $CH_3COOH$ ) is small, because CH<sub>3</sub>COOH is a weak acid (rxn 2), and its ionization is further suppressed by the high concentration of CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup> formed by the soluble salt, NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO (rxn 1).

Introducing these assumptions gives

$$\frac{0.20 x}{0.10} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ and } x = 9.0 \times 10^{-6}$$
$$x M = [\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] = 9.0 \times 10^{-6} M \text{ so } \text{pH} = 5.05$$

You should now work Exercise 8.

You can verify the validity of the assumption by substituting the value for x,  $9.0 \times 10^{-6}$ , into the original equation.

 $+ A^{-}$ 

may be used in place of these

equations.

To see how much the acidity of the  $0.10 M \text{ CH}_3\text{COOH}$  solution is reduced by making it also 0.20 M in NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO, refer back to Example 18-11. There we found that in 0.10 M CH<sub>3</sub>COOH the H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> concentration is  $1.3 \times 10^{-3}$  mol/L (pH = 2.89). Let us calculate the percent ionization in the solution of Example 19-1.

% ionization = 
$$\frac{[CH_3COOH]_{ionized}}{[CH_3COOH]_{initial}} \times 100\%$$
$$= \frac{9.0 \times 10^{-6} M}{0.10 M} \times 100\% = 0.0090\% \text{ ionized}$$

This compares with 1.3% ionization in 0.10 M CH<sub>3</sub>COOH (Example 18-11). Table 19-1 compares these solutions. The third column shows that  $[H_3O^+]$  is 140 times greater in 0.10 M CH<sub>3</sub>COOH than in the solution to which 0.20 mol/L NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO has been added (common ion effect).

The calculation of the pH of a solution containing significant amounts of both a weak acid and the salt of the weak acid may be carried out as we have done in Example 19-1. Alternatively, one may proceed as follows. We can start by writing the equation for the ionization of the weak monoprotic acid and its  $K_a$  as we did previously.

$$HA + H_2O \Longrightarrow H_3O^+ + A^-$$
 and  $\frac{[H_3O^+][A^-]}{[HA]} = K_a$ 

Solving this expression for  $[H_3O^+]$  gives

$$[\mathrm{H}_{3}\mathrm{O}^{+}] = K_{\mathrm{a}} \times \frac{[\mathrm{HA}]}{[\mathrm{A}^{-}]}$$

Consider a solution in which the concentrations of both the weak acid and its anion (from an added salt) are some reasonable values, such as greater than 0.050 M. Under these conditions the concentration of the anion, [A<sup>-</sup>], in the solution can be assumed to be entirely due to the dissolved salt. With these restrictions, the preceding expression becomes

$$[H_3O^+] = K_a \times \frac{[HA]}{[conjugate base]}$$

[HA] is the concentration of nonionized weak acid (in most cases this is the total acid concentration) and [conjugate base] is the concentration of the anion from the dissolved salt.

If we take the logarithm of both sides of the preceding equation, we obtain

$$\log [H_3O^+] = \log K_a + \log \frac{[acid]}{[salt]}$$

<b>TABLE 19-1</b>	Comparison of $[H_3O^+]$ and pH in Acetic Acid and Sodium
	Acetate–Acetic Acid Solutions

Solution	% CH <sub>3</sub> COOH Ionized	[H <sub>3</sub> O <sup>+</sup> ]	pH
$\begin{array}{c} 0.10 M CH_{3}COOH \\ 0.10 M CH_{3}COOH \\ and \\ 0.20 M N_{a}CH_{3}COO \end{array}$	1.3% 0.0090%	$1.3 \times 10^{-3} M$ $9.0 \times 10^{-6} M$	$2.89 \\ 5.05 \end{bmatrix} \Delta pH = 2.16$

HA and A<sup>-</sup> represent the weak acid and its conjugate base, respectively.

These are the kinds of assumptions we made in Example 19-1.



The two solutions of Table 19-1, in the presence of universal indicator. The CH<sub>3</sub>COOH solution is on the left.

Multiplying by -1 gives

$$-\log [\mathrm{H}_{3}\mathrm{O}^{+}] = -\log K_{\mathrm{a}} - \log \frac{[\mathrm{acid}]}{[\mathrm{salt}]}$$

Recalling that in Chapter 18 we defined  $-\log [H_3O^+]$  (or for the general expression  $-\log [H^+]$ ) as pH and  $-\log K_a$  as  $pK_a$ , the preceding equation becomes

 $pH = pK_a + \log \frac{[salt]}{[acid]}$  where  $pK_a = -\log K_a$  (acid/salt buffer)

This equation is known as the **Henderson-Hasselbalch equation**. Workers in the biological sciences use it frequently. In general terms, we write

 $pH = pK_a + \log \frac{[\text{conjugate base}]}{[\text{acid}]}$  (acid/salt buffer)

# **EXAMPLE 19-2** Weak Acid/Salt of Weak Acid Buffer Solution (via the Henderson–Hasselbalch Equation)

Use the Henderson-Hasselbalch equation to calculate the pH of the buffer solution in Example 19-1.

# Plan

The Henderson–Hasselbalch equation is  $pH = pK_a + \log \frac{[\text{conjugate base}]}{[\text{acid}]}$ . The value for  $pK_a$ 

for acetic acid can be calculated from the value of  $K_a$  found in Example 19-1 and many other places. The solution in Example 19-1 is 0.10 *M* in CH<sub>3</sub>COOH and 0.20 *M* in NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO. The values used for [conjugate base] and [acid] are their initial concentrations after mixing but before reaction.

#### Solution

You should now work Exercise 9.

The appropriate values needed for the Henderson-Hasselbalch equation are

$$pK_{a} = -\log K_{a} = -\log 1.8 \times 10^{-5} = 4.74$$
  
[conjugate base] = [CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>] = [NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO]<sub>initial</sub> = 0.20 M  
[acid] = [CH<sub>3</sub>COOH]<sub>initial</sub> = 0.10 M  
pH = pK<sub>a</sub> + log  $\frac{[\text{conjugate base}]}{[\text{acid}]} = 4.74 + \log \frac{(0.20)}{(0.10)}$   
= 4.74 + log 2.0 = 4.74 + 0.30 = 5.04

The values  $pK_a = 4.74$ , the log of 2.0, and pH = 5.04 all have two significant figures.

The relationship is valid *only* for solutions that contain a weak *monoprotic* acid and a soluble, ionic salt of the weak acid with a *univalent* cation, both in reasonable concentrations.



#### Weak Bases Plus Salts of Weak Bases

Let us consider the second common kind of buffer solution, containing a weak base and its salt. A solution that contains aqueous  $NH_3$  and ammonium chloride,  $NH_4Cl$ , a soluble ionic salt of  $NH_3$ , is typical. The  $NH_4Cl$  is completely dissociated, but aqueous  $NH_3$  is only slightly ionized.

$$rxn 1 \qquad NH_4Cl \xrightarrow{H_2O} NH_4^+ + Cl^-$$
(to completion)  
$$rxn 2 \qquad NH_3 + H_2O \xrightarrow{} NH_4^+ + OH^-$$
(reversible)

Both  $NH_4Cl$  and aqueous  $NH_3$  are sources of  $NH_4^+$  ions. The completely dissociated  $NH_4Cl$  provides a high  $[NH_4^+]$ . This shifts the ionization equilibrium of aqueous  $NH_3$  far to the left, as  $NH_4^+$  ions combine with  $OH^-$  ions to form nonionized  $NH_3$  and  $H_2O$ . The result is that  $[OH^-]$  is decreased significantly.

Solutions that contain a weak base plus a salt of the weak base are always less basic than solutions that contain the same concentration of the weak base alone.

# **EXAMPLE 19-3** Weak Base/Salt of Weak Base Buffer Solution

Calculate the concentration of  $OH^-$  and the pH of a solution that is 0.20 M in aqueous  $NH_3$  and 0.10 M in  $NH_4Cl$ .

# Plan

Write the appropriate equations for *both*  $NH_4Cl$  and  $NH_3$  and the ionization constant expression for  $NH_3$ . Then, represent the *equilibrium* concentrations algebraically, and substitute into the  $K_b$  expression.

#### Solution

The appropriate equations and algebraic representations of concentrations are

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \operatorname{rxn} 1 & \operatorname{NH}_{4}\mathrm{Cl} & \longrightarrow & \operatorname{NH}_{4}^{+} + & \operatorname{Cl}^{-} \\ & 0.10 \, M & \Longrightarrow & 0.10 \, M \\ \operatorname{rxn} 2 & \operatorname{NH}_{3} & + & \operatorname{H}_{2}\mathrm{O} & \Longrightarrow & \operatorname{NH}_{4}^{+} + & \operatorname{OH}^{-} \\ & (0.20 - x) \, M & & x \, M & x \, M \end{array}$$

Substitution into the  $K_b$  expression for aqueous NH<sub>3</sub> gives

$$K_{\rm b} = \frac{[\rm NH_4^+][\rm OH^-]}{[\rm NH_3]} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5} = \frac{(0.10 + x)(x)}{(0.20 - x)}$$

The small value of  $K_{\rm b}$  suggests that x is very small. This leads to two assumptions.

Assumption	Implication
$x \ll 0.10$ , so $(0.10 + x) \approx 0.10$	Most of the $NH_4^+$ comes from $NH_4Cl$ (rxn 1) and very little $NH_4^+$ comes from ionization of $NH_3$ (rxn 2)
$x \ll 0.20$ , so $(0.20 - x) \approx 0.20$	Very little of the NH <sub>3</sub> ionizes (rxn 2)

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It is reasonable to assume that *x* (from the ionization of  $NH_3$ ) is small, because  $NH_3$  is a weak base (rxn 2), and its ionization is further suppressed by the high concentration of  $NH_4^+$  formed by the soluble salt,  $NH_4Cl$  (rxn 1).

Introducing these assumptions gives

$$\frac{0.10x}{0.20} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5} M \text{ and } x = 3.6 \times 10^{-5} M$$
$$x M = [OH^{-}] = 3.6 \times 10^{-5} M \text{ so } pOH = 4.44 \text{ and } pH = 9.56$$

You should now work Exercise 10.

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In Example 18-14 we calculated  $[OH^-]$  and pH for 0.20 *M* aqueous NH<sub>3</sub>. Compare those results with the values obtained in Example 19-3 (Table 19-2). The concentration of OH<sup>-</sup> is *53 times greater* in the solution containing only 0.20 *M* aqueous NH<sub>3</sub> than in the solution to which 0.10 mol/L NH<sub>4</sub>Cl has been added. This is another demonstration of the common ion effect.

We can derive a relationship for  $[OH^-]$  in a solution containing a weak base, B, *plus* a salt that contains the cation, BH<sup>+</sup>, of the weak base, just as we did for weak acids. In general terms the equation for the ionization of a monoprotic weak base and its  $K_b$  expression are

$$B + H_2O \Longrightarrow BH^+ + OH^-$$
 and  $\frac{[BH^+][OH^-]}{[B]} = K_b$ 

Solving the  $K_b$  expression for [OH<sup>-</sup>] gives

$$[OH^{-}] = K_{b} \times \frac{[B]}{[BH^{+}]}$$

Taking the logarithm of both sides of the equation gives

$$\log \left[ \text{OH}^{-} \right] = \log K_{\text{b}} + \log \frac{[\text{B}]}{[\text{BH}^{+}]}$$

Multiplication by -1 and rearrangement gives another form of the *Henderson–Hasselbalch* equation for solutions containing a weak base plus a salt of the weak base.

$$pOH = pK_b + \log \frac{[BH^+]}{[B]}$$
 where  $pK_b = -\log K_b$  (base/salt buffer)

TABLE 19-2	Comparison of [OH <sup>-</sup> ] and pH in Ammonia and Ammonium Chloride—Ammonia Solutions							
Solution	% NH <sub>3</sub> Ionized	[OH <sup>-</sup> ]	pH					
0.20 <i>M</i> aq NH <sub>3</sub> 0.20 <i>M</i> aq NH <sub>3</sub> and	0.95%	$1.9 \times 10^{-3} M$ $3.6 \times 10^{-5} M$	$11.28 \\ 0.56 \\ \Delta pH = -1.72$					
0.10 $M$ aq NH <sub>4</sub> C	1	5.0×10 W	7.50]					

The percent ionization of  $\rm NH_3$  in this solution is

 $\frac{3.6 \times 10^{-5} M_{\text{ionized}}}{0.20 M_{\text{original}}} \times 100\% = 0.018\%.$ 

B and BH<sup>+</sup> represent the weak base and its conjugate acid, respectively for example,  $NH_3$  and  $NH_4^-$ .



The two solutions in Table 19-2, in the presence of universal indicator. The  $NH_3$  solution is on the left. Can you calculate the percentage of  $NH_3$  that is ionized in these two solutions?

The Henderson-Hasselbalch equation is valid for solutions of weak bases plus salts of weak bases with univalent anions in reasonable concentrations. In general terms we can also write this equation as

 $pOH = pK_b + \log \frac{[conjugate acid]}{[base]}$  (base/salt buffer)

**19-2** BUFFERING ACTION

A buffer solution is able to react with either H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> or OH<sup>-</sup> ions, whichever is added.

Thus, a buffer solution resists changes in pH. When we add a modest amount of a strong base or a strong acid to a buffer solution, the pH changes very little.

The two common kinds of buffer solutions are the ones we have just discussed—namely, solutions containing (1) a weak acid plus a soluble ionic salt of the weak acid and (2) a weak base plus a soluble ionic salt of the weak base.

# Solutions of a Weak Acid and a Salt of the Weak Acid

A solution containing acetic acid,  $CH_3COOH$ , and sodium acetate,  $NaCH_3COO$ , is an example of this kind of buffer solution. The acidic component is  $CH_3COOH$ . The basic component is  $NaCH_3COO$  because the  $CH_3COO^-$  ion is the conjugate base of  $CH_3COOH$ . The operation of this buffer depends on the equilibrium

$$CH_{3}COOH + H_{2}O \Longrightarrow H_{3}O^{+} + CH_{3}COO^{-}$$
  
*bigb* conc (from salt)

If we add a strong acid such as HCl to this solution, it produces  $H_3O^+$ . As a result of the added  $H_3O^+$ , the reaction occurs to the *left*, to use up most of the added  $H_3O^+$  and reestablish equilibrium. Because the [CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>] in the buffer solution is high, this can occur to a great extent. The net reaction is

$$H_3O^+ + CH_3COO^- \longrightarrow CH_3COOH + H_2O \quad (\approx 100\%)$$

or, as a formula unit equation,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} HCl &+ NaCH_{3}COO \longrightarrow CH_{3}COOH + NaCl & (\approx 100\%) \\ added \ acid & base & weak \ acid & salt \end{array}$$

This reaction goes nearly to completion because  $CH_3COOH$  is a *weak* acid; even when mixed from separate sources, its ions have a strong tendency to form nonionized  $CH_3COOH$  molecules rather than remain separate.

When a strong base, such as NaOH, is added to the  $CH_3COOH-NaCH_3COO$  buffer solution, it is consumed by the acidic component,  $CH_3COOH$ . This occurs in the following way. The additional  $OH^-$  causes the water autoionization reaction to proceed to the *left*.

$$2H_2O \implies H_3O^+ + OH^-$$
 (shifts *left*)

The net effect is to neutralize most of the  $H_3O^+$  from HCl by forming nonionized CH<sub>3</sub>COOH molecules. This slightly decreases the ratio [CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>]/[CH<sub>3</sub>COOH], which governs the pH of the solution.



See the Saunders Interactive



Three common examples of buffers. Many medications are buffered to minimize digestive upset. Most body fluids, including blood plasma,

contain very efficient natural buffer

systems. Buffer capsules are used in

laboratories to prepare solutions of

specified pH.

This uses up some H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup>, causing more CH<sub>3</sub>COOH to ionize.

$$CH_3COOH + H_2O \implies CH_3COO^- + H_3O^+$$
 (shifts right)

Because the [CH<sub>3</sub>COOH] is high, this can occur to a great extent. The net result is the neutralization of  $OH^-$  by CH<sub>3</sub>COOH.

 $OH^- + CH_3COOH \longrightarrow CH_3COO^- + H_2O$  (~100%) added base acid weaker base water

# **EXAMPLE 19-4** Buffered Solutions

If we add 0.010 mol of solid NaOH to 1.00 liter of a buffer solution that is 0.100 M in CH<sub>3</sub>COOH and 0.100 M in NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO, how much will [H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup>] and pH change? Assume that there is no volume change due to the addition of solid NaOH.

#### Plan

Calculate  $[H_3O^+]$  and pH for the original buffer solution. Then, write the reaction summary that shows how much of the CH<sub>3</sub>COOH is neutralized by NaOH. Calculate  $[H_3O^+]$  and pH for the resulting buffer solution. Finally, calculate the change in pH.

#### Solution

For the 0.100 M CH<sub>3</sub>COOH and 0.100 M NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO solution, we can write

$$[H_3O^+] = K_a \times \frac{[acid]}{[salt]} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5} \times \frac{0.100}{0.100} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5} M; \text{ pH} = 4.74$$

When solid NaOH is added, it reacts with CH<sub>3</sub>COOH to form more NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO.

	NaOH -	+ CH <sub>3</sub> COOH -	$\rightarrow$ NaCH <sub>3</sub> COO +	$H_2O$
start	0.010 mol	0.100 mol	0.100 mol	
change due to rxn	-0.010  mol	-0.010  mol	+0.010 mol	
after rxn	0 mol	0.090 mol	0.110 mol	

The volume of the solution is 1.00 liter, so we now have a solution that is 0.09 M in CH<sub>3</sub>COOH and 0.110 M in NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO. In this solution,

$$[H_3O^+] = K_a \times \frac{[acid]}{[salt]} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5} \times \frac{0.090}{0.110} = 1.5 \times 10^{-5} M; \text{ pH} = 4.82$$

The addition of 0.010 mol of solid NaOH to 1.00 liter of this buffer solution decreases  $[H_3O^+]$  from  $1.8 \times 10^{-5} M$  to  $1.5 \times 10^{-5} M$  and increases pH from 4.74 to 4.82, a change of 0.08 pH unit, which is a very slight change.

You should now work Exercise 22.

Addition of 0.010 mole of solid NaOH to one liter of 0.100 M CH<sub>3</sub>COOH (pH = 2.89 from Table 19-1) would give a solution that is 0.090 M in CH<sub>3</sub>COOH and 0.010 M in NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO. The pH of this solution is 3.78, which is 0.89 pH unit higher than that of the 0.100 M CH<sub>3</sub>COOH solution.

By contrast, adding 0.010 mole of NaOH to enough pure H<sub>2</sub>O to give one liter produces a 0.010 *M* solution of NaOH:  $[OH^-] = 1.0 \times 10^{-2} M$  and pOH = 2.00. The pH of this solution is 12.00, an increase of 5.00 pH units above that of pure H<sub>2</sub>O.

pH + pOH = 14

This is enough NaOH to neutralize 10% of the acid.

The net effect is to neutralize most of the OH<sup>-</sup> from NaOH. This slightly increases the ratio [CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>]/[CH<sub>3</sub>COOH], which governs the pH of the solution. In summary, 0.010 mole of NaOH

added to 1.00 L of the CH<sub>3</sub>COOH/NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO buffer, pH 4.74  $\longrightarrow$  4.82

added to 1.00 L of 0.100 M CH<sub>3</sub>COOH, pH 2.89  $\longrightarrow$  3.78

added to 1.00 L of pure H<sub>2</sub>O, pH 7.00  $\longrightarrow$  12.00

In similar fashion we could calculate the effects of adding 0.010 mole of pure HCl(g) instead of pure NaOH to 1.00 liter of each of these three solutions. This would result in the following changes in pH.

added to 1.00 L of the CH<sub>3</sub>COOH/NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO buffer, pH 4.74  $\longrightarrow$  4.66 added to 1.00 L of 0.100 *M* CH<sub>3</sub>COOH, pH 2.89  $\longrightarrow$  2.00 added to 1.00 L of pure H<sub>2</sub>O, pH 7.00  $\longrightarrow$  2.00

The results of adding NaOH or HCl to these solutions (Table 19-3) demonstrate the efficiency of the buffer solution. We recall that each change of 1 pH unit means that the  $[H_3O^+]$  and  $[OH^-]$  change by a *factor* of 10. In these terms, the effectiveness of the buffer solution in controlling pH is even more dramatic.

# Solutions of a Weak Base and a Salt of the Weak Base

An example of this type of buffer solution is one that contains the weak base ammonia,  $NH_3$ , and its soluble ionic salt ammonium chloride,  $NH_4Cl$ . The reactions responsible for the operation of this buffer are

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{NH_4Cl} & \xrightarrow{\mathrm{H_2O}} & \mathrm{NH_4^+} + \mathrm{Cl^-} & \text{(to completion)} \\ \mathrm{NH_3} & + \mathrm{H_2O} & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{NH_4^+} + \mathrm{OH^-} & \text{(reversible)} \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & &$$

If a strong acid such as HCl is added to this buffer solution, the resulting  $\rm H_3O^+$  shifts the equilibrium reaction

$$2H_2O \implies H_3O^+ + OH^-$$
 (shifts *left*)

TABLE 19-3	Changes in pH Caused by Addition of Pure Acid or Base to One Liter of Solution							
		When V 0.010 mol	When We Add 0.010 mol HCl(g)					
We Have 1.00 Original Solut	L of ion	pH Changes by	[H <sub>3</sub> O <sup>+</sup> ] Decreases by a factor of	pH Changes by	[H <sub>3</sub> O <sup>+</sup> ] Increases by a factor of			
buffer solution (0.10 <i>M</i> NaCH and 0.10 <i>M</i> CH <sub>3</sub> CC	3COO DOH)	+0.08 pH unit	1.2	-0.08 pH unit	1.2			
0.10 $M$ CH <sub>3</sub> COC pure H <sub>2</sub> O	)H	+0.91 + 5.00	8.1 100,000	-0.89 -5.00	7.8 100,000			

strongly to the left. As a result of the diminished OH<sup>-</sup> concentration, the reaction

$$NH_3 + H_2O \implies NH_4^+ + OH^-$$
 (shifts right)

shifts markedly to the *right*. Because the  $[NH_3]$  in the buffer solution is high, this can occur to a great extent. The net reaction is

$$H_3O^+ + NH_3 \longrightarrow NH_4^+ + H_2O \quad (\approx 100\%)$$
  
added acid base weak acid water

When a strong base such as NaOH is added to the *original* buffer solution, it is neutralized by the more acidic component,  $NH_4Cl$ , or  $NH_4^+$ , the conjugate acid of ammonia.

$$NH_3 + H_2O \implies NH_4^+ + OH^-$$
 (shifts left)

Because the  $[NH_4^+]$  is high, this can occur to a great extent. The result is the neutralization of  $OH^-$  by  $NH_4^+$ .

$$OH^{-} + NH_{4}^{+} \longrightarrow NH_{3} + H_{2}O \quad (\approx 100\%)$$

or, as a formula unit equation,

NaOH + NH<sub>4</sub>Cl 
$$\longrightarrow$$
 NH<sub>3</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>O + NaCl ( $\approx$ 100%)  
added base acid weak base water

**Summary** Changes in pH are minimized in buffer solutions because the basic component can react with  $H_3O^+$  ions and the acidic component can react with  $OH^-$  ions.

# **19-3 PREPARATION OF BUFFER SOLUTIONS**

Buffer solutions can be prepared by mixing other solutions. When solutions are mixed, the volume in which each solute is contained increases, so solute concentrations change. These changes in concentration must be considered. If the solutions are dilute, we may assume that their volumes are additive.

# **EXAMPLE 19-5** Preparation of Buffer Solutions

Calculate the concentration of  $H_3O^+$  and the pH of a buffer solution prepared by mixing 200. mL of 0.10 *M* NaF and 100. mL of 0.050 *M* HF.  $K_a = 7.2 \times 10^{-4}$  for HF.

# Plan

Calculate the number of millimoles (or moles) of NaF and HF and then the molarity of each solute in the solution after mixing. Write the appropriate equations for both NaF and HF, represent the equilibrium concentrations algebraically, and substitute into the  $K_a$  expression for HF.

#### Solution

When two dilute solutions are mixed, we assume that their volumes are additive. The volume of the new solution will be 300. mL. Mixing a solution of a weak acid with a solution of its salt does not form any new species. So we have a straightforward buffer calculation. We calculate the number of millimoles (or moles) of each compound and the molarities in the new solution.

The net effect is to neutralize most of the  $H_3O^+$  from HCl. This slightly increases the ratio  $[NH_4^+]/[NH_3]$ , which governs the pH of the solution.

The net effect is to neutralize most of the  $OH^-$  from NaOH. This slightly decreases the ratio  $[NH_4^+]/[NH_3]$ , which governs the pH of the solution.

Alternatively, one could substitute into the Henderson–Hasselbalch equation and solve for pH, then  $[H_3O^+]$ .

$$\frac{?}{mmol NaF} = 200. \text{ mL} \times \frac{0.10 \text{ mmol NaF}}{mL} = 20. \text{ mmol HF}$$
in 300. mL  
$$\frac{?}{mmol HF} = 100. \text{ mL} \times \frac{0.050 \text{ mmol HF}}{mL} = 5.0 \text{ mmol HF}$$

The molarities of NaF and HF in the solution are

$$\frac{20. \text{ mmol NaF}}{300. \text{ mL}} = 0.067 \text{ M NaF} \text{ and } \frac{5.0 \text{ mmol HF}}{300. \text{ mL}} = 0.017 \text{ M HF}$$

The appropriate equations and algebraic representations of concentrations are

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \operatorname{NaF} & \longrightarrow & \operatorname{Na}^{+} & + & \operatorname{F}^{-} \\ 0.067 M & \Longrightarrow & 0.067 M & 0.067 M \\ \operatorname{HF} & + & \operatorname{H}_2 O \rightleftharpoons & \operatorname{H}_3 O^{+} & + & \operatorname{F}^{-} \\ (0.017 - x) M & x M & x M & x M \end{array} \xrightarrow{} \operatorname{Total} [\operatorname{F}^{-}] = (0.067 + x) M$$

\_\_\_\_\_

Substituting into the  $K_a$  expression for hydrofluoric acid gives

$$K_{\rm a} = \frac{[{\rm H}_3{\rm O}^+][{\rm F}^-]}{[{\rm HF}]} = \frac{(x)(0.067 + x)}{(0.017 - x)} = 7.2 \times 10^{-4}$$

Can we assume that *x* is negligible compared with 0.067 and 0.017 in this expression? When in doubt, solve the equation using the simplifying assumption. Then decide whether the assumption was valid. Assume that  $(0.067 + x) \approx 0.067$  and  $(0.017 - x) \approx 0.017$ .

Our assumption is valid.



$$\frac{0.067x}{0.017} = 7.2 \times 10^{-4} \qquad x = 1.8 \times 10^{-4} M = [H_3O^+]$$
$$pH = 3.74$$

You should now work Exercise 34.

We often need a buffer solution of a given pH. One method by which such solutions can be prepared involves adding a salt of a weak base (or weak acid) to a solution of the weak base (or weak acid).

# **EXAMPLE 19-6** Preparation of Buffer Solutions

Calculate the numbers of moles and grams of  $NH_4Cl$  that must be used to prepare 500. mL of a buffer solution that is 0.10 *M* in aqueous  $NH_3$  and has a pH of 9.15.

#### Plan

Convert the given pH to the desired  $[OH^-]$  by the usual procedure. Write the appropriate equations for the reactions of  $NH_4Cl$  and  $NH_3$  and represent the equilibrium concentrations. Then, substitute into the  $K_b$  expression, and solve for the concentration of  $NH_4Cl$  required.

#### Solution

Because the desired pH = 9.15, pOH = 14.00 - 9.15 = 4.85. So  $[OH^-] = 10^{-pOH} = 10^{-4.85} = 1.4 \times 10^{-5} M OH^-$  desired. Let *x* mol/L be the necessary molarity of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. Because  $[OH^-] = 1.4 \times 10^{-5} M$ , this must be the  $[OH^-]$  produced by ionization of NH<sub>3</sub>. The equations and representations of equilibrium concentrations follow.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{NH}_{4}\mathrm{Cl} & \xrightarrow{100\%} & \mathrm{NH}_{4}^{+} & + & \mathrm{Cl}^{-} \\ & & xM & \Longrightarrow & & \\ \mathrm{NH}_{3} & + & \mathrm{H}_{2}\mathrm{O} & \rightleftharpoons & & \\ \mathrm{NH}_{4}^{+} & + & & xM \\ \mathrm{NH}_{4}^{+} & + & \mathrm{OH}^{-} \\ \mathrm{I.4 \times 10^{-5} M} & & & \\ \mathrm{Total} \left[\mathrm{NH}_{4}^{+}\right] = (x + 1.4 \times 10^{-5}) M \end{array}$$

Substitution into the  $K_{\rm b}$  expression for aqueous ammonia gives

$$K_{\rm b} = \frac{[\rm NH_4^+][\rm OH^-]}{[\rm NH_3]} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5} = \frac{(x + 1.4 \times 10^{-5})(1.4 \times 10^{-5})}{0.10 - 1.4 \times 10^{-5}}$$

NH<sub>4</sub>Cl is 100% dissociated, so  $x \gg 1.4 \times 10^{-5}$ . Then  $(x + 1.4 \times 10^{-5}) \approx x$ .

$$\frac{(x)(1.4 \times 10^{-5})}{0.10} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5} \qquad x = 0.13 \ M = [\text{NH}_4^+] = M_{\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}}$$

Now we calculate the number of moles of  $NH_4Cl$  that must be added to prepare 500. mL (0.500 L) of buffer solution.

$$\frac{2}{L} \mod \text{NH}_4\text{Cl} = 0.500 \text{ L} \times \frac{0.13 \mod \text{NH}_4\text{Cl}}{\text{L}} = 0.065 \mod \text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$$

$$\frac{2}{L} \gcd \text{NH}_4\text{Cl} = 0.065 \mod \times \frac{53.5 \gcd \text{NH}_4\text{Cl}}{\mod \text{NH}_4\text{Cl}} = 3.5 \gcd \text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$$

You should now work Exercise 37.

We have used  $K_a$  or  $K_b$  expressions or the Henderson–Hasselbalch equation in its acidsalt or base–salt form to find the pH of buffered solutions. Each of these approaches involves a *ratio* of concentrations, for instance  $\frac{[conjugate base]}{[acid]}$ . Although the ratios are

<image>



Preparation of the buffer solution in Example 19-6. We add 3.5 grams of  $NH_4Cl$  to a 500-mL volumetric flask and dissolve it in a little of the 0.10 M  $NH_3$  solution. We then dilute to 500 mL with the 0.10 M  $NH_3$  solution.

Here *x* does *not* represent a *change* in concentration, but rather the initial concentration of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. We do *not* assume that  $x \ll 1.4 \times 10^{-5}$ , but rather the reverse.



Our Daily Lives

# Fun with Carbonates

Carbonates react with acids to produce carbon dioxide. This property of carbonates has been exploited in many ways, both serious and silly.

One of the giddiest applications of this behavior of carbonates is in Mad Dawg, a foaming bubble gum developed in the early 1990s. If you chew a piece of this gum, large quantities of foam are produced so that it is difficult to keep the colorful lather from oozing out of your mouth. The froth begins to form as your teeth mix saliva with the gum's ingredients (sodium hydrogen carbonate, citric acid, malic acid, food coloring, and flavoring).

How is this foam produced? When citric acid and malic acid dissolve in saliva, they produce hydrogen ions which decompose the sodium hydrogen carbonate (baking soda) to produce carbon dioxide, a gas. These bubbles of carbon dioxide produce the foam. Large quantities of foam are produced because citric and malic acids taste sour, which stimulates salivation.

A common medical recipe for a similar combination of ingredients is found in Alka Seltzer tablets; these contain sodium hydrogen carbonate, citric acid, and aspirin. The acid and carbonate react in water to produce carbon dioxide, which gives the familiar fizz of Alka Seltzer.

Makeup artists add baking soda to cosmetics to produce monster-flesh makeup. When the hero throws acid (which is actually vinegar, a dilute solution of acetic acid) into the monster's face, the acetic acid reacts with sodium hydrogen carbonate to produce the disgustingly familiar scenes of "dissolving flesh" that we see in horror movies. The ability of baking soda to produce carbon dioxide delights children of all ages as it creates monsters in the movies.

Many early fire extinguishers utilized the reaction of sodium hydrogen carbonate with acids. A metal cylinder was filled with a solution of sodium hydrogen carbonate and water; a bottle filled with sulfuric acid was placed above the water layer. Inverting the extinguisher activated it by causing



Alka Seltzer<sup>TM</sup>.

the acid to spill into the carbonate solution. The pressure produced by gaseous carbon dioxide gas pushed the liquid contents out through a small hose.

Kitchen oven fires can usually be extinguished by throwing baking soda onto the flame. When heated, carbonates decompose to produce carbon dioxide, which smothers fires by depriving them of oxygen.

Chefs frequently use the heat-sensitive nature of carbonates to test the freshness of a box of baking soda. Pouring some boiling water over a little fresh baking soda results in active bubbling. Less active bubbling means the baking soda is unlikely to work well in a baking recipe.

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written in terms of molarities, it is not always necessary to use concentrations in the calculation. Both reagents are present in *a single* buffer solution, so the solution volume cancels from the molarity ratio. For example:

$$\frac{[\text{conjugate base}]}{[\text{acid}]} = \frac{\frac{\text{mol conjugate base}}{\text{L soln}}}{\frac{\text{mol acid}}{\text{L soln}}} = \frac{\text{mol conjugate base}}{\text{mol acid}}$$

Thus we see that a molarity ratio in the acid–salt Henderson–Hasselbalch equation can be treated as a mole (or millimole) ratio. A similar conclusion can be reached for the base–salt version of the Henderson–Hasselbalch equation or for the  $K_a$  or  $K_b$  expressions that were used in previous buffer calculations.

In practice, a common method of preparing a buffer solution is by *partial* neutralization of a weak acid solution by adding a strong base solution. For example,

$$HA + NaOH \longrightarrow NaA + H_2O$$
 (partial)

If an appreciable amount of the weak acid remains unneutralized, then this solution contains significant concentrations of a *weak acid* and *its conjugate base*, just as though we had added the salt from a separate solution; thus, it is a buffer solution. Example 19-7 illustrates the preparation of a buffer by this method.

# **EXAMPLE 19-7** Buffer Preparation by Partial Neutralization

Calculate the pH of a solution obtained by mixing 400. mL of a 0.200 M acetic acid solution and 100. mL of a 0.300 M sodium hydroxide solution.

# Plan

Sodium hydroxide, NaOH, is a strong base, so it reacts with acetic acid, CH<sub>3</sub>COOH, to form sodium acetate, NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO. If an appreciable amount of excess acetic acid is still present after the sodium hydroxide has reacted, the excess acetic acid and the newly formed sodium acetate solution form a buffered solution.

#### Solution

We first calculate how much of the weak acid has been neutralized. The numbers of millimoles of CH<sub>3</sub>COOH and NaOH mixed are calculated as

mmol  $CH_3COOH = (0.200 \text{ mmol/mL}) \times 400. \text{ mL} = 80.0 \text{ mmol}$ 

mmol NaOH =  $(0.300 \text{ mmol/mL}) \times 100. \text{ mL} = 30.0 \text{ mmol}$ 

Not enough NaOH is present to neutralize all of the CH<sub>3</sub>COOH, so NaOH is the *limiting reactant*.

	NaOH	+ CH <sub>3</sub> COOH ·	$\longrightarrow$ NaCH <sub>3</sub> COO	$+ H_2O$
start	30.0 mol	80.0 mmol	0	_
change	-30.0 mmol	-30.0 mmol	+30.0 mmol	
after rxn	0.0 mmol	50.0 mmol	30.0 mmol	

Because NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO is a soluble salt, it provides 30.0 mmol CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup> to the solution. This solution contains a significant amount of CH<sub>3</sub>COOH not yet neutralized *and* a significant amount of its conjugate base, CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>. We recognize this as a buffer solution and can use the Henderson–Hasselbalch equation to find the pH.

$$pH = pK_{a} + \log \frac{\text{mmol conjugate base}}{\text{mmol acid}} = pK_{a} + \log \frac{\text{mmol CH}_{3}\text{COO}^{-}}{\text{mmol CH}_{3}\text{COOH}}$$
$$= 4.74 + \log \frac{30.0}{50.0} = 4.74 + \log(0.600) = 4.74 + (-0.222)$$
$$= 4.52$$

You should now work Exercises 52b to 52f.

We could solve this problem using the  $K_a$  expression as we did in Example 19-5.

# **19-4** ACID–BASE INDICATORS

In Section 11-2 we described acid–base titrations and the use of indicators to tell us when to stop a titration. Detection of the end point in an acid–base titration is only one of the important uses of indicators.

An indicator is an organic dye; its color depends on the concentration of  $H_3O^+$  ions, or pH, in the solution. By the color an indicator displays, it "indicates" the acidity or basicity of a solution. Figure 19-1 displays solutions that contain three common indicators in solutions over the pH range 3 to 11. Carefully study Figure 19-1 and its legend.

The first indicators used were vegetable dyes. Litmus is a familiar example. Most of the indicators that we use in the laboratory today are synthetic compounds; that is, they have been made in laboratories by chemists. Phenolphthalein is the most common acid-base indicator. It is colorless in solutions of pH less than 8 ( $[H_3O^+] > 10^{-8} M$ ) and turns bright pink as pH approaches 10.

Many acid-base indicators are weak organic acids, HIn, where "In" represents various complex organic groups. Bromthymol blue is such an indicator. Its ionization constant is



Figure 19-1 Three common indicators in solutions that cover the pH range 3 to 11 (the black numbers). (a) Methyl red is red at pH 4 and below; it is yellow at pH 7 and above. Between pH 4 and pH 7 it changes from red to redorange, to orange, to yellow. (b) Bromthymol blue is yellow at pH 6 and below; it is blue at pH 8 and above. Between pH 6 and 8 it changes from yellow to yellowgreen, to green, to blue-green, to blue. (c) Phenolphthalein is colorless below pH 8 and bright pink above pH 10. It changes from colorless to pale pink, to pink, to bright pink in the pH range 8 to 10.

Phenolphthalein was the active component of the laxative Ex-Lax. It is sometimes added to laboratory ethyl alcohol to discourage consumption.  $7.9 \times 10^{-8}$ . We can represent its ionization in dilute aqueous solution and its ionization constant expression as

HIn 
$$+ H_2O \implies H_3O^+ + In^ K_a = \frac{[H_3O^+][In^-]}{[HIn]} = 7.9 \times 10^{-8}$$
  
color 1  
yellow  $\leftarrow$  for bromthymol blue  $\rightarrow \frac{\text{color } 2}{\text{blue}}$ 

HIn represents nonionized acid molecules, and  $In^-$  represents the anion (conjugate base) of HIn. The essential characteristic of an acid-base indicator is that HIn and  $In^-$  must have quite different colors. The relative amounts of the two species determine the color of the solution. Adding an acid favors the reaction to the left and gives more HIn molecules (color 1). Adding a base favors the reaction to the right and gives more  $In^-$  ions (color 2). The ionization constant expression can be rearranged.

$$\frac{[\text{H}_{3}\text{O}^{+}][\text{In}^{-}]}{[\text{HIn}]} = K_{a} \qquad \text{so} \qquad \frac{[\text{In}^{-}]}{[\text{HIn}]} = \frac{K_{a}}{[\text{H}_{3}\text{O}^{+}]}$$

This shows clearly how the  $[In^-]/[HIn]$  ratio depends on  $[H_3O^+]$  (or on pH) and the  $K_a$  value for the indicator. As a rule of thumb, when  $[In^-]/[HIn] \ge 10$ , color 2 is observed; conversely, when  $[In^-]/[HIn] \le \frac{1}{10}$ , color 1 is observed.

Universal indicators are mixtures of several acid-base indicators that display a continuous range of colors over a wide range of pH values. Figure 18-2 shows concentrated solutions of a universal indicator in flat dishes so that the colors are very intense. The juice of red (purple) cabbage is a universal indicator. Figure 19-2 shows the color of red cabbage juice in solutions within the pH range 1 to 13.

One important use of universal indicators is in commercial indicator papers, which are small strips of paper impregnated with solutions of universal indicators. A strip of the paper is dipped into the solution of interest, and the color of the indicator on the paper indicates the pH of the solution. The photographs on page 757 (solutions of universal indicators) and page 763 (an indicator paper) illustrate the use of universal indicators to estimate pH. We shall describe the use of indicators in titrations more fully in Sections 19-5 and 19-6.





Bromthymol blue indicator is yellow in acidic solutions and blue in basic solutions.

*Figure 19-2* The juice of the red (purple) cabbage is a naturally occurring universal indicator. From left to right are solutions of pH 1, 4, 7, 10, and 13.

# TITRATION CURVES

# **19-5** STRONG ACID/STRONG BASE TITRATION CURVES

A **titration curve** is a plot of pH versus the amount (usually volume) of acid or base added. It displays graphically the change in pH as acid or base is added to a solution and shows how pH changes near the equivalence point.

The point at which the color of an indicator changes in a titration is known as the **end point.** It is determined by the  $K_a$  value for the indicator (Section 19-4). Table 19-4 shows a few acid-base indicators and the pH ranges over which their colors change. Typically, color changes occur over a range of 1.5 to 2.0 pH units.

The **equivalence point** is the point at which chemically equivalent amounts of acid and base have reacted.

Ideally, the end point and the equivalence point in a titration should coincide.

In practice, we try to select an indicator whose range of color change includes the equivalence point. We use the same procedures in both standardization and analysis to minimize any error arising from a difference between end point and equivalence point.

Review Section 11-2 before you consider the titration of 100.0 mL of a 0.100 M solution of HCl with a 0.100 M solution of NaOH. As we know, NaOH and HCl react in a 1:1 ratio. We calculate the pH of the solution at several stages as NaOH is added.

1. Before any NaOH is added to the 0.100 M HCl solution:

$$HCl + H_2O \xrightarrow{100\%} H_3O^+ + Cl^-$$
$$[H_3O^+] = 0.100 M \text{ so } pH = 1.00$$

2. After 20.0 mL of 0.100 M NaOH has been added:

		HCl +	- NaOH —	$\rightarrow$ NaCl + H <sub>2</sub> O
If one prefers, these calculations can be	start	10.0 mmol	2.0 mmol	0 mmol
done using moles and liters in the	change	-2.0  mmol	-2.0 mmol	+2.0 mmol
place of millimoles and milliliters.	after rxn	8.0 mmol	0 mmol	2.0 mmol

#### TABLE 19-4 Range and Color Changes of Some Common Acid–Base Indicators

pH Scale														
Indicators	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
methyl orange	← r	ed ——	→3.1 -	4.4					yellov	W				
methyl red	←	— red		→ 4.4		6.2				yellow				
bromthymol blue			– yello	w		$\longrightarrow 6.2$	—— 7	.6 ←		—— b	lue —			<i>&gt;</i>
neutral red	←		— re	ed ——		> (	6.8 —	<u> </u>			yellow			
phenolphthalein	←			colorle	ss ——			$\rightarrow 8.0 -$		— 10.0	← bi	right pi	nk —	colorless beyond 13.0

Titrations are usually done with 50-mL or smaller burets. We have used 100. mL of solution in this example to simplify the arithmetic.

The concentration of unreacted HCl in the total volume of 120. mL is

$$M_{\rm HCl} = \frac{8.00 \text{ mmol HCl}}{120. \text{ mL}} = 0.067 M \text{ HCl}$$
  
 $[\rm H_3O^+] = 6.7 \times 10^{-2} M \text{ so } p\rm H = 1.17$ 

3. After 50.0 mL of 0.100 M NaOH has been added (midpoint of the titration):

$$\begin{array}{rcl} & \mathrm{HCl} & + & \mathrm{NaOH} & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{NaCl} & + \mathrm{H_2O} \\ \mathrm{start} & 10.0 \mathrm{~mmol} & 5.0 \mathrm{~mmol} & 0 \mathrm{~mmol} \\ \mathrm{change} & -5.0 \mathrm{~mmol} & -5.0 \mathrm{~mmol} & +5.0 \mathrm{~mmol} \\ \mathrm{after~rxn} & 5.0 \mathrm{~mmol} & 0 \mathrm{~mmol} & 5.0 \mathrm{~mmol} \\ & M_{\mathrm{HCl}} = \frac{5.00 \mathrm{~mmol} \mathrm{~HCl}}{150 \mathrm{~mL}} = 0.033 \mathrm{~M~HCl} \\ \mathrm{[H_3O^+]} = 3.3 \times 10^{-2} \mathrm{~M} & \mathrm{so} & \mathrm{pH} = 1.48 \end{array}$$

4. After 100. mL of 0.100 M NaOH has been added:

	HCl	+ NaOH	$\longrightarrow$ NaCl	$+ H_2O$
start	10.0 mmol	10.0 mmol	0 mmol	
change	-10.0 mmol	-10.0 mmol	+10.0 mmol	
after rxn	0 mmol	0 mmol	10.0 mmol	

We have added enough NaOH to neutralize the HCl exactly so this is the equivalence point. A strong acid and a strong base react to give a neutral salt solution so pH = 7.00.

5. After 110.0 mL of 0.100 M NaOH has been added:

	HCl	+ NaOH	$\longrightarrow$ NaCl	$+ H_2O$
start	10.0 mmol	11.0 mmol	0 mmol	-
change	-10.0 mmol	-10.0 mmol	+10.0 mmol	
after rxn	0 mmol	1.0 mmol	10.0 mmol	

The pH is determined by the excess NaOH.

Some household products. Each solution contains a few drops of a universal indicator. A color of yellow or red indicates a pH less than 7. A green to purple color indicates a pH greater than 7.



The end point of the titration of 0.100 M HCl with 0.100 M NaOH using another indicator, bromthymol blue.

$$M_{\text{NaOH}} = \frac{1.0 \text{ mmol NaOH}}{210. \text{ mL}} = 0.0048 M \text{ NaOH}$$
$$[\text{OH}^{-}] = 4.8 \times 10^{-3} M \text{ so } \text{pOH} = 2.32 \text{ and } \text{pH} = 11.68$$

Table 19-5 displays the data for the titration of 100.0 mL of 0.100 *M* HCl by 0.100 *M* NaOH solution. A few additional points have been included to show the shape of the curve better. These data are plotted in Figure 19-3a. This titration curve has a long "vertical section" over which the pH changes very rapidly with the addition of very small amounts of base. The pH changes from 3.60 (99.5 mL NaOH added) to 10.40 (100.5 mL of NaOH added) in the vicinity of the equivalence point (100.0 mL NaOH added). The midpoint of the vertical section (pH = 7.00) is the equivalence point. We can separate the calculations on this kind of titration into four distinct types that correspond to four regions of the titration curves.

- 1. Before any strong base is added, the pH depends on the strong acid alone.
- **2.** After some strong base has been added, but before the equivalence point, the remaining (excess) strong acid determines the pH.
- 3. At the equivalence point, the solution is neutral.
- 4. Beyond the equivalence point, excess strong base determines the pH.

Ideally, the indicator color change should occur at pH = 7.00. For practical purposes, indicators with color changes in the pH range 4 to 10 can be used in the titration of strong acids and strong bases because the vertical portion of the titration curve is so long. Figure 19-3 shows the ranges of color changes for methyl red and phenolphthalein, two widely used indicators. Both fall within the vertical section of the NaOH/HCl titration curve. When a strong acid is added to a solution of a strong base, the titration curve is inverted, but its essential characteristics are the same (Figure 19-3b).

In Figure 19-3a we see that the curve rises very slowly before the equivalence point. It then rises very rapidly near the equivalence point because there is no hydrolysis. The curve becomes almost flat beyond the equivalence point.

TABLE	19-5	Titration Data for 100.0	mL of 0.100 M HCl ver	sus NaOH
mL of 0.100 <i>M</i> NaOH Added		mmol NaOH Added	mmol Excess Acid or Base	pH
0.	0	0.00	$10.0 H_3O^+$	1.00
20.	0	2.00	8.0	1.17
50.	0	5.00	5.0	1.48
90.	0	9.00	1.0	2.28
99.	0	9.90	0.10	3.30
99.	5	9.95	0.05	3.60
100.	0	10.00	0.00 (eq. pt.)	7.00
100.	5	10.05	0.05 OH-	10.40
110.	0	11.00	1.00	11.68
120.	0	12.00	2.00	11.96

See the Saunders Interactive General Chemistry CD-ROM, Screen 18.12, Titration Curves.



*Figure 19-3* (a) The titration curve for 100. mL of 0.100 *M* HCl with 0.100 *M* NaOH. Note that the "vertical" section of the curve is quite long. The titration curves for other strong acids and bases are identical with this one *if* the same concentrations of acid and bases are used *and if* both are monoprotic. (b) The titration curve for 100. mL of 0.100 *M* NaOH with 0.100 *M* HCl. This curve is similar to that in part (a), but inverted.

# **19-6** WEAK ACID/STRONG BASE TITRATION CURVES

When a weak acid is titrated with a strong base, the curve is quite different. The solution is buffered *before* the equivalence point. It is basic *at* the equivalence point because salts of weak acids and strong bases hydrolyze to give basic solutions. So, we can separate the calculations on this kind of titration into four distinct types, which correspond to four regions of the titration curves.

- 1. Before any base is added, the pH depends on the weak acid alone.
- 2. After some base has been added, but before the equivalence point, a series of weak acid/salt buffer solutions determines the pH.
- **3.** At the equivalence point, hydrolysis of the anion of the weak acid determines the pH.
- 4. Beyond the equivalence point, excess strong base determines the pH.

Consider the titration of 100.0 mL of  $0.100 M \text{ CH}_3\text{COOH}$  with 0.100 M NaOH solution. (The strong electrolyte is added to the weak electrolyte.)

- 1. Before any base is added, the pH is 2.89 (Example 18-11 and Table 18-5).
- 2. As soon as some NaOH is added, but before the equivalence point, the solution is buffered because it contains both CH<sub>3</sub>COOH and NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO.

 $NaOH + CH_3COOH \longrightarrow NaCH_3COO + H_2O$ lim amt excess

For instance, after 20.0 mL of 0.100 M NaOH solution has been added, we have

	NaOH	+ CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	$\longrightarrow$ NaCH <sub>3</sub> COO + H <sub>2</sub> O
start	2.00 mmol	10.00 mmol	0 mmol
change	-2.00 mmol	-2.00 mmol	+2.00 mmol
after rxn	0 mmol	8.00 mmol	2.00 mmol

We recognize that this is a buffer solution, so we can use the ratio (mmol conjugate base)/(mmol acid) in the Henderson–Hasselbalch equation as we did in Example 19-7.

pH = pK<sub>a</sub> + log 
$$\frac{\text{mmol conjugate base}}{\text{mmol acid}}$$
 = pK<sub>a</sub> + log  $\frac{\text{mmol CH}_3\text{COO}^-}{\text{mmol CH}_3\text{COOH}}$   
= 4.74 + log  $\frac{2.00}{8.00}$  = 4.74 + log(0.250) = 4.74 + (-0.602) = 4.14

After some NaOH has been added, the solution contains both NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO and CH<sub>3</sub>COOH, and so it is buffered until the equivalence point is reached. All points before the equivalence point are calculated in the same way.

3. At the equivalence point, the solution is 0.0500 M in NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO.

	NaOH -	+ CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	$\longrightarrow$ NaCH <sub>3</sub> COO + H <sub>2</sub> O		
start	10.0 mmol	10.0 mmol	0 mmol		
change	-10.0 mmol	-10.0 mmol	+10.0 mmol		
after rxn	0 mmol	0 mmol	10.0 mmol		
$M_{\text{NaCH}_3\text{COO}} = \frac{10.0 \text{ mmol NaCH}_3\text{COO}}{200. \text{ mL}} = 0.0500  M \text{ NaCH}_3\text{COO}$					

The pH of a 0.0500 M solution of NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO is 8.72 (Example 18-19 shows a similar calculation). The solution is distinctly basic at the equivalence point because of the hydrolysis of the acetate ion.

**4.** Beyond the equivalence point, the concentration of the excess NaOH determines the pH of the solution just as it did in the titration of a strong acid.

Table 19-6 lists several points on the titration curve, and Figure 19-4 shows the titration curve for 100.0 mL of 0.100 M CH<sub>3</sub>COOH titrated with a 0.100 M solution of NaOH. This titration curve has a short vertical section (pH  $\approx$  7 to 10), and the indicator range is limited. Phenolphthalein is the indicator commonly used to titrate weak acids with strong bases (see Table 19-4).

The titration curves for weak bases and strong acids are similar to those for weak acids and strong bases except that they are inverted (recall that strong is added to weak). Figure 19-5 displays the titration curve for 100.0 mL of 0.100 M aqueous ammonia titrated with 0.100 M HCl solution.

We could use the  $K_{\rm a}$  expression for these calculations as we did in Example 19-5.

Just *before* the equivalence point, the solution contains relatively high concentrations of NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO and relatively low concentrations of CH<sub>3</sub>COOH. Just *after* the equivalence point, the solution contains relatively high concentrations of NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO and relatively low concentrations of NaOH, both basic components. In both regions our calculations are only approximations. Exact calculations of pH in these regions are beyond the scope of this text.

	0.100 N	1 NaOH		
mL 0. NaOH	100 <i>M</i> [ Added	mmol Base Added	mmol Excess Acid or Base	рН
0.0 mL		0	10.0 CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	2.89
20.0 mL	]	2.00	8.00	4.14
50.0 mL		5.00	5.00	4.74
75.0 mL	buffered	7.50	2.50	5.22
90.0 mL	region	9.00	1.00	5.70
95.0 mL		9.50	0.50	6.02
99.0 mL	J	9.90	0.10	6.74
100.0 mL		10.0	0 (equivalence point)	8.72
101.0 mL		10.1	0.10 OH <sup>-</sup>	10.70
110.0 mL		11.0	1.0	11.68
120.0 mL		12.0	2.0	11.96

Titration Data for 100.0 mL of 0.100 M CH<sub>3</sub>COOH with



**TABLE 19-6** 

*Figure 19-4* The titration curve for 100. mL of 0.100 M CH<sub>3</sub>COOH with 0.100 M NaOH. The "vertical" section of this curve is much shorter than those in Figure 19-3 because the solution is buffered before the equivalence point.



Figure 19-5 The titration curve for 100. mL of 0.100 M aqueous ammonia with 0.100 M HCl. The vertical section of the curve is relatively short because the solution is buffered before the equivalence point. The curve is very similar to that in Figure 19-4, but inverted.





#### 19-7

# WEAK ACID/WEAK BASE TITRATION CURVES

In titration curves for weak acids and weak bases, pH changes near the equivalence point are too small for color indicators to be used. The solution is buffered both before and after the equivalence point. Figure 19-6 shows the titration curve for 100.0 mL of 0.100 MCH<sub>3</sub>COOH solution titrated with 0.100 M aqueous NH<sub>3</sub>. The calculation of values on the curve in Figure 19-6 other than the initial pH and the pH at the equivalence point is beyond the scope of this text.

# Problem-Solving Tip: Titration Curves

You can consider a titration curve in four parts.

- 1. Initial solution (before any titrant is added).
- 2. Region before the equivalence point. This may or may not be buffered. The solution is buffered in this region if the substance being titrated is a weak acid or weak base.
- 3. Equivalence point. Its location depends on the concentrations of the acid and the base solutions; its pH depends on the strengths of the acid and base.
- 4. Region beyond the equivalence point. This becomes nearly flat as more and more excess reactant is added. We often calculate only one or two points in this region.

Recognizing the four regions of a titration curve allows you to decide which kind of calculation is required.

# **19-8** SUMMARY OF ACID–BASE CALCULATIONS

In this and the previous chapter we have discussed several different types of acidic or alkaline solutions. Table 19-7 summarizes those many different types of solutions.

Type of Aq. Solution	Example(s)	Resulting Chemistry or Type of Solution; Calculation	Section
<i>strong acid</i> (represented as HX)	HNO <sub>3</sub> or HCl	Complete ionization; reaction goes to completion to form $H_3O^+$ $HX + H_2O \longrightarrow H_3O^+ + X^-$	18-1
strong base [represented as MOH or M(OH) <sub>2</sub> ]	NaOH or Ba(OH) <sub>2</sub>	Complete ionization; reaction goes to completion to form $OH^-$ $MOH \longrightarrow M^+ + OH^-$ $M(OH)_2 \longrightarrow M^{2+} + 2OH^-$	18-1
<i>weak acid</i> (represented as HA)	CH <sub>3</sub> COOH or HCN	$\begin{array}{l} \textit{Partial ionization; HA + H_2O \implies H_3O^+ + A^- \\ \textit{Must solve equilibrium expression involving } K_a \text{ for the acid} \\ \textit{using equilibrium concentrations: } K_a = \frac{[H_3O^+][A^-]}{[HA]} \end{array}$	18-4
weak base (represented as B)	NH3	$\begin{array}{l} \textit{Partial ionization; B + H_2O \iff BH^+ + OH^- \\ \textit{Must solve equilibrium expression involving } K_b \text{ for the base,} \\ \textit{using equilibrium concentrations: } K_b = \frac{[BH^+][OH^-]}{[B]} \end{array}$	18-4
Salt of <i>strong</i> base & strong acid (represented as MX)	NaNO <sub>3</sub> (salt of NaOH and HNO <sub>3</sub> )	No hydrolysis—neutral solution	18-7
Salt of <i>strong base</i> & <i>weak acid</i> (represented as MA)	NaCN (salt of NaOH and HCN)	Hydrolysis of conjugate base (A <sup>-</sup> ) of weak acid $\implies$ basic solution A <sup>-</sup> + H <sub>2</sub> O $\implies$ HA + OH <sup>-</sup> Solve weak base equilibrium for A <sup>-</sup> using $K_{\rm b\ for\ A^-} = \frac{K_{\rm w}}{K_{\rm a\ for\ HA}}$	18-8
Salt of <i>weak base</i> & <i>strong acid</i> (represented as BHX)	NH <sub>4</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> (salt of NH <sub>3</sub> and HNO <sub>3</sub> )	Hydrolysis of conjugate acid (BH <sup>+</sup> ) of weak base $\implies$ acidic solution BH <sup>+</sup> + H <sub>2</sub> O $\implies$ B + H <sub>3</sub> O <sup>+</sup> Solve weak acid equilibrium for BH <sup>+</sup> using $K_{a \text{ for BH}^+} = \frac{K_w}{K_b \text{ for B}}$	18-9
Salt of <i>weak base</i> & <i>weak acid</i> (represented as BHA)	NH <sub>4</sub> CN (salt of NH <sub>3</sub> and HCN)	Hydrolysis of conjugate base (A <sup>-</sup> ) of weak acid $\implies$ basic solution and Hydrolysis of conjugate acid (BH <sup>+</sup> ) of weak base $\implies$ acidic solution. This solution can be basic, neutral, or acidic, depending on which hydrolysis occurs to a greater extent; use $K_b$ and $K_a$ values for the hydrolysis reactions to tell which ion will be the dominant factor. (We did not do calculations for this type of salt.)	18-10
Weak acid & salt of its conjugate base (represented as HA & MA)	CH <sub>3</sub> COOH + NaCH <sub>3</sub> COO (or the product of the partial neutralization in a titration of a <i>weak acid</i> with a <i>strong base</i>	Salt ionizes completely; MA $\longrightarrow M^+ + A^-$ Mixture of weak acid (HA) and its conjugate base (A <sup>-</sup> ) in significant concentrations gives a <i>buffer</i> . Use Henderson-Hasselbalch equation for acid-salt buffer (with initial concentrations or mole ratio): $pH = pK_a + \log \frac{[conjugate base]}{[acid]}$	19-1, 19-2, 19-3
Weak base & salt of its conjugate acid (represented as B & BHX)	$NH_3 + NH_4Cl$ (or the product of the partial neutralization in a titration of a <i>weak base</i> with a <i>strong acid</i> )	Salt ionizes completely; $NH_4Cl \longrightarrow NH_4^+ + Cl^-$ Mixture of weak base ( $NH_3$ ) and its conjugate acid ( $NH_4^+$ ) in significant concentrations gives a <i>buffer</i> . Use Henderson-Hasselbalch equation for base-salt buffer (with initial concentrations or mole ratio): $pOH = pK_b + log \frac{[conjugate acid]}{[base]}$	19-1, 19-2, 19-3

 TABLE 19-7
 A Review of Our Understanding of Nonneutral Aqueous Solutions

# **Key Terms**

- **Buffer solution** A solution that resists changes in pH when strong acids or strong bases are added. A buffer solution contains an acid and its conjugate base, so it can react with added base or acid. Common buffer solutions contain either (1) a weak acid and a soluble ionic salt of the weak acid *or* (2) a weak base and a soluble ionic salt of the weak base.
- **Common ion effect** Suppression of ionization of a weak electrolyte by the presence in the same solution of a strong electrolyte containing one of the same ions as the weak electrolyte.
- **End point** The point at which an indicator changes color and a titration should be stopped.
- **Equivalence point** The point at which chemically equivalent amounts of reactants have reacted.
- **Henderson–Hasselbalch equation** An equation that enables us to calculate the pH or pOH of a buffer solution directly.

# Exercises

**Note** All exercises in this chapter assume a temperature of 25°C unless they specify otherwise. Values of  $K_a$  and  $K_b$  can be found in Appendix F or will be specified in the exercise.

#### **Basic Ideas**

- (a) What is the relationship between pH and pOH?
  (b) What is the relationship between K<sub>a</sub> and pH? (c) What is the relationship between K<sub>a</sub> and pOH?
- Write the balanced equation for an acid-base reaction that would produce each of the following salts; predict whether an aqueous solution of each salt is acidic, basic, or neutral. (a) NaNO<sub>3</sub>; (b) KCN; (c) Al<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>; (d) Mg(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>; (e) (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.
- Write the balanced equation for an acid–base reaction that would produce each of the following salts; predict whether an aqueous solution of each salt is acidic, basic, or neutral. (a) CaF<sub>2</sub>; (b) ZnS; (c) AsCl<sub>3</sub>; (d) Sr<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>; (e) NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>.
- **4.** Under what circumstances can it be predicted that a neutral solution is produced by an acid–base reaction? (*Hint:* This question has more than one answer.)

#### The Common Ion Effect and Buffer Solutions

- Which of the following solutions are buffered? Each solution was prepared by mixing and diluting appropriate quantities of the two solutes to yield the concentrations indicated. Explain your decision for each solution.
   (a) 0.10 *M* HCN and 0.10 *M* NaCN; (b) 0.10 *M* NaOH and 0.10 *M* NaCl; (c) 0.10 *M* NH<sub>3</sub> and 0.10 *M* NH<sub>4</sub>Br; (d) 0.10 *M* NaOH and 0.90 *M* KOH.
- 6. Which of the following solutions are buffered? Each solution was prepared by mixing and diluting appropri-

For acid–salt buffer 
$$pH = pK_a + \log \frac{[\text{conj. base}]}{[\text{acid}]}$$
  
For base–salt buffer  $pOH = pK_b + \log \frac{[\text{conj. acid}]}{[\text{base}]}$ 

- **Indicator (for acid–base titrations)** An organic compound that exhibits different colors in solutions of different acidities; used to indicate the point at which reaction between an acid and a base is complete.
- **Titration** A procedure in which one solution is added to another solution until the chemical reaction between the two solutes is complete; usually the concentration of one solution is known and that of the other is unknown.
- **Titration curve (for acid–base titration)** A plot of pH versus volume of acid or base solution added.

ate quantities of the two solutes to yield the concentrations indicated. Explain your decision for each solution. (a) 1.0 M HCN and 0.20 M NaCN; (b) 0.10 M NaF and 0.10 M HF; (c) 0.10 M NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and 0.90 M NH<sub>4</sub>Br; (d) 0.10 M NaCl and 0.20 M HF.

- 7. Suppose that you have a solution that is 0.50 M in methylamine,  $CH_3NH_2$ , and 0.00050 M in the salt methylammonium chloride,  $CH_3NH_3Cl$ . Would you expect this to be an effective buffer solution? Why or why not?
- Calculate pH for each of the following buffer solutions.
   (a) 0.10 *M* HF and 0.25 *M* KF; (b) 0.050 *M* CH<sub>3</sub>COOH and 0.025 *M* Ba(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>.
- **9.** The pK<sub>a</sub> of HOCl is 7.45. Calculate the pH of a solution that is 0.0444 *M* HOCl and 0.0888 *M* NaOCl.
- Calculate the concentration of OH<sup>-</sup> and the pH for the following buffer solutions. (a) 0.30 M NH<sub>3</sub>(aq) and 0.20 M NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>; (b) 0.15 M NH<sub>3</sub>(aq) and 0.20 M (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.
- Calculate the concentration of OH<sup>-</sup> and the pH for the following solutions. (a) 0.45 *M* NH<sub>3</sub>(aq) and 0.25 *M* NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>; (b) 0.10 *M* aniline, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>, and 0.20 *M* anilinium chloride, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>NH<sub>3</sub>Cl.
- \*12. Buffer solutions are especially important in our body fluids and metabolism. Write net ionic equations to illustrate the buffering action of (a) the H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>/NaHCO<sub>3</sub> buffer system in blood and (b) the NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>/Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> buffer system inside cells.
- 13. Calculate the ratio of  $[NH_3]/[NH_4^+]$  concentrations that gives (a) solutions of pH = 9.75 and (b) solutions of pH = 9.10.
- 14. We prepare two solutions as follows. In solution A 0.50 mole of potassium acetate is added to 0.25 mole of acetic acid and diluted to a final volume of 1.00 liter. In solution

Exercises

- B 0.25 mole of potassium acetate is added to 0.50 mole of acetic acid and diluted to 1.00 liter. (a) Which solution is expected to have the lower pH? (b) Explain how you can reach your conclusion without calculating the pH of each solution.
- 15. Compare the pH of a 0.15 M acetic acid solution to the pH of a solution composed of 0.15 M acetic acid to which 0.15 mole of sodium acetate per liter has been added.
- 16. Calculate the mass of sodium acetate that must be added to one liter of a 0.125 M acetic acid solution to produce a buffer with the pH of 4.75. Assume that there is no volume change.
- 17. A solution is produced by dissolving 0.075 mole of formic acid and 0.075 mole of sodium formate in sufficient water to produce 1.00 L of solution. (a) Calculate the pH of this buffer solution. (b) Calculate the pH of the solution after an additional 0.010 mole of sodium formate is dissolved.

#### **Buffering Action**

**18.** Consider the ionization of formic acid, HCOOH.

$$HCOOH + H_2O \implies HCOO^- + H_3O^+$$

What effect does the addition of sodium formate, NaHCOO, have on the fraction of formic acid molecules that undergo ionization in aqueous solution?

- **19.** Briefly describe why the pH of a buffer solution remains nearly constant when small amounts of acid or base are added. Over what pH range do we observe the best buffering action (nearly constant pH)?
- **20.** What is the pH of a solution that is 0.10 M in HClO<sub>4</sub> and 0.10 M KClO<sub>4</sub>? Is this a buffer solution?
- **21.** (a) Find the pH of a solution that is 0.50 M in formic acid and 0.40 M in sodium formate. (b) Find the pH after 0.050 mol HCl has been added to 1.0 liter of the solution.
- **22.** One liter of 0.400 M NH<sub>3</sub> solution also contains 12.78 g of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. How much will the pH of this solution change if 0.142 mole of gaseous HCl is bubbled into it?
- 23. (a) Find the pH of a solution that is  $0.12 \ M$  in nitrous acid and  $0.15 \ M$  in sodium nitrite. (b) Find the pH after 0.15 mol of NaOH has been added to 1.0 liter of the solution.
- 24. (a) Find the pH of a solution that is 1.00 M in NH<sub>3</sub> and 0.80 M in NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. (b) Find the pH of the solution after 0.10 mol of HCl has been added to 1.0 liter of the solution. (c) A solution was prepared by adding NaOH to pure water to give 1.00 liter of solution whose pH = 9.34. Find the pH of this solution after 0.10 mol of HCl has been added to it.
- **25.** (a) Calculate the concentrations of CH<sub>3</sub>COOH and CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup> in a solution in which their total concentration is 0.200 mol/L and the pH is 4.50. (b) If 0.0100 mol of solid NaOH is added to 1.00 L of this solution, how much does the pH change?

- 26. A solution contains bromoacetic acid, BrCH<sub>2</sub>COOH, and sodium bromoacetate, NaBrCH<sub>2</sub>COO, with a total concentration of 0.30 mol/L. If the pH is 3.10, what are the concentrations of the acid and the salt?  $K_a = 2.0 \times 10^{-3}$  for BrCH<sub>2</sub>COOH.
- 27. Calculate the concentration of propionate ion,  $CH_3CH_2COO^-$ , in equilibrium with 0.020 *M*   $CH_3CH_2COOH$  (propionic acid) and 0.10 *M* H<sup>+</sup> from hydrochloric acid.  $K_a = 1.3 \times 10^{-5}$  for  $CH_3CH_2COOH$ .
- **28.** Calculate the concentration of  $C_2H_5NH_3^+$  in equilibrium with 0.015  $M C_2H_5NH_2$  (ethylamine) and 0.0010  $M OH^-$  ion from sodium hydroxide.  $K_b = 4.7 \times 10^{-4}$  for ethylamine.
- **29.** When chlorine gas is dissolved in water to make "chlorine water," HCl (a strong acid) and HOCl (a weak acid) are produced in equal amounts.

 $Cl_2(g) + H_2O(\ell) \longrightarrow HCl(aq) + HOCl(aq)$ 

What is the concentration of OCl<sup>-</sup> ion in a solution containing 0.010 mol of each acid in 1.00 L of solution?

#### **Preparation of Buffer Solutions**

- **30.** A buffer solution of pH 5.30 is to be prepared from propionic acid and sodium propionate. The concentration of sodium propionate must be 0.50 mol/L. What should be the concentration of the acid?  $K_a = 1.3 \times 10^{-5}$  for CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>COOH.
- **31.** We need a buffer with pH 9.00. It can be prepared from NH<sub>3</sub> and NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. What must be the [NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>]/[NH<sub>3</sub>] ratio?
- **32.** What volumes of 0.150 *M* acetic acid and 0.100 *M* NaOH solutions must be mixed to prepare 1.00 L of a buffer solution of pH 4.50 at 25°C?
- **33.** One liter of a buffer solution is prepared by dissolving  $0.150 \text{ mol of NaNO}_2$  and 0.070 mol of HCl in water. What is the pH of this solution? If the solution is diluted twofold with water, what is the pH?
- 34. One liter of a buffer solution is made by mixing 500. mL of 1.25 *M* acetic acid and 500. mL of 0.500 *M* calcium acetate. What is the concentration of each of the following in the buffer solution? (a) CH<sub>3</sub>COOH; (b) Ca<sup>2+</sup>; (c) CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>; (d) H<sup>+</sup>. (e) What is the pH?
- **35.** What must be the concentration of benzoate ion, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>, in a 0.045 *M* benzoic acid, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>COOH, solution so that the pH is 5.00?
- **36.** What must be the concentration of chloroacetic acid, ClCH<sub>2</sub>COOH, in a 0.015 *M* NaCH<sub>2</sub>ClCOO solution so that the pH is 3.00?  $K_a = 1.4 \times 10^{-3}$  for ClCH<sub>2</sub>COOH.
- **37.** What must be the concentration of  $NH_4^+$  in a 0.075 *M*  $NH_3$  solution so that the pH is 8.80?

#### **Acid–Base Indicators**

**38.** (a) What are acid–base indicators? (b) What are the essential characteristics of acid–base indicators? (c) What

determines the color of an acid-base indicator in an aqueous solution?

- **39.**  $K_a$  is  $7.9 \times 10^{-8}$  for bromthymol blue, an indicator that can be represented as HIn. HIn molecules are yellow, and In<sup>-</sup> ions are blue. What color will bromthymol blue be in a solution in which (a)  $[H_3O^+] = 1.0 \times 10^{-4} M$  and (b) pH = 10.30?
- \*40. The indicator metacresol purple changes from yellow to purple at pH 8.2. At this point it exists in equal concentrations as the conjugate acid and the conjugate base. What are  $K_a$  and  $pK_a$  for metacresol purple, a weak acid represented as HIn?
- **41.** A series of acid–base indicators can be used to estimate the pH of an unknown solution. Use the values given in Table 19-4 to determine the possible range of pH values of the following solution. The solution was colorless with phenolphthalein, yellow with methyl orange, and yellow with methyl red.
- **42.** A series of acid–base indicators can be used to estimate the pH of an unknown solution. Use the values given in Table 19-4 to determine the possible range of pH values of the following solution. The solution was colorless in phenolphthalein, blue in bromthymol blue, and yellow in methyl orange.
- **43.** Use Table 19-4 to choose one or more indicators that could be used to "signal" reaching a pH of (a) 3.5; (b) 7.0; (c) 10.3; (d) 8.0.
- **44.** A solution of 0.020 *M* acetic acid is to be titrated with a 0.015 *M* NaOH solution. What is the pH at the equivalence point? Choose an appropriate indicator for the titration.
- **45.** Demonstrate mathematically that neutral red is red in solutions of pH 3.00, whereas it is yellow in solutions of pH 10.00. HIn is red, and In<sup>-</sup> is yellow.  $K_a$  is  $2.0 \times 10^{-7}$ .

#### Strong Acid/Strong Base Titration Curves

46. Make a rough sketch of the titration curve expected for the titration of a strong acid with a strong base. What determines the pH of the solution at the following points? (a) No base added; (b) half-equivalence point; (c) equivalence point; (d) excess base added. Compare your curve with Figure 19-3.

For Exercises 47, 52, 57, and 58, calculate and tabulate  $[H_3O^+]$ ,  $[OH^-]$ , pH, and pOH at the indicated points as we did in Table 19-4. In each case assume that pure acid (or base) is added to exactly 1 L of a 0.0100 molar solution of the indicated base (or acid). This simplifies the arithmetic because we may assume that the volume of each solution is constant throughout the titration. Plot each titration curve with pH on the vertical axis and moles of base (or acid) added on the horizontal axis.

 Solid NaOH is added to 1 L of 0.0500 M HCl solution. Number of moles of NaOH added: (a) none; (b) 0.00500; (c) 0.01500; (d) 0.02500 (50% titrated); (e) 0.03500;
(f) 0.04500; (g) 0.04750; (h) 0.0500 (100% titrated);
(i) 0.0525; (j) 0.0600; (k) 0.0750 (50% excess NaOH).
Consult Table 19-4, and list the indicators that could be used in this titration.

- 48. A 25.0-mL sample of 0.125 M HNO<sub>3</sub> is titrated with 0.100 M NaOH. Calculate the pH of the solution (a) before the addition of NaOH and after the addition of (b) 5.0 mL; (c) 12.5 mL; (d) 25.0 mL; (e) 31.2 mL; (f) 37.5 mL of NaOH.
- 49. A 33.0-mL sample of 0.245 *M* HNO<sub>3</sub> solution is titrated with 0.213 *M* KOH. Calculate the pH of the solution (a) before the addition of KOH and after the addition of (b) 5.55 mL, (c) 12.0 mL, (d) 24.5 mL, (e) 35.2 mL, (f) 38.8 mL of KOH solution.
- 50. A 44.0-mL sample of 0.145 *M* HCl solution is titrated with 0.213 *M* NaOH. Calculate the pH of the solution (a) before the addition of NaOH and after the addition of (b) 5.55 mL, (c) 12.0 mL, (d) 20.5 mL, (e) 27.2 mL, (f) 31.8 mL of NaOH solution.

#### Weak Acid/Strong Base Titration Curves

- 51. Make a rough sketch of the titration curve expected for the titration of a weak monoprotic acid with a strong base. What determines the pH of the solution at the following points? (a) No base added; (b) half-equivalence point; (c) equivalence point; (d) excess base added. Compare your curve to Figure 19-4.
- **52.** Solid NaOH is added to exactly 1 L of 0.0200 M CH<sub>3</sub>COOH solution. Number of moles NaOH added: (a) none; (b) 0.00400; (c) 0.00800; (d) 0.01000 (50% titrated); (e) 0.01400; (f) 0.01800; (g) 0.01900; (h) 0.0200 (100% titrated); (i) 0.0210; (j) 0.0240; (k) 0.0300 (50% excess NaOH). Consult Table 19-4, and list the indicators that could be used in this titration.
- 53. A 44.0-mL sample of 0.202 *M* CH<sub>3</sub>COOH solution is titrated with 0.185 *M* NaOH. Calculate the pH of the solution (a) before the addition of any NaOH solution and after the addition of (b) 15.5 mL, (c) 20.0 mL, (d) 24.0 mL, (e) 27.2 mL, (f) 48.0 mL, (g) 50.2 mL of NaOH solution.
- 54. A 32.44-mL sample of 0.182 *M* CH<sub>3</sub>COOH solution is titrated with 0.185 *M* NaOH. Calculate the pH of the solution (a) before the addition of any NaOH solution and after the addition of (b) 15.55 mL, (c) 20.0 mL, (d) 24.02 mL, (e) 27.2 mL, (f) 31.91 mL, (g) 33.12 mL of NaOH solution.
- **55.** A solution contains an unknown weak monoprotic acid, HA. It takes 46.24 mL of NaOH solution to titrate 50.00 mL of the HA solution to the equivalence point. To another 50.00-mL sample of the same HA solution, 23.12 mL of the same NaOH solution is added. The pH of the resulting solution in the second experiment is 5.14. What are  $K_a$  and  $pK_a$  of HA?
- 56. Calculate the pH at the equivalence point of the titration of 100.0 mL of each of the following with 0.150 M KOH:

(a) 1.000 M acetic acid; (b) 0.100 M acetic acid; (c) 0.0100 M acetic acid.

# **Mixed Exercises**

- \*57. Gaseous HCl is added to 1 L of 0.0100 M aqueous ammonia solution. Number of moles HCl added: (a) none; (b) 0.00100; (c) 0.00300; (d) 0.00500 (50% titrated); (e) 0.00700; (f) 0.00900; (g) 0.00950; (h) 0.0100 (100% titrated); (i) 0.0105; (j) 0.0120; (k) 0.0150 (50% excess HCl). Consult Table 19-4, and list the indicators that could be used in this titration.
- **\*58.** Gaseous NH<sub>3</sub> is added to exactly 1 L of 0.0100 M HNO<sub>3</sub> solution. Number of moles NH<sub>3</sub> added: (a) none; (b) 0.00100; (c) 0.00400; (d) 0.00500 (50% titrated); (e) 0.00900; (f) 0.00950; (g) 0.0100 (100% titrated); (h) 0.0105; (i) 0.0130. What is the major difference between the titration curve for the reaction of HNO<sub>3</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub> and the other curves you have plotted? Consult Table 19-4. Can you suggest a satisfactory indicator for this titration?
- **59.** Compare the pH of 0.33 *M* NaCl with the pH of 0.33 *M* NaCN.
- **60.** Compare the pH of 0.33 M NaCl with the pH of 0.33 M NH<sub>4</sub>Cl.

#### CONCEPTUAL EXERCISES

- **61.** The pH of an equal molar acetic acid/sodium acetate buffer is 4.74. Draw a molecular representation of a small portion of this buffer solution. (You may omit the water molecules.) Draw another molecular representation of the solution after a very small amount of NaOH has been added.
- 62. Suppose you were asked on a laboratory test to outline a procedure to prepare a buffered solution of pH 8.0 using hydrocyanic acid, HCN. You realize that a pH of 8.0 is basic, and you find that the  $K_a$  of hydrocyanic acid is  $4.0 \times 10^{-10}$ . What is your response?
- **63.** The odor of cooked fish is due to the presence of amines. This odor is lessened by adding lemon juice, which contains citric acid. Why does this work?
- **64.** The *end point* of a titration is not the same as the *equivalence point* of a titration. Differentiate between these two concepts.

#### **BUILDING YOUR KNOWLEDGE**

**65.** Acetylsalicylic acid, the active ingredient in aspirin, has a  $K_{\rm a}$  value of  $3.0 \times 10^{-4}$ . We dissolve 0.0100 mole of acetylsalicylic acid in sufficient water to make 1.00 L of solution and then titrate it with 0.500 *M* NaOH solution. What is the pH at each of these points in the titration? (a) before any of the NaOH solution is added; (b) at the equivalence point; (c) when a volume of NaOH solution has been added that is equal to half the amount required to reach the equivalence point.



- \*66. What is the pH of a solution that is a mixture of HOCl and HOI, each at 0.15 *M* concentration?
- 67. An unknown amount of water is mixed with 350. mL of a 6.0 *M* NaOH solution. A 75.0-mL sample of the resulting solution is titrated to neutrality with 52.5 mL of 6.00 *M* HCl. (a) Calculate the concentration of the diluted NaOH solution. (b) What was the concentration of the NaOH solution before it was diluted? (c) What volume of water was added? Assume that the volumes were additive.
- 68. A 3.5-L container of HCl had no concentration noted on its label. A 20.00-mL sample of this unknown HCl solution is titrated to a pH of 7.0 by 34.0 mL of 3.00 *M* NaOH solution. Determine the volume of this HCl solution required to prepare 1.5 L of 0.75 *M* HCl solution.
- **69.** Calculate the pH at the equivalence point for the titration of a solution containing 150.0 mg of ethylamine,  $C_2H_5NH_2$ , with 0.1000 *M* HCl solution. The volume of the solution at the equivalence point is 250. mL. Select a suitable indicator.  $K_b$  for ethylamine appears in Exercise 28.

#### Exercises