

General Chemistry II

RR #7 Answer Key
Summer 2022

1. Given that the K_a for acetic acid, CH_3COOH , is 1.8×10^{-5} , calculate the pH of a 0.20 mol/L solution. Assume x is negligibly small compared to the original concentration of acetic acid.

Use an ICE chart.

Equation	$[\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}]$	H_2O	$[\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-]$	$[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]$
I	0.20	N/A	0	0
C	-x	N/A	+x	+x
E	0.20 - x	N/A	x	x

$$K_a = 1.8 \times 10^{-5} = \frac{[\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-][\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]}{[\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}]} = \frac{x^2}{0.20 \text{ M}}$$

$$x = 1.9 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M } \text{H}_3\text{O}^+$$

$$\text{pH} = -\log([\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]) = -\log(1.9 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}) = 2.72$$

2. A student prepares a 0.45 M solution of a monoprotic weak acid and determines the pH to be 3.68. What is the K_a of this weak acid? . Assume x is negligibly small compared to the original concentration of acid.

Equation	[HA]	H ₂ O	[A ⁻]	[H ₃ O ⁺]
I	0.45	N/A	0	0
C	-x	N/A	+x	+x
E	0.45 - x	N/A	x	x

But what is x?

$$-\log([H_3O^+]) = pH, \text{ so } 10^{-pH} = [H_3O^+] \text{ and } [A^-]$$

$$10^{-3.68} = 2.09 * 10^{-4} M$$

So...

$$K_a = \frac{[A^-][H_3O^+]}{[HA]} = \frac{(2.09 * 10^{-4} M)^2}{0.45 M} = 9.71 * 10^{-8}$$

3. The value of K_w depends on temperature. At body temperature (37°C), $K_w = 2.4 * 10^{-14}$
- What is the $[H_3O^+]$ of pure water at body temperature?

$$[H_3O^+] = \sqrt{K_w} = \sqrt{2.4 * 10^{-14}} = 1.55 * 10^{-7} M$$

- What is the $[OH^-]$ of pure water at body temperature?

$$[OH^-] = [H_3O^+] = 1.55 * 10^{-7} M$$

- What is the pH of pure water at body temperature?

$$-\log([H_3O^+]) = -\log(1.55 * 10^{-7} M) = 6.81$$

- What is the pOH of pure water at body temperature?

$$-\log([OH^-]) = -\log(1.55 * 10^{-7} M) = 6.81$$

4. Calculate $[H^+]$ for each of the following solutions, and indicate whether the solution is acidic, basic, or neutral:

a. $[OH^-] = 0.00045 \text{ M}$

$$K_w = 10^{-14}$$

$$[H^+] = K_w / [OH^-] = 10^{-14} / 0.00045 = 2.2 \times 10^{-11} \text{ M}$$

$$\text{pH} = -\log([H^+]) = -\log(2.2 \times 10^{-11} \text{ M}) = 10.65, \text{ BASIC}$$

b. $[OH^-] = 8.8 \times 10^{-9} \text{ M}$

$$K_w = 10^{-14}$$

$$[H^+] = K_w / [OH^-] = 10^{-14} / 8.8 \times 10^{-9} = 1.1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$$

$$\text{pH} = -\log([H^+]) = -\log(1.1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}) = 5.94, \text{ ACIDIC}$$

- c. A solution in which $[OH^-]$ is 100 times greater than $[H^+]$

$$K_w = 10^{-14}$$

$$= [OH^-][H^+]$$

$$= 100x^2$$

$$x = [H^+] = 10^{-8} \text{ M}$$

$$\text{pH} = -\log([H^+]) = -\log(10^{-8} \text{ M}) = 8, \text{ BASIC}$$

MCAT Style Questions

5. By what factor does $[H^+]$ change for a pH change of 2.00 units?

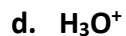
a. 2

b. 100

c. 200

d. 2000

6. The conjugate acid of the $\text{H}_2\text{SiO}_4^{2-}$ (dihydrogen orthosilicate) anion is:



7. The first step of a nitration reaction involves using a mixture of sulfuric acid and nitric acid to form an NO_2^+ electrophile, as shown below.



In the forward reaction of the equilibrium, which of the following molecules acts as a Bronsted-Lowry base?

- a. H_2SO_4
 - b. HNO_3**
 - c. HSO_4^-
 - d. H_2NO_3^+
8. Hypochlorous acid dissociates in water to create hydronium ions and hypochlorite ions: $\text{HOCl} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \longleftrightarrow \text{H}_3\text{O}^+ + \text{OCl}^-$. Suppose that additional hypochlorite ions are added to the solution. Which of the following correctly describes the resultant effect on the concentration of HOCl ?
- a. It depends on the number of hydronium ions
 - b. It remains the same
 - c. It increases**
 - d. It decreases
9. Suppose a large organic molecule X is classified as a Lewis acid, while another large molecule Y is classified as a Bronsted-Lowry acid. Which of the following most accurately describes a similarity in their behaviors in solution?
- a. Both molecules will tend to acquire a net positive charge
 - b. Both molecules will release hydroxide ions
 - c. Both molecules will release hydrogen gas
 - d. Both molecules will tend to acquire a net negative charge**
10. Suppose an equilibrated, dilute solution containing an acid HA with $K_a = 10^{-4}$ is measured to have $\text{pH} = 6$ and $[\text{HA}] = 10^{-8} \text{ M}$. Which of the following gives the best estimate of $[\text{A}^-]$?
- a. 10^{-4}
 - b. 10^{-6}**
 - c. 10^{-14}
 - d. 10^{-16}