

Analytical chemistry

Typical Applications of Neutralization Titrations



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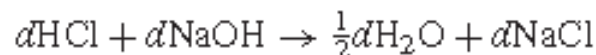
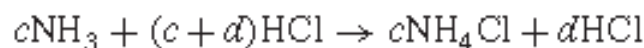
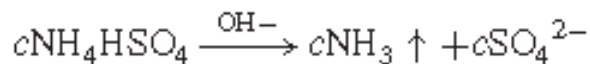
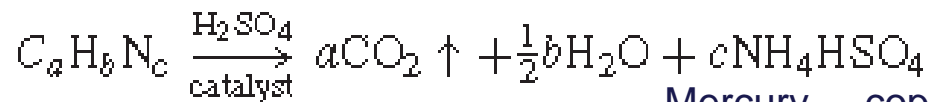
Typical Applications of Neutralization Titrations

I. Elemental Analysis

Nitrogen

An important method for accurately determining nitrogen in proteins and other nitrogen-containing compounds is the **Kjeldahl analysis**. **The quantity of protein can** be calculated from a knowledge of the percent nitrogen contained in it. Although other more rapid methods for determining proteins exist, the Kjeldahl method is the standard on which all other methods are based.

In the Kjeldahl method, the sample is decomposed in hot, concentrated sulfuric acid to convert the bound nitrogen to ammonium ion. The resulting solution is then cooled, diluted, and made basic, a process that converts the ammonium ions to ammonia. The ammonia is distilled from the basic solution, collected in an acidic solution, and determined by a neutralization titration.



Mercury, copper, and selenium, either combined or in the elemental state, catalyze the decomposition of organic compounds by sulfuric acid.

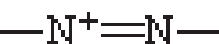
$$\begin{aligned} \text{mmol N}(c) &= \text{mmol reacted HCl} = \text{mmol HCl taken} \\ &\quad \times (c + a) - \text{mmol NaOH}(a) \\ \text{mmol } C_aH_bN_c &= \text{mmol N} \times 1/c \end{aligned}$$



nitro group

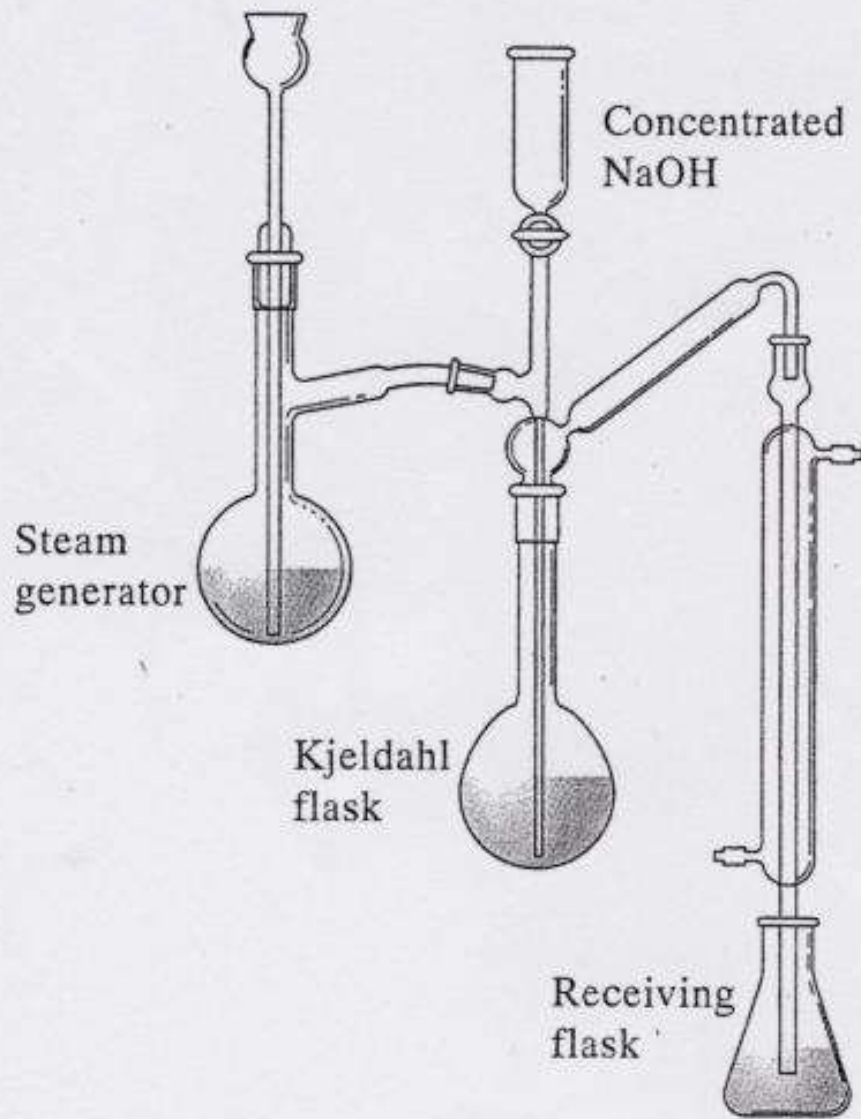


azo group



azoxy group





Determination of Protein in Bread

Description of the Method. This quantitative method is based on a determination of the %w/w N in the sample. Since different cereal proteins have similar amounts of nitrogen, the experimentally determined %w/w N is multiplied by a factor of 5.7 to give the %w/w protein in the sample (on average there are 5.7 g of cereal protein for every gram of nitrogen). Nitrogen is determined by the Kjeldahl method. The protein in a sample of bread is oxidized in hot concentrated H_2SO_4 , converting the nitrogen to NH_4^+ . After making the solution alkaline, converting NH_4^+ to NH_3 , the ammonia is distilled into a flask containing a known amount of standard strong acid. Finally, the excess strong acid is determined by a back titration with a standard strong base titrant. **Procedure.** Transfer a 2.0-g sample of bread, which has previously been air dried and ground into a powder, to a suitable digestion flask, along with 0.7 g of HgO as a catalyst, 10 g of K_2SO_4 , and 25 mL of concentrated H_2SO_4 . Bring the solution to a boil, and continue boiling until the solution turns clear, and for at least an additional 30 min. After cooling to below room temperature, add 200 mL of H_2O and 25 mL of 4% w/v K_2S to remove the Hg^{2+} catalyst. Add a few Zn granules to serve as boiling stones, and 25 g of NaOH . Quickly connect the flask to a distillation apparatus, and distill the NH_3 into a collecting flask containing a known amount of standardized HCl . The tip of the condenser should be placed below the surface of the strong acid. After the distillation is complete, titrate the excess strong acid with a standard solution of NaOH , using methyl red as a visual indicator.



Sulfur

Sulfur in organic and biological materials is conveniently determined by burning the sample in a stream of oxygen. The sulfur dioxide (as well as the sulfur trioxide) formed during the oxidation is collected by distillation into a dilute solution of hydrogen peroxide:



The sulfuric acid is then titrated with standard base.

Elemental Analyses Based on Neutralization Titrations

Element	Converted to	Absorption or Precipitation Products	Titration
N	NH_3	$\text{NH}_3(g) + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+ \rightarrow \text{NH}_4^+ + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	Excess HCl with NaOH
S	SO_2	$\text{SO}_2(g) + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$	NaOH
C	CO_2	$\text{CO}_2(g) + \text{Ba}(\text{OH})_2 \rightarrow \text{BaCO}_3(s) + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	Excess $\text{Ba}(\text{OH})_2$ with HCl
Cl(Br)	HCl	$\text{HCl}(g) + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{Cl}^- + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+$	NaOH
F	SiF_4	$3\text{SiF}_4(g) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2\text{SiF}_6 + \text{SiO}_2$	NaOH
P	H_3PO_4	$12\text{H}_2\text{MoO}_4 + 3\text{NH}_4^+ + \text{H}_3\text{PO}_4 \rightarrow$ $(\text{NH}_4)_3\text{PO}_4 \cdot 12\text{MoO}_3(s) + 12\text{H}_2\text{O} + 3\text{H}^+$ $(\text{NH}_4)_3\text{PO}_4 \cdot 12\text{MoO}_3(s) + 26\text{OH}^- \rightarrow$ $\text{HPO}_4^{2-} + 12\text{MoO}_4^{2-} + 14\text{H}_2\text{O} + 3\text{NH}_3(g)$	Excess NaOH with HCl



The Determination of Organic Functional Groups

Carboxylic and Sulfonic Acid Groups

Carboxylic and sulfonic acids are very common organic acids. Most carboxylic acids have dissociation constants that range between 10^{-4} and 10^{-6} , and thus, these compounds are readily titrated. An indicator that changes color in a basic range, such as phenolphthalein, is required.

Many carboxylic acids are not sufficiently soluble in water to permit direct titration in aqueous solution. When this problem exists, the acid can be dissolved in ethanol and titrated with aqueous base. Alternatively, the acid can be dissolved in an excess of standard base followed by back-titration with standard acid.

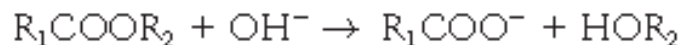
Sulfonic acids are generally strong acids that easily dissolve in water. Titration with standard base can be used for the determination.

Amine Groups

Aliphatic amines generally have base dissociation constants on the order of 10^{-5} and can be titrated directly with a solution of strong acid. Aromatic amines such as aniline and its derivatives, however, are usually too weak for titration in aqueous solutions ($K_b < 10^{-10}$). Many amines that are too weak to be titrated as bases in water are easily titrated in *nonaqueous solvents*, such as anhydrous acetic acid, which enhance their basicity.

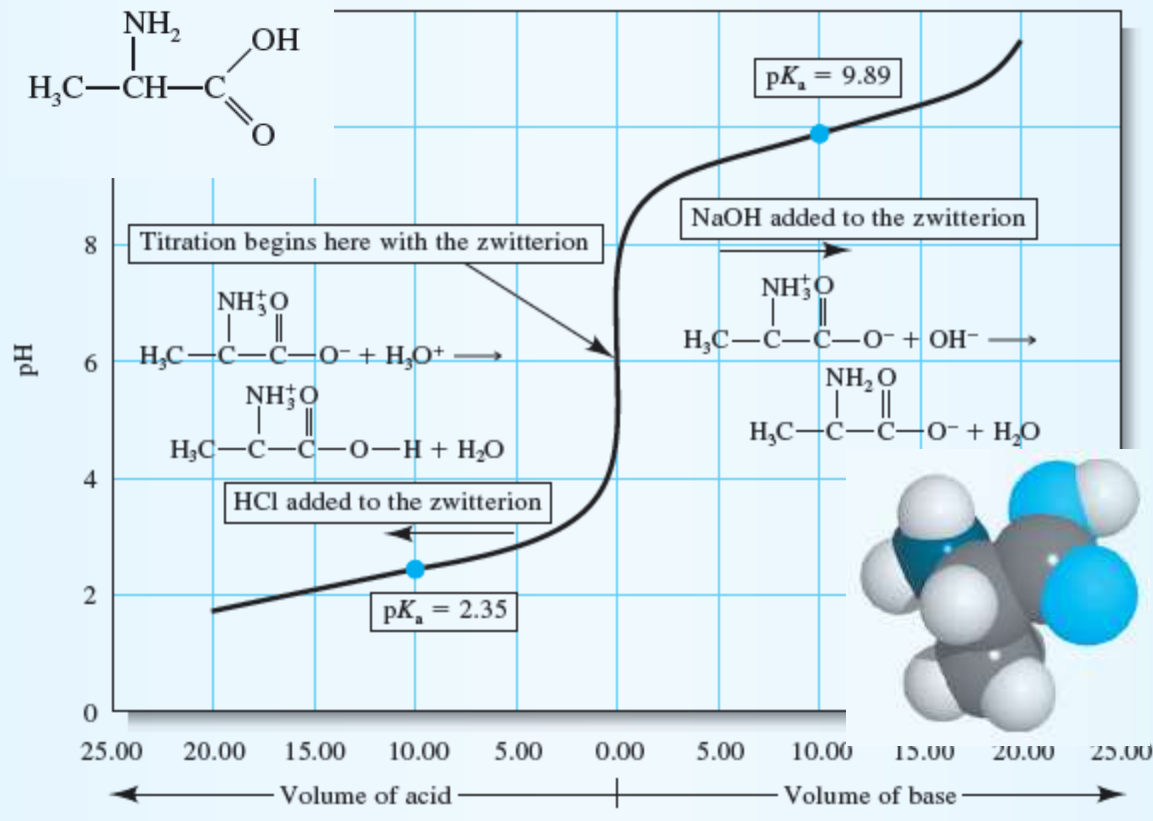
Ester Groups

Esters are commonly determined by **saponification** with a measured quantity of standard base:



The excess base is then titrated with standard acid.





Amino acids contain both an acidic and a basic group. The amine group behaves as a base, and at the same time the carboxyl group acts as an acid. In aqueous solution, the amino acid is an internally ionized molecule, or "zwitterion," in which the amine group acquires a proton and becomes positively charged while the carboxyl group, having lost a proton, becomes negatively charged. Since the zwitterion has both acidic and basic character, two pK_a can be determined. The pK for deprotonation of the protonated amine group can be determined by adding base, while the pK for protonating the carboxyl group can be determined by adding acid.

In practice, the investigator knows the amount of base or acid to add to reach halfway to the equivalence point. In this type of experiment, the titration starts in the middle of the plot (0.00 mL added) and, for determining pK values, is only taken to a point that is half the volume required for equivalence. By adding acid to the zwitterion, the curve to the left of 0.00 volume is obtained. At a volume of 10.00 mL of HCl added, the pH is equal to the pK_a for the carboxyl group, 2.35. By adding NaOH to the zwitterion, the pK for deprotonating the NH_3^+ group can be determined. Now, 20.00 mL of base is required for complete deprotonation. At a volume of 10.00 mL of NaOH added, the pH is equal to the pK_a for the amine group, or 9.89. The pK_a values for other amino acids and more complicated biomolecules such as peptides and proteins can often be obtained in a similar manner. It is important to note that in general amino acids cannot be quantitatively determined by direct titration because end points for completely protonating or deprotonating the zwitterion are often indistinct. Amino acids are normally determined by high performance liquid chromatography

Hydroxyl Groups

Hydroxyl groups in organic compounds can be determined by esterification with various carboxylic acid anhydrides or chlorides. The two most common reagents are acetic anhydride and phthalic anhydride. With acetic anhydride, the reaction is



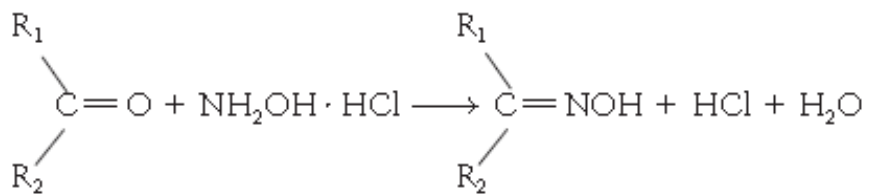
Usually, the sample is mixed with a carefully measured volume of acetic anhydride in pyridine. After heating, water is added to hydrolyze the unreacted anhydride according to



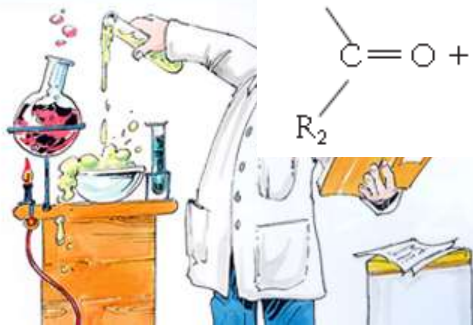
The acetic acid is then titrated with a standard solution of alcoholic sodium or potassium hydroxide.

Carbonyl Groups

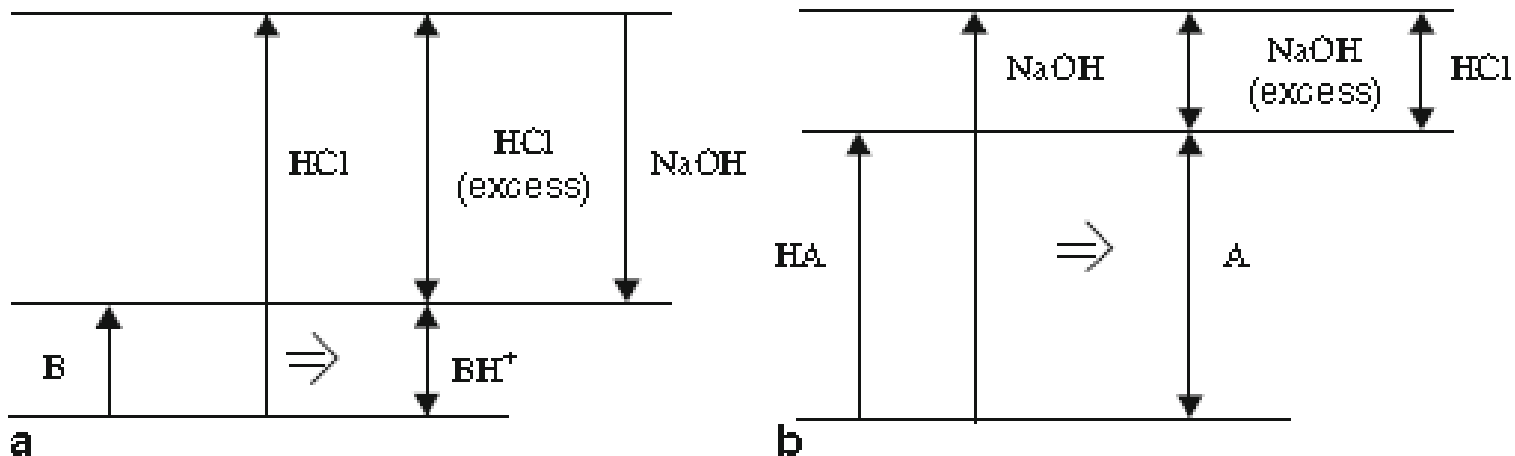
Many aldehydes and ketones can be determined with a solution of hydroxylamine hydrochloride. The reaction, which produces an oxime, is



where R2 may be hydrogen. The liberated HCl is titrated with base.



Back titrations of an acid (a) and a base (b)



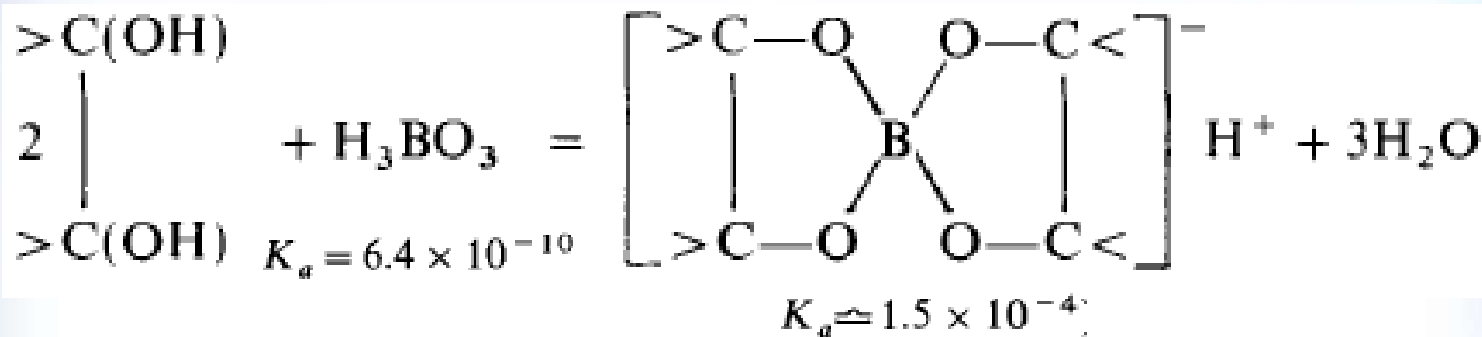
Recall that back titrations are recommended if the titration reaction is slow or if it is not sufficiently quantitative. The addition of an excess of titrant increases the rate of the reaction or displaces the equilibrium toward the right.

Titration After a Chemical Reaction (After Transformation)

This titration of products that derive from the compounds to determine after a chemical reaction.



DETERMINATION OF BORIC ACID



Procedure. To determine the purity of a sample of boric acid, weigh accurately about 0.8 g of the acid, transfer quantitatively to a 250 mL graduated flask and make up to the mark. Pipette 25 mL of the solution into a 250 mL conical flask, add an equal volume of distilled water, 2.5–3 g of mannitol or sorbitol, and titrate with standard 0.1 M sodium hydroxide solution using phenolphthalein as indicator. It is advisable to check whether any blank correction must be made: dissolve a similar weight of mannitol (sorbitol) in 50 mL of distilled water, add phenolphthalein, and ascertain how much sodium hydroxide solution must be added to produce the characteristic end point colour.



DETERMINATION OF AMMONIA IN AN AMMONIUM SALT

In the **direct method**, a solution of the ammonium salt is treated with a solution of a strong base (e.g. sodium hydroxide) and the mixture distilled. Ammonia is quantitatively expelled, and is absorbed in an excess of standard acid. The excess of acid is back-titrated in the presence of methyl red (or methyl orange, methyl orange–indigo carmine, bromophenol blue, or bromocresol green). Each millilitre of 1 M monoprotic acid consumed in the reaction is equivalent to 0.017 032 g NH₃:



In the **indirect method**, the ammonium salt (other than the carbonate or bicarbonate) is boiled with a known excess of standard sodium hydroxide solution. The boiling is continued until no more ammonia escapes with the steam. The excess of sodium hydroxide is titrated with standard acid, using methyl red (or methyl orange–indigo carmine) as indicator.



DETERMINATION OF NITRATES

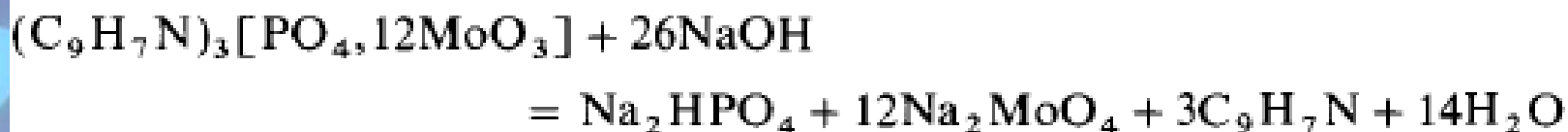
Discussion. Nitrates are reduced to ammonia by means of aluminium, zinc or, most conveniently, by Devarda's alloy (50 per cent Cu, 45 per cent Al, 5 per cent Zn) in strongly alkaline solution:



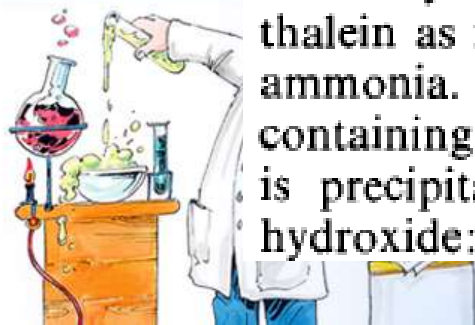
The ammonia is distilled into excess of standard acid as in Section 10.35.

Nitrites are similarly reduced, and must be allowed for if nitrate alone is to be determined.

DETERMINATION OF PHOSPHATE



Discussion. When a solution of an orthophosphate is treated with a large excess of ammonium molybdate solution in the presence of nitric acid at a temperature of 20–45 °C, a precipitate is obtained, which after washing is converted into ammonium molybdophosphate with the composition $(\text{NH}_4)_3[\text{PO}_4, 12\text{MoO}_3]$. This may be titrated with standard sodium hydroxide solution using phenolphthalein as indicator, but the end point is rather poor due to the liberation of ammonia. If, however, the ammonium molybdate is replaced by a reagent containing sodium molybdate and quinoline, then quinoline molybdophosphate is precipitated which can be isolated and titrated with standard sodium hydroxide:



Acid–base titrimetry continues to be listed as the standard method for the determination of alkalinity, acidity, and free CO_2 in water and wastewater analysis. **Alkalinity** is a measure of the acid-neutralizing capacity of a water sample and is assumed to arise principally from OH^- , HCO_3^- , and CO_3^{2-} , although other weak bases, such as phosphate, may contribute to the overall alkalinity. Total alkalinity is determined by titrating with a standard solution of HCl or H_2SO_4 to a fixed end point at a pH of 4.5, or to the bromocresol green end point. Alkalinity is reported as milligrams CaCO_3 per liter.

When the sources of alkalinity are limited to OH^- , HCO_3^- , and CO_3^{2-} , titrations to both a pH of 4.5 (bromocresol green end point) and a pH of 8.3 (phenolphthalein or metacresol purple end point) can be used to determine which species are present, as well as their respective concentrations. For a solution containing only OH^- alkalinity, the volumes of strong acid needed to reach the two end points are identical. If a solution contains only HCO_3^- alkalinity, the volume of strong acid needed to reach the end point at a pH of 8.3 is zero, whereas that for the pH 4.5 end point is greater than zero. When the only source of alkalinity is CO_3^{2-} , the volume of strong acid needed to reach the end point at a pH of 4.5 is exactly twice that needed to reach the end point at a pH of 8.3.



Analytical chemistry

Acid-base Titrations in Non-aqueous Solvents



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TITRATION

A reaction conducted by slow addition of a precisely measured volume of a **reagent** solution of known concentration

to

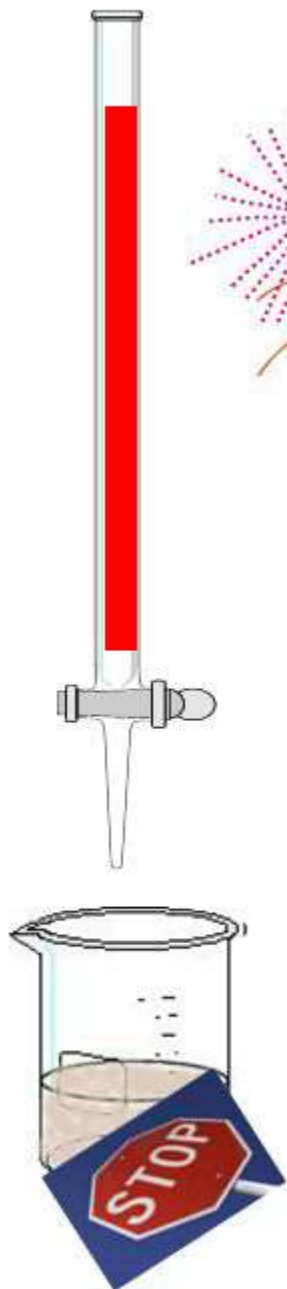
an amount of another **substance***

until

a **SIGNAL** indicates that reaction between **reagent** and **substance** is complete

SIGNAL is often a **COLOR CHANGE**, but may be an observable change in another property.

* with which it is known to react



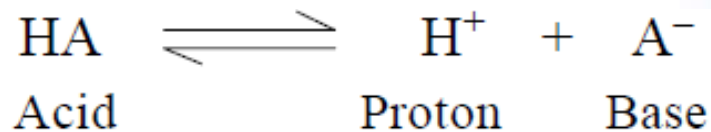
In order to overcome these shortcomings the non-aqueous titrations were introduced.

Non-aqueous titrations have the following **advantages, namely** :

- Elimination of poor solubility of substances,
- Enhancement of weak reactivity of substances,
- Selective titration by using suitable solvent and titrant of acidic/basic components of physiologically active moiety of a salt,
- Maintenance of speed, precision, accuracy and simplicity at par with classical methods of analysis, and
- Weak bases which have K_b values less than 10^{-6} can be titrated satisfactorily by non-aqueous titrations. The reason being that in aqueous medium and at higher K_b values ($> 10^{-6}$) the solvent water competes progressively with the basic species in solution for the proton of the solvent.

THEORY

The concepts of the Lowry-Bronsted theory may explain the various reactions that take place during many non-aqueous titrations. Thus, an acid is a **proton donor and a base is a proton acceptor. Therefore**, when an acid HA undergoes dissociation it gives rise to a proton and the conjugate base A of the acid :



In other words, the liberated base A^- shall unite with a proton to give the corresponding conjugate acid HA of the base A^- because every base has its conjugate acid and *vice versa*.



Hence, from the above definitions it may be implied that:

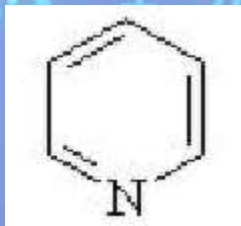
(a) an acid: could be either an electrically neutral molecule e.g., HNO_3 ; or a negatively charged anion e.g., HSO_4^- ; or a positively charged cation e.g., $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{NH}_2^+$, H_3O^+ ;

(b) a base: could be either an electrically neutral molecule e.g., $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{NH}_2$; or an anion e.g., Cl^- , NO_3^- .

Substances which give poor end points due to being weak acids or bases in aqueous solution will frequently give far more satisfactory end points when titrations are carried out in non-aqueous media. An additional advantage is that many substances which are insoluble in water are sufficiently soluble in organic solvents to permit their titration in these non-aqueous media. The ability of substances to act as acids or bases will depend very much upon the nature of the solvent system which is employed. Non-aqueous solvents are classified into the four groups: **aprotic** solvents, **protophilic** solvents, **protogenic** solvents, and **amphiprotic** solvents.

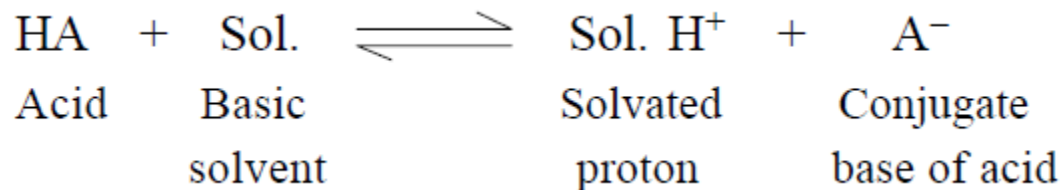


SOLVENTS



pyridine,
liq. NH₃,
amins,
dioxane

• **Protophilic Solvents** : substances such as liquid ammonia, amines and ketones which possess a high affinity for protons. They are essentially **basic** in nature and normally react with acids to form solvated protons:



The equilibrium in this reversible reaction will be greatly influenced by the nature of the acid and that of the solvent. Weak acids are normally used in the presence of strongly protophilic solvents as their acidic strengths are then enhanced and then become comparable to those of strong acids -- this is referred to as the '**levelling effect**'.

• **Protogenic Solvents** : They are **acidic** in nature and character e.g., *sulphuric acid*. They exert a '**levelling effect**' on bases i.e., they become indistinguishable in strength when dissolved in strongly basic solvents due to their enhanced affinity of strong bases for protons.

H₂SO₄, CH₃COOH, HCOOH, acetone



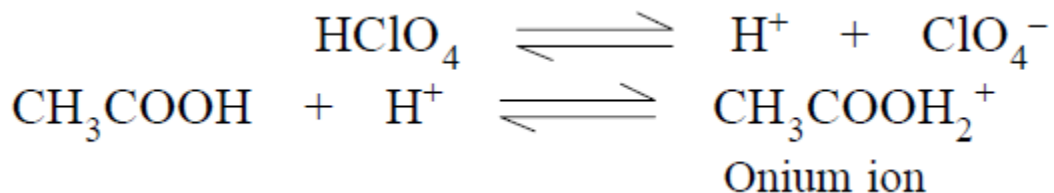
Amphiprotic Solvents: They possess both *protophillic* and *protogenic* characteristics.

Examples: Acetic acid, water and alcohols.

They undergo dissociation to a very less extent. Acetic acid is mostly employed as a solvent for the titration of basic substances and its dissociation can be depicted as shown below :



But in the presence of perchloric acid, which is a far stronger acid, acetic acid will accept a proton:



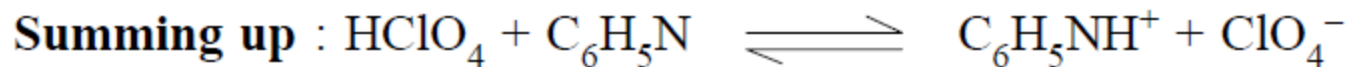
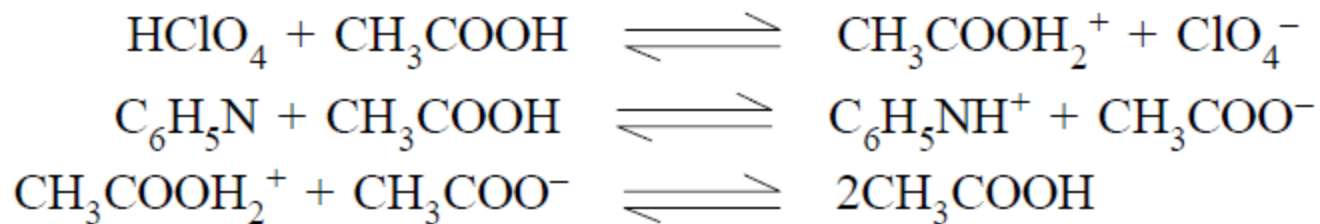
The $\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}_2^+$ - ion so formed can very readily give up its proton to react with a base. A weak base will, therefore, have its basic properties enhanced, and as a consequence titrations between weak bases and perchloric acid can frequently be readily carried out using acetic acid as solvent.

INERT: CCl_4 , CHCl_3 , benzene, carbohydrates



Pyridine, a weak base, when dissolved in acetic acid, the latter exerts its **levelling effect** and subsequently increases the basic characteristics of the pyridine. Therefore, it is practically feasible to titrate a solution of a weak base in acetic acid against a mixture of perchloric acid in acetic acid. Thus, a sharp end point is achieved which otherwise cannot be obtained when the titration is performed in an aqueous medium.

The various reactions with perchloric acid, acetic acid and pyridine are summarized below :



levelling

Acids that are better proton donors than the solvent are leveled to the acid strength of the protonated solvent; bases that are better proton acceptors than the solvent are leveled to the base strength of the deprotonated solvent.

All other things being equal, the strength of a weak acid increases if it is placed in a solvent that is more basic than water, whereas the strength of a weak base increases if it is placed in a solvent that is more acidic than water.



The dissociation, or autoprotolysis constant for a solvent, SH, relates the concentration of the protonated solvent, SH₂⁺, to that of the deprotonated solvent, S⁻. For amphoteric solvents, which can act as both proton donors and proton acceptors, the autoprotolysis reaction is



pH scale depends on the value of

with an equilibrium constant of $K_s = [\text{SH}_2^+][\text{S}^-]$

The pH of a solution is now seen to be a general statement about the relative abundance of protonated solvent

where the pH of a neutral solvent is given as

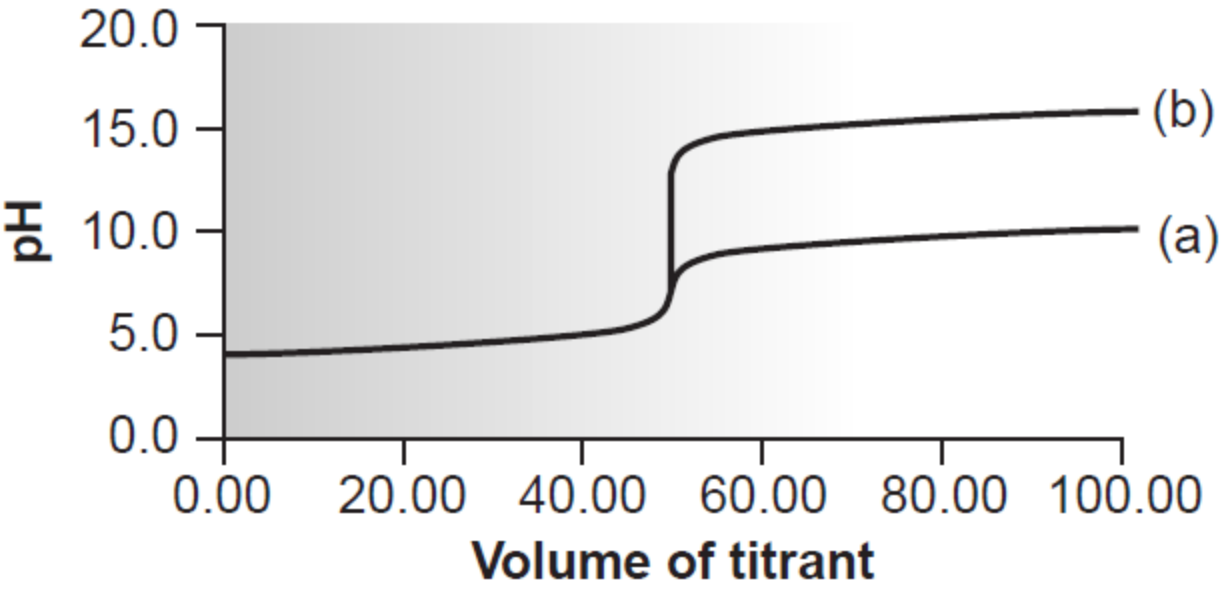
$$\text{pH} = -\log[\text{SH}_2^+]$$

$$\text{pH}_{\text{neut}} = \frac{1}{2} \text{p}K_s$$

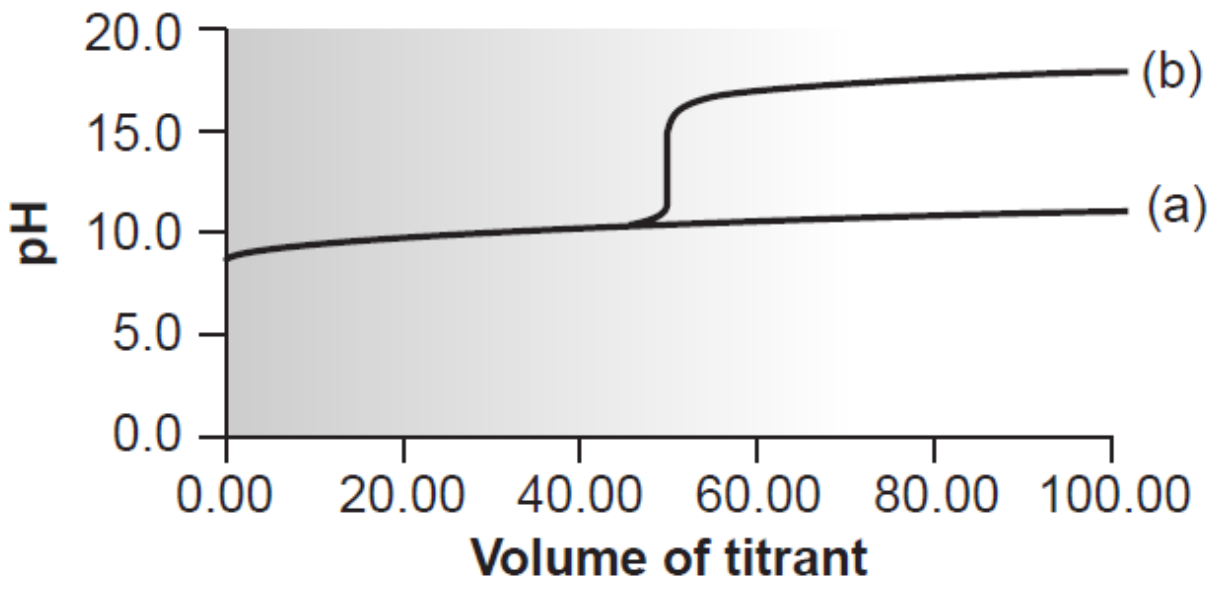
solvent	K	pH scale	neutr. point
$2 \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_3\text{O}^+ + \text{OH}^-$	10^{-14}	0 - 14	7
$2 \text{CH}_3\text{COOH} \rightleftharpoons \text{CH}_3\text{COH}_2^+ + \text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$	10^{-13}	0 - 13	6,5
$2 \text{NH}_3 \rightleftharpoons \text{NH}_4^+ + \text{NH}_2^-$	10^{-32}	0 - 32	16
$2 \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH} \rightleftharpoons \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}_2^+ + \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O}^-$	10^{-19}	0 - 19	9,5

You should be aware, however, that titrations that are not feasible in water may be feasible in a different solvent.





Titration curves for 50.00 mL of 10⁻⁴ M HCl with 10⁻⁴ M NaOH in **a)** water, $K_w = 10^{-14}$, and **b)** nonaqueous solvent, $K_s = 10^{-20}$.



Titration curves for 50.00 mL of 0.100 M weak acid (pK_a = 11) with 0.100 M NaOH in **a)** water, $K_w = 10^{-14}$; and **b)** nonaqueous solvent, $K_s = 10^{-20}$.

Nonaqueous solvents also may be used to increase the change in pH when titrating weak acids or bases



SOLVENTS FOR NON-AQUEOUS TITRATIONS

Glacial acetic acid (ethanoic acid) is by far the most frequently employed solvent for this purpose. Before it is used it is advisable to check the water content, which may be between 0.1 and 1.0%, and to add just sufficient acetic anhydride to convert any water to the acid. The acid may be used by itself or in conjunction with other solvents such as acetic anhydride, acetonitrile and nitromethane.

Acetonitrile (methyl cyanide, cyanomethane) is frequently used with other solvents such as chloroform and phenol, and particularly with acetic acid. It enables very sharp end points to be obtained in the titration of metal acetates when titrated with perchloric acid.

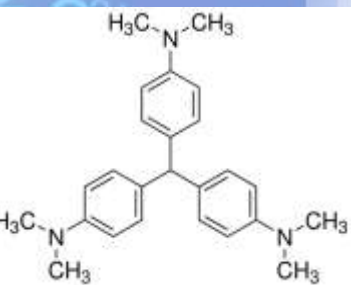
Alcohols: it has been found that determinations of salts of organic acids and especially of soaps are best carried out in solvent mixtures of glycols and alcohols or of glycols and hydrocarbons. The most common combinations of this type are ethylene glycol (dihydroxyethane) with propan-2-ol or butan-1-ol. The combinations provide admirable solvent power for both the polar and non-polar ends of the molecule. Another suitable solvent mixture is methanol and benzene.

Dioxan is another popular solvent which is often used in place of glacial acetic acid when mixtures of substances are to be quantified. Unlike acetic acid, dioxan is not a levelling solvent and separate end points are normally possible corresponding to the individual components in the mixtures.

Dimethylformamide (DMF) is a protophilic solvent which is frequently employed for titrations between, for instance, benzoic acid and amides, although end points may sometimes be difficult to obtain.



INDICATORS FOR NON-AQUEOUS TITRATIONS



(a) **Crystal violet** is used as a 0.5 per cent w/v solution in glacial acetic acid. Its colour change is from violet through blue, followed by green, then to greenish-yellow, in reactions in which, for instance, bases such as pyridine are titrated with perchloric acid.

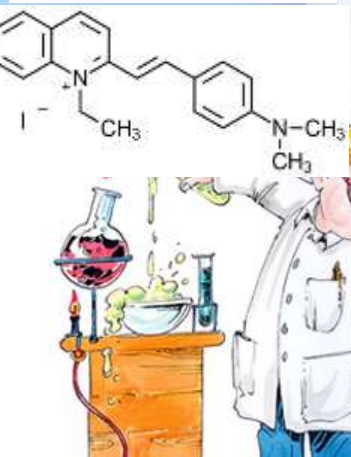
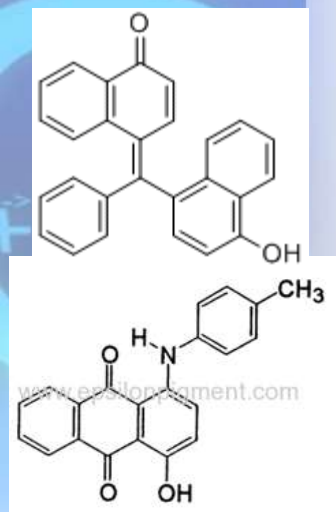
(b) **Methyl red** is used as a 0.2 per cent w/v solution in dioxan with a yellow to red colour change.

(c) **1-Naphthol benzein** gives a yellow to green colour change when employed as a 0.2 per cent w/v solution in acetic acid. It gives sharp end points in nitromethane containing acetic anhydride for titrations of weak bases against perchloric acid.

(d) **Oracet blue B** is used as a 0.5 per cent w/v solution in acetic acid and is considered to be superior to crystal violet for titrations of bases in acetic acid with standard perchloric acid. The end point is a distinct change from blue to pink.

(e) **Quinaldine red** has been used as an indicator for drug determinations in dimethylformamide solution. It is used as a 0.1 per cent w/v solution in ethanol and gives a colour change from purple/red to pale green.

(f) **Thymol blue** is used extensively as an indicator for titrations of substances acting as acids in dimethylformamide solution. It is used as a 0.2 per cent w/v solution in methanol with a sharp colour change from yellow to blue at the end point.



Name of Indicator	Colour-change observed		Acidic
	Basic	Neutral	
Crystal violet (0.5% w/v in glacial acetic acid)	Violet	Blue-green	Yellowish green
Oracet Blue B (0.5% in glacial acetic acid)	Blue	Purple	Pink
α -Naphtholbenzein (0.2% in glacial acetic acid)	Blue or blue green	Orange	Dark-green
Quinalidine Red (0.1% in methanol)	Magenta	—	Almost colourless

Assays of various pharmaceutical substances either in pure form or in dosage form may be assayed successfully by non-aqueous titrations. For the sake of convenience these typical titrations can be categorized into two broad groups, namely:

I. Acidimetry in Non-aqueous Titrations—It can be further sub-divided into two heads, namely: a) Titration of primary, secondary and tertiary amines, and b) Titration of halogen acid salts of bases.

II. Alkalimetry in Non-aqueous Titrations—i.e., titration of acidic substances.



Crystal violet

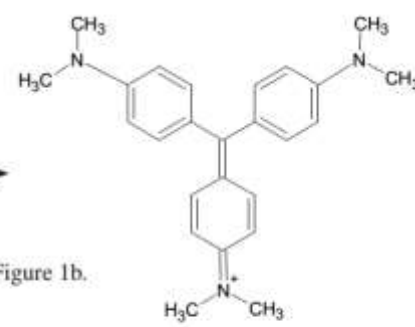
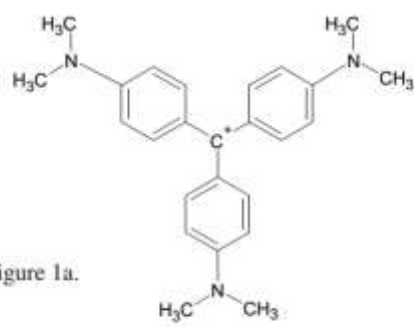
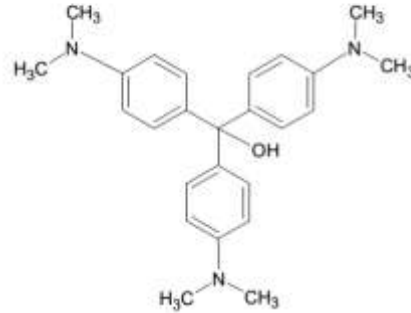
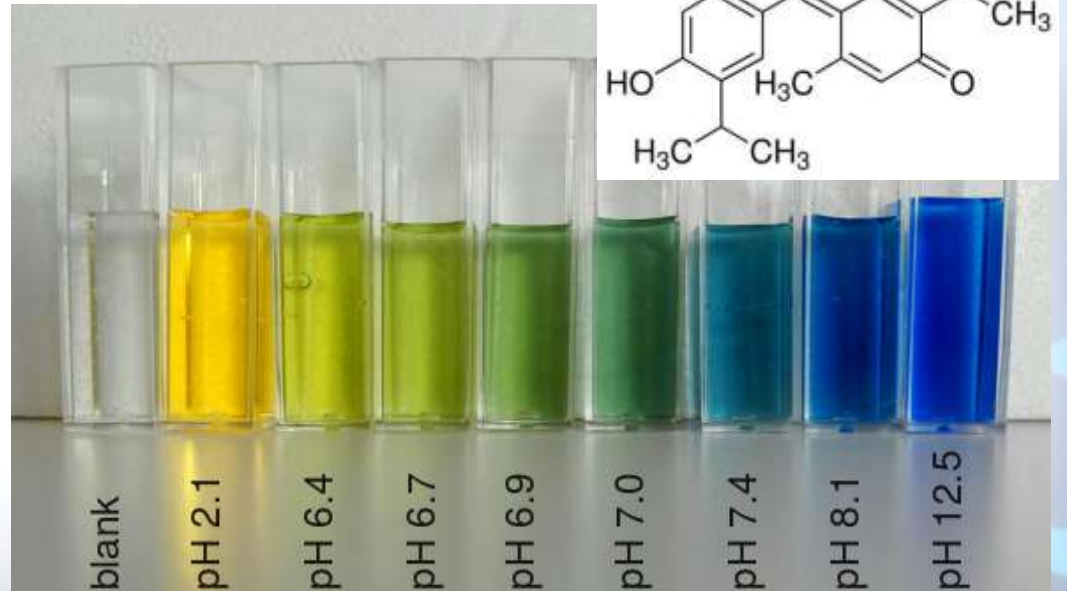
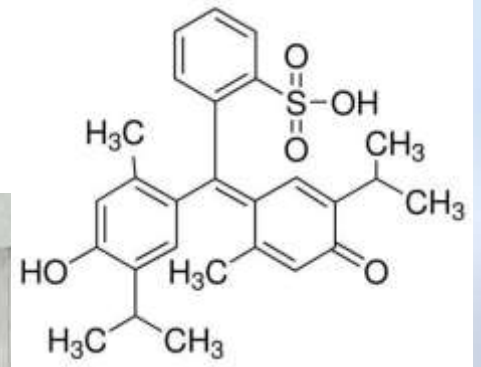


Figure 1.



Thymol blue

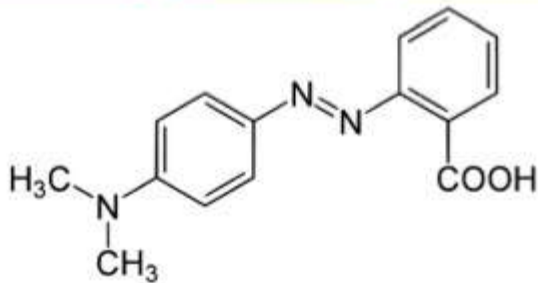


Methyl red indicator color

below
pH 4.4

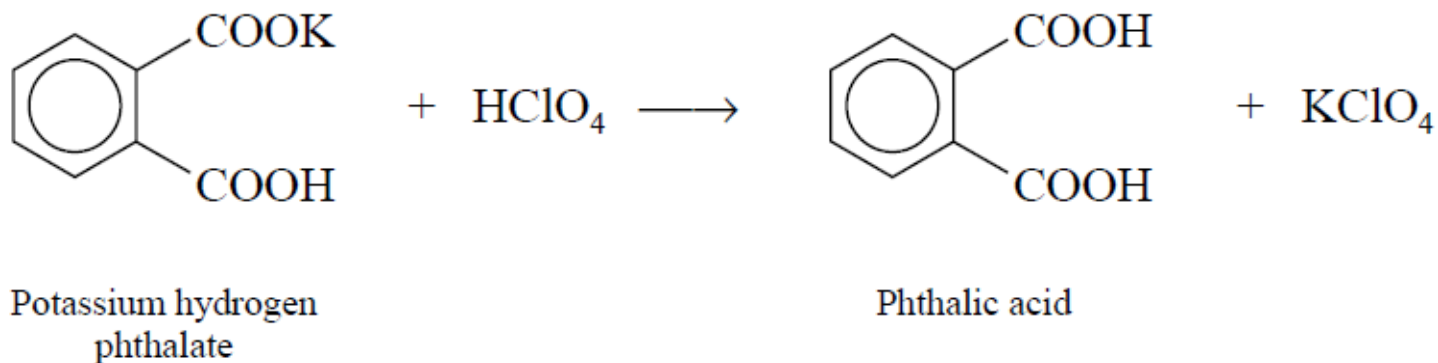
between
pH 4.4 & 6.2

above
pH 6.2



STANDARDIZATION OF 0.1 M PERCHLORIC ACID

In usual practice, potassium hydrogen phthalate (or potassium biphthalate, $\text{KHC}_8\text{H}_4\text{O}_4$) is employed as a standardizing agent for acetous perchloric acid. The reaction may be expressed as follows



Procedure : Weigh accurately about 0.5 g of potassium hydrogen phthalate in a 100 ml conical flask. Add 25 ml of glacial acetic acid and attach a reflux condenser fitted with a silica-gel drying tube. Warm until the salt gets dissolved completely. Cool and titrate with 0.1 N perchloric acid by making use of either of the following *two indicators* :

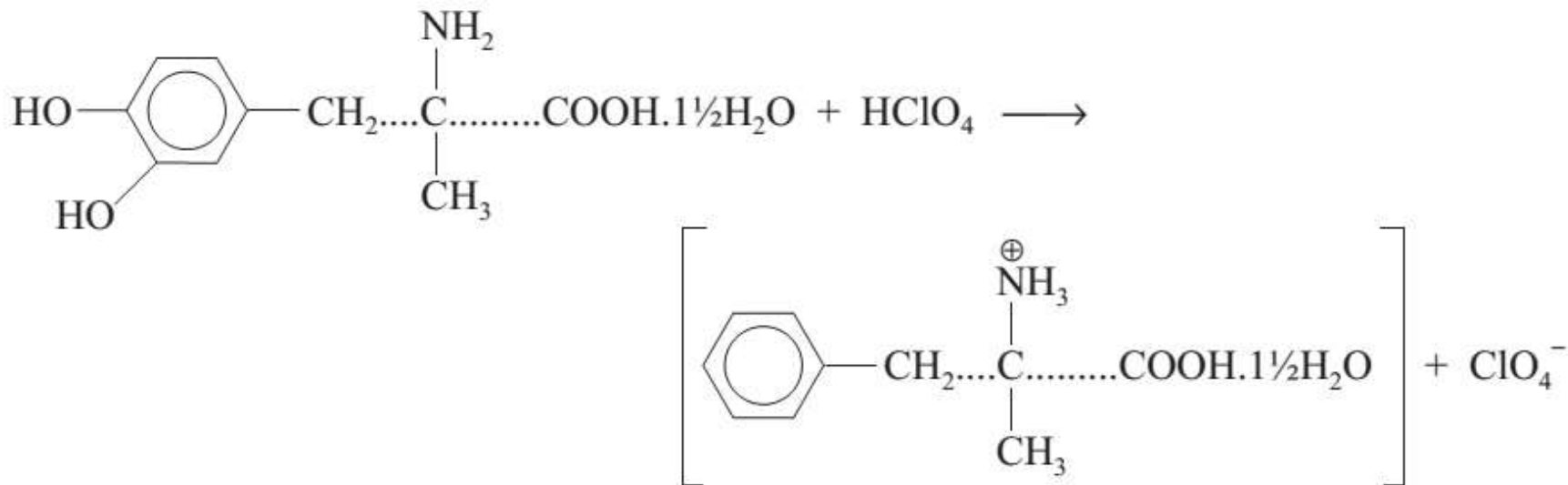
- (a) *acetous crystal violet-2 drops, end point Blue to Blue-Green (0.5% w/v)*
- (b) *acetous oracet blue B-2 drops, end point Blue to Pink.*



ACIDIMETRY IN NON-AQUEOUS TITRATIONS

Titration of primary, secondary and tertiary amines

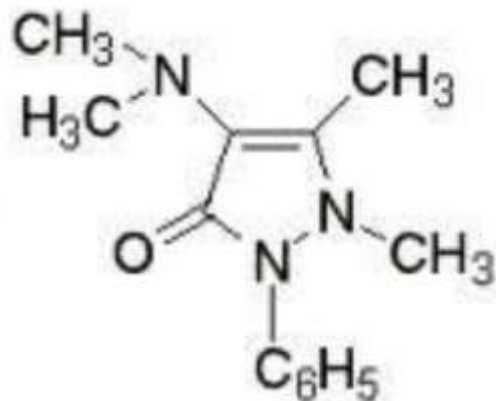
The specific reaction between methyldopa and perchloric acid is expressed by the following equation



Materials Required: Methyldopa 0.2 g; anhydrous formic acid : 15 ml; glacial acetic acid: 30 ml; dioxane : 30 ml; 0.1 M perchloric acid and crystal violet solution.

Procedure: Weigh accurately about 0.2 g and dissolve in 15 ml of anhydrous formic acid, 30 ml of glacial acetic acid and 30 ml of dioxane. Add 0.1 ml of crystal violet solution and titrate with 0.1 M perchloric acid. Perform a blank determination and make any necessary correction. Each ml of 0.1 M perchloric acid is equivalent to 0.02112 g of $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_4$.





Amidopyrine – is a very weak organic base with $K_a = 10^{-9}$, which cannot be titrated in an aqueous solution. When a weak base, such as amidopyrine, is dissolved in acetic acid, the acetic acid exerts its levelling effect and enhances the basic properties of the amidopyrine. It is possible, therefore, to titrate a solution of a weak base in acetic acid with perchloric acid, and obtain a sharp endpoint when attempts to carry out the titration in aqueous solution are unsuccessful.



ALKALIMETRY IN NON-AQUEOUS TITRATIONS

A plethora of weakly acidic pharmaceutical substances may be titrated effectively by making use of a suitable non-aqueous solvent with a sharp end-point. The wide spectrum of such organic compounds include: anhydrides, acids, amino acids, acid halides, enols (viz., barbiturates), xanthenes, sulphonamides, phenols, imides and lastly the organic salts of inorganic acids. However, a weak inorganic acid e.g., boric acid, can be estimated conveniently employing **ethylenediamine** as the non-aqueous solvent.

There are several drugs which are weakly acidic. Such substances can be titrated against strong bases like potassium methoxide, sodium methoxide, lithium methoxide, tetra butyl ammonium hydroxide, etc in solvents like toluene- methanol. The principle is similar to the titration of weak bases against perchloric acid.

Preparation of 0.1 M Potassium Methoxide in Toluene-Methanol

Materials Required: Absolute methanol: 40 ml; dry toluene: 50 ml; potassium metal: 4 g.

Procedure: Add into a dry flask, a mixture of methanol (40 ml) and dry toluene (50 ml) and cover it loosely. Carefully add freshly cut pieces of potassium metal to the above mixture gradually with constant shaking. After complete dissolution of potassium metal, add enough absolute methanol to yield a clear solution. Toluene 50 ml is added with constant shaking until the mixture turns hazy in appearance. The process is repeated by the alternate addition of methanol and benzene until 1 litre of solution is obtained, taking care to add a minimum volume of methanol to give a visible clear solution.



Standardization of 0.1 M Methoxide Solution

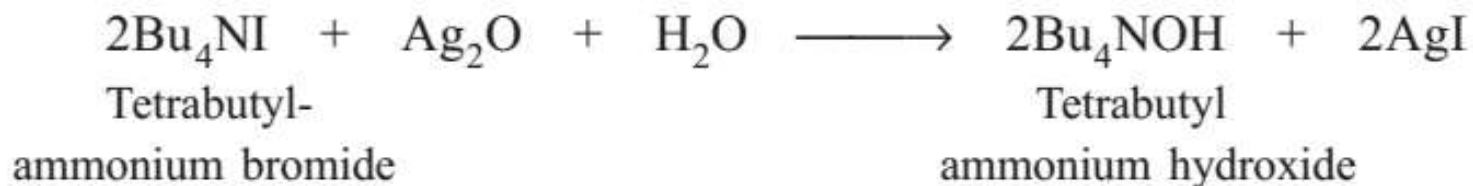
Materials Required: Dimethylformamide (DMF): 10 ml; thymol blue (0.3% in MeOH); 0.1 M lithium methoxide in toluene methanol; benzoic acid : 0.6 g.

Procedure: Transfer 10 ml of DMF in a conical flask and add to it 3 to 4 drops of thymol blue and first neutralize the acidic impurities present in DMF by titrating with 0.1 M lithium methoxide in toluene-methanol. Quickly introduce 0.06 g of benzoic acid and titrate immediately with methoxide in toluene methanol.



Preparation of 0.1 M Tetrabutylammonium Hydroxide in Toluene-Methanol

Materials Required: Tetrabutylammonium iodide: 40 g; absolute methanol: 90 ml ; silver oxide: 25 g; dry toluene: 150 ml.



Standardization of 0.1 M Tetrabutylammonium Hydroxide

Materials Required: Benzoic acid: 60 mg; dimethylbromide: 10 ml; thymol blue solution (0.3% w/v in methanol); 0.1 M tetrabutylammonium hydroxide.

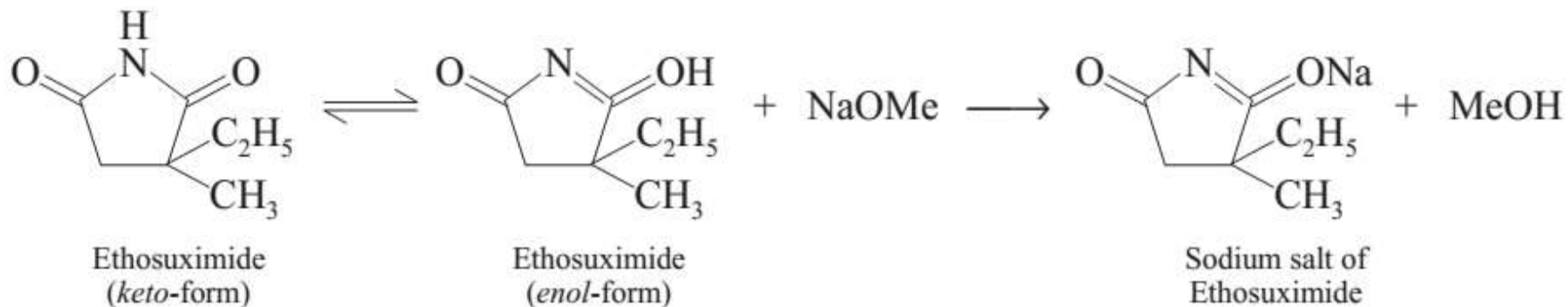
Procedure: Accurately weigh about 60 mg of benzoic acid into 10 ml of previously neutralized dimethyl formamide to the blue colour of thymol blue (3 drops) by titration against 0.1 M tetrabutylammonium hydroxide. Allow the benzoic acid to dissolve gradually and completely and titrate with 0.1 M tetrabutylammonium hydroxide preferably in an atmosphere of CO₂-free nitrogen.



Ethosuximide

Materials Required : Ethosuximide: 0.2 g; dimethylformamide: 50 ml; azo-violet (0.1% w/v in DMF): 2 drops; sodium methoxide 0.1 M.

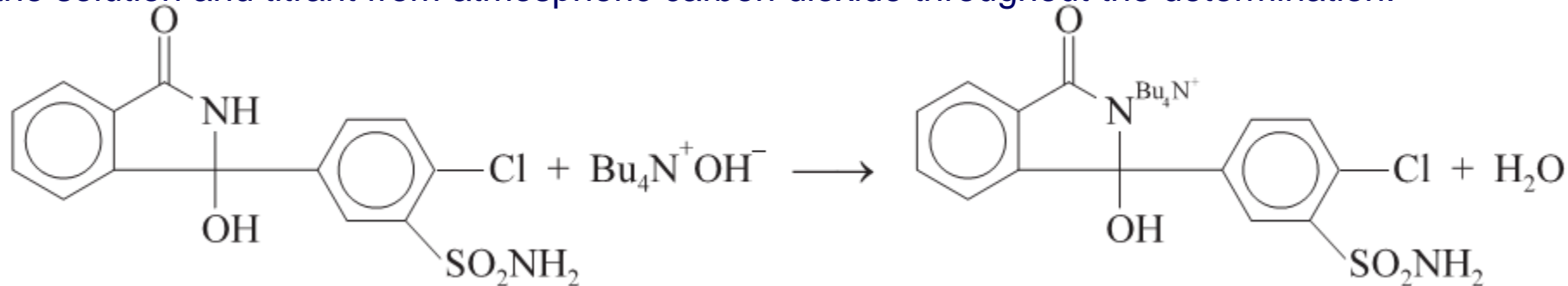
Procedure: Weigh accurately about 0.2 g, dissolve in 50 ml of dimethylformamide, add 2 drops of azo-violet solution and titrate with 0.1 M sodium methoxide to a deep blue end point, taking precautions to prevent absorption of atmospheric carbon dioxide.



Chlorthalidone

Materials Required: Chlorthalidone: 0.3 g; pyridine (dehydrated): 50 ml; 0.1 M tetrabutylammonium hydroxide.

Procedure : Weigh accurately about 0.3 g and dissolve in 50 ml of dehydrated pyridine. Titrate with 0.1 M tetrabutylammonium hydroxide, determining the end point potentiometrically and protecting the solution and titrant from atmospheric carbon dioxide throughout the determination.



ADVANTAGES OF NON AQUEOUS SOLVENT OVER AQUEOUS SOLVENT:

- 1) Organic acids and bases that are insoluble in water are soluble in non-aqueous solvent.
- 2) Organic acid, which is of comparable strength to water, can be titrated easily in nonaqueous solvent. Bases also follow the same rules.
- 3) A non-aqueous solvent may help two or more acids in mixture. The individual acid can give separate end point in different solvent.
- 4) By the proper choice of the solvents or indicator, the biological ingredients of a substance whether acidic or basic can be selectively titrated.
- 5) Non aqueous titrations are simple and accurate, examples of non aqueous titration are: Ephedrine preparations, codeine phosphate in APC, tetracycline, teramycin, Antihistamines and various piprazine preparations.

DISADVANTAGES of USING NON-AQUEOUS SOLVENTS

- 1) expensive
- 2) volatile
- 3) toxic
- 4) removal of water is necessary, can take water (humidity) from the air





**Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a
state of mind. To cherish peace and
goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to
have the real spirit of Christmas.**

Marry Christmas!

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Happy New Year!

