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40ml Of 0.15 Molar Solution Of Ammonia Titrated With 0.15 Molar Of Hcl. What's The Ph If Halfway To The point in the titration is achieved? This question is fundamental in understanding acid-base titration concepts, especially involving weak bases like ammonia and strong acids like HCl. Titration is a crucial laboratory technique used to determine the concentration of an unknown solution, and calculating the pH at various stages provides insight into the titration process, buffer regions, and equivalence points. In this comprehensive article, we will explore the principles behind ammonia titration with HCl, walk through the calculations step-by-step, and discuss the significance of the pH at the halfway point in the titration process.

Understanding the Basics of Acid-Base Titration

What is Titration?

Titration is a laboratory procedure used to determine the concentration of an unknown solution by gradually adding a titrant of known concentration until the reaction reaches its endpoint. The process involves a carefully measured volume of titrant added to the analyte until the reaction is complete.

Key Concepts in Titration

- Equivalence Point: The point at which the amount of titrant added exactly reacts with the analyte, often indicated by a color change of an indicator.
- Halfway to the Equivalence Point: The point where half of the analyte has reacted with the titrant, important in buffer calculations and pH determination.
- pH Curve: A graph plotting pH against the volume of titrant added, illustrating the buffering region, equivalence point, and post-equivalence region.

Ammonia and Hydrochloric Acid: Chemical Properties

Ammonia (NH₃)

Ammonia is a weak base with the following properties:

- Chemical formula: NH₃

- K_b (base dissociation constant): approximately 1.8×10^{-5}
- Behavior in water: Accepts protons, producing ammonium ions (NH_4^+)
- pK_a of NH_4^+ : approximately 9.25

Hydrochloric Acid (HCl)

HCl is a strong acid:

- Chemical formula: HCl
- Complete dissociation: in aqueous solution
- pK_a : approximately -7

The Titration Setup and Data

In the problem, we have:

- Initial volume of ammonia solution: 40 mL
- Concentration of ammonia: 0.15 M
- Concentration of HCl: 0.15 M

The goal is to find the pH when the titration reaches halfway to the equivalence point.

Calculating the Equivalence Point

Step 1: Determine Moles of Ammonia

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Moles of NH}_3 &= \text{Concentration} \times \text{Volume} = 0.15 \, \text{mol/L} \times 0.040 \, \text{L} = 0.006 \, \text{mol} \end{aligned}$$

Step 2: Determine Volume of HCl Needed for Complete Neutralization

Since HCl and NH_3 react in a 1:1 molar ratio:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Volume of HCl required} &= \frac{\text{Moles of NH}_3}{\text{Concentration of HCl}} = \frac{0.006 \, \text{mol}}{0.15 \, \text{mol/L}} = 0.04 \, \text{L} = 40 \, \text{mL} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the equivalence point occurs at 40 mL of HCl added.

Understanding the Halfway Point in Titration

What Happens at Halfway to the Equivalence Point?

- Volume of HCl added: Half of 40 mL, i.e., 20 mL.

- Moles of HCl added:

$$0.15 \text{ mol/L} \times 0.020 \text{ L} = 0.003 \text{ mol}$$

- Remaining moles of unreacted ammonia:

$$0.006 \text{ mol} - 0.003 \text{ mol} = 0.003 \text{ mol}$$

At this stage, half of the ammonia has been neutralized, and the solution contains a mixture of ammonia (NH₃) and ammonium ions (NH₄⁺). This is characteristic of a buffer system.

Calculating the pH at Halfway to the Equivalence Point

The Buffer System: Ammonia and Ammonium

- Ammonia (NH₃): Weak base

- Ammonium (NH₄⁺): Conjugate acid of ammonia

Using the Henderson-Hasselbalch Equation

The pH at the halfway point can be directly calculated using the Henderson-Hasselbalch equation:

$$\text{pH} = \text{pK}_a + \log \left(\frac{[\text{Base}]}{[\text{Acid}]} \right)$$

Since at halfway point:

$$[\text{NH}_3] = [\text{NH}_4^+]$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{pH} = \text{pK}_a$$

Finding pK_a of Ammonia

- The K_b for ammonia is approximately (1.8×10^{-5}) .
- The relation between K_a and K_b :

$$K_a \times K_b = K_w = 1.0 \times 10^{-14}$$

$$K_a = \frac{K_w}{K_b} = \frac{1.0 \times 10^{-14}}{1.8 \times 10^{-5}} \approx 5.56 \times 10^{-10}$$

- Therefore,

$$pK_a = -\log K_a \approx -\log (5.56 \times 10^{-10}) \approx 9.25$$

Result:

$$\boxed{\text{pH at halfway point} \approx 9.25}$$

Summary of Key Calculations

1. Initial moles of ammonia: 0.006 mol
2. Volume of HCl for equivalence: 40 mL
3. Volume of HCl at halfway point: 20 mL
4. Remaining ammonia moles at halfway: 0.003 mol
5. pH at halfway point: approximately 9.25, equal to the pK_a of ammonium

Significance of the pH at the Halfway Point

- The pH at halfway to the equivalence point reflects the pK_a of the weak base's conjugate acid.
- It provides a direct measure of the buffer capacity of the system.
- Understanding this point is crucial for titration curves, especially in analytical chemistry and acid-base equilibria.

Additional Factors Influencing Titration and pH

- Temperature: Can affect dissociation constants and pH.

- Indicator choice: Should change color near the pH of the equivalence point.
- Accuracy of measurements: Precise volume measurements impact calculations.

Practical Applications and Real-World Relevance

- Determining unknown concentrations: Titration is used in environmental testing, pharmaceuticals, and manufacturing.
- Buffer solutions: Understanding buffer capacity aids in designing systems that resist pH changes.
- Educational demonstrations: Visualizing titration curves enhances conceptual understanding of acids and bases.

Conclusion

In summary, when 40 mL of 0.15 M ammonia is titrated with 0.15 M HCl, the equivalence point occurs at 40 mL of added acid. At the halfway point, which is 20 mL of HCl added, the solution contains equal concentrations of ammonia and ammonium ions. This makes the pH at this stage approximately equal to the pKa of ammonia, around 9.25. Understanding this concept not only deepens comprehension of acid-base chemistry but also provides practical skills in laboratory titrations, buffer preparation, and pH calculations essential for scientific research and industrial processes.

Keywords: ammonia titration, pH calculation, halfway point, buffer system, acid-base titration, pKa, titration curve, ammonium, strong acid, weak base, analytical chemistry

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the pH of a 40 mL 0.15 M ammonia solution after titrating halfway with 0.15 M HCl?

At halfway to the equivalence point, the pH is equal to the pKa of ammonia, which is approximately 9.25.

Why is the pH at halfway titration of ammonia with HCl equal to the pKa?

Because at halfway to the equivalence point, half of the ammonia has been neutralized to ammonium ions, and the concentrations of ammonia and ammonium are equal, making $\text{pH} = \text{pKa}$.

How do you calculate the pKa of ammonia in this titration?

The pKa of ammonia is approximately 9.25, derived from its Kb (about 1.8×10^{-5}), using $\text{pKa} = 14 - \text{pKb}$.

What is the significance of the 40 mL volume in this titration calculation?

The 40 mL volume indicates the initial amount of ammonia solution; however, for the pH at halfway point, the volume is less critical than the equivalence point, which depends on the molarity and moles of titrant added.

How much HCl is needed to reach halfway to the equivalence point in this titration?

Since the initial ammonia amount is $0.15 \text{ mol/L} \times 0.040 \text{ L} = 6 \text{ mmol}$, halfway is 3 mmol of HCl, which corresponds to 3 mmol of HCl, or 0.003 mol. Given 0.15 M HCl, volume needed is $0.003 \text{ mol} / 0.15 \text{ mol/L} = 0.02 \text{ L}$ or 20 mL.

What role does the molarity of HCl play in determining the pH at halfway point?

Since the molarity of HCl matches that of ammonia, the titration is straightforward, and the pH at halfway is directly related to the ammonia's pKa, unaffected by concentration differences.

Can the initial volume of ammonia impact the pH at halfway titration?

The initial volume impacts the total moles of ammonia, but at halfway, the pH depends on the ratio of ammonia to ammonium ions, so as long as molar ratios are maintained, the initial volume has minimal effect.

What is the resulting pH once the titration reaches halfway in this ammonia-HCl system?

The pH will be approximately 9.25, matching the pKa of ammonia, indicating a buffer region where both ammonia and ammonium ions are present in equal concentrations.

How does the concept of the equivalence point relate to the pH at halfway in this titration?

The halfway point occurs exactly halfway to the equivalence point, where the amount of acid added neutralizes half of the ammonia, resulting in a pH equal to the pKa of ammonia.

What assumptions are made when calculating pH at halfway in this titration?

Assumptions include that the solution behaves ideally, the titration is complete and accurate, and temperature effects are negligible, allowing the use of pKa and molarity to determine pH.

Additional Resources

40ml of 0.15 Molar Solution of Ammonia Titrated with 0.15 Molar of HCl. What's the pH if Halfway To The

Understanding the pH of a titration mixture is fundamental in analytical chemistry, especially when dealing with weak acids and bases such as ammonia and hydrochloric acid. This particular scenario involves titrating 40 mL of a 0.15 M ammonia solution with 0.15 M HCl until the mixture reaches halfway to the equivalence point. This article offers a comprehensive analysis of this titration process, exploring the chemical principles involved, calculations, and implications for laboratory practice.

Introduction to Ammonia and Hydrochloric Acid Titration

Titration is a quantitative analytical method used to determine the concentration of an unknown solution by reacting it with a solution of known concentration. In this case, ammonia (NH_3), a weak base, is titrated with hydrochloric acid (HCl), a strong acid.

Ammonia (NH_3):

- Weak base with a conjugate acid, NH_4^+
- Reacts with acids to form ammonium salts
- Exhibits a hydrolysis reaction in aqueous solution, influencing pH

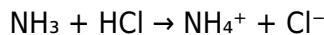
Hydrochloric acid (HCl):

- Strong acid that dissociates completely in water
- Reacts with bases to produce salts and water

Understanding the titration involves examining the chemical reactions, calculating the amount of reactants, and ultimately determining the pH at various points, especially at halfway to the equivalence point.

The Chemical Reaction and Its Significance

The core reaction during titration is:



This reaction illustrates the neutralization process where ammonia accepts a proton from HCl, forming ammonium ions. The equivalence point occurs when all ammonia has reacted with HCl, resulting in a solution predominantly containing ammonium chloride (NH_4Cl).

Key considerations include:

- The nature of ammonia as a weak base
- The complete dissociation of HCl
- The buffering region around the half-equivalence point

Understanding the Halfway Point in Titration

The halfway to the equivalence point in a titration is the stage where exactly half of the initial amount of ammonia has reacted with HCl. At this point:

- The amount of NH_3 remaining is equal to the amount of NH_4^+ formed
- The pH is governed mainly by the ammonium ion's hydrolysis, not by free ammonia or chloride ions

This point is significant because, for weak base-strong acid titrations, the pH at the halfway point equals the pK_a of the conjugate acid, NH_4^+ . This relationship simplifies pH calculations considerably.

Calculating the Volume of HCl Needed

Given data:

- Volume of ammonia solution (V_1) = 40 mL = 0.040 L
- Concentration of ammonia (C_1) = 0.15 M
- Concentration of HCl (C_2) = 0.15 M

To find the volume of HCl required to reach the equivalence point:

- Moles of ammonia initially:

$$n_{\text{NH}_3} = C_1 \times V_1 = 0.15 \text{ mol/L} \times 0.040 \text{ L} = 0.006 \text{ mol}$$

- Since HCl is at the same molarity, the volume needed to reach equivalence (V_{eq}):

$$V_{\text{eq}} = n_{\text{NH}_3} / C_2 = 0.006 \text{ mol} / 0.15 \text{ mol/L} = 0.04 \text{ L} = 40 \text{ mL}$$

Therefore, the equivalence point occurs after adding 40 mL of HCl.

Determining the pH at Halfway to the Equivalence Point

At halfway point:

- Volume of HCl added = 20 mL = 0.020 L
- Moles of HCl added = $0.15 \text{ mol/L} \times 0.020 \text{ L} = 0.003 \text{ mol}$

Since initially there are 0.006 mol of NH_3 :

- Moles of NH_3 remaining after adding 20 mL of HCl:
 $0.006 \text{ mol} - 0.003 \text{ mol} = 0.003 \text{ mol}$
- Moles of NH_4^+ formed: 0.003 mol

At this point, the mixture contains:

- 0.003 mol of unreacted NH_3
- 0.003 mol of NH_4^+

The solution is buffered by the conjugate acid-base pair $\text{NH}_3/\text{NH}_4^+$, with equal molar amounts of both.

Key principle:

- The pH at this point is equal to the pKa of ammonium ion because the concentrations of NH_3 and NH_4^+ are equal.

Calculating the pKa of Ammonium Ion

The pKa of ammonium (NH_4^+) can be derived from the Kb of ammonia:

- Kb of $\text{NH}_3 = 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$
- Using the relationship:
 $\text{pKa} + \text{pKb} = 14$
- $\text{pKb} = -\log(1.8 \times 10^{-5}) \approx 4.74$

Therefore:

- $\text{pKa} = 14 - 4.74 \approx 9.26$

At the halfway point, the pH equals the pKa:

$$\text{pH} \approx 9.26$$

This is a critical result, as it confirms that for weak base-strong acid titrations, the pH at halfway to the equivalence point is directly related to the pKa of the conjugate acid.

Implications and Additional Considerations

Features of this titration:

- Buffer region: The halfway point exhibits maximum buffering capacity due to equal concentrations of NH_3 and NH_4^+ .
- pH stability: Slight additions of acid or base near this point cause minimal pH change, aiding in precise titration.
- pKa relevance: The pH at halfway point directly informs about the conjugate acid's strength, useful in analytical calculations.

Pros of understanding this titration:

- Simplifies pH calculations without complex equilibrium expressions.
- Enables accurate identification of the half-equivalence point.
- Reinforces fundamental acid-base principles.

Cons or limitations:

- Assumes complete dissociation of HCl and ideal behavior.
- Does not account for activity coefficients in concentrated solutions.
- Real-world samples may introduce impurities affecting pH readings.

Practical Applications and Laboratory Tips

In laboratory practice:

- Use a pH meter calibrated properly for accurate readings.
- Add titrant slowly near the half-equivalence point for precise pH determination.
- Record the volume of titrant added at the halfway point to verify calculations.

Applications include:

- Determining the purity of ammonia solutions.
- Calculating acid or base strengths in unknown samples.
- Educational demonstrations of weak acid/base buffering.

Conclusion

The titration of 40 mL of 0.15 M ammonia with 0.15 M HCl provides a textbook example of weak base-strong acid chemistry. The key takeaway is that at halfway to the equivalence point, the pH equals the pKa of the ammonium ion, approximately 9.26. This understanding simplifies pH calculations and underscores the importance of conjugate acid-base relationships in titration analysis. Whether for

academic purposes or practical laboratory work, mastering these principles enhances accuracy and confidence in chemical analysis.

Summary of key points:

- The equivalence volume is 40 mL of HCl.
- The halfway point occurs after 20 mL of HCl is added.
- At this point, $[\text{NH}_3] = [\text{NH}_4^+]$, and $\text{pH} \approx \text{pK}_a \approx 9.26$.
- The process exemplifies fundamental acid-base equilibria and buffering behavior.

By appreciating these concepts, chemists can better interpret titration data, design experiments, and understand the underlying chemistry governing weak base-strong acid interactions.

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