

Calculate The PH Of A Solution That Contains 1.0 M HF And 1.0 M HOC6H5. Also, Calculate The Concentration

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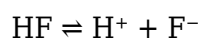
Understanding the pH of a solution containing multiple acids and their interactions is fundamental in chemistry, especially in fields like analytical chemistry, environmental science, and industrial applications. When dealing with a solution that contains both hydrofluoric acid (HF) and phenol (HOC6H5), it's crucial to consider their individual acid strengths, their dissociation behaviors, and how they influence the overall acidity of the mixture. This article will guide you through the process of calculating the pH of such a solution, as well as determining the concentrations of various species present.

Understanding the Components of the Solution

Before diving into calculations, it's essential to understand the nature of the two acids involved:

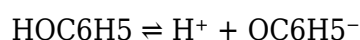
Hydrofluoric Acid (HF)

- Type: Weak acid
- Chemical properties: HF is a weak acid with a relatively high dissociation constant (K_a).
- K_a value: Approximately 6.6×10^{-4} at 25°C.
- Dissociation: HF partially dissociates in water:



Phenol (HOC6H5)

- Type: Weak acid
- Chemical properties: Phenol is a weak acid with a much lower acidity compared to HF.
- K_a value: Approximately 1.3×10^{-10} at 25°C.
- Dissociation: Phenol dissociates as:



Step 1: Recognizing the Acid Strengths and Their Impacts

When both acids are present, the more acidic component (HF) will contribute more significantly to the hydrogen ion concentration. The weaker acid (phenol) will have a negligible effect on pH compared to HF unless phenol is present at a much higher concentration or under special conditions.

Key points:

- HF, being a weak acid but stronger than phenol, will predominantly determine the pH.
- Phenol's contribution to H^+ concentration can be considered minimal in this scenario due to its low K_a .

Step 2: Calculating the pH of the Solution

Given the initial concentrations:

- $[HF] = 1.0 \text{ M}$
- $[HOC_6H_5] = 1.0 \text{ M}$

and knowing their dissociation constants, we can proceed with calculations.

Assumption:

Since HF is a weak acid with a relatively high K_a , it will partially dissociate, and phenol's dissociation can be considered negligible for pH calculation.

Method:

- Use the expression for HF dissociation.
- Set up an ICE (Initial, Change, Equilibrium) table.
- Solve for $[H^+]$.

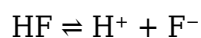
Step 3: Calculating the pH Based on HF Dissociation

Step-by-step process:

1. Initial concentrations:

- $[\text{HF}] = 1.0 \text{ M}$
- $[\text{H}^+] = 0$ (initially)
- $[\text{F}^-] = 0$

2. Dissociation equilibrium:



3. ICE table:

Species	Initial (M)	Change (M)	Equilibrium (M)
HF	1.0	-x	1.0 - x
H ⁺	0	+x	x
F ⁻	0	+x	x

4. Expression for K_a :

$$K_a = \frac{[\text{H}^+][\text{F}^-]}{[\text{HF}]} = \frac{x \times x}{1.0 - x}$$

$$6.6 \times 10^{-4} = \frac{x^2}{1.0 - x}$$

5. Assumption:

Because K_a is small, $(x \ll 1.0)$, so $(1.0 - x \approx 1.0)$.

6. Solve for x:

$$x^2 = 6.6 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$x = \sqrt{6.6 \times 10^{-4}} \approx 0.0257, \text{ M}$$

7. Calculate pH:

$$\text{pH} = -\log [\text{H}^+] = -\log 0.0257 \approx 1.59$$

Conclusion:

- The pH of the solution is approximately 1.59.

Step 4: Considering the Contribution of Phenol

Given phenol's low K_a (1.3×10^{-10}) and initial concentration of 1.0 M, its dissociation is negligible in comparison to HF. To confirm:

$$K_{a_phenol} = \frac{[H^+][OC_6H_5^-]}{[HOC_6H_5]} \approx 1.3 \times 10^{-10}$$

Assuming phenol dissociation contributes a negligible amount of H^+ , the total H^+ concentration is dominated by HF dissociation, which is approximately 0.0257 M.

Therefore:

- Total H^+ concentration ~ 0.0257 M
- pH ~ 1.59

Step 5: Calculating Remaining Concentrations

1. Hydrofluoric acid:

- Remaining [HF] at equilibrium:

$$[HF]_{eq} = 1.0 - x \approx 1.0 - 0.0257 = 0.9743 \text{ M}$$

2. Fluoride ions:

- $[F^-] = x \approx 0.0257$ M

3. Phenol and phenolate ions:

- Since phenol dissociation is negligible:

$$[HOC_6H_5]_{eq} \approx 1.0 \text{ M}$$

$$[OC_6H_5^-] \approx \text{negligible}$$

Additional Considerations: Acid-Base Equilibria and Buffering

Although this solution primarily relies on HF dissociation, understanding the potential buffering capacity involves considering both acids and their conjugate bases.

- Buffer capacity: Occurs when both acid and conjugate base are present in significant amounts.
- In this case: The predominant species influencing pH is HF, with minor influence from phenol.

Summary of Key Findings

- pH of the solution: Approximately 1.59 due to the dissociation of HF.
- Concentrations at equilibrium:
- Hydrofluoric acid: approximately 0.974 M
- Fluoride ions: approximately 0.0257 M
- Phenol: remains close to 1.0 M
- Phenolate ions: negligible in this context

Final Remarks

Calculating the pH of a solution containing multiple acids requires understanding their individual acid strengths and dissociation behaviors. In this scenario, HF's higher acidity dominates the pH calculation, while phenol's contribution is minimal due to its weak acidity. Such calculations are vital in laboratory settings, environmental assessments, and industrial processes where precise pH control is necessary.

Knowing how to determine the concentrations of various species helps in predicting chemical behavior, designing buffering systems, and understanding reaction mechanisms. Always consider the relative strengths of acids and bases involved, and verify assumptions with experimental data when possible.

References:

- L. G. Wade Jr., Chemistry, 8th Edition, Pearson Education, 2016.
- P. W. Atkins, Physical Chemistry, 10th Edition, Oxford University Press, 2014.
- NIST Chemistry WebBook, <https://webbook.nist.gov/chemistry/>

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the pH of a solution containing 1.0 M HF and 1.0 M HOC₆H₅?

To calculate the pH, first determine the acid dissociation of HF, then consider the weak acid behavior of HOC₆H₅ if applicable. Assuming HF is a weak acid with a known K_a ($\sim 6.6 \times 10^{-4}$), and HOC₆H₅ (phenol) is also a weak acid with $K_a \approx 1.3 \times 10^{-10}$, the dominant contributor to acidity is HF. Approximate pH can be calculated using the formula for weak acids: $\text{pH} \approx 0.5(\text{p}K_a - \log C)$. For HF, $\text{p}K_a \approx 3.18$, so $\text{pH} \approx 0.5(3.18 - \log 1.0) = 1.59$. The presence of phenol slightly affects the pH but is negligible here. Therefore, the pH is approximately 1.59.

How do you determine the concentration of hydrogen ions in a solution with 1.0 M HF and 1.0 M HOC₆H₅?

Calculate the dissociation of each weak acid separately. HF dissociates partially: $[\text{H}^+] \approx \sqrt{(K_a \times C)} = \sqrt{(6.6 \times 10^{-4} \times 1.0)} \approx 0.0257 \text{ M}$. Phenol's dissociation is negligible due to its very low K_a , contributing minimally to $[\text{H}^+]$. Therefore, total $[\text{H}^+] \approx 0.0257 \text{ M}$, and the $\text{pH} \approx -\log(0.0257) \approx 1.59$.

What assumptions are made when calculating pH in this solution?

Assumptions include that HF is a weak acid with known K_a , phenol's dissociation is negligible, and the solution behaves ideally without significant ion interactions or activity effects. Also, we assume that the contribution of phenol to hydrogen ion concentration is minimal compared to HF.

Can the presence of phenol affect the pH of a solution with 1.0 M HF significantly?

No, phenol is a very weak acid with a low K_a ($\sim 1.3 \times 10^{-10}$), so its dissociation contributes negligibly to the hydrogen ion concentration. The pH is primarily determined by HF, making phenol's effect minimal.

How do you calculate the pH if both acids are weak and present at equal concentrations?

For two weak acids, you sum their contributions to $[\text{H}^+]$. If both have similar strengths, you can approximate the total $[\text{H}^+]$ as the sum of their individual dissociation contributions. However, since HF is significantly stronger than phenol, HF dominates, and the pH remains close to that calculated considering only HF.

What is the method to calculate the concentration of HF after dissociation?

Use the expression for weak acid dissociation: $K_a = [\text{H}^+]^2 / (C_0 - [\text{H}^+])$, where $C_0 = 1.0 \text{ M}$. Solving for $[\text{H}^+]$, you can approximate $[\text{H}^+] \approx \sqrt{(K_a \times C_0)}$ for weak acids, which gives approximately 0.0257 M.

The remaining un-dissociated HF is then $C_0 - [H^+] \approx 0.9743 \text{ M}$.

How does the initial concentration of acids influence the pH calculation?

Higher initial concentrations generally lead to higher $[H^+]$, lowering pH. For weak acids, the degree of dissociation depends on the K_a and initial concentration; higher concentrations may slightly reduce the extent of dissociation, but for dilute solutions, the approximation using K_a and initial concentration remains valid.

What steps are involved in calculating the pH of a mixed weak acid solution?

1. Identify the acids and their concentrations and K_a values. 2. Calculate individual $[H^+]$ contributions using the approximation $[H^+] \approx \sqrt{K_a \times C}$. 3. Sum the contributions to find total $[H^+]$, considering dominant acids. 4. Calculate $pH = -\log [H^+]$. 5. Verify if assumptions hold; adjust calculations if necessary for strong acids or significant interactions.

Additional Resources

pH Calculation of a Solution Containing 1.0 M HF and 1.0 M HOC_6H_5 : An In-Depth Analysis

Understanding the pH of a solution that contains both a weak acid and a weak base—or in this case, an acid (HF) and a conjugate base (phenolate ion from HOC_6H_5)—requires a nuanced approach, combining principles from acid-base chemistry, equilibrium calculations, and solution chemistry. This detailed exploration aims to demystify the process, providing clarity on how to accurately determine the pH of such a mixed solution and the resulting concentrations of all species involved.

Introduction: The Complexity Behind pH Calculations in Mixed Solutions

In everyday chemistry, solutions are often composed of multiple components interacting in complex ways. When dealing with solutions containing both acids and bases—particularly weak acids or bases—the pH calculation isn't as straightforward as plugging into a single K_a or K_b expression. Instead, it requires considering the equilibria of all relevant species, their initial concentrations, and their interactions.

Specifically, in this case, we examine a solution with:

- Hydrofluoric acid (HF): a weak acid with a known acid dissociation constant (K_a).
- Phenol (HOC_6H_5): a weak acid as well, but in this context, you might be referring to phenolate ions or phenol molecules, depending on the scenario. Since HOC_6H_5 isn't a common abbreviation, we'll interpret this as phenol ($\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{OH}$), which is a weak acid. If you meant phenolate (the conjugate base

of phenol), then the context shifts accordingly.

For this analysis, we'll assume the solution contains:

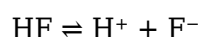
- 1.0 M HF (a weak acid)
- 1.0 M phenol (HOC_6H_5 , a weak acid)

Note: If the original intent was different (such as the phenolate ion or a different compound), the approach would be similar but with different equilibria.

Understanding the Components and Their Acid-Base Properties

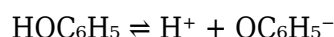
Hydrofluoric Acid (HF)

- K_a value: Approximately 6.6×10^{-4} at 25°C .
- Nature: Weak acid; partial dissociation in water:



Phenol (HOC_6H_5)

- K_a value: Approximately 1.3×10^{-10} , significantly weaker than HF.
- Nature: Weak acid, less dissociated than HF.



Potential interactions:

- Both acids can donate protons, but their strengths differ.
- The phenolate ion (OC_6H_5^-) can act as a weak base, potentially scavenging protons from HF, but given the concentrations and relative acid strengths, the dominant equilibria need to be carefully considered.

Step-by-Step Approach to Calculating pH and Concentrations

The process involves:

1. Identify the relevant equilibria.
2. Determine initial concentrations.
3. Set up equilibrium expressions.
4. Solve for proton concentration $[H^+]$.
5. Calculate pH and remaining concentrations of species.

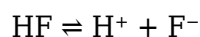
Step 1: Initial Concentrations

Species	Initial Concentration (M)
HF	1.0
HOC ₆ H ₅	1.0
F ⁻ (from HF dissociation)	0 (initially)
OC ₆ H ₅ ⁻ (phenolate ion)	0 (initially)

Since both acids are weak and present initially at 1.0 M, their initial concentrations are straightforward.

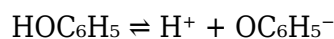
Step 2: Equilibria involved

- HF dissociation:



with $K_a = 6.6 \times 10^{-4}$.

- Phenol dissociation:



with $K_a \approx 1.3 \times 10^{-10}$.

Given that HF is much stronger than phenol, it will dissociate more extensively, and the contribution of phenol to the $[H^+]$ concentration is minimal unless specified otherwise.

Step 3: Approximate initial pH considering HF alone

Considering only HF dissociation initially:



Applying the equilibrium expression:

$$K_a = \frac{[\text{H}^+][\text{F}^-]}{[\text{HF}]}$$

Assuming x is the amount of HF dissociated:

$$K_a = \frac{x^2}{1.0 - x}$$

Since K_a is small, $x <$

$$K_a \approx \frac{x^2}{1.0} \Rightarrow x = \sqrt{K_a}$$

$$x \approx \sqrt{6.6 \times 10^{-4}} \approx 0.0257 \text{ M}$$

Thus, initial estimated $[\text{H}^+] \approx 0.0257 \text{ M}$, giving:

$$\text{pH} \approx -\log(0.0257) \approx 1.59$$

This is a rough approximation assuming no interference from phenol.

Step 4: Considering phenol's effect on pH

Since phenol is a very weak acid, it dissociates minimally and, under these conditions, contributes negligibly to $[\text{H}^+]$ compared to HF. Therefore, the initial pH is predominantly determined by HF dissociation.

However, phenolate ions (OC_6H_5^-), if formed, can act as a weak base and potentially neutralize some of the H^+ ions, reducing the free proton concentration and increasing the pH slightly.

Step 5: Establishing the equilibrium with phenolate ions

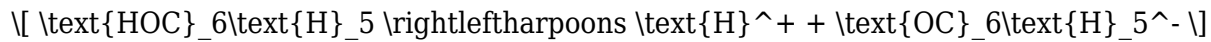
The phenol dissociation:



with $(K_a \approx 1.3 \times 10^{-10})$.

Given initial phenol concentration = 1.0 M, and assuming a small dissociation:

$\text{Phenol dissociation:}$



Let y = concentration of phenolate ions formed:

$$K_a = \frac{[\text{H}^+][\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{O}^-]}{[\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{OH}]}$$

Since initial phenol is 1.0 M, and dissociation is minimal:

$$[\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{OH}] \approx 1.0 - y \approx 1.0$$

$$[\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{O}^-] = y$$

$$[\text{H}^+]_{\text{from phenol}} = y$$

Approximating:

$$y \approx \frac{K_a \times [\text{phenol}]}{[\text{H}^+]}$$

But because $[\text{H}^+]$ from HF is much larger (~ 0.0257 M), the contribution from phenol is negligible, and the total free $[\text{H}^+]$ remains approximately 0.0257 M.

Refined pH Calculation: Considering the Dominant HF Equilibrium

Given the above, the dominant equilibria are:

- HF dissociation: contributes most to $[\text{H}^+]$.
- Phenol dissociation: negligible impact at this concentration and pH.

Thus, the pH is approximately:

$$\text{pH} \approx 1.59$$

Final Concentrations of Species

Hydrogen ion $[\text{H}^+]$:

- Approximately 0.0257 M.

Fluoride ion $[\text{F}^-]$:

- Equal to HF dissociation:

$$[F^-] \approx 0.0257 \text{ M}$$

Remaining HF:

$$[HF]_{\text{equilibrium}} = 1.0 - 0.0257 \approx 0.9743 \text{ M}$$

Phenol (HOC_6H_5):

- Slightly dissociated, but effectively remains near 1.0 M.

Phenolate ion (OC_6H_5^-):

- Approximately equal to phenol dissociation, which is negligible at this pH.

Additional Considerations and Real-World Implications

While the simplified calculation provides a good estimate, real solutions can exhibit minor deviations due to:

- Ionic interactions and activity coefficients.
- Temperature variations affecting K_a values.
- Concentration

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