

Chapter 10 in the 9th Edition

Chapter 9 in the 8th Edition

Polyprotic Acid-Base Equilibria

Overview

- 10-1 Diprotic Acids and Bases
- 10-2 Diprotic Buffers
- 10-3 Polyprotic Acids and Bases
- 10-4 Which Is the Principal Species?
- 10-5 Fractional Composition Equations
- 10-6 Isoelectric and Isoionic pH

- Solutions of weak acids and bases

Example:

Propanoic acid ($\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{COOH}$, which we simplify as HPr) is a carboxylic acid whose salts are used to retard mold growth in food products. What is the $[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]$ of 0.10 M HPr ($K_a = 1.3 \times 10^{-5}$)?



$$K_a = \frac{[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+][\text{Pr}^-]}{[\text{HPr}]}$$

Concentration (M)	$\text{HPr}(aq) + \text{H}_2\text{O}(l) \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_3\text{O}^+(aq) + \text{Pr}^-(aq)$			
Initial	0.10	-	0	0
Change	$-x$	-	$+x$	$+x$
Equilibrium	$0.10 - x$	-	x	x

Since K_a is small, we will assume that $x \ll 0.10$ and $[\text{HPr}] \approx 0.10 \text{ M}$.

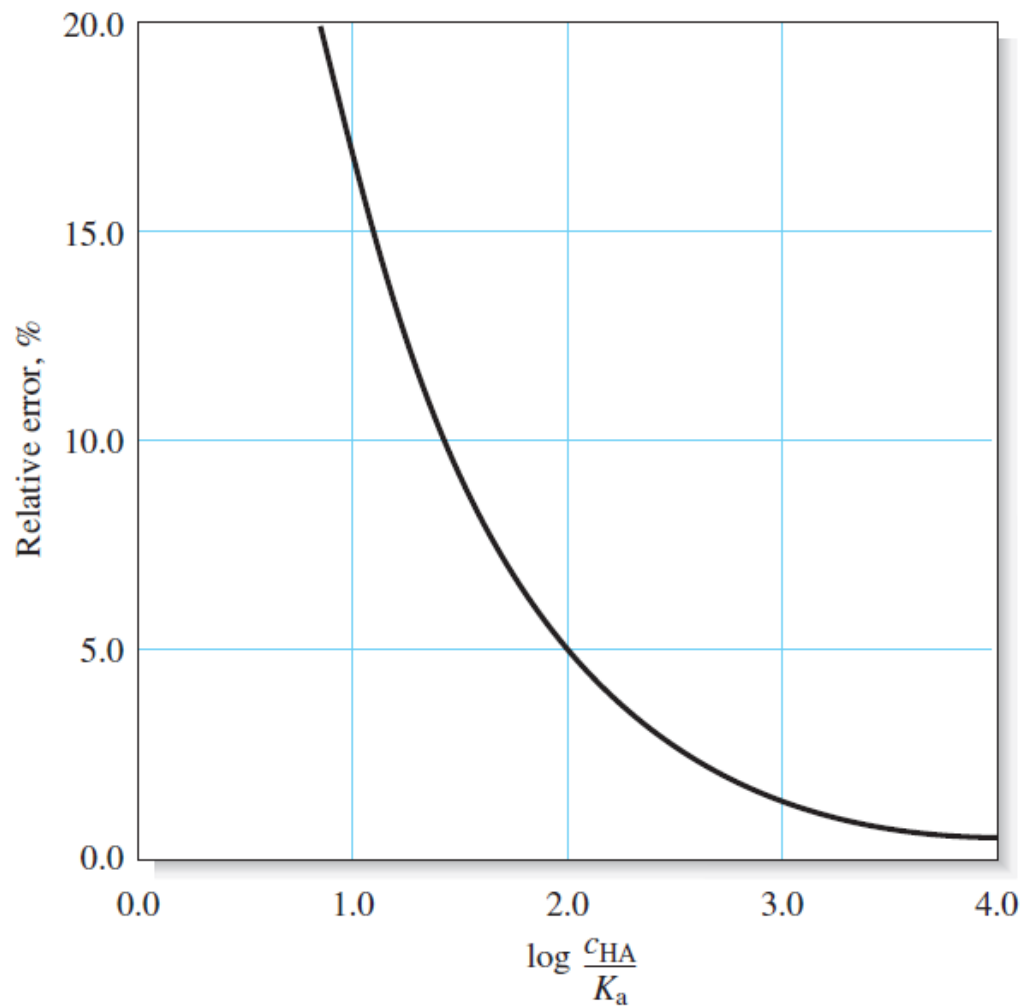
$$K_a = 1.3 \times 10^{-5} = \frac{[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+][\text{Pr}^-]}{[\text{HPr}]} = \frac{x^2}{0.10}$$

$$x = \sqrt{(0.10)(1.3 \times 10^{-5})} = 1.1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M} = [\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] \quad \text{pH} = -\log [\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] = 2.96$$

$$\text{Check: } [\text{HPr}]_{\text{diss}} = \frac{1.1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}}{0.10 \text{ M}} \times 100 = 1.1\% (< 5\%; \text{assumption is justified.})$$

Error Introduced by Assuming H_3O^+ Concentration Is Small Relative to c_{HA} in Equation 9-16

K_a	c_{HA}	$[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]$ Using Assumption	$\frac{c_{\text{HA}}}{K_a}$	$[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]$ Using More Exact Equation	Percent Error
1.00×10^{-2}	1.00×10^{-3}	3.16×10^{-3}	10^{-1}	0.92×10^{-3}	244
	1.00×10^{-2}	1.00×10^{-2}	10^0	0.62×10^{-2}	61
	1.00×10^{-1}	3.16×10^{-2}	10^1	2.70×10^{-2}	17
1.00×10^{-4}	1.00×10^{-4}	1.00×10^{-4}	10^0	0.62×10^{-4}	61
	1.00×10^{-3}	3.16×10^{-4}	10^1	2.70×10^{-4}	17
	1.00×10^{-2}	1.00×10^{-3}	10^2	0.95×10^{-3}	5.3
	1.00×10^{-1}	3.16×10^{-3}	10^3	3.11×10^{-3}	1.6
1.00×10^{-6}	1.00×10^{-5}	3.16×10^{-6}	10^1	2.70×10^{-6}	17
	1.00×10^{-4}	1.00×10^{-5}	10^2	0.95×10^{-5}	5.3
	1.00×10^{-3}	3.16×10^{-5}	10^3	3.11×10^{-5}	1.6
	1.00×10^{-2}	1.00×10^{-4}	10^4	9.95×10^{-5}	0.5
	1.00×10^{-1}	3.16×10^{-4}	10^5	3.16×10^{-4}	0.0



Relative error resulting from the assumption that $[H_3O^+] \ll c_{HA}$

10-1: Diprotic Acids and Bases

- **Polyprotic acids and bases** are those that can donate or accept more than one proton.
- **Diprotic acids and bases** therefore can either donate or accept two protons.

Types of polyprotic acids

1. H_2B^+ , Amino acids, Example: Alanine – H_2A^+

Neutrally charged acids

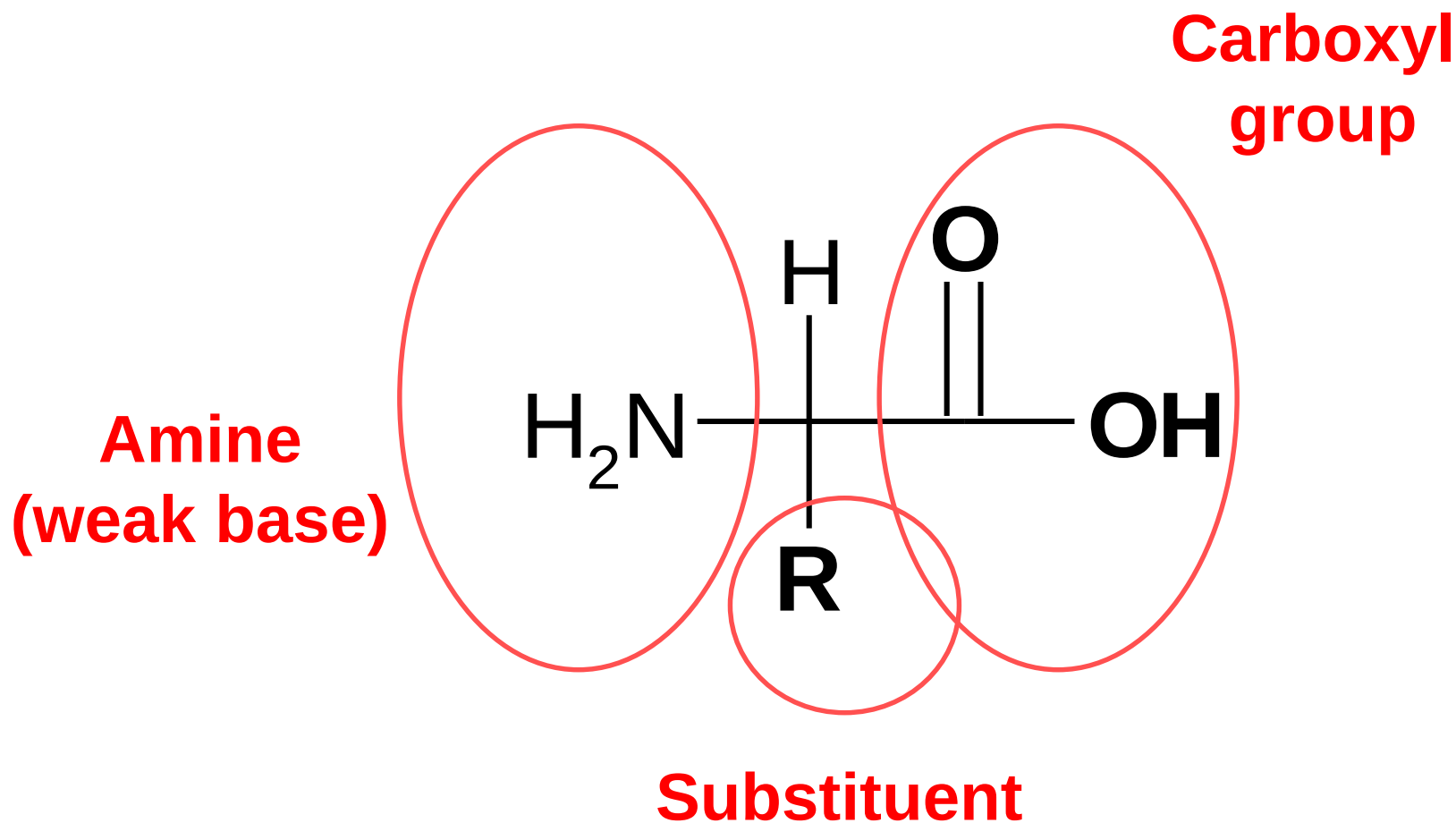
2. H_2A Example: H_2SO_4 , H_2CO_3 , $\text{H}_2\text{C}_2\text{O}_4$

3. H_3A Example: H_3PO_4

10-1: Diprotic Acids and Bases

- A common class of diprotic acids are **amino acids**, which are the building blocks of proteins.
- They have an acidic **carboxylic acid** group, a basic **amino** group, and a variable **substituent** designated R.
- The carboxyl group is a stronger acid than the ammonium group, so the nonionized form rearranges spontaneously to the **zwitterion**, which has both positive and negative sites.

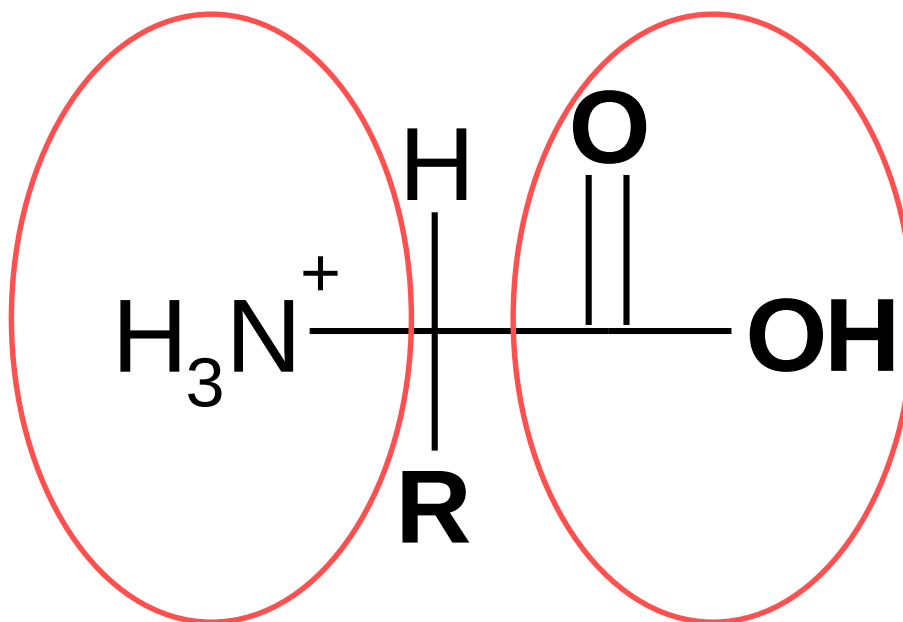
Amino Acid



Amino Acid

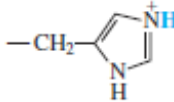
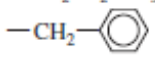
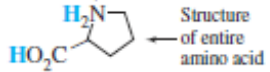
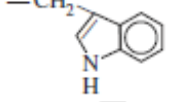
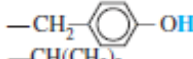
$pK_a \sim 2.5$

Ammonium
group
 $pK_a \sim 9.5$



10-1: Diprotic Acids and Bases

TABLE 10-1 Acid dissociation constants of amino acids

Amino acid ^a	Substituent ^d	Carboxylic acid ^b pK _a	Ammonium ^b pK _a	Substituent ^b pK _a	Formula mass
Alanine (A)	—CH ₃	2.344	9.868		89.09
Arginine (R)	—CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ NHC(=NH) ₂ ⁺	1.823	8.991	(12.1 ^c)	174.20
Asparagine (N)	—CH ₂ C(=O)NH ₂	2.16 ^c	8.73 ^c		132.12
Aspartic acid (D)	—CH ₂ CO ₂ H	1.990	10.002	3.900	133.10
Cysteine (C)	—CH ₂ SH	(1.7)	10.74	8.36	121.16
Glutamic acid (E)	—CH ₂ CH ₂ CO ₂ H	2.16	9.96	4.30	147.13
Glutamine (Q)	—CH ₂ CH ₂ C(=O)NH ₂	2.19 ^c	9.00 ^c		146.15
Glycine (G)	—H	2.350	9.778		75.07
Histidine (H)	—CH ₂ — 	(1.6)	9.28	5.97	155.16
Isoleucine (I)	—CH(CH ₃)(CH ₂ CH ₃)	2.318	9.758		131.17
Leucine (L)	—CH ₂ CH(CH ₃) ₂	2.328	9.744		131.17
Lysine (K)	—CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ NH ₃ ⁺	(1.77)	9.07	10.82	146.19
Methionine (M)	—CH ₂ CH ₂ SCH ₃	2.18 ^c	9.08 ^c		149.21
Phenylalanine (F)	—CH ₂ — 	2.20	9.31		165.19
Proline (P)	 Structure of entire amino acid	1.952	10.640		115.13
Serine (S)	—CH ₂ OH	2.187	9.209		105.09
Threonine (T)	—CH(CH ₃)(OH)	2.088	9.100		119.12
Tryptophan (W)	—CH ₂ — 	2.37 ^c	9.33 ^c		204.23
Tyrosine (Y)	—CH ₂ — 	2.41 ^c	8.67 ^c	11.01 ^c	181.19
Valine (V)	—CH(CH ₃) ₂	2.286	9.719		117.15

a. The acidic protons are shown in **bold** type. Each amino acid is written in its fully protonated form. Standard abbreviations are shown in parentheses.

b. pK_a values refer to 25°C and zero ionic strength unless marked by c. Values considered to be uncertain are enclosed in parentheses. Appendix G gives pK_a for μ = 0.1 M.

c. For these entries, the ionic strength is 0.1 M, and the constant refers to a product of concentrations instead of activities.

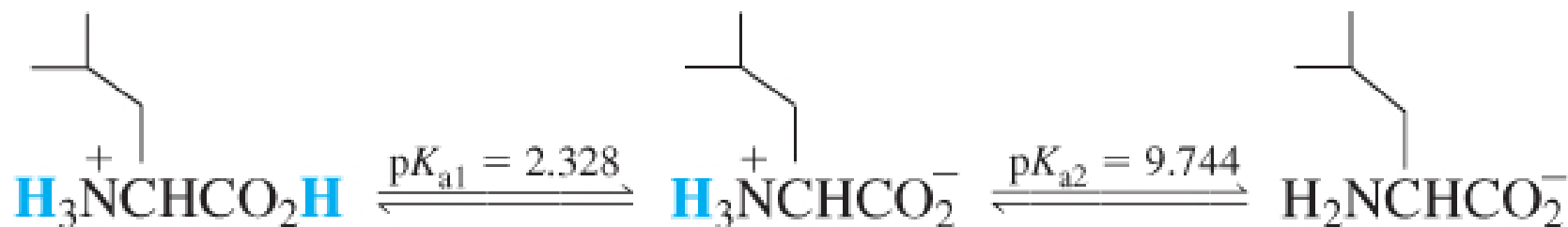
Source: A. E. Martell and R. J. Motekaitis, NIST Database 46 (Gaithersburg, MD: National Institute of Standards and Technology, 2001).

10-1: Diprotic Acids and Bases

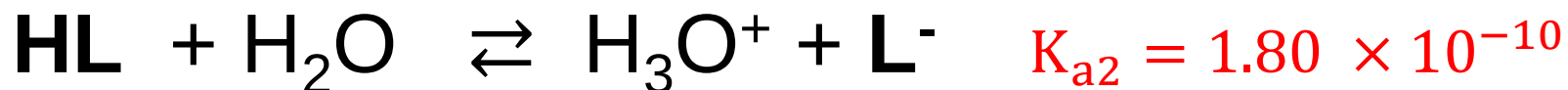
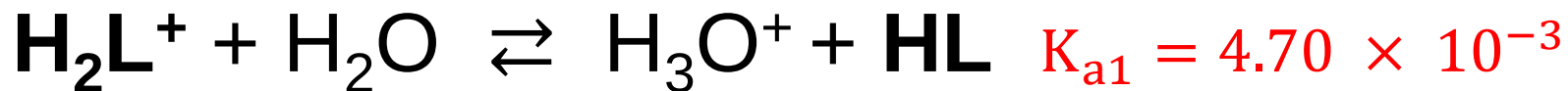
acid

amphiprotic

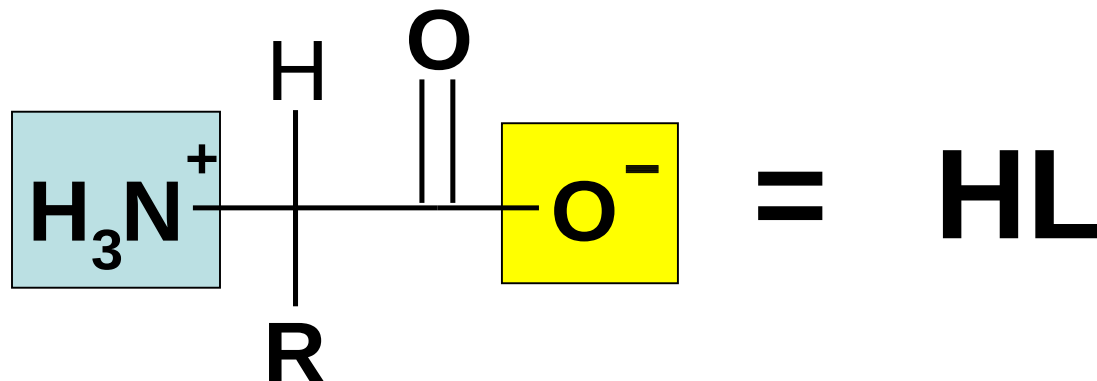
base



Diprotic Acid: Consider the Leucine System



HL is a Zwitterion.



10-2: Diprotic Buffers

Calculate the pH of the following 0.050 M aqueous solutions:

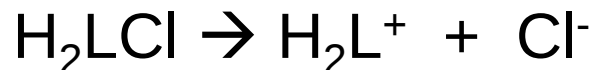
1. Leucine hydrochloride H_2L^+
2. Sodium leucinate L^-
3. Leucine HL

$\text{p}K_{\text{a}}$'s = 2.328 and 9.744

- (1) Estimate answer
- (2) Calculate it!

10-2: Diprotic Buffers

1. Calculating the pH of weak diprotic acids (H_2L^+)



- The weak acid H_2L^+ dissociates only a little and the even weaker acid HL dissociates hardly at all.
- Treat as a **monoprotic acid**.
- For the reaction $H_2L^+ \rightleftharpoons H^+ + HL$, we set up and solve the equation

$$\frac{[H^+][HL]}{[H_2L^+]} = \frac{x^2}{F - x} = K_{a1}$$

where $[H^+] = [HL] = x$, and $[H_2L^+] = F - x$.

10-2: Diprotic Buffers

1. Calculating the pH of weak diprotic acids (H_2L^+)



We estimate the pH to be less than 2.328.

$$\frac{[H^+][HL]}{[H_2L^+]} = \frac{x^2}{F - x} = K_{a1}$$

$$\frac{x^2}{0.050 \text{ M} - x} = 10^{-2.328} = 4.70 \times 10^{-3} \quad (\text{solve using quadratic equation})$$

$$x = 1.32 \times 10^{-2} \text{ M}$$

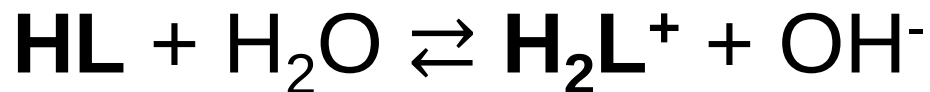
$$\text{pH} = 1.88$$

10-2: Diprotic Buffers

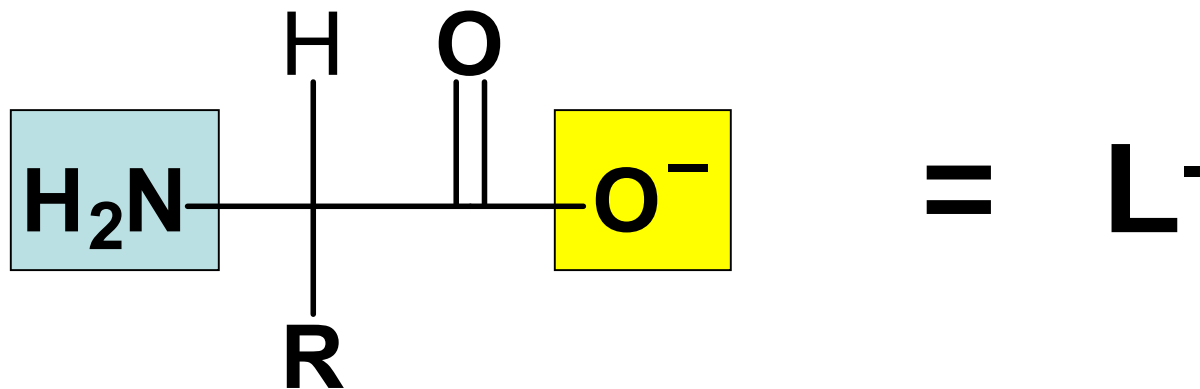
2. Sodium leucinate (L^-)



$$K_{b1} = \frac{K_w}{K_{a2}} = 5.55 \times 10^{-5}$$



$$K_{b2} = \frac{K_w}{K_{a1}} = 2.13 \times 10^{-12}$$



10-2: Diprotic Buffers

2. Calculating the pH of weak diprotic bases (L^-)

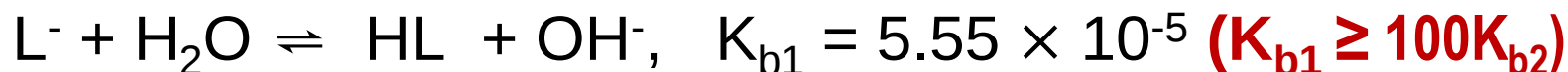
- The weak base L^- ionizes by hydrolysis only a little and the even weaker base HL ionizes hardly at all.
- Therefore, treat L^- as a **monoprotic base**.
- For the reaction $L^- + H_2O \rightleftharpoons HL + OH^-$, we set up and solve the equation

$$\frac{[HL][OH^-]}{[L^-]} = \frac{x^2}{F - x} = K_{b1}$$

where $[OH^-] = [HL] = x$, and $[L^-] = F - x$.

10-2: Diprotic Buffers

What is the pH of an aqueous 0.050 M sodium leucinate solution? $\text{NaL} \rightarrow \text{Na}^+ + \text{L}^-$



$$\frac{[\text{OH}^-][\text{HL}]}{[\text{L}^-]} = \frac{x^2}{F - x} = K_{b1}$$

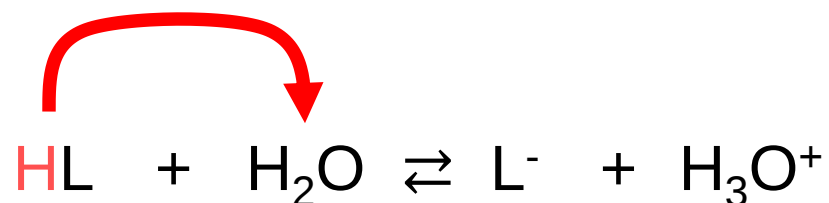
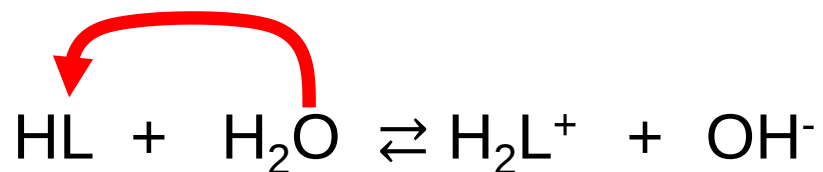
$$\frac{x^2}{0.050 \text{ M} - x} = 5.55 \times 10^{-5} \quad (\text{solve using quadratic equation})$$

$$x = 1.6_4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M} = [\text{OH}^-]$$

$$\text{pOH} = 2.78_6; \quad \text{pH} = 14.00 - \text{pOH}; \quad \mathbf{\text{pH} = 11.21}$$

10-2: Diprotic Buffers

A molecule that can both donate and accept a proton is said to be **amphiprotic**.



10-2: Diprotic Buffers

Using the systematic treatment of equilibrium, an equation for calculating the $[H^+]$ of amphiprotics can be derived (see text).

$$[H^+] = \sqrt{\frac{K_{a1}K_{a2}F + K_{a1}K_w}{K_{a1} + F}}$$

$$pH \sim \frac{1}{2} (pK_{a1} + pK_{a2})$$

10-2: Diprotic Buffers

What is the pH of a 0.05 M leucine (HL) solution?

$$[\text{H}^+] = \sqrt{\frac{(4.7 \times 10^{-3})(1.8 \times 10^{-10})(0.050) + (4.7 \times 10^{-3})(1.0 \times 10^{-14})}{4.7 \times 10^{-3} + 0.050}} = 8.79 \times 10^{-7} \text{ M}$$

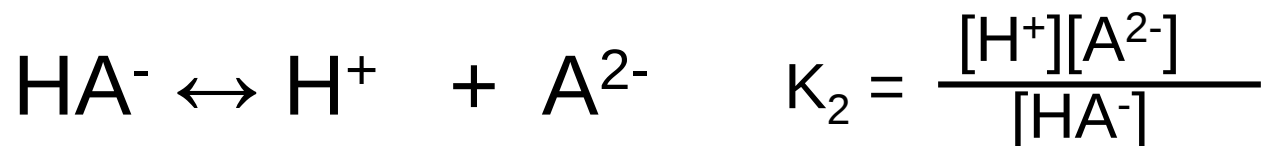
$$\text{pH} = -\text{Log}(8.79 \times 10^{-7} \text{ M}) = 6.06$$

$$\text{pH} \sim \frac{1}{2} (\text{p}K_{\text{a}1} + \text{p}K_{\text{a}2}) \sim \frac{1}{2}(2.328 + 9.744) \sim 6.04$$

Calculating pH

$\text{H}_2\text{L}^+ \text{ or } \text{H}_2\text{A}$ $\text{H}_2\text{A} + \text{HA}^- (\text{H}_2\text{L}^+ + \text{HL})$ and $K_{a1} \geq 100K_{a2}$	monoprotic acid
$\text{L}^- (K_{b1} \geq 100K_{b2})$	Monoprotic base hydrolysis
HL or HA^-	$[\text{H}^+] = \sqrt{\frac{K_{a1}K_{a2}F + K_{a1}K_w}{K_{a1} + F}}$ $\text{pH} \sim \frac{1}{2}(\text{p}K_{a1} + \text{p}K_{a2})$
$\text{HA}^- + \text{A}^{2-}$ $K_{a1} \geq 100K_{a2}$	The pH is calculated using K_{a2}

- Solutions of Polyprotic acids



1. A solution containing H_2A , or $\text{H}_2\text{A} + \text{HA}^-$

If K_1 is a hundred times or so greater than K_2 , the second ionization constant will have very little effect and can be ignored. The pH of the solution is calculated from K_1 expression.

2. A solution containing HA^- : Here both ionization affect the composition of the solution and must be considered.

$$\text{pH} = (\text{p}K_1 + \text{p}K_2) / 2$$

3. A solution containing $\text{HA}^- + \text{A}^{2-}$: If K_1 100 times or more greater than K_2 , there will be very little H_2A in the solution at equilibrium and the first ionization constant need not be used. The pH is calculated using K_2 .

1. Example: Calculate the pH of a 0.15M solution of malonic acid, $\text{CH}_2(\text{COOH})_2$. The ionization constants for malonic acids are, $K_{a1} = 1.40 \times 10^{-3}$, and $K_{a2} = 2.2 \times 10^{-6}$.

$$K_{a1} = \frac{[\text{H}^+][\text{HA}^-]}{[\text{H}_2\text{A}]}$$

$$K_{a1} = \frac{[\text{H}^+]^2}{0.15 - [\text{H}^+]}$$

Solving this equation by the quadratic formula:

$$[\text{H}^+] = 1.38 \times 10^{-2} \text{ M}$$

$$\text{pH} = 1.86$$

2. Example: Calculate the pH of a solution of sodium hydrogen malonate. The ionization constants for malonic acid are $pK_{a1} = 2.85$, $pK_{a2} = 5.66$

$$pH = (2.85 + 5.66) / 2 = 4.26$$

3. Example: Calculate the pH of a solution having, at equilibrium a hydrogen malonate ion (HA^-) concentration of 0.15M and a malonate ion A^{2-} concentration of 0.05M.

$$K_{a2} = \frac{[H^+][A^{2-}]}{[HA^-]} \quad 2.2 \times 10^{-6} = \frac{[H^+](0.05)}{(0.15)}$$

$$pH = 5.18$$

10-2: Diprotic Buffers

Calculate the pH of the following 0.10 M aqueous solutions:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Alanine chloride | H_2A^+ |
| 2. Alanine | HA |
| 3. Sodium alanate | A^- |

$\text{p}K_{\text{a}}$'s = 2.34 and 9.87

- (1) Estimate answer
- (2) Calculate it!

Calculate the pH of the following 0.10 M aqueous solutions:

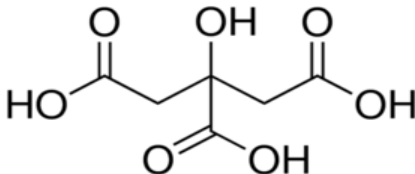
Name	Form	Strategy	Calculated pH
Alanine chloride	H_2A^+	Monoprotic acid	1.71
Alanine	HA	Amphiprotic	6.11
Sodium alanate	A^-	Monoprotic base	11.44

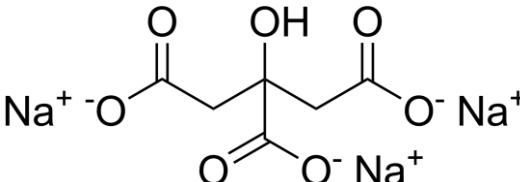
10-2: Diprotic Buffers

Describe how you would calculate the pH of the following 0.10 M aqueous solutions:

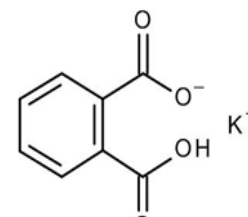
- sodium monohydrogen phosphate: Na_2HPO_4

- glycine hydrochloride: $\text{H}_2\text{G}^+.\text{Cl}^-$

- citric acid: 

- trisodium citrate: 

- potassium hydrogen phthalate, (KHP):



10-2: Diprotic Buffers

Describe how you would calculate the pH of the following 0.10 M aqueous solutions:

Solution:

Chemical Formula	Acid or base form	Strategy
Na_2HPO_4	HPO_4^{2-}	amphiprotic, K_{a2} , K_{a3}
H_2GCl or $\text{HG} \cdot \text{HCl}$	H_2G^+	monoprotic acid, K_{a1}
$\text{H}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{O}_7$	$\text{H}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{O}_7$	monoprotic acid, K_{a1}
$\text{Na}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{O}_7$	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{O}_7^{3-}$	monoprotic base, K_{b1}
$\text{KHC}_8\text{H}_4\text{O}_4$	$\text{HC}_8\text{H}_4\text{O}_4^-$	amphiprotic, K_{a1} , K_{a2}

10-2: Diprotic Buffers

- A buffer made from a diprotic (or polyprotic) acid is treated in the same way as a buffer made from a monoprotic acid.
- For the acid H_2A , we can write *two* Henderson-Hasselbalch equations, both of which are **always** true.
- If we know $[\text{H}_2\text{A}]$ and $[\text{HA}^-]$, then use the $\text{p}K_1$ equation. If we know $[\text{HA}^-]$ and $[\text{A}^{2-}]$, use the $\text{p}K_2$ equation.



$$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_1 \pm \text{Log} \frac{[\text{HA}^-]}{[\text{H}_2\text{A}]}$$

$$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_2 \pm \text{Log} \frac{[\text{A}^{2-}]}{[\text{HA}^-]}$$

10-2: Diprotic Buffers

Example: A Diprotic Buffer System

- Find the pH of a solution prepared by dissolving 1.00 g of potassium hydrogen phthalate and 1.20 g of disodium phthalate in 50.0 mL of water.

EXAMPLE A Diprotic Buffer System

Find the pH of a solution prepared by dissolving 1.00 g of potassium hydrogen phthalate and 1.20 g of disodium phthalate in 50.0 mL of water.

Solution Monohydrogen phthalate and phthalate were shown in the preceding example. The formula masses are $\text{KHP} = \text{C}_8\text{H}_5\text{O}_4\text{K} = 204.221$ and $\text{Na}_2\text{P} = \text{C}_8\text{H}_4\text{O}_4\text{Na}_2 = 210.094$. We know $[\text{HP}^-]$ and $[\text{P}^{2-}]$, so we use the $\text{p}K_2$ Henderson-Hasselbalch equation to find the pH:

$$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_2 + \log \frac{[\text{P}^{2-}]}{[\text{HP}^-]} = 5.408 + \log \frac{(1.20 \text{ g})/(210.094 \text{ g/mol})}{(1.00 \text{ g})/(204.221 \text{ g/mol})} = 5.47$$

K_2 is the acid dissociation constant of HP^- , which appears in the denominator of the log term. Notice that the volume of solution was not used to answer the question.

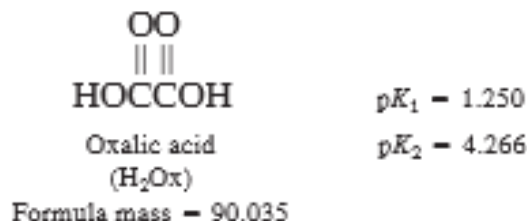
TEST YOURSELF Find the pH with 1.50 g Na_2P instead of 1.20 g. (**Answer:** 5.57)

10-3: Polyprotic Acids and Bases

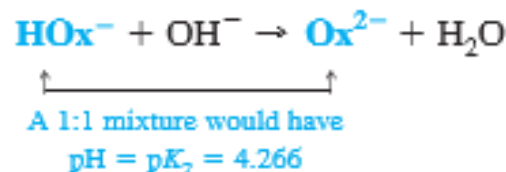
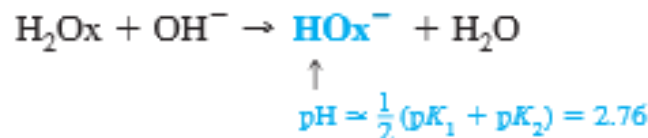
Example: A diprotic System

EXAMPLE Preparing a Buffer in a Diprotic System

How many milliliters of 0.800 M KOH should be added to 3.38 g of oxalic acid to give a pH of 4.40 when diluted to 500 mL?



Solution The desired pH is above pK_2 . We know that a 1 : 1 mole ratio of $\text{HOx}^- : \text{Ox}^{2-}$ would have $\text{pH} = pK_2 = 4.266$. If the pH is to be 4.40, there must be more Ox^{2-} than HOx^- present. We must add enough base to convert all H_2Ox into HOx^- , plus enough additional base to convert the right amount of HOx^- into Ox^{2-} .



10-3: Polyprotic Acids and Bases

Example: A diprotic System

In 3.38 g of H_2Ox , there are 0.03754 mol. The volume of 0.800 M KOH needed to react with this much H_2Ox to make HOx^- is $(0.03754\text{ mol})/(0.800\text{ M}) = 46.93\text{ mL}$.

To produce a pH of 4.40 requires an additional x mol of OH^- :

	HOx^-	$+ \text{OH}^-$	$\rightarrow \text{Ox}^{2-}$
Initial moles	0.03754	x	—
Final moles	$0.03754 - x$	—	x

$$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_2 + \log \frac{[\text{Ox}^{2-}]}{[\text{HOx}^-]}$$

$$4.40 = 4.266 + \log \frac{x}{0.03754 - x} \Rightarrow x = 0.02164\text{ mol}$$

The volume of KOH needed to deliver 0.02164 mole is $(0.02164\text{ mol})/(0.800\text{ M}) = 27.05\text{ mL}$.

The total volume of KOH needed to bring the pH to 4.40 is $46.93 + 27.05 = 73.98\text{ mL}$.

TEST YOURSELF What volume of KOH would bring the pH to 4.50? (*Answer:* 76.56 mL)

10-4: Which Is the Principal Species?

What is the principal form of benzoic acid (pK_a 4.20) at pH 8?

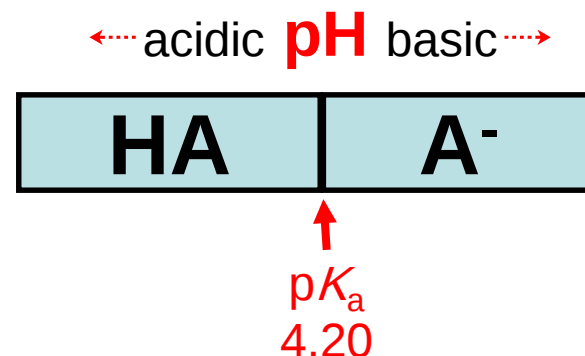
From the Henderson-Hasselbalch equation:

$$pH = pK_a \pm \text{Log} \frac{[A^-]}{[HA]} \quad pH = 4.20 \pm \text{Log} \frac{[A^-]}{[HA]}$$

$$pH = 4.20, \quad [HA] = [A^-]$$

$$pH < 4.20, \quad [HA] > [A^-]$$

$$pH > 4.20, \quad [HA] < [A^-]$$



At pH 8.0, base form A^- predominates.

10-4: Which Is the Principal Species?

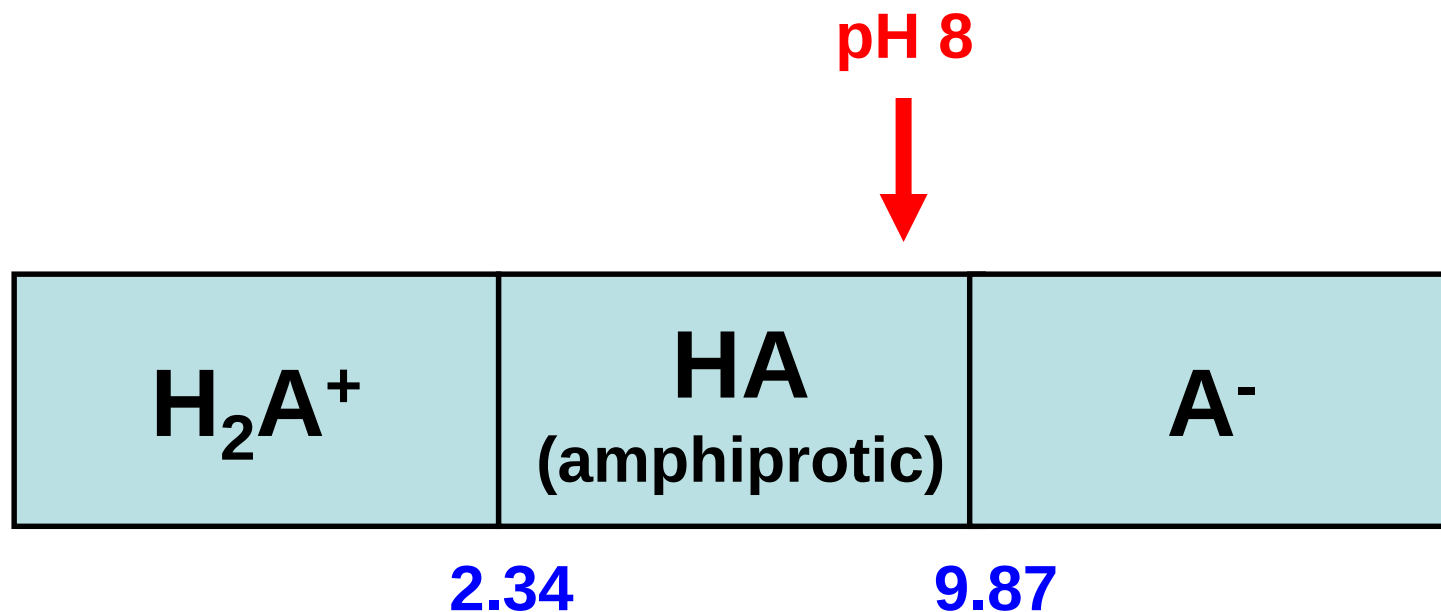
EXAMPLE Principal Species—Which One and How Much?

What is the predominant form of ammonia in a solution at pH 7.0? Approximately what fraction is in this form?

Solution In Appendix G, we find $pK_a = 9.24$ for the ammonium ion (NH_4^+ , the conjugate acid of ammonia, NH_3). At $\text{pH} = 9.24$, $[\text{NH}_4^+] = [\text{NH}_3]$. Below $\text{pH} 9.24$, NH_4^+ will be the predominant form. Because $\text{pH} = 7.0$ is about 2 pH units below pK_a , the quotient $[\text{NH}_4^+]/[\text{NH}_3]$ will be about 100:1. More than 99% is in the form NH_4^+ .

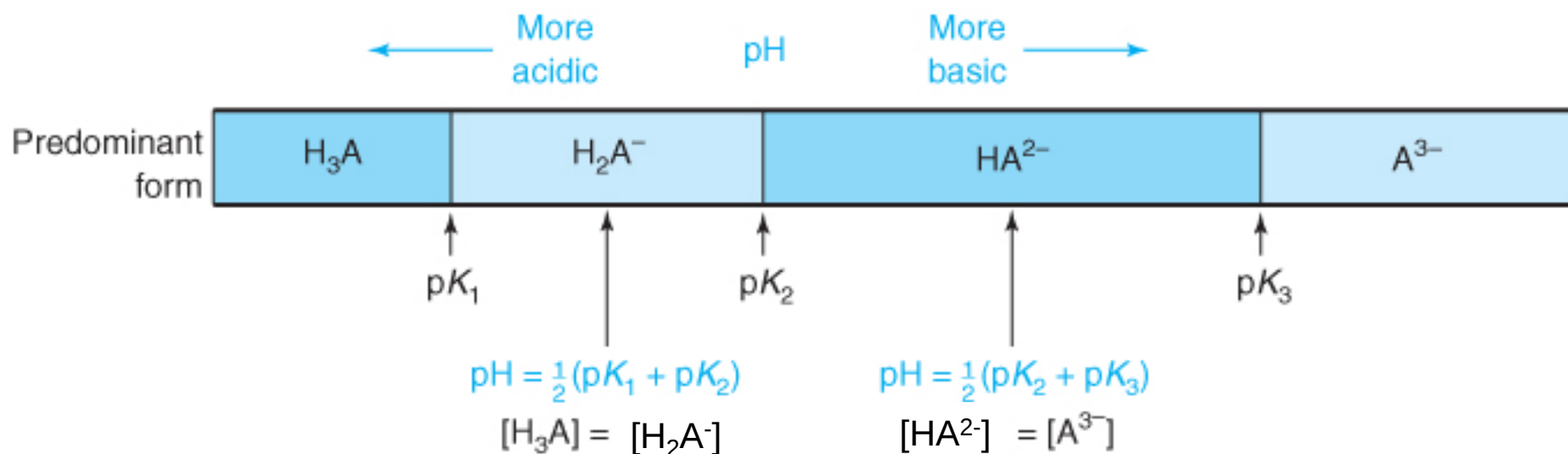
TEST YOURSELF Approximately what fraction of ammonia is in the form NH_3 at $\text{pH} 11$? (*Answer:* somewhat less than 99% because pH is almost 2 units above pK_a)

What is the principal form of alanine (pK_a 2.34 and 9.87) at pH 8?



The principal form of alanine pH 8 is the amphiprotic form, HA.

10-4: Which Is the Principal Species?



10-5: Fractional Composition Equations

We can derive equations that give the fraction of each species of acid or base at a given pH.

Monoprotic Systems:

$$\alpha_{\text{HA}} = \frac{[\text{HA}]}{[\text{F}]} = \frac{[\text{H}^+]}{[\text{H}^+] + K_a}$$

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

Example:

What fraction of benzoic acid exists as benzoate at pH 8.0?

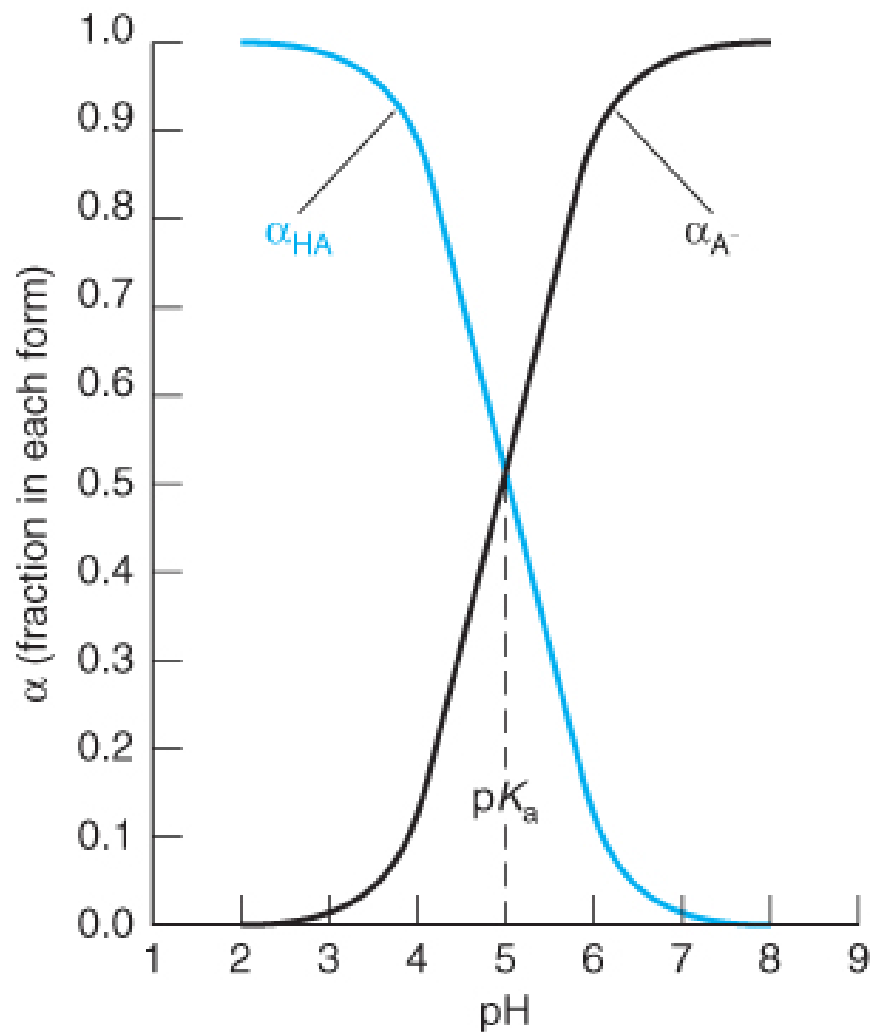
$$\alpha_{\text{A}^-} = \frac{K_a}{[\text{H}^+] + K_a} = \frac{10^{-4.20}}{10^{-8.0} + 10^{-4.20}} = 0.9998$$

At pH 8.0, almost all of the benzoic acid exists in the basic form!

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10-5: Fractional Composition Equations

- Fractional composition diagram of a monoprotic system with $pK_a = 5.00$. Below pH 5, HA is the dominant form, whereas, above pH 5, A^- dominates



10-5: Fractional Composition Equations

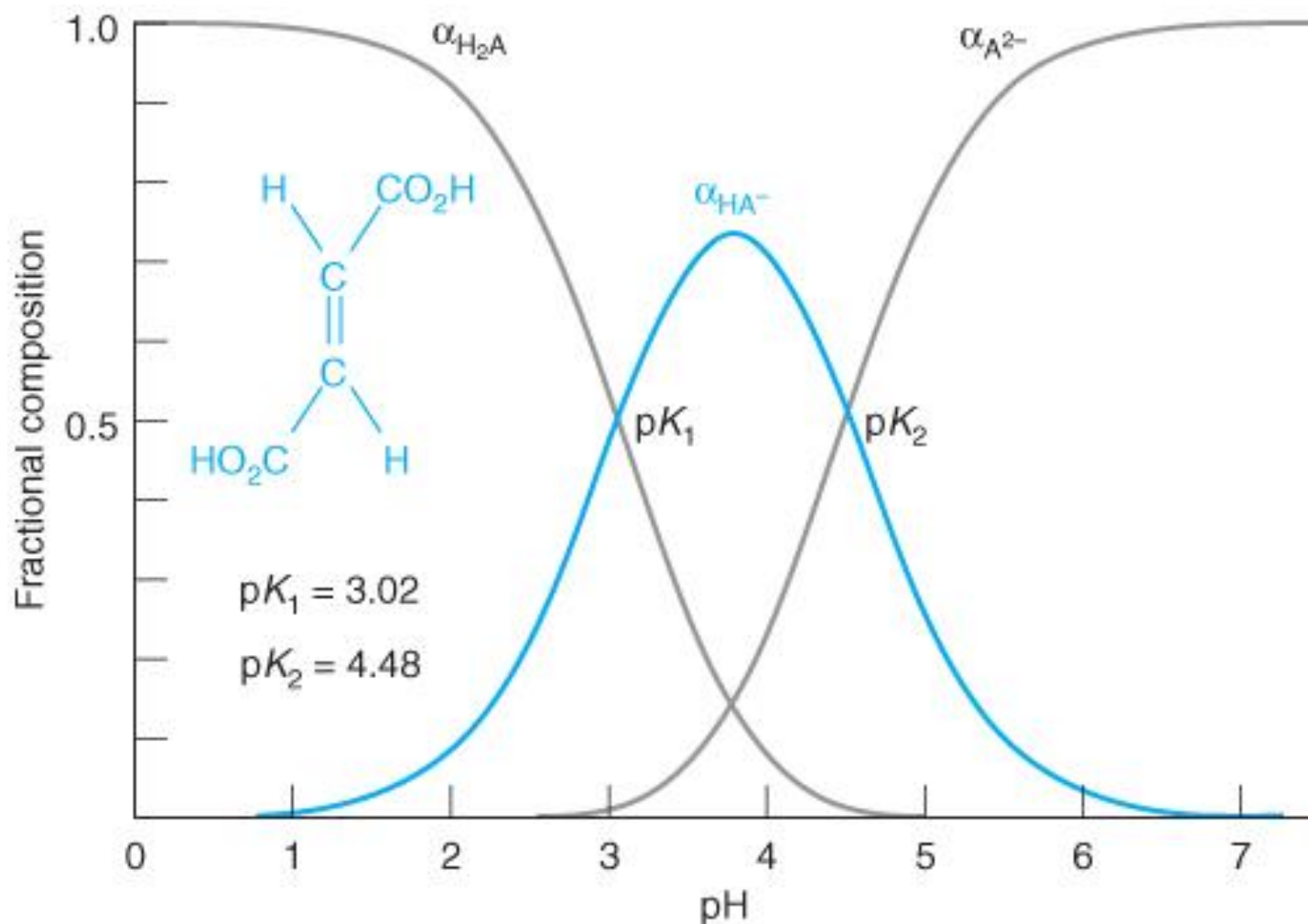
Diprotic Systems:

$$\alpha_{\text{H}_2\text{A}} = \frac{[\text{H}_2\text{A}]}{[\text{F}]} = \frac{[\text{H}^+]^2}{[\text{H}^+]^2 + [\text{H}^+]K_1 + K_1K_2}$$

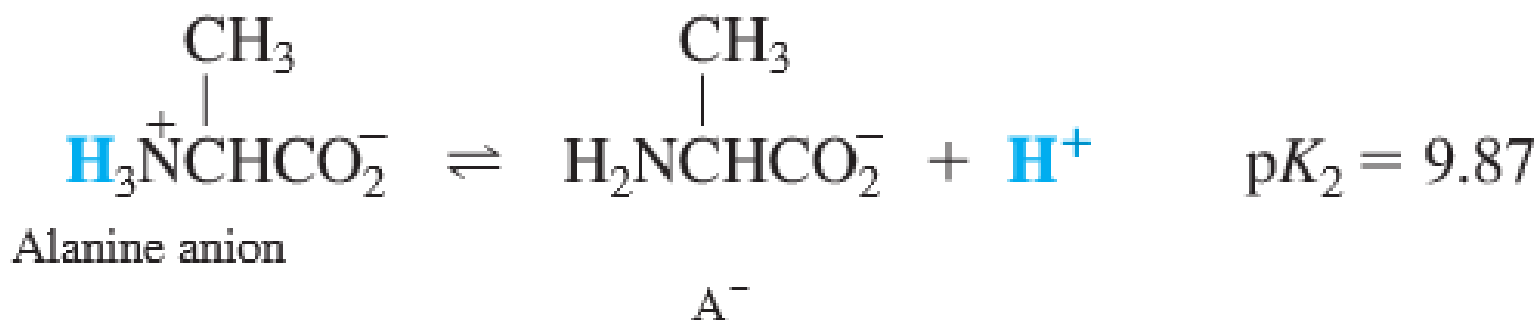
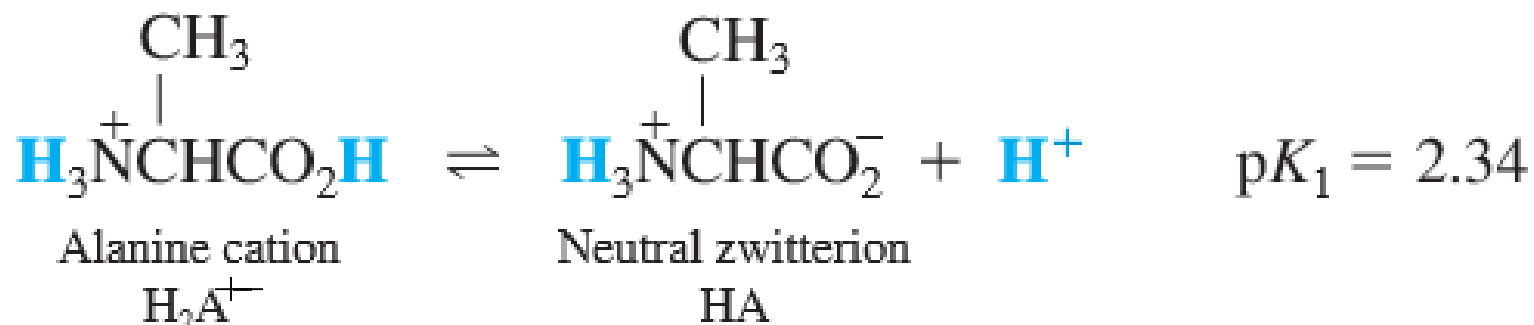
$$\alpha_{\text{HA}^-} = \frac{[\text{HA}^-]}{[\text{F}]} = \frac{K_1[\text{H}^+]}{[\text{H}^+]^2 + [\text{H}^+]K_1 + K_1K_2}$$

$$\alpha_{\text{A}^{2-}} = \frac{[\text{A}^{2-}]}{[\text{F}]} = \frac{K_1K_2}{[\text{H}^+]^2 + [\text{H}^+]K_1 + K_1K_2}$$

10-5: Fractional Composition Equations



10-6: Isoelectric and Isoionic pH



10-6: Isoelectric and Isoionic pH

- The **isoionic point** (or isoionic pH):
 - pH obtained when the pure, neutral polyprotic acid HA (the neutral zwitterion) is dissolved in water.
 - The only ions are H_2A^+ , A^- , H^+ , and OH^- .
 - Most alanine is in the form HA, and the concentrations of H_2A^+ and A^- are *not* equal to each other.
 - For neutral alanine, HA, dissolved in water, the pH would be somewhere between 2.234 and 9.87. The $[A^-]$ would be slightly larger than the $[H_2A^+]$. This is the **isoionic pH**.

$$[H^+] = \sqrt{\frac{K_{a1}K_{a2}F + K_{a1}K_w}{K_{a1} + F}}$$

10-6: Isoelectric and Isoionic pH

- The **isoelectric point** (or isoelectric pH):
 - pH at which the **average charge** of the polyprotic acid is 0.
 - Most of the molecules are in the uncharged form HA, and the concentrations of H_2A^+ and A^- **are equal** to each other.

$$[\text{H}_2\text{A}^+] = [\text{A}^-]$$

- If a pure sample of neutral alanine ($\text{p}K_1$ 2.34, $\text{p}K_2$ 9.87) is dissolved in water, the $[\text{A}^-]$ would be slightly larger than the $[\text{H}_2\text{A}^+]$.
- By adding a small amount of acid, some A^- would be converted to H_2A^+ until the concentrations are equal. This is the isoelectric pH.

$\text{pH} = \frac{1}{2} (\text{p}K_{\text{a}1} + \text{p}K_{\text{a}2})$
- Can be used to separate proteins from one another.

10-3: Polyprotic Acids and Bases

Example: A triprotic System, page 221 (9th Edition)

- Find the pH of 0.10 M $\text{H}_3\text{His}^{2+}$, 0.10 M H_2His^+ , 0.10 M HHis , and 0.10 M His^+ , where His stands for the amino acid histidine.

- H_3A is treated as monoprotic acid, with $k_a = k_1$.
- H_2A^- is treated as the intermediate form of a diprotic acid :

$$[\text{H}^+] = \sqrt{\frac{K_{a1}K_{a2}F + K_{a1}K_w}{K_{a1} + F}}$$

$$\text{pH} \approx \frac{1}{2} (\text{p}K_{a1} + \text{p}K_{a2})$$

10-3: Polyprotic Acids and Bases

3. HA^{2-} is treated as the intermediate form of a diprotic acid. However, HA^{2-} is “surrounded” by H_2A^- and A^{3-} , so the equilibrium constants to use are K_2 and K_3 , instead of K_1 and K_2 :

$$[\text{H}^+] = [(K_2K_3F + K_2K_w)/(K_1 + F)]^{1/2}$$

$$\text{pH} \approx \frac{1}{2} (\text{p}K_{a2} + \text{p}K_{a3})$$

4. A^{3-} is treated as monobasic, with $K_b = K_{b1} = K_w/K_{a3}$