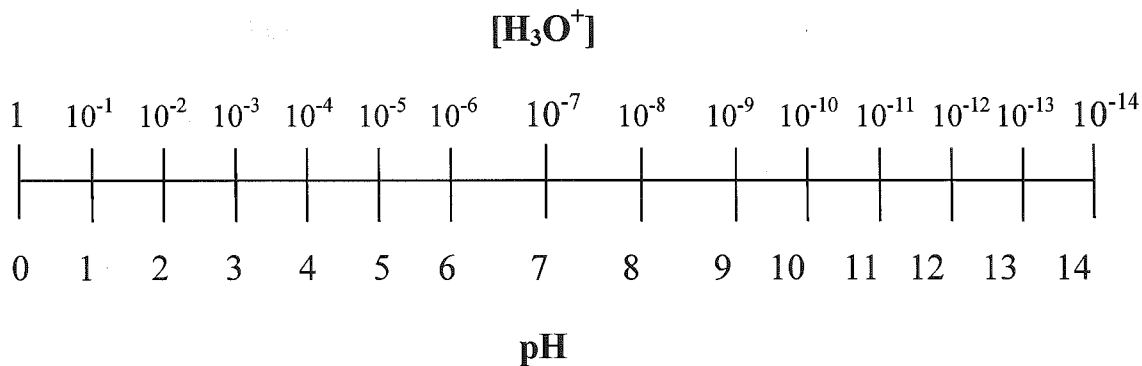


## 8. pH, pOH and pK Values

### a) The pH Scale

i) A logarithmic scale showing strength of acids and bases.



ii) Every decrease in pH of 1 = Increase in  $[H_3O^+]$  by 10

### b) What is pH?

i) Measure of  $[H_3O^+]$  present in a solution

ii) Solution is acidic when pH less than 7

iii)  $pH = -\log[H_3O^+]$

iv) What is pH when the  $[H_3O^+] = 1.2 \times 10^{-3} M$ ?

$$pH = -\log(1.2 \times 10^{-3}) = 2.92$$

v) What is pH when the  $[H_3O^+] = 4.8 \times 10^{-8} M$ ?

$$pH = -\log(4.8 \times 10^{-8}) = 7.32$$

vi) What is the  $[H_3O^+]$  when the pH is 2.55?

$$[H_3O^+] = 10^{-2.55} \text{ or } [H_3O^+] = \text{antilog}(-2.55) = 2.8 \times 10^{-3} M$$

vii) What is the  $[H_3O^+]$  when the pH is 9.70?

$$[H_3O^+] = 10^{-9.70} = 2.0 \times 10^{-10} M$$

### c) What is pOH?

- i) Measure of  $[\text{OH}^-]$  present in a solution
- ii) Solution is basic when pOH less than 7 (*pH greater than 7*)

iii)  $\text{pOH} = -\log[\text{OH}^-]$

- iv) What is pOH when the  $[\text{OH}^-] = 1.5 \times 10^{-1} \text{ M}$ ?

$$\text{pOH} = -\log(1.5 \times 10^{-1}) = 0.82$$

- v) What is pOH when the  $[\text{OH}^-] = 4.4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$ ?

$$\text{pOH} = -\log(4.4 \times 10^{-4}) = 3.36$$

- vi) What is the  $[\text{OH}^-]$  when the pOH is 12.65?

$$[\text{OH}^-] = 10^{-12.65} = 2.2 \times 10^{-13} \text{ M}$$

- vii) What is the  $[\text{OH}^-]$  when the pOH is 1.70?

$$[\text{OH}^-] = 10^{-1.70} = 2.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ M}$$

### d) Relationship Between pH and pOH

i)  $\text{pH} + \text{pOH} = 14$

- ii) What is the pH of a solution if the pOH is 10.2?

$$\text{pH} = 14 - 10.2 = 3.8$$

- iii) What is the  $[\text{OH}^-]$  if the pH is 3.25?

$$\text{pOH} = 14 - 3.25 = 10.75 \quad [\text{OH}^-] = 10^{-10.75} = 1.8 \times 10^{-11} \text{ M}$$

- iv) What is the pOH if the  $[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] = 1.7 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$ ?

$$\text{pH} = -\log(1.7 \times 10^{-4}) = 3.78 \quad \text{pOH} = 14 - 3.78 = 10.22$$

- v) What is the  $[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]$  if the  $[\text{OH}^-] = 3.50 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$

$$\text{pOH} = -\log(3.50 \times 10^{-5}) = 4.456$$

$$[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+][\text{OH}^-] = K_w$$

$$\text{pH} = 14 - 4.456 = 9.544$$

$$\text{or} \quad [\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] = \frac{1.00 \times 10^{-14}}{3.50 \times 10^{-5}} = 2.86 \times 10^{-10} \text{ M}$$

$$[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] = 10^{-9.544} = 2.86 \times 10^{-10} \text{ M}$$

### ***e) pK Values***

i) pK values are just for convenience!

ii) Observe the Pattern!

$$\text{pH} = -\log[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] \qquad 6 = -\log[1.00 \times 10^{-6}]$$

$$\text{pKw} = -\log[\text{Kw}] \qquad 14 = -\log[1.00 \times 10^{-14}]$$

ii)  $\text{pKw} = 14$  ( $\text{pH} + \text{pOH} = 14$  or  $\text{pH} + \text{pOH} = \text{pKw}$ )

iii) Observe the Pattern!

$$\text{pKa} = -\log[\text{Ka}] \qquad 2.12 = -\log[7.5 \times 10^{-3}]$$

$$\text{pKb} = -\log[\text{Kb}] \qquad 4.74 = -\log[1.8 \times 10^{-5}]$$

iv)  $\text{pKa} + \text{pKb} = \text{pKw}$

### ***f) Significant Figures***

i) In a pH (or pOH) value, only the numbers after the decimal are significant

ii) Example:

pH = 2.465 has 3 sig. figs. The "2" give the power of 10....not significant.

iii) Example:

pH = 10.25 has 2 sig. figs.

iv) Example:  $[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] = 1.24 \times 10^{-3}$  M. What is pH?

$$\text{pH} = -\log(1.24 \times 10^{-3}) = 2.907$$

v) Example:  $[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] = 1.762 \times 10^{-6}$  M. What is pH?

$$\text{pH} = -\log(1.762 \times 10^{-6}) = 5.7540$$

