

Ionization of Water-Kw

Recall- H_2O is amphoteric (both acid + base)

$$H_2O(l) + H_2O(l) \rightleftharpoons H_3O^+(aq) + OH^-(aq)$$

$$K_w = \frac{[H_3O^+][OH^-]}{[H_2O][H_2O]}$$

Constant

New constant - $K_w = [H_3O^+][OH^-]$ for all aqueous solutions

$$K_w = (1.0 \times 10^{-7})(1.0 \times 10^{-7})$$

$$= 1.0 \times 10^{-14}$$

Example- What is $[OH^-]$ of a solution with $pH = 2.5$?

- $pH = -\log[H_3O^+]$
- $2.5 = -\log[H_3O^+]$
- $-2.5 = \log[H_3O^+]$
- $10^{-2.5} = 10^{-\log[H_3O^+]}$
- $0.0032 = [H_3O^+]$
- $K_w = [H_3O^+][OH^-]$
- $\frac{1.0 \times 10^{-14}}{0.0032} = \frac{0.0032 \times [OH^-]}{0.0032}$
- $3.1 \times 10^{-12} = [OH^-]$

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#12(b) $NaOH \quad 1.1 \text{ mol/L}$

$$\downarrow$$

$$[OH^-] = 1.1 \text{ mol/L}$$

$$K_w = [H_3O^+][OH^-]$$

$$\frac{1.0 \times 10^{-14}}{1.1} = \frac{x}{1.1} \quad x = 9.1 \times 10^{-12}$$

$$\text{mol/L}$$

Example- Weak acids-bases

An acid, HX , has $K_a = 4.6 \times 10^{-5}$

What is $[OH^-]$ if $[HX] = 0.10 \text{ mol/L}$

- $HX + H_2O \rightleftharpoons H_3O^+ + X^-$
- $$\begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c} & 0.10 & & & \\ \hline C & -x & & & \\ \hline E & 0.10-x & & & \end{array}$$
- $K_a = \frac{[H_3O^+][X^-]}{[HX]}$
- $4.6 \times 10^{-5} = \frac{x(x)}{0.10-x}$
- $4.6 \times 10^{-5} \times 0.10 = x^2$
- $\sqrt{4.6 \times 10^{-5}} = x$
- $6.8 \times 10^{-3} = x = [H_3O^+]$
- $K_w = [H_3O^+][OH^-]$
- $1.0 \times 10^{-14} = 6.8 \times 10^{-3} [OH^-]$
- $1.0 \times 10^{-14} = [OH^-]$
- Worksheet: #5.6
 $1.5 \times 10^{-12} = [OH^-]$
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