

# Titration of WEAK BASE with STRONG ACID

Think first of major species in solution  
 → decide which rxn runs to completion → do stoichiometry  
 Decide which equilibrium is dominant → calculate pH

Ex: 100.0 ml of 0.050 M NH<sub>3</sub> was titrated with 0.10 M HCl

- Determine the pH at the half-way point of the titration.
- Calculate the pH at the equivalence point.

100.0 ml 0.050 M NH<sub>3</sub>      (100.0 ml)(0.050 M) = 5.0 mmol  
 0.10 M HCl

1/2 way = 2.5 mmol

(Vol HCl)(0.10 M HCl) = 2.5 mmol  
 Vol HCl = 25.0 ml

Vol soln = 125.0 ml

|   |   |           |                    |
|---|---|-----------|--------------------|
|   | NH <sub>3</sub> + H <sup>+</sup> → NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> |           |                    |
| I | 5.0 mmol  | 2.5 mmol  | 0                  |
| C | -2.5 mmol   | -2.5 mmol | +2.5 mmol          |
| F | 2.5 mmol  | 0         | 2.5 mmol           |
|   | 125.0 ml  |           | 125.0 ml = 0.020 M |

= 0.020 M

\*\*

 1/2 Way → pOH = pK<sub>b</sub> = 1.8 × 10<sup>-5</sup>
\*\*

pOH = 4.74 ∴ pH = 9.26

b) At eq. pt:      (Vol HCl)(0.10 M HCl) = 5.0 mmol = 50.0 ml

|   |   |          |   |
|---|---|----------|---|
|   | NH <sub>3</sub> + H <sup>+</sup> → NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> |          |   |
| I | 5.0 mmol  | 5.0 mmol | 0   |
| C | -5.0  | -5.0     | +5.0  |
| F | 0   | 0        | 5.0 mmol                                      |
|   |   |          | 150 ml = 0.033 M NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> |

|   |  |    |    |
|---|--|----|----|
|   | NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> + H <sub>2</sub> O ⇌ H <sup>+</sup> + NH <sub>3</sub> |    |    |
| I | 0.033 M  | 0  | 0  |
| C | -x   | -x | -x |
| E | 0.033 M - x  | x  | x  |

$K_a = \frac{K_w}{K_b} = \frac{1 \times 10^{-14}}{1.8 \times 10^{-5}} = 5.6 \times 10^{-10} = \frac{x^2}{(0.033 - x)}$

4.3 × 10<sup>-6</sup> = x = [H<sup>+</sup>]

c) pH with addition of 55.0 ml 0.10 M HCl

Will be acidic!

 pH = 5.37

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## A summary of the important curves

The way you normally carry out a titration involves adding the acid to the alkali. Here are reduced versions of the graphs described above so that you can see them all together.

