

Name _____ Block: _____ Date: _____

Chemistry 12
ACID-BASE INDICATORS

KEY

1. An indicator HInd is yellow in 0.1M NaOH and blue in 0.1M HCl. The pH range in which the colour change occurs in this indicator is 3.6 - 5.2.
- a) Write the *equilibrium equation* describing this indicator.

$$\text{HInd} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_3\text{O}^+ + \text{Ind}^-$$
blue yellow
- b) What is the colour of HInd? blue What is the colour of Ind⁻? yellow
- c) What is the pH at the transition point of this indicator? 4.4 $(\frac{3.6+5.2}{2})$
- d) What is the value of pK_a for this indicator? 4.4
- e) What is the K_a of this indicator? 4×10^{-5} $(10^{-4.4})$
- f) At pH = 2.2, this indicator is the colour blue and [HInd] (>,<=) > [Ind⁻].
- g) At pH = 7.0, this indicator is the colour yellow and [HInd] (>,<=) < [Ind⁻].
- h) At pH = 11.3, this indicator is the colour yellow and [HInd] (>,<=) < [Ind⁻].
- i) At pH = 4.4, this indicator is the colour green and [HInd] (>,<=) = [Ind⁻].
- j) At pH = 4.3, this indicator is the colour green and [HInd] (>,<=) = [Ind⁻].
- k) In 0.001M HNO₃, this indicator is the colour blue and [HInd] (>,<=) > [Ind⁻].
- l) In 0.001M KOH, this indicator is the colour yellow and [HInd] (>,<=) < [Ind⁻].
- m) At the *transition point*, is [H₃O⁺] = K_a (indicator.)? yes
2. A solution turns yellow when Orange IV is added and red when methyl orange is added. Give the approximate pH range of the solution.
> 2.8 < 3.2
2.8 - 3.2
3. A solution turns yellow when chlorophenol red is added and also yellow when methyl orange is added. Give the approximate pH range of the solution.
< 5.2 > 4.4
4.4 - 5.2
4. A solution turns magenta when phenolphthalein is added and yellow when alizarin yellow is added. Determine the approximate [H₃O⁺].
> 10.0 < 10.1
 pH ≈ 10.05

$$[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] = 10^{-10.05} = 9 \times 10^{-11} \text{ M}$$

5. A 0.10 M solution of a weak acid HX turns red in both chlorophenol red and in neutral red indicator. < 6.8

a) Determine the approximate pH of this solution of HX. 6.8

b) Determine the K_a of the weak acid HX (Not the K_a (indicator)!) (Hint: Use an ICE table!)

> 6.8

$$\text{HX} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{X}^- + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+$$

I	0.10	}	\ominus	\oplus
C	-1.6×10^{-7}		$+1.6 \times 10^{-7}$	$+1.6 \times 10^{-7}$
E	$0.10 - 1.6 \times 10^{-7}$		1.6×10^{-7}	1.6×10^{-7}

$$K_a = \frac{(1.6 \times 10^{-7})^2}{(0.10 - 1.6 \times 10^{-7})}$$

$$K_a = 2.5 \times 10^{-13}$$

$K_a = 3 \times 10^{-13}$

$[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] = 10^{-6.8}$
 $= 1.6 \times 10^{-7} \text{ M}$

6. An indicator “Gupta Green” (HGg) turns yellow when $[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]$ drops below $1.2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$ and turns blue when $[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]$ rises above $1.8 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$. (Notice 2 SD’s)

a) Find the pH range over which the indicator changes colour. (2SD’s)

$\text{pH} = -\log(1.2 \times 10^{-4}) = 3.92$ blue yellow

$\text{pH} = -\log(1.8 \times 10^{-3}) = 2.74$ $2.74 < \text{pH} < 3.92$

b) Determine the pK_a of the indicator “Gupta Green”. 3.33

c) What colour would 0.00019 M HCl be in this indicator? $\text{pH} = 3.72$ green

d) What colour would 0.010 M NaOH be in this indicator? $\text{pOH} = 2.00$ $\text{pH} = 12.00$ yellow

e) What colour would 0.10 M CH_3COOH be in this indicator? (Show how you got $[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]$)

$$\text{CH}_3\text{COOH} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_3\text{O}^+ + \text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$$

I	0.10	}	\oplus	\ominus
C	$-x$		$+x$	$+x$
E	$0.10 - x$		x	x

Assume $0.10 - x \approx 0.10$

$$K_a = \frac{x^2}{0.10} \quad K_a = 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$x = \sqrt{0.10 (1.8 \times 10^{-5})}$$

$$x = 1.34 \times 10^{-3} = [\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]$$

$\text{pH} = -\log 1.34 \times 10^{-3} = 2.87 = \text{pH}$

7. An indicator HInd turns yellow in 0.10 M HCl and blue in 0.10 M NaOH.

a) Write the equation describing the *equilibrium* in HInd.



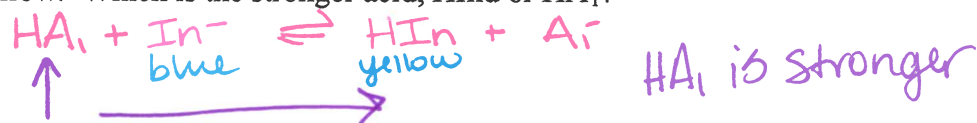
b) What colour is HInd? yellow What colour is Ind⁻? blue

c) HInd is green in the range pH = 5.4 to pH = 6.2. Determine the K_a of HInd.(1)

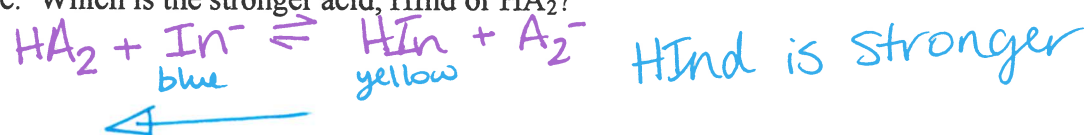
$pK_a = 5.8$
midpoint

$$K_a = 10^{-5.8} = 2 \times 10^{-6}$$

d) When a few drops of HInd are added to a weak acid HA_1 , the colour is yellow. Which is the stronger acid, HInd or HA_1 ?



e) When a few drops of HInd are added to a weak acid HA_2 , the colour is blue. Which is the stronger acid, HInd or HA_2 ?



f) Which acid is stronger, HA_1 , or HA_2 ? HA_1

g) List the acids HInd, HA_1 and HA_2 in order of strength from strongest to weakest.



h) List the bases Ind^- , A_1^- , and A_2^- , in order of strength from strongest to weakest.

