Question #70873, Chemistry / General Chemistry

Calculate the pH of a Tris-buffer. 435.96 mg of Tris and 3.0 mL of 1 M HCl are disolved and diluted to 100 mL with water.

The mw of Tris = 121.1 g/mol and has a pKa = 8.3

Answer:

According to Henderson–Hasselbalch equation pH of buffer can be calculated as:

$$pH = pK_a + \log\frac{[A^-]}{[HA]}$$

[HA] – acidic form concentration

[A-] – conjugate base form concentration

Starting moles of Tris:

$$n(\text{Tris}) = \frac{0.43596 \ g}{121.1 \frac{g}{mol}} = 0.0036 \ mol$$

Starting moles of HCI:

$$n(HCl) = 1\frac{mol}{L} \times 0.003 L = 0.003 mol$$

Normally, Tris is a base, reaction with HCl gives HTris – conjugate acid (n(HTris)=n(HCl)):

$$[\text{HA}] = \frac{0.003 \, mol}{0.1 \, L} = 0.03 \frac{mol}{L}$$

Remaining Tris represents base:

$$[A^{-}] = \frac{0.0036 \ mol - 0.003 \ mol}{0.1 \ L} = 0.006 \frac{mol}{L}$$

Thus:

$$pH = 8.3 + \log \frac{0.006 \frac{mol}{L}}{0.03 \frac{mol}{L}} = 8.3 - 0.7 = 7.6$$

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