Question#71555 - Chemistry - General chemistry

Question: Why add pyridine and methylene chloride for ferric test?

Answer: Methylene chloride for ferric test is used as solvent and pyridine is used as base.

Most of phenols do not dissolve in water, so we use CH₂Cl₂ for dissolving a sample.

Ferric test is based on the reaction:

$$3ArOH + FeCl_3 \rightarrow Fe(OAr)_3$$

Where Fe(OAr)₃ is a colored compound, but molecular phenols can not react by the reaction, because are protonated. We use pyridine as base for deprotonation of phenols:

protonated pyridine

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