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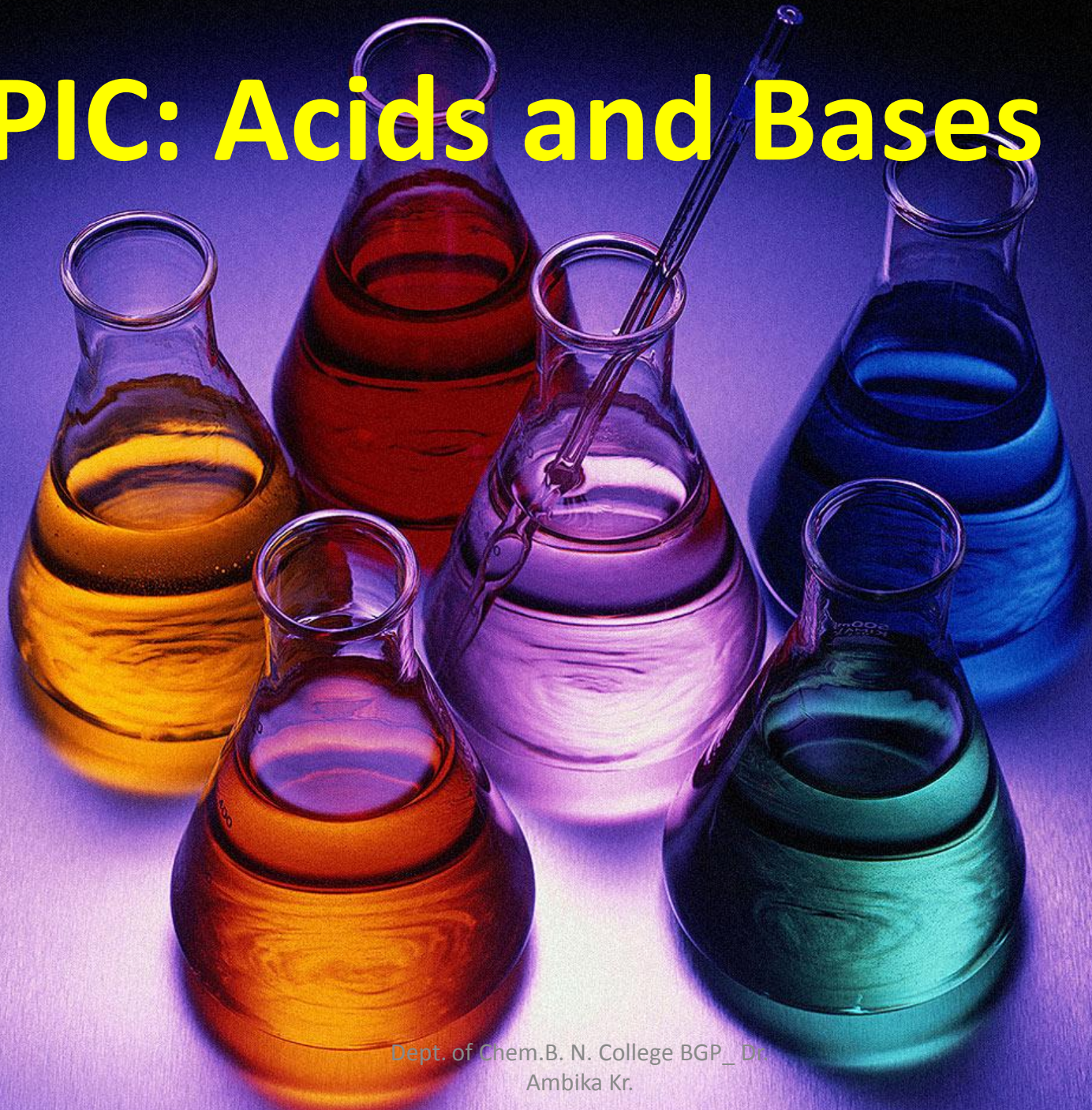
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Dept. of Chem. B. N. College BGP\_ Dr. Ambika Kr.

# TOPIC: Acids and Bases



Dept. of Chem.B. N. College BGP\_ Dr.  
Ambika Kr.

# Contents:

- **Introduction to Acids and Bases**
- **Arrhenius Concept**
- **Bronsted-Lowry Concept**
- **Lux-Flood System**
- **Lewis Concept**
- **Solvent effect on acid base**

# Arrhenius theory of acid

- Arrhenius was a Sweedish chemist
- Put forward a theory of acids in the 1880's
- Stated that:

An acid is a substance that dissociates in water to form  $H^+$  ions.

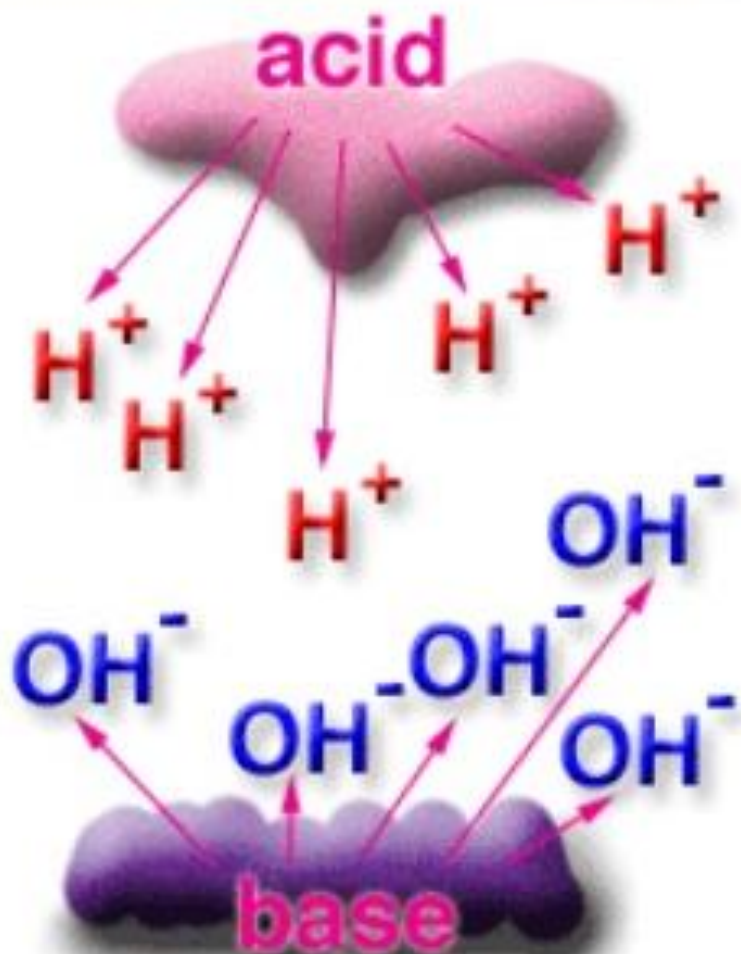


## Arrhenius theory of acids

Arrhenius definition of an acid: any compound that contains hydrogen and **produces**  $H^+$  ( $H_3O^+$  when reacts with water) ions when dissolved in water.

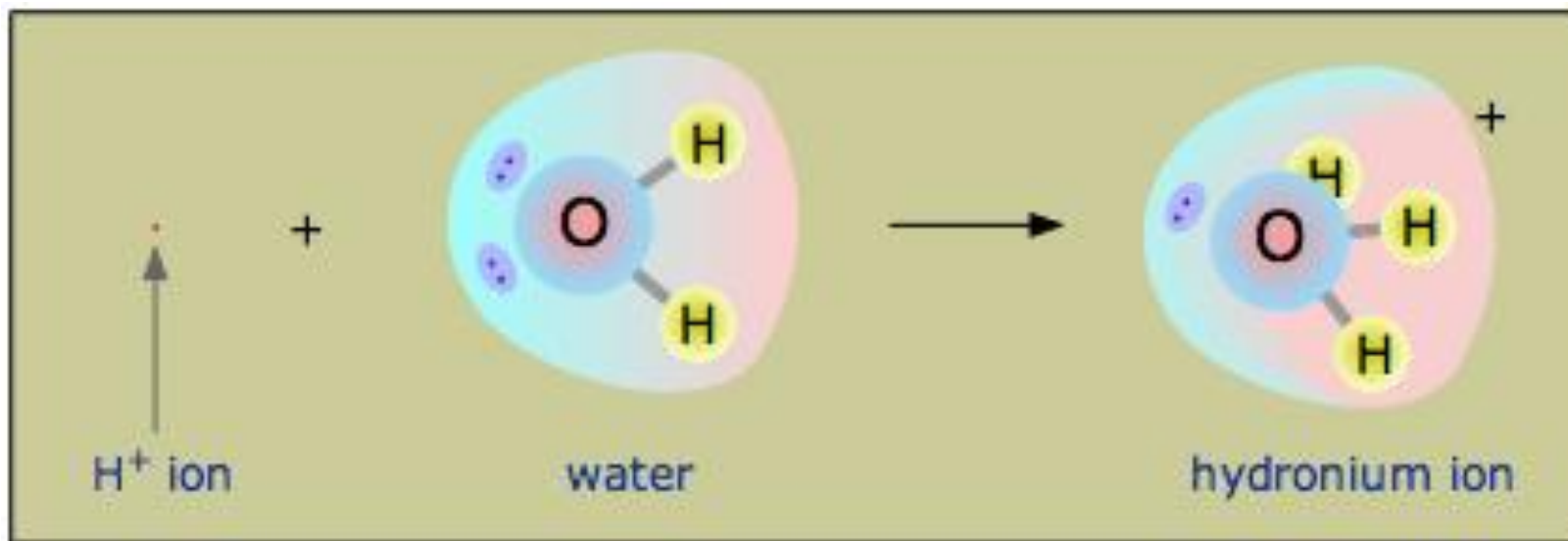
A **strong acid** is a water-soluble compound that completely dissociates to give  $H_3O^+$  ions.

A **weak acid** is a water-soluble compound that dissociates only partially, producing few  $H_3O^+$  ions.



**NOTE:** In Arrhenius concept, solvent must be **WATER**

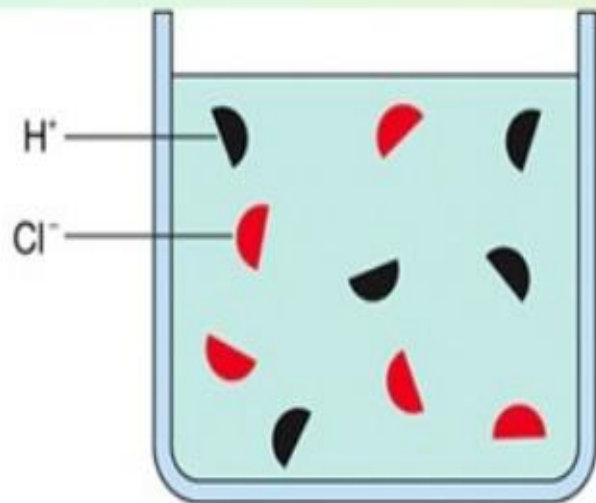
When an acid dissociates in water, it liberates  $\text{H}^+$  ions, which immediately react with water to form  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$



## Arrhenius theory of acids

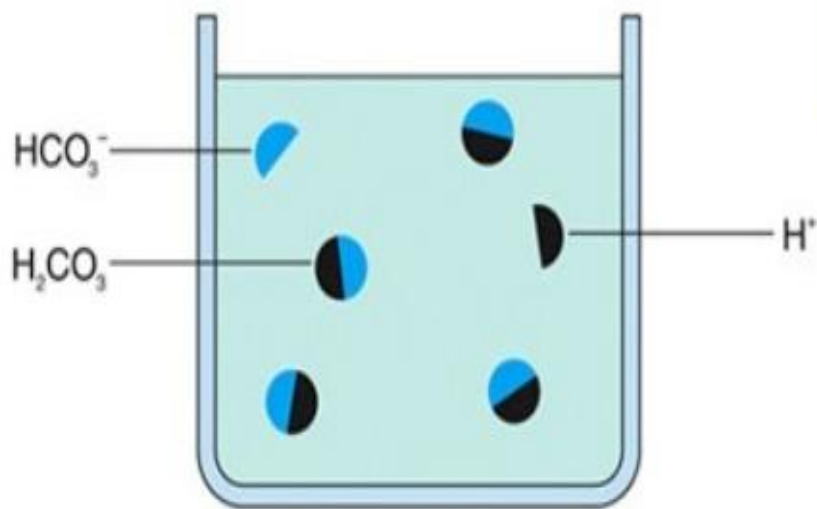
A **strong acid** is a water-soluble compound that completely dissociates to give  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  ions.

A **weak acid** is a water-soluble compound that dissociates only partially, producing few  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  ions.



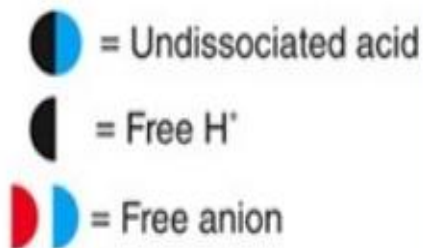
Strong acid (HCl)

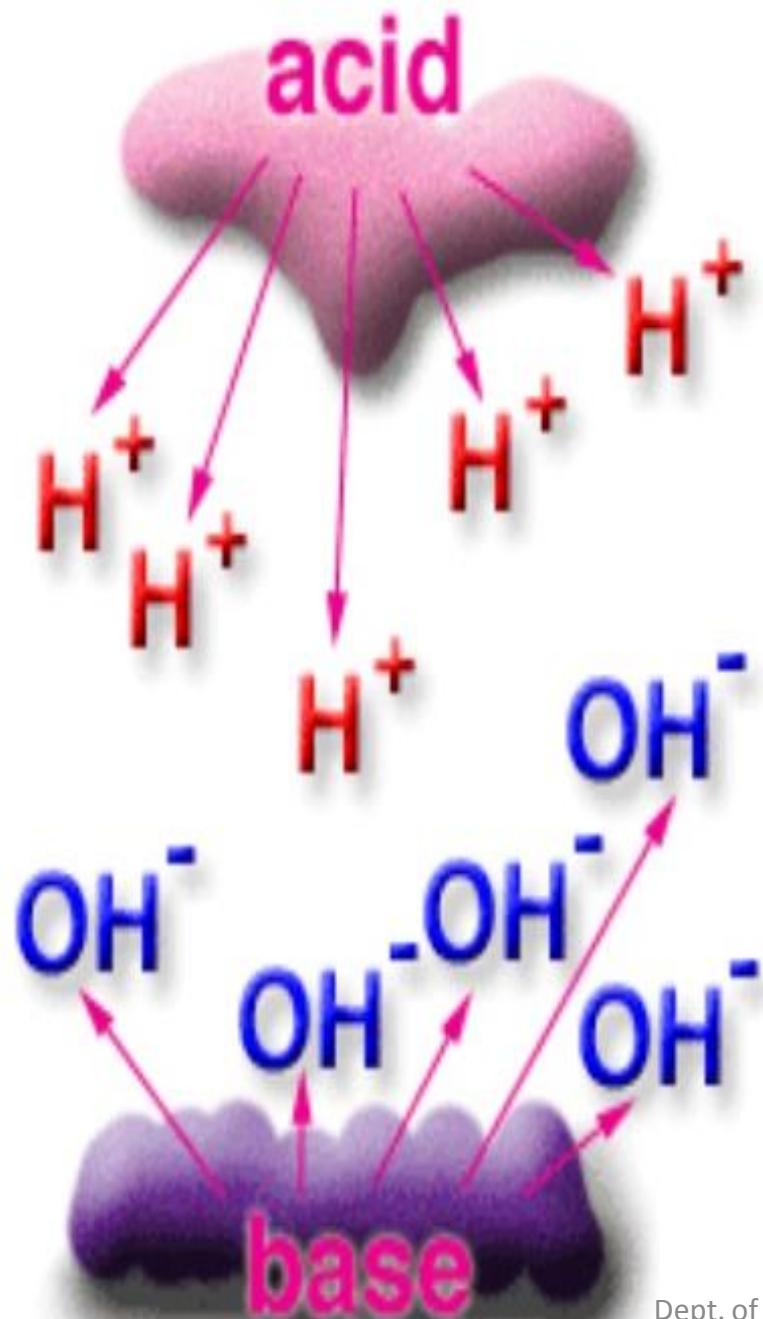
(a)



Weak acid ( $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$ )

(b)





## Arrhenius theory of bases

Arrhenius definition of a base: any compound that contains a metal and hydroxide ( $OH^-$ ) group **produces**  $OH^-$  (hydroxide) ions when dissolved in water.

All hydroxides are **strong bases** because their dissociation reaction go essentially to completion.



# Application of Arrhenius Concept

➤ Non-metallic oxides (in aqueous medium) are generally acidic in nature

➤ Metallic oxides (in aqueous medium) are generally basic in nature

➤ Some non-metallic hydrides (in aqueous medium) are basic in nature, e.g.,  $\text{NH}_3$

## Non-Metals

1	2	13	14	15	16	17	18												
H	He	B	C	N	O	F	Ne												
Li	Be	Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar												
Na	Mg	K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe		
Cs	Ba	La	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn		
Fr	Ra	Ac	Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Uub	Uut	Uuq	Uup	Uuh	Uus	Uuo		

6	7													
La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu
Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr

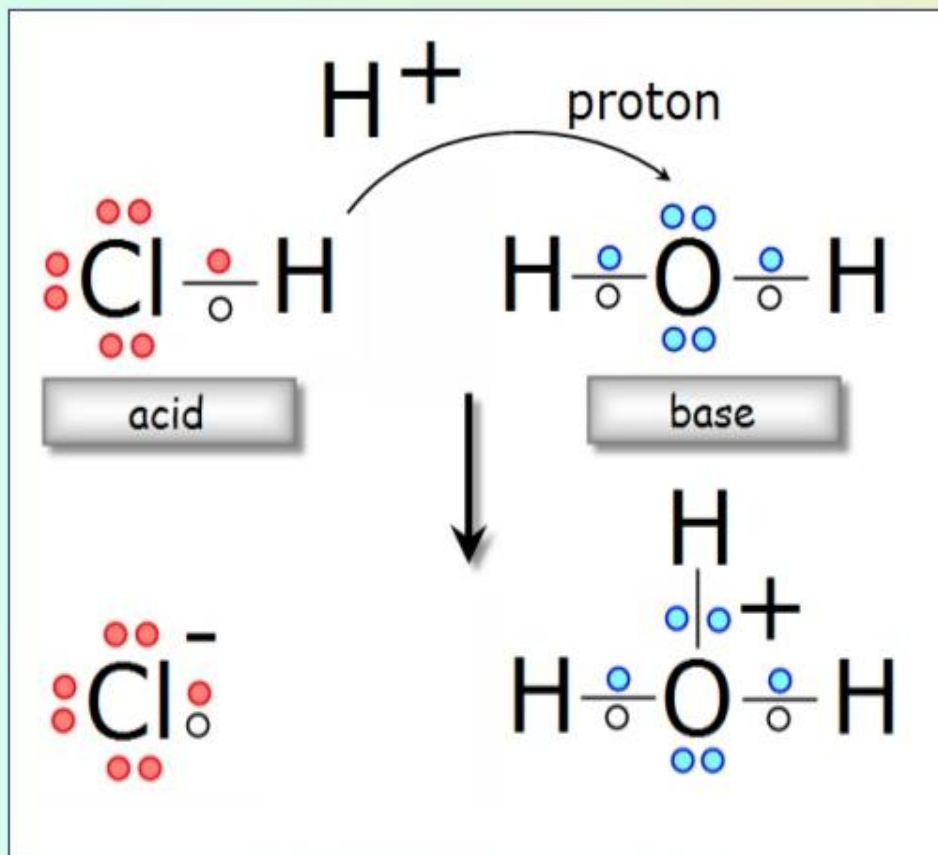
## The Metals

1	2	13	14	15	16	17	18										
H	He	B	C	N	O	F	Ne										
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Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe
Cs	Ba	La	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn
Fr	Ra	Ac	Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Uub	Uut	Uuq	Uup	Uuh	Uus	Uuo

# Limitations of Arrhenius Theory

- **Hydronium ions exist in solution not  $H^+$  ions as suggested by Arrhenius**
- **Arrhenius restricted his definitions to aqueous (water based) solutions**
- **Not all acid-base reactions require water as suggested by Arrhenius e.g. rxn of ammonia gas with hydrogen chloride gas**

# Bronsted –Lowery Concept:



Bronsted-Lowry theory of acids and bases

They proposed that acids and bases can be defined in terms of their ability to transfer protons.

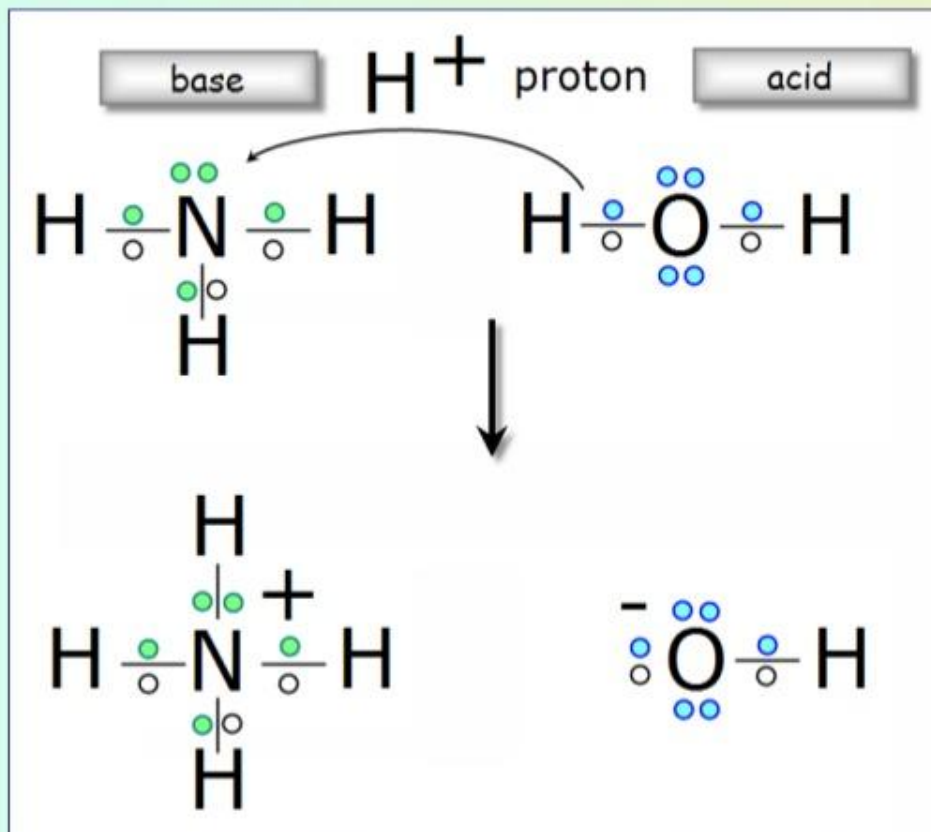
An acid is a substance (molecule or ion) that can transfer protons to another substance.



A base is a substance that can accept a proton.



# Acids and Bases: Theory

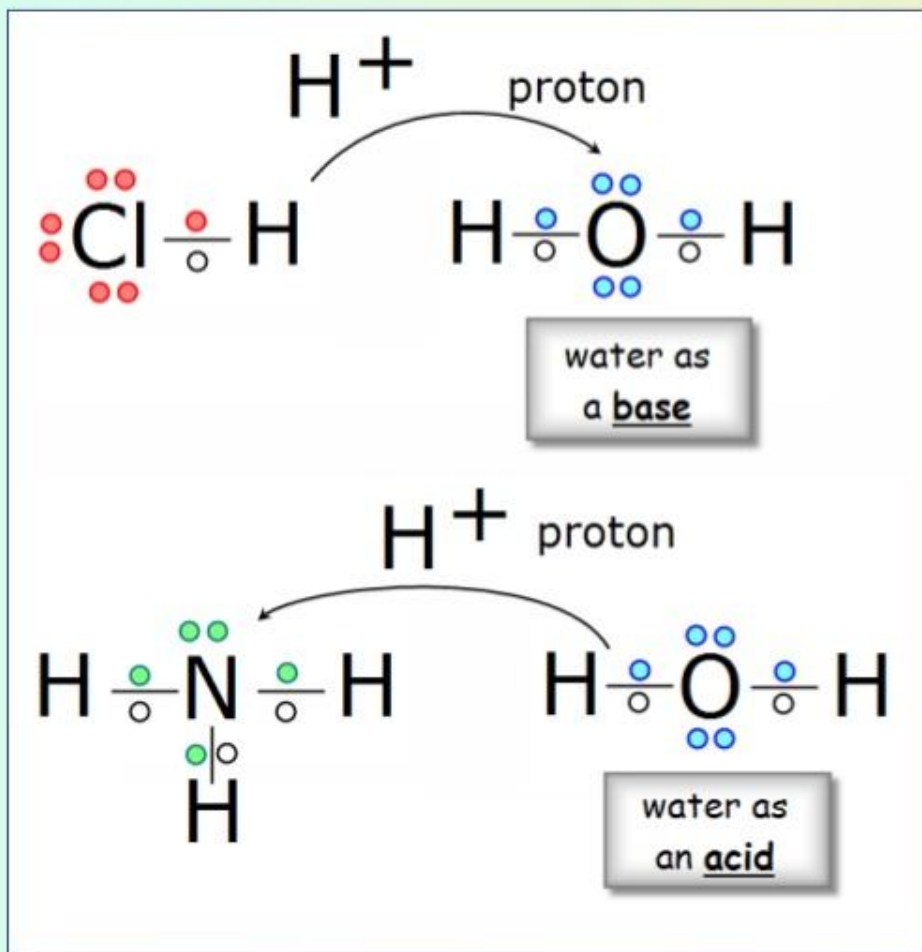


## Bronsted-Lowry theory of acids and bases

An acid and a base always work together to transfer a proton.

In other words, a substance can function **as an acid only if another substance simultaneously behaves as a base.**

# Acids and Bases: Theory



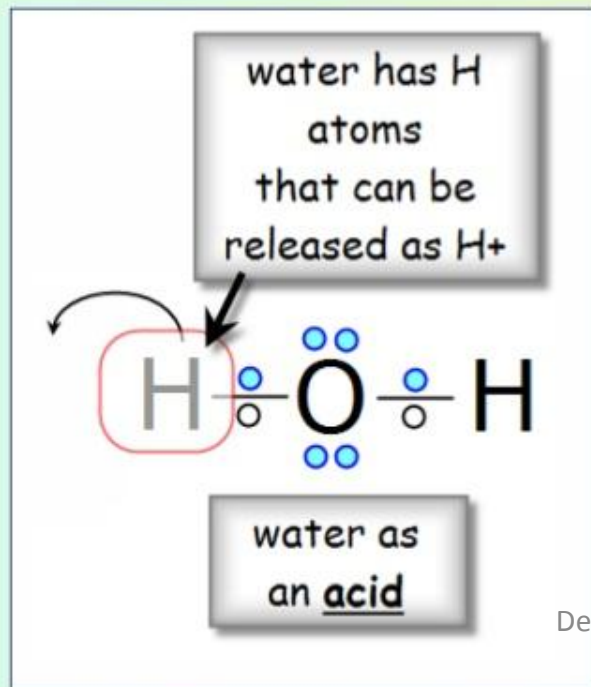
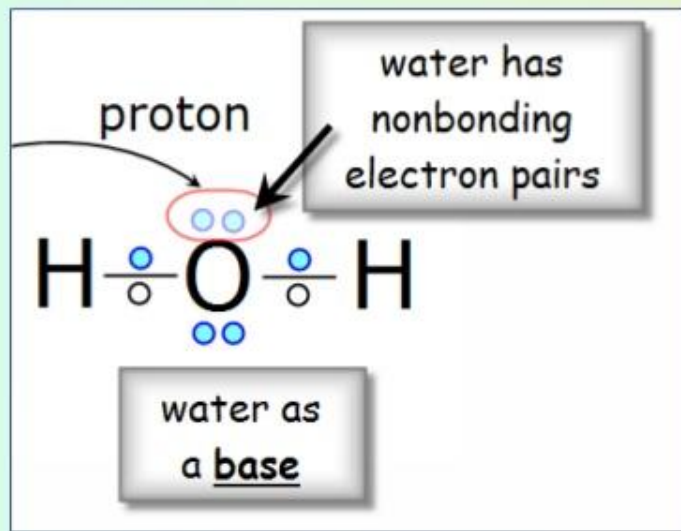
## Bronsted-Lowry theory of acids and bases

Some substances can act as an **acid in one reaction and as a base in another.**

For example,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is a Bronsted-Lowry base in its reaction with  $\text{HCl}$  and a Bronsted-Lowry acid in its reaction with  $\text{NH}_3$ .

Those substances are called **amphoteric.**

# Acids and Bases: Theory



## Bronsted-Lowry theory of acids and bases

To be a Bronsted-Lowry **acid**, a molecule or ion must have a **hydrogen atom** that it can lose as H<sup>+</sup> ion.

To be a Bronsted-Lowry **base**, a molecule or ion must have a **nonbonding pair of electrons** that it can use to bind the H<sup>+</sup> ion.

Every Arrhenius acid ( $\text{H}^+$  donor) **is** Bronsted acid ( $\text{H}^+$  donor)

Example: All protic acids

**BUT**

Every Arrhenius bases ( $\text{OH}^-$  donor) is **not** Bronsted Base ( $\text{H}^+$  acceptor)

Example:  $\text{NaOH}$  is arrhenius base, can donate  $\text{OH}^-$  but can not accept  $\text{H}^+$

Again  $\text{NH}_2\text{CONH}_2$  (urea) is Bronsted base, can accept  $\text{H}^+$ , but can not donate  $\text{OH}^-$

## ADVANTAGES OF BRONSTED -LOWRY CONCEPT

- I. It is not limited to molecules but includes even the ionic species to act as acids or bases.
- II. It does not require aqueous medium to explain acidic or basic nature.
- III. It can explain the basic nature of ions or molecules having no  $\text{OH}^-$  ion. E.g.  $\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  etc.

## LIMITATIONS OF BRONSTED -LOWRY CONCEPT

- I. It could not explain the acidic and basic nature of compounds having no tendency to lose or gain  $\text{H}^+$  ions. E.g.  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{SO}_2$ ,  $\text{SO}_3$  etc.
- II. It could not explain the basic nature of compounds having  $\text{OH}^-$  ions. E.g.  $\text{NaOH}$ ,  $\text{Ca(OH)}_2$ ,  $\text{KOH}$  etc.

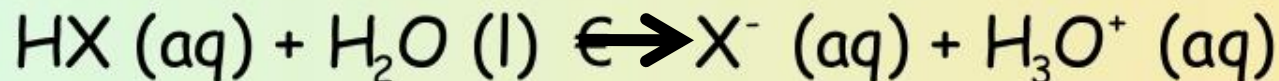


# Acids and Bases: Theory

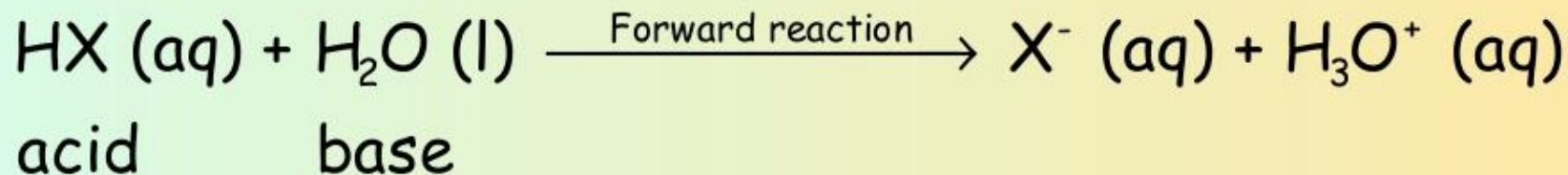
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## Conjugate acid-base pairs

In any acid-base equilibrium both the forward reaction (to the right) and reverse reaction (to the left) involve proton transfers.



In the forward reaction HX donates a proton to H<sub>2</sub>O. Therefore, HX is the Bronsted-Lowry acid, and H<sub>2</sub>O is the Bronsted-Lowry base.

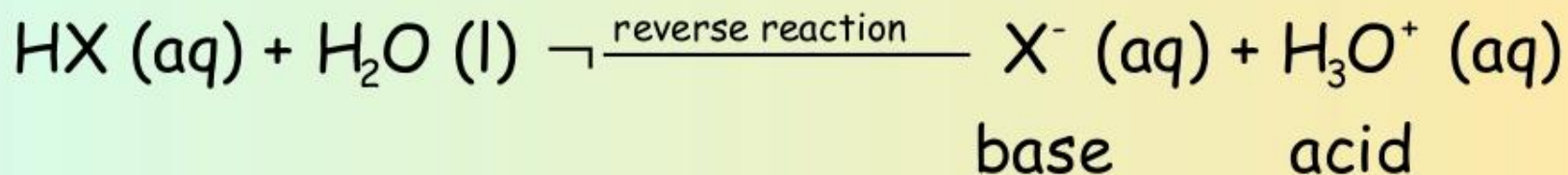


# Acids and Bases: Theory

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## Conjugate acid-base pairs

In the reverse reaction, the  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  ion donates a proton to the  $\text{X}^-$  ion;  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  is the acid and  $\text{X}^-$  is the base



An acid and a base such as  $\text{HX}$  and  $\text{X}^-$  that differ only in one proton are called **conjugated acid-base pair**.

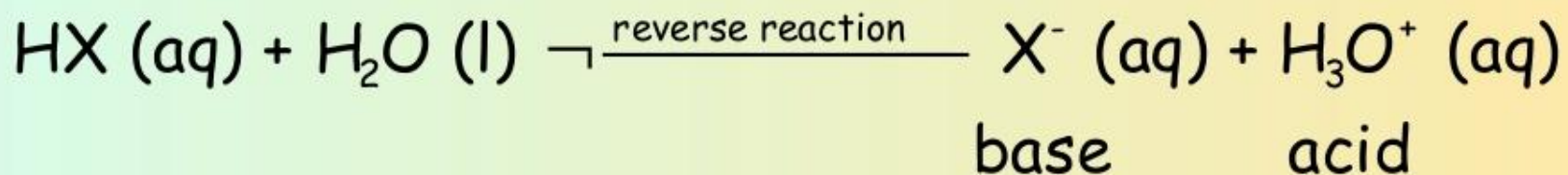
Every acid has a conjugate base, formed by the removal of a proton from the acid.

# Acids and Bases: Theory

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## Conjugate acid-base pairs

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An acid and a base such as  $\text{HX}$  and  $\text{X}^-$  that differ only in one proton are called **conjugated acid-base pair**.

Every acid has a conjugate base, formed by the removal of a proton from the acid.

# Acids and Bases: Theory

	ACID	BASE		
100% ionized in H <sub>2</sub> O	Strong	HCl	Cl <sup>-</sup>	Negligible
		H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	HSO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	
		HNO <sub>3</sub>	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	
	H <sub>3</sub> O <sup>+</sup> (aq)	H <sub>2</sub> O		
Acid strength increases ↑	Weak	HSO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	Weak
		H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	
		HF	F <sup>-</sup>	
		HC <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	
		H <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	
		H <sub>2</sub> S	HS <sup>-</sup>	
		H <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	HPO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	
		NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	NH <sub>3</sub>	
		HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	
		HPO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup>	
	H <sub>2</sub> O	OH <sup>-</sup>		
Negligible	Strong	OH <sup>-</sup>	O <sup>2-</sup>	100% protonated in H <sub>2</sub> O
		H <sub>2</sub>	H <sup>-</sup>	
		CH <sub>4</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	

Base strength increases ↓

## Relative strengths of acids and bases

The relationship between the strengths of acids and their conjugate bases is inverse:

1. the **strong acids** are those that **completely transfer** their protons to water, leaving no undissociated molecules in solution. Their **conjugate bases** have a **negligible tendency** to combine with a proton in aqueous solution.

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# Acids and Bases: Theory

	ACID	BASE		
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		HNO <sub>3</sub>	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	
	H <sub>3</sub> O <sup>+</sup> (aq)	H <sub>2</sub> O		
Acid strength increases ↑	Weak	HSO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	Weak
		H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	
		HF	F <sup>-</sup>	
		HC <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	
		H <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	
		H <sub>2</sub> S	HS <sup>-</sup>	
		H <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	HPO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	
		NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	NH <sub>3</sub>	
		HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	
		HPO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup>	
	H <sub>2</sub> O	OH <sup>-</sup>		
Negligible	Strong	OH <sup>-</sup>	O <sup>2-</sup>	100% protonated in H <sub>2</sub> O
		H <sub>2</sub>	H <sup>-</sup>	
		CH <sub>4</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	

Base strength increases ↓

## Relative strengths of acids and bases

2. the **weak acids** are those that **only partially dissociate** in aqueous solution and therefore exist in the solution as a mixture of acid molecules and ions. Their **conjugate bases are weak bases**, showing a slight ability to remove protons from water.

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# Lux-Flood Concept\*:

**an acid** is an oxide ion acceptor.

**a base** is an oxide ion donor.

**Basic oxides** – typically metal oxides  
(oxides of the more electropositive  
elements, MgO, CaO, etc.)

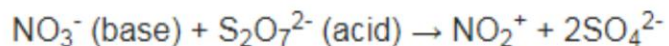
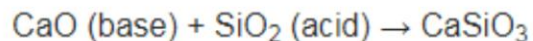
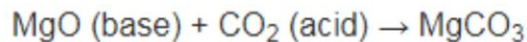
**Acidic oxides** – typically non-metal oxides  
(oxides of the more electronegative  
elements)



Hakon Flood



Hermann Lux



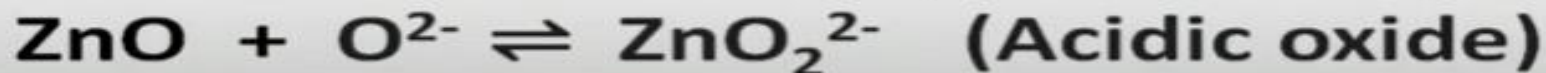
(This acid–base theory was a revival of oxygen theory of acids and bases, proposed by German chemist Hermann Lux in 1939, further improved by Hakon Flood in 1947 )

\* Concept applicable for non-aqueous/non-protic systems

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According to Lux Flood, there are some substances which shows a tendency to lose or gain an oxide ion are termed as **amphoteric**.

for e.g. :-  $\text{ZnO}$ ,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$



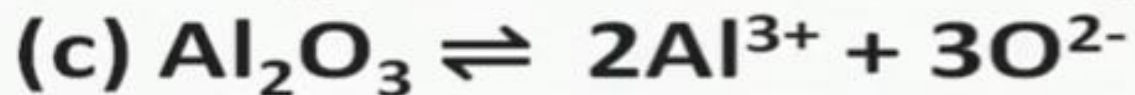
## LIMITATIONS OF LUX FLOOD CONCEPT:-

Lux-flood concept of acid-base is based on oxide ion,

Hence, as per this concept an acid or base must have to contain **oxide** ion otherwise you can't explain its acidity or basicity in terms of this theory.

Moreover, Lux-Flood concept is mostly limited to few systems such as molten oxides.

**Question:-Identify the acids and bases in below reactions:-**

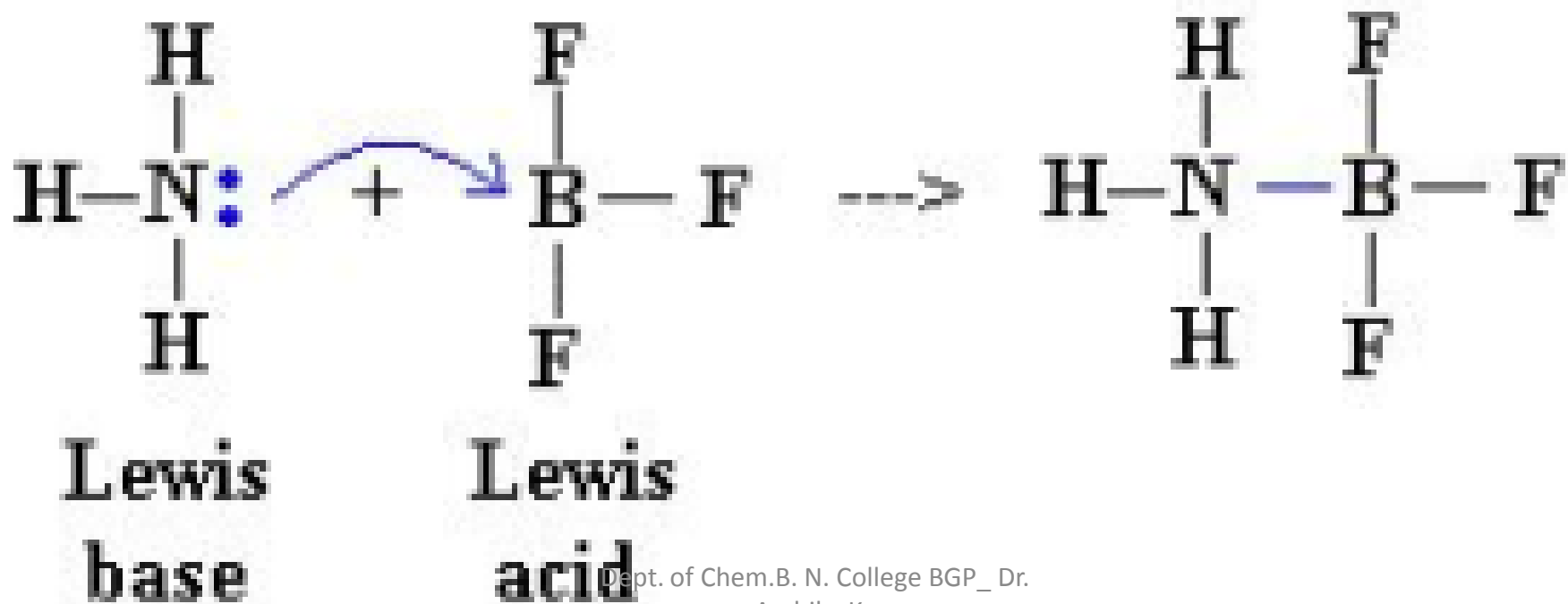




# Acids and Bases: Theory

## Lewis acids and bases

Lewis proposed a definition of acid and base that emphasizes the shared electron pair. Lewis acid is defined as an electron-pair acceptor, and a Lewis base is an electron-pair donor.



# SUMMARY:

Acid

Base

Arrhenius

$H^+$  in  $H_2O$

$OH^-$  in  $H_2O$

Bronsted-Lowry

$H^+$  donor

Accepts  $H^+$

Lewis

Accepts  $e^-$  pair

$e^-$  pair donor

# Solvent Effect on Acidity and Basicity

Leveling effect or solvent leveling refers to the effect of solvent on the properties of acids and bases. The strength of a strong acid is limited ("leveled") by the basicity of the solvent. Similarly the strength of a strong base is leveled by the acidity of the solvent. When a strong acid is dissolved in water, it reacts with it to form hydronium ion ( $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$ ). An example of this would be the following reaction, where "HA" is the strong acid:

Any acid that is stronger than  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  reacts with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  to form  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$ . Therefore, no acid stronger than  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  exists in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . Similarly, when ammonia is the solvent, the strongest acid is ammonium ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ),

Similarly, in water  $\text{OH}^-$  is the strongest base. Thus, even though sodium amide ( $\text{NaNH}_2$ ) is an exceptional base ( $\text{pK}_a$  of  $\text{NH}_3 \sim 33$ ), in water it is only as good as sodium hydroxide. On the other hand,  $\text{NaNH}_2$  is a far more basic reagent in ammonia than is  $\text{NaOH}$ .

The pH range allowed by a particular solvent is called the acid-base discrimination window

## Leveling and differentiating solvents:

In a differentiating solvent, various acids dissociate to different degrees and thus have different strengths. In a leveling solvent, several acids are completely dissociated and are thus of the same strength. A weakly basic solvent has less tendency than a strongly basic one to accept a proton. Similarly a weak acid has less tendency to donate protons than a strong acid. As a result a strong acid such as perchloric acid exhibits more strongly acidic properties than a weak acid such as acetic acid when dissolved in a weakly basic solvent. On the other hand, all acids tend to become indistinguishable in strength when dissolved in strongly basic solvents owing to the greater affinity of strong bases for protons. This is called the leveling effect. Strong bases are leveling solvents for acids, weak bases are differentiating solvents for acids. Because of the leveling effect of common solvents, studies on super acids are conducted in solvents that are very weakly basic such as sulphur dioxide (liquefied) and  $\text{SO}_2\text{ClF}$ .

**Types of solvent on the basis of proton interaction** On the basis of proton interaction, solvents are of four types,

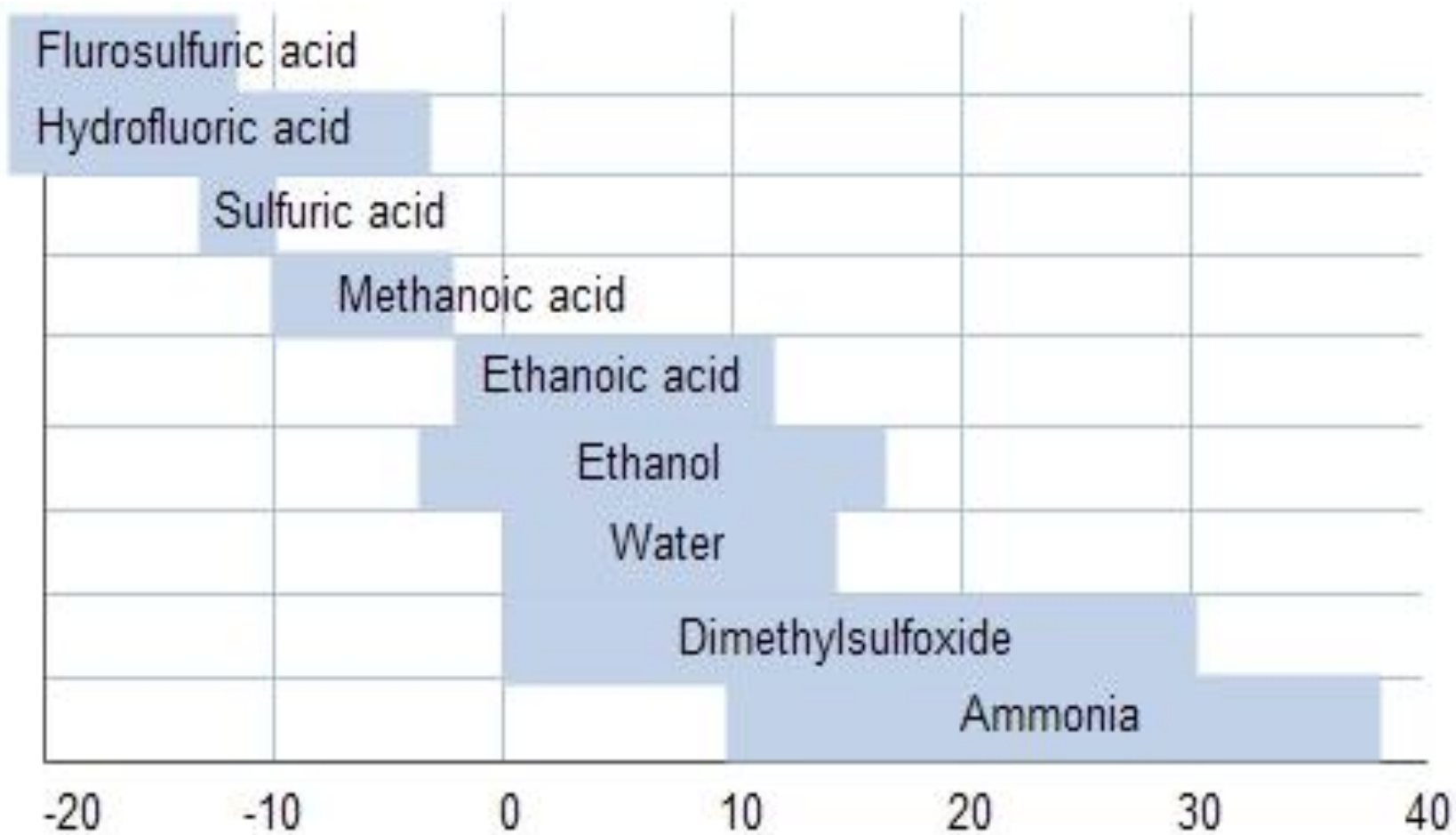
(i) Protophilic solvents: Solvents which have greater tendency to accept protons, i.e., water, alcohol, liquid ammonia, etc.

(ii) Protogenic solvents: Solvents which have the tendency to produce protons, i.e., water, liquid hydrogen chloride, glacial acetic acid, etc.

(iii) Amphiprotic solvents: Solvents which act both as protophilic or protogenic, e.g., water, ammonia, ethyl alcohol, etc.

(iv) Aprotic solvents: Solvents which neither donate nor accept protons, e.g., benzene, carbon tetrachloride, carbon disulphide, etc.

HCl acts as an acid in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , a stronger acid in  $\text{NH}_3$ , a weak acid in  $\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}$ , neutral in  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$  and a weak base in HF.



Effective pH in water

## Question:

1. Arrange in accordance with strong acidity:

