

1. K_a/K_b Calculations

Complete the following statements:

1. As a solution becomes more acidic...

Oppositely related

- $[H_3O^+]$ increases or decreases?
- pH increases or decreases?
- $[OH^-]$ increases or decreases?
- pOH increases or decreases?

2. If the pH of a solution equals 5.00, the $[OH^-]$ equals 1.0×10^{-9} M.

pOH = 9.00

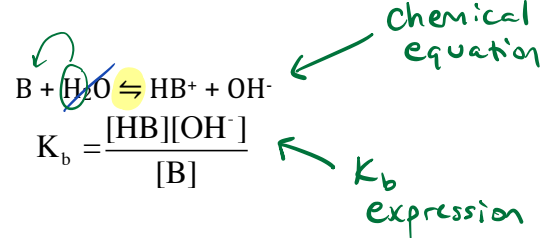
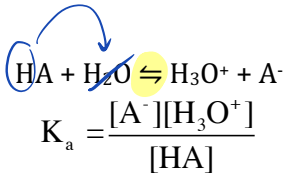
$[OH^-] = 10^{-9.00}$

3. If the pOH of a solution decreases by 5, then the $[H_3O^+]$ has decreased (increased or decreased) by a factor of 10^5 .

Calculations Involving K_a and K_b

Recall...

Acid = HA and Base = B



Write the chemical equation and K_a expression that represents the reaction of HNO_2 in water.



$K_a = \frac{[NO_2^-][H_3O^+]}{[HNO_2]}$

Write the chemical equation and K_b expression that represents the reaction of NH_3 in water.



$K_b = \frac{[NH_4^+][OH^-]}{[NH_3]}$

Weak acids & bases

CALCULATIONS FOR WEAK ACIDS

Problem Type 1: Calculating pH

Weak acid
[WA] ≠ [H₃O⁺]

Example: Calculate the pH and pOH of 0.50 M solution of hydrofluoric acid.

- Is HF a strong or weak acid?
weak
- What is the chemical equation? (What kind of arrow will you use?)



- What is the K_a value (from the table!) and expression?

$$K_a = \frac{[\text{F}^{-}][\text{H}_3\text{O}^{+}]}{[\text{HF}]} = 3.5 \times 10^{-4}$$

- Since this is a weak acid, equilibrium is established. ICE TABLE!!

	HF _(aq)	+	H ₂ O _(l)	⇌	F ⁻ _(aq)	+	H ₃ O ⁺ _(aq)
Initial	0.50 M				0 M		0 M
Change	- x				+ x		+ x
Equilibrium	0.50 - x				x		x

We don't include the concentration of water because we assume the [H₂O] remains constant.

- Fill out values for the K_a expression.

$$K_a = \frac{(x)(x)}{0.50 - x} = 3.5 \times 10^{-4}$$

Must be stated!

assume $0.50 - x \approx 0.50$

- The expression in the denominator: 0.50 M - x can be assumed to be ≈ 0.50 M.
 - The value of K_a is very small compared to the initial concentration of the acid. This means that the percent of the acid that actually ionizes will not significantly change the original concentration.
 - If initial [HA] is at least 10³ times larger than the K_a value, the assumption is valid.
- Solve for unknown.

$$\frac{x^2}{0.50} = 3.5 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$x = \sqrt{0.5 \times (3.5 \times 10^{-4})}$$

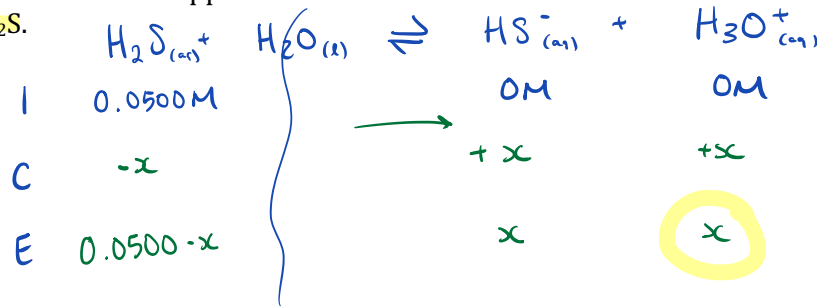
$$= 0.013 \text{ M} = [\text{H}_3\text{O}^{+}]$$

pH = -log(0.013)

pH = 1.89

pOH = 12.11

Practice 1: Hydrogen sulphide is a poisonous flammable gas whose "rotten egg" smell is perceptible at concentrations as low as 0.00047 ppm. It is also a weak acid when dissolved in water. Calculate the pH and pOH of 0.0500M H₂S.



$$K_a = \frac{[\text{HS}^-][\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]}{[\text{H}_2\text{S}]} = 9.1 \times 10^{-8}$$

-2sf

$$\frac{x^2}{0.0500-x} = 9.1 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$\frac{x^2}{0.0500} = 9.1 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$x = \sqrt{(9.1 \times 10^{-8})(0.0500)}$$

$$= 6.7 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M} = [\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]$$

* assume $0.0500 - x \approx 0.0500$

$$\text{pH} = -\log(6.7 \times 10^{-5}) = \boxed{4.17}$$

$$\text{pOH} = 14 - 4.17 = \boxed{9.83}$$

Problem Type 2: Calculating initial [HA]

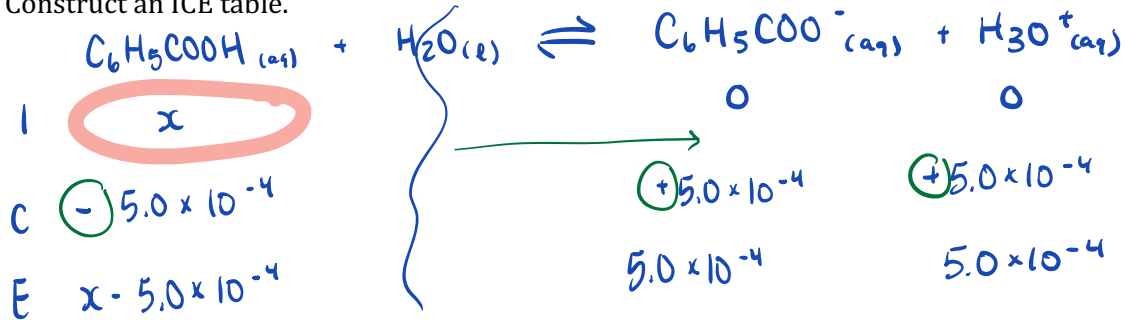
Example: What concentration of benzoic acid is required to produce a solution with a pOH of 10.70?

- Using given pOH, calculate the [H₃O⁺] equilibrium concentration in ICE table!

$$\text{pH} = 14 - 10.70 = 3.30$$

$$[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] = 10^{-3.30} = 5.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$$

- Construct an ICE table.



- What is the K_a for benzoic acid?

$$K_a = 6.5 \times 10^{-5} = \frac{(5.0 \times 10^{-4})^2}{x - 5.0 \times 10^{-4}}$$

- Solve for the unknown.

$$(x - 5.0 \times 10^{-4}) 6.5 \times 10^{-5} = \left(\frac{(5.0 \times 10^{-4})^2}{x - 5.0 \times 10^{-4}} \right) (x - 5.0 \times 10^{-4})$$

$$6.5 \times 10^{-5} x - 3.3 \times 10^{-8} = \frac{2.5 \times 10^{-7}}{x - 5.0 \times 10^{-4}} (x - 5.0 \times 10^{-4})$$

$$6.5 \times 10^{-5} x = \frac{2.83 \times 10^{-7}}{6.5 \times 10^{-5}}$$

$$x = 4.3 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$[\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{COOH}] = 4.3 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$$

Initial [HA]

Problem Type 3: Calculating K_a

[H₃O⁺] At Equilibrium

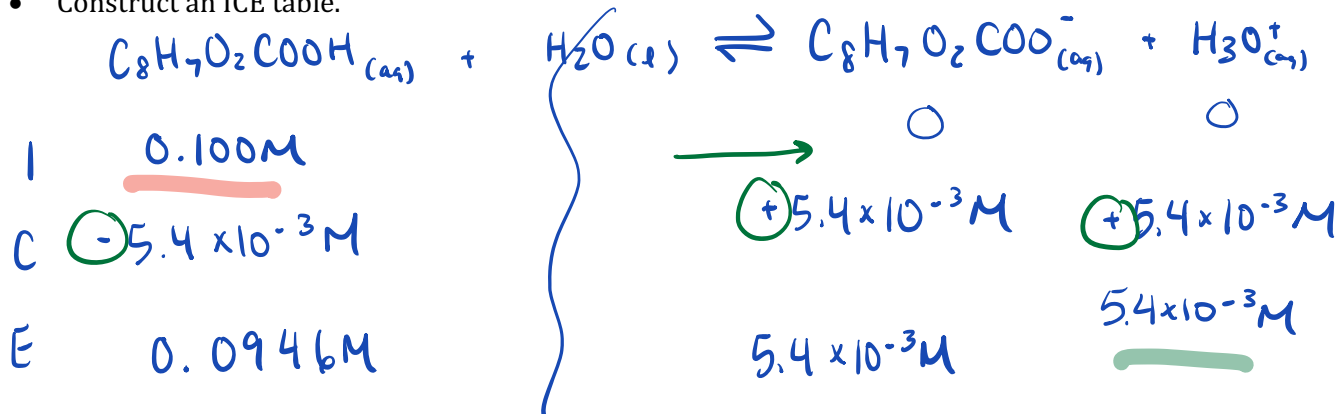
Example: A 0.100 M solution of acetylsalicylic acid, C₈H₇O₂COOH, is found to have a pH of 2.27. Calculate the K_a for this acid.

- Using given pH, calculate the [H₃O⁺] at equilibrium

$$[H_3O^+] = 10^{-2.27} = 5.4 \times 10^{-3} M$$

[H₃O⁺] at equilibrium

- Construct an ICE table.



- What is the K_a expression? Solve for K_a .

$$K_a = \frac{[C_8H_7O_2COO^-][H_3O^+]}{[C_8H_7O_2COOH]} = \frac{(5.4 \times 10^{-3})^2}{0.0946}$$

$$= 3.1 \times 10^{-4}$$

Problem Type 1 ([H₃O⁺] / pH)
74, 75, 79

Hw!

CALCULATIONS FOR WEAK BASES

As with acids, most bases are weak. Using the symbol "B" for a weak base, we can represent the equilibria of weak bases in water:



We must calculate the K_b for that base by using the K_a value of its conjugate acid

Consider the conjugate acid/base pair of NH_4^+ and NH_3 and their respective K_a and K_b expressions:

NH_4^+ (acid)	NH_3 (base)
Reaction: $NH_4^+ + H_2O \rightleftharpoons NH_3 + H_3O^+$	Reaction: $NH_3 + H_2O \rightleftharpoons NH_4^+ + OH^-$
$K_a = \frac{[NH_3][H_3O^+]}{[NH_4^+]}$	$K_b = \frac{[NH_4^+][OH^-]}{[NH_3]}$

Two common terms appear in each equation.

- Multiply the two expressions together and cancel the common terms...

$$K_a \times K_b = \frac{[NH_3][H_3O^+]}{[NH_4^+]} \times \frac{[NH_4^+][OH^-]}{[NH_3]} = [H_3O^+][OH^-] = K_w!$$

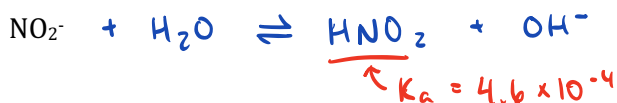
This allows us to formulate the following relationship for conjugate acid-base pairs:

$$K_a (\text{conjugate acid}) \times K_b (\text{conjugate base}) = K_w = 1.0 \times 10^{-14}$$

For the following weak bases, write out the equation with water and calculate the K_b .



$$K_b = \frac{K_w}{K_a} = \frac{1.0 \times 10^{-14}}{4.9 \times 10^{-10}} = \boxed{2.0 \times 10^{-5}}$$



$$K_b = \frac{K_w}{K_a} = \frac{1.0 \times 10^{-14}}{4.6 \times 10^{-4}} = \boxed{2.2 \times 10^{-11}}$$

The following species are **amphiprotic**. Compare K_a and K_b .

→ Whichever is greater is what it will act as



$$K_a = 6.4 \times 10^{-5}$$



$$K_a = 5.9 \times 10^{-2}$$

$$K_b = \frac{K_w}{K_a} = 1.7 \times 10^{-13}$$

HC_2O_4^- will act as an acid



$$K_a = 6.2 \times 10^{-8}$$

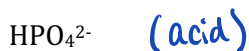
vs



$$K_b = \frac{1.0 \times 10^{-14}}{7.5 \times 10^{-3}}$$

$$= 1.3 \times 10^{-12}$$

Will act as an acid



$$K_a = 2.2 \times 10^{-13}$$

vs



$$K_b = \frac{1.0 \times 10^{-14}}{6.2 \times 10^{-8}}$$

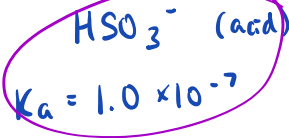
$$= 1.6 \times 10^{-7}$$

Will act as a base

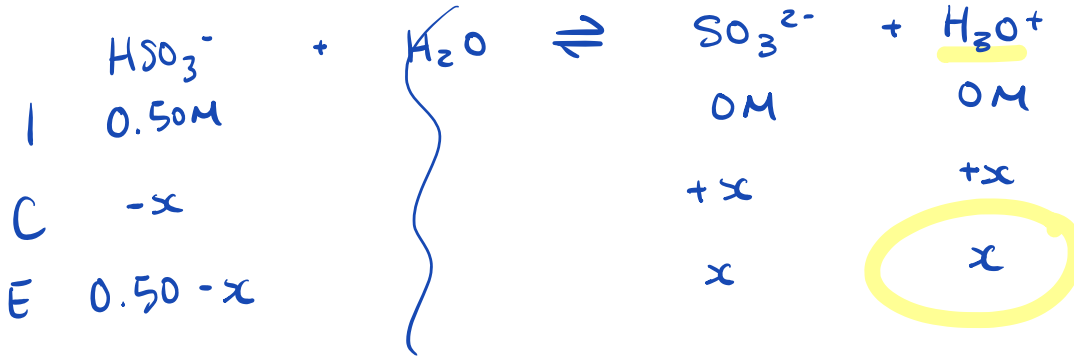
Problem Type 1: Calculating pOH

Practice: Calculate the pH and pOH of a 0.50 M solution of HSO_3^- .

amphiprotic!



~~HSO_3^- (base)
 $K_b = \frac{K_w}{K_a(\text{H}_2\text{SO}_3)} = \frac{1.0 \times 10^{-14}}{1.5 \times 10^{-2}} = 6.7 \times 10^{-13}$~~



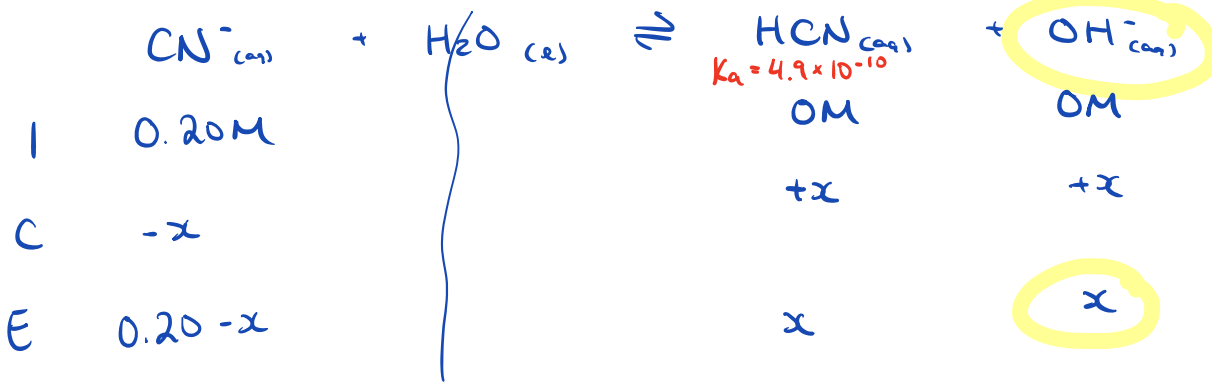
$K_a = 1.0 \times 10^{-7} = \frac{x^2}{0.50-x}$ * assume $0.50-x \approx 0.50$

$x = \sqrt{(0.50)(1.0 \times 10^{-7})}$
 $= 2.2 \times 10^{-4} = [\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]$

$\text{pH} = -\log(2.2 \times 10^{-4})$
 $= 3.65$
 $\text{pOH} = 14 - 3.65$
 $= 10.35$

Practice: Calculate the pH of a solution containing 0.20 M CN^- .

weak base



$K_b = \frac{1.0 \times 10^{-14}}{4.9 \times 10^{-10}} = 2.0 \times 10^{-5} = \frac{x^2}{0.20-x}$ * assume $0.20-x \approx 0.20$

$x = \sqrt{(0.20)(2.0 \times 10^{-5})}$
 $= 2.0 \times 10^{-3} = [\text{OH}^-]$

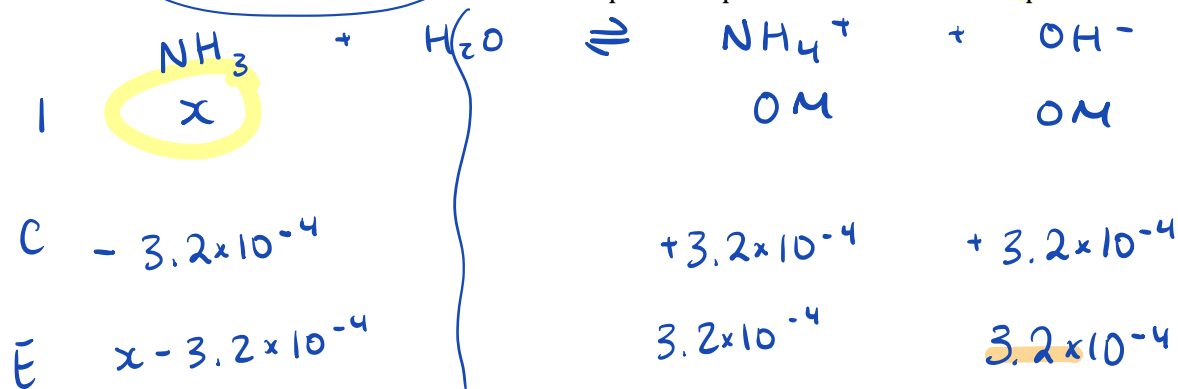
$\text{pOH} = -\log(2.0 \times 10^{-3})$
 $= 2.70$

$\text{pH} = 11.30$

Problem Type 2: Calculating initial [B]

→ basic

Practice: What concentration of NH_3 would be required to produce a solution with $\text{pH} = 10.50$?



$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{pOH} &= 14 - 10.50 \\
 &= 3.50
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 [\text{OH}^-] &= 10^{-3.50} \\
 &= 3.2 \times 10^{-4} \text{M}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$K_b = \frac{(3.2 \times 10^{-4})^2}{x - 3.2 \times 10^{-4}} = \frac{K_w}{K_a(\text{NH}_4^+)} = \frac{1.0 \times 10^{-14}}{5.6 \times 10^{-10}}$$

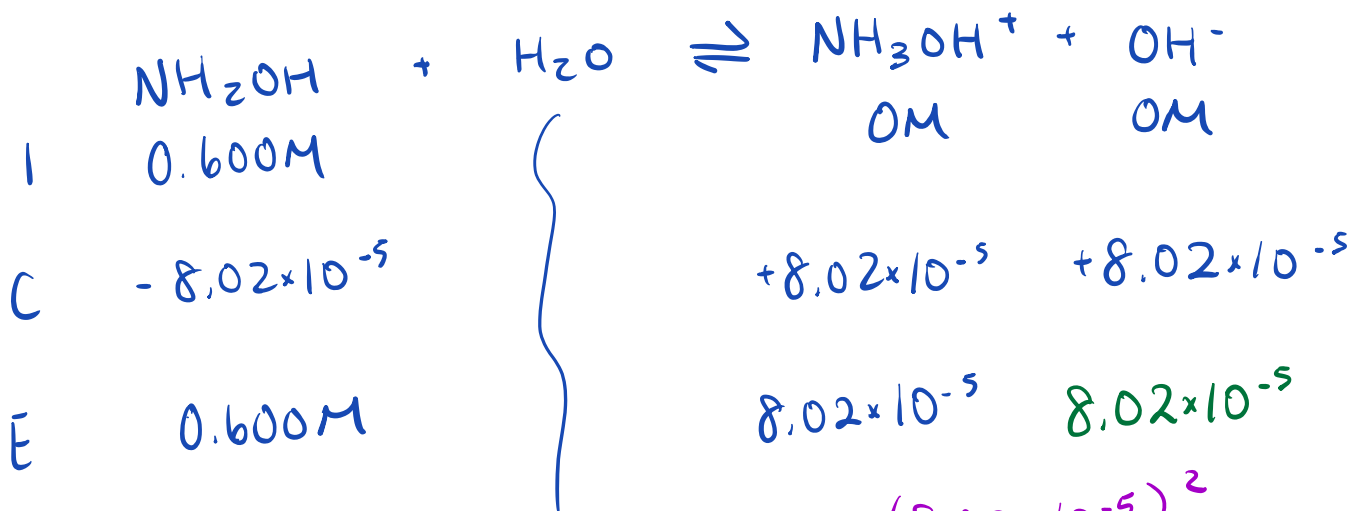
$$\frac{(3.2 \times 10^{-4})^2}{x - 3.2 \times 10^{-4}} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$x = \boxed{6.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{M}} \\
 \quad \quad \quad = [\text{NH}_3]$$

Problem Type 3: Calculating K_b

Practice: A solution is prepared by dissolving 9.90 g of the weak base hydroxylamine, NH_2OH in enough water to produce 500.0 mL of solution. The pH of the solution is found to be 9.904. Calculate the K_b for hydroxylamine.

$$\text{Initial } [\text{NH}_2\text{OH}] = \frac{9.90 \text{g}}{0.5000 \text{L}} \times \frac{1 \text{mol}}{33.0 \text{g}} = 0.600 \text{M}$$



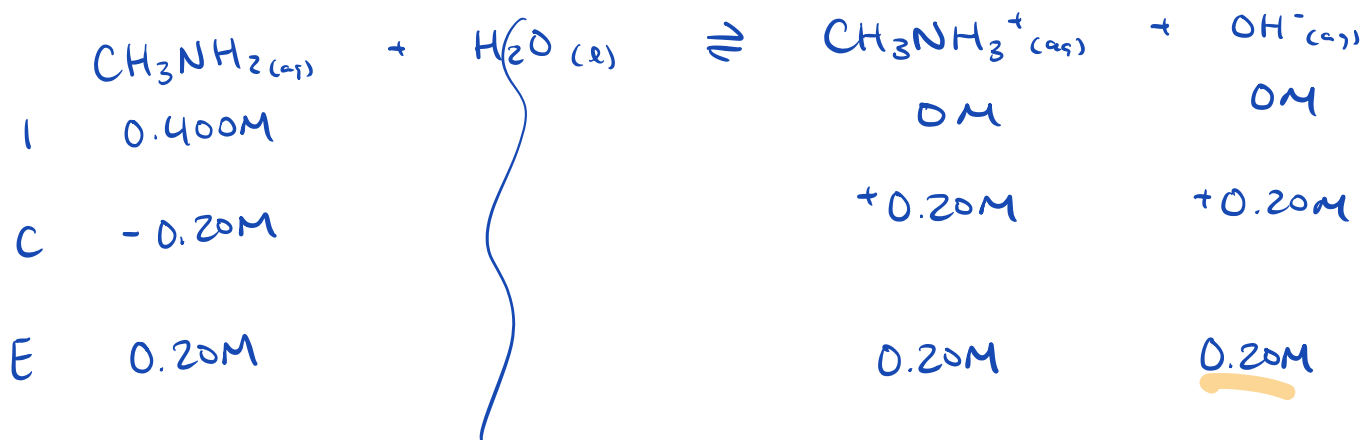
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{pH} &= 9.904 \\
 \text{pOH} &= 4.096 \\
 [\text{OH}^-] &= 10^{-4.096} \\
 &= 8.02 \times 10^{-5}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 K_b &= \frac{(8.02 \times 10^{-5})^2}{0.600} \\
 &= \boxed{1.07 \times 10^{-8}}
 \end{aligned}$$

Practice: A 0.400 M solution of the weak base methylamine, CH_3NH_2 , is found to have a pH of 11.30. Calculate the K_b and pK_b of methylamine.

$$pOH = 0.70$$

$$[\text{OH}^-] = 10^{-0.70} = \underline{0.20\text{M}}$$



$$K_b = \frac{(0.20)^2}{0.20} = \boxed{0.20}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 pK_b &= -\log K_b \\
 &= -\log(0.20) \\
 &= \boxed{0.70}
 \end{aligned}$$

*re: $p = -\log$