## ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY

**Read the details of the information given below from Skoog and West's "Fundamentals** of Analytical Chemistry" book, which is recommended as a reference. This content has been prepared for educational purposes only and the responsibility for copying and sharing belongs to third parties.

# Aqueous Solutions and Chemical Equilibria

The Chemical Composition of Aqueous Solutions

**Chemical Equilibrium** 

**Buffer Solutions** 

#### 9B Chemical equilibrium

**Equilibrium-constant expressions** are equations that describe the concentration relationships among reactants and products at equilibrium.

#### The equilibrium state

$$H_{3}AsO_{4} + 3I^{-} + 2H^{+} \rightleftharpoons H_{3}AsO_{3} + I_{3}^{-} + H_{2}O$$

3 mmol  $I^-$  added to 1 mmol  $H_3AsO_4$ 



Le Châtelier's principle states that the position of an equilibrium always shifts in such a direction as to relieve a stress that is applied to the system.

#### Equilibrium-constant expressions

The influence of concentration or pressure (if the participants are gases) on the position of a chemical equilibrium is described in quantitative terms by means of an **equilibrium-constant expression**.

$$wW + xX \rightleftharpoons yY + zZ$$

$$K = \frac{[Y]^{y}]Z]^{z}}{[W]^{w}]X]^{x}}$$

The constant *K* is a temperature-dependent numerical quantity called the **equilibrium constant**.

#### Using solubility-product constants

When we say that a sparingly soluble salt is completely dissociated, we do not imply that all of the salt dissolves.

What we mean is that the very small amount that *does* go into solution dissociates completely.

*K*<sub>sp</sub> : the **solubility-product constant** 

#### The solubility of a precipitate in pure water

With the solubility-product expression, solubility of a sparingly soluble substance that ionizes completely in water can be calculated.

The effect of a common ion on the solubility of a precipitate

The solubility of an ionic precipitate decreases when a soluble compound containing one of the ions of the precipitate is added to the solution.

This behavior is called the **common-ion effect**.

#### **Buffer solutions**

Buffers are used in all types of chemical applications whenever it is important to maintain the pH of a solution at a constant and predetermined level.

### Calculating the pH of buffer solutions

$$HA + H_2O \rightleftharpoons H_3O^+ + A^- \quad K_a = \frac{[H_3O^+][A^-]}{[HA]}$$

$$\mathbf{A}^- + \mathbf{H}_2\mathbf{O} \rightleftharpoons \mathbf{O}\mathbf{H}^- + \mathbf{H}\mathbf{A} \quad K_{\mathbf{b}} = \frac{[\mathbf{O}\mathbf{H}^-][\mathbf{H}\mathbf{A}]}{[\mathbf{A}^-]} = \frac{K_{\mathbf{w}}}{K_{\mathbf{a}}}$$

$$K_a > K_b$$
the solution is acidic $K_a < K_b$ the solution is basic

### Buffer capacity

The **buffer capacity**,  $\beta$ , of a solution is defined as the number of moles of a strong acid or a strong base that causes 1.00 L of the buffer to undergo a 1.00-unit change in pH.