

## Objective 4

Intro to Reactivity 1: identify acids and bases using Lewis definition.

Use curved arrows to show how base reacts with acid.

Relate strength to  $pK_a$ .

Determine direction of equilibrium.

Use  $pK_a$  table to estimate  $pK_a$  of acid based on structure.

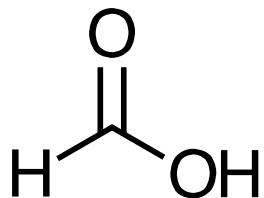
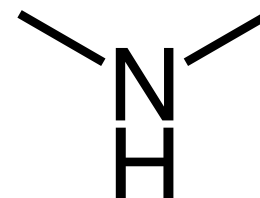
Many Organic compounds are acids or bases (or both)

Many Organic compounds undergo acid-base reactions

Acid-base (proton transfer) reactions are very fast

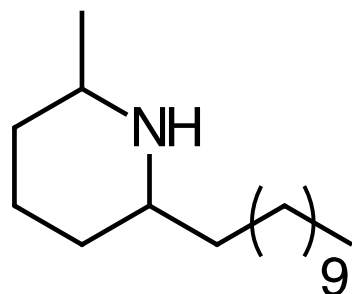
Dimethyl amine is a base and smells like dirty socks.

Neutralize with acid to get rid of smell.



Formic acid is in ant venom and stings when you are bitten by an ant. Use a base, e.g., baking soda, for relief.

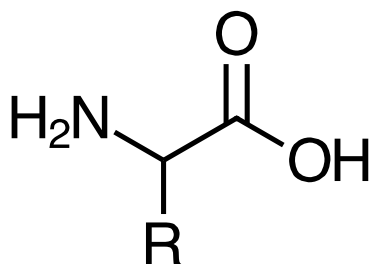
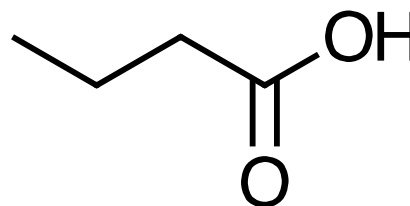
Many Organic compounds are acids or bases (or both)  
Many Organic compounds undergo acid-base reactions



isosolenopsin A  
fire ant venom

Tawny crazy ant uses formic acid  
as fire ant venom antidote  
CEN, 3/3/14, p. 44

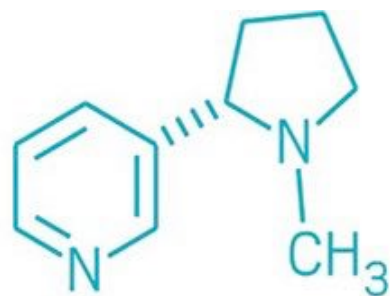
Butyric acid smells terrible.  
Use a base to get rid of smell.



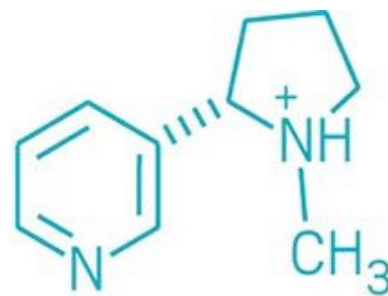
Amino acids change charge (and  
properties) depending on pH.

<https://cen.acs.org/analytical-chemistry/spectroscopy/E-cigaretteschemistry-explain-popularity-among/96/i22>

E-cigarettes, e.g., Juul – **protonated nicotine** is less harsh (more pleasant) than **free-base nicotine** (“scratchy, back-of-the-throat feeling”).



**Free-base nicotine**



**Protonated nicotine**

Many Organic compounds are acids or bases (or both)  
Many Organic compounds undergo acid-base reactions  
Acid-base (proton transfer) reactions are very fast

### *Application*

Lab 2:

Do an acid-base extraction to separate a mixture:

You have a mixture of a weak acid and weaker acid.

Add a base that reacts with one acid but not the other

→ Separate weak acid from weaker acid.

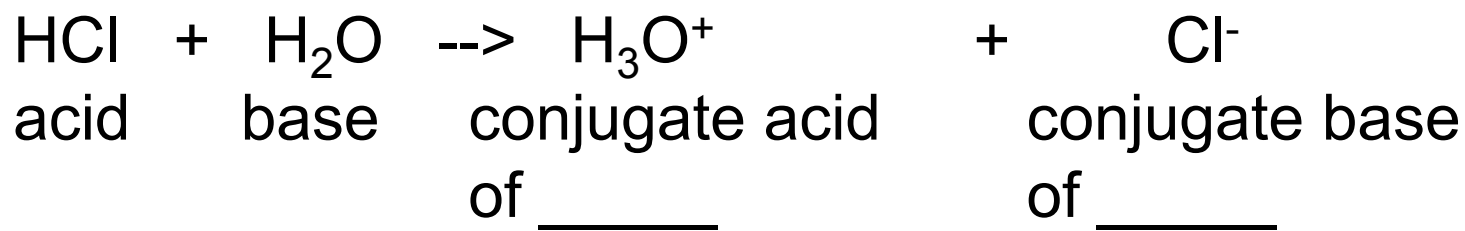
# Acid-Base ( $H^+$ Transfer) Reactions Are **Very Common** In Organic Chemistry

## Bronsted-Lowry definition:

Acids are proton ( $H^+$ ) donors (“**Givers**”)

Bases are  $H^+$  acceptors (“**Takers**”)

Every acid has a partner (conjugate) base. (Remove acidic H)



## Lewis definition:

**Acids are electron pair acceptors** (electrophile)

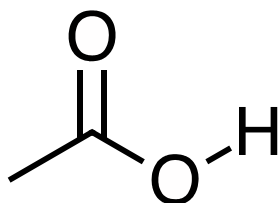
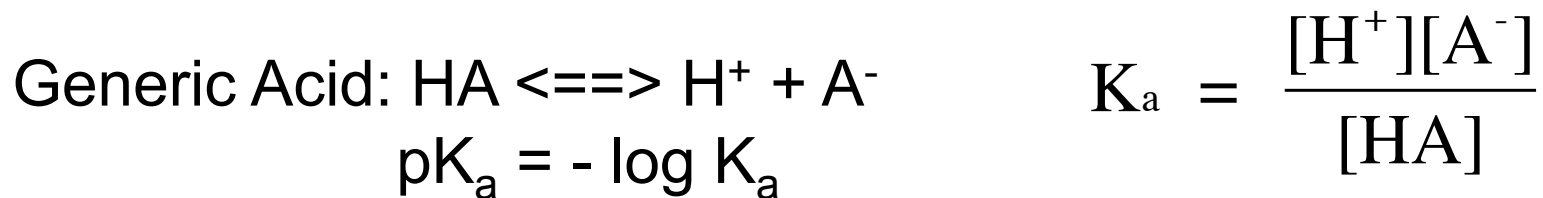
**Bases are electron pair donors** (nucleophile)

*Electron pairs ==> curved arrows*

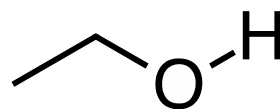
HCl is a **strong** acid

Organic acids are **weak** acids

**Use  $K_a$  and  $pK_a$  to determine acid strength**



$$pK_a = 4.8$$



$$pK_a = 16$$

Which organic compound is the stronger acid? Give reasons.

Draw the conjugate base of each compound.

Which conjugate base is stronger? Give reasons.

**Table 3.1 pK<sub>a</sub> of common compounds** (Klein, p. 100)

acid	pK <sub>a</sub>	base
$\text{H}-\ddot{\text{Cl}}:$	-7	$:\ddot{\text{Cl}}:^-$
$\begin{array}{c} \text{H} \quad \cdot\cdot \quad \text{H} \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{O}^+ \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \text{H} \end{array}$	-1.7	$\begin{array}{c} \text{H} \quad \cdot\cdot \quad \text{H} \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{O}^- \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \cdot\cdot \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{c} \text{O} \\ \parallel \\ \text{---} \text{C} \text{---} \text{O} \text{---} \text{H} \end{array}$	4.8	$\begin{array}{c} \text{O} \\ \parallel \\ \text{---} \text{C} \text{---} \text{O}^- \end{array}$
$\text{H}-\text{O}-\text{H}$	15.7	$^- \text{O}-\text{H}$
$\text{---} \text{O}-\text{H}$	16	$\text{---} \text{O}^-$
$\text{H}-\equiv\text{---} \text{H}$	25	$\text{H}-\equiv\text{---} :^-$

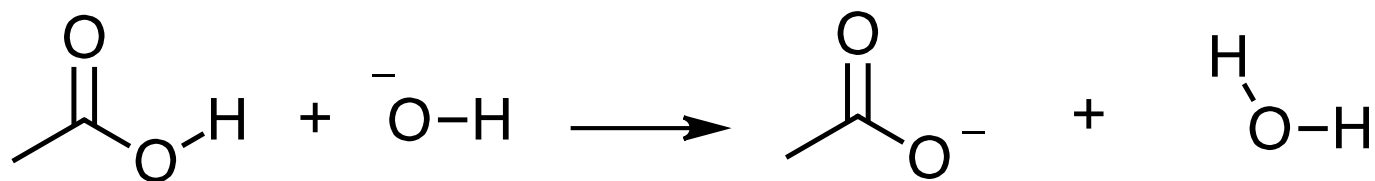
1. Large pK<sub>a</sub> ==> weak acid
2. Every acid has a partner (conjugate) base
3. Acids are listed from strongest to weakest
4. Bases are listed from weakest to strongest
5. Conjugate base of a weak acid is strong
6. Conjugate acid of weak base is strong
7. **PREDICT:** An acid reacts with any base below it ==> Need a **Strong Base to react with a Weak Acid**



# What Base Should I Use to React with an Acid?

(Or How to Determine the Position of Equilibrium)

Will  $\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}$  react with  $\text{OH}^-$ ? **YES**



Acetic  
Acid  
 $\text{pK}_a = 4.8$

hydroxide  
base

conjugate  
base of  
acetic acid

Conjugate Acid  
of hydroxide  
 $\text{pK}_a = 15.7$

$\text{OH}^-$  (base) is **below**  $\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}$  (acid) on the  $\text{pK}_a$  table.  
 $\text{OH}^-$  is a strong enough base to react with  $\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}$ .

Reaction occurs:

Stronger acid ( $\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}$ )  $\rightarrow$  weaker acid ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ )

Stronger base ( $\text{OH}^-$ )  $\rightarrow$  weaker base ( $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$ )

Position of the equilibrium? **More products**/less reactants

## What Base Should I Use to React with an Acid? (Or How to Determine the Position of Equilibrium)

Will  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  (acid) react with  $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$  (base)?



$\text{pK}_a$  of  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH} = ?$

$\text{pK}_a$  of  $\text{CH}_3\text{COOH} = ?$

$\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  is   (above/below)    $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$  on the  $\text{pK}_a$  table.

Will there be more products or more reactants?

More products

More reactants

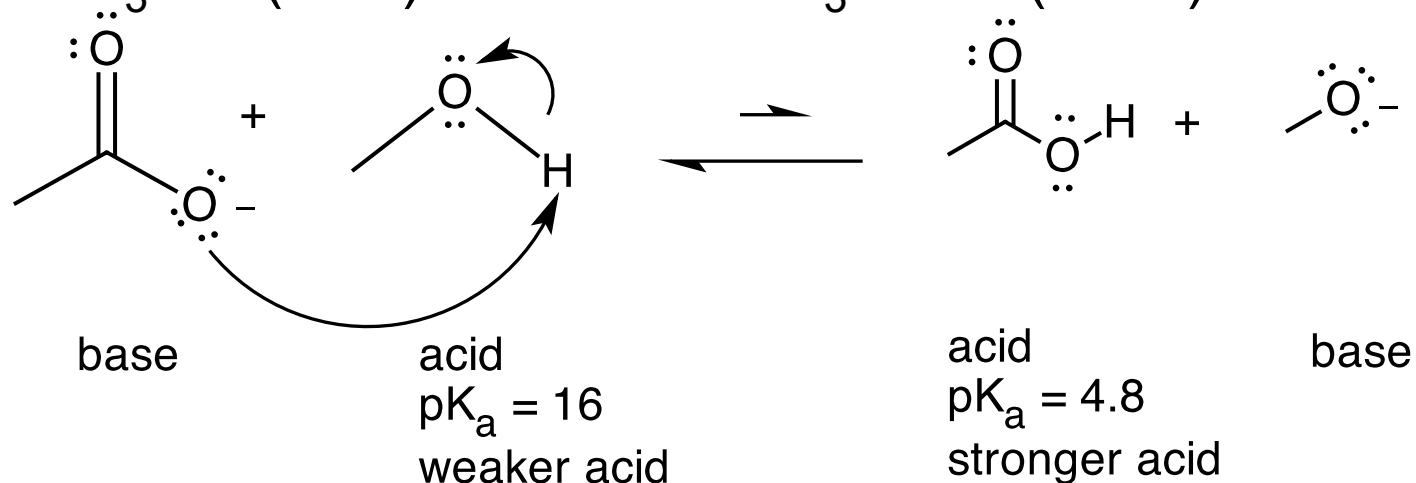
What is the position of the equilibrium?

More products

More reactants

# What Base Should I Use to React with an Acid? (Or How to Determine the Position of Equilibrium)

Will  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  (acid) react with  $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$  (base)?



$\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  is *below*  $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$  on the  $\text{pK}_a$  table.

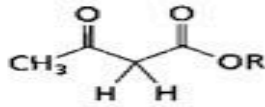
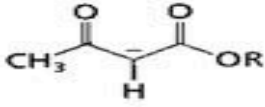
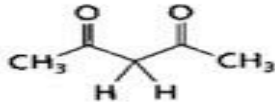
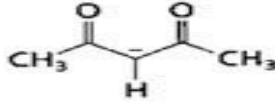

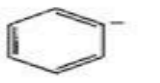
$\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$  is **NOT** a strong enough base to react with  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ .

Will there be more products or **more reactants**?

What is the position of the equilibrium? **More reactants**

More practice: Klein, Problem 3.52

**Table 6.3**  
Acidities of molecules and ions commonly encountered in organic chemistry.<sup>a</sup>

Acid	Conjugate base	pK <sub>a</sub>	Acid	Conjugate base	pK <sub>a</sub>
HClO <sub>4</sub>	ClO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-10	HCN	CN <sup>-</sup>	9.2
HI	I <sup>-</sup>	-10	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	NH <sub>3</sub>	9.2
$\text{R}-\overset{\text{+OH}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{H}$	$\text{R}-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{H}$	-10	ArOH	ArO <sup>-</sup>	10
H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	HSO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-10	R-CH <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	R- $\bar{\text{C}}\text{H}-\text{NO}_2$	10
HBr	Br <sup>-</sup>	-9	RNH <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>	RNH <sub>2</sub>	11
HCl	Cl <sup>-</sup>	-7	RSH	RS <sup>-</sup>	11
$\text{R}-\overset{\text{+OH}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{R}$	$\text{R}-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{R}$	-7			11
ArSO <sub>3</sub> H	ArSO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-6.5	CH <sub>3</sub> OH	CH <sub>3</sub> O <sup>-</sup>	15.2
$\text{R}-\overset{\text{+OH}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{OR}'$	$\text{R}-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{OR}'$	-6	H <sub>2</sub> O	HO <sup>-</sup>	15.7
$\text{R}-\overset{\text{H}}{\text{O}^+}-\text{R}'$	R-O-R'	-3.5	RCH <sub>2</sub> OH	RCH <sub>2</sub> O <sup>-</sup>	16
$\text{R}-\overset{\text{H}}{\text{O}^+}-\text{H}$	R-O-H	-2	R <sub>2</sub> CH-OH	R <sub>2</sub> CH-O <sup>-</sup>	17
H <sub>3</sub> O <sup>+</sup>	H <sub>2</sub> O	-1.7	R <sub>3</sub> C-OH	R <sub>3</sub> C-O <sup>-</sup>	17
HNO <sub>3</sub>	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-1.4	$\text{R}-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{NH}_2$	$\text{R}-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{NH}^-$	17
HSO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	2	$\text{R}-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{CH}_3$	$\text{R}-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{CH}_2^-$	20
HF	F <sup>-</sup>	3.1	$\text{RO}-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{CH}_3$	$\text{RO}-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{CH}_2^-$	24
ArNH <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>	ArNH <sub>2</sub>	4	R-CH <sub>2</sub> CN	R- $\bar{\text{C}}\text{H}-\text{CN}$	25
RCOOH	RCOO <sup>-</sup>	5	H-C≡C-H	H-C≡C <sup>-</sup>	25
H <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	6.4	H <sub>2</sub>	H <sup>-</sup>	35
H <sub>2</sub> S	HS <sup>-</sup>	7	NH <sub>3</sub>	NH <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	38
ArSH	ArS <sup>-</sup>	7	Ph-CH <sub>3</sub>	Ph-CH <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	40
		9			43
			CH <sub>2</sub> =CH <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub> =CH <sup>-</sup>	44
			CH <sub>4</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	48

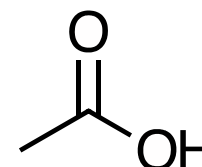
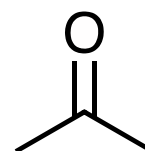
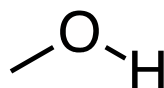
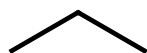
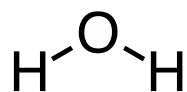
<sup>a</sup>pK<sub>a</sub> values from J. March, *Advanced Organic Chemistry*, 4th ed., John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1992, pp. 250-252.  
Abbreviations: Ar = aryl; Ph = phenyl; R = alkyl.

<http://classes.uleth.ca/200603/chem2500a/sorrttd.pka.jpg>

## ***Acids and Bases***

**Objective**: determine relative acid strength

a. Rank the following compounds in order of acid strength.



1

2

3

4

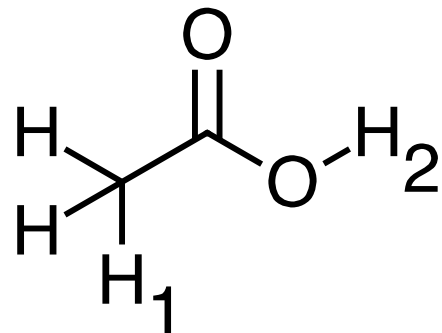
5

6

Rank each number in sequence from strongest to weakest.

b. Which of the above compound(s) behave like a base?

Acetic acid is an acid with 4 H's. Which H is acidic?  
See  $pK_a$  table.



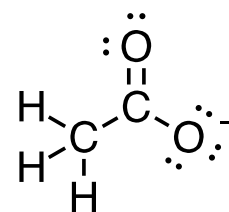
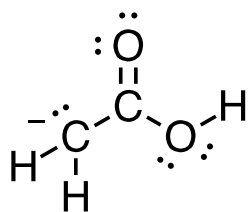
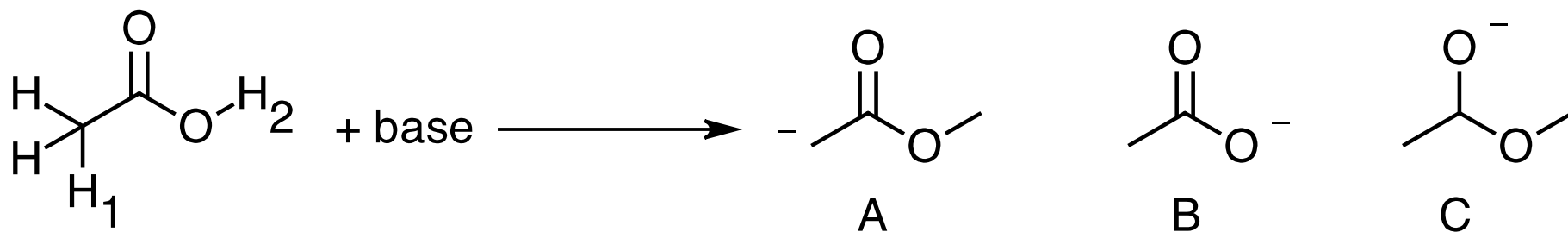
$pK_a$  of  $\text{H}_1 \approx$

$pK_a$  of  $\text{H}_2 \approx$

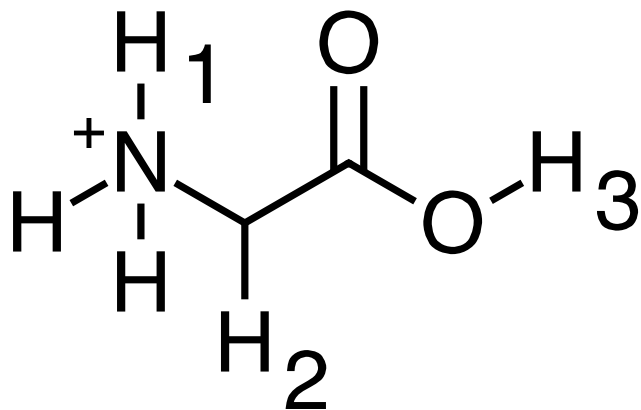
## Acids and Bases

Objective: determine the conjugate base of an acid.

What is the conjugate base of  $\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}$ ?



Amino acids have at least 2 acidic H's.  
Which H is the most acidic, H<sub>1</sub> or H<sub>2</sub> or H<sub>3</sub>?  
Use pK<sub>a</sub> table to estimate acid strength.



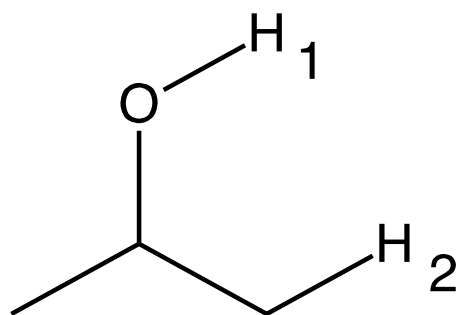
pK<sub>a</sub> of H<sub>1</sub> ≈

pK<sub>a</sub> of H<sub>2</sub> ≈

pK<sub>a</sub> of H<sub>3</sub> ≈



Rubbing alcohol reacts with a base. Which H reacts?  
In other words, which H is more acidic, H<sub>1</sub> or H<sub>2</sub>?  
Use pK<sub>a</sub> table to estimate acid strength.



Which base  
would you use?  
→

Draw the product.

pK<sub>a</sub> of H<sub>1</sub> ≈

pK<sub>a</sub> of H<sub>2</sub> ≈

1. For a strong acid,  $K_a$  is big and  $pK_a$  is \_\_\_\_\_.

For a weak acid,  $K_a$  is \_\_\_\_\_ and  $pK_a$  is big.

2. a. Rank the following acids in order of strength:

HCl,  $H_2O$ , acetic acid, ethanol, ethane, ethylene.

b. Which acid in part a reacts with ammonia ( $pK_a$  of  $NH_4^+ = 9.3$ )?

c. Is the conjugate base of a strong acid strong or weak?

## Curved Arrows show Bonds Breaking and Forming

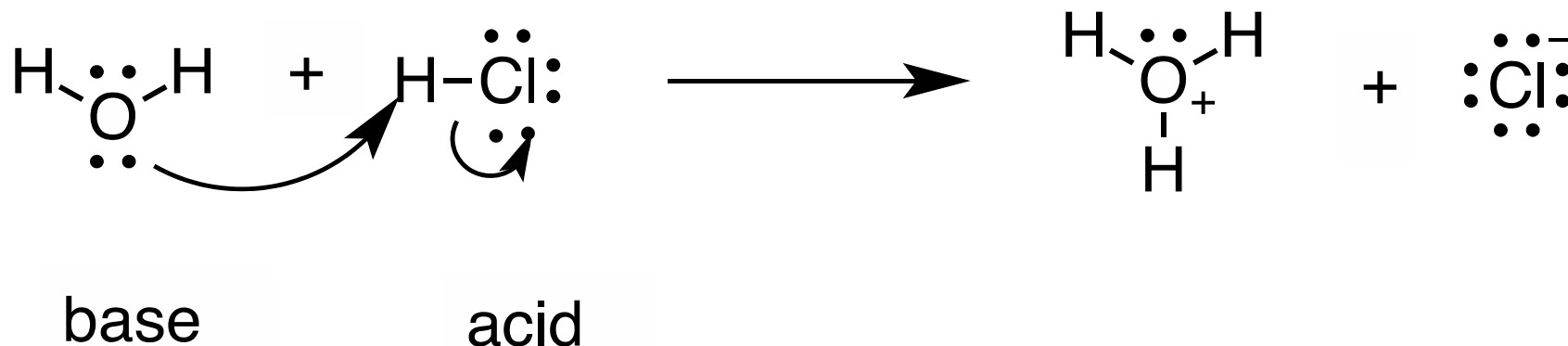
Start (arrow tail) at electron pair donor/Lewis base/

**NUCLEOPHILE**

and

End (arrow head) at electron pair acceptor/Lewis acid/

**ELECTROPHILE**

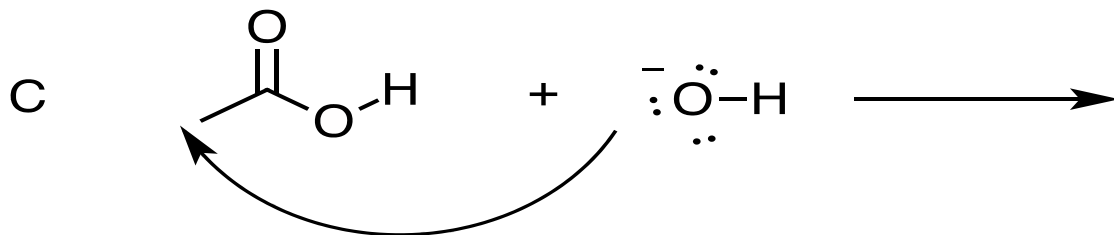
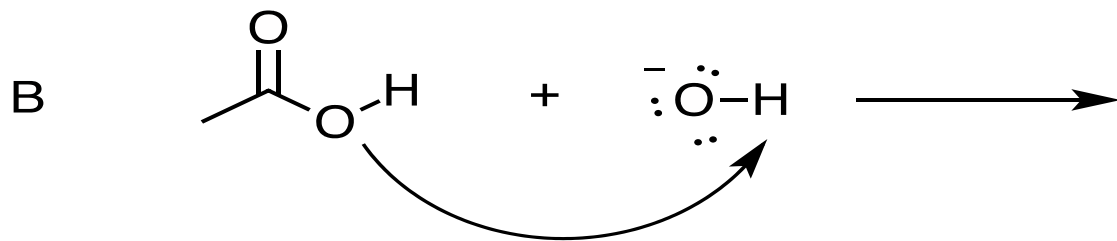
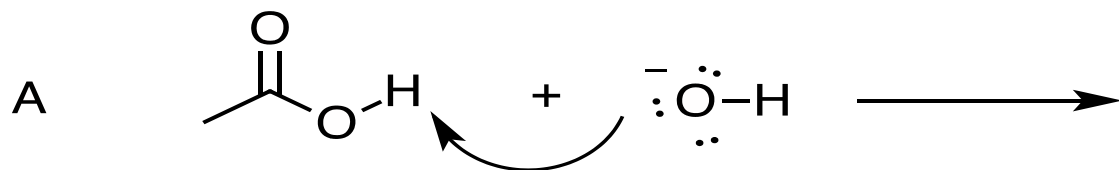


1. Lone pair on O forms  $\sigma$  bond to H
2. Too many bonds on H so H-Cl  $\sigma$  bond breaks to form lone pair on Cl

## Acids and Bases

**Objective:** use curved arrows to show bonds breaking and forming in a reaction.

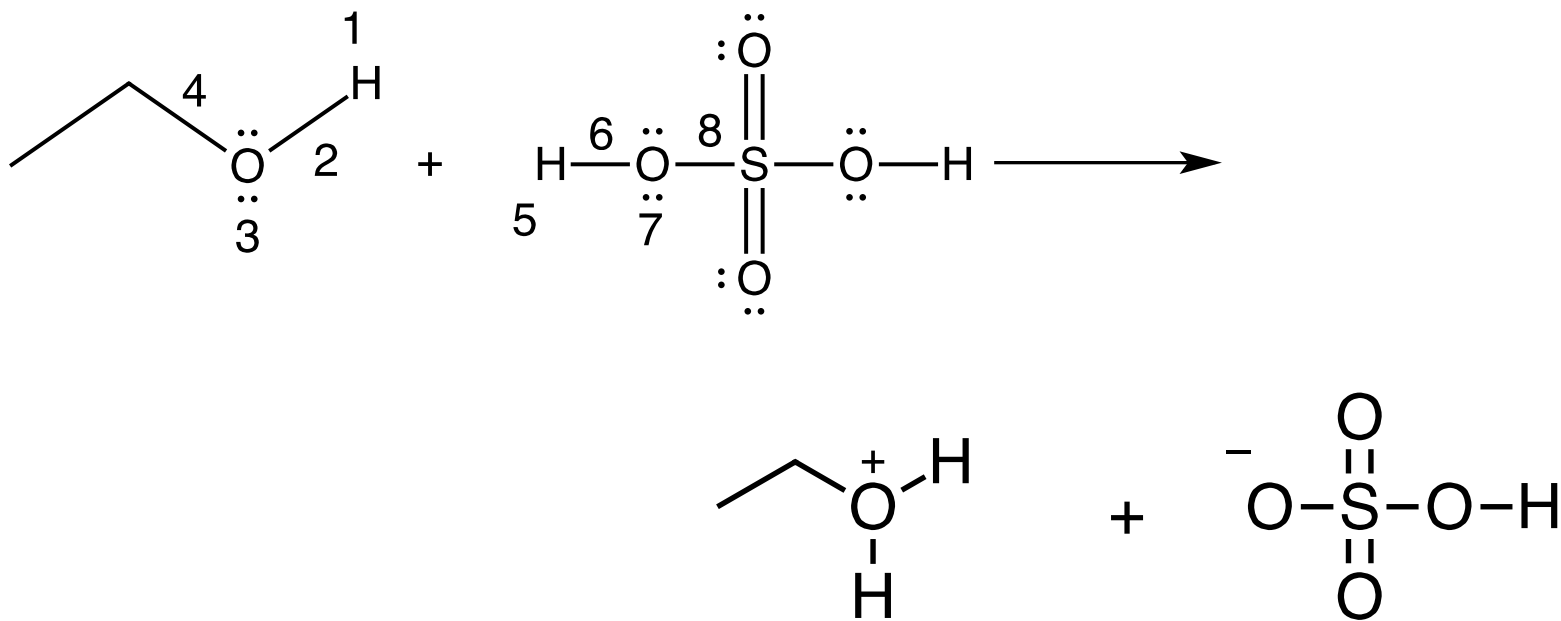
$\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}$  reacts with  $\text{OH}^-$  to form  $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . Which curved arrow shows this reaction? Then, draw the products of the reaction.



**Objective:** use curved arrows to show bonds breaking and forming in a reaction

Draw the product(s) of the following reaction.

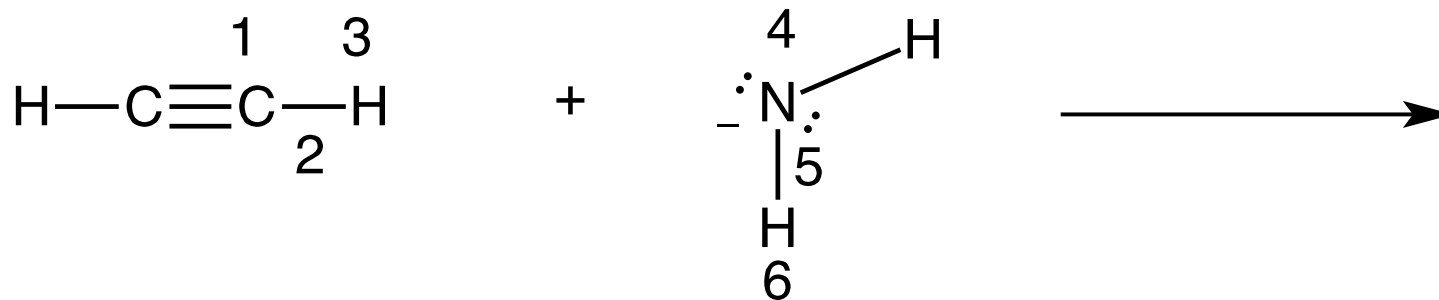
Use numbers to represent curved arrows to show bonds breaking and forming.



**Objective:** use curved arrows to show bonds breaking and forming in a reaction

Draw the product(s) of the following reaction.

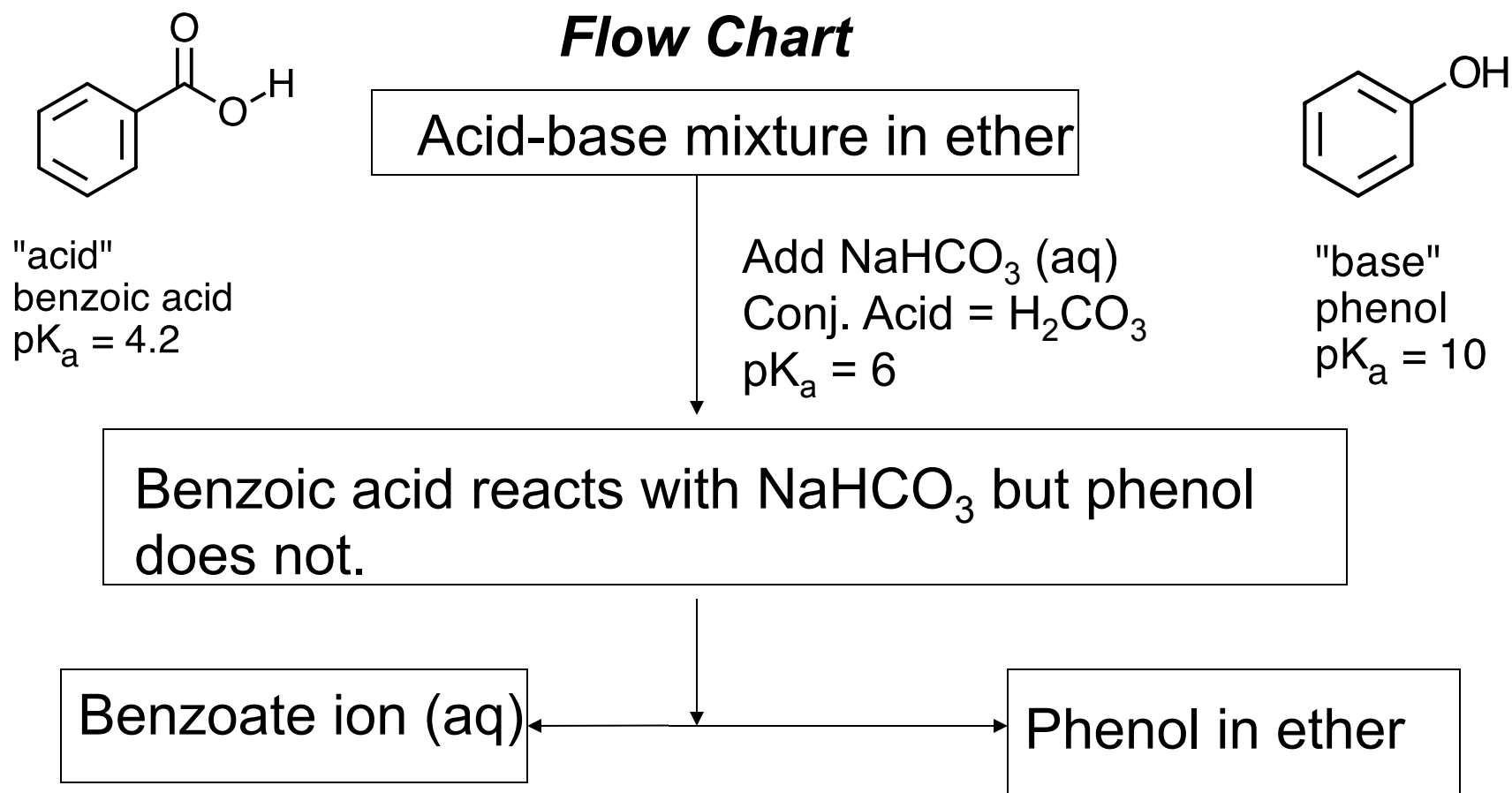
Use numbers to represent curved arrows to show bonds breaking and forming.



More practice: Klein, Problem 3.44

## Application of Acids, Bases, $pK_a$

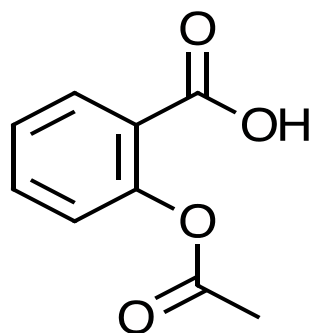
### Lab 2: Use Acid-base Reaction to Separate an Acid-Base Mixture



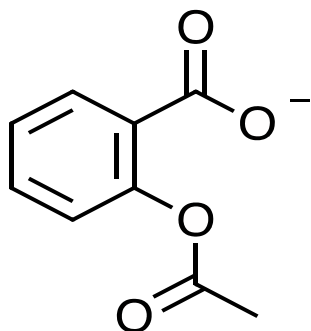
Ether and water are immiscible.

How do you convert benzoate back to benzoic acid?

**Application:** Use  $pK_a$  To Predict Charge at a Specific pH (see Lab 2)



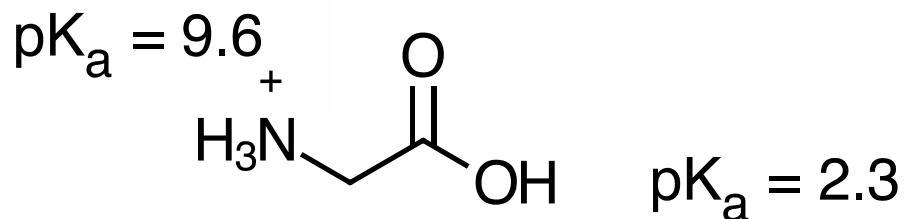
aspirin (acid)  
 $pK_a = 3$   
charge = 0



conjugate base  
of aspirin  
charge = -1

In stomach (pH 2), aspirin  
charge = \_\_\_\_\_

In blood (pH 7.4), aspirin  
charge = \_\_\_\_\_



glycine charges = +1,  
0, -1 depending on pH

In stomach (pH 2), glycine  
charge = \_\_\_\_\_

In blood (pH 7.4), glycine  
charge = \_\_\_\_\_

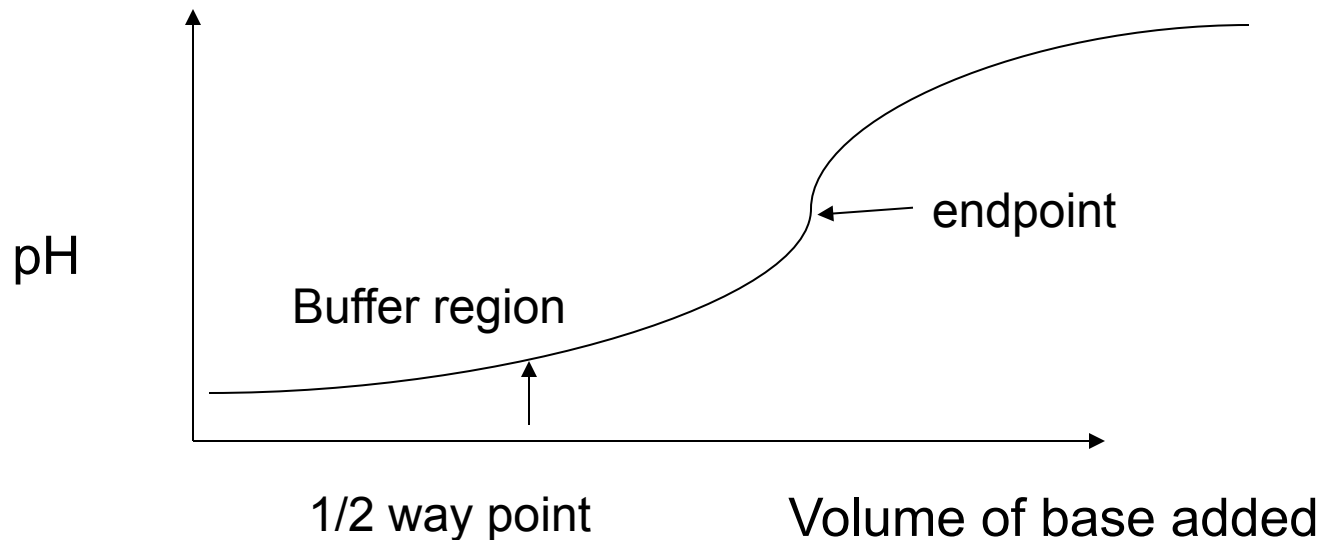


**Application:** Use  $pK_a$  To Predict Charge at a Specific pH

At  $pH = pK_a$   $\implies$  equal [ ] of acid and conjugate base

At  $pH > pK_a$   $\implies$  more conjugate base than acid

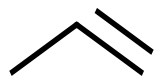
At  $pH < pK_a$   $\implies$  more acid than conjugate base



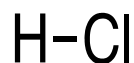
<b>Lewis base</b>	<b>Lewis acid</b>
Electron pair donor	Electron pair acceptor, e.g., H <sup>+</sup>
(-) charge	(+) charge
(-) pole (δ-)	(+) pole (δ+)
<b>Nucleophile (Nu:-)</b>	<b>Electrophile (E<sup>+</sup>)</b>
Electron Source	Electron Sink
Lone pair, e.g., OH <sup>-</sup>	Electron deficient species
π bond	Less EN atom in polar bond

“Curved arrow” starts at e<sup>-</sup> pair donor and ends at e<sup>-</sup> pair acceptor.

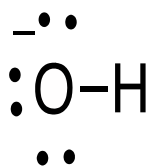
Identify each compound as a Lewis acid or Lewis base.



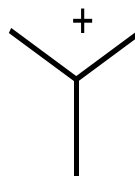
A



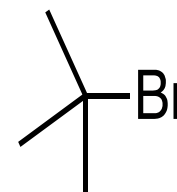
B



C



D



E

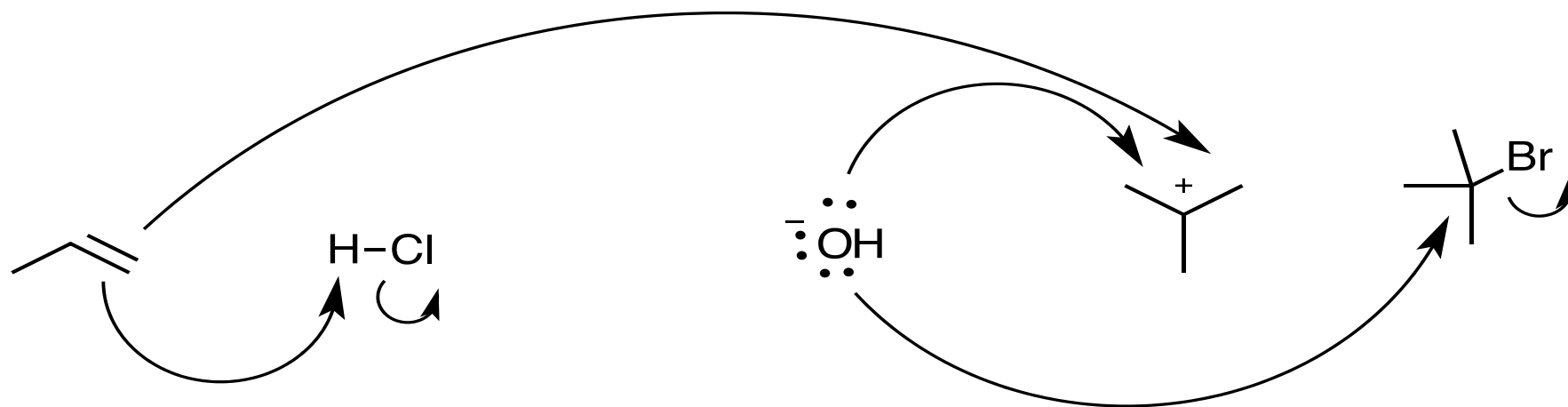
Lewis acids (*Electrophiles*): HCl,  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{C}^+$ , C bonded to Br

Lewis bases (*Nucleophiles*): pi bond,  $\text{OH}^-$  lone pair

**Use curved arrows to show bonds breaking and forming**  
**==> show how reactants form products.** Follow Bonding and Structure Rules.

Curved arrow starts at **Nucleophile** and ends at **Electrophile**.

Draw the product of each reaction (4 total).



More practice: Klein, Problem 3.39