

Buffers Made Easy Solutions

FIRST EXERCISE

K 18.5

a) 3.89

b) 3.86

a) Before: $K_a = 1.8 \times 10^{-4}$

$$[H^+] = K_a \frac{[A]}{[B]} = 1.8 \times 10^{-4} \frac{[.50]}{[.70]} = 1.286 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$\therefore pH = -\log [1.286 \times 10^{-4}] = 3.89$$

2 decimal places since
2 sig figs in M

b) After: I Added Acid! Respect [Molarity]
10 mL of 1.00M

$$[H^+] = 1.8 \times 10^{-4} \frac{[A^+]}{[B^-]} = 1.8 \times 10^{-4} \left(\frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{Moles} \\ (.500L \times .50M + .01L \times 1M) \\ \text{.510L total volume} \end{array}}{\begin{array}{l} \text{Moles} \\ (.500L \times .70M - .01L \times 1M) \\ \text{.510L total volume} \end{array}} \right)$$

$$= 1.8 \times 10^{-4} \frac{(.26 \text{ moles})}{(.34 \text{ moles})} = 1.38 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$\therefore pH = 3.86$$

Very little change

EXERCISE 2

Since we want a pH of 5 we know $[H^+] = 10^{-5}$
 $K_a = 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$ ← which is good for a buffer w/ a pH of 5

$$[H^+] = K_a \frac{[A]}{[B]}$$
$$10^{-5} = 1.8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ (Ratio)}$$
$$\cancel{1 \times 10^{-5}} / \cancel{1.8 \times 10^{-5}} = \text{Ratio} = \underset{\text{Acid}}{1} \text{ to } \underset{\text{Base}}{1.8}$$

Mix 1.0 mol Acid (HA) to 1.8 mol base (salt = NaA)
in enough water to dissolve the salt.
The amount of water is NOT critical, only the
relative amounts of A:B. You've noticed the "total
volume" part of the expression drops out.

EXERCISE 3a) What if you're given a K_b ?! $K_a = \frac{K_w}{K_b}$

$$K_b = 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$$

0.25 M NH_3 with 0.40 M NH_4Cl

$$[H^+] = K_a \frac{[A]}{[B]} = \frac{\overset{K_w}{1 \times 10^{-14}}}{\underset{K_b}{1.8 \times 10^{-5}}} \frac{[0.40 M]}{[0.25 M]} = 8.9 \times 10^{-10}$$

$$\therefore pH = -\log[8.9 \times 10^{-10}] = 9.05$$

EXERCISE 3b)

0.10ml gaseous HCl added to 1L of soln from a)

$$[H^+] = \frac{K_w}{K_b} \left[\frac{A^+}{B^-} \right] = \overset{K_a}{5.56 \times 10^{-10}} \frac{\overset{\text{moles!}}{(0.40 M \times 1.0 L) + .10 \text{ mol}}}{\overset{\text{moles!}}{(0.25 M \times 1.0 L) - .10 \text{ mol}}}$$

$$[H^+] = 5.56 \times 10^{-10} \left[\frac{.50}{.15} \right] = 1.85 \times 10^{-9}$$

$$\therefore \text{pH} = -\log 1.85 \times 10^{-9} = 8.73$$

Exercise 4 (typo- the problem in Fundamentals is 4.30)

a pH of 4.30 is desired $\therefore [H^+] = 10^{-4.30} = 5.01 \times 10^{-5}$

I need to select a K_a close to

Which makes both propanoic & benzoic good choices.

An ideal buffer has an A:B ratio of one so ...

$$[H^+] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5} = K_a \frac{[A]}{[B]} \quad \text{Ratio Acid : Base}$$

Chloroacetic $5 \times 10^{-5} = 1.35 \times 10^{-3} \left(\frac{A}{B} \right) ; \left(\frac{A}{B} \right) = .037$

propanoic $5 \times 10^{-5} = 1.3 \times 10^{-5} \left(\frac{A}{B} \right) ; \left(\frac{A}{B} \right) = 3.8$

* benzoic $5 \times 10^{-5} = 6.4 \times 10^{-5} \left(\frac{A}{B} \right) ; \left(\frac{A}{B} \right) = .78$ * closest to 1.0 \therefore BEST choice

hypochlorous $5 \times 10^{-5} = 3.5 \times 10^{-8} \left(\frac{A}{B} \right) ; \left(\frac{A}{B} \right) = 1400$

typ. pKa for benzoic is $-\log(K_a) = 4.19$ if ratio were 1:1
A:B

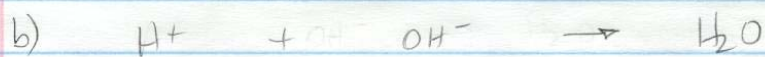
EXERCISE 5

The trick is to a) recognize as stoich. w/ LIMITING Reagent

b) track total * volume for molarity calculation

a) it's all about the pH of the acid

$$\text{pH} = -\log[.200] \therefore \text{pH} = 0.699 \quad (3 \text{ sig. figs.} = 3 \text{ decimal places in pH})$$



initial $50\text{ml} \times .2\text{M}$ $10\text{ml} \times .1\text{M}$

$$= 10 \text{ mmoles} \quad = 1.0 \text{ mmoles}$$

\rightarrow $-1 \text{ mmole to neutralize}$ LIMITING!

after reaction \therefore 9 mmoles left

$$\therefore [\text{H}^+] = \frac{9 \text{ mmoles}}{60 \text{ mL}} = [.15]$$

$$\text{AND } \text{pH} = -\log[.15] = 0.824$$



$50\text{ml} \times .2\text{M}$ $20\text{ml} \times .1\text{M}$

$$= 10 \text{ mmoles} \quad = 2 \text{ mmoles}$$

\rightarrow 8 mmoles left LIMIT

$$\therefore [\text{H}^+] = \frac{8 \text{ mmoles}}{70 \text{ mL}} = [.114]$$

$$\text{pH} = -\log[.114] = 0.942$$



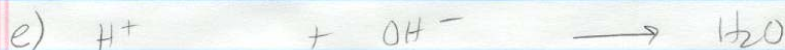
$50\text{ml} \times .2\text{M}$ $50\text{ml} \times .1\text{M}$

$$= 10 \text{ mmoles} \quad = 5 \text{ mmoles}$$

\rightarrow 5 mmoles remain LIMIT

$$\therefore [\text{H}^+] = \frac{5 \text{ mmoles}}{100 \text{ mL}} = [.050]$$

$$\text{pH} = -\log[.050] = 1.301$$



$50\text{ml} \times .2\text{M}$ $100\text{ml} \times .1\text{M}$

$$10 \text{ mmoles} = 10 \text{ mmoles}$$

\rightarrow all neutralized \therefore Eq. pt.

$\therefore \text{pH} = 7.000$ since
strong Acid = strong base

EX5 cont



50ml x .2M

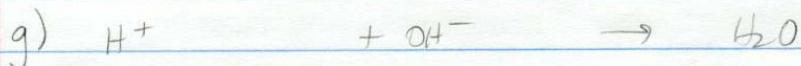
150ml x .1M

~~10 mmoles~~
LIMIT

~~15 mmoles~~ 5 mmoles excess

$$\therefore pOH = -\log \left[\frac{5 \text{ mmoles}}{200 \text{ mL}} \right]$$

$$pOH = 1.602 \quad \text{pH} = 12.398$$



50ml x .2M

200ml x .1M

~~10 mmoles~~
LIMIT

~~20 mmoles~~ 10 excess

$$\therefore pOH = -\log \left[\frac{10 \text{ mmoles}}{250 \text{ mL}} \right]$$

$$pOH = 1.398 \quad \text{pH} = 12.602$$

typo = 3sf = 3 decimal places on pH

Exercise 6 $K_a \text{ HCN} = 6.2 \times 10^{-10}$

TRICK: Buffer to eq. pt $\rightarrow \text{pH} = \text{p}K_a$
 @ 1/2 eq. pt \rightarrow at eq. pt. hydrolysis salt !!
 KICE

As soon as the NaOH mixes w/ HCN you have a buffer of HCN & its salt Na^+CN^- ...

$$a) [H^+] = \frac{K_a [A^-]}{[B^+]} = 6.2 \times 10^{-10} \left(\frac{(50 \text{ mL} \times 0.1 \text{ M}) - (8 \text{ mL} \times 0.1 \text{ M})}{52 \text{ mL}} \right) \bigg/ \left(0 + (8 \text{ mL} \times 0.1 \text{ M}) \right) \bigg/ 52 \text{ mL}$$

$$[H^+] = 6.2 \times 10^{-10} \left(\frac{(5 \text{ mmol} - 0.8 \text{ mmol})}{0.8 \text{ mmol}} \right) = 3.255 \times 10^{-9}$$

$$\therefore \text{pH} = -\log(3.255 \times 10^{-9}) = 8.487$$

b) @ half way pt $\frac{1}{2}$ Acid \rightarrow neutralized w/ base so $\frac{1}{2}$ Salt (NaCN) has also formed

$$\text{HCN} + \text{NaOH} \rightarrow \text{HCN} + \text{Na}^+ + \text{OH}^- \xrightarrow{\frac{1}{2} \text{ eq. pt.}} \text{Na}^+ + \text{H}_2\text{O} + \underbrace{\text{CN}^- + \text{H}^+}_{\frac{1}{2} \quad \frac{1}{2}}$$

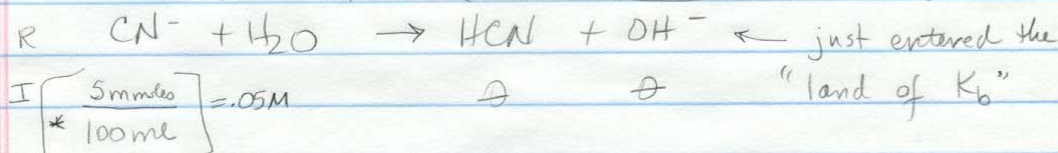
WK STRONG

A perfect A:B 1:1 buffer exists and $\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a$
 $\therefore \text{pH} = -\log[6.2 \times 10^{-10}] = 9.208$

c) all about the hydrolysis of the salt!! & stoichiometry!

@ eq. pt. moles HCN = moles NaOH = 5 mmol salt!!
 (50 mL x 0.1 M) = (5 mmol x 0.1 M) \rightarrow *? = 50 mL \leftarrow that's why!

WKA vs. St. B; expect pH > 7



C	-x	+x	+x
E	0.05-x	x	x

$$K_b = \frac{K_w}{K_a} = \frac{1 \times 10^{-14}}{6.2 \times 10^{-10}} = \frac{x^2}{0.05-x}$$

$\therefore x = 8.98 \times 10^{-4} = [\text{OH}^-]$
 $\text{pOH} = 3.047 \rightarrow \text{pH} = 10.953$

can neglect

Exercise 7

WK Base + Strong Acid \Rightarrow Expect acidic eq. pt.

Look @ curve + data pg. 751

Eq. pt \approx 5.36

Look at table & choose an indicator in the 5-7 ish range

Methyl red is best choice

Exercise 8

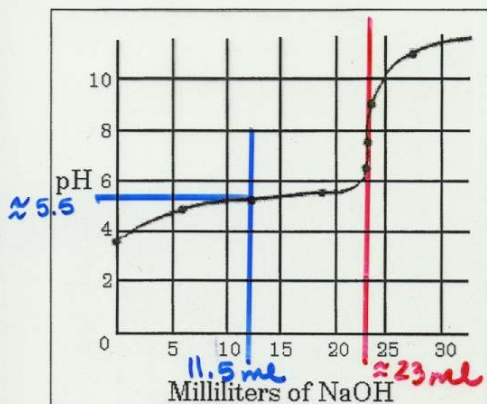
INDICATOR'S
Useful range = $pK_a \pm 1$

$$K_a = 1.0 \times 10^{-7} = \frac{[H^+][In^-]}{[HIn]} \quad \text{color change visible when } \frac{[In^-]}{[HIn]} = \frac{1}{10}$$

$$K_a = 1.0 \times 10^{-7} = \frac{[H^+][I^-]}{10}$$

$[H^+] = 1 \times 10^{-6}$ or pH of 6.00 when the color change is 1st visible

1988 D



A 30.00 millilitre sample of a weak monoprotic acid was titrated with a standardized solution of NaOH. A pH meter was used to measure the pH after each increment of NaOH was added, and the curve above was constructed.

- (a) Explain how this curve could be used to determine the molarity of the acid.

*The sharp vertical rise occurs @ eq. pt.
 ~ 23 ml NaOH added AND*

$$\text{moles A} = \text{moles B} ; 30\text{ml}(M_A) = 23\text{ml}(M_B)$$

$$M_A = \frac{23\text{ml}(M_B)}{30\text{ml}}$$

- (b) Explain how this curve could be used to determine the dissociation constant K_a of the weak monoprotic acid.

@ $\frac{1}{2}$ eq. pt $\text{pH} = \text{pK}_a$

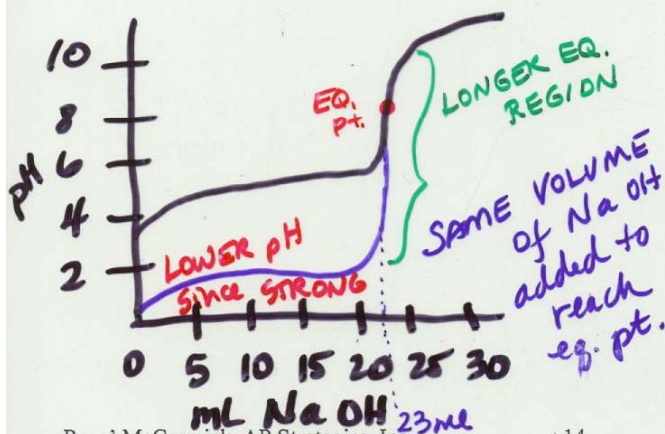
*When $\frac{23}{2} = 11.5\text{ml}$ of base have been added, the $\text{pH} \approx 5.5 \therefore$
 $10^{-5.5} = K_a = [\text{H}^+ \text{ also}]$*

- (c) If you were to repeat the titration using an indicator in the acid to signal the endpoint, which of the following indicators should you select? Give the reason for your choice.

Methyl red $K_a = 1 \times 10^{-5}$ *pH 5 pKa = pH @ end pt.*
 Cresol red $K_a = 1 \times 10^{-8}$ *8*
 Alizarin yellow $K_a = 1 \times 10^{-11}$ *11*

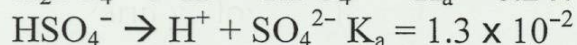
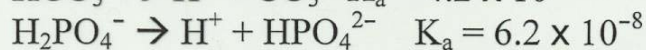
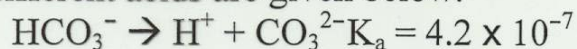
Looking at the graph, the end point occurs near 8 so cresol red is the best choice.

- (d) Sketch the titration curve that would result if the weak monoprotic acid were replaced by a strong monoprotic acid, such as HCl of the same molarity. Identify differences between this titration curve and the curve shown above.



1992 D *Essay - No calculator! [Now] had calc. in 1992*

The equations and constants for the dissociation of three different acids are given below.



- (a) From the systems above, identify the conjugate pair that is best for preparing a buffer with a pH of 7.2. Explain your choice.

pH of a buffer = pKa when ratio A:B is 1:1 ∴

$\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^- \rightleftharpoons \text{HPO}_4^{2-}$ is the best choice w/ a K_a of 6.2×10^{-8} ($\text{pH} = 7.2 = \text{p}K_a$)

- (b) Explain briefly how you would prepare the buffer solution described in (a) with the conjugate pair you have chosen.

Dissolve equal # of moles of

H_2PO_4^- & HPO_4^{2-} in water.

- (c) If the concentrations of both the acid and the conjugate base you have chosen were doubled, how would the pH be affected? Explain how the capacity of the buffer is affected by this change in concentrations of acid and base.

pH would NOT be changed since the ratio of A:B would not change; $[H^+] = K_a \frac{[A]}{[B]}$

The capacity of the buffer would increase since there are more moles of A + B to react w/ added A or B.

- (d) Explain briefly how you could prepare the buffer solution in (a) if you had available the solid salt of the only one member of the conjugate pair and solution of a strong acid and a strong base.

Add strong base to salt of conj. acid or
Add strong acid to salt of conj. BASE

or Use a pH meter + strong A or B to adjust to the desired pH.

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1982 A $[H^+] = K_a \frac{[A]}{[B]}$

EASY A buffer solution contains 0.40 mole of formic acid, $HCOOH$, and 0.60 mole of sodium formate, $HCOONa$, in 1.00 litre of solution. The ionization constant, K_a , of formic acid is 1.8×10^{-4} .

(a) Calculate the pH of this solution.

$$[H^+] = 1.8 \times 10^{-4} \frac{[.4]}{[.6]} = 1.2 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$\therefore pH = -\log 1.2 \times 10^{-4} = 3.92$$

Soln Key has .6/.4 but correct answer ↑ (typo!)

(b) If 100. millilitres of this buffer solution is diluted to a volume of 1.00 litre with pure water, the pH does not change. Discuss why the pH remains constant on dilution.

$$[H^+] = K_a \frac{[A]}{[B]} ; \text{ If the } \frac{A}{B} \text{ ratio does}$$

NOT change then $[H^+]$ does NOT change

and pH does NOT change!

$$.4M \times .1L = \text{moles A}$$

$$.6M \times .6L = \text{moles B}$$

Acid - Base Problems

page 18

- (b) A 5.00 millilitre sample of 1.00 molar HCl is added to 100. millilitres of the original buffer solution. Calculate the $[H_3O^+]$ of the resulting solution. .005L x 1M = .005 moles

$$[H^+] = 1.8 \times 10^{-4} \left(\frac{.04 \text{ mole} + .005 \text{ moles}}{.06 \text{ mole} - .005 \text{ moles}} \right)$$

$$[H^+] = 1.47 \times 10^{-4} M$$

- (d) A 800.0 milliliter sample of 2.00 molar formic acid is mixed with 200. milliliters of 4.80 molar NaOH. Calculate the $[H_3O^+]$ of the resulting solution.

$$\begin{array}{l} .800L \times 2M = 1.60 \text{ moles} \text{ WK ACID} \\ .200L \times 4.8M = -.96 \text{ moles} \text{ STRONG BASE} \end{array} \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} .800L \times 2M \\ .200L \times 4.8M \end{array}} \right\} \text{mix}$$

.64 mole EXCESS ACID

$$[H^+] = K_a \frac{[A^-]}{[B^+]}$$

$$[H^+] = 1.8 \times 10^{-4} \frac{[1.60 \text{ mole} - .96 \text{ mole}]}{0 + .96 \text{ mole}}$$

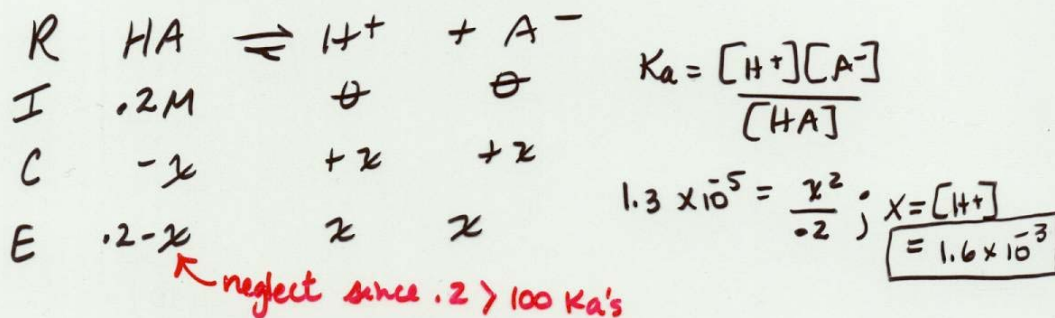
$$= 1.8 \times 10^{-4} \frac{[.64]}{[.96]} = 1.2 \times 10^{-4}$$

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1991 A

The acid ionization constant, K_a , for propanoic acid, C_2H_5COOH , is 1.3×10^{-5} .

- (a) Calculate the hydrogen ion concentration, $[H^+]$, in a 0.20 molar solution of propanoic acid.



- (b) Calculate the percentage of propanoic acid molecules that are ionized in the solution in (a).

$$\frac{1.6 \times 10^{-3}}{0.2} \times 100 = 0.81\% \text{ ionized}$$

- (b) What is the ratio of the concentration of propanoate ion, $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{COO}^-$, ^{BASE} to ^{Acid} that of propanoic acid in a buffer solution with a pH of 5.20?

$$[\text{H}^+] = K_a \left(\frac{\text{A}}{\text{B}} \right) \Rightarrow 10^{-5.20} = 1.3 \times 10^{-5} \left(\frac{\text{A}}{\text{B}} \right)$$

$$\left(\frac{\text{A}}{\text{B}} \right) = .485 \quad \text{MEAN!} \Rightarrow \frac{\text{B}}{\text{A}} = \frac{1}{.485} = \boxed{2.1 : 1}$$

Base : Acid

- (d) In a 100. milliliter sample of a different buffer solution, the propanoic acid concentration is 0.35 molar and the sodium propanoate concentration is 0.50 molar. To this buffer solution, 0.0040 mole of solid NaOH is added. Calculate the pH of the resulting solution.

$$[\text{H}^+] = K_a \frac{[\text{A}^-]}{[\text{B}^+]}$$

$$= 1.3 \times 10^{-5} \left(\frac{[(.35\text{M} \times .1\text{L}) - .004\text{mol}]}{[(.50\text{M} \times .1\text{L}) + .004\text{mol}]} \right)$$

$$[\text{H}^+] = 1.3 \times 10^{-5} \left(\frac{[.031]}{[.054]} \right) = 7.46 \times 10^{-6} ; \boxed{\text{pH} = 5.13}$$

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1993 A



Methylamine, CH_3NH_2 , is a weak base that reacts according to the equation above. The value of the ionization constant, K_b , is 5.25×10^{-4} . Methylamine forms salts such as methylammonium nitrate, $(\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+)(\text{NO}_3^-)$.

- (a) Calculate the hydroxide ion concentration, $[\text{OH}^-]$, of a 0.225 molar aqueous solution of methylamine.

$$K_b = \frac{x^2}{(\cancel{0.225-x})} \xrightarrow{\text{neglect}} ; 5.25 \times 10^{-4} \times 0.225 = x^2$$

$$x = [\text{OH}^-] = 0.01087 = \boxed{1.09 \times 10^{-2}}$$

got carried away! $\therefore \text{pOH} = 1.96 \quad \& \quad \text{pH} = 12.04$

- (b) Calculate the pH of a solution made by adding 0.0100 mole of solid methylammonium nitrate to 120.0 milliliters of a 0.225 molar solution of methylamine. Assume no volume change occurs. BASE

$$[\text{H}^+] = K_a \frac{[\text{A}]}{[\text{B}]} = \left(\frac{1 \times 10^{-14}}{5.25 \times 10^{-4}} \right) \left(\frac{0.01 \text{ mol}}{0.120 \text{ L}} \right) \frac{1}{0.225} = 7.05 \times 10^{-12}$$

$$\therefore -\log(7.05 \times 10^{-12}) = \text{pH} = 11.15$$

- (c) How many moles of either NaOH or HCl (state clearly which you choose) should be added to the solution in (b) to produce a solution that has a pH of 11.00? Assume that no volume change occurs.

Must lower pH \therefore Add Acid (HCl)

$$[H^+] = K_a \frac{[A^+]}{[B^-]}$$

$$1 \times 10^{-11} = \left(\frac{1 \times 10^{-14}}{5.25 \times 10^{-4}} \right) \frac{[.0833 + x]}{[.225 - x]}$$

$$.525 = \frac{(.0833 + x)}{(.225 - x)}$$

$$.118 - .525x = .0833 + x$$

$$.118 - .0833 = 1.525x$$

$$\frac{.0348}{1.525} = x = [.0228]$$

$$\therefore \text{moles} = M \times V = (.0228M)(.120L)$$

- (d) A volume of 100. milliliters of distilled water is added to the solution in (c). How is the pH of the solution affected? Explain.

$$\# \text{ moles} = 2.74 \times 10^{-3} \text{ HCl added}$$

No change in pH since
the ratio of A:B has NOT changed

$$[A^+] = K_a (\text{Ratio}) \leftarrow \text{stays same } \therefore [H^+] \text{ stays the same!}$$