Water chemistry (chapter 2)

Page 1

Water (H₂O)

A "V" shaped molecule

• Living things are mostly water

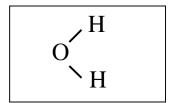


Fig 3.2

Substances are classified as either <u>hydrophilic</u> or <u>hydrophobic</u>, depending on whether they attract water or not

Hydrophilic substance = Any substance that attracts water

- Some typical traits of hydrophilic substances:
 - a) Water spreads out on their surface (example: Paper)

or...

b) They dissolve in water (example: Table salt)

Hydrophobic substances = Any substance that does not attract water

- Some typical traits of hydrophobic substances:
 - a) Water beads up on their surface (example: Wax)

or...

b) They do not dissolve in water (example: Oil)

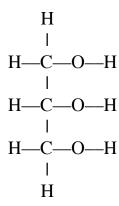
How to predict whether a substance is hydrophobic or hydrophilic by looking at its molecules:

1) Ions are always hydrophilic

√Example: Table salt, made of Na⁺ and Cl⁻ ions

2) Molecules where all (or most) of the carbons have partial charges are hydrophilic ("polar molecules")

 $\sqrt{\text{Example: Glycerol}}$



3) Molecules where all (or most) of the carbons have don't have partial charges are hydrophobic ("non-polar molecules")

 $\sqrt{\text{Example: Octane}}$

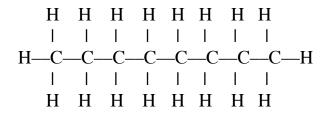
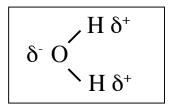


Fig 3.2 and 3.6

Each water molecule has partial charges

• The oxygen is δ^- and the hydrogens are δ^+



• Hydrophilic molecules are hydrophilic because they attract water electrostatically

 $\sqrt{\text{Water's }\delta^{-}}$ oxygen is attracted to any positive charge (such as + ions and δ^{+} hydrogen)

 $\sqrt{\text{Water's }\delta^{+}\text{ hydrogen is attracted to any negative charge}}$ (such as – ions and δ^{-} oxygen or nitrogen)

• Hydrophobic molecules are hydrophobic because they have little or no charges to attract water molecules

Fig 3.2

Hydrogen bond

The electrostatic attraction between a δ^+ H and any δ^- atom (such as oxygen or nitrogen)

- Example: Water molecules bond to each other by hydrogen bonds
- Hydrogen bonds are shown as a dashed line

Figs 3.2 and 3.4

Dissolve

When a substance's molecules become evenly spread out in a liquid

• Three important terms related to dissolving a substance in a liquid:

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\sqrt{\text{Solvent}} = \text{The liquid}
\sqrt{\text{Solute}} = \text{The substance that is dissolved}
\sqrt{\text{Solution}} = \text{The liquid and the substance dissolve in it}
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• When a substance dissolves in water, each molecule of the substance becomes coated with water molecules

Figs 2.14, 3.6, and 3.7

Concentration

The amount of solute per volume of solution

- Concentrations are usually stated as "grams per liter" (grams of solute per one liter of solution)
- A solute written in brackets means the concentration of that solute

 $\sqrt{\text{Example: [Glucose]}} = \text{The concentration of glucose}$

Diffusion

The spontaneous movement of a solute from an area of its high concentration to an area of its low concentration.

• Cell membranes can block diffusion of most solutes

Osmosis

The spontaneous movement of water across a selectively permeable membrane towards the side with the higher total solute concentration

- "Selectively permeable" = Water can cross membrane but solutes cannot
- "Water moves towards solutes" is a way to remember osmosis
- Hypertonic = Higher [solute] than a cell's cytoplasm $\sqrt{\text{Cells lose water when put in hypertonic solutions}}$
- Hypotonic = Lower [solute] than a cell's cytoplasm $\sqrt{\text{Cells gain water when put in hypotonic solutions}}$
- Isotonic = Equal [solute] to a cell's cytoplasm
 √Cells don't gain or lose water when put in isotonic solutions

Acid

Any molecule that adds H⁺ ions to water

• Examples:

HCl
$$\longrightarrow$$
 H $^+$ + Cl $^-$ Hydrochloric acid

$$H_2CO_3$$
 \longrightarrow H^+ + HCO_3^- Carbonic acid

Figs on pages 53 and 54

Base

Any molecule that removes H⁺ ions from water

• Examples:

$$OH^- + H^+ \longrightarrow H_2O$$

Hydroxide ion

$$HCO_3^- + H^+ \longrightarrow H_2CO_3$$

Bicarbonate ion

Figs on pages 54

Water molecules can dissociate:

$$H_2O \Leftrightarrow H^+ + OH^-$$

- Only a small number of water molecules are dissociated at any one moment
- In pure water, $[H^+] = [OH^-]$

Fig on page 53

pH scale

A number (from 0 to 14) that indicates how acidic or basic a solution is

• $pH = -log[H^+]$

$$\sqrt{\text{Example: [H^+]}} = 0.0001 = 10^{-4} = \text{pH 4}$$

$$\sqrt{\text{Example: } [\text{H}^+]} = 0.000000001 = 10^{-9} = \text{pH } 9$$

• Pure water has a pH of 7 and is called "neutral" (not acidic or basic)

$$\sqrt{[H^+]} = [OH^-]$$
 at pH 7

• Solutions that are acidic have a higher [H⁺] than pure water

 $\sqrt{\text{Acidic solutions have pHs lower}}$ than 7

 $\sqrt{\text{The higher the [H^+]}}$, the lower the pH

• Solutions that are basic have a lower [H⁺] than pure water

 $\sqrt{\text{Basic solutions have pHs$ **higher** $}}$ than 7

 $\sqrt{\text{The lower the [H^+]}}$, the higher the pH

Fig 3.8

Buffer

Substances that (when added to a solution) minimize changes in the solution's pH

- Buffers make a solution resistant to acids and bases
- A common buffer in living things is the carbonic acid/bicarbonate ion buffer

$$H_2CO_3$$
 \leftrightarrow HCO_3^- + H^+

Carbonic Bicarbonate Hydrogen ion ion

• The carbonic acid replaces any lost H⁺ by:

$$H_2CO_3$$
 \longrightarrow H^+ + HCO_3^-

• The bicarbonate ion absorbs excess H⁺ by:

$$\text{HCO}_3^- + \text{H}^+ \longrightarrow \text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$$

Fig on page 55