

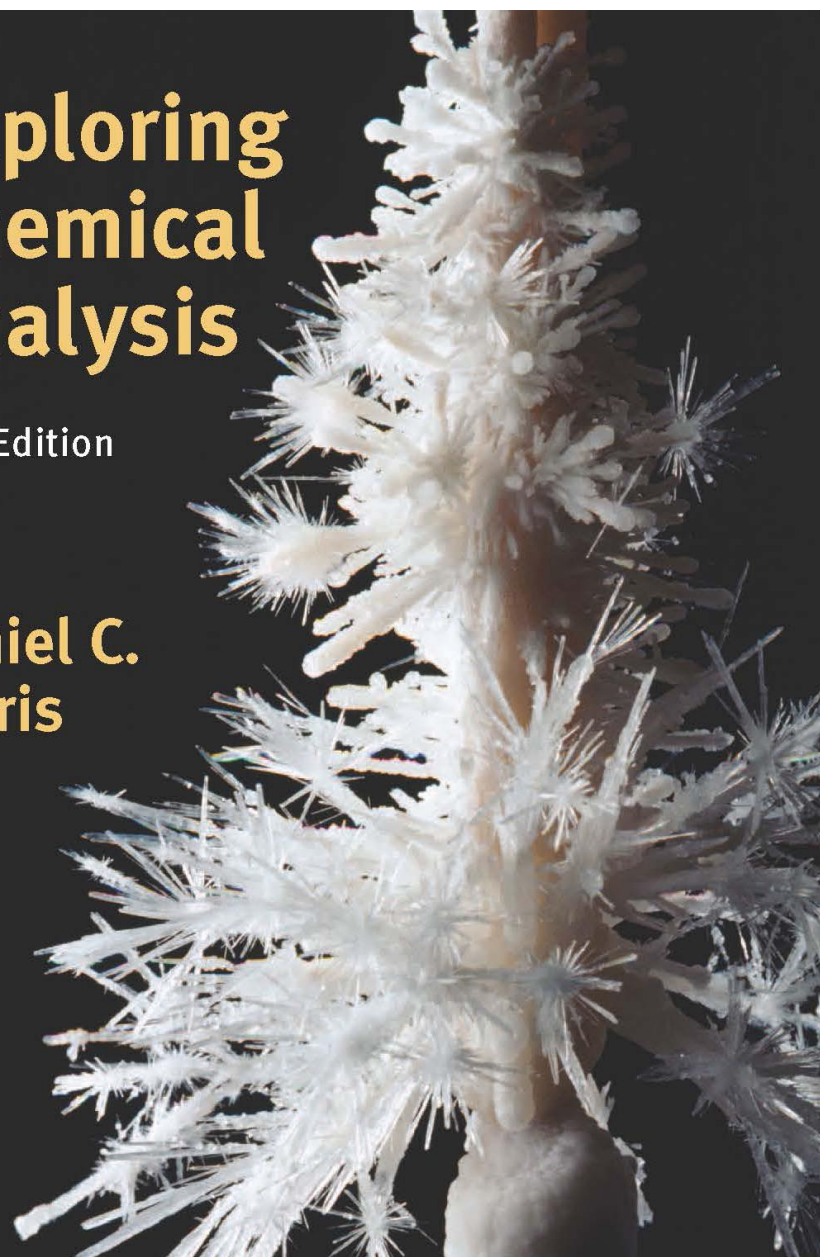
## Chapter 10

# Acid–Base titrations

## Exploring Chemical Analysis

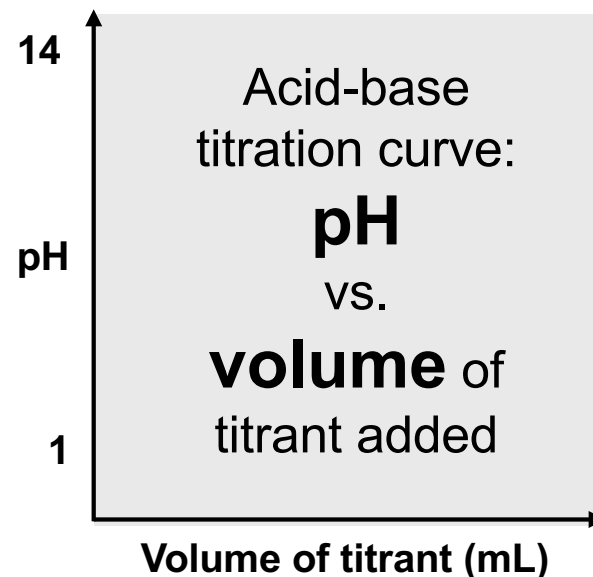
Fifth Edition

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Harris



# Acid-Base Titrations

- In an **acid-base titration**, the concentration of an acid (or a base) is determined by neutralizing the acid (or base) with a solution of base (or acid) of known concentration.
- The **equivalence point** of the reaction occurs when the number of moles of added titrant ( $\text{OH}^-$  or  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$ ) are exactly sufficient for stoichiometric reaction with analyte.
- The **endpoint** occurs when the indicator ( $\text{HIn}$ ) changes color.
- The indicator should be selected so that its color change occurs at a pH close to that of the equivalence point — apply the  $\text{pH}_{\text{equivalence point}} = \text{p}K_{\text{a}(\text{Indicator})} \pm 1$  rule.
- The endpoint and the equivalence point for a neutralization titration can be best matched by plotting a **titration curve**, a graph of pH versus volume of titrant.



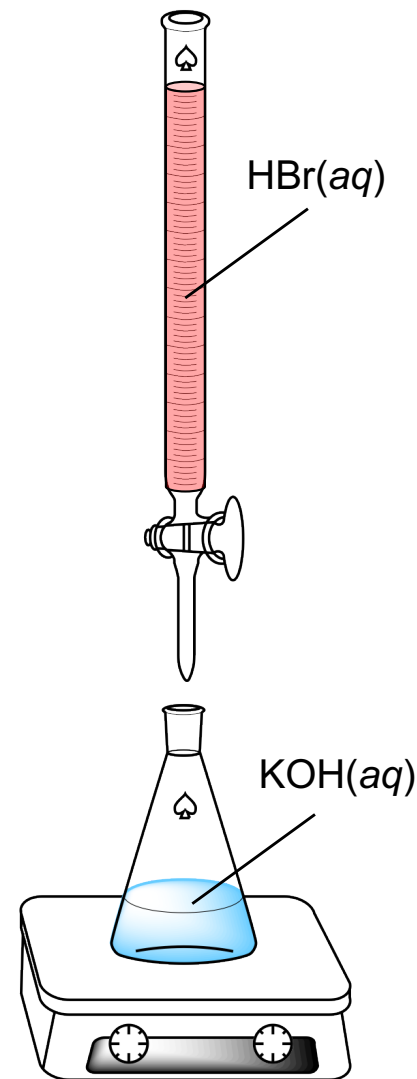
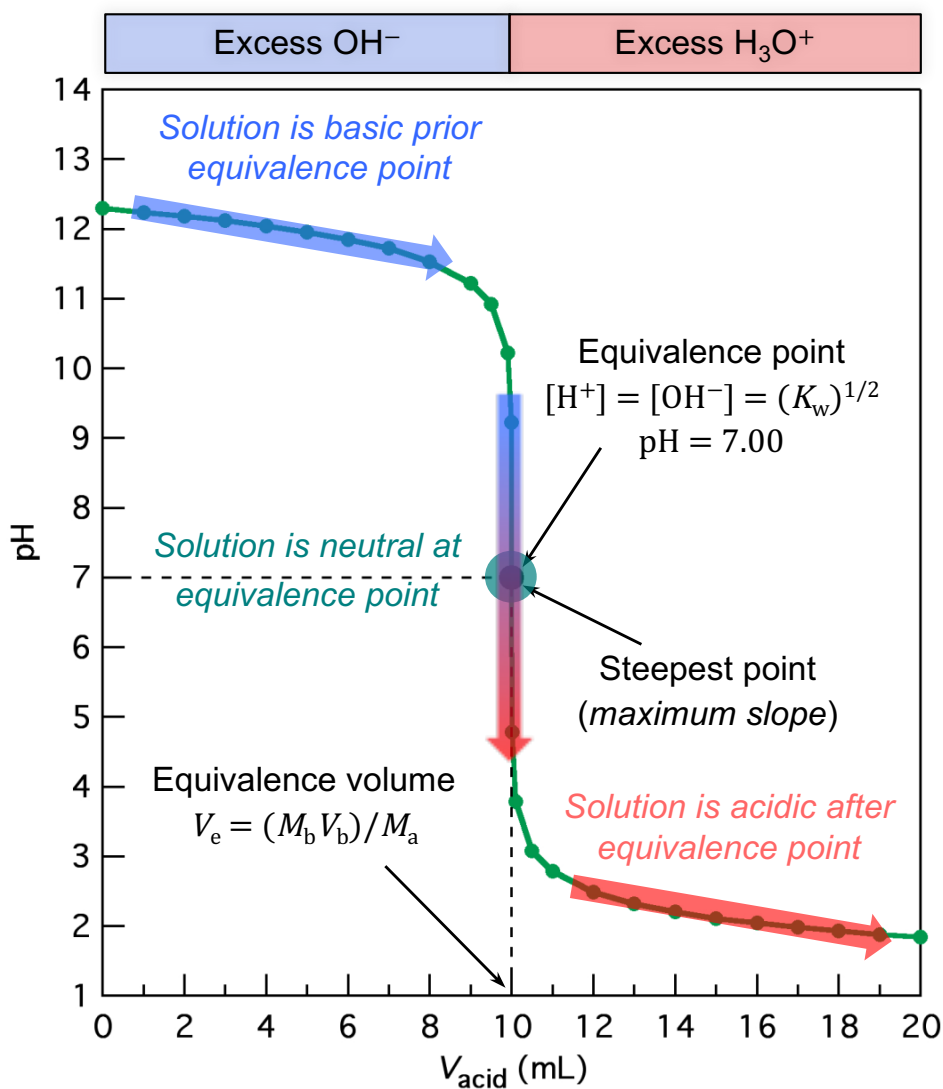
# 10-1 Titration of Strong Base with Strong Acid

**FIGURE 10-1** Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M KOH with 0.1000 M HBr  
*Titration reaction:*  $\text{OH}^-(aq) + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+(aq) \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2\text{O}(l)$

The initial pH is high, and decreases gradually when the acid is added.

The pH drops very rapidly at the equivalence point, which occurs at **pH = 7.00**.

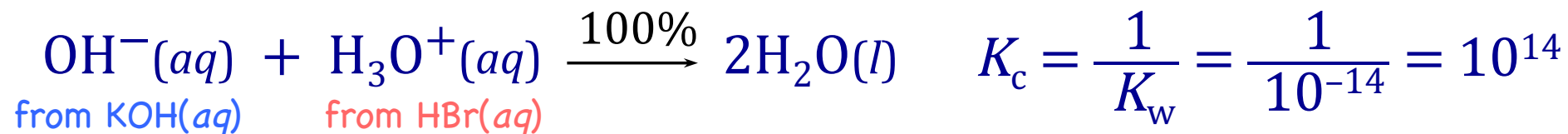
The pH decreases gradually when excess acid has been added.



## 10-1 Titration of Strong Base with Strong Acid

# Calculating the pH During This Titration

- The **titration reaction** between strong base and strong acid is merely



- Because the equilibrium constant for this reaction is  $10^{14}$ , it's fair to say that it “goes to completion”.
- Prior to the equivalence point, *any amount of  $\text{H}^{+}$  added will consume a stoichiometric amount of  $\text{OH}^{-}$ .*
- A useful starting point is to calculate the volume of HBr ( $V_e$ ) needed to reach the equivalence point:

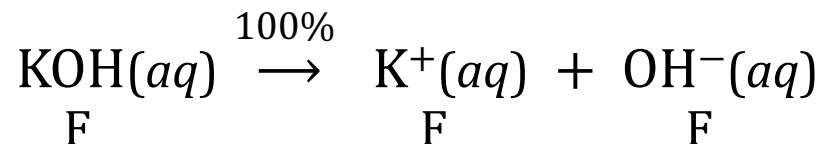
$$\underbrace{(V_e \text{ mL})(0.1000 \text{ M})}_{\text{mmol of HBr at equivalence point}} = \underbrace{(50.00 \text{ mL})(0.02000 \text{ M})}_{\text{mmol of KOH being titrated}} \Rightarrow V_e = 10.00 \text{ mL}$$

- Besides calculating  $V_e$ , there are **four** kinds of pH calculations during strong base–strong acid titrations.

# 10-1 Titration of Strong Base with Strong Acid

## Region 1: Before Acid Is Added

1. **Before acid is added**, we have simply a strong base problem:



$$[\text{OH}^-] = [\text{OH}^-]_{\text{initial}} = F_{\text{OH}^-}$$

$$\text{pH} = -\log(K_w/F_{\text{OH}^-})$$

Before we add any HBr acid from the buret, the flask of base contains 0.02000 M KOH, so:

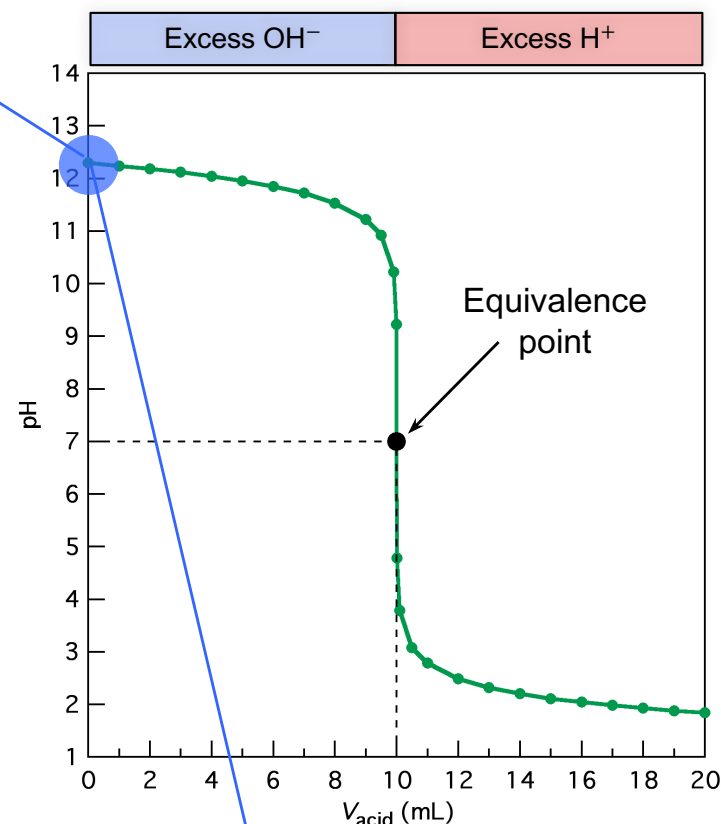
$$[\text{OH}^-] = F_{\text{OH}^-} = 0.02000 \text{ M}$$

$$\text{pH} = -\log(1.00 \times 10^{-14}/0.02000) = 12.30$$

$$\text{or } \text{pOH} = -\log[\text{OH}^-] = -\log(0.02000) = 1.70$$

$$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_w - \text{pOH} = 14.00 - 1.70 = 12.30$$

Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M KOH  
with 0.1000 M HBr



50 + 0 = 50 mL  
[OH<sup>-</sup>]<sub>init</sub>  
(basic)

**pH = 12.30**

# 10-1 Titration of Strong Base with Strong Acid

## Region 2: Before the Equivalence Point

2. **Before the equivalence point**, the pH is determined by excess  $\text{OH}^-$  in the solution:

$$\text{initial mol OH}^- = M_{\text{base}} \times V_{\text{base}}$$

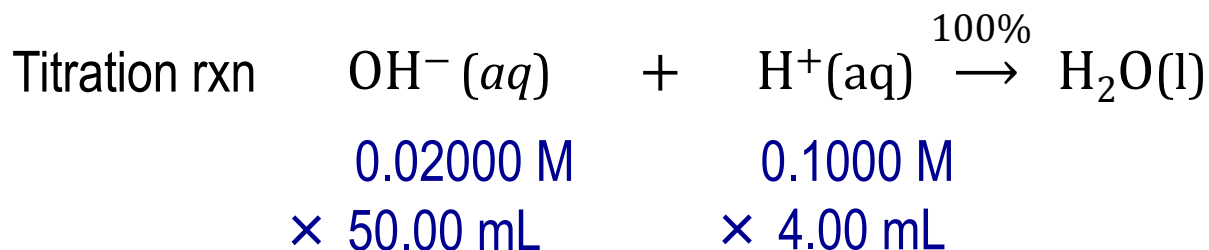
$$\text{mol H}^+ \text{ added} = M_{\text{acid}} \times V_{\text{acid}}$$

$$\text{mol OH}^-_{\text{remaining}} = \text{mol OH}^-_{\text{init}} - \text{mol H}^+_{\text{added}}$$

$$[\text{OH}^-] = (\text{mol OH}^-_{\text{remaining}}) / (V_{\text{base}} + V_{\text{acid}})$$

$$\text{pH} = -\log(K_w / [\text{OH}^-])$$

For example, after adding 4.00 mL of HBr:

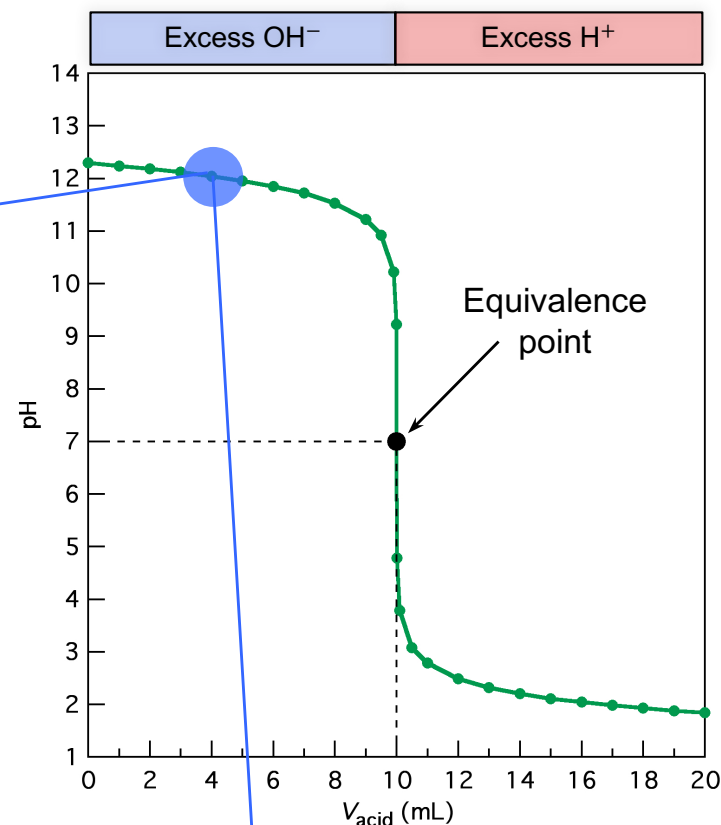


Initial moles	1.000 mmol	0.400 mmol
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Final moles	0.600 mmol	—
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$$[\text{OH}^-] = (0.600 \text{ mmol}) / (54.00 \text{ mL}) = 0.0111 \text{ M}$$

Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M KOH  
with 0.1000 M HBr



$$50 + 4 = 54 \text{ mL}$$

$$[\text{OH}^-] \gg [\text{H}^+] \quad \text{pH} = 12.04$$

(basic)

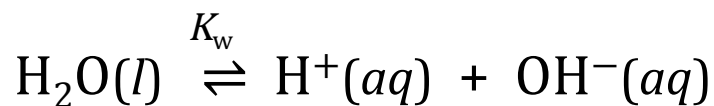
$$\text{pOH} = -\log [0.0111] = 1.96$$

$$\text{pH} = 14.00 - 1.96 = 12.04$$

# 10-1 Titration of Strong Base with Strong Acid

## Region 3: At the Equivalence Point

**3. At the equivalence point**, added  $H^+$  is just sufficient to react with all the  $OH^-$  to make  $H_2O$ . The pH (or  $[H^+]$ ) is determined by dissociation of water:



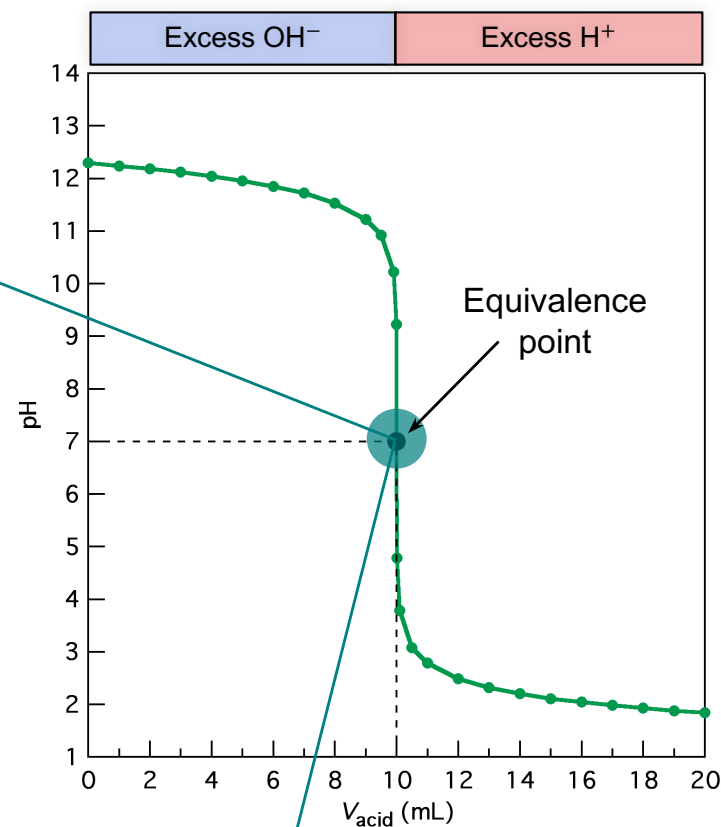
$$K_w = [H^+][OH^-] = 1.0 \times 10^{-14} \quad @ \quad 25^\circ C$$

$$[H^+] = (K_w)^{1/2} = 1.0 \times 10^{-7} \text{ M}; \quad \text{pH} = 7.00$$

After 10.00 mL ( $V_e$ ) of HBr have been added, the titration is complete:

$$\underbrace{(50.00 \text{ mL})(0.02000 \text{ M})}_{1.000 \text{ mmol of } OH^- \text{ being titrated}} = \underbrace{(10.00 \text{ mL})(0.1000 \text{ M})}_{1.000 \text{ mmol of } H^+ \text{ at the equivalence point}}$$

Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M KOH  
with 0.1000 M HBr



50 + 10 = 60 mL  
 $[H^+] = [OH^-]$   
 (neutral)

KBr(aq)

**pH = 7.00**

- The pH at the equivalent point of any strong acid titrated with a strong base, or any strong base titrated with a strong acid is 7.00 at 25°C, so no pH calculations is required.

# 10-1 Titration of Strong Base with Strong Acid

## Region 4: After the Equivalence Point

2. After the equivalence point, the pH is determined by excess  $H^+$  in the solution:

$$\text{initial mol OH}^- = M_{\text{base}} \times V_{\text{base}}$$

$$\text{mol H}^+ \text{ added} = M_{\text{acid}} \times V_{\text{acid}}$$

$$\text{mol H}^+_{\text{excess}} = \text{mol H}^+_{\text{added}} - \text{mol OH}^-_{\text{init}}$$

$$[H^+] = (\text{mol H}^+_{\text{excess}}) / (V_{\text{base}} + V_{\text{acid}})$$

$$\text{pH} = -\log [H^+]$$

For example, after adding 14.00 mL of HBr:



0.02000 M

0.1000 M

$\times$  50.00 mL

$\times$  14.00 mL

Initial moles 1.000 mmol

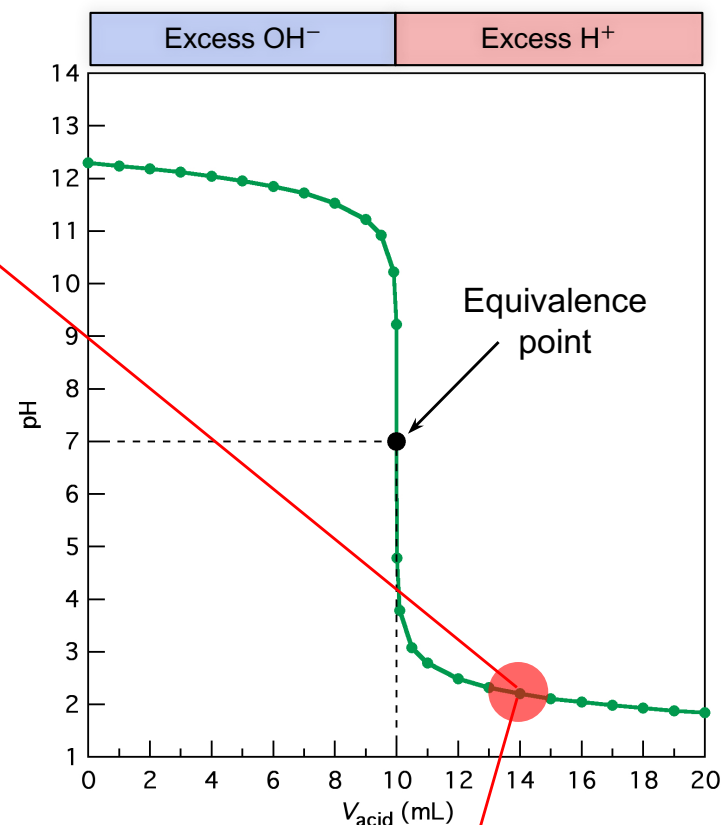
1.400 mmol

Final moles —

0.400 mmol

$$[H^+] = (0.400 \text{ mmol}) / (64.00 \text{ mL}) = 0.00625 \text{ M}$$

Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M KOH  
with 0.1000 M HBr

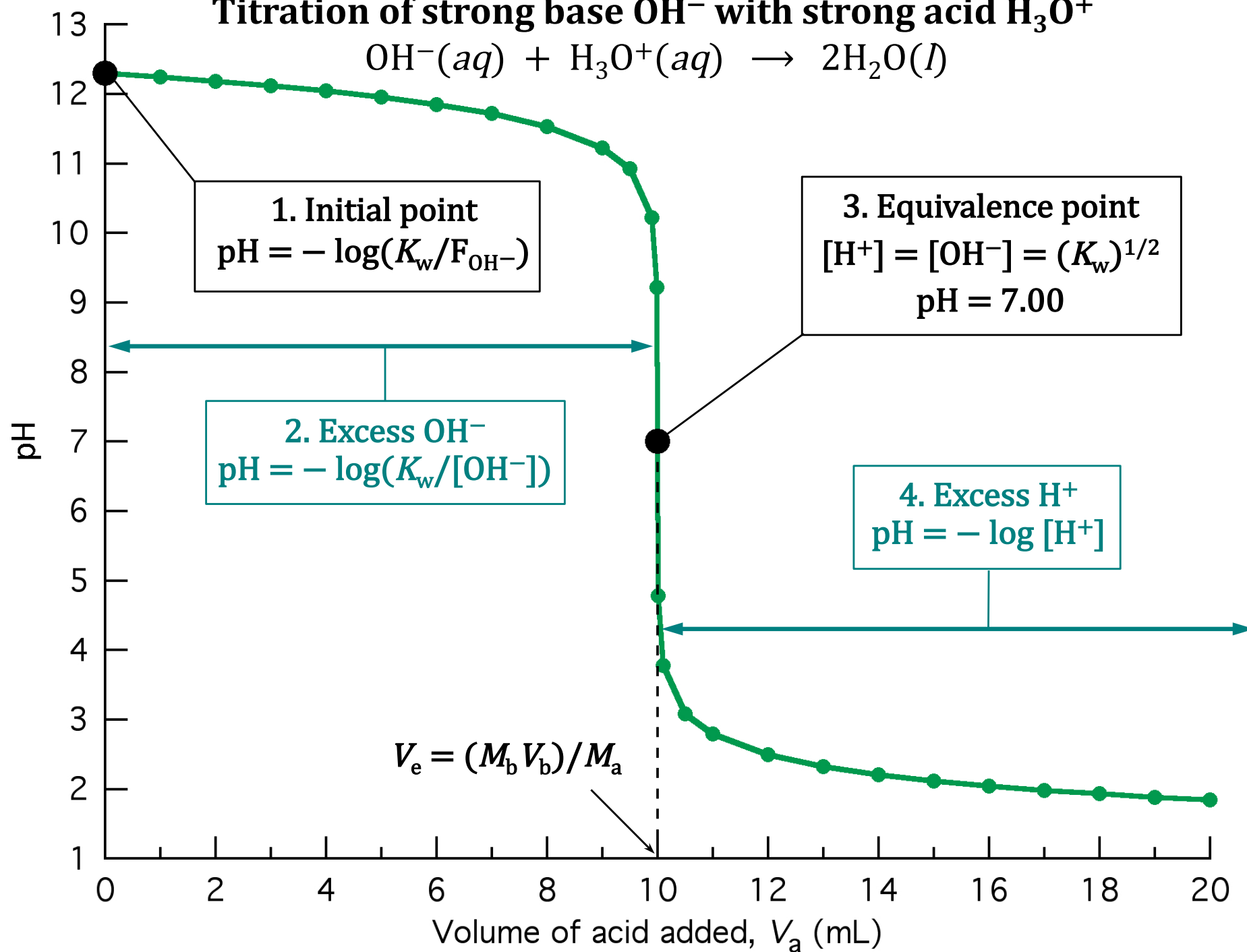
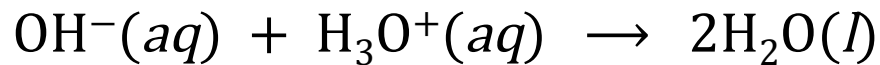


**pH = 2.20**

50 + 14 = 64 mL  
 $[OH^-] \ll [H^+]$   
 (acidic)

$$\text{pH} = -\log [0.00625] = 2.20$$

# Titration of strong base $\text{OH}^-$ with strong acid $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$



# 10-1 Titration of Strong Acid with Strong Base

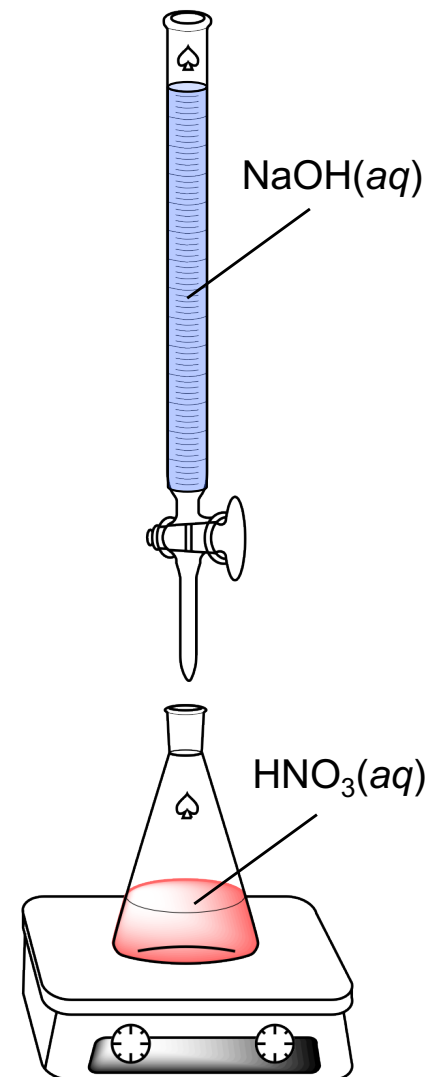
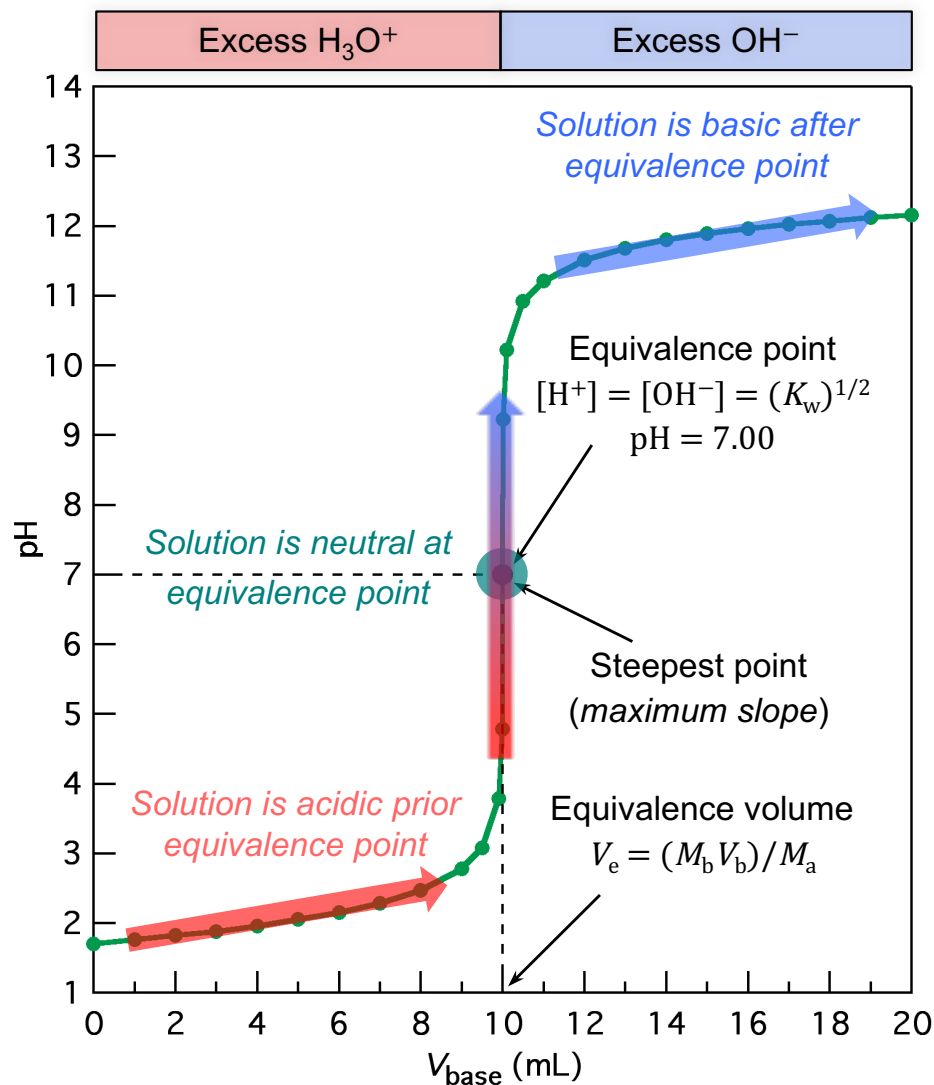
Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M  $\text{HNO}_3$  with 0.1000 M  $\text{NaOH}$



The pH increases gradually when excess base has been added.

The pH rises very rapidly at the equivalence point, which occurs at **pH = 7.00**.

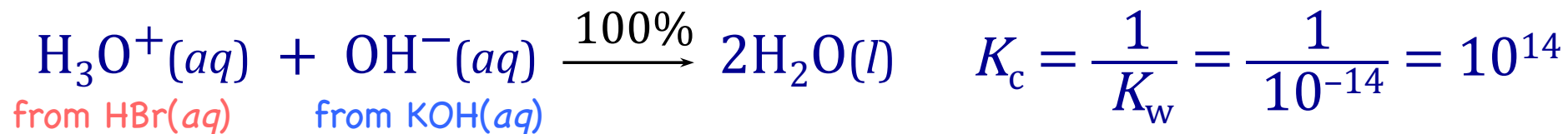
The initial pH is low, and increases gradually when the base is added.



## 10-1 Titration of Strong Acid with Strong Base

# Calculating the pH During This Titration

- The **titration reaction** between strong acid and strong base is merely

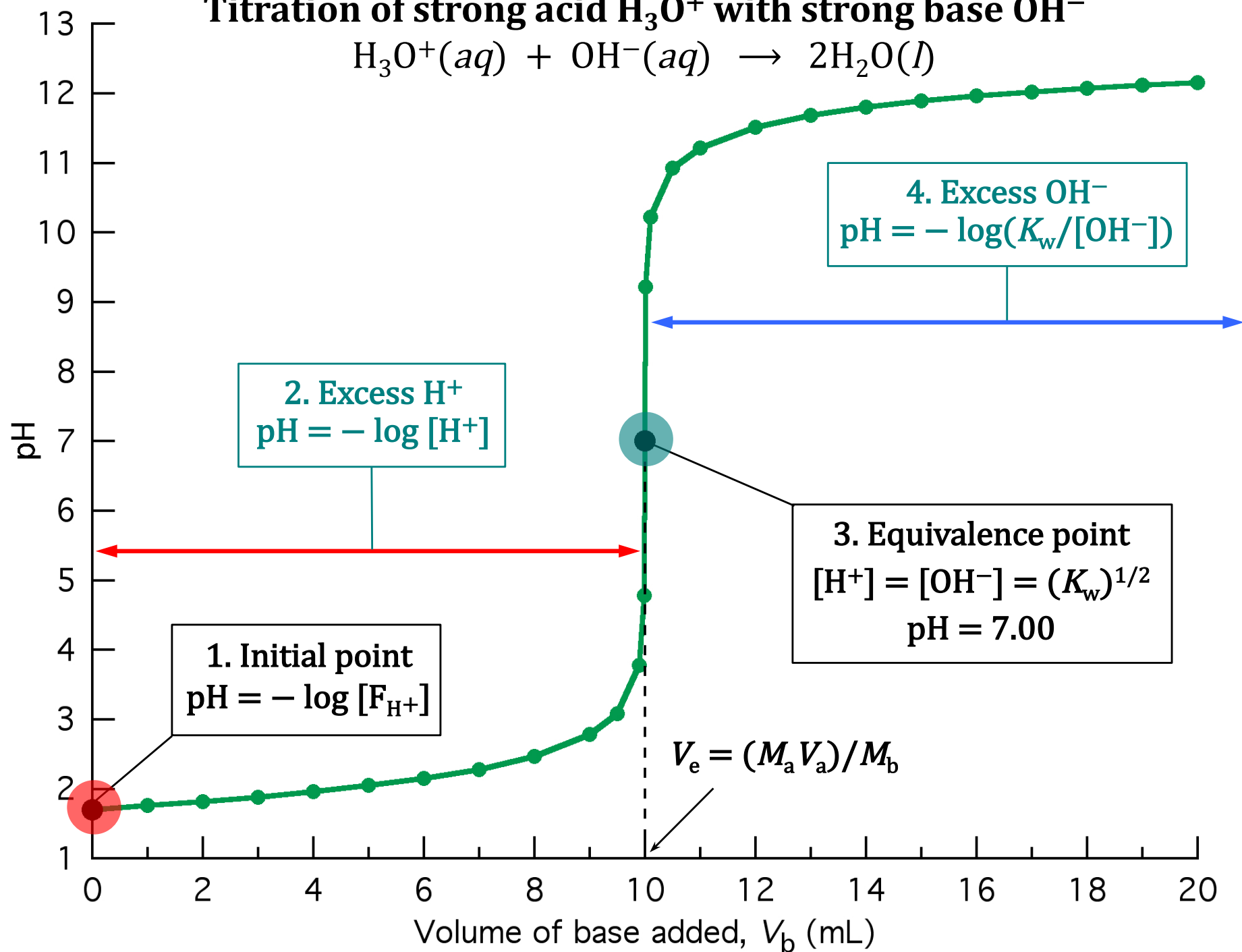
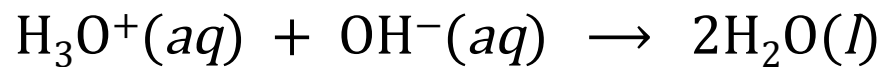


- Because the equilibrium constant for this reaction is  $10^{14}$ , it's fair to say that it “goes to completion”.
- Prior to the equivalence point, *any amount of  $\text{OH}^-$  added will consume a stoichiometric amount of  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$ .*
- A useful starting point is to calculate the volume of KOH ( $V_e$ ) needed to reach the equivalence point:

$$\underbrace{(V_e \text{ mL})(0.1000 \text{ M})}_{\substack{\text{mmol of KOH} \\ \text{at equivalence point}}} = \underbrace{(50.00 \text{ mL})(0.02000 \text{ M})}_{\substack{\text{mmol of HBr} \\ \text{being titrated}}} \Rightarrow V_e = 10.00 \text{ mL}$$

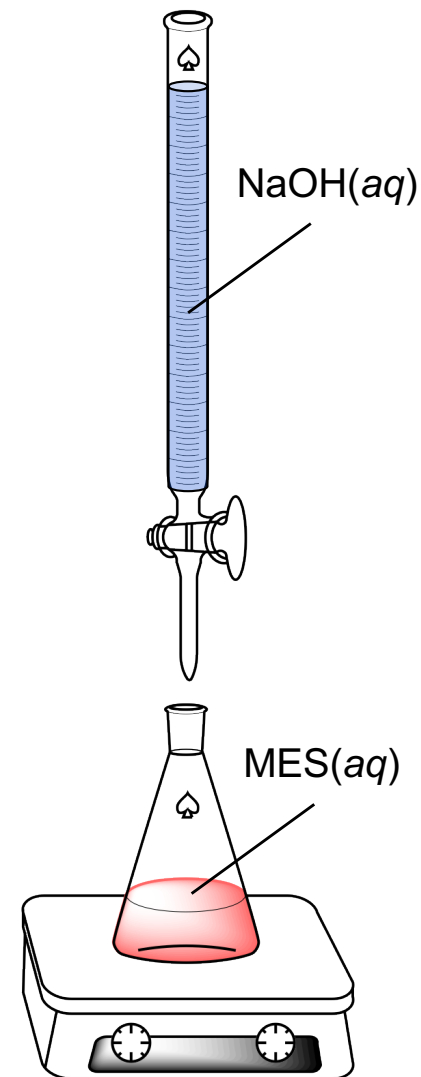
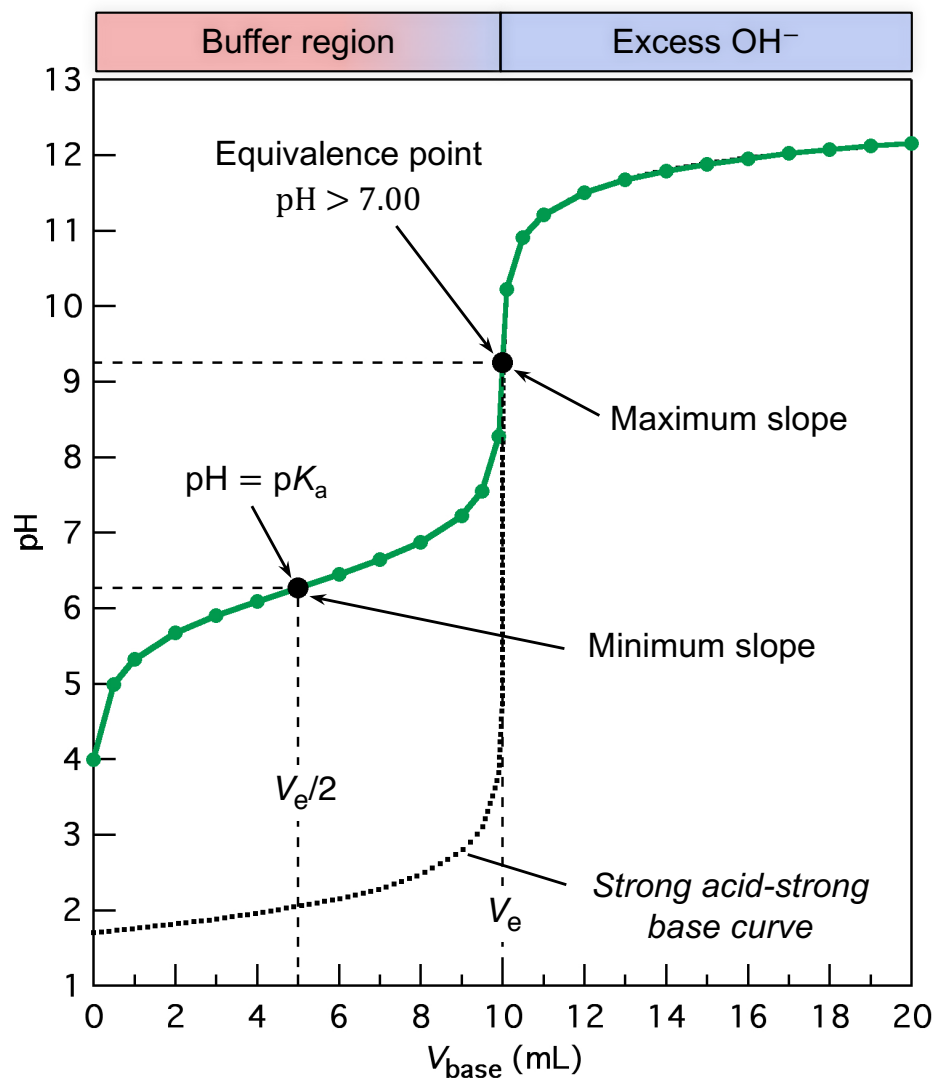
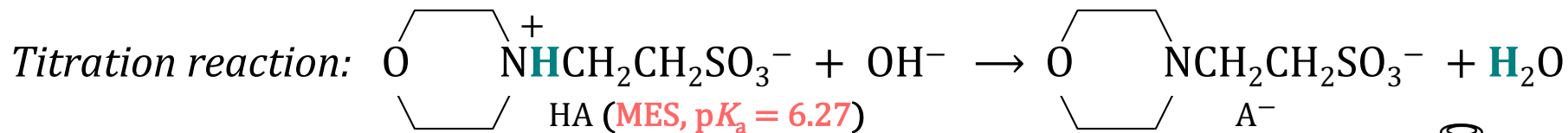
- Besides calculating  $V_e$ , there are **four** kinds of pH calculations during strong base–strong acid titrations.

# Titration of strong acid $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$ with strong base $\text{OH}^-$



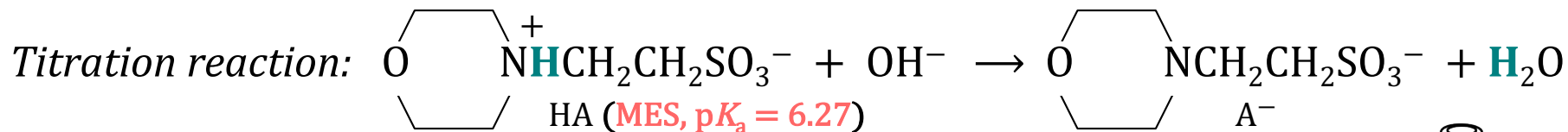
# 10-2 Titration of Weak Acid with Strong Base

**FIGURE 10-2** Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M MES with 0.1000 M NaOH



# 10-2 Titration of Weak Acid with Strong Base

**FIGURE 10-2** Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M MES with 0.1000 M NaOH

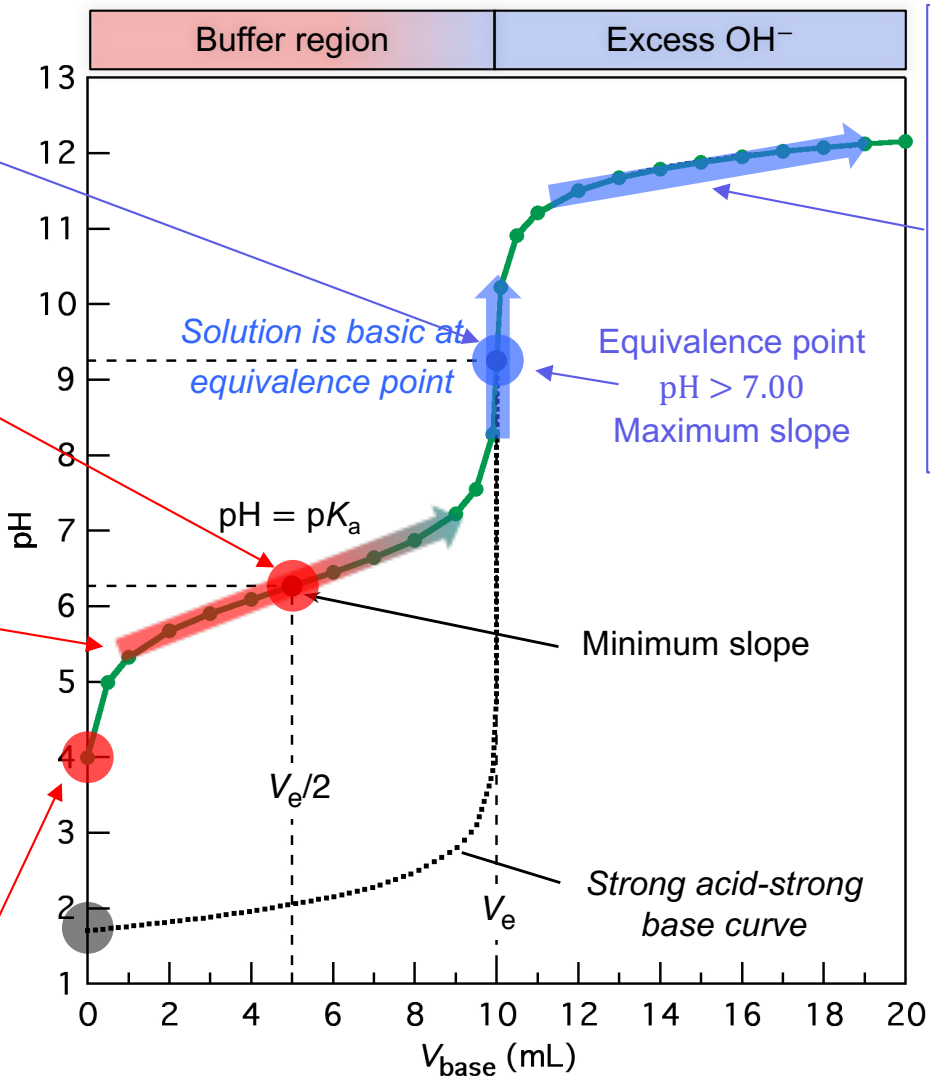


pH > 7 at the  $V_e$  point because the weak base  $A^-$  reacts with water to produce  $\text{OH}^-$ .

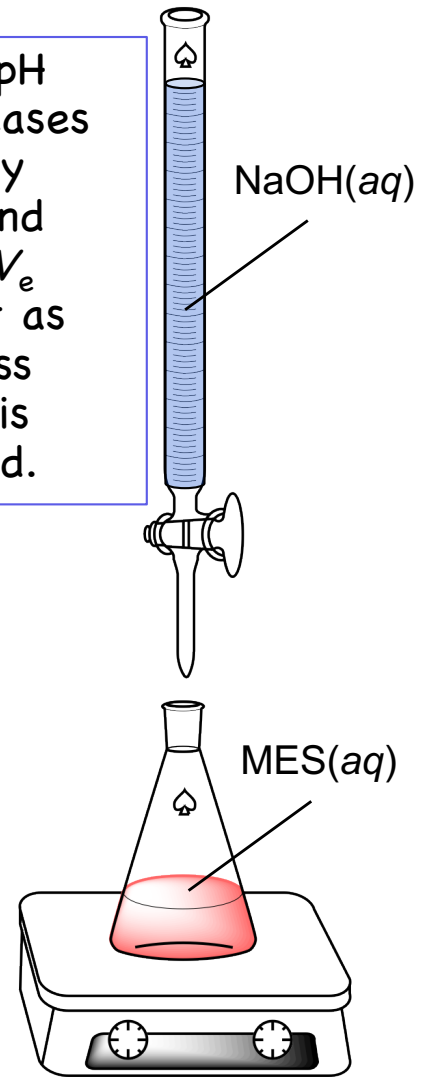
pH =  $pK_a$  at the midpoint of the buffer region.

The curve rises gradually in the buffer region prior the steep rise to the  $V_e$  point.

The initial pH is higher than for the strong acid solution because the weak acid supplies much less  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  than does the strong acid.



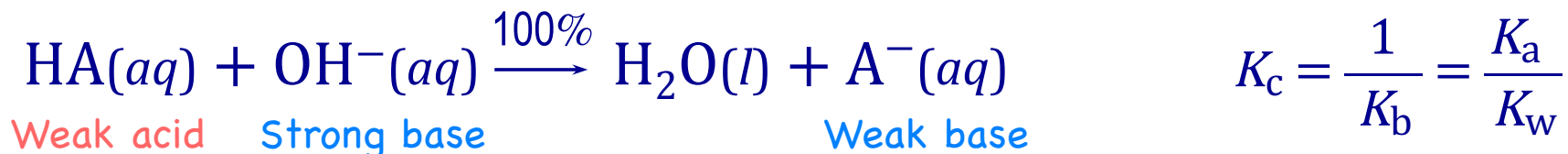
The pH increases slowly beyond the  $V_e$  point as excess  $\text{OH}^-$  is added.



## 10-2 Titration of Weak Acid with Strong Base

# Calculating the pH During This Titration

- First we write the **titration (neutralization) reaction**:



- The equilibrium constant is so large that we can say that the reaction “goes to completion” after each addition of  $\text{OH}^-$ .
- To calculate the pH, we must consider *partial dissociation of HA, the presence of an HA/A<sup>-</sup> buffer, and the reaction of A<sup>-</sup> with water.*
- A useful starting point is to calculate the volume of NaOH ( $V_e$ ) needed to reach the equivalence point:

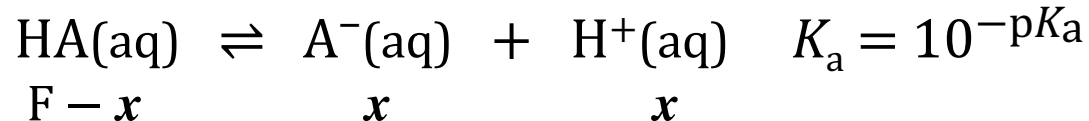
$$\underbrace{(V_e \text{ mL})(0.1000 \text{ M})}_{\text{mmol of NaOH at equivalence point}} = \underbrace{(50.00 \text{ mL})(0.02000 \text{ M})}_{\text{mmol of HA being titrated}} \Rightarrow V_e = 10.00 \text{ mL}$$

- Besides calculating  $V_e$ , there are **four** kinds of pH calculations during weak acid–strong base titrations.

## 10-2 Titration of Weak Acid with Strong Base

### Region 1: Before Base Is Added

1. Before any base is added, the solution contains just HA in H<sub>2</sub>O—a *weak-acid problem*:



$$K_a = \frac{[\text{H}^{+}][\text{A}^{-}]}{[\text{HA}]} = \frac{x^2}{F - x}$$

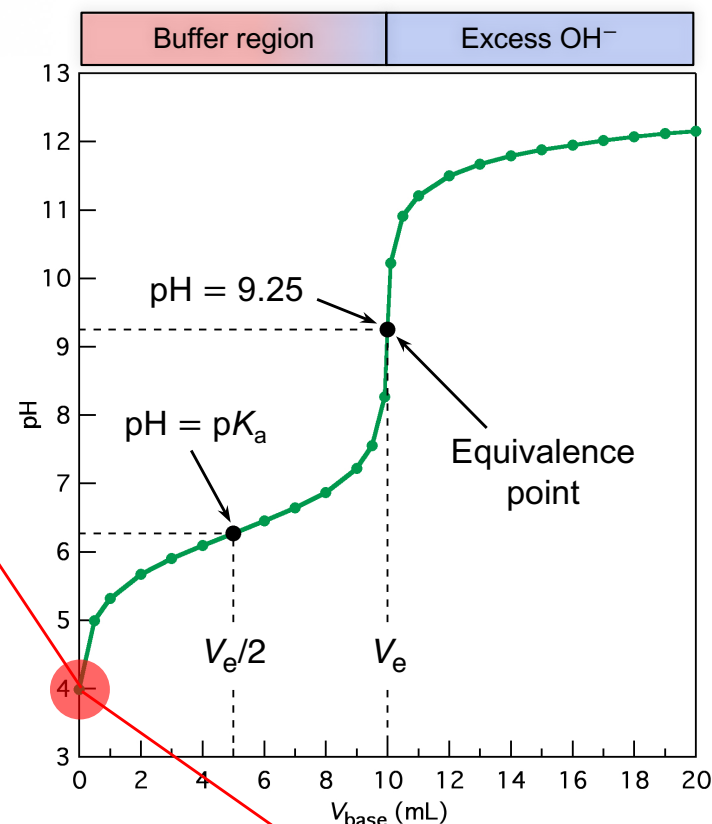
$$x = [\text{H}_3\text{O}^{+}]; \text{pH} = -\log x$$

Before we add any NaOH from the buret, the flask of acid contains 0.1000 M MES with pK<sub>a</sub> = 6.27, so:

$$\frac{x^2}{0.02000 - x} = 10^{-6.27} \Rightarrow x = 1.03 \times 10^{-4} = [\text{H}^{+}]$$

$$\text{pH} = -\log x = -\log(1.03 \times 10^{-4}) = 3.99$$

Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M MES  
with 0.1000 M NaOH



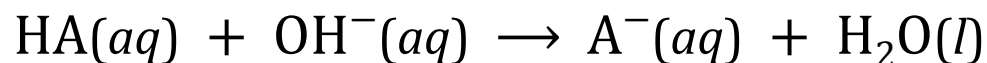
50 + 0 = 50 mL  
Weak acid MES  
(acidic)

**pH = 3.99**

## 10-2 Titration of Weak Acid with Strong Base

### Region 2: Before the $V_e$ Point

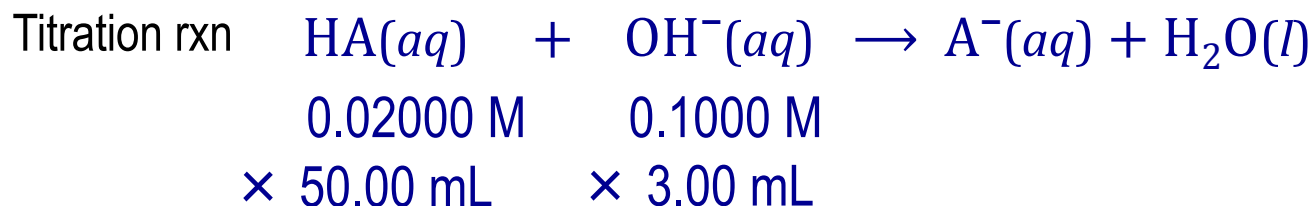
2. Before the equivalence point, there is a mixture of HA and  $A^-$ , a **buffer** (*Aha! A buffer!*), which is created by the titration reaction:



The *Henderson-Hasselbalch equation* can be used to find pH once we know the quotient  $[\text{A}^-]/[\text{HA}]$ :

$$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a + \log([\text{A}^-]/[\text{HA}])$$

For example, after adding 3.00 mL of NaOH:

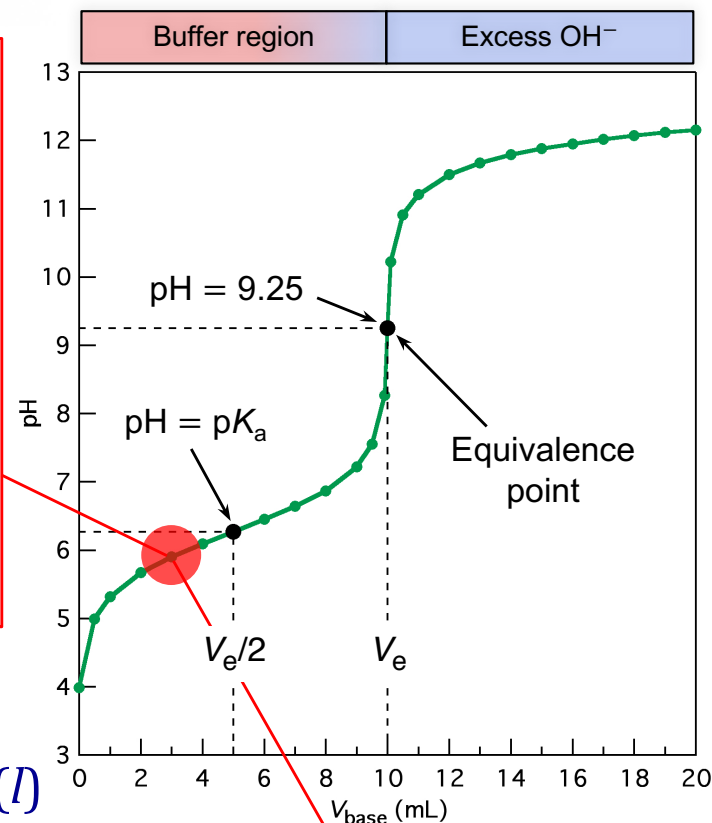


Initial moles	1.000 mmol	0.300 mmol	—
Final moles	0.700 mmol	—	0.300 mmol

$$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a + \log([\text{A}^-]/[\text{HA}]) = 6.27 + \log(0.300/0.700) = 5.90$$

*The H-H equation needs only mol because  $V_{total}$  cancels in the quotient  $[\text{A}^-]/[\text{HA}]$ .*

Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M MES  
with 0.1000 M NaOH



50 + 3 = 53 mL  
 $[\text{HA}] > [\text{A}^-]$   
 (acidic)

**pH = 5.90**

## 10-2 Titration of Weak Acid with Strong Base

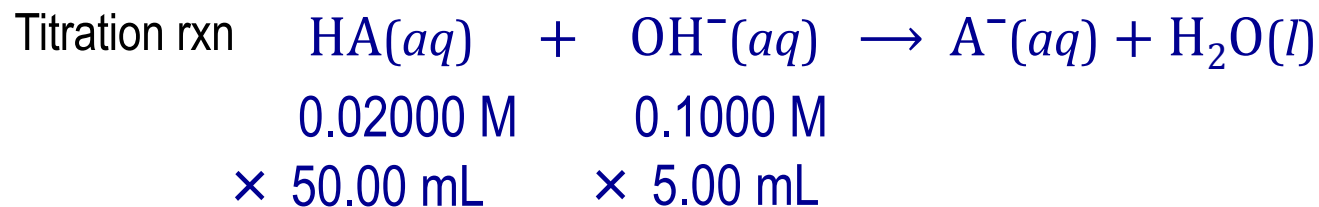
### Region 2: Landmark Point at $V_e/2$

2a. When the volume of titrant is  $\frac{1}{2}V_e$ ,  $[A^-] = [HA]$  and  $\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a$  for the acid HA:

$$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a + \log\left(\frac{[A^-]}{[HA]}\right) = \text{p}K_a + \log(1) = \text{p}K_a$$

*Advice.* As soon as you recognize that you are half-way to the equivalence point, **no** pH calculation is needed!

After adding 5.00 mL of NaOH to the flask of acid, half of HA will be converted to  $A^-$ :

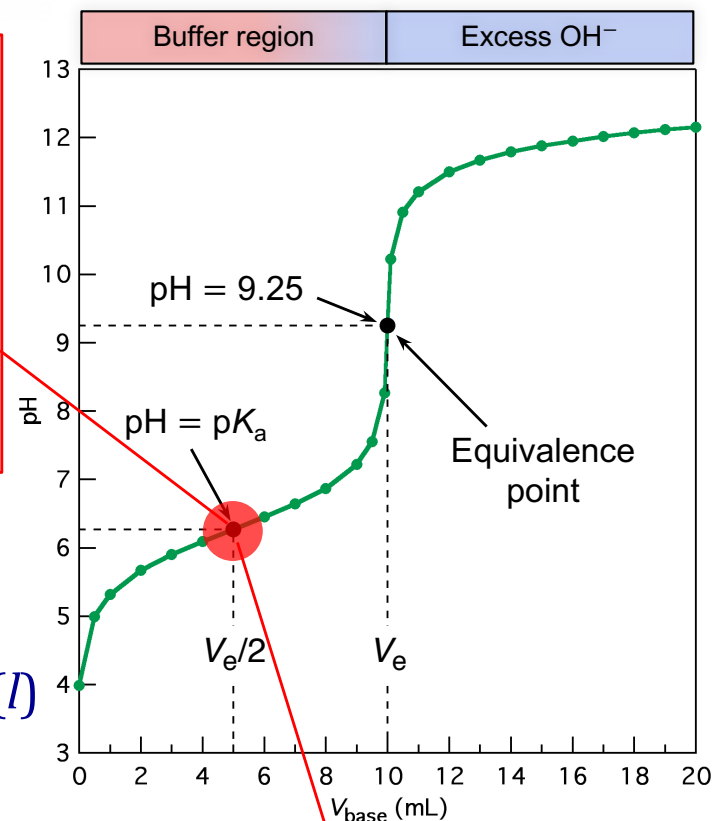


Initial moles	1.000 mmol	0.500 mmol	—
Final moles	0.500 mmol	—	0.500 mmol

$$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a + \log(0.500/0.500) = 6.27$$

**NOTE:** Having the experimental titration curve allows to find the  $\text{p}K_a$  by reading the pH when  $V_{\text{base}} = \frac{1}{2}V_e$ , where  $V_{\text{base}}$  is the volume of added base.

Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M MES  
with 0.1000 M NaOH



50 + 5 = 55 mL  
 $[HPr] = [Pr^-]$   
 ( $\text{p}K_a < \text{p}K_b$ , so acidic)

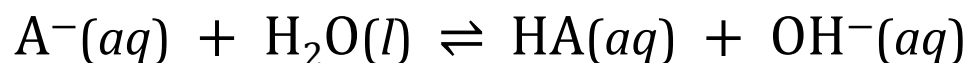
$$\text{pH} = 6.27$$

## 10-2 Titration of Weak Acid with Strong Base

### Region 3: At the Equivalence Point

Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M MES  
with 0.1000 M NaOH

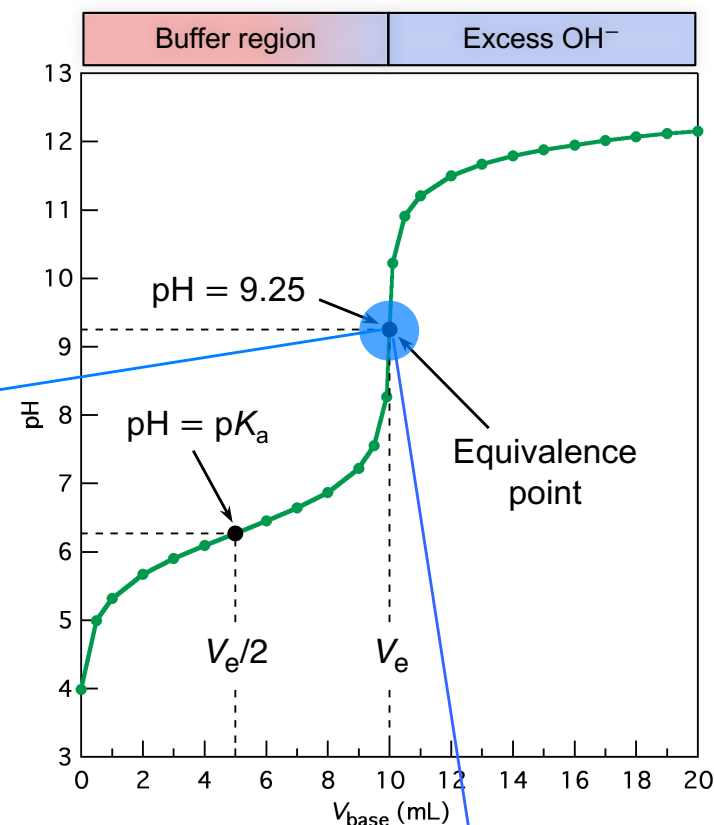
3. At the equivalence point, the solution contains “just”  $A^-$  in  $H_2O$ . This is a *weak-base* problem:



$$K_b = \frac{[HA][OH^-]}{[A^-]} = \frac{x^2}{F' - x} = \frac{K_w}{K_a}$$

$$\text{where } F' = [A^-]_{\text{diluted}} = \frac{\text{mol of } HA_{\text{init}}}{\text{total volume}}$$

$$pH = -\log(K_w/x)$$



50 + 10 = 60 mL  
Weak base  $A^-$   
(basic)

(a) Calculating  $K_b$  of  $A^-$  from  $pK_a = 6.27$  of HA:

$$K_b = 10^{-pK_b} = 10^{-(pK_w - pK_a)} = 10^{-(14.00 - 6.27)} = 1.86 \times 10^{-8}$$

## 10-2 Titration of Weak Acid with Strong Base

### Region 3: At the Equivalence Point

(b) Calculating  $[A^-]_{\text{dil}}$  after all  $HA_{\text{init}}$  has reacted:

$$[A^-]_{\text{dil}} = \frac{(0.02000 \text{ M})(50.00 \text{ mL})}{(50.00 + 10.00) \text{ mL}} = 0.01667 \text{ M} = F'$$

(c) Solving for  $[OH^-]$  and calculating the pH:

$$\frac{x^2}{F' - x} = \frac{x^2}{0.01667 - x} = K_b = 1.86 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$x = 1.76 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M} = [OH^-]$$

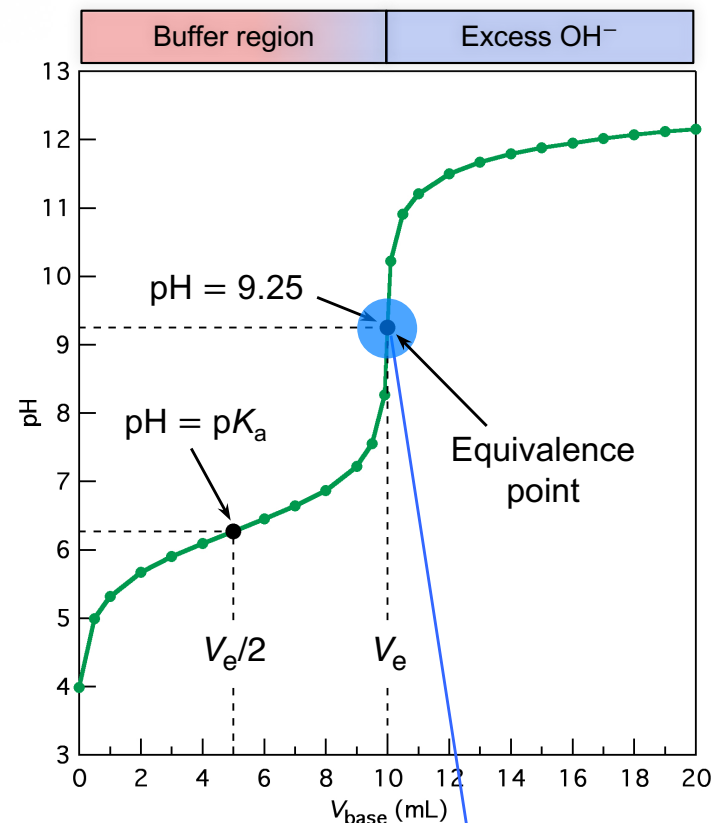
$$\text{pH} = -\log \frac{K_w}{x} = -\log \frac{1.00 \times 10^{-14}}{1.76 \times 10^{-5}} = 9.25$$

or  $\text{pOH} = -\log x = -\log(1.76 \times 10^{-5}) = 4.75$

$$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_w - \text{pOH} = 14.00 - 4.75 = 9.25$$

➤ *The pH is higher than 7 at the equivalent point in the titration of weak acid with a strong base.*

Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M MES  
with 0.1000 M NaOH



50 + 10 = 60 mL  
Weak base  $A^-$   
(basic)

**pH = 9.25**

## 10-2 Titration of Weak Acid with Strong Base

### Region 4: After the $V_e$ Point

4. After the equivalence point, the pH is determined by excess  $\text{OH}^-$  in the solution:

$$\text{initial mol H}^+ = M_{\text{acid}} \times V_{\text{acid}}$$

$$\text{mol OH}^- \text{ added} = M_{\text{base}} \times V_{\text{base}}$$

$$\text{mol OH}^-_{\text{excess}} = \text{mol OH}^-_{\text{added}} - \text{mol H}^+_{\text{init}}$$

$$[\text{OH}^-] = (\text{mol OH}^-_{\text{excess}}) / (V_{\text{acid}} + V_{\text{base}})$$

$$\text{pH} = -\log(K_w / [\text{OH}^-])$$

For example, after adding 11.00 mL of NaOH:



$$0.02000 \text{ M} \quad 0.1000 \text{ M}$$

$$\times 50.00 \text{ mL} \quad \times 11.00 \text{ mL}$$

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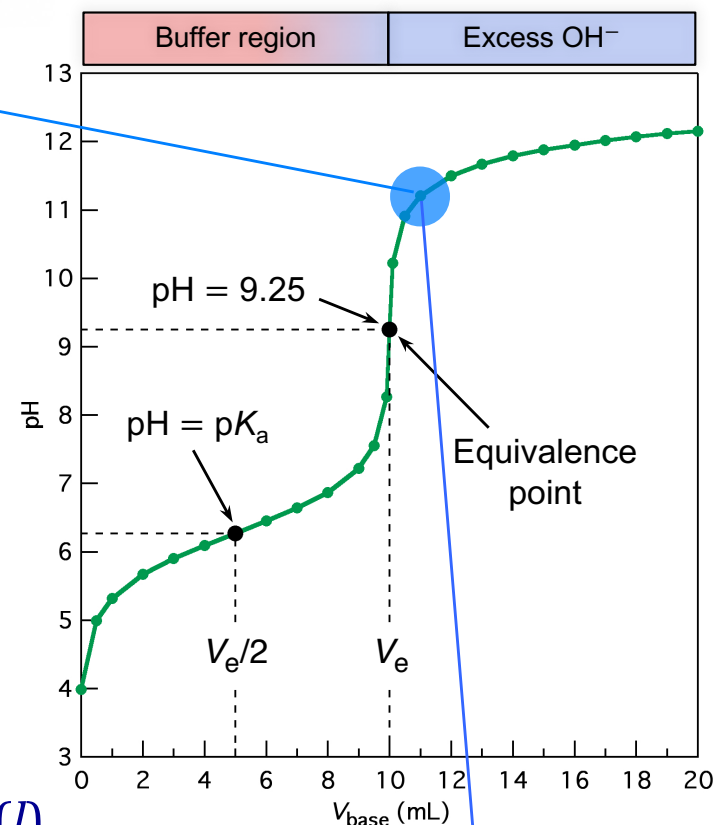

$$\text{Initial moles} \quad 1.000 \text{ mmol} \quad 1.100 \text{ mmol}$$

$$\text{Final moles} \quad \text{—} \quad 0.100 \text{ mmol}$$


---

$$[\text{OH}^-] = (0.100 \text{ mmol}) / (61.00 \text{ mL}) = 0.01639 \text{ M}$$

Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M MES  
with 0.1000 M NaOH



$$50 + 11 = 61 \text{ mL}$$

$$[\text{OH}^-] \gg [\text{H}^+]$$

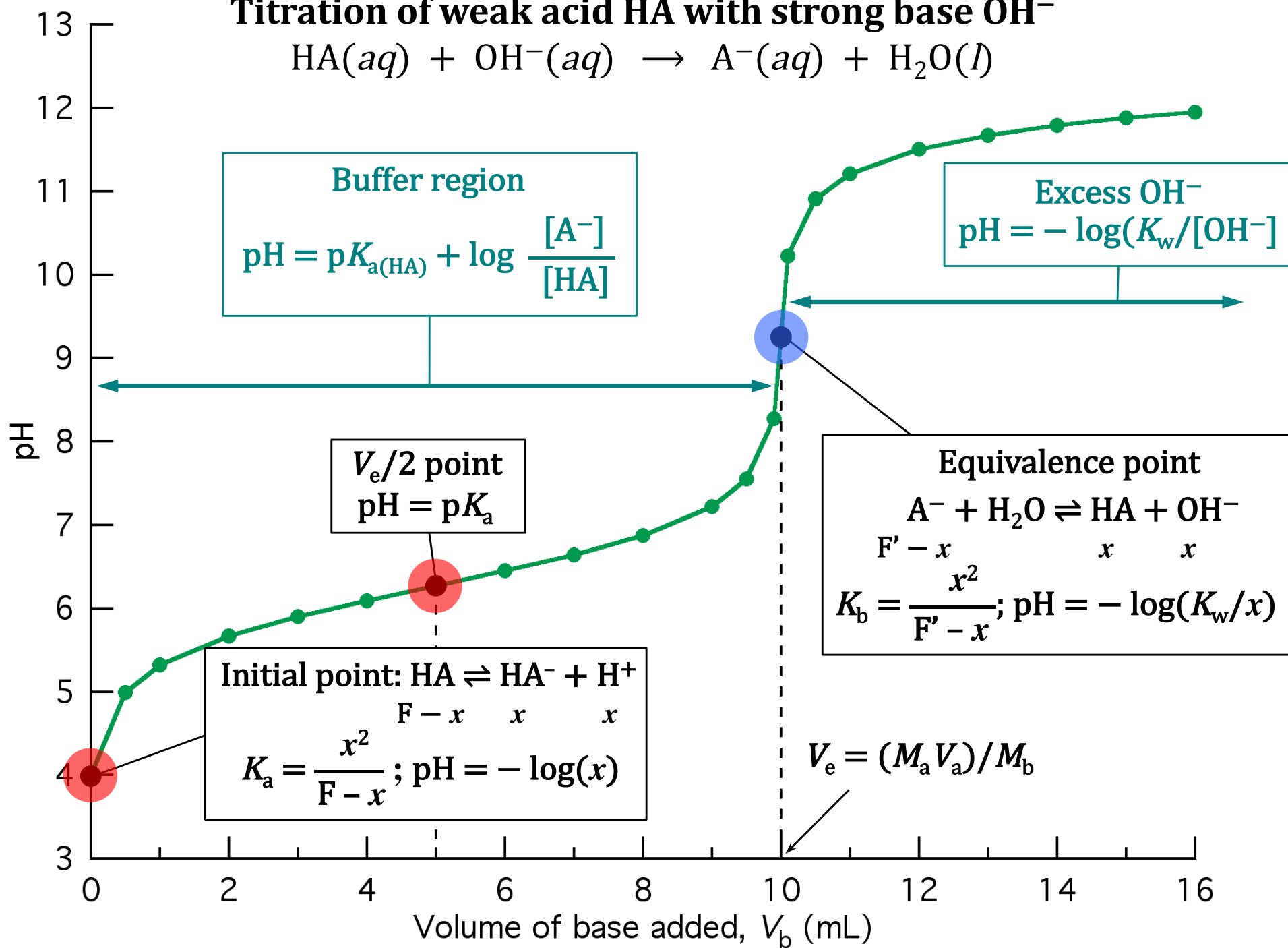
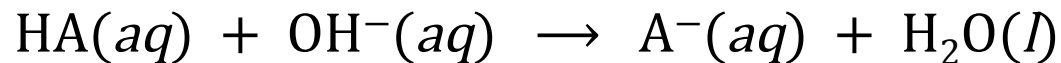
(basic)

$$\text{pH} = 11.21$$

$$\text{pOH} = -\log [0.01639] = 2.79$$

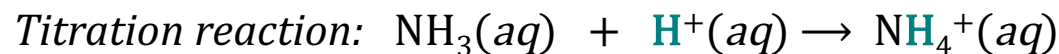
$$\text{pH} = 14.00 - 2.79 = 11.21$$

# Titration of weak acid HA with strong base OH<sup>-</sup>

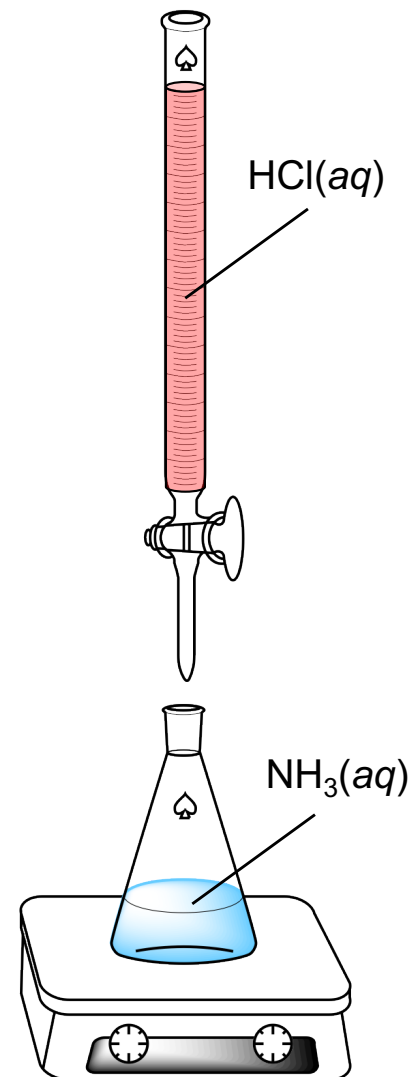
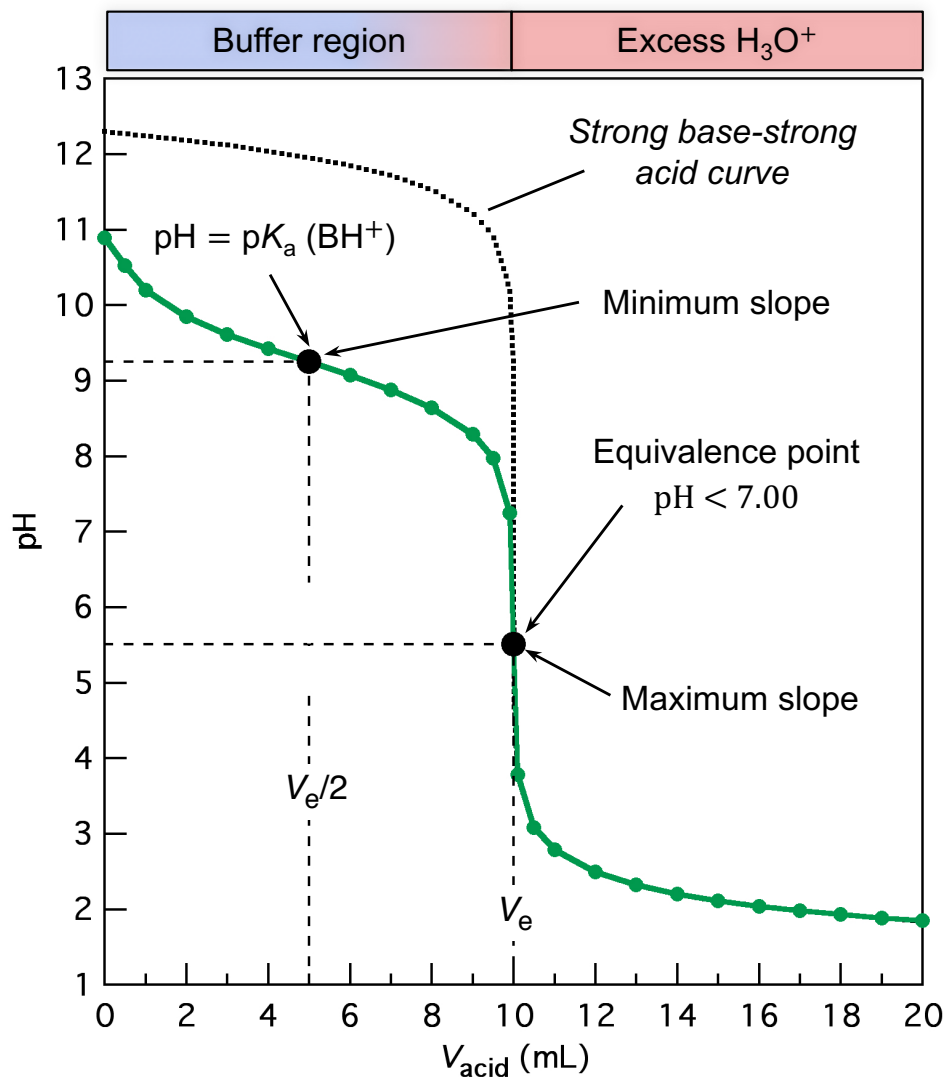


# 10-3 Titration of Weak Base with Strong Acid

Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M  $\text{NH}_3$  with 0.1000 M HCl

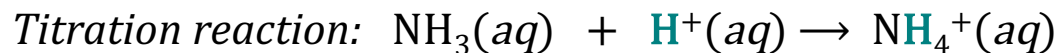


$\text{p}K_a = 9.245$



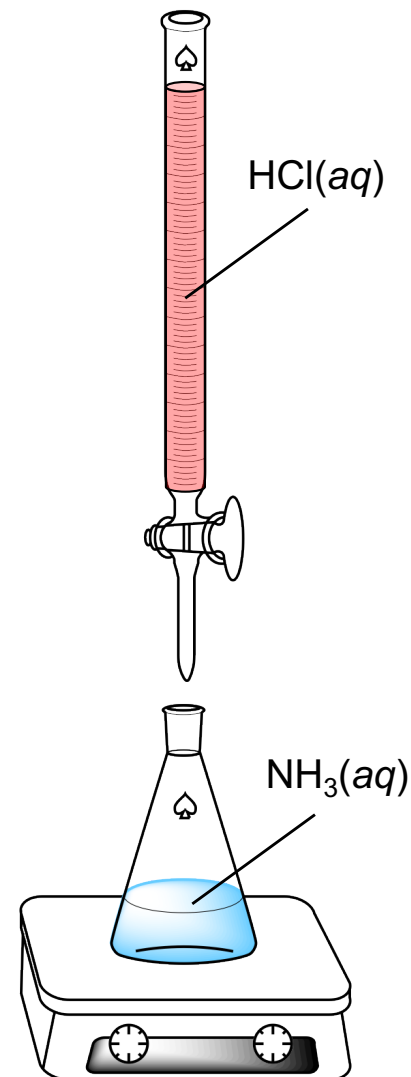
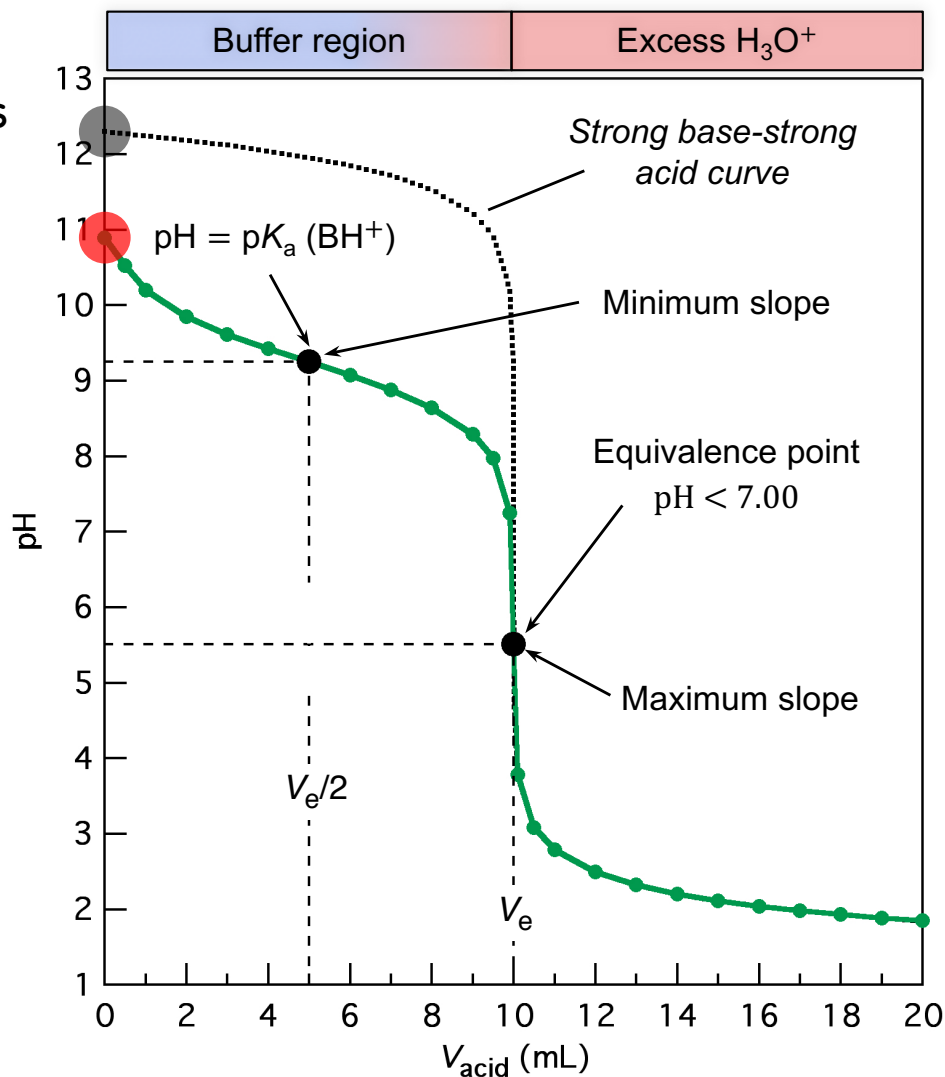
# 10-3 Titration of Weak Base with Strong Acid

Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M  $\text{NH}_3$  with 0.1000 M HCl



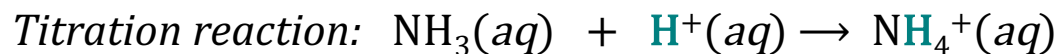
$\text{p}K_a = 9.245$

The initial pH is lower than for the strong base solution because the weak base supplies much less  $\text{OH}^-$  than does the strong base.



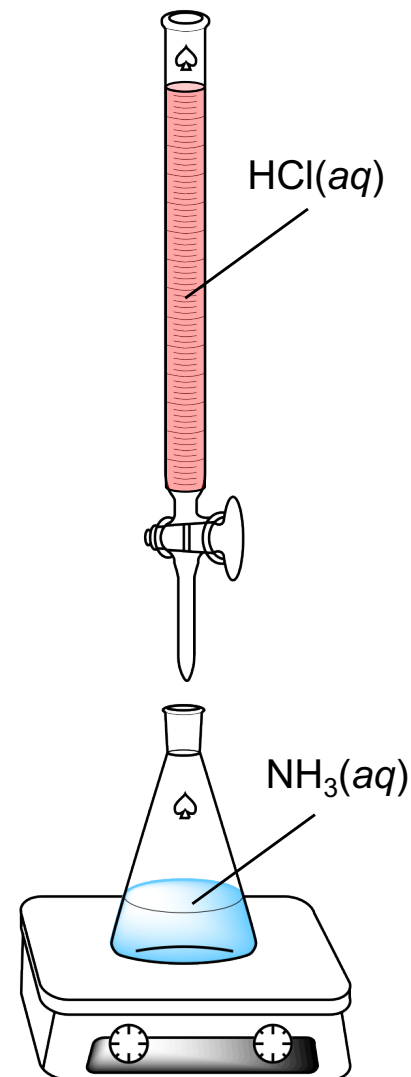
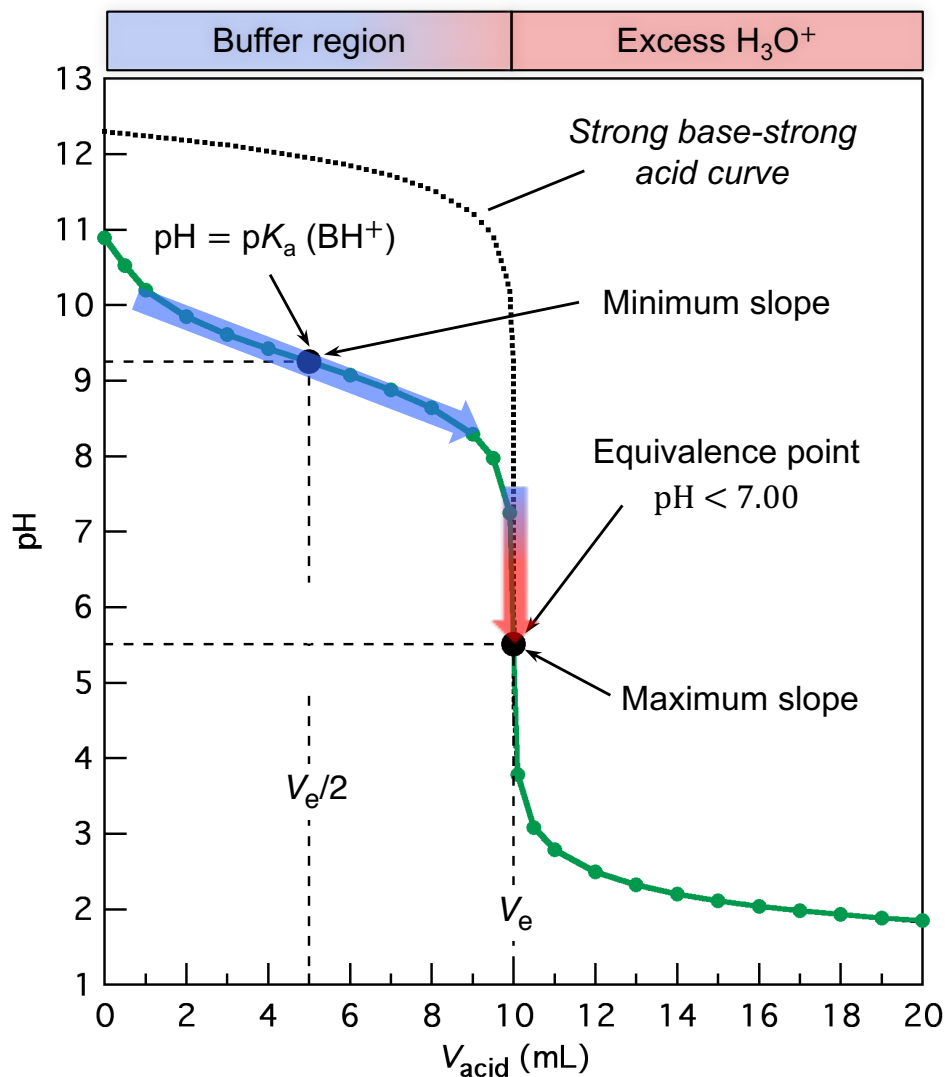
# 10-3 Titration of Weak Base with Strong Acid

Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M  $\text{NH}_3$  with 0.1000 M HCl



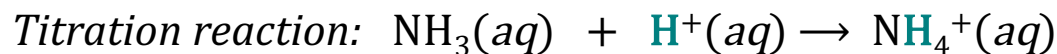
$\text{p}K_a = 9.245$

The curve drops gradually in the buffer region prior to the steep drop to the  $V_e$  point.



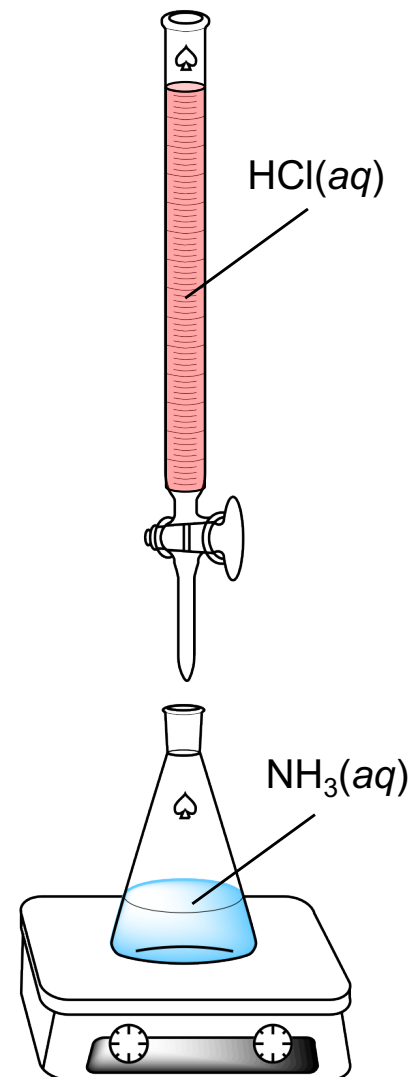
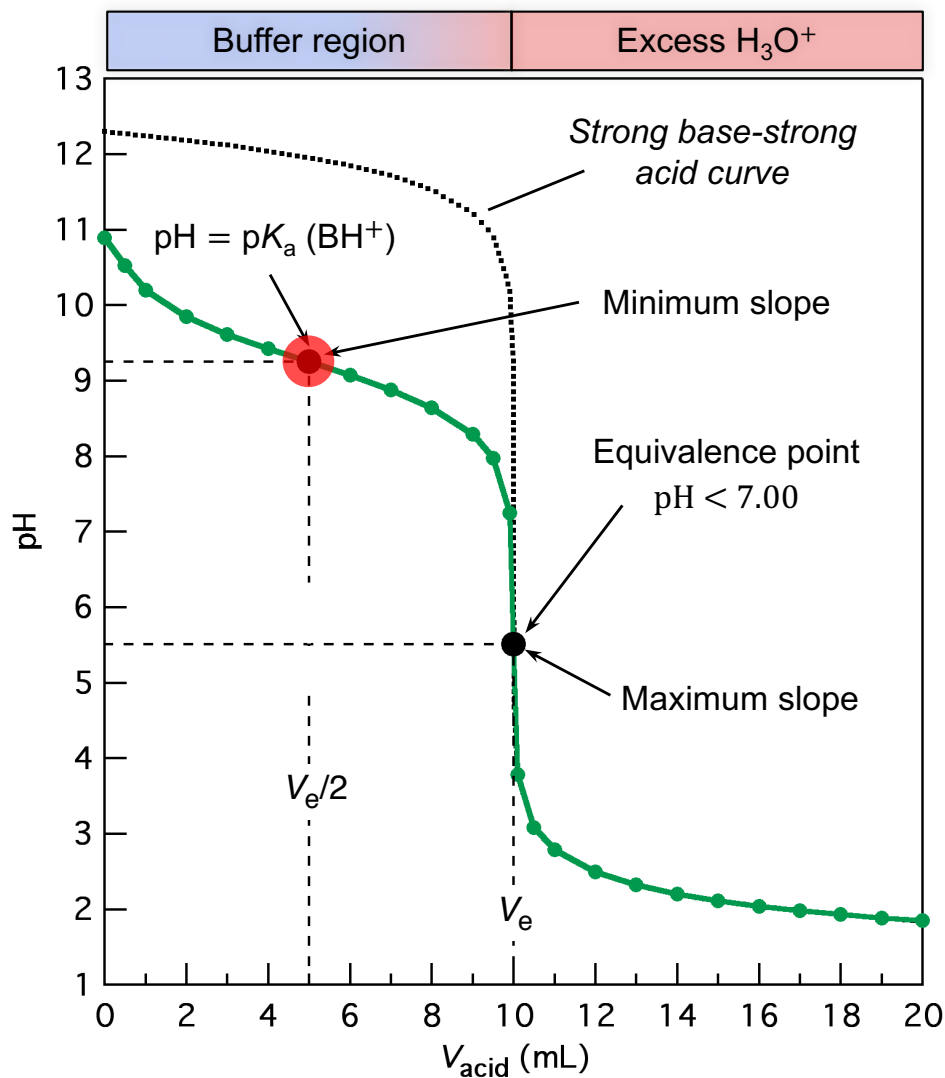
# 10-3 Titration of Weak Base with Strong Acid

Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M  $\text{NH}_3$  with 0.1000 M HCl



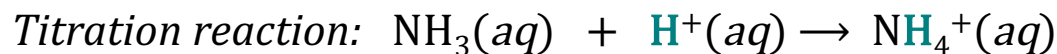
$\text{p}K_a = 9.245$

$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a$  of  $\text{BH}^+$   
at the midpoint of  
the buffer region.

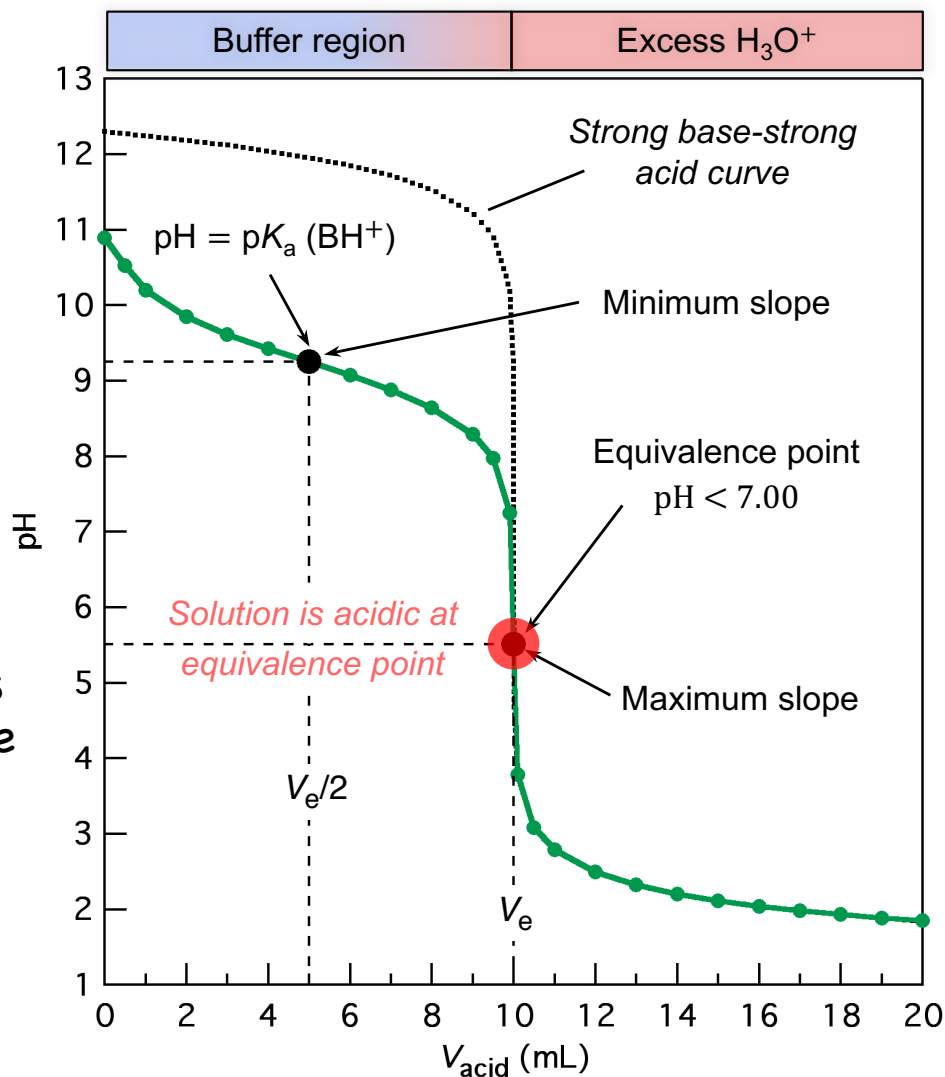


# 10-3 Titration of Weak Base with Strong Acid

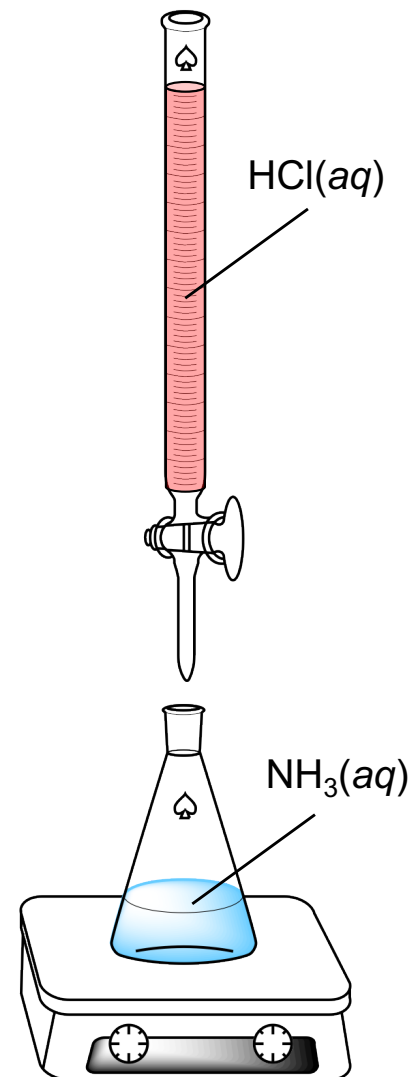
Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M  $\text{NH}_3$  with 0.1000 M HCl



$\text{p}K_a = 9.245$

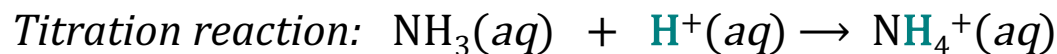


$\text{pH} < 7$  at the  $V_e$  point because the weak acid  $\text{BH}^+$  reacts with water to produce  $\text{H}^+$ .

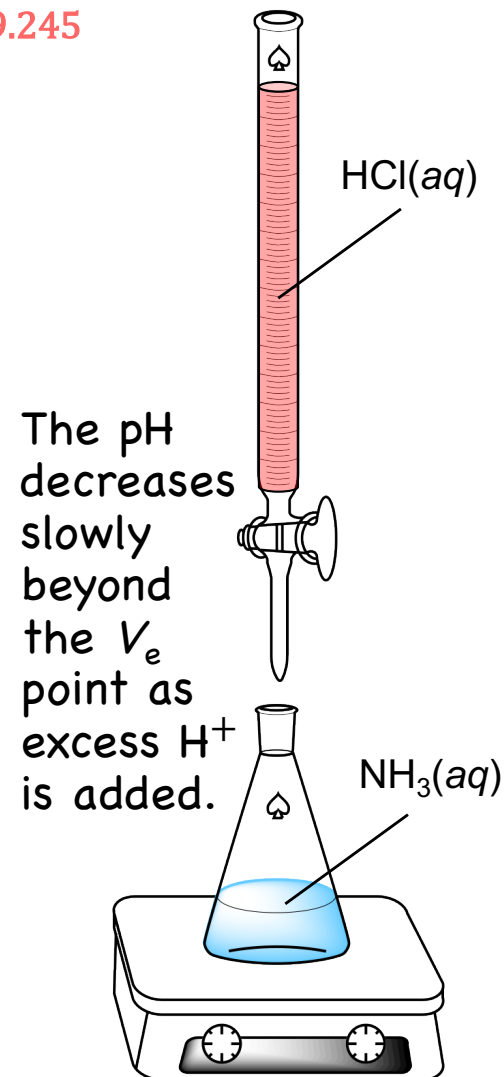
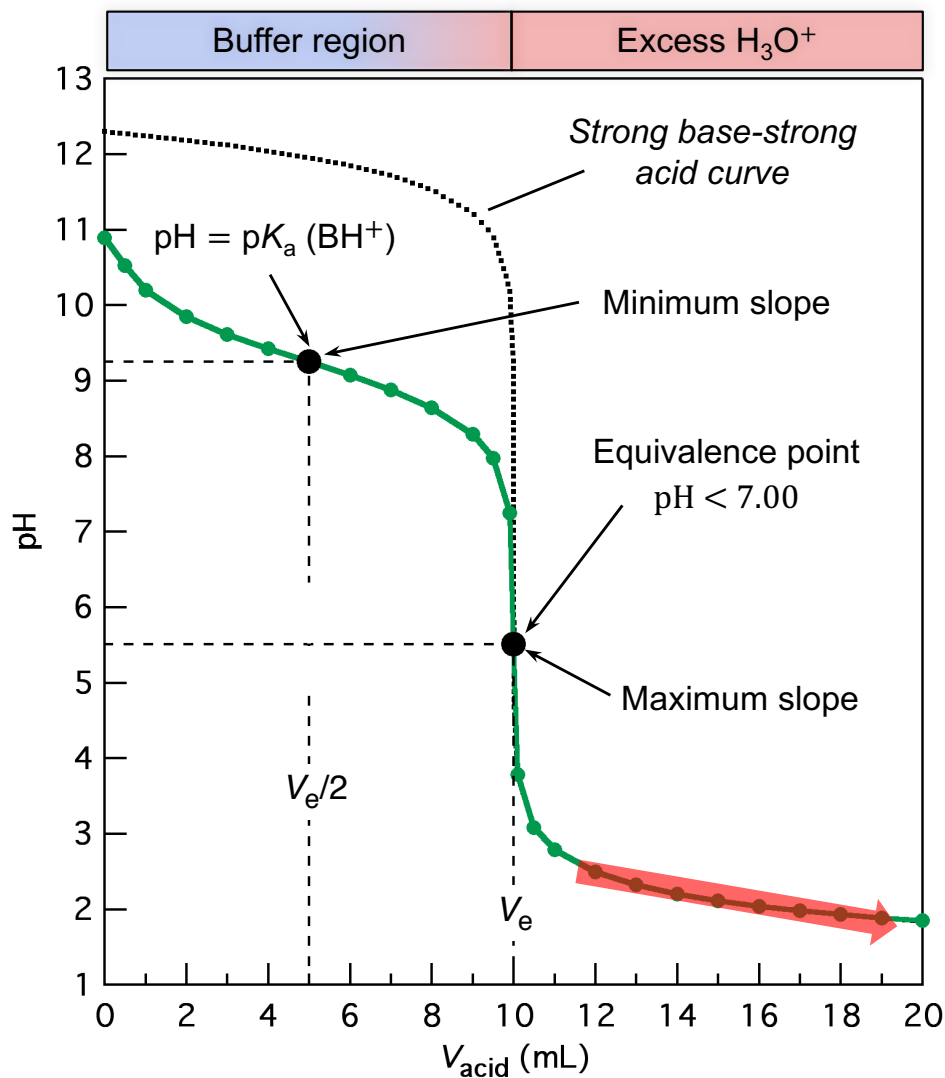


# 10-3 Titration of Weak Base with Strong Acid

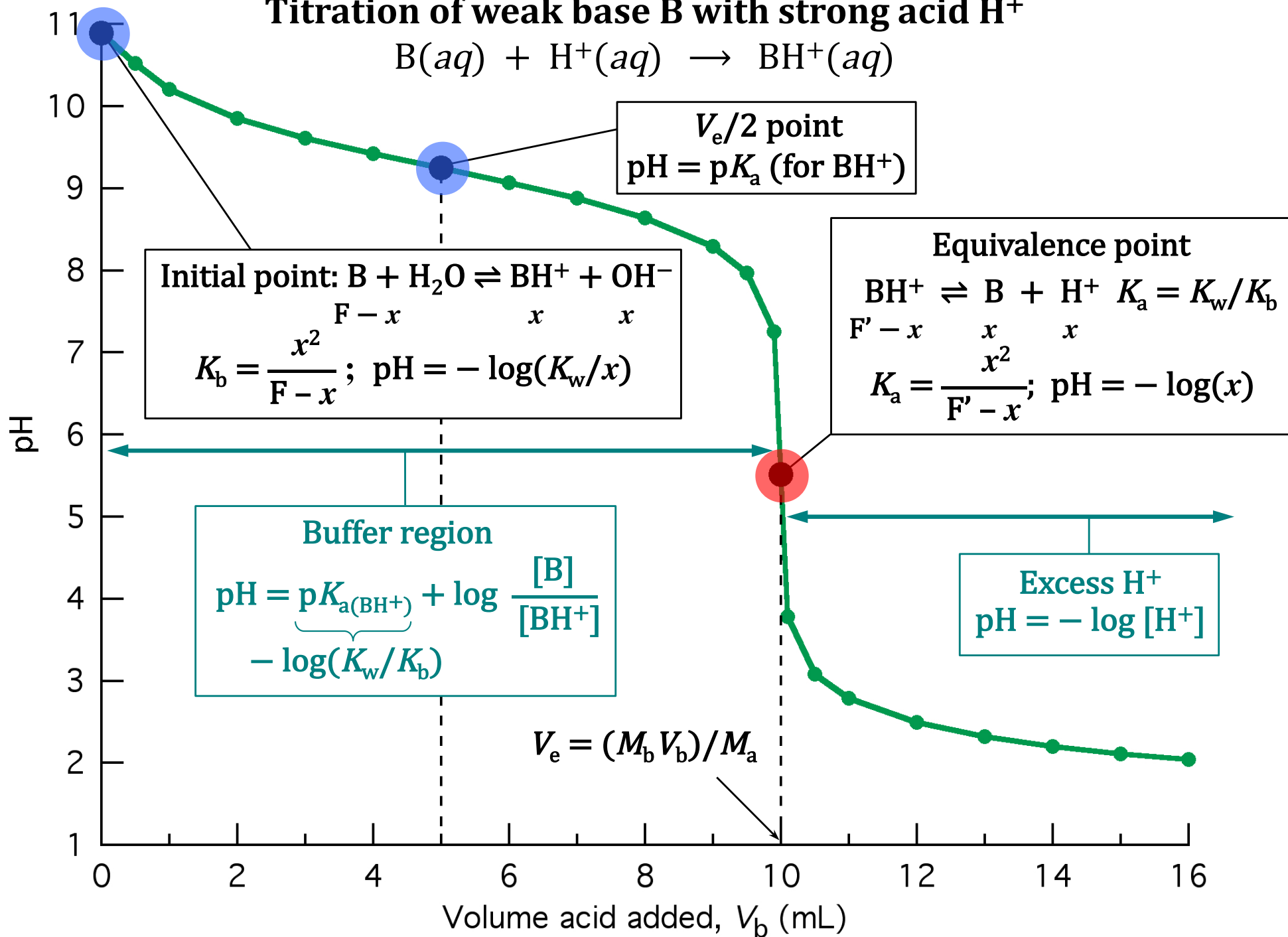
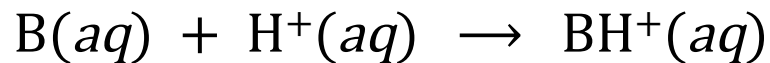
Titration of 50.00 mL of 0.02000 M  $\text{NH}_3$  with 0.1000 M HCl



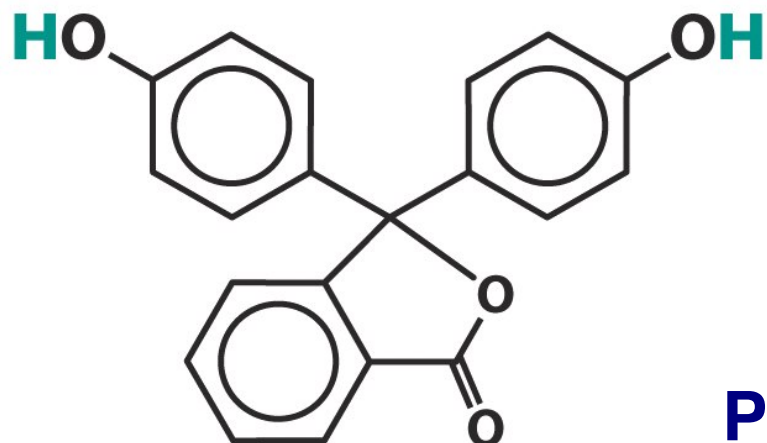
$\text{p}K_a = 9.245$



# Titration of weak base B with strong acid H<sup>+</sup>



## 10-4 Using Indicators to Find the End Point



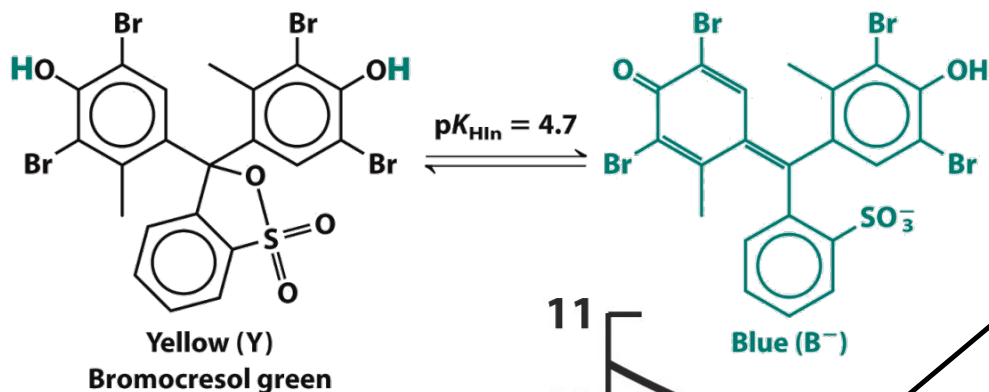
Colorless in acid



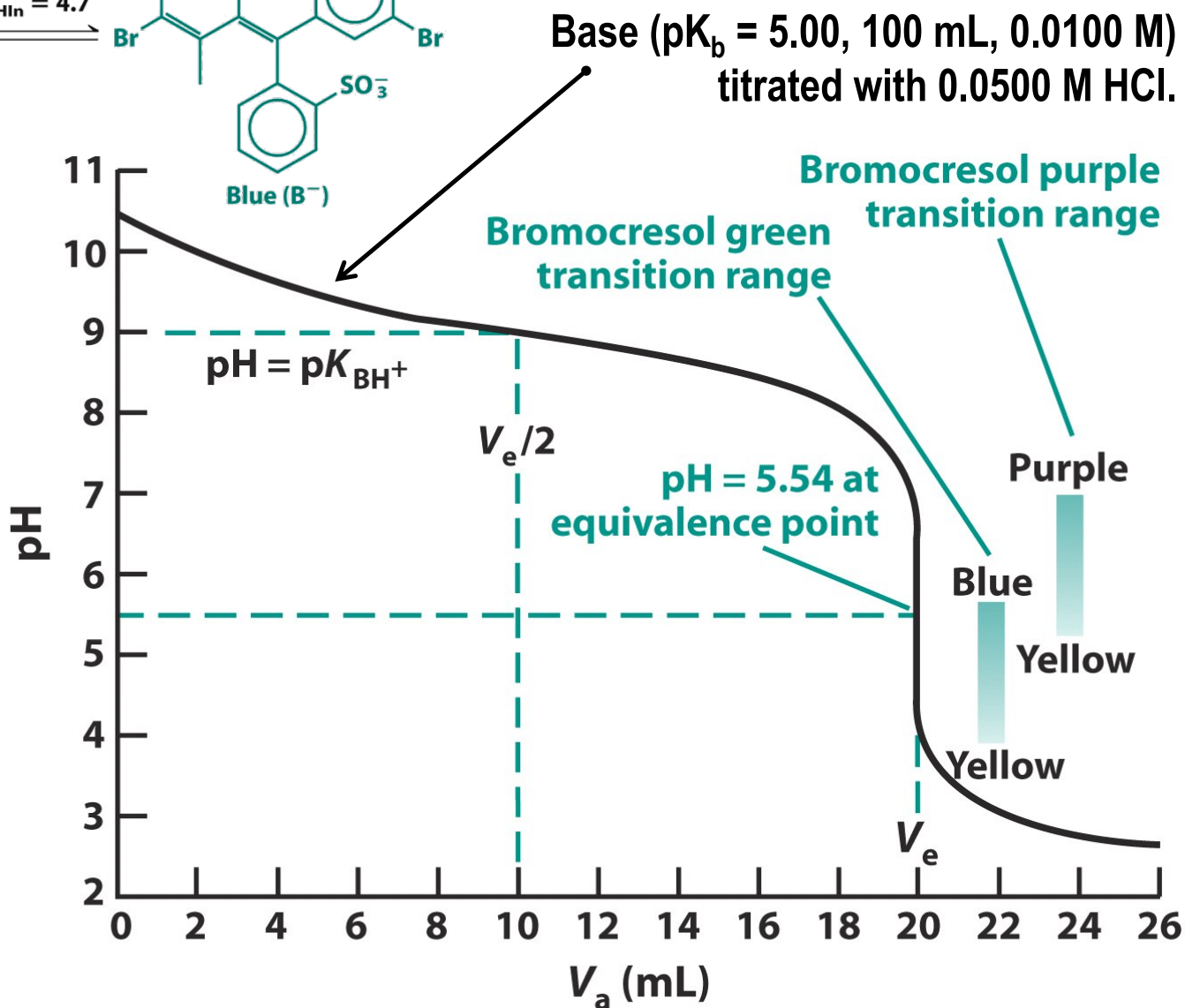
Pink in base

**Phenolphthalein** ( $\text{pK}_a = 9.7 @ 25^\circ \text{C}$ )  
one of the most commonly used  
indicators

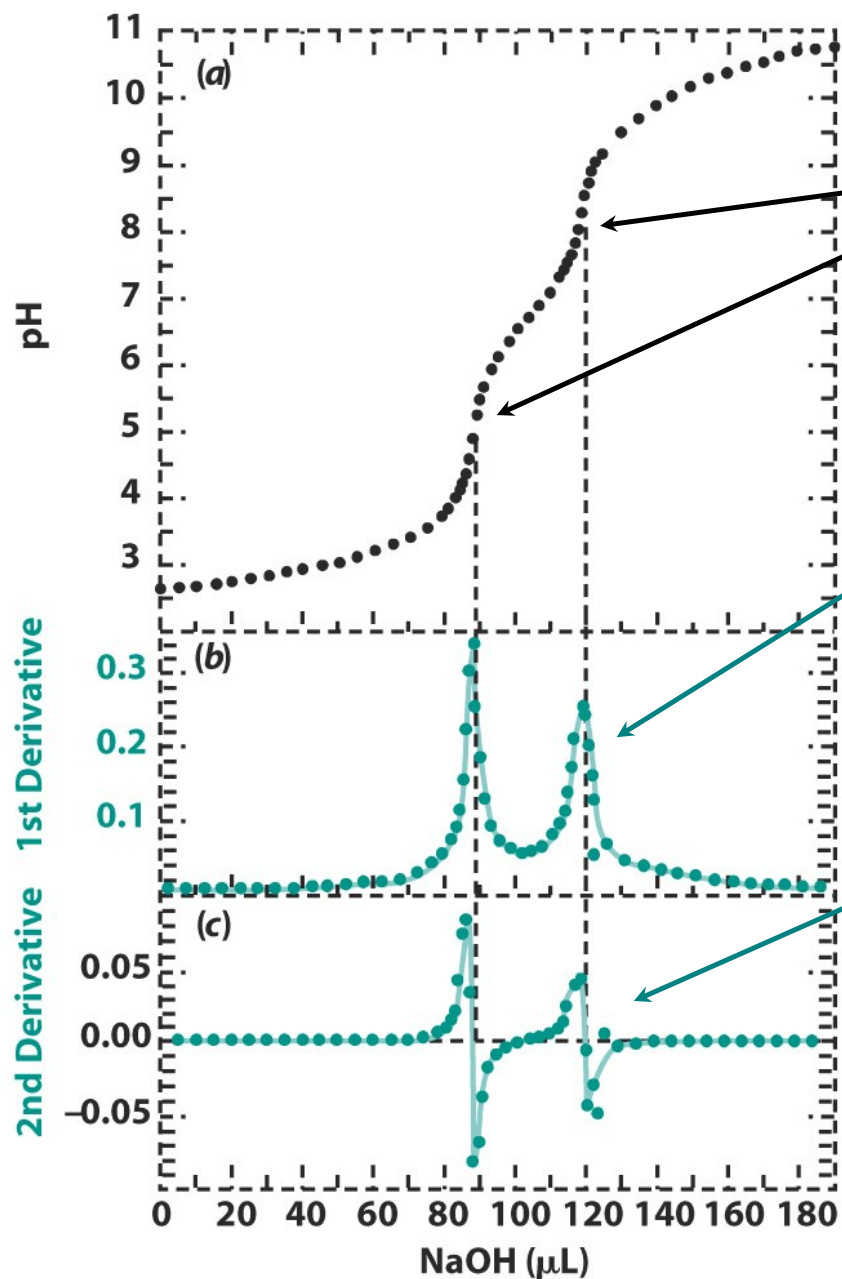
# 10-4 Using Indicators to Find the End Point



Choose an indicator whose color change occurs as close as possible to the theoretical pH of the equivalence point.



# 10-4 Using a pH Electrode to Find the End Point



The end point has maximum slope (*first derivative*),

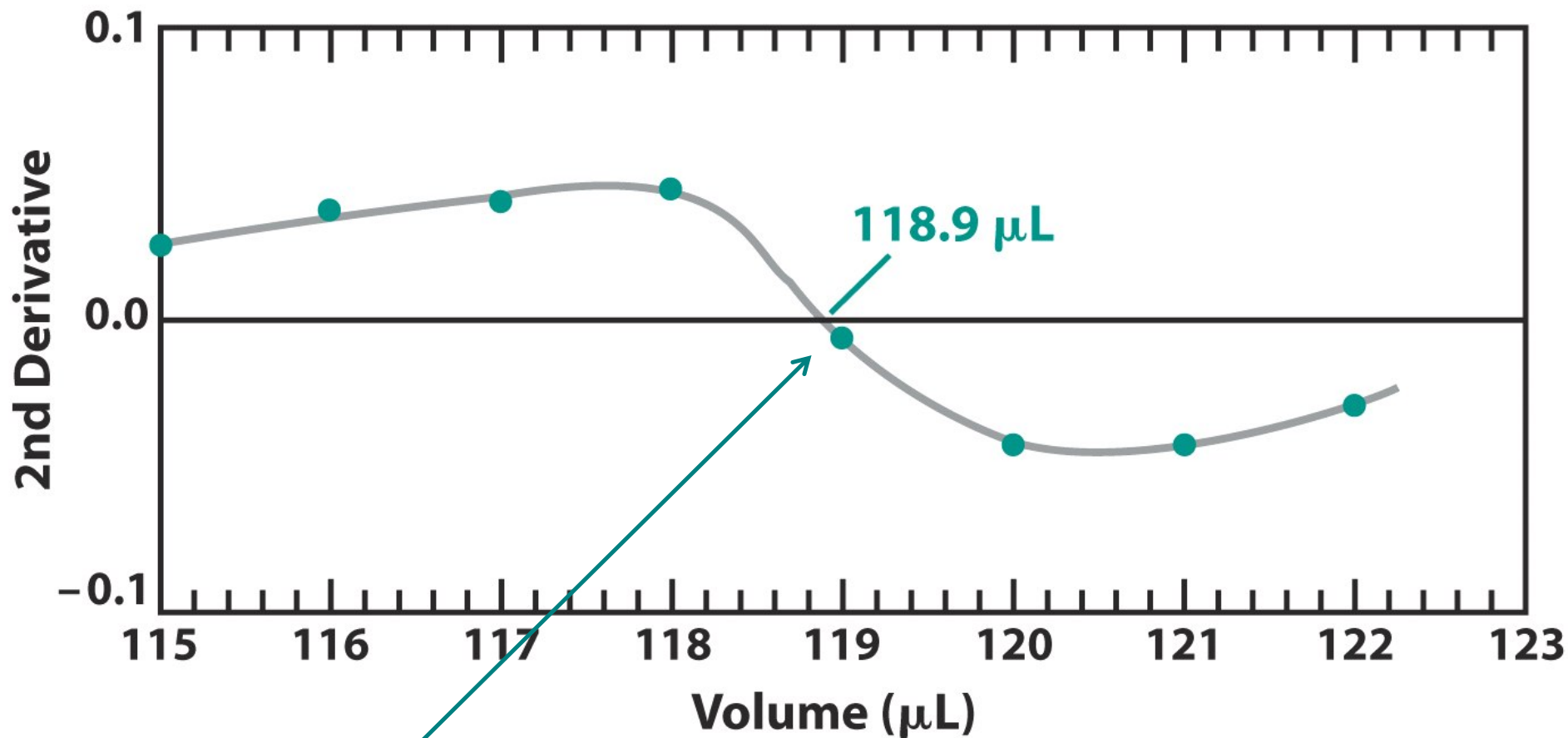
$$\text{slope} = \frac{\Delta\text{pH}}{\Delta V}$$

and zero slope of the slope (*second derivative*)

$$\frac{\Delta(\text{slope})}{\Delta V} = \frac{\Delta(\Delta\text{pH}/\Delta V)}{\Delta V}$$

*End points are taken as maxima in the first derivative curve and zero crossings of the second derivative.*

## 10-4 Using a pH Electrode to Find the End Point



The slope of the slope (*the second derivative*) is 0 at the end point.