

Acids & Bases: Worksheet #2  
Weak Acid Problems (2009)

1. What is the  $[H^+]$  of a 0.25 M solution of benzoic acid,  $HC_7H_5O_2$ ?  $K_a = 6.46 \times 10^{-5}$



.25M	0	0
-x	+x	+x
.25-x	x	x

$$6.46 \times 10^{-5} = \frac{x^2}{.25-x}$$

$$x = .00399$$

$$[H_3O^+] = .00399 M$$

2. Hydrocyanic acid, HCN, has a  $K_a$  of  $4.93 \times 10^{-10}$ . Calculate the pH and  $[H^+]$  of a 0.100 M solution of hydrocyanic acid.



.100 M	0	0
-x	+x	+x
.100-x	x	x

$$[H_3O^+] = 7.02 \times 10^{-6} M$$

$$pH = 5.154$$

$$4.93 \times 10^{-10} = \frac{x^2}{[.100-x]}$$

$$x = 7.02 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$[H_3O^+] = 7.02 \times 10^{-6} M$$

$$pH = -\log [7.02 \times 10^{-6}] = 5.154$$

3. Nitrous acid,  $HNO_2$ , has a  $K_a$  of  $7.1 \times 10^{-4}$ . What are the  $[H^+]$ ,  $[NO_2^-]$ ,  $[OH^-]$  in 0.50 M  $HNO_2$ ?



.50M	0	0
-x	+x	+x
.50-x	x	x

$$[H_3O^+] = 0.018 M$$

$$[NO_2^-] = 0.018 M$$

$$[OH^-] = 5.6 \times 10^{-13} M$$

$$7.1 \times 10^{-4} = \frac{x^2}{.50-x}$$

$$x = .018$$

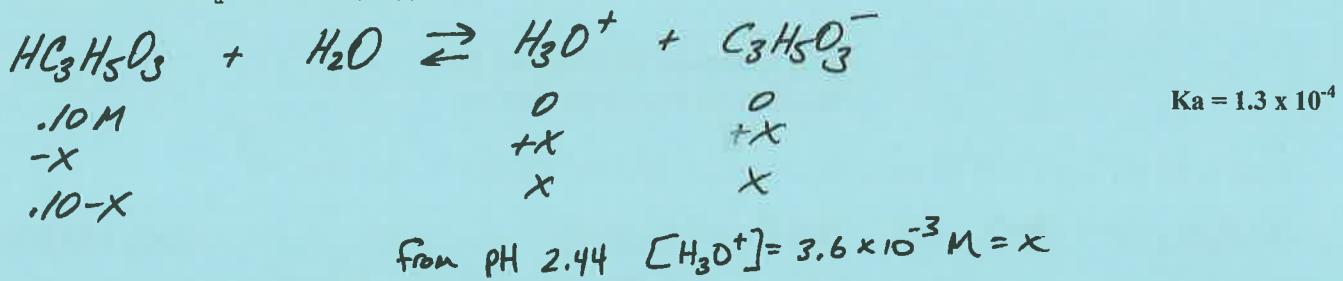
$$[H_3O^+] = [NO_2^-] = .018 M$$

$$\text{Recall } [H^+][OH^-] = 1 \times 10^{-14}$$

$$[.018][OH^-] = 1 \times 10^{-14}$$

$$[OH^-] = 5.6 \times 10^{-13} M$$

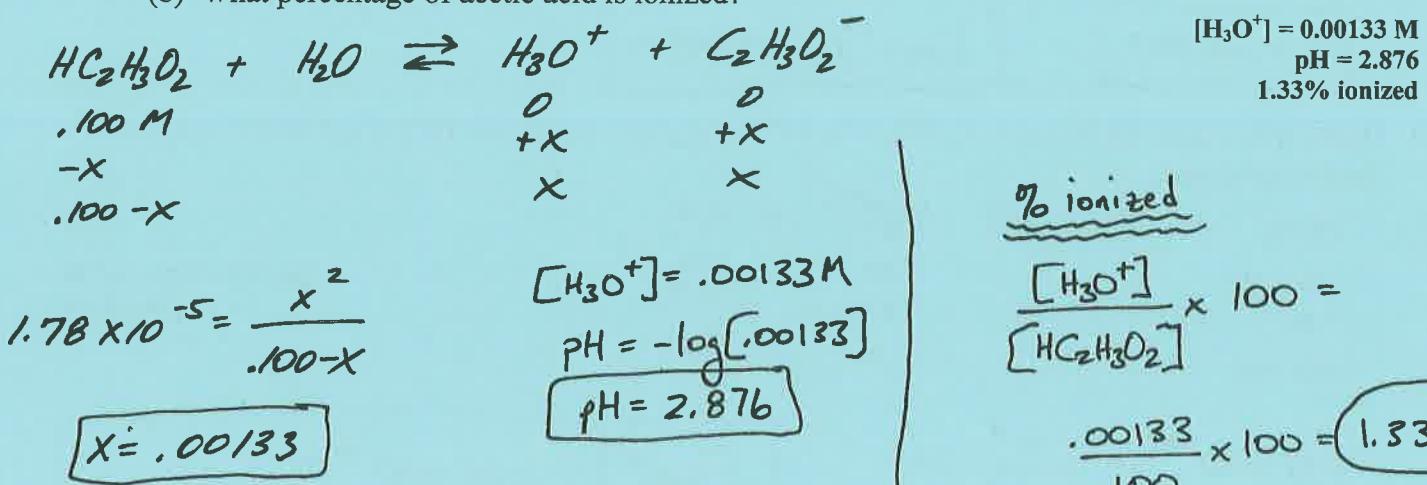
4. Lactic acid ( $\text{HC}_3\text{H}_5\text{O}_3$ ) is a monoprotic acid. A 0.10 M solution of lactic acid has a pH of 2.44. Calculate the  $K_a$  for lactic acid.



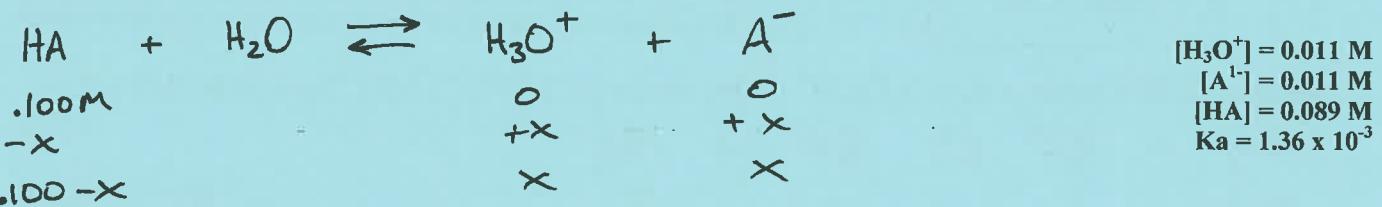
$$K_a = \frac{(3.6 \times 10^{-3})^2}{[.10 - 3.6 \times 10^{-3}]} = 1.3 \times 10^{-4}$$

5. Acetic acid,  $\text{HC}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2$ , has a  $K_a = 1.78 \times 10^{-5}$ .

- (a) Determine the pH of a 0.100 M solution.  
 (b) What percentage of acetic acid is ionized?



6. A 0.100 M solution of a certain monoprotic acid (HA) is 11.0% ionized. Using this information, calculate the equilibrium concentrations of  $[\text{A}^-]$ ,  $[\text{H}^+]$ ,  $[\text{HA}]$ , and the  $K_a$  for this acid.



$$\% \text{ ionized} = \frac{[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]}{.100} \times 100 = 11.0$$

$$[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] = .011 \text{ M}$$

$$[\text{A}^-] = .011 \text{ M}$$

$$[\text{HA}] = .100 - .011 = .089 \text{ M}$$

$$K_a = \frac{x^2}{.100-x}$$

$$K_a = \frac{(.011)^2}{.100 - .011} = 1.36 \times 10^{-3}$$