

A solution will be made by dissolving 3.08 g of NH_4Cl in 50.0 mL of 0.20 M NH_3 . Assume 50 mL of solution.

Determine the concentration of NH_4^+ in this mixture:

$$3.08 \text{ g NH}_4\text{Cl} \left(\frac{1 \text{ mole}}{53.5 \text{ g}} \right) = 0.058 \text{ mol NH}_4^+$$

$$[\text{NH}_4^+] = \left(\frac{0.058 \text{ mol}}{0.050 \text{ L}} \right) = 1.15 \text{ M}$$

Determine the pH of this solution using one of two different methods:

Consider the dissociation of NH_4^+ in the presence of some NH_3 (common ion effect)



I	1.15	0.20	~0
C	-x	+x	+x
E	1.15 - x	0.20 + x	x

$$K_a = 5.6 \times 10^{-10} = \frac{[\text{NH}_3][\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]}{[\text{NH}_4^+]} = \frac{(0.20+x)(x)}{1.15-x}$$

x is likely to be small relative to 1.15 and to 0.20 because
1. NH_4^+ is a weak acid and 2. the common ion effect

$$K_a = 5.6 \times 10^{-10} = \frac{(0.20+x)(x)}{1.15-x} \sim \frac{(0.20)(x)}{1.15}$$

$$x = [\text{H}_3\text{O}^+] \sim 3.22 \times 10^{-9} \text{ M}, \text{ pH} = 8.5$$

Consider the dissociation of NH_3 in the presence of some NH_4^+ (common ion effect)



I	0.20	1.15	~0
C	-z	+z	+z
E	0.20 - z	1.15 + z	z

$$K_b = 1.8 \times 10^{-5} = \frac{[\text{NH}_4^+][\text{OH}^-]}{[\text{NH}_3]} = \frac{(1.15+z)(z)}{0.20-z}$$

z is likely to be small relative to 1.15 and to 0.20 because
1. NH_3 is a weak base and 2. the common ion effect

$$K_b = 1.8 \times 10^{-5} = \frac{(1.15+z)(z)}{0.20-z} \sim \frac{(1.15)(z)}{0.20}$$

$$z = [\text{OH}^-] \sim 3.13 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}, \text{ pOH} = 5.5, \text{ pH} = 8.5$$