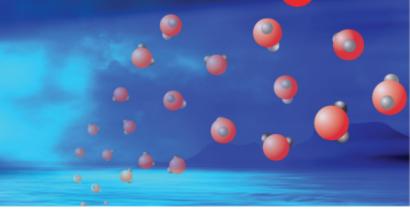
# Three Definitions of Acids and Bases



#### Arrhenius

- An acid is a substance that generates
   H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> in water
- A base is a substance that generates
   OH- in water
- Brønsted-Lowry
- Lewis

### Arrhenius Acid-Base Reactions?

$$NH_3(aq) + HF(aq) \rightleftharpoons NH_4^+(aq) + F^-(aq)$$
  
base acid  
 $H_2O(I) + HF(aq) \rightleftharpoons H_3O^+(aq) + F^-(aq)$   
neutral acid  
 $NH_3(aq) + H_2O(I) \rightleftharpoons NH_4^+(aq) + OH^-(aq)$   
base neutral

# Acid and Base Definitions



#### Acid

- Arrhenius: a substance that generates H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> in water
- Brønsted-Lowry: a proton, H<sup>+</sup>, donor

#### Base

- Arrhenius: a substance that generates OH<sup>-</sup> in water
- Brønsted-Lowry: a proton, H<sup>+</sup>, acceptor

#### Acid-Base Reaction

- Arrhenius: between an Arrhenius acid and base
- Brønsted-Lowry: a proton (H<sup>+</sup>) transfer

### Brønsted-Lowry Acids and Bases

$$NH_3(aq) + HF(aq) \rightleftharpoons NH_4^+(aq) + F^-(aq)$$
  
base acid  
 $H_2O(I) + HF(aq) \rightleftharpoons H_3O^+(aq) + F^-(aq)$   
base acid  
 $NH_3(aq) + H_2O(I) \rightleftharpoons NH_4^+(aq) + OH^-(aq)$   
base acid

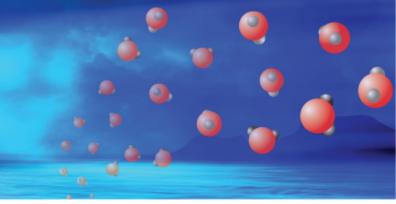
# Why Two Definitions for Acids and Bases? (1)

- Positive Aspects of Arrhenius Definitions
  - All isolated substances can be classified as acids (generate H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> in water), bases (generate OH<sup>-</sup> in water), or neither.
  - Allows predictions, including (1) whether substances will react with a base or acid, (2) whether the pH of a solution of the substance will be less than 7 or greater than 7, and (3) whether a solution of the substance will be sour or bitter.
- Negative Aspects of Arrhenius Definitions
  - Does not include similar reactions (H<sup>+</sup> transfer reactions) as acid-base reactions.

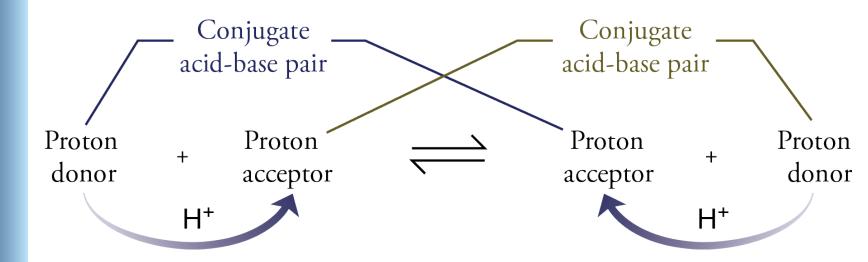
# Why Two Definitions for Acids and Bases? (2)

- Positive aspects of Brønsted-Lowry model
  - Includes similar reactions (H<sup>+</sup> transfer reactions) as acid-base reactions.
- Negative aspects of Brønsted-Lowry model
  - Cannot classify isolated substances as acids, bases, or neither. The same substance can sometimes be an acid and sometimes a base.
  - Does not allow predictions of (1) whether substances will react with another substance,
    (2) whether the pH of a solution of the substance will be less than 7 or greater than 7, and (3) whether a solution will be sour or bitter.

# Conjugate Acid-Base Pairs



$$NH_3(aq) + HF(aq) \rightleftharpoons NH_4^+(aq) + F^-(aq)$$
  
base acid base



### Brønsted-Lowry Acids and Bases

$$H_2PO_4^-(aq) + HF(aq) \Rightarrow H_3PO_4(aq) + F^-(aq)$$
  
base acid base

- H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> is the conjugate acid of H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>.
- H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> is the conjugate base of H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>.
- H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> are a conjugate acidbase pair.
- F<sup>-</sup> is the conjugate base of the acid HF.
- HF is the conjugate acid of the acid F<sup>-</sup>.
- HF and F<sup>-</sup> are a conjugate acid-base pair.

### Amphoteric Substances

Can be a Brønsted-Lowry acid in one reaction and a Brønsted-Lowry base in another?

$$HCO_3^-(aq) + HF(aq) \rightleftharpoons CO_2(g) + H_2O(I) + F^-(aq)$$
  
base acid

$$HCO_3^-(aq) + OH^-(aq) \rightleftharpoons CO_3^{2-}(aq) + H_2O(I)$$
 acid base

$$H_2PO_4^-(aq) + HF(aq) \Rightarrow H_3PO_4(aq) + F^-(aq)$$
 base acid

$$H_2PO_4^-(aq) + 2OH^-(aq) \rightarrow PO_4^{3-}(aq) + 2H_2O(I)$$
 acid base