

# Titration curve of amino acids

**BCH 312 [PRACTICAL]**

## - Objective:

- To study titration curves of amino acid,
- Determine the pKa values,
- Determine pI.
- Determine buffering regions

## - Titration Curves:

- Titration Curves are produced by monitoring the pH of a given volume of a sample solution after successive addition of acid or alkali. The curves are usually plots of pH against the volume of titrant added.

## - AMINO ACID GENERAL FORMULA:

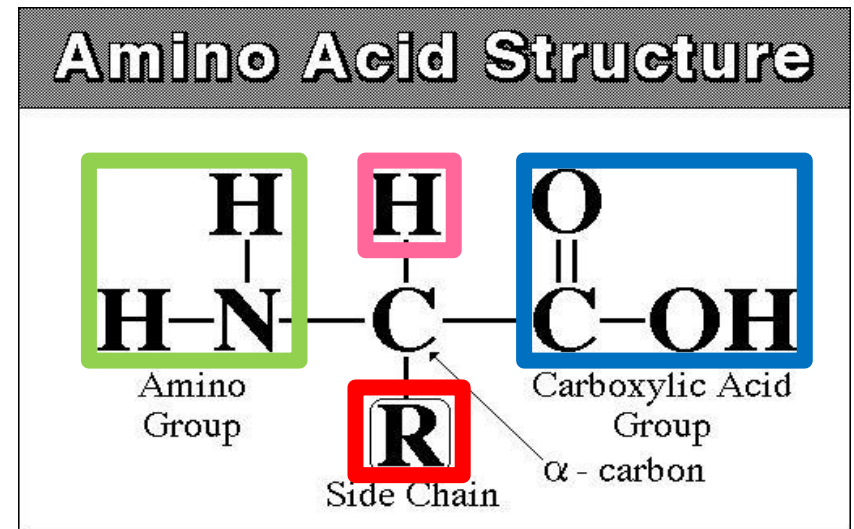
### - Amino acids consist of:

A basic amino group (  $\text{—NH}_2$  )

An acidic carboxyl group (  $\text{—COOH}$  )

A hydrogen atom (  $\text{—H}$  )

A distinctive side chain (  $\text{—R}$  ).



## - TITRATION OF AMINO ACID:

- When an amino acid is dissolved in water it exists predominantly in the isoelectric form.
- Upon titration with acid, it acts as a base (accept a proton).
- Upon titration with base, it acts as an acid (donate a proton)
- ( a compound that can act as either an acid or a base is known as an amphoteric compound).
- Amino acids are example of weak acid which contain more than one dissociate group.

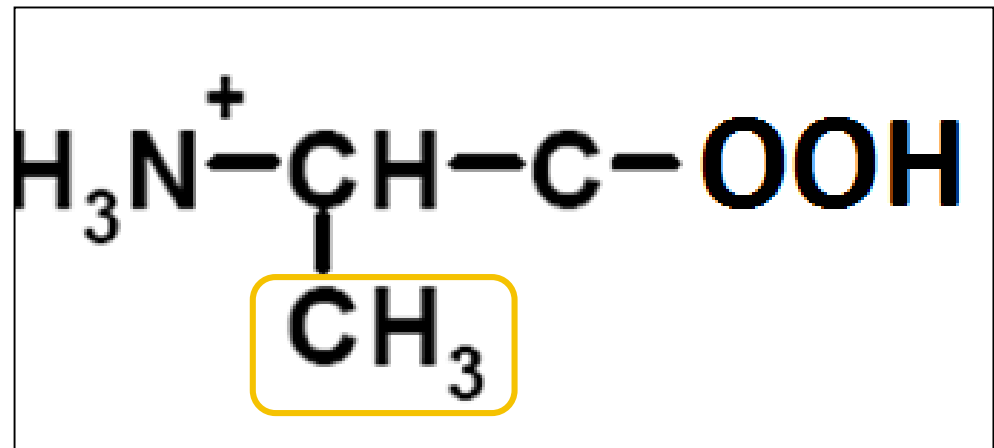
## - Example :

(1) Alanine contain COOH ( $\text{PKa1} = 2.34$ ) and  $\text{NH}_3^+$  ( $\text{PKa2} = 9.69$ ) groups (it has one PI value = 6.010) [ **diprotention** ]

The COOH will dissociate first then  $\text{NH}_3^+$  dissociate later .

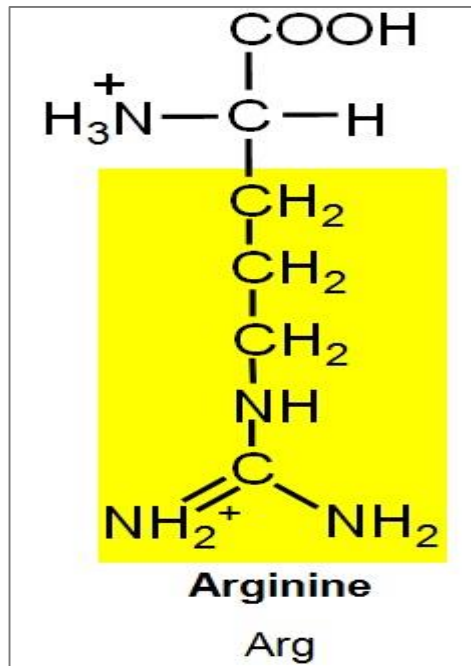
(Because  $\text{PKa1} < \text{PKa2}$ )

R-group = methyl-group

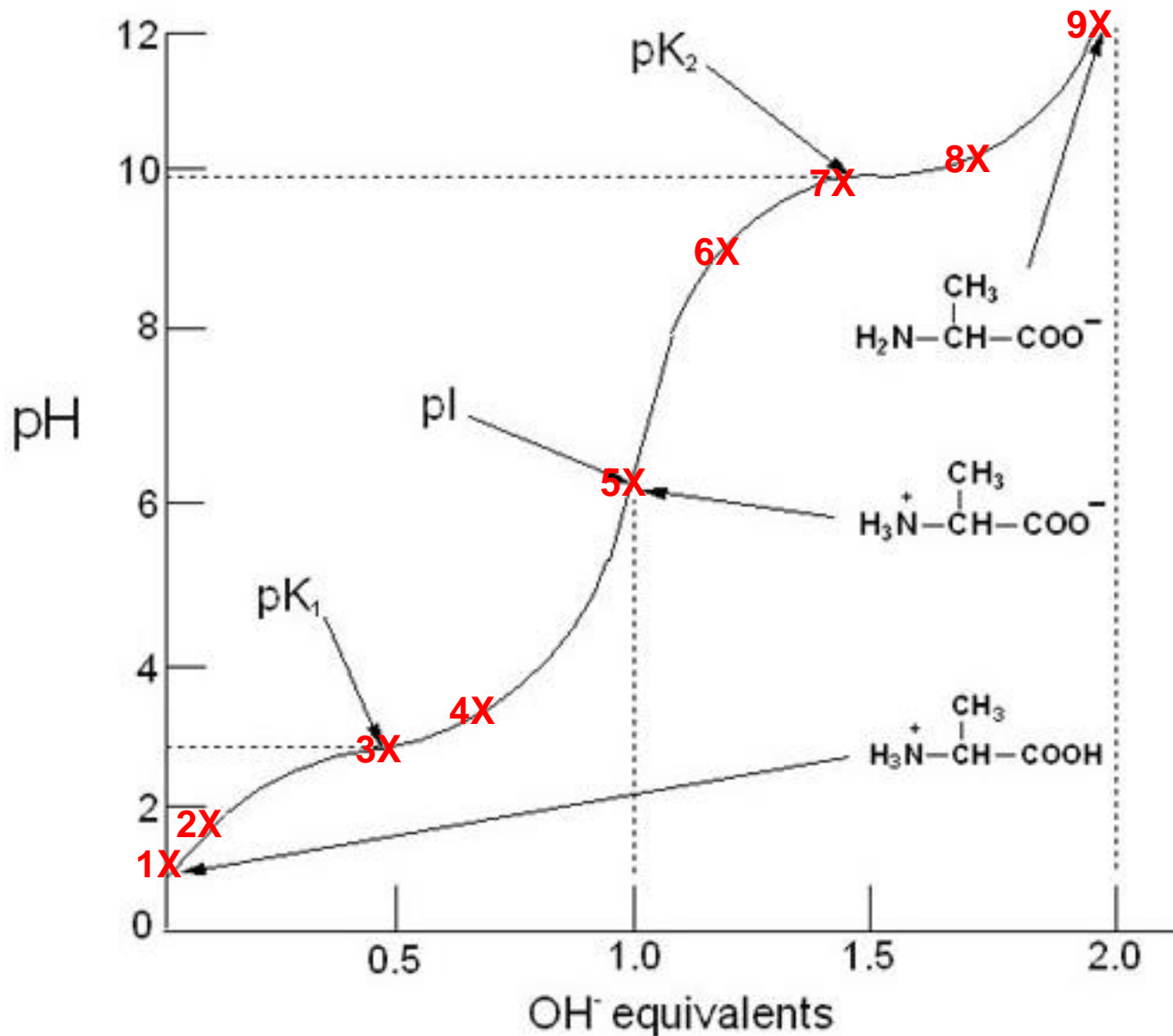


Full protonated alanine

**2) Arginine** contain COOH ( $\text{PKa1}= 2.34$ ) ,  $\text{NH}_3$  ( $\text{PKa2}= 9.69$ ) groups and basic group( $\text{pKa3}=12.5$ ) (It has one pl value=11) **[Triprotenation]**



# Alanine Titration Curve



## - Titration curve of alanine (or glycine) [diprotention]:

[1] alanine in starting point is full protonation  $[\text{NH}_3^+-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{COOH}]$ .

[2]  $\text{COOH}$  will dissociate first ,



$\text{pH} < \text{pK}_a1$ .

[3]  $[\text{NH}_3^+-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{COOH}] = [\text{NH}_3^+-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{COO}^-]$  ,  $\text{pH} = \text{pK}_a1$ ,

We already define  $\text{pK}_a$  in the last experiment , in this point the component of alanine act as buffer.

[4]  $[\text{NH}_3^+-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{COOH}] < [\text{NH}_3^+-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{COO}^-]$  ,  $\text{pH} > \text{pK}_a1$



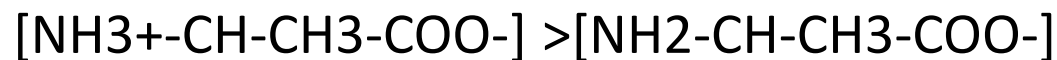
**[5]** The COOH full dissociate to COO<sup>-</sup> , [NH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>-CH-CH<sub>3</sub>-COO<sup>-</sup>] .

At this point the conc. Of negative charge = conc. Of positive charge .the amino acid present as Zwitter ion (neutral form) .

PI (isoelectric point) : PH value at which the net charge of amino acid equal to zero.

$$PI = (PKa1 + PKa2) / 2 = (2.32 + 9.96) / 2 = 6.01$$

**[6]** The NH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> start dissociate ,



$$PH < PKa2.$$

**[7]** [NH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>-CH-CH<sub>3</sub>-COO<sup>-</sup>] = [NH<sub>2</sub>-CH-CH<sub>3</sub>-COO<sup>-</sup>] . PH=PKa2 , the component of alanine act as buffer.

**[8]** [NH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>-CH-CH<sub>3</sub>-COO<sup>-</sup>] < [NH<sub>2</sub>-CH-CH<sub>3</sub>-COO<sup>-</sup>] , PH > PKa2

[9] The  $\text{NH}_3$  group will dissociate and at the same time the alanine full dissociate in end point ,  $[\text{NH}_2\text{-CH-CH}_3\text{-COO}]$

$$\text{POH} = (\text{Pkb} + \text{P}[\text{A}^-]) / 2$$

$$\text{PKb} = \text{PKw} - \text{PKa2}$$

## - Note in calculation method:

The PH calculated by different way :

[1] at starting point  $\longrightarrow$   $\text{PH} = (\text{Pka} + \text{P}[\text{HA}]) / 2$

[2] At any point within the curve (befor or in or after middle titration)

$$\text{PH} = \text{Pka} + \log([\text{A}^-] / [\text{HA}])$$

[3] At end point  $\longrightarrow$   $\text{POH} = (\text{PKb} + \text{P}[\text{A}^-]) / 2$

$$\text{PH} = \text{PKw} - \text{POH}$$

## Results:

- [1] record the titration table and Plot a Curve of pH versus ml of OH<sup>-</sup> added.
- [2] Calculate the pH of the alanine solution after the addition of 0 ml, 5ml, of 0.2M NaOH. And calculate PH after addition of 0.5 ml , 2 ml of HCL
- [3] determine the pKa of ionizable groups of amino acids
- [4] Compare your calculated pH values with those obtained from Curve.
- [5] determine the PI value from your result .