

Extraction

It is evident from the test-tube reactions that a compound dissolved in one solvent can be extracted into another solvent if:

- It is more soluble in the second solvent.
- The two solvents are immiscible.

NOTE that methanol, ethanol, and acetone are miscible with water and cannot be used for extraction from water.

If we have a mixture of acidic (HA) and basic (B) organic compounds, which are soluble in organic solvents but insoluble in water, then may be separated by making use of the differential solubility in acid or alkaline conditions above. The scheme required to achieve this separation can be represented by:

