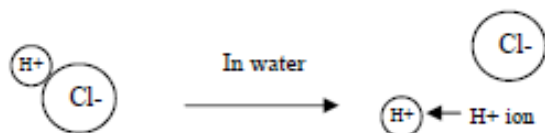


Acids and Bases

Acids

Acids are compounds that add H^+ ions to water when in a solution.



HCl —
Hydrochloric acid:
a very strong acid.

In water it breaks up
(dissociates) and
adds H^+ ions.

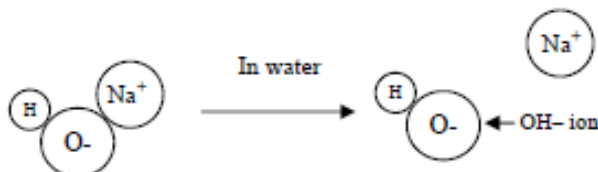


Many of our foods are acidic: citric (lemons; oranges); apples; tomato sauce.

Acids taste sour and feel “squeaky” when you rub your fingers together.

Bases

Bases are compounds that add OH^- ions to water when in a solution.



$NaOH$ —
sodium hydroxide:
a very strong base.

In water it breaks up
(dissociates) adding
 OH^- ions to the water.

Many of our cleaning products are basic: ammonia (Windex); soap; bleach.

Bases taste bitter and feel slippery.



Strong acids and bases—ionize almost completely in water, contributing many ions.

Strong acids and bases can burn your skin or eyes.

Weak acids and bases—ionize incompletely, contributing just a few ions.

pH—Measure of Acids and Bases

