

Online Lab
Manual Home



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Tests for Carboxylic Acids

[pH of an Aqueous Solution](#)

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pH of an Aqueous Solution for Carboxylic Acids

Standard

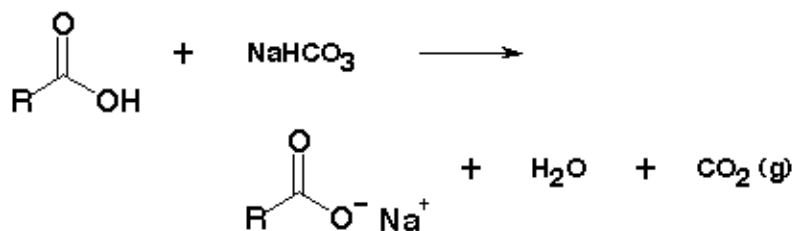
5% Acetic acid solution

Procedure

See procedure for [solubility tests with water](#).

Sodium Bicarbonate Test for Carboxylic Acids

Carboxylic Acid



Standard

5% Acetic acid solution

Procedure

A few drops or a few crystals of the unknown sample are dissolved in 1 mL of methanol and slowly added to 1 mL of a saturated solution of sodium bicarbonate.

Positive Test

Evolution of a carbon dioxide gas is a positive test for the presence of the carboxylic acid and certain phenols listed in the Complications section.

Complications

Negatively substituted phenols such as nitrophenols, aldehydophenols, and polyhalophenols are sufficiently acidic to dissolve in 5% sodium bicarbonate.