Experiment

Preparation and standardization of Sodium hydroxide

Aim: To prepare and standardize 0.1N sodium hydroxide.

Reference:- Indian Pharmacopoeia by Ministry of Health And Family Welfare, Gov. of India, Volume I 2007, P-316.

Practical book of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Fourth edition edited by A.H Beckett, J.B Stenlake, CBS Publishers and Distributors, 2005 P-187.

Requirements:

Chemical Requirement:- Sodium hydroxide pellets (NaOH), Carbon-dioxide–free water (boil distilled water 10 min, cool protected from air), Potassium hydrogen phthalate (KHP), primary standard; dry at 120 °C for 2 h; cool in desiccator, Phenolphthalein indicator.

Glassware Requirement:- Conical flask, Burette, Pipette, Water bath, Burner, Measuring Cylinder, Beaker, Dropper, Glass rod, Butter paper.

Principle:-

NaOH is hygroscopic and absorbs $CO_2 \rightarrow$ concentration is uncertain. Prepare an approximate solution, then standardize it against a **primary standard** acid (commonly potassium hydrogen phthalate, KHP), using phenolphthalein as indicator.

Procedure:-

A. Preparation of ~0.1 N NaOH

■ Tare a dry beaker **Weigh 1.00 g** NaOH pellets and **dissolve in** ~250 mL CO₂-free water to the beaker, stir until pellets fully dissolve. (**Make CO₂-free water:** Boil distilled water ~10 min, cool covered to room temp).

Label & store: "NaOH ~0.1 N (approx).

B — Standardization with KHP

- 1. Accurately weigh ~0.50–0.60 g dried KHP into a 250 mL conical flask.
- 2. Add ~75–100 mL CO₂-free water to dissolve.
- 3. Add 2–3 drops phenolphthalein.
- 4. Fill burette with the NaOH solution.
- 5. Titrate to a **pale pink** endpoint persisting \geq 30 s (perform at least 3 concordant titrations within 0.10 mL).

Calculation

For each titration:

$$N_{ ext{NaOH}} = rac{m_{ ext{KHP}} imes 1000}{ ext{Eq. wt.}_{ ext{KHP}} imes V_{ ext{NaOH}}(ext{mL})} = rac{m imes 1000}{204.22 imes V}$$

Example (illustrative):

$$m=0.5110$$
 g KHP; $V=25.20$ mL NaOH $N=rac{0.5110 imes1000}{204.22 imes25.20}=0.09929\,\mathrm{N}$

• Factor (F) to 0.1 N: $F = N_{
m found}/0.1000$

Viva-Voce Questions

- 1. Which substances are commonly used as primary standards to standardize NaOH?
- 2. Why is freshly boiled and cooled distilled water used in preparing NaOH solution?
- 3. What is the equivalent weight of NaOH?
- 4. Why is phenolphthalein preferred over methyl orange in this titration?
- 5. What are common errors in NaOH standardization?