Practice Exam 3ii - Answers





3. see Solomons problem 11.18 b



6a. The two acid disociation reactions are shown below



The H in the acetylene is attached to an sp hybridized carbon in which the electron pair is more tightly held than in the sp³hybridized orbital of the ethane. We know that from Table 3.1 (page 105 in text) the $CH_3CH_2^-$ is the strongest base shown and the acetylide is a weaker base, from this we can imply that, acetylene, the conjugate acid of the acetylide, is a stronger acid than ethane, the conjugate acid of the ethanide ($CH_3CH_2^-$).

b. The electron pair on the nitrogen of CH_3CN is in an sp orbital and thus more tightly held (less available for donation) than the electron pair in the sp³ orbital on the trimethyl amine. (This explanation is similar to the discussion for the greater basicity of the ethanide anion vs that of the acetylide anion.)