

Chemical Equilibrium

Dr. Md. Zahurul Haq, Ph.D., CEA, FBSME, FIEB

Professor
Department of Mechanical Engineering
Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology (BUET)
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh

zahurul@me.buet.ac.bd
<http://zahurul.buet.ac.bd/>

ME 6101: Classical Thermodynamics
<http://zahurul.buet.ac.bd/ME6101/>



- For **first-order systems ($a = 1$)**:

$$\ln \frac{[A]_t}{[A]_0} = -k(t - t_0)$$

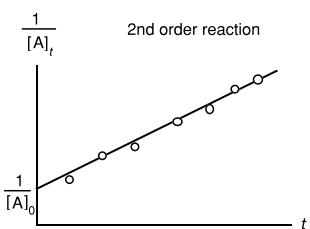
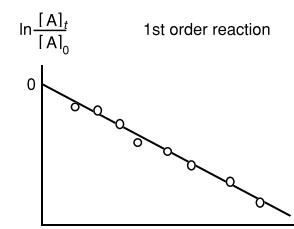
$[A]_0$ & $[A]_t$ denote the concentration of species A at time t_0 and t , respectively.

- For **second-order systems ($a = 2$)**:

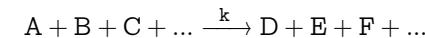
$$\frac{1}{[A]_t} - \frac{1}{[A]_0} = k(t - t_0)$$

- For **third-order systems ($a = 3$)**:

$$\frac{1}{[A]_t^2} - \frac{1}{[A]_0^2} = 2k(t - t_0)$$



Rate Laws & Reaction Order

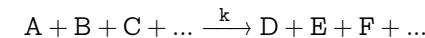


- Reaction Rate (RR) $= \frac{d[A]}{dt} = -k[A]^a[B]^b[C]^c \dots$
 a, b, c, \dots are **reaction orders** wrt. A, B, C, \dots ,
 k is the **rate coefficient** of the reaction,
the sum of all the exponents is the **overall reaction rate**.
- If some species are in excess, $[B], [C], \dots$ remains constant,

$$RR = \frac{d[A]}{dt} = -k[A]^a$$

- If the time behaviour is measured, the reaction order can be determined.

Relation of Forward & Reverse Reactions



- Forward reaction rate for production of A, $\frac{d[A]}{dt} = -k_f[A]^a[B]^b[C]^c \dots$
- Reverse reaction rate for production of A, $\frac{d[A]}{dt} = k_b[D]^d[E]^e[F]^f \dots$
- At chemical equilibrium, forward and backward reaction rates are same and no net reaction can be observed.
 $\Rightarrow -k_f[A]^a[B]^b[C]^c \dots = k_b[D]^d[E]^e[F]^f \dots$
- Equilibrium constant (based on concentration), K_c
$$K_c \equiv \frac{k_f}{k_b} = \frac{[D]^d[E]^e[F]^f}{[A]^a[B]^b[C]^c}$$



Reaction Rate Laws

Temperature Dependence of Rate Coefficients

Arrhenius law: $k = A_0 \exp\left(-\frac{E_a/R_u}{T}\right) = A_0 \exp\left(-\frac{T_a}{T}\right)$

$A_0 \equiv$ pre-exponential factor
 $E_a \equiv$ activation energy, corresponds to an energy barrier which has to be overcome during reaction.
 $T_a \equiv$ activation temperature, $T_a \equiv E_a/R_u$

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Reaction Rate Laws

Global One-step Reaction

$$RR = A_0 \exp\left(-\frac{E_a/R_u}{T}\right) [Fuel]^a [O_2]^b$$

Fuel	A_0	E_a (kcal/mol)	a	b
CH_4^*	$1.3 \cdot 10^9$	48.4	-0.3	1.3
CH_4	$8.3 \cdot 10^5$	30	-0.3	1.3
C_2H_6	$1.1 \cdot 10^{12}$	30	0.1	1.65
C_3H_8	$8.6 \cdot 10^{11}$	30	0.1	1.65
C_4H_{10}	$7.4 \cdot 10^{11}$	30	0.15	1.6
C_5H_{12}	$6.4 \cdot 10^{11}$	30	0.25	1.5
C_6H_{14}	$5.7 \cdot 10^{11}$	30	0.25	1.5
C_7H_{16}	$5.1 \cdot 10^{11}$	30	0.25	1.5
C_8H_{18}	$4.6 \cdot 10^{11}$	30	0.25	1.5
C_9H_{20}	$4.2 \cdot 10^{11}$	30	0.25	1.5
$\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{22}$	$3.8 \cdot 10^{11}$	30	0.25	1.5
CH_3OH	$3.2 \cdot 10^{11}$	30	0.25	1.5
$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$	$1.5 \cdot 10^{12}$	30	0.15	1.6
C_6H_6	$2.0 \cdot 10^{11}$	30	-0.1	1.85
C_7H_8	$1.6 \cdot 10^{11}$	30	-0.1	1.85

^a Units of A_0 : $(\text{mol}/\text{cm}^3)^{1-a-b}/\text{s}$.

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Reaction Rate Laws

Example: Methane Combustion at 1800 K

$$\text{CH}_4 + 2(\text{O}_2 + 3.76 \text{ N}_2) \longrightarrow \text{CO}_2 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} + 7.52 \text{ N}_2$$

- $RR = A_0 \exp\left(-\frac{E_a/R_u}{T}\right) [\text{Fuel}]^a [\text{O}_2]^b$
- $A_0 = 1.3 \times 10^9 \text{ mol/cm}^3$
- $E_a = 48.4 \text{ kcal/mol}, R_u = 1.987 \text{ cal/mol.K}$
- $a = -0.3, b = 1.3, [\text{O}_2] = 2[\text{CH}_4]$
- $\frac{d[\text{CH}_4]}{dt} = RR = 1.3 \times 10^9 \exp\left(-\frac{24358}{1800}\right) [\text{CH}_4]^{-0.3} (2[\text{CH}_4])^{1.3}$
- $\Rightarrow \frac{d[\text{CH}_4]}{dt} = -4245.3[\text{CH}_4]$
- $\Rightarrow \frac{[\text{CH}_4]}{[\text{CH}_4]_0} = \exp(-4245.3t)$
- Reduction to 5%, $\exp(-4245.3t) = 0.05 \rightarrow t = 0.71 \text{ ms}$

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Reaction Rate Laws

Time Scales in Chemically Reacting Flow

Chemical time scales	Physical time scales
Slow time scales e.g., NO-formation; “frozen chemistry”	10^0 s
intermediate time scales	10^2 s
Fast time scales, “equilib. chemistry” (due to steady states, partial equilibria)	10^{-4} s
	10^{-6} s
	10^{-8} s

time scales of flow,
transport, turbulence

to be equilibrated

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Reaction Rate Laws

Pressure Dependence of Rate Coefficients

$$RR = A_o \exp\left(-\frac{E_a/R_u}{T}\right) [Fuel]^a [O_2]^b$$

$$= A_o \exp\left(-\frac{E_a/R_u}{T}\right) [X_{fuel}]^a [X_{O_2}]^b \left(\frac{P/R_u}{T}\right)^{(a+b)} \propto P^{(a+b)}$$

- For one-step combustion chemistry model, $(a + b)$ is always positive, ranging from 1.0 to 1.75.
- When the pressure of a combustion system is doubled, the reaction rate can increase threefold for the case $a + b = 1.75$.

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Chemical Equilibrium

Criterion for Chemical Equilibrium

- $dS_{sys} \geq \frac{\delta Q}{T} \rightarrow dS_{sys} \geq 0$ for $\delta Q = 0$
- $\delta Q - PdV = dU \rightarrow dU + PdV - TdS \leq 0$
- $G \equiv H - TS \rightarrow dG = dH - TdS - SdT$
- $(dG)_{P,T} = dU + PdV - TdS \rightarrow (dG)_{P,T} \leq 0$

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Chemical Equilibrium

Equilibrium Constant, K_p

Reaction chamber T, P N_A moles of A N_B moles of B N_C moles of C N_D moles of D	$dN_A A + dN_B B \longrightarrow dN_C C + dN_D D$ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $dN_A = -\epsilon v_A, dN_B = -\epsilon v_B$ $dN_C = +\epsilon v_C, dN_D = +\epsilon v_D$ ϵ is a proportionality constant.
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- $G_{mix} = \sum_{R \rightarrow P} N_i g_{i,T} = \sum_{R \rightarrow P} N_i (g_{i,T}^o + R_u T \ln(\frac{P_i}{P_0}))$
- For fixed T & P , **equilibrium condition**:

$$\Rightarrow dG_{mix} = 0 = \sum_{R \rightarrow P} dN_i (g_{i,T}^o + R_u T \ln(\frac{P_i}{P_0}))$$

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Chemical Equilibrium

- $v_C g_{C,T}^o + v_D g_{D,T}^o - v_A g_{A,T}^o - v_B g_{B,T}^o = -R_u T \sum_{R \rightarrow P} v_i \ln\left(\frac{P_i}{P_0}\right)$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta G_T^o = -R_u T \ln\left[\frac{(P_C/P_0)^{v_C}(P_D/P_0)^{v_D}}{(P_A/P_0)^{v_A}(P_B/P_0)^{v_B}}\right] = -R_u T \ln(K_P)$$

- $K_P = \exp\left[-\frac{\Delta G_T^o}{R_u T}\right]$
- Equilibrium constant, $K_P \equiv \frac{(P_C/P_0)^{v_C}(P_D/P_0)^{v_D}}{(P_A/P_0)^{v_A}(P_B/P_0)^{v_B}}$
- $K_P = e^{(-\Delta G_T^o/R_u T)} = e^{-\Delta H^o/R_u T} e^{\Delta S^o/R_u}$
- For $K_P > 0$, which favours products, ΔH^o should be negative, exothermic reaction.
- For gaseous mixture, $P_i = X_i P$, and if $\Delta v = v_C + v_D - v_A - v_B$,

$$\Rightarrow K_P = \frac{X_C^{v_C} X_D^{v_D}}{X_A^{v_A} X_B^{v_B}} \left[\frac{P}{P_0}\right]^{\Delta v} = \frac{N_C^{v_C} N_D^{v_D}}{N_A^{v_A} N_B^{v_B}} \left[\frac{P/P_0}{N_T}\right]^{\Delta v}$$

- N_T is the total number of moles present in the reaction vessel.

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Illustrative Example: Dissociation of CO₂ at 2500 K, 10 atm



$$T = 298 \text{ K} \quad 1 \quad 0 \quad 0$$

$$T = 2500 \text{ K} \quad 1 - \alpha \quad \alpha \quad \alpha/2$$

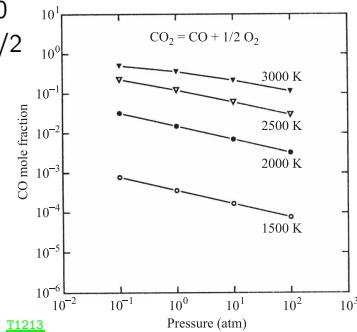
$$\bullet \Delta G_{2500}^{\circ} = [g_{\text{CO}} + 0.5g_{\text{O}_2} - g_{\text{CO}_2}]_{2500}$$

$$\Rightarrow K_P = \exp(-\Delta G_f^{\circ}/R_u T) = 0.0363$$

$$\bullet K_P = \frac{X_{\text{CO}} X_{\text{O}_2}^{0.5}}{X_{\text{CO}_2}} \left(\frac{P}{P_0} \right)^{1+0.5-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow 0.036 = \frac{\left(\frac{\alpha}{1+\alpha/2} \right) \left(\frac{\alpha/2}{1+\alpha/2} \right)^{1/2}}{\left(\frac{1-\alpha}{1+\alpha/2} \right)} 10^{0.5}$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha = 0.06205 \rightarrow X_{\text{CO}} = 0.0602$$

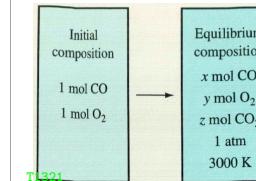


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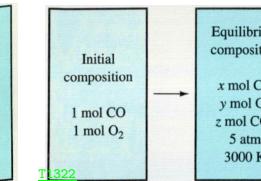
Illustrative Example: Effects of pressure and inert-addition on equilibrium composition

1 atm

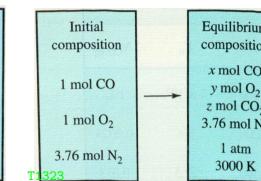


- $x = 0.34$
- $y = 0.67$
- $z = 0.66$

5 atm



- $x = 0.193$
- $y = 0.5965$
- $z = 0.807$

 N_2 addition

- $x = 0.47$
- $y = 0.736$
- $z = 0.53$

