Quantitative chemistry

## Conservation of mass and balanced equations

The law of conservation of mass states that no atoms are lost or made during a chemical reaction, so the mass of the reactants equals the mass of the products.

| Reactants |  | Products |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{CaCO}_{3}$ | $\rightarrow$ | $\mathrm{CaO}+\mathrm{O}_{2}$  <br> 100 g $\rightarrow$ |
| $56 g+44 g$ |  |  |

Balanced equations are used to show the number of each type of atom remains the same throughout the reaction.

Numbers are used along with chemical symbols to show the number of each type of atom in a reaction.
A multiplier, represented by a normal script number in front of an atom or compound (e.g. 2 MgO ) multiplies each atom in the compound $(2 \mathrm{MgO}=2$ lots of Mg and 2 lots of O ).

A multiplier, represented by a subscript number after an atom $\left(\mathrm{NH}_{3}\right)$ multiplies the atom in front of the number only ( $\mathrm{NH}_{3}=1$ lot of N and 3 lots of H ).

Brackets can be used to show that subscript numbers apply to a section of the formula (e.g. $\mathrm{Ca}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}=1$ lot of $\mathrm{Ca}, 2$ lots of O and 2 lots of H ).

If no number is present, then there is 1 atom.

## Mass changes when a reactant or product is a gas

Some reactions can appear to show a change in mass.
Some reactions produce gases which can escape from unsealed systems. An example of this is the thermal decomposition of calcium carbonate which release carbon dioxide.


Some reactions involve gases as reactants which may mean that some products have more mass. An example of this is the reaction of magnesium with oxygen forming magnesium oxide.

## Use of the amount of a substance in relation to volumes of gases (separate Chemistry only)

Equal amounts of moles of gases occupy the same volume under the same conditions of temperature and pressure.

The volume of one mole of any gas at room temperature and pressure ( $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and 1 atmosphere pressure) is $\mathbf{2 4} \mathbf{d m}^{\mathbf{3}}$.
The volumes of gaseous reactants and products can be calculated from balanced equations.

## Relative formula mass

Relative formula mass $\left(\boldsymbol{M}_{r}\right)$ is the sum of the relative atomic masses of the elements shown in the formula.

$$
\begin{gathered}
M g=24 \quad O=16 \\
M g O=24+16
\end{gathered}
$$

The relative atomic mass of an element can be found on the periodic table.
 In balanced equations the relative formula mass of the reactants and products should be equal:

$$
\begin{aligned}
2 \mathrm{Mg}+\mathrm{O}_{2} & \rightarrow 2 \mathrm{MgO} \\
24+24+16+16 & \rightarrow 24+24+16+16 \\
80 & \rightarrow 80
\end{aligned}
$$

## Percentage by Mass

The percentage and mass of an element can be calculated from a balanced equation:
Percentage of element $=($ total relative mass of element $\div$ relative formula mass of compound) $\times 100$

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { Percentage of oxygen in } \mathrm{MgO}=(16 \div 40) \times 100 \\
\text { Percentage of oxygen in } \mathrm{MgO}=40 \%
\end{gathered}
$$

We can calculate the mass of an element in a compound using the percentage of an element.


Mass of an element $=$ Total mass of a compound $x$ percentage (decimal)

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { Mass of oxygen in } 50 \mathrm{~g} \text { of } \mathrm{MgO}=50 \mathrm{~g} \times 0.4 \\
\text { Mass of oxygen in } 50 \mathrm{~g} \text { of } \mathrm{MgO}=20 \mathrm{~g}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Chemical measurements

Whenever a measurement is made there is always some uncertainty about the result obtained.
Experiments that have been repeated allow us to see uncertainty. We can use the range and mean to measure uncertainty. The greater the spread of data the more uncertainty.

| Test | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | Mean |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\boldsymbol{A}$ | 40 | 41 | 39 | 40 |
| $\boldsymbol{B}$ | 35 | 42 | 44 | 40 |

$$
\text { uncertainty }=\frac{\text { range }}{2}
$$

The range of results for test $A$ is far less than the range for test $B$. Test $A$ has less uncertainty.

$$
\mathrm{Mg}+2 \mathrm{HCl} \rightarrow \mathrm{MgCl}_{2}+\mathrm{H}_{2}
$$

Hydrogen is a gas. We can calculate its volume using this equation:
Volume $\left(\mathrm{dm}^{3}\right)=$ moles $(\mathrm{mol}) \times 24 \mathrm{dm}^{3}$
Volume $\left(\mathrm{dm}^{3}\right)=1 \times 24$
Volume $\left(\mathrm{dm}^{3}\right)=24 \mathrm{dm}^{3}$


## Quantitative chemistry

## Moles [HT only]

Chemical amounts are measured in moles. The symbol for the unit mole is mol. The mass of one mole of a substance is grams is equal to its relative formula mass.

$$
\begin{gathered}
\mathrm{Mg}=24 \quad \mathrm{O}=16 \\
1 \text { mole of magnesium }(\mathrm{Mg}) \text { is } 24 \mathrm{~g} \\
1 \text { mole of oxygen }\left(\mathrm{O}_{2}\right) \text { is } 32 \mathrm{~g}
\end{gathered}
$$

One mole of a substance contains the same number of particles, atoms, molecules or ions as one mole of any other substance.

The number of atoms, molecules or ions in a mole of a given substance is the Avogadro constant. The value of the Avogadro constant is $6.02 \times 10^{23}$ per mole.
In 1 mole of carbon (C) the number of atoms is equal to the number of molecules in 1 mole of carbon dioxide ( $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ ).

We can calculate the number of moles in a given mass using the following equation:
moles $=$ mass $(g) \div$ relative formula mass
moles of Mg in 60 g of magnesium $=60 \div 24$
moles of Mg in 60 g of magnesium $=2.5 \mathrm{~mol}$


## Concentration of solutions

Many chemical reactions take place in solutions.
The concentration of a solution can be measured in mass (of solute) per given volume of solution e.g. $\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{dm}^{3}$.
A decimetre cubed or $\mathrm{dm}^{3}$ is 1000 ml or $1000 \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$.
Concentration can be calculated using the following equation:

$$
\operatorname{mass}(g)=\text { concentration }\left(g / d m^{3}\right) \times \text { volume }\left(d^{3}\right)
$$

If 38 g of $\mathrm{MgCl}_{2}$ is added to 400 ml of water the concentration would be

## Don’t forget to convert units!

$$
\begin{gathered}
38 \mathrm{~g}=\text { concentration }\left(\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{dm}^{3}\right) \times 0.4 \mathrm{dm}^{3} \\
\text { concentration }\left(\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{dm}^{3}\right)=38 \div 0.4 \\
\text { concentration }\left(\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{dm}^{3}\right)=95 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{dm}^{3}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Amounts of substance in equations [HT only]

The masses of reactants and products can be calculated from balanced symbol equations.
Moles can be represented in a formula equation by normal script numbers before the element or compound.

$$
\mathrm{Mg}+2 \mathrm{HCl} \rightarrow \mathrm{MgCl}_{2}+\mathrm{H}_{2}
$$

This shows that 1 mole of Mg reacts with 2 moles of HCl to produce 1 mole of $\mathrm{MgCl}_{2}$ and 1 mole of $\mathrm{H}_{2}$.
We can use these equations, along with the atomic mass/relative formula mass to calculate the masses of substances.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{Mg}=24, \mathrm{H}=1, \mathrm{Cl}=35.5 \\
& \mathrm{Mg}+2 \mathrm{HCl} \Rightarrow \mathrm{MgCl}_{2}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \\
& 24 g+73 g \Rightarrow 95 g+2 g
\end{aligned}
$$

We can also calculate masses of reactants or products given a known mass of another reactant or product:
unknown mass $=($ known mass $\div$ known relative formula mass $) x$ unknown relative formula mass

$$
\mathrm{Mg}+2 \mathrm{HCl} \rightarrow \mathrm{MgCl}_{2}+\mathrm{H}_{2}
$$

How much Mg is needed to make 130 g of $\mathrm{MgCl}_{2}$ ? unknown mass $=(130 \div 95) \times 24$
unknown mass $=32.84 \mathrm{~g}$

## Using moles to balance equations [HT only]

Converting the mass of reactants and products to moles can allow us to balance equations.

$$
\begin{gathered}
\mathrm{Mg}+\mathrm{O}_{2} \rightarrow \mathrm{MgO} \\
\text { If we had }-96 \mathrm{~g}+64 \mathrm{~g} \rightarrow 160 \mathrm{~g} \\
\text { moles }=\text { mass }(\mathrm{g}) \div \text { relative formula mass } \\
(96 \div 24)+(64 \div 32) \rightarrow(160 \div 40) \\
4 \mathrm{Mg}+2 \mathrm{O}_{2} \rightarrow 4 \mathrm{MgO}
\end{gathered}
$$

Ratios can be used to calculate simple whole numbers:

$$
\begin{gathered}
4 \mathrm{Mg}+2 \mathrm{O}_{2} \rightarrow 4 \mathrm{MgO} \\
4: 2: 2 \\
2: 1: 1 \\
2 \mathrm{Mg}+\mathrm{O}_{2} \rightarrow 2 \mathrm{MgO}
\end{gathered}
$$



## Limiting reactants [HT only]

In a chemical reaction involving 2 reactants it is common to use an excess of one of the reactants to ensure all the other reactant is used.
The reactant that is completely used up is called a limiting reactant because it limits the amount of product.


## Quantitative chemistry (separate Chemistry only)

## Percentage yield

Even though no atoms are gained or lost in a chemical reaction, it is not always possible to obtain the calculated amount of product for the following reasons.

The reaction may not go to completion because it is reversible.
Some of the product may be lost when it is separated from the reaction mixture.
Some of the reactants may react in ways different to the expected reaction.
The amount of product obtained is known as the yield.
The yield you would expect to get is called the maximum theoretical yield.
The amount of product obtained compared to the maximum theoretical yield is called the percentage yield.
$\%$ yield $=($ mass of product actually made $\div$ maximum theoretical yield $) \times 100$

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{Mg}+2 \mathrm{HCl} & \rightarrow \mathrm{MgCl}_{2}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \\
24 g+73 g & \rightarrow 95 g+2 g
\end{aligned}
$$

This equation shows that we should make $95 g$ of $\mathrm{MgCl}_{2}$ if we use 24 g of Mg . If we only make 76 g the \%yield would be:
$\%$ yield $=(76 \div 95) \times 100$
\%yield = 80\%

## Using concentrations of solutions in $\mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{dm}^{3}$

If the volumes of two solutions that react completely are known and the concentration of one solution is known, the concentration of the other solution can be calculated.

$$
2 \mathrm{NaOH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4} \rightarrow \mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}+2 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}
$$

$25 \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$ of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ reacts completely with $22 \mathrm{~cm}^{3} \mathrm{NaOH}$. The concentration of the NaOH is $0.105 \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{dm}^{3}$ To calculate the concentration of the $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ we use the following formula (where mass represents the mass of solute in solution):
$\operatorname{mass}(g)=$ concentration $\left(\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{dm}^{3}\right) \times$ volume $\left(\mathrm{dm}^{3}\right)$
Calculating 2 NaOH
mass $=0.105 \times 0.022$
mass $=0.00231 \mathrm{~g}$
There is twice as many moles of NaOH as there is of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ so we divide this figure by 2

$$
\text { mass }=0.001155 g
$$

Calculating $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$
$\operatorname{mass}(\mathrm{g})=$ concentration $\left(\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{dm}^{3}\right) \times$ volume $\left(\mathrm{dm}^{3}\right)$
$0.001155=$ concentration $\left(\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{dm}^{3}\right) \times 0.025$
concentration $\left(\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{dm}^{3}\right)=0.001155 \div 0.025$
concentration $\left(\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{dm}^{3}\right)=0.0462 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{dm}^{3}$

$4 \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{dm}^{3}$

## Atom economy

The atom economy is a measure of the amount of starting materials that ended up as useful products. A high atom economy is desirable for environmental and economic reasons.
Atom economy can be calculated using the formula:
Atom economy $=($ Relative formula mass of the desired product $\div$ sum of relative formula masses of all reactants) x 100

$$
\begin{gathered}
\mathrm{Mg}=24, \mathrm{H}=1, \mathrm{Cl}=35.5 \\
\mathrm{Mg}+2 \mathrm{HCl} \rightarrow \mathrm{MgCl}_{2}+\mathrm{H}_{2}
\end{gathered}
$$

If $\mathrm{MgCl}_{2}$ is the desired product then
Atom economy $=(95 \div 97) \times 100$
Atom economy $=97.94 \%$

$$
\% \text { ATOM ECONOMY }=\frac{\text { Mr OF DESIRED PROOUCI }}{\text { Mr OF TOIAL PROOCTS }} \times 100
$$

-. | Low atom economy
-. $\mid$ High atom economy


Particular reaction pathways can be selected because of the atom economy, yield, equilibrium position and usefulness of the by-products.

