**Reading for Today:** Sections 10.1-10.5, 10.9 (Sections 9.1-9.4 in 4<sup>th</sup> ed.) **Reading for Lecture #19**: Sections 10.9-10.13 (Section 9.4-9.5 in 4<sup>th</sup> ed.)

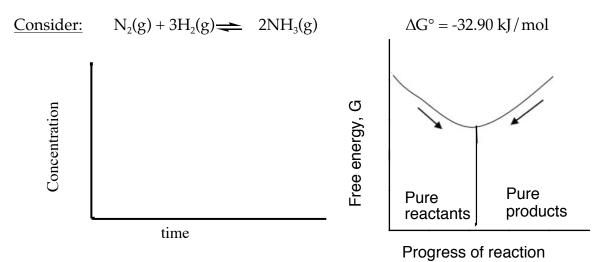
Topics: Chemical Equilibrium

I. Nature of Chemical Equilibrium

II. Meaning of K

III. External Effects on K

Chemical reactions reach a state of dynamic *equilibrium* in which the rates of forward and reverse reactions are equal and there is no net change in composition.



When the reaction mixture has not produced enough products to have reached equilibrium, the spontaneous direction of change is toward more products ( $\Delta G_{\text{forward reaction}}$ \_\_\_\_0).

When excess products are present (ex. pure ammonia), the reverse reaction is spontaneous ( $\Delta G_{\text{forward reaction}} = 0$ ).

The reaction free energy ( $\Delta G$ ) changes as the proportion of reactants and products

$$\Delta G = \Delta G^{\circ} + RT \ln Q$$
 Where

 $\Delta G$  = reaction free energy at any <u>definite</u>, <u>fixed</u> composition of the reaction mixture.

 $\Delta G^{\circ}$  = is the difference in free energy of the products and reactants <u>in their standard states</u>.

R = universal gas constant, T = Temperature, and Q = reaction quotient

For  $aA + bB \rightleftharpoons cC + dD$ 

$$\Delta G = \Delta G^{\circ} + RT \ln \underbrace{ \begin{bmatrix} (P_{C}/P_{ref})^{c} \ (P_{D}/P_{ref})^{d} \\ (P_{A}/P_{ref})^{a} \ (P_{B}/P_{ref})^{b} \end{bmatrix} }_{Q} \Delta G = \Delta G^{\circ} + RT \ln \underbrace{ \begin{bmatrix} ([C]/C_{ref})^{c} \ ([D]/C_{ref})^{d} \\ ([A]/C_{ref})^{a} \ ([B]/C_{ref})^{d} \end{bmatrix} }_{Q}$$

$$Q = \underbrace{P_{C}^{c} P_{D}^{d}}_{P_{\Delta}^{a} P_{B}^{b}}$$

$$Q = \underbrace{[C]^{c} [D]^{d}}_{[A]^{a} [B]^{b}}$$

At equilibrium  $\Delta G = 0$  and Q = K (the equilibrium constant),

$$0 = \Delta G^{\circ} + RT \ln K$$

$$\Delta G^{\circ} = -RT \ln K$$

K = is the equilibrium constant. It has the same form as \_\_\_\_\_\_, but only uses the amounts of products and reactants at equilibrium.

$$K_{p} = \left\{ \frac{P_{C}^{c} P_{D}^{d}}{P_{A}^{a} P_{B}^{b}} \right\}_{eq.} \qquad K_{c} = \left\{ \frac{[C]^{c} [D]^{d}}{[A]^{a} [B]^{b}} \right\}_{eq.}$$

We can rewrite  $\Delta G = \Delta G^{\circ} + RT \ln Q$  as

$$\Delta G = -RT \ln K + RT \ln Q$$
 or  $\Delta G = RT \ln (Q/K)$ 

# Relationship between K and Q:

If Q < K,  $\Delta G$  is \_\_\_\_\_ and the forward reaction will occur If Q > K,  $\Delta G$  is \_\_\_\_ and the reverse reaction will occur

Example:  $N_2(g) + 3H_2(g) \Longrightarrow 2NH_3(g)$ 

If K=1.9 x  $10^{-4}$  at  $400^{\circ}$ C, and  $P_{N2}$  = 5.5 bar  $P_{H2}$ =2.2 bar  $P_{NH3}$  = 1.1 bar at  $400^{\circ}$ C, which direction will the reaction go?

Q =

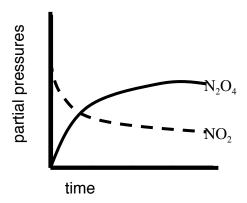
## WHAT DOES K TELL US?

K tells us about the mixture of products and reactants at **equilibrium**, whether we can expect **high** or **low** concentration of products at equilibrium.

when K > 1, \_\_\_\_\_ products when K < 1, \_\_\_\_ products

For K >1   
2NO<sub>2</sub>(g) 
$$\implies$$
 N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>(g)  $\triangle$ G° = -4.76 kJ/mol and K = 6.84 at 298 K

Start with 1.000 bar of  $NO_2$  (reactant) and no  $N_2O_4$  (product) so Q < K and  $\Delta G < 0$ , and the reaction goes forward



Calculate the partial pressures of  $NO_2$  and  $N_2O_4$  at equilibrium using the given value of K and the given starting concentration of reactant.

$$K = 6.84 =$$

$$x =$$
\_\_\_\_bar (\_\_\_\_)
 $1.000 - 2x = 1.000 - 2(____) = ___bar (____)$ 

For K > 1, more products at equilibrium.

Relationship between  $\Delta G^{\circ}$  and the magnitude of K:

rewrite  $\Delta G^{\circ} = -RT \ln K$  as

$$K = \exp \left[-\Delta G^{\circ} / RT\right]$$

K is large if  $\Delta G^{\circ}$  is ???

Consider the decomposition of baking soda at two different temperatures.  $2NaHCO_3(s) \Rightarrow Na_2CO_3(s) + CO_2(g) + H_2O(g)$ 

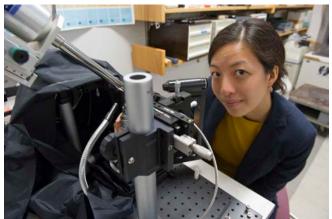
$$\Delta G^{\circ} = +36 \text{ kJ/mol at room temperature}$$
 K = \_\_\_\_\_

$$\Delta G^{\circ} = -15 \text{ kJ/mol at } 350^{\circ}\text{F}$$

At room temperature, very very little CO<sub>2</sub> is produced so bread will not rise.

Chemical equilibrium applies to large molecules (like proteins) too.

# Chemical Equilibrium: In Her Own Words



Nozomi Ando discusses how chemical equilibrium relates to her research on understanding proteins that are successful chemotherapeutic targets.

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Nozomi's video can be found at http://chemvideos.mit.edu/all-videos/

## EXTERNAL EFFECTS ON K

Principle of Le Châtelier: A system in equilibrium that is subjected to stress will react in a way that tends to \_\_\_\_\_\_ the effect of the stress.

Le Châtelier's principle provides a way to predict qualitatively the direction of change of a system under an external perturbation.

# ADDING AND REMOVING REAGENTS

$$N_2(g) + 3H_2(g) \Longrightarrow 2NH_3(g)$$

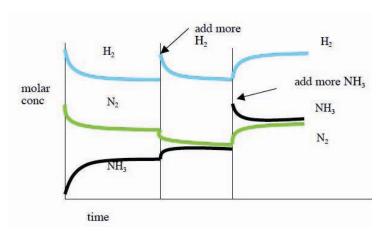


Figure by MIT OpenCourseWare.

# 1) ADDING MORE REACTANT

If you are at equilibrium and then add more hydrogen, according to Le Châtelier's principle, the system will tend to minimize the increase in the number of hydrogen molecules. Reaction shifts to the right toward \_\_\_\_\_\_.

This can be explained in terms of Q and K. When reactants are added, Q falls below K momentarily, because the reactant concentration term appears in the denominator.

$$Q = [products]/[reactants] K= {[products]/[reactant]}_{equilibrium}$$

With Q<K,  $\Delta G$  is negative, and the system responds by making more products (reaction proceeds in the forward direction).

# 2) ADDING MORE PRODUCT

Q rises above K. Q is larger because product term is in numerator (K is unchanged). With Q>K,  $\Delta$ G is positive, and the reaction goes toward reactants (reaction proceeds in the reverse direction).

# 3) REMOVING PRODUCT

Q\_\_\_\_K and  $\Delta G$  is \_\_\_\_\_, so the reaction shifts to \_\_\_\_\_

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