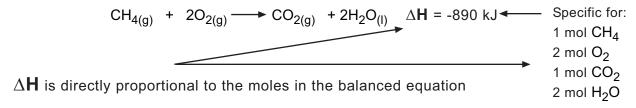
Teacher's Tools® Chemistry

Thermochemistry: Heat of Reaction: Student Review Notes

Laws of Thermochemistry

- 1. The magnitude of $\Delta \mathbf{H}$ directly proportional to the amount of the reactant used or product created.
- 2. $\Delta \mathbf{H}$ for a reaction is equal in magnitude but opposite in sign to $\Delta \mathbf{H}$ for the reverse reaction.
- 3. **Hess's Law**: The value of $\Delta \mathbf{H}$ for a reaction is the same whether the reaction occurs directly or in a series of steps.

First Law of Thermochemistry: ΔH directly proportional to the amount of the reactant used or product created. For example, take a look at the combution of methane:



Second Law of Thermochemistry: $\Delta \mathbf{H}$ for a reaction is equal in magnitude but opposite in sign to $\Delta \mathbf{H}$ for the reverse reaction. For example

$$CH_{4(g)}$$
 + $2O_{2(g)}$ \longrightarrow $CO_{2(g)}$ + $2H_2O_{(I)}$ $\Delta \mathbf{H}$ = -890 kJ (exothermic)
 $CO_{2(g)}$ + $2H_2O_{(I)}$ \longrightarrow $CH_{4(g)}$ + $2O_{2(g)}$ $\Delta \mathbf{H}$ = +890 kJ (endothermic)

Third Law of Thermochemistry, Hess's Law: The value of $\Delta \mathbf{H}$ for a reaction is the same whether the reaction occurs directly or in a series of steps.

Overall Rxn = Rxn 1 + Rxn 2 + Rxn 3
$$\Delta \mathbf{H}_{rxn} = \Delta \mathbf{H}_{rxn 1} + \Delta \mathbf{H}_{rxn 2} + \Delta \mathbf{H}_{rxn 3}$$

Hess' Law says that if you add up a bunch of chemical reactions to get a final reaction, you can add up the heats of reaction (Δ Hrxn) the same way and get the Δ Hrxn for the final reaction.

Chemists used this idea to make a couple of data tables (heats of formation) from which most ∆Hrxn's can be calculated.

The idea is to use formation reactions to generate the reaction you want. Formation reactions do not have to have any basis in reality; you just make the molecule you want out of pure elemental species with their standard state (the phase, atom or molecule (diatomics) at 298K and 1 atm).

Pure elemental species have no formation reactions, so JUST IGNORE THEM!

For any chemical reaction, this reduces to:

$$\Delta H_{rxn} = (\sum v_i \Delta H_f)_{products} - (\sum v_i \Delta H_f)_{reactants}$$

"The heat of reaction is equal to the sum of the heats of formation of the products times their stoichiometric coefficients minus the sum of the heats of formation of the reactants times their stoichiometric coefficients"

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Let's apply Hess's Law to the combustion of methane

$$CH_{4(q)} + 2O_{2(q)} \longrightarrow CO_{2(q)} + 2H_2O_{(l)} \Delta H = -890 \text{ kJ}$$

formation rxn for methane:	$C_{(s)} + 2 H_{2(g)} \longrightarrow CH_{4(g)}$	$\Delta H_f = -74.85 \text{ kJ/mol}$
formation rxn for molecular oxygen:	pure elemental species in its standard state	$\Delta H_f = 0 \text{ kJ/mol}$
formation rxn for carbon dioxide:	$C_{(s)} + O_{2(g)} \longrightarrow CO_{2(g)}$	$\Delta H_f = -393.5 \text{ kJ/mol}$
formation rxn for water vapor:	$H_{2(g)} + 1/2 O_{2(g)} \longrightarrow H_2 O_{(I)}$	$\Delta H_f = -285.9 \text{ kJ/mol}$

$$\Delta H_{\text{rxn}} = [(1)(-393.5 \text{ kJ}) + (2)(-285.9 \text{ kJ})] - [(1)(-74.8 \text{ kJ}) + (2)(0)] = -890.5 \text{ kJ}$$

$$\sum v_i \Delta H_{\text{f products}} \qquad \sum v_i \Delta H_{\text{f reactants}} \qquad \Delta H_{\text{rxn}}$$

• Watch out for water: H₂O_(I) and H₂O_(a) have different values.

formation rxn for water liquid:
$$H_{2(g)} + 1/2 O_{2(g)} \longrightarrow H_2O_{(I)}$$
 $\Delta H_f = -285.9 \text{ kJ/mol}$ formation rxn for water vapor: $H_{2(g)} + 1/2 O_{2(g)} \longrightarrow H_2O_{(g)}$ $\Delta H_f = -241.8 \text{ kJ/mol}$

You can also calculate a heat of reaction by **keeping track of the bonds broken and formed during a chemical reaction**. If we assume that the energy for types of bonds like C—H are known (and we do know this because they are in tables), then just add up the energy required to break the ones that break and the energy given off by those that form. That's kind of an important point--it takes energy to break bonds (energy into the system is positive) and energy is given off when they form (energy out of the system is negative).

Again, the combustion of methane: $CH_{4(g)} + 2O_{2(g)} \longrightarrow CO_{2(g)} + 2H_2O_{(g)}$

Bond	Bond dissociation enthalpy kJ/mol	# broken	#formed	Total energy exchanged
С— Н	414	4		1656
0=0	498	2		996
C = O	745		-2	-1490
O-H	460		-4	-1840

$$\Delta H_{\text{rxn}} = [(4)(414 \text{ kJ}) + (2)(498 \text{ kJ})] - [(2)(-745 \text{ kJ}) + (4)(460 \text{ kJ})] = -678 \text{ kJ}$$

Make sure you get that for bond energies, its the sum of bonds of the reactants minus the sum of the bonds of the products, this is the opposite of heats of formation where you do products minus reactants. Also, bond energies are not as accurate as heats of formation.