

## 1/6 Chemical equilibrium (EQ)

reaction at equilibrium:  $R \rightleftharpoons P$   $[R]$  &  $[P]$  do not change.

at molecular level: rxn doesn't stop. at equal rate.

at EQ:  $K_c = \frac{[P]}{[R]}$  more  $[P] \Rightarrow$  more stable the prod is.

under same conditions, rxn at EQ has same  $\frac{[P]}{[R]}$  rate.

(thermodynamic relation:  $\Delta G^\circ = -RT \ln K$  (later))

rxn at EQ:  $aA + bB \rightleftharpoons cC + dD$   $K_c = \frac{[C]^c [D]^d}{[A]^a [B]^b}$

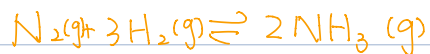
{  $a, b, c, d$  = stoichiometric coefficients of balanced equation.

{  $[x]$  = concentration. (with units omitted.)

(activity: more precise way to describe  $K_c$  (though most books makes it equal to concentration).  
 $a_R = \gamma_R [R]$  activity: no units.

$K_c$  doesn't have units.

eg: Calculate  $K_c$  for  $N_2$  mixed w/  $H_2$  at  $500^\circ C$  to produce ammonia



at EQ:  $[N_2] = 0.305 \text{ M}$ ,  $[H_2] = 0.324 \text{ M}$ ,  $[NH_3] = 0.796 \text{ M}$

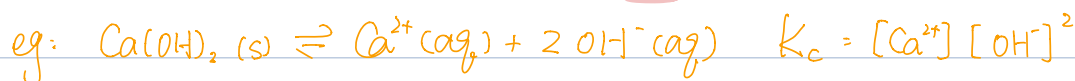
$$A: K_c = \frac{[NH_3]^2}{[N_2] [H_2]^3} = \boxed{61.0}$$

if in reverse rxn:  $2NH_3(g) \rightleftharpoons N_2(g) + 3H_2(g)$  keep  $[x]$  the same.

$$\text{get: } K_{\text{new}} = \frac{1}{K_c} = \frac{1}{61.0}$$

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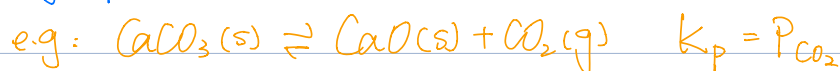
- All R & P in same phase : homogeneous EQ
- One or more R or P in different phase : heterogeneous EQ
- Molar <sup>(concentration)</sup> conc. of a Pure substance (solid or liquid) doesn't change in a rxn  $\Rightarrow$  Pure substances are not included in K expression.



Do not put solvents into the rxn eg.

H<sub>2</sub>O omitted: change in solvent conc. is insignificant.

- For a gas, use its partial pressure (p) and EQ constant is denoted by  $K_p$ .



$$P_{\text{total}} = \sum P_{\text{partial}}$$

$$K_p = \frac{P_{\text{P}}}{P_{\text{R}}}$$

- Convert between partial pressure & concentration for a gas:

ideal gas law:  $PV = nRT$  (approx.)  $\Rightarrow P = \frac{nRT}{V} = \text{conc.} \times RT$

$P$ : Pressure (Pa.)

$V$ : volume (L)

$n$ : # moles. (mol)

$R$ : 8.314  $\left( \frac{\text{J}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}} \right)$   $\text{J} = \text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^2 / \text{s}^2$

$T$ : temperature (K)

EQ constant,  $K$ , tells us

- If  $K$  is small ( $K < 10^{-3}$ ) More reactants at EQ.  
 $R \leftarrow P$  (EQ sits to the left)
- $K = 1$  is rare
- $K$  is large ( $K > 10^3$ ) More products at EQ  
 $R \rightarrow P$  (EQ sits to the right)
- intermediate values of  $K$  ( $10^{-3} < K < 10^3$ )  
neither  $R$  nor  $P$  strongly favored

Use  $K$  to calculate the partial pressure (conc.) of a species at EQ

eg:  $\text{PCl}_5(\text{g}) \rightleftharpoons \text{PCl}_3(\text{g}) + \text{Cl}_2(\text{g})$  at 298 K

at EQ  $K_p = 25$ ,  $P_{\text{PCl}_5} = 0.0021 \text{ atm}$ ,  $P_{\text{Cl}_2} = 0.48 \text{ atm}$ .

What is  $P_{\text{PCl}_3}$  at EQ.

$$A: K_p = \frac{P_{\text{PCl}_3} \cdot P_{\text{Cl}_2}}{P_{\text{PCl}_5}}$$

$$\Rightarrow P_{\text{PCl}_3} = \frac{K_p \cdot P_{\text{PCl}_5}}{P_{\text{Cl}_2}}$$

$$= \frac{25 \times 0.0021}{0.48} = \boxed{0.11 \text{ atm}}$$

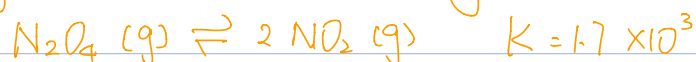
Determine the direction of a reaction will proceed.

$$K_c = \frac{[P_{eq}]}{[R_{eq}]}$$

rxn quotient  $Q = \frac{[P \text{ measured}]}{[R \text{ measured}]}$  at a random time during the rxn and compare it w/  $K$

If  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} Q < K \text{ at some time during the rxn, then } [R] > [P] \\ \Rightarrow \text{forward rxn is favored.} \\ Q = K \text{ at EQ.} \\ Q > K \text{ at some time during the rxn, then } [P] > [R] \\ \Rightarrow \text{reverse rxn is favored.} \end{array} \right.$

eg: nitrogen dioxide is produced by the rxn



when  $P_{NO_2} = 0.5 \text{ atm}$  and  $P_{N_2O_4} = 0.5 \text{ atm}$  is the system at EQ

If not, which direction?

$$A: Q = \frac{P_{NO_2}^2}{P_{N_2O_4}} = \frac{0.5^2}{0.5} = 0.5$$

$Q < K_p \Rightarrow$  not at EQ, proceeds towards products.

1/10 e.g.: 1.50 mol  $\text{PCl}_5$  is placed in a 500 mL reaction vessel and decomposes at  $250^\circ\text{C}$  to form  $\text{PCl}_3$  &  $\text{Cl}_2$ .  $K_c = 1.80$ . All 3 compounds are gases at  $250^\circ\text{C}$

Composition of the EQ mixture:  $\text{PCl}_5(\text{g}) \rightleftharpoons \text{PCl}_3(\text{g}) + \text{Cl}_2(\text{g})$

A: Assume  $\text{PCl}_5$  decreased by  $x$  mol/L

ICE table



$$I \quad \frac{1.50 \text{ mol}}{0.5 \text{ L}} = 3.00 \text{ M} \quad 0 \quad 0$$

$$C \quad -x \quad +x \quad +x$$

$$E \quad 3-x \quad x \quad x \quad K_c = \frac{x^2}{3.00-x} = 1.80$$
$$x = 1.59$$

$$[\text{PCl}_5]_f = 3.00 - 1.59 = 1.41 \text{ M}$$

$$[\text{PCl}_3]_f = [\text{Cl}_2]_f = 1.59 \text{ M}$$

- Response of EQ to change.

• Change in conc. ( $K$  does not change)

Chemical rxn at EQ represents a fixed P/R ratio.

What happens when more reactant is added? rxn goes toward right

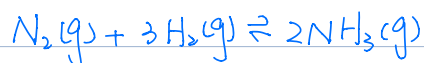
$R \rightleftharpoons P$   $K$  means at EQ,

$$K = \frac{[P]}{[R]} \quad \text{wait for the system to reach EQ again (K is the same)}$$

What happens when more prod is added? rxn goes toward left

What does this tell us about chemical rxns?

Chemical rxns adjust so as to minimize the effect of changes  
Le Chatelier's principle



What happens if we  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{increase N}_2 \Rightarrow \text{left} \\ \text{increase NH}_3 \Rightarrow \text{right} \\ \text{decrease H}_2 \Rightarrow \text{right} \end{array} \right.$

W/o adding more reactants, how would you increase yield of  $\text{NH}_3$ ?  
Remove  $\text{NH}_3$

Le Chatelier's principle also applies to changing physical parameters (P & T)

• Change in pressure (K does not change)

$\text{N}_2(\text{g}) + 3\text{H}_2(\text{g}) \rightleftharpoons 2\text{NH}_3(\text{g})$  How does a rxn respond to minimize the effect of increasing pressure (By decreasing volume)?

n constant  $c = \frac{n}{V}$  conc. increases.

If initial conc. at Eq is 0.1 0.1 0.1 M

$$\text{Then } K = \frac{[\text{NH}_3]^2}{[\text{N}_2][\text{H}_2]^3} = \frac{(0.1)^2}{0.1 \times (0.1)^3} = 100.$$

Volume is halved, all conc. are doubled  
 $\Downarrow$   
P is doubled.

$\therefore$  new conc.  $\Rightarrow$  0.2, 0.2, 0.2 M

$$\text{Then } Q = \frac{(0.2)^2}{0.2 \times (0.2)^3} = 25$$

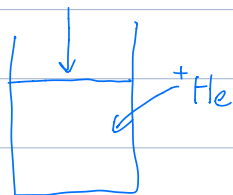
$\therefore Q < K$

$\therefore$  rxn shifts right.

(Quick way:  
V decreases & more moles of gas on left, then rxn shifts right.)

The system is NOT respond to change in pressure  
is respond to change in conc.

e.g.



pressure doubles, V same, conc. same.  
rxn does NOT shift