

## Chapter 3

### Stoichiometry

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### Chemical Stoichiometry

- The study of quantities of materials consumed and produced in chemical reactions.
- Basically:  
Chemical accounting and inventory

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### Counting by weighing

If a collection of objects has too many members to count directly, we can still get an accurate measurement of their count in a sample if we know the mass of each object.

- Weigh the sample
- Weigh each object

$$\text{No of objects} = \frac{\text{Weight of sample}}{\text{Weight of each object}}$$

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Each jelly bean = 1.12g

700. g

$$\text{No. of jelly beans in the jar} = \frac{700. \text{ g}}{1.12 \text{ g}} = 625$$

Or get the same by dimensional analysis:

We start with the quantity proportional to what we want.  
Number of beans is proportional to the mass of the sample.

$$700. \cancel{\text{g}} \times \frac{1 \text{ bean}}{1.12 \cancel{\text{g}}} = 625 \text{ beans}$$

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What if each jelly bean is not exactly 1.12g?

- It doesn't matter, as long as
  - we know the average mass of jelly beans (1.12g)
  - our sample has a large number of jelly beans

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### Practice

A pile of marbles weigh 394.80 g. 10 marbles weigh 37.60 g. How many marbles are in the pile?

$$\text{Avg. Mass of 1 Marble} = \frac{37.60 \text{ g}}{10 \text{ marbles}} = 3.76 \text{ g / marble}$$

$$\frac{394.80 \text{ g}}{3.76 \text{ g}} = 105 \text{ marbles}$$

$$394.80 \cancel{\text{g}} \times \frac{10 \text{ marbles}}{37.60 \cancel{\text{g}}} = 105 \text{ marbles}$$

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Atoms, coming in huge numbers, are perfect for “counting by weighing”.

- If we know the average mass of the atoms of an element,
- and we know the mass of a sample of that element,

then we know the number of atoms in that sample

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## Atomic masses (“atomic weight”)

“Atomic mass” of an element is an average quantity

- It is a weighted average of isotopic masses
- because elements almost always have more than one isotope with significant abundance

But before we deal with averaging isotopic masses, let’s understand the “atomic mass unit” (used to be denoted by **a.m.u.**, nowadays just **u**)

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## Atomic Mass Unit

Atomic mass unit is meant to approximate the atomic mass number.

But in general it can’t be exactly equal to it.

Things would be simple if:

- protons and neutrons had the same exact mass
- and their masses did not depend on the kind of nucleus they are in
- Then, knowing the proton and neutron mass, we could calculate the mass of any isotope

$^{13}\text{C}$  would have a mass of exactly  $13u$

$^{35}\text{Cl}$  would have a mass of exactly  $35u$

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## Atomic Mass Unit

Alas,

- protons and neutrons have slightly different masses,
- and their exact masses depend on the kind of nucleus they are in

nuclear energies involved in binding these particles are large enough to show up as measurable mass, because  $E=mc^2$



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## Atomic Mass Unit

So, the mass of an atom, measured in atomic mass units ( $u$ ),

- instead of simply corresponding to the number of protons and neutrons in a nucleus (i.e. “mass number”),
- needs to be “calibrated” on a particular nucleus
  - $^{12}\text{C}$  was chosen
- It is almost equal to the mass number, but not quite, for all elements and isotopes, except the calibration isotope  $^{12}\text{C}$ , whose mass is defined to be  $12u$

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## Atomic Mass Unit

- So,
- $^{12}\text{C}$  is the standard for atomic mass, with a mass of exactly **12** atomic mass units ( $u$ ).
- The masses of all other atoms are measured relative to this standard.
- So, if  $^{48}\text{Ti}$  is measured to be **3.9957** times heavier than  $^{12}\text{C}$ ,
  - then its atomic mass is  **$3.9957 \times 12 = 47.948u$**

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## Atomic Mass

Elements occur in nature as mixtures of isotopes

### Atomic mass of an element

(as opposed to an isotope)

is a **weighted average** of isotopic masses

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## Atomic Mass

For example, for Carbon:	% Abundance	Isotope
	98.89%	$^{12}\text{C}$
	1.11%	$^{13}\text{C}$

Simply “atomic mass” for an element

Average Atomic Mass for Carbon:

$$98.89\% \text{ of } 12 \text{ u} + 1.11\% \text{ of } 13.0034 \text{ u}$$

Exactly equal to mass number (12)

not exactly 13

$$(0.9889)(12 \text{ u}) + (0.0111)(13.0034 \text{ u}) = \mathbf{12.01 \text{ u}}$$

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Even though natural carbon does not contain even a single atom with mass 12.01, for stoichiometric purposes, we can consider carbon to be composed of only one type of atom with a mass of 12.01 (like our average jellybean)

This enables us to count atoms of natural carbon by weighing a sample of carbon.

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## Practice

An element consists of 62.60% of an isotope with mass 186.956 u and 37.40% of an isotope with mass 184.953 u. Calculate the average atomic mass and identify the element.

$$\text{Average Atomic Mass} = (0.6260)(186.956 \text{ u}) + (0.3740)(184.953 \text{ u}) = 186.2 \text{ u}$$

↓  
Rhenium (Re)

We can identify an element by its average atomic mass (the “atomic mass” reported in the periodic table)

It's not the same as identifying the element from the isotopic mass (which we can't)

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## Practice

Indium has atomic number 49 and atomic mass 114.8 u. Naturally occurring indium contains a mixture of indium-112 and indium-115, respectively. What is the approximate ratio of the indium-112 abundance to that of the indium-115?

Remember: **isotopic mass numbers** can be used to approximate **isotopic masses**.

- a) 7:93
- b) 25:75
- c) 50:50
- d) 75:25
- e) 93:7

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## Concept question

If a sample of zinc (Zn) and a sample of aluminum (Al) contain the same number of atoms, which of the following claims is true?

Zn: 65.38 a.m.u.  
Al: 26.98 a.m.u.

- a) The mass of Zn sample is more than twice that of the Al sample.
- b) The mass of Zn sample is more than that of the Al sample, but it is less than twice as much.
- c) The mass of Al sample is more than twice as the mass of the Zn sample.
- d) The mass of Al sample is more than that of the Zn sample, but it is less than twice as much.
- e) The two samples have equal masses.

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## The concept of “mole”

In chemistry it's the count of atoms that matter.

2 hydrogen atoms combined with 1 oxygen atom form a water molecule.

It's not about their masses per se.

We need a concept that keeps track of the number of atoms (or other entities):

$$1 \text{ mole} = 6.02214076 \times 10^{23} \text{ entities}$$

Avogadro's Number  
(defined to be exact in 2019)

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The concept of “mole”

Avogadro's number is now defined exactly as  $6.02214076 \times 10^{23}$ , but is usually used with 3 or 4 significant figures:

$$6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ entities/mole}$$

- “elementary entities”, or “characteristic units”
- Not just atoms or molecules
- Can be atoms, ions, molecules, formula units, electrons, protons, neutrons, photons, etc.

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The concept of “mole” and molar mass

The unit “mole” represents a count.  
Just like “dozen” represents a count.

So, in principle, we can use “mole” to count things other than atoms or molecules:

1 mole of marbles, that is  $6.022 \times 10^{23}$  of them, can cover the surface of the Earth to a depth of 50 miles

If you had 1 mole of dollars, you could spend 1 billion dollars every second and you wouldn't run out of money for 19 million years

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The concept of “mole” and molar mass

But why  $6.022 \times 10^{23}$  particles per mole?

Why not a simpler, smaller number?

We need it to be of the order of  $10^{23}$  because atoms are extremely light, and it takes that many of them to have the kind of masses we normally deal with (i.e. human-scale quantities)

Why 6.022..., and not 1?

It allows us to calculate the mass of 1 mole (molar mass) directly from atomic masses. We use the same numbers but use grams instead of a.m.u!

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The concept of “mole” and molar mass

1 carbon-12 atom has a mass of **12 a.m.u.**

$6.022 \times 10^{23}$  carbon-12 atoms (i.e. 1 mole of  $^{12}\text{C}$ ) have a mass of **12 grams**

The atomic mass of iron (Fe) is **55.845 a.m.u.**  
(the average mass of iron atoms is 55.845 a.m.u.)

$6.022 \times 10^{23}$  iron atoms (i.e. 1 mole of iron) have a mass of **55.845 grams**

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The symbol for “mole” is “mol”

- Not much shorter than “mole”
- But it allows us to use the singular form just as with the symbols for meter or gram.

1.5 mole or 1.5 moles?

0.75 mole or moles?

We just say:

1.5 mol

0.75 mol

**Practice**

Calculate the number of iron **atoms** in a 4.48 mol sample of iron.

**Practice**

Which of the following is closest to the average mass of one atom of copper?

- a) 63.55 g
- b) 52.00 g
- c) 58.93 g
- d) 65.38 g
- e)  $1.055 \times 10^{-22}$  g

**Practice**

Which of the following 100.0-g samples contains the greatest number of atoms?

- a) Magnesium    b) Zinc    c) Silver    d) Calcium
- e) Same for all

What is the "characteristic entity" of Carbon?

A Carbon **atom**

What is the "characteristic entity" of Oxygen gas?

An O<sub>2</sub> **molecule**

What is the "characteristic entity" of Calcium Chloride?

A CaCl<sub>2</sub> **formula unit**

Remember, ionic compounds don't have molecules. Formula unit is the "pretend molecule" that contains the smallest number of ions in the right proportions.

How many C atoms in 1 mole of Carbon?

How many O<sub>2</sub> molecules in 1 mole of Oxygen gas?

How many O **atoms** in 1 mole of Oxygen gas?

How many formula units in 1 mole of CaCl<sub>2</sub>?

How many Cl atoms in 1 mole of CaCl<sub>2</sub>?

What is the mass of 1 mole of Carbon?

What is the mass of 1 mole of Oxygen gas?

What is the mass of 1 mole of CaCl<sub>2</sub>?

**Practice**

Calculate the number of copper **atoms** in a 63.55 g sample of copper.

**Practice**

Rank the following according to number of atoms (**greatest to least**):

- a) 107.9 g of silver
- b) 70.0 g of zinc
- c) 21.0 g of magnesium

The mass of one molecule (**molecular mass**) is the sum of the masses of all the atoms in the molecule.

The mass of one formula unit (**formula mass**) is the sum of the masses of all the atoms in the molecule.

**Multiply the atomic mass of each atom by its count in the formula**

$$\text{Molecular Mass of H}_2\text{O} = (2 \times \overset{\text{H}}{1.008 \text{ u}}) + (1 \times \overset{\text{O}}{16.00 \text{ u}}) = 18.02 \text{ u}$$

$$\text{Formula Mass of Ba(NO}_3)_2 = (\overset{\text{Ba}}{1 \times 137.33 \text{ u}}) + (2 \times \overset{\text{N}}{14.01 \text{ u}}) + (6 \times \overset{\text{O}}{16.00 \text{ u}}) = 261.35 \text{ u}$$

Molar mass of a compound has the same numerical value, but with units of grams instead of atomic mass units.

We can simply sum up the molar masses of each atom in the formula.

$$\text{Molar Mass of H}_2\text{O} = (2 \times \overset{\text{H}}{1.008 \text{ g}}) + (1 \times \overset{\text{O}}{16.00 \text{ g}}) = 18.02 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{mol}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Molar Mass of Ba(NO}_3)_2 &= (\overset{\text{Ba}}{1 \times 137.33 \text{ g}}) + (2 \times \overset{\text{N}}{14.01 \text{ g}}) + (6 \times \overset{\text{O}}{16.00 \text{ g}}) \\ &= 261.35 \text{ g/mol} \end{aligned}$$

Make sure you distinguish between molar mass of **atoms of an element** and molar mass of the **molecules it might naturally exist as**.

Molar mass of nitrogen (N atoms) = 14.01 g/mol

Molar mass of Nitrogen gas (**N<sub>2</sub>**) = 28.02 g/mol

Molar mass of oxygen (O atoms) = 16.00 g/mol

Molar mass of Oxygen gas (**O<sub>2</sub>**) = 32.00 g/mol

It's important to remember the distinction between moles of the atoms of an element and the moles of molecules of the element as it exists in nature.

For example, when we consider how many moles of oxygen exists in a certain amount of a compound, we will be thinking of atoms of oxygen, not molecules of oxygen.

**Practice**

For which of the following compounds does 1.00 g represent  $2.27 \times 10^{-2}$  mol?

- a) H<sub>2</sub>O
- b) CO<sub>2</sub>
- c) NH<sub>3</sub>
- d) C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>

**Practice**

How many moles of oxygen is contained in 2.0 mol CO<sub>2</sub>?

This is simple enough to think in terms of proportions:

1 mol CO<sub>2</sub> contains 2 mol O

2.0 mol CO<sub>2</sub> contains  $\frac{2.0}{1} (2) = 4.0$  mol O

But we really should start thinking in terms of dimensional analysis, for when things get complicated.

Using dimensional analysis:

$$2.0 \cancel{\text{mol CO}_2} \times \frac{2 \text{ mol O}}{1 \cancel{\text{mol CO}_2}} = 4.0 \text{ mol O}$$

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**Practice**

How many moles of hydrogen is contained in 1.5 mol NH<sub>3</sub>?

Again, in terms of proportions:

1 mol NH<sub>3</sub> contains 3 mol H

1.5 mol NH<sub>3</sub> contains  $\frac{1.5}{1} (3) = 4.5$  mol H

Using dimensional analysis:

$$1.5 \cancel{\text{mol NH}_3} \times \frac{3 \text{ mol H}}{1 \cancel{\text{mol NH}_3}} = 4.5 \text{ mol H}$$

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**Practice**

The mass of 0.820 mol of a substance composed of diatomic molecules is 131 g. Identify the molecule.

- a) F<sub>2</sub>
- b) Cl<sub>2</sub>
- c) Br<sub>2</sub>
- d) I<sub>2</sub>

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**Practice**

Consider separate 100.0 gram samples of each of the following:

H<sub>2</sub>O, N<sub>2</sub>O, C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>

Rank them from **greatest to least** number of oxygen atoms in the sample.

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**Percent Composition of Compounds**

Mass percent of an element:

$$\text{mass \%} = \frac{\text{mass of element in compound}}{\text{mass of compound}} \times 100\%$$

Mass % is an intensive property

It doesn't care about sample mass

We can choose a convenient sample mass:

**Molar mass** if we know the formula

For iron in iron(III) oxide, (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>):

$$\text{mass \%} = \frac{\overbrace{2(55.85 \text{ g})}^{\text{Mass of Fe in one mol of Fe}_2\text{O}_3}}{\underbrace{2(55.85 \text{ g}) + 3(16.00 \text{ g})}_{\text{Mass of one mol of Fe}_2\text{O}_3}} \times 100 = 69.94\%$$

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**Practice**

Consider separate 100.0 gram samples of each:

H<sub>2</sub>O, N<sub>2</sub>O, C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>

Rank them from **highest to lowest** percent oxygen by mass.

The ranking is the same as for number of oxygen atoms per 100 grams

more oxygen atoms → more oxygen mass

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## Molecular and Empirical Formulas

### Molecular formula

Actual formula of the compound  
for example,  $C_6H_6$

### Empirical formula

The number of atoms (their subscripts) are the smallest set of integers possible, in the same ratios as in the molecular formula

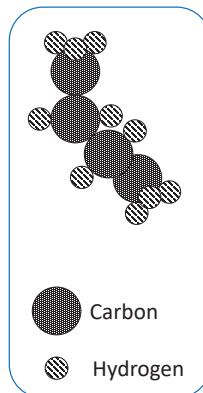
For  $C_6H_{12}O_6$ , the empirical formula is  $CH_2O$

For  $C_6H_6$ , the empirical formula is  $CH$

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## Molecular and Empirical Formulas

What is the empirical formula of the compound whose molecule looks as follows?



Molecular formula:  $C_4H_{10}$

$\div 2$

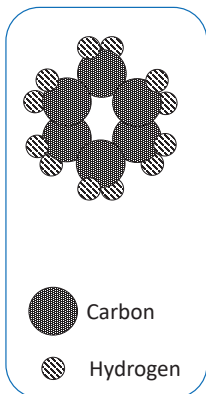
Empirical formula:  $C_2H_5$

Subscripts 2 and 5 can't be simplified further

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## Molecular and Empirical Formulas

What is the empirical formula of the compound whose molecule looks as follows?



Molecular formula:  $C_6H_{12}$

$\div 6$

Empirical formula:  $CH_2$

Subscripts (implied) 1 and 2 can't be simplified further

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## Molecular and Empirical Formulas

### Finding molecular formula, given the molar mass of the compound and its empirical formula

$$n = \frac{\text{Molar mass of molecular formula}}{\text{"Molar mass" of empirical formula}}$$

Number of atoms in the empirical formula is smaller by the factor  $n$

Number of atoms in the molecular formula is greater by the factor  $n$

Empirical formula  $\xrightarrow{\times n}$  Molecular formula

Molecular formula  $\xrightarrow{\div n}$  Empirical formula

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## Molecular and Empirical Formulas

Suppose we know the following:

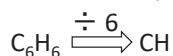
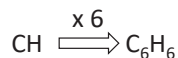
- The empirical formula is  $CH$
- The molar mass of the compound is  $78 \text{ g/mol}$

We can find the molecular formula using the ratio of molar mass to that of the empirical formula (which is  $13 \text{ g/mol}$ )

Molar mass of molecular formula  $C_6H_6 = 78 \text{ g/mol}$

"Molar mass" of empirical formula  $CH = 13 \text{ g/mol}$

$$n = 78 / 13 = 6$$



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## Molecular and Empirical Formulas

Of course we are not always given the empirical formula

- We can find the empirical formula from elemental percent mass compositions
  - Mass % of each element making up the compound
- Even if we don't know the molar mass

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Finding the **empirical formula** from mass % of elements-- If we don't know the molar mass

1. Take (exactly) 100g sample (just a convenient number; see next step)
2. Then the mass of each element is equal to its percentage
3. Convert each element's mass to moles of the element  
-- will be "ugly" non-integer values
4. Divide each mole amount by the smallest mole amount
5. If a result is close to an integer (e.g. 1.97=2, 1.02=1, etc.), round off to nearest integer
6. If a result ends with a fraction that resembles  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$  or their multiples (e.g. 1.75, 2.49, 1.33, 1.67), multiply all results by the corresponding denominator  
➤ e.g. multiply each by 3 if one of the results is 1.67 since 0.67 is a multiple (double) of  $\frac{1}{3}$
7. Repeat for all fractions (if you multiply each by 4 because of a .25 or .75, do not multiply by 2 because of a .5)
8. The integers obtained are the subscripts in the empirical formula

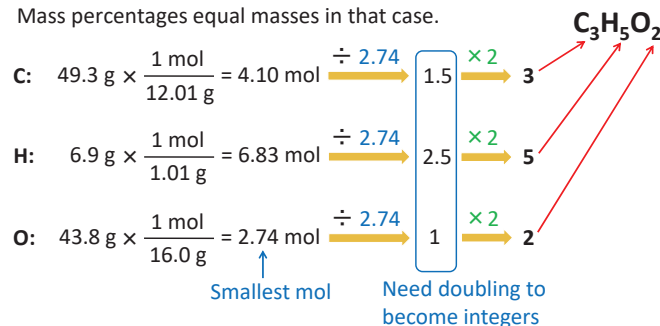
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## Practice

The composition of adipic acid is 49.3% C, 6.9% H, and 43.8% O (by mass). Find its empirical formula.

We consider a 100-g sample of the compound.

Mass percentages equal masses in that case.



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## Practice

Using the empirical formula ( $\text{C}_3\text{H}_5\text{O}_2$ ) and the molar mass of adipic acid (146 g/mol), find the molecular formula.

"molar mass" of empirical formula  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_5\text{O}_2 = 73 \text{ g/mol}$

$$n = 146 / 73 = 2$$



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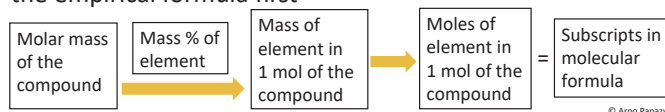
## Alternative (better?) method to find molecular formula

We still need molar mass, but don't need the empirical formula

We can use the elemental % mass composition directly on the molar mass of the compound to find the mass (and then moles) of each element in one mole of the compound

Number of moles of an element in one mole of the compound is equal to the number of atoms of the element in one molecule (i.e. the subscript in the molecular formula)

We bypass the potentially cumbersome process of finding the empirical formula first



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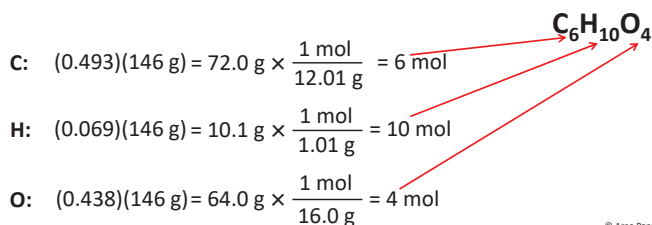
## Practice

The composition of adipic acid is 49.3% C, 6.9% H, and 43.8% O (by mass), and has a molar mass of 146 g/mol. Find the *molecular formula without finding the empirical formula first*.

We consider the mass of 1 mol of the compound: 146 g

We then calculate the mass and moles of each element

Moles of element in 1 mol of compound = Subscript in formula



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Given molar mass and % mass compositions, we can find the empirical formula by continuing the alternative method:

Find molecular formula first

Simplify it to the smallest integer subscripts

- By dividing the subscripts in the molecular formula by their "greatest common factor"

- In practice it amounts to dividing them by small integers like 2 or 3 and stop when doing so would yield fractional numbers

For example:

Given the molecular formula of  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_4$

Empirical formula:



Divide by 2

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By the way:

Remember, ionic compounds don't have molecules.

The formula for an ionic compound already has the simplest ratios of the ions.

NaCl      **not**  $\text{Na}_2\text{Cl}_2$   
             **not**  $\text{Na}_3\text{Cl}_3$

The chemical formula of an ionic compound is typically the empirical formula.

Typically? 🤔

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Sometimes the formula of an ionic compound is not its empirical formula.

If one or both of the ions are polyatomic, the simplest ratio of ions might not correspond to the empirical formula.

$\text{Na}_2\text{C}_2\text{O}_4$  is the formula for sodium oxalate and it is different from its empirical formula  $\text{NaCO}_2$

The formula for compounds of mercury (I) ion,  $\text{Hg}_2^{2+}$ , must contain Hg in pairs:

$\text{Hg}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and not  $\text{HgCl}$

$(\text{Hg}_2)_3(\text{PO}_4)_2$  and not  $\text{Hg}_3\text{PO}_4$

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So, the formula of an ionic compound may still be a multiple of its empirical formula, with the right polyatomic ion, with the right charge, combined with the right ion of the opposite charge.

But we generally avoid dealing with ionic compounds when it comes to "molecular formula" versus empirical formula, since they don't have actual molecules.

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The empirical formula of styrene is  $\text{CH}$ ; its molar mass is 104.1 g/mol. What is the molecular formula of styrene?

- a)  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$
- b)  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8$
- c)  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{10}$
- d)  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$

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## Chemical Equations

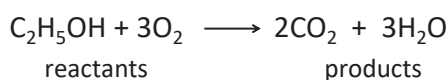
### Description of a reaction:

1 mole of ethanol reacts with 3 moles of oxygen to produce 2 moles of carbon dioxide and 3 moles of water.  
or ...

1 molecule of ethanol reacts with 3 **molecules** of oxygen to produce 2 **molecules** of carbon dioxide and 3 **molecules** of water

### Representation of a chemical reaction:

#### A chemical equation



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#### Chemical Equations



<b>C:</b>	(1)(2)=2	(2)(1)=2
<b>H:</b>	(1)(5)+1=6	(3)(2)=6
<b>O:</b>	(1)(1)+(3)(2)=7	(2)(2)+(3)(1)=7

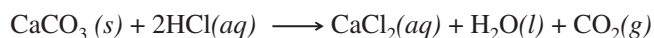
The equation is balanced.

All atoms present in the reactants are accounted for in the products.

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Reaction equation can also contain information about the physical state of the reactants and products

State	Symbol
Solid	(s)
Liquid	(l)
Gas	(g)
Dissolved in water	(aq)



- The balanced equation represents an overall **ratio** of reactants and products, **not what actually happens during a given reaction**, which can involve **arbitrary** amounts of reactants.
- Use the coefficients in the balanced equation to calculate the amount of each reactant that is used, and the amount of each product that is formed.

## Balancing Chemical Equations

- Determine what reaction is occurring. What are the reactants, the products, and the physical states involved?
- Write the *unbalanced* equation that summarizes the reaction described in step 1.
- Balance the equation by inspection. The same number of each type of atom needs to appear on both reactant and product sides. Do NOT change the formulas of any of the reactants or products.
- If a polyatomic ion ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , etc.), as part of a compound or alone, seems to survive the reaction intact, treating it like an “atom” may simplify balancing significantly.

## Practice

Which of the following **correctly** balances the chemical equation given below? There may be **more than one** correct balanced equation. If a balanced equation is incorrect, explain why.



- $\text{CaO}_2 + 3\text{C} \rightarrow \text{CaC}_2 + \text{CO}_2$
- $2\text{CaO} + 5\text{C} \rightarrow 2\text{CaC}_2 + \text{CO}_2$
- $\text{CaO} + 2.5\text{C} \rightarrow \text{CaC}_2 + 0.5\text{CO}_2$
- $4\text{CaO} + 10\text{C} \rightarrow 4\text{CaC}_2 + 2\text{CO}_2$

Balancing chemical equations:

- doesn't need to be an “art form”
- doesn't need to involve “trial and error”
- can be done by applying general rules

A truly general method for more challenging reactions is more complicated than what we will see and use here, but it still would not be a trial-and-error process.

That is a widely repeated misconception

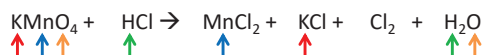
## A general method for balancing reactions (involving neutral substances only)

- Identify those elements that occur in **only one compound** (*not* an element like  $\text{O}_2(g)$  or  $\text{Cu}(s)$ ) on **each side** of the equation.  
— If more than one element qualifies, select the one that occurs in the compound with the most kinds of elements.
- Balance the equation in the selected element.  
— In balancing an element, you fix the coefficient of one reactant and one product. Write the coefficient even if it is just 1, so you can easily see which compounds are “done” at any point.
- Find an element that occurs in **only one compound whose coefficient we haven't found yet**. Repeat until all compounds have coefficients.
- Balance any substances that are elements.

If you obtain fractional coefficients at any stage, multiply all known coefficients by the denominator of the fraction

## Balancing reactions, Step 1

A general method for balancing reactions



Find element(s) that occur in one compound on each side:

- K in compound with Mn, O, Cl (KMnO<sub>4</sub>, KCl)
- Mn in compound with K, O, Cl (KMnO<sub>4</sub>, MnCl<sub>2</sub>)
- O in compound with K, Mn, H (KMnO<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O)
- H in compound with Cl, O (HCl, H<sub>2</sub>O)

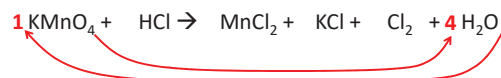
K, Mn, and O are the best choices to start balancing since they are associated with 3 elements while H is associated with 2.

As we balance each element, formulas will be assigned coefficients. The coefficient marks the formula of a substance as "done".

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## Balancing reactions, Step 2

A general method for balancing reactions



Let's choose to balance **O** first to demonstrate how we produce the first pair of coefficients:

- To balance the first element, use its subscript in the product as coefficient for the reactant in which it occurs, and
- Use its subscript in the reactant as coefficient for the product in which it occurs
- Note: We explicitly write the coefficient even if it is 1 in order to mark the substance as "done" and distinguish it from those that did not receive a coefficient yet ("coefficientless").

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## Balancing reactions, Step 3

A general method for balancing reactions



After the first step, we find and balance elements that occur in only one coefficientless compound (i.e. can't be an elemental substance like Cl<sub>2</sub>) in the entire equation.

- K and Mn that occurred in the same compound as O and qualified as the first element to balance are natural candidates for the second step because now KMnO<sub>4</sub> has a coefficient, leaving these elements occurring in only one coefficientless compound.
- H also qualifies.
- Cl doesn't qualify because it occurs in multiple compounds, not to mention as an elemental substance (which should be handled last)

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## Balancing reactions, Step 3 (cont.)

A general method for balancing reactions



We can choose to balance K, which is pretty trivial here.

Next:

**Mn** is the obvious choice to balance next, since it qualified to be the first element to balance and was in KMnO<sub>4</sub>, which gained a coefficient. So now it occurs in only one coefficientless compound, MnCl<sub>2</sub>.

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## Balancing reactions, Step 3 (cont.)

A general method for balancing reactions



Balancing Mn is again pretty trivial.

Next:

Now H is the only element that occurs in only one coefficientless compound.

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## Balancing reactions, Step 3 (cont.)

A general method for balancing reactions



We now balance H:  $x(1) = (4)(2) \Rightarrow x = 8$

Next:

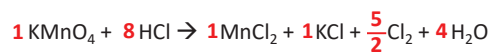
The only element that hasn't been balanced is Cl

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We now balance Cl:  $(8)(1) = (1)(2) + (1)(1) + x(2) \Rightarrow x = 5/2$

The equation is now balanced, but we normally want integer coefficients



We now multiply all coefficients by 2 (i.e. the denominator of 5/2)



The equation is now balanced with the smallest integer coefficients

### Balancing an equation might need a bit of math in addition to the rules

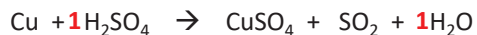
We start balancing the following example in the usual way



Find element(s) that occur in one compound on each side:

H is the only element that qualifies

Balance H



Again, note: We explicitly write the coefficient even if it is 1 in order to mark the substance as "done" and distinguish it from those that did not receive a coefficient yet ("coefficientless").



After the first step, we find and balance elements that occur in only one coefficientless compound

- No elements occur in only one coefficientless compound
- We assign x, y, etc. as coefficients to the remaining compounds
- Then solve for the unknowns x, y, etc. by setting up the balancing equations for the remaining elements occurring only in compounds

$$\text{Balance S: } (1)(1) = x(1) + y(1) \Rightarrow x = 1 - y$$

$$\text{Balance O: } (1)(4) = x(4) + y(2) + (1)(1) \Rightarrow 4 = 4x + 2y + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 4 = 4 - 4y + 2y + 1 \Rightarrow 4 = 5 - 2y \Rightarrow y = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow x = 1 - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

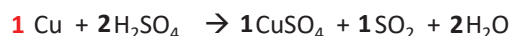
Substituted for x



Get rid of fractional coefficients by multiplying all known coefficients by 2 (the denominator of 2)



Now that we are done with balancing elements that occur in compounds only, we balance the elemental substance



Now the entire equation is balanced.

We normally omit coefficients equal to 1



## Balancing combustion reactions



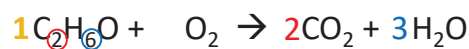
### Combustion:

A "fuel" containing C, H, O reacting with  $\text{O}_2$  to produce  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$

- We don't need to use the general rules
- We "follow" and balance the carbon and hydrogen:
  - All the C in  $\text{CO}_2$  comes from the C in the fuel
  - All the H in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  comes from the H in the fuel
- Oxygen is not so simple, but becomes simple to balance after we balance C and H

$$x = [c + (h/2 - o)/2] \text{ but there is no need memorize that}$$

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We start with **one** molecule of "fuel" ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_6\text{O}$  here)

Balance carbon and hydrogen first:

- Number of  $\text{CO}_2$  molecules** equals the number of C atoms in the fuel molecule (each  $\text{CO}_2$  molecule has one C atom)

$$(1)(2) = x(1) \Rightarrow x = 2$$

- Number of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  molecules** is half the number of H atoms in the fuel molecule (each  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  molecule has 2 H atoms)

$$(1)(6) = x(2) \Rightarrow x = 3$$

- Then balance oxygen

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We now balance O:



$$(1)(1) + x(2) = (2)(2) + (3)(1) \Rightarrow x = 3$$

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### Concept question

Which of the following is/are **true** concerning balanced chemical equations? There may be **more than one** true statement.

- The number of molecules is conserved.
- The coefficients tell you how much of each substance you have.
- Atoms are neither created nor destroyed.
- The coefficients indicate the mass ratios of the substances used.
- The sum of the coefficients on the reactant side equals the sum of the coefficients on the product side.

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### Stoichiometric Calculations:

#### About amounts of reactants and products

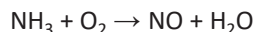
Note:

- The number of atoms of each type of element must be the same on both sides of a balanced equation.
- Subscripts must not be changed to balance an equation.
- A balanced equation tells us the ratio of the number of molecules which react and are produced in a chemical reaction.
- Coefficients can be fractions, although they are usually given as smallest possible integers.

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### Practice

When the equation



is balanced with the smallest set of integers, the sum of the coefficients is

- 4
- 12
- 14
- 19
- 24

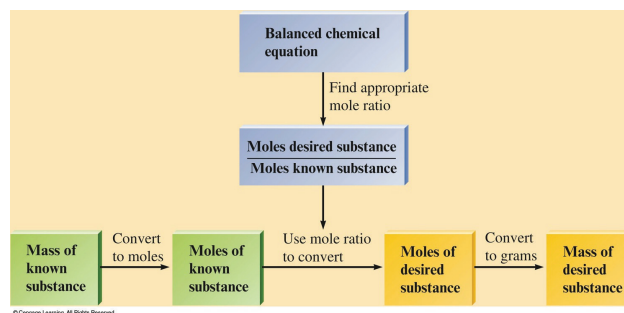
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## Calculating Masses of Reactants and Products in Reactions

1. Balance the equation for the reaction.
2. Convert the known mass of the reactant or product to moles of that substance.
3. Use the balanced equation to set up the appropriate mole ratios.
4. Use the appropriate mole ratios to calculate the number of moles of the desired reactant or product.
  - They are the "conversion factors" between moles of different substances
5. Convert from moles back to grams if required by the problem.

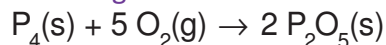
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## Calculating Masses of Reactants and Products in Reactions



## Example

Consider the following reaction:



If 6.25 g of phosphorus is burned, what mass of oxygen does it combine with?

$$6.25 \text{ g P}_4 \times \frac{1 \text{ mol P}_4}{123.88 \text{ g P}_4} \times \frac{5 \text{ mol O}_2}{1 \text{ mol P}_4} \times \frac{32.00 \text{ g O}_2}{1 \text{ mol O}_2} = 8.07 \text{ g O}_2$$

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## Practice (Part I)

Methane ( $\text{CH}_4$ ) reacts with the oxygen in the air to produce carbon dioxide and water.Ammonia ( $\text{NH}_3$ ) reacts with the oxygen in the air to produce nitrogen monoxide and water.Write **balanced equations** for each of these reactions.

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## Practice (Part II)

What mass of ammonia would produce the **same amount of water** as 1.00 g of methane reacting with excess oxygen?

1. Find amount of water produced from 1.00 g of methane

$$\text{mass of CH}_4 \xrightarrow{\text{molar mass}} \text{moles of CH}_4 \xrightarrow{\text{rxn. coeff.}} \text{moles of water}$$

2. Find amount of ammonia needed to produce the amount of water calculated above.

$$\text{moles of water} \xrightarrow{\text{rxn. coeff.}} \text{moles of NH}_3 \xrightarrow{\text{molar mass}} \text{mass of NH}_3$$

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## Practice (Part II)

What mass of ammonia would produce the **same amount** of water as 1.00 g of methane reacting with excess oxygen?

$$1.00 \text{ g CH}_4 \times \frac{1 \text{ mol CH}_4}{16.04 \text{ g CH}_4} \times \frac{2 \text{ mol H}_2\text{O}}{1 \text{ mol CH}_4} = 0.1247 \text{ mol H}_2\text{O}$$

2 mol H<sub>2</sub>O from 1 mol CH<sub>4</sub>

We now calculate the amount of  $\text{NH}_3$  needed to produce the same amount of water.

Starting the calculation from the amount of water.

$$0.1247 \text{ mol H}_2\text{O} \times \frac{4 \text{ mol NH}_3}{6 \text{ mol H}_2\text{O}} \times \frac{17.03 \text{ g NH}_3}{1 \text{ mol NH}_3} = 1.42 \text{ g NH}_3$$

4 mol NH<sub>3</sub> gives 6 mol H<sub>2</sub>O

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To solve problems:

- You need to connect what's given to what's asked
- Often there is a chain of connections
- You just need to construct that chain
  - You must figure out what piece of information you need for each link in the chain

You need to practice solving many problems

There is no way around it!

## Limiting Reactant

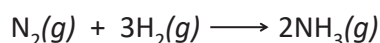
If the reactants are not present in ratios exactly in line with the chemical equation, one of them will be limiting, and the others will automatically be in excess.

## Limiting Reactant

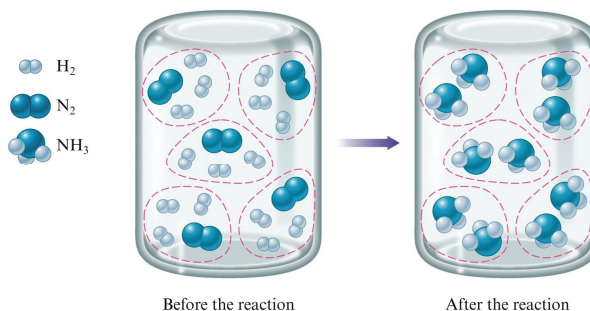
- The reactant that runs out first and thus limits the amounts of products that can be formed.
- Other reactants would lead to more product, but they can't because the limiting reactant runs out
- If we calculate the amount of product each reactant would produce if it was completely consumed, limiting reactant would correspond to the least product.
  - **Maximum amount of product the reaction can produce is the amount that can be produced by the limiting reactant**

## Limiting Reactant

## Limiting Reactant

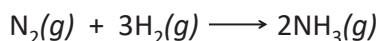


**Stoichiometric mixture:** No excess or limiting reactants

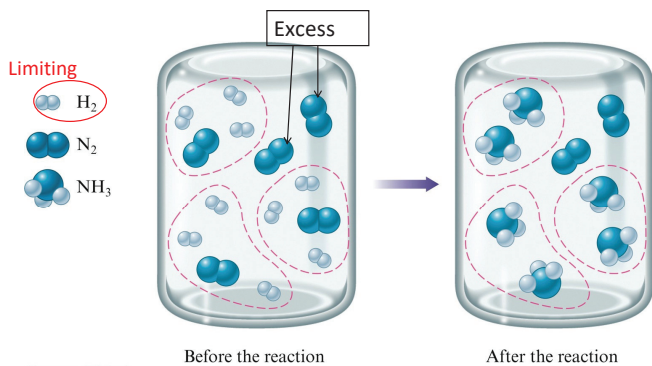


## Limiting Reactants

## Limiting Reactants

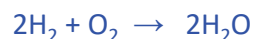


### Limiting reactant mixture



### Concept question

Which of the following reaction mixtures could produce the **greatest** amount of product? Each involves the reaction symbolized by the equation:



- 4 moles of  $\text{H}_2$  and 4 moles of  $\text{O}_2$
- 4 moles of  $\text{H}_2$  and 6 moles of  $\text{O}_2$
- 4 moles of  $\text{H}_2$  and 2 mole of  $\text{O}_2$
- 6 moles of  $\text{H}_2$  and 2 moles of  $\text{O}_2$
- They all produce the same amount of product.



**Note:**

We cannot simply add the total moles of all the reactants to decide which reactant mixture makes the most product.

Amount of product depends on the amount of limiting reactant only

### Finding the limiting reactant doesn't actually require calculating the amount of product!



moles of C from A = (moles of A)  $\frac{c}{a}$  ← “a moles of A gives c moles of C”

Remember your basic algebra  $x \frac{y}{z} = \frac{x}{z} y$

moles of C from A =  $\frac{(\text{moles of A})}{a} c$

moles of C from B =  $\frac{(\text{moles of B})}{b} c$

The coefficient of the product affects the product amount equally for all reactants



It's the ratio (moles of reactant)/(coefficient of reactant) that determines which reactant would produce the least product

The reactant with the smallest value for the ratio

$\frac{\text{no. of moles of reactant}}{\text{coefficient of reactant in reaction equation}}$

is the limiting reactant

**When**

“Reactants are present in *stoichiometric* amounts”

- The mole amounts of all reactants are in the ratios dictated by the coefficients in the balanced reaction equation
- All reactants have the same ratio  $\frac{\text{moles available}}{\text{coefficient in equation}}$
- No limiting reactant
- Another way to look at it: all reactants are limiting

If the reaction equation is



and if we have

2 moles of A, 3 moles of B

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{A} & & \text{B} \\ \text{moles} \rightarrow & & \rightarrow \\ \frac{2}{2} = 1 & = & \frac{3}{3} = 1 \end{array}$$

↑  
A and B in stoichiometric amounts

3 moles of A, 4.5 moles of B

$$\frac{3}{2} = 1.5 = \frac{4.5}{3} = 1.5$$

20 moles of A, 30 moles of B

$$\frac{20}{2} = 10 = \frac{30}{3} = 10$$

But if we have

2 moles of A, 2 moles of B

$$\frac{2}{2} = 1 > \frac{2}{3} = 0.67 \quad \text{B is limiting}$$

2 moles of A, 3.5 moles of B

$$\frac{2}{2} = 1 < \frac{3.5}{3} = 1.17 \quad \text{A is limiting}$$

**Concept question**

The limiting reactant in a reaction

- has the smallest coefficient in a balanced equation.
- is the reactant for which you have the fewest number of moles.
- has the lowest ratio of  $\frac{\text{moles available}}{\text{coefficient in balanced equation}}$
- none of these
- all of these

## Practice

You react 10.0 g of **A** with 10.0 g of **B** according to the reaction equation



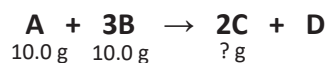
What mass of product **C** will be produced given that the molar masses of A, B, and C are 10.0 g/mol, 20.0 g/mol, and 30.0 g/mol, respectively?

Steps:

1. Convert reactant masses to moles
2. Find limiting reactant
3. If we know the molar mass of C, we can:  
Find moles of product formed by the limiting reactant  
Convert moles of product to mass of product

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## Practice (cont.)



m.m.(A) = 10.0 g

m.m.(B) = 20.0 g

First, convert reactant masses to moles  
Then find the limiting reactant

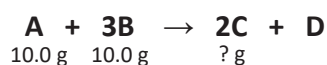
$$A: 10.0 \text{ g A} \times \frac{1 \text{ mol A}}{10.0 \text{ g A}} = 1.00 \text{ mol A} \rightarrow \frac{1.00}{1} = 1.00$$

$$B: 10.0 \text{ g B} \times \frac{1 \text{ mol B}}{20.0 \text{ g B}} = 0.500 \text{ mol B} \rightarrow \frac{0.500}{3} = 0.167 \text{ **Smaller**}$$

→ **B is limiting**

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## Practice (cont.)



m.m.(A) = 10.0 g

m.m.(B) = 20.0 g

m.m.(C) = 30.0 g

- We can calculate the moles of C produced, using the coefficients in the reaction equation
- We can continue to calculate the mass of C if we know its molar mass

Moles of the limiting reactant

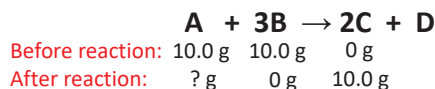
$$0.500 \text{ mol B} \times \frac{2 \text{ mol C}}{3 \text{ mol B}} \times \frac{30.0 \text{ g C}}{1 \text{ mol C}} = 10.0 \text{ g C produced}$$

according to the reaction equation

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## Practice (cont.)

What if we wanted to know how much is left of each reactant after the reaction is complete?



limiting reactant is consumed completely

To find the amount of remaining excess reactant, we first find the amount consumed, again based on the amount of limiting reactant

$$0.500 \text{ mol B} \times \frac{1 \text{ mol A}}{3 \text{ mol B}} \times \frac{10.0 \text{ g A}}{1 \text{ mol A}} = 1.67 \text{ g of A is consumed}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{remaining A} &= (\text{Initial A}) - (\text{A consumed}) \\ &= 10.0 \text{ g} - 1.67 \text{ g} = 8.33 \text{ g of A remaining} \end{aligned}$$

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## Percent Yield

An important indicator of the efficiency of a particular laboratory or industrial reaction.

$$\text{percent yield} = \frac{\text{Actual amount of product}}{\text{Ideal amount of product}} \times 100\%$$

## Ideal (theoretical) yield:

The amount of product calculated according to the desired chemical equation and the limiting reactant amount.

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For calculations, we typically work with the fractional (out of 1) form of percent (e.g. 0.93 instead of 93%).

$$\text{Fractional yield} = \frac{\text{Actual amount of product}}{\text{Ideal amount of product}}$$

Algebraic rearrangement gives:

$$\text{Ideal amount of product} = \frac{\text{Actual amount of product}}{\text{Fractional yield}}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Actual amount} \\ \text{of product} \end{array} \right] = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Fractional yield} \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Ideal amount} \\ \text{of product} \end{array} \right]$$

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Why would we get less than 100% yield?

Some possible reasons:

- Reaction may not go to completion in the time allowed
- Reactants may undergo different reactions, producing other, unwanted products
- Some product may be lost while being recovered from the reaction mixture

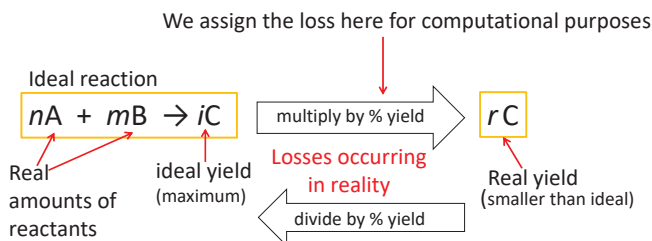
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Remember:

- A reaction equation can only be used to relate “ideal” quantities of products and reactants
- The product amount calculated from the reaction equation alone is the “ideal” amount. We then calculate the actual yield using the % yield
- An “actual” yield needs to be converted to the “ideal” yield (using the % yield) before we can work backward to calculate the required reactant amount

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- The coefficients in a reaction equation are “ideal”
- They relate moles of reactants and products in an “ideal” reaction



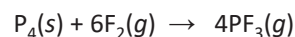
To find **reactant** amount(s) needed:

- go from **real to ideal** yield first
- use the ratios in the ideal reaction as usual

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### Practice

For the following reaction:



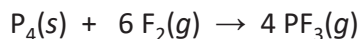
What **mass of  $P_4$**  is needed to produce 85.0 g of  $PF_3$  if the reaction has a 64.9% yield?

Steps:

1.  $P_4(s)$  is implied to be the limiting reactant
2. 85.0 g is the “actual amount of product” (actual yield)
3. We know the % yield, so we can find the “ideal” yield
4. Ideal yield comes from the limiting reactant amount and reaction equation
5. Work back to the amount of  $P_4(s)$

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### Practice (cont.)



$130.97 \text{ g} \xleftarrow{\div 0.649} \text{Real yield } 85.0 \text{ g @ 64.9\% yield}$   
 ↑  
 Ideal yield  
 (Can be used to calculate the reactant amounts)

Ideal yield  
Calculated from  
actual yield

$$130.97 \text{ g } PF_3 \times \frac{1 \text{ mol } PF_3}{87.97 \text{ g } PF_3} \times \frac{1 \text{ mol } P_4}{4 \text{ mol } PF_3} \times \frac{123.88 \text{ g } P_4}{1 \text{ mol } P_4} = 46.1 \text{ g of } P_4 \text{ needed}$$

For the actual yield

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