



# STOICHIOMETRY

## Student Learning Outcomes [C-11-A-01 to C-11-A-25]

After studying this chapter, students will be able to:

- Derive measurements of mass, volume, and number of particles using moles. (Application)
- State the volume of one mole of a gas at STP. (Knowledge)
- Use the volume of one mole of gas at STP to solve mole-volume problems. (Knowledge)
- Calculate the gram molecular mass of a gas from density measurements at STP. (Application)
- Express balanced chemical equations in terms of moles, representative particles, masses, and volumes of gases at STP. (Application)
- Explain the concept of limiting reagents. (Understanding)
- Calculate the maximum amount of product and amount of any unreacted excess reagent. (Application)
- Calculate theoretical yield, actual yield, and percentage yield when given appropriate information. (Application)
- Calculate the quantities of reactants and products involved in a chemical reaction using stoichiometric principles. (Some examples include calculations involving reacting masses, volumes of gases, volumes, and concentrations of solutions, limiting reagent and excess reagent, percentage yield calculations). (Application)
- Explain with examples, the importance of stoichiometry in the production and dosage of medicine. (Understanding)

Stoichiometry is derived from Greek words *stoicheion* means element and *metron* means measure. **Stoichiometry (pronounced as stoy-key-om.eh-tree) is the branch of chemistry in which the relationship between the amounts of reactants and products in a balanced chemical equation is studied.**

The balanced chemical equation has the same number of atoms of each element on both sides of equation. It has definite ratios of reactants and products just as compounds have definite ratios of elements. Such ratios are used to calculate the mass or mole of other substances.

Stoichiometric calculations obey law of conservation of mass and law of definite proportions. According to the law of conservation of mass, **“matter (mass) can neither be created nor destroyed”**. It states in terms of stoichiometry that *the total mass of reactants is equal to the total mass of products in a balanced equation*. According to the law of definite proportions, **a pure compound always contains the same element combined in the same ratio by mass.**



## 4.1 CONCEPT OF MOLE

The mole is the amount of a substance which contains as many elementary entities as there are atoms in 0.012 kg (12 g) of carbon-12. The elementary entities may be atoms, molecules, ions, electrons, and other particles. It is represented by  $n$ . The number of entities present in one mole of a substance is a constant number, named Avogadro's Number, i.e.  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$ . It is represented by  $N_A$ . This value is attributed to an Italian scientist Amedeo Avogadro (1776-1856).



### Did you Know?

Avogadro's number is a physical constant representing the molar number of entities. The exact value of it is  $6.02214179 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$ . In calculations we use the rounded off value  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$ .

Examples are given below:

- 1 mole of  $^{12}\text{C}$  contains  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  atoms of  $^{12}\text{C}$ .
- 1 mole of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  contains  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  molecules of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .
- 1 mole of  $\text{NaCl}$  contains  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  formula units of  $\text{NaCl}$ .
- 1 mole of  $\text{Na}^+$  contains  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  ions of  $\text{Na}^+$ .

The chemists use the mole as the SI unit to weigh and count atoms, molecules, formula units or ions.

The mass of one mole of a substance (element, compound or ionic species) is equal to the atomic mass, molecular mass, formula mass or ionic mass of a substance when expressed in grams and is known as **molar mass**, represented by **M**. **The mass of one mole of a substance expressed in grams is called molar mass.** The unit of molar mass is g/mol. The molar mass is the sum of the masses of the component atoms.

The mass of one mole of  $\text{CCl}_4$  can be found by adding the masses of carbon and chlorine present.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Molar mass of } \text{CCl}_4 &= \text{Molar mass of one C} + \text{Molar mass of Cl} \times 4 \\ &= 12.0 \times 1 + 35.5 \times 4\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Molar mass of } \text{CCl}_4 = 12.0 + 142.0 = 154.0 \text{ g}$$

### Other Examples

- 1 mole of carbon atoms is 12.0 g.
- 1 mole of  $\text{CO}_2$  molecule is 44.0 g.
- 1 mole of  $\text{CaO}$  formula units is 56.1 g.
- 1 mole of  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  ions is 60.0 g.

The number of moles of a substance can be calculated by dividing mass in grams by molar mass. The formula for number of moles is:



$$\text{Number of moles} = \frac{\text{Given mass}}{\text{Molar mass}}$$

$$n = \frac{m}{M}$$

### Sample Problem 4.1

Calculate the number of moles present in 20 g of NaOH.

#### Solution:

$$\text{Number of moles} = \frac{\text{Given mass}}{\text{Molar mass}}$$

$$n = \frac{20}{40} = 0.5 \text{ mol}$$

### Sample Problem 4.2

Calculate the mass of 0.5 moles of HCl.

#### Solution:

Mass of HCl = Number of moles  $\times$  Molar mass

$$= 0.5 \times 36.5 = 18.3 \text{ mol}$$

### Sample Problem 4.3

Calculate the mass of  $10^{-3}$  mol of  $\text{MgSO}_4$ .

#### Solution:

Molar mass of  $\text{MgSO}_4 = 24 + 96 = 120 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$

Number of moles of  $\text{MgSO}_4 = 10^{-3}$

Mass of  $\text{MgSO}_4 = 10^{-3} \text{ mol} \times 120 \text{ g mol}^{-1} = 120 \times 10^{-3} = 0.12 \text{ g}$

### Quick Check 4.1

- Calculate the molar mass of  $\text{KMnO}_4$ .
- Calculate the number of moles in 0.23 g of sodium.
- Calculate the mass of 1.5 moles of  $\text{Ca(OH)}_2$ .
- The given mass of  $\text{KClO}_3$  is 24.5 g. Calculate its number of moles.
- How many molecules are present in 1.75 g of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ?
- How many atoms are present in 15 g of a gold ring?

## 4.2 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MOLE, MOLAR MASS AND AVOGADRO'S NUMBER

A sample of 12.0 grams of natural carbon contains the same number of atoms as 4.0 grams of natural helium. Both samples contain 1 mole of atoms i.e.,  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$ .

It is interesting to know that different masses of elements have the same number of atoms.



1.0 g of hydrogen = 1 mol of hydrogen =  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  atoms of H

23.0 g of sodium = 1 mol of Na =  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  atoms of Na

238.0 g of uranium = 1 mol of U =  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  atoms of U

An atom of sodium is 23 times heavier than an atom of hydrogen. In order to have equal number of atoms, sodium should be taken 23 times greater in mass than hydrogen.

18.0 g of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  = 1 mol of water =  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  molecules of water

180.0 g of glucose = 1 mol of glucose =  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  molecules of glucose

Hence, one mole of different compounds has different masses but the same number of molecules.

Similarly, the number of ions in one mole of different ionic species is always the same, i.e. Avogadro's number.

96.1 g of  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  = 1 mole of  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  =  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  ions of  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$

62.0 g of  $\text{NO}_3^{1-}$  = 1 mole of  $\text{NO}_3^{1-}$  =  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  ions of  $\text{NO}_3^{1-}$

One can calculate the number of moles by dividing the number of particles by Avogadro's number.

$$\text{Number of moles} = \frac{\text{No. of particles of substance}}{\text{Avogadro's Number}}$$



#### Sample Problem 4.4

A sample of glucose, contains  $3.76 \times 10^{24}$  molecules of glucose. What is the number of moles in this quantity?

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{No. of moles of glucose} &= \frac{3.76 \times 10^{24} \text{ molecules}}{6.02 \times 10^{23} \text{ molecules mol}^{-1}} \\ &= 6.25 \text{ moles} \end{aligned}$$

#### Sample Problem 4.5

How many atoms are there in a sodium metal that contains 2.3 g?

**Solution:**

$$\text{Number of moles of sodium} = \frac{2.3}{23.0} = 0.1 \text{ mol}$$

$$\text{Number of atoms of sodium} = \text{Number of moles of sodium} \times N_A$$



$$= 0.1 \times 6.02 \times 10^{23}$$

$$= 0.602 \times 10^{23} \text{ atoms}$$

### Sample Problem 4.6

Juglone, is a dye and is produced from the husks of black walnuts. The formula for juglone is  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_6\text{O}_3$ .

- Calculate the molar mass of juglone.
- Calculate number of moles in 0.87 g of a sample of juglone extracted from black walnut husks.



### Interesting Information!

Juglone, is a natural herbicide (weed killer). It kills off competitive plants around the black walnut tree but does not affect grass and other noncompetitive plants.

### Solution:

- $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_6\text{O}_3$   
 $10 \times A_r(\text{C}) + 6 \times 1.0 A_r(\text{H}) + 3 \times A_r(\text{O})$   
 $(10 \times 12.0) + (6 \times 1.0) + (3 \times 16.0)$   
 $120 + 6 + 48 = 174 \text{ g/mol}$   
 Mass of 1 mol of  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_6\text{O}_3 = 174 \text{ g/mol}$
- $\text{Moles of juglone} = \frac{\text{Mass}}{\text{Molar Mass}} = \frac{0.87 \text{ g}}{174 \text{ g mol}^{-1}} = 0.005 \text{ mol}$

### Quick Check 4.2

- A copper wire contains  $27.10 \times 10^{25}$  atoms of copper. Calculate the number of moles of copper.
- Calculate the molecules of  $1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ g}$  of isopentyl acetate,  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2$  which are released in a typical bee sting. How many atoms of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen are present in it?



### Interesting Information!

Isopentyl acetate ( $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2$ ) is the compound responsible for the scent of bananas. Interestingly, bees release about  $1 \mu\text{g}$  ( $1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ g}$ ) of this compound when they sting. The resulting scent attracts other bees to join the attack.

## 4.3 MOLAR VOLUME

The volume of one mole of an ideal gas at STP (Standard Temperature and Pressure) is called **molar volume**. Its value is equal to  $22.414 \text{ dm}^3$ . The value of molar volume is commonly rounded to  $22.4 \text{ dm}^3$ . It is denoted by  $V_m$ . By using molar volume relationship, mass or mole of a gas at STP can be converted into volume, and vice versa.



According to Avogadro's law, "Equal volumes of all ideal gases at the same temperature and pressure contain equal numbers of molecules". This statement is indirectly the same when we say that one mole of an ideal gas at 273.16 K and one atm pressure has a volume of 22.414 dm<sup>3</sup>. Since one mole of a gas has Avogadro's number of particles, so 22.414 dm<sup>3</sup> of various ideal gases at STP will have Avogadro's number of molecules i.e.,  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$ .

22.4 dm<sup>3</sup> of a gas at STP = Molar mass of a gas =  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  particles of a gas = 1 mole of a gas

- 22.4 dm<sup>3</sup> of CO<sub>2</sub> at STP = 44.0 g of CO<sub>2</sub> =  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  molecules of CO<sub>2</sub> = 1 mole of CO<sub>2</sub>
- 22.4 dm<sup>3</sup> of any gas at STP = molar mass in grams =  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  molecules = 1 mole
- 22.4 dm<sup>3</sup> of H<sub>2</sub> gas at STP = 2 g =  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  molecules = 1 mole
- 22.4 dm<sup>3</sup> of NH<sub>3</sub> gas at STP = 17 g =  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  molecules = 1 mole

If the number of moles of a gas is known, one can calculate its volume by multiplying number of moles of the gas with molar volume.

Volume of a gas = Number of moles  $\times$  Molar volume

$$V = n \times V_m$$

#### Sample Problem 4.7

Determine the volume of 2.5 moles of chlorine molecules at STP.

#### Solution:

The formula for volume determination at STP is,

$$V = n \times V_m$$

Volume of 2.5 mole of Cl<sub>2</sub> = 22.4 dm<sup>3</sup>  $\times$  2.5 = 56.0 dm<sup>3</sup>

#### Sample Problem 4.8

What is the volume in dm<sup>3</sup> of 4.75 mol of methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) gas at STP?

#### Solution:

The formula for volume determination at STP is,

$$V = n \times V_m$$

Volume of methane in dm<sup>3</sup> at STP = 4.75  $\times$  22.4 = 106.4 dm<sup>3</sup>

## 4.4 MOLAR MASS AND DENSITY OF GASES

Density is defined as the mass per unit volume of a substance.

$$\text{Density} = \frac{\text{Mass}}{\text{Volume}}$$

$$d = \frac{m}{V}$$



As molar mass of all the gases occupies same volume at STP, therefore, density of a gas depends on its molar mass. A gas having higher molar mass will have higher density and vice versa. If the density of the gas at STP is known, its molar mass can be calculated.

## Sample Problem 4.9

Calculate the molar mass of a gas which has density of  $1.97 \text{ g/dm}^3$  at STP.

### Solution

$$m = d \times V$$

$$\text{Mass of gas at STP} = 1.97 \times 22.4 = 44.1 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$$

### Quick Check 4.3

Calculate the molar mass of a gas which has density of  $1.34 \text{ g/dm}^3$  at STP.

## 4.5 MOLAR CONCENTRATION

Molar concentration of solutions is given as  $\text{mol/dm}^3$ , which is the number of moles of a substance (reactant or product) dissolved per volume of a solution in  $\text{dm}^3$ . The relationship between number of moles and molar concentration is given by

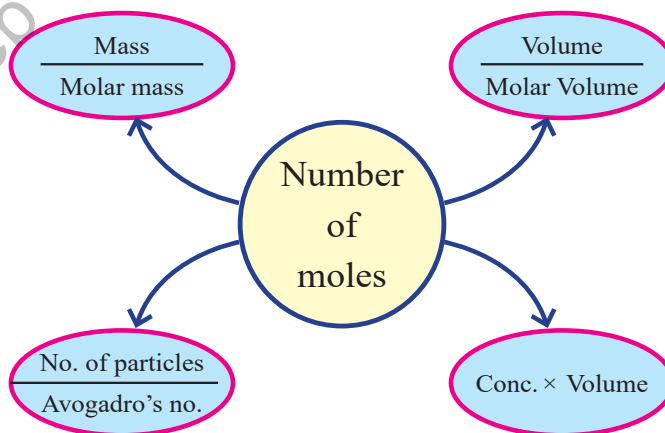
$$n = C \times V$$

$$C = \frac{n}{V}$$

where  $C$  is the molar concentration and  $V$  is the volume of the solution. For example concentration of  $0.2 \text{ mol}$  of a substance per  $\text{dm}^3$  is.

$$\text{Molar Concentration} = \frac{\text{Number of moles}}{\text{Volume in dm}^3}$$

$$C = \frac{0.2 \text{ mol}}{1 \text{ dm}^3} = 0.2 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$$



**Sample Problem 4.10**

Calculate the molar concentration of a substance containing 27.64 g of  $K_2CO_3$  dissolved in  $1\text{ dm}^3$  of the given solution

**Solution:**

Mass of  $K_2CO_3 = 27.64\text{ g}$

Molar mass of  $K_2CO_3 = 138.2\text{ g mol}^{-1}$

Number of moles =  $\frac{\text{Given mass}}{\text{Molar mass}}$

$$n = \frac{m}{M}$$

$$n = \frac{27.64}{138.2}$$

Volume of solution =  $1\text{ dm}^3$

Molar Concentration =  $\frac{\text{Number of moles}}{\text{Volume in dm}^3}$

$$C = \frac{0.2\text{ mol}}{1\text{ dm}^3} = 0.2\text{ mol dm}^{-3}$$

**Quick Check 4.4**

Calculate the molar concentration of a solution containing 7.9 g of  $KMnO_4$  dissolved in  $1\text{ dm}^3$  of the given solution. The molar mass of  $KMnO_4$  is  $158\text{ g mol}^{-1}$ .

**4.6 STOICHIOMETRIC RELATIONSHIPS**

The following types of relationship can be studied with the help of a balanced chemical equation involving quantities of reactant(s) and product(s).

- Mole-Mole Relationship
- Mass-mass relationship
- Volume-Volume Relationship
- Mole-Mass Relationship
- Mole-Volume Relationship
- Mass-Volume Relationship

To understand these relationships, we need to interpret information hidden in a balanced chemical equation which is used to make stoichiometric calculations. For example:





This equation can be described in different ways;

- 1 mole of  $\text{N}_2$  reacts with 3 moles of  $\text{H}_2$  to form 2 moles of  $\text{NH}_3$ .
- 1 molecule of  $\text{N}_2$  reacts with 3 molecules of  $\text{H}_2$  to form 2 molecules of  $\text{NH}_3$ .
- $22.4 \text{ dm}^3$  of  $\text{N}_2$  reacts with  $67.2 \text{ dm}^3$  of  $\text{H}_2$  to form  $44.8 \text{ dm}^3$  of  $\text{NH}_3$
- $28.0 \text{ g}$  of  $\text{N}_2$  react with  $6 \text{ g}$  of  $\text{H}_2$  to form  $34.0 \text{ g}$  of  $\text{NH}_3$ .



## Keep in Mind!

The following assumptions must be made while performing stoichiometric calculations:

- 1) All the reactants are completely converted into the products.
- 2) Law of conservation of mass and law of definite proportions are obeyed.
- 3) No side reaction occurs.

## APPROACH TO DO STOICHIOMETRIC CALCULATIONS

Mass of known solid or volume of a known gas, or molar concentration of known solution



Calculate number of moles from the mass of known solid or volume of a known gas, or molar concentration of known solution using the relevant formula



Find the ratio of the known and the unknown reactant or product from the balanced chemical equation



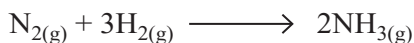
Calculate the number of moles of the unknown reactant or product using the relevant formula



Convert the number of moles of the unknown to mass, volume, or concentration of the substance

### Sample Problem 4.11 (Mole-Mole Conversion)

When  $3.3 \text{ mol}$  of nitrogen reacts with hydrogen to form ammonia, how many moles of hydrogen are consumed in the process? The equation for this reaction is



**Solution:**

Number of moles of  $N_2 = 3.3 \text{ mol}$

Number of moles of  $H_2 = ?$

1 mole of  $N_2$  needs  $H_2$  to produce  $NH_3 = 3 \text{ mol}$

3.6 moles of  $N_2$  needs  $H_2$  to produce  $NH_3 = 3 \times 3.3 = 9.9 \text{ mol}$

**Quick Check 4.5**

How many moles of carbon dioxide are produced when 2.25 moles of glucose are used by a person? The oxygen is in excess. The equation for the combustion of glucose is:

**Sample Problem 4.12 (Mass-Mass Conversion)**

Calculate the mass of Al needed to react completely with 32.0 g of iron (III) oxide according to the equation given below:

**Solution:**

Molar mass of  $Fe_2O_3$ ,  $M = 159.6 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$

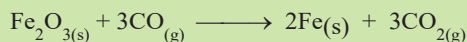
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Number of moles of } Fe_2O_3 (n) &= \frac{m}{M} \\ &= \frac{32.0 \text{ g}}{159.6 \text{ g mol}^{-1}} \\ &= 0.02 \text{ mol} \end{aligned}$$

From the balanced equation, 1 mol of  $Fe_2O_3$  reacts with 2 moles of Al, therefore, number of moles of Al that reacts with 0.02 mole of  $Fe_2O_3 = 2 \times 0.02 = 0.04 \text{ mol}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Mass of Al} &= n \times M \\ &= 0.04 \text{ mol} \times 27 \text{ g mol}^{-1} \\ &= 1.08 \text{ g} \end{aligned}$$

**Quick Check 4.6**

$Fe_2O_3$ , an ore of iron is called Hematite. CO can reduce it to get free Fe as below:



How much Fe can be produced from 160 g of  $Fe_2O_3$ ?

**Sample Problem 4.13 (Volume-Volume)**

Calculate volume of ammonia that can be produced by the reaction of  $100 \text{ dm}^3$  of hydrogen with excess of nitrogen at STP. The balanced chemical equation for the reaction is:



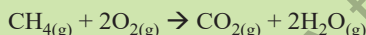
**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Volume of hydrogen} &= 100 \text{ dm}^3 \\
 \text{Volume of ammonia} &= ? \\
 67.2 \text{ dm}^3 (3 \text{ mol}) \text{ of H}_2 \text{ produce ammonia} &= 44.8 \text{ dm}^3 (2 \text{ mol}) \\
 1 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ of H}_2 \text{ produce ammonia} &= \frac{44.8}{67.2} = \frac{2}{3} \\
 100 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ of H}_2 \text{ produce ammonia} &= \frac{2}{3} \times 100 = 66.7 \text{ dm}^3
 \end{aligned}$$

So, the volume of ammonia produced by the reaction of 100 dm<sup>3</sup> of H<sub>2</sub> with excess nitrogen is 66.7 dm<sup>3</sup>.

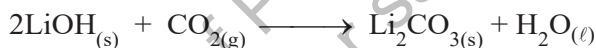
**Quick Check 4.7**

Calculate the volume of carbon dioxide produced at STP when 4.5 dm<sup>3</sup> of methane is burnt by a person. The oxygen is in excess. The equation for the reaction is:



**Sample Problem 4.14 (Mole-Mass calculations)**

Solid lithium hydroxide LiOH is used in space vehicles. It is employed to remove exhaled carbon dioxide from the living environment by forming solid lithium carbonate and liquid water. Calculate the mass of Li<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> that can be produced by 20.0 mol of LiOH.



**Solution:**

According to the given balanced chemical equation,

$$\begin{aligned}
 2 \text{ mol of LiOH produces} &= 1 \text{ mol Li}_2\text{CO}_3 \\
 20.0 \text{ mol of LiOH produces} &= \frac{1}{2} \times 20.0 = 10.0 \text{ mol Li}_2\text{CO}_3 \\
 \text{Mass of Li}_2\text{CO}_3 \text{ produced} &= \text{No. of mol} \times \text{Molar mass} \\
 \text{Mass of Li}_2\text{CO}_3 \text{ produced} &= 10.0 \text{ mol} \times 73.9 \text{ g mol}^{-1} = 739.0 \text{ g} \\
 \text{Thus, 739.0 g Li}_2\text{CO}_3 \text{ will be produced from 20.0 mol of LiOH.}
 \end{aligned}$$

**Quick Check 4.8**

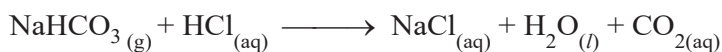
Calculate the mass of sodium hypochlorite (NaOCl), a household bleach, produced by the reaction of 2.25 moles of chlorine with excess sodium hydroxide. The balanced equation is



**Sample Problem 4.15 (Mass-mole calculations)**

Baking soda (NaHCO<sub>3</sub>) acts as an antacid. It can neutralize excess hydrochloric acid (HCl) secreted by the stomach according to equation.





How many moles of HCl will be neutralized by 2.1 g of baking soda

**Solution:**

Molar mass of  $\text{NaHCO}_3 = 84.0 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$

$$\text{Moles of NaHCO}_3 = \frac{2.1 \text{ g}}{84.0 \text{ g mol}^{-1}} = 0.025 \text{ mol}$$

Stoichiometrically, the mole ratio of HCl and  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  is 1 : 1.

Hence moles of HCl used = 0.025 mol

Thus 2.1 g of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  will neutralize 0.025 moles of HCl.

**Sample Problem 4.16 (Mass-Volume Conversion)**

What volume of hydrogen at STP will be produced when 7.0 g of iron are reacted with an excess of sulphuric acid?



**Solution:**

Molar mass of Fe (M) = 55.8 g/mol

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Number of moles of iron (n)} &= \frac{m}{M} \\ &= \frac{7.0 \text{ g}}{55.8 \text{ g mol}^{-1}} \\ &= 0.125 \text{ mol} \end{aligned}$$

From the balanced equation, 1 mol of iron produces 1 mole of hydrogen.

So, number of moles of  $\text{H}_2 = 0.125 \text{ mol}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Volume of H}_2 \text{ in dm}^3 &= \text{molar volume} \times \text{moles of H}_2 \\ &= 22.4 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \times 0.125 \text{ mol} \\ &= 2.8 \text{ dm}^3 \end{aligned}$$

## 4.7 LIMITING AND EXCESS REACTANT

In many chemical processes, the quantities of the reactants are usually not present in the proportions indicated by the balanced chemical equation. Frequently, a large amount of inexpensive reactant is supplied because of the following reasons:

- To ensure that whole of the mass of the expensive reactant is completely converted to the desired product
- To produce maximum amount of product
- To increase the rate of reaction



We know that a large quantity of oxygen in a chemical reaction makes things burn more rapidly. In this way, excess of oxygen is left behind at the end of reaction and the other reactant, i.e. fuel, is consumed earlier. **This reactant which is consumed earlier is called the limiting reactant.** In this way, the amount of product that forms is limited by the reactant that is completely used. Once this reactant is consumed, the reaction stops and no additional product is formed. **The reactant which controls the amounts of products formed in a chemical reaction and is consumed earlier is called the limiting reactant or reagent.** The maximum amount of the product formed depends upon the amount of limiting reactant in the reaction mixture.

#### 4.7.1 Strategy for the identification of limiting reactant:

To identify a limiting reactant, the following three steps are performed.

- Calculate the number of moles from the given amounts of reactants.
- Find out the number of moles of product with the help of a balanced chemical equation.
- Identify the reactant which produces the least amount of product as limiting reactant and the other as an excess reactant.



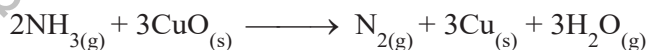
#### Did You Know?

Fire is a combustion reaction in which fuel and oxygen,  $O_2$ , combine, usually at high temperatures, to form water and carbon dioxide. Once the fire has started, it is self-supporting. An effective way to quench a fire is smothering, which reduces the amount of available oxygen below the level needed to support combustion. In other words, smothering decreases the amount of the **excess reactant**. Foams, inert gas, and  $CO_2$  are effective substances for smothering.

Following numerical problem will make the idea clear.

#### Sample Problem 4.17 (Limiting Reactant)

Calculate the mass of  $N_2$  produced from 1.81 g of  $NH_3$  (molar mass =  $17.0 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ ) and 90.4 g of  $CuO$  (molar mass =  $79.5 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ ) according to following balanced equation:



#### Solution:

$$\text{Moles of } NH_3 = \frac{1.81 \text{ g of } NH_3}{17.0 \text{ g mol}^{-1}} = 1.06 \text{ mol}$$

$$\text{Moles of } CuO = \frac{90.4 \text{ g of } CuO}{79.5 \text{ g mol}^{-1}} = 1.14 \text{ mol}$$

In balanced equation,  $CuO : N_2$

$$3 : 1$$

$$1.14 : \frac{1}{3} \times 1.14 = 0.38 \text{ mol}$$

$$NH_3 : N_2$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 2 &: 1 \\
 1 &: \frac{1}{2} \\
 1.06 &: \frac{1}{2} \times 1.06 = 0.53 \text{ mol}
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, CuO is the limiting reactant and the number of moles of  $\text{N}_2$  produced will be 0.38 mol.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Hence, mass of } \text{N}_2 \text{ produced} &= n \times M \\
 &= 0.38 \text{ mol} \times 17.0 \text{ g mol}^{-1} \\
 &= 9.0 \text{ g}
 \end{aligned}$$

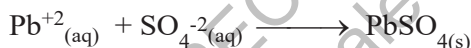
### Sample Problem 4.18 (Limiting Reactant)

When aqueous solutions of  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and  $\text{Pb}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  are mixed,  $\text{PbSO}_4$  precipitates down. Calculate the mass of  $\text{PbSO}_4$  formed when  $1.25 \text{ dm}^3$  of  $0.05 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$   $\text{Pb}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  and  $2.00 \text{ dm}^3$  of  $0.025 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$   $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  are mixed.



#### Solution:

The net ionic equation is



Since  $0.05 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$   $\text{Pb}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  contains  $0.05 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$   $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  ions.

No. of moles = Concentration ( $\text{mol dm}^{-3}$ )  $\times$  Volume ( $\text{dm}^3$ )

$$n = CV$$

$$\text{moles of } \text{Pb}^{2+} \text{ ions} = 0.05 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \times 1.25 \text{ dm}^3 = 0.0625 \text{ mol}$$

$$\text{moles of } \text{SO}_4^{2-} \text{ ions} = 0.025 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \times 2.00 \text{ dm}^3 = 0.05 \text{ mol}$$

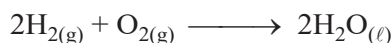
As  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  react in a 1 : 1 ratio, here,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  (0.05 mol) will be consumed earlier than  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  (0.0625 mol). The amount of  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  will be limiting. The reason is that 0.05 mole of  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  is less than 0.0625 mole of  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ . Since the  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  ions are present in excess, only 0.05 mole of solid  $\text{PbSO}_4$  will be formed. The mass of  $\text{PbSO}_4$  formed can be calculated using the molar mass of  $\text{PbSO}_4$  ( $303.3 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ ):

$$\text{Mass of } \text{PbSO}_4 = 0.05 \text{ mol} \times 303.3 \text{ g mol}^{-1} = 15.2 \text{ g}$$

### 4.7.2 Amount of Product and Unreacted Excess Reagent

The reactants which are in larger amounts (according to stoichiometry of reaction) and remain unreacted at the end of the reaction are called “excess reagents” (or excess reactants).

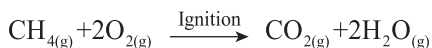
Consider the reaction between hydrogen and oxygen to form water.



- When we take 2 moles of hydrogen (4 g) and allow it to react with 2 moles of oxygen (64 g), then we will get only 2 moles (36 g) of water. Actually, we will get 2 moles (36 g) of water because 2 moles (4 g) of hydrogen react with 1 mole (32 g) of oxygen according to the balanced equation.
- When 1 mole of  $O_2$  and 1 mole of  $H_2$  are mixed, all the  $H_2$  will react completely and  $O_2$  will be left unreacted because for 1 mole of  $H_2$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mole of  $O_2$  is required. The remaining  $\frac{1}{2}$  mole will be excess.

### Sample Problem 4.19 (Excess Reactant)

Natural gas consists primarily of methane ( $CH_4$ ). The complete combustion of methane ( $CH_4$ ) gives carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ ) and water.



- How many grams of  $CO_2$  can be produced when 30 g of  $CH_4$  and 50 g of  $O_2$  are allowed to combine?
- How many grams of excess reagent are left unreacted after the completion of reaction?

### Solution (a):

**Step 1:** Write balanced chemical equation.

**Step 2:** Convert the given mass of both the reactants into their moles.

$$\text{Moles of } CH_4 = \frac{\text{given mass of } CH_4}{\text{molar mass of } CH_4} = \frac{30\text{g}}{16\text{g mol}^{-1}} = 1.875\text{ mol}$$

$$\text{Moles of } O_2 = \frac{\text{given mass of } O_2}{\text{molar mass of } O_2} = \frac{50\text{g}}{32\text{g mol}^{-1}} = 1.563\text{ mol}$$

**Step 3:** Calculate the number of moles of product from each reactant.

Compare the number of moles of  $CH_4$  with those of  $CO_2$ . From the balanced chemical equation.

$$1\text{ mol of methane produces } CO_2 = 1\text{ mol}$$

$$1.875\text{ mol of methane produces } CO_2 = 1 \times 1.875\text{ mol} = 1.875\text{ mol of } CO_2$$

Compare the number of moles of  $O_2$  with those of  $CO_2$ . From the balanced chemical equation, we know:

$$2\text{ mol of oxygen produces } CO_2 = 1\text{ mol}$$

$$1.563\text{ mol of oxygen produce } CO_2 = 0.5 \times 1.563\text{ mol} = 0.7815\text{ mol of } CO_2$$

From the above calculation, it is clear that the limiting reactant is  $O_2$  because it produces lesser amount (moles) of product ( $CO_2$ ) than  $CH_4$ .

**Step 4:** Convert the moles of the product into mass.



$$\begin{aligned}\text{Mass of CO}_2 \text{ in grams} &= \text{Moles of CO}_2 \times \text{Molar mass of CO}_2 \\ &= 0.7815 \text{ mol} \times 44 \text{ g mol}^{-1} = 34.39 \text{ g}\end{aligned}$$

**Step 5:** The quantity of limiting reactant can also be used to calculate the quantity of excess reactant used:

$$\begin{aligned}2 \text{ mol of O}_2 \text{ reacts with moles of CH}_4 &= 1 \text{ mol} \\ 1.563 \text{ mol of O}_2 \text{ reacts with mol of CH}_4 &= \frac{1}{2} \times 1.563 \text{ mol} = 0.7815 \text{ mol}\end{aligned}$$

**Step 6:** The mass of methane (excess reagent) is equal to the starting quantity minus the amount used during the reaction.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Number of moles of CH}_4 \text{ in excess} &= \text{Quantity taken} - \text{Quantity used} \\ &= 1.875 \text{ mol} - 0.7815 \text{ mol} = 1.0935 \text{ mol} \\ \text{Excess mass of CH}_4 \text{ (excess reagent)} &= 1.0935 \times 16.0 = 17.5 \text{ g}\end{aligned}$$

### Quick Check 4.9

Which of the following reaction mixtures could produce the greatest amount of product when they combine according to the reaction given below?



- 1 mole of N<sub>2</sub> and 3 moles of H<sub>2</sub>
- 2 moles of N<sub>2</sub> and 3 moles of H<sub>2</sub>
- 1 mole of N<sub>2</sub> and 5 moles of H<sub>2</sub>
- 3 moles of N<sub>2</sub> and 3 moles of H<sub>2</sub>
- Each produces the same amount of product.

## 4.8 THEORETICAL YIELD AND ACTUAL YIELD

The amount of the products obtained in a chemical reaction is called the actual yield of that reaction. The amount of the products calculated from the balanced chemical equation represents the **theoretical yield**. The theoretical yield is the maximum amount of the product that can be produced by a given amount of a reactant, according to balanced chemical equation.

In most chemical reactions the amount of the product obtained is less than the theoretical yield. There are following reasons for that:

- The processes like filtration, separation by distillation, separation by a separating funnel, washing, drying and crystallization, if not properly carried out, decrease the actual yield.
- Some of the reactants might take part in a competing side reaction and reduce the amount of the desired product. So, in most of the reactions the actual yield is less than the theoretical yield.





- A reaction may be reversible. Therefore, the amount of the product will be reduced by the backward reaction

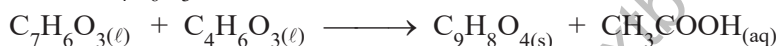
A chemist is usually interested in the efficiency of a reaction. The efficiency of a reaction is expressed by comparing the actual and theoretical yields in the form of percentage (%) yield.

$$\% \text{ Yield} = \frac{\text{Actual yield}}{\text{Theoretical yield}} \times 100$$

Greater the % age yield, higher will be the efficiency of reaction and vice versa.

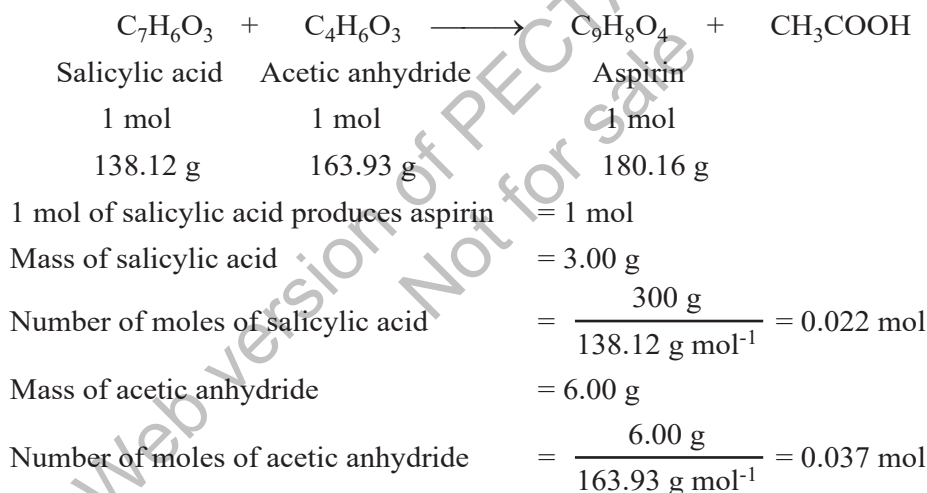
## Sample Problem 4.20 (% age Yield)

Aspirin ( $\text{C}_9\text{H}_8\text{O}_4$ ) is prepared by heating salicylic acid,  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_6\text{O}_3$  (molar mass  $138.12 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ ) and acetic anhydride,  $\text{C}_4\text{H}_6\text{O}_3$  (molar mass  $163.93 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ ).



Calculate the theoretical yield of aspirin, (molar mass  $180.16 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ ) when 3.00 g of salicylic acid is heated with 6.00 g of  $\text{C}_4\text{H}_6\text{O}_3$ . What is % yield when actual yield is 3.15 g?

### Solution:



Here, salicylic acid is limiting reactant while acetic anhydride is an excess reactant. The amount of salicylic controls the yield of product i.e., aspirin.

0.022 mol of salicylic acid produces aspirin = 0.022 mol

0.022 mol Salicylic acid produces Aspirin = 0.022 mol

Mass of Aspirin = 0.021 mol  $\times$   $180.16 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$  = 3.96 g

Theoretical yield = 3.96

Actual yield = 2.85

% age yield =  $\frac{2.85}{3.96 \times 100} = 71.97 \%$



**Quick Check 4.10**

When limestone ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ) is roasted, quicklime ( $\text{CaO}$ ) is produced according to the following equation.



The actual yield of  $\text{CaO}$  is 2.5 kg, when 4.5 kg of limestone is roasted. What is the percentage yield of this reaction?

## 4.9 IMPORTANCE OF STOICHIOMETRY IN PRODUCTION AND DOSAGE OF MEDICINE

While preparing required dose of a medicine, the optimum amount of the active ingredient in a medicine is essential to produce desired effects in the patient. Stoichiometry ensures the accuracy of drug synthesis. Any deviation can result in incomplete reaction or contamination with un-reacted reactants or by-products. Stoichiometry allows chemists to precisely control chemical reactions to produce drugs, to ensure its efficiency, effectiveness and safe use.

### 4.9.1 Significance of Stoichiometry in Medicine

Stoichiometry is very important in the field of medicine and is used:

1. In the preparation of antibiotics, the stoichiometry ensures that each dose matches the active ingredient and target bacteria.
2. To determine the cholesterol level in the blood of patients. Cholesterol is a form of fat that is not all bad. However, cholesterol can have harmful effects.
3. To determine the glucose level in the blood of diabetic patient. Use of insulin relies on the stoichiometry to precise control of blood sugar levels.
4. To determine the steroid and other stimulants in the urine of athletes. Athletes use steroids and other stimulants to enhance performance and increase strength.
5. To determine the concentration of viral antigens in the preparation of vaccine for effective results.
6. To determine the amount and number of drugs to give a dosage to a patient. The medicine has no effect when given in small amounts and can cause toxic state or death when given in large amounts. Paracetamol is used as a pain killer and to decrease fever. An overdose may result a blood thinning, organ damage and severe liver damage.



## EXERCISE

## MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

**Q.1** Four choices are given for each question. Select the correct choice.

**I. Which one of the following statements is incorrect?**

- a) One mole of nitrogen gas contains Avogadro's number of molecules
- b) One mole of ozone gas contains Avogadro's number of molecules
- c) One mole of ozone contains Avogadro's number of O atoms
- d) One mole of hydrogen gas contains Avogadro's number of molecules

**II. Which one of the following has greatest mass?**

- a) 0.5 mol of  $N_2$
- b) 0.5 mol of  $NH_3$
- c) 0.5 mol of He
- d) 0.5 mol of  $CO_2$

**III. Which one of the following gases will have greatest volume at STP?**

- a) 22 g of  $CO_2$
- b) 88 g of  $N_2O$
- c) 28 g of CO
- d) 28 g of  $N_2$

**IV. Which of the following contains same number of particles as present in 12 g of carbon?**

- a) 28 g of iron (Atomic mass of Fe = 56)
- b) 48 g of magnesium (Atomic mass of Mg = 24)
- c) 32 g of  $S_8$  molecules (Atomic mass S = 32)
- d) 40 g of carbon dioxide (molar mass of  $CO_2$  = 44)

**V. Volume at S.T.P. of 22 g of  $CO_2$  is same as that of:**

- a) 2 g of hydrogen
- b) 8.5 g of  $NH_3$
- c) 64 g of gaseous  $SO_2$
- d) 7 g of CO

**VI. 4.0 g of NaOH (molar mass 40 g mol<sup>-1</sup>) contains same number of sodium ions as are present in:**

- a) 10.6 g of  $Na_2CO_3$ , (molar mass 106)
- b) 58.5 g of NaCl (molar mass 58.5)
- c) 76 g  $Na_2SO_4$  (formula mass 142)
- d) 8.5 g of  $NaNO_3$  (molar mass 85)

**VII. A container holds 0.5 moles of an ideal gas at STP. What is the volume of the gas in dm<sup>3</sup>?**

- a) 11.2 dm<sup>3</sup>
- b) 22.4 dm<sup>3</sup>
- c) 44.8 dm<sup>3</sup>
- d) 12.2 dm<sup>3</sup>



a)  $0.10 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$                       b)  $0.20 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$   
c)  $0.40 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$                       d)  $0.80 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$

a) 50 g mol<sup>-1</sup>                      b) 100 g mol<sup>-1</sup>  
c) 200 g mol<sup>-1</sup>                    d) 400 g mol<sup>-1</sup>

a)  $3.01 \times 10^{23}$  atoms      b)  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  atoms  
c)  $1.20 \times 10^{24}$  atoms      d)  $2.40 \times 10^{24}$  atoms

a)  $14.3 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$  (b)  $22.4 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$   
c)  $32.0 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$  (d)  $64.0 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$

a)  $11.2 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$       b)  $22.4 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$   
c)  $44.0 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$       d)  $88.0 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$

## Q.2 Attempt the following short-answer questions:

- a) How is the concept of mole derived from Avogadro's number?
- b) Define the following terms with one example in each case.  
(a) Molar mass (b) Molar volume (c) Molar concentration
- c) What do you mean by molar volume of a gas? How Avogadro's number is related with molar volume?
- d) 39 g of potassium and 56 g of iron have equal number of atoms in them. Justify.
- e) 4g of He, 17 g of  $\text{NH}_3$  and 64 g of  $\text{SO}_2$  occupy separately the volumes of 22.414  $\text{dm}^3$  although the sizes and molecular masses of molecules of the three gases are very different from each other. Explain.
- f) Do you think that 1 mole of  $\text{H}_2$  and 1 mole of  $\text{NH}_3$  at 0 °C and 1 atm will have Avogadro's number of particles?
- g) What is stoichiometry? Give the basic assumptions of stoichiometric calculations.

- g) What is a limiting reactant? How does it control the quantity of the product formed?
- h) Differentiate theoretical and actual yields. How is the percentage yield of a reaction calculated?
- i) What are the factors which are mostly responsible for the low yield of the products in chemical reactions?

### DESCRIPTIVE QUESTIONS

- Q3.** Differentiate limiting and non-limiting reactants. How a limiting reactant is determined from a balanced chemical equation and given data?
- Q4.** Differentiate actual and theoretical yields. Why the theoretical yield is always greater than actual yield?

### (NUMERICAL PROBLEMS)

**Q.5** A solution of sodium hydroxide (NaOH) is prepared by dissolving 2.00 g of solid sodium hydroxide in water to make a final volume of 250 cm<sup>3</sup>.

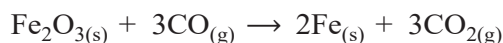
- a) Determine the molar mass of sodium hydroxide.
- b) Calculate the number of moles of sodium hydroxide used.
- c) Calculate the concentration of the sodium hydroxide solution in mol dm<sup>-3</sup>.
- d) If more water is added to the above solution to raise the volume of solution to 500 cm<sup>3</sup>, what would be the concentration now?

**Q.6** Ammonia gas (NH<sub>3</sub>) reacts with oxygen gas (O<sub>2</sub>) according to the following balanced equation:



In an experiment, 34.0 g of ammonia is reacted with 96 g of oxygen.

- a) Determine the limiting reactant.
  - b) Calculate the maximum mass of nitrogen monoxide (NO) that can be formed.
  - c) Calculate the mass of the excess reactant remaining after the reaction is complete. (Relative atomic masses: H = 1.0, N = 14.0, O = 16.0)
- Q.7** When iron(III) oxide (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) reacts with carbon monoxide (CO) in a blast furnace, iron metal (Fe) is produced according to the following equation:



If 1.00 kg of iron(III) oxide is reacted with excess carbon monoxide, and 650 g of iron is obtained, what is the percentage yield of iron? (A<sub>r</sub> of O = 16.0, Fe = 55.8)

**Q.8** 1.5g of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> is burnt in excess of O<sub>2</sub> to produce CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O. What volume of CO<sub>2</sub> is produced at STP.  $2\text{C}_2\text{H}_6 + 7\text{O}_2 \longrightarrow 4\text{CO}_2 + 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Also calculate:

- a) No. of molecules of solid CO<sub>2</sub> produced.
- b) No. of O<sub>2</sub> molecules reacted
- c) No. of CH bond of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> are broken in this reaction.

