Free Energy (G) Deciding If a Reaction Can Happen

Josiah Willard Gibbs (February 11, 1839 – April 28, 1903) was an American theoretical physicist, chemist, and mathematician. He devised much of the theoretical foundation for chemical thermodynamics as well as physical chemistry. Yale University awarded Gibbs the first American Ph.D. in engineering in 1863, and he spent his entire career at Yale.



Gibbs Free Energy

For a constant-temperature process:

Gibbs free energy (G) $\Delta G_{reaction} = \Delta H_{reaction} - T\Delta S_{reaction}$ Gibbs-Helmholtz Equation

 $\Delta G < 0$ The reaction is spontaneous in the forward direction. **Spontaneous = Thermodynamically Favored** (Reaction CAN happen as written)

- $\Delta G > 0$ The reaction is nonspontaneous as written. The reaction is spontaneous in the reverse direction.
- $\Delta G = 0$ The reaction is at equilibrium.



The standard free-energy of reaction (ΔG_{rxn}^{0}) is the freeenergy change for a reaction when it occurs under standardstate conditions.

$$aA + bB \longrightarrow cC + dD$$

 $\Delta G_{rxn}^{0} = \left[c \Delta G_{f}^{0} \left(C \right) + d \Delta G_{f}^{0} \left(D \right) \right] - \left[a \Delta G_{f}^{0} \left(A \right) + b \Delta G_{f}^{0} \left(B \right) \right]$

 $\Delta G_{rxn}^0 = \Sigma n \Delta G_f^0$ (products) - $\Sigma m \Delta G_f^0$ (reactants)

Standard free energy of formation (ΔG_f^0) is the free-energy change that occurs when **1 mole** of the compound is formed from its elements in their standard states.

 ΔG_{f}^{0} of any element in its stable form is zero.

Conventions for Standard States		
State of Matter	Standard State 1 atm pressure	
Gas		
Liquid	Pure liquid	
Solid	Pure solid	
Elements*	$\Delta G_{ m f}^{ m o}=0$	
Solution	1 molar con- centration	

*The most stable allotropic form at 25°C and 1 atm.

Example Problem 1

What is the standard free-energy change for the following reaction at 25 °C?

 $2 C_6 H_{6(l)} + 15 O_{2(g)} \rightarrow 12 CO_{2(g)} + 6 H_2 O_{(l)}$ ΔG_{f}^{o} 124.5 kJ/mol 0 kJ/mol -394 kJ/mol -237 kJ/mol $\Delta G_{rxn}^{o} = \Sigma n \Delta G_{f}^{o}$ (products) $-\Sigma n \Delta G_{f}^{o}$ (reactants) $\Delta G_{rxn}^{o} = \left| (12) \left(-394 \frac{kJ}{mol} \right) + (6) \left(-237 \frac{kJ}{mol} \right) \right] - \left[(2) \left(124.5 \frac{kJ}{mol} \right) \right]$ $\Delta G_{rvn}^o = -6405 \frac{kJ}{mol}$ Is the reaction spontaneous at 25 °C?

$$\Delta G^0 = -6405 \text{ kJ} < 0$$

spontaneous

Example Problem 2

What is the standard free-energy change for the following reaction at 25 °C? Using enthalpy & entropy changes for the reaction.

$$2 C_{6}H_{6(l)} + 15 O_{2(g)} \rightarrow 12 CO_{2(g)} + 6 H_{2}O_{(l)}$$

$$\Delta H_{f}^{o} 49.0 \text{ kJ/mol} 0 \text{ kJ/mol} -393.5 \text{ kJ/mol} -286 \text{ kJ/mol}$$

$$S^{o} 172.8 \text{ J/K mol} 205 \text{ J/K mol} 214 \text{ J/K mol} 70 \text{ J/K mol}$$

$$\Delta H_{rxn}^{o} = \Sigma n \Delta H_{f}^{o} (\text{products}) - \Sigma n \Delta H_{f}^{o} (\text{reactants})$$

$$\Delta H_{rxn}^{o} = \left[(12) (-393.5 \frac{kJ}{mol}) + (6) (-286 \frac{kJ}{mol}) \right] - \left[(2) (49.0 \frac{kJ}{mol}) \right]$$

$$\Delta H_{rxn}^{o} = -6536 \frac{kJ}{mol} \text{ Very Exothermic}$$

$$\Delta S_{rxn}^{o} = \Sigma n S^{o} (\text{products}) - \Sigma n S^{o} (\text{reactants})$$

$$\Delta S_{rxn}^{o} = \left[(12) (214 \frac{J}{K \cdot mol}) + (6) (70 \frac{J}{K \cdot mol}) \right] - \left[(2) (172.8 \frac{J}{K \cdot mol}) + (15) (205 \frac{J}{K \cdot mol}) \right]$$

$$\Delta S_{rxn}^{o} = -433 \frac{J}{K \cdot mol} \text{ Large DECREASE in entropy}$$

Comparing ΔG^s : -6405 kJ/mol to -6407 kJ/mol (close but usually not exactly the same)

$\Delta G = \Delta H - T \Delta S$

Each "driving force" can say either "yes" or "no" to the reaction. What happens if they disagree?

ΔH	ΔS	ΔG	Example
(-)	(+)	(-) "Yes"	
"Yes"	"Yes"	Reaction always proceeds spontaneously at all temperatures	$2H_2O_{2(aq)} \rightarrow 2H_2O_{(l)} + O_{2(g)}$
(-)	(-)	(-) "Yes, but"	
"Yes"	"No"	Reaction spontaneous only below a	$\left NH_{3(q)} + HCl_{(q)} \rightarrow NH_{4}Cl_{(s)} \right $
Exothermic	S decreases	certain temperature	
(+)	(+)	(-) "Yes, but"	
"No"	"Yes"	Reaction spontaneous only above a	$\left 2HgO_{(s)} \rightarrow 2Hg_{(l)} + O_{2(g)} \right $
Endothermic	S increase	certain temperature	
(+)	(-)	(+) "No"	
"No"	"No"	Reaction Only proceeds in the	$3O_{2(g)} \rightarrow 2O_{3(g)}$
Endothermic	S decreases	REVERSE direction at all temperatures	

Temperature and Spontaneity of Chemical Reactions

$$CaCO_3$$
 (s) \rightarrow CaO (s) + CO_2 (g)

$\Delta H^0 = 177.8 \text{ kJ}$ (No) 3 $\Delta S^0 = 160.5 \text{ J/K}$ (Yes) $\Delta G^{0} = \Delta H^{0} - T \Delta S^{0}$ 2 $P_{\rm CO_2}(\rm atm)$ At 25 °C, ΔG^{0} = 130.0 kJ Nonspontaneous at 25°C 835°C But, <u>could happen</u> at a higher temp. 200400 600 800 () t (°C) $\Delta G^{0} = 0$ at 835 °C

Equilibrium Pressure of CO₂

Gibbs Free Energy and Phase Transitions

$$\Delta G^{o} = 0 = \Delta H^{o} - T\Delta S^{o}$$

$$H_{2}O(I) \rightleftharpoons H_{2}O(g)$$

$$\Delta S = \frac{\Delta H}{T} = \frac{40.79 \text{ kJ}}{373 \text{ K}}$$

$$= 109 \text{ J/K}$$
OR
The temperature for the phase change:
$$T = \frac{\Delta H}{\Delta S}$$
Liquid water evaporating in a closed container
$$H_{2}O(I) \rightleftharpoons H_{2}O(g)$$
Rate of evaporation established
$$H_{2}O(I) \rightleftharpoons H_{2}O(g)$$
Rate of condensation
$$H_{2}O(I) \rightleftharpoons H_{2}O(g)$$
Rate of condensation
$$T = \frac{\Delta H}{\Delta S}$$