Stoichiometry Examples

Moles to Moles

Calculate the number of moles of carbon dioxide formed when 40.0 mol of oxygen is consumed in the burning of propane.

Step 1: Write out complete chemical equation. Be sure to balance.

\[ C_3H_8 + 5O_2 \rightarrow 3CO_2 + 4H_2O \]

Step 2: Identify your molar ratio

\[ 3 \text{ CO}_2 / 5 \text{ O}_2 \]

Step 3: Convert moles using molar ratio.

\[
\frac{40.0 \text{ mol O}_2 \times 3 \text{ mol CO}_2}{5 \text{ mol O}_2} = 24.0 \text{ mol CO}_2
\]

Step 4: Summary

Therefore 24.0 mol of carbon dioxide are required to react with 40.0 mol of oxygen.

Mass to Moles

Iron reacts with superheated steam to form hydrogen gas and the oxide Fe₃O₄. Calculate the number moles of hydrogen produced by 10.0 g of iron and enough steam.

\[ 3 \text{ Fe(s)} + 4 \text{ H}_2\text{O(g)} \rightarrow \text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4(s) + 4\text{H}_2(g) \]

10.0 g \( \text{Fe(s)} \)

Convert mass of iron to moles of iron:

\[
\frac{10.0 \text{ g Fe} \times 1 \text{ mol Fe}}{55.85 \text{ g}} = 0.179 \text{ mol Fe}
\]

Convert moles iron to moles hydrogen gas:

\[
\frac{0.179 \text{ mol Fe} \times 4 \text{ mol H}_2}{3 \text{ mol Fe}} = 0.239 \text{ mol H}_2
\]

Therefore 0.239 mol of \( \text{H}_2 \) is produced from 10.0 g of iron and steam.
Mass to Mass

Iron(III) oxide, also known as rust, can be removed from iron by reacting it with hydrochloric acid to produce iron(III) chloride and water.

\[
\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3(s) + 6\text{HCl}(aq) \rightarrow 2\text{FeCl}_3(aq) + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}(l)
\]

What mass of hydrogen chloride is required to react with 100 g of rust?

Convert from mass to moles:

\[
100 \text{ g Fe}_2\text{O}_3 \times \frac{1 \text{ mol Fe}_2\text{O}_3}{159.7 \text{ g Fe}_2\text{O}_3} = 0.0626 \text{ mol Fe}_2\text{O}_3
\]

Convert moles of \(\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3\) to moles of hydrogen chloride:

\[
0.0626 \text{ mol Fe}_2\text{O}_3 \times \frac{6 \text{ mol HCl}}{1 \text{ mol Fe}_2\text{O}_3} = 3.756 \text{ mol HCl}
\]

Convert moles of HCl to mass of HCl:

\[
3.756 \text{ mol HCl} \times \frac{36.46 \text{ g HCl}}{1 \text{ mol HCl}} = 137 \text{ g HCl}
\]

OR

\[
100 \text{ g Fe}_2\text{O}_3 \times \frac{1 \text{ mol Fe}_2\text{O}_3}{159.7 \text{ g Fe}_2\text{O}_3} \times \frac{6 \text{ mol HCl}}{1 \text{ mol Fe}_2\text{O}_3} \times \frac{36.46 \text{ g HCl}}{1 \text{ mol HCl}} = 137 \text{ g HCl}
\]
Limiting Reagent

Calculate the number of grams of solid aluminum chloride that will form when a mixture containing 0.150 g of aluminum powder and 1.00 g of chlorine gas is allowed to react.

\[ 2 \text{Al(s)} + 3\text{Cl}_2(g) \rightarrow 2\text{AlCl}_3(s) \]

0.150 g 1.00 g ?

Convert known masses to moles:

\[
\frac{0.150 \text{ g Al}}{26.98 \text{ g Al/mol}} \times \frac{1 \text{ mol Al}}{1} = 0.00556 \text{ mol Al}
\]

**How much Cl\(_2\) would be required?**

\[
\frac{0.00556 \text{ mol Al}}{2 \text{ mol Al/mol Cl}_2} \times \frac{3 \text{ mol Cl}_2}{1} = 0.00834 \text{ mol Cl}_2
\]

**How much do I actually have?**

\[
\frac{1.00 \text{ g Cl}_2}{70.90 \text{ g Cl}_2/mol} \times \frac{1 \text{ mol Cl}_2}{70.90 \text{ g Cl}_2} = 0.0141 \text{ mol Cl}_2
\]

I have a lot more chlorine available than I need, thus Cl\(_2\) is the limiting reactant. I must use the mass of Al to finish my calculation.

Convert moles of Al to moles of AlCl\(_3\) to mass of AlCl\(_3\):

\[
\frac{0.00556 \text{ mol Al}}{2 \text{ mol Al/mol AlCl}_3} \times \frac{2 \text{ mol AlCl}_3}{1 \text{ mol Al}} \times \frac{133.3 \text{ g AlCl}_3}{1 \text{ mol AlCl}_3} = 0.741 \text{ g AlCl}_3
\]

Therefore 0.150 g of Al and 1.00 g of Cl\(_2\) will form 0.741 g of AlCl\(_3\).