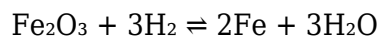


At What Temperature Will The Following System Be At Equilibrium? $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + 3\text{H}_2 \rightleftharpoons 2\text{Fe} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ $\Delta H_{\text{rxn}} = 98.8$

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Understanding the temperature at which a chemical system reaches equilibrium is fundamental in thermodynamics and chemical engineering. In this article, we delve into the specifics of the reaction:

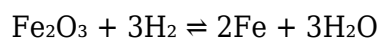


with an enthalpy change ($\Delta H^\circ_{\text{rxn}}$) of 98.8 kJ. Our goal is to determine the temperature at which this reaction achieves equilibrium, considering factors such as the reaction's thermodynamics, the equilibrium constant, and how temperature influences the system.

Understanding the Reaction and Its Thermodynamics

Reaction Overview

The chemical equation under consideration is:



This reaction involves the reduction of iron(III) oxide (Fe_2O_3) with hydrogen gas (H_2) to produce metallic iron (Fe) and water vapor (H_2O). The reaction is typically used in metallurgical processes such as direct reduction in ironmaking.

Enthalpy Change ($\Delta H^\circ_{\text{rxn}}$)

Given:

$$\Delta H^\circ_{\text{rxn}} = 98.8 \text{ kJ}$$

Since ΔH is positive, the reaction is endothermic, meaning it absorbs heat from the surroundings. This characteristic greatly influences how temperature affects the equilibrium position.

Thermodynamic Principles and Equilibrium

Gibbs Free Energy and Equilibrium

The key thermodynamic parameter that determines the equilibrium position is the Gibbs free energy change (ΔG). At equilibrium, $\Delta G = 0$, which relates to the standard Gibbs free energy change (ΔG°) and the reaction quotient (Q):

$$\Delta G = \Delta G^\circ + RT \ln Q$$

where:

- R = universal gas constant (8.314 J/mol·K)
- T = temperature in Kelvin
- Q = reaction quotient

At equilibrium, $Q = K$ (the equilibrium constant), and $\Delta G = 0$, leading to:

$$0 = \Delta G^\circ + RT \ln K$$

Rearranged as:

$$\Delta G^\circ = -RT \ln K$$

Relationship Between ΔG° , K , and Temperature

The standard Gibbs free energy change is related to standard enthalpy and entropy changes:

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

where:

- ΔS° is the standard entropy change

At equilibrium:

$$\ln K = -\Delta G^\circ / RT = -(\Delta H^\circ - T\Delta S^\circ) / RT$$

This equation shows that the equilibrium constant (K) is temperature-dependent, especially for reactions with significant ΔH° and ΔS° .

Calculating the Equilibrium Temperature

To find the temperature at which the reaction reaches equilibrium, we need to determine the temperature where the equilibrium constant (K) reaches a certain value. Typically, the equilibrium temperature depends on initial conditions, but for illustration, we assume the reaction reaches equilibrium at a temperature where K has a specific value indicating significant conversion.

Step 1: Obtain ΔS° (Standard Entropy Change)

Since ΔH° and ΔS° are related to the reaction, we can approximate ΔS° by considering standard molar entropy values for each reactant and product from thermodynamic tables:

Species	ΔS° (J/mol·K)
Fe ₂ O ₃	87.4
H ₂	130.7
Fe	27.3
H ₂ O(g)	188.8

Calculating ΔS° :

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta S^\circ &= [2 \times S^\circ(\text{Fe}) + 3 \times S^\circ(\text{H}_2\text{O})] - [S^\circ(\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3) + 3 \times S^\circ(\text{H}_2)] \\&= [2 \times 27.3 + 3 \times 188.8] - [87.4 + 3 \times 130.7] \\&= [54.6 + 566.4] - [87.4 + 392.1] \\&= 621.0 - 479.5 \\&= 141.5 \text{ J/mol}\cdot\text{K}\end{aligned}$$

This positive ΔS° indicates increased disorder as the reaction proceeds toward metallic iron and water vapor.

Step 2: Calculate ΔG° at Different Temperatures

Using:

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

$$\text{with } \Delta H^\circ = 98.8 \text{ kJ} = 98800 \text{ J}$$

$$\text{and } \Delta S^\circ = 141.5 \text{ J/mol}\cdot\text{K}.$$

At various temperatures, ΔG° can be computed:

Temperature (K)	ΔG° (J/mol)	Sign of ΔG°	Reaction Favorability
300	$98800 - 300 \times 141.5 \approx 98800 - 42450 = 56350$	Positive	Non-spontaneous; favors reactants
600	$98800 - 600 \times 141.5 \approx 98800 - 84900 = 13900$	Positive	Still non-spontaneous but less so
900	$98800 - 900 \times 141.5 \approx 98800 - 127350 = -28550$	Negative	Spontaneous; reaction favors products

The transition point where ΔG° changes sign (from positive to negative) indicates the approximate equilibrium temperature.

Determining the Equilibrium Temperature

From the above calculations, $\Delta G^\circ = 0$ at:

$$0 = \Delta H^\circ - T\Delta S^\circ$$

$$\Rightarrow T = \Delta H^\circ / \Delta S^\circ$$

Plugging in the values:

$$T = 98800 \text{ J} / 141.5 \text{ J/mol}\cdot\text{K} \approx 698.7 \text{ K}$$

Therefore, the approximate equilibrium temperature for this reaction is around 699 Kelvin.

Implications of the Calculated Equilibrium Temperature

Temperature Range for Equilibrium

- Below approximately 699 K: The reaction tends to favor the reactants ($\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + 3\text{H}_2$), meaning less metallic iron is produced.
- Above approximately 699 K: The reaction shifts toward products (Fe and H_2O), favoring reduction and water formation.

Practical Considerations

In industrial settings, maintaining the temperature above the equilibrium point ensures maximum reduction efficiency. For this specific reaction, operating at temperatures significantly above 700 K (around 427°C) promotes the formation of metallic iron.

Limitations and Further Considerations

Assumptions Made

- Ideal gas behavior is assumed for H_2 and H_2O .
- Standard thermodynamic values are used, neglecting activity coefficients or other real-world effects.
- The reaction is considered at equilibrium without kinetics constraints.

Additional Factors

- Pressure effects: Increasing pressure favors the side with fewer moles of gas.
- Catalysts: May influence the rate but not the equilibrium position.
- Temperature control: Precise temperature regulation is critical in industrial processes to optimize yield.

Conclusion

By applying thermodynamic principles and utilizing standard entropy and enthalpy data, we determine that the equilibrium temperature for the reduction reaction $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + 3\text{H}_2 \rightleftharpoons 2\text{Fe} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ is approximately 699 Kelvin. Operating above this temperature enhances the reduction process, producing metallic iron efficiently.

Understanding the temperature dependence of the equilibrium allows engineers and chemists to optimize conditions for industrial processes such as ironmaking and hydrogen reduction, ensuring maximum efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

SEO Keywords and Phrases

- Equilibrium temperature of Fe_2O_3 reduction

- Thermodynamics of reduction reactions
- Standard entropy and enthalpy of iron oxides
- Calculating reaction equilibrium temperature
- Endothermic reduction of iron oxides
- Industrial ironmaking temperatures
- Effect of temperature on chemical equilibrium
- Hydrogen reduction of Fe_2O_3
- Thermodynamic analysis of reduction reactions
- Optimal temperature for iron reduction processes

This comprehensive guide provides a clear understanding of how to calculate and interpret the temperature at which the $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + 3\text{H}_2$ reaction reaches equilibrium, combining thermodynamic theory with practical insights for industrial applications.

Frequently Asked Questions

At what temperature will the $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + 3\text{H}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{Fe} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ system reach equilibrium based on the given reaction and enthalpy change?

The equilibrium temperature cannot be determined solely from the reaction and enthalpy change without additional information such as the equilibrium constant or temperature dependence. Typically, the temperature at equilibrium depends on the reaction conditions and the thermodynamic data.

How does the enthalpy change ($\Delta H_{\text{rxn}} = 98.8 \text{ kJ}$) influence the equilibrium temperature of the reaction?

Since the reaction has a positive ΔH_{rxn} , it is endothermic. Increasing temperature favors the formation of products, shifting equilibrium toward Fe and H_2O , and the equilibrium temperature is where the Gibbs free energy change is zero, which depends on both ΔH and ΔS .

Can the reaction $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + 3\text{H}_2 \rightleftharpoons 2\text{Fe} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ be shifted to favor products at high or low temperatures?

Given that the reaction is endothermic, increasing temperature favors product formation, shifting equilibrium toward Fe and H_2O . Therefore, higher temperatures promote the formation of products.

What additional data is needed to calculate the exact temperature at which this system reaches equilibrium?

To determine the equilibrium temperature, data such as the standard Gibbs free energy change (ΔG°) at various temperatures or the equilibrium constant (K) as a function of temperature are

needed.

How does Le Châtelier's principle relate to the temperature dependence of this reaction?

Le Châtelier's principle states that increasing temperature will shift the equilibrium toward the endothermic direction. Since the reaction absorbs heat (positive ΔH), higher temperatures favor the formation of Fe and H_2O .

Is it possible to estimate the equilibrium temperature using the Van't Hoff equation?

Yes, if the equilibrium constant or ΔG° is known at different temperatures, the Van't Hoff equation can be used to estimate the temperature at which the reaction reaches equilibrium.

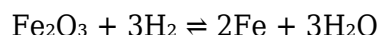
What practical applications relate to controlling the temperature for this reaction?

Controlling temperature is crucial in processes like iron production and reduction reactions, where optimizing temperature ensures maximum yield and efficiency of the desired products.

Additional Resources

At What Temperature Will The Following System Be At Equilibrium? $Fe_2O_3 + 3H_2 \rightleftharpoons 2Fe + 3H_2O$, $\Delta H_{xn} = 98.8 \text{ kJ}$

Understanding the precise temperature at which a chemical system reaches equilibrium is fundamental in fields ranging from industrial metallurgy to environmental chemistry. In this article, we explore the thermodynamics underlying the reaction:



with an enthalpy change (ΔH_{xn}) of 98.8 kJ. Our goal is to determine the temperature at which this reaction reaches equilibrium, considering the principles of thermodynamics, the role of the Gibbs free energy, and how temperature influences the direction and extent of chemical reactions.

The Significance of Equilibrium in Chemical Reactions

Before diving into the calculations, it's essential to understand what equilibrium means in a chemical context. When a reaction reaches equilibrium:

- The rates of the forward and reverse reactions are equal.
- The concentrations (or partial pressures) of reactants and products remain constant over time.
- The system's thermodynamic parameters satisfy specific relationships governed by the Gibbs free energy (ΔG).

For the reaction under consideration, determining the equilibrium temperature helps predict whether the reaction favors the formation of metallic iron (Fe) and water (H₂O) or the oxidation of iron oxide (Fe₂O₃) back to its reactants, depending on the temperature.

Thermodynamic Foundations: Gibbs Free Energy and Equilibrium

The key thermodynamic quantity governing equilibrium is the Gibbs free energy change (ΔG):

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

Where:

- ΔH is the enthalpy change,
- T is the temperature in Kelvin,
- ΔS is the entropy change.

The reaction reaches equilibrium when $\Delta G = 0$. At this point:

$$\Delta H = T\Delta S$$

Rearranged to solve for the equilibrium temperature:

$$T_{eq} = \Delta H / \Delta S$$

Thus, knowing ΔH and ΔS allows us to determine the temperature at which the reaction is at equilibrium.

Calculating the Equilibrium Temperature

Step 1: Understanding the Reaction's Thermodynamic Data

Given:

- $\Delta H_{rxn} = +98.8 \text{ kJ}$ (endothermic reaction)

To find ΔS , we need to consider standard molar entropy values of all reactants and products, which typically are sourced from thermodynamic tables.

Standard molar entropies (approximate values):

- $S^\circ(\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3) \approx 87.4 \text{ J/mol}\cdot\text{K}$
- $S^\circ(\text{H}_2) \approx 130.6 \text{ J/mol}\cdot\text{K}$
- $S^\circ(\text{Fe}) \approx 27.3 \text{ J/mol}\cdot\text{K}$
- $S^\circ(\text{H}_2\text{O}) \approx 188.7 \text{ J/mol}\cdot\text{K}$

Calculating ΔS for the reaction:

$$\Delta S = \left[2 \times S^\circ(\text{Fe}) + 3 \times S^\circ(\text{H}_2\text{O}) \right] - \left[S^\circ(\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3) + 3 \times S^\circ(\text{H}_2) \right]$$

\]

Substituting the values:

\[

$$\Delta S = [2 \times 27.3 + 3 \times 188.7] - [87.4 + 3 \times 130.6]$$

\]

\[

$$\Delta S = (54.6 + 566.1) - (87.4 + 391.8) = 620.7 - 479.2 = 141.5 \text{ J/mol}\cdot\text{K}$$

\]

Since ΔH is given in kJ, convert ΔS to kJ:

\[

$$\Delta S = 0.1415 \text{ kJ/mol}\cdot\text{K}$$

\]

Step 2: Calculate the Equilibrium Temperature

Using:

\[

$$T_{eq} = \frac{\Delta H}{\Delta S}$$

\]

\[

$$T_{eq} = \frac{98.8 \text{ kJ/mol}}{0.1415 \text{ kJ/mol}\cdot\text{K}} \approx 698.1 \text{ K}$$

\]

Therefore, the system reaches equilibrium at approximately 698 K, which is about 425°C.

Interpretation of the Results

The calculated equilibrium temperature (~698 K) signifies a critical point:

- Below 698 K: The reaction tends to favor the formation of Fe and H₂O, as the Gibbs free energy change becomes negative, favoring the products.
- Above 698 K: The reaction shifts toward the formation of Fe₂O₃ and H₂, favoring the reactants because the entropy term dominates at higher temperatures.

This transition point has practical implications, especially in industrial processes like direct reduction of iron ore, where temperature control determines product yield.

Practical Implications in Industry

1. Iron Production and Reduction Processes

In metallurgy, reducing iron oxides to metallic iron is crucial. The temperature at which the reduction equilibrium favors Fe formation ensures energy-efficient and economically viable processes.

- At temperatures below 698 K: The reduction is thermodynamically favored, facilitating easier extraction of iron.
- At higher temperatures: Oxidation may dominate, making reduction more challenging.

2. Environmental Considerations

Understanding the thermodynamic equilibrium helps in designing processes that minimize undesirable emissions or energy consumption, aligning with sustainable manufacturing goals.

3. Catalyst and Process Optimization

Knowing the exact temperature for equilibrium allows engineers to optimize reaction conditions, select appropriate catalysts, and control reaction kinetics to achieve desired outputs efficiently.

Limitations and Additional Factors

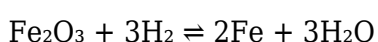
While thermodynamic calculations provide a vital baseline, real-world reactions depend on multiple factors:

- Kinetics: Rate of reaction may be slow or fast depending on catalysts, pressure, and other conditions.
- Pressure: Changes in pressure, especially for gaseous reactants and products, can shift equilibrium positions.
- Non-ideal behavior: Real systems may deviate from ideal thermodynamic assumptions due to impurities or phase interactions.

Therefore, the calculated equilibrium temperature should be integrated with kinetic studies and process considerations for practical applications.

Conclusion: The Balance Point of Thermodynamics

Through a detailed examination of the thermodynamic parameters, we've established that the reaction:



reaches equilibrium at approximately 698 Kelvin (about 425°C). This temperature marks the delicate balance point where the forward and reverse reactions are equally favored under standard conditions.

Understanding this equilibrium temperature equips chemists and engineers with critical insights

into designing efficient reduction processes, optimizing industrial operations, and advancing sustainable practices in metal production. As the field of thermodynamics continues to evolve, such fundamental calculations remain instrumental in harnessing chemical reactions for technological progress.

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