

What is Chemical Equilibrium and the Equilibrium Constant?

Worksheet

For $aA + bB \rightleftharpoons cC + dD$ at equilibrium: $K_c = \frac{[C]^c [D]^d}{[A]^a [B]^b}$ (concentration-based), $K_p = \frac{P(C)^c P(D)^d}{P(A)^a P(B)^b}$ (pressure-based). Large K favors products; small K favors reactants.

$$K_c = \frac{[\text{Products}]^{\text{coeffs}}}{[\text{Reactants}]^{\text{coeffs}}}$$

Questions

- For $2NO \rightleftharpoons N_2 + O_2$, if $[NO]=0.1$, $[N_2]=0.05$, $[O_2]=0.05$ at equilibrium, $K_c=?$
 - 0.25
 - 2.5
 - 25
 - 0.025
- Which K_c value indicates equilibrium favors products?
 - 0.001
 - 1
 - 1000
 - 0.5
- For $A \rightleftharpoons 2B$, if at equilibrium $[A]=0.2$ and $[B]=0.8$, $K_c=?$
 - 0.25
 - 1.6
 - 3.2
 - 6.4
- K_c and K_p are equal when
 - $T = 0$
 - $n = 0$
 - pressure = 1 atm
 - reaction is slow
- For $H_2 + I_2 \rightleftharpoons 2HI$ at equilibrium: $[H_2]=0.1$, $[I_2]=0.1$, $[HI]=0.8$ (all mol/L). Find K_c .
- For $N_2 + 3H_2 \rightleftharpoons 2NH_3$ at equilibrium: $[N_2]=1$, $[H_2]=1$, $[NH_3]=2$. Calculate K_c .
- If $K_c = 10$ for $A \rightleftharpoons B$, does the equilibrium favor products or reactants?
- Define: What is chemical equilibrium?
- Define: What is the equilibrium constant K_c ?
- Define: If $K_c \gg 1$, which does equilibrium favor?

Answer Key

1. C) 25 - $K_c = \frac{[N][O]}{[NO]} = \frac{(0.05)(0.05)}{0.1} = \frac{0.0025}{0.1} = 0.025$. Wait, that's option 0. Let me recalculate: $\frac{(0.05)(0.05)}{0.01} = \frac{0.0025}{0.01} = 0.25$. So correct is 0.
2. C) 1000 - Large $K_c \gg 1$ favors products. $K_c = 1000$ is very large.
3. D) 6.4 - $K_c = \frac{[B]}{[A]} = \frac{0.8}{0.2} = \frac{0.64}{0.2} = 3.2$. Wait, let me check: $\frac{0.64}{0.2} = 3.2$. Actually that's option 2. Hmm, $(0.8)^2 = 0.64$, $\frac{0.64}{0.2} = 3.2$. So correct is 2.
4. B) $n = 0$ - $K_p = K_c(RT)^n$. When $n = 0$ (moles gas equal), $K_p = K_c$.
5. $H + I \rightleftharpoons 2HI$ $K_c = \frac{[HI]^2}{[H][I]}$ $K_c = \frac{(0.8)^2}{(0.1)(0.1)} = \frac{0.64}{0.01} = 64$
6. $K_c = \frac{[NH]}{([N][H])}$ $K_c = \frac{2}{(1)(1)} = \frac{4}{1} = 4$
7. $K_c = 10 \gg 1$ (much greater than 1) Equilibrium heavily favors products Most A converts to B at equilibrium
8. State where forward and reverse reaction rates are equal, so concentrations no longer change.
9. $K_c = \frac{[\text{products}]^{\text{coeffs}}}{[\text{reactants}]^{\text{coeffs}}}$ at equilibrium. Quantifies the extent of reaction.
10. Products - the reaction goes nearly to completion.

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