

# Topic 7 Equilibrium

Definition: When a reaction takes place at the same rate as its reverse reaction  
∴ no net change has occurred

$\downarrow$   
equilibrium state ( $\rightleftharpoons$ ) vs ( $\rightleftharpoons$ ) or ( $\rightleftharpoons$ )

favored direction

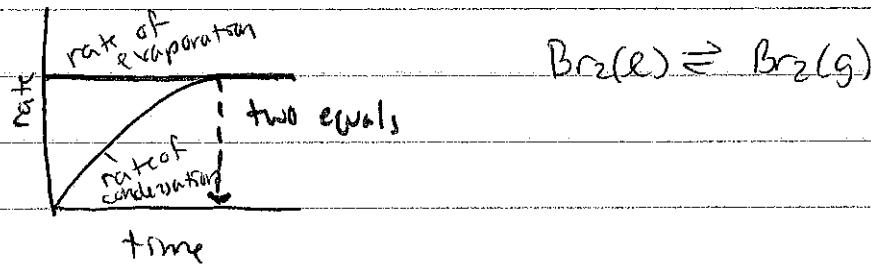
## 7.1 Equilibrium

### Physical Systems

$\text{Br}_2(\ell) \rightarrow$  put into a closed container  
• Volatile (b.p. close to room temp) ∴  
movement to vapor (gas) occurs easily

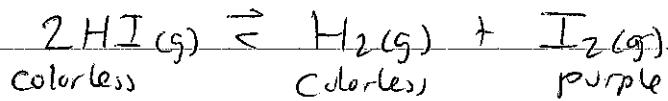
$\text{Br}_2(\ell) \rightarrow$  evaporates (vapor)  $\rightarrow$  upon interaction  
w/ surface (l), particles lose energy  $\rightarrow$  condense (l)

evaporation = condensation  $\Rightarrow$  equilibrium



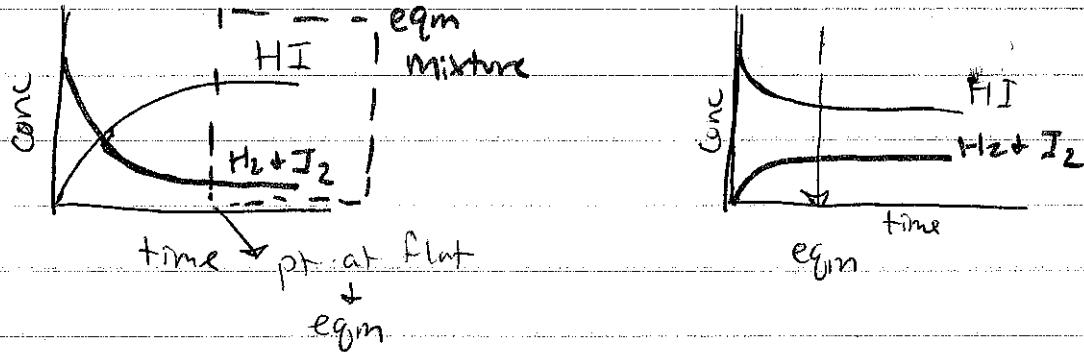
## Chemical systems

eqm rxn



forward rxn =  $\text{R} \rightarrow \text{P}$

reverse rxn =  $\text{P} \rightarrow \text{R}$       dynamic due to occurring at same time



- ★ Start w/ only reactants or only products  $\Rightarrow$  under same conditions same eqm mixture will be created

### Characteristics of eqm state

1. Dynamic: forward & backward rxn occurring at same rate (though never stopped)

2. Achieved in closed system: prevents exchange w/ surroundings allows both R & P ability to react/recombine

3. R + P conc constant: produced & destroyed at same rate

4. no change in macroscopic properties: (color & density) do not change as dependent on conc in mixture

5. Reached from either direction: no matter starting pt. all R, all P, or mix, eqm will be at same pt.

At eqm  $\rightarrow$  constant conc does not necessarily mean equal

- one side will be favored (depends on rxn & conditions)

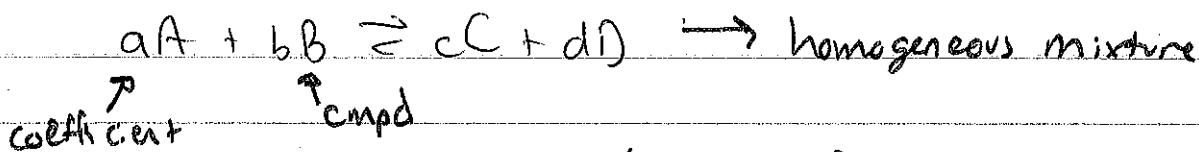


eqm position  $P \rightarrow$  lie to right  $\rightarrow$  determined  
 $R \rightarrow$  lie to left mathematically

$K_c \rightarrow$  eqm constant

- it is a fixed value for a particular rxn at a specified T  $\therefore$  is Temp dependent
- Every rxn has its own particular value for  $K_c$

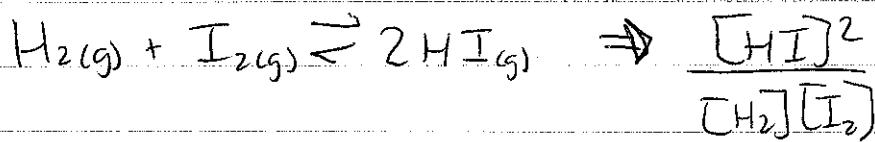
eqm constant expression (use stoichiometric rxn)



↙ coefficient from rxn

$$K_c = \frac{[C]_c^c [D]_c^d}{[A]_c^a [B]_c^b}$$

↙ conc at eqm



$$\text{exp 1} \frac{(0.156)^2}{(0.0222)(0.0222)} = 49.4$$

$$\text{exp 2} \frac{(0.280)^2}{(0.0350)(0.0450)} = 49.8$$

$$\text{exp 3} \frac{(0.100)^2}{(0.0150)(0.0150)} = 49.4$$

eqm data = constant value (w/in limits)

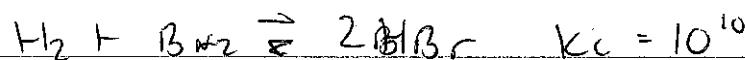
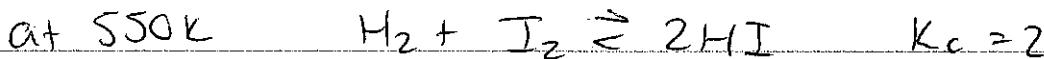


$K_c$  - no unit as it represents  
an activity

example : pg 316

$K_c \gg 1$  products favored  $\left(\frac{\text{P}}{\text{R}} = \frac{\text{large} \#}{\text{small} \#}\right)$   
rxn goes towards completion

$K_c \ll 1$  reactants favored  $\left(\frac{\text{small} \#}{\text{large} \#}\right)$   
rxn barely starts

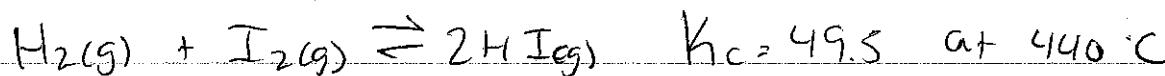


all products favored but HCl favored most

\* magnitude of  $K_c$  does not relate to rate just  
nature of eqm mixture

$Q \rightarrow$  rxn quotient, predicts direction of rxn

- determines  $[R]$  &  $[P]$  at 1 moment when rxn is not at eqm
- value of  $Q$  changes in direction of  $K_c$



$$K_c = \frac{[HI]^2}{[H_2][I_2]}$$

time #1  $Q = \frac{(0.100)^2}{(0.050)(0.050)} = 4.00 \quad Q < K_c \therefore \text{favor } [P]$

time #2  $Q = \frac{(0.300)^2}{(0.0250)(0.0350)} = 103 \quad Q > K_c \text{ favor } [R]$

if  $Q = K_c$  rxn at eqm (no net rxn)

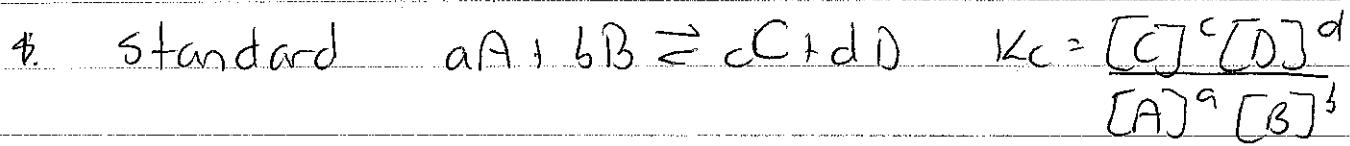
$Q < K_c$  proceeds right (products)

$Q > K_c$  proceeds left (reactants)

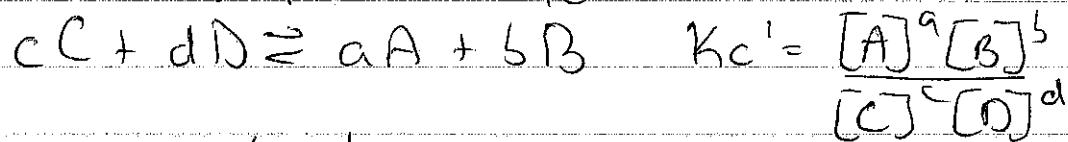
example pg 319

Manipulating  $K_c$  for diff rxn equations

for changes made to standard eq.



1)  $K_c$  of reverse rxn =  $K_c'$



$$\therefore K_c' = \frac{1}{K_c} \text{ or } K_c' = K_c^{-1}$$

2) multiple rxns (doubling / tripling)



$$K_c^x = \frac{[C]^{2c} [D]^{2d}}{[A]^{2a} [B]^{2b}} = K_c^2 \quad (K_c^3, \text{etc.})$$

3) halving rxn coefficients  $\rightarrow \sqrt{\text{exp}} \rightarrow \sqrt{K_c}$

4) adding 2 rxns  $\rightarrow$  multiply 2 exp  $\rightarrow K_c^i \times K_c^{ii}$

example pg 321

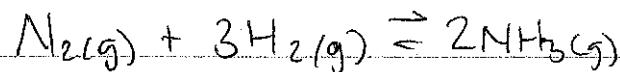
### Le Châtelier's Principle

- a system at eqm when subjected to change will respond in such a way as to minimize the effect of the change

add  $\rightarrow$  adjust to remove it (vice versa)

$\downarrow$   
new eqm (shift than before)

### i) Changes in concentration



- add  $H_2$  (reactant)  $\uparrow$  conc : decrease  $[N_2]$  &  $[H_2]$  in 1:3 ratio, increasing  $[NH_3]$  in 1:2 ratio  
 $\rightarrow$  favor products b/c add reactants want to remove in order to re-equilibrate

- remove  $NH_3$  (product)  $\downarrow$  conc : decrease  $[N_2]$  &  $[H_2]$  to  $\downarrow [NH_3]$   
 $\rightarrow$  favor products b/c removed product, need to replace, pushes rxn in forward direction

\*  $K_c$  remains unchanged in both cases b/c only affected by T

Remove R	P	Add R	P
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\* no matter effect new eqm is achieved (new ratio but same  $K_c$ )

## 2) Change in pressure

\* affects gases only where change in # molecules occur

$\uparrow$  pressure move to side w/ fewer molecules

$\downarrow$  pressure move to side w/ more molecules favored

if equal # of (g) molecules on each side, pressure has no effect

\*  $K_c$  will be unchanged as long as T stays same

## 3) Change in temperature

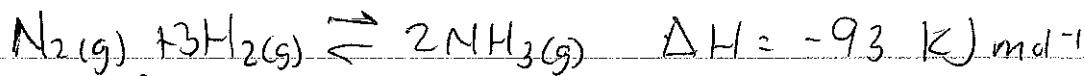
\*  $K_c$  is temp dependent ( $\Delta T = A/K_c$ )

enthalpy changes

$\Delta H (-)$  exothermic       $\Delta H (+)$  endothermic

forward & reverse rxn are equal & opposite

$f = \Delta H(+)$  then  $R = \Delta H(-)$



forward rxn - exothermic (releases heat)

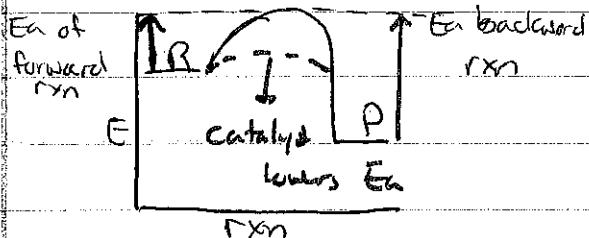
$\begin{cases} \downarrow \text{temp}, \text{ favor products (release more heat)} \\ \uparrow \text{temp}, \text{ favor reactants (take heat in)} \end{cases}$

problem -  $\downarrow$  temp too much, rate slows sig.

$\uparrow$  temp (to  $\uparrow$  rate),  $\uparrow K_c$  for endo rxn

$\downarrow K_c$  for exo

#### 4) Addition of a catalyst



- catalyst lowers Ea for both forward/reverse rxns  $\therefore$  rate of both rxn  $\uparrow$  at same amt

no effect on eqm position ( $K_c$ ), but speeds up attainment of eqm state

#### Summary

1) conc	change in eqm position	$K_c$ no change
2) pressure	$\uparrow$ if # of (g) molec changes	$\downarrow$
3) temp	changes	changes
4) catalyst	no change	no change

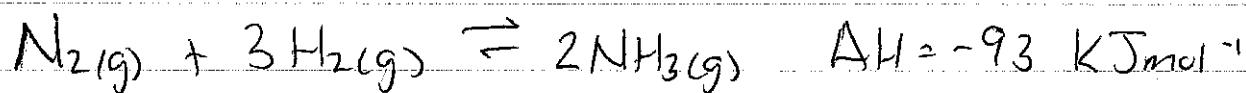
#### Industrial Applications

goal: obtain highest yield  $\therefore$  apply Le Chatelier's principle to push rxn to right

- ① yield  $\rightarrow$  ideal mix, may compensate
- ② rate  $\rightarrow$  (cost - benefit)

## The Haber Process: production of ammonia ( $\text{NH}_3$ )

use: fertilizers (ammonium nitrate), plastics (nylon), refrigerants, explosives

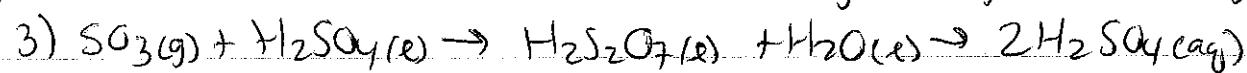


Optimum conditions:

- 1) conc: R need to be in 1:3 ratio  
product is removed as formed, pulling eqm  
to right (↑ yield)
- 2) pressure: forward rxn, fewer (g) molecules, favored  
by high pressure (20,000 kPa)
- 3) temp: forward rxn exothermic, favored at low  
temp (too low = uneconomic) ( $450^\circ\text{C}$ )
- 4) catalyst: speed up rxn, compensate for moderate  
temp used (Fe catalyst w/ Al +  $\text{MgO}$  or  
Ruthenium to ↓ energy requirement)

## The Contact process: production of $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$

use: fertilizer's, detergents, dyes, explosives, drugs  
plastics



Conditions:

- pressure: forward rxn, fewer (g) molecules ( $200\text{ kPa}$ )

- temp: forward rxn exo ( $-19\text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ), moderate  
temp used ( $450^\circ\text{C}$ )

- catalyst: Vanadium (V) oxide ( $V_2O_5$ )

## Production of Methanol



Conditions:

- pressure: fewer molecules of forward rxn  
( $5-10 \times 10^3\text{ kPa}$ )

- temp: exothermic ( $250^\circ\text{C}$ )

- catalyst:  $\text{Cu-ZnO-Al}_2\text{O}_3$  mixture