

CHEMICAL REACTIONS AND ENERGY CHANGES (ENERGETICS)

Energy is the ability to do work. Chemicals possess energy in two ways:

1. Kinetic energy
2. Chemical energy

During chemical reactions, bonds are broken in the reactants. Energy is absorbed and this is an endothermic process. Reactants need a minimum amount of energy for the reaction to proceed; this is known as the activation energy.

Additionally, in chemical reactions, new bonds are formed in order to yield products. Energy is released in the formation of new bonds and this is known as an exothermic process. These energy changes occur together, and are measured as changes in heat energy.

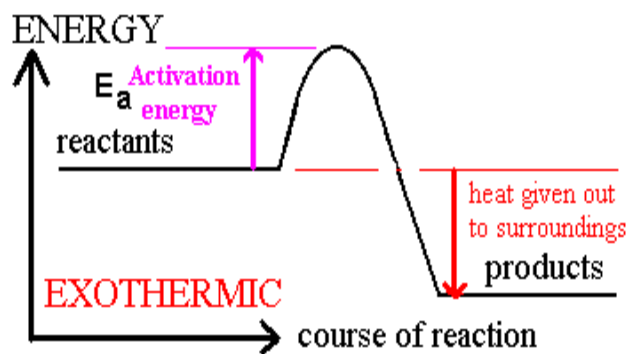
Overall, a reaction is:

- **Endothermic** if the energy that is absorbed in breaking bonds is greater than the energy released in the forming of new bonds. This means that heat energy is absorbed from the surroundings, and the reaction becomes cooler. E.g. i) Dissolving ammonium chloride and potassium nitrate in water; ii) Photosynthesis
Endothermic reactions are much rarer than exothermic reactions.
- **Exothermic** if the energy absorbed in breaking bonds is less than the energy released in forming new bonds. As a result, heat energy is released to the surroundings, and the reaction becomes hotter. E.g. i) Respiration; ii) Neutralization reactions; iii) Combustion reactions; iv) Dissolving ethanol in water

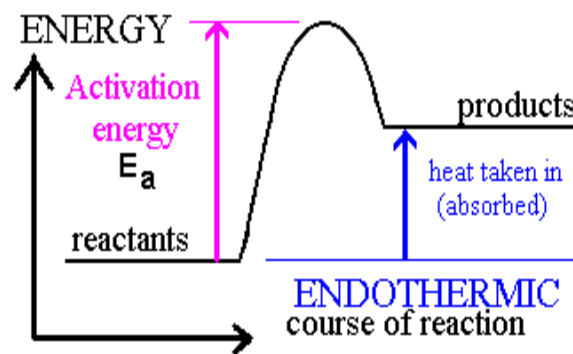
The energy or heat content of any substance is called its enthalpy (H); change in enthalpy is written as ΔH .

Enthalpy Change of reaction

= Energy content of products – Energy content of reactants



Energy Profile Diagram of an Exothermic Reaction



Energy Profile Diagram of an Endothermic Reaction

Measuring Heat Changes in the Lab

When measuring heat changes, the following apparatus are needed:

1. An insulated container which serves as a **calorimeter**. E.g. Styrofoam cups, plastic cups
2. Thermometer
3. A balance
4. A volumetric apparatus, E.g. beaker, measuring cylinder, burette, pipette

General Steps in the Procedure

1. Allow reactants to reach room temperature. Record the temperature.
2. Mix the reactants and record the highest or lowest temperature reached.
3. Determine the temperature change of the reaction.
4. Calculate the heat change for the reaction.

Heat Absorbed or Given Out

= mass × specific heat capacity × temperature change

$$\Delta H = mc\Delta T \text{ or } mc\Delta\theta$$

For aqueous solutions, 1 cm³ is assumed to have a mass of 1 g. The specific heat capacity of these solutions would therefore be the sum of that of water which is **4.18 Jg⁻¹°C⁻¹**.

Specific Heat Capacity

This is the amount of energy required to raise the temperature of 1 g of water by 1°C.

Heat of Neutralization

This is the energy change which occurs when 1 mole of water is formed during a neutralization reaction.

Heat of Combustion

This is the heat change which occurs when 1 mole of a substance is completely burnt in oxygen.

Heat of Solution

This is the heat change which occurs when 1 mole of a solute dissolves in a specific volume of solvent.

CALCULATIONS

Heat of Neutralization

100 cm³ of 1 mol dm⁻³ NaOH solution at 18°C are added to 100 cm³ of 1 mol dm⁻³ HCl solution at 18°C. The temperature of the resulting salt solution is 24.8°C. Calculate the heat of neutralization.

$$\text{Increase in temperature} = 24.8^\circ\text{C} - 18^\circ\text{C} = 6.8^\circ\text{C}$$

$$\text{Heat evolved} = mc\Delta\theta = 200 \text{ g} \times 4.2 \text{ J g}^{-1}\text{C}^{-1} \times 6.8^\circ\text{C} = 5712 \text{ J} = 5.7 \text{ kJ}$$

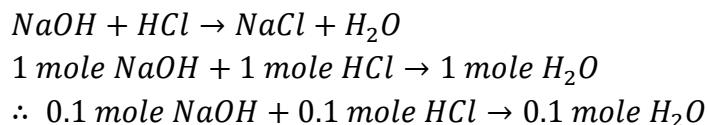
Since the reaction is a neutralization reaction, it is exothermic, and therefore, the heat evolved = -5.7 kJ

1000 cm³ NaOH contains 1 mole

$$\therefore 100 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ contains } \frac{100}{1000} \times 1 = 0.1 \text{ mole}$$

1000 cm³ HCl contains 1 mole

$$\therefore 100 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ contains } \frac{100}{1000} \times 1 = 0.1 \text{ mole}$$



When 0.1 mole H_2O is formed, -5.7 kJ of heat is evolved

$$\therefore 1 \text{ mole of H}_2\text{O} \text{ will give } \frac{1}{0.1} \times (-5.7) = -57 \text{ kJ}$$

The heat of neutralization is -57 kJ .

Heat of Solution

When 2.12 g anhydrous Na_2CO_3 is dissolved in 100 g of water, a rise in temperature of 1.17°C is observed. Calculate the molar heat of solution of Na_2CO_3 . (RAM: Na = 23, C = 12, O = 16)

$$\text{Heat evolved} = mc\Delta\theta = 100 \text{ g} \times 4.2 \text{ J g}^{-1}\text{C}^{-1} \times 1.17^\circ\text{C} = 491.4 \text{ J}$$

2.12 g of anhydrous Na_2CO_3 produces 491.4 J of energy when dissolved in water

$$\therefore 106 \text{ g of anhydrous Na}_2\text{CO}_3 \text{ produces } \frac{106}{2.12} \times 491.4 = 24570 \text{ J} = 24.57 \text{ kJ of energy}$$

The heat of solution is -24.57 kJ

Heat of Combustion

When 0.4 g of methanol (CH_3OH) is burnt, the heat evolved produces a 7°C rise in the temperature of 304 g of H_2O . Calculate the molar heat of combustion of methanol. (RAM: C = 12, H = 1, O = 16)

$$\text{Heat evolved} = mc\Delta\theta = 304 \text{ g} \times 4.2 \text{ J g}^{-1}\text{C}^{-1} \times 7^\circ\text{C} = 8937.6 \text{ J}$$

0.4 g of CH_3OH produces 8937.6 J of heat

$$\therefore 32 \text{ g of CH}_3\text{OH} \text{ produces } \frac{32}{0.4} \times 8937.6 = 715008 \text{ J of heat}$$

The heat of combustion is -715 kJ