

# ChE 344

# Reaction Engineering and Design

Lecture 4: Tuesday, Jan 18, 2022

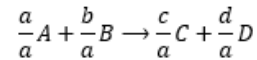
Stoichiometry tables,  $C_A = f(X)$

Reading for today's Lecture: Chapter 4.1, 4.2

Reading for Lecture 5: Chapter 4.3

**Variables**

For a reaction with A as the limiting reactant:



$$\delta = \frac{\text{change in number of moles with reaction}}{\text{moles A reacted}} = \frac{c + d - b - a}{a}$$

$$y_{A0} \equiv \frac{P_{A0}}{P_0} = \frac{N_{A0}}{N_{T0}} = \frac{F_{A0}}{F_{T0}}$$

$$\varepsilon = y_{A0} \delta$$

$$\theta_j = \frac{\text{initial/inlet number of moles "j"}}{\text{initial/inlet number of moles "A"}} = \frac{N_{j0}}{N_{A0}} = \frac{F_{j0}}{F_{A0}} = \frac{C_{j0}}{C_{A0}} = \frac{y_{j0}}{y_{A0}}$$

**Stoichiometry Tables** (for A as limiting reactant)

**Batch**

Species	Symbol	Initial	Change	Remaining
Reactant A	A	$N_{A0}$	$-N_{A0}X$	$N_A = N_{A0}(1-X)$
Reactant B	B	$N_{A0}\Theta_B$	$-b/a N_{A0}X$	$N_B = N_{A0}(\Theta_B - b/a X)$
Product C	C	$N_{A0}\Theta_C$	$+c/a N_{A0}X$	$N_C = N_{A0}(\Theta_C + c/a X)$
Product D	D	$N_{A0}\Theta_D$	$+d/a N_{A0}X$	$N_D = N_{A0}(\Theta_D + d/a X)$
Inert	I	$N_{A0}\Theta_I$		$N_{A0}\Theta_I$
Total		$N_{T0}$		$N_T = N_{T0}(1 + \varepsilon X)$

**Flow**

Species	Symbol	Inlet	Change	Outlet
Reactant A	A	$F_{A0}$	$-F_{A0}X$	$F_A = F_{A0}(1-X)$
Reactant B	B	$F_{A0}\Theta_B$	$-b/a F_{A0}X$	$F_B = F_{A0}(\Theta_B - b/a X)$
Product C	C	$F_{A0}\Theta_C$	$+c/a F_{A0}X$	$F_C = F_{A0}(\Theta_C + c/a X)$
Product D	D	$F_{A0}\Theta_D$	$+d/a F_{A0}X$	$F_D = F_{A0}(\Theta_D + d/a X)$
Inert	I	$F_{A0}\Theta_I$		$F_{A0}\Theta_I$
Total		$F_{T0}$		$F_T = F_{T0}(1 + \varepsilon X)$

**For gas-phase, volume can change. No change in volume for liquid!**

$$V = V_0 \frac{N_T}{N_{T0}} \frac{T}{T_0} \frac{P_0}{P}; \quad v = v_0 \frac{F_T}{F_{T0}} \frac{T}{T_0} \frac{P_0}{P}; \quad C_A = C_{A0} \frac{(1-X) T_0 P}{1 + \varepsilon X T P_0}; \quad C_j = C_{A0} \frac{(\theta_j - \frac{v_j}{v_A} X) T_0 P}{1 + \varepsilon X T P_0}$$

In the final equation, for  $C_j$ , remember if we write the reaction in terms of limiting reactant A,  $v_A = -1$ .

Last time, rate laws.

### Power law

$$-r_A = k C_A^\alpha C_B^\beta$$

$\alpha$  is reaction order in A

$\beta$  is reaction order in B

Gives units for  $k$

Overall order is  $n = \alpha + \beta$

### Elementary rate law

The powers in the rate law agree with the magnitude of the stoichiometric coefficient (i.e.,  $\alpha = a$ ,  $\beta = b$ ) as written

### Non-elementary reactions

Where rate law is different than from stoichiometry.

For non-elementary reactions, can have negative orders.

## Discuss with your neighbors:

For  $A \rightarrow B$ , in a flow reactor, for a given conversion, under which conditions is  $V_{CSTR} < V_{PFR}$ ?

$$V_{PFR} = \int_0^X \frac{-F_{A0}}{r_A} dX$$

$$V_{CSTR} = \frac{F_{A0}X}{-r_A}$$

A) Zero order in A

$$r_A = -k$$

B) First order in A

$$r_A = -kC_A$$

C) Order = -1 in A

$$r_A = -kC_A^{-1}$$

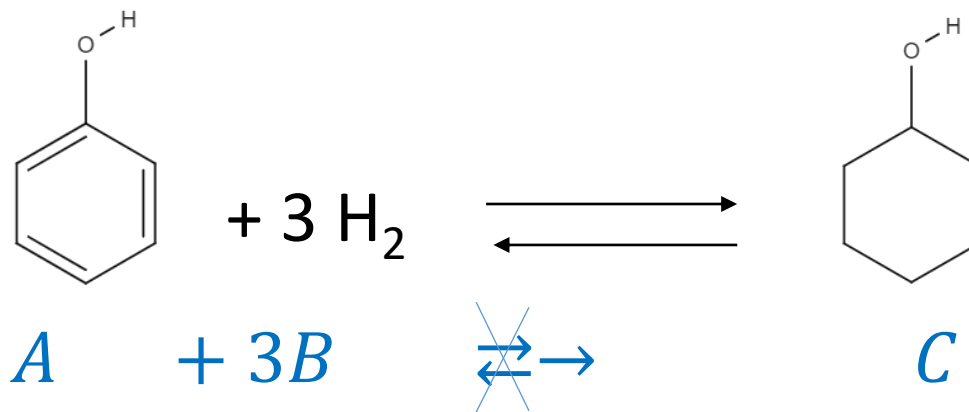
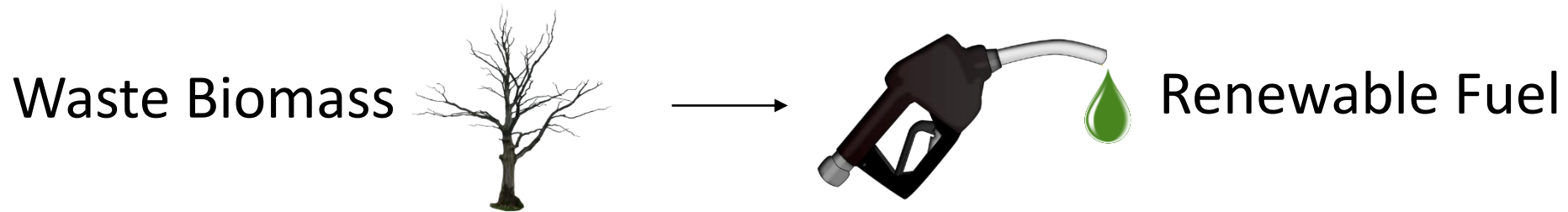
$$r_A = -kC_A^2$$

D) Second order in A

Another way to think about this, as soon as A enters the CSTR its concentration decreases to that of outlet. This is good (faster reaction) only if the order in A is negative!

Question: When is  $K_C$  “large enough”?

Example: Hydrogenation of model compounds of lignin.



$$K_C = \frac{C_{C,eq}}{C_{A,eq} C_{B,eq}^3}$$

$$C_{A,eq} C_{B,eq}^3 = \frac{C_{C,eq}}{K_C}$$

$K_C > 2000$  at room temperature, I could not detect the reverse reaction, or any reactants at equilibrium ( $X \approx 1$  at equilib.). However, at  $\sim 300^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $K_C$  is only  $\sim 0.03$ ! **Exothermic**

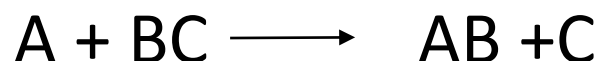
Temperature considerations: Conc. equilib. constant

$$K_C(T) = K_C(T_1) \exp \left[ -\frac{\Delta H_{rxn}}{R} \left( \frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_1} \right) \right]$$

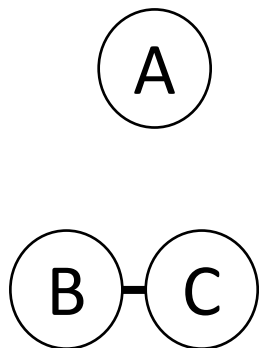
Temperature dependence for rate constant (Arrhenius eqn.)

$$k(T) = A \exp \left( -\frac{E_a}{RT} \right) \quad \ln k = \ln A - \frac{E_a}{RT}$$

Where does this T dep. of k come from?

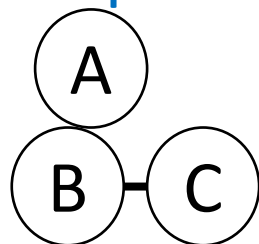


Reactants



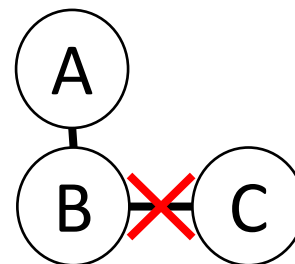
Collision

Freq. factor (A)  
Conc. dependence

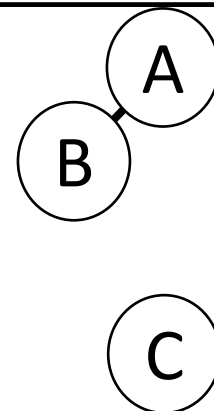


Bonds break/make

Activation energy  
( $E_a$ )



Products



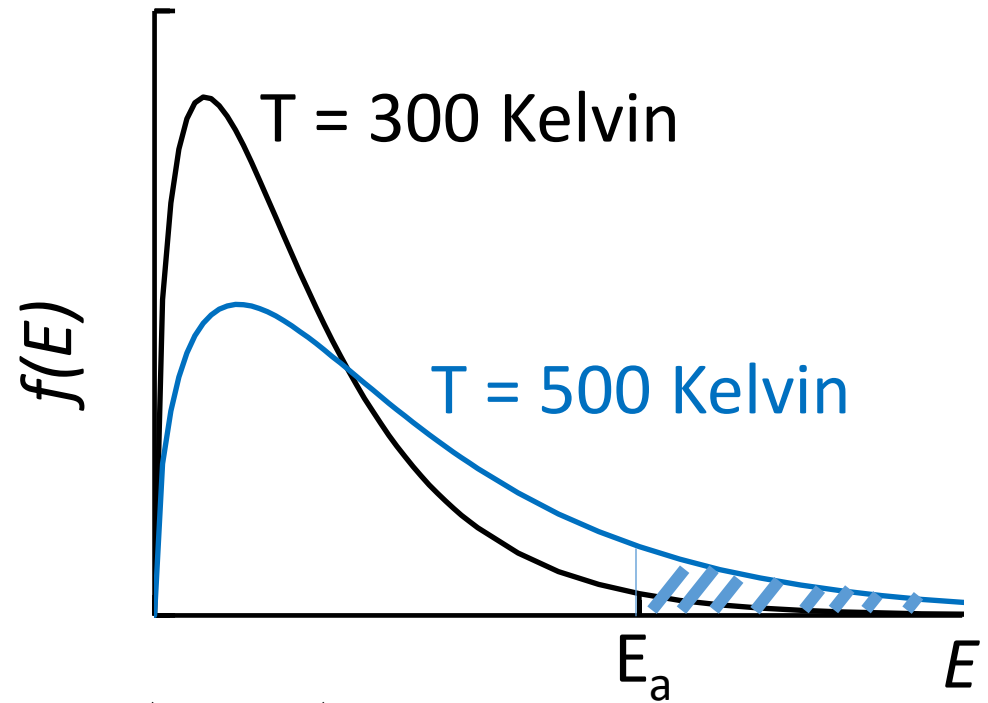
# Maxwell Boltzmann energy distribution (temp. dependent)

Fraction of molecules with energy  $E > E_a$

$$F(E > E_a, T)$$

$$= \int_{E_a}^{\infty} f(E, T) dE$$

$$= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} 2 \left( \frac{E_a}{RT} \right)^{1/2} \exp \left[ \frac{-E_a}{RT} \right]$$



$$k(T) = A \exp \left( - \frac{E_a}{RT} \right)$$

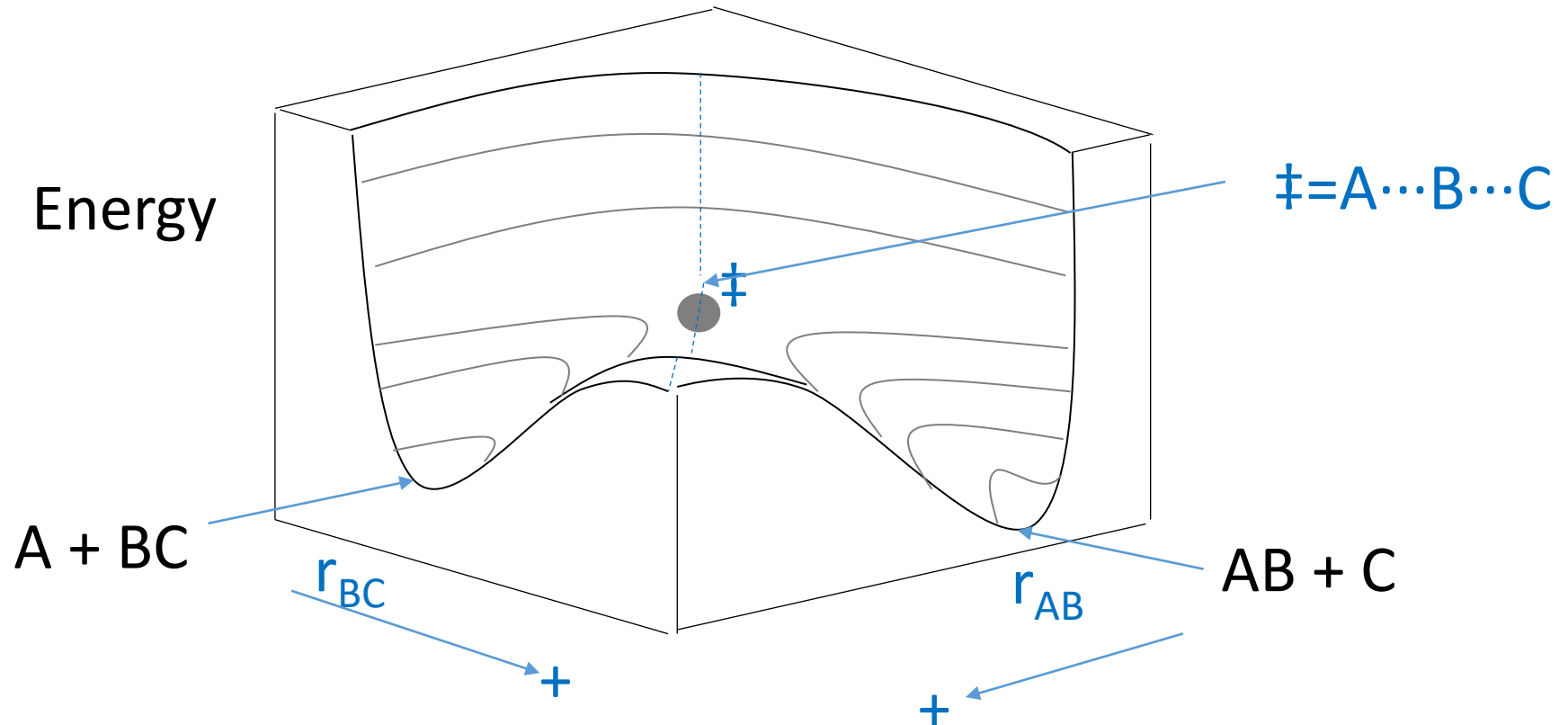
Collisions, or opportunities to react per time

Fraction of opportunities that result in a reaction

Rate constant will never exceed A, because as  $T \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\exp \left( - \frac{E_a}{RT} \right) \rightarrow 1$$

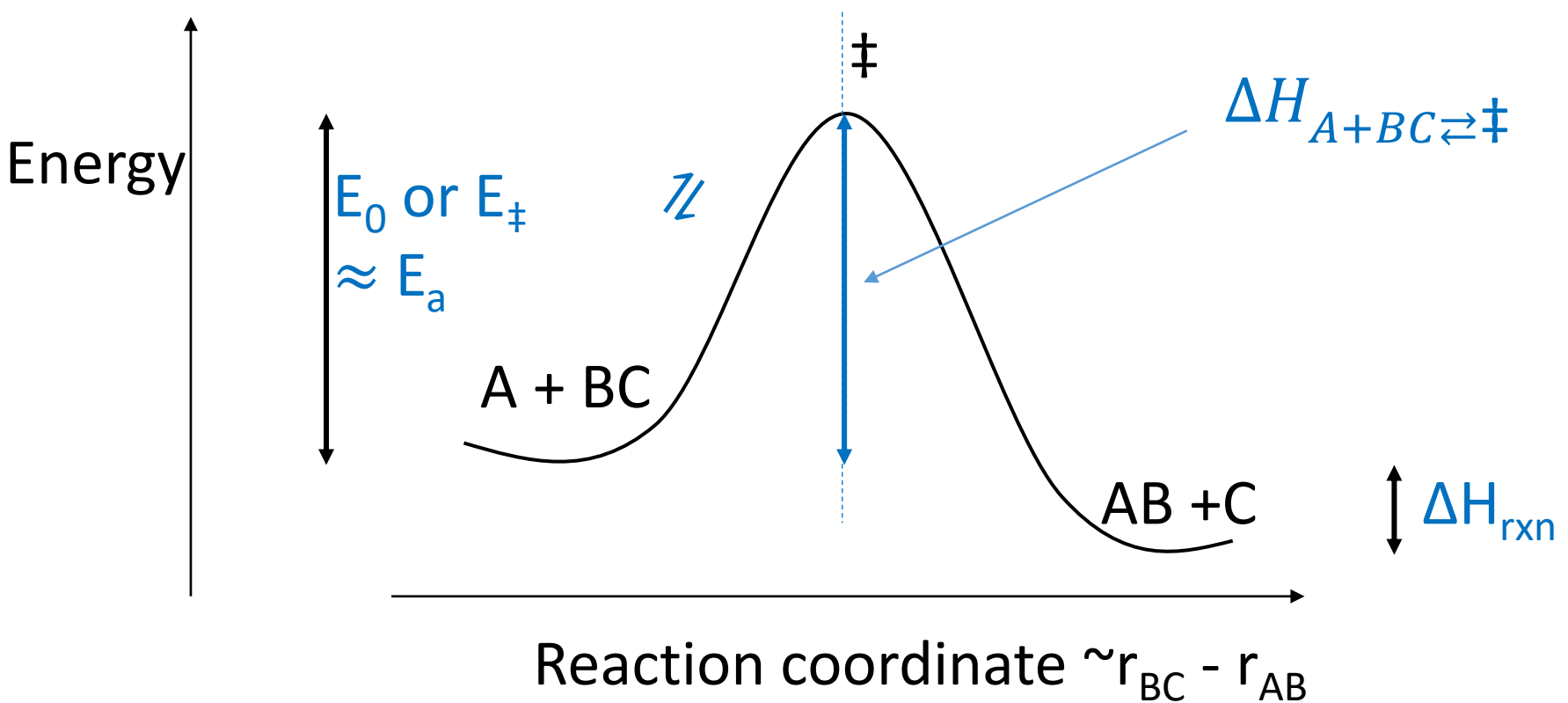
Another way to explain Arrhenius- Potential Energy Surface:  
Every configuration has an associated energy.



$r_{BC}$  is the distance between B and C

The transition state ( $\ddagger$ ) is the highest energy position along the lowest energy pathway from reactant to product





Reaction coordinate: Way of saying how far along is an individual molecular reaction (different than conversion!)

- Here it might be is atom B closer to C (like the reactant) or closer to A (like the product)

$$K_C(T) = K_C(T_1) \exp \left[ -\frac{\Delta H_{rxn}}{R} \left( \frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_1} \right) \right]$$



$$\Delta H_{A+BC \rightleftharpoons \ddagger} \approx E_a$$

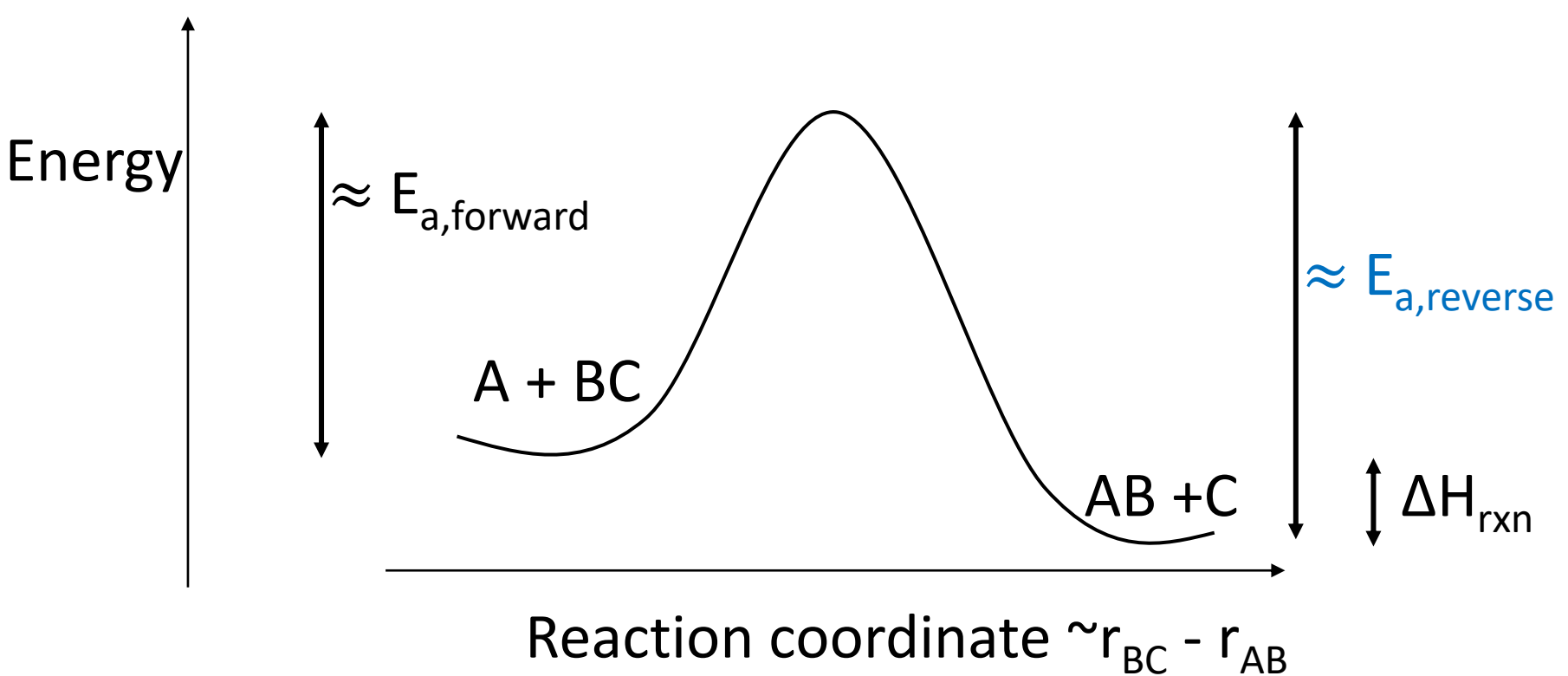
In this specific case with the transition state,

$$K_{C,A+BC \rightleftharpoons \ddagger}(T) = K_{C,A+BC \rightleftharpoons \ddagger}(T_1) \exp \left[ -\frac{\Delta E_a}{R} \left( \frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_1} \right) \right]$$

The larger  $E_a$  is, the smaller  $K_{C,A+BC \rightleftharpoons \ddagger}$  will be. Temperature dependence is same as Arrhenius!

The smaller  $K_C$  is, the lower the concentration of transition states ( $\ddagger$ ). This means fewer species to react to the products, so the reaction rate is lower!

$$K_C = \prod_i C_{i,eq}^{\nu_i} = \frac{C_{\ddagger,eq}}{C_{A,eq} C_{BC,eq}}$$



From this, we can see that:

$$k_f = A_f e^{-\frac{E_{a,f}}{RT}} \quad k_r = A_r e^{-\frac{E_{a,r}}{RT}} \quad \frac{k_f}{k_r} = \frac{A_f}{A_r} e^{-\frac{E_{a,f} - E_{a,r}}{RT}}$$

and  $E_{a,f} - E_{a,r} = \Delta H_{\text{rxn}}$

If  $\Delta H_{\text{rxn}}$  is very negative (exothermic),  $E_{a,f} \ll E_{a,r}$ . A larger barrier leads to  $k_f \gg k_r$ , or an irreversible reaction

## Problem solving strategy

- Generalized mole balance equation (aka reactor design eqn.)
- Design equations in terms of conversion of **limiting reactant**
- Rate laws in terms of concentrations

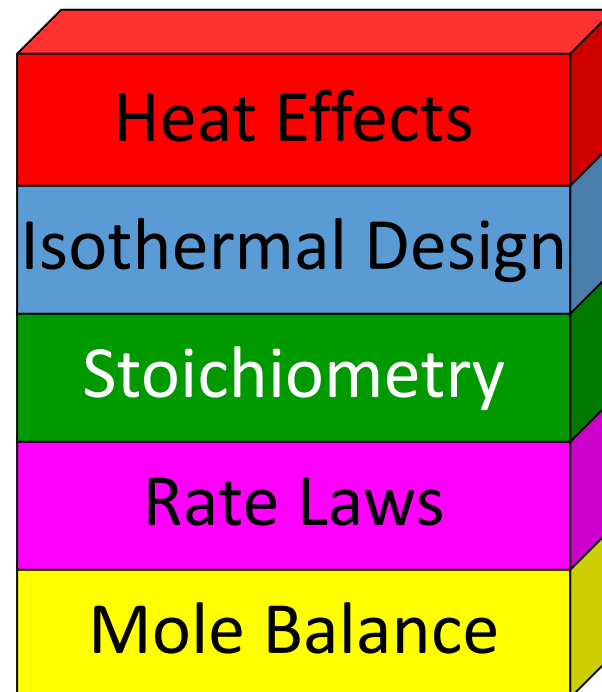
Today: Concentrations in terms of conversion, where we need to consider **stoichiometry**

Ch.5 Lecture 6-7

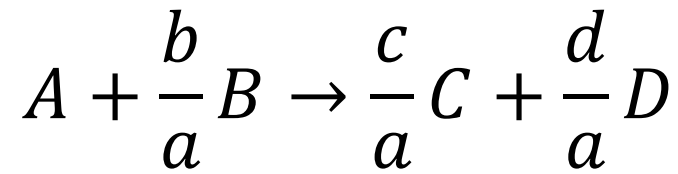
$C_i$  is a function of  $X$ !

$r_A$  is a function of conc.

Mole balance, conversion



If we have a reaction of the form below in a batch reactor:



What is the number of moles of A as a function of conversion?

Here A is our limiting reactant and conversion refers to conversion of A

Initially, there is  $N_{A0}$  moles of A. We define conversion with respect to A, so  $N_A$  at a given conversion is:  $N_A = N_{A0} (1-X)$

Adding a few definitions to make things easier to write:

$$y_{A0} \equiv \frac{P_{A0}}{P_0} = \frac{N_{A0}}{N_{T0}} = \frac{F_{A0}}{F_{T0}}$$

$$\Theta_j \equiv N_{j0} / N_{A0} = C_{j0} / C_{A0} = y_{j0} / y_{A0}$$

Can also have **inerts** (present, but not involved in rxn)

# Batch stoichiometric table

Species	Symbol	Initial	Change	Remaining
Reactant A	A	$N_{A0}$	$-N_{A0}X$	$N_A = N_{A0} (1-X)$
Reactant B	B	$N_{B0}$	$-b/a N_{A0}X$	$N_B = N_{A0} (\Theta_B - b/a X)$
Product C	C	$N_{C0}$	$+c/a N_{A0}X$	$N_C = N_{A0} (\Theta_C + c/a X)$
Product D	D	$N_{D0}$	$+d/a N_{A0}X$	$N_D = N_{A0} (\Theta_D + d/a X)$
Inert	I	$N_{I0}$		$N_{I0} = N_{A0} \Theta_I$

$$N_T = \underbrace{N_{A0}(\Theta_D + \Theta_C + \Theta_B + 1 + \Theta_I)}_{N_{T0}} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{d}{a} + \frac{c}{a} - \frac{b}{a} - 1\right)}_{\delta} N_{A0}X$$

$$N_T = N_{T0} + N_{A0} * \delta * X$$

$$N_T = N_{T0} + N_{T0} * y_{A0} * \delta * X$$

$$C_j = \frac{N_j}{V}$$

Total number of moles changes with reaction if  $\delta$  is non-zero

Discuss with your neighbors:

For  $A + 2B + C + 4D \rightarrow E$ , in a batch reactor:

$C_{A0} = 0.1 \text{ M}$ ,  $C_{B0} = 0.2 \text{ M}$ ,  $C_{C0} = 0.6 \text{ M}$ ,  $C_{D0} = 0.2 \text{ M}$ .

What is the limiting reactant?

A) A

B) B

C) C

D) D

D would be used up first, because it takes 4 moles of D for every one mole of A, or two moles of B. So D is the limiting reactant. The limiting reactant is not necessarily the molecule written first!

Continuing with problem above for practice:

Rewriting  $A + 2B + C + 4D \rightarrow E$  in a form with **D** as limiting reactant/defining conversion:



Now what would  $\delta$  be?

$$\delta = \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} - 1 = -1 \frac{3}{4} = -1.75$$

What this means is that for every one mole of **D** that is reacted, the total number of moles **decreases by 1.75**

This is not going to affect us so much for liquid-phase reactions, but remember from Lecture 2 that for **gas-phase** reactions the total number of moles is related to volume!



Recall volumes (Lecture 2) for gases  
(remember liquids we assume no volume change)

Total volume

$$V = V_0 \frac{N_T}{N_{T0}} \frac{T}{T_0} \frac{P_0}{P}$$


$$C_j = N_j/V$$

Total volumetric flow rate

$$v = v_0 \frac{F_T}{F_{T0}} \frac{T}{T_0} \frac{P_0}{P}$$


$$\text{or } C_j = F_j/v$$

Gases:

$$P_0 V_0 = Z N_0 R T_0$$

$Z$  = compressibility factor,

$$PV = ZNRT$$

$Z = 1$  for ideal gases

So for liquids, reaction affects concentrations by changing  $N_j$ .  
But for gases, reaction can both change  $N_j$  **and** volume!

## Flow stoichiometric table (replace N with F) (back to A as lim.)

Species	Symbol	Inlet	Change	Outlet
A		$F_{A0}$	$-F_{A0}X$	$F_A = F_{A0} (1-X)$
B		$F_{B0}$	$-b/a F_{A0}X$	$F_B = F_{A0} (\Theta_B - b/a X)$
C		$F_{C0}$	$+c/a F_{A0}X$	$F_C = F_{A0} (\Theta_C + c/a X)$
D		$F_{D0}$	$+d/a F_{A0}X$	$F_D = F_{A0} (\Theta_D + d/a X)$
I		$F_{I0}$		$F_I = F_{I0}$

$$F_T = \underbrace{F_{A0}(\Theta_D + \Theta_C + \Theta_B + 1 + \Theta_I)}_{F_{T0}} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{d}{a} + \frac{c}{a} - \frac{b}{a} - 1\right)}_{\delta} F_{A0}X$$

$$F_T = F_{T0} + F_{A0} * \delta * X$$

$$\varepsilon = y_{A0} \delta$$

$$F_T = F_{T0} + F_{T0} * y_{A0} * \delta * X = F_{T0}(1 + \varepsilon X)$$

Flow reactor concentrations for gas-phase (can also do the same thing with a batch reactor using  $C_A = N_A / V$ )

$$C_A = \frac{F_A}{v} = \frac{F_A}{v_0 \frac{F_T}{F_{T0}} \frac{T}{T_0} \frac{P_0}{P}} \quad \leftarrow \text{We only do this part if the volume changes!}$$

$$= \frac{F_{A0}(1-X)}{v_0} \frac{1}{1+\varepsilon X} \frac{T_0}{T} \frac{P}{P_0}$$

$$F_T = F_{T0}(1 + \varepsilon X)$$

$$\varepsilon = y_{A0}\delta$$

$$C_A = C_{A0} \frac{(1-X)}{1+\varepsilon X} \frac{T_0}{T} \frac{P}{P_0}$$

For liquid or constant  $V$  it would just be:  $C_A = C_{A0}(1 - X)$

This does not mean total moles don't change in liquid, just that a change in total moles does not affect volume

Applying to all species, now we have the concentrations of all our reactants and products as a function of X.

Gas

$$C_B = \frac{C_{A0}(\theta_B - \frac{b}{a}X)}{1 + \varepsilon X} \frac{T_0}{T} \frac{P}{P_0}$$

$$C_C = \frac{C_{A0}(\theta_C + \frac{c}{a}X)}{1 + \varepsilon X} \frac{T_0}{T} \frac{P}{P_0}$$

$$C_D = \frac{C_{A0}(\theta_D + \frac{d}{a}X)}{1 + \varepsilon X} \frac{T_0}{T} \frac{P}{P_0}$$

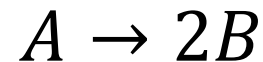
If we assume no pressure drop, and an isothermal reaction:

$$\frac{P}{P_0} = 1; \frac{T_0}{T} = 1$$

Why is this useful? Because now we can write our rate law as a function of conversion for gases, and use it to do reactor design! Remember our Levenspiel plots are using  $F_{A0}/-r_A$  vs.  $X$ .

For example:

The elementary reaction,



is running in an isothermal, gas-phase flow reactor with no pressure drop, with pure A as a feed. What's  $-r_A(X)$ ?

Here,  $\delta = 2/1 - 1 = +1$ ,  $y_{A0} = 1$ ,  $\varepsilon = +1$

$$-r_A = kC_A = kC_{A0} \frac{1-X}{1+X}$$

$$C_A = C_{A0} \frac{(1-X)}{1+\varepsilon X} \frac{T_0}{T} \frac{P}{P_0}$$