Thermodynamics

(Module -4) B.Sc. III Year

SAIKRISHNA UGGU

Lecturer in Chemistry

P. R. Govt. College (A) KAKINADA

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Variation of heat of a reaction with temperature

Kirchoffs equation

Variation of Heat off a reaction or Enthalpy of formation with temperature is given by Kirchhoff's equation

The amount of heat evolved or absorbed in a process, varies with temperature. The exact relationship showing the variation of the heat of reaction with temperature was given by Kirchhoff in 1858

Statement: The change in the heat of a reaction at constant pressure for every degree change of temperature is equal to the change in the heat capacity at constant pressure.

Mathematically it is expressed as follows,

$$\frac{\Delta H2 - \Delta H1}{T2 - T1} = \Delta Cp$$

It can be derived easily with the help of the first law of thermodynamics.

Consider the simple process,

$$A_{(reactants)} \longrightarrow B_{(products)}$$



Now, suppose $H_{A \&} H_{B}$ are the heat contents or enthalpies of the reactants and products respectively. Then the heat of reaction accompanying the process will be given by,

 $\Delta H = H_B - H_A$

Differentiating the equation with respect to temperature at constant pressure, we get

 $\left|\frac{d(\Delta H)}{dT}\right| = \left|\frac{dH_{B}}{dT}\right| - \left[\frac{d(HA)}{dT}\right]$

According to the definition of heat capacity at constant pressure,

$$C_{p} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dH}{dT} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\cdot$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{d(\Delta H)}{dT} \end{bmatrix} = (C_{p})_{B} - (C_{p})_{A}$$



Where, $(C_p)_B$, $(C_p)_A$ are the mean molar heat capacities of the products and reactants respectively at the given pressure.

Then,

$$\frac{d(\Delta H)}{dT} = \Delta C_{p}$$
$$d(\Delta H) = \Delta C_{p} \cdot dT$$

This is only for a small temperature difference, dT. The equation for large temperature difference (say T_1 and T_2) can be obtained by integrating the above equation between the limits.

$$\int_{H_1}^{H_2} d(\Delta H) = \int_{T_1}^{T_2} \Delta C_{p_dT}$$
$$\Delta H_2 - \Delta H_1 = \Delta C_p (T_2 - T_1)$$

Then, finally we get the famous Kirchoffs equation as,

$$\frac{\Delta H_2 - \Delta H_1}{T_2 - T_1} = \Delta C_p$$

The change in the heat of reaction at constant pressure for every degree change of temperature is equal to the change in the heat capacity at constant pressure.

THANK YOU.....

