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Some applications of
Thermodynamics

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At what temperatures is the following reaction
spontaneous?

$$2 \text{H}_2 (\text{g}) + \text{O}_2 (\text{g}) \leftrightarrow 2 \text{H}_2\text{O} (\text{g})$$

If you calculate ΔH° (Appendix II) = -483.6 kJ
If you calculate ΔS° (Appendix II) = -89 J/K

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$$2 \text{H}_2 (\text{g}) + \text{O}_2 (\text{g}) \leftrightarrow 2 \text{H}_2\text{O} (\text{g})$$

If you calculate ΔH° (Appendix II) = -483.6 kJ
If you calculate ΔS° (Appendix II) = -89 J/K

Enthalpy change good!
Entropy change bad!
The balance is...

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ΔG

$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$

We assume that ΔH and ΔS aren't changing significantly with temperature:

$\Delta G = \Delta H^\circ - T\Delta S^\circ$
 $\Delta G = (-483.6 \text{ kJ}) - T(-0.089 \text{ kJ/K})$ [UNITS! UNITS!]

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$\Delta G = (-483.6 \text{ kJ}) - T(-0.089 \text{ kJ/K})$

Spontaneous means $\Delta G < 0$

$\Delta G = (-\#) - T(-\#)$
 $\Delta G = (-\#) + T(\#)$
If T is big enough, ΔG will become positive.

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$\Delta G = (-483.6 \text{ kJ}) - T(-0.089 \text{ kJ/K})$

$0 = -483.6 \text{ kJ} + T(0.089 \text{ kJ/K})$
 $483.6 \text{ kJ} = T(0.089 \text{ kJ/K})$
 $5434 \text{ K} = T$

So for any T below 5434 K, the reaction is spontaneous. Above that, ΔG becomes (+) and the reaction is NOT spontaneous anymore.

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Caveat

5434 K is a pretty extreme temperature especially relative to STP (298 K). I have to wonder how good my assumption of ΔH and ΔS being constant actually is. We could try and establish ΔH and ΔS at 5434 K but that is much harder to do.

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Opposite Case

$\Delta G = (-483.6 \text{ kJ}) - T(-0.089 \text{ kJ/K})$
Spontaneous means $\Delta G < 0$
 $\Delta G = (-\#) - T(-\#)$
Suppose the signs were reversed:
 $\Delta H = (+\#)$
 $\Delta S = (+\#)$

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Opposite Case

Spontaneous means $\Delta G < 0$
 $\Delta G = (+\#) - T(+\#)$
Now the bigger T is, the better! At low temperatures the reaction is NOT spontaneous but at higher temperatures it is.

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The test ends here...

Topics for the test:

1. Titration curves
 1. Strong acid/strong base
 2. Weak acid/strong base or strong acid/weak base
 3. Buffers
 4. Salts
 5. K_a or K_b or K_w
2. K_{sp}
 1. Solubility
 2. Fractional precipitation
3. Thermodynamics
 1. ΔH , ΔS , ΔG
 2. $\Delta H_{rxn} = \Delta H_{f} - T \Delta S$
 3. K ($\Delta G = -RT \ln Q$)
4. Redox
Balancing

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Don't forget

Exam review homework is due at **8 p.m.** on Wednesday.

Complete solutions for exam review homework appear magically on myCourses under "Content" at 9:01 p.m. on Wednesday.
