

CH10009 Workshop Questions

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Welcome

The notes have been prepared in a package called BookDown for RStudio so that the equations are accessible to screen readers. However, by providing the notes as a .html webpage I can also embed short videos to further describe some of the topics. Further you can download the questions and answers, (top left of the screen - down arrow) in a format that suits you (either pdf or epub) to view offline, or change the way this document appears (top left of the screen - A) for ease of reading.

There will be no powerpoint slides or lecture note pdfs provided for this course. All in class time will be spent on workshops, this is your opportunity to get help tailored to the places you need it.

If you spot any typos or think there are any errors please let me know and I will do my best to fix them.

The recommended text for this course is 'Introduction to Contextual Maths in Chemistry' by Dickinson (yes me) & McKinley. This is a library link and there is access to an online copy. (Fiona Dickinson and Andrew McKinley. *Introduction to Contextual Maths in Chemistry*. Cambridge: Royal Society of Chemistry, 2021. Print. Chemistry Student Guides ; No. 2.)

Workshops for CH10009

The course moves at quite a pace, this is in part because parts of the maths are needed very quickly in your physical chemistry studies. If you feel you aren't keeping up please **ask for help from me!** I at the very least can point you in the direction of something, or can help you with your difficulties.

The whole point of this course is to make you comfortable with maths in a chemistry setting.

The topics for workshops each week are as follows:

- Week 1: Rearranging equations, units and standard form
- Week 2: Logarithms and exponentials
- Week 3: Tables and graphs

- Week 4: Calculus - differentiation - the basics and the chain rule
- Week 5: Calculus - differentiation - the product rule and partial differentiation
- Week 6: Calculus - integration - the basics and definite integrals
- Week ??: Real, imaginary and complex numbers
- Week ??: Some more examples of integration and revision

Report errors

If you spot any errors or areas of lack of clarity, please message me in Teams or preferably report on the error log below:

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Version history

Version 1.2 in progress September 2021.

Version 1.1 in progress July 2021.

Version 1.0 complete December 2020.

The initial commit of this book is dated 2nd October 2020.

Chapter 1

Week 1 - Rearranging equations and units

1.1 Preliminary information

This workshop contains some fundamental materials on both rearranging equations and units. Unfortunately both of these things result in lost marks for a number of candidates either because of carelessness or lack of understanding.

Bad habits in rearranging equations, such as trying to undertake too many steps at once often lead to error, mantras such as ‘change the side change the sign’ are often an oversimplification and may lead to error.

Values have to have units, without them things make no sense, and in science we cannot assume units on context. Converting between units is equally important and famously errors can occur. You should ‘work out’ your unit in every case, not just assume it is something and writing that down.

In short, show your working clearly, if you do so you *will* make fewer mistakes. Paper doesn’t cost much, and if you write on a tablet each new page is free so please space out your work, when learning things annotate your work with useful notes to explain what you have done and why (this will help you revise), and make it clear!

1.1.1 Rearranging equations

‘Change the side change the sign’ is often running through peoples’ heads as they rearrange equations, however it is only of limited utility as it makes no sense when considering logs or exponentials. More correctly we should think about using reciprocal functions on both sides of an equation, for example if I multiply

both sides of an equation by the same thing it is mathematically equivalent of doing nothing.

This subtle distinction would ‘fix’ almost all of the common errors seen in chemistry.

We will meet rearranging equations again in Week 2 when we introduce powers, exponents and logs.

1.1.2 SI base units

Despite cultural tendencies to hold onto older units (such as pounds & ounces, calories, Calories and miles) in science all units are directly derived from the international standard SI system.

Although there have been many versions of metric units over the years it became increasingly important to standardise units. The SI system of base units has seven fundamental units (Table 1.1) from which all other units are derived. Recently there has been interest in finding more fundamental ways to describe each of these units (rather than an actual lump (mass) or bar (length) of platinum) whereby units are described by relation to physical constants (such as the speed of light, or Avagadro’s constant which define the meter and mole respectively).

Table 1.1: The seven base units from which all others are dervied.

| SI base unit | symbol | quantity symbol (dimension) | quantity |
|--------------|--------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| kilogram | kg | M | mass |
| metre | m | L | length |
| second | s | T | time |
| ampere | A | I | electric current |
| kelvin | K | Θ | temperature |
| mole | mol | N | amount of substance |
| candela | cd | J | luminous intensity |

1.1.3 SI Derived units

James Clarke Maxwell developed the field of dimensional analysis. Dimensional analysis shows that units have to be consistent in equations.

To add to values in an equation they must have the same unit - so I can’t add kJ mol^{-1} to $\text{J K}^{-1} \text{mol}^{-1}$, nor can I directly add kJ mol^{-1} to J mol^{-1} .

When multiplying or dividing values with units then the units combine (by performing the same operation). Velocity is displacement (in m) divided by time (in s), and so the unit of velocity is m s^{-1} .

Some ‘combined units’ have been given their own unique names (Table 1.2),

these often make it easier to use the unit (it is a lot easier to say ‘volt’ than $\text{kg m}^2 \text{s}^{-3} \text{A}^{-1}$ each time you need to use it). The case of these units (just as with the SI base units) is important, however it should be noted when writing the unit name, even if they are named for a person, that name begins with a lower case letter.

Table 1.2: Some common named SI derived units used in chemistry.

| symbol | SI derived unit | quantity | SI base units | other SI units |
|----------|-----------------|------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Hz | hertz | frequency | s^{-1} | |
| N | newton | force | kg m s^{-2} | |
| Pa | pascal | pressure | $\text{kg m}^{-1} \text{s}^{-2}$ | N m^{-2} |
| J | joule | energy | $\text{kg m}^2 \text{s}^{-2}$ | N m |
| W | watt | power | $\text{kg m}^2 \text{s}^{-3}$ | J s^{-1} |
| C | coulomb | electrical charge | A s | |
| V | volt | electrical potential | $\text{kg m}^2 \text{s}^{-3} \text{A}^{-1}$ | J C^{-1} |
| F | farad | electrical capacitance | $\text{kg}^{-1} \text{m}^{-2} \text{s}^4 \text{A}^2$ | C V^{-1} |
| Ω | ohm | electrical resistance | $\text{kg m}^2 \text{s}^{-3} \text{A}^{-2}$ | V A^{-1} |
| S | siemens | electrical conductance | $\text{kg}^{-1} \text{m}^{-2} \text{s}^3 \text{A}^2$ | A V^{-1} or $1/\Omega$ |

Having said that, Table 1.2 contains some common units used in chemistry the units most used in chemistry for concentration, thermodynamics and kinetics are so far not named for anyone and so are usually written in full form. However mol dm^{-3} is often shortend to M (for molarity), this is a unit I use a lot and so in many questions you will see concentrations given as (for example) 0.250 mM or 1.000 M (not the longer 0.250 mmol dm^{-3} or 1.000 mol dm^{-3}).

Please note when reporting compound units there should be a space between each unit, so it is $\text{J K}^{-1} \text{mol}^{-1}$ not $\text{JK}^{-1}\text{mol}^{-1}$.

Using negative powers is also the correct way to report units (for example J / mol is incorrect, J mol^{-1} is correct), this is for two reasons, one a solidus (the fancy name for divide sign) is a mathematical operator (and these cannot act on units), secondly there is the potential for confusion with using the / in units (for example J/K/mol is actually more properly written as $\text{J K}^{-1} \text{mol}$ (not $\text{J K}^{-1} \text{mol}^{-1}$)).

1.1.4 Other units and conversion factors

There are a number of non-SI base or derived units which are in common usage which are useful to know and be able to convert between. Table 1.3 contains a number of useful unit conversions.

Table 1.3: The relationship between some other common units and the SI system.

| unit | quantity | SI equivalent |
|-----------------|----------|---------------------------------|
| torr (or mm Hg) | pressure | $\frac{101325}{760}$ Pa |
| atm | pressure | 101325 Pa |
| bar | pressure | 100000 Pa |
| eV | energy | $1.602176634 \times 10^{-19}$ J |
| cal | energy | 4.184 J |
| Cal | energy | 4.184 kJ |
| Å | length | 1×10^{-10} m |

There are myriad other units in use, either with historical or geographic preference, or just for niche purposes (where would we be without olympic swimming pools or London buses). Examples such as the mile, furlong or beard-second are all units of length.

Further, the unit °C is formally an SI derived unit. The temperature in kelvin is:

$$T(\text{K}) = T(^{\circ}\text{C}) + 273.15$$

Just a note to say that this 273.15 K conversion is ‘precise’ in other words we can consider it to have infinite significant figures, and so if we happen to know temperatures in centigrade to more than two decimal places we do not lose any of these in conversion to kelvin.

1.1.5 SI prefixes and standard form

In general lower case prefixes are used for negative powers and upper case prefixes are used for positive powers, however k (kilo) is an obvious exception to this rule. (Other exceptions are da (deca, 10^1) and h (hecto, 10^2)).

Table 1.4: The more common SI prefixes used in chemistry.

| SI prefix | SI prefix ‘name’ | standard form multiplier |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------------|
| y | yocto | 10^{-24} |
| z | zepto | 10^{-21} |
| a | atto | 10^{-18} |
| f | femto | 10^{-15} |
| p | pico | 10^{-12} |
| n | nano | 10^{-9} |
| | micro | 10^{-6} |

| SI prefix | SI prefix 'name' | standard form multiplier |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------------|
| m | milli | 10^{-3} |
| c | centi | 10^{-2} |
| d | deci | 10^{-1} |
| k | kilo | 10^3 |

When prefixes are used there is no space between prefix and unit, (so mm (millimeter) not m m (which could be confused for meter meter)).

There can be some confusion with prefixes and inverse units, for example ns^{-1} is the same unit as $1/\text{ns}$. This could be more properly written as 10^9 s^{-1} (and is not in fact 10^{-9} s^{-1}).

When there are squares (or cubes) combined with prefixes it is a statement that the prefix is squared (or cubed) as well. So for example 1 cm^2 is quite literally $1 \text{ cm} \times 1 \text{ cm}$ (or $1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2$).

1.2 Examples

Below the accessible typed examples you will find a video summary and hand-written notes from the video for each example.

1.2.1 Rearranging $\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$ to make T the subject

If we start with one of the most important equations in chemistry, the Gibbs' equation:

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

Here the capital 'delta' (Δ) in each case means 'large change in' and so they cannot be canceled.

If I wanted to rearrange this equation to make ΔS , the entropy change, the subject then:

Start by adding $T\Delta S$ to both sides of the equation:

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

on the right hand side $-T\Delta S + T\Delta S = 0$ and so cancel.

We can then subtract ΔG from both sides of the equation:

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

now the $\Delta G - \Delta G$ on the left hand side of the equation cancel, leaving us with:

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

Now to cancel the 'T' on the left hand side we need to divide by 'T' on both sides:

$$\frac{T\Delta S}{T} = \frac{\Delta H - \Delta G}{T}$$

which leaves us with an equation with ΔS as the subject:

$$\Delta S = \frac{\Delta H - \Delta G}{T}$$

I recognise as show this is extremely arduous, however it is changing how we think about the problem which is important.

There is a video of this as well as a pdf of the notes from the video.

1.2.2 Conversion of mL to L or cm³ to dm³

One of the most common conversions undertaken in the physical chemistry lab is conversion of mL to L (or more correctly cm³ to dm³), and although most people are happy to know 'you just divide by 1000' most haven't thought 'why', nor does everyone get this unit conversion correct.

Both of these examples are shown in a worked video at the end of this section, as is a pdf of the handwritten notes from this video.

1.2.2.1 Conversion of mL to L

We can solve this logically, by first having the assertion that 1 mL = 1 × 10⁻³ L. Therefore when I want to convert mL to L I just multiply by 1 × 10⁻³ (which is equivalent to dividing by 1000), or more formally:

$$1 \text{ mL} = 1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ L}$$

$$1 = 1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ L mL}^{-1}$$

anything may be multiplied by 1 and there be no change and so if I were to want to convert 27.2 mL to L then:

$$27.2 \text{ mL} \times 1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ L mL}^{-1}$$

we can see that the units of mL and mL⁻¹ cancel and we are left with just L and so:

$$27.2 \text{ mL} = 27.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ L}$$

Writing this as either 27.2 × 10⁻³ L or 0.0272 L are both equivalent and both valid.

1.2.2.2 Conversion of cm^3 to dm^3

It will come as no surprise to know that the same process of either multiplying by 1×10^{-3} or dividing by 1000 will correctly do this conversion, however knowing that can help justify the process here.

I am going to start with a similar assertion as above:

$$1 \text{ cm} = 1 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m}$$

and so

$$1 \text{ cm}^3 = (1 \times 10^{-2})^3 \text{ m}^3 = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3$$

and equivalently

$$1 \text{ dm} = 1 \times 10^{-1} \text{ m}$$

(remember the prefix is raised to the same power as the number) and so:

$$1 \text{ dm}^3 = (1 \times 10^{-1})^3 \text{ m}^3 = 1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$$

for each of these I can make statements where 1 equals something...

$$1 = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$1 = 1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 \text{ dm}^{-3}$$

and I can then combine these into a single statement by dividing one by the other:

$$1 = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3 \text{ cm}^{-3} / 1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 \text{ dm}^{-3}$$

which simplifies (because m^3 cancels and so do some of the powers of 10) to :

$$1 = 1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ dm}^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

again if we take the example of 27.2 cm^3 (which is the more formal unit of mL) then:

$$27.2 \text{ cm}^3 = 27.2 \text{ cm}^3 \times 1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ dm}^3 \text{ cm}^{-3} = 27.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ dm}^3$$

Now I have broken both of these down into multiple steps, and it is good to do this until you become more confident in these conversions, but in time you will be able to streamline this process.

This video shows me working through both of the above problems. The 'notes' from this video may be found here.

1.3 Summary of concepts learnt

- When rearranging equations 'do the same thing to both sides'
- Units should be appended anywhere required. There should be a space between number and unit and each part of the unit, for example $-28.3 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$.

- The unit 'M' is short for mol dm⁻³
- When units with prefixes are raised to a power, both the unit and prefix is raised to that power, so cm² = (10⁻²)² m² = 10⁻⁴ m² or ns⁻¹ = (10⁻⁹)⁻¹ s⁻¹ = 10⁹ s⁻¹

1.4 Questions

1.4.1 Rearranging equations

Answers for these questions are in Section 1.5.1.

For each of the following rearrange to make the specified variable the subject of the equation.

1. $[A] = [A]_0 - kt$, t
2. $E = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$, v
3. $F = \frac{q_1q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2}$, r
4. $\frac{1}{[A]} = \frac{1}{[A]_0} + kt$, $[A]_0$
5. $\ln(x_A) = -\frac{\Delta H}{R}(\frac{1}{T_1} - \frac{1}{T_2})$, T_1
6. $K_a = \frac{\alpha^2 c}{1-\alpha}$, α

1.4.2 Unit conversion questions

Answers for these questions are in Section 1.5.2.

1. Convert the following:
 - a. 3.4 μm to mm and m
 - b. 270.4 g mol⁻¹ to kg mol⁻¹ and yg (molecule⁻¹)
 - c. 23.4 g dm⁻³ to mg dm⁻³, g m⁻³, and kg m⁻³
 - d. 17.5 μHz to Hz
 - e. 5796 cm⁻¹ to μm^{-1} and m⁻¹

2. If a box has dimensions 0.234 m x 34.5 cm x 26.8 mm. What is the volume of the box in:
 - a. cm³?
 - b. dm³?
 - c. m³?
 - d. Å³?

3. The Gibbs free energy of a reaction, ΔG is given by equation (1.1).

$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S \quad (1.1)$$

Determine the value of ΔG at 40 °C when the enthalpy of reaction, $\Delta H = -10.235 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ and the molar entropy, $\Delta S = +34 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$

1.4.3 Determining units of variables in equations

Answers for these questions are in Section 1.5.3.

1. The ideal gas equation is given in equation (1.2).

$$pV = nRT \quad (1.2)$$

The units of the variables are: p (pressure), Pa (pascals) V (volume), m^3 n (number of moles), mol T (absolute temperature), K

- a. Determine the SI base units of the gas constant, R.
- b. Determine the pressure in mmHg of 1.00 mmol of an ideal gas that occupies 1.65 dm^3 at 25 °C.

2. The famous Einstein equation $E = mc^2$ is more properly written as:

$$E^2 = p^2 c^2 + m_0^2 c^4$$

Determine the units of the variable p .

3. At low temperatures (T) the molar heat capacity of a material $C_{p,m}$ ($\text{J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$) is given by equation (1.3).

$$C_{p,m} = aT^3 \quad (1.3)$$

Determine the units of the constant, a.

4. Determine the units of the coulomb constant, k_e , in equation (1.4), given that r is the separation of two charges, F the force of attraction between the two charges, and q_x is the charge (in coulombs, C) on each of the particles.

$$F = k_e \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \quad (1.4)$$

1.5 Answers

Where available videos of worked examples are shown in hyperlinks with each answer.

1.5.1 Rearranging equations answers

1. $t = \frac{[A]_0 - [A]}{k}$
2. $v = \sqrt{\frac{2E}{m}}$
3. $r = \sqrt{\frac{q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 E}}$
4. $[A]_0 = \frac{[A]}{1 - [A]_{kt}}$
5. $\frac{\Delta H T_2}{\Delta H - R T \ln x_A}$ Worked answer
6. $\alpha = \frac{-K_a \pm \sqrt{K_a^2 + 4cK_a}}{2c}$ Worked answer

1.5.2 Unit conversion answers

1.
 - a. 3.4×10^{-3} mm; 3.4×10^{-6} m
 - b. 0.2704 kg mol⁻¹; 449.0 yg
 - c. 23.4×10^{-3} mg dm⁻³; 23.4×10^{-3} g m⁻³; and 23.4×10^{-6} kg m⁻³
 - d. 17.5×10^{-6} Hz
 - e. $0.5796 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ and $5.796 \times 10^5 \text{ m}^{-1}$

2.
 - a. $2.16 \times 10^3 \text{ cm}^3$
 - b. 2.16 dm^3
 - c. $2.16 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$
 - d. $2.16 \times 10^{27} \text{ \AA}^3$

3. -21 kJ mol⁻¹ - please note this value is correct to the appropriate sig figs

1.5.3 Determining units of variables in equations answers

1.
 - a.
 - kg m² s⁻² K⁻¹ mol⁻¹ (this is more usually written as J K⁻¹ mol⁻¹)
 - 11.3 mm Hg (1.50 kPa)

2. kg m s⁻¹

3. J K⁻⁴ mol⁻¹

4. $\text{kg m}^3 \text{s}^{-4} \text{A}^{-2}$ or $\text{N m}^2 \text{C}^{-2}$

Chapter 2

Week 2

2.1 Preliminary information

Previously we have learnt about both units and rearranging equations, and in this material we will learn about how these apply to powers, exponents and logarithms.

The exponential function e , and its reciprocal function, the natural log \ln appear a lot in the natural world, and so appear a lot in chemistry. Kinetics, thermodynamics, and even spectroscopy have examples of exponential decay ($1/e$), and so both exponential functions and logs need to be confidently handled.

Powers (such as squares, cubes and even square roots) also appear frequently in chemistry and the rules for manipulating all of these mathematical functions are similar.

2.1.1 Rules of powers and exponents

Powers and exponentials share a common form, in both cases there is a base (b), raised to a power (p), equation (2.1).

$$b^a \tag{2.1}$$

- in a power function the base (b) varies as the power (p) is fixed, for example:
 - $c_{p,n} = aT^3$
 - $E = mc^2$
 - $\frac{d[A]}{dt} = -k[A]^2$
- in an exponential function the power (p) varies and the base (b) is fixed, for example:
 - $[H^+] = 10^{-pH}$

- $[A] = [A]_0 e^{-kt}$
- negative powers are equivalent to one over the equivalent positive power.
So:
 - $e^{-x} = 1/e^x$
 - $x^2 = 1/x^{-2}$

When things have a common base then there are ‘rules’ on how to combine powers. We have essentially been using some of these rules already when we have considered units.

When multiplying two things which share a common base, you add the powers:

$$m^a \times m^b = m^{a+b} \quad (2.2)$$

When dividing two things that share a common base, you subtract the denominator power from the numerator power:

$$\frac{p^a}{p^b} = p^{a-b} \quad (2.3)$$

When raising something with a power to a further power, then the two powers are multiplied:

$$(q^a)^b = q^{a \times b} \quad (2.4)$$

There are a few other rules to help us understand how to manipulate powers:

Anything raised to the power 0 is equal to 1:

$$x^0 = 1$$

or:

$$e^0 = 1$$

Roots may be expressed as fractional powers:

$$\sqrt[n]{x} = x^{\frac{1}{n}} \quad (2.5)$$

When we see negative powers it is the same as the inverse of the positive power.

$$x^{-n} = \frac{1}{x^n} \quad (2.6)$$

2.1.2 Rules of logs

Logs are the inverse function of exponents, and can have many bases:

When we use ‘natural logs’ we use the terminology \ln , a natural log is the inverse of ‘ e ’.

$$x = \ln e^x \quad (2.7)$$

Other logs are usually marked with the *base*, however if no base is indicated it should be considered that this is \log_{10} .

$$x = \log_{10} 10^x \quad (2.8)$$

Just as with combining functions with powers there are a number of rules which help us handle and manipulate logs, these rules are the same no matter the base of the log. When combining logs (these rules are the same regardless of base).

For adding to logarithms of the same base:

$$\log_x A + \log_x B = \log_x (AB) \quad (2.9)$$

When subtracting two logarithms of the same base:

$$\log_x A - \log_x B = \log_x \left(\frac{A}{B} \right) \quad (2.10)$$

When taking a logarithm of something raised to a power:

$$\log_x (A^n) = n \log_x A \quad (2.11)$$

There are occasions where we need to change the base of a log, this for example occurs in the derivation of the Beer-Lambert law where we look at the \log_{10} of the ratio of light intensity, but this comes from an exponential decay of light intensity through the sample \ln .

If we want to change the bases of logs (such as in the Beer-Lambert law), there is one final rule of logs.

When changing the base of a logarithm:

$$\log_b A = \frac{\log_x A}{\log_x b} \quad (2.12)$$

2.1.3 Relationship between logs and exponents

As we have seen previously every function has an inverse function, a function that we can use to ‘undo’ an action. For addition this inverse function is subtraction, for multiplication, division. In the case of exponents the inverse function is a logarithm (to the same base), and reciprically, the inverse function of a log is an exponential.

We will use this later in the course when we look at generating linear $y = mx + c$ plots (Week 3), because exponential functions are curved when plotted, and so many graphs which are plotted in chemistry have a \ln of a function on the y axis.

2.1.4 A note on logs, exponentials and units

You cannot take a log of anything with a unit, nor can you take a exponent of anything with a unit, mathematically it makes no sense. However this helps us with our rearrangements, and working out our units.

For example if determining an equilibrium constant, K , from knowing the Gibbs’ free energy ΔG :

$$\Delta G = -RT \ln K$$

we will want to rearrange this equation to make K the subject.

$$K = e^{-\frac{\Delta G}{RT}}$$

I now know that K has no units (this is because it is based on activity, something you will learn in CH10137). I know this because:

- it is only calculated from an exponential function (which has no units) or
- you can’t take the \ln of anything with a unit.

The consequence of this is that ΔG and RT *must* have the same unit.

2.2 Examples

2.2.1 Determination of units in equation with powers

The wavenumber of an *infra*-red vibration within a molecule is linked to the bond strength, k and the reduced mass μ (kg) of the atoms in the bond, Equation (2.13). Determine the units of the bond strength k .

$$\bar{\nu} = \frac{1}{2\pi c} \sqrt{\frac{k}{\mu}} \quad (2.13)$$

Other information: $\bar{\nu}$ (m^{-1}), c (m s^{-1})

First we need to rearrange this equation to make k , the bond strength the subject.

Since k is in the square root the first step is to rearrange the equation such that the square root and its contents are on one side and everything else is on the other. Therefore if we multiply both sides by $2\pi c$ then:

$$2\bar{\nu}\pi c = \sqrt{\frac{k}{\mu}}$$

Now we can square both sides to eliminate the square root (recall indices a square root can be written as $\frac{1}{2}$ and if I square both sides - or raise both sides to the power two, then we multiply the two indices which leaves 1).

$$(2\bar{\nu}\pi c)^2 = \frac{k}{\mu}$$

Please note, this is exactly the same as $4\bar{\nu}^2\pi^2c^2$.

Finally we can multiply both sides by μ to leave k as the subject.

$$(2\bar{\nu}\pi c)^2\mu = k$$

Now we have an equation for k we can substitute in the units for all of the other variables. (Numbers are dimensionless.)

$$(\text{m}^{-1})^2 (\text{m s}^{-1})^2 \text{ kg} = k$$

Cancelling:

$$k = \text{kg s}^{-2}$$

The unit of bond strength, k , is more usually written as N m^{-1} , but this is the same unit we've just determined because as we can see in Table 1.2 a N is a kg m s^{-2} , so a $\text{N m}^{-1} = \text{kg s}^{-2}$.

A video of this example, and handwritten notes from the video are available.

2.2.2 Determination of units in equation with exponential

The Arrhenius equation (equation (3.4)) shows how the rate of a reaction, k , depends upon temperature T (in kelvin). The units of k depend upon the order of reaction.

$$k = Ae^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}} \quad (2.14)$$

Determine the units of the pre-exponential factor A and the activation energy E_a if the reaction is first order, and therefore the units of k are s^{-1} .

Here we need to remember that we cannot take an exponential of anything with units, nor does an exponential have units once calculated. Therefore the units of k have to be the same as the units of A .

- Units of $A = \text{s}^{-1}$.

We can also say that since the units of E_a have to cancel with the units of RT , then since the units of the gas constant, R are $\text{J K}^{-1} \text{mol}^{-1}$, and the unit of temperature is K , then:

- Units of $E_a = \text{J K}^{-1} \text{mol}^{-1} \times \text{K} = \text{J mol}^{-1}$

2.2.3 Rearranging equations with exponentials.

Rearrange the Arrhenius equation (equation (3.4)) to make E_a the subject.

As has been previously mentioned A will have the same unit as k , and since we cannot take the \ln of anything with a unit we need to have some careful rearranging.

If I start by dividing both sides by A , then:

$$\frac{k}{A} = e^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}}$$

Now $\frac{k}{A}$ is dimensionless and I can take the natural logarithm of both sides (as the reciprocal function of e):

$$\ln \frac{k}{A} = -\frac{E_a}{RT}$$

To get rid of the minus sign (-) I can use the fact that $\ln \frac{k}{A} = -\ln \frac{A}{k}$ (this is an application of rule (2.20) where $n = -1$)

$$\ln \frac{A}{k} = \frac{E_a}{RT}$$

Now we can multiply both sides by RT to leave E_a as the subject of the equation:

$$RT \ln \frac{A}{k} = E_a$$

A video of this example, and handwritten notes from the video are available.

2.2.4 Solving problems using simultaneous equations.

The reaction between molecular hydrogen and molecular iodine to produce hydrogen iodide occurs with a rate constant, k of $4.45 \times 10^{-5} \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ and $1.37 \times 10^{-4} \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 283°C and 302°C respectively.

Using the Arrhenius equation (equation (3.4)), determine the pre-exponential factor, A , and activation energy, E_a for this reaction.

In the Arrhenius equation there are two unknowns, E_a and A . So we need to find a way to determine both of these values. We can do this with simultaneous equations:

Method for solving problem:

- determine an expression using simultaneous equations which eliminates one of the unknowns

- solve for the remaining variable
- substitute this back into the original equation to determine the remaining unknown

If we start with equation (3.4), we can start to rearrange:

$$k = Ae^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}}$$

$$\frac{k}{A} = e^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}}$$

Then taking the natural log of both sides:

$$\ln \frac{k}{A} = -\frac{E_a}{RT}$$

Now we can use one of our ‘rules of logs’, (equation (2.19)):

$$\ln k - \ln A = -\frac{E_a}{RT}$$

From here we can set up the simultaneous equations, having two versions of this equation:

$$\ln k_1 - \ln A = -\frac{E_a}{RT_1} \quad (\text{Eq1})$$

$$\ln k_2 - \ln A = -\frac{E_a}{RT_2} \quad (\text{Eq2})$$

Now if we have Eq1 - Eq2, then:

$$\ln k_1 - \ln A - \ln k_2 + \ln A = -\frac{E_a}{RT_1} + \frac{E_a}{RT_2}$$

and we can eliminate the $\ln A$ term.

$$\ln k_1 - \ln k_2 = -\frac{E_a}{RT_1} + \frac{E_a}{RT_2}$$

From here we can rearrange to make E_a the subject, firstly by separating the common $\frac{E_a}{R}$ term:

$$\ln k_1 - \ln k_2 = -\frac{E_a}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T_1} + \frac{1}{T_2} \right)$$

then collating the temperature terms and putting them over a common denominator:

$$\ln k_1 - \ln k_2 = -\frac{E_a}{R} \left(\frac{T_2 - T_1}{T_1 T_2} \right)$$

To eliminate the minus sign we can use one of 'rules of logs':

$$\ln k_2 - \ln k_1 = \frac{E_a}{R} \left(\frac{T_2 - T_1}{T_1 T_2} \right)$$

and tidy up the logs:

$$\ln \frac{k_2}{k_1} = \frac{E_a}{R} \left(\frac{T_2 - T_1}{T_1 T_2} \right)$$

Now we can multiply both sides by $R \left(\frac{T_1 T_2}{T_2 - T_1} \right)$ to leave E_a as the subject:

$$R \left(\frac{T_1 T_2}{T_2 - T_1} \right) \ln \frac{k_2}{k_1} = E_a$$

Now we can substitute in our known values for T_1 , T_2 , k_1 and k_2 . We firstly need to remember that whenever doing any mathematical calculations with temperature they must be in kelvin!

$$T_1 = 283 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C} = 556 \text{ K}, k_1 = 4.45 \times 10^{-5} \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1} \quad T_2 = 302 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C} = 575 \text{ K}, \\ k_2 = 1.37 \times 10^{-4} \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$E_a = 8.31446 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1} \left(\frac{556 \text{ K} \times 575 \text{ K}}{575 \text{ K} - 556 \text{ K}} \right) \ln \frac{1.37 \times 10^{-4} \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}}{4.45 \times 10^{-5} \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}}$$

Therefore:

$$E_a = 157 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

Now we have found a value for E_a that leaves us with just one unknown, A . We can use either Eq1 or Eq2 to solve for this.

$$\ln k_1 - \ln A = -\frac{E_a}{RT_1}$$

Rearranging to make $\ln A$ the subject:

$$\ln A = \ln k_1 + \frac{E_a}{RT_1}$$

Substituting in our known values of E_a , k_1 and T_1 :

$$\ln A = \ln 4.45 \times 10^{-5} + \frac{157 \times 10^3 \text{ J mol}^{-1}}{8.31446 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1} \times 556 \text{ K}}$$

A note on units - you will of course note that I have written the value of k_1 without units in the above equation, this is because in effect the unit was 'lost' in the rearrangement (you can't take the log of anything with a unit), we do have to remember that A has to have the same unit as k_1 in order for this cancelling to occur

$$\ln A = 24.0$$

Therefore:

$$A = e^{24.0} = 2.7 \times 10^{10} \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

A note on significant figures - remember when taking an exponent you loose 1 sig fig.

A video solving the simultaneous equation and determining the preexponential factor, and handwritten notes from the video are available.

2.3 Summary of concepts learnt

Logarithms are the reciprocal function of exponents:

$$x = \ln e^x$$

$$x = \log 10^x$$

Exponentials and logarithms may be combined using the following rules:

$$m^a \times m^b = m^{a+b} \quad (2.15)$$

$$\frac{p^a}{p^b} = p^{a-b} \quad (2.16)$$

$$(q^a)^b = q^{a \times b} \quad (2.17)$$

$$\log_x A + \log_x B = \log_x (AB) \quad (2.18)$$

$$\log_x A - \log_x B = \log_x \left(\frac{A}{B} \right) \quad (2.19)$$

$$\log_x (A^n) = n \log_x A \quad (2.20)$$

- Anything raised to a power 0 is 1.
- Roots may be expressed as fractional powers
- Negative powers indicate one over the equivalent positive power, $x^{-3} = 1/x^3$

2.4 Questions

2.4.1 Simple log practice

Answers for these questions are in Section 2.5.1.

Evaluate the following expressions:

1. $\log_{10} 10^6$
2. $\log_{10} 10^{-5}$
3. $\log_{10}(5^4 \times 3^{-2})$
4. $\ln \pi 6^2$
5. $e^{\log_e x} = \ln y$

2.4.2 Rearranging equations

Answers for these questions are in Section 2.5.2

1. Rearrange the following to make the highlighted term the subject:

- a. $\Delta S = k_B \ln W$, W
- b. $\Delta S = nR \ln \frac{V_f}{V_i}$, V_f
- c. $\nu = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\frac{k}{\mu} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$, μ
- d. $\ln K = \frac{nFE}{RT}$, E
- e. $\ln K' - \ln K = \frac{\Delta H}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T'} \right)$, ΔH

2. The integrated rate equation for a first order reaction is $[A] = [A]_0 e^{-kt}$.
 - a. Rearrange this equation in order to make k the subject.
 - b. What units must k have?

2.4.3 pH question.

Answers for these questions are in Section 2.5.3

HCl fully dissociates in water. If 5 cm³ (measured using a glass pipette) of 38% w/w HCl solution ($\rho = 1.189 \text{ kg dm}^{-3}$) is 'added to 20 cm³ water' made up' in a 25 cm³ standard flask.

- What is the pH of the resulting solution?
- What mass of NaOH is required to neutralise the resulting solution?

Hint: w/w means weight-weight, i.e. the number of g in 100 g. In this case 38 g of HCl in 100 g total of mixture.

Hint: you will need to think about units and rearranging equations from Week 1.

2.4.4 pK_a question.

Answers for these questions are in Section 2.5.4

The degree of dissociation of an acid, α is related to the acid dissociation constant, K_a and the concentration of the acid, c , as shown in equation (2.21)

$$K_a = \frac{\alpha^2 c}{1 - \alpha} \quad (2.21)$$

Determine the pH of hydrofluoric acid solutions ($\text{p}K_a = 3.18$) when the concentration of acid is:

- 1.00 M
- 2.50 mM

Hint: We rearranged this equation last week for α

2.5 Answers**2.5.1 Simple log practice answers**

- 6
- 5
- 1.841...
- 4.728...
- $x = \ln y$ Worked solution

2.5.2 Rearranging equations answers

- Rearrange the following to make the highlighted term the subject:
 - $W = e^{\frac{\Delta S}{k_B}}$
 - $V_f = V_i e^{\frac{\Delta S}{nR}}$ Worked solution

- c. $\mu = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \frac{k}{\nu^2}$ Worked solution
 - d. $E = \frac{RT}{nF} \ln K$
 - e. $\Delta H = \left(\frac{TT'}{T'-T} \right) R \ln \frac{K'}{K}$ Worked solution
-

- 2. a. $k = \frac{\ln[A]_0 - \ln[A]}{t}$
- b. s^{-1}

2.5.3 pH answer

- a. pH -0.394
- b. $m_{\text{NaOH}} = 2.5 \text{ g}$ Worked solution

2.5.4 pK_a answer

- a. Two roots: 0.025 and -0.026 and we can't have a negative degree of dissociation. pH 1.6
- b. Two roots: 0.40 and -0.66 and we can't have a negative degree of dissociation. pH 3.0 Worked solution

Chapter 3

Week 3

3.1 Preliminary information

3.1.1 Presentation of units on tables and graphs

Your tables should have units expressed in the column headers where appropriate, and uncertainties should be expressed in the header if they are constant across the whole range, or in parentheses for each measurement if different. Units should be expressed as “Quantity / unit” to allow you to express them as dimensionless quantities in the table or on the axis of your graph (please note brackets are absolutely incorrect).

This is because this is how our governing body (IUPAC) tell us how to do it. See the IUPAC Green Book (2012 edition, page 3).

You can think of the horizontal line below the header as an equals sign, so:

Table 3.1: The effect of potassium iodide concentration on emission intensity and fluorescence lifetime of acridone in aqueous solution.

| [KI] / M | [KNO ₂] / M | Emission intensity / 10 ³ cps | / ns |
|----------|-------------------------|--|-------|
| 0 | 1.100 | 16.580 | 17.60 |
| 0.040 | 1.060 | 3.753 | 3.90 |
| 0.100 | 1.000 | 1.566 | 1.80 |
| 0.200 | 0.900 | 0.721 | 0.95 |
| 0.300 | 0.800 | 0.446 | 0.64 |
| 0.500 | 0.600 | 0.242 | 0.39 |
| 0.800 | 0.300 | 0.121 | 0.25 |

in the table above the third value down in the first column can be expressed as:

$$[\text{KI}] / \text{M} = 0.100$$

which of course rearranges to:

$$[\text{KI}] = 0.100 \text{ M.}$$

If we look at the top value in the third column:

$$\text{Emission intensity} / 10^3 \text{ cps} = 16.580$$

which of course rearranges to:

$$\text{Emission intensity} = 16.580 \times 10^3 \text{ cps}$$

3.1.2 Plotting of graphs

When ever we plot a graph we have to determine what we plot on each of the two axes.

The independent variable is the variable we have control over, we plot it (or something related to it) on the x-axis (the horizontal axis).

The dependent variable is the variable we measure, we plot it (or something related to it) on the y-axis (the vertical axis).

These axis should under most circumstances not contain constants unless those constants are specific to the experiment.

There is no need to start a graph axis at zero - you do not need a 'squiggle' on the axis to show that it is not starting at zero (that is what the numbers on the axis tell you), this squiggle (or more formally an axis break) does have a job when plotting graphs, but usually the use by first year undergraduates is incorrect.

When plotting a graph, we want to have broken down the equation we are using to fit the linear relationship:

$$y = mx + c \tag{3.1}$$

We should never force a graph through a particular intercept (c).

It is important when we ever have performed a calculation to determine values to plot on either x or y axis that we have taken account for any multipliers in the header, and that units are SI (such as temperature in K!).

A gradient is calculated by determining the change in y divided by the change in x:

$$m = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$$

Don't forget units on gradients! The units of a gradient are the units on y divided by the units on x.

Usually graphs are now drawn on a computer, we teach you how to draw graphs in both Excel (figure 3.1) in Key Skills, and Python (figure 3.2) in the Comp Chem labs. However it can be useful to be able to quickly draw a graph by hand as well.

Hints and tips for drawing the perfect graph

- Data points should be plotted as a dot (not a line), and data points should *not* be connected by a line.
- A trendline should only be fitted if there is a mathematical reason to do so.
- Graphs should be on a plain background (no gridlines).
- Axes do not need to start at zero - you do *not* need that funny squiggly line if it doesn't start at zero.
- Axes should be labeled with value and unit (if required), the unit should appear behind a solidus (/), you should not use brackets.
- If the numbers plotted are very small or very large (such that there could be confusion over the numbers on the axes) a multiplier should be included in the axes title.
- If concentration is being plotted you should use square brackets to indicate the concentration of what *e.g.* [azulene] / μM not concentration / μM .
- A title should normally be included, but this is a placeholder for a figure caption which you will use in later years.
- The title should include all relevant details about the graph which are not otherwise included, this may be as simple as the question number, or a full description of other experimental conditions.

3.2 Example of plotting graphs

The Stern-Volmer (Equation (3.4)) shows how the lifetime τ of a dye changes with concentration of a quencher, [Q]. The data in Table 3.1 can be modeled using the Stern-Volmer equation, you will note that this equation uses terms with a subscript 0 (τ_0), when values like this are frequently used in chemistry (and physics).

$$\frac{\tau_0}{\tau} = 1 + k[Q] \quad (3.2)$$

where $k = k_q \tau_0$.

These 'subscript 0' values are referencing values when the independent variable is zero, so $\tau_0 = 17.60 \text{ ns}$.

You will notice that Equation (3.4) is already arranged into $y = mx + c$, where the x variable is [KI] and the y variable is $\frac{\tau_0}{\tau}$. This means that the gradient is k, and the intercept 1.

Figures 3.1 & 3.2 show this data plotted in Excel and Python respectively, no title is included because I've got figure captions.



Figure 3.1: The Stern-Volmer plot from the data above drawn in excel.

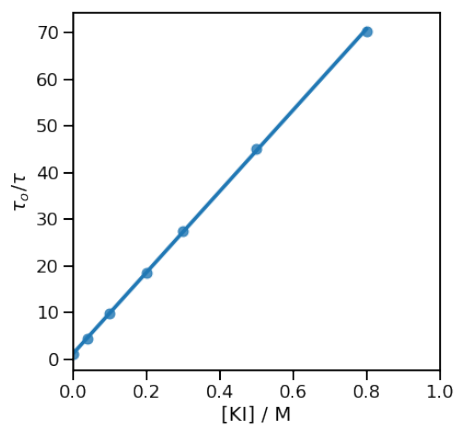


Figure 3.2: The Stern-Volmer plot from the data above drawn in python.

3.3 Summary of concepts learnt

- Units and any scaling factors should appear behind a solidus (/) not brackets.
- Tables with headers work like equations, the horizontal bar works like an equals sign.
- It should always be clear what is contained in a table - use square brackets for concentrations
- Equations should be rearranged so they can be plotted in the form $y = mx + c$.

When plotting graphs:

- the dependent variable (the thing you have control of or something related to it) goes on the horizontal x -axis.
- the independent variable (the thing you measure or something related to it) goes on the vertical y -axis.
- when plotting data data points should be used and they should not be connected by lines.
- a line of best fit should be used when there is a mathematical reason to do so, so if plotting data as $y = mx + c$ a straight line should be fitted.
- you should never force a line of best fit through a given intercept.

3.4 Questions

When plotting graphs feel free to plot either by hand, in python, excel or numbers. The choice is entirely up to you.

3.4.1 Sketch graphs

Answers for these questions are in Section 3.5.1.

For the following equations sketch suitable linear plots indicating values of the intercept and gradient on each sketch.

1. Show how absorption, A , changes with concentration, c : $A = \epsilon cl$
2. Show how pressure, p , changes with temperature, T : $pV = nRT$
3. Show how pressure, p , changes with volume, V : $pV = nRT$

3.4.2 Second order kinetics

Answers for these questions are in Section 3.5.2.

Use the following table of data to plot a graph of $\frac{1}{[A]}$ against t . Find the gradient and intercept.

(Just to note here you are plotting the equation $\frac{1}{[A]} = \frac{1}{[A]_0} + kt$).

| t / s | $10^4 [A] / \text{mol dm}^{-3}$ |
|---------|---------------------------------|
| 100 | 21.0 |
| 200 | 12.0 |
| 300 | 8.4 |
| 400 | 7.1 |
| 500 | 5.6 |

3.4.3 Clausius-Clapeyron equation

Answers for these questions are in Section 3.5.4.

The relationship between the vapour pressure and temperature of diethyl ether (Table 3.3) can be modeled using the Clausius-Clapeyron equation (Equation (3.3)) to determine the enthalpy of vapourisation $\Delta_{vap}H^\circ$.

$$\ln p = -\frac{\Delta_{vap}H^\circ}{RT} + C \quad (3.3)$$

1. Determine $\Delta_{vap}H^\circ$.
2. Determine the temperature diethyl ether boils at, at 1 atmosphere (760 mm Hg). *Hint: determine C*

Table 3.3: The measured vapor pressure of ether (in mm Hg) at sub-zero temperatures.

| p / mm Hg | T / °C |
|-------------|----------|
| 17 | -38 |
| 28 | -30 |
| 40 | -25 |
| 55 | -20 |
| 75 | -15 |
| 97 | -10 |
| 125 | -5 |
| 157 | 0 |

3.4.4 Arrhenius equation

Answers for these questions are in Section 3.5.4.

The Arrhenius equation (Equation (3.4)) shows how the rate of reaction, k , depends upon the temperature of the reaction, T .

$$k = Ae^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}} \quad (3.4)$$

For the data shown in Table 3.4 plot an appropriate linear plot in order to determine the activation energy, E_a , and the pre-exponential factor, A .

Table 3.4: The variation of measured rate constant with temperature for an undergraduate's experiment.

| T / °C | k / 10^5 s^{-1} |
|----------|-----------------------------|
| 283 | 0.000352 |

| $T / ^\circ\text{C}$ | $k / 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$ |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 356 | 0.0302 |
| 393 | 0.219 |
| 427 | 1.16 |
| 508 | 39.5 |

3.5 Answers

3.5.1 Sketch graphs

1.



Figure 3.3: The Beer-Lambert relationship to show how absorbance, the dependent variable, changes with concentration, the independent variable.

2.



Figure 3.4: A sketch to show how the pressure of an ideal gas, the dependent variable, changes with temperature, the independent variable.

3.

3.5.2 Second order kinetics

$$m = 3.19 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}, c = 180 \text{ M}^{-1} ([A]_0 = 5.56 \text{ mM})$$

3.5.3 Clausius-Clapeyron equation

$$\Delta_{\text{vap}}H^\circ = 31.6 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}, 39^\circ\text{C}.$$



Figure 3.5: A sketch to show how the pressure of an ideal gas, the dependent variable, changes with volume, the independent variable - note for a linear relationship we have $1/V$ on the x-axis.

3.5.4 Arrhenius equation

$$m = -22.4 \times 10^3 \text{ K}, c = 43.7, E_a = 186 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}, A = 9.7 \times 10^{18} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

Chapter 4

Week 4

4.1 Preliminary information

Rates of change are important, whether it is the steepness of a hill (the rate of change of elevation with horizontal distance travelled), speed (rate of change of distance with time) or the rate of reaction (change in concentration of a reactant with respect to time). Differentiation is a mathematical method for determining the rate of change of one variable with another.

Some functions are 'linear' (figure 4.1), and the rate of change of the function is the gradient, $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$. So if we look at figure 4.1 the change of distance (Δy) with respect to time (Δx) is just the gradient, but not all functions are linear, and so not all gradients are constant, therefore not all rates of change are constant.



Figure 4.1: A linear plot with time on the x-axis and distance on the y axis, the gradient of the line is the velocity, the rate of change of distance with respect to time.

Many chemical reactions show a curved decay of concentration of reactant with time (figure 4.2). In this case the gradient of the line depends on where you

measure it.

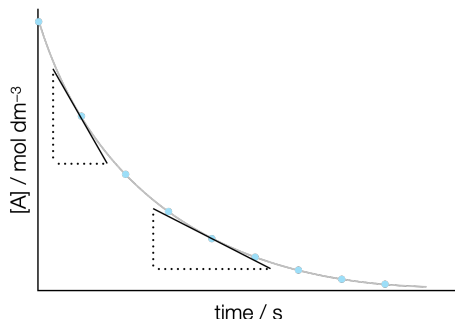


Figure 4.2: An exponential decay plot with time on the x-axis and concentration of a reactant A on the y axis, the gradient is the rate of reaction and the rate of reaction varies with how far the reaction has proceeded.

Differentiation is a mathematical way of determining what this gradient is at any given point.

4.1.1 What is differentiation

If we look at figure 4.1 the line fits the equation $y = mx + c$. The gradient of that line, m , is given by the change in y divided by the change in x :

$$m = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

For each of the two points used to determine the gradient we may write an equation defining that point:

$$y_1 = mx_1 + c \quad y_2 = mx_2 + c$$

and $x_2 = x_1 + \Delta x$

and so we can express y_2 as:

$$y_2 = m(x_1 + \Delta x) + c$$

The gradient of this line is:

$$\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{(m(x_1 + \Delta x) + c) - (mx_1 + c)}{\Delta x} = m \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta x} = m$$

This is the least surprising result (and a relatively large amount of work) that you will likely see, but this principle can be used to show *what* differentiation is.

We can now show this same idea for a more complicated function, for example a quadratic.

4.1.2 Showing why the differential of a quadratic is a linear function of x

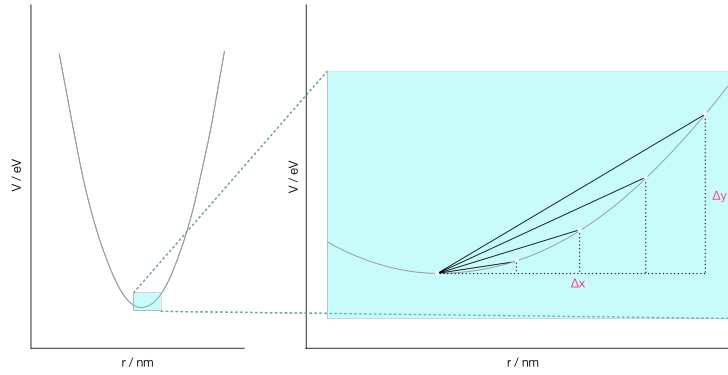


Figure 4.3: Left: a harmonic oscillator model showing quadratic behaviour. Right: a zoomed in section of this model, showing different values of the gradient for different values of Δx , the smaller the value of Δx the better approximation to the gradient.

Figure 4.3 shows a harmonic oscillator which is a quadratic function of the form $y = ax^2 + bx + c$. The image shows that the gradient of the point at the bottom of the curve may be approximated by different gradient triangles, the smaller the triangle the better the approximation to the curve, and therefore the better the approximation of the gradient at that point. As these triangles get smaller they better approach the gradient of the tangent to the line.

We can determine the gradient of any point (x_0, y_0) , by using a second point (x_1, y_1) as we did in section 4.1.1.

If a quadratic has the general form $y = ax^2 + bx + c$, then we can write the equations for the points (x_0, y_0) and (x_1, y_1) .

$$y_0 = ax_0^2 + bx_0 + c \quad y_1 = ax_1^2 + bx_1 + c$$

and we know that $x_1 = x_0 + \Delta x$, so we can rewrite the equation for y_1 :

$$y_0 = ax_0^2 + bx_0 + c \quad y_1 = a(x_0 + \Delta x)^2 + b(x_0 + \Delta x) + c$$

However as this gradient triangle reduces in size we can use a lower case delta (δ) to indicate just a very small change in the x & y values.

$$y_0 = ax_0^2 + bx_0 + cy_1 = a(x_0 + \delta x)^2 + b(x_0 + \delta x) + c$$

The gradient of this line is given by:

$$\frac{\delta y}{\delta x} = \frac{y_1 - y_0}{x_1 - x_0} = \frac{(a(x_0 + \delta x)^2 + b(x_0 + \delta x) + c) - (ax_0^2 + bx_0 + c)}{\delta x}$$

Simplifying:

$$\frac{\delta y}{\delta x} = \frac{2ax_0\delta x + 2a\delta x^2 + b\delta x}{\delta x}$$

With cancelling:

$$\frac{\delta y}{\delta x} = 2ax_0 + 2a\delta x + b$$

As the size of the gradient triangle reduces (or more formally as $\delta x \rightarrow 0$) then the term with the remaining δx tends to zero. When we do this we use the terminology $\frac{dy}{dx}$ to denote that we have reduced the size of this step to zero (an entirely mathematical concept). The formal notation of this is: $\frac{dy}{dx} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\delta y}{\delta x}$, our differential $\frac{dy}{dx}$ is what we get when we reduce the size of our step between our two values used to determine the gradient to zero.

So:

$$\frac{d}{dx} ax^2 + bx + c = 2ax + b$$

This is differentiation, and instead of going through this process with every possible function we can learn the rules of differentiation so that we can quickly get to the result of most functions that we can think of.

4.1.3 Notation of differentiation

There are a couple of different ways of noting differentials, I tend to use a mixture of two methods. There are two different methods of reporting functions firstly where y is a function of x (e.g. $y = ax^2 + bx + c$) where the differential notation $\frac{dy}{dx}$ tends to be used, secondly where we have a function of x (e.g. $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$) where the differential notation $f'(x)$ tends to be used.

We can also differentiate functions more than once, if we differentiate a function twice with respect to x we can use either the notation $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$ or $f''(x)$.

The reasons why we may wish to differentiate a function twice are explained in section 4.1.9

4.1.4 Differentiating constants

Graphically we can imagine a constant as a horizontal line on a graph, no matter the value of x , a constant is just that a constant, and therefore it should come as no surprise that the differential of a constant, c is 0. Formally:

$$y = c \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \quad (4.1)$$

Recall that anything raised to the power 0 is one, so if we differentiate anything raised to the power zero we get 0.

4.1.5 Differentiating polynomials

When differentiating polynomials the rule is always the same for all numerical powers except x^0 (a constant). In this case we multiply our variable by the old power, and deduct one from the starting power. So, if a and b are constants:

$$y = ax^b \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = abx^{b-1} \text{ when } x \neq 0 \quad (4.2)$$

This is true for positive integers:

$$y = 3x^3 \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = 9x^2$$

Negative integers (recall that negative powers are a way of expressing 1 over positive powers): $y = ax^{-3} \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = -3ax^{-4}$

$$\text{and fractions: } y = 2x^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

Note in each case we have reduced the power by one, and multiplied the whole term by the old power.

4.1.6 Differentiating exponentials

$$y = be^{ax} \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = abe^{ax} \quad (4.3)$$

Exponential functions may be expressed as a polynomial series (Section 8.4.1), this explains the result, but as chemists only the result of the differentiation is usually important.

For example if $y = e^{-2x}$, then:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -2e^{-2x} \text{ and } \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 4e^{-2x}$$

Note how the power in an exponential function does not change.

4.1.7 Differentiating natural logs (ln)

We cannot directly differentiate any logs other than natural logs (ln). We can use one of our rules of logs (equation (2.12)) to convert the log to any other base to a natural log. However, natural logs describe behaviours found naturally in nature, such as chemical reactions and so it is rare to have to differentiate any other logs.

$$y = \ln ax \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x} \quad (4.4)$$

It may at first seem surprising that the constant a in equation (4.4) disappears in the differential, however, if we think about our rules of logs (equation (2.18)), then $y = \ln ax$ may be rewritten as $y = \ln a + \ln x$ and of course $\ln a$ is a constant and so differentiates to 0 as shown in (4.1).

4.1.8 Differentiating trig functions

If we look at how the trig functions sin and cos vary (figure 4.4), we can see that when $\sin x$ has a maximum value (at $\frac{\pi}{2}$) the gradient at that point is 0. We can also see that the value of $\cos x$ at $\frac{\pi}{2}$ is also 0, this isn't coincidence, the functions sin and cos are intrinsically linked.



Figure 4.4: A plot of $\sin(x)$ (solid line) and $\cos(x)$ (dashed line) showing the repeating nature of the functions over 2π . We can note that when $\sin(x)$ reaches a maximum at $\pi/2$ and a minimum at $3\pi/2$ (and the gradient is zero) then $\cos(x)$ is 0.

In fact if we differentiate $\sin x$ with respect to x we get $\cos x$. You can see this if you look at the Maclaurin expansion for \sin (equation (8.2)) and \cos (equation (8.3)).

| $f(x) \equiv y$ | $f'(x) \equiv \frac{dy}{dx}$ | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|--|
| $\sin Ax$ | $A \cos Ax$ | |
| $\cos Ax$ | $-A \sin Ax$ | |
| $-\sin Ax$ | $-A \cos Ax$ | |
| $-\cos Ax$ | $A \sin Ax$ | |

(4.5)



Figure 4.5: The cycle of differentiation which links $\sin(x)$ and $\cos(x)$. $\sin(x)$ differentiates to $\cos(x)$, $\cos(x)$ differentiates to $-\sin(x)$, $-\sin(x)$ differentiates to $-\cos(x)$ and $-\cos(x)$ differentiates to $\sin(x)$.

The differential of $\tan x$ is not shown, it is shown later in section 5.1.2, but it is a result that is rarely needed in chemistry.

4.1.9 Determining turning points

As we have seen previously (in sections 4.1.5 and 4.1.8) we have taken note of points where the gradient (of differential) of a function is zero. These points are referred to as *turning points*; there are three types of turning point, maxima, minima, and points of inflection (figure 4.6). A turning point occurs when $\frac{dy}{dx}$.



Figure 4.6: The different types of turning point, from left: minima - a negative gradient which changes into a positive gradient, maxima - a positive gradient which changes into a negative gradient, and points of inflection which may either be positive gradients leveling to a zero gradient and increasing again, or negative gradients leveling to zero and decreasing again.

We can tell the nature of a turning point by one of two methods, first by inspection, and secondly using calculus and the second derivative of the function.

4.1.9.1 Determining turning points by inspection

The inspection method involves determining the coordinates of each turning point by differentiating the function. Then using the equation for the gradient of the line to include values just to the left and right of the turning point and determining if the gradient at that point is positive or negative.

For example, if we take the quadratic equation $y = 4x^2 + 3x - 7$, and determine the differential of this function:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 4x + 3$$

At the turning point $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ and so at the turning point $x = -\frac{3}{4}$. Now we can examine what value the gradient has if we choose, for example, values of $x = -1$ and $x = -\frac{1}{2}$.

At $x = -1$, $\frac{dy}{dx} = (4 \times -1) + 3 = -1$, which is negative.

At $x = -\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{dy}{dx} = (4 \times -\frac{1}{2}) + 3 = 1$, which is positive.

Therefore, a negative gradient which changes into a positive gradient with increasing value of x implies that this point is a *minimum*.

It is advisable to ensure points are close to the turning point of interest as some functions have more than one turning point.*

4.1.9.2 Determining turning points by differentiation

Our second method for determining the nature of a turning point is by determining the second derivative of the original function, $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$. This second derivative is telling us the rate of change of the gradient.

If the second derivative is:

| $f'(x) \equiv \frac{dy}{dx}$ | <i>type of turning point</i> |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| negative | maximum |
| positive | minimum |
| 0 | point of inflection |

The nature of the point of inflection will have to be determined by the inspection method.

If we differentiate our function for a second time, and again input the value of x at the turning point, then we can tell the nature of the turning point.

If we use the same example as above:

$y = 4x^2 + 3x - 7$, and $\frac{dy}{dx} = 4x + 3$, we can determine the second differential ($\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$):

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 4$$

This second derivative is positive, and therefore we know that the turning point is a minimum.

4.1.10 Differentiating functions with more than one term

When differentiating functions with more than one term, we can just differentiate each term in turn. This is only true for when functions are added or subtracted. There are different rules for when two terms are multiplied by each other (the product rule - section 5.1.2) or when we have a function of a function (the chain rule 5.1.1).

I have previously used differentiating $y = \ln ax$ with respect to x as an example, and said that we can use our rules of logs to rearrange this to two terms, $y = \ln a + \ln x$, when we differentiate this function we differentiate each term in turn.

Differentiating $y = \ln a$, a is a constant, and so $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$.

Differentiating $y = \ln x$, $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x}$.

Putting all of this together, $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0 + \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{x}$, the result I shared in section 4.1.7.

Formally where y is a function of u & v , with each terms $u(x)$ and $v(x)$ being separate functions of x , $y = Au(x) + Bv(x)$, then $\frac{dy}{dx} = A\frac{du(x)}{dx} + B\frac{dv(x)}{dx}$.

4.2 Examples

During these examples (and during the questions below) a range of variables have been used because it is rare to meet examples in chemistry using x and y . The principles are all the same, you are differentiating a dependent variable with respect to an independent variable.

4.2.1 Differentiating constants

Anything which isn't the variable we are differentiating with respect to may be considered a constant.

Determine $\frac{da}{db}$ of the following function:

$$a = 4x^3 + 3x^2 + 2x + 1$$

Since none of these terms contain the variable b , these are all constants when differentiating this function with respect to b .

Therefore $\frac{da}{db} = 0$

4.2.2 Differentiating polynomials

Determine $\frac{da}{db}$ of the following function:

$$a = 4b^3 + 3b^2 - 2b + 1$$

We can differentiate each of these terms in turn:

$$\frac{d}{db}4b^3 = 3 \times 4b^{3-1} = 12b^2$$

$$\frac{d}{db}3b^2 = 2 \times 3b^{2-1} = 6b$$

$$\frac{d}{db}(-2b) = 1 \times -2b^{1-1} = -2b^0 = -2$$

$$\frac{d}{db}1 = 0$$

Therefore, putting each of these terms together: $\frac{da}{db} = 12b^2 + 6b - 2$

When ions travel in solution their conductivity is given by an equation that contains a temperature dependent constant, b , given by:

$$b = \frac{qz^3\varepsilon F}{24\pi\varepsilon_0 RT} \left(\frac{2}{\varepsilon RT} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

where z , is the charge on the ion, T the absolute temperature and all other values are constants.

Determine an expression which shows how b changes with temperature T .

The approach we need to use is:

- multiply out the bracket to give an expression for b with only one T term.
- determine an expression for $\frac{db}{dT}$.

To simplify the equation I am going to combine my constants into a two single terms, $c = \frac{qz^3\varepsilon F}{24\pi\varepsilon_0 R}$ and $d = \left(\frac{2}{\varepsilon R} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$.

So my expression simplifies to:

$$b = \frac{c}{T} d \left(\frac{1}{T} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

rearranging slightly:

$$b = cT^{-1}dT^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

Combining the T s into a single expression:

$$b = cdT^{-\frac{3}{2}}$$

Now we can replace our temporary constant names:

$$b = \frac{qz^3\varepsilon F}{24\pi\varepsilon_0 R} \left(\frac{2}{\varepsilon R} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} T^{-\frac{3}{2}}$$

There are different ways that this can be expressed, and some people may wish to combine the R into a single term:

$$b = \frac{qz^3\varepsilon F}{24\pi\varepsilon_0} \left(\frac{2}{\varepsilon R^3} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} T^{-\frac{3}{2}}$$

Now to differentiate the function, I will use the simplified form $b = cdT^{-\frac{3}{2}}$, and substitute in the constants c & d at the end.

Using our rule for differentiating polynomials:

$$\frac{db}{dT} = -\frac{3}{2}cdT^{-\frac{5}{2}}$$

Substituting in the constants:

$$\frac{db}{dT} = -\frac{3}{2} \frac{qz^3\varepsilon F}{24\pi\varepsilon_0 R} \left(\frac{2}{\varepsilon R} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} T^{-\frac{5}{2}}$$

And tidying up:

$$\frac{db}{dT} = -\frac{qz^3\varepsilon F}{16\pi\varepsilon_0} \left(\frac{2}{\varepsilon R^3} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} T^{-\frac{5}{2}}$$

A video and handwritten notes of this worked solution are available.

Note: we could use the product rule (section 5.1.2) to solve this without determining a single expression for T , but this is more complicated.

4.2.3 Differentiating exponentials

Determine the momentum, p_x , of a wave-particle whose wave function is given by:

$$\Psi = Ae^{\frac{2\pi ix}{\lambda}} e^{-2\pi i \nu t}$$

by differentiating the function with respect to x and multiplying the result by the constant $-\frac{i\hbar}{2\pi}$.

We are told in the question that $p_x = -\frac{i\hbar}{2\pi} \frac{d\Psi}{dx}$.

Everything other than x in this equation is a constant, and therefore this is just the equivalent (with a few extra terms) of differentiating $y = ae^{bx}$.

$$\frac{d\Psi}{dx} = A \frac{2\pi i}{\lambda} e^{\frac{2\pi i x}{\lambda}} e^{-2\pi i \nu t}$$

Now to determine p_x :

$$p_x = -\frac{i\hbar}{2\pi} \frac{d\Psi}{dx}$$

Therefore:

$$p_x = -\frac{i\hbar}{2\pi} A \frac{2\pi i}{\lambda} e^{\frac{2\pi i x}{\lambda}} e^{-2\pi i \nu t}$$

This can be tidied up slightly, and because $\Psi = Ae^{\frac{2\pi i x}{\lambda}} e^{-2\pi i \nu t}$, we can substitute this back into the equation:

$$p_x = -\frac{i^2 \hbar}{\lambda} \Psi$$

Note: $i^2 = -1$, whilst this result isn't necessary for what we have learnt here when you do Quantum Mechanics later in the course you will need this, this means that we can simplify this still further to be: $p_x = \frac{\hbar}{\lambda} \Psi$

A video and handwritten notes working through this problem are available.

Note: this is actually a simplification for the context of a maths problem, ultimately the Ψ cancels as the 'momentum operator', has to operate on the Ψ term.

Note: formally t is also a variable and this should be treated with partial derivatives, but the answer will still be the same.

4.2.4 Differentiating logs

Determine the rate of change of w with respect to V given that:

$$w = -nRT \ln V$$

In this case we are asked to determine $\frac{dw}{dV}$, the fact that this question does not involve x & y doesn't matter the principles are all the same:

So following our rule of logs for differentiating:

$$\frac{dw}{dV} = -nRT \times \frac{1}{V}$$

4.2.5 Differentiating trig functions

Differentiate the following function with respect to θ :

$$a = b^2 + \frac{c}{\theta} + \cos^2 \phi + \cos r\theta$$

Anything which isn't a θ may be considered a constant, and so, differentiating each term in turn:

$$\frac{da}{d\theta} = -\frac{c}{\theta^2} + -a \sin r\theta$$

The first and third terms only contain constants and so both differentiate to zero.

The second term follows our rules for differentiating polynomials (take one from the power and multiply by the old power), so $\frac{da}{d\theta}$ of the second term is $-\frac{c}{\theta^2}$.

The final term follows our rules for differentiating trig functions where the differential of $\cos ax$ is $-a \sin ax$, and so in our case $\frac{da}{d\theta}$ of the final term is $-a \sin r\theta$.

4.2.6 Determining turning points

The Lennard-Jones potential (figure 4.7) describes the potential between two molecules, of which there is an equilibrium separation (r_{eq}) at the minimum of the function.

Whilst this equation appears in many forms (principally with how the constants A and B are represented) the actual function of this line is given by a polynomial (equation (4.6)).

$$V_{LJ} = -\frac{A}{r^6} + \frac{B}{r^{12}} \quad (4.6)$$

Determine an expression for this equilibrium separation of molecules.

We are told that the equilibrium occurs at the minimum of this function, therefore if we differentiate the potential with respect to the distance, and set this equal to 0 (which occurs at a turning point), then we should be able to solve for the equilibrium separation.

$$V_{LJ} = -\frac{A}{r^6} + \frac{B}{r^{12}}$$

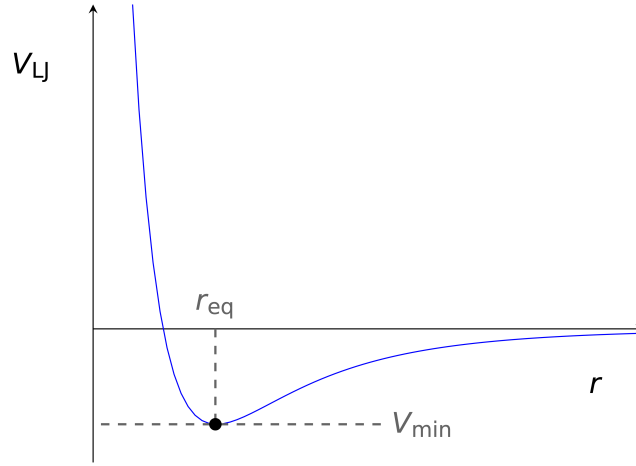


Figure 4.7: The Lennard-Jones potential which shows the potential energy between two particles as a function of intermolecular distance. The minimum of this function represents the point at which the force between the two molecules is 0, or that they are in equilibrium.

Which for clarity we can rewrite as:

$$V_{LJ} = -Ar^{-6} + Br^{-12}$$

Differentiating with respect to r (recall our rule for polynomials is take one off the power and multiply the term by the old power):

$$\frac{dV_{LJ}}{dr} = -(-6)Ar^{-7} + (-12)Br^{-13} \frac{dV_{LJ}}{dr} = 6Ar^{-7} - 12Br^{-13}$$

At the turning point $\frac{dV_{LJ}}{dr} = 0$ and $r = r_{eq}$:

$$0 = 6Ar_{eq}^{-7} - 12Br_{eq}^{-13}$$

Multiplying both sides by $\frac{r^7}{6}$:

$$0 = Ar_{eq}^{-7+7} - 2Br_{eq}^{-13+7} = A - 2Br_{eq}^{-6}$$

Adding $2Br_{eq}^{-6}$ to both sides:

$$2Br_{eq}^{-6} = A$$

We can rewrite r_{eq}^{-6} as $\frac{1}{r_{eq}^6}$:

$$\frac{2B}{r_{eq}^6} = A$$

Rearranging:

$$\frac{2B}{A} = r_{eq}^6$$

Finally we can take the sixth root (which can be expressed as $\frac{1}{6}$):

$$r_{eq} = \left(\frac{2B}{A} \right)^{\frac{1}{6}}$$

A video and handwritten notes for working through this problem are available.

Differentiating potential energy with respect to distance gives the force. We can check this with units, energy has the unit J ($\text{kg m}^2 \text{s}^{-2}$), force has the unit N (kg m s^{-2}).

4.3 Summary of concepts learnt

| $f(x) \equiv y$ | $f'(x) \equiv \frac{dy}{dx}$ |
|--------------------------------|---|
| A | 0 |
| Ax^n | nAx^{n-1} |
| $\frac{A}{x^n} \equiv Ax^{-n}$ | $-nAx^{-n-1}$ |
| e^{Ax} | Ae^{Ax} |
| $A \ln Bx$ | $\frac{A}{x}$ |
| $\sin Ax$ | $A \cos Ax$ |
| $\cos Ax$ | $-A \sin Ax$ |
| $\tan Ax$ | $-A \sec^2 Ax$ |
| $Au(x) + Bv(x)$ | $A \frac{du(x)}{dx} + B \frac{dv(x)}{dx}$ |

4.4 Questions

4.4.1 'Simple' differentiation

1. Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ of the following functions:

- a. $y = 6x + 4$
- b. $y = 5x^2 + 3x - 7$
- c. $y = x^{-\frac{1}{2}} + 3x - 4$
- d. $6x^{\frac{2}{3}} - x + 9$

2. Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ of the following functions:

- a. $y = 3x^2 + \cos x$
- b. $y = 6 \ln 2x$
- c. $y = \frac{2}{3}e^{\frac{3x}{2}}$
- d. $y = -e^{-5x} - e^{5x}$

4.4.2 Turning points

Find the turning points (x, y) and determine their ‘type’ for the following functions:

- 1. $y = 2x^3 - 9x^2 + 12x$
- 2. $y = 12x^5 - 45x^4 + 40x^3$

4.4.3 Applied questions

- 1. If two electric dipoles are aligned in an adjacent parallel manner such that they are separated by distance r , their potential energy of interaction, V , is given by:

$$V = \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2}{4\pi \epsilon_0 r^3}$$

determine $\frac{dV}{dr}$

- 2. Light is scattered as it passes through solutions containing small particles with an intensity I , given by the following expression:

$$I = I_0 \frac{\pi \alpha^2}{\epsilon_r^2 \lambda^4 r^2} (\sin \phi)^2$$

determine expressions for how the intensity varies with:

- a. wavelength,
- b. distance from scatterer, r
- c. angle, (you won’t be able to do this until Chapter 5)

formally these are partial derivatives and we will learn about them next week in section 5.1.3

4.5 Answers

4.5.1 ‘Simple’ differentiation

1. $\frac{dy}{dx} =$

a. 6

b. $10x + 3$

c. $-\frac{1}{2}x - \frac{3}{2} + 3$

d. $4x^{-\frac{1}{3}} - 1$

2. $\frac{dy}{dx} =$

a. $6x - \sin x$

b. $\frac{6}{x}$

c. $e^{\frac{3x}{2}}$

d. $5e^{-5x} - 5e^{5x}$

4.5.2 Turning points

1. (1,5)max, (2,4)min

2. (0,0) POI(+/+), (1,7)max, (2, -16)min

Note the coordinates are given (x,y).

4.5.3 Applied questions

1. $V = \frac{-3\mu_1\mu_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^4}$

2.

a. $\frac{dI}{d\lambda} = -4I_0 \frac{\pi\alpha^2}{\epsilon_r^2\lambda^5 r^2} (\sin\phi)^2$

b. $\frac{dI}{dr} = -2I_0 \frac{\pi\alpha^2}{\epsilon_r^2\lambda^4 r^3} (\sin\phi)^2$

c. $\frac{dI}{d\phi} = 2I_0 \frac{\pi\alpha^2}{\epsilon_r^2\lambda^4 r^2} (\sin\phi)(\cos\phi)$

Chapter 5

Week 5

5.1 Preliminary information

Some functions are more difficult to determine their ‘rate of change’ than those listed in Chapter 4, and so we can use new ‘rules’ to help us determine this. This difficulty may arise because the function is a ‘compound’ function (such as the Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution), or because the function has more than one variable (the Master equation in thermodynamics has both pressure and temperature as active variables).

In this workshop we will recap the standard differentials previously studied, and expand on this so that we can determine, gradients, rates and turning points for more complicated functions.

A recap of standard differentials...

| $f(x) \equiv y$ | $f'(x) \equiv \frac{dy}{dx}$ |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A | 0 |
| Ax^n | nAx^{n-1} |
| $\frac{A}{x^n} \equiv Ax^{-n}$ | $-nAx^{-n-1}$ |
| e^{Ax} | Ae^{Ax} |
| $A \ln Bx$ | $\frac{A}{x}$ |
| $\sin Ax$ | $A \cos Ax$ |
| $\cos Ax$ | $-A \sin Ax$ |
| $\tan Ax$ | $-A \sec^2 Ax$ |
| $Au + Bv$ | $A \frac{du}{dx} + B \frac{dv}{dx}$ |

Now we can apply these rules to more complicated functions.

5.1.1 The Chain Rule

If differentiating a function of a function we use the ‘Chain Rule’:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \times \frac{du}{dx} \quad (5.1)$$

When we use the term ‘function of a function’ we are referring to nested functions, these can be difficult to spot at first, but with practice we can identify part of our function to express as a variable u , and have a second function acting on u .

An example of a nested function can be a natural log. I have previously used one of our ‘rules of logs’ to show the differentiation of the function $y = \ln ax$ (Section 4.1.7), but we can use the chain rule to do the same thing.

If $y = \ln ax$, let $u = ax$, so we can express our log as $y = \ln u$.

Applying the chain rule, we need to determine $\frac{dy}{du}$ and $\frac{du}{dx}$.

$$y = \ln u \text{ then } \frac{dy}{du} = \frac{1}{u}.$$

$$u = ax \text{ then } \frac{du}{dx} = a.$$

Applying the chain rule, then $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{u} \times a$.

Substituting $u = ax$, then $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{ax} \times a$, and cancelling the as .

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x}, \text{ the same result as in Section 4.1.7.}$$

If we want to differentiate the function $y = \cos^2 x$ we first have to understand the notation of the function, and recognise how we can simplify this function.

The notation $\cos^2 x$ is just saying ‘cos x, squared’ or $(\cos x)^2$.

Recognising this helps us to identify that we can simplify $y = \cos^2 x$ to $y = u^2$, by using $u = \cos x$.

Knowing the chain rule, we need to determine $\frac{du}{dx}$ and $\frac{dy}{du}$.

$$\text{If } u = \cos x, \text{ then } \frac{du}{dx} = -\sin x$$

$$\text{and } y = u^2, \frac{dy}{du} = 2u$$

$$\text{Combining this: } \frac{dy}{dx} = 2u \times -\sin x$$

and substituting u back in, $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2 \cos x \times -\sin x$

and tidying up, we can say $\frac{d}{dx} \cos^2 x$ is

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -2 \sin x \cos x$$

Another example of a nested function is $y = \cos x^2$.

In the case of $y = \cos x^2$ we can say $u = x^2$, so our original function becomes $y = \cos u$.

If we now differentiate y with respect to u , and u , with respect to x we have all of the information we need to use the chain rule.

$$\frac{dy}{du} = -\sin u \text{ and } \frac{du}{dx} = 2x.$$

Therefore $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\sin u \times 2x$, and so with a little bit of substitution for u and tidying up:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -2x \sin x^2$$

5.1.2 The Product Rule

If differentiate a function times a function we use the 'Product Rule', if :

$$y = uv$$

...where u and v are different functions of x ($u(x)$ and $v(x)$). The first derivative of this compound function may be found using the general differential form for products:

$$\frac{d(uv)}{dx} = v(x) \frac{du(x)}{dx} + u(x) \frac{dv(x)}{dx} \quad (5.2)$$

In effect we are taking each of the two separate parts of the function, keeping one part the same and differentiating the other, then doing the same things in reverse. It makes more sense when you see it in action, but the product rule works when we have products (functions that are multiplied by each other).

In these notes I will often use the short hand du to stand for $\frac{du(x)}{dx}$ and dv to stand for $\frac{dv(x)}{dx}$.

If we consider $y = xe^x$ we have a function which is a product of two separate functions of x (the two 'sub-functions' are multiplied by each other), then we can say:

$$u = x \text{ and } v = e^x$$

then applying the product rule for the function $y = uv$ where u and v are both functions of x , $d(uv) = vdu + udv$, we need to determine the differentials of the functions u and v with respect to x .

$$du = 1 \text{ and } dv = e^x$$

then combining everything together:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = xe^x + 1 \times e^x \text{ or } \frac{dy}{dx} = xe^x + e^x$$

We can also use the product rule if we have two terms divided by each other such as $y = \frac{\sin x}{x}$, because we can express this as a *product* by rearranging the equation slightly to $y = x^{-1} \sin x$.

If we want to differentiate $y = \frac{\sin x}{x}$ we can use the product rule if we rearrange this as a product of two functions.

$$y = x^{-1} \sin x$$

$$\text{We can say } u = x^{-1} \text{ and } v = \sin x$$

We then have to determine the differentials with respect to x .

$$du = -x^{-2} \text{ and } dv = \cos x$$

Consequently, combining everything using the product rule:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = x^{-1} \cos x - x^{-2} \sin x$$

or rearranging this back into the original fractions:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\cos x}{x} - \frac{\sin x}{x^2}$$

Previously in section 5.1.1 we differentiated $y = \cos^2 x$ using the chain rule, but we can also use the product rule.

If $y = \cos^2 x$, we can also think of this as a product, $y = \cos x \cos x$.

In this case: $u = \cos x$ and $v = \cos x$ also.

Following the product rule we need to determine du and dv .

$$du = dv = -\sin x$$

Putting it all together:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \cos x \times -\sin x + \cos x \times -\sin x, \text{ which rearranges and simplifies to:}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -2 \sin x \cos x$$

5.1.3 Partial differentiation

Any good scientist knows that you should only change one variable at a time to understand the effect it has on a system. This is exactly what partial differentiation does, although it recognises that there may be more than one variable in the system...

Partial differentiation uses a different notation to standard differentiation to denote there is more than one variable. Subscripts are used to denote variables which are kept constant.

If y is a function of both x and z , then we can differentiate with respect to either variable, in this case we treat the other variable as a constant and differentiate as we ever have. The notation for differentiating y with respect to z as x is kept constant would be:

$$\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial z}\right)_x$$

In some circumstances you may wish to differentiate a function first by one variable and then by another, the notation in this case is:

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x \partial z}\right)$$

this is implying that the partial derivative of y with respect to x was determined first and then the partial derivative of that first derivative was determined with respect to z . It should not matter in which order you perform these functions, they should both yield the same answer.

5.2 Questions

5.2.1 Chain rule

Find the turning points (x, y) for the following functions:

1. $y = \sin^2(x)$
2. $y = \sin(e^{4x})$
3. $y = e^{(7x^2+2x)}$
4. $y = (x-1)^9$

5.2.2 Product rule questions

Differentiate the following using the product rule:

1. $y = xe^{7x} + 7xe^x$
2. $y = 5x \cos(2x)$

3. $y = \frac{\sin x}{x^2}$
4. $y = \tan x$

5.2.3 More complex differentiation questions

Differentiate the following (you will need to decide if you need the product rule or the chain rule):

1. $y = x \ln x$
2. $y = \sin^7(5x) + \cos^5(7x)$
3. $y = x^2 e^{x^2}$
4. $y = e^{\sin x^2}$

5.2.4 Partial differentiation questions

For the following function determine:

$$\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial z}\right)_x, \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}\right)_z, \left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial z^2}\right)_x, \left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}\right)_z, \left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x \partial z}\right) \text{ and } \left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial z \partial x}\right)$$

1. $y = x^6 z - 3x^2 z^3 + x^2 z + 6z^6 + 5$
2. $y = e^{3x} + ze^{2x} + x^2 e^{-z} - z^2$
3. $y = \frac{\sin(3z)}{x} - \frac{1}{e^{3x} z^2}$
4. $y = \sin(3z^2 + 2xz + x^2)^*$

*this one is involved - it uses both the chain and the product rule!

5.2.5 Applied questions

1. The radius of a spherical balloon is increasing at a rate of 0.2 m s^{-1} . Find the rate of increase of (a) the volume and (b) the surface area of the balloon at the instant when the radius is 1.6 m .
2. Determine an expression for the equilibrium separation, r_{eq} of two atoms in a bond using the Morse potential:

$$V_{\text{Morse}} = D(1 - e^{-a(r-r_0)})^2$$

5.3 Answers

5.3.1 Chain rule

1. $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2 \sin x \cos x$
2. $\frac{dy}{dx} = 4e^{4x} \cos(e^{4x})$
3. $\frac{dy}{dx} = (14x + 2)e^{(7x^2+2x)}$

$$4. \frac{dy}{dx} = 9(x-1)^8$$

5.3.2 Product rule questions

1. $\frac{dy}{dx} = e^{7x} + 7xe^{7x} + 7e^x + 7xe^x$
2. $\frac{dy}{dx} = 5 \cos(2x) - 10x \sin(2x)$
3. $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\cos x}{x^2} - \frac{2 \sin x}{x^3}$
4. $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\cos^2 x}$

5.3.3 More complex differentiation questions

1. $\frac{dy}{dx} = \ln x + 1$
2. $\frac{dy}{dx} = 35 \cos(5x) \sin^6(5x) - 35 \sin(7x) \cos^4(7x)$
3. $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2xe^{x^2} + 2x^3e^{x^2}$
4. $y = 2x \cos x^2 e^{\sin x^2}$

5.3.4 Partial differentiation questions

1. $\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial z}\right)_x = x^6 - 9x^2z^2 + x^2 + 36z^5$, $\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}\right)_z = 6x^5z - 6xz^3 + 2xz$, $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial z^2}\right)_x = -18x^2z + 180z^4$, $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}\right)_z = 30x^4z - 6z^3$, $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x \partial z}\right) = 6x^5 - 18xz^2 + 2x$ and $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial z \partial x}\right) = 6x^5 - 18xz^2 + 2x$
2. $\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial z}\right)_x = e^{2x} - x^2e^{-z} - 2z$, $\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}\right)_z = 3e^{3x} + 2e^{2x}z + 2xe^{-z}$, $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial z^2}\right)_x = x^2e^{-z} - 2$, $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}\right)_z = 9e^{3x} + 4e^{2x}z + 2e^{-z}$, $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x \partial z}\right) = 2e^{2x} - 2xe^{-z}$ and $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial z \partial x}\right) = 2e^{2x} - 2xe^{-z}$
3. $\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial z}\right)_x = \frac{\cos(3z)}{x} + \frac{2}{e^{3xz^3}}$, $\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}\right)_z = -\frac{\sin(3z)}{x^2} + \frac{3}{e^{3xz^2}}$, $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial z^2}\right)_x = -9\frac{\sin(3z)}{x} - \frac{6}{e^{3xz^4}}$, $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}\right)_z = \frac{2\sin(3z)}{x^3} - \frac{9}{e^{3xz^2}}$, $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x \partial z}\right) = \frac{-3\cos(3z)}{x^2} - \frac{6}{e^{3xz^3}}$ and $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial z \partial x}\right) = \frac{-3\cos(3z)}{x^2} - \frac{6}{e^{3xz^3}}$
4. $\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial z}\right)_x = (6z + 2x) \cos(3z^2 + 2xz + x^2)$, $\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}\right)_z = (2z + 2x) \cos(3z^2 + 2xz + x^2)$, $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial z^2}\right)_x = 2 \cos(3z^2 + 2xz + x^2) - (2z + 2x)^2 \sin(3z^2 + 2xz + x^2)$, $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}\right)_z = 6 \cos(3z^2 + 2xz + x^2) - (6z + 2x)^2 \sin(3z^2 + 2xz + x^2)$, $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x \partial z}\right) = 2 \cos(3z^2 + 2xz + x^2) - (2z + 2x)(6z + 2x) \sin(3z^2 + 2xz + x^2)$ and $\left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial z \partial x}\right) = 2 \cos(3z^2 + 2xz + x^2) - (2z + 2x)(6z + 2x) \sin(3z^2 + 2xz + x^2)$
if you can do this one you can do them all!!!

5.3.5 Applied Questions

$$1. \frac{dV}{dt} = 0.8\pi r^2 = 6 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}, \frac{dSA}{dt} = 1.6\pi r = 8 \times 10^1 \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

Since there is just one significant figure in the question the answers should only be reported to one significant figure.

This means that for the value of ‘80’ we need to use standard form as any number we share is deemed to be significant.

$$1. r_{eq} = r_0$$

Chapter 6

Week 6

6.1 Preliminary information

Standard anti derivatives (or integrals...)

| $f'(x) \equiv y$ | $f(x) \equiv \int y \, dx$ | Conditions |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| A | $x + C$ | |
| Ax^n | $\frac{A}{n+1} x^{n+1} + C$ | $x \neq -1$ |
| $\frac{A}{x} \equiv Ax^{-1}$ | $A \ln x + C$ | |
| $\frac{A}{Bx+d}$ | $\frac{A}{B} \ln(Bx+d) + C$ | |
| e^{Ax} | $\frac{1}{A} e^{Ax} + C$ | |
| A^x | $\frac{A^x}{\ln A} + C$ | |
| $A \ln x$ | $A(x \ln x - x) + C$ | |
| $\sin Ax$ | $-\frac{1}{A} \cos Ax + C$ | |
| $\cos Ax$ | $\frac{1}{A} \sin Ax + C$ | |
| $\tan Ax$ | $-\frac{1}{A} \ln(\cos Ax) + C \equiv \frac{1}{A} \ln(\sec Ax) + C$ | $-\frac{\pi}{2} < x < \frac{\pi}{2}$ |
| $\frac{A}{x^2+B^2}$ | $\frac{A}{B} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{B}\right) + C$ | $B > 0$ |
| $Ax^2 e^{Bx}$ | $A\left(\frac{x^2}{B} - \frac{2x}{B^2} + \frac{2}{B^3}\right) e^{Bx} + C$ | |
| $v(x) \frac{du(x)}{dx}$ | $u(x)v(x) - \int u(x) \frac{dv(x)}{dx} + C$ | Integration by Parts |
| $Au + Bv$ | $A \frac{du}{dx} + B \frac{dv}{dx}$ | |

6.2 Questions

6.2.1 Basic integration practice

Integrate the following with respect to the variable specified:

1. $f'(x) = \frac{a}{x}; x$
2. $f'(x) = x^{\frac{3}{2}} + \frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}{2} - 2x^{-\frac{1}{2}}, x$
3. $f'(b) = \sin(ab); b$
4. $f'(T) = a + bT + \frac{c}{T}; T$
5. $f'(t) = k; t$
6. $f'([A]) = \frac{1}{[A]}, [A]$
7. $f'([A]) = \frac{1}{[A]^2}, [A]$
8. $f'(t) = -e^{-kt}, t$

6.2.2 Differential equations

Solve the following differential equations as far as possible:

1. $\frac{d \ln a}{dz} = bz^2$
2. $\frac{d[A]}{dt} = -k[A]^2$, when $t = 0$, $[A] = [A]_0$
3. $\frac{dp}{dT} = \frac{p\Delta_{\text{vap}}H}{RT^2}$; when $T = T_1$, $p = p_1$ and when $T = T_2$, $p = p_2$
4. $\frac{dw}{dV} = -\frac{nRT}{V}$, when $V = V_i$, $w = 0$ and when $V = V_f$, $w = w$

6.3 Answers

6.3.1 Basic integration practice

1. $f(x) = a \ln x + C$
2. $f(x) = \frac{2}{5}x^{\frac{5}{2}} + \frac{x^{\frac{3}{2}}}{3} + 4x^{\frac{1}{2}} + C$
3. $f(b) = -\frac{1}{a} \cos(ab) + C$
4. $f(T) = aT + \frac{bT^2}{2} + c \ln T + C$
5. $f(t) = kt + C$
6. $f([A]) = \ln[A] + C$
7. $f([A]) = -\frac{1}{[A]} + C$
8. $f(t) = \frac{e^{-kt}}{k}$

6.3.2 Differential equations

1. $\ln a = \frac{bz^3}{3} + D$
2. $\frac{1}{[A]} = \frac{1}{[A]_0} + kt$
3. $\ln \frac{p_1}{p_2} = \frac{\Delta_{\text{vap}}H}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T_2} - \frac{1}{T_1} \right)$
4. $w = -nRT \ln \frac{V_f}{V_i}$

Chapter 7

Miscellaneous questions

The following questions use skills you have learnt in this course. The skills you have learnt are no longer listed to make these more problem solving.

7.1 Questions

1. Determine the average volume occupied by a single water molecule (in \AA^3) given the density of water is $0.9982071 \text{ kg dm}^{-3}$ at 20°C .

7.2 Answers

1. 29.9688 \AA^3

Chapter 8

Other useful information

8.1 Physical constants

Table 8.1: Physical constants used in this work

| | |
|-------|--|
| R | $8.31446261815324 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$ |
| N_A | $6.02214076 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$ |
| c | $299792458 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ |
| e | $1.60217653(14) \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$ |

The numbers in brackets refer to the error in the previous digits

8.2 Molar masses

8.3 Physical constants

Table 8.2: Physical constants used in this work

| Element or isotope | g mol^{-1} |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| H | 1.00794 |
| O | 15.9994 |

8.4 Maclaurin expansions of common functions

8.4.1 Maclaurin expansion of exponential functions

The function e^{ax} may be expressed as a series of polynomials:

$$e^{ax} = \frac{(ax)^0}{0!} + \frac{(ax)^1}{1!} + \frac{(ax)^2}{2!} + \frac{(ax)^3}{3!} + \dots + \frac{(ax)^\infty}{\infty!} \quad (8.1)$$

The factorial (!) notation used in equation (8.1) is a shorthand way of expressing a series of multiplication. It is each positive integer up to that value multiplied together. For example $5! = 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1$. $0! = 1$, why is explained in this video.

Knowing the Maclaurin expansion for e^{ax} it becomes obvious why the differential of this function $\frac{d}{dx}e^{ax} = ae^{ax}$. See section 4.1.6.

8.4.2 Maclaurin expansion of trig functions

$$\sin(bx) = \frac{(bx)^1}{1!} - \frac{(bx)^3}{3!} + \frac{(bx)^5}{5!} - \frac{(bx)^7}{7!} + \frac{(bx)^9}{9!} - \dots \quad (8.2)$$

$$\cos(cx) = \frac{(cx)^0}{0!} - \frac{(cx)^2}{2!} + \frac{(cx)^4}{4!} - \frac{(cx)^6}{6!} + \frac{(cx)^8}{8!} - \dots \quad (8.3)$$