

◆ 3.1 Ancient Ideas About Matter

🧠 Indian & Greek philosophers long ago believed that matter is made of tiny invisible particles.

- Maharishi Kanad (India) called them “Parmanu” — he said if we keep dividing matter, we’ll reach a stage where particles can't be divided further.
- Democritus (Greece) called these particles “atomos” (meaning indivisible).

■ These ideas were philosophical, not based on experiments.

◆ 3.1.1 Law of Conservation of Mass

📖 Definition:

Mass can neither be created nor destroyed in a chemical reaction.

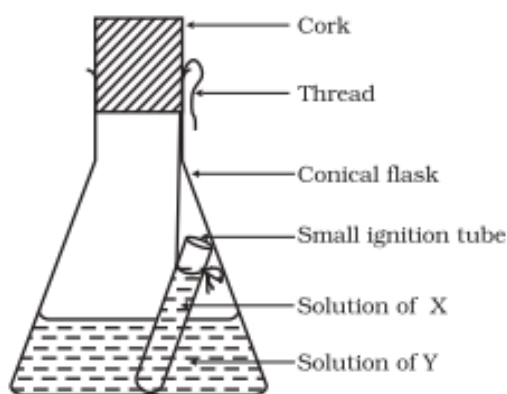
Total mass of reactants = Total mass of products

🧪 Activity 3.1:

- Prepare two solutions: X (e.g. barium chloride) and Y (e.g. sodium sulphate).
- Put solution Y in a flask, hang solution X in a test tube inside it without mixing.
- Weigh the setup → Then mix both and weigh again.

📌 Observation:

Weight remains the same before and after mixing → proves law of conservation of mass.



📷 Fig. 3.1 – Reaction setup in conical flask

◆ 3.1.2 Law of Constant (Definite) Proportions

📖 Definition:

A given compound always contains its elements in a fixed ratio by mass, regardless of its source.

Examples:

- Water → H : O = 1 : 8 by mass
- Ammonia → N : H = 14 : 3 by mass

💡 Stated by Joseph Proust.

◆ 3.1.3 Dalton's Atomic Theory

📖 Definition:

John Dalton's theory explained laws of chemical combinations using the idea of atoms.

■ Postulates:

1. All matter is made of tiny particles called atoms.
2. Atoms are indivisible and indestructible (not true now).
3. All atoms of a given element are identical.
4. Atoms of different elements have different masses.
5. Atoms combine in simple whole-number ratios.
6. In a compound, atoms are present in fixed ratios.



📷 Image – John Dalton

◆ 3.2 What is an Atom?

📖 Definition:

An atom is the smallest particle of an element that takes part in a chemical reaction.

💡 Atoms are extremely small – $1 \text{ nm} = 1/1,000,000,000 \text{ m}$

Hydrogen atom radius $\approx 10^{-10} \text{ m}$

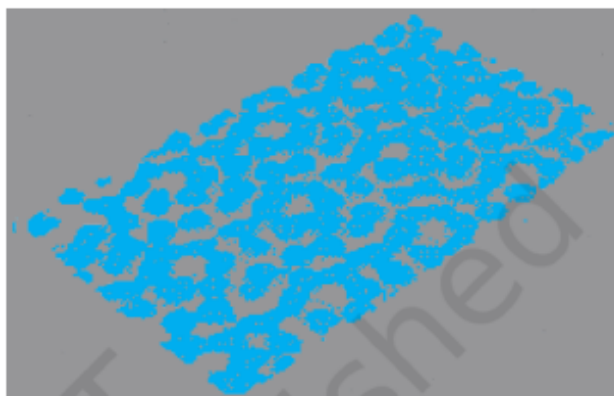


Fig. 3.2 – Atomic sizes and comparison (e.g. ant, sand grain, atom)

3.2.1 Modern Symbols of Elements

Dalton first used symbols to represent atoms.

Now, IUPAC assigns one- or two-letter symbols:

Examples:

- Hydrogen → H
- Chlorine → Cl
- Sodium → Na (from Latin “Natrium”)
- Iron → Fe (from “Ferrum”)

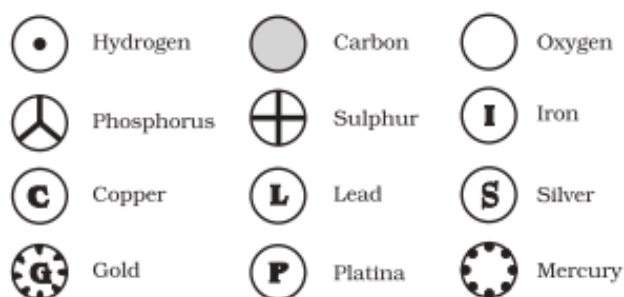


Fig. 3.3 – Early Dalton symbols

Table 3.1 – List of modern element symbols

3.2.2 Atomic Mass

Definition:

Atomic mass is the average mass of one atom of an element, compared to 1/12th the mass of one carbon-12 atom.

Example:

Carbon atom = 12 u, Oxygen = 16 u, Hydrogen = 1 u

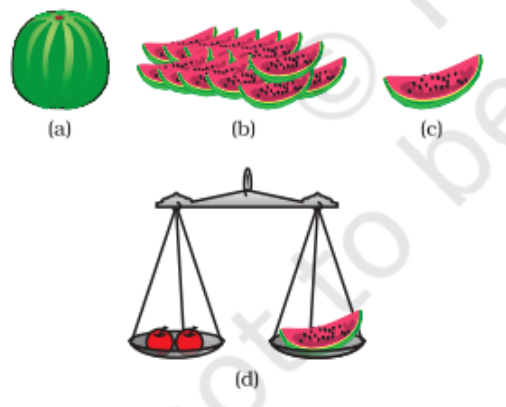


Fig. 3.4 – Watermelon analogy to explain 1/12 standard mass

Table 3.2 – Atomic masses of common elements

◆ 3.2.3 How Do Atoms Exist?

Atoms don't exist freely in most cases. They combine to form:

- Molecules (neutral group of atoms)
- Ions (charged atoms or groups)

◆ 3.3 What is a Molecule?

Definition:

A molecule is a group of two or more atoms chemically bonded together. It is the smallest unit that shows all the properties of a substance.

◆ 3.3.1 Molecules of Elements

Atomicity: Number of atoms in a molecule of an element.

Examples:

- Monoatomic → He, Ar
- Diatomic → O₂, N₂, H₂
- Tetraatomic → P₄
- Polyatomic → S₈


Table 3.3 – Atomicity of elements

◆ 3.3.2 Molecules of Compounds

 **Compounds:** Atoms of different elements combined chemically in fixed ratios.

Examples:

- Water (H_2O) $\rightarrow \text{H} : \text{O} = 2 : 1$
- $\text{CO}_2 \rightarrow \text{C} : \text{O} = 1 : 2$
- Ammonia (NH_3) $\rightarrow \text{N} : \text{H} = 1 : 3$

 Table 3.4 – Compounds and combining mass ratio

 Activity 3.2:

Use atomic masses and mass ratio to calculate number ratio in compounds

e.g. Water $\rightarrow \text{H}:\text{O} = 1:8$ by mass \rightarrow atomic masses = 1 & 16 \rightarrow number ratio = 2:1

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◆ 3.3.3 Ions

 Ion: A charged particle (positive or negative)

- Cation \rightarrow Positively charged ion (e.g., Na^+ , Ca^{2+})
- Anion \rightarrow Negatively charged ion (e.g., Cl^- , SO_4^{2-})


 Polyatomic ion: A group of atoms that carries a charge (e.g., NH_4^+ , CO_3^{2-})

 Table 3.6 – Common ions and their valencies

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◆ 3.4 Writing Chemical Formulae

 **Chemical formula:** Short symbolic representation of a compound using symbols and subscripts.


 Rules:

- Metal written first, then non-metal
- Cross-over method: Exchange valencies
- Use brackets for polyatomic ions (if more than one)

Examples:

1. $\text{HCl} \rightarrow$ Hydrogen chloride
2. $\text{H}_2\text{S} \rightarrow$ Hydrogen sulphide
3. $\text{MgCl}_2 \rightarrow$ Magnesium chloride
4. $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2 \rightarrow$ Calcium hydroxide
5. $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 \rightarrow$ Sodium carbonate
6. $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow$ Ammonium sulphate

 Table 3.5 – Examples of ionic compounds

 Group Activity – Use placards to criss-cross valencies and write formulae

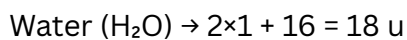
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◆ 3.5 Molecular Mass and Formula Unit Mass

Molecular Mass:

Sum of atomic masses of all atoms in a molecule

Example:



Formula Unit Mass:

Used for ionic compounds (which don't form molecules), calculated like molecular mass

Example:

