## PET565 PART B: EXERCISE SET 2

## GOALS

- Use thermodynamics theory to predict equilibrium constants.
- Become familiar with carbon chemistry and relevant reactions.
- Be familiar with the concept of ion exchange and basic definitions.
- Perform simple calculations on equilibrium compositions

## Important notes

- The activity of a gas species is given by its partial pressure. At atmospheric conditions the partial pressure in magnitude of atmospheres (as if the unit was atmospheres) corresponds to the activity. Typically CO<sub>2</sub> has partial pressure of  $10^{-3.5}$  atm.
- In an open system (between a brine and atmosphere) the brine is in equilibrium with the atmosphere (given sufficient time).
- In a closed system (only involving a brine) the total inorganic carbon, TIC, is constant.
- pH is defined as  $pH = -\log([H^+])$

## 1. Exercises

**1.1.** Show by integration that van't Hoffs equation (4.28) results in equation (4.29). Which assumptions are made?

Answer. Constant  $\Delta H_r$  with temperature.

$$\frac{dlnK}{dT} = \frac{\Delta H_r}{RT^2} \tag{1}$$

$$\frac{dlnK}{dlnK} = \frac{\Delta H_r}{R} \frac{dT}{T^2} \tag{2}$$

$$\int_{\ln K_1}^{\ln K_2} d\ln K = \frac{\Delta H_r}{R} \int_{T_1}^{T_2} T^{-2} dT$$
(3)

$$\ln K_2 - \ln K_1 = -\frac{\Delta H_r}{R} [T_2^{-1} - T_1^{-1}]$$
(4)

Note that

$$\ln a = \ln 10^{\log a} = \log a \ln 10 = \log(a) \cdot 2.303 \tag{5}$$

such that we get:

$$\log K_2 - \log K_1 = -\frac{\Delta H_r}{2.303R} [T_2^{-1} - T_1^{-1}]$$
(6)

which is equivalent to (4.29).

1.2. Villiaumite, NaF (s) is a mineral that dissolves according to

$$\operatorname{NaF}(s) \rightarrow \operatorname{Na}^+(aq) + F^-(aq)$$
 (7)

The following table values (measured at 25 C) are given:

$$\Delta G_{f,NaF}^0 = -543.5, \quad \Delta G_{f,Na^+}^0 = -261.9, \quad \Delta G_{f,F^-}^0 = -278.8 \quad (\text{kJ/mol}), \tag{8}$$

$$\Delta H_{f,NaF}^0 = -573.6, \quad \Delta H_{f,Na^+}^0 = -240.1, \quad \Delta H_{f,F^-}^0 = -332.6 \quad (kJ/mol), \tag{9}$$

and  $R = 8.314 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{kJ/mol/deg}$ .

- Calculate  $\Delta G_r^0$  and  $\Delta H_r^0$  for the reaction above.
- Calculate the solubility constant of villiaumite at 25C using equation (4.26).

• Use Van't Hoffs equation (4.29) to calculate the solubility constant at 10C.

Answer.

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$$\Delta G_r^0 = \Delta G_{f,Na^+}^0 + \Delta G_{f,F^-}^0 - \Delta G_{f,NaF}^0 = 2.8 \quad (kJ/mol)$$
(10)

$$\Delta H_r^0 = \Delta H_{f,Na^+}^0 + \Delta H_{f,F^-}^0 - \Delta H_{f,NaF}^0 = 0.9 \quad (kJ/mol)$$
(11)

$$\Delta G_r^0 = -RT \ln K \tag{12}$$

$$K_{25} = \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta G_r^0}{RT}\right) = \exp\left(-\frac{2.8}{8.314 \cdot 10^{-3} \cdot (278 + 25)}\right) = 0.329 \tag{13}$$

$$\log K_{25} = -0.48 \tag{14}$$

$$\log K_{10} - \log K_{25} = -\frac{\Delta H_r^0}{2.303R} (1/T_{10} - 1/T_{25})$$
(15)

$$= \log K_{25} - \frac{0.9}{2.303 \cdot 8.314 \cdot 10^{-3}} (1/(278 + 10) - 1/(278 + 25))$$
(16)

$$-0.008$$
 (17)

$$\log K_{10} = 0.48 + 0.008 = 0.49 \tag{18}$$

**1.3.** We here consider the role of carbon species on pH in a brine. The following reactions represent the interaction between water and carbon in a system OPEN to the atmosphere:

$$\operatorname{CO}_2(g) + \operatorname{H}_2\operatorname{O}(g) \rightarrow \operatorname{H}_2\operatorname{CO}_3^*(aq)$$
 (19)

$$H_2CO_3^*(aq) \rightarrow H^+(aq) + HCO_3^-(aq)$$
 (20)

$$\mathrm{HCO}_{3}^{-}(aq) \rightarrow \mathrm{H}^{+}(aq) + \mathrm{CO}_{3}^{2-}(aq)$$

$$\tag{21}$$

$$H_2O(aq) \rightarrow H^+(aq) + OH^-(aq)$$
 (22)

where the equilibrium constants are respectively  $K_H = 10^{-1.5}, K_1 = 10^{-6.3}, K_2 = 10^{-10.3}, K_w = 10^{-14}$ .

- For reference, if carbon is not available, only the fourth reaction is relevant. Calculate the pH in this case.
- Now assume carbon can enter the brine from the atmosphere. Express equilibrium equations for the 4 above reactions. Assume a dilute brine (i.e.  $\gamma = 1$ ).
- List the 6 independent variables of the system.

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• Assume  $P_{co2}$  and pH are known parameters (determined by atmosphere composition and brine composition, respectively).

Solve the system and determine the concentrations of aqueous carbon species:  $m_{\rm H_2CO_3^*}$ ,  $m_{\rm HCO_3^-}$  and  $m_{\rm CO_3^-}$  as function of  $P_{co2}$  and pH.

PS: Note that  $m_{oh}$  follows directly from pH and does not require calculation.

- Calculate the TIC as a function of  $m_{\rm H^+}$  and  $P_{co2}$ .
  - What is the effect of  $P_{co2}$  on TIC?
  - What is the effect of pH (as given by  $m_{\rm H^+}$ ) on TIC?
  - Which species become more dominating (has higher fraction of the TIC) at different pH?
- Assume now that the pH is unknown and only the listed species above are in the brine.
  - Formulate the charge balance equation for the brine species:

$$\sum_{i} m_i z_i = 0 \tag{23}$$

- Simplify this equation by assuming an acidic solution. Then  $m_{co3}$  can be ignored. Insert the expressions of  $m_{hco3}$  and  $m_{oh}$  as function of  $m_h$ . Solve with respect to  $m_h$ - Use that  $P_{co2} = 10^{-3.5}$  (typical atmospheric value) and calculate the pH. This is the pH due to carbon entering distilled water. Compare with the first task.

Answer.

• H+ and OH- do not associate with any other ions. Therefore  $m_{oh} = m_h = m$  and

$$K_w = \gamma_m \gamma_{oh} m^2 \approx m^2 \tag{24}$$

$$\rightarrow m = \sqrt{K_w} = 10^{-7} \tag{25}$$

$$pH = -\log(\gamma_h m_h) \approx -\log(m_h) = 7 \tag{26}$$

• Since  $\gamma = 1$  we let concentrations represent activities for aqueous species.

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EQ equations from LMA:

$$K_{H} = \frac{m_{\rm H_2CO_3^{*}}}{P_{\rm CO_2}}$$
(27)

$$K_1 = \frac{m_{\rm H^+} m_{\rm HCO_3^-}}{m_{\rm H_2CO_3^*}}$$
(28)

$$K_2 = \frac{m_{\rm H^+} m_{\rm CO_3^{2-}}}{m_{\rm HCO_3^{-}}}$$
(29)

$$K_w = m_h m_{oh} \tag{30}$$

- The 6 variables are:  $m_{\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3^*}, P_{\text{CO}_2}, m_{\text{H}^+}, m_{\text{HCO}_3^-}, m_{\text{CO}_3^-}, m_{\text{OH}^-}$ .
- The carbon species concentrations as function of  $P_{co2}$  and  $m_h$ :

$$m_{\rm H_2CO_3^*} = P_{\rm CO_2} K_H \tag{31}$$

$$m_{\rm HCO_3^-} = K_1 m_{\rm H_2CO_3^*} \frac{1}{m_{\rm H^+}} = K_1 K_H P_{\rm CO_2} \frac{1}{m_{\rm H^+}}$$
 (32)

$$m_{\rm CO_3^{2-}} = K_2 m_{\rm HCO_3^{-}} \frac{1}{m_{\rm H^+}} = K_2 K_1 K_H P_{\rm CO_2} \frac{1}{(m_{\rm H^+})^2}$$
(33)

$$TIC = m_{\rm H_2CO_3^*} + m_{\rm HCO_3^-} + m_{\rm CO_3^{2-}}$$
(34)

$$= P_{\rm CO_2} K_H + K_1 K_H P_{\rm CO_2} \frac{1}{m_{\rm H^+}} + K_2 K_1 K_H P_{\rm CO_2} \frac{1}{(m_{\rm H^+})^2}$$
(35)

$$= P_{\rm CO_2} K_H \left( 1 + K_1 \frac{1}{m_{\rm H^+}} + K_2 K_1 \frac{1}{(m_{\rm H^+})^2} \right)$$
(36)

- The carbon content of the brine increases proportionally with the partial pressure of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere, at a fixed pH.
- Increasing the pH (lower  $m_h$ ) increases the TIC. I.e., the brine has a greater capacity for adsorbing carbon at higher pH.
- At high pH (small  $m_{\rm H^+}$ ) the concentrations of  $\rm CO_3^{2-}$  and  $\rm HCO_3^{-}$  become large while that of  $\rm H_2CO_3^{*}$  remains constant.

Opposite, at low pH the TIC is dominated by  $H_2CO_3^*$ . Its concentration does not change with pH.  $m_{CO_3^{2-}}$  is negligible. See also Figure 5.6 in the book.

• Charge balance:

$$\sum_{i} m_{i} z_{i} = m_{hco3}(-1) + m_{h2co3} \cdot 0 + m_{co3}(-2) + m_{h}(+1) + m_{oh}(-1)$$
(37)

$$= -m_{hco3} - 2m_{co3} + m_h - m_{oh} \tag{38}$$

$$= 0 \tag{39}$$

• At low pH  $m_{co3}$  can be ignored.

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$$-m_{hco3} + m_h - m_{oh} \tag{40}$$

$$= 0 \tag{41}$$

$$m_{\rm HCO_3^-} = K_1 K_H P_{\rm CO_2} \frac{1}{m_{\rm H^+}}$$
(42)

$$m_{oh} = K_w/m_h \tag{43}$$

$$-K_1 K_H P_{\rm CO_2} \frac{1}{m_{\rm H^+}} + m_h - K_w / m_h \tag{44}$$

$$= 0$$
 (45)

$$-(K_1 K_H P_{co2} + K_w) \frac{1}{m_h} + m_h \tag{46}$$

$$= 0 \tag{47}$$

$$m_h^2 = (K_1 K_H P_{co2} + K_w) \tag{48}$$

$$m_h = \sqrt{K_1 K_H P_{co2} + K_w} \tag{49}$$

$$m_h = \sqrt{10^{-6.3} 10^{-1.5} 10^{-3.5} + 10^{-14}} = \sqrt{10^{-11.3} + 10^{-14}} = \sqrt{10^{-11.3}} = 10^{-5.65}$$
(50)

The pH is then 5.65. This is a typical value of NaCl brine or distilled water measured at ambient conditions.

1.4.

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- A sample of 100g (dry weight) quartz rock stores on its surface 0.5mmol Na<sup>+</sup>, 1.0mmol Ca<sup>2+</sup> and 0.5mmol Mg<sup>2+</sup>. Calculate the cation exchange capacity, CEC in terms of mmeq/kg rock.
- The rock has grain density 2.65g/cc and porosity 0.3. Calculate the CEC in terms of mmeq/l pore volume.

Answer.

• The CEC is given by the stored charge divided by the mass of rock it is stored on.

$$CEC = \left(\sum_{i} n_i Z_i\right) / \text{rock mass} = (0.5 \cdot 1 + 1.0 \cdot 2 + 0.5 \cdot 2) / 0.1 \ (\text{meq / kg}) = 35.0 \ (\text{meq / kg}) \ (51)$$

• Note that

$$CEC[\text{meq/l pores}] = \frac{\text{meq}}{\text{mass rock}} \frac{\text{mass rock}}{\text{volume rock}} \frac{\text{volume rock}}{\text{volume pores}}$$
(52)

$$= CEC[meq/kg rock]\rho_{quartz} \frac{1-\phi}{\phi}$$
(53)

$$= 35 [\text{meq/kg rock}] \cdot 2.65 [\text{kg rock/l rock}] \frac{1 - 0.3}{0.3}$$
(54)

$$= 216[\text{meq} / 1 \text{ pore}] \tag{55}$$

**1.5.** Find the equilibrium constant K for ion exchange of  $Mg^{2+}$  and  $Ca^{2+}$  corresponding to the reaction of the form

$$\operatorname{CaX}_2 + \operatorname{Mg}^{2+}(aq) \rightarrow \operatorname{MgX}_2 + \operatorname{Ca}^{2+}(aq)$$
 (56)

Use the theory from pages 254-255 and the reference reactions with  $\mathrm{Na^+}$  to derive the correct result.

Answer. First consider the reference reactions involving  $Na^+$  exchanging with  $Mg^{2+}$  and  $Ca^{2+}$ :

$$Na^{+} + 1/2CaX_{2} \rightarrow NaX + 1/2Ca^{2+}(aq)$$
(57)

$$K_{Na/Ca} = \frac{\beta_{Na} [Ca]^{1/2}}{\beta_{Ca}^{1/2} [Na]} = 0.4$$
(58)

$$Na^{+} + 1/2MgX_{2} \rightarrow NaX + 1/2Mg^{2+}(aq)$$

$$(59)$$

$$K_{Na/Mg} = \frac{\beta_{Na}[Mg]^{1/2}}{\beta_{Mg}^{1/2}[Na]} = 0.5$$
(60)

We obtain the correct reaction by multiplying both reference reactions by 2 and subtracting the 2nd from the first. This corresponds to an equilibrium constant given by the square of the first constant divided by the other:

$$K = \frac{\beta_{Mg}[Ca]}{\beta_{Ca}[Mg]} = \left(\frac{\beta_{Na}[Ca]^{1/2}}{\beta_{Ca}^{1/2}[Na]} \frac{\beta_{Mg}^{1/2}[Na]}{\beta_{Na}[Mg]^{1/2}}\right)^2$$
(61)

$$= \left(\frac{K_{Na/Ca}}{K_{Na/Mg}}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{0.4}{0.5}\right)^2 = 0.64 \tag{62}$$