C7790 Introduction to Molecular Modelling TSM Modelling Molecular Structures

Lesson 4

Phenomenological thermodynamics (spontaneity of processes)

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C7790 Introduction to Molecular Modelling

Overview



Thermodynamics

Or what you should already know....

The system and its environment

system - the part of space and its material contents, which is the subject of thermodynamic consideration



the system is separated from the environment by **real** or **fictional** walls

System types	Description
isolated system	walls protects exchange of matter and energy with the environment
closed system	walls protects exchange of matter to the environment, but it can exchange energy with it
open system	it can exchange matter and energy with the environment

System state and its properties

System state can be described by properties (mass, volume, temperature, pressure, etc.), which are needed for the full state description.

Thermodynamic properties are state functions. The state functions do not depend on the way how the system got into the given state.

Heat and work are NOT state functions.

Thermodynamic properties can be divided into two groups:

Extensive properties: depend on the mass of the system and are additive. The value of the extensive property is equal to the sum of individual parts of which the system is composed. Examples are weight, energy, volume.

Intensive properties: do not depend on the size or mass of the system and are therefore non-additive. Examples are temperature, pressure, concentration.

Thermodynamic process and equilibrium

Thermodynamic process corresponds to system state change. It can represent a change in volume, temperature, pressure, or change in composition as a result of chemical reaction.

Thermodynamic equilibrium is a state in which no state function changes over time. (Chemical or other transformations may still take place in the system. However, these must take place in conjunction so that they do not affect the state of the system as a result.)

Thermodynamic laws:

- > **0**th **law** about thermodynamic equilibrium of multiple systems
- 1st law energy conservation law
- > 2nd law about the spontaneity of events
- 3rd law about absolute entropy

The first law

It postulates internal energy as a state variable, which is sum of other energy forms:



It is a generalization of the energy conservation law to dissipative systems, i.e., such systems that exchange heat and work with their surroundings.

Sign convention for energy change:

- + (positive) the system receives energy
- (negative) the system releases energy
- *d* complete differential (U is a function of system properties, a **state function**)
- *d* incomplete differential (Q and W are not state functions)

The second law

It postulates the entropy as a state function:





reversible action

irreversible action (spontaneous)

The most important postulate of thermodynamics. It speaks about time flow direction (time arrow). The direction of time is determined by the irreversible events.

For an isolated system, the direction of time is the same as the increase in entropy.

Spontaneous events are accompanied by an increase in entropy.

In an isolated system, the entropy increases until equilibrium is reached. At equilibrium, the value of entropy is maximal and constant in time.

Spontaneous process

Or what you should already know....

Entropy and spontaneity

irreversible action (spontaneous process)

In an isolated system, the **entropy increases** until equilibrium is reached. At equilibrium, the value of entropy is maximal and constant in time.



Is there a property of the internal system, which can describe the entropy change of the entire system (int+ext)?

Spontaneous process:



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Spontaneous process:



for the isothermal process

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Spontaneous process:



For an isolated system (second law):

$$\Delta S_{ext} + \Delta S_{\rm int} > 0$$

$$-\frac{\Delta H_{int}}{T} + \Delta S_{int} > 0$$
reorganization



int and ext are in thermal equilibrium

$$\Delta G_{int} = \Delta H_{int} - T \Delta S_{int} < 0$$

for process at constant temperature and pressure

$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T \Delta S < 0$$

spontaneous process

$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T \Delta S = 0$$

the system is in equilibrium

$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T \Delta S > 0$$

non-spontaneous process

The change in Gibbs free energy indicates whether the process can occur spontaneously. However, it does not determine in what time the actual transformation will take place.