

Hess's Law: The enthalpy change for a reaction is independent of the route taken



- e.g. the enthalpy change to go from A \rightarrow B direct is the same as going from A \rightarrow C \rightarrow B
- If the enthalpy of formation for the reactants and products in a reaction are known, the overall enthalpy change is easy to calculate.

$\Delta H = [SUM \text{ of } \Delta_f H \text{ products}] - [SUM \Delta_f H \text{ reactants}]$

- Some people refer to calculations done this way as "type 1 calculations".
- Remember that ΔH_f of all elements is zero.
- Watch for the very frequent mistake of doing reactants products, rather than products reactants.
- If the overall enthalpy change for a reaction is known along with the enthalpy of formation of all but one of the reactants/products, then this equation can be used to find the missing enthalpy of formation.

Example 1

Calculate the overall enthalpy change for this reaction:	$CH_4(g)$ + 2 $O_2(g) \rightarrow CO_2(g)$ + 2 $H_2O(I)$
$\Delta_{f}H CH_{4}(g) = -75, CO_{2}(g) = -393, H_{2}O(I) = -286 \text{ kJ/mol}$	

Example 2

The enthalpy change for the following reaction is -2877 kJ/mol:	$C_4H_{10}(g) + 6\frac{1}{2}O_2(g) \rightarrow 4 CO_2(g) + 5 H_2O(I)$								
Calculate the enthalpy change of formation of butane ($C_4H_{10}(g)$) given the following data:									
$\Delta_f H CO_2(g) = -393, H_2O(I) = -286 \text{ kJ/mol}$									

1) Calculate the ΔH for the following reactions given the values of $\Delta_f H$ in the following table.

	ZnCO ₃ (s)	ZnO(s)	CO ₂ (g)	CO(g)	H ₂ O(I)	Fe ₂ O ₃ (s)	$AI_2O_3(s)$	$C_2H_4(g)$
∆ _f H (kJ/mol)	-812	-348	-393	-111	-286	-822	-1669	+52

a) $ZnCO_3(s) \rightarrow ZnO(s) + CO_2(g)$

b) $2 \operatorname{CO}(g) + \operatorname{O}_2(g) \rightarrow 2 \operatorname{CO}_2(g)$

c) 2 Al(s) + Fe₂O₃(s) \rightarrow 2 Fe(s) + Al₂O₃(s)

d) $C_2H_4(g) + 3 O_2(g) \rightarrow 2 CO_2(g) + 2 H_2O(I)$

e) $C_2H_4(g) + 2 O_2(g) \rightarrow 2 CO(g) + 2 H_2O(I)$

2) The ΔH for the following reaction is shown.

 $N_2H_4(I) + O_2(g) \rightarrow 2 H_2O(I) + N_2(g)$ $\Delta H = -623 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$

Given that the $\Delta_{f}H$ of H₂O(g) is –286 kJ mol⁻¹, calculate the $\Delta_{f}H$ of N₂H₄(I).

3) Calculate the $\Delta_f H$ of ethane, $C_2 H_6(g)$, given the enthalpy change for the following reaction and the $\Delta_f H$ of ethene, $C_2 H_4(g)$, which is +52 kJ mol⁻¹.

 $C_2H_4(g) + H_2(g) \rightarrow C_2H_6(g)$ $\Delta H = -137 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$

4) Use the enthalpies of formation below to calculate the enthalpy change for the following reaction.

$$3 \text{ Fe(s)} + 4 \text{ H}_2\text{O}(g) \rightarrow 4 \text{ H}_2(g) + \text{ Fe}_3\text{O}_4(s)$$

 Δ_{f} H: H₂O(g) –242; Fe₃O₄(s) –1117 kJ mol⁻¹

5) The ΔH for the following reaction is shown. Use it and the $\Delta_f H$ values below to calculate the $\Delta_f H$ of Pb(NO₃)₂(s).

Pb(NO₃)₂(s) → PbO(s) + 2 NO₂(g) + $\frac{1}{2}$ O₂(g) $\Delta H = +301$ kJ mol⁻¹

 Δ_{f} H: PbO(S) –217; NO₂(g) +33 kJ mol⁻¹

6) Use the enthalpies of formation below to calculate the enthalpy change for the following reaction.

 $CH_3COCH_3(I) + H_2(g) \rightarrow CH_2CH(OH)CH_3(I)$

 Δ_{f} H: CH₃COCH₃(I) –248; CH₂CH(OH)CH₃(I) –318 kJ mol⁻¹