Topic 3: Energy

$\Delta G_{AB}^{\circ} = -RT \ln \frac{[A]}{[B]}$

Skim: F. A. Carey & R. J. Sundberg *Advanced Organic Chemistry, Part A: Structure and Mechanisms*. 5th Ed. **Ch. 3**

Reference:

Bond Dissociation Energies: Blanksby, S. J.; Ellison, G. B. Acc. Chem. Res., 2003, 36, 255.

NIST Webbook has lots of thermochemical enthalpy data (Hf): http://webbook.nist.gov/cgi/cbook.cgi?Name=toluene&Units=SI

C. J. Walter and J. K. M. Sanders "Diels-Alder Reaction; Influence of Entropy": http://www.ch.ic.ac.uk/motm/porphyrins/introDA.html

Exponentials and Logarithms are NOT INTUITIVE

How much more expensive?How much faster?

2017 Huffy Camden Bicycle



VS

2017 Ferrari Aperta



1 kcal/mol

5 kcal/ mol

10 kcal/mol

20 kcal/ mol

■ How man liters of gas will fill your tank?



RATIOS are Intuitive: Free Energy is a Predictor of Ratios

Tou'll gain insight into chemical phenomena by converting energy (in kcal/mol or kJ/mol) into numerical ratios. Even a child can think in factors of 10. Recall the Gibbs relationship: $\Delta G^{\circ} = -RT \ln K_{eq}$:



Predict the yield for the following (equilibrium) reaction.





Akimoto K, Kawai A, Ohya K Chem. Pharm. Bull. **1994**, *42*, 2138.

Estimate the difference in energy of the transition states.



Wu, Y.-D.; Houk, K. N. JACS 1987, 109, 908

You don't know how EXACTLY how much of the equatorial product was present, but you do know that it was $\leq 5\%$. Use that information. Therefore the ratio of products was 95: <5 or >20:1 and ΔG^{\ddagger} > 1.8 kcal/mol.

Using BDEs to Estimate Enthalpy Differences

■ Drilling for oil often releases CH_4 . It is cheaper to burn than ship the gas. Why can't we convert CH_4 gas into a useful liquid? Is it uphill in energy?

 $HO-OH + H_3C-H \longrightarrow HO-H + H_3C-OH$

- **Hard to calculate** $\Delta \mathbf{G} = \Delta \mathbf{H} \mathbf{T} \Delta \mathbf{S}$
- **Easy** to estimate $\Delta \mathbf{H}$ but hard to estimate $\mathbf{T} \Delta \mathbf{S}$

 $\blacksquare \Delta \mathbf{G} \approx \Delta \mathbf{H}$ (ignore $\mathbf{T} \Delta \mathbf{S}$) if we compare similar things:

- 2 reactants vs 2 products
- similar transition states

etc.





Hess: The enthalpy change accompanying a chemical transformation is independent of the mechanism or number of steps.

■ Reactions are favorable if you break weak bonds and/or form strong bonds



methane flare during oil drilling



Covalent bonds *between* electronegative atoms will be weak.

BDEs for X-H bonds correlate with X• radical stability

■ Looonger bonds are weeeeaker

 \blacksquare $\pi_{C=C}$ is weak ... but $\pi_{C=O}$ is strong

■ We can't make methanol from methane, but why not? Is it a thermodynamic problem?

 $HO-OH + H_3C-H \longrightarrow HO-H + H_3C-OH$

Hess' Law: $\Delta H^{\circ}_{rxn} \approx \Sigma BDE(bonds broken) - \Sigma BDE(bonds formed)$



■ Caveats:

Hess' law is only as good as your BDEs. Doesn't account for strain & aromaticity **Doesn't account for entropic costs**; e.g., A+B ->C vs A->D Electronic structure calculations give you the energy difference between nuclei and electrons and infinite separation versus nuclei at specified positions with electrons in optimized molecular orbital configurations. Use ΔE from electronic structure calculations is similar to ΔH° .



 $\Delta H^{\circ} \approx \Delta E$ (products - reactants) = - 55 kcal/mol

■ Natural gas (CH_4) is a by-product of most oil wells. It is usually cheaper to burn CH_4 at the well than to transport it somewhere useful. While it is thermally favorable to oxidize methane to methanol, there is no easy way to stop the oxidation from going all the way to CO_2 .

Electronic structure calculations can help you rationalize and predict regiochemistry, stability, etc.

Which is more

■ In order to conceptualize entropy, one must simultaneously visualize all possible states of a system:



Only 1 out of 16 H_2O molecules exists as an ideal H-bond at equilibrium.

■ Pairing up molecules costs energy, up to 14 kcal/mol If you take a random solution of two compounds, both at 1 M concentration, and pair the molecules up like ballroom dancers (no bonding) it will cost up to +14 kcal/mol.

A Diels-Alder reaction looks massively favorable, until you consider the entropic cost in the T.S.



<u>ΔS°</u> big for ballroom dancing small for club dancing

Page, M. I.; Jencks, W. P. Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. 1971, 68, 1678

 \blacksquare The entropy term, -T ΔS , is temperature dependent.

As one raises the temp., molecules will begin to adopt less favorable trajectories, positions, and shapes.

■ Intramolecular reactions involving 5 and 6 membered rings T.S.s are often fast.

