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Chemistry 203

Pre-Lab Assignment: Factors Affecting Reaction Rates Exp 4

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Lab Section: 8

- 1. The reaction  $A + 2B \rightarrow C$  was found to have the rate law,  $rate = k [A] [B]^2$ .
  - a. Predict by what factor the rate of reaction will increase when the concentration of A is doubled and the concentration of B is also doubled.

$[A]' = 2[A]$   
 $[B]' = 2[B]$

$$rate' = k (A)' (B)'^2 = k (2[A]) (2[B])^2 = k \times 2[A] \times 4[B]^2 = 8 \times k [A] [B]^2 = 8 \times rate$$

$\Rightarrow \frac{new\ rate}{old\ rate} = 8 \Rightarrow rate\ would\ increase\ by\ 8$

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- b. Determine the unit of the rate constant.

rate: M/s      [A], [B]: M

$$k = \frac{rate}{[A][B]^2} = \frac{M/s}{M \cdot M^2} = \frac{1}{M^2 \cdot s} \text{ unit of } k$$

- c. What would be the rate law of the reaction  $2A + B \rightarrow C$ ?

The order of reaction in A and B is independent of the coefficients of A and B so actually the rate would not change and would still be the same.

{ However, personally I don't know if we do have product C that is obtained either by reaction of (A & 2B) or of (2A & B); if it is not the case, the rate we could not know it }

- 2. Using the Arrhenius equation,  $k = A e^{-(E_a/RT)}$

- a. Derive the equation of the plot of  $\ln k$  vs.  $1/T$ .

$$k = A e^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}} \Rightarrow \ln k = \ln(A e^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}})$$

$$\ln k = \ln A + \ln e^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}}$$

$$\ln k = \ln A - \frac{E_a}{R} \cdot \frac{1}{T} = \left( \ln k \right) = -\frac{E_a}{R} \left( \frac{1}{T} \right) + \ln A$$

- b. Knowing that the value of the rate constant (k) for a certain reaction is  $1.35 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$  at  $35^\circ\text{C}$ , and  $A = 2.6 \times 10^{13} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , what is the activation energy?  
 $R = 8.314 \text{ J/K}\cdot\text{mol}$

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$$\ln(1.35 \times 10^{-4}) = -\frac{E_a}{8.314} \cdot \frac{1}{(35+273)} + \ln 2.6 \times 10^{13}$$

$$E_a = -\ln\left(\frac{1.35 \times 10^{-4}}{2.6 \times 10^{13}}\right) (8.314)(35+273) = 101914.6 = 1.0 \times 10^5 \text{ J}$$

- c. Determine the half-life of the above reaction at the given temperature

the rate constant k is of unit  $\text{s}^{-1}$   
 so it is a reaction in first order of its reactant

$$\Rightarrow t_{1/2} = \frac{\ln 2}{k} = \frac{\ln 2}{1.35 \times 10^{-4}} = \frac{0.693}{1.35 \times 10^{-4}} = 5133.3 \text{ s}$$

$$= 51.3 \times 10^2 \text{ sec}$$

$$= 5.13 \times 10^3 \text{ sec}$$