

10.3

PERCENT COMPOSITION AND
CHEMICAL FORMULAS

Section Review

Objectives

- Calculate the percent by mass of an element in a compound
- Interpret an empirical formula
- Compare and contrast empirical and molecular formulas

Vocabulary

- percent composition
- empirical formula

Key Equation

- $\% \text{ mass of element} = \frac{\text{mass of element}}{\text{mass of compound}} \times 100\%$

Part A Completion

Use this completion exercise to check your knowledge of the terms and your understanding of the concepts introduced in this section. Each blank can be completed with a term, short phrase, or number.

The 1 of a compound is the percent by mass of each element in a compound. The percent by mass of an element in a compound is the number of grams of the element per 2 g of the compound, multiplied by 100%. To calculate the percent by mass of an element in a known compound, divide the mass of the element in one mole by the 3 and multiply by 100%.

A(n) 4 formula represents the lowest 5 ratio of the elements in a compound. It can be calculated from a compound's percent composition. The 6 formula of a compound is either the same as its empirical formula, or it is some whole-number multiple of it.

1. % Composition
2. 100
3. Atomic Mass
4. Empirical Formula
5. Whole Number
6. Molecular

Part B True-False

Classify each of these statements as always true, AT; sometimes true, ST; or never true, NT.

ST

7. It is necessary to know the formula of a compound in order to calculate its percent composition.

AT

8. If the percent by mass of carbon in methane, CH_4 , is 75%, then 100 grams of methane contain 25.0 grams of hydrogen.

AT

9. The formula for methane, CH_4 , is both a molecular and an empirical formula.

NT

10. The empirical formula for glucose, $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6$, is $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O}_2$. $\rightarrow \text{CH}_2\text{O}$

Part C Matching

Match each description in Column B to the correct term in Column A.

Column A

Column B

C

11. percent composition

a. describes the actual number of atoms of each element in a molecule of a compound

B

12. empirical formula

b. the lowest whole-number ratio of atoms of the elements in a compound

A

13. molecular formula

c. the percent by mass of each element in a compound

Part D Problems

Solve the following problems in the space provided. Show your work.

14. What is the percent composition of each of the following?

a. Cr_2O_3

c. HgS

See Next Page

b. $\text{Mn}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$

d. $\text{Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2$

See Next Page

15. Determine the empirical formula of the compound with the percent composition of 29.1% Na, 40.5% S, and 30.4% O.

16. How many kilograms of iron can be recovered from 639 kilograms of the ore Fe_2O_3 ?

Part D

(14)



Total Molar Mass Cr_2O_3
 $(52 \times 2) + (16 \times 3) = 152 \text{ g/mol}$

$$\% \text{Cr} = \frac{104 \text{ g Cr}}{152 \text{ g Cr}_2\text{O}_3} \times 100 = 68.4\%$$

$$\% \text{O} = \frac{48 \text{ g O}}{152 \text{ g Cr}_2\text{O}_3} \times 100 = 31.6\%$$

% Comp. Cr_2O_3
68.4% Cr
31.6% O



Total Molar Mass $\text{Mn}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$
 $(55 \times 2) + (31 \times 2) + (16 \times 7) = 284 \text{ g Mn}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$
 $\% \text{Mn} = \frac{110 \text{ g Mn}}{284 \text{ g Mn}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7} \times 100 = 38.7\%$

$$\% \text{P} = \frac{62 \text{ g P}}{284 \text{ g Mn}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7} \times 100 = 21.8\%$$

$$\% \text{O} = \frac{112 \text{ g O}}{284 \text{ g Mn}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7} \times 100 = 39.4\%$$

% Comp. $\text{Mn}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$
% Mn = 38.7%
% P = 21.8%
% O = 39.4%

C) HgS

Total Molar Mass HgS

$$(200.59) + (32) = 232.59 \text{ g HgS}$$

$$\% \text{Hg} = \frac{200.59 \text{ g Hg}}{232.59 \text{ g HgS}} \times 100 = 86.2\% \text{ Hg}$$

$$\% \text{S} = \frac{32 \text{ g S}}{232.59 \text{ g S}} \times 100 = 13.8\% \text{ S}$$

% Comp. HgS

$$\% \text{Hg} = 86.2\%$$

$$\% \text{S} = 13.8\%$$

D) $\text{Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2$

if you are having issues working through what is present in a given chemical formula, remember a subscript ~~text~~ indicates how much is present of whatever comes directly before the subscript so....

in $\text{Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ we have 1 Ca and 2 (NO_3)

$$\text{Total Molar Mass} = (40) + (2 \times \overset{14}{\cancel{14}}) + (6 \times 16) = 164 \text{ g Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2$$

$$\% \text{Ca} = \frac{40 \text{ g Ca}}{164 \text{ g Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2} \times 100 = 24.4\%$$

$$\% \text{N} = \frac{28 \text{ g N}}{164 \text{ g Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2} \times 100 = 17.1\%$$

$$\% \text{O} = \frac{96 \text{ g O}}{164 \text{ g Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2} \times 100 = 58.5\%$$

1 mole $\text{Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2$

% Comp $\text{Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2$

$$\% \text{Ca} = 24.4\%$$

$$\% \text{N} = 17.1\%$$

$$\% \text{O} = 58.5\%$$

15

Emp. Formula for a Compound that is

29.1% Na } We are trying to find the Subscripts for the
 40.5% S } formula $\text{Na}_x\text{S}_y\text{O}_z$. Remember all
 30.4% O } Subscripts must be Whole Numbers.

- Assume you have 100g of the compound. -
 So we have

$$\bullet \frac{29.1 \cancel{\text{g Na}}}{1} \times \frac{1.00 \text{ mol Na}}{23 \cancel{\text{g Na}}} = 1.27 \text{ mol Na}$$

$$\bullet \frac{40.5 \cancel{\text{g S}}}{1} \times \frac{1.00 \text{ mol S}}{32 \cancel{\text{g S}}} = 1.27 \text{ mol S}$$

$$\bullet \frac{30.4 \cancel{\text{g O}}}{1} \times \frac{1.00 \text{ mol O}}{16 \cancel{\text{g O}}} = 1.90 \text{ mol O}$$

So we have $\text{Na}_{1.27} \text{S}_{1.27} \text{O}_{1.9} \Rightarrow$ Not whole #'s

- Divide by 1.27

gives $\text{Na}_1 \text{S}_1 \text{O}_{1.5} \Rightarrow$ Still Not whole #'s

↓ multiply each by 2

$\text{Na}_2 \text{S}_2 \text{O}_3 \rightarrow$ empirical formula

16) How much Fe is in 639g Fe_2O_3

~~Find~~

- Find % Comp. Fe -

Molar Mass Fe_2O_3

$$(56 \times 2) + (16 \times 3) = 160 \text{ g } \text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$$

- 1 mole Fe_2O_3

$$\% \text{ Fe} = \frac{112 \text{ g Fe}}{160 \text{ g } \text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3} \times 100 = 70\% \text{ Fe}$$

So if The mass of Fe_2O_3 is 70% iron

~~639g Fe_2O_3 100g~~

then

$$\frac{639 \text{ g } \text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3}{1} \times \frac{70 \text{ g Fe}}{100 \text{ g } \text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3} = \boxed{447 \text{ g Fe}}$$