# Chapter 3 - Atoms: The Building Blocks of Matter

## 3-1 The Atom: From Philosophical Idea to Scientific Theory

Democritus (400 BC)

"The only existing things are atoms and empty space; all else is opinion"

- I. Foundations of Atomic Theory
  - A. Quantitative Analysis
    - 1. Analysis of chemical rxns using improved balances and other measuring devices
  - B. Law of Conservation of Mass
    - 1. Mass is neither created nor destroyed during ordinary chemical rxns
  - C. Law of Definite Proportions
    - 1. A chemical compound contains the same elements in exactly the same proportions by mass regardless of the size of the sample or the source of the sample
  - D. Law of Multiple Proportions
    - If two or more different compounds are composed of the same two elements, then the ratio of the masses of the second element combined with a certain mass of the first element is always a ratio of small whole numbers
      - a.  $CO_2$  and CO
      - b.  $H_2O$  and  $H_2O_2$
- II. <u>Atomic Theory</u>
  - A. John Dalton (1766 -1844)
    - 1. All matter is made up of very tiny particles called atoms
    - 2. Atoms of a given element are identical in size, mass, and other properties; atoms of different elements differ in size, mass and other properties
    - 3. Atoms cannot be subdivided, created, or destroyed
    - 4. Atoms of different elements combine in simple whole-number ratios to form chemical compounds
  - B. Shortcomings of Dalton's theory
    - 1. Could not explain isotopes
  - C. Modern Atomic Theory
    - 1. All matter is made up of very tiny particles called atoms
    - 2. Atoms of the same element are chemically alike
    - Individual atoms of an element may not all have the same mass. However, the atoms of an element have a definite average mass that is characteristic of the element
    - 4. Atoms of different elements have different average masses
    - 5. Atoms are not subdivided, created, or destroyed in chemical rxns

## 3-2 The Structure of the Atom

- Atom The smallest unit of an element that retains the properties of that Element
- I. Discovery of the Electron
  - A. Cathode Rays and the Electron
    - 1. Joseph John Thomson (1897)
      - a. Cathode ray tube produces a ray with a constant charge to mass ratio
      - b. All cathode rays are composed of identical negatively charged particles (electrons)



- B. Charge and Mass of the Electron
  - 1. Millikan's Oil Drop Experiment



- a. Electron is negatively charged
- b. Mass is about 1/2000<sup>th</sup> of a hydrogen atom
- (a) Electron mass is 9.109 x 10<sup>-31</sup>kg
- 2. Inferences from the properties of electrons
  - a. Atoms are neutral, so there must be positive charges to balance the negatives
  - b. Electrons have little mass, so atoms must contain other particles that account of most of the mass

## II. <u>The Nucleus</u>

- A. The Rutherford Experiment (1911)
  - 1. Alpha particles (helium nuclei) fired at a thin sheet of gold
    - a. Assumed that the positively charged particles were bounced back if they approached a positively charged atomic nucleus head-on (Like charges repel one another)



- 2. Very few particles were greatly deflected back from the gold sheet
  - a. nucleus is very small, dense and positively charged
  - b. most of the atom is empty space
- B. Structure of the Nucleus
  - 1. Protons
    - a. Positive charge, mass of 1.673x10<sup>-27</sup>kg
    - b. The number of protons in the nucleus determines the atom's identity and is called the atomic number
  - 2. Neutrons
    - a. No charge, mass of  $1.675 \times 10^{-27}$ kg
  - 3. Nuclear Forces
    - a. Short range attractive forces:

neutron-to-neutron, proton-to-proton, proton-to-neutron

Particle	Symbols	Relative	Mass	Relative	Actual mass
	-	charge	Number	mass (amu*)	(kg)
Electron	<b>e</b> 0e	-1	0	0.000 5486	9.109x10 <sup>-31</sup>
Proton	$p^{+}$ <sup>1</sup> <sub>1</sub> H	+1	1	1.007 276	1.673x10 <sup>-27</sup>
Neutron	$n^{\circ}$ $\frac{1}{0}n$	0	1	1.008 665	1.675x10 <sup>-27</sup>

- C. Sizes of Atoms
  - 1. Atomic radius
    - a. 40 to 270 picometers (pm)

(1) 1 pm = 10<sup>-12</sup>m

- b. Most of the atomic radius is due to the electron cloud
- 2. Nuclear radius
  - a. 0.001 pm
  - b. density is 2x108 metric tons/cm<sup>3</sup>
    - (1) 1 metric ton = 1000kg

## 3-3 Counting Atoms

- I. <u>Atomic Number, Isotopes and Mass Number</u>
  - A. Atomic Number (Z)
    - 1. The number of protons in the nucleus of each atom of that element
    - 2. Atoms are identified by their atomic number
    - 3. Because atoms are neutral,

# protons = # electrons

- 4. Periodic Table is in order of increasing atomic number
- B. Isotopes
  - 1. Atoms of the same element that have different masses
  - 2. All elements of the same element have the same # of protons, but may vary in the number of neutrons
  - 3. Although isotopes have different masses, they do not differ significantly in their chemical behavior
  - 4. Hydrogen as an example:



- C. Mass Number
- 1. The total number of protons and neutrons in the nucleus of an isotope
- D. Designating Isotopes
  - 1. Hyphen notation
    - a. Mass number is written after the name of the element (1) hydrogen-2, helium-4
  - 2. Nuclear Symbol
    - a. Composition of the nucleus using the element's symbol

(1)  ${}^{2}_{1}H$  Mass number =2 Atomic number = 1

(2)  ${}^{4}_{2}$  He Mass number = 4 Atomic number = 2

# II. Using Atomic Mass

A. Relative Atomic Masses

- 1. Atomic mass unit (amu)
  - a. 1 amu = 1/12 the mass of a carbon-12 atom
- 2. All masses on the periodic table are relative to the carbon-12 standard
- 3. Approximate masses of atomic particles
  - a. proton = 1 amu
  - b. neutron = 1 amu
  - c. electron = 0.000 5486 amu

- B. Average Atomic Masses
  - 1. The weighted average of the atomic masses of the naturally occurring isotopes of an element
    - a. Atomic masses on the periodic table are average masses
    - b. In calculations using atomic mass, we will round the masses to two decimal places before doing calculations

Examples:	Mg = 24.3050	we use: 24.31
	O = 15.9994	we use: 16.00
	N = 14.00674	we use: 14.01

- III. Avogadro's Number and the Mole
  - A. The Mole
    - 1. The amount of substance that contains as many particles are there are in exactly 12 grams of carbon-12
    - 2. The amount of substance that contains the Avogadro number of particles
  - B. Avogadro's Number
    - 1. The number of particles in exactly one mole of a pure substance
    - 2. Avogadro's number =  $6.022 \times 10^{23}$
  - C. Molar Mass
    - 1. The mass of one mole of a pure substance
      - a. Units are grams/mole (or g/mol)
      - b. Molar mass of an element equals the average atomic mass in gram units
  - D. Gram/Mole Conversions
    - 1. Convert from grams to moles

grams 
$$x \left(\frac{1}{molar mass}\right) = moles$$

2. Convert from moles to grams

moles x molar mass = grams

- E. Conversions with Avogadro's Number
  - 1. Review sample problems on pages 84 and 85 solutions vary depending on the given data and the desired quantity