

Determination of surface area of a solid

From the value of v_m we can calculate N_m .

$$N_m = N_A \frac{pv_m}{RT}$$

$$\text{At STP } N_m = N_A \frac{v_m}{0.022414 \text{ m}^3 / \text{mol}}$$

N_A is the Avagadro number and N_m is the number of molecules required to cover a unit mass with a monolayer. If the area covered by one molecule is a , then

$$\text{Area/unit mass} = \text{Surface area of the solid } S = N_m a$$

Determination of enthalpy change

The equilibrium constants K and K_1 can be written as

$$K_1 = e^{-\Delta G_1^0 / RT} \quad \text{and} \quad K = e^{-\Delta G_{liq}^0 / RT}$$

where ΔG_1^0 is the standard free energy of adsorption of the first layer and ΔG_{liq}^0 is the standard free energy change of liquefaction. Dividing the first equation by the second equation, we obtain c .

$$c = \frac{K_1}{K} = e^{-[\Delta G_1^0 - \Delta G_{liq}^0] / RT}$$

We know

$$\Delta G_1^0 = \Delta H_1^0 - T\Delta S_1^0 \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta G_{liq}^0 = \Delta H_{liq}^0 - T\Delta S_{liq}^0$$

and assuming that $\Delta S_1^0 \approx \Delta S_{liq}^0$, then

$$c = e^{-[\Delta H_1^0 - \Delta H_{liq}^0] / RT}$$

The heat of liquefaction is negative of the heat of vapourization. Therefore,

$$c = e^{-[\Delta H_1^0 + \Delta H_{vap}^0] / RT}$$

Taking logarithms and rearranging,

$$\Delta H_1^0 = -\Delta H_{vap}^0 - RT \ln c$$

Since we know the value of ΔH_{vap}^0 of the adsorbate, the value of ΔH_1^0 can be calculated from the measured value of c . In all cases, it is found that $c > 1$, which implies that $\Delta H_1^0 < \Delta H_{liq}^0$. The adsorption in the first layer is more exothermic than liquefaction.)