A-LEVEL CHEMISTRY • EXERCISE SHEET

5.2 Hess's law

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 9 marks**

Objective

Build the skills to answer exam questions on **Hess's law** 盖斯定律—constructing **energy cycles** 能量循环 and calculating enthalpy changes from formation and combustion data.

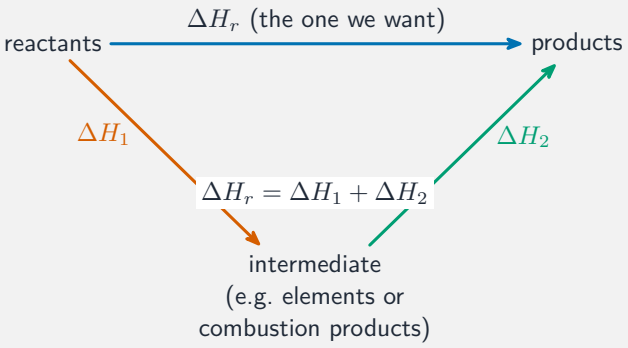
You must be able to:

- state Hess's law and construct simple energy cycles
- calculate an enthalpy change that cannot be measured directly
- use formation or combustion data (and bond energies) in a cycle

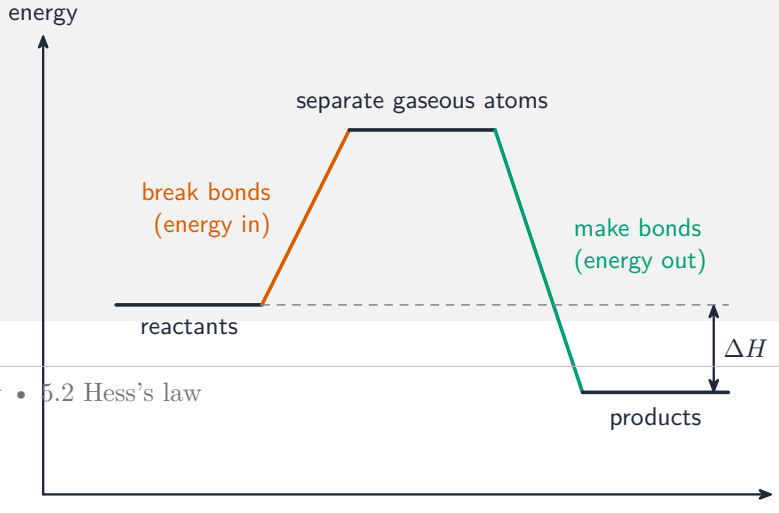
1 Worked examples

Hess's law

Hess's law: the total enthalpy change is the same whatever the route from reactants to products (energy is conserved).



The direct route equals the indirect route: $\Delta H_r = \Delta H_1 + \Delta H_2$



- **Using formation data**

$$\Delta H_r = \sum \Delta H_f(\text{products}) - \sum \Delta H_f(\text{reactants})$$

Example. $CaCO_3 \rightarrow CaO + CO_2$ (ΔH_f / kJ mol [1]: CaCO −1207, CaO −635, CO −394): $\Delta H_r = (-635 - 394) - (-1207) = +178$ kJ mol^{-1}.

- **Using combustion data**

$$\Delta H_r = \sum \Delta H_c(\text{reactants}) - \sum \Delta H_c(\text{products})$$

2 Practice

2.1 State **Hess's law**. [1]

2.2 Give **one** reason Hess's law is useful (something it lets you find). [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Hess's law is a consequence of: [1]

- **A** the conservation of mass
- **B** the conservation of energy
- **C** the ideal gas equation
- **D** Avogadro's law

3.2 ΔH_r from formation data is calculated as: [1]

- **A** $\sum \Delta H_f(\text{reactants}) - \sum \Delta H_f(\text{products})$
- **B** $\sum \Delta H_f(\text{products}) - \sum \Delta H_f(\text{reactants})$
- **C** $\sum \Delta H_c(\text{products}) - \sum \Delta H_c(\text{reactants})$
- **D** $mc\Delta T$

3.3 For $C_2H_4 + H_2 \rightarrow C_2H_6$, use ΔH_f (kJ mol [1]: C H +52, C H −85, H 0) to calculate

ΔH_r. [3]

3.4 Explain why Hess's law allows the enthalpy change of formation of a compound to be found even when the reaction cannot be carried out directly. [2]

4 Go further

You are now ready for the real exam questions on this subtopic. Open the **5.2 Hess's law** past-paper sheet in the Library, or try these in **Practice mode**:

- 9701/14 N25 —Q9 (Hess's law)
- 9701/22 N25 —Q3 (energetics, structured)
- 9701/34 N25 —Q1 (Hess cycle, calculation)

Solutions

2.1 the total enthalpy change of a reaction is the same regardless of the route taken.

2.2 e.g. it lets you find an enthalpy change that cannot be measured directly / calculate ΔH_r from formation or combustion data.

3.1 B. Hess's law follows from the conservation of energy.

3.2 B. $\sum \Delta H_f(\text{products}) - \sum \Delta H_f(\text{reactants})$.

3.3 $\Delta H_r = \Delta H_f(\text{C}_2\text{H}_6) - [\Delta H_f(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4) + \Delta H_f(\text{H}_2)] = -85 - (52 + 0) = -137$ kJ mol^{-1}.

3.4 an indirect route (e.g. via combustion or formation of the elements) can be measured; by Hess's law the sum of the indirect steps equals the direct (unmeasurable) enthalpy change.