

Chapter 15 (15.56)

At 80°C, $K_c = 1.87 \times 10^{-3}$ for the reaction $\text{PH}_3\text{BCl}_3(\text{s}) \rightleftharpoons \text{PH}_3(\text{g}) + \text{BCl}_3(\text{g})$

- 1) Calculate the equilibrium concentration of PH_3 if a solid sample of PH_3BCl_3 is placed in a closed vessel at 80°C and decomposes until equilibrium is reached.
- 2) Calculate the equilibrium concentration of BCl_3 if a solid sample of PH_3BCl_3 is placed in a closed vessel at 80°C and decomposes until equilibrium is reached.
- 3) If the flask has a volume of 0.24 L, what is the minimum mass of $\text{PH}_3\text{BCl}_3(\text{s})$ that must be added to the flask to achieve equilibrium?

Answer:

	PH_3BCl_3	PH_3	BCl_3
Initial	don't know	0	0
Change	-x	+x	+x
Equilibrium		+x	+x

The amount of PH_3BCl_3 to begin with is unknown. However, this is irrelevant because we don't compute solids into the K_{eq} formula.

$$\text{Then: } K_c = 1.87 \cdot 10^{-3} = [\text{PH}_3] [\text{BCl}_3] = x^2$$

$$x = 4.32 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ mol/L}$$

If we have a flask of 0.24 L, then we must have $4.32 \cdot 10^{-2} \cdot 0.24 = 1.04 \cdot 10^{-2}$ mol of $\text{PH}_3(\text{g})$ and $\text{BCl}_3(\text{g})$.

The moles of PH_3 and BCl_3 are the same. Therefore, either one gives the min amount of PH_3BCl_3 . We then have $1.04 \cdot 10^{-2}$ mol of PH_3BCl_3 , but in mass units this will be:

$$m(\text{PH}_3\text{BCl}_3) = 1.04 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ mol} \cdot 151.13 \text{ g/mol} = 1.57 \text{ g.}$$