a hydrocarbon is burnt in 175cm3 of oxygen. The mixture is cooled. The volume of the remaining gasses is 125cm3. The carbon is removed. This leaves 25cm3 of unreacted oxygen.

- *Determine the volume of oxygen used
- * Determine the volume of carbon dioxide formed
- *Deduce a possible formula for the hydrocarbon
- * Write a balanced equation for the reaction of this hydrocarbon with oxygen

Solution

- 1)The volume of oxygen used is 175 25 = 150 cm3
- 2) The volume of carbon dioxide formed is 125 25 = 100 cm3
- 3)A possible formula for the hydrocarbon is C_nH_{2n} (so it is alkene or cycloalkane)

$$0,15 \qquad 0,1$$

$$C_xH_y + (x + y/4)O_2 = xCO_2 + y/2H_2O$$

$$22,4(x + y/4) \qquad 22,4x$$

$$22,4*0.15*x = 22,4*(x + y/4)*0,1$$

$$0.15x=0,1x + 0,025y$$

$$0.05x=0.025y$$

$$y=2x$$

4) $C_nH_{2n} + 1,5nO_2 = nCO_2 + nH_2O$

4) $C_nH_{2n} + 1.5nO_2 = nCO_2 + nH_2O$ For example $C_2H_4 + 3O_2 = 2CO_2 + 2H_2O$

Answer: b) decreases as the reaction proceeds.