

# Moles



**Chemistry**  
**Karl Steffin, 2001**  
**8/14/2025**

# **By end of this unit I can...**

**MS6: explain and calculate the relationships between mass, moles and particles.**

**MS7: calculate percent composition of a compound/molecule/alloy.**

**MS8: calculate the empirical formula of a compound/molecule/alloy.**

**MS9: calculate the molecular formula of a compound/molecule/alloy.**

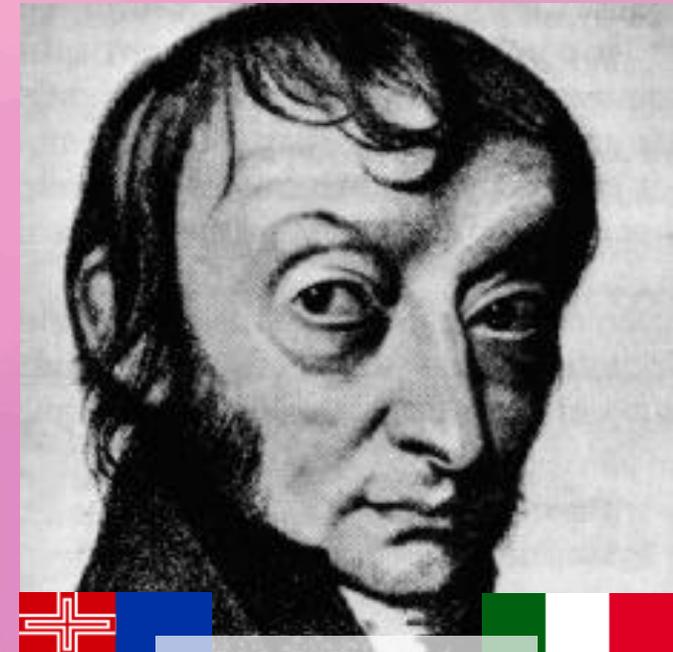
# Why Moles?

**Chefs often buy things in groups. It would be unreasonable for a baker to just buy one egg, or a cheese monger to buy one cup of milk.**

**Chemists work on the atomic level, and they too also 'buy' things in groups. It is not practical to count every single atom when mixing a chemical. Chemistry therefore needs a way to remain precise while also being efficient.**

# Amadeo Avogadro Di Quaregna

- Avagadro stated that **1 mole** is equal to **602,000,000,000,000,000,000,000**. ( $6.02 \times 10^{23} = N_{\text{Ava}}$ ) units (atoms, ions, Compounds/Molecules).



(1776-1856)

# What does this mean?

- Moles are a universal 'middleman' to convert to/from other units.
  - Ex: Calculate how many grams are in one mole of Potassium Hydroxide (KOH).
- The number of grams needed is the sum of the periodic weights of **K**, **O**, and **H**.
  - Periodic Weights: Always round to the tenth.

$$39.1\text{-g} + 16.0\text{-g} + 1.0\text{-g} = 56.1\text{-g}$$

$$1\text{-mole KOH} = \boxed{56.1\text{-grams KOH}}$$

# Trial and Error

- How many grams are in 1 mole of  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ ?

Given: 2 H (1.0-g each) = 2.0-g

1 S (32.1-g) = 32.1-g

4 O (16.0-g each) = 64.0-g

**2.0-g + 32.1-g + 64.0-g = 98.1-g**

1-mole  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  = **98.1-g  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$**

# Trial and Error Cont.

- How many grams are in 3 moles of H<sub>2</sub>O?

Given 2 H (1.0-g each) and 1 O (16.0-g).

$$2(1.0\text{-g}) + 16.0\text{-g} = 18.0\text{-g}$$

One mole is 18.0-g, but three are needed...

$$18.0\text{-g} \times 3 = 54.0\text{-g}$$

$$3\text{-moles H}_2\text{O} = \boxed{54.0\text{-g H}_2\text{O.}}$$

# Error and Trial

- How many moles are in 702.0-g of NaCl?

One mole of NaCl is (23.0-g+35.5-g=58.5-g)

Truth for NaCl: 1-mole = 58.5-g

To get rid of the mass divide.

$$702.0\text{-g NaCl} \times \frac{1\text{-mole}}{58.5\text{-g}} = \boxed{12.0\text{-moles NaCl}}$$

702.0-g NaCl = 12.0-mole NaCl.

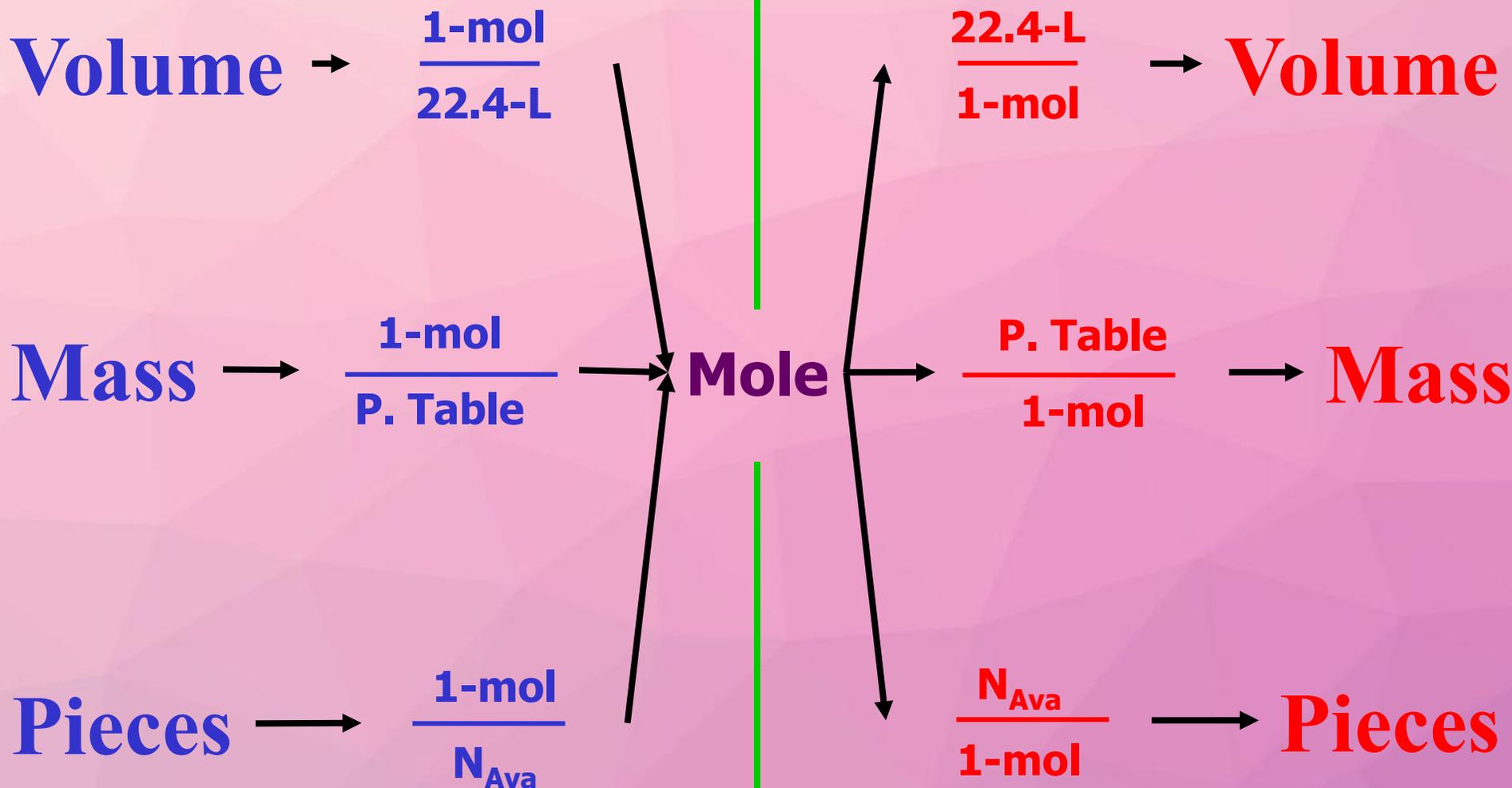
This is called Dimensional Analysis.



# The 'Mole' Matrix

**Going to Moles**

**Leaving Moles**



# Using Liters (Gasses Only)

- **If given a molecule's volume be careful!!!**
- **The truth 1-mol = 22.4-L only applies to **gasses** under the following conditions:**
  - **Temperature must be 273.15-K (0°C).**
  - **Pressure must be 1-atm.**
  - **This is called STP (Standard Temp/Pressure)**
- **Until the unit on gasses (in spring) always assume any volume given for a gas is at STP.**

# Solving: Rest of the year

- A general pattern to solve most problems:

## 1. Write what is known:

- **##.#-Unit Name** (16.5-g NaOH)
- If the Unit is not moles, convert to moles by...

## 2. Multiply by a ratio aka 'truth fraction'.

- Change only one thing at a time
- The numerator must *equal* the denominator
- Numerator--- Thing that is wanted.
- Denominator--- Thing that is removed.

## 3. Repeat step 2 as needed.

# Using the Matrix 1 Step

How many Liters are in 15.0-moles of Nitrogen Dioxide at STP?

$$15.0\text{-mol NO}_2 \times \frac{22.4\text{-L}}{1\text{-mol}} = 336.0\text{-L NO}_2$$

# Using the Matrix 2 Steps

How many molecules are in 250.0-g of Table Sugar ( $C_{12}H_{22}O_{11}$ )?

$$250.0\text{-g Sugar} \times \frac{1\text{-mol}}{342\text{-g}} \times \frac{N_a\text{-Mol}}{1\text{-mol}}$$

$$= 4.4 \times 10^{23}\text{-Mol Sugar}$$

mol is mole while Mol is Molecule

1 Mol sugar has 45 atoms in it (another truth)

# Percent Composition

- **Knowing how abundant an element is in a certain molecules is important.**
- **Review %:**
  - **% = Part/Whole... Part = Whole x %**
  - **$0 < \% < 100$ ...  $0.0 < \% < 1.0$**
  - **The sum of all Parts = 100%**

# % Comp. example I

- Find the % Comp of Hydrogen in Methane.

Methane is CH<sub>4</sub>.

1. Find the molar mass of Methane. (whole)
2. Divide the mass of all the H (part) by the molar mass (whole).

$$\text{CH}_4 = 12.0\text{-g} + 4.0\text{-g} = 16.0\text{-g}$$

$$4.0\text{-g} / 16.0\text{-g} = .25 = \boxed{25.0\% \text{ H}}$$

3. To find C follow the same process.

$$\text{Or... } 100.0\% - 25.0\% = \boxed{75.0\% \text{ C}}$$

# % Comp Example II

- Find the percentage composition of a compound that contains .10-g of H, 2.30-g Na and 1.60-g O.

Total Mass  $.10\text{-g} + 2.30\text{-g} + 1.60\text{-g} = 4.0\text{-g}$

$$\text{H} \rightarrow .10\text{-g} / 4.0\text{-g} = .025 \times 100 = \mathbf{2.5\% \text{ H}}$$

$$\text{O} \rightarrow 1.60\text{-g} / 4.0\text{-g} = .40 \times 100 = \mathbf{40.0\% \text{ O}}$$

$$\text{Na} \rightarrow 2.30\text{-g} / 4.0\text{-g} = .575 \times 100 = \mathbf{57.5\% \text{ Na}}$$

# Empirical Formulas

**EF: A formula that gives the simple whole number ratio of each element.**

- 1. Find the Molar Mass of each Element.**
- 2. Divide each ans. by the smallest ans.**
- 3. If any answer in step 2 is a fraction: multiply each by the inverse fraction.**

**Ex) Determine the Empirical Formula for a compound containing 1.203-g Ca and 2.128-g Cl.**

# Empirical Formulas EX I

**1. Find the Molar Mass of each Element.**

- **Ca:  $1.203\text{-g} \times 1\text{-mol}/40.1\text{-g} = .030\text{-mol}$**
- **Cl:  $2.128\text{-g} \times 1\text{-mol}/35.5\text{-g} = .060\text{-mol}$**

**2. Divide each by the smallest number.**

- **Ca:  $.030/.030 = 1$**
- **Cl:  $.060/.030 = 2$**
- **For every 1 Ca there are 2 Cl's. **CaCl<sub>2</sub>****
  - **Step three was not needed in this problem.**

# Empirical Formulas EX II

**What is the EF of a compound containing 77.72% Iron, 22.28% Carbon?**

- If given %, just change the unit to grams.

**1.  $77.72\text{-g Fe} \times 1\text{-mol}/55.8\text{-g} = 1.3928 \text{ Fe}$**

**$22.28\text{-g C} \times 1\text{-mol}/12.0\text{-g} = 1.8566 \text{ C}$**

**2. Fe:  $1.3928/1.3928 = 1$**

**C:  $1.8566/1.3928 = 1.333 (1 \frac{1}{3})$**

**3. Multiply by the fractions ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ) inverse.**

**Fe:  $1 \times 3 = 3$  , C:  $1.333 \times 3 = 4$**



# Determining Molecular Formulas

- **Empirical models only give ratios**
- **There is a huge difference between the ion  $\text{OH}^-$  and the molecule  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ .**
  - **Both have a 1:1 ratio though**
- **Determining the MF that considers the actual number of each atom in a compound may be more beneficial.**

# Molecular Form Example I

**Find the MF for a compound that contains 4.90-g N and 11.2-g O. The compounds Molar Mass is 92.0 g/mol.**

- **First find the Empirical Formula:**

– N:  $4.90\text{-g} \times 1 \text{ mol}/14.0\text{-g} = .35$        $.35/.35 = 1$

– O:  $11.2\text{-g} \times 1 \text{ mol}/16.0\text{-g} = .70$        $.70/.35 = 2$

- **The MF is any ratio of  $\text{N}_{(x)}\text{O}_{(2x)}$**

# Molecular Form Example I cont.

- The smallest mass of  $N_{(x)}O_{(2x)}$  is  $NO_2$ .
- Find the EF Mass of  $NO_2$ ? 46.0-g
- $x = \text{MF Mass} / \text{EF Mass}$

$$\frac{92.0\text{-g}}{46.0\text{-g}} = 2$$

- Plug back into x.



# Molecular Form Example II

$\beta$ -carotene has an EF of  $C_5H_7$ . What is the MF if it has a molar mass of 536-g/mol?

- We have the Empirical Formula:
  - MF =  $C_{5x}H_{7x}$
  - EF (x=1):  $C_5H_7 = 67$ -g
  - $X = \text{MF Mass} / \text{EF Mass}$

$$\frac{536\text{-g}}{67\text{-g}} = 8 = \boxed{C_{40}H_{56}}$$