

Errors – PROPAGATING!!!!

- * There is no such thing as a perfect measurement.
 - when we take a measurement there is always a limitation on how close we are to the true value
 - if you measure a mass to the mg than then error in your measurement is at least a $\pm mg$
 - this implies that the true value is never known and so that the exact error is also “unknowable”
 - therefore, we are forced to estimate error
 - types of errors
 - illegitimate
 - deviations from procedure
 - inability to use a calculator
 - bias or systematic errors
 - an error that persists and cannot be caused by chance
 - your scale always says you weigh 5 lbs heavier
 - this must be determined by comparison to theory or alternate measurements
 - random/precision errors
 - deviations which result from the precision of the method which is utilized
 - examples: calibration drift, environmental effect, glassware tolerance
 - sometimes we can reduce these error by generating more data

* Propagation of Error

- used to determine the uncertainty in a quantity which depends on 1 or more independent variables
- mathematically

$$F = F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)$$

$$\partial F = \sqrt{\left[\left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial x_1} \partial x_1\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial x_2} \partial x_2\right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial x_N} \partial x_N\right)^2\right]}$$

where ∂x_i is the uncertainty in independent variable x_i

- Examples

- Determine the error in the density of an ideal gas

$$\rho = \frac{P}{RT} \text{ where } T \pm \partial T \text{ and } P \pm \partial P$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial T} = -\frac{P}{RT^2} \quad \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial P} = \frac{1}{RT}$$

$$\partial \rho = \sqrt{\left[\left(\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial T} \partial T\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial P} \partial P\right)^2\right]} = \sqrt{\left[\left(-\frac{P}{RT^2} \partial T\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{RT} \partial P\right)^2\right]}$$

- Find the momentum for a body with a mass of $m = 0.53 \pm 0.01 \text{ kg}$ moving at a

velocity $v = 9.1 \pm 0.3 \text{ m/s}$.

$$p = mv$$

$$\partial p = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial m} \partial m\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial v} \partial v\right)^2} = \sqrt{(v \cdot \partial m)^2 + (m \cdot \partial v)^2} = \sqrt{(9.1 \cdot 0.01)^2 + (0.53 \cdot 0.3)^2}$$

$$\partial p = 0.18 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m/s}$$

$$p = 0.53 \cdot 9.1 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m/s} = 4.8 \pm 0.2 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m/s}$$

-- Now, let's figure out the error in our equilibrium bond length

$$B_{[0]} = \frac{h}{8\pi^2 2m_{\text{oxy}} r^2 c} \rightarrow r = \left(\frac{h}{8\pi^2 2m_{\text{oxy}} B_{[0]} c} \right)^{1/2} \times 10^{12}$$

--- before we take this on we need to convert our units:

$$B_{[0]_m} = \frac{B_{[0]}}{\text{cm}} \times \frac{100 \text{ cm}}{m}$$

$$\partial B_{[0]_m} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial B_{[0]_m}}{\partial B_{[0]}} \partial B_{[0]} \right)^2} = 100 \times \partial B_{[0]} = 100 \times 0.0001 = 0.1 \text{ m}$$

$$B_{[0]_m} = 39.0 \pm 0.1 \text{ m}$$

--- now we are ready as soon as we get everything together

$$h = 6.6260755 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \text{s}$$

$$m = 15.9994 \text{ amu} \times \frac{1.6605402 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}}{\text{amu}} = 2.65676 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$$

$$c = 2.99792458 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\partial r = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial B_{[0]_m}} \partial B_{[0]_m} \right)^2}$$

$$\partial r = \sqrt{\left[\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{h}{8\pi^2 c 2m_{\text{oxy}} B_{[0]_m}} \right)^{-1/2} \times \left(\frac{-h}{8\pi^2 c 2m_{\text{oxy}} B_{[0]_m}^2} \right) \partial B_{[0]_m} \times 10^{12} \right]^2}$$

$$\partial r = 0.15 \text{ pm}$$

$$r = 116.2 \pm 0.2 \text{ pm}$$

So what do you need to do? You will be computing errors for the situations given below.

1. Use the reduced mass, μ , and the error of the fundamental frequency, $\tilde{\nu}$, to determine the error in the force constant k .

$$k = \mu \left(2\pi \tilde{\nu} c_{cm} \right)^2 \quad \text{where } \mu_{AB} = \frac{m_A m_B}{m_A + m_B}$$

$$\tilde{\nu} = 2900.0 \pm 0.1 \text{ cm}^{-1} \quad 1 \text{ amu} = 1.660540 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg} \quad c = 2.99792458 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$$

$$m_{^1\text{H}} = 1.007825 \text{ amu} \quad m_{^{35}\text{Cl}} = 34.968853 \text{ amu}$$

2. Determine the error in the rotational partition function using the information given below.

$$q_{rot}(T) = \frac{T}{\Theta_{rot}} \quad T = 298.2 \pm 0.1 \text{ K} \quad \Theta_{rot} = 15.828 \pm 0.001 \text{ K}$$

3. Determine the error in the vibrational partition function using the temperature given above and the following:

$$q_{vib}(T) = \frac{e^{-\Theta_{vib}/2T}}{1 - e^{-\Theta_{vib}/T}} = e^{-\Theta_{vib}/2T} \left(1 - e^{-\Theta_{vib}/T} \right)^{-1} \quad \Theta_{vib} = 4172.6 \pm 0.1 \text{ K}$$

4. Determine the error in the standard entropy using the information given in problems 2. and 3. and the equation given below.

$$S_{rot,vib}^{\circ} = R \left(\ln \frac{T e}{2 \Theta_{rot}} - \ln(1 - e^{-\Theta_{vib}/T}) + \frac{\Theta_{vib}/T}{e^{\Theta_{vib}/T} - 1} \right) \quad \text{where } e = \exp(1)$$