

general chemistry

**principles and
modern
applications
second edition**

**ralph h.
petrucci**

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The first edition of this text was based on certain assumptions about the students who study general chemistry and the courses that have been designed to serve them. These assumptions were apparently shared by many users of the first edition, and they have been adopted again, with some modifications, as the pedagogical basis of the current edition. The modifications are two or three in number.

To me it seems still that most students are interested in the practical applications, social significance, and historical roots of the subject areas they study, as well as in conceptual frameworks and bodies of facts and theories. Of these several aspects, probably the historical background of a subject is the most difficult to pursue successfully in an introductory text of necessarily limited length and scope. The idea that the patterns of thought that underlie modern theory can be traced through their historical development has not been abandoned in this edition, but historical aspects of chemistry have been deemphasized.

Although the typical student of this text is not likely ever to be called upon to pursue the quantitative aspects of chemistry to the extent that current theory permits, additional emphasis has been placed on quantitative subject matter. It is probably still true that students learn best by doing, and this edition provides more opportunities for "doing chemistry." The number of worked-out examples in the text has been more than doubled, as has the number of end-of-chapter exercises. In addition, each of the text examples is keyed to several similar end-of-chapter exercises, and the exercises are grouped according to the major concept illustrated. Answers to more than half of the exercises are provided in Appendix 6, and complete solutions of all exercises are available in a separate *Solutions Manual*. As in the first edition, exercises that are either more difficult

or that require an extension of concepts presented in the text are designated by a bold star *****. Also as in the first edition, marginal notes are employed to provide additional background, clarification, or elaboration of ideas introduced in the text.

Despite the fact that chemistry is among the most highly organized and formal of academic disciplines, the approaches to teaching chemistry can be quite varied. I believe that instructors who prefer an approach different from mine will be able to adjust the order in which topics are considered to suit their own preferences. The general format is that of the first edition: consideration first of a number of basic ideas, particularly those related to stoichiometry, followed by a discussion of the structure of matter, and then chemical reactions. Practical applications are given throughout the text, but primary emphasis on applications is deferred to the later chapters.

Some of the topics that were introduced in the opening chapters of the first edition have been deferred in this edition to later chapters where they can be discussed in full; for example, solution stoichiometry is considered with other topics in solution chemistry instead of with the stoichiometry of chemical reactions, and oxidation-reduction concepts are similarly deferred. The discussion of states of matter has been divided into two chapters—one on gases and one on liquids and solids—and these have been moved forward (Chapters 5 and 6) to provide some background on the observable macroscopic behavior of matter prior to a study of the microscopic structure of matter. Properties of solutions (Chapter 12) are considered after the structure of matter because the theoretical approach involves intermolecular forces. However, some may prefer to consider solutions after the states of matter and before the structure of matter, and this can easily be done. Chemical bonding is covered in two chapters instead of one. The first of the two (Chapter 9) emphasizes Lewis structures, oxidation states, and valence-shell electron-pair repulsion theory; the second (Chapter 10) deals with atomic and molecular orbital theory. Selective study of topics in Chapter 10 should be possible in courses where molecular structure is not strongly emphasized. Another change in organization from the first edition is the inclusion of separate chapters on nuclear chemistry and on coordination chemistry. SI units are introduced in the text but are not used exclusively. Many fields related to chemistry continue to use different systems of units, and it will probably be necessary for students to become familiar with a variety of units for some time to come.

I wish to thank students and instructors alike who used the first edition and offered helpful suggestions. Whatever improvements are to be found in this edition are largely the result of these suggestions. In particular I am grateful to the several individuals who provided critiques of the first edition and/or read parts or all of the manuscript of the second edition: Professors Geoffrey Davies and William E. Cass (Northeastern University); Captain Walter P. Menzies, Jr. (United States Air Force Academy); Professor Michael F. Farna (University of Akron); Professor Gardiner H. Myers (University of Florida); Professor Galen L. Ober (Clarion State College); Professor Kay O. Watkins (Adams State College). I am especially indebted to Professor Davies for his very careful reading of the entire manuscript of this edition and his detailed suggestions for

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The professional assistance of the aforementioned individuals has been invaluable in the preparation of this edition; but the encouragement, forbearance, and sacrifice that have made possible both editions of this text are those of my wife and family. To them I owe the most gratitude of all.

Ralph H. Petrucci

1	Matter—Its Properties and Measurement	1
2	Development of the Atomic Theory	21
3	Chemical Arithmetic I. Elements and Compounds	50
4	Chemical Arithmetic II. Chemical Reactions	68
5	Gases	88
6	Liquids and Solids	123
7	Electrons in Atoms	148
8	Atomic Properties and the Periodic Table	180
9	Chemical Bonding	205
10	Additional Aspects of Covalent Bonding	235
11	Intermolecular Forces and Crystal Structures	253
12	Mixtures	281
13	Thermodynamics and Chemistry	318
14	Chemical Kinetics	345
15	Principles of Chemical Equilibrium	371
16	Acids, Bases, and Ionic Equilibria	391

17	Oxidation-Reduction and Electrochemistry	426
18	The Chemistry of Selected Representative Elements	456
19	The Chemistry of Transition Elements	499
20	Complex Ions and Coordination Compounds	518
21	Nuclear Chemistry	539
22	Organic Structures and Reactions	562
23	Chemistry of the Living State	602
24	The Chemistry of Natural Resources and Man-Made Materials	643
25	Chemistry and the Environment	691
appendix 1	Mathematical Operations	719
appendix 2	Some Basic Physical Concepts	725
appendix 3	SI Units	730
appendix 4	On Thermodynamic Calculations	733
appendix 5	Electron Configurations of the Elements	737
appendix 6	Answers to Selected Exercises	740
	Index	755

1	Matter—Its Properties and Measurement	1
1-1	Properties of Matter	2
1-2	Classification of Matter	2
1-3	The Scientific Method	3
1-4	The Need for Measurement	4
1-5	The English and Metric Systems of Measurement	5
1-6	Density	7
1-7	Temperature	8
1-8	Problem Solving—The Conversion Factor Method	10
1-9	Significant Figures	14
1-10	SI Units	16
	<i>Exercises</i>	17
2	Development of the Atomic Theory	21
2-1	Dalton's Atomic Theory	21
2-2	Cathode Rays	27
2-3	Canal Rays (Positive Rays)	31
2-4	X Rays	33
2-5	Radioactivity	34
2-6	The Nuclear Atom	35
2-7	Isotopes	37
2-8	Protons and Neutrons	38
		xiii

**detailed
contents**

2-9	A Summary of the Properties of Fundamental Particles	39
2-10	Chemical Elements	40
2-11	Atomic Weights	41
2-12	Epilog: Do Atoms Exist?	44
	<i>Exercises</i>	45
3	Chemical Arithmetic I: Elements and Compounds	50
3-1	Avogadro's Number and the Concept of the Mole	50
3-2	Some Illustrative Examples Using the Mole Concept	52
3-3	Chemical Compounds	54
3-4	Composition of Chemical Compounds	57
3-5	Formulas and Nomenclature	61
	<i>Exercises</i>	64
4	Chemical Arithmetic II: Chemical Reactions	68
4-1	Experimental Evidence for Chemical Reactions	69
4-2	The Chemical Equation	69
4-3	Quantitative Significance of the Chemical Equation	74
4-4	Some Complexities in the Stoichiometry of Chemical Reactions	77
	<i>Exercises</i>	82
5	Gases	88
5-1	Properties of a Gas	88
5-2	Gas Pressure	89
5-3	The Simple Gas Laws	94
5-4	The Gas Laws and Development of the Atomic Theory	98
5-5	The Ideal Gas Equation	101
5-6	Molecular Weight Determination	105
5-7	Gases in Chemical Reactions	106
5-8	Mixtures of Gases	108
5-9	The Kinetic Theory of Gases	112
5-10	Nonideal Gases	117
	<i>Exercises</i>	118
6	Liquids and Solids	123
6-1	Comparison of the States of Matter	123
6-2	Surface Tension	124
6-3	Specific Heat Capacity and Molar Heat Capacity	127

6-4	Vaporization	129
6-5	Some Calculations Involving Vapor Pressure and Related Concepts	135
6-6	Transitions Involving Solids	137
6-7	Phase Diagrams	140
	<i>Exercises</i>	143
7	Electrons in Atoms	148
7-1	Electromagnetic Radiation	148
7-2	Atomic Spectra	153
7-3	The Photoelectric Effect	155
7-4	The Quantum Theory	156
7-5	The Bohr Atom	159
7-6	Wave-Particle Duality	163
7-7	The Uncertainty Principle	164
7-8	Wave Mechanics	165
7-9	Electron Orbitals and Quantum Numbers	168
7-10	Electron "Spin"	170
7-11	Electron Configurations	171
7-12	Electron Configurations of the Elements	173
	<i>Exercises</i>	176
8	Atomic Properties and the Periodic Table	180
8-1	On the Idea of Order	180
8-2	Early Attempts to Classify the Elements	181
8-3	Periodic Law and the Periodic Table	182
8-4	A Modern Periodic Table—The Long Form	185
8-5	Electron Configurations and the Periodic Table	187
8-6	Metals and Nonmetals	189
8-7	Atomic Sizes	191
8-8	Ionization Energy (Ionization Potential)	196
8-9	Electron Affinity	199
8-10	Electronegativity	199
8-11	Magnetic Properties	200
	<i>Exercises</i>	201
9	Chemical Bonding	205
9-1	The Importance of Electrons in Chemical Bonding	205
9-2	Ionic Bonding	208
9-3	Covalent Bonding	211
9-4	Covalent Lewis Structures—Some Examples	212
9-5	Covalent Carbon Compounds	215
9-6	Resonance	216
9-7	Failure of the Octet Rule	218

9-8	Oxidation States	219
9-9	Molecular Shapes	222
9-10	Bond Energies and Bond Distances	226
9-11	Partial Ionic Character of Covalent Bonds	227
	<i>Exercises</i>	231
10	Additional Aspects of Covalent Bonding	235
10-1	Formation of the Covalent Bond	235
10-2	The Valence-Bond Method	237
10-3	Hybridization of Orbitals	240
10-4	Multiple Covalent Bonds	244
10-5	Molecular Orbital Theory	247
	<i>Exercises</i>	251
11	Intermolecular Forces and Crystal Structures	253
11-1	Condensed States of the Noble Gases	253
11-2	van der Waals Forces	254
11-3	Hydrogen Bonds	257
11-4	Network Covalent Solids	259
11-5	The Ionic Bond as an Intermolecular Force	261
11-6	Bonding in Metals	263
11-7	Crystal Structures	266
11-8	Ionic Crystal Structures	272
	<i>Exercises</i>	277
12	Mixtures	281
12-1	Homogeneous and Heterogeneous Mixtures	281
12-2	Solution Concentration	285
12-3	Some Illustrative Examples Utilizing Solution Concentrations	287
12-4	Solubility Equilibrium	294
12-5	Colligative Properties	297
12-6	Theory of Electrolytic Dissociation	304
12-7	Interionic Attractions	308
12-8	Colloidal Mixtures	309
	<i>Exercises</i>	313
13	Thermodynamics and Chemistry	318
13-1	Some Terminology	318
13-2	The First Law of Thermodynamics	319
13-3	Heats of Reaction—Thermochemistry	321
13-4	Relationships Involving ΔH	324
13-5	Standard Enthalpies of Formation	325
13-6	Bond Energies and Heats of Reactions	327

13-7	Failure of the First Law of Thermodynamics as a Criterion for Spontaneous Change	328
13-8	The Second Law of Thermodynamics	330
13-9	Applications of the Second Law	332
13-10	Free Energy	335
13-11	The Third Law of Thermodynamics	340
	<i>Exercises</i>	340
14	Chemical Kinetics	345
14-1	The Concept of Reaction Mechanisms	345
14-2	The Rates of Chemical Reactions	348
14-3	The Rate Law for Chemical Reactions	354
14-4	More on the Collision Theory	360
14-5	Catalysis	363
14-6	More on Reaction Mechanisms	366
	<i>Exercises</i>	367
15	Principles of Chemical Equilibrium	371
15-1	The Condition of Chemical Equilibrium	371
15-2	Illustrative Examples	374
15-3	Altering Equilibrium Conditions—Le Chatelier's Principle	378
15-4	Some Equilibria of Interest	381
15-5	Some Theoretical Aspects of Equilibrium	383
	<i>Exercises</i>	386
16	Acids, Bases, and Ionic Equilibria	391
16-1	Acid-Base Theories	391
16-2	Self-Ionization of Water	394
16-3	Strong Acids and Bases	395
16-4	pH and pOH	396
16-5	Weak Acids and Bases	399
16-6	Hydrolysis	406
16-7	Neutralization Reactions	408
16-8	Solubility Equilibrium of Slightly Soluble Solids	413
16-9	Precipitation of Metal Sulfides	417
16-10	Predicting Ionic Reactions in Solution	419
	<i>Exercises</i>	421
17	Oxidation-Reduction and Electrochemistry	426
17-1	Oxidation-Reduction: Some Definitions	426
17-2	Measurement of Oxidation and Reduction Tendencies	428
17-3	A New Criterion for Spontaneous Change	431

17-4	E_{cell} as a Function of Concentrations	434
17-5	Balancing Oxidation-Reduction Equations	437
17-6	Production of Electric Energy by Chemical Change	441
17-7	Electrical Work and Free Energy Change	444
17-8	Electrochemical Mechanism of Corrosion	445
17-9	Electrolysis and Nonspontaneous Chemical Change	446
	<i>Exercises</i>	451
18	The Chemistry of Selected Representative Elements	456
18-1	The Alkali (IA) and Alkaline Earth (IIA) Metals	456
18-2	Boron and Aluminum	462
18-3	The Halogen Elements (VIIA)	466
18-4	Oxygen	472
18-5	Sulfur	476
18-6	Silicon	482
18-7	The Nitrogen Family (VA)	485
18-8	Additional Aspects of Nitrogen Chemistry	488
18-9	Additional Aspects of Phosphorus Chemistry	490
	<i>Exercises</i>	495
19	The Chemistry of Transition Elements	499
19-1	Some Properties of the Transition Elements	499
19-2	Some Aspects of the Chemistry of Chromium	501
19-3	Some Aspects of the Chemistry of the Iron Triad Elements	504
19-4	Qualitative Analysis	510
19-5	The Lanthanide Elements	512
19-6	The Actinide Elements	515
	<i>Exercises</i>	516
20	Complex Ions and Coordination Compounds	518
20-1	Werner's Theory	518
20-2	Bonding in Complex Ions—Valence Bond Theory	519
20-3	The Coordination Number	520
20-4	Ligands	521
20-5	Nomenclature	522
20-6	Geometrical Isomerism in Complex Ions	523
20-7	Inner- and Outer-Orbital Complexes	524
20-8	Bonding in Complex Ions—Crystal Field Theory	525
20-9	Color of Complex Ions	527
20-10	Equilibria Involving Complex Ions	528
20-11	Applications of Coordination Chemistry	531
	<i>Exercises</i>	536

21	Nuclear Chemistry	539
21-1	Nuclear Stability	539
21-2	Naturally Occurring Radioactive Nuclides	541
21-3	Nuclear Reactions and Artificial Radioactivity	542
21-4	Transuranium Elements	543
21-5	Rate of Radioactive Decay	545
21-6	Effect of Radiation on Matter	547
21-7	Energetics of Nuclear Reactions	551
21-8	Nuclear Fission	552
21-9	Nuclear Fusion	556
21-10	Applications of Radioisotopes	557
	<i>Exercises</i>	559
22	Organic Structures and Reactions	562
22-1	The Nature of Organic Compounds and Structures	563
22-2	Alkanes	569
22-3	Alkenes and Alkynes	575
22-4	Aromatic Hydrocarbons	580
22-5	Alcohols, Phenols, and Ethers	585
22-6	Aldehydes and Ketones	588
22-7	Carboxylic Acids and Their Derivatives	590
22-8	Amines	593
22-9	Heterocyclic Compounds	594
22-10	The Synthesis of Organic Compounds	596
	<i>Exercises</i>	597
23	Chemistry of the Living State	602
23-1	Structure and Composition of the Cell	602
23-2	Principal Constituents of the Cell	604
23-3	Biochemical Reactivity	623
23-4	Some Additional Natural Products of Interest	632
23-5	The Nucleic Acids	633
	<i>Exercises</i>	640
24	The Chemistry of Natural Resources and Man-Made Materials	643
24-1	Occurrence of the Elements	644
24-2	The Atmosphere as a Natural Resource	645
24-3	The Oceans as a Natural Resource	649
24-4	Metals	651
24-5	Some Raw Materials for the Inorganic Chemical Industry	663
24-6	Raw Materials for the Organic Chemical Industry	670
24-7	Polymers	676
24-8	Energy as a Natural Resource	680
	<i>Exercises</i>	686

25	Chemistry and the Environment	691
25-1	The Atmosphere and Its Pollution	692
25-2	The Water Environment	700
25-3	Water Pollution	705
25-4	Solid Wastes	712
25-5	Pesticides	713
	<i>Exercises</i>	715

Appendixes

1	Mathematical Operations	719
A1-1	Exponential Arithmetic	719
A1-2	Logarithms	720
A1-3	Algebraic Operations	721
A1-4	Graphs	722
2	Some Basic Physical Concepts	725
A2-1	Velocity and Acceleration	725
A2-2	Force and Work	726
A2-3	Energy	726
A2-4	Magnetism	727
A2-5	Static Electricity	727
A2-6	Current Electricity	728
A2-7	Electromagnetism	729
3	SI Units	730
A3-1	SI Base Units	730
A3-2	SI Prefixes	731
A3-3	Derived SI Units	731
A3-4	Units to Be Discouraged or Abandoned	732
A3-5	Fundamental Constants	732
4	On Thermodynamic Calculations	733
5	Electron Configurations of the Elements	737
6	Answers to Selected Exercises	740
	Index	755

matter—its properties and measurement

Interaction with the environment is crucial to human existence. At the most elementary level this means breathing air and consuming food to maintain metabolism, a process in which one set of materials is transformed into another. The most basic and all-inclusive definition of chemistry is the study of the transformations of matter. Principles of chemistry are fundamental to an understanding of all processes of the living state, as we shall discover in due course.

A powerful agent for effecting chemical transformations discovered in ancient times was fire, which made possible the cooking of food, the baking of pottery, the manufacture of glass, and the smelting of ores to produce metals—first copper, and then lead, tin, and iron. Among other chemical processes discovered long ago were the making of butter, cheese, wine, beer, and soap; the tanning of hides; and the dyeing of fabrics.

Despite these many early applications, an understanding of the principles of chemistry has developed only in recent times, principally in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. And it is from this theoretical base that the profound changes we are now able to effect on the environment have arisen. For example, as basic knowledge of the field of organic chemistry has grown, more and more ways have been found to exploit the natural resource, petroleum, not only as a source of fuels but also for the production of plastics, drugs, and pesticides.

