

# Measuring Reaction Rates

Guided Notes – Student Edition

## Reaction Rate Investigations

There are three variables which must be considered when investigating the rate of reaction:

- The \_\_\_\_\_ variable – the factor which is being \_\_\_\_\_. In this case, this will be one of the \_\_\_\_\_ which affect the rate of reaction, e.g. Temperature, surface area, concentration, nature of the reactants and presence of a catalyst. This factor will state a range of values to be tested.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ variable – the factor which is being \_\_\_\_\_ to obtain some data, in this case, the reaction rate.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ – all other variables which must be kept \_\_\_\_\_ to ensure that the results are reliable.

### Practice Problem:

For each of the following hypotheses, identify the independent, dependent and controlled variables:

1. When the surface area of zinc metal is increased, the reaction rate (hydrogen gas production) will also increase.

**Independent Variable:**

**Dependent Variable:**

**Controlled Variables:**

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- As the temperature of the acid increases, the time taken for the precipitate to form also increases.

**Independent Variable:**

**Dependent Variable:**

**Controlled Variables:**

- When the concentration of hydrochloric acid is increased, the rate of gas production also increases.

**Independent Variable:**

**Dependent Variable:**

**Controlled Variables:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Methods to Measure the Reaction Rate

The method must describe how the independent variable will be \_\_\_\_\_ and how the dependent variable will be \_\_\_\_\_. The reaction rate can be measured in two ways:

- How quickly the \_\_\_\_\_ are used up
- How quickly the \_\_\_\_\_ form

The rate of reaction is easy to determine if the reaction involves a \_\_\_\_\_ or the formation of a \_\_\_\_\_.

## Reactions which involve a change in color

The rate of reaction is monitored by determining how quickly the color changes.

### Example: The iodine clock reaction

The iodine clock reaction is the oxidation of iodide ions by hydrogen peroxide. In this reaction, the two clear solutions, one containing iodine (known as solution A) and the other containing starch (known as solution B) react to give a rapid, blue-black color change.

### Practice Problem:

For the above example experiment, identify the three types of variables and write a method to describe how to measure the reaction rate when the temperature of one of the solutions is changed.

**Independent Variable:**

**Dependent Variable:**

**Controlled Variables:**

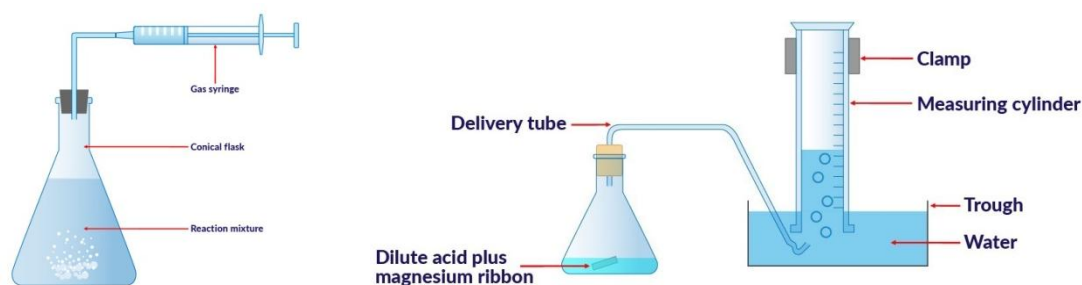
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## Method:

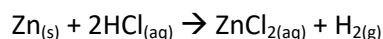
### Reactions where a gas is produced

The rate of reaction can be determined by measuring how much gas is produced after a certain time interval (see the setup below).



### Example: Hydrogen Gas

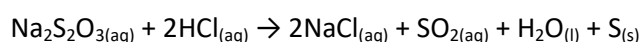
The equation for the reaction between zinc metal and dilute hydrochloric acid is:



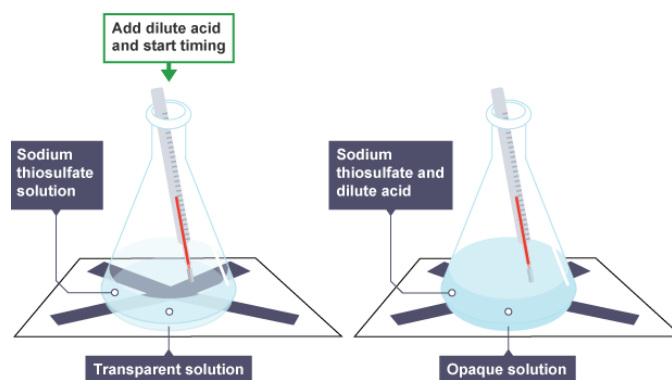
The hydrogen gas produced can be collected, and its volume measured at specific time intervals. A lit splint can be used to confirm the presence of hydrogen as it will make a 'pop' sound when the splint is placed in near the hydrogen.

### Precipitate reactions:

In reactions where a precipitate is formed \_\_\_\_\_ can be used as a measure of the reaction rate. These reactions require a clear understanding of where the \_\_\_\_\_ for the reaction is. For example, when sodium thiosulphate reacts with an acid, a cloudy yellow sulfur precipitate is formed. The endpoint for this reaction is when the \_\_\_\_\_ on the under sheet of paper is no longer able to be seen. The reaction is as follows:

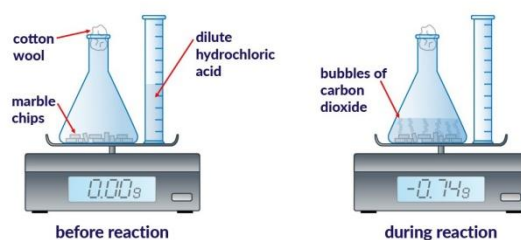


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## Changes in mass:

The rate of a reaction that produces a gas can also be measured by calculating the \_\_\_\_\_ as the gas is formed and escapes from the reaction flask. This method can be used for reactions that produce \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_, but are not very accurate for reactions that give off hydrogen because the mass is \_\_\_\_\_ for accuracy. Measuring changes in mass may also be suitable for other types of reactions such as dissolving of \_\_\_\_\_ substances.



## Delayed Reactions

Some chemicals will have a \_\_\_\_\_ reaction if they have a \_\_\_\_\_ over their surface. Many metals upon contact with air produce an \_\_\_\_\_, which slows down the reaction. This can be overcome by sanding the metal before using it.

## Practice Problem:

Hydrochloric acid and calcium carbonate (marble chip) react according to the following equation:



Describe in detail, how the rate for this reaction can be increased by changing the concentration of the acid. You must include:



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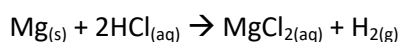
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## Data Processing

Data collected from an investigation is typically displayed as both a \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_.

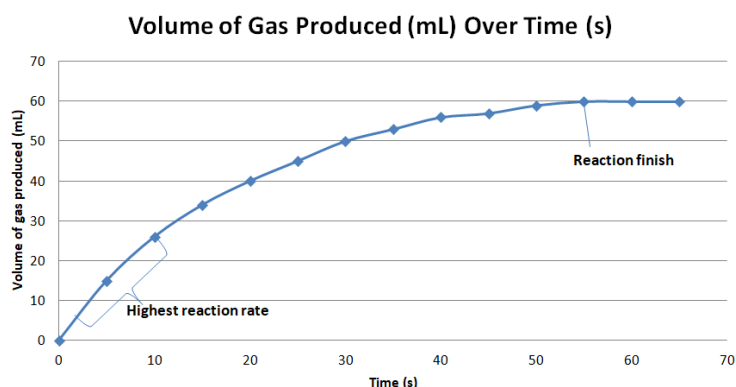
### Example: Rate of Hydrogen gas Production

When a magnesium ribbon dissolves in an acid, hydrogen gas is produced. The equation for this reaction is as follows:



The results from this experiment are displayed below:

Time from start (s)	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65
Volume of gas collected (mL)	0	15	26	34	40	45	50	53	56	57	59	60	60	60



A typical rate of reaction graph:

- Begins rapidly with a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Slows down as time progresses, the slope of the graph becomes \_\_\_\_\_ as the reaction progresses. This is due to the concentration of the reactants \_\_\_\_\_.
- Stops after a particular time. This is seen as the slope \_\_\_\_\_, indicating that one or both reactants have been used up.

### Calculating the Rate of Reaction from a Graph

- The gradient of the graph is equal to the rate of reaction (\_\_\_\_\_) at a specific point in time (\_\_\_\_\_). Therefore, rate of reaction can be calculated using the equation:

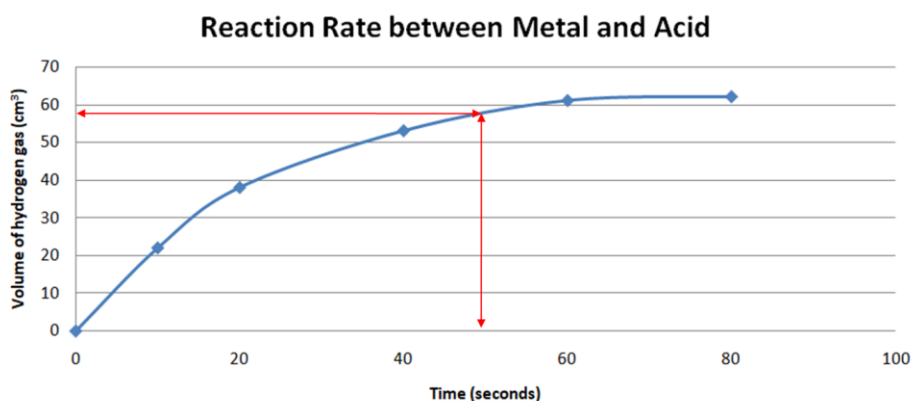
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$$\text{Rate of reaction} = y/x$$

**For Example:**

The graph below shows the reaction rate of a metal with acid.



Reaction rate at 50 seconds can be calculated by:

## Practice Problem

The volume of carbon dioxide that is produced during the reaction is measured at different times over ten minutes. The results are shown in the table below.

Time (mins)	The volume of CO <sub>2</sub> produced (cm <sup>3</sup> )
1	14
2	26
3	36
4	44
5	50
6	58
7	65
8	70
9	74
10	77



