Particle diagrams

Learning objectives

- 1 Recall, draw and describe the particle model for solids, liquids and gases where particles are represented by circles/spheres.
- 2 Use particle diagrams to represent chemical reactions and physical changes.
- 3 Evaluate the use of particle diagrams.

Introduction

Particle diagrams are often used to show the arrangement of atoms and molecules in substances. It is important that we understand all the information given in these diagrams and their limitations.

Instructions

- 1. Stick the structure strip in the margin of your exercise book/paper.
- 2. Follow the prompts to write a summary of particle diagrams. You can use a textbook, revision guide or website to help you. Write in full sentences, rephrasing the question within your answer and using appropriate keywords.
- 3. Answer the follow-up question below to apply your knowledge of particle diagrams to a new context.

Keywords

Use these key words in your responses:

- solid liquid gas substance particle atom molecule mixture regular
- irregular
 arrangement



diagram.

Structure strip	Structure strip	Structure strip	Structure strip	Structure strip
Particle diagrams	Particle diagrams	Particle diagrams	Particle diagrams	Particle diagrams
Draw diagrams of	Draw diagrams of	Draw diagrams of	Draw diagrams of	Draw diagrams of
the arrangement of	the arrangement of	the arrangement of	the arrangement of	the arrangement of
particles for each	particles for each	particles for each	particles for each	particles for each
of the following	of the following	of the following	of the following	of the following
states:	states:	states:	states:	states:
• solid	• solid	• solid	• solid	• solid
• liquid	 liquid 	 liquid 	 liquid 	• liquid
• gas	• gas	• gas	• gas	• gas
Describe and	Describe and	Describe and	Describe and	Describe and
explain the key	explain the key	explain the key	explain the key	explain the key
features of your	features of your	features of your	features of your	features of your
diagrams.	diagrams.	diagrams.	diagrams.	diagrams.
Explain why	Explain why	Explain why	Explain why	Explain why
representing atoms	representing atoms	representing atoms	representing atoms	representing atoms
and molecules as	and molecules as	and molecules as	and molecules as	and molecules as
circles/spheres is	circles/spheres is	circles/spheres is	circles/spheres is	circles/spheres is
useful for	useful for	useful for	useful for	useful for
representing state	representing state	representing state	representing state	representing state
changes.	changes.	changes.	changes.	changes.
Using circles for the individual atoms, show what happens when sulfur, S, reacts with oxygen, O ₂ , to make sulfur dioxide, SO ₂ . Explain your diagram.	Using circles for the individual atoms, show what happens when sulfur, S, reacts with oxygen, 0_2 , to make sulfur dioxide, $S0_2$. Explain your diagram.	Using circles for the individual atoms, show what happens when sulfur, S, reacts with oxygen, 0_2 , to make sulfur dioxide, $S0_2$. Explain your diagram.	Using circles for the individual atoms, show what happens when sulfur, S, reacts with oxygen, 0_2 , to make sulfur dioxide, $S0_2$. Explain your diagram.	Using circles for the individual atoms, show what happens when sulfur, S, reacts with oxygen, 0_2 , to make sulfur dioxide, $S0_2$. Explain your diagram.
Using circles for the	Using circles for the	Using circles for the	Using circles for the	Using circles for the
individual atoms,	individual atoms,	individual atoms,	individual atoms,	individual atoms,
show what	show what	show what	show what	show what
happens when iron,	happens when iron,	happens when iron,	happens when iron,	happens when iron,
Fe, mixes with sulfur,	Fe, mixes with sulfur,	Fe, mixes with sulfur,	Fe, mixes with sulfur,	Fe, mixes with sulfur,
S, but does not	S, but does not	S, but does not	S, but does not	S, but does not
react. Explain your	react. Explain your	react. Explain your	react. Explain your	react. Explain your
diagram.	diagram.	diagram.	diagram.	diagram.
Evaluate the pros	Evaluate the pros	Evaluate the pros	Evaluate the pros	Evaluate the pros
and cons of this	and cons of this	and cons of this	and cons of this	and cons of this
diagram which	diagram which	diagram which	diagram which	diagram which
shows molecules of	shows molecules of	shows molecules of	shows molecules of	shows molecules of
methane, CH ₄ , as a	methane, CH ₄ , as a	methane, CH ₄ , as a	methane, CH ₄ , as a	methane, CH ₄ , as a
gas.	gas.	gas.	gas.	gas.