

# MCAT® Physics Equations

## Work, Energy, and Power

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Work} &= W = Fd\cos\theta \\ \text{Kinetic Energy} &= KE = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 \\ \text{Work Energy Theorem} &= W_{\text{net}} = \Delta KE \\ \text{Power} &= P = \frac{W}{t} = Fv \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Gravitational Potential Energy} &= PE_{\text{grav}} = mgh \\ \text{Total Mechanical Energy} &= E = KE + PE \end{aligned}$$

## Gravity

$$\begin{aligned} F_{\text{grav}} &= mg & g &= G \frac{M}{r^2} \\ F_{\text{grav}} &= G \frac{Mm}{r^2} & g_{\text{earth}} &\approx 10 \frac{m}{s^2} \end{aligned}$$

## Circular Motion

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Centripetal Acceleration} &= v_0 + at \\ \text{Centripetal Force} &= F_c = ma_c = m \frac{v^2}{r} \end{aligned}$$

## Projectile Motion

Horizontal Component

$$\begin{aligned} x &= v_{x0}t \\ v_x &= v_{x0} \\ a_x &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Vertical Component

$$\begin{aligned} y &= v_{y0}t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2 \\ v_y &= v_{y0} - gt \\ a_y &= -g \end{aligned}$$

## Kinematics

Constant Acceleration

$$\begin{aligned} v &= v_0 + at \\ d &= v_0t + \frac{1}{2}at^2 \end{aligned}$$

## Friction

$$\begin{aligned} F_{\text{static}} &\leq \mu_s F_N \\ F_{\text{kinetic}} &= \mu_k F_N \end{aligned}$$

## Torque

$$\tau = rF\sin\theta$$

## Magnetism

$$\text{Magnetic Force} = F_M = qvB\sin\theta$$

## Thermodynamics

$$\begin{aligned} \text{First Law} &= \Delta E = Q - W \\ \text{Work} &= P\Delta V \\ \text{Heat Capacity} &= Q = C\Delta T \\ \text{Specific Heat Capacity} &= Q = mc\Delta T \end{aligned}$$

## Fluids

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Density} &= \rho = \frac{\text{mass}}{\text{volume}} = \frac{m}{V} \\ \text{Specific Gravity} &= SG = \frac{\rho}{\rho_{\text{water}}} \\ \text{Pressure} &= P = \frac{F}{A} \\ \text{Gauge Pressure} &= P_{\text{gauge}} = P - P_{\text{atm}} \\ \text{Archimedes' Principle} &= F_{\text{bouyant}} = F_{\text{fluid}} V_{\text{submerged}} \mathcal{G} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Pascal's Law} &= \frac{F_1}{A_1} = \frac{F_2}{A_2} \\ \text{Continuity Equation} &= A_1 v_1 = A_2 v_2 \\ \text{Flow Rate} &= Q = Av \end{aligned}$$

## Inclined Plane

$\theta$  = angle of incline

$$F_{g \text{ parallel}} = mg \sin \theta$$

$$F_{g \text{ perpendicular}} = mg \cos \theta$$

## Lights and Optics

$$E_{\text{photon}} = hf = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$

$$c = 3 \times 10^8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

$$\text{Index of Refraction} = n = \frac{c}{v}$$

$$\text{Shell's Law} = n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$$

$$\text{Lens Equation} = \frac{1}{o} + \frac{1}{i} = \frac{1}{f}$$

$$\text{Magnification} = m = \frac{i}{o}$$

$$\text{Lens Power} = P = \frac{1}{f}$$

## Circuits and Electrostatics

$$\text{Ohm's Law} = V = IR$$

$$\text{Power} = P = IV = I^2 R = \frac{V^2}{R}$$

$$\text{Series Resistors} = R_{\text{Total}} = R_1 + R_2 + \dots + R_n$$

$$\text{Parallel Resistors} = \frac{1}{R_{\text{Total}}} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{R_n}$$

$$\text{Current} = I = \frac{Q}{t}$$

$$\text{Resistance} = R = \rho \frac{L}{A}$$

$$\text{Coulomb's Law} = F_E = \frac{kQ_1 Q_2}{r^2}$$

$$\text{Electric Field (Point Charge)} = E = \frac{kQ}{r^2}$$

$$\text{Force by an Electric Field} = F = qE$$

## Capacitors

$$\text{Capacitance} = C = \frac{Q}{V}$$

$$\text{Capacitance} = \epsilon_0 \frac{A}{d}$$

$$\text{Capacitor Electric Field} = E = \frac{V}{d}$$

$$\text{Potential Energy} = PE_C = \frac{1}{2} QV$$

$$\text{Series Capacitors} = C_{\text{Total}} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{C_n}}$$

$$\text{Parallel Capacitors} = \frac{1}{C_{\text{Total}}} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{C_n}$$

## Waves and Oscillations

$$f = \frac{1}{T}$$

where  $f$  is frequency and  $T$  is period

$$\text{Velocity} = v = \lambda f$$

$$\text{Hooke's Law} = F_s = -kx$$

$$\text{Harmonics for Open Pipes} = f_n = \frac{nv}{2L}$$

$$\text{Harmonics for Closed Pipes} = f_n = \frac{n_{\text{odd}} v}{4L}$$

## Sound

$$\text{Velocity} = v = \sqrt{\frac{B}{\rho}}$$

$$\text{Intensity} = I = \frac{\text{power}}{\text{area}}$$

$$\text{Intensity in Decibels} = \beta = 10 \log \frac{I}{I_0}$$

$$\text{Doppler Effect} = f_D = \frac{v \pm v_D}{v \pm v_s} f_s$$

# MCAT® Chemistry Equations

## Stoichiometry

$$\text{Moles} = \frac{\text{mass (g)}}{\text{molecular weight (MW)}}$$

$$\text{Mole Fraction} = X_a = \frac{\text{moles of a}}{\text{total moles}}$$

$$\text{Molarity} = M = \frac{\text{moles}}{L}$$

$$\text{Molarity} = M = \frac{\text{moles}}{\text{kg}}$$

$$\text{Dilution Equation} = M_1V_1 = M_2V_2$$

## Thermodynamics

$$T_K = T_C + 273$$

$$q = mc\Delta T$$

$$q = n\Delta H_{\text{fusion/vaporization}}$$

$$\Delta H_{\text{rxn}}^\circ = \sum n\Delta H_{f,\text{products}}^\circ - \sum n\Delta H_{f,\text{reactants}}^\circ$$

Gibbs Free Energy

$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$$

$$\Delta G^\circ = -RT \ln K$$

## Equilibrium

For the balanced reaction



$$\text{Equilibrium Constant} = K_{\text{eq}} = \frac{[C]^c[D]^d}{[A]^a[B]^b}$$

Products and reactants at equilibrium

$$\text{Reaction Quotient} = Q = \frac{[C]^c[D]^d}{[A]^a[B]^b}$$

## Gases

Standard Temperature and Pressure (STP)

$$T = 0^\circ\text{C} = 273\text{ K};$$

$$P = 1\text{ atm} = 760\text{ torr} = 760\text{ mmHg}$$

$$\text{Ideal Gas Law} = PV = nRT$$

Dalton's Law of Partial Pressures =  $P_{\text{Total}} = P_1 + P_2 + \dots P_n$

Graham's Law of Effusion =  $\frac{v^1}{v^2} = \sqrt{\frac{MW_2}{MW_1}}$

## Atomic Chemistry

Formal Charge

$$FC = \# \text{ valence electrons} - \# \text{ bonds} - \# \text{ lone pair electrons}$$

## Electrochemistry

$$F = 96,000 \frac{\text{C}}{\text{mole}^-}$$

$$\Delta G = -nFE_{\text{cell}}$$

## Acids and Bases

$$pH = -\log[H^+]$$

$$pOH = -\log[OH^-]$$

$$pH + pOH = 14$$

$$K_a = \frac{[H^+][A^-]}{[HA]}$$

$$pK_a = -\log K_a$$

$$K_b = \frac{[OH^-][HB^+]}{[B]}$$

$$pK_b = -\log K_b$$

$$K_a K_b = K_w = 1 \times 10^{-14}$$

$$K_w = [H^+][OH^-] = 1 \times 10^{-14} \text{ at } 25^\circ\text{C}$$

Henderson-Hasselbach Equation

$$pH = pK_a + \log \frac{[A^-]}{[HA]}$$

## Kinetics

$$\text{Rate Law} = \text{Rate} = k[A]^a[B]^b$$

$$\text{Arrhenius Equation} = k = Ae^{\frac{-E_a}{RT}}$$