

Why does steam condense to liquid water even though this entropy change is unfavorable?

**Solution.**

The favourable direction of the process determined by change in Gibbs free energy( $\Delta G$ ):

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

Where

$\Delta H$  – enthalpy change;

$\Delta S$  - entropy change;

$T$  – temperature;

If  $\Delta G < 0$  process is spontaneous.

The enthalpy in this process decreases. So enthalpy change  $\Delta H < 0$ .

In this process  $\Delta G < 0$  due to enthalpy change  $\Delta H < 0$ , despite entropy change is unfavorable.

**Answer:** steam condense to liquid water even though this entropy change is unfavorable due to enthalpy change  $\Delta H < 0$ , and Gibbs free energy change also  $\Delta G < 0$ .