

two oxides of a metal contain 46.67% and 62.93% of the metal. show that these results illustrate the law of multiple proportions.

Solution:

Dalton's law of multiple proportions:

If two elements form more than one compound between them, then the ratios of the masses of the second element which combine with a fixed mass of the first element will be ratios of small whole numbers.

One can calculate the mass percentage of oxygen in two oxides:

$$\omega_1(\text{O}) = 100 - 46.67 = 53.33 \%$$

$$\omega_2(\text{O}) = 100 - 62.93 = 37.07 \%$$

The ratio of metal and oxygen masses in two oxides:

$$\omega_1(\text{Me}) : \omega_1(\text{O}) = 46.67 : 53.33 = 1 : 1.14$$

$$\omega_2(\text{Me}) : \omega_2(\text{O}) = 62.93 : 37.07 = 1 : 0.59$$

The ratio of oxygen masses: $1.14 : 0.59 = 1 : 2$.