

## Answer on Question #45022, Chemistry, Inorganic Chemistry

### Question

The value of the equilibrium constant for the reaction  $2\text{COF}_2(\text{g}) \leftrightarrow \text{CO}_2(\text{g}) + \text{CF}_4(\text{g})$  is  $K_{\text{eq}} = 2$ . If the reaction container currently holds 1 mole each of  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{CF}_4$  and 0.5 mole of  $\text{COF}_2$ , then what will happen?

### Solution

$$\begin{aligned} 2\text{COF}_2(\text{g}) &\leftrightarrow \text{CO}_2(\text{g}) + \text{CF}_4(\text{g}) \\ k(\text{forward reaction}) &= c(\text{COF}_2)^2 = 0.5^2 = 0.25 \\ k(\text{reverse reaction}) &= c(\text{CO}_2) \cdot c(\text{CF}_4) = 1 \cdot 1 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$K_{\text{eq}} = k(\text{reverse reaction})/k(\text{direct reaction}) = [\text{CO}_2] \cdot [\text{CF}_4]/[\text{COF}_2]^2 = 2$$

But in the considered case:

$$k(\text{reverse reaction})/k(\text{direct reaction}) = 1/0.25 = 4$$

Therefore the concentrations of  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{CF}_4$  will decrease while the concentration of  $\text{COF}_2$  will increase.

**Answer:** the reaction will proceed in reverse direction.