

Answer on the question #48503, Chemistry, Physical Chemistry

Question:

A compound of phosphorus and chlorine is composed of 10.33gm of phosphorus for every 35.5 gm of chlorine. the simplest formula of the compound is

A) PCl. B) PCl₃. C) PC. D) PCl₄⁺

Solution:

The simplest formula of the compound can be calculated as the ration of moles of atoms.

For P_xCl_y molecule: $x/y = n(\text{P})/n(\text{Cl})$

$$n(\text{P}) = 10.33/30.973762 = 0.33 \text{ mol}$$

$$n(\text{Cl}) = 35.5/35.453 = 1.0 \text{ mol}$$

$x/y = 1/3$, hence the simplest formula is PCl₃

Answer: B) PCl₃