Question:

Aqueous sulfuric acid

will react with solid sodium hydroxide

to produce aqueous sodium sulfate

and liquid water

. Suppose 53.0 g of sulfuric acid is mixed with 24. g of sodium hydroxide. Calculate the minimum mass of sulfuric acid that could be left over by the chemical reaction. Be sure your answer has the correct number of significant digits.

Solution:

 $\rm H2SO4 + 2NaOH \rightarrow Na2SO4 + 2H2O$

n = m/M

n(H2SO4) = 31.4g x 1mole / 98.08g = 0.32 moles;

n(NaOH) = 40.g x 1mole / 40.00g = 1.0moles;

1 mole of NaOH would react with 0.5mole of H2SO4, but there's not that much.

0.32 moles H2SO4 reacts with 2*0.32 = 0.64 moles NaOH, so H2SO4 reacts completely, and 1.0 - 0.640 = 0.36 moles NaOH will be unreacted.

0.0g of H2SO4 will be left over.

Answer: 0.0g.

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