**ΔH is a state function** which means one only needs to know the initial and final states to calculate a change in enthalpy.

$$\Delta H = H_{\text{final}} - H_{\text{init}}$$

Path is not important for ΔH

Heating water is an example of a process that is path independent. Let’s say in lab two students have to heat 20.0 g of water from 23.0 °C to 60.0 °C.

The heat transferred to the water is

$$q = ns\Delta T$$

Since the process is at constant pressure, and only PV work is being done, $q$ is $q_p$. Thus,

$$\Delta H = ms\Delta T$$

One student carefully heats the sample of water from 23 °C to 60°C.

Determine the ΔH for this process.

$$\Delta H = (4.184 \text{ J} \cdot \text{K}^{-1} \cdot \text{g}^{-1})(20 \text{ g})(37 \text{ °C})$$

mixing °C and K is OK here because change in K = change in °C

$$\Delta H = 3096 \text{ J}$$

Another student puts the sample of water over a microburner and goes outside for (insert bad habit here)...

The sample of water went from 23 °C to 75 °C.

Before the student can continue with the experiment, the sample of water must be cooled to 60 °C.

Determine the ΔH for this process.

To heat the water from 23 to 75 °C the amount of heat that when in is ΔH = msΔT
\[ \Delta H = (20 \text{g})(4.184 \text{ J g}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1})(75 - 23) \text{K} \]

\[ \Delta H = 4351 \text{ J} \]

But the water had to cool back to 60 °C, and while the water was cooling heat was released.

\[ \Delta H = m \Delta T \]

\[ \Delta H = (20 \text{g})(4.184 \text{ J g}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1})(60 - 75) \text{K} \]

\[ \Delta H = -1255 \text{ J} \]

So, \( \Delta H \) was 4351 J to get to 75 °C but on the way back to 60 °C 1255 J were released.

\[ \Delta H = 4351 + (-1255) = 3096 \text{ J} \]

The energy that was actually transferred to the water is determined by comparing the initial and final states. Student 2 transferred extra energy into the water, but it was released by the water to the surroundings; so, in the end, students 1 and 2 transferred the same amount of energy to the water.

What we have just demonstrated by example is Hess's Law. Hess's Law holds for \( \Delta H \) of any process. Typically, chemists use Hess's Law to determine \( \Delta H \) for reaction for a variety of reasons; we just may be too lazy to do the experiment, the experiment may be difficult or dangerous, or we may be making a survey to determine what reactions release the amount of heat we want.

Let's use *Hess's Law* to determine the \( \Delta H \) for the conversion of graphite to diamond. We can burn diamond and measure the amount of heat released. We can also measure the heat released when graphite is burned.

\[ C_{\text{graphite(s)}} + O_{2(g)} \rightarrow CO_{2(g)} \quad \Delta H = -394 \text{ kJ} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1} \]
We can add the reactions together to get the reaction we want

\[
\text{C}_{\text{diamond}(s)} + \text{O}_2(g) \rightarrow \text{CO}_2(g) \quad \Delta H = -396 \text{ kJ} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}
\]

\[
\text{C}_{\text{graphite}(s)} + \text{O}_2(g) \rightarrow \text{CO}_2(g) \quad \Delta H = -394 \text{ kJ} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}
\]

\[
\text{CO}_2(g) \rightarrow \text{C}_{\text{diamond}(s)} + \text{O}_2(g) \quad \Delta H = 396 \text{ kJ} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}
\]

\[
\text{C}_{\text{graphite}(s)} \rightarrow \text{C}_{\text{diamond}(s)} \quad \Delta H = 2 \text{ kJ} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}
\]

Notice that since the second reaction is written “backwards” the reaction no longer releases 396 kJ; instead 396 kJ would have to be absorbed for the reaction to proceed.
Many alternative automobile fuels have been suggested. Methanol is one of them. There is an interesting way to boost the amount of energy that can be extracted from a methanol-powered engine. A catalyst can convert methanol to formaldehyde and hydrogen.

The catalyst hastens the reaction, but the energy for the reaction comes from the hot exhaust.

Experiments were performed to determine the heats of combustion of methanol, formaldehyde, and hydrogen.

\[ 2 \text{CH}_3\text{OH}(g) + 3 \text{O}_2(g) \rightarrow 2 \text{CO}_2(g) + 4 \text{H}_2\text{O}(g) \quad \Delta H = -1353 \text{ kJ} \]

\[ 2 \text{H}_2(g) + \text{O}_2(g) \rightarrow 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(g) \quad \Delta H = -484 \text{ kJ} \]

\[ \text{H}_2\text{CO}(g) + \text{O}_2(g) \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}(g) + \text{CO}_2(g) \quad \Delta H = -520 \text{ kJ} \]

Using this data determine the $\Delta H_{\text{rxn}}$ for the conversion of methanol to formaldehyde and hydrogen.
Rearrange the equations so that they add up to the reaction of interest.

Methanol is a reactant so write the reaction down that involves methanol.

\[ 2 \text{CH}_3\text{OH}(g) + 3 \text{O}_2(g) \rightarrow 2 \text{CO}_2(g) + 4 \text{H}_2\text{O}(g) \quad \Delta H = -1353 \text{ kJ} \]

But we only need 1 methanol molecule, so cut the reaction in half...

\[ \frac{1}{2} \left( 2 \text{CH}_3\text{OH}(g) + 3 \text{O}_2(g) \rightarrow 2 \text{CO}_2(g) + 4 \text{H}_2\text{O}(g) \quad \Delta H = -1353 \text{ kJ} \right) \]

We have to divide EVERYTHING including the \( \Delta H \). Since we are only doing half the reaction we only get half the energy.

We need \( \text{H}_2 \) as a product so the reaction must be turned around.

\[ 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(g) \rightarrow 2 \text{H}_2(g) + \text{O}_2(g) \]

If the reaction is turned around then the energy must be turned around too. The forward reaction released energy; to get the reaction to go backwards energy must be absorbed by the reaction.

\[ 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(g) \rightarrow 2 \text{H}_2(g) + \text{O}_2(g) \quad \Delta H = +484 \text{ kJ} \]

Once again we only need one \( \text{H}_2 \), so divide by 2.

\[ \frac{1}{2} \left( 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(g) \rightarrow 2 \text{H}_2(g) + \text{O}_2(g) \quad \Delta H = +484 \text{ kJ} \right) \]

Formaldehyde is also a product; so, its combustion reaction must be turned around. Since the reaction is being turned around, the sign of \( \Delta H \) must be changed.

\[ \text{H}_2\text{O}(g) + \text{CO}_2(g) \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{CO}(g) + \text{O}_2(g) \quad \Delta H = +520 \text{ kJ} \]

Let’s add up all the reactions to see if we get the reaction we want.
\[
1 \text{CH}_3\text{OH}(g) + \frac{3}{2} \text{O}_2(g) \rightarrow 1 \text{CO}_2(g) + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}(g) \quad \Delta H = -676.5 \text{ kJ}
\]
\[
1 \text{H}_2\text{O}(g) \rightarrow 1 \text{H}_2(g) + \frac{1}{2} \text{O}_2(g) \quad \Delta H = +242 \text{ kJ}
\]
\[
\text{H}_2\text{O}(g) + \text{CO}_2(g) \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{CO}(g) + \text{O}_2(g) \quad \Delta H = +520 \text{ kJ}
\]
\[
\text{CH}_3\text{OH}(g) \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{CO}(g) + \text{H}_2(g) \quad \Delta H = 86 \text{ kJ}
\]

Warning: The $\Delta H$’s here are given as heats of reaction. However, if someone were to announce that the heat of combustion of methanol is $-677$ kJ the $\Delta H$ is per mole.

For example the statement:

$$\Delta H_{\text{combustion}} = -677 \text{ kJ for methanol}$$

means that for each mole of methanol burned 677 kJ heat are released.

**Standard enthalpies of formation.** $\Delta H_f^\circ$ is the change in enthalpy associated with the formation of a compound from the elements. All reactants are in their standard states as defined on p 258.

$$\frac{1}{2} \text{N}_2(s) + \text{O}_2(g) \rightarrow \text{NO}_2(g) \quad \Delta H_f^\circ = 34 \text{ kJ}$$

From a table of $\Delta H_f^\circ$ values reactions can be put together using *Hess’s Law*.

Determine the $\Delta H$ for the following reaction

$$\text{MgO}(s) + \text{H}_2\text{O}(l) \rightarrow \text{Mg(OH)}_2(s)$$

Construct each compound from its elements and the sum the $\Delta H_f^\circ$. 
The reactions are...

\[ \text{Mg}(s) + \frac{1}{2} \text{O}_2(g) \rightarrow \text{MgO}(s) \quad \Delta H_f^\circ = -602 \text{ kJ} \]

\[ \text{H}_2(g) + \frac{1}{2} \text{O}_2(g) \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}(l) \quad \Delta H_f^\circ = -286 \text{ kJ} \]

\[ \text{Mg}(s) + \text{O}_2(g) + \text{H}_2(g) \rightarrow \text{Mg(OH)}_2(s) \quad \Delta H_f^\circ = -925 \text{ kJ} \]

Use the \( \Delta H_f^\circ \) reactions to make the reaction of interest.

Since \( \text{MgO} \) is a reactant, the \( \text{MgO} \) formation reaction must be turned around. Since the reaction is reversed, the \( \Delta H \) must also be reversed; i.e., the additive inverse is used.

\[ \text{MgO}(s) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(s) + \frac{1}{2} \text{O}_2(g) \quad -\Delta H_f^\circ = -(602 \text{ kJ}) \]

\[ \text{H}_2\text{O}(l) \rightarrow \text{H}_2(g) + \frac{1}{2} \text{O}_2(g) \quad -\Delta H_f^\circ = -(286 \text{ kJ}) \]

\[ \text{Mg}(s) + \text{O}_2(g) + \text{H}_2(g) \rightarrow \text{Mg(OH)}_2(s) \quad \Delta H_f^\circ = -925 \text{ kJ} \]

You may have noticed that we do not have to write all this down.

You may have noticed

\[ \Delta H = \Delta H_{f \text{ prod}}^\circ - \Delta H_{f \text{ reactants}}^\circ \]

Calculate \( \Delta H \) for the following reaction using \( \Delta H_f^\circ \) values.

\[ 2 \ \text{NH}_3(g) + 3 \ \text{O}_2(g) + 2 \ \text{CH}_4(g) \rightarrow 2 \ \text{HCN}(g) + 6 \ \text{H}_2\text{O}(g) \]

construct each compound from its elements and the sum the \( \Delta H_f^\circ \)'s
\[ \frac{3}{2} \text{H}_2(\text{g}) + \frac{1}{2} \text{N}_2(\text{g}) \rightarrow \text{NH}_3(\text{g}) \quad \Delta H_f^\circ = -46 \text{ kJ} \]

\[ 3 \text{O}_2(\text{g}) \rightarrow 3 \text{O}_2(\text{g}) \quad \Delta H_f^\circ = 0 \text{ kJ} \]

\[ \text{C}(\text{s}) + 2 \text{H}_2(\text{g}) \rightarrow \text{CH}_4(\text{g}) \quad \Delta H_f^\circ = -75 \text{ kJ} \]

\[ \frac{1}{2} \text{N}_2(\text{g}) + \text{C}(\text{s}) + \frac{1}{2} \text{H}_2(\text{g}) \rightarrow \text{HCN}(\text{g}) \quad \Delta H_f^\circ = 135.1 \text{ kJ} \]

\[ \text{H}_2(\text{g}) + \frac{1}{2} \text{O}_2(\text{g}) \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{g}) \quad \Delta H_f^\circ = -242 \text{ kJ} \]

\[ \Delta H = \Delta H_f^\circ_{\text{prod}} - \Delta H_f^\circ_{\text{reactants}} \]

\[ \Delta H = 6(-242 \text{ kJ}) + 2(135.2 \text{ kJ}) - 2(-75 \text{ kJ}) - 3(0 \text{ kJ}) - 2(-46 \text{ kJ}) = -940 \text{ kJ} \]