

Chapter 3

ATOMS AND MOLECULES

Chemical formula:

Formula is symbolic representation of its composition. Formula can be written by symbols and valencies of compounds.

Valency:

The combining capacity of an element is known as its valency.

Ex. Valency of Hydrogen – 1, Oxygen – 2

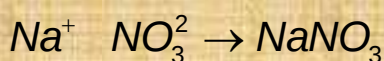
Rules for writing formula:

- Valencies or charges on the ions must balance.
- Symbols of cations or metals must be written first prior to anions.
- In compounds formed by polyatomic ions, the no of ions present in the compound is indicated by enclosing the formula of ion in a bracket and writing no of ions outside the bracket.

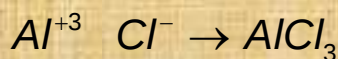
In case no of polyatomic ion is one bracket is not required.

Ex.

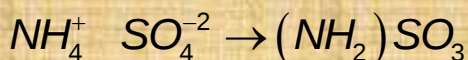
1. Sodium nitrate



2. Aluminium chloride



3. Ammonium sulphate



4. Calcium hydroxide

