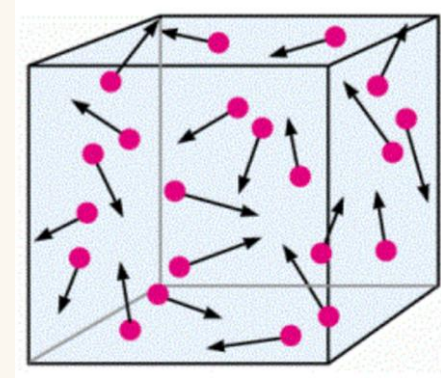


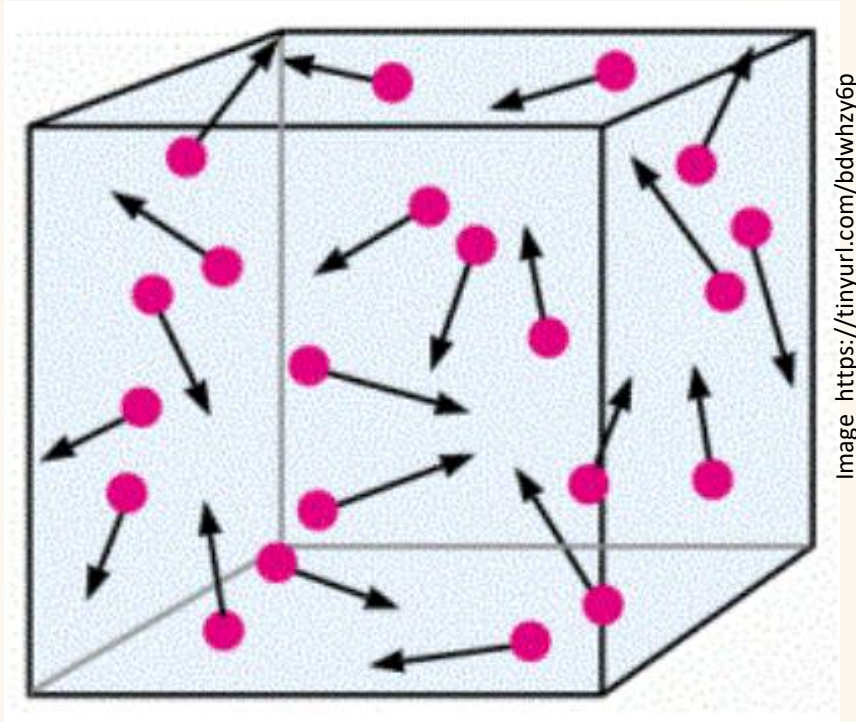
# PHAS1000 – THERMAL PHYSICS

## Lecture 5

### Pressure and Kinetic theory



# Overview



We will look at:

- Pressure
- Modelling at the molecular level
- Ideal gas
- Kinetic theory

# Pressure



<https://sciencing.com/range-barometric-pressure-5505227.html>



Unsplash.com



Unsplash.com

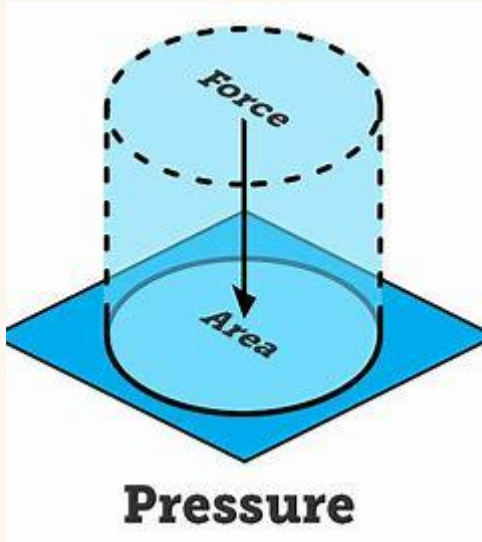


Unsplash.com



Mohamad Hassan Pixabay.com

# Definition



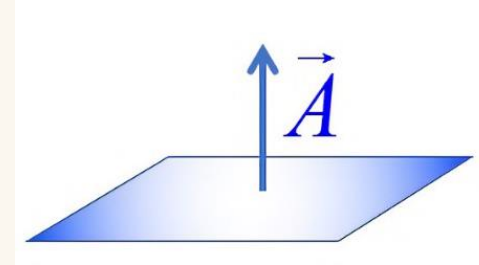
$$Pressure = \frac{Force}{Area}$$

**Units**

$$Nm^{-2} = Pa \text{ (pascals)}$$

**Vector or scalar?**

Pressure is a scalar.



- Force is vector
- Area element is vector (normal to surface)

$$\mathbf{F} = P\mathbf{A}$$

Pressure is the scalar constant of proportionality.

Pressure acts in all directions





# Other Units



Meow Meow on Pexels.com

$$1 \text{ bar} = 10^5 \text{ Pa}$$

$$1 \text{ atm} = 1.013 \text{ bar} = 1013 \text{ millibar} = 1.013 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$$

# Atmospheric pressure

What is the force of the atmosphere on your head?

$$\begin{aligned} F &= PA & P_{\text{atm}} &= 1.013 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa} \\ A_{\text{head}} &= \pi r^2 & r &= 10 \text{ cm} \\ F &= 1.013 \times 10^5 \times \pi \times 0.1^2 \\ &= 3182 \text{ N} & &\sim 3 \text{ kN} \end{aligned}$$



Why do we not feel it?

Balanced by internal pressure in body.

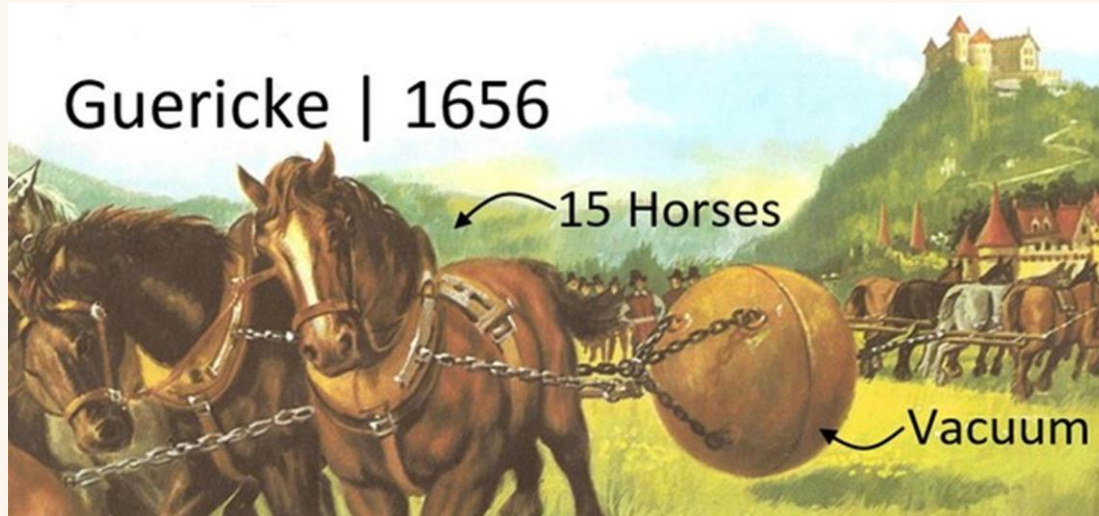
# Atmospheric pressure

How can you demonstrate the pressure of the atmosphere?



Can Crush Experiment

Magdeburg hemispheres



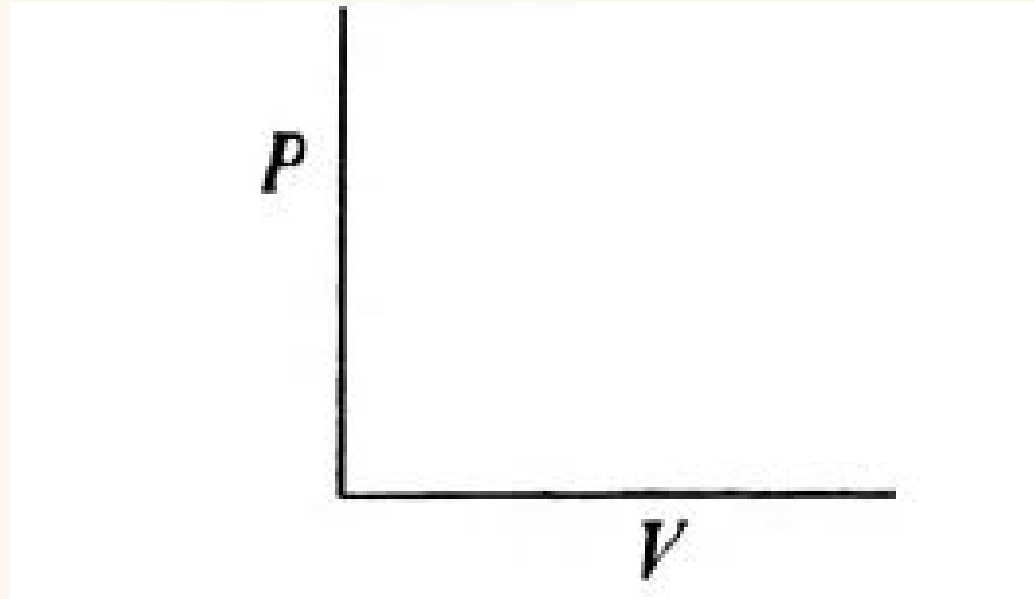
Otto van Guericke

# Boyle's law

Robert Boyle discovered experimentally that for a fixed mass of gas at constant temperature:

$$PV = \text{constant}$$

What does this graph of  $P$  versus  $V$  look like?





# Ideal Gas

## Ideal gas equation

$$PV = nRT \quad PV = NkT$$

$P, V, T$  = pressure, volume, temperature

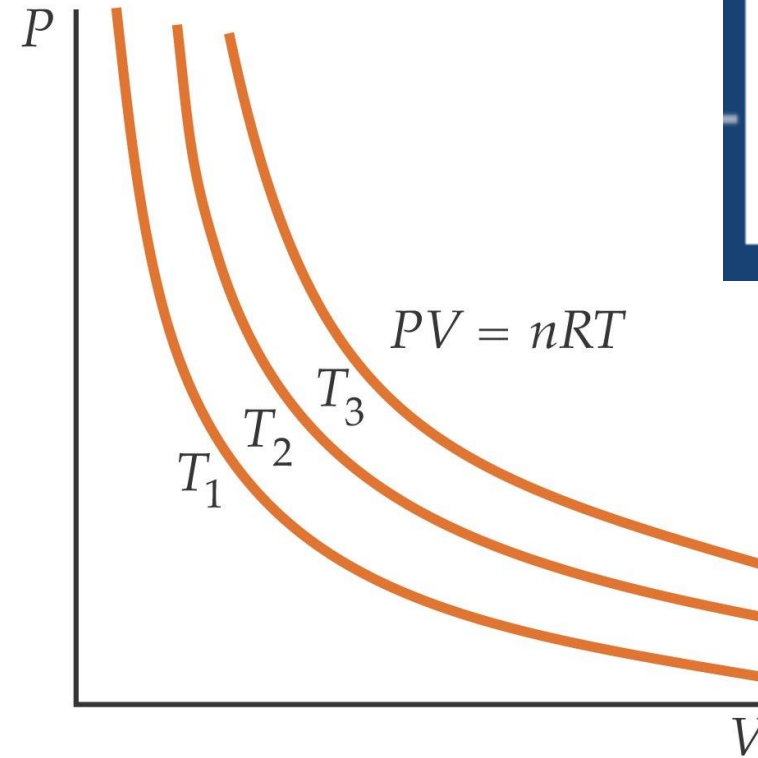
$R$  = molar gas constant

$k$  = Boltzmann's constant

$n$  = number of moles

$N$  = number of molecules

Temperature must be in Kelvin

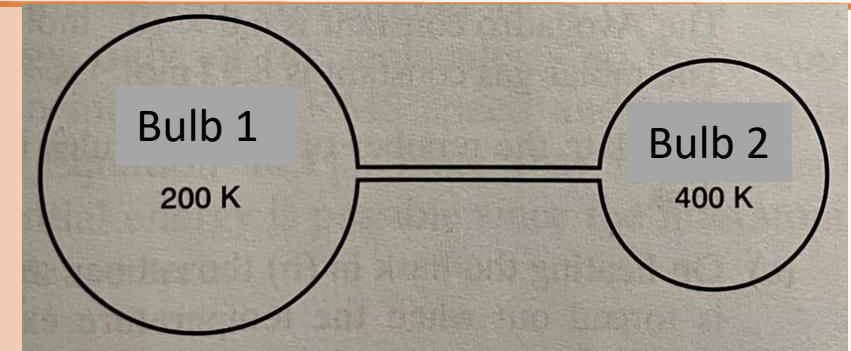


Starting with  $T_2$   
which temp is higher  $T_1$  or  $T_3$



# Question

The diagram shows two glass bulbs joined by a very thin capillary tube. This system is filled with an ideal gas, and steady state established with bulb 1 held at 200K, and bulb 2 held at 400K. The volume of bulb 1 is twice that of bulb 2.



If bulb 1 contains  $x$  moles of gas, how many moles of gas are in bulb 2?

- A  $\frac{x}{4}$       B  $\frac{x}{2}$       C  $x$       D  $2x$

The capillary tube allows movement of gas molecules. This will happen until PRESSURES are equal.

$$PV = nRT$$
$$n = \frac{PV}{RT}$$
$$n_1 = \frac{P_1 V_1}{R T_1} \quad n_2 = \frac{P_2 V_2}{R T_2}$$

$$\frac{n_2}{n_1} = \frac{P_2 V_2}{R T_2} \times \frac{R T_1}{P_1 V_1}$$
$$\frac{n_2}{n_1} = \frac{V_2}{V_1} \times \frac{T_1}{T_2} = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{200}{400} = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$$
$$n_2 = \frac{n_1}{4} \equiv \frac{x}{4} \quad \boxed{A}$$

# Molecules and Moles



$n$  = number of moles

$N$  = number of molecules

$M$  = mass of mole

$m$  = mass of molecule

$\rho$  = density

$N_A$  = Avogadro's number  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$

$k$  = Boltzmann's constant =  $1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J K}^{-1}$

$R$  = molar gas constant =  $8.31 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$

$$N = nN_A$$

$$M = mN_A$$

$$R = kN_A$$

Which expression would allow us to calculate density ?

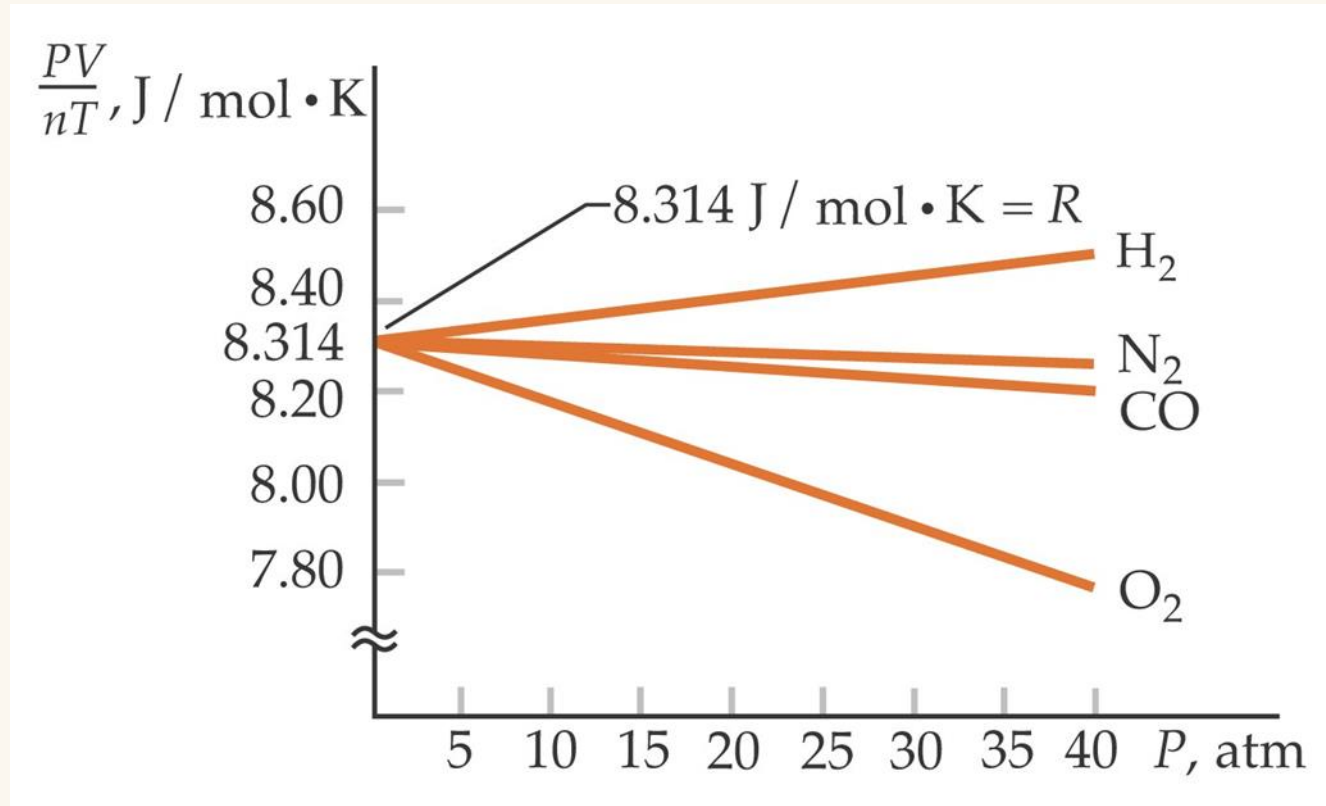
**A**  $\frac{NM}{V}$

**B**  $\frac{nm}{V}$

**C**  $\frac{nM}{V}$

**D**  $\frac{nN_A M}{V}$

# Ideal gas constant, R



Real gases behave as ideal when molecules are well separated (i.e. at low pressure).

# Kinetic Theory of Gases

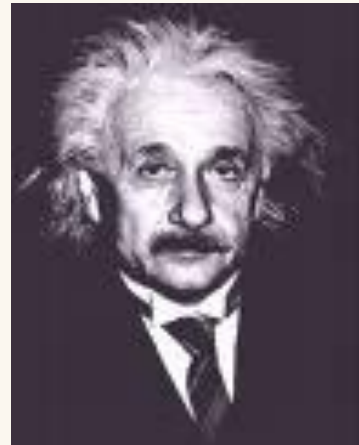
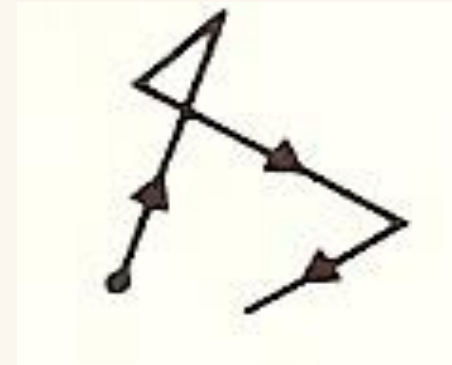
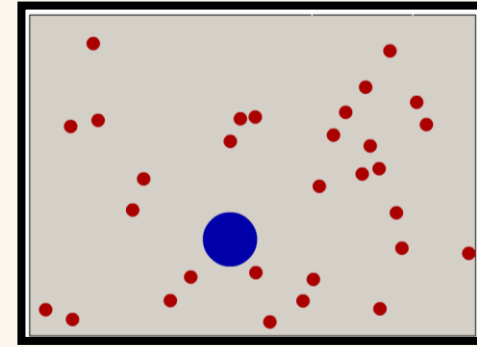
## Modelling an ideal gas

### Assumptions of kinetic theory

1. Gas contains *many* molecules
2. Molecules well separated
3. Direction of motion of molecules is random
4. Molecules exert no force on each other, except when collide
5. Elastic collisions between molecules and with walls



Robert Brown  
1773-1858



Albert Einstein  
1879-1955



# Pressure

How does kinetic theory explain pressure?

Molecules collide with walls (change of momentum)

Force = rate of change of momentum

Many collisions per second

Pressure = force/area

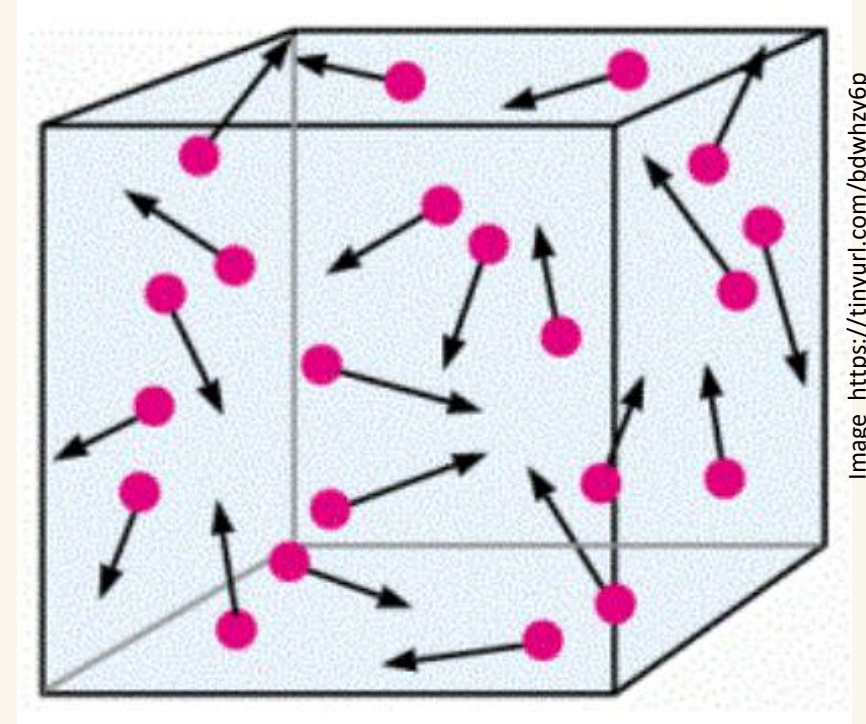


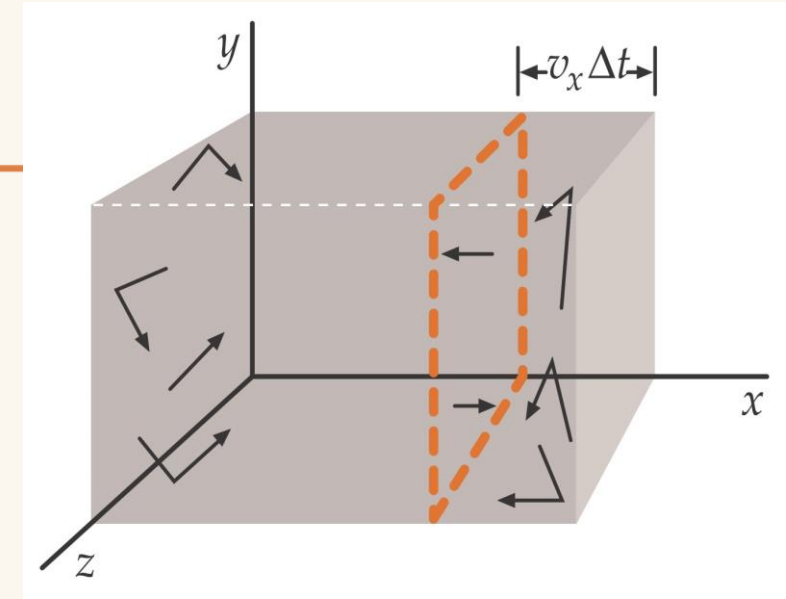
Image <https://tinyurl.com/bdwhzy6p>

# Pressure from kinetic theory

## Derivation of pressure equation

Consider rectangular box, volume  $V$ , containing  $N$  gas molecules, each of mass  $m$ , moving with speed  $v$ .

Molecules that will hit right-hand wall, of area  $A$ , in time interval  $\Delta t$  are those within  $v_x \Delta t$  of the wall and moving to the right along  $x$ -axis.



Number of these molecules is  $\frac{1}{2} \frac{N}{V} v_x \Delta t A$

½ since only half molecules in that volume are moving to the right.

Initial momentum of molecule =  $+mv_x$   
Final momentum of molecule =  $-mv_x$

Change of momentum per molecule =  $2mv_x$

# Pressure from kinetic theory

$$P = \frac{F}{A} \quad F = \frac{|\Delta \bar{p}|}{\Delta t}$$

So change of momentum of all such molecules  $|\Delta \bar{p}| = (2mv_x) \times \left( \frac{1}{2} \frac{N}{V} v_x \Delta t A \right) = \frac{N}{V} m v_x^2 A \Delta t$

Then pressure exerted by gas molecules on right-hand wall =  $\frac{N}{V} m v_x^2$  **Dividing by  $A \Delta t$**

To allow for the fact that not all molecules will have exactly the same speed we replace  $v_x^2$  with  $(v_x^2)_{av}$

Thus pressure on right-hand wall =  $P = \frac{N}{V} m (v_x^2)_{av}$

Extending this to y and z directions:  $(v_x^2)_{av} = (v_y^2)_{av} = (v_z^2)_{av}$   $(v^2)_{av} = (v_x^2)_{av} + (v_y^2)_{av} + (v_z^2)_{av} = 3(v_x^2)_{av}$

i.e.  $(v_x^2)_{av} = \frac{1}{3} (v^2)_{av}$  and hence  $P = \frac{1}{3} \frac{N}{V} m (v^2)_{av}$  or  $P = \frac{1}{3} \rho (v^2)_{av}$  since  $\rho = \frac{Nm}{V}$

# Kinetic Energy and Temperature

From previous slide :  $P = \frac{1}{3} \frac{N}{V} m(v^2)_{av}$

Or maybe from A Level it looked like this:  $PV = \frac{1}{3} Nm(c_{rms})^2$

We will rearrange to get expression for KE.....

The image shows a handwritten derivation on a grey background. It starts with the equation  $3PV = 2N \left( \frac{1}{2} m (v^2)_{av} \right)$ . A blue arrow points from this equation to a box containing  $but PV = NkT$ . Another blue arrow points from this box to the same equation. Below this, the equation is rearranged to  $3NkT = 2N \left( \frac{1}{2} m (v^2)_{av} \right)$ , and then simplified to  $\frac{3}{2} kT = \frac{1}{2} m (v^2)_{av}$ . A blue arrow points from the text 'Thermal energy. Relates to temp, which we can measure' to the  $\frac{3}{2} kT$  term. Another blue arrow points from the text 'Average kinetic energy of a molecule' to the  $\frac{1}{2} m (v^2)_{av}$  term.

$$3PV = 2N \left( \frac{1}{2} m (v^2)_{av} \right)$$

but  $PV = NkT$

$$\cancel{3N}kT = \cancel{2N} \left( \frac{1}{2} m (v^2)_{av} \right)$$
$$\frac{3}{2} kT = \frac{1}{2} m (v^2)_{av}$$

Thermal energy.  
Relates to temp, which  
we can measure

Average kinetic energy  
of a molecule

# Average molecular speeds

kinetic energy per **molecule**  $\frac{3}{2}kT = \frac{1}{2}m(v^2)_{av}$

kinetic energy per **mole**  $\frac{3}{2}RT = \frac{1}{2}M(v^2)_{av}$

Multiplying both sides by  $N_A$

Rearranging:  $v_{rms} = \sqrt{(v^2)_{av}} = \sqrt{\frac{3kT}{m}} = \sqrt{\frac{3RT}{M}}$

Trends:  $KE_{av} \propto T$   $v_{rms} \propto \sqrt{\frac{T}{M}}$



# Question

What is the average (rms) speed of air molecules in still air at room temperature ?

- A zero
- B 1 mm/s (electron drift speed in metal)
- C 2 m/s (walking speed)
- D 30 m/s (fast car)
- E 500 m/s (supersonic aeroplane)
- F  $10^8$  m/s (close to speed of light)



Estimate  
(before we calculate)

# Question

What is the average (rms) speed of air molecules in still air at room temperature ?

- A zero
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$$v_{rms} = \sqrt{\frac{3RT}{M}}$$

Take room temp = 300 K

Take air as nitrogen,  $M_{N_2} = 28 \text{ g}$

$$\begin{aligned} v_{rms} &= \sqrt{\frac{3 \times 8.31 \times 300}{28 \times 10^{-3}}} \\ &= 517 \text{ m/s} \end{aligned}$$

# Question

A gas cylinder has a volume of 20 L. It contains helium at a gauge pressure of  $3.0 \times 10^5$  Pa, and temperature of  $25^\circ\text{C}$ .

- (i) How many moles of gas are in the cylinder?
- (ii) What is the mass of gas in the cylinder?

Molar mass of helium = 4 g.



Absolute pressure = gauge pressure + atmospheric pressure

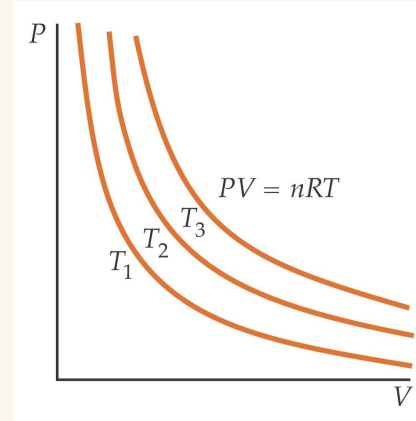
$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad n &= \frac{PV}{RT} \\ &= \frac{(3.0 + 1.013) \times 10^5 \times 20 \times 10^{-3}}{8.31 \times (25 + 273)} \\ n &= 3.24 \text{ moles} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii) mass} &= n \times M \\ &= 3.24 \times 4 \times 10^{-3} \\ &= 0.013 \text{ kg} = 13 \text{ g} \end{aligned}$$

# Summary

$$1 \text{ atm} = 1013 \text{ millibar} = 1.013 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$$

$$1 \text{ bar} = 10^5 \text{ Pa}$$



## Assumptions of kinetic theory

Gas contains many molecules

Molecules well separated

Direction of motion of molecules is random

Molecules exert no force on each other, except when collide

Elastic collisions between molecules and with walls

$$N = nN_A \quad M = mN_A \quad R = kN_A \quad \rho = \frac{nM}{V}$$

$$PV = nRT$$

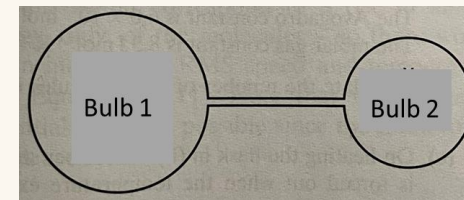
$$PV = NkT$$

$$\frac{P_1 V_1}{n_1 T_1} = \frac{P_2 V_2}{n_2 T_2}$$

$$P = \frac{1}{3} \frac{N}{V} m(v^2)_{av}$$

$$\frac{3}{2} kT = \frac{1}{2} m(v^2)_{av}$$

$$\frac{3}{2} RT = \frac{1}{2} M(v^2)_{av}$$



In equilibrium gas pressure will be the same at all points in the system.

Absolute pressure = gauge pressure + atmospheric pressure

