

Quiz 1.1 – An Ideal Gas

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Question 1

A weather balloon starts in Cedar City with $P = 0.82 \text{ atm}$, $T = 21.5^\circ\text{C}$, and $V = 18.75 \text{ L}$

$\rightarrow 294.65 \text{ K}$

- Find the number of moles of gas inside the balloon

$$n = \frac{PV}{RT} = \frac{0.82 \text{ atm} \cdot 18.75 \text{ L}}{0.08206 \frac{\text{L} \cdot \text{atm}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}} \cdot 294.65 \text{ K}} = 0.636 \text{ moles}$$

- If the balloon is filled with He gas, find the mass of the gas inside the balloon

$$m = n \cdot M = 0.636 \text{ moles} \cdot 4.003 \text{ g/mol} = 2.55 \text{ g}$$

- Find the density of the He-filled balloon (assume the instruments and balloon itself have no mass)

$$d = \frac{m}{V} = \frac{2.55 \text{ g}}{18.75 \text{ L}} = 0.136 \text{ g/L} \quad \text{or} \quad d = \frac{PM}{RT} = \frac{0.82 \text{ atm} \cdot 4.003 \text{ g/mol}}{0.08206 \frac{\text{L} \cdot \text{atm}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}} \cdot 294.65 \text{ K}} = 0.136 \text{ g/L}$$

- Find the density of the surrounding air (assume it is 100% N_2 gas)

$$d = \frac{PM}{RT} = \frac{0.82 \text{ atm} \cdot 28.014 \text{ g/mol}}{0.08206 \frac{\text{L} \cdot \text{atm}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}} \cdot 294.65 \text{ K}} = 0.950 \text{ g/L}$$

Question 2

The weather balloon is released into the upper atmosphere and the instruments on-board indicate a pressure of 0.45 atm and a temperature of -32.4°C

What will the new volume of the balloon be?

$$\frac{P_1 V_1}{T_1} = \frac{P_2 V_2}{T_2} \quad \frac{0.82 \text{ atm} \cdot 18.75 \text{ L}}{294.65 \text{ K}} = \frac{0.45 \text{ atm} \cdot V_2}{240.75 \text{ K}} \rightarrow V_2 = 27.9 \text{ L}$$

Question 3

A car engine burns about 0.1 g of gasoline (C_8H_{18}) for each engine cycle. A car engine may have a cylinder volume of 0.075 L at the point of ignition, and operate at a temperature of 80.0°C . If the gasoline combusts completely inside the 0.075 L piston, what is the pressure of the combustion products?

$$M_{\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18}} = 114.23 \text{ g/mol}$$

$$\frac{0.1 \text{ g C}_8\text{H}_{18}}{114.23 \text{ g}} \cdot \frac{1 \text{ mol}}{2 \text{ mol C}_8\text{H}_{18}} \cdot \frac{34 \text{ mol (g) products}}{2 \text{ mol C}_8\text{H}_{18}} = 0.0149 \text{ moles}$$

$$P = \frac{nRT}{V} = \frac{0.0149 \text{ moles} \cdot 0.08206 \frac{\text{L} \cdot \text{atm}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}} \cdot 353.15 \text{ K}}{0.075 \text{ L}} = 5.76 \text{ atm}$$

Question 4

Find the following, regarding a sample of pure Helium at 25°C and 0.800 atm

$$\sigma = 0.21\text{ nm}^2 = 0.21 \cdot 10^{-18}\text{ m}^2 \quad 81,060\text{ Pa}$$

$$\circ v_{\text{rms}} = \left(\frac{3RT}{M} \right)^{1/2} = \left(\frac{3 \cdot 8.314\text{ J/mol}\cdot\text{K} \cdot 298.15\text{ K}}{4.003\text{ g/mol} \cdot 0.001\text{ kg/g}} \right)^{1/2} = 1,360\text{ m/s}$$

$$\circ v_{\text{rel}} = \sqrt{2} v_{\text{mean}} = \sqrt{2} \cdot \left(\frac{8RT}{\pi M} \right)^{1/2} = \sqrt{2} \cdot \left(\frac{8 \cdot 8.314\text{ J/mol}\cdot\text{K} \cdot 298.15\text{ K}}{\pi \cdot 4.003\text{ g/mol} \cdot 0.001\text{ kg/g}} \right)^{1/2} = 1,780\text{ m/s}$$

 $\circ \lambda$ (mean free path)

$$\lambda = \frac{v_{\text{rel}}}{Z} = \frac{1,780\text{ m/s}}{7.36 \cdot 10^9\text{ s}^{-1}} = 2.42 \cdot 10^{-7}\text{ m} \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda = \frac{k_B T}{\sigma p} = \frac{1.38 \cdot 10^{-23}\text{ J/K} \cdot 298.15\text{ K}}{0.21 \cdot 10^{-18}\text{ m}^2 \cdot 81,060\text{ Pa}} = 2.42 \cdot 10^{-7}\text{ m} = 242\text{ nm}$$

 \circ Collision frequency

$$Z = \sigma \cdot v_{\text{rel}} \cdot N \rightarrow Z = 0.21 \cdot 10^{-18}\text{ m}^2 \cdot 1,780\text{ m/s} \cdot \frac{0.800\text{ atm} \cdot 6.022 \cdot 10^{23}\text{ mol}^{-1}}{0.08206\text{ L}\cdot\text{atm/mol}\cdot\text{K} \cdot 298.15\text{ K} \cdot 0.001\text{ m}^3/\text{L}}$$

$$N = \frac{p N_A}{RT}$$

Question 5

$$Z = 7.36 \cdot 10^9\text{ s}^{-1}$$

What will be v_{rel} for collisions between O_2 and N_2 molecules in a sample of the atmosphere at 25°C and 0.800 atm ($\chi_{\text{N}_2} = 0.80$, $\chi_{\text{O}_2} = 0.20$)

$$v_{\text{rel}} = \left(\frac{8RT}{\pi \mu} \right)^{1/2} \quad \mu = \frac{M_{\text{N}_2} M_{\text{O}_2}}{M_{\text{N}_2} + M_{\text{O}_2}} = \frac{28.0134\text{ g/mol} \cdot 31.9988\text{ g/mol}}{28.0134\text{ g/mol} + 31.9988\text{ g/mol}} = 14.94\text{ g/mol}$$

$$v_{\text{rel}} = \left(\frac{8 \cdot 8.314\text{ J/mol}\cdot\text{K} \cdot 298.15\text{ K}}{\pi \cdot 14.94\text{ g/mol} \cdot 0.001\text{ kg/g}} \right)^{1/2} = 650\text{ m/s}$$

When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer

By Walt Whitman

When I heard the learn'd astronomer,
 When the proofs, the figures, were ranged in columns before me,
 When I was shown the charts and diagrams, to add, divide, and measure them,
 When I sitting heard the astronomer where he lectured with much applause in the lecture-room,
 How soon unaccountable I became tired and sick,
 Till rising and gliding out I wander'd off by myself,
 In the mystical moist night-air, and from time to time,
 Look'd up in perfect silence at the stars.