Classical Mechanics & Properties of Gases

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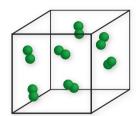


Ideal gas assumptions

- The molecules obey Newton's law of motion
- There are no attractive or repulsive interactions between molecules
- The molecules undergo perfectly elastic collisions
- The volume occupied by the molecules is negligibly small in comparison to the size of the container

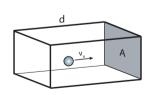
Properties of gases

- Ideal & real gases
- Kinetic theory of gases
- Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution
- Applications of kinetic theory



Kinetic theory of gases

Consider a single collision



Momentum change of particle

$$\Delta p = p_{\text{after}} - p_{\text{before}}$$
$$= -mv_x - (mv_x) = -2mv_x$$

Momentum imparted to wall

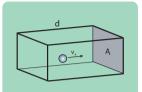
$$\Delta p = 2mv_x$$

Interval between collisions with the wall

$$\Delta t = \frac{2d}{v_x}$$

Kinetic theory of gases

Consider many collisions



Momentum imparted to wall

$$\Delta p = 2mv_x$$

Interval between collisions

$$\Delta t = \frac{2d}{v_x}$$

$$F = ma = \frac{d(p)}{dt} \approx \frac{\Delta p}{\Delta t} = \frac{2mv_x}{2d/v_x} = \frac{mv_x^2}{d}$$

$$p = \frac{F}{A} = \frac{mv_x^2}{Ad} = \frac{mv_x^2}{V}$$

$$p = \frac{Nm\left\langle v_x^2 \right\rangle}{V}$$

Kinetic theory of gases

Apply classical equipartition

For each degree of freedom there is a $\frac{1}{2}k_{B}T$ contribution to the internal energy

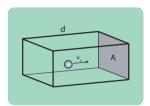
$$\frac{3}{2}k_BT = \frac{1}{2}m\left\langle v^2\right\rangle$$

$$pV = \frac{1}{3}Nm\left\langle v^2\right\rangle^{-} = \frac{1}{3}Nm\left(\frac{3k_BT}{m}\right)^{-}$$

$$pV = Nk_BT$$
$$pV = nRT$$

Kinetic theory of gases

Consider many collisions in 3D



$$p = \frac{Nm\left\langle v_x^2 \right\rangle}{V}$$

$$\left\langle v^{2}\right\rangle =\left\langle v_{x}^{2}\right\rangle +\left\langle v_{y}^{2}\right\rangle +\left\langle v_{z}^{2}\right\rangle =3\left\langle v_{x}^{2}\right\rangle$$

$$p = \frac{Nm\left\langle v^2\right\rangle}{3V}$$

$$p = \frac{Nm\langle v^2 \rangle}{3V}$$
 or $pV = \frac{1}{3}Nm\langle v^2 \rangle$

c.f. Boyle's law

Classical Equipartition

For each degree of freedom there is a $\frac{1}{2}k_{B}T$ contribution to the internal energy

The mean energy of each quadratic contribution to the total energy of a particle is the same, and equal to $\frac{1}{2}k_BT$.

A quadratic contribution to the energy is one that is proportional to the square of a particle's velocity or position.

Contributions to the total energy

Total Energy = Kinetic + Potential Energy

$$U = K + V$$

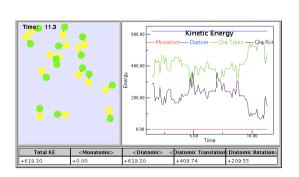
$$H = K + V$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + V\psi = E\psi$$

$$\hat{H}\psi = E\psi$$

Demo simulation

http://tinyurl.com/equiparition



Degrees of freedom

The total number of degrees of freedom is given by 3N, where N is the number of atoms.

Translation

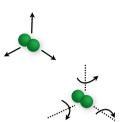
$$H = \frac{1}{2}m(v_x^2 + v_y^2 + v_z^2)$$

Rotation

$$H = \frac{1}{2}(I_x\omega_x^2 + I_y\omega_y^2 + I_z\omega_z^2)$$

Vibration in one dimension

$$H = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 + \frac{1}{2}kx^2$$

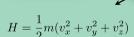




Classical Equipartition

Mathematical formulation (not required)

$$\left\langle x_n \frac{\partial H}{\partial x_n} \right\rangle = k_{\rm B} T$$
 for all n
 $\left\langle x_m \frac{\partial H}{\partial x_n} \right\rangle = 0$ for all $n \neq m$
 $H = \frac{1}{2} m(v_x^2 + v_y^2 + v_z^2)$



$$\langle H_x \rangle = \left\langle \frac{1}{2} m v_x^2 \right\rangle = \left\langle \frac{p_x^2}{2m} \right\rangle = \frac{1}{2} k_{\rm B} T$$

$$\left\langle p_x \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_x} \right\rangle = \left\langle p_x \frac{\partial \frac{p_x^2}{2m}}{\partial p_x} \right\rangle = \left\langle p_x \frac{2p_x}{2m} \right\rangle = \left\langle \frac{p_x^2}{m} \right\rangle = k_{\rm B}T$$

$$\left\langle \frac{1}{2} \frac{p_x^2}{m} \right\rangle = \frac{1}{2} k_{\rm B} T$$

Contributions to C_v

$$\left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial T}\right)_V = C_V$$

	trans.	rot.	vib.
monatomic	3/2 R	-	-
diatomic	3/2 R	2/2 R	R
linear	3/2 R	2/2 R	(3N-5)R
non-linear	3/2 R	3/2 R	(3N-6)R

An example

Prelim 2007

3 (a) State the equipartition theorem.

[2]

(b) Show how the theorem may be used to estimate the molar constant-pressure heat capacities, $C_{p,m}$, of (i) Ar(g), (ii) CO₂(g), (iii) CH₄(g), (iv) Pb(s). Express your results as a multiple of the gas constant R. [3]

$$C_p = C_v + R$$

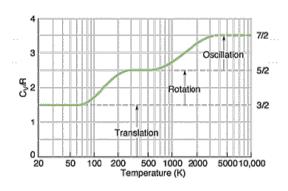
$$\frac{3}{2}R + \frac{2}{2}R + (3 \times 3 - 5)R + R$$

$$\frac{3}{2}R + \frac{3}{2}R + (3 \times 5 - 6)R + R$$

(c) The experimental values of these heat capacities at 298 K are as follows:

Suggest reasons for the deviation of these values from the values you have calculated. [3]

C_v for O₂



Lecture Summary

- Kinetic Theory of Gases
 - Derivation of pV=nRT
- Classical Equipartition
 - The mean energy of each quadratic contribution to the total energy of a particle is the same, and equal to $\frac{1}{2}k_BT$.

