

# 1 Gas Laws

*A funny gas? He He He.*

## 1.1 Kinetic Molecular Theory, Temperature, and Pressure

- A gas has no definite shape or volume.
- They adapt to the shape and volume of their container.
- Ideal Gases are imaginary gases that comply with all the postulates of the Kinetic Molecular Theory.
- Gas Laws attempt to explain the behavior of gases under certain conditions.

The Kinetic Molecular Theory

- Gases are made up of tiny particles.
- Gas particles move randomly, in straight lines in all directions and at various speeds.
- The forces of attractions or repulsion between two gas particles are extremely weak or negligible, except when they collide.
- When gas molecules collide, the collisions are elastic.
- The average kinetic energy of a molecule is proportional to the Kelvin temperature. Gases at higher temperatures have higher kinetic energies.

Characteristics of Gases

- Expansion - gases will expand to fill their containers since they have no definite shape or volume.
- Fluidity - gases have the ability to flow and be poured as liquids are.
- Low Density - gases have low density because the particles are spread far apart.
- Compressibility - gas particles can be made to occupy a smaller space by decreasing the volume of the container.
- Diffusion - gases spread out and mix with each other without agitation.

Avogadro's Principle

- Equal volumes of gases contain equal numbers of moles of those gases if the temperatures and pressures are the same.
- The volume occupied by one mole of any gas is 22.4 liters at standard temperature and pressure. This is called the molar volume/

Temperature Conversions:

- $T_K = T_C + 273$
- $T_C = T_K - 273$
- $T_F = (9/5)T_C + 32$
- $T_C = (5/9) \cdot (T_F - 32)$

*Exercise* Convert  $-20^\circ \text{C}$  to K.

- Absolute zero is 0 K.
- At absolute zero, matter stops moving.
- Atoms/molecules in a solid, which usually vibrate, come to a complete stop.

Pressure (the force of a gas acting on the walls of its container) is measured in several different units.

- atm - atmospheres
- mm Hg - millimeters of mercury
- torr - torr
- Pa - pascals
- kPa - kilopascals
- psi - pounds (force) per square inch

Atmospheric pressure varies from day to day and is measured with a barometer.

1 atm of pressure is equal to 760 mm Hg, 760 torr, 101.325 kPa, 14.7 psi.

*Exercise* Convert 800. mm Hg to atm.

## 1.2 Gas Laws & Density

Boyle's Law states that the volume of a gas varies inversely with the pressure if the temperature is held constant.

- Boyle discovered that for any given ideal gas, the product of pressure and volume is always an exact constant.
- $P \cdot V = \text{constant}$
- So, even if you change the pressure and volume of a gas, the product will still be the same.
- $P_1 V_1 = P_2 V_2$
- Remember, in Boyle's Law, temperature is held constant.

*Exercise* A syringe has 10.0 mL of gas inside and the pressure is 1.00 atm. If pressure is applied and the volume decreases to 4.8 mL, what is the final pressure of the gas inside?

Charles' Law states that the volume of a gas varies directly with the Kelvin temperature if the pressure is held constant.

- Charles discovered that volume divided by temperature is a constant.
- $V/T = \text{constant}$
- So, if you change the volume and temperature of a sample of gas,  $V/T$  will always be the same number.
- $\frac{V_1}{T_1} = \frac{V_2}{T_2}$
- Remember, this only applies when pressure is held constant and temperature is in Kelvin.

*Exercise* To what temperature Kelvin must 7.98 cm<sup>3</sup> of oxygen be cooled, to reduce its volume to 5.00 cm<sup>3</sup> if it is initially at STP and pressure does not change?

Gay-Lussac's Law states that the pressure of a gas varies directly with temperature if the volume is held constant. Just like Charles' Law, the temperature must be in Kelvin.

- Gay-Lussac discovered that for any given mass of an ideal gas, the pressure divided by temperature (in Kelvin!) was always a constant.
- $P/T = \text{constant}$
- So if you change the pressure and temperature of a gas, the press/temp will still be the same.
- $\frac{P_1}{T_1} = \frac{P_2}{T_2}$
- Remember, now volume is held constant.

*Exercise* If you cap a 2 L coke bottle containing air, and the temperature changes from 25°C to 35°C, what is the pressure on the inside wall of the bottle? Assume the initial atmospheric pressure when you capped the bottle was 728 mmHg.

The three laws can be combined into one law that can always be used when conditions are changed. We use this equation to figure out the new pressure, temperature, or volume of a gas if the initial conditions are known.

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

*Exercise* How much pressure must be applied to 68 L of a gas at STP to reduce its volume by half if the temperature is raised to 20.°C?

The Ideal Gas Law describes the conditions of an ideal gas in terms of pressure, temperature, volume, and the number of moles of a gas. Ideal gas law does not involve changes in conditions.

$$PV = nRT$$

R is the “Ideal Gas Constant” and is equal to 0.08206 L · atm/ mol · K

*Exercise* At which temperature would 0.0828 moles of hydrogen have a pressure of 1.00 atm and a volume of 55.0 L?

Real Gases do have forces of attraction and the molecules do have volume. Real pressure is lowered than what is predicted due to IMFs, especially for polar molecules or when hydrogen bonding is present. Real volume is higher than what is predicted due to molecular volume being significant, especially for larger molecules of gas. Gases act “most ideally” at high temperatures and low pressure.

We can relate the molar mass of a gas with density.

$$MM = \frac{DRT}{P}$$

*Exercise* If the density of a gas is 1.2 g/L at 745 torr and 20.°C, what is its molar mass?

Dalton’s Law of Partial Pressures shows the pressure of a mixture of gases is simply equal to the sum of the partial pressure of each gas.

$$P_T = P_1 + P_2 + P_3 + \dots$$

When you collect a gas by water displacement, the collected gas also contains water vapor. There is more water vapor at higher temperatures.

*Exercise* A student collects 89 mL of oxygen gas by bubbling it through water. The pressure reading that day is 103.2 kPa and the temperature is 20.°C. Determine the number of moles of gas collected. At 20.°C, the partial P of water vapor is 2.3 kPa.

Graham’s Law of Diffusion shows the rate of diffusion of gases is inversely proportional to their molar masses.

$$\frac{r_A}{r_B} = \sqrt{\frac{MM_B}{MM_A}}$$

where r is the rate (speed) and MM is the molar mass of the gas.

*Exercise* A molecule of oxygen gas has an average speed of 12.3 m/s at a given temp and pressure. What is the average speed of hydrogen molecules at the same conditions?

## Chapter Problems

1. At atmospheric pressure in Denver, Colorado, is usually about 84.0 kPa. What is this pressure in atm and torr units?
2. What would happen to life on earth if ice were denser than liquid water? Explain your answer in detail and use examples.

3. Why is it important not to puncture an aerosol can? Explain WHY.
4. How-air balloons rise because the hot air inside the balloon is less dense than the cooler air outside. Calculate the volume an air sample will occupy inside a balloon at  $43.0^{\circ}\text{C}$  if it occupies a 2.50 L at the outside air temperature of  $22.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ , assuming the pressure is the same in both locations.
5. The lowest pressure achieved in laboratory is about  $1.0 \times 10^{-15}$  mm Hg. How many molecules of gas are present in a 1.00 L sample at that pressure and temperature of  $22.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ ?
6. Determine the pressure inside an old-fashioned television picture tube with a volume of 3.50 L that contains  $2.00 \times 10^{-5}$  g of nitrogen gas at  $22.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
7. Propane,  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_8$ , is a gas commonly used as a home fuel for cooking and heating. Calculate the volume that 0.540 mol of propane occupies at STP. Think about the size of this volume compared to the amount of propane it contains. Why do you think propane is usually liquefied before it is transported?
8. At a given temperature, gaseous ammonia molecules ( $\text{NH}_3$ ) have a velocity that is \_\_\_\_\_times \_\_\_\_\_than gaseous sulfur dioxide molecules ( $\text{SO}_2$ ).
9. Write the balanced reaction for the complete combustion of octane,  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18}$ . If air is 20.9% oxygen by volume, how many liters of air are needed to complete the combustion of 25.0 L of octane vapor at STP? What volume of each product is produced?
10. A 3.25 gram sample of solid calcium carbide ( $\text{CaC}_2$ ) reacts with water to produce acetylene gas ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$ ) and aqueous calcium hydroxide. If the acetylene was collected over water at  $17^{\circ}\text{C}$  and 740.0 mmHg, how many milliliters of acetylene were produced? The vapor pressure of water at  $17^{\circ}\text{C}$  is 14.5 torr.