

**Physics 5D Fall 2008****Assignment 2**

Due at 2:00pm on Tuesday, October 21, 2008

[View Grading Details](#)**Average Spacing of Gas Molecules**

**Description:** For an ideal gas, if it is assumed that each molecule is uniformly spaced and surrounded by a cube, find the length of an edge of that cube, given the temperature and pressure of the gas.

Consider an ideal gas at 27.0 degrees Celsius and 1.00 atmosphere pressure. Imagine the molecules to be uniformly spaced, with each molecule at the center of a small cube.

**Part A**

What is the length  $L$  of an edge of each small cube if adjacent cubes touch but don't overlap?

**Hint A.1 How to approach the problem**

Calculate the volume of one mole of the gas, being careful about the units, and then use this result to find the volume of one molecule, or rather, the volume of the imaginary cube that is assumed to surround each molecule. Then use the volume per molecule to calculate the length of a side of the cube.

**Part A.2 Calculate the volume per mole**

What is the volume  $V_{\text{mole}}$  of one mole of the gas?

**Hint A.2.a Ideal gas equation**

The ideal gas equation states that  $pV = nRT$ . For this question, since you want to find the volume of one mole of the gas,  $n = 1$ . Also, be careful of the units that you use for the gas constant  $R$ .

Express your answer numerically in cubic meters using three significant figures.

ANSWER:  $V_{\text{mole}} = \frac{.0246}{2.46 \times 10^{-2}} \text{ m}^3$

**Part A.3 Calculate the volume per molecule**

Calculate the volume per molecule  $V_{\text{molecule}}$  of the gas.

**Hint A.3.a How to approach the problem**

Recall that one mole of a gas has Avogadro's number, i.e.,  $N_A$ , molecules. So above you found the volume explored by  $N_A$  molecules. Use this information to find the volume surrounding one molecule.

Express your answer in cubic meters using three significant figures.

ANSWER:  $V_{\text{molecule}} = \frac{4.09 \cdot 10^{-26}}{4.09 \times 10^{-26}} \text{ m}^3$

Note that we used Avogadro's number at this step in our calculations to find the volume surrounding each molecule.

**Part A.4 The edge length of a cube**

Recall that the volume  $V_c$  of a cube is related to its edge length  $l$  by  $V_c = l^3$ . Which of the following is the correct expression for  $l$  in terms of  $V_c$ ?

ANSWER:   $V_c$   
  $\frac{V_c}{3}$

- $V_c^3$   
  $3V_c$   
  $V_c^{1/3}$

Express your answer numerically in meters.

ANSWER:

$$L = 3.45 \cdot 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

$$3.45 \times 10^{-9}$$

For carbon dioxide gas, the physical volume of a molecule (based on the van der Waals equation constant  $4.27 \times 10^5 \text{ m}^3/\text{mol}$ ) is approximately  $7.09 \times 10^{-29} \text{ m}^3$ . This implies that the linear dimension of the molecule is only about  $4.14 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$ .

Comparing this number to the result of your calculation above, you can see that the size of the molecule is less than one eighth of the length of the cube edge that surrounds the molecule, which is also the average distance separating one molecule from the next. A small molecular size, as compared to the distance between molecules, is a necessary assumption in the kinetic-molecular model of an ideal gas.

### Pressure Cooker

**Description:** Calculate the force on the lid of an air-filled pressure cooker after it is sealed and heated. Then the release valve is opened (so that inside and outside pressure equilibrates). Find the new force after the cooker is resealed and cooled.

A pressure cooker is a pot whose lid can be tightly sealed to prevent gas from entering or escaping.

#### Part A

If an otherwise empty pressure cooker is filled with air of room temperature and then placed on a hot stove, what would be the magnitude of the net force  $F_{120}$  on the lid when the air inside the cooker had been heated to  $120^\circ\text{C}$ ? Assume that the temperature of the air outside the pressure cooker is  $20^\circ\text{C}$  (room temperature) and that the area of the pressure cooker lid is  $A$ . Take atmospheric pressure to be  $p_a$ .

Treat the air, both inside and outside the pressure cooker, as an ideal gas obeying  $pV = Nk_B T$ .

#### Part A.1 Calculate the pressure inside

Calculate the pressure  $p_{in}$  of the air inside the cooker after heating.

##### Part A.1.a What stays constant when the cooker is heated?

Which of the following quantities remain constant (inside the pressure cooker) as the pressure cooker is heated?

- pressure  $p$
- volume  $V$
- number of particles  $N$
- the quantity  $k_B$
- temperature  $T$

Choose the best answer.

ANSWER:

- d only  
 c and d  
 a and b and c  
 b and c and d  
 a and b and c and d  
 All of the quantities listed remain constant while the cooker is heating.

While the cooker is heating, only the temperature and pressure in the cooker will change.

Rewrite the ideal gas law with all the constant quantities on one side:

$$\frac{p}{T} = \frac{Nk_B}{V}$$

Since  $Nk_B/V$  is constant,  $p_1/T_1$ , that is,  $p/T$  before heating must be equal to  $p_2/T_2 = p/T$  after heating, or mathematically

$$\frac{p_1}{T_1} = \frac{p_2}{T_2}$$

Recall, however, that the ideal gas law as written here only holds for temperatures measured in kelvins. Also  $p_2 = p_{\text{in}}$  (after heating).

Express the pressure inside in terms of  $p_a$ .

ANSWER:  $p_{\text{in}} = p_a \frac{393}{293}$

Hint A.2 Relating pressure and force

By definition,  $p = F/A$ .

Part A.3 Determine the role of the outside pressure

Remember that there is pressure on *both* sides of the lid, so the *net* force on the lid is a combination of the downward force due to the pressure of the outside air and the upward force due to the pressure of the inside air.

Calculate the difference in pressure  $p_{\text{in}} - p_{\text{out}}$  between the air outside and that inside of the cooker (after heating).

Express the difference in pressure in terms of  $p_a$ .

ANSWER:  $p_{\text{in}} - p_{\text{out}} = p_a \frac{100}{293}$

Express the force in terms of given variables.

ANSWER:  $F_{120} = p_a \frac{100}{293} A$   
 $A \cdot p_a \cdot 0.34$

Part B

The pressure relief valve on the lid is now opened, allowing hot air to escape until the pressure inside the cooker becomes equal to the outside pressure  $p_a$ . The pot is then sealed again and removed from the stove. Assume that when the cooker is removed from the stove, the air inside it is still at  $120^\circ\text{C}$ .

What is the magnitude of the net force  $F_{20}$  on the lid when the air inside the cooker has cooled back down to  $20^\circ\text{C}$ ?

Hint B.1 How to approach the problem

To determine the force on the cooker lid once it is cool, you need to know the final pressure in the cooker. You can find the final pressure by following the same procedure used in Part A of this problem.

Part B.2 What stays constant when the cooker is opened?

Which of the following quantities remain constant (inside the pressure cooker) while the pressure release valve is open?

- pressure  $p$
- volume  $V$
- number of particles  $N$
- the quantity  $k_B$
- temperature  $T$

ANSWER:  c only  
 d only  
 c and d

- b and d and e  
 c and d and e  
 a and b and c and d  
 All listed quantities remain constant.

While the valve is open, only the pressure and number of particles in the cooker will change.

If you wanted to, you could use the ideal gas law at this point to compute how many gas particles leave the pressure cooker before the pressure inside and outside are equalized. However, you don't need to do that to solve this problem.

### Part B.3 Calculate the pressure inside

Calculate the pressure  $p_{\text{in}}$  of the air inside the cooker after it cools.

#### Part B.3.a What stays constant when the resealed cooker cools?

Which of the following quantities remain constant (inside the pressure cooker) while the resealed cooker cools?

- pressure  $p$
- volume  $V$
- number of particles  $N$
- the quantity  $k_B$
- temperature  $T$

ANSWER:

- a only  
 a and d  
 a and b and c  
 b and c and d  
 a and b and c and d  
 All of the quantities listed remain constant.

While the cooker is cooling, only the pressure and temperature in the cooker will change. As in Part A, this means that the ratio  $p/T = Nk_B/V$  is constant during the cooling process. Thus, you can use the same technique as in Part A (setting  $p/T$  before the cooker cools equal to  $p/T$  after the cooker cools) to find the final pressure in the cooker.

Express the pressure inside in terms of  $p_a$ .

ANSWER:

$$p_{\text{in}} = p_a \frac{293}{393}$$

Express the magnitude of the net force in terms of given variables.

ANSWER:

$$F_{20} = p_a \frac{100}{393} A$$

$$A \cdot p_a \cdot 0.25$$

## The Oxygen Room

**Description:** Calculate the amount of oxygen needed to fill a room to a given temperature and pressure.

A room with dimensions  $7.00 \text{ m} \times 8.00 \text{ m} \times 2.50 \text{ m}$  is to be filled with pure oxygen at  $22.0^\circ\text{C}$  and  $1.00 \text{ atm}$ . The molar mass of oxygen is  $32.0 \text{ g/mol}$ .

Part A

How many moles  $n_{\text{oxygen}}$  of oxygen are required to fill the room?

#### Hint A.1 How to approach the problem

Use the ideal gas equation to calculate the number of moles of oxygen in the room. Be careful about the units when doing the calculations.

 Hint A.2 Using the correct units

No matter which definition for the gas constant  $R$  is used, the temperature must be expressed in kelvins. Also, be sure to convert either the volume from cubic meters to liters or the pressure from atmospheres to pascals, *but not both*, to use one of the standard forms of the gas constant,

$$R = 8.3144 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}} = 0.08206 \frac{\text{liters} \cdot \text{atm}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}}.$$

Express your answer using three significant figures.

ANSWER:

$$n_{\text{oxygen}} = 5.78 \cdot 10^3 \text{ mol}$$

**5780**

You could have converted the pressure to  $1.013 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$  and used  $R = 8.3144 \text{ J}/(\text{mol} \cdot \text{K})$ , or you could have converted the volume to  $1.40 \times 10^5 \text{ liters}$  and used  $R = 0.08206 (\text{liters} \cdot \text{atm})/(\text{mol} \cdot \text{K})$ . When solving these problems, use whichever conversions (and the appropriate value for the gas constant) are easiest. However, no matter which method you use, always be sure to convert the temperature from degrees Celsius to kelvins.

Part B

What is the mass  $m_{\text{oxygen}}$  of this oxygen?

Express your answer in kilograms to three significant figures.

ANSWER:

$$m_{\text{oxygen}} = 185 \text{ kg}$$

**185**

### Up, Up, and Away

**Description:** Use ideal gas law to find the density of hot air in a balloon, given the density and temperature of the cold air outside of it. Then find the minimum temperature needed for the balloon to float using Newton's Laws and Archimede's Principle.

Hot air balloons float in the air because of the difference in density between cold and hot air. Consider a balloon in which the mass of the pilot basket together with the mass of the balloon fabric and other equipment is  $m_b$ . The volume of the hot air inside the balloon is  $V_1$  and the volume of the basket, fabric, and other equipment is  $V_2$ . The absolute temperature of the cold air outside the balloon is  $T_c$  and its density is  $\rho_c$ . The absolute temperature of the hot air at the bottom of the balloon is  $T_h$  (where  $T_h > T_c$ ). The balloon is open at the bottom, so that the pressure inside and outside the balloon is the same here. Assume that we can treat air as an ideal gas. Use  $g$  for the magnitude of the acceleration due to gravity.

Part A

What is the density  $\rho_h$  of hot air inside the balloon? Assume that this density is uniform throughout the balloon.

Part A.1 Find density in terms of temperature and pressure

Use the ideal gas law,  $pV = nRT$ , to find an expression for the density  $\rho$  of an ideal gas in terms of its temperature and pressure.

Part A.1.a Find density in terms of mass and volume

Derive an expression for the density  $\rho$  of an gas in terms of the volume occupied by the gas,  $V$ , the number of moles of gas particles,  $n$ , and the mass per mole,  $m$ .

ANSWER:

$$\rho = \frac{mn}{V}$$

Express the density in terms of  $T$ ,  $p$ ,  $R$ , and  $m$ , the mass of one mole of gas.

ANSWER:

$$\rho = \frac{mp}{RT}$$

Hint A.2 How to use your general density equation

You now have an expression for the density of a gas in terms of temperature, mass, and pressure. Use this result to write one equation for the density of the hot air (at the bottom of the balloon) and another for the density of the cold air. Then divide the two expressions (remembering that the pressure at the bottom of the balloon and mass per mole of the hot air are the same as those of the cold air) to find a relationship between the temperatures and densities alone. Finally, use the assumption that the density is constant throughout the balloon, so the density you will have found is the density everywhere inside the

balloon.

Express the density in terms of  $T_h$ ,  $T_c$ , and  $\rho_c$ .

ANSWER: 
$$\rho_h = \frac{\rho_c T_c}{T_h}$$

#### Part B

What is the total weight  $W$  of the balloon plus the hot air inside it?

Express your answer in terms of quantities given in the problem introduction and/or  $\rho_h$ .

ANSWER: 
$$W = (m_b + \rho_h V_1) g$$

$$W = \left( m_b + \frac{\rho_c T_c}{T_h} V_1 \right) g$$

#### Part C

What is the magnitude of the buoyant force  $F_B$  on the balloon?

##### Hint C.1 How to approach the problem

According to Archimedes' principle, the buoyant force is equal to the weight of the (cold) air displaced by the balloon and the (hot) air inside it.

##### Part C.2 Volume of displaced air

What is the volume of cold air displaced by the balloon and its contents?

ANSWER: 
$$\text{Volume} = V_1 + V_2$$

Express your answer in terms of  $g$ ,  $\rho_c$ ,  $V_1$ , and  $V_2$ .

ANSWER: 
$$F_B = g \rho_c (V_1 + V_2)$$

#### Part D

For the balloon to float, what is the minimum temperature  $T_{\min}$  of the hot air inside it?

##### Hint D.1 How to approach the problem

The balloon will just begin to float when the magnitude of the buoyant force is equal to the magnitude of the force of gravity (the balloon's weight). So, to find the minimum required temperature, set the weight of the balloon equal to the buoyant force and solve for the resulting temperature of the hot air.

Use the result of Part A to eliminate  $\rho_h$  from your answer, if necessary.

Express the minimum temperature in terms of  $T_c$ ,  $V_1$ ,  $V_2$ ,  $m_b$ , and  $\rho_c$ .

ANSWER: 
$$T_{\min} = T_c \frac{V_1}{(V_1 + V_2) - \frac{m_b}{\rho_c}}$$

The answer, a bit more elegantly displayed, is

$$T_{\min} = T_c \frac{V_1}{(V_1 + V_2) - m_b/\rho_c}.$$

This equation implies that if the mass of the balloon alone is too large,  $m_b > \rho_c(V_1 + V_2)$ , then the balloon cannot get off the ground at any temperature.

For a given volume and balloon mass (sometimes known as the *payload*), the larger the balloon volume, the lower the temperature required for the balloon to float.

Mathematically, it is possible that  $T_{\min} < T_c$ , but this makes little physical sense. You can show that this would only be the case if the average density of the payload is less than that of the cold air; if this were the case, no balloon would be needed!

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**Problem 17.50**

**Description:** An air bubble at the bottom of a lake  $d$  m deep has a volume of  $v$   $\text{cm}^3$ . (a) If the temperature at the bottom is  $t_b$  degree(s) C and at the top  $t_t$  degree(s) C, what is the volume of the bubble just before it reaches the surface?

An air bubble at the bottom of a lake 34.0 m deep has a volume of 1.51  $\text{cm}^3$ .

**Part A**

If the temperature at the bottom is 5.2 °C and at the top 20.0 °C, what is the volume of the bubble just before it reaches the surface?

ANSWER:

$$V_{\text{surface}} = \frac{\frac{(1.013 \cdot 10^5 + 10^3 \cdot 9.804)(273.15 + t_t)}{1.013 \cdot 10^5}}{273.15 + t_b} \text{ cm}^3$$

**Problem 17.55**

**Description:** The lowest pressure attainable using the best available vacuum techniques is about  $10^{-12}$  N/m<sup>2</sup>. (a) At such a pressure, how many molecules are there per (cm)<sup>3</sup> at  $t$  degree(s) C?

The lowest pressure attainable using the best available vacuum techniques is about  $10^{-12}$  N/m<sup>2</sup>.

**Part A**

At such a pressure, how many molecules are there per  $\text{cm}^3$  at 2 °C?

ANSWER:

$$n = \frac{\frac{10^{-12} \cdot 10^{23}}{1.38 \cdot 10^{23}}}{1000000} \frac{\text{molecules}}{\text{cm}^3}$$

**Problem 17.31**

**Description:** If  $V$  of a gas initially at STP is placed under a pressure of  $P$ , the temperature of the gas rises to  $T$ . (a) What is the volume?

If 4.50  $\text{m}^3$  of a gas initially at STP is placed under a pressure of 3.50 atm, the temperature of the gas rises to 50.0 °C.

**Part A**

What is the volume?

ANSWER:

$$V = \frac{V}{P} \frac{(273 + T)}{273} \text{ m}^3$$

**Problem 17.34**

**Description:** If  $n$  of helium gas is at  $T$  and a gauge pressure of  $P$ . (a) Calculate the volume of the helium gas under these conditions. (b) Calculate the temperature if the gas is compressed to precisely half the volume at a gauge pressure of 1.00 atm.

If 14.00 mol of helium gas is at 16.0 °C and a gauge pressure of 0.300 atm.

**Part A**

Calculate the volume of the helium gas under these conditions.

**Express your answer using four significant figures.**

ANSWER:

$$V = \frac{n \cdot 8.314 (T + 273.15)}{\frac{P + 1}{1.013} \cdot 10^5} \text{ m}^3$$

## Part B

Calculate the temperature if the gas is compressed to precisely half the volume at a gauge pressure of 1.00 atm.

Express your answer using two significant figures.

ANSWER:  $T = \frac{T + 273.15}{P + 1} - 273.15 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}$

### Problem 17.42

**Description:** A tire is filled with air at  $T_1$  to a gauge pressure of 250 kPa. (a) If the tire reaches a temperature of  $T_2$ , what fraction of the original air must be removed if the original pressure of 250 kPa is to be maintained?

A tire is filled with air at  $15^\circ\text{C}$  to a gauge pressure of 250 kPa.

## Part A

If the tire reaches a temperature of  $31^\circ\text{C}$ , what fraction of the original air must be removed if the original pressure of 250 kPa is to be maintained?

Express your answer using two significant figures.

ANSWER:  $\left(1 - \frac{T_1}{T_2}\right) \cdot 100 \text{ } \%$

### Problem 17.71

**Description:** An iron cube floats in a bowl of liquid mercury at 0 degree(s) C. (a) If the temperature is raised to T, will the cube float higher or lower in the mercury? (b) By what percent will the fraction of volume submerged change?

An iron cube floats in a bowl of liquid mercury at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ .

## Part A

If the temperature is raised to  $27^\circ\text{C}$ , will the cube float higher or lower in the mercury?

- ANSWER:  at the same level  
 lower  
 higher

## Part B

By what percent will the fraction of volume submerged change?

Express your answer using two significant figures.

ANSWER:  $\frac{V_{\text{Hg displaced}}/V_{\text{Fe}} - V_{0 \text{ Hg displaced}}/V_{0 \text{ Fe}}}{V_{0 \text{ Hg displaced}}/V_{0 \text{ Fe}}} = \left(\frac{1 + 180 \cdot 10^{-6} T}{1 + 35 \cdot 10^{-6} T} - 1\right) \cdot 100 \text{ } \%$

Summary	3 of 10 items complete (28.5% avg. score) 28.5 of 100 points
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