

Chapter 10. Gases

10.1 Characteristics of Gases

- All substances have three phases: solid, liquid and gas.
- Substances that are liquids or solids under ordinary conditions may also exist as gases.
 - These are often referred to as **vapors**.
- Many of the properties of gases differ from those of solids and liquids:
 - Gases are highly compressible and occupy the full volume of their containers.
 - When a gas is subjected to pressure, its volume decreases.
 - Gases always form homogeneous mixtures with other gases.
- Gases only occupy a small fraction of the total volume of their containers.
 - As a result, each molecule of gas behaves largely as though other molecules were absent.

10.2 Pressure

- **Pressure** is the force acting on an object per unit area:

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

Atmospheric Pressure and the Barometer

- The SI unit of force is the *newton* (N).
 - $1 \text{ N} = 1 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m/s}^2$
- The SI unit of pressure is the **pascal** (Pa).
 - $1 \text{ Pa} = 1 \text{ N/m}^2$
 - A related unit is the **bar**, which is equal to 10^5 Pa .
- Gravity exerts a force on the Earth's atmosphere.
 - A column of air 1 m^2 in cross section extending to the upper atmosphere exerts a force of 10^5 N .
 - Thus, the pressure of a 1 m^2 column of air extending to the upper atmosphere is 100 kPa .
 - Atmospheric pressure at sea level is about 100 kPa or 1 bar .
 - The actual atmospheric pressure at a specific location depends on the altitude and the weather conditions.
- Atmospheric pressure is measured with a *barometer*.
 - If a tube is completely filled with mercury and then inverted into a container of mercury open to the atmosphere, the mercury will rise 760 mm up the tube.
 - **Standard atmospheric pressure** is the pressure required to support 760 mm of Hg in a column.
 - Important non SI units used to express gas pressure include:
 - **atmospheres** (atm)
 - **millimeters of mercury** (mm Hg) or **torr**
 - $1 \text{ atm} = 760 \text{ mm Hg} = 760 \text{ torr} = 1.01325 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa} = 101.325 \text{ kPa}$

10.3 The Gas Laws

- The equations that express the relationships among T (temperature), P (pressure), V (volume), and n (number of moles of gas) are known as the *gas laws*.

The Pressure-Volume Relationship: Boyle's Law

- Weather balloons are used as a practical application of the relationship between pressure and volume of a gas.
 - As the weather balloon ascends, the volume increases.
 - As the weather balloon gets further from Earth's surface, the atmospheric pressure decreases.
- **Boyle's law:** The volume of a fixed quantity of gas, at constant temperature, is inversely proportional to its pressure.

- Mathematically:

$$V = \text{constant} \times \frac{1}{P} \text{ or } PV = \text{constant}$$

- A plot of V versus P is a hyperbola.

$$V = \text{constant} \times T \text{ or } \frac{V}{T} = \text{constant}$$

- A plot of V versus $1/P$ must be a straight line passing through the origin.
- The working of the lungs illustrates that:
 - as we breathe in, the diaphragm moves down, and the ribs expand; therefore, the volume of the lungs increases.
 - according to Boyle's law, when the volume of the lungs increases, the pressure decreases; therefore, the pressure inside the lungs is less than the atmospheric pressure.
 - atmospheric pressure forces air into the lungs until the pressure once again equals atmospheric pressure.
 - as we breathe out, the diaphragm moves up and the ribs contract; therefore, the volume of the lungs decreases.
 - By Boyle's law, the pressure increases and air is forced out.

The Temperature-Volume Relationship: Charles's Law

- We know that hot-air balloons expand when they are heated.
- Charles's law:** The volume of a fixed quantity of gas at constant pressure is directly proportional to its absolute temperature.
- Mathematically:
 - Note that the value of the constant depends on the pressure and the number of moles of gas.
 - A plot of V versus T is a straight line.
 - When T is measured in $^{\circ}\text{C}$, the intercept on the temperature axis is -273.15°C .
 - We define *absolute zero*, $0\text{ K} = -273.15^{\circ}\text{C}$.

The Quantity-Volume Relationship: Avogadro's Law

- Gay-Lussac's *law of combining volumes*: At a given temperature and pressure the volumes of gases that react with one another are ratios of small whole numbers.
- Avogadro's hypothesis**: Equal volumes of gases at the same temperature and pressure contain the same number of molecules.
- Avogadro's law**: The volume of gas at a given temperature and pressure is directly proportional to the number of moles of gas.

- Mathematically:

$$V = \text{constant} \times n$$

- We can show that 22.4 L of any gas at 0°C and 1 atmosphere contains 6.02×10^{23} gas molecules.

10.4 The Ideal-Gas Equation

- Summarizing the gas laws:
 - Boyle: $V \propto 1/P$ (constant n, T)
 - Charles: $V \propto T$ (constant n, P)
 - Avogadro: $V \propto n$ (constant P, T)
 - Combined: $V \propto nT/P$
- Ideal gas equation:** $PV = nRT$
 - An **ideal gas** is a hypothetical gas whose P , V , and T behavior is completely described by the ideal-gas equation.
 - $R = \text{gas constant} = 0.08206 \text{ L} \cdot \text{atm/mol} \cdot \text{K}$
 - Other numerical values of R in various units are given in Table 10.2.
- Define **STP (standard temperature and pressure)** = 0°C , 273.15 K , 1 atm .

- The molar volume of 1 mol of an ideal gas at STP is 22.41 L.

Relating the Ideal-Gas Equation and the Gas Laws

- If $PV = nRT$ and n and T are constant, then PV is constant and we have Boyle's law.
 - Other laws can be generated similarly.
- In general, if we have a gas under two sets of conditions, then

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

- We often have a situation in which P , V , and T all change for a fixed number of moles of gas.
 - For this set of circumstances,

$$\frac{PV}{T} = nR = \text{constant}$$

- Which gives

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

10.5 Further Applications of the Ideal-Gas Equation

Gas Densities and Molar Mass

- Density has units of mass over volume.
- Rearranging the ideal-gas equation with M as molar mass we get

$$\frac{n}{V} = \frac{P}{RT}$$

$$\frac{nM}{V} = \frac{PM}{RT}$$

$$\therefore d = \frac{PM}{RT}$$

- The molar mass of a gas can be determined as follows:

$$M = \frac{dRT}{P}$$

Volumes of Gases in Chemical Reactions

- The ideal-gas equation relates P , V , and T to number of moles of gas.
- The n can then be used in stoichiometric calculations.

10.6 Gas Mixtures and Partial Pressures

- Since gas molecules are so far apart, we can assume that they behave independently.
- Dalton observed:
 - The total pressure of a mixture of gases equals the sum of the pressures that each would exert if present alone.
 - **Partial pressure** is the pressure exerted by a particular component of a gas mixture.
- **Dalton's law of partial pressures:** In a gas mixture the total pressure is given by the sum of partial pressures of each component:

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

- Each gas obeys the ideal gas equation.

- Thus,

$$P_t = (n_1 + n_2 + n_3 + \dots) \frac{RT}{V} = n_t \frac{RT}{V}$$

Partial Pressures and Mole Fractions

- Let n_1 be the number of moles of gas 1 exerting a partial pressure P_1 , then

$$P_1 = X_1 P_t$$

- where X_1 is the **mole fraction** (n_1/n_t).
- Note that a mole fraction is a dimensionless number.

Collecting Gases over Water¹

- It is common to synthesize gases and collect them by displacing a volume of water.
- To calculate the amount of gas produced, we need to correct for the partial pressure of the water:

$$P_{\text{total}} = P_{\text{gas}} + P_{\text{water}}$$

- The vapor pressure of water varies with temperature.
 - Values can be found in Appendix B.

10.7 Kinetic-Molecular Theory

- The **kinetic-molecular theory** was developed to *explain* gas behavior.
 - It is a theory of moving molecules.
- Summary:
 - Gases consist of a large number of molecules in constant random motion.
 - The combined volume of all the molecules is negligible compared with the volume of the container.
 - Intermolecular forces (forces between gas molecules) are negligible.
 - Energy can be transferred between molecules during collisions, but the average kinetic energy is constant at constant temperature.
 - The collisions are perfectly elastic.
 - The average kinetic energy of the gas molecules is proportional to the absolute temperature.
- Kinetic molecular theory gives us an *understanding* of pressure and temperature on the molecular level.
 - The pressure of a gas results from the collisions with the walls of the container.
 - The magnitude of the pressure is determined by how often and how hard the molecules strike.
- The absolute temperature of a gas is a measure of the average kinetic energy.
 - Some molecules will have less kinetic energy or more kinetic energy than the average (distribution).
 - There is a spread of individual energies of gas molecules in any sample of gas.
 - As the temperature increases, the average kinetic energy of the gas molecules increases.
- As kinetic energy increases, the velocity of the gas molecules increases.
 - **Root-mean-square (rms) speed**, u , is the speed of a gas molecule having average kinetic energy.
- Average kinetic energy, ϵ , is related to rms speed:

$$\epsilon = \frac{1}{2}mu^2$$
 - where m = mass of the molecule.

Application to the Gas-Laws

- We can understand empirical observations of gas properties within the framework of the kinetic-molecular theory.
- The effect of an increase in volume (at constant temperature) is as follows:

¹ This experiment is described in detail in the laboratory manual.

- As volume increases at constant temperature, the average kinetic energy of the gas remains constant.
- Therefore, u is constant.
- However, volume increases, so the gas molecules have to travel further to hit the walls of the container.
- Therefore, pressure decreases.
- The effect of an increase in temperature (at constant volume) is as follows:
 - If temperature increases at constant volume, the average kinetic energy of the gas molecules increases.
 - There are more collisions with the container walls.
 - Therefore, u increases.
 - The change in momentum in each collision increases (molecules strike harder).
 - Therefore, pressure increases.

10.8 Molecular Effusion and Diffusion

- The average kinetic energy of a gas is related to its mass:

$$\overline{\epsilon} = \frac{1}{2} m \overline{c^2}$$
- Consider two gases at the same temperature: the lighter gas has a higher rms speed than the heavier gas.
- Mathematically:

$$u = \sqrt{\frac{3RT}{M}}$$

- The lower the molar mass, M , the higher the rms speed for that gas at a constant temperature.
- Two consequences of the dependence of molecular speeds on mass are:
 - **Effusion** is the escape of gas molecules through a tiny hole into an evacuated space.
 - **Diffusion** is the spread of one substance throughout a space or throughout a second substance.

Graham's Law of Effusion

- **The rate of effusion can be quantified.**
- Consider two gases with molar masses, M_1 and M_2 , and with effusion rates, r_1 and r_2 , respectively.
 - The relative rate of effusion is given by **Graham's law**:

$$\frac{r_1}{r_2} = \sqrt{\frac{M_2}{M_1}}$$

- Only those molecules which hit the small hole will escape through it.
- Therefore, the higher the rms speed the more likely it is that a gas molecule will hit the hole.
- We can show

$$\frac{r_1}{r_2} = \frac{u_1}{u_2} = \sqrt{\frac{M_2}{M_1}}$$

Diffusion and Mean Free Path

- Diffusion is faster for light gas molecules.
- Diffusion is significantly slower than the rms speed.
 - Diffusion is slowed by collisions of gas molecules with one another.
 - Consider someone opening a perfume bottle: It takes awhile to detect the odor, but the average speed of the molecules at 25°C is about 515 m/s (1150 mi/hr).

- The average distance traveled by a gas molecule between collisions is called the **mean free path**.
- At sea level, the mean free path for air molecules is about 6×10^{-6} cm.

10.9 Real Gases: Deviations from Ideal Behavior

- From the ideal gas equation:

$$\frac{PV}{RT} = n$$

- For 1 mol of an ideal gas, $PV/RT = 1$ for all pressures.
 - In a real gas, PV/RT varies from 1 significantly.
 - The higher the pressure the more the deviation from ideal behavior.
- For 1 mol of an ideal gas, $PV/RT = 1$ for all temperatures.
 - As temperature increases, the gases behave more ideally.
- The assumptions in the kinetic-molecular theory show where ideal gas behavior breaks down:
 - The molecules of a gas *have* finite volume.
 - Molecules of a gas *do* attract each other.
- As the pressure on a gas increases, the molecules are forced closer together.
 - As the molecules get closer together, the free space in which the molecules can move gets smaller.
 - The smaller the container, the more of the total space the gas molecules occupy.
 - Therefore, the higher the pressure, the less the gas resembles an ideal gas.
 - As the gas molecules get closer together, the intermolecular distances decrease.
 - The smaller the distance between gas molecules, the more likely that attractive forces will develop between the molecules.
 - Therefore, the less the gas resembles an ideal gas.
- As temperature increases, the gas molecules move faster and further apart.
 - Also, higher temperatures mean more energy is available to break intermolecular forces.
 - As temperature increases, the negative departure from ideal-gas behavior disappears.

The van der Waals Equation

- We add two terms to the ideal gas equation to correct for

- the volume of $(V - nb)$ molecules:

- for molecular attractions:

$$\left(\frac{n^2 a}{V^2} \right)$$

- The correction terms generate the **van der Waals equation**:
- where a and b are empirical constants that differ for each gas.

$$\left(P + \frac{n^2 a}{V^2} \right) (V - nb) = nRT$$

- van der Waals constants for some common gases can be found in Table 10.3.
- To understand the effect of intermolecular forces on pressure, consider a molecule that is about to strike the wall of the container.
 - The striking molecule is attracted by neighboring molecules.
 - Therefore, the impact on the wall is lessened.