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Chemistry

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Combined Gas Law, Ideal Gas Law & Graham's Law

Combined Gas Law

The first law for today is the **Combined Gas Law**. As the name implies, this law combines a number of the laws we studied earlier, specifically Boyle's Law, Charles' Law and Gay-Lussac's Law. The formula for the Combined Gas Law is:

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

Again, **it is of the utmost importance that matching variables have the same units**; meaning, if the initial pressure is in atm and the final pressure is torr, you have to convert one of the variables so that it matches the other. The same is true about volume. Temperature must always be in Kelvin.

Lets try a sample problem. The volume of a gas-filled balloon is 30.0 L at 40 °C at 150 kPa pressure. What volume will the balloon have at standard temperature and pressure (STP)?

Standard temperature is 0 °C; standard pressure is 101.3 kPa.

P₁: 150 kPa

V₁: 30.0 L

T₁: 40 °C + 273 = 313 K

P₂: 101.3 kPa

V₂: X

T₂: 0 °C + 273 = 273 K

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

$$\frac{(150)(30.0)}{313} = \frac{(101.3)(X)}{273}$$

$$(150)(30)(273) = (101.3)(X)(313)$$

$$1228500 = 31706.9 X$$

$$38.7 \text{ L} = X$$

Ideal Gas Law

So far we have only looked at changing the variables temperature, pressure and volume. We have not looked at the amount of gas being used. In chemistry we measure amount in moles. Yep, moles; but don't worry. This is law is just as easy as the rest. The formula we will use for the ideal gas law is: **PV = nRT**

P: pressure, can be in kPa or atm

V: volume, must be in liters (L) or cubic decimeters (dm³) – both units mean the same thing

n: moles

R: ideal gas constant = 8.31 (L kPa) / (mol K) or 0.0821 (L atm) / (mol K)

T: temperature, must be in Kelvin

Please note that if your pressure is in kPa, you **MUST** use 8.31(L kPa) / (mol K) as your value for R. If your pressure is in atm you **MUST** use 0.0821 (L atm) / (mol K) as your value for R.

Lets try a sample problem. You fill a rigid steel cylinder with a volume of 20.0 L with nitrogen gas to a final pressure of 20,000 kPa at 27 °C. How many moles of N₂ gas does the cylinder contain? How many grams of N₂ are in the container?

P: 20,000 kPa

V: 20.0 L

n: X

R: 8.31 L kPa/mol K

T: 27 °C + 273 = 300 K

PV = nRT

$$(20,000)(20) = (X)(8.31)(300)$$

$$400,000 = 2493 X$$

$$160.4 \text{ moles} = X$$

To change our answer from moles to grams we have to multiply by the molar mass. (When going from grams to moles you would divide by the molar mass.)

$$N_2: 2 \times 14.0 = 28.0 \text{ g/mol}$$

$$160.4 \times 28.0 = 4491.2 \text{ grams}$$

Graham's Law of Effusion

Graham's Law is named for Scottish chemist Thomas Graham (1805 – 1869). Graham studied rates of **effusion**, which occurs as a gas escapes through a tiny hole in a container of gas. Graham observed that the lower the molecular mass, the faster the gas effused. Further investigation led to **Graham's Law of Effusion**: the rate of effusion is inversely proportional to the square root of its molar mass. Later, it was found that this law was also applicable to **diffusion**, the tendency of molecules and

ions to move from an area of high concentration to areas of low concentration until the concentration is uniform throughout the system. An example of **diffusion** would be breaking a bottle of cologne and having the smell spread throughout the room. An example of **effusion** would be a gas pouring out of a hole in a balloon or tire.

The formula for Graham's Law is: $\text{Rate}_A / \text{Rate}_B = \sqrt{\text{molar mass}_B} / \sqrt{\text{molar mass}_A}$

Example: Compare the rates of effusion of nitrogen and helium. If helium takes 20 seconds to effuse, how long will it take for nitrogen to effuse?

Substance A: He: molar mass = 4.0 grams
 Substance B: N₂: molar mass = 28.0 grams
 (Hint: Always call your lighter molecule Substance A)

$$\text{Rate}_A / \text{Rate}_B = \sqrt{\text{molar mass}_B} / \sqrt{\text{molar mass}_A}$$

$$\text{Rate}_A / \text{Rate}_B = \sqrt{28.0} / \sqrt{4.0}$$

$$\text{Rate}_A / \text{Rate}_B = 5.3 / 2.0$$

$$\text{Rate}_A / \text{Rate}_B = 2.7$$

Helium effuses 2.7 times faster than nitrogen at the same temperature.

20 seconds x 2.7 = **54 seconds. N₂ takes 54 seconds to effuse.**

Homework:

Combined Gas Law: Fill in the missing information.

1. What formula is used for the combined gas law?

| | P ₁ | V ₁ | T ₁ | P ₂ | V ₂ | T ₂ |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 2 | 1.5 atm | 3.0 L | 20 °C | 2.5 atm | | 30 °C |
| 3 | 720 torr | 256 mL | 25 °C | | 250 mL | 50 °C |
| 4 | 600 mm Hg | 2.5 L | 22 °C | 760 mm Hg | 1.8 L | |
| 5 | | 750 mL | 0 °C | 2.0 atm | 500 mL | 25 °C |
| 6 | 95 kPa | 4.0 L | | 101 kPa | 6.0 L | 471 K |
| 7 | 650 torr | | 100 °C | 900 torr | 225 mL | 150 °C |
| 8 | 850 mm Hg | 1.5 L | 15 °C | | 2.5 L | 30 °C |
| 9 | 125 kPa | 125 mL | | 100 kPa | 100 mL | 75 °C |

10. The volume of a gas-filled balloon is 50.0 L at 20 °C and 742 torr. What volume will it occupy at standard temperature and pressure (STP)?

11. 15.00 liters of gas at 45.0 °C and 800 torr is heated to 400 °C and the pressure changed to 300 torr. What is the new volume?

Ideal Gas Law

1. What is the ideal gas law formula?
2. What does each letter in the formula represent?
3. What are the two values for R?
4. How many moles of oxygen gas will occupy a volume of 2.5 liters at 1.2 atm and 25 °C?
5. What volume will 2.0 moles of nitrogen gas occupy at 720 torr and 20 °C?
6. What pressure will be exerted by 25 grams of carbon dioxide at a temperature of 25 °C and a volume of 500 mL?
7. At what temperature will 5.0 grams of Cl₂ exert a pressure of 900 torr at a volume of 750 mL?
8. What is the volume of 2 moles of NH₃ at STP?
9. What is the mass of 3.2 liters of oxygen at STP?
10. How many moles of nitrogen gas will occupy a volume of 347 mL at 6680 torr and 25 °C?
11. What volume will 454 grams of hydrogen gas occupy at 1.05 atm and 25 °C?
12. Find the number of grams of CO₂ that exert a pressure of 785 torr at a volume of 32.5 L and a temperature of 32 °C?
13. At what pressure will 4.8 moles of fluorine gas have a volume of 60.0 liters and a temperature of 298K?

Graham's Law

1. What is Graham's Law?
2. What is effusion?
3. Give an example of effusion.
4. What is diffusion?
5. Give an example of diffusion.
6. What is the formula used to calculate Graham's Law?
7. Under the same conditions of temperature and pressure, how many times faster will hydrogen effuse compared to carbon dioxide?
8. If the carbon dioxide in problem 7 takes 32 seconds to effuse, how long will hydrogen take?
9. What is the rate of diffusion of NH_3 compared to He? Does NH_3 effuse faster or slower than He?
10. If the He in problem 9 takes 20 seconds to effuse, how long will NH_3 take?
11. An unknown gas diffuses 0.25 times as fast as He. What is the molecular mass of the unknown gas?
12. Hydrogen sulfide, H_2S , has a very strong rotten egg odor. H_2S particles travel at about 650 m/s. Methyl salicylate, $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{O}_3$, has a wintergreen odor and benzaldehyde, $\text{C}_7\text{H}_6\text{O}$ has an almond odor. Calculate the rates of diffusion for both methyl salicylate and benzaldehyde