

Hydrogen H₂ molecules Are Kept At 300.0 K in A Cubical Container With A Side Length Of 20.0 cm. Assume That

Hydrogen H₂ molecules are kept at 300.0 K in an cubical container with a side length of 20.0 cm. Assume that this scenario provides a basis for understanding the physical behavior of hydrogen gas under specific conditions, including thermodynamic properties, molecular interactions, and practical implications in various scientific and industrial contexts. This article explores the detailed aspects of hydrogen gas confined within this cubical container, with a focus on calculations, principles, and real-world applications.

Understanding the Basic Parameters of the System

The Container Dimensions and Volume

- Side Length: 20.0 cm (0.20 meters)

- Volume Calculation:

The volume (V) of a cube is given by

$$V = (\text{side length})^3$$

$$V = (0.20 \text{ m})^3 = 0.008 \text{ m}^3$$

This volume defines the space in which the hydrogen molecules are confined, directly impacting the pressure and density of the gas.

Temperature of the Hydrogen Gas

- Temperature: 300.0 K (approximately room temperature)

- This temperature is significant because it influences the kinetic energy of the hydrogen molecules and their interaction dynamics.

Fundamental Concepts: Hydrogen Gas Behavior

The Ideal Gas Law

Hydrogen gas under typical laboratory conditions often approximates ideal gas behavior, described by the ideal gas law:

$$PV = nRT$$

where:

- P = pressure (Pa)
- V = volume (m^3)
- n = number of moles
- R = universal gas constant ($8.314 \text{ J/mol}\cdot\text{K}$)
- T = temperature (K)

This law helps estimate the pressure inside the container given the quantity of hydrogen present.

Real Gas Considerations

- Hydrogen molecules are small and exhibit weak intermolecular forces, making the ideal gas approximation fairly accurate at standard conditions.
- At high pressures or low temperatures, deviations from ideality become significant, necessitating correction factors such as Van der Waals parameters.

Calculating the Number of Hydrogen Molecules (or Moles)

Using the Ideal Gas Law

Suppose we know the amount of hydrogen in moles (n), we can determine the number of molecules using Avogadro's number:

$$N = n \times N_A$$

where:

- N = total number of molecules
- N_A = Avogadro's number (6.022×10^{23} molecules/mol)

Example Calculation:

If the container contains 1 mole of hydrogen:

$$N = 1 \times 6.022 \times 10^{23} \approx 6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ molecules}$$

Alternatively, if the pressure is known, the number of moles can be calculated:

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

Determining the Pressure of Hydrogen in the Container

Calculating Pressure at Given Moles

Assuming we have 1 mole of hydrogen:

$$P = \frac{nRT}{V}$$

Plugging in the known values:

$$P = \frac{1, \text{ mol} \times 8.314, \text{ J/mol}\cdot\text{K} \times 300, \text{ K}}{0.008, \text{ m}^3}$$

$$P = \frac{2494.2, \text{ J}}{0.008, \text{ m}^3} = 311,775, \text{ Pa} \approx 3.12, \text{ atm}$$

This pressure value indicates the hydrogen gas exerts a significant force within the confined space, relevant for safety and equipment design considerations.

Energy and Kinetic Behavior of Hydrogen Molecules

Average Kinetic Energy

The average kinetic energy (KE) of a molecule in an ideal gas is given by:

$$KE = \frac{3}{2} k_B T$$

where:

- k_B = Boltzmann constant ($1.38 \times 10^{-23}, \text{ J/K}$)

- T = temperature (K)

Calculating:

$$KE = \frac{3}{2} \times 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times 300 \approx 6.21 \times 10^{-21}, \text{ J}$$

This high kinetic energy reflects the rapid, random motion of hydrogen molecules at room temperature.

Implications for Diffusion and Reaction Rates

- Hydrogen molecules move swiftly within the container, influencing diffusion rates.
- Elevated kinetic energy can facilitate faster chemical reactions involving hydrogen, important in catalysis and energy applications.

Practical Applications and Significance of Confined Hydrogen Gas

Hydrogen Storage for Energy Applications

- Efficient storage of hydrogen in compact containers is vital for fuel cell technology and renewable energy systems.
- Understanding pressure and volume relationships helps optimize storage safety and capacity.

Laboratory and Industrial Use

- Precise control of hydrogen gas conditions is necessary for experiments involving spectroscopy, chemical synthesis, and material testing.
- Accurate calculations of pressure, temperature, and molecular count ensure safe handling and compliance with safety standards.

Hydrogen in Fuel Cells

- Fuel cells convert stored hydrogen into electricity, requiring knowledge of gas behavior under various conditions.
- Designing fuel cell systems involves considerations similar to the parameters discussed, including pressure, temperature, and containment volume.

Safety Considerations When Handling Hydrogen Gas

Flammability and Explosive Limits

- Hydrogen is highly flammable, with an explosive range in air from approximately 4% to 75% by volume.
- Maintaining safe pressure levels and preventing leaks are critical.

Pressure Management

- The calculated pressure (~ 3 atm for 1 mol) underscores the importance of pressure relief systems.
- Regular monitoring and adherence to safety protocols prevent accidents.

Material Compatibility

- Hydrogen can cause embrittlement in certain metals.
- Selecting appropriate materials for containers and pipelines is essential to prevent failures.

Summary and Key Takeaways

- The volume of the cubic container (0.008 m^3) confines hydrogen molecules at 300 K, resulting in a significant internal pressure depending on the amount of gas present.
- Using the ideal gas law, the pressure for 1 mole of hydrogen is approximately 3.12 atm, illustrating the importance of precise calculations for safe storage.
- Hydrogen molecules exhibit high kinetic energy, influencing diffusion, reactivity, and safety considerations.
- Practical applications span from energy storage and fuel cells to laboratory research, emphasizing the importance of understanding gas behavior under confinement.
- Safety protocols are critical due to hydrogen's flammability and reactivity, especially under high-pressure conditions.

Conclusion

Understanding the behavior of hydrogen molecules confined within a cubical container of specified dimensions and temperature is fundamental for advancing energy storage solutions, industrial processes, and scientific research. Accurate calculations involving volume, pressure, and molecular behavior enable engineers and scientists to design safer, more efficient systems that leverage hydrogen's unique properties. As hydrogen continues to play a pivotal role in clean energy initiatives, mastering these principles becomes increasingly vital for sustainable development and technological innovation.

Keywords: Hydrogen gas, H₂ molecules, ideal gas law, hydrogen storage, pressure calculation, molecular energy, safety considerations, renewable energy, fuel cells, gas behavior, thermodynamics.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the initial temperature of hydrogen molecules in the container?

The hydrogen molecules are kept at an initial temperature of 300.0 K.

What is the volume of the cubical container holding hydrogen molecules?

The volume of the container is 0.008 m³, calculated as (0.2 m)³.

How many hydrogen molecules are present in the container at 300 K?

The number of molecules can be calculated using the ideal gas law, but the exact number depends on the pressure, which is not specified.

What assumptions are made about hydrogen molecules in this scenario?

It is assumed that the hydrogen molecules behave as an ideal gas, are uniformly distributed, and that temperature and pressure are constant throughout the container.

How does increasing the temperature affect the hydrogen molecules in the container?

Increasing the temperature would increase the kinetic energy of the hydrogen molecules, leading to higher pressure if volume remains constant.

What is the significance of the cube's side length being 20.0 cm?

The side length determines the container's volume, which is essential for calculating properties like pressure and number of molecules using the ideal gas law.

If the pressure inside the container is known, how can we find the number of hydrogen molecules?

Using the ideal gas law $PV = nRT$, and knowing the molar mass of hydrogen, you can

calculate the number of molecules from the number of moles $n = N/\text{Avogadro's number}$.

What are potential real-world applications of storing hydrogen molecules in such a container?

This setup is relevant for hydrogen fuel storage, fuel cell research, and understanding gas behavior at controlled temperatures and volumes.

How would the behavior of hydrogen molecules change if the temperature were increased to 500 K?

The molecules would have increased kinetic energy, resulting in higher pressure or expansion if the container's volume is fixed, assuming ideal gas behavior.

Additional Resources

Hydrogen H_2 molecules are kept at 300.0 K in an cubic container with a side length of 20.0 cm. Assume that this scenario provides a fascinating glimpse into the behavior of gases under controlled conditions, highlighting fundamental principles of thermodynamics, molecular physics, and statistical mechanics. Understanding how hydrogen molecules respond to such parameters is essential not only for academic pursuits but also for practical applications ranging from energy storage to aerospace engineering. In this comprehensive guide, we will explore the physics behind this setup, perform detailed calculations, and interpret the implications of maintaining hydrogen at these conditions within a cubic container.

Introduction: The Significance of Studying Hydrogen in Confined Spaces

Hydrogen (H_2) is the simplest and most abundant element in the universe. Its molecular form, H_2 , consists of two protons and two electrons, making it a diatomic molecule with unique physical and chemical properties. As a clean fuel and a potential energy carrier, understanding hydrogen's behavior under various conditions is critical for advancing energy technologies.

In the scenario where hydrogen molecules are kept at 300.0 K in an cubic container with a side length of 20.0 cm, we are essentially examining the thermodynamic behavior of hydrogen gas confined to a finite volume and maintained at a constant temperature. Key questions include:

- How many hydrogen molecules are present?
- What is the pressure exerted by the gas?
- How do molecular interactions influence this system?
- What assumptions are valid for ideal vs. real gases?

This analysis combines theoretical models with quantitative calculations to provide a thorough understanding of the physical state of hydrogen under these parameters.

Physical Setup and Basic Parameters

Description of the System

- Container shape: Cube
- Side length (L): 20.0 cm (0.20 meters)
- Temperature (T): 300.0 K
- Type of gas: Hydrogen molecules (H_2)

Derived Quantities

- Volume (V):

Since the container is cubic:

$$V = L^3 = (0.20 \text{ m})^3 = 0.008 \text{ m}^3$$

- Number of molecules (N):

To be determined based on the conditions or assumptions.

Fundamental Concepts and Assumptions

Before delving into calculations, it's necessary to establish the theoretical framework:

Ideal Gas Approximation

Hydrogen at standard conditions can often be modeled as an ideal gas, where molecules are point particles with no intermolecular forces, and their volume is negligible compared to the container volume. This simplifies calculations significantly.

Real Gas Considerations

For higher pressures or lower temperatures, deviations from ideality become significant. The van der Waals equation accounts for molecular volume and intermolecular attractions.

Molecular Properties of Hydrogen

- Molecular weight (M): 2.016 g/mol
- Molar mass (molar mass): 2.016 g/mol = 0.002016 kg/mol
- Number of molecules per mole: Avogadro's number, $N_A \approx 6.022 \times 10^{23}$ molecules/mol
- Molecular diameter (d): Approximate 2 Å (2×10^{-10} m)

Calculating the Number of Hydrogen Molecules

1. Determining the Number of Molecules (N)

If the amount of hydrogen is specified in terms of moles or pressure, we can find N.

Suppose the hydrogen is maintained at a certain pressure (P); then, we can use the ideal gas law:

$$PV = nRT$$

Where:

- P: pressure in Pascals
- V: volume in cubic meters
- n: number of moles
- R: universal gas constant $\approx 8.314 \text{ J}/(\text{mol}\cdot\text{K})$
- T: temperature in Kelvin

Assuming the pressure is known or standard atmospheric pressure (for illustration, $P = 1 \text{ atm} \approx 101,325 \text{ Pa}$), then:

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

and

$$N = n \times N_A$$

Example calculation at 1 atm:

$$n = \frac{(101,325 \text{ Pa}) \times 0.008 \text{ m}^3}{8.314 \text{ J}/(\text{mol}\cdot\text{K}) \times 300 \text{ K}}$$

$$n \approx \frac{810.6}{2494.2} \approx 0.3248 \text{ mol}$$

$$N = 0.3248 \times 6.022 \times 10^{23} \approx 1.956 \times 10^{23} \text{ molecules}$$

Thus, approximately 2×10^{23} hydrogen molecules occupy the container at 1 atm and 300 K.

Thermodynamic Properties of Hydrogen Gas in the Container

1. Pressure Calculation Using Ideal Gas Law

Given the number of molecules, the pressure in the container is:

$$P = \frac{NRT}{V}$$

Using the previous N:

$$P = \frac{(1.956 \times 10^{23}) \times 8.314 \times 300}{0.008}$$

$$P \approx \frac{4.9 \times 10^{26}}{0.008} \approx 6.125 \times 10^{28} \text{ Pa}$$

This enormous value indicates that directly calculating pressure from the number of

molecules requires careful unit handling; more straightforwardly, using molar quantities:

$$P = \frac{nRT}{V}$$

$$P = \frac{0.3248 \times 8.314 \times 300}{0.008} \approx 101,325, \text{ Pa}$$

which confirms the initial assumption of atmospheric pressure.

Molecular Behavior and Kinetic Theory Insights

1. Average Kinetic Energy

The kinetic energy per molecule at temperature T :

$$KE_{\text{avg}} = \frac{3}{2} k_B T$$

where:

- k_B is Boltzmann's constant (1.381×10^{-23} J/K)

Calculating:

$$KE_{\text{avg}} = \frac{3}{2} \times 1.381 \times 10^{-23} \times 300 \approx 6.21 \times 10^{-21}, \text{ J}$$

This energy describes the thermal motion of hydrogen molecules, indicating high molecular velocities.

2. Mean Molecular Speed

The root mean square (rms) speed:

$$v_{\text{rms}} = \sqrt{\frac{3k_B T}{m}}$$

where m is the mass of a hydrogen molecule:

$$m = \frac{M}{N_A} = \frac{0.002016, \text{ kg/mol}}{6.022 \times 10^{23}} \approx 3.34 \times 10^{-27}, \text{ kg}$$

Thus:

$$v_{\text{rms}} = \sqrt{\frac{3 \times 1.381 \times 10^{-23} \times 300}{3.34 \times 10^{-27}}}$$

$$v_{\text{rms}} \approx \sqrt{\frac{1.2429 \times 10^{-20}}{3.34 \times 10^{-27}}}$$

$$v_{\text{rms}} \approx \sqrt{3.72 \times 10^6} \approx 1928, \text{ m/s}$$

Hydrogen molecules move at nearly 2000 m/s, illustrating their high kinetic activity at room

temperature.

Real Gas Corrections: Van der Waals Equation

While the ideal gas law provides a solid approximation, hydrogen molecules exhibit finite size and weak intermolecular attractions, especially under high pressures or low temperatures.

1. Van der Waals Equation:

$$\left(P + a \frac{N^2}{V^2} \right) (V - Nb) = NRT$$

where:

- a accounts for intermolecular attractions
- b accounts for finite molecular volume

2. Parameters for Hydrogen:

- $a \approx 0.244 \text{ L}^2 \text{ atm} / \text{mol}^2$
- $b \approx 0.0266 \text{ L} / \text{mol}$

Converting to SI units:

- $a \approx 0.244 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 \text{ Pa} / \text{mol}^2$
- $b \approx 0.0266 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 / \text{mol}$

Using these corrections, we find that under typical conditions at 1 atm and 300 K, deviations are minimal, but at higher pressures, they become significant, influencing the pressure, volume, and temperature relationships.

Practical Implications and Applications

1. Hydrogen Storage

Understanding the behavior of hydrogen molecules in confined spaces helps in designing storage tanks, pipelines, and fuel cells. Maintaining hydrogen at 300 K in a 20 cm cube is representative of small-scale storage or experimental setups.

2. Energy Considerations

The high kinetic energy and rapid molecular motion imply

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