

64 g of each O<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> are mixed in a container of volume 41 dm<sup>3</sup> at 25 °C.

If total pressure of gaseous mixture is 2721 torr, find partial pressure of O<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub>.

Solution: We will assume that O<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> behave as ideal gases. Then, according to the Dalton's law, partial pressure of gaseous components in the ideal gas mixture can be calculated as:

$p_i = P_{\Sigma} \cdot x_i$ , where the  $p_i$ ,  $x_i$  – partial pressure and mole fraction of individual gas component in a gas mixture, respectively;  $P_{\Sigma}$  – total pressure of the gas mixture;

$x_i = \frac{n_i}{\sum n_i} = \frac{m_i / M_i}{\sum \frac{m_i}{M_i}}$ ; where  $n_i$  is the substance amount of individual gas component, moles;

$m_i$ ,  $M_i$  are the mass and molar weight of individual gas component, grams and g/mole, respectively;

$M_{CH_4} = 12 + 4 = 16$  g/mole;  $M_{O_2} = 16 \cdot 2 = 32$  g/mole;

Then,  $x_{O_2} = \frac{64/32}{\frac{64}{32} + \frac{64}{16}} = 0.333$ ;  $x_{CH_4} = \frac{64/16}{\frac{64}{32} + \frac{64}{16}} = 0.667$ ;

$p_{O_2} = 2721 \cdot 0.333 = 906$  torr;  $p_{CH_4} = 2721 \cdot 0.667 = 1815$  torr;

Answer: Partial pressures of O<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> are equal to 906 torr and 1815 torr, respectively.