

Question#18865

How much weight can be lifted by a Hydrogen (& also separately for Helium) filled balloon of 10 cubic Meter, at sea level & at a temp. of 20 Degree Centigrade. Pl. describe the inputs used.

Solution:

Let:

$$V = 10 \text{ m}^3$$

$$T = 20^\circ\text{C}$$

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$$m - ?$$

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$$F = mg, \quad m = \frac{F}{g} \text{ were: } F - \text{buoyant force}$$

According to the Archimedes' principle:

$$F = (\rho_{air} - \rho_{hydrogen})Vg$$

Were:  $\rho_{air}$  - density of air,  $\rho_{hydrogen}$  - density of hydrogen,  $g = 9,8 \text{ m/s}^2$

$$\rho_{air} = 1.29 \text{ kg/m}^3, \quad \rho_{hydrogen} = 0.09 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

$$m = \frac{(\rho_{air} - \rho_{hydrogen})Vg}{g} = (\rho_{air} - \rho_{hydrogen})V = (1.29 - 0.09) * 10 = 12 \text{ kg}$$

**Answer: 12 kg.**

For Helium:  $\rho = 0.178 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ,  $m = (1.29 - 0.178) * 10 = \mathbf{11.12 \text{ kg}}$