

Answer on Question #38031, Physics, Other

Question:

In a adiabatic change, the pressure and temperature of a monoatomic gas are related as $P \propto T^c$. Here c equals:

a) 2/5

b) 3/5

c) 5/2

d) 5/3.

Answer:

The mathematical equation for an ideal gas undergoing a reversible (i.e., no entropy generation) adiabatic process is:

$$PV^\gamma = \text{const}$$

For a monatomic ideal gas, $\gamma = \frac{5}{3}$. Assuming $PV = RT$:

$$P^{1-\gamma}T^\gamma = \text{const}$$

or

$$P \propto T^{-\frac{\gamma}{1-\gamma}} = T^{\frac{5}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{2}} = T^{\frac{5}{2}}$$

Answer: c) 5/2