

Answer on Question #43116 – Physics – Molecular Physics|Thermodynamics

Question.

Calculate the root mean square velocity of molecule of hydrogen gas at room temperature 27°C and calculate the mean kinetic energy of one molecule and one mole.

Given:

$$T = 27^{\circ}\text{C} = 300\text{ K}$$

$$m(\text{H}_2) = 3.34 \cdot 10^{-27}\text{ kg}$$

$$M(\text{H}_2) = 2 \cdot 10^{-3} \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{mole}}$$

$$\nu = 1\text{ mole}$$

Find:

$$\bar{v} = ?$$

$$E_k(1\text{ molecule}) = ?$$

$$E_k(1\text{ mole}) = ?$$

Solution.

From thermodynamics it's known that the average kinetic energy of the gas is proportional to temperature:

$$E_k = \frac{3}{2} kT$$

$k = 1.38 \cdot 10^{-23} \frac{\text{J}}{\text{K}}$ is the Boltzmann's constant;

T is the temperature.

$$R = k \cdot N_a$$

$R = 8.31 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{mole} \cdot \text{K}}$ the gas constant;

$N_a = 6.02 \cdot 10^{23} \text{ mole}^{-1}$ is the Avogadro constant.

So, the kinetic energy of 1 mole is:

$$E_k = \frac{3}{2} kT \cdot N_a = \frac{3}{2} RT$$

On the other hand, from classical mechanics we know that the kinetic energy of a particle is:

$$E_k = \frac{m}{2} \bar{v}^2$$

Therefore, the kinetic energy of N particles is:

$$E_k = N \frac{m}{2} \bar{v}^2$$

There N_a molecules in 1 *mole* of the substance $\rightarrow N = N_a$.

The kinetic energy of 1 *mole* is:

$$E_k = N_a \frac{m}{2} \bar{v}^2$$

So,

$$E_k = N_a \frac{m}{2} \bar{v}^2 = \frac{3}{2} RT \rightarrow \bar{v}^2 = \frac{3RT}{mN_a}$$

$$\nu = \frac{m}{M} = \frac{N}{N_a}$$

ν is the amount of substance;

M is the molar mass.

If $\nu = 1$ *mole*, then $M = mN_a$.

Thus,

$$\bar{v}^2 = \frac{3RT}{M} \rightarrow \bar{v} = \sqrt{\frac{3RT}{M}}$$

Let calculate all desired values.

The root mean square velocity is:

$$\bar{v} = \sqrt{\frac{3RT}{M}} = \sqrt{\frac{3 \cdot 8.31 \cdot 300}{2 \cdot 10^{-3}}} = 1934 \frac{m}{s}$$

The kinetic energy of 1 molecule:

$$E_k(1 \text{ molecule}) = \frac{m}{2} \bar{v}^2 = \frac{3}{2} kT = \frac{3}{2} 1.38 \cdot 10^{-23} \cdot 300 = 6.21 \cdot 10^{-21} J$$

The kinetic energy of 1 *mole*:

$$E_k(1 \text{ mole}) = N_a E_k(1 \text{ molecule}) = N_a \frac{m}{2} \bar{v}^2 = \frac{3}{2} RT = \frac{3}{2} 8.31 \cdot 300 = 3739.5 J$$

Answer.

The root mean square velocity is:

$$\bar{v} = \sqrt{\frac{3RT}{M}} = 1934 \frac{m}{s}$$

The kinetic energy of 1 molecule:

$$E_k(1 \text{ molecule}) = \frac{m}{2} \bar{v}^2 = \frac{3}{2} kT = 6.21 \cdot 10^{-21} J$$

The kinetic energy of 1 mole:

$$E_k(1 \text{ mole}) = N_a E_k(1 \text{ molecule}) = N_a \frac{m}{2} \bar{v}^2 = \frac{3}{2} RT = 3739.5 J$$

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