

Question.

A certain mass of a gas at 273 K temperature and one atmospheric pressure is expanded to 3 times its original volume under adiabatic conditions. Calculate the resulting temperature and pressure. (Take the value of $\gamma = 1.4$)

Given:

$$T_1 = 273 \text{ K}$$

$$P_1 = 1 \text{ atm}$$

$$V_2 = 3V_1$$

$$\gamma = 1.4$$

Find:

$$T_2 = ?$$

$$P_2 = ?$$

Solution.

Adiabatic process is described by the following equation:

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

Therefore,

$$P_1 V_1^\gamma = P_2 V_2^\gamma$$

$$P_2 = P_1 \left(\frac{V_1}{V_2} \right)^\gamma$$

From other hand, the adiabatic equation is:

$$TV^{\gamma-1} = \text{const}$$

Therefore,

$$T_1 V_1^{\gamma-1} = T_2 V_2^{\gamma-1}$$

$$T_2 = T_1 \left(\frac{V_1}{V_2} \right)^{\gamma-1}$$

Calculate:

$$P_2 = P_1 \left(\frac{V_1}{V_2} \right)^\gamma = 1 \text{ atm} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3} \right)^{1.4} = 1 \text{ atm} \cdot 0.215 = 0.215 \text{ atm}$$

$$T_2 = T_1 \left(\frac{V_1}{V_2} \right)^{\gamma-1} = 273 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3} \right)^{0.4} = 273 \cdot 0.644 = 175.8 \text{ K}$$

Answer.

$$P_2 = P_1 \left(\frac{V_1}{V_2} \right)^\gamma = 0.215 \text{ atm}$$

$$T_2 = T_1 \left(\frac{V_1}{V_2} \right)^{\gamma-1} = 175.8 \text{ K}$$

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