

*Intro to Gases and The Early Gas Laws

By Shawn P. Shields, Ph. D.



This work is licensed by Shawn P. Shields-Maxwell under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/).

*Introduction to Gases

2

- *Gases are a phase of matter without a fixed volume nor a fixed shape.

- *Gases are described in terms of four macroscopic observables:

 - *Pressure

 - *Temperature

 - *Volume

 - *Moles of gas

*Introduction to Gases

- 3 * The early gas laws described these macroscopic observables or characteristics relative to each other.
 - * Boyle's law describes the relationship between **pressure and volume** of a gas at a fixed temperature and amount of gas.
 - * Charles's law describes the relationship between **temperature and volume** of a gas at a constant pressure and amount of gas.
 - * Avogadro's law says **one mole of any gas at STP** (Standard Temperature and Pressure; 0°C and 1 atm) will take up a volume of **22.4 L**.

*Pressure Units

4

*These are the pressure units that we will focus on in this course:

$$1 \text{ atm} = 760 \text{ torr} = 760 \text{ mmHg} = 1.01325 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$$

*You should especially practice with these:

$$1 \text{ atm} = 760 \text{ torr} = 760 \text{ mmHg}$$

*Practice: Pressure Unit Conversions

5

*Convert 0.378 atm to torr.

*Convert 6.4×10^{-2} torr to atmospheres.

*Convert 106.9 Pa to torr.

*Practice: Pressure Unit Conversions (Solutions)

6

*Convert 0.378 atm to torr.

Use the relationship $760 \text{ torr} = 1 \text{ atm}$

We need to cancel out atm, so put that unit on the bottom in the conversion factor

$$0.378 \text{ atm} \left(\frac{760 \text{ torr}}{1 \text{ atm}} \right) = 287 \text{ torr}$$

*Practice: Pressure Unit Conversions (Solutions)

7

*Convert 6.4×10^{-2} torr to atmospheres.

We need to use the relationship $760 \text{ torr} = 1 \text{ atm}$ again

But this time we need to cancel out torr, so put that unit on the bottom in the conversion factor

$$6.4 \times 10^{-2} \text{ torr} \left(\frac{1 \text{ atm}}{760 \text{ torr}} \right) = 8.4 \times 10^{-5} \text{ atm}$$

*Practice: Pressure Unit Conversions (Solutions)

8

*Convert 106.9 Pa to torr.

Use the equality $760 \text{ torr} = 1.01325 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$

This time we need to cancel out Pascals, so put that unit on the bottom in the conversion factor with torr in the numerator

$$106.9 \text{ Pa} \left(\frac{760 \text{ torr}}{1.01325 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}} \right) = 0.8018 \text{ torr}$$

*The Early Gas Laws

9

*Boyle's Law

*Charles Law

*Avogadro's Law

*Boyle's Law

Boyle's law states that

- the pressure of a gas is *inversely* related to its volume when the temperature and the amount of gas are held constant (or unchanged)
- So, when the volume decreases, the pressure increases, and vice-versa

$$P_1V_1 = P_2V_2$$

* Mini Quiz

11

- * A gas has a pressure of 560 torr when it is held in a 3.5 L cylinder. Calculate the pressure of the gas (in torr) when the volume of the cylinder is increased to 6.3 L.

* Mini Quiz Solution (ptI)

12

* A gas has a pressure of 560 torr when it is held in a 3.5 L cylinder. Calculate the pressure of the gas (in torr) when the volume of the cylinder is increased to 6.3 L.

* Use Boyle's law:

$$P_1 V_1 = P_2 V_2$$

Step 1: Identify what you are given and what you are calculating:

$$* P_1 = 560 \text{ torr} \quad P_2 = ?$$

$$* V_1 = 3.5 \text{ L} \quad V_2 = 6.3 \text{ L}$$

*Mini Quiz Solution (pt II)

Step 2: Solve for the unknown quantity (in this case P_f):

$$*P_1 = 560 \text{ torr} \quad P_2 = ?$$

$$*V_1 = 3.5 \text{ L} \quad V_2 = 6.3 \text{ L}$$

$$P_1 V_1 = P_2 V_2$$

$$(560 \text{ torr})(3.5 \text{ L}) = P_f (6.3 \text{ L})$$

$$P_2 = 311 \text{ torr}$$

* Charles's Law

In Charles's law,

- the Kelvin (K) temperature of a gas is directly related to the volume
- The pressure and amount of gas are constant
- when the temperature of a gas increases, its volume increases

$$\frac{V_1}{T_1} = \frac{V_2}{T_2}$$

*Mini Quiz

15

* A gas has a temperature of $15.0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ when it is held in a 2.36 L cylinder. Calculate the new temperature of the gas (in $^{\circ}\text{C}$) when the volume is expanded to 8.32 L .

* Mini Quiz Solution (ptI)

16

* A gas has a temperature of 15.0 °C when it is held in a 2.36 L cylinder. Calculate the new temperature of the gas (in °C) when the volume is expanded to 8.32 L.

• Use Charles' law:

$$\frac{V_1}{T_1} = \frac{V_2}{T_2}$$

Step 1: Identify what you are given and what you are calculating:

$$*T_1 = 15.0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \quad T_2 = ?$$

$$*V_1 = 2.36\text{ L} \quad V_2 = 8.32\text{ L}$$

*Mini Quiz Solution (pt II)

Step 2: Convert given temperatures from °C to K:

$$*T_1 = 15.0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} + 273 = 288\text{ K}$$

*NOTE: Temperatures in gas laws are ALWAYS in Kelvin (K)!

*Mini Quiz Solution (pt III)

Step 3: Solve for the unknown quantity (in this case T_2 and convert to $^{\circ}\text{C}$):

$$*T_1 = 288\text{K}$$

$$T_2 = ?$$

$$*V_1 = 2.36\text{ L}$$

$$V_2 = 8.32\text{ L}$$

$$\frac{V_1}{T_1} = \frac{V_2}{T_2}$$

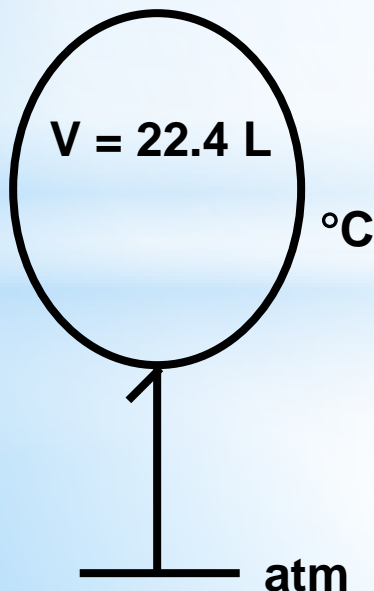
$$\frac{2.36\text{ L}}{288\text{ K}} = \frac{8.32\text{ L}}{T_2}$$

$$T_2 = \frac{8.32\text{ L} \left(\frac{288\text{ K}}{2.36\text{ L}} \right)}$$

$$T_2 = 1015\text{ K} = 742\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$$

* Avogadro's Law

- * The volume and pressure of a gas at *constant temperature* is directly proportional to the number of moles of the gas.
- * When the gas is under standard conditions, 1 mole of any ideal gas has a volume of 22.4 L.



- * standard conditions:
pressure is 1 atm and
the temperature is 0°C .