## **Problem 22.35 (RHK)**

At  $100^{\circ}$ C a glass flask is filled by 891 g of mercury. We have to calculate the mass of mercury that is needed to fill the flask at  $-35^{\circ}$ C.

The coefficient of linear expansion of glass  $\alpha_{glass} = 9.0 \times 10^{-6} / \text{C}^0$ ; and the coefficient of volume expansion of mercury is  $\beta_{mercury} = 1.8 \times 10^{-4} / \text{C}^0$  and density of mercury at  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $\rho_{mercury} \left(20^{\circ}\text{C}\right) = 13.55 \text{ g/cm}^3$ .

## **Solution:**

We will first calculate the density of mercury at 100°C. Change in density with temperature is determined by the coefficient of volume expansion.

$$\rho' = \rho + \Delta \rho = \frac{M}{V + \beta V \Delta T} = \rho \left( 1 + \beta \Delta T \right)^{-1}; \ \rho - \beta \rho \Delta T,$$
or
$$\Delta \rho = -\beta \rho \Delta T.$$

Therefore,

$$\rho_{mercury} (100^{\circ} \text{C}) = \frac{13.55}{1 + 1.8 \times 10^{-4} \times 80} \text{ g cm}^{-3}$$
$$= \frac{13.55}{1.0144} \text{ g cm}^{-3} = 13.357 \text{ g cm}^{-3}.$$

Volume of 891 g of mercury at 100°C will be

$$V_{mercury} = \frac{891}{13.357} \text{ cm}^3 = 66.703 \text{ cm}^3.$$

Change in the volume of mercury when its temperature changes from  $100^{\circ}$ C to  $-35^{\circ}$ C will be

$$\Delta V_{mercury} = -135 \times 1.8 \times 10^{-4} \times 66.703 \text{ cm}^3 = -1.6208 \text{ cm}^3.$$

We will next calculate the change in the volume of the glass flask when its temperature changes from  $100^{\circ}$ C to  $-35^{\circ}$ C. It is related to the coefficient of linear expansion  $\alpha_{glass}$ .

$$\Delta V_{flask} = 3 \times \alpha_{glass} V_{flask} \times \Delta T = -3 \times 9.0 \times 10^{-6} \times 66.703 \times 135 \text{ cm}^3$$
  
= -0.243132 cm<sup>3</sup>.

Therefore,

$$V_{flask}$$
 (-35°C) = (66.703 - 0.243132) cm<sup>3</sup> = 66.4598 cm<sup>3</sup>.

The volume of the empty flask at  $-35^{\circ}$ C will therefore be

$$V_{flask} \left( -35^{\circ} \text{C} \right) - V_{mercury} \left( -35^{\circ} \text{C} \right) = \left( 66.4598 - 65.0822 \right) \text{ cm}^{3}$$
  
= 1.3776 cm<sup>3</sup>.

We will next calculate the density of mercury at  $-35^{\circ}$ C. It will be

$$\rho_{mercury} \left( -35^{\circ} \text{C} \right) = \frac{\rho_{mercury} \left( 20^{\circ} \text{C} \right)}{1 - 1.8 \times 10^{-4} \times 55} = \frac{13.55}{0.9901} \text{ g cm}^{-3}$$
$$= 13.685 \text{ g cm}^{-3}.$$

Additional amount of mercury needed to fill the flask at  $-35^{\circ}$ C will be  $1.3776 \times 13.685$  g = 18.85 g.

Therefore, the total amount of mercury in the flask at

$$-35^{\circ}$$
C is

$$(891+18.85)$$
 g = 909.8 g.