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Problem 25.11 (RHK)

A chef, awaking one morning to find the stove out of order decides to boil water for coffee by shaking it in a thermos flask. Let us suppose that the chef uses 560 cm^3 of tap water at 59°F , and the water falls 35 cm each shake, the shape making 30 shakes each minute. Neglecting any loss of energy, we have to estimate how long the flask must be shaken before the water boils.



Solution:

We first calculate the temperature equivalent in Celsius to 59°F . We use the relation

$$T_F - 32 = \frac{9}{5}T.$$

We find that 59°F is equal to

$$T = \frac{5}{9}(59 - 32) = 15^\circ\text{C}.$$

Volume of water to be boiled by shaking is

$$V = 560 \text{ cm}^3 = 560 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3 = 5.6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^3.$$

Mass of the water to be boiled is

$$M = 5.6 \times 10^{-4} \times 10^3 \text{ kg} = 0.56 \text{ kg},$$

as the density of water $\rho = 10^3 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$.

Amount of energy gained by the water to be boiled in each shake will be the change in gravitational potential energy in 0.35 m. It is $\Delta E = 0.56 \times 0.35 \times 9.81 \text{ J} = 1.923 \text{ J}$.

Specific heat of water, $c = 4190 \text{ J kg}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$.

Amount of heat required to raise the temperature of water from 15°C to 100°C will be

$$Q = 0.56 \times 4190 \times (100 - 15) \text{ J} = 1.99 \times 10^5 \text{ J}.$$

As 30 shakes are imparted in a minute, the time required for obtaining mechanical energy equal to Q will be

$$t = \frac{1.99 \times 10^5}{1.923 \times 30} \text{ min} = 57.6 \text{ hour} = 2.4 \text{ day}.$$