233.

Problem 25.37 (RHK)

A quantity of ideal monatomic gas consists of n moles initially at temperature T_1 . The pressure and volume are then slowly doubled in such a manner as to trace out a straight line on pV diagram. In terms of n, R, and T_1 , we have to find (a) W, (b) ΔE_{int} , and (c) Q. (d) If one were to define an equivalent specific heat for the process, we have to calculate its value.

Solution:

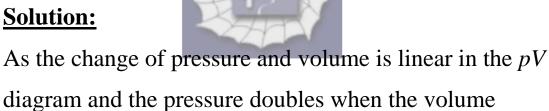


diagram and the pressure doubles when the volume doubles, the equation of the straight line relating the pressure-volume is

$$p = \left(\frac{p_1}{V_1}\right) \times V.$$

Also, the initial temperature of the gas is T_1 and the quantity of the gas is *n* moles, we have $p_1V_1 = nRT_1$.

(a)

The work done on the gas during the slow change described by the linear relation will be

$$W = -\int_{V_1}^{2V_1} p dV = -\int_{V_1}^{2V_1} \frac{p_1}{V_1} \times V dV = -\frac{3}{2} p_1 V_1 = -\frac{3}{2} nRT_1.$$

(b)

The final temperature of the gas T_f can be obtained from the equation of state.

$$nRT_{f} = p_{f}V_{f} = 4p_{1}V_{1} = 4nRT_{1},$$

and
 $T_{f} = 4T_{1}.$

The change in the internal energy of a monatomic ideal gas can be obtained from the initial and final

temperatures.

$$\Delta E_{\text{int}} = E_{\text{int}\,f} - E_{\text{int}\,i} = \frac{3}{2} nR \left(T_f - T_i \right) = \frac{3}{2} nR \left(4T_1 - T_1 \right) = 4.5 nRT_1.$$

(c)

The heat absorbed Q can be calculated from the first law of thermodynamics,

$$\Delta E_{\rm int} = W + Q,$$

and

$$Q = \Delta E_{\text{int}} - W = \frac{9}{2} nRT_1 - \left(-\frac{3}{2}nRT_1\right) = 6nRT_1.$$

(d)

We define the equivalent specific heat

$$C = \frac{Q}{n\Delta T} = \frac{6nRT_1}{n\times 3T_1} = 2R.$$

