

Consider a sample of oxygen behaving like an ideal gas. At 300 K, the ratio of root mean square (rms) velocity to the average velocity of gas molecule would be :

(Molecular weight of oxygen is 32g/mol; $R = 8.3 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$)

A $\sqrt{\frac{3\pi}{8}}$

B $\sqrt{\frac{3}{3}}$

C $\sqrt{\frac{8}{3}}$

D $\sqrt{\frac{8\pi}{3}}$

By Maxwell's velocity distribution of ^{ideal} gases,

$$V_{\text{rms}} = \sqrt{\frac{3RT}{M}} \quad ; \quad V_{\text{average}} = \sqrt{\frac{8RT}{\pi M}}$$

∴ For oxygen's given sample;

$$T = 300\text{K}, \quad R = 8.3 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}, \quad M = 32 \times 10^{-3} \text{ kg/mol}$$

$$\therefore \frac{V_{\text{rms}}}{V_{\text{average}}} = \frac{\sqrt{\frac{3RT}{M}}}{\sqrt{\frac{8RT}{\pi M}}} \Rightarrow \boxed{\sqrt{\frac{3\pi}{8}}}$$