

Question 2

The relation between the pressure exerted by an ideal gas (P_{ideal}) and observed pressure (P_{real}) is given by the equation:

$$P_{ideal} = P_{real} + \frac{a n^2}{V^2}$$

If the pressure is taken in Nm^{-2} , the number of moles in mol and volume in m^3 , Calculate the unit of 'a'. What will be the unit of 'a' when pressure is in atmosphere and volume in dm^3 ?

Solution:

We know $P_{ideal} = P_{real} + \frac{a n^2}{V^2}$

$$P_{ideal} - P_{real} = \frac{a n^2}{V^2} \quad Nm^{-2} = \frac{a \cdot mol^2}{m^6} \quad a = Nm^4 mol^{-2}$$

The unit of 'a' when the pressure is taken in Nm^{-2} , number of moles in "mol" and volume in m^3 is $Nm^4 mol^{-2}$