

High School

The Effects of Temperature on the Volume of a Gas

Purpose: The purpose of this investigation is to study a general relationship between the temperature and volume of a given amount of gas at a constant pressure.

Problem: What effect does increasing the temperature have on the volume of a sample of gas at constant pressure?

Hypothesis: I have observed that when I heat any gas, the temperature of the gas increases and the volume of the gas expands.

Materials:

- Lab apron
- Eye protection
- Plastic syringe (35-60mL)
- Cap or stopper for the syringe tip
- Burette clamp
- Thermometer or temperature probe and clamp
- 600mL beaker
- ring stand
- hot plate
- stirring rod
- boiling stones or chips

Variables:

- Manipulated variable: temperature of gas
- Responding variable: volume of gas
- Controlled variable: pressure, solvent (water), amount of gas (moles)

Procedure:

- 1. Syringe plunger set to 15-20 mL of air.
- 2. Seal tip of syringe with cap or stopper.
- 3. Set up the ring stand with 600mL beaker on the hot plate.
- 4. Use the burette clamp to hold the syringe as far as possible into the beaker without touching the sides or the bottom.
- 5. Clamp the thermometer or probe so that the bulb is close to, but not touching, the syringe.
- 6. Add water at room temperature to about 1 cm from the top of the beaker. Drop in a few boiling stones.
- 7. After a few minutes, record the temperature and volume of air.
- 8. Turn on the hot plate. Heat the water slowly, stirring occasionally.
- 9. Record the gas volume and temperature about every 10°C until about 90°C.

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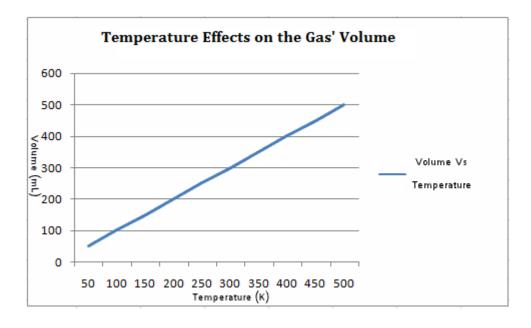
Observations/Results:

Table 1: The effect of temperature on the volume of a gas.

Serial#	Temperature (°C)	Temperature (K)	Volume (mL)
1	25	298.15	15.0
2	35	308.15	21.0
3	45	318.15	27.2
4	55	328.15	33.4
5	65	338.15	38.5
6	75	348.15	43.8
7	85	358.15	49.8
8	95	368.15	55.6

Analysis:

According to the results, as the temperature increased, the volume of the gas in the syringe also increased. At the initial temperature of 25°C, the volume was the lowest at 15.0mL. At the highest temperature of 95°C the volume was the highest at 55.6 mL. The results correlate according to the Charles Law where there is a direct relationship between temperature and volume when the pressure and moles of the gas are kept constant. A direct relationship means when one variable increases the other one will also increase. The plotted graph below shows a linear relationship between temperature and volume of a gas.



Conclusion:

The hypothesis was correct, as the temperature of the gas increased the volume of the gas also increased. Hence, the temperature and volume of a gas are directly proportional to one another.